



CALIFORNIA THESPIANSSM

AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE
ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE

The California Thespian Northern Play Festival

Saturday, January 20th, 2018

Westmont High School
4805 Westmont Ave. Campbell CA 95008

California State Thespians (CST) invites all California High Schools to bring a 30 minute play or cutting of a play to the annual California Thespian Play Festival. The first 10 schools to submit a complete application will be chosen to perform. If more than 10 schools apply, preference will be given to High Schools that are current members of Educational Theatre Association (ETA).

Using the California State Thespian rubric, plays will be adjudicated by a panel of theatre professionals who will share their notes with the cast and crew immediately after each performance in a casual, educational atmosphere. Judges will privately select their top three plays and rank them. The Judge's #1 choice will be invited to perform on the Main Stage at the California State Thespian Festival at the Highlander Auditorium in Upland, CA: **March 29, 30, 31, 2018**. To perform at the California State Thespian Festival, the winning school needs to become a member of ETA (if they are not) AND register for the CST Festival on time and before registration closes due to capacity. Spots will not be held in advance.

RULES

- Applications and scripts must be received by Saturday, December 9th.
- Both published works and original plays can be brought to the Play Festival.
- Each school must secure written proof of performance rights prior to the festival.
- **Plays must be HIGH SCHOOL APPROPRIATE.** Content is crucial!
All students involved in this festival are still children. **If in doubt, don't do it.**
CST reserves the right to turn the lights off for any inappropriate material.
All schools must submit a clear script as it will be performed with their application.
- Plays may be directed by a teacher or by students from the school. (no parent directors, please) **WARNING:** The judges will equally critique both adults and students. The judges are encouraged to be open, honest, and direct with their feedback to the cast and the director regardless of the director's age.
- Each school is limited to 20 people: (cast, crew, adults, audience)
- Performance order will be chosen with consideration for thematic balance.
- Schools must be present until the end of the festival to win.

SAMPLE SCHEDULE

(the following schedule is based on 10 schools participating – the actual schedule may vary depending on how many schools apply)

8:00 Registration
8:30 Judges arrive
Introductions / Tour of Space / Warm Ups
9:00 Performances begin
While one school is performing, the next school is on-deck in the green room
12-1 Lunch Break
1:00 Performances continue if necessary
4:00 Winner(s) Announced

TIME

Each Director needs to present a short introduction to their play (30-60 seconds).
Each school has 5 minutes to load in, a 30 minute slot to perform, and 5 minutes to load out.

Don't forget to stage a bow at the end of your play!

TECHNICAL ASPECTS

- **PROGRAMS:** All schools must bring 25 copies of a simple, single-page program (half sheets are fine) DO NOT include your school's name on the program – only your Troupe #, the Play Title, Logo (optional), Author, Royalty Company, Play Director, Characters and all actor's names.
- **SCRIPTS:** All schools must submit a clean copy of the script as it will be performed with their application.
- **SCENERY:** Four chairs and a table will be available for use. Other scenery or property items may be brought to the Play Festival as long as the school is able to transport those items to the California State Thespian Festival in Upland, CA.
- **PROPS & COSTUMES:** Schools may provide their own hand props and costumes as they feel necessary.
- **LIGHTING:** Each play will be given 5 light cues in this order: blackout, lights up, lights down, bows, blackout. If additional light cues are needed, contact Jeff Bengford via email: jbengford@cuhsd.org
- **SOUND:** Schools may bring their own boom box or small portable audio equipment to play sound effects and/or music. Microphones are not needed in this intimate space. There are several Edison plug outlets near the stage - simply ask the backstage manager when you arrive to show you where the nearest one is.
- **NOTE:** Although production elements will be critiqued, the quality of student performances will be the focus of the evaluation.
- **WARNING:** Any school wishing to use a starter pistol or other stage appropriate weapon must clear the item with the host school. The use of any props with an open flame will not be permitted under any circumstances

PARKING

There is plenty of free parking in the main parking lot right next to the theater.

LUNCH

You are welcome to bring a lunch or drive to our local Safeway (5 minutes away) or drive to one of the local quick service restaurants.

California Thespian Play Festival SUPPLEMENTAL TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

School Name: _____

After you complete your online registration please complete the following and send via mail.

All Materials, **including a printed script**, must be received by **December 9th**.

Send Scripts and Technical Requirement documentation to:
Jeff Bengford, 1549 Husted Ave San Jose, CA 95125

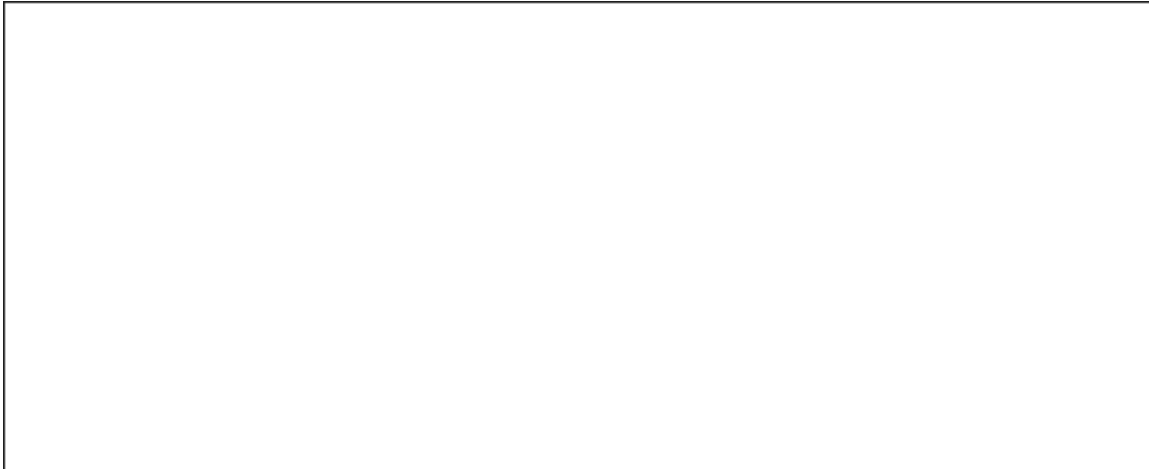
If scripts are not received by December 9th, your registration will be cancelled.

Technical Requirements

If the cyclorama is available, what color would suit your show best: _____

or would you prefer: a black traveler curtain as your background? YES NO

Draw a bird's eye view of the stage set up for your play.



AUDIENCE

Four chairs and a table will be available for use.

Other scenery or property items may be brought to the Play Festival as long as the school is able to transport those items to the California State Thespian Festival in Upland, CA.

What are you bringing? List all hand props & costumes on the lines below.

NOTE: Any school wishing to use a starter pistol or other stage appropriate weapon must clear the item with the host school. The use of any props with an open flame will not be permitted under any circumstances

FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

If you are selected to perform at the State Thespian Festival, do you want to be considered as the Chapter Select entry for the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska this summer?

YES

NO

If you have any questions, please contact: Jeff Bengford, Westmont High School

Telephone: (408) 483-2088

Email: jeff.bengford@cathespians.org