



CALIFORNIA  
THESPIANS<sup>SM</sup>

# Southern CA Play Festival

Saturday, December 18, 2021

Los Alamitos High School

3591 Cerritos Ave.

Los Alamitos, CA 90720

California State Thespians (CST) invites all California High Schools to bring a short play (no longer than 30 minutes) or a cutting of a play (no longer than 30 minutes) to the annual California Thespians 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 Thespians 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. All plays will be recorded. The Judge's #1 choice will be invited to perform on the Main Stage at the California State Thespians Festival at the Highlander Auditorium in Upland, CA: April 8-10, 2022.

To perform at the California State Thespians 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 must be received by Saturday, November 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.
- Performance order will be chosen with consideration for thematic balance.
- Schools must be present until the end of the festival to win.

## TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

- PROGRAMS: All schools must bring 10 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

Thespians Festival in Upland, CA. You will be provided with two ASM's backstage to assist with load-in/out, curtains, and backstage orientation.

- **PROPS & COSTUMES:** Schools may provide their own hand props and costumes as they feel necessary. You will be provided with a single dressing room and restroom backstage during the performance before yours.
- **LIGHTING:** There is a full lighting plot for your use, and utilizes LED's for instant color choices. It is in your best interest to keep the lighting simple, but the staff can accommodate basic lighting requests. A lighting script must be turned in, with cues, stage locations (for isolation), and colors clearly marked, upon registration. You will be provided with a Light Board Operator.
- **SOUND:** Los Alamitos offers hanging choir mics. In addition, there are connections for computer (to run QLab or other sound program), iPad/iPod, and a CD player. If you are NOT bringing a sound board operator, a sound script, clearly marked with sound cues must be turned in upon registration. You will be provided a Sound Board Operator.
- **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 be accounted for on the application.
- **STAGE MANAGEMENT-**you will be provided with 2 backstage ASM's, but should have a director or SM in the booth during the performance to call the cues to the provided LBO, SBO, and stage management.

#### **TIME LIMITS:**

- Each school will be taken backstage one performance before theirs and shown their dressing room. They may leave belongings in there during their performance and the room will be locked during the performance.
- Each school receives 5 minutes for load in. Set pieces may be brought to the loading dock upon registration.
- Each school receives 30 minutes of performance time. Schools who go over 30 minutes will be disqualified.
- Each school receives 5 minutes of strike. Set pieces may be brought back to the loading dock.
- Each school should clear the dressing room and leave it clean within 10 minutes of the end of strike.

#### **PARKING:**

- There is adequate parking in the back of the school. The school is under construction, so parking in front of the school is not available. If large set or props pieces need to be loaded in, you will be shown the back gate for the loading dock.

#### **FOOD**

- The Los Alamitos Drama Boosters will have breakfast items, snacks, drinks, and lunch items for sale throughout the day. Bring cash. Only water is allowed in the theater and in all backstage areas. There are picnic areas available outside for eating.

#### **AUDIENCE**

- As capacity allows, audience members are welcome throughout the day (friends, parents, etc.), as are other schools to watch the performances at no cost. However, there will be no seating during a performance. Performances may be watched on the screen in the lobby and you may be seated between performances.
- Proper audience etiquette is expected. Poor audience behavior will be asked to leave the theater.

- All Audience inquiries should be directed to [stacy.castiglione@cathespians.org](mailto:stacy.castiglione@cathespians.org).

### **COVID Protocols**

- Due to the CDPH guidelines and the guidelines of Los Alamitos Unified School District, all participants (on and off stage) are required to wear a mask at ALL times while on campus, except while outside eating.

### **SCHEDULE**

08:00 - Registration opens/Breakfast for sale  
09:00 - Opening and welcome  
09:20 - 10:00 - School 1 Performance  
10:00 - 10:40 - School 2 Performance  
10:40 - 11:20 - School 3 Performance  
11:20 - 12:00 - School 4 Performance  
12:00 - 01:00 - Lunch Break-food for sale  
01:00 - 01:40 - School 5 Performance  
01:40 - 02:20 - School 6 Performance  
02:20 - 03:00 - School 7 Performance  
03:00 - 03:40 - School 8 Performance  
03:40 - 04:20 - School 9 Performance  
04:20 - 05:00 - School 10 Performance  
05:00 - 05:30 - Judges deliberation-snacks for sale  
05:30 - 06:00 - Awards and Wrap Up

### **Before starting the application, please make sure that you have the following information:**

- Understand that there is a \$150 registration fee.
- Understand that Chartered EdTA Thespian Troupes receive priority for registration
- Understand that Non Thespian Troupes are subject to an additional \$100.00 fee
- Estimated attendance (cast, crew, chaperones, family, etc.)
- Understand the time limit
- Know what types of mics you want and which characters will be wearing them
- How you plan to use recorded music (computer, ipod, CD)
- Cyc or black traveller?
- Type of lighting you might want/need

### **Upon registration the day of, please make sure that you have the following:**

- Printed programs (10)
- A copy of the script with all lighting cues clearly marked
- A copy of the script with all sound cues clearly marked
- Your sound (computer, iPod, CD, etc.)
- Your set pieces, costumes, and props

**QUESTIONS?? Please email Stacy Castiglione at:  
[stacy.castiglione@cathespians.org](mailto:stacy.castiglione@cathespians.org)**