

2018 California State Thespian Festival Handbook

Highlander Auditorium, Upland CA



CALIFORNIA
THESPIANSSM

AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE
ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE

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Print this information as needed for sponsors, students and chaperones. All forms may be found on the California Thespian **website**. They **MUST** be completed online. See the end of each section for name / contact information of the State Board member in charge of each area who can answer individual questions. Contact State Chapter Director Anthony Robinson at **anthony.j.robinson@cathespians.org** with any general festival questions.

Attending the California State Thespian Festival

WHEN is the 2018 California State Thespian Festival?

- Thursday, March 29 - Saturday, 31, 2018

WHERE is the 2018 California State Thespian Festival?

- Highlander Auditorium on the Upland High School campus
 - Highlander Auditorium: 850 N San Antonio Ave, Upland, CA 91786

WHO can attend?

- **Thespians** who are current members of the International Thespian Society (registered and inducted at the time of registration)
- **Non-Thespian students** in grades 9–12 (at the discretion of the Troupe Director)
- **Troupe Director** as current paid member of the Educational Theatre Association and must attend the entire weekend. Directors of new troupes who are not bringing students and want to preview the festival are invited to attend Festival at a reduced rate. Please contact the State Director for reduced rates. If for whatever reason the Troupe's Director is unable to travel, an EdTA Affiliate member of that troupe may be able to travel in place of the Troupe Director. Prior arrangements must be made with the Chapter Director.
- **Alumni** may attend as part of the alumni staff. Alumni have an [Alumni Staff Application](#). Questions regarding Alumni staff may be directed to alumni@cathespians.org
- **Chaperones** may be parents, school staff and other responsible adults (21 or older) and they **MUST** attend the entire weekend. Chaperones may not pair up and register as one. Registered Chaperones must agree to supervise at all times.

At least one adult must be registered for every 10 students (1-10 students = 1 adult [Director], 11-20 students = 2 adults, etc.). If registering both male and female students, it is recommended that at least one male and one female adult accompany the troupe. Directors have many responsibilities during Festival and it is strongly recommended they bring extra chaperones. **ALL Directors and Chaperones are expected to remain at Upland High School and provide general supervision.**

It is vital that all Directors and Chaperones perform assigned duties and encourage appropriate behavior from all delegates. Assignments include judging, timing, and monitoring of events, and security for All-Festival Events. Indicate choices on the Troupe Director/Chaperone Responsibilities Forms. Chaperones will pick up assignments after Orientation. Adult delegates may not bring unregistered family members to Festival.

Chaperone questions may be directed to Jeff Bengford at
jeff.bengford@cathespians.org

Non Registered Adults May Not Be On Campus At Any Time

Registration

Here are all of the steps to register for the festival

1. Discuss the festival with your students. Guide them to the website and/or go through this handbook with them. Make sure they're aware of all of the incredible opportunities available at the festival.
2. Gather a list of which students are interested in attending the festival and what events they are interested in. Use the Online Registration Cheat Sheet for Troupe Directors to help gather information and expedite registration.
3. Complete the Online Registration. Use the Registration Guide for Troupe Directors to help navigate the online registration.
4. Submit the Troupe Director (TD) Responsibility form, and the Chaperone Responsibility form.
5. Collect and mail your troupe's Health and Liability / 2018 Chapter Consent and Acceptance Form and your payment. **All forms must be received by January 31, 2018.**
6. Work with students to ensure **all supplemental event forms** are submitted by **January 31, 2018**. *** Opening and Closing Number due earlier.*

Fees

- \$125.00 for Inducted Thespians
- \$150.00 for Non Thespians
- \$15.00 for Festival T-Shirt (Shirts cannot be ordered after January 31, 2018, nor refunded/swapped in the event of substitutions. Limited quantities will be available for purchase on site.
- \$75.00 for Chaperones/Adults without Troupes* (Troupe Directors are free)
- \$100.00 Late Registration Fee – review late registration details [here](#)

The registration fee includes:

Thursday Lunch, Thursday Dinner, Friday Lunch, Friday Dinner
Opportunity to participate in non-IE's such as showcase and tech challenge
Admittance to our All Festival Events, workshops, and late night activities

Payment Information:

The only accepted method of payment is via school/district check, cashiers check, or money order. **No personal checks** will be accepted. Checks for Festival registration should be made out to California Thespians and mailed to:
California Thespians 2058 N. Mills Ave #650 Claremont CA 91711

California State Thespian Tax ID: 56-2407237

What Can Students Do at the Festival?

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

- Monologue (one performer)
- Duet Acting (two performers)
- Group Acting (three to sixteen performers)
- Solo Musical Theatre (one performer)
- Duet Musical Theatre (two performers)
- Group Musical Theatre (three to sixteen performers)
- Musical Theatre Dance (one to eight performers) ***Not an event at the International Thespian Festival*
- Stage Management (one student)
- Costume Construction (one student)
- Short Film (may be a collaborative team)
 - Short Live Action Film
 - Short Animated Film
 - Short Documentary Film
- Lighting Design (one student)
- Make up Design (one student) ***Not an event at the International Thespian Festival*
- Scenic Design (one student)
- Sound Design (one student)
- Theatre Marketing (one student)
- Costume Design (one student)

Please refer to the [National Individual Events Guide 2017-2018](#) as well as the [2017-2018 Summary of IE Changes](#) for more important information.

- Entrants must be an inducted Thespian at the time of registration.
- Freshman and Sophomore students may register for 1 (one) IE entry. Juniors and Seniors may register for 2 (two).
- Individual Event Titles are not required at the time of registration, however, they will be required prior to festival.
 - After Registration you may submit your IE titles [here](#). All IE Title are due by 3/2/2018.
 - Any changes after 3/2/2018 must be submitted by 3/16/18 for a fee of \$25.
 - No IE changes (titles, swaps, or otherwise) will be honored after 3/16/18.
 - Short Film entrants please register [here](#).
- Thespians who receive a majority of Superior ratings may perform one I.E. in June at the International Thespian Festival in Nebraska. (*Musical Theatre Dance and Makeup Design are NOT International Categories*)
- There is a fee of \$25.00 for each I.E. entry. Groups pay one fee per group.
- Each entry must provide five copies of the appropriate National Event Rubric found in the [IE Info](#) section of the California Thespian Website.
- Callbacks will be held for each category that requires more than one room for the initial audition.
- Material must be California Thespians appropriate – see [Comprehensive IE Guidelines](#)
- All entrants must secure the rights to his/her piece. Please see [Rights Information](#).
- Performances must adhere to time limits. After the introduction, timing begins with the first word, musical note, or acting action (if it proceeds the first word or note).
- IE participants must wear all black—head to toe—per International Thespian Regulations.

Individual Event questions may be directed to Cassie Shott at cassie.shott@cathespians.org

Scenefest

Scenefest is an opportunity for a troupe to present a 10-minute selection from a play. There may be any number of actors in the scene. The scenes will be presented Friday afternoon, and students will be encouraged to come and watch. There is a fee to participate in this event because adjudication is given. Selected scenes may be chosen to perform mainstage during the festival weekend. The scene must not be any longer than 10 minutes. 5 minutes is allowed to set up or break down the set. Use of costumes and props is permitted, and chairs are provided. If the scene needs any music, the actors need to bring a battery-operated player. Remember that all material must be appropriate for a school setting. G ratings are preferable. There is limited space, so scenes are selected based on the Troupe's registration completion date.

Scenefest Application may be found [here](#).

Scenefest questions may be directed to Jacquie Thompson-Mercer at jgtlove@aol.com

All State Opening & Closing Numbers

California Thespians will be kicking off the weekend with an All-State opening number that will set off our spectacular festival. In addition California Thespians will be wrapping up the festival with a longer (up to 30 min) multi piece All-State Closing number with is certain to reflective the ensemble that was built through our three days together. All registered troupes are invited to nominate up to four dancers and two vocalists to be considered for this opportunity.

Students apply and participants are selected, prior to festival. The nominees from each troupe will find applications in the [Forms](#) section of the California Thespians website. Applications will be reviewed by a committee and next steps will be provided through email.

The opening number performed on Thursday March 29th and the closing number performed on Saturday March 31st will be a medley of musical numbers that are influenced by our festival theme 'Impressions of a Lifetime.

If invited to perform in the opening or closing number, details regarding the performance including introductions, overview, choreography and more will be shared prior to festival. It is expected that participants review and prepare (i.e. self-rehearsal) prior to festival. If it is clear that a participant has not prepared and is not demonstrating a sincere Thespian effort they will be removed from the cast. There will be on site rehearsals for both performances.

How does the selection process work?:

The choreographer, musical director and two thespian board members will be a part of the selection committee. We are not necessarily looking for the best singers and best dancers, but for the Thespians who show the most interest, most commitment and dedication to this process. Our goal is to choose at least two delegates from each school if they can meet all the criteria listed above with all their application pieces submitted before the deadline.

Why the Change from All State Show?:

As an organization it is important that we constantly change and try new things. In fact, many of our most popular events and opportunities today stem from changes that were made and cultivated many years ago. All State show required a lot, logistically, of our Board, of our Troupe Directors, and of our students. Based on feedback from across the delegation we heard that the ensemble building and broad involvement found within opening number remained one of the highlights for troupes across the board. For this reason we are looking to expand upon this opportunity and reflect the magic that is found throughout the festival as members of each troupe come together to close out our great event.

Applications for this opportunity will close on January 15, 2018

Applications may be found in the [Forms](#) section of the California Thespians website.

Don't miss this opportunity to have your troupe mainstage during festival!

Questions may be directed to Paige Melvin at openingnumber@cathespians.org

PlayWorks

PlayWorks fosters young California playwrights through play development and a staged reading process guided by professional playwrights and directors. Playwrights will need to cooperate with directors and be open to changes. Collaborative works are acceptable. Playwrights will be notified in February if selected. Staged readings may be presented on Main Stage.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

Maximum Reading Time: 20 Minutes

- Playwrights must be an inducted Thespian.
- Playwrights must submit a copy of the play electronically.
- Plays must have a cover page with: the title of the play, author's name, address, phone number with area code, and e-mail address, high school name and troupe number, Troupe Director's name, phone number and e-mail, and signature to indicate approval of the submission. Include a page of character description behind the cover page.
- All material, language and situations must comply with the California Thespians Policy for Appropriate Material. Think "G" rating.
- Plays must be typed, double-spaced, with the character's name centered, stage directions in parentheses and centered, and dialogue directly beneath each character's name in standard manuscript format. Please attach to an e-mail as a word document or pdf.
- Scripts should be 10-20 pages, excluding title page.

If selected:

- Revision based on written recommendations may be requested.
- Playwrights must bring 10 three-hole punched copies of the final draft to the festival.
- Playwrights may NOT audition for All State Show but may participate in Individual Events.
- Playwrights must be available for pre-production meetings with the director prior to the festival.

PlayWorks Script Entry form may be found [here](#).

PlayWorks questions may be directed to Emily Stamets at
emily.stamets@cathespians.org

PlayWorks Auditions

PlayWorks provides another on-site audition and performance opportunity for Thespians. Auditions for the staged reading of the PlayWorks script(s) are held on Friday afternoon and consist of cold readings from the script(s).

To audition, please bring three copies of the PlayWorks Audition Form with a small photo attached to each for the casting committee. Sign up to audition at the PlayWorks location. Actors may be asked to return at a later time. If cast, students must participate in Play Development Workshops and rehearsals on Friday and Saturday.

PlayWorks Audition form may be found [here](#).

Play Marathon

Play Marathon provides an opportunity for troupes to perform a one-act play or a cutting from a full-length show at Festival. California Thespians may recommend one top-quality show from Play Marathon for the Chapter Select Showcase at the International Thespian Festival. Up to four entries may also be chosen to perform Main Stage at the California Thespian Festival: one from the Northern California Play Festival, one from the Southern California Play Festival, and one or two from video submissions. Play Marathon may or may not be a main stage event. Entries may be scheduled for performance in a smaller venue on Friday and/or Saturday.

Submissions should be free of sexually, racially, religiously or culturally offensive material. All selected Play Marathon registrants must arrive no later than noon on Friday. The performance area at the Festival may be limited to 20' by 40'.

RULES FOR ENTRY

- Time Limits: Performance - 30 MINUTES; Set Up – 5 MINUTES; Strike – 3 MINUTES
- A completed Play Marathon Application with a copy of the script (as to be performed), cast list, and proof of rights must be submitted via this form by midnight of January 31, 2018. If you have problems uploading your film, contact the Play marathon coordinator at the e-mail listed below.
- The uploaded video must show the piece, as it will be presented at the Festival. It must show only the 30-minutes the cast will present.
- Entries may be directed by either a student or adult.
- All cast and crew members must be registered delegates.
- Four basic chairs and a table will be provided. Any other set pieces and props must be provided by the performing troupe and may not be stored at the site.
- Costumes and hand props are permitted.
- No internal light cues are allowed. Lighting requirements may only call for lights up and lights down.
- Entries that exceed the time limit will be disqualified.
- Schools/troupes are responsible for any and all expenses, including royalties.
- Troupes must be on site by noon on Friday.

Play Marathon questions may be directed to Billy Houck at billy.houck@cathespians.org

State Thespian Officers

California State Student Board officers are elected at Festival to one-year terms. Each troupe may nominate up to two active members of the Thespian Society to run for office with the recommendation of the Troupe Director. Candidates must have a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or greater and have attended California State Thespian One Day Leadership (North or South.)

If the student is elected, the Troupe Director does not automatically become a member but is encouraged to join the State Board. They may be required to attend some board meetings with the newly elected officer.

Serving on the State Board requires a substantial time commitment and may involve some expense to the student. Director or troupe airfare is covered by CA Thespians. Candidates and their sponsors are required to help out during the Festival where they are a candidate, as well as attend the Festival the next year during their term.

Student State Board offices consist of a President, Vice President, Secretaries, Treasurer, Central Representative, Northern Representative, Southern Representatives, Newsletter Editor, Historian, and Junior Troupe Liaison. All candidates will run as members-at-large. Specific positions will be decided by a consensus of the newly elected Student State Board. Additional candidates may be appointed after ballot tabulation and inducted at Festival with other incoming board members.

Applications for CA State Officer Nomination and Application forms may be found in the Forms section of the California Thespian website.

State Student Board questions may be directed to Vanessa Montgomery at vanessa.montgomery@cathespians.org

Scholarships

Senior Scholarships

California State Thespians will award scholarships to help with college expenses for senior Thespians attending the Thespian Festival. There are three senior scholarship categories: performance, technical/design, and theatre educator. Each troupe can submit only one senior Thespian in each category. To be eligible, each applicant must be a graduating senior with a minimum 2.0 GPA overall, a minimum 3.0 GPA in all arts courses, and is an active member in good standing of his/her Thespian Troupe. Current Thespian ID number and current email address are required. All correspondence will be done through email. Scholarship recipients must enroll in a college or university as performing arts or arts related major or minor for the fall term.

Please complete the Senior Scholarship form [here](#). To complete an Senior Scholarship Application you will need to upload the following. The following items will need to be uploaded with your application, so please prepare them in advance.

- Resume: a one page (8.5 x 11) Resume which includes personal information, performance and technical theatre experiences, training, special talents, club affiliations, honors, awards and other theatre related information.
- A signed Troupe Director/Sponsor Recommendation.
- GPA Verification form signed by High School Academic Counselor
- Personal Statement: a one page (8.5 x 11) typed personal statement which includes:
 - The performing arts major/minor that you intend to pursue
 - Your reasons for selecting this program of study
 - Your aspirations and goals for your future
 - What benefits you have received from your theatre experience, and
 - How your involvement in Thespians has influenced the pursuit of your goals.
 - Theatre Educator Applicants only: include a second personal statement explaining your philosophy of educational theatre and why you have chosen to pursue becoming a theatre arts teacher. You may include examples of inspirational teachers, teaching experiences or teaching ideas and activities.
- Headshot: 3"x 5" or larger photo.

Senior Scholarship questions may be submitted to Eleanor Packwood at
eleanor.packwood@cathespians.org

California Senior Honor Thespian Scholarship

Seniors attending Festival who have attained the rank of Honor Thespian (based on the point system set by the International Thespian Society) may apply to be named a California Senior Honor Thespian. Candidates should be good citizens with service and leadership experiences through his/her Thespian troupe, school, and community – locally, nationally, and/or internationally. A Troupe Director may nominate only one Senior Honor Thespian. Seniors who submit a complete application will be granted an interview (maximum of 10 minutes) at the State Festival.

The panel of interviewers will select a pre-determined number of Senior Honor Thespians to be recognized at the Awards Ceremony at the State Festival.

Senior Scholarship questions may be submitted to Gai Jones at
gai.jones@cathespians.org

Undergraduate Summer Scholarships

California State Thespians will award scholarships to help pay for summer theatre training programs to undergraduate Thespians attending the Thespian Festival. Each troupe can have a maximum of two Thespians apply for this scholarship. To be eligible, each applicant must be a current freshman, sophomore or junior with a minimum 2.0 GPA and be an active member in good standing of his/her Thespian Troupe. All scholarship candidates must submit a completed application via email by the deadline.

Undergraduate Summer Scholarship Application may be found [here](#).

All scholarship candidates completing the application process will be pre-scheduled for an audition/presentation appointment for the first day of festival. Incomplete or late applications will not be scheduled for an appointment.

Performance Auditions: 5 Minutes

- Your presentation must be a solo audition.
- Each performance candidate will be given five minutes in which you perform two memorized contrasting pieces.
- For example, 2 monologues, or 1 monologue and 1 song, or 1 monologue and 1 dance.
- 1 selection must be a monologue.
- All monologues and songs must be from published plays and musicals. Books of monologues, television scripts or film scripts are not acceptable.
- All selections must follow the festival guidelines for appropriate performance material.
- The performance area will be approximately 5' x 5' with one chair and one small table. You may not use any other set pieces, hand props or costumes.
- Thespians performing a song or dance audition must bring a battery operated CD player with accompaniment tape or CD. No piano, accompanist or CD player will be provided. No a capella auditions are allowed.
- Refer to the Festival Registration Guide for information on copyrighted material.

Technical/Design Presentations: 5 Minutes

- You will be given 5 minutes to present your technical theatre/ design portfolio.
- Your portfolio should illustrate your expertise in a technical theatre or design area.
- You may include photos, renderings, models, research and documentation, promptbooks, DVD, and actual work.
- The use of live models can only be used for costume or make up design.
- You must provide your own viewing equipment needed to view DVD, CD-Rom, tapes or slides.
- Be prepared to answer questions from the scholarship judges regarding your technical/ design work, training and goals for the future will follow your presentation.

Interview - 2 Minute

A 2 minute interview with the scholarship judges will immediately following the performance or technical presentation.

Undergraduate Summer Scholarship interview questions may include:

- Why you chose the summer training program
- What you hope to gain from the program
- How the program will benefit your troupe
- Financial need to attend the program.

Undergraduate Summer Scholarship questions may be submitted to Eleanor Packwood at eleanor.packwood@cathespians.org

Ellis Jordan Scholarship

The Ellis Jordan Scholarship is awarded to undergraduate Thespians who have never attended the International Thespian Festival in Lincoln, Nebraska. This scholarship covers the basic registration fee to attend this festival and does not cover transportation costs. Registration for the International Thespian Festival is solely the recipient's responsibility. Each Thespian Troupe attending the CA State Festival may submit a maximum of two applications for this scholarship. All applicants must submit the completed two page scholarship application, resume, Troupe Director recommendation and a one page typed essay on "Why I Want to Attend the ITS Festival and How I Plan to Share My Experience with My Sponsor and Troupe."

The Ellis Jordan Scholarship applications may be found [here](#).

Undergraduate Summer Scholarship questions may be submitted to Eleanor Packwood at eleanor.packwood@cathespians.org

Honors & Community Service Opportunities

Broadway Cares / Equity Fights Aids

How will your Troupe raise money for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights Aids?

The ITS community service project

-A Message from the California Thespian Student State Board-

Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS (BC/EFA) is the official charity for the International Thespian Society. We ask you to begin raising money now in your own troupes, and have the Troupe Sponsor bring a check to turn in at registration. Hold bake sales, set up donation jars, have a Mime-a-thon, or create your own fundraiser. No amount is too small. Troupes who donate will be recognized on mainstage at the Festival as well as receive front of the line passes for each meal at Festival.

In addition to raising money on your own, get ready to do some fundraising at festival! In past years California State Thespians have collected money for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS at the State Festival. This year we are asking you to come ready to show your continued support. Throughout the festival there will be exciting ways to contribute. Be it through fun competitions between troupes, delegates, or sponsors, or through a fast frenzy of donations it will no doubt be an exciting opportunity to support BC/EFA. As always our goal this year is not only to raise as much money as possible, but also to raise awareness in a way that enable students of this generation to connect to the cause. Help us come together as California Thespians to fundraise money and awareness for BC/EFA.

Broadway Cares questions may be submitted to Krista Carson Elhai at krista.carsonelhai@cathespians.org

Trick or Treat so Kids Can Eat

Trick or Treat so Kids Can Eat (TOTS-EAT) is the International Thespian Society's annual nationwide community service initiative to collect food for the hungry. Over 300 Thespian troupes collected more than 421,000 pounds of food during the 2014 TOTS-Eat food drive. Did your troupe help? If so, please contact the State Director, Anthony Robinson, at anthony.j.robinson@cathespians.org so we may recognize your troupe from the mainstage and your support to eradicate hunger in your community.

California Thespians Advocacy Award

New this year, the California Thespians Advocacy Award encourages Thespians to use their Theatre skills to become powerful voices to achieve support for the Arts in Schools.

Who: High School Troupes attending the California State Thespian Festival, and Junior Troupes attending the California Junior Troupe Festival.

What: Arts organizations and arts advocates engage in a variety of strategies and techniques to build support for the Arts. Multilevel arts advocacy activities can happen in schools, communities, districts, counties, and at state, and national levels. Documenting all evidence of your advocacy is vital for a troupe's presentation. This Advocacy Award will be part of California Thespians' part of the national Theatre in Our Schools (TIOS) Celebration support for Theatre Arts.

Where: Troupe representatives present their troupe's advocacy to judges at the 2018 California State Thespian Festival or Junior Festival through digital presentations and/or notebooks and/or trifold display boards with a 10-minute maximum presentation of what your troupe accomplished and a 2-minute accompanying speech, that tells "Why It is Important for Thespians to Advocate for the Arts." The presentation and speech cannot take more than a maximum of 12 minutes. A troupe's Advocacy team can consist of a minimum of 2 and a maximum of 3 registered Thespians.

When: Advocating activities are to be chronicled September 2017 through one week prior to the respective festival in February or March 2018. Electronic application for troupe participation is due with troupe festival registration in February 2018 for Junior Thespian Festival or in March 2018 for the High School Festival.

Why: To raise public awareness of the value of theatre education and draw attention to the need for more access to quality programs for all students. Awards at the respective festival will be given to Outstanding Advocacy Presentations and Speeches.

How: Document all evidence of your advocacy events and campaigns, including, but not limited to community events, theatre for youth, reaching out to school boards, state and national outreaches.

When the Troupe Director registers for the festival, register for a 12 minute slot to present and speak.

Guidelines:

1. Interested troupes discuss commitment to advocate with sponsor, fellow board and troupe members, and set goals.
2. Develop a calendar for advocacy efforts; each month, or bi-monthly activities, and decide who will oversee each activity.
3. Consistently document digitally through written logging, video and photo.
4. Collect samples of work for proof of advocacy and for display and prepare a presentation of troupe's advocacy efforts, followed by a two-minute maximum speech delivered by 2 or 3 team members on the topic: "Why Thespians Should Use Their Talents to Advocate for Theatre Arts."
5. Utilize SchoolTheatre.org Advocating ideas, important statistics, and links.

For ideas of how to reach out at the local, state, and national levels, check out the [California Thespians Advocacy Award information page](#).

For questions, contact gai.jones@cathespians.org or alison.johnson@cathespians.org

Honor Troupe

The California State Thespian Board may recognize up to three troupes each year as Honor Troupes. These are troupes that represent Thespians at their best. Those honored will receive recognition at Festival, letters of commendation to the school's principal and district superintendent, and a plaque. Entries are coded to assure anonymity when judged by previous Honor Troupe Directors. It is possible that no troupes will be chosen. A school that received this honor in the past five years may be considered again for this honor if paper work is submitted. Application is available in the [Forms](#) section of the California Thespians website.

Honor Troupe questions may be submitted to Michele Richardson at michele.richardson@cathespians.org

California Thespian Hall of Fame

The California Thespian Hall of Fame honors individual adults who have contributed to and been actively involved with California State Thespians. Any active adult member of the Educational Theatre Association may nominate a maximum of two individuals within an academic year. Hall of Fame inductees are announced and honored at the State Festival.

The Hall of Fame Nomination may be found [here](#).
Hall of Fame questions may be submitted to Krista Carson Elhai at krista.carsonelhai@cathespians.org

More Fun Stuff to do at ThesFest 2018

Showcase

Do you have a hidden talent that you'd like to share with the festival-goers? Are you a secret stand-up comic? A juggler? A hip-hop or poetry slam artist? Do you perform your own music or choreography? Are you a human beat box? Or do you simply want to polish that new monologue, scene, or group act? Be part of late-night theatre at its most innovative and sign up for Showcase on Friday or Saturday night. Preference will be given to the original, the unpublished, and the out-of-the-ordinary material. Costumes and props are encouraged! Appropriate material guidelines will be adhered to. Please no I.E. pieces!

Showcase questions may be directed to Jacquie Thompson-Mercer at jgtlove@aol.com

Dances & Karaoke

Festivalgoers will have the opportunity to attend a dance and perform Karaoke. Check Festival Program for time and location. Dance theme will be sent out to registered troupes.

Tech Challenge

This event is open to all registered student delegates. Any number of students may compete in the areas of sound, lighting, costumes, props and more. Awards are given to individuals and to the top team. Just show up to participate-no forms needed. No experience is necessary.

Tech Challenge questions may be directed to Olivia Parker at olivia.parker@cathespians.org

Open Workshops

Students have the opportunity to participate in a variety of workshops on the first day of the festival. Want some last minute advice on a scholarship or IE performance? Stop by one of our wildly popular "Monologue and Scene Repair" workshops! Have down time between IE's? Drop in for an Improv workshop! Not signed up for IE's? Try your hand at playwrighting! Specific workshop titles will be available at the festival.

Individual Event Room Monitors

Individual events take many people to run smoothly. Besides Troupe Directors serving as judges and chaperones serving as door monitors, students are needed to serve as Room Chairs. All schools entering delegates in any Individual Event category must provide a minimum of two students to serve as I.E. Room Chairs who will attend a training meeting on either Thursday evening or Friday morning (depending upon Troupe arrival time) in order to work a shift in an I.E. room. All students will receive a Certificate of Community Service.

Please identify the troupe's selected delegates to serve as I.E. Room Chairs when registering using the California Thespian On-line registration system.

Individual Events Room Monitor questions may be directed to Olivia Parker
olivia.parker@cathespians.org

Improv Spectacular

- There is a limit of 32 teams who may participate in this event.
- Each school may submit one team of five students who have been working on the 2-3 minute games that will be scored by the IMPROV SPECTACULAR judges.
- Each team will get the chance to perform two of the four games listed below. The teams will not know which games will be assigned to them until the moment before performance. All acting suggestions will be given by the judges at the time of performance.
- There will be three different rooms and three different sets of judges to which the students may be sent. Each room will be assigned a game. Each set of judges will give points for each performance. The team with the highest accumulative score for the day will be announced on stage and given a scholarship to Comedy Sportz Summer Classes.
- Individuals may sign up and will be assigned to a team with other individuals as space allows.
- Troupe Directors should email the school's name, troupe number and names of participants to pmcloy@nlmusd.k12.ca.us. It is on a first come, first serve basis.
- Points are awarded based on:
 - 1) Each group's ability to play together as a cohesive unit. The games in this event are to be played by all members of the team.
 - 2) A group's ability to follow the rules set forth by the IMPROV SPECTACULAR descriptions of games. This is especially important, as many games are taught by different names or with slightly different sets of rules. In order to maintain consistency, it is important that all teams play these games by the same rules.
 - 3) A group's ability to play each game with a beginning, middle, and end within the suggested time limit.
 - 4) A group's ability to play at the top of their intelligence. Please stay away from blue humor, shock value, racism, etc.

Improv Spectacular Games

Vantage Point: Each player receives a character suggestion (an emotion or personality trait) and each team receives a suggestion of an event (ie a wedding, a funeral, etc.) The players will then line up in front of the audience and tell the story of the event from their character's perspective. The play starts with every character introducing him or herself by name. The order in which the characters speak is determined by the original order the players establish in their first round of speaking, not by the judge. There should be balanced contribution to the story from each player. After the introductions, information about the character relationships and a specific event the characters were all a part of or witness to should be revealed. Each character needs to reflect on the event from their own perspective, as they add elements to the story. Points for this game will be assigned on the overall cohesion of the story, the team's ability to reincorporate elements from from the other players' stories, and the team's ability to give and take focus. Strong characters and strong story lines will benefit the team.

Improv Spectacular Games cont.

Vantage Point: Each player receives a character suggestion (an emotion or personality trait) and each team receives a suggestion of an event (ie a wedding, a funeral, etc.) The players will then line up in front of the audience and tell the story of the event from their character's perspective. The play starts with every character introducing him or herself by name. The order in which the characters speak is determined by the original order the players establish in their first round of speaking, not by the judge. There should be balanced contribution to the story from each player. After the introductions, information about the character relationships and a specific event the characters were all a part of or witness to should be revealed. Each character needs to reflect on the event from their own perspective, as they add elements to the story. Points for this game will be assigned on the overall cohesion of the story, the team's ability to reincorporate elements from from the other players' stories, and the team's ability to give and take focus. Strong characters and strong story lines will benefit the team.

Whose Line: The Judge will give each team member slips of paper containing random lines of dialog ue from conversation, songs, or movies. The slips of paper will be put into their pockets or held in an envelope until used in the scene. Team members may not look at the slips of paper before they use them in the scene. Two players will begin the scene with an environment suggested by the judge. At any point during the scene, the players may read one of their slips of paper as a replacement for what they were going to say next. Players who are not the original scene starters may enter and exit the scene justifiably and use their slips of paper in the same manner. Players must fluidly justify the random line they have just read within the context of the scene. Slips of suggested dialogue should be used sporadically throughout the scene and not one right after the other.

Points will be assigned for each player's ability to keep the scene's story intact while justifying within the scene the line they have just incorporated from the slip of paper. Action involving the environment and other characters will enhance the scenes as well.

Space Jump: A freeze game- The Judge for this game will provide the team with a NOUN. The first player will create a scene ALONE involving that noun. After some time, the second player will yell, "SPACE JUMP." That will freeze the first player allowing the second player to create a NEW scene involving the first player. Players 3, 4, and 5 will enter the same way. Each NEW scene involves all the previous players. When all five players are in, the fifth player will exit the scene with a "SPACE JUMP", leaving the other four players to go back to the PREVIOUS scene. The scenes will continue to go backwards until that first player is left alone with the original NOUN in the original scene.

Points will be awarded based on the team's ability to work together to present full, well-rounded scenes involving strong characters and interesting storylines that continue throughout the evolution of the game.

Movie Director: The Judge will give the suggestion of a crime of some sort. Four players will create a scene involving that crime. The scene should last no longer 30 seconds. The remaining player will act as an old time movie director, yelling "CUT!" at some point during that scene. The director will then give new suggestions to each of the players acting out the crime scene (ie. this time you're a bear, you're underwater, you're Miley Cyrus, etc) The players will act the same crime scene incorporating the new suggestions from the director. The team will perform this crime scene three times in total.

Points will be awarded for the team's ability to create an initial scene involving the crime, to incorporate the suggestions of the director while keeping the scene intact, and to give and take focus to improve the scene.

Improvisation questions may be directed to Pat McLoy at pmcloy@nlmusd.k12.ca.us

Alumni Information

Festival Alumni

This is for former delegates to the Festival returning as volunteer staff. The Alumni Staff is an essential part of the workings of the State Festival by doing a variety of jobs throughout the weekend. Alumni staff members work from 7:00 p.m. on the Thursday before Festival through 1:30 p.m. on Sunday. In return for services, each staff member receives a Festival T-shirt, a stipend, and all Festival meals. Alumni Staff is required to make arrangements and pay for personal accommodations and transportation.

Troupe Directors should contact alumni, including past scholarship recipients, to invite them to work at the State Festival. The Alumni Staff Application and Health & Liability / Chapter Consent and Acceptance Form must be emailed to alumni@cathespians.org. These forms must be submitted by January 31, 2018. Alumni will be notified of acceptance.

Questions regarding Festival Alumni should be directed to Michael Aldama
michael.aldama@cathespians.org



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