

PDA Original One-Acts

Due Thursday, November 10, 2022

ORIGINAL PLAYWRITING AWARDS:

- First, Second, Third are invited to perform at the festival using a modified READER'S THEATRE format.
- Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth (or Honorable Mentions) are awarded at the discretion of the judges

Original One-Act Play Entries & ADJUDICATION INFORMATION

Original One-Act Plays should conform to the following criteria and will be judged with these guidelines:

FORMAT

- Adjudicated on a scale of -1 to +1.
- A title page, cast of characters, description of setting (Time/Place) and appropriate stage directions should be included. Entries should be typed, and pages should be numbered.
- Important Note: Only the name of the school may appear on the title page of the play; the student's name is not permitted to appear there.

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

- Adjudicated on a scale of 1 to 5.
- Clear relationship of characters to each other.
- Characters should be vivid and three-dimensional.
- Characters should be named.
- An age range for characters should be indicated.
- Include a brief physical description of each character.

PLOT DEVELOPMENT

- Adjudicated on a scale of 1 to 5.
- Clear Beginning, Middle, End.
- Exposition, Inciting Incident, Rising Action, Climax, Falling Action, Conclusion.

EFFECTIVE DIALOGUE

- Adjudicated on a scale of 1 to 5.
- Active (versus narrative).

GENERAL INFORMATION

- Any number of original, one-act plays may be submitted by a school; but teachers are encouraged to exercise discretion in selecting plays to be submitted. For each play submitted there is a \$5.00 entry fee.
- Original one-act plays may be written by no more than three (3) authors in collaboration.
- **PLAYS WRITTEN BY A CLASS OR BY A GROUP (of more than 3) FOR A CLASS PROJECT ARE NOT ELIGIBLE.**
- Plays will be read and critiqued by a playwriting committee comprised of professional playwrights and/or playwriting instructors.
- Up to the "top" six plays will be recognized, with the top three performing during the festival.
- The PDA President will notify schools in ample time. (No later than the re-opening of school in January.)

DEADLINE for ORIGINAL ONE ACTS: Thursday, Nov. 10, 2022.

FORMAT for Presenting the Original One-Acts at the Festival:

- The emphasis on the Original One-Act competition is on the writing; therefore the presentation at festival follows a Reader's Theatre format instead of a main stage production.
- Schools will not need to provide a full set, and costuming can be either all-blacks or a simple use of color to represent characters.
- The use of hand-held props are allowed, and blocking should be at a minimal.
- Chairs or stools, small tables and music stands for scripts will be available from the host school.
- In order to accommodate more schools in the one-act festival, the Originals will be presented on Saturday in a studio setting instead of the main stage.
- Only the top three scripts selected by the playwriting judges will be presented at the festival.