



# Theatre for Youth Guidelines

## Theatre for Youth Eligibility

Any amateur group that performs plays with content intended for young audiences is eligible to participate in the MTA Theatre for Youth Festival.

## Theatre for Youth Festival Fee

1. Any theatre performing in the Theatre for Youth Festival will be responsible for paying the theatre festival fee of \$50 per theatre/production
2. Anyone planning to stay for the entire festival or the remaining portion of the festival will need to either pay the applicable weekend pass or the festival fee + MTA membership fee.

## Theatre for Youth Selection Guidelines

1. Productions entered in the festival may be of any type provided the material presented is appropriate for children.
  - a. Each participating group must inform the Chair of the Theatre for Youth Division if their show contains material that makes it unsuitable for younger audiences. As the division is for young audiences, the material should be suitable for all ages. The Chair retains the discretion to refuse to allow unsuitable content to be performed in the festival.
  - b. To be included in year-round resources provided to schools, daycares, and organizations for youth across Mississippi, selections must be original or public domain and participants must sign a media release form; however, this guideline is not mandatory for participation in the TFY festival.
  - c. Care will be taken to match each show with an appropriate audience.
2. The total length allotted for each individual production will be 30 minutes.

## **Other Theatre for Youth Production Rules**

1. Each group needs to arrive prepared to set up and strike their own set.
2. The house will remain open during set-up. However, the doors will close and remain closed during the production.
3. Any special requirements (time slots, technical requirements, use of special effects, etc.) must be approved by the Theatre for Youth Division Chair.

## **Theatre For Youth Festival Participation Requirements**

1. Before the Theatre for Youth Festival at MTA, each group is required to submit the following information to the Chair of the Theatre for Youth Division:
  - a. Proof of Permission to Perform / Proof of Payment of Royalty (if applicable)
  - b. Proof of Theatre for Youth Festival Entry Fee (payable online or with organizational registration)
  - c. Entry / Information Sheet
  - d. Signed media release forms for each performer (if applicable, see selection guidelines 1.b.)
2. Each school must provide 3 copies of the following information to the Chair prior to the performance (The Chair will file one copy and distribute a copy to each of the Theatre for Youth respondents):
  - a. School / Organization Name
  - b. Title of the Play
  - c. Author of the Play
  - d. Cast of Characters in Speaking Order:
    - i. Character Name and Actor Name
      - » If the character does not have a name that is called in the play, include a description of some type that clearly allows the adjudicators to distinguish among actors
      - » Example 1: "CINDERELLA - Harriett Thompson"
      - » Example 2: "DWARF: red hat, green boots, big glasses - Marcellus Nguyen"
  - e. Director, Crew, and Additional Support

## **Theatre For Youth Host Theatre Facilities**

1. The host community will provide a facility in which to perform.
2. The host facility will provide basic lighting and sound as needed.
3. Each participating group is responsible for furnishing sets, props, and furniture needed for its production.