



REGIONAL

10 MINUTE / DEvised THEATRE FESTIVALS

(2021 Rules Below. 2022 Rules will be posted in early September 2022)

The 10-Minute / Devised Theatre Festival provides an opportunity for students to expand their horizons and hone their skills.

The Kennedy Center states that, “devising is loosely defined as the process of collaboratively creating a new work without a pre-existing script wherein the collaborators are also the performers. In the standard theatre model, a single playwright writes the text and then a director casts actors and selects designers to interpret that text, resulting in a theatre production. With devised theatre, however, the collective artists begin without a script. A devised piece of theatre can literally start with anything: a painting, a song, a real-life event, a novel to adapt, a prompt, etc. Multiple ways to devise exist. However, a deep study of devising shows that many companies’ processes include five key stages: research, creation, development, rehearsal, and performance.”

MTA hosts 3 regional 10 Minute / Devised Theatre Festivals. The 2021 festival focus was Devised Theatre for Change where students had the opportunity to engage in and promote discourse on challenging topics.

Each school will be allowed to have 3 teams consisting of 6 individuals on each team. Teams must have 6 members. Incomplete teams will be ineligible to participate. The students will then be put into groups of 6, all from different schools. The students will have 9 ½ hours to devise and rehearse the production and the performance will be performed at 6:00 pm that evening.

Contact Information:

For more information contact the regional chair.

North Region – Elizabeth Thomas-Hines – ehines@tcsk12.com

Central Region – Randy Ferino – ferino2006@aol.com

South Region – Carrie Ferguson-Bellew – carrie.bellew@lbsdk12.com

Participation Guidelines

The 2021 Prompt – We Can do Better

Ensemble members were assigned from various schools. Teachers provided them with ideas for source material related to this prompt. For example – Racial Inequity, Voting Suppression, Inclusiveness. Source material does not have to be heavy. The prompt “We can do Better” can mean many things but students participating in this project should all come into it with an idea to serve as source material

Rules and Regulations

- Students will be divided into random groups and will select from the source material they have each brought the theme or idea that will inform the process of their creation. One student may serve as the scribe, but the play belongs to all involved.
- Students will explore and create by working with Moment Work Technique as defined by Tectonic Theatre Project. This will be covered in the MTA Teacher Workshop. The best resource is the book Moment Work: Tectonic Theatre Project’s Process of Devising. Each student must bring 1 prop and 1 costume to be incorporated into the play.
- The groups will work together and rehearse in break out rooms. They will come together, and audiences will be invited to watch the plays.
- Adjudicators will give live responses.
- Time Limit is a Ten-Minute Play
- The 10- Minute / Devised Play Festival is open to any school or organization in the State of Mississippi. This includes public and private high schools, performing arts schools, dual enrollment institutions, charter schools, and home school groups.
- Participants must be enrolled in a school program and must be accompanied by a sponsor.
- Each individual team must pay a registration fee of \$100. Schools are also encouraged to be, or to become, organizational members of MTA. Registration payment must be received prior to, or at, the festival check-in.

- Each group will have one adult who will help to guide the students through the devised process. This individual will also determine their group's break times. This individual will need to keep the Regional Chair always advised of their group's locations.
- A floor plan of the performance area will be distributed to the directors and ADs when scripts are distributed.
- General furnishing, lighting, and a sound system will be supplied by the festival. However, these aspects may be limited. Any other aspects (music, costumes, make-up, props...etc.) will be the responsibility of the director, assistant director, and actors.

Critiques

Three Respondents, selected by the Regional Chair and knowledgeable in the field of dramatic production, shall share a 30-minute oral critique following all of the performances. Critiques shall be open to the audience.

Among the criteria to be considered:

Writing

- Are the characters well developed?
- Does the dialogue reflect thoughtfulness?
- Is the material appropriate for the group?
- Is the material worth the time and effort?

Directing

- Is the concept appropriate for the material?
- How well has the structure of the play been controlled?
- How effective are movement and stage pictures?
- Was attention given to pacing, tempo, variety, and subtle nuances?

Acting

- Is the acting believable?
- Is the acting technically skillful?
- Are the characters well interpreted?

Technical

- Do the technical elements support the production?
- Set Props
- Sound (if applicable) Lighting
- Costuming Make-up.

Overall Production

- Does the company display ensemble work?
- How well is the concept realized by the group?
- How effective was the total impact?

2021 Regional Dates, Locations, and Contacts

North

Saturday, October 2

Corinth Coliseum, 404 Taylor Street, Corinth, MS 38834

Elizabeth Thomas-Hines, Regional Chair, ehines@tcsk12.com

-The North region will also be offering free tickets to a local performance of Mississippi Repertory Theatre's production of *6 Characters in Search of an Author* following the 10 Minute / Devised Theatre Festival

South

Saturday, October 2

Biloxi High School, 1845 Tribe Drive, Biloxi, MS 39532

Carrie Ferguson-Bellew, Regional Chair, carrie.bellew@lbsdk12.com

Central

Saturday, October 23

Meridian Little Theatre, 4334 MS-39, Meridian, MS 39301

Randy Ferino, Regional Chair, ferino2006@aol.com

2022 Regional Date, Locations, and Contacts will be updated in early September 2022

Agenda

8:30 AM	Registration Check-In
9:00 AM	Welcome
9:30 AM	Get to Know You Games
10:45 AM	Rules / Explain Devised Theatre
11:00 AM	Draw for New Groups
11:15 AM	Split to Work Areas to Begin Writing
12:00 PM	Working Lunch
3:30 PM	Stage Rehearsals Begin
6:00 PM	Performances Begin (Adjudications Will Follow)

MTA 10 – Minutes / Virtual Devised Theatre Festival

Registration Opens August 15
Registration Deadline - September 24

Regional Festival Registration

___ North (October 2) ___ Central (October 23) ___ South (October 2)

Name of School:

Address: _____ Zip Code: _____

Director / Sponsor:

Email Address: _____ Phone: _____

Team #1

Student #1 _____ Student #4 _____

Student #2 _____ Student #5 _____

Student #3 _____ Student #6 _____

Team #2

Student #1 _____ Student #4 _____

Student #2 _____ Student #5 _____

Student #3 _____ Student #6 _____

Team #3

Student #1 _____ Student #4 _____

Student #2 _____ Student #5 _____

Student #3 _____ Student #6 _____

(Registration Fees - \$100 Per Team.)

(Make Checks Payable to: Mississippi Theatre Association, P.O. Box 320901, Flowood, MS
39232)