

# **Mississippi High School Regional Drama Festival Information**

Thank you for your interest in MTA's Mississippi High School Regional Drama Festival! The Regional Drama Festivals (North DramaFest & South DramaFest) are two-day one-act play competitions that bring schools from across the North and South regions together to share their hard work and their love of theatre.

The state is separated into North (above 1-20) and South (below I-20) regions for the regional festivals. North DramaFest is held at Mississippi State University in McComas Hall. South DramaFest is held at the University of Southern Mississippi in the Mannoni Performing Arts Center.

The Regional DramaFests are the qualifying festivals for the MTA Secondary One-Act Festival held during the annual festival in January (MLK Weekend) every year.

The DramaFest host schools work with the MTA Board of Directors and staff to provide the best theatrical experience possible.

Observing schools are welcome at DramaFest! This is a great opportunity to see what the festival has to offer. See the registration costs section of this document for pricing information.

We look forward to celebrating the great theatre that you are creating! We hope this experience is one that you and your students will be proud of now and for years to come.

A full list of secondary DramaFest guidelines, expectations, and rubrics can be found on pages 33-50 of the <u>MTA</u> <u>Handbook</u>.

## DramaFest 2023 will be held on December 1-2, 2023

#### North Regional DramaFest

- Tonya Hays, Festival Coordinator; <u>THays@comm.msstate.edu</u>
- Festival Site: McComas Hall, Mississippi State University
- Make checks payable to Theatre MSU
  - Mail payments to: Mississippi State University Department of Communications Attn: Tonya Hays 216 President's Circle PO Box PF Mississippi State, MS 39762
- Direct rules questions to Secondary Vice Chair, Sarah Hankins; <u>Secondary@mississippitheatre.org</u>

#### South Regional DramaFest

- Camille Colley, Festival Coordinator; <u>Camille.Colley@usm.edu</u>
- Festival Site: Mannoni Performing Arts Center, University of Southern Mississippi

NORTH

SOUTH

- Make checks payable to **USM Theatre**
- Mail payments to: University of Southern Mississippi Theatre and Dance Department Attn: Camille Colley 118 College Drive Box 5052 Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001
- Direct rules questions to Secondary Chair, Olivia Dunwoody; <u>Secondary@mississippitheatre.org</u>

## **DramaFest Registration Process**

There are THREE (3) steps to the DramaFest registration process. 1.) DramaFest Letter of Intent Jotform; 2.) Registration Jotform; 3.) Supporting Materials Jotform. Instructions and information are below.

#### Save all documents as: [name of school]-[name of festival]-[name of document]

CentralHS-South-PerformanceRights.pdf SmallTownHS-North-PermissionCut.pdf

## 1.) <u>Letter of Intent</u>

- a.) Open for Submission: September 15, 2023, 8:00 a.m.
- b.) Secures a performance spot for the festival
- c.) Each region can accommodate up to 16 performing schools
- d.) Performance spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis
- e.) If a region reaches capacity, additional schools will be placed on a waiting list
- f.) Observing schools DO NOT need to complete the Letter of Intent

## 2.) Registration Jotform

- a.) Registration Deadline: November 1, 2023, 11:59 a.m.
- b.) Performing schools must provide all information below
- c.) **Observing schools** must complete the registration form but will not have to provide production information

#### d.) Demographic information

- i.) Demographic information assists MTA gain insights into the diversity of student participants
- ii.) Provide race/ethnicity information of participating students
  - (1) White/Caucasian
  - (2) Black/African American
  - (3) Hispanic/Latino
  - (4) Asian
  - (5) Native American/Alaskan Native
  - (6) Hawaiian Native/Pacific Islander

#### e.) Required play information

- i.) Title
- ii.) Author(s)
- iii.) Publisher

#### f.) Proof of rights and royalties

- i.) Contract (or equivalent proof) for play performance (.pdf)
- ii.) Proof of permission to cut (if applicable) (.pdf)
- iii.) Proof to use any other published materials (music, videos, etc., if applicable) (.pdf)

#### g.) Festival program information

- i.) Cast/crew information as a **ONE PAGE** editable word document (.doc, .docx)
- ii.) Title of play
- iii.) Author of play
- iv.) Publisher/royalty agent & required attribution text
- v.) Cast of characters (including character names and actor names)
- vi.) Production team (including director[s], crew, and other support)
- vii.) Other information to be included in the festival program, space permitting (e.g., setting, special thanks, etc.)
- viii.) Social media handle & hashtags (as applicable)

#### h.) Special advisory information

- i.) If your production contains potentially sensitive material, please indicate it in this section.
- ii.) See the MTA handbook (p. 37) for a list of recommended advisory warnings.

PEOPLE HOLDING SIGNS		
By: Jayde Gibson		
South Central High School - Pestival Prod	sclion	
SETTING		
Washington D.C 1913, 1963, 2014		
New York City - 1969, 1962, 2020		
CAST		
ELEEN	Joyce Gibbons	
BRAKTON	Mo Perm	
ALEXA	Meera Bransh	
SUKHMANI	Sumiya Ela	
MILLE	Kaldyn Smith	
TAYLA	Nikki Martin	
	kiasoah Evana Marrus Ostriithan	
ENSEMBLE	Hannah Evans, Marcus Ortinithan	
	Hannah Evans, Marcus Ordnithan, Iland, Emily Sanders, Lizzy Franklin	
Kut Kit	iland, Emily Sanders, Lizzy Franklin	
Kut Kin PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW DIRECTOR	iland, Emily Sanders, Lizzy Franklin Dillon Zavala	
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## 3.) Supporting Materials Jotform

- a.) Supporting materials deadline: November 27, 2023; 10:00 a.m.
- b.) Statement of Circumstance & Declaration of Work
  - i.) Document how work on your production was completed
  - ii.) Adjudicators will receive this document
  - iii.) Download fillable .pdf, complete on the computer, save, and upload to the Supporting Materials Jotform

#### c.) One-sheet program

- i.) The one-sheet program is given to adjudicators to help them identify specific performers during deliberation (.pdf)
- ii.) List characters with a sufficient description of their appearance to help adjudicators accurately identify the performers
  - (1) Example 1: "BJORIA: dark red pants, combat boots, green army-style jacket, dreadlocks - Zoë Panlener"
  - (2) Example 2: "ENSEMBLE: blonde wig, purple pants Chance DeLacey"

#### d.) Labeled cast photo

- i.) Submit a clearly labeled, staged production photo (.pdf or .jpg).
- ii.) Label the photo with performers' and characters' names
- iii.) All performers should be in costume and labeled with the name of the character and the performer
- iv.) This photograph will assist the adjudicators in accurately identifying performers
- v.) This photo should not exceed 8x10" or 2400x3000 px

#### 4.) Registration Costs

- a.) Competing school fee \$100
- b.) Observing school fee \$0
- c.) Student fee \$15 each
- d.) Chaperone 1 **free** per 5 students
- e.) Additional chaperones or observers \$10 each

## **Production Selection Information**

MTA prohibits schools from bringing a selection that was produced at a regional festival in the three years prior to the current festival year. Refer to the Banned Productions lists below when selecting a festival piece. The productions marked with an asterisk (\*) were MTA State Festival productions and cannot be performed at either regional festival (North or South).

Banned Productions 2020-2023				
Year	North Region (MSU)	South Region (USM)		
2 0 2 2 - 2	<ul> <li>The Crucible by Authur Miller *</li> <li>Babette's Feast Conceived and developed by Abigail Killeen. Written by Rose Courtney. Adapted from the short story by Isak Dinesen*</li> <li>Aunt Leaf by Barbara Wiechmann *</li> <li>We Shall by Morning by Kerri Sanders *</li> <li>Digging Up the Boys by Laura Lundgren Smith</li> <li>The Prisoner's Hands by E. Jack Williams</li> <li>Laughing Stock by Bradley Hayward</li> <li>The New Margo by Stephen Gregg</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>The Inexplicable Chaos Factor of Mia Gregory by Emily Hageman*</li> <li>Pains, Twains, and Something Surreal by Jordan West*</li> <li>A Breach in the Darkness by Suzanne Allmon*</li> <li>¡Bocón! By Lisa Loomer*</li> <li>Nina Simone: Four Women by Christina Ham</li> <li>I Don't Want to Talk About It by Bradly Hayward</li> <li>Just A Stage He's Going Through by Pat Cook</li> <li>Sorry, Wrong Number by Lucille Fletcher</li> </ul>		



SAMPLE ONE-SHEET PROGRAM FOR SECONDARY	FESTIVALS
PEOPLE HOLDING SIGNS	
By: Javde Gibson	
South Central High School - Peatwal Production	
SETTING	
Washington D.C 1913, 1963, 2014	
New York City - 1969, 1982, 2020	
CAST	
ELEEN (long, salmon-colored dress with pooly sleeves + - sign: "Votes for Women")	Joyce Obbons
BRAXTON (male, African American, khakis, button up - sign: "We Demand Jobs Now	
NLEXA (cloth mask, fitted green cardigan, jeans - sign: '#RLM')	Meers Branch
SURHMAM (block stacks, floral shirt +, hijab - sign: "Water's rising, should we?")	
BLLIE (ong brown hair in braids, flower power dress + - sign: 'Make anything but W	
DRYLA (black turtleneck, tweed vest +, chinos, black also - sign: "Power to the People	O
INSEMBLE: Hannah Evans (short hair, solid grey shirt, bio	e jeans, combat boots)
Marcus Ordnithon (snew-out brown hair, bomber jack	
Kurt Kirkland (shaggy light brown hair, very tail and thin, baske	
Emity Sanders (blonde hair in French braid, penoil skirt +, while bi	
Lizzy Franklin (all and thin, braided hair with beads, baggy black swea	(ponts and graphic lee)
PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW	
DIRECTOR	Dillos Zavala
TUDENT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Alsha Berger
JOHT OPERATOR	Yasmin Ashloy
IOUND OPERATOR	JoAvva Rath
	Aaisha Berger Fronk Hedman
PUBLICITY DESIGNER (POSTER, TICKETS, SOCIAL, MEDIA)	Pronk Holmon water Production Class
SCHS TO CONSTRUCTION & ACQUISITION	
CREDITS PEOPLE HOLDING SIGNS is organized through special attangement with the plane	wright Javde Gibeon
Isolate by Scomber (c) copyright 2020 Licensed under a Creative Commons Attributio license. http://dig.comiate.cog/files/scomber/81322 P1 Buenillevi	
Ensee Racism by J Lang (z) copyright 2020 Licensed under a Creative Commons At http://do.com/der.com/files/diang29/618/75 Ft: Donnie Ozone	tribution (3.0) license.
Scott Hannelty is a local professional costumer who volunteered to build certain cost	
festival production. Scott's professionally-constructed cesturnes are marked in th	re cast list with (+).
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SAMPLE LABELED PRODUCTION PHOT	0
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0 2 3	<ul> <li>Ashes, Ashes, We All Fall Down by Elizabeth Thomas-Hines</li> <li>It Was Never Designed with Negros in Mind (The Slaughter of Mary Turner) by Randy Ferino</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Two Hands on the Indigo Flower by Theresa Geboy</li> <li>4 AM by Jonathan Dorf</li> <li>Eurydice by Sarah Ruhl</li> <li>Tuesdays and Sundays by Daniel Arnold and Medina Hahn</li> <li>The Election by Jonathan Turner Smith</li> </ul>
Year	North Region (MSU)	South Region (USM)
2 0 2 1 - 2 0 2 2	<ul> <li>Strangers on a Train by Craig Warner*</li> <li>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, Adapted by Dwayne Hartford from the book by Kate DiCamillo *</li> <li>Icarus by Jessica Chipman*</li> <li>Decoration Day (The Annihilation Of Black Wall Street) by Randy Ferino*</li> <li>The Tricks of Scapin by Aurand Harris</li> <li>A Game by Dennis Noble</li> <li>Declaration by Jonathan Dorf</li> <li>The Girl in the White Pinafore by Jiggs Burgess</li> <li>The 146 Point Flame by Matt Thonmpson</li> <li>Bippity, Boppity, Billy Shakes by Elizabeth Thomas- Hines</li> <li>The Civility of Those Who Wait by Louis Codling</li> <li>Peter/Wendy by Jeremy Bloom</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>Check Please by Jonathan Rand*</li> <li>Brian the Comet by Emily Hagerman*</li> <li>The Old Man and the Old Moon by PigPen Theatre Co.*</li> <li>I and You by Lauren Gunderson*</li> <li>The Green Bird by Hillary DePiano</li> <li>Crimson by Chris Permenter and Amanda Walley</li> <li>Dreamwalk by Eddie Kennedy</li> <li>War, Peace, and Cookies by Aaron Shepard</li> <li>The Monster by John Haman</li> <li>Scenes from Argonautika by Mary Zimmerman</li> <li>We Are the Sea by Laura Lundgren Smith</li> <li>Gothic Ghost Stories by Lindsay Price</li> </ul>
Year	North Region (MSU)	South Region (USM)
2 0 2 0 - 2 0 2 1	<ul> <li>Crushed by Don Zolidis*</li> <li>Meeting the Antagonist by 2020 Competition Play Cast*</li> <li>Smoke on the Mountain by Connie Ray*</li> <li>Amelia Earhart: Flights of Fancy by Will Huddleston*</li> <li>No Child by Nilaja Sun</li> <li>The Last Illusion by B. Dwayne Craft</li> <li>Almost, Maine by John Cariani</li> <li>Emotional Baggage by Lindsay Price</li> <li>Roomers by Jerome McDonough</li> <li>Sillyheart by Billy Boone</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>And by Alan Haehel*</li> <li>Our Place by Terry Gabbard*</li> <li>Arabian Nights by Dominic Cooke*</li> <li>War of the Worlds: The Radio Show by Howard Koch*</li> <li>Desdemona in the Afterlife by Nelly Cuellar-Garcia*</li> <li>Makin' Up Midsummer in the Mountains by Stone High School Drama Team</li> <li>Mrs. Pinwiffle's Big Day by the St. Patrick Drama Guild</li> <li>The Terrible Infants by Oliver Lansley</li> <li>Dear Diary by The Blue Maskers Drama Team</li> <li>Bend in the River: Louisiana's Secret People by Tonya Sanders Hays</li> </ul>