



The 2024 Mississippi Theatre Association State Festival will take place on January 11-14, 2024, at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Harrison County Campus (MGCCC). The MTA State Festival offers multiple opportunities for student and adult theatre makers to engage in theatre activities. Follow the instructions on this page to complete your registration for MTA 2024.

## REGISTER FOR MTA 2024

Before registering for MTA 2024, review the MTA Checklist on [mississippitheatre.org/registration](https://mississippitheatre.org/registration) for required action items and deadlines and watch our "How to Register for MTA" video!

Registration for MTA 2024 is available at [mississippitheatre.ludus.com](https://mississippitheatre.ludus.com).

1. **Select Payment Option.** There are TWO options for registration:
  - a. **PAY LATER:**
    - For cash, check, and purchase order payments, choose **MTA State Festival 2024 – January 11-14, 2024 – PAY LATER.**
    - This option allows participants to complete registration without submitting immediate payment.
    - Registrants will receive an invoice following registration.
    - Registrants choosing the PAY LATER option must complete the MTA Registration Quote Worksheet.
    - To request a copy of the MTA Registration Quote Worksheet, email [President@mississippitheatre.org](mailto:President@mississippitheatre.org).
  - b. **PAY NOW:**
    - For credit card payments, choose **MTA State Festival 2024 – January 11-14, 2024 – PAY NOW.**
    - This option offers the convenience of credit card transactions and payment at the time of registration.
    - **Note:** A processing fee of 80¢ per item +5% will be added to all credit card payments.
2. **Choose Fees:**
  - a. **Individuals:** Participants registering as individuals should choose the Adult Membership option.
  - b. **Organizations:**
    - Choose the number of memberships needed for the festival participants in your organization.
    - Complete a participants list.
    - To request an editable copy of the participants list, email [President@mississippitheatre.org](mailto:President@mississippitheatre.org).
3. **Additional Items:**
  - a. **Individuals:** Most of the additional items will not pertain to individuals. Check the icons for those items that are available for all participants.
  - b. **Organizations:** Choose the additional items that pertain to your group. Check the icons for the available items.
4. Complete **Payer Information** and click **Add to Cart**.
5. Fill out **Required Information** and click **Continue**.
6. **Look over everything**, add more to your cart if necessary, and click **Proceed to Payment**.
7. Enter **Payment Info** and click **Confirm and Purchase**.

**CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR MTA 2024 REGISTRATION!**





The 2024 Mississippi Theatre Association State Festival will take place on January 11-14, 2024, at the Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College Harrison County Campus (MGCCC). The MTA State Festival offers multiple opportunities for student and adult theatre makers to engage in theatre activities. Check out how you and your organization can be involved in MTA 2024!

## MTA 2024 OFFERINGS

### PERFORM & WATCH

#### Secondary Festival

*January 12, 2024 – IMPAC Center – MGCCC Campus*

The Secondary Festival is a competitive one-act play festival featuring the top five productions from each of Mississippi's two regional drama festivals (which occur in Starkville and Hattiesburg in December). MTA advances a winning production and a runner-up production to the annual Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) Secondary Festival. Admission is open to all MTA 2024 participants; day passes are also available.

#### Community Theatre Festival

*January 12-13, 2024 – Harrison County Fine Arts Auditorium – MGCCC Campus*

The Community Theatre Festival is a competitive one-act play festival featuring amateur community theatre companies from across Mississippi. MTA advances two winning productions to the annual Southeastern Theatre Conference (SETC) Community Theatre Festival. Every other year, SETC sends its top two productions to the American Association of Community Theatres' national festival (AACTFest). Admission is open to all MTA 2024 participants; day passes are also available.

#### Theatre for Youth Festival

*January 12, 2024 – Central Elementary School*

Theatre for Youth is a festival of short plays focused on K-6th grade audiences and is open to any organization wishing to perform for an elementary school audience. Performance pre-registration is required. Admission is open to the public.

#### 10-Minute Play Festival

*January 13, 2024 – Arena Theatre – MGCCC Campus*

The 10-Minute Play Festival is designed to provide a low-stress atmosphere for young artists to experience the theatrical production process, cultivate their collaborative skills, and devise brand new work. Participants are secondary students who want to express themselves through theatre. Admission is open to all participants of MTA 2024, though space is limited.

#### Secondary Individual Events Festival

*January 13, 2024 – S-Building & IMPAC Center BlackBox – MGCCC Campus*

Secondary Individual Events offer competitive events in solo/small-group theatrical performance and design/technology to students in grades 9-12. Live performances at MTA will be by students whose virtual preliminary entry has earned them a slot in the final round of their event. Final performance rounds are adjudicated and open to spectators, though space is limited. Design/technology adjudication interviews include all entrants in these events and are closed to spectators.

## Adult Individual Events Festival

*January 12, 2024 – S-Building – MGCCC Campus & January 13, 2024 – S-Building – MGCCC Campus*

Adult Individual events offer competitive acting and musical theatre performance opportunities to festival participants who are over the age of 18 and have graduated from high school. Adult Individual Events competition will be on Friday evening and Saturday during workshop blocks at the MTA State Festival. These rounds are adjudicated and open to spectators.

## Auditions & Scholarships

*January 11, 2024 – Arena Theatre – MGCCC Campus*

High school juniors and seniors interested in pursuing theatre after high school may participate in cattle-call style auditions (for performers) and interviews (for designers and technicians) with representatives from colleges and universities across the South. These institutions post callback lists, and participating students are invited to visit with representatives at their booths. Auditions are closed to the public.

MTA offers up to two \$500 scholarships to deserving seniors planning to pursue theatre at a Mississippi college or university. To apply, students must complete the MTA auditions and [submit a scholarship application here](#).

## Playwriting Festival

*January 13, 2024 – Harrison Central Fine Arts Gallery – MGCCC Campus*

MTA's Playwriting Festival is designed to recognize and promote the works of Mississippi playwrights and is open to all Mississippi-based writers. The festival is divided into secondary and adult contests. Submissions for the playwriting festival are due on October 1, and the winning submissions for both contests receive staged readings during the MTA State Festival in January. Admission to the staged readings of the winning plays is open to all MTA 2024 participants. Space is limited.

## LEARN & EXPLORE

### College & University Expo

*January 12, 2024 – IMPAC Center Lobby – MGCCC Campus*

*January 13, 2024 – Arena Theatre Grounds and/or Lobby – MGCCC Campus*

Colleges and universities from Mississippi and surrounding states are encouraged to attend MTA 2024. The \$130 College & University registration fee includes two full festival passes, two seats in the MTA audition rooms, a festival booth, and a discount on additional College & University memberships. See the Program Advertisement and Sponsorship sections for more ways to promote your institution.

### Vendor Expo

*January 12, 2024 – IMPAC Center Lobby – MGCCC Campus*

*January 13, 2024 – Arena Theatre Grounds and/or Lobby – MGCCC Campus*

Vendors are encouraged to attend MTA 2024. The \$130 Vendor registration fee includes two full festival passes and a festival booth. See the Program Advertisement and Sponsorship sections for more ways to promote your organization.

### Workshops

*January 12-13, 2024 – S-Building – MGCCC Campus*

Workshops will be offered throughout the MTA 2024 State Festival on a variety of theatre-related topics. MTA is currently seeking presenters for workshops! If you have expertise that would benefit the MTA membership and would like to volunteer to present a workshop at the State Festival, [apply here](#).

## SOCIALIZE & CELEBRATE

### Youth Social

*January 13, 2024 – Lynn Meadows/Wings Performing Arts – Gulfport, MS*

Join us following the 10-Minute Play Festival performances for a "cast party" style social with karaoke, trivia, a costume contest, and games. Pizza will be provided.

## Adult Social

January 13, 2024 – Location TBA – Gulfport, MS

Join us following the close of the Community Theatre Festival for a celebration of a successful MTA 2024!

## Award Ceremonies

January 12, 2024 – IMPAC Center – MGCCC Campus

The MTA Awards Ceremonies recognize excellence from throughout the festival and the year. Each division recognizes outstanding work, the productions that advance to compete at SETC are announced, and awards are distributed. Admission is open to the public.

## PROMOTE & SUPPORT

### Program Advertisements

Purchasing program advertisements for the MTA Festival program is a powerful way to both support Mississippi's vibrant theatre community and gain exposure for your business or organization. Your ad reaches a diverse and engaged audience, and your contribution directly bolsters the success of the MTA State Festival. For more information and to purchase your ad, visit [mississippitheatre.org/ad-sales](https://mississippitheatre.org/ad-sales).

### Sponsorships

Purchasing sponsorships for the Mississippi Theatre Association serves the vital purpose of supporting and enriching the vibrant world of theater in Mississippi. By becoming sponsors, individuals and organizations contribute to the growth of local theatre and enjoy exclusive benefits. For more information and to become a sponsor, visit [mississippitheatre.org/sponsors](https://mississippitheatre.org/sponsors).

### Outstanding Contributions to Theatre Awards

MTA seeks to recognize individuals who provide exemplary service to the organization and to theatre in Mississippi. Outstanding Contribution to Theatre Awards may recognize excellent work in community theatre, secondary theatre, theatre for youth, college and university theatre; they also may recognize MTA members, school administrators, or community officials who demonstrate a commitment to supporting theatre in our state. [Submit your Outstanding Contribution to Theatre nomination here](#).

### Arts Day at the Capitol Brochures

MTA represents theatre makers from across Mississippi at the annual Arts Day at the Capitol in February. Each member organization is encouraged to bring 20-25 brochures promoting their organization for MTA to share with our state officials. Turn in your organization brochures at the MTA 2024 registration table.

## VOLUNTEER & APPLY

### Dream Team

The MTA State Festival depends on dedicated college and university student volunteers who support the division chairpeople with the orchestration of festival events. MTA is currently seeking undergraduate theatre students to be on the MTA 2024 Festival Dream Team. Dream Team members receive MTA membership, meals, and hotel accommodations for the MTA State Festival. [Apply to be on this year's Dream Team here](#).

### Waymaker Grant

As part of MTA's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion initiative, the Waymaker Grant provides MTA membership (including full MTA 2024 State Festival passes) to up to 12 theatre-makers with diverse talents and backgrounds who meet qualifying criteria. [For more information and to apply for the Waymaker Grant, click here](#).





## MTA 2024 FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

### THURSDAY, JANUARY 11, 2024

#### Afternoon

- Registration opens
- Vendor load-in
  - » College & University set-up
  - » Vendor set-up
- Secondary Festival – Preparation
  - » Directors meeting
  - » Block 1 load-in
  - » Block 1 rehearsals

#### Evening

- MTA Auditions
  - » Performance auditions
  - » Tech interviews
- Interactive Improv Show

### FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 2024

#### Morning

- Theatre for Youth Festival
- Secondary Festival

#### Afternoon

- Boxed lunches available for preorder
- Theatre for Youth Festival
- Secondary Festival
- Community Theatre Festival\*

#### Evening

- Adult Individual Events
- Community Theatre Festival\*

### SATURDAY, JANUARY 13, 2024

#### Morning

- Secondary Individual Events
  - » Tech Relay – Workshops
  - » Splash Scenes – Workshops\*
- Adult Individual Events\*
- 10-Minute Play Festival – Preparation
- Community Theatre Festival

#### Afternoon

- Food trucks available for lunch
- Secondary Individual Events
  - » Tech Relay – Competition
  - » Splash Scenes – Competition\*
- Adult Individual Events\*
- 10-Minute Play Festival – Preparation
- Playwriting Festival Staged Readings
- Community Theatre Festival

#### Evening

- 10-Minute Play Festival – Performances
- Community Theatre Festival
- Youth Social
- Adult Social

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 14, 2024

#### Morning

- MTA Annual Board Meeting
- Community Theatre & Adult IEs Awards
- Secondary Theatre Awards
  - » Theatre for Youth Festival
  - » 10-Minute Play Festival
  - » Secondary IEs
  - » Secondary Festival

\*As the schedule allows