



Mississippi High School Regional Drama Festival Information

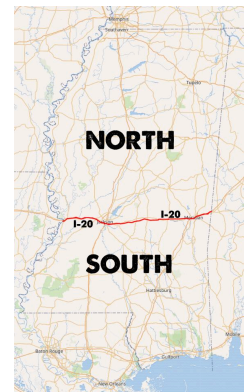
Thank you for your interest in MTA's Mississippi High School Regional Drama Festival! The Regional Drama Festivals (North DramaFest & South DramaFest) are two-day, one-act play competitions that bring schools from each region together to share their hard work and their love of theatre. These are the qualifying festivals for the MTA Secondary One-Act festival, which is held on MLK Weekend every January.

The state is divided into North (above I-20) and South (below I-20) regions for the regional festivals. North DramaFest is held at Mississippi State University in McComas Hall. This year, South DramaFest will be held at Biloxi High School with Tim Matheny, Chair of Theatre at William Carey University, serving as the festival coordinator. DramaFest hosts collaborate with the MTA Board of Directors and staff to provide a positive theatrical experience for all participants.

Each DramaFest welcomes observing schools! Observing provides a great opportunity for non-competing theatre programs to experience the festival's offerings. For pricing information, see the registration costs section of this document.

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 [MTA Handbook](#).



DramaFest 2024 will be held on December 6-7, 2024

North Regional DramaFest

- Tonya Hays, Festival Coordinator; THays@comm.msstate.edu
- Samuel Somervell, Festival Intern; scs896@msstate.edu
- 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; Secondary@mississippitheatre.org

South Regional DramaFest

- Tim Matheny, Festival Coordinator; TMatheny@wmcarey.edu
- Festival Site: Biloxi Performing Arts Center, Biloxi High School
- Make checks payable to **William Carey Theatre**
- Mail payments to:
William Carey University
Theatre Department
Attn: Tim Matheny
710 William Carey Pkwy – Box 18
Hattiesburg, MS 39401
Phone: 601.318.6218
- Direct rules questions to Secondary Chair, Olivia Carson; Secondary@mississippitheatre.org

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]

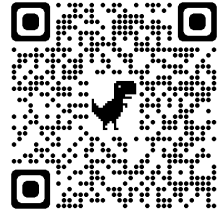
CentralHS-South-PerformanceRights.pdf

SmallTownHS-North-PermissionCut.pdf

1.) [Letter of Intent](#)

Open for Submission: September 13, 8:00 a.m.

- **Performing groups:** Secure a performance spot for the festival
- **Observing groups DO NOT** need to complete the Letter of Intent
- a.) Each region can accommodate up to 16 performing schools
- b.) Performance spots will be filled on a first-come, first-served basis
- c.) If a region reaches capacity, additional schools will be placed on a waiting list



2.) [Registration Jotform](#)

Registration Deadline: November 1, 10:00 a.m.

- **Performing groups:** provide the information below.
- **Observing groups:** complete the registration form but do not provide production information (sections b-e).

a.) **Demographic information**

- i.) Demographic information provides insight into the diversity of participating groups.
- ii.) Diversity data is critical for MTA's grant funding.
- iii.) 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

b.) **Required play information**

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

c.) **Proof of rights and royalties**

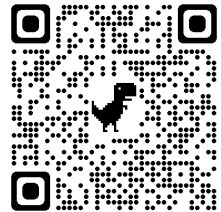
- i.) Contract (or equivalent proof) for play performance (.pdf)
- ii.) Proof of permission to cut (if applicable) (.pdf)
- iii.) Proof to use any other published materials (music, videos, etc., if applicable) (.pdf)

d.) **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.) The 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)

e.) **Content warning information**

- i.) List of potential content warnings
- ii.) Check the [MTA Handbook](#) for a recommended list of advisory warnings.

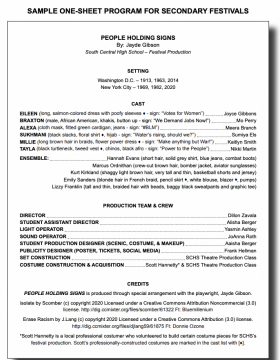
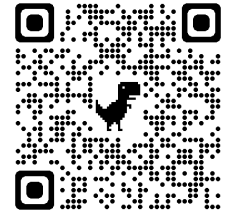


PEOPLE HOLDING SIGNS	
By: Jayde Gibson	
South Central High School – Festival Production	
SETTING	
Washington D.C. – 1913, 1963, 2014	
New York City – 1969, 1992, 2020	
CAST	
EILEEN	Jesse Gibbons
BRAXTON	Mo Perry
ALEXA	Maria Branch
KURUMANN	Samira Eln
MELIE	Karla Smith
TAYLA	Niki Martin
ENSEMBLE	Hannah Evans, Marcus Oordtman, Kurt Kirkland, Enry Sanders, Lizzy Franklin
PRODUCTION TEAM & CREW	
DIRECTOR	Dillon Zavala
STUDENT ASSISTANT DIRECTOR	Jessika Berger
LIGHT OPERATOR	Yasmin Ashley
SOUND OPERATOR	Jessika Reich
STUDENT PRODUCTION DESIGNER (SCENIC, COSTUME, & MAKEUP)	Aashia Berger
PUBLICITY DESIGNER (POSTER, TICKETS, SOCIAL MEDIA)	Frank Williams
SET CONSTRUCTION	SCHS Theatre Production Class
COSTUME CONSTRUCTION & ACQUISITION	SCHS Theatre Production Class
CREDITS	
PEOPLE HOLDING SIGNS is produced through special arrangement with the playwright, Jayde Gibson.	
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Erase Reason by J.Liang 1st copyright 2020 Licensed under a Creative Commons Attribution (3.0) license. http://lib.org/licenses/by/3.0/	

3.) Supporting Materials Jotform

Supporting Materials Deadline: November 22, 10:00 a.m.

- a.) Statement of Circumstance & Declaration of Work
 - i.) Document how work on your production was completed
 - ii.) Adjudicators will receive this document
 - iii.) Download the fillable .pdf, complete it on the computer, save it, and upload it to the Supporting Materials Jotform.
- b.) **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"
- c.) **Labeled cast photo**
 - i.) Submit a clearly labeled, staged production photo (.pdf or .jpg).
 - ii.) Label the photo with the 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 Restrictions

MTA prohibits schools from bringing a selection produced at a regional festival in the three years prior to the current festival year. When selecting a festival piece, refer to the lists below. **The productions marked with an asterisk (*) were MTA State Festival entries and cannot be performed at either regional festival (North or South).** Contact Secondary Festival Chair Olivia Carson (Secondary@mississippitheatre.org) with any questions.

2024-2025 Prohibited Productions		
Year	North Region	South Region
2023-24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Eurydice</i> by Sarah Ruhl* • <i>Girls in the Boat</i> by Alice Austen* • <i>The Night Witches</i> by Rachel Bublitz* • <i>Sunday in the Park with George</i> by Stephen Sondheim, James Lapine* • <i>Skinflints and Scoundrels: Moliere's Miser</i> Translated, adapted, and arranged by Susan L. Zeder; From J.B.P. Moliere's <i>The Miser</i>* • <i>Red Summer: The Murder of Eugene Williams</i> by Randy Ferino Wayne Jr. • <i>Monsters</i> by Thomas Easterling 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Jungalbook</i> by Edward Mast* • <i>Lafayette No.1</i> by Mandy Conner* • <i>The Trial of Existence</i> by Brent Holland* • <i>Through the Depths</i> by S. Allmon* • <i>A Monster Calls</i> by Patrick Ness* • <i>Pandora and the Sick Moon</i> by Jessica Chipman* • <i>Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind</i> by Greg Allen • <i>Selkie</i> by Laurie Brooks • <i>Voodoo Macbeth</i> by Tonya Hays • <i>The Actor's Nightmare</i> by Christopher Durang

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Unclaimed Baggage</i> by Elizabeth Thomas-Hines • <i>Guys and Dolls Jr.</i> by Frank Loesser, Jo Swerling, Abe Burrows • <i>Three Strangers</i> by Burton Bumgarner • <i>Property Rites</i> by Alan Haehnel • <i>Ernest and the Pale Moon-Abridged</i> by Oliver Lansley • <i>The Empty Chair</i> by Tim Kelly • <i>Fin and Euba</i> by Audry Cefaly 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Search for Delicious</i>, Adapted by Mark Frattaroli from the novel by Natalie Babbitt • <i>Boxes</i> by Kendra Thomas • <i>Somebody's Children</i> by Jose Casas • <i>It Didn't Feel Like the First Time</i> by Theresa Geboy
Year	North Region	South Region
2022-2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Crucible</i> by Authur Miller * • <i>Babette's Feast</i> by Rose Courtney * • <i>Aunt Leaf</i> by Barbara Wiechmann * • <i>We Shall by Morning</i> by Kerri Sanders * • <i>Digging Up the Boys</i> by Laura Lundgren Smith • <i>The Prisoner's Hands</i> by E. Jack Williams • <i>Laughing Stock</i> by Bradley Hayward • <i>The New Margo</i> by Stephen Gregg • <i>Mythical Creatures and How to Approach Them</i> by Travis Greisler • <i>Ashes, Ashes, We All Fall Down</i> by Elizabeth Thomas-Hines • <i>Hotline</i> by Cheryl Navo • <i>It Was Never Designed With Negros In Mind: The Slaughter of Mary Turner</i> by Randy Ferino 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>The Inexplicable Chaos Factor of Mia Gregory</i> by Emily Hagueman* • <i>Pains, Twains, and Something Surreal</i> by Jordan West* • <i>A Breach in the Darkness</i> by Suzanne Allmon* • <i>¡Bocón!</i> By Lisa Loomer* • <i>Nina Simone</i> by Christina Ham • <i>I Don't Want to Talk About It</i> by Bradly Hayward • <i>Just A Stage He's Going Through</i> by Pat Cook • <i>Sorry, Wrong Number</i> by Lucille Fletcher • <i>Two Hands on the Indigo Flower</i> by Theresa Geboy • <i>4 AM</i> by Jonathan Dorf • <i>Eurydice</i> by Sarah Ruhl • <i>Tuesdays and Sundays</i> by Daniel Arnold and Medina Hahn • <i>The Election</i> by Jonathan Turner Smith
Year	North Region	South Region
2021-2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Strangers on a Train</i> by Craig Warner* • <i>Icarus</i> by Jessica Chipman* • <i>Decoration Day: The Annihilation Of Black Wall Street</i> by Randy Ferino* • <i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i>, Adapted by Dwayne Hartford from the book by Kate DiCamillo* • <i>The Tricks of Scapin</i> by Aurand Harris • <i>A Game</i> by Dennis Noble • <i>Declaration</i> by Jonathan Dorf • <i>The Girl in the White Pinafore</i> by Jiggs Burgess • <i>Bippity, Boppity, Billy Shakes</i> by Elizabeth Thomas-Hines • <i>The Civility of Those Who Wait</i> by Louis Codling • <i>The 146 Point Flame</i> by Matt Thompson • <i>Peter/Wendy</i> by Jeremy Bloom 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Check Please</i> by Jonathan Rand* • <i>Brian the Comet</i> by Emily Hagueman* • <i>The Old Man and the Old Moon</i> by PigPen Theatre Company* • <i>I and You</i> by Lauren Gunderson* • <i>The Green Bird</i> by Hillary DePiano • <i>Crimson</i> by Chris Permenter • <i>Dreamwalk</i> by Eddie Kennedy • <i>War, Peace, and Cookies</i> by Aaron Shepard • <i>The Monster</i> by John Haman • <i>Scenes from Argonautika</i> by Mary Zimmerman • <i>We Are the Sea</i> by Laura Lundgren Smith • <i>Gothic Ghost Stories</i> by Lindsay Price