



REGISTER FOR MTA 2025

The 2025 Mississippi Theatre Association State Festival will take place on January 16-19 at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian, MS. The MTA State Festival offers multiple opportunities for student and adult theatre makers to engage in a variety theatre activities. Follow the instructions on this page to complete your registration for MTA 2025.

1. Before Registering

a. Organizations:

- [READ THIS FIRST](#) and review the checklist tab on MTA Registration Worksheet for required action items and deadlines.
- Visit mississippitheatre.org/registration for our “How to Register for MTA” videos.
- Complete the MTA Registration Worksheet; find your copy of this document in your organization’s Google folder; email MSTheatreReg@gmail.com with questions.
- Collect required items and documents.

b. Individuals:

- Visit mississippitheatre.org/registration for our “How to Register for MTA” videos.
- Determine number of adult memberships required.
- Collect names and email addresses of adults purchasing memberships.

2. **Register:** Visit mississippitheatre.ludus.com to register.

3. Choose Fees:

- Organizations:** Choose the number of memberships needed for the festival participants in your organization.
- Individuals:** Participants registering as individuals should choose the Adult Membership option.

4. **Additional Items:** Check the icons for available add-one items.

- Organizations:** Choose the additional items that pertain to your group.
- Individuals:** Most of the additional items will not pertain to individuals.

5. Complete **Payer Information** and click **Add to Cart**.

6. Fill out **Required Information** and click **Continue**.

7. **Look over everything**, adjust your cart if necessary, and click **Proceed to Payment**.

8. Enter Payment Details

a. For organizations paying by cash, check, or purchase order:

- Enter the discount code **INVOICE** at checkout.
- MTA will send an invoice to the organization’s primary contact.
- Click **Confirm and Purchase**.

b. For organizations paying by credit card:

- Enter payment information.
- Click **Confirm and Purchase**.

CONGRATULATIONS! YOU HAVE COMPLETED YOUR MTA 2025 REGISTRATION!

MTA 2025 OFFERINGS

The 2025 Mississippi Theatre Association State Festival will take place on January 16-19 at the MSU Riley Center in Meridian, MS. The MTA State Festival offers multiple opportunities for student and adult theatre makers to engage in a variety of theatre activities. Check out how you and your organization can be involved in MTA 2025!

PERFORM & WATCH

Secondary Festival

January 16-17, 2025 – Historic Opera House – MSU Riley Center

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 2025 participants; day passes are also available.

Community Theatre Festival

January 17-18, 2025 – MLT Auditorium – Meridian Little Theatre

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. This year, SETC will send its top two productions to the American Association of Community Theatres' national festival (AACTFest). Admission is open to all MTA 2025 participants; day passes are also available.

Theatre for Youth Festival

January 17, 2025 – BlackBox Theatre – MSU Riley Center

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 18, 2025 – Multipurpose Room – The MAX Museum

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 2025, though space is limited.

Secondary Individual Events Festival

January 18, 2025 – Meeting Rooms & Grand Ballroom – MSU Riley Center

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. Final round interviews in design/technology events are closed to spectators.

Adult Individual Events Festival

January 17 & 18, 2025 – Meeting Rooms – MSU Riley Center

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.

MTA Auditions & Scholarships

January 16, 2025 – BlackBox Theatre – MSU Riley Center

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. Participating students must complete the online application in the Accepted platform.

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. Complete the scholarship section of the online Accepted application.

Playwriting Festival

January 18, 2025 – BlackBox Theatre (TBD) – MSU Riley Center

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 2025 participants.

LEARN & EXPLORE

College & University Expo

January 16-18, 2025 – Grand Lobby – MSU Riley Center

colleges and universities from across the South are encouraged to attend MTA 2025. 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 16-18, 2025 – Grand Lobby – MSU Riley Center

Vendors are encouraged to attend MTA 2025. 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 17-18, 2025 – Meeting Rooms – MSU Riley Center

Workshops will be offered throughout the MTA 2025 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 18, 2025 – Grand Ballroom – MSU Riley Center

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 18, 2025 – The MAX Museum

Join us following the close of the Community Theatre Festival for a celebration of a successful MTA 2025!

Award Ceremonies

January 19, 2025 – Historic Opera House – MSU Riley Center

The MTA Awards Ceremonies recognize excellence from throughout the festival and the year. Each division recognizes outstanding work, announces the productions that advance to compete at SETC, and distributes awards. 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 an ad, visit mississippitheatre.org/ad-sales.

Sponsorships

Purchasing sponsorships for the Mississippi Theatre Association directly supports and enriches 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.

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, and 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 a nomination for [Outstanding Contribution to Theatre Award](#).

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 2025 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 2025 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](#).

Waymaker Grant

As part of MTA's Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion initiative, the Waymaker Grant provides MTA membership (including full MTA 2025 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 2025 FESTIVAL OVERVIEW

THURSDAY, JANUARY 16

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
- Secondary Festival
 - » Block 1 performances (2 shows)
 - » Block 2 load-in

FRIDAY, JANUARY 17

Morning

- Theatre for Youth Festival
- Secondary Festival

Afternoon

- Boxed lunch pick up (preorder required)
- Theatre for Youth Festival
- Secondary Festival
- Community Theatre Festival Directors Meeting

Evening

- Adult Individual Events
- Community Theatre Festival Load-in

SATURDAY, JANUARY 18

Morning

- Secondary Individual Events
 - » Performance Events Finals
 - » Tech Events Finals
 - » Tech Relay
 - » Splash Scenes – Prelim Round
- 10-Minute Play Festival – Preparation
- Community Theatre Festival

Afternoon

- Boxed lunch pick up (preorder required)
- Secondary Individual Events
 - » Tech Relay
 - » Splash Scenes – Final Round
- 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 19

Morning

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

MTA 2025 TENTATIVE SCHEDULE