



# 10-MINUTE PLAY & DEVISED THEATRE FESTIVAL

The 10-Minute Play Festival is designed to provide a low stress atmosphere where students can experience the production process and cultivate their collaborative and creative skills. The target participants are students who are not participating in individual events but still desire the opportunity to compete and express themselves.

## 10-MINUTE PLAY THEATRE FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

1. The 10-Minute Festival is open to any organization that is eligible for secondary school theatre participation in the state of Mississippi. This includes the following groups:
  - A. Public and Private High Schools.
  - B. Performing Arts Schools.
  - C. Non-School Groups.
  - D. Dual Enrollment Institutions.
  - E. Charter Schools.
  - F. Homeschool Groups.
2. A sponsor / chaperone / volunteer must accompany each group.
3. Each group and each participant must be a member of MTA.
  - A. Each group registering students for the 10-Minute Festival must be an organizational member of MTA and must be registered for the entire MTA festival.
  - B. Each participant must be individually registered for the entire MTA festival through their organization.
4. The 10-Minute Festival adheres to all rules and regulations set forth by MTA.

## 10-MINUTE PLAY & DEVISED THEATRE FESTIVAL

1. The 10-Minute / Devised Theatre Festival provides an opportunity for students to expand their horizons and hone their skills.
2. Devised theatre allows students to create a short production using a collaborative process, a provided prompt, and the resources available.
3. The festival will take place during the annual MTA state festival.
4. Each participating school will be allowed one (1) team of six (6) individuals.
  - A. Teams will compete in groups of five (5) to six (6).
  - B. Participating schools must pay \$100 for the team they are sending.
    - i. This festival fee applies regardless of whether the team is full or not.
    - ii. If the school has students exceeding a full team, those additional students will be put on a waiting list and allowed to participate based on the number of available spots. At the festival, students will be scrambled with students from other schools and sorted into new groups of five (5) to six (6). Participants will devise and rehearse their production, which will be performed the same evening.

### Contact Information

For more information, contact the MTA 10-Minute Festival Division Chairs:

10-Minute Festival Chair – Louis Coding – [louis.codling@gocommodores.org](mailto:louis.codling@gocommodores.org)

10-Minute Festival Vice chair – Bradley Long - [bradklong89@gmail.com](mailto:bradklong89@gmail.com)

### Participation Guidelines

1. Participants will be provided with a prompt prior to the festival.
  - A. The prompt can mean many things, but students participating in this project should all come into it with an idea to serve as source material.
  - B. Source material does not have to be heavy.

2. Ensemble members will be assigned from various schools.
  - A. Students will be divided into random groups. Within their groups, they will collaborate using the source material they have brought to develop a performance related to the festival theme.
  - B. One student may serve as the scribe, but the play belongs to all involved.
  - C. Students will explore and create using Moment Work Technique as developed by Tectonic Theatre Project (See: Moment Work: Tectonic Theatre Project's Process of Devising. ISBN: 978-110-197-1772.)
3. Each student must bring one prop and one costume to be incorporated into the play.
4. The groups will work together and rehearse throughout the day.
5. In the evening, they will come together and festival attendees will be invited to watch the plays within the limitations of the venue.
6. Adjudicators will give live responses.
  - A. Three Respondents, selected by the Division 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.
  - B. Criteria to be considered:
    - i. 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?
    - ii. 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?
    - iii. Acting
      - » Is the acting believable?
      - » Is the acting technically skillful?
      - » Are the characters well interpreted?

iv. Technical

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

v. Overall Production

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

7. Time limit is ten (10) minutes.

8. Electronic devices (e.g. laptops, tablets, etc.) are acceptable and recommended for the writing portion of this event.

9. Each individual team must pay a registration fee of \$100.00 that is to be received prior to, or at the festival check-in. In addition, each team must also be an organizational member of MTA.

10. Each group will have one adult volunteer assigned to work a shift during the festival who will help supervise students and fulfill other duties as assigned by the division chair for a portion of the festival.

11. Participating schools must provide a sponsor/chaperone/volunteer to help supervise and fulfill other duties as assigned by the division chair.

12. A floor plan of the performance area will be distributed to the directors and ADs when scripts are distributed.

13. General furnishing, lighting, and a sound system will be supplied by the festival.

A. These aspects may be limited.

B. Any other aspects (music, costumes, make-up, props...etc.) will be the responsibility of the director, assistant director, and actors.

## 10-MINUTE FESTIVAL AWARDS

The following awards will be given by MTA at the 10-Minute Festival awards ceremony:

- One to two (1-2) All-Star Cast awards per group
- Outstanding Acting Performance (x2)
- Outstanding Ensemble
- Outstanding Directing
- Outstanding Technical Excellence
- First Place Production (certificates or medals awarded to all group members)
- Second Place Production (certificates or medals awarded to all group members)
- Third Place Production (certificates or medals awarded to all group members)
- Other awards may be given at the discretion of the adjudicators

**Registration Fees - \$100 Per Team.**

**Make Checks Payable to:**

**Mississippi Theatre Association,  
P.O. Box 320901, Flowood, MS 39232**