



## 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 I-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 William Carey University..

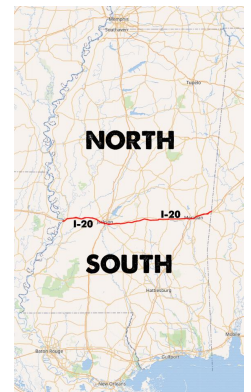
The Regional DramaFests are the qualifying festivals for the MTA Secondary One-Act Festival held during the annual festival in January (MLK Weekend) every year.

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 in the [MTA Handbook](#).



### DramaFest 2026 will be held on December 4-5, 2026

#### North Regional DramaFest

- Jesse Wade, Festival Coordinator;  
[jwade@comm.msstate.edu](mailto:jwade@comm.msstate.edu)
- Samuel Somerville, Festival Intern:  
[scs896@msstate.edu](mailto: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: Jesse Wade  
216 President's Circle PO Box PF  
Mississippi State, MS 39762
- Direct rules questions to Secondary Chair, Sarah Hankins; [Secondary@mississippitheatre.org](mailto:Secondary@mississippitheatre.org) or Louis Codling; [louis.codling@gocommodores.org](mailto:louis.codling@gocommodores.org)

#### South Regional DramaFest

- Tim Matheney, Festival Coordinator;  
[mathenyemail@gmail.com](mailto:mathenyemail@gmail.com)
- Festival Site: Joe and Virginia Tatum Theatre,  
William Carey University
- Make checks payable to **William Carey Theatre**
- Mail payments to  
**William Carey Theatre**  
Theatre Department  
Attn: Tim Matheney  
710 William Carey Pkwy – Box 18  
Hattiesburg, MS 39401  
Phone: 601.318.6218
- Direct rules questions to Secondary Vice-Chair, Sarah Goodman; [sarah.goodman@biloxischools.net](mailto:sarah.goodman@biloxischools.net)

## MTA Secondary Ineligible Productions 2023-2026

### 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).

| Year    | North Region                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | South Region                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
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| 2025-26 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>These Shining Lives</i> by Melanie Marnich*</li> <li>• <i>YLGR</i> by Louis Codling*</li> <li>• <i>39 Steps: a Live Radio Play</i> by Patrick Barlow*</li> <li>• <i>A Carefully Calculated Murder</i> by Randy Ferino*</li> <li>• <i>67 Cinderellas</i> by Stacey Lane*</li> <li>• <i>Queens</i> by Kristen Doherty</li> <li>• <i>A Deep, Poetic Journey Into Something</i> by Forrest Musselman</li> <li>• <i>Live to Tell</i> by Eric Coble</li> <li>• <i>Remnant</i> by Kerri Courtney</li> <li>• <i>Little Women (One Act Version)</i> by Jon Jory</li> <li>• <i>Tragedy to Triumph</i> by The Central Stage and Leanne Williams</li> <li>• <i>The Audit</i> by Greg Scurria</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane</i> adapted by Dwayne Hartford*</li> <li>• <i>The Girl Who Cannot Be Hurt</i> by Adam Szymkowicz*</li> <li>• <i>Shadows of the Dark Vine</i> by Suz Allmon*</li> <li>• <i>The Crane Wife</i> adapted by Barbara Carlisle*</li> <li>• <i>Airness High School Edition</i> by Chelsea Marcantel*</li> <li>• <i>Julia Caesar</i> by Sarah and Carlton Warnberg</li> <li>• <i>Icarus</i> by Jessica Chipman</li> <li>• <i>Animal Farm</i> by Ian Wooldridge</li> <li>• <i>Booby Trap</i> by Ed Monk</li> <li>• <i>Journey's to the World's Edge, A Folktale in the Irish Tradition</i> by Harry Michael Bagdasian and Ernest Joselovitz</li> <li>• <i>Dark Road</i> by Laura Lundgren Smith</li> <li>• <i>Ernest and the Pale Moon</i> by Oliver Lansley</li> </ul> |

| Year    | North Region                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | South Region                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
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| 2024-25 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Velveteen Rabbit: A Toy Story</i> by Patrick Flynn; based on the book by Margery Williams*</li> <li>• <i>Wiley and the Hairy Man</i> by Suzan Zeder*</li> <li>• <i>no fury</i> by Kerri Sanders*</li> <li>• <i>And at 10:22 Time Stopped (The Bombing of 16th Street Baptist Church)</i> by Randy Ferino Wayne Jr.*</li> <li>• <i>Silent Sky</i> by Lauren Gunderson*</li> <li>• <i>Door to Door</i> by Flip Kobler and Cindy Marcus</li> <li>• <i>Sleepy Hollow</i> by Christopher Cartmill</li> <li>• <i>The Green</i> by Jessie Palmer</li> <li>• <i>Still Life</i> by Noël Coward</li> <li>• <i>King of Purple and Gold</i> by Louis Codling</li> <li>• <i>Tracks</i> by Peter Tarsi</li> <li>• <i>Whispers of Darkness</i> by Elizabeth Hines</li> <li>• <i>Grey Gardens</i> by Doug Wright</li> <li>• <i>A Murdered Mystery</i> by Karl Garner</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>The Lost Boy</i> by Ronald Gabriel Paolillo*</li> <li>• <i>This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing</i> by Finegan Kruckmeyer*</li> <li>• <i>The Diviners</i> by Jim Leonard Jr.*</li> <li>• <i>Where the Sea Meets the Sky</i> by Mandy Conner*</li> <li>• <i>Everyman in the Circus of Life</i> by Travis Tyre*</li> <li>• <i>Childhood</i> by Thornton Wilder</li> <li>• <i>Peter/Wendy</i> by Jeremy Bloom</li> <li>• <i>Scenes from Bob: A Life in Five Acts</i> by Peter Sinn Nachtrieb</li> <li>• <i>Marian, Or The True Tale of Robin Hood</i> by Adam Szymkowicz</li> <li>• <i>The Amazing Lemonade Girl</i> by James DeVita - Inspired by the life of Alexandra Flynn Scott</li> <li>• <i>Ridiculous By Proxy</i> by Dwayne B. Craft</li> <li>• <i>The Love Of Three Oranges</i> by Hilliary DePaino</li> <li>• <i>Through the Chromatic Mist of Mercy</i> by TD Cyrus</li> </ul> |

| Year      | North Region                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | South Region                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
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| 2023-2024 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Eurydice</i> by Sarah Ruhl*</li> <li>• <i>Girls in the Boat</i> by Alice Austen*</li> <li>• <i>The Night Witches</i> by Rachel Bublit*</li> <li>• <i>Sunday in the Park with George</i> by Stephen Sondheim, James Lapine*</li> <li>• <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>*</li> <li>• <i>Red Summer: The Murder of Eugene Williams</i> by Randy Ferino Wayne Jr.</li> <li>• <i>Monsters</i> by Thomas Easterling</li> <li>• <i>Unclaimed Baggage</i> by Elizabeth Thomas-Hines</li> <li>• <i>Guys and Dolls Jr.</i> by Frank Loesser, Jo Swerling, Abe Burrows</li> <li>• <i>Three Strangers</i> by Burton Bumgarner</li> <li>• <i>Property Rites</i> by Alan Haehnel</li> <li>• <i>Ernest and the Pale Moon-Abridged</i> by Oliver Lansley</li> <li>• <i>The Empty Chair</i> by Tim Kelly</li> <li>• <i>Fin and Euba</i> by Audry Cefaly</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Jungalbook</i> by Edward Mast*</li> <li>• <i>Lafayette No. 1</i> by Mandy Conner*</li> <li>• <i>The Trial of Existence</i> by Brent Holland*</li> <li>• <i>Through the Depths</i> by S.Allmon*</li> <li>• <i>A Monster Calls</i> by Patrick Ness*</li> <li>• <i>Pandora and the Sick Moon</i> by Jessica Chipman*</li> <li>• <i>Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind</i> by Greg Allen</li> <li>• <i>Selkie</i> by Laurie Brooks</li> <li>• <i>Voodoo Macbeth</i> by Tonya Hays</li> <li>• <i>The Actor's Nightmare</i> by Christopher Durang</li> <li>• <i>The Search for Delicious</i> Adapted by Mark Frattaroli from the novel by Natalie Babbitt</li> <li>• <i>Boxes</i> by Kendra Thomas</li> <li>• <i>Somebody's Children</i> by Jose Casas</li> <li>• <i>It Didn't Feel Like the First Time</i> by Theresa Geboy</li> </ul> |