



Michael Harms Theater Festival Performance Guidelines

WHO

- Schools or community groups (e.g. community theatres or performing arts schools) are eligible to perform.
- Performers must be between the ages of 13-19. Adult directors/leaders are permitted.
- Student crew and designers are eligible to attend and be recognized for awards.
- Students not participating in the performances but affiliated with the school/group are welcome to attend the festival to watch performances and participate in activities.
- Parents and chaperones are welcome to watch performances/be present at the festival, but are not permitted in the workshops.

SHOW SELECTION

- Groups may bring either a play or a musical piece to perform.
- Total performance time is 30 minutes.
 - Your group MAY cut the piece to fit the time allowed.
 - Your group MAY perform several short pieces that add up to the time allowed.
 - Your group may NOT perform songs or scenes that are not affiliated with a full show (e.g. compilation of student solo songs)
 - Your group MAY bring a cut of a piece that was (or will be) performed as a full show during the 2018-19 school year.
 - Your group MAY bring a piece rehearsed to only be performed at the festival.
- Pieces should be appropriate for an educational setting and an audience of other students.
- Upon registration, your group will be sent a Show Information form to fill out electronically, providing us with the cast and crew information as well as a show synopsis.

TECH

- Groups will have 30 minutes to tech their piece either the night before the festival or in the morning/early afternoon on the day of the festival.
- Upon registration, you will be asked for your time preference for tech – every effort will be made to accommodate this!



- Upon registration, your group will be sent a Tech Information form to fill out electronically, providing us with an idea of the tech requirements of your show.
- There are full black curtains surrounding the playing space.
- There are dressing rooms adjacent to the stage; in the event of a large cast special accommodations can be made for an appropriate space.
- All scenery must be able to fit through a standard double door opening.
- Sound and light operators will be provided; you can also bring your own operators.
- Sound is operated from the rear of the house. Body mics are not provided.
- There is a hook-up for an iPhone, computer, etc. if your group has recorded cues or music.
- Lights are controlled from a booth above the audience level; there is a standard house plot. Cues will be set up during your tech time.
- There is a follow spot for use; no operator is provided (bring your own)
- Spike tape will be provided to mark placement for set pieces.
- Each group should designate a tech point person to liaison with the college tech staff both leading up to the festival and during your group's tech time.
- Actors do not have to be in full costume and makeup during your tech time.
- Your group will have 5 minutes to prepare your scenery (behind the main curtain) before your performance. As soon as the group immediately before you finishes your performance, your group should head backstage. This should be done quietly so as not to disrupt the discussion/response of the group before you.
- After your performance is finished, immediately strike your show to the designated area and return to the house for response.

RESPONSE

- Three professional theatre artists serve as respondents for the festival. At the conclusion of your performance, they will provide feedback to both the students and the director/designers of the show.
- Responses are between 10-15 minutes.
- Respondents will select overall awards for best play as well as recognize individual students for outstanding contributions. (This is why it's especially important that your Show Information forms are turned in with cast and crew names!)

QUESTIONS

Please contact Jon Wilson at harmfest@cnyarts.org with any questions about performing at the Harms Festival