

**NEW MEXICO ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION STATE HIGH SCHOOL**  
**ONE-ACT PRODUCTION COMPETITION**

(revised August 24, 2018)

**ARTICLE 1.0 NAME**

- 1.1 The official name of this activity shall be "NMAA One Act Production Competition" as part of the "High Desert Thespian Festival and One Act Play Competition," hosted by New Mexico State University Theatre Arts Department.
- 1.2 The One Act competition is held concurrently with the Thespian Festival. Only high schools belonging to the New Mexico Activities Association may be eligible for the NMAA State award designations. All entrants, regardless of affiliation, may be eligible to compete for awards in the NMAA One-Act Production Competition. The following contest rules cover only the One Act competition sanctioned by New Mexico Activities Association. For information regarding the Thespian Festival please contact Chris Gonzales at 505-228-3031.

**ARTICLE 2.0 PURPOSES**

- 2.1 To nurture appreciation of theatre arts by actively participating as actors, designers, stagehands, stage managers, and audience members.
- 2.2 To develop academic, communication, and social skills related to participation in theatre arts.
- 2.3 To promote life-long learning that is a result of engaging in theatrical activities.
- 2.4 To endorse and promote good sportsmanship through acceptance of respondents' decisions and criticism.
- 2.5 To use constructive criticism to improve future theatre work.
- 2.6 To foster development of leadership and teamwork
- 2.7 To uphold proper audience etiquette.
- 2.8 To advocate for the inclusion of theatre arts within school curricula.

**ARTICLE 3.0 ELIGIBILITY**

- 3.1 Only high schools belonging to the New Mexico Activities Association are eligible for participation in the NMAA One Act Production Competition and consideration for award designations.
- 3.2 Non-member schools are welcome to participate in the Thespian Festival, which is held concurrently with the New Mexico Activities Association One Act Production competition.
- 3.3 One Act Production is defined as a single intermission-less play, long scene or cutting(s) from a full-length play or musical written specifically for the stage. Screenplays, novels and the like, not written for the stage, do not meet this definition.

- 3.4 A registration fee of \$15.00 per participant/attendee, coaches and chaperones is due prior to the festival, as outlined in the festival registration form (this amount is subject to revision as conditions warrant).
- 3.5 Provided there are sufficient numbers of one-act entries in the festival, the Senior High league is divided into two divisions: Athens and Sparta. The Athens division is primarily for, but not limited to, New Mexico 5A size schools and higher whose drama program is supported by at least one formally-titled drama, performing arts, or communication class. The Sparta division is for New Mexico 4A size schools and under schools. Sparta division schools may elect to compete in either Athens or Sparta divisions by indicating their preference on the Registration form.
- 3.6 Individual student eligibility, determined by NMAA standards, is solely the responsibility of the participating school and is not to be determined by the Festival Director. Any disputes regarding eligibility are to be taken to the New Mexico Activities Association.

#### **ARTICLE 4.0 ORGANIZATION**

- 4.1 Relationship to the New Mexico Activities Association
  - 4.1.1 New Mexico Activities Association State High School One-Act Production Competition will have one staff/faculty member from The University of New Mexico (Festival Director) or their designee available to attend meetings of the New Mexico Activities Association Activities Committee.
  - 4.1.2 New Mexico Activities Association State High School One-Act Production Competition will update the NMAA Activities Committee and Board on various actions and activities related to the competition.
- 4.2 Advisory Board to the New Mexico Activities Association State High School One-Act Production Competition
  - 4.2.1 Membership on the Advisory Board is open to any interested faculty coach attending the competition.
  - 4.2.2 Members of the Advisory Board will meet during the festival, before awards are distributed.
  - 4.2.3 Members of the Advisory Board will consider and comment on the direction of the festival and its rules, and will present ideas that will help the direction of the festival.
  - 4.2.4 Action on Advisory Board suggestions is at the discretion of the Festival Director.

#### **ARTICLE 5.0 ONE-ACT PRODUCTION/LONG SCENE PRESENTATION**

- 5.1 Each school will get a 10' X 10' taped square backstage to store set and props. All set and props must fit into this square.
- 5.2 Total time of play/scene for this event will be no more than 35 minutes. Cuttings of larger acts of plays are allowed.
  - 5.2.1 Set-up and strike are included in the total time. There is a 5 minute crossover between shows to assist set up and strike.
  - 5.2.2 Dressing and make-up must be completed in the time a school is "on deck": not earlier. On deck designates the period in which the preceding school is performing as per the printed schedule.

- 5.3 During a required Technical Rehearsal, students will be given guidance on how to operate lighting and sound equipment. During the performance, students will be expected to operate the equipment.
- 5.3.1 Backstage Crew respondent will observe student stagehands execute set-up, run-of-show, and strike, and the Stage Management respondent will observe the stage manager executing the production.
- 5.3.2 The Stage Management respondent will tell student stage managers when they can start the performance after conferring with performance respondents and house manager.
- 5.4 During the on-deck and the 35-minute set-up/performance/strike time, coaches are NOT allowed within 20 feet of the on-deck, set-up (acting area), or the strike areas. Directing activities in these areas is the duty of the student Stage Manager and Backstage Crew. This is to be a student-executed activity and a student-oriented festival at all levels.
- 5.5 Each school is responsible for knowing and meeting all time restrictions. Neither respondents nor timekeepers will make the performer aware of the time limits during the performance.
- 5.6 Coaches must deliver to the front registration desk sufficient copies (minimum of 25) of their playbills for their one-act production/long scene at the time of registration.

#### **ARTICLE 6.0 AWARDS AND CRITERIA**

- 6.1 First place, second place, and third place awards for one-act competition will be presented to the highest scoring schools in both the Athens and Sparta Divisions.
- 6.2 If for any reason the Festival Director, or the New Mexico Activities Association representative determine that there are not enough entrants or do not satisfy the general caliber for a given division they are not obligated to offer an award.
- 6.3 The criteria for the New Mexico Activities Association One-Act Production Competition shall be calculated as follows: 70% of total score is the respondent score for the one-act performance; 15% of total score is the stage managers score; and 15% of the total score is the backstage crew score.

#### **ARTICLE 7.0 CONDUCT AND ETIQUETTE**

- 7.1 All respondents, coaches, students, and chaperones are expected to display good examples of fair play, good sportsmanship, respect, and responsibility. Poor conduct and/or etiquette by either students or coaches may result in disqualification. In cases of dispute, the decision of the Festival Director is final.
- 7.2 All schools, if not on-deck or in a response session, should attend all productions to provide a supportive audience for those schools performing.
- 7.2 Appropriate audience etiquette, including arriving on-time and staying through the entire performance, is expected from all audience members.