

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

(revised Aug 1, 2022)

**ARTICLE 1.0 NAME**

1.1 The official name of this activity shall be "NMAA One Act Production Competition" as part of the "NM Thespian Festival and One Act Competition" hosted by New Mexico Educational Theatre Association and the Educational Theatre Association.

1.2 The State One Act competition is held concurrently with the Thespian Conference. Only high schools belonging to the New Mexico Activities Association may be eligible for the NMAA State award designations. The following contest rules cover only the One Act competition sanctioned by New Mexico Activities Association. For information regarding the Thespian Festival please contact Gael Natal at [gael.natal@rrps.net](mailto:gael.natal@rrps.net) or Melissa Souers at [melissa.souers@rrps.net](mailto:melissa.souers@rrps.net)

**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 State 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 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). Registration fees are non-refundable. Partial Refunds may be considered if the festival is canceled or postponed to COVID.

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. Students MUST abide by the NMAA academic eligibility code.

#### 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 board member from the New Mexico Educational Theatre Association (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 Total time of play/scene for this event will be no more than 35 minutes.

5.2 Coaches must upload a program listing show title, playwright, publishing company, cast, and crew to Eventsential 1 day before the start of the festival. This provides the judges with information needed for adjudication and failure to provide this information will result in point deductions. Paper copies of the program are encouraged, but not required.

5.3 One Acts/Long Scenes must come from a theatrical publisher or be previously published and currently in the public domain. Student written plays will be accepted, but will not be eligible for nomination to Chapter Select at the International Thespian Festival. (Self-published online works by others are not considered published plays.) Coaches must provide proof of permission to perform production from a publication company upon registration. Works that are out of

copyright do not need permission. Please note "Public Domain" on the registration form.

Violation of publication company permissions of any kind are grounds for disqualification.

5.4 All performances (filmed and live) must follow current NMAA, PED, and District Contact Guidelines for Covid safety protocols.

5.5 Filmed Performances will not be accepted. All performances will be judged live.

## **5.6 Technical Details for One Act Performances**

5.6.1 Each school will get an 8' X 8' taped square backstage to store set and props. All set and props must fit into this square.

5.6.2 Set-up and strike are included in the total time (35 min). There is a 5-minute crossover between shows to assist with transition between one-act productions.

5.6.3 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.

5.6.4 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. Stage Management respondent will observe the stage manager executing the rehearsal. Teachers/Directors may assist with load in, but must leave the student stage manager to run the rehearsal independently.

5.6.5 All light cues must be programmed during the Technical Rehearsal period. Specifications on lights and sound will be sent out in a separate email.

5.6.6 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.

5.6.7 The Stage Management respondent will tell student stage managers when they can start the performance after conferring with performance respondents and house manager.

5.6.8 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.

5.6.9 Each school is responsible for knowing and meeting all time restrictions. Neither respondents nor timekeepers will make the performers aware of the time limits during the performance unless specifically asked by the stage manager. The stage manager is responsible for informing the Stage Management Judge when their group is ready and when the group has completed their strike. Time will not be stopped until the stage is completely clear and props/set pieces are back in the assigned square. This includes cleaning up after any breakage or spills that may have occurred onstage. Schools will be DISQUALIFIED for going more than 1 minute over time limit. Groups going more than 2 minutes over will be stopped by the Stage Manager Respondent.

## **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 Athens and Sparta Divisions at the State Thespian Conference.

6.2 If for any reason the Festival Director, or the New Mexico Activities Association representatives 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 Divisional New Mexico Activities Association One-Act Production Competition shall be calculated as follows:

\*70% of total score is the score for the one-act performance from the respondents seated in the audience

\*15% of total score is the stage manager's score

\*15% of the total score is the combination of the technical crew scores (lighting/sound, hair/makeup/costumes, and backstage crew).

Example:

Respondent 1=	42/50		
Respondent 2=	35/50		
Respondent 3=	40/50	Combined 117/150= 78% x .70=	54
Stage Manager=	45/50	90% x .15=	13.5
Technical Crew Scores=	35/35		
	23/25		
	20/25		
	25/30	Combined 103/115=89.5% x .15=	13.4
			Total= 80.1

6.4 A minimum of three judges will view and adjudicate each production.

#### 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 Appropriate audience etiquette, including arriving on-time and staying through the entire performance is expected from all audience members. Festival personnel reserve the right to refuse admittance to shows after they have begun or ask audience members to leave if they are disrupting a performance.