

TO: All New Mexico Theatre Educators

FROM: New Mexico Thespian Board



Greetings all! We hope you are well and safe making it through this new fun filled year. We have had several meetings and wanted to give you some information as we approach this new world.

- The NMAA One Act Competition and Thespian Festival is still being planned for next semester. In light of Delta, We are looking at how the festival can proceed. Possibilities include:
 - o In person Jan 13-15, 2022 at Rio Rancho High School
 - o Some in person but a submitted recording option as well
 - o Creating two separate categories for live and recorded one acts
 - o Performances specifically created for Zoom separate from stage recordings and live...
 - o Other options?
- In an effort to create a more inclusive environment, we will not be assigning 1st, 2nd and 3rd to the individual events. They will still be adjudicated and receive scores. Students will still be able to get Superior ratings and qualify for Nationals. For those of you who love the competition aspect, all categories involved with the one act will still be in place. Backstage awards, however, can only be judged live. For live shows or shows recorded in school venues, the thirty-five minute time allotment will be in place. It will still be thirty minutes for Zoom shows. Since students and adults are feeling Zoom burnout, IF we have to go all online, we will only do one acts and individual events, no workshops.

No matter what form the festival takes this year, it is scheduled at Rio Rancho High School January 13-15, 2022. Mask and Covid safety practices will follow the state guidelines as well as any rules in place for Rio Rancho Public Schools and the NMAA.

We would love to have it in other places, preferably a college setting in the future. We have not been able to find any other locations willing or able to host. If you have any connections, feel free to reach out and let us know if anything seems promising.

In addition, if you would like to be more involved at the state level, we have a meeting every few months on Zoom and you are invited to join us as we plan future events.

Live recordings can have a title slate and a credit shot that will not be considered as part of the 35. Zoom shows may include that as well. Live recordings must be single camera recordings with no cutaways, edits or stops. Zoom recordings will follow the same rules as last year. All sound effects must be played live. A more detailed outline of rules will be coming soon.

Feel free to email your questions to gael.natal@rpps.net or msouers@fms.k12.nm.us .

- We cannot wait to see you in person again soon!

Look forward to talking to you soon!

Gael Natal, Co-Director, NM Thespian Board