



**THE TENNESSEE THEATRE ASSOCIATION**  
**SECONDARY SCHOOL ONE-ACT FESTIVAL**  
**GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

1. A participating school may select from all types of plays. The presentation may be a one-act play, an act of a longer play, or a cutting from a long play.
2. Each participating school must secure and be prepared to show proof of production rights and payment of royalty fees.
  - a. TTA shall in no way be responsible for any faults that may occur with royalties.
  - b. Any participant who is discovered not to have secured necessary rights and fees shall be disqualified from the Festival.
3. The publisher of each play shall be included as part of the Festival program.
4. Each participating school shall have a 45 minute time limit defined as “from bare stage to bare stage”
  - a. Time limit includes set up, performance, and strike. Scenery shall be moved from a specific location and shall be struck COMPLETELY to a specific location as directed by the Festival Chair or Stage Manager.
  - b. Any school that exceeds the time limit shall not be considered for the First Place or Runner-Up Awards.
  - c. The time clock may be stopped for extenuating circumstances at the discretion of the Festival Chair or the Stage Manager.
5. Participating schools must provide all technical materials and equipment unless the host institution or a participating school makes said material or equipment available to all participants.
6. All sets must be flameproof.
7. No set construction or assembly will be allowed within the performance space. Assembly may only be conducted prior to entering the building. However, all pieces must fit within the available door / openings, without modifications to them, to the load-in area as well as to the stage itself.
8. Each school will have a 15 tech time on stage during which they may spike set pieces, set light and sound levels, and explore the performance space .
9. Special lighting, sound, or visual aid effects are allowed within the limitation of the place of performance and equipment provided by the TTA / SSD.
  - a. All special effects must be provided by the participating school
  - b. All special effects must be placed and removed within the specified time limits.
10. When make up and dressing facilities are available, participating schools will have access to same one hour preceding performance.
11. Each participating school will be provided with a floor plan indicating the size and arrangement of the festival stage, loading areas, and access to both. A full description of the lighting hang as well as available lighting and sound equipment will be included.
12. Stage assistants will be furnished through TTA / SSD or local arrangements. These personnel will be on hand to work with the director, cast, and crew of each show in facilitating the performance, to assist participants with facility needs, and to ensure safety both on and off stage.
13. Each participating school is responsible for setting, striking, and clearing the performance area. TTA / SSD personnel will not assist with these activities.

14. Judging Criteria:

- a. The One-Act play will be evaluated on the choice of the play and its appropriateness to a One-Act Play festival and to high school performers.
- b. The overall direction and interpretation of the play, staging, and interpretation of the author's words will be evaluated.
- c. Other elements of the production to be evaluated are the individual performers and how well each actor seems to understand and develop their character, the teamwork, or the working of an ensemble, and the overall effectiveness of the play.
- d. Set, costumes, and sound will be considered secondary to the production. Lighting will not be considered in the judging criteria. However, a school may choose to include any special lighting, sound, or visual effects they feel may enhance the performance.

15. Awards:

- a. The play selected for the First Place award and the runner-up will represent the state of Tennessee at the following convention of the Southeastern Theatre Conference. This year, the conference in March of 2012 and will be held in Chattanooga, TN. Check out: [www.setc.org](http://www.setc.org)
- b. A Best Actor and Best Actress award will be given.
- c. In addition to the above, certain cast members for each production will be recognized by the adjudicators and named as members of an All-Star Cast.
- d. At their discretion, the Adjudicators may present an Excellence in Technical Theatre award.

16. Scholarship Auditions

- a. In conjunction with the One-Act Festival, TTA offers a scholarship to high school senior who is selected as the winner of the Scholarship Auditions. It is the intent of these auditions to provide a learning experience for those who have not gone through a similar audition process and wish to gain experience by auditioning before conference-approved adjudicators. The scholarship is granted to a high school senior who enrolls in a Tennessee college or university. Scholarship money will be dispersed only if proof of enrollment is received by the Executive Secretary of TTA within one calendar year of award announcement.
- b. The Auditions are held during the second half of the one-act play festival.
- c. The Auditions are open to both high school juniors and seniors. However, only seniors will be considered for the scholarship. In any given year, TTA / SSD may determine, at its discretion, that the auditions will be limited to only seniors due to the number of applicants.
- d. Auditionees are limited to two (2) minutes to perform their selection(s) before the adjudicators. A TTA representative will keep time. A single straight back chair will be provided.
- e. Auditionees will be rated in the following categories: appropriateness of material, characterization, range and depth of emotions, blocking and presentation, and overall effect.
- f. All comments made by the adjudicators will be returned to the auditionee.