

INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Individual Events or “I.E.’s” as they are commonly referred to, are intended to be a non-competitive, educational offering for students. Students have the opportunity to receive constructive feedback from professional judges on their prepared theatrical material and technical designs. The goal for participating students is to find their strengths and weaknesses and to grow as theatre artists. Competing in Individual Events is optional for students.

Any student is able to watch any of the Individual Events sessions as an observer. Seating will be available on a first come, first served basis. Keep in mind that an individual event includes an adjudication process; audience members need to remain quiet throughout each session. Entrance and exits to the rooms are at the discretion of the door guard.

To ensure high quality and solid preparation, we encourage directors to hold troupe auditions before submitting their Registration Form. Once selected, please make sure to view any pieces that may be performed to ensure the content is suitable for all high school audiences and is a good fit for your student(s).

Event Categories:

Performance

Solo Dance
Group Dance
Monologue
Duet Acting
Group Acting
Solo Musical Theatre
Duet Musical Theatre
Group Musical Theatre

Technical

Costume Design
Costume Construction
Theatre Marketing
Short Film
Scenic Design
Lighting Design
Sound Design
Make-Up Design
Stage Management
Playwriting

Judging Process for I.E.’s:

A team of expert judges will be selected to evaluate each individual event category. Each team will consist of three judges. They will give written feedback on festival forms and individually rank each event as Superior, Excellent, or Good. These scores will then be combined to award the competitor(s) an overall ranking of (1) SUPERIOR, (2) EXCELLENT, or (3) GOOD in the category. In the event that there should be more than three judges, only the top three scores will be used. In the event that there are only two judges, the highest score will be counted twice.

Copies of the judge’s evaluation forms will be provided to directors in a packet at the conclusion of Festival. One copy will be provided for the student(s) competing and one will be for the director to keep.

The rankings are compiled in the following manner:

SUPERIOR + SUPERIOR + SUPERIOR	= SUPERIOR
SUPERIOR + SUPERIOR + EXCELLENT	= SUPERIOR
SUPERIOR + SUPERIOR + GOOD	= SUPERIOR
SUPERIOR + EXCELLENT + EXCELLENT	= EXCELLENT
SUPERIOR + EXCELLENT + GOOD	= EXCELLENT
EXCELLENT + EXCELLENT + EXCELLENT	= EXCELLENT
SUPERIOR + GOOD + GOOD	= EXCELLENT
EXCELLENT + EXCELLENT + GOOD	= EXCELLENT
EXCELLENT + GOOD + GOOD	= GOOD
GOOD + GOOD + GOOD	= GOOD

Recognition for Participants

Recipients of overall Excellent or Superior ratings receive certificates for individual achievement. In addition, Superior award recipients also receive a medal.

Anyone receiving an overall Superior rating is automatically eligible to attend the Michigan Youth Arts Festival in May and/or compete in the Individual Events Competition at the International Thespian Festival. Students choosing to participate in either of these events must secure the rights to perform their selections. Each of these events are separate from the Michigan Thespian Festival and require an additional fee and separate registration if you want to attend.

General Rules for all I.E. Events:

1. Students are allowed to compete in a maximum of (2) events.
2. Schools can send up to (2) participants/groups per category. Schools bringing 30 or more student delegates can send up to (3) participants/groups per category.
3. All Individual Events participants must be registered for the Festival by Oct. 31st.
4. Music-related events must provide their own music and whatever device is necessary to play that music at an appropriate volume for their piece. The Festival will not provide music players. You are advised to have a backup copy of your music.
5. For Performance Events there is no use of props. Use of props will result in an automatic reduction of one full ranking.
6. For Performance Events there is no use of costumes or theatrical makeup. Participants should dress as they would for a general audition or interview. Use of costumes or theatrical makeup will result in an automatic reduction of one full ranking.
7. Any event going overtime is automatically lowered one full ranking. Timing will begin on the first word or action after the introduction. The introduction (slate) should include the entrant's name(s), troupe #, title of selection(s), and the name(s) of the author(s).

***Specific rules for each I.E. event category are available for download from our website starting in September.**

Please note:

Evaluation forms at the International Festival are different from Michigan's evaluation forms. In addition, some rules in some categories may vary slightly as well. Please make sure to view the rules and evaluation form in advance of the International Festival if you plan on attending. Also, students advancing with Superiors in more than one area, will have to choose which (1) they would like to compete with at the International Festival; they will only allow one event per person. Playwriting, Short Film and Dance are not I.E. categories at the International Festival.

For a list of plays and authors that should be avoided, please visit our website and click on the "Red Light List" tab.