



## **THESPIAN SCHOLARSHIP COMPETITION**

Michigan Thespians will be offering scholarships for graduating seniors who plan to major or minor in Theatre or Communication Arts. Students who are not active members of the International Thespian Society are not eligible for scholarship consideration. There is a \$10 fee per student to enter the Thespian Scholarship Competition.

Each director can nominate a maximum of two seniors in this scholarship competition. However, each school can nominate only one student per category. For example, the School "B" director decides to have Bill Shakespeare compete in PERFORMANCE and Susan Smith to compete in the TECH category. Bill and Susan could not both compete in Performance or both compete in Tech.

The student's director may watch their student's audition, but no other students or adults (including parents) are permitted to watch Thespian Auditions.

The TECH auditioners will audition in the evening on Friday. The PERFORMANCE auditions will take place early on Saturday. The exact times and room locations will be provided in the Festival Guidebook, which will be available shortly before Festival.

### ***SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION & DISTRIBUTION***

- A non-renewable scholarship of \$500 will be awarded to (10) Michigan Thespians as recommended by an independent judging panel.
- Following festival, the Festival Director will forward a list of the winners to the Educational Theatre Association (EdTA) home office. *Disbursement of all monetary awards and all future contact about the scholarship will be handled by the Educational Theatre Association.* Recipients will be expected to document proof of enrollment in a recognized school, college, or university's theatre or communication program.
- Failure to complete enrollment or withdrawal from school negates this scholarship and the grant will not be awarded.
- Recipients will have until July 1, 2021 to claim their scholarship.

### ***ELIGIBILITY***

- Applicants must present proof of their membership in the International Thespian Society by providing their individual Thespian ID number on their application form in addition to their schools Troupe number.

- All applicants must be currently enrolled in a Michigan school and graduate at the end of that school year.
- Applicants must be registered to attend the Festival with a registered troupe.
- All applications must be completed, submitted and paid no later than **Oct.25**.
- All winners must use the grant for furthering their education with a major or minor in theatre and/or communication arts.
- There will be a \$10 entry fee per student applicant.
- Each director may nominate a maximum of (2) candidates (*one in PERFORMANCE and/or one in TECH*).

### **JUDGING**

- Neutral judges will be appointed by the Festival and/or Chapter Director.
- Judging will take place at the Michigan Thespian Festival.
- Students will not receive formal feedback (neither verbal or written).
- Winners will be announced at the conclusion of Festival.

### **IMPORTANT NOTE:**

*Registering for Thespian Scholarships is completely separate from the College Scholarship Competition. Students doing both will have to apply separately for College Scholarships. Rules and directions for College Scholarships can be found on the Michigan Thespians website.*

*Directors: To avoid multiple students applying, students will not have access to the Thespian Rules below. Please copy print these rules and make them available to your 1 or 2 students.*

### **THESPIAN SCHOLARSHIP PERFORMANCE CANDIDATES:**

**Students competing in Performance must prepare a solo presentation not to exceed three (3) minutes. The performance will be followed by an interview and a portfolio screening for up to (5) minutes.** During the interview, students are generally asked questions that will have them reflect on their experiences, education and contributions in theatre.

The performance may be either musical or non-musical theatre (ie. acting).. Musical auditions must be accompanied by piano- **no prerecorded music will be allowed.** Those needing accompaniment must use the Festival Accompanist. Send your music along with any cuts to the Festival Accompanist: Scott Bell <[scottpatrickbell@live.com](mailto:scottpatrickbell@live.com)> no later than Dec.1st. In addition, bring a hard copy along with you to Festival. Musical Theatre applicants will sign up for a designated rehearsal slot to practice with the accompanist in advance of their scholarship audition. The practice will take between 10-15 minutes on (Friday)--the exact time can be chosen when your school checks-in on Friday..

### **Performance Candidate's Checklist:**

Before October 25th:

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the Thespian Registration form, which includes basic contact info in addition to a 1 page resume & headshot photo (required).

Register at: <https://form.jotform.co/92137684858876>

\_\_\_\_\_ **Email a pdf of your music selection (with any cuts) to the accompanist by Dec.1st--required for Musical Theatre candidates only**

\_\_\_\_\_ **Create a portfolio**

*On Arrival at Festival:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Schedule a rehearsal time with Accompanist (only for Musical Theatre)

\_\_\_\_\_ Make sure your audition time will work the remainder of your schedule.

\_\_\_\_\_ Find relevant rooms before you audition

*Bring to your audition slot:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Portfolio of work (required)

\_\_\_\_\_ Sheet Music (only required for Musical Theatre)

## **THESPIAN SCHOLARSHIP TECHNICAL CANDIDATES:**

This category is for Stage Managers, designers, technicians, etc. Students in this category must bring a portfolio and be prepared to participate in an oral presentation or their work as well as a question-and-answer period. Stage Managers often bring a prompt book to show. Designers/Technicians can bring drawings, designs, or realized artifacts such as completed costumes if they want. **Students will have up (5) minutes to setup and present. The judges will then have a maximum of (3) minutes to ask questions and review the portfolio.**

The portfolio should illustrate your expertise in technical theatre/design or stage management. Candidates should be prepared to answer questions from the judges about their design / stage management experiences and reflect on their learning.

### **Technical Candidates Checklist:**

Before October 25th:

\_\_\_\_\_ Complete the Thespian Registration form, which includes basic contact info in addition to a 1 page resume & headshot photo (required).

Register at: <https://form.jotform.co/92137684858876>

\_\_\_\_\_ Create a portfolio of your work and/or prepare your prompt script.

*On Arrival at Festival:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Make sure your audition time will work the remainder of your schedule.

\_\_\_\_\_ Find relevant rooms before you audition

*Bring to your audition slot:*

\_\_\_\_\_ Portfolio of work (required)

\_\_\_\_\_ Any designs, drawings or relevant research artifacts (optional)

**If you have any questions regarding Scholarship Auditions, please contact the scholarship coordinator, Erik Hart: [ehart@wcskids.net](mailto:ehart@wcskids.net)**