

DTASC EVENT RULES

BASIC PARAMETERS

1. The selection is to be memorized.
2. Group scenes are not to exceed eight (8) minutes. Individual and small group events are not to exceed five (5) minutes. Tech categories are not to exceed eight (8) minutes. The Events Sheet included in the registration packet should be consulted for all events that have been established for a specific festival. If the time is exceeded, participants must be stopped, but are not disqualified. If participants fail to stop after a warning, they will be disqualified.
3. Any suggestive acting that denotes sexual activity of any kind except kissing and embracing is strictly forbidden in festival scenes and will result in disqualification.
4. No explicit sexual language or profanity of any kind is allowed. Language found in Shakespeare's plays is acceptable.
5. No scene that makes a parody of or is offensive to alternative lifestyles, religions, sexual orientation, or culture is allowed.
6. Once a group has been established in Round One, no group members can be added or exchanged for different students. If Round One is missed, approval to be double ranked in Round Two **MUST** be received from the president. Any alterations to round participation and room placement must have written approval by the DTASC president.
7. Due to copyright laws, no videotaping or photographing of scenes in any round is allowed.
8. Sound effects are permissible, but only through the use of a participant's hands, feet, or mouth. No manufactured devices may be employed.
9. **An optional introduction of not more than 100 words or 30 seconds long may be used. Performers may instead opt to have no introduction, except for school code, title and playwright, which are mandatory.**
10. No participant may perform in more than one event; however, a participant may portray more than one character and may enact a character of the opposite sex. Personal pronouns may be changed in the text where necessary.
11. **At least one five-minute category per festival must be designated as a "straight" scene.** A "straight scene" must be derived from a single scene from a play, as written by the playwright, with any editing or cuts permitted only to delete insignificant characters, make pronoun changes for clarity, remove profanity, or to complete the scene within the time constraints. The playwright's intent must be honored and actors may not play multiple roles unless it has been so designated by the playwright.

continued

EVENT RULES, CONTINUED

12. **Unless the scene is specifically designated as a parody, author's intent must be preserved in all scenes.**
13. Participants must wear DTASC PERFORMANCE DRESS, including shoes as indicated in rule #14. This is established as:
 - Pants/Jeans — any solid color, plainly-styled, ankle-length.
 - Shorts — plainly-styled, solid-color, modest in style and length (fitted at the waist with legs that reach at least one inch beyond the fingertips when arms are extended at the side of the body).
 - Shirts — a button-up collared shirt, long or short sleeve; any solid color t-shirt, long or short sleeve; or any official DTASC t-shirt is acceptable. No cutting, rolling up, or modification of the shirt is allowed.
 - Girls may wear skirts — any solid color, plainly-styled, knee-length or longer, with a neat, same-length hemline and may wear, if desired, leggings (any solid color) under skirts.
 - No accessories; No alterations to standard design, no rips or cut-outs, no designs on any clothing.
 - No bare midriff, plunging necklines, underwear that is visible, nor immodestly revealing apparel.
 - Solid layering of shirts is permitted.
14. Special footwear (i.e. tennis shoes, ballet slippers), except tap shoes, is acceptable for all events.
15. No theatrical makeup is allowed in any event.
16. Clothing may not be used as props (e.g. scarf used as a noose), except as would be used in the normal course of a scene (i.e. actress may spread skirt to curtsey before the Duke) and may not be rearranged during the scene to create a different “costume” or indicate a different character. No clothing can be removed for any reason during a scene.
17. A skirt may be tucked to create pants.

Rule 18 is on the next page.

EVENT RULES, CONTINUED

18. No properties may be used. Only chairs will be permitted. All event participants will be permitted to use four (4) chairs, with the exception of individual event participants, who may use two (2) chairs. Chairs may not be thrown or forcefully propelled, but may be used in any other manner (except if the scene is pantomime, in which case the chair must not be moved in any fashion). Schools may provide their own chairs with the following stipulations:

- Chairs must be “typical” to a secondary academic classroom.
- Standard folding chairs are permitted. A participant may fold a folding chair during a scene.
- Chairs should be in standard, institutional, manufactured colors only. No decorations may be added.
- Chairs may be padded.
- No modified stools or cubes are allowed.
- The host school will still provide chairs for schools who do not bring them.
- School code should be placed on the chair in an area out of site so that they can be returned to the proper owners if misplaced or lost.

FOR RULES PERTAINING TO SPECIFIC FALL OR SHAKESPEARE EVENT CATEGORIES, PLEASE REFER TO THE FALL EVENT AND SHAKESPEARE EVENT RULES ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES.

FALL EVENT GENERAL RULES

GENERAL

1. **MUSICAL is a permanent category for Fall Festival. It can be either 5 minutes or 8 minutes as designated by the membership for any given year.**
2. If the festival contains a MUSICAL category of any kind, any other group scenes must be from non-musical shows not listed as musicals in a catalog, **with the following exceptions:** Audition monologues may contain a musical selection even if there is another musical category. Participants may use material from a musical for non-musical categories, **provided there is no singing, humming, or underscoring.**

TEXT

1. No play by Shakespeare may be used in any category. Verse drama is acceptable.

RULES FOR TECH CATEGORIES

1. All tech categories can have no more than 4 presenters for C Division, **no more than 6 presenters for A/B Divisions.**
2. Any participants that do not present all the required elements for their specific technical category will be disqualified.
3. Technical presentations shall not exceed eight (8) minutes in length.
4. Technical categories are to be entirely student designed and built. Presenters must submit a verification form signed by their sponsor indicating that the work was done by students.
5. For specific content guidelines, please refer to the registration packet.

RULES FOR AUDITION MONOLOGUE

1. The participant will prepare and present two, two minute monologues. The entire presentation is not to exceed five minutes. One of the monologues must be from a modern play (1920 or after) and one must be taken from a classical play (before 1920). One of these monologues must be humorous, the other must be serious. The combination is determined by the participant or director. **A capella singing is permitted in one of the monologues.**
2. No material from Shakespeare may be used.
3. No more than two (2) chairs may be used.

continued

FALL EVENT GENERAL RULES, CONTINUED

RULES FOR LARGE GROUP SERIOUS/HUMOROUS

1. The group will consist of a minimum of 3 and a maximum of 6 participants.
2. The scene is not to exceed eight (8) minutes in length.
3. No more than four (4) chairs may be used.
4. The terms “serious” and “humorous” refer to the mood of the selection performed, not necessarily to the form of the work from which the cutting is taken (e.g. a humorous scene or monologue might be cut from a tragedy).
5. **May be from any Single Source (e.g. Screenplays, Novels, Plays, etc.) May also be student written.**

RULES FOR GREEK COMEDY OR TRAGEDY

1. The scene must have 2 to 4 performers.
2. The scene must be a maximum of 5 minutes.
3. **The scene must be from an ancient Greek comedy or tragedy, translated into English. Cutting is permitted.**

RULES FOR 2–4 PERSON SERIOUS

1. The scene must have 2 to 4 performers.
2. The scene must be a maximum of 5 minutes.
3. **The scene must be a STRAIGHT scene of serious intent.**

continued

FALL EVENT GENERAL RULES, CONTINUED

RULES FOR PLAYS BY WOMEN

1. The scene must have 2 to 4 performers.
2. The scene must be a maximum of 5 minutes.
3. **The scene must be from a play by a woman playwright. Cutting is permitted.**

RULES FOR OPEN MUSICAL

1. The scene must have 3 to 10 performers.
2. The scene must be a maximum of 8 minutes.
3. The scene must have music.
4. **The scene must be from a single published or produced musical; it cannot be student written.**

SHAKESPEARE EVENT GENERAL RULES

TEXT

1. The text of the scene must come from a standard/authorized Shakespearean text. Pronoun change and subsequent verb agreement changes are permissible. Pronouns may be changed to an appropriate proper noun, and vice versa, for clarification (e.g. change “he” to “Cassio”). If using text in a language other than English, you must have a copy of the text available at the festival in the event of any rules questions.
2. **Text is defined as dialog, act, scene, location, and stage directions.** No spoken transition outside the text may be used. Individual words may not be combined at random to create new lines.

TECH

1. **Schools may have two entries for Court Costume and two entries for Character Costume. Character category may have one or two costumes per entry. A \$75 restriction on construction materials will be allowed for each separate costume.**
(Notes:
 - a. **Computer registration does not currently support the second entry in each category; you will need to write it in on your printed registration form, calculate the additional fees, and send the amended form to the registrar with a check for the corrected total.**
 - b. **Tabulations cannot calculate these scores in the computer because the 2nd entry will not appear; they will have to hand score costume categories with more than one entry per school. This will affect sweepstakes points.**
 - c. **These notes are not intended to deter you; they are intended to clarify your additional responsibilities and inform you of a problem that will occur during the foreseeable future when scores are tabulated.)**

continued

HIGHLIGHTED RULES FOR SHAKESPEARE’S WOMEN:

1. 5 minute limit
2. 2–4 participants
3. May be from any of Shakespeare’s plays except the featured plays.
4. Must be a scene with a woman as the main character, but may have both male and female characters.

HIGHLIGHTED RULES FOR WICKED – SHAKESPEARE’S VILLAINS:

1. 5 minute limit
2. 2–4 participants
3. Must be a STRAIGHT scene; may not be from the featured plays.
4. Must feature one of Shakespeare’s villains.

HIGHLIGHTED RULES FOR LISTEN TO MY DREAM:

1. 5 minute limit
2. 2–4 participants
3. Must have one or more scenes where a character talks about a dream they had.
4. May not be from a featured play.

HIGHLIGHTED RULES FOR MODERN PLAY BASED ON SHAKESPEARE:

1. 8 minute limit
2. 3–10 participants
3. Must be from ONE modern play based on Shakespeare.
4. May be musical or non-musical; singing is allowed (but not required).

Further clarification will be provided in the breakout meetings at the mandatory meeting in January.