

## JR. THESPIAN COMPETITION RULES FOR IEs

### GENERAL RULES

1. The time for the event will start after the mention of the troupe number.  
An introduction is required and MUST include ONLY the entrant's name(s), title of selection, and troupe number. Do not give name of school or other information.
2. No student may enter the same category twice.
3. Students can participate in up to four IE's where ONE must be technical. If they do not do a technical event, then the max is 3 performance events.
4. Students are not allowed to wear clothing that displays their school's name, school's initials or any identification of their troupe apart from the troupe number. Students may wear clothing that displays their district number. This applies to ALL Individual Events.
5. Students receiving a Superior rating at the District level are eligible to perform at the State level. Final selection will be the sponsor's decision. Each year a number of students receiving an Excellent MAY be allowed to attend. Please check your State registration packet for details.
6. No changes or additions after registration deadline. Dropping an IE will cost \$10.00 per event.
7. All Individual Events presented at State Festival must be the same title and cutting, with the same participants, that received an Excellent Superior at District Festival. Any exceptions to this rule require a written request to the State Director two weeks prior to the Festival.
8. The teacher is responsible for insuring that the material is appropriate for presentation in a public form at their own middle school. The principal will be asked to certify that the material chosen meets the community standards of the school and community.
9. Costume(s): NO COSTUMES MAY BE USED. Costumes are defined as clothing which:

- Is unique to the character(s) in the specific play, scene, and/or musical number. EXAMPLE: 1950's style clothing for a scene from Grease.
- Helps to establish information about the character(s) (i.e. mood, personality, period, etc.) in the specific play, scene and/or musical number. EXAMPLE: mis-matched clothing or "nerd" clothing for The Nerd.
- Accessory items (hat, cane, briefcase, purses, etc) may be used as props if they are an integral part of the blocking and/or choreography.
- Dance clothing (leotards, tights, dance skirts, sweats, etc.) may be worn UNLESS they would be covered under the description listed above in numbers 1-2.
- Hand Properties: Personal items are carried on stage by the performer(s) (example: notebook, luggage, letter, doll, etc.)
- Introduction: Consists of performer's or designer's name(s), ITS troupe number, selection(s), name(s) ONLY. This information is to precede all portions of the selection(s) to be presented. (Example: "My name is John Doe. I will sing "Music of the Night" from Phantom of the Opera." I am from Troupe #1234.) Timing will begin after the troupe number is stated in all IE's.

## **MONOLOGUE**

1. Students will perform ONE selection.
2. Materials must be drawn from published plays written for the theatre or a published monologue anthology. Poetry, fiction, screenplays, and lyrics will not be allowed.
3. Only one character may be used.
4. The selection may not exceed (3) three minutes.
5. No costumes may be used.
6. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.

**MATERIALS:** Only three sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs will be provided, and these are the only permissible furniture.

## **DUET ACTING**

1. Two actors participate.
2. Materials must be drawn from published plays written for the theatre or a published scene anthology.
3. Poetry, fiction, screenplays, and lyrics will not be allowed.
4. No costumes will be worn.
5. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.
6. Not to exceed five (5) minutes.

**MATERIALS:** Each room will be provided with 5 sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs, and one 4x4 card type table, which will not support standing weight. This is the only permissible furniture.

## **ENSEMBLE ACTING**

1. Three to six actors may participate.
2. The material must be drawn from published plays written for the theatre or a published scene anthology.
3. Poetry, fiction, screenplays, and lyrics will not be allowed.
4. No costume may be worn.
5. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.
6. Not to exceed five (5) minutes.

**MATERIALS:** Each room will be provided with 8 sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs, and one 4x4 card type table, which will not support standing weight. This is the only permissible furniture.

## **SOLO MUSICAL THEATRE**

1. The selection must be drawn from published musicals written for the theatre. No original works, medleys, or screenplays are allowed. The selection may contain dialogue.
2. All material should be presented as if within the full context of the performance of the play.
3. The performer **MUST** use non-vocal musical accompaniment which can be live or taped.
4. No costumes may be worn.
5. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.
6. Not to exceed five (5) minutes.

**MATERIALS:** Each room will be provided with 3 sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs, and one 4x4 card type table, which will not support standing weight. These are the only permissible furniture.

- a) The performer **MUST** provide his/her own media sound device.
- b) A tuned piano will be provided, no other equipment is permissible.
- c) A hard surface floor may not be provided.
- d) There will be **NO** CD players in the room. You will need to bring your own.
- e) Every room will have a set of speaker that can be plugged into iPods and other types of electrical devices
- f) The room will be standard classroom

### **DUET MUSICAL THEATRE**

1. Two students will participate
2. The selection must be drawn from published musicals written for the theatre. No original works, medleys, or screenplays are allowed. The selection may contain dialogue and both participants must be actively involved in the musical selection.
3. All material should be presented as if within the context of the performance of the play.
4. The performers **MUST** use non-vocal musical accompaniment which can be live or taped.
5. No costumes may be worn.
6. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.
7. Not to exceed five (5) minutes.

**MATERIALS:** Each room will be provided with 2 sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs, and one 4x4 card type table, which will not support standing weight. This is the only permissible furniture.

- a) The performers **MUST** provide their own media sound device.
- b) A tuned piano will be provided, no other equipment is permissible.
- c) A hard surface floor may not be provided.
- d) There will be **NO** CD players in the room. You will need to bring your own.
- e) Every room will have a set of speaker that can be plugged into iPods and other types of electrical devices

### **SMALL GROUP MUSICAL THEATRE**

1. Three (3) to seven (7) student s may participate
2. The selection must be drawn from published musicals written for the theatre. No original works, medleys, or screenplays are allowed. The selection may contain dialogue and both participants must be actively involved in the musical selection.
3. All material should be presented as if within the full context of the performance of the play.
4. The performers **MUST** use non-vocal musical accompaniment which can be live or taped.
5. No costumes may be worn.
6. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.
7. Not to exceed five (5) minutes.

**MATERIALS:** Each room will be provided with 7 sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs, and one 4x4 card type table, which will not support standing weight. This is the only permissible furniture.

- a) The performers **MUST** provide their own media sound device.
- b) A tuned piano will be provided, no other equipment is permissible.
- c) A hard surface floor may not be provided.
- d) There will be NO CD players in the room. You will need to bring your own.
- e) Every room will have a set of speaker that can be plugged into iPods and other types of electrical devices

## **LARGE GROUP MUSICAL THEATRE**

1. Eight to sixteen performers may participate.
2. The selection must be drawn from published musicals written for the theatre. No original works, medleys, or screenplays are allowed. The selection may contain dialogue and each participant must be actively involved in the musical selection.
3. All material should be presented as if within the full context of the performance of the play.
4. The performer **MUST** use non-vocal musical accompaniment which can be live or taped.
5. No costumes may be worn.
6. Hand props may be used if integral to the scene. Integral is defined as a prop that is physically used by the actor.
7. Not to exceed five (5) minutes.

**MATERIALS** - Each room will be provided with 16 sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs, and one 4x4 card type table, which will not support standing weight. This is the only permissible furniture.

- a) The performers **MUST** provide their own media sound device.
- b) A tuned piano will be provided, no other equipment is permissible.
- c) A hard surface floor will be provided.

## **PANTOMIME**

1. One to eight performers are allowed.
2. No props or costumes.
3. No theatrical makeup.
4. No lip syncing or audible sounds by the performer.
5. Not to exceed five minutes.
6. There are to be no lyrics in any music selection.
7. This pantomime must be the original creation of the student(s).

**MATERIALS:** Eight sturdy, straight-backed, armless chairs will be provided. This will be the only permissible furniture. A hard surface floor will be provided.

**OPTIONS:** Only pre-recorded music or effects may be used. The performer must provide their own media sound device.

## **IMPROVISATION RULES**

1. Two performers will receive a prompt from the judges' table immediately following the student's introduction which ends with their troupe number.
2. Time will start once the prompts are in the actors' hands.

3. The students have up to 5 minutes from the time they get the prompt to the end of their performance.
4. Any material that is not audience appropriate (i.e. language and adult content) is not allowed.
5. The Time Keeper's hand will go up at 4:45 as a visual warning for time.
6. The scene ends when 'time' is called by the Time Keeper or when the actors call 'scene.'

**Material provided in the room:** Two sturdy chairs.

## SCENE DESIGN

1. The student must construct an original, three-dimensional model OR perspective rendering executed to  $1/4" = 1'0"$  **OR**  $1/2" = 1'0"$  showing the set and its relationship to the theatrical space.
2. Computer aided design is acceptable.
3. At least one figure (to scale) must be included in the rendering or model to show proportion and scale.
4. If a multi-set play is chosen, only ONE scene shall be designed.
5. The student may include a floor plan to the same scale.
6. The set is to be designed for a stage with a proscenium opening of 38'w x 20'h. An apron with a depth of 6' may also be used. The proscenium arch and wing space must be represented in the model.
7. The student must verbally justify the design to the adjudicators. Note cards may be used.
8. Only one student may be involved in the design. Collaborative entries will be disqualified prior to adjudication.
9. All artwork utilized must be original, and created by the participant.
10. The event will not exceed ten (10) minutes. The student presentation is not to exceed five (5) of these ten (10) minutes.

### Scene Design Discussion Suggestions

- In your 5 minute presentation you should be able to discuss the following:
- Describe the play in one sentence.
- Summarize the scene you are designing for. (What is happening?)
- Describe the setting you've designed. (Place, period, style)
- Explain how research may have influenced your design.
- What requirements of the scene influenced your design? (number of characters, entrances, exits)
- What other choices did you make? (color, d'cor, levels)
- If applicable, describe how the scenery appears and how it will transition into the next scene. (You do not need to design the other scenes.)

## COSTUME DESIGN

**CHOICE OF PLAYS:** The student may choose any play from the list announced by the State Board of Directors in the September issue of the Florida State Thespian web page.

## RULES

1. The student must present three (3) character renderings. These may represent three (3) different characters and/or may follow a single character through several appropriate changes.
2. Computer aided design is NOT acceptable.
3. Each design must be executed in full color AND displayed on a 10" x 15" white display board. The display board cannot be mounted on any other surface. All figures must be 10" tall. The base of the figure should be 3" from the lower edge of the board. A human figure may be traced to use as a template upon

which a costume creation may then be placed. Tracing of a costume outline or silhouette is unacceptable.

4. The board should be labeled in the following manner:  
Upper Left hand corner: Name of the show and author.  
Upper Right hand corner: Name of the character, act, and scene.  
Lower Right hand corner: Student's name and troupe number.
5. The student must attach fabric swatches, measuring a minimum of 2"x2", by the top edge of the swatch only to the same board on which the figure is drawn. Mount the swatch so that it may be lifted up and felt in order to evaluate appropriate fabric texture, draping ability, weight, grain, etc.
6. The student must present a justification of the designs. Note cards may be used.
7. Only one student may be involved in the set of designs. NO COLLABORATION.
8. All artwork used must be the original work of the entrant.
9. The event will not exceed ten (10) minutes. The student presentation is not to exceed five (5) of these ten (10) minutes.

#### **Costume Design Discussion Suggestions**

- In your 5 minute presentation you should be able to discuss the following:
- Set the play - Discuss time period, place, and mood.
- Establish the character - Discuss character traits, age, gender, class, occupation, and/or a character's purpose in the play.
- Justify the designs - Be prepared to defend ideas with proper, established research. Talk about sources of information.
- Define social influences - Point out styles that were popular during the time period. Discuss any laws or limitations that might influence fashion choices or the use of accessories. Discuss the social role the character plays.
- Discuss fabric and color choices - Discuss fabrics and colors that were popular and/or available during the appropriate time period. Discuss fabrics and colors that are appropriate for the character. Discuss fabrics and colors and how they translate onto the stage.

#### **MARKETING DESIGN**

CHOICE OF PLAY: The student must choose a play from the list announced by the State Board of Directors.

#### **RULES**

1. The following materials are to be presented:
  - a. Flyer design on 8 ½ X 11 paper
  - b. ticket design
  - c. program design and full layout of 4 pages
  - d. a press release
  - e. a proposal for a promotional project to be completed within the individual school
  - f. a budget for the publicity campaign and justification of expenses. You will be judged on NOT how much you spend but how you spend it.
2. Computer aided design is acceptable.
3. The student must present justifications of the designs. Note cards may be used.
4. Only one student may be involved in the design. NO COLLABORATION.
5. All logos used must be the original work of the entrant.

6. The event will not exceed ten (10) minutes. The student presentation is not to exceed five (5) of these ten (10) minutes.
7. A bibliography is required documenting all resources used including but not limited to written and electronic sources. The bibliography must be in MLA style.

### **MAKE UP DESIGN**

1. Student must present three renderings which can represent three different characters and/or the same character through several appropriate changes. For the purpose of this assessment, hair and teeth are considered makeup.
2. Each rendering must be executed in full color AND displayed on a 10" x 15" white display board. The display board cannot be mounted on any other surface. All faces must be 10" from top of the head to the chin. The base of the figure should be 3" from the lower edge of the board. A human face may be traced and/or used as a template upon which the makeup design may then be demonstrated. Each design should be the student's own work.
3. The board should be labeled in the following manner: Upper Left hand corner: Name of the show and author. Upper Right hand corner: Name of the character, act, and scene. Lower Right hand corner: Student's name and troupe number.
4. Each design should be accompanied by typed directions for applying the makeup using a *3-dimensional technique* and a concept statement that should include script references, revealing how the design reinforces the traits of the character *and how the design utilizes the use of highlight and shadow*. If research is involved, indicate the sources. .
5. Only one student may be involved in creating the designs. No collaboration is permitted.
6. The student must present a justification of the designs. Note cards may be used.

### **Tips**

Interpretation – Does the design visually reinforce the mood, style, character and theme of the play?

Execution – Are renderings executed with precision, clarity and attention to the human form?

Presentation – Is the designer able to justify the significant design elements in terms of characters and script

### **SCENE WRITING**

1. The script must be the work of one or two students. If a collaborative effort, both must attend the adjudication.
2. The text must contain dialogue and have two characters ONLY.
3. Playing time must be a minimum of (3) TEXT pages and a maximum of (5) TEXT pages.
4. A copy of the script must be sent to the regional/state director by e-mail by the deadline stated.
5. Scripts must be typed or word-processed according to the Florida State Thespian guidelines.
6. All printed text must be in the Courier font.

7. The first page of the script will be the TITLE PAGE, including information relating to the title, scenewright(s), sponsor, troupe number, school address, and completion date, and will be arranged according to the Florida State Thespian guidelines.
8. The second page of the script will be the SYNOPSIS PAGE, including information relating to the title, playwright(s), character breakdown (male/ female), and a forty to sixty word summary of the play, and will be arranged according to the Florida State Thespian guidelines.
9. The third page of the script will be the CHARACTER PAGE, including an alphabetized list of the two characters, and will be arranged according to the Florida State Thespian guidelines.
10. The fourth and successive pages of the script will be the TEXT PAGES, and will include only the actual scene and will be arranged according to the Florida State Thespian guidelines.
11. The script will contain only pages specified by the Florida State Thespian guidelines.
  - A script that is improperly formatted is in violation of the specified Florida State Thespian guidelines and is subject to disqualification prior to adjudication.
  - Judges may make comments in the margins of the scene, on the evaluation form and/or during the verbal adjudication.
  - The student may not submit a scene that has been previously adjudicated by Florida State Junior Thespians. The scene must be original work.
  - All scenes submitted WILL NOT be returned.
  - Scene writing will be 10 minutes in length with just the playwright and the judges. The playwright will introduce the play and then have a discussion with the judges. Observers may be in the room for this event.

The following topics will be considered by the adjudicators while reading your play:

Character:

- Are goals established?
- Is the goal pursued in a manner consistent with the character's personality and limitations?
- Can an audience empathize with the protagonist?
- Are the supporting characters vital to the development and resolution of the plot?

Dialogue:

- Is each character's diction (choice of words) consistent with the given circumstances?
- Is all dialogue necessary to the development of the plot and each character?

Plot:

- Does the author provide all exposition necessary to understanding the characters and their situations (who, what, when, where why)?
- Once the initial incident is introduced, does the rising action follow a logical sequence of events to an appropriate climax and resolution?

Stageability:

- Will this work easily translate to the stage given the limitations of a stage play?