

**Somerset Community College Teen Theatre & Film Festival**  
**Information Packet**

## **Somerset Community College Teen Theatre & Film Festival**

### **Mission:**

SCC Teen Theatre & Film Festival will endeavor to:

- Encourage regional middle and high schools to actively engage in theatre and film arts education.
- Emphasize theatre and film education with the spirit of competition serving as a learning dynamic.
- Encourage participants to learn to love the art in themselves!

Somerset Community College will expand its eight year old Teen Theatre Festival to include categories in Film production.

### **FILM entry categories:**

#### **The P.S.A. (Public Service Announcement)**

Any middle school, high school, youth group or organization may enter a P.S.A. (Public Service Announcement) of no longer than 2 minutes in length which promotes the efforts of or announces an upcoming event sponsored by a service organization in your community.

#### **The Documentary Short**

Any middle school, high school, youth group or organization may enter a documentary of no longer than 6 minutes in length which promotes the efforts of a service organization in your community.

#### **The Narrative Short**

Any middle school, high school, youth group or organization may enter an original Narrative Film project of no longer than 10 minutes in length.

### **THEATRE entry categories:**

The Theatre categories will be divided into Grades 7 through 9 and Grades 10 through 12.

#### **The Monologue**

Any sponsored teen may enter with a monologue, no longer than two minutes in length.

#### **The Scene**

Two sponsored teens may enter with a two person scene, no longer than two minutes in length.

#### **The Musical Solo**

A sponsored teen may enter with the performance of a solo of a musical theatre piece, no longer than two minutes in length.

All performances must adhere to the official guidelines.

### **Entrant Guidelines**

All entrants must be sponsored by the school or a youth group to which they belong.

Entrants must be accompanied by a youth sponsor, parent or other adult on the day of the Festival.

All entrants must complete the proper registration forms and pay the registration fee before the stated deadline in order to be officially entered into the Festival.

Entrants are limited to one audition within a category.

Entrants are limited to two audition categories at the Festival.

Each school or sponsoring organization may have no more than four entries in a single category.

### **Festival Entry:**

Intent to Participate In order to ensure a slot at the Festival, sponsoring schools or organizations must complete the Intent to Participate form included at the end of this packet.

### **Registration Forms**

In order to become officially entered into performance competition of the Festival, individual entrants must complete the registrations forms for each category in which they are entered. This form must be accompanied by the \$10.00 registration fee. Entrant competing in two categories only pay one \$10.00 registration fee.

For the film categories, each sponsor must complete and submit the appropriate registration form along with the entry fee of \$10.00.

For those participants who will attend the Festival but will not compete in the theatre performance competitions, they may register in advance or at the registration desk on the morning of the Festival for a registration fee of \$5.00.

Teachers and sponsors must register on the day of the Festival but are not required to pay a registration fee.

## **Film Guidelines**

Film entries may be supervised by adults but the bulk of the project must be conceived, shot, edited and output by youth between the ages of 13 through 19 at your school or in your organization.

All film projects must be appropriate for family viewing.

All film projects must be original projects using original content. All music or stock footage must be original, royalty free or creative commons licensed.

Film project cannot promote a specific church, religion or political affiliation. A specific service project sponsored by a church or political organization may be promoted.

### **Required Film Format:**

Each film entry will begin with two seconds of blank screen followed by a six second clip that contains the following information:

- Title of Project
- Name of school or youth group sponsoring the project
- Category of Project: PSA or Narrative Film

The project must end with a six second clip which reads “This project was made as a part of Somerset Community College’s Teen Theatre and Film Festival.”

The project must end with four seconds of blank screen.

The project will be timed from the time the title card stops to the final six second acknowledgment clip.

## **Performance Guidelines**

All performances must be under two minutes in length.

Each audition will begin with the entrant introducing themselves and their audition piece. The audition will end when the entrant says, “Thank you.”

Each school or sponsoring organization is limited to four entrants per category.

Each entrant is limited to entry in a maximum of two categories.

### **Appropriateness:**

- Select material that is age appropriate.
- Select material that is appropriate for your intended audience. The Festival will have young viewers and parents viewing the final round. Judges will be instructed to give a score of “0” to those auditions which use profanity or inappropriate content.
- Avoid performing monologues or scenes from movies.
- The Musical Theatre category is intended to feature music from stage musicals and demonstrate your ability to effectively act while performing your song. Make sure to choose a selection that is from a stage musical.

**Costumes and props:**

You will be judged on your performance. Use props only where absolutely necessary. Costumes are a necessary part of a full stage performance. They are a distraction in an audition setting. Wear clothing that is appropriate to your character but do not wear a costume.

**Set Pieces:**

There will be a chair available for you to use for your monologue or musical theatre performance.

There will be a chair and table available for your scene performance. The table will not be load bearing.

**The Introduction:**

The introduction is a very important part of your audition. It will give the judges a first impression of you as a performer. It should be done with as much care as your audition piece.

If you will be using chairs and or tables, begin by setting those up. Wait until the judges have given you their attention. Your introduction should be clear and confident. Do not hurry your introduction or deliver it carelessly. You will introduce yourself. If you are doing a scene, you will also introduce your partner or your partner may introduce themselves. Introduce the title of your piece and, if the author isn't well known, the playwright. Avoid a long description setting up your audition piece. Select a piece that will speak for itself.

Don't rush into your performance. After the introduction is finished take a few seconds to "get into" your performance.

**Timing:**

The audition must not exceed two minutes. Your introduction will not be a part of the time allotted to your auditions. Timing will begin once you have made your first action or first word which initiates the performance. For the musical theatre category, timing will begin as soon as the first note of your accompaniment is played or, in the case of an a cappella performance, when the first note is sung.

The timer will stop the clock when the auditioner says, "Thank you." at the end of the audition.

**Musical Accompaniment:**

A piano is available on the day of the Festival for accompaniment. If you are using a CD as accompaniment, there will be a portable CD player available. You may bring your own CD player if you wish. You will need to have someone assist you with operating the CD player. Be aware that the level you need to set an accompaniment CD will change if you are selected to perform in the finals. Make sure your assistant is prepared to make what changes they need.

**Initial auditions:**

The initial auditions are closed. No one is allowed in the room but the auditioner, judge and time keeper. Musical theatre entrants may have an accompaniment assistant.

Photography or video taping of performances at any level is not permitted. Photography and videotaping of non-performance activities is permissible.

All registration fees are non-refundable.

## **Tentative Schedule**

**10:00 a.m. –**                    **Festival Registration Begins**  
Student Commons Lobby/Student Commons Grill

**10:30 a.m. -**                    **Festival Orientation**  
Student Commons Grill

- Participants are taken through the Festival day
- Rules are reviewed

**10:45 a.m.**                    ***Performance Auditions (Round One)***  
SCC Campus

Students go to their audition spaces and perform their first round of auditions.

**11:00 am**                    **Film Entry Screenings**  
Stoner Little Theatre

Entries in the film categories will be shown on Stoner Little Theatre’s “big screen.”

**12:00 pm**                    **Lunch**  
Student Commons Grill

**12:30 pm**                    ***Performance Auditions (Round Two)***  
SCC Campus

**12:45 pm**                    **Film Entry Screenings**  
Stoner Little Theatre

Entries in the film categories will be shown on Stoner Little Theatre’s “big screen.”

**1:30 pm**                    **Special Performance**  
Meece Auditorium

**2:00 pm**                    **Performance Finalists Announced**  
Stoner Little Theatre

All participants will meet in Stoner Little Theatre for the announcement of the finalists.

**2:15 pm**                    **Finalists Performances**  
Stoner Little Theatre

**4:15 pm**                    **Awards Ceremony**