

**Texas Charter School Academic and Athletic League  
Theatre and Drama Competition  
Austin Waldorf School  
8700 South View Rd, Austin, TX 78737  
January 21, 2012**

## **General Outline**

The Theatre and Drama competitions will consist of three events: Monologue Interpretation, Duet Acting, and One Act Plays. These contests will be available to all students, grades 6-8, and grades 9-12. Schools will not be limited to a maximum number of teams.

Judging will be conducted by a panel of coaches. The TCSAAL will not be responsible for the supervision of the students during each event. Therefore each school is required to bring an authorized supervisor separate from the coach to monitor the kids while they are not competing at the contest. This individual will check in with the coach the day of the contest at the designated sign in time.

## **Fees**

Monologue Interpretation- \$20 per student  
Duet Acting- \$40 per pair  
One Act Play \$150 per team

## **Monologue Interpretation**

The Monologue Interpretation contest enables the student not only to hone his or her general speaking skills, but to select and condense worthy dramatic literature suitable to the contestant's personality and maturity, and to convey orally the meaning of that dramatic literature through characterization and narration. TCSAAL encourages that coaches encourage their students to avoid (1) literature that is devoid of literary merit and (2) literature that is in poor taste and, therefore, may be offensive because of language or subject matter.

Specific rules:

1. Selections used in Monologue Reciting shall be cuttings from a single source from published printed novels, short stories, plays, poems, or screenplays. Coaches and/or students must have the original source, including ISBN if one exists to give to the site manager upon request. Photocopies are acceptable. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.

2. Presentation shall be from memory and without the use of physical objects or costumes. Students should avoid movement in the presentation that would distract from the literature itself. However, hand gestures and voice placement if used tastefully are encouraged. Violation shall result in ranking down in the round.

3. The contestant shall name the author and the title of the selection being presented during his/her performance. Violation shall result in ranking down in the round.

4. Maximum time shall be 5 minutes for 6th - 8th grade with thirty second grace period and 8 minutes for high school with a 30 second grace period. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round. Visible time signals will be given by an authorized timekeeper.

6. Cuttings should maintain the author's intent, and additional words may be added for transitional purposes only.

### **Duet Acting**

This contest will enable the students to develop skills in techniques, ensemble, and oral interpretation common to all communications. The TCSAAL, suggests that coaches encourage their students to avoid (1) literature that is devoid of literary merit, (2) literature that is in poor taste and, therefore, may be offensive because of language or subject matter.

Specific rules:

1. Selections used in Duet Acting must be cuttings from a single source from a published printed novel, short story, play, poem or screenplay. Coaches and/or students must have the original source, including ISBN if one exists to give to the event manager upon request. A photocopy is acceptable. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification.

2. The selections shall be serious or humorous works.

3. Time for presentation shall not exceed eight minutes for 6th -8th grade with a thirty second grace period and ten minutes for high school with a thirty second grace period. There is no minimum time required. Violation shall result in being ranked last in the round results. Visible time signals will be given by an authorized timekeeper during each performance.

4. Each selection shall include an introduction which shall set the scene and mood and include the title and author of the work. Time for the introduction shall be included in the time limit. Violation shall result in an adverse effect on the

team's ranking in the round.

5. The selection shall be memorized and presented without the use of physical objects (props, hand props, or scenery) or costume. Two chairs will be allowed. The two chairs will be used to create atmosphere and environment. Violation shall result in an adverse effect on the team's ranking in the round

6. A student may compete with one partner and one selection at a given tournament.

7. Cuttings should maintain the author's intent, and additional words may be added for transitional purposes only. (i.e.: making a novel dialogue fit an acting regimen)

### **One Act Plays (OAP)**

One act plays will allow students to experience live theatre in a real stage setting with a full cast and crew. The OAP contest will foster appreciation for good acting, good directing and good theatre. Plays will involve full sets including props, makeup, and costumes and will be open to the public. Lighting and music are optional depending on venue, but it will not factor into the ranking process.

#### Specific Rules:

1. Plays will be cuttings of a single source from a play, or screen play adapted to the stage. Offensive words will be cut or edited so as not to undermine the values of the community. The ISBN of the full play must be available to the site manager on request. A copy of each script must be sent to the TCSAAL for approval prior to contest along with a list of all musical pieces the play director plans to use in the play. Failure to seek TCSAAL approval of script and music before contest will result in disqualification. Failure to act in accordance with TCSAAL recommendations will result in disqualification.
2. The selections may be humorous or serious works.
3. Each play will last no longer than 40 minutes. Each play should be cut accordingly. There is no minimum time required. Each team will be given 5 minutes to assemble their set, and 5 minutes to take down. The cast and crew should develop a choreographed system that allows them to meet the time specifications for set assembly and take down. Time will be kept by an authorized time keeper. Violation of the time limitations will result in being ranked last in the contest.
4. Each acting troupe should be allowed a classroom in which to prep (IF

AVAILABLE), change into costume, store objects, and relax. These classrooms are to be designated prep rooms. No member of another school or cast is to be allowed into a school's prep room. Violation of this rule will result in disqualification. In order to avoid mischief or trouble causing, the students will be required to either stay in their prep room or in the play watching area. Students should not be wandering around the halls, outside the building etc. It is advised that the students bring the appropriate entertainment (Books, ipods, board games, etc.) It will be the schools' authorized supervisor's job to enforce these rules. Failure to adequately enforce these rules dealing with contest etiquette could result in disqualification or systematic ranking down of the team.

5. The actors are allowed to use props. The props should not be used in a profane or suggestive manner. A list of all props that the director plans to use should be sent to the TCSAAL for approval prior to contest. Failure to seek TCSAAL approval for props will result in disqualification. Failure to act in accordance with TCSAAL recommendations will result in disqualification.

6. The cuttings of plays should maintain the authors written intent as well as the general spirit and message the author intended to portray.

### **Judging**

See scoring rubrics

\*Addendum\*

In the event of a tie, the head judge will reconvene to determine ranking.

### **Awards**

In the contests: Monologue Interpretation, and Duet Acting, individuals will be awarded medals for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the State level.

OAP contest winners will receive certificates of recognition at the regional level. A trophy will be awarded to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>. ranking team at the state level. Individual achievement in OAP will be recognized with certificates of recognition.