

OTHER STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES AT FESTIVAL

NEBRASKA STATE ITS FESTIVAL 2020



NEBRASKA THESPIANS

**AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE
ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE**

Improv Challenge Guidelines and Details

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**More detailed information in Additional Packet Available*

Nebraska Thespians Scholarship

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**National Individual Events Showcase Guide (NIES) is an Additional Packet*

Improv Challenge Guidelines

WHO: Each school may bring one team for qualifying competition on Thursday night. From this qualifying event, 15 teams will be selected to move forward to semi-finals later on during festival.

1. Teams are limited to six actually performing at one time, although if you have alternates or extras, that's fine—you will need to decide as a team who will actually perform each round of competition.
2. Teams need a school appropriate name.
3. Audience is encouraged to watch the events.
4. Profanity, sexually explicit scenarios, or other inappropriate material will result in forfeiting of the round. Decisions on what is profane etc. is up to the improv judge(s).
5. All rounds will be judged by outside judges that are professional improvisation artists.
6. Each team is required to attend check-in 30 minutes prior to the start of the semi-final rounds.
7. Games may be announced prior to Festival via Nebraska Thespians website, Facebook or twitter.

There will be three semi-final rounds. Each round will consist of one improvisational exercise. A judge will be posted at each of the three events to tally points for each team. At the end of each round, judges rotate to the next room to start a new round. Once all three rounds are completed, the top teams with the most points will advanced to Improv Final.

Improv Finals

The top four teams will compete in the final improvisational event for all three judges at once on the Mainstage in The Holland.

Ballots and Winners

The top three winning teams will be announced at awards. Ballots will be sent home with the troupe director.

Thespian Theatre Tech Challenge

****SEE TECH CHALLENGE PACKET FOR MORE INFORMATION****

WHO: First 15 teams to register, Limit one team per school

1. Teams are limited to six team members.
2. Each team must participate in ALL events.
3. Your team picks who does each event from your team of six.
4. Rubrics for each event included in Tech Challenge Packet.

Possible Events

- **Costume Quick Change**
- **Fold a Drop**
- **Scene, Prop Shift**
- **Sound Set-Up**
- **Light A Shape**
- **Sew a Button**
- **Cable Relay**
- **Thread a Sewing Machine**

Ballots and Winners

The top 3 winning teams will be announced at awards. Ballots for all teams will be available after the awards.

Nebraska Thespians Scholarship Policy

This scholarship is an application and interview process ONLY, no performance element is required. Applicants should be prepared to speak about their work on stage, backstage, and in the community. The interviews will ONLY be given in person at Festival. Applicants should not bring any additional materials to the interview, all required materials must be submitted online to Acceptd! prior to **December 1, 2018**.

A. SCHOLARSHIP DESCRIPTION:

1. At least two non-renewable scholarships will be awarded to inducted Nebraska Thespians as directed by the State Board of Directors' scholarship panel.
2. One scholarship must be the Carol Scott Scholarship for a Thespian majoring in theatre education. This scholarship will be at least \$300 more than any other Nebraska Thespian Scholarship.
3. One or more scholarships will be awarded to a student furthering their education with a major or minor in the performing or communicative arts (theatre, speech, film, radio or television broadcasting, vocal or instrumental music or dance) while studying at a recognized school of their choice.
4. The Scholarship amount is contingent upon the amount raised at the Festival through student service project(s).
5. The scholarship must be retrieved by the recipient(s) from the International Thespian Society home office located in Cincinnati, Ohio, upon documented proof of enrollment in a recognized school, college, or university Theatre program.
6. Failure to complete enrollment or withdrawal from school negates this scholarship and the grant will not be awarded.

B. ELIGIBILITY:

1. All applicants must be Thespians.
2. All applicants must have been students of a Nebraska High School for a least one academic year prior to applying.
3. All award recipients must use the grant for furthering their education with a major or minor in the performing or communicative arts (Theatre, speech, film, radio or television broadcasting, vocal or instrumental music or dance) while studying at a recognized school of their choice.

C. APPLICATION PROCEDURES:

1. Complete the application form at designation scholarship application website. Be sure to include a list of all theatrical participation for both in-school and community theatre experiences. Incomplete or incorrect application materials will be disqualified.
2. Acquire two letters of recommendation to be uploaded to designated scholarship website.
3. Upload a photograph of the applicant to designated website.
4. **Submit all materials by the registration deadline: December 1, 2019.**
5. **ALL APPLICATIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED THROUGH DESIGNATED SCHOLARSHIP WEBSITE, AND NOT TURNED INTO THE NEBRASKA THESPIANS DIRECTLY.**

D. JUDGING SYSTEM:

The selection committee shall consist of Nebraska Thespian Sponsors and Theatre Professionals, appointed by the Chapter Director and Scholarship Committee Chair, who do not have applicants for the scholarship. Each applicant shall participate in a personal interview by the committee.

College and University Auditions

College and University auditions will take place at Festival in front of a panel of representatives from various colleges and universities in the region. Students wishing to audition must be in their junior or senior year and planning to major or minor in theatre. Schools MAY offer scholarships at festival if students have already applied and been accepted to the University or College. However, students can still audition and use this audition in lieu of auditioning at each individual school.

To audition for the College and University panel of representatives at festival please prepare:

1. Upload A ONE PAGE resume to Designated Audition Website.
2. Upload two letters of recommendation to Designated Audition Website
3. Upload a photograph of the applicant to Designated Audition Website.
4. Audition Requirements:
 - a. Acting
 - i. Students **must** a bring hardcopy of submitted resume to present to the panel.
 - ii. Students must prepare a two-minute performance package with two contrasting pieces of your choice.
 - iii. Students **must** use a monologue for one of their contrasting pieces.
 - iv. Students **may** use a song for one of their contrasting pieces. No accompanist or piano will be provided. Please see the NIES rules governing accompaniment for musical events.
 - v. No furniture may be used.
 - vi. Performance will be following by a Q&A from the college panel.
 - b. Technical Theatre:
 - i. Students **must** a bring hardcopy of submitted resume to present to the panel.
 - ii. Students **must** prepare a technical theatre portfolio to be presented to the panel. Please see the NIES rules governing requirements for technical theatre presentations.
 - iii. Students will participate in an interview following the presentation.
 - iv. Please bring your own electronic equipment if applicable.

Pre-registration is required. See registration form for pre-registration.

Nebraska Thespians Theatre Teacher of the Year Award Nomination Requirements

Students, we are proud to continue the Nebraska Thespians Theatre Teacher of the Year Award. This award will be presented during the banquet at this year's State Festival. How can my Theatre teacher be nominated? Well, that is where you come in!

TO NOMINATE YOUR TEACHER you must submit a 1-3 minute video about why you believe your teacher deserves this award.

What you include in this video is totally up to you. What should WE know about your director? What makes them unique? What makes them a great theatre teacher? What do you love about your teacher? What is something they have taught you that you value? How do they effectively organize your troupe?

Videos should upload to this dropbox by **December 1, 2019**. Nomination videos uploaded after **December 1, 2019** will not be considered.

<https://www.dropbox.com/sh/qsdczwpv531lk31/AABxHZtWEMzGuWpWBIBTFIv2a?dl=0>

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1W7tbFZ5uBjDYYaghViaNjVcfjKHjoxFl?usp=sharing>

This dropbox link will be shared via email and social media as well.

The Nebraska Thespians State Board will review all nomination videos received by the deadline. From these nominations, the Nebraska Thespians State Board will make the final selection for award recipient(s). There will be no discrimination by size of schools.

IMPORTANT: Troupes **MUST** be attending the State Festival for a teacher to be eligible.

THESPIAN PLAYWORKS

THESPIAN PLAYWORKS nurtures original student-written plays from the page to the stage. The program staff will choose up to four plays to be developed at the Nebraska Thespian Festival. Professional directors and dramaturgs will help the chosen finalists to workshop and present their plays with student actors.

Eligibility

Writers must be active members of the International Thespian Society enrolled in high school during the current school year. All finalists must be available to attend the upcoming Nebraska Thespian Festival. Finalists will be responsible for the cost of their travel and registration fees, which include room and board.

Guidelines

Plays must be the original work of a single Thespian writer. Collaborative works or adaptations won't be considered, nor will plays that include music, lyrics, or dialogue written by any-one other than the submitting writer. Plays can be about any subject but should have a running time of 20 minutes or less (approximately 20 typed pages). Writers may submit more than one play for consideration.

Deadline

Writers may submit work for consideration from September 1st until December 1st. Early submissions are encouraged. All writers will be notified shortly after December 1st about the status of their submission. Submissions will not be acknowledged when received.

Workshops

The writers will collaborate with student actors and professional directors and dramaturgs to bring their plays to life with minimal production elements. The writers will observe readings, consult with their dramaturgs, receive and provide feedback, and make revisions to strengthen their scripts. The program culminates in staged readings of the plays for a Nebraska Thespian Festival audience.

Rights

All work is protected by copy-right from the moment it's created. Writers own their plays and have exclusive control of the rights to produce, publish, and adapt them. By submitting work to Thespian Playworks, you agree to allow the International Thespian Society (at its discretion) to mount a staged reading of your play. The society may also (at its discretion) publish your script (or portions of it) and submit it to Samuel French for their publication consideration. All other rights remain the exclusive property of the writer.

Procedure

Writers should submit their scripts themselves; 12-point type is preferred. The cover page of each submission should include the title of the play, your name and email address, your school name and troupe number, and your troupe director's name and email address. Send to Board@nebstatethespian.com

THESPIAN MUSICALWORKS

THESPIAN MUSICALWORKS nurtures original student-written plays from the page to the stage. The program staff will choose up to two works to be developed at the Nebraska Thespian Festival. Professional stage/music directors will help the chosen finalists to workshop and present musicals with student actors.

Eligibility

Writers must be active members of the International Thespian Society enrolled in high school during the current school year. All finalists must be available to attend the upcoming Nebraska Thespian Festival. Finalists will be responsible for the cost of their travel to ITF and registration fees, which include room and board.

Guidelines

Musicals must be the original work of no more than two Thespian writers. Adaptations won't be considered, nor will musicals that include music, lyrics, or dialogue written by anyone other than the submitting writers. Musicals can be about any subject but should have a running time of 20 minutes or less (approximately 20 typed pages, including lyrics). Writers may submit more than one musical for consideration.

Deadline

Writers may submit work for consideration from September 1st until December 1st. Early submissions are encouraged. All writers will be notified shortly after December 1st about the status of their submission. Submissions will not be acknowledged when received.

Workshops

The writers will collaborate with student actors and professional stage directors and music directors to bring their musicals to life with minimal production elements. The writers will observe readings, consult with their directors, receive and provide feedback, and make revisions to strengthen their scripts. The program culminates in staged readings of the musicals (or portions of them) for a Nebraska Thespian Festival audience.

Rights

All work is protected by copyright from the moment it's created. Writers own their musicals and have exclusive control of the rights to produce, publish, and adapt them. By submitting work to Thespian Musicalworks, you agree to allow the International Thespian Society (at its discretion) to mount a staged reading of your musical. The society may also (at its discretion) publish your script (or portions of it) and submit it to TRW for their publication consideration. All other rights remain the exclusive property of the writer.

Procedure

Writers should submit their audio recordings (.mp3 format preferred) and scripts (12-point type preferred). Recordings must include all sung lyrics and accompaniment. A cappella recordings will not be considered, unless the entire piece was composed to be performed a cappella. Recordings may also include dialogue. The cover page of each submission should include the title of the musical, your names and email addresses, your school name and troupe number, and your troupe director's name and email address. Send to board@nebstatthespian.com

THESPIAN CRITICWORKS

THESPIAN CRITICWORKS nurtures original student-written arts journalism. The program staff will choose up to six writers to attend the Nebraska Thespian Festival critics works program. Professional critics will help the chosen finalists to develop their critical writing. Submissions open September 1st.

Eligibility

Writers must be active members of the International Thespian Society enrolled in high school during the current school year. All finalists must be available to attend the upcoming Nebraska Thespian Festival. Finalists will be responsible for the cost of their travel to ITF and registration fees.

Guidelines

Criticism must be the original work of a single Thespian writer. Writers should submit at least three but no more than five samples of published or unpublished theatre criticism for consideration.

Deadline

Writers may submit work for consideration from September 1st until December 1st. Early submissions are encouraged. All writers will be notified shortly after December 1st about the status of their submission. Submissions will not be acknowledged when received.

Workshops

The writers will observe productions and readings, consult with professional critics, receive feedback, and make revisions to strengthen their writing.

Rights

All work is protected by copy-right from the moment it's created. Writers own their work and have exclusive control of the rights to publish and adapt them.

Procedure

Writers should submit their writing themselves; 12-point type is preferred. Each submission should include the title of the article, your name and email address, your school name and troupe number, and your troupe director's name and email address. Submissions should be sent to board@nebstatthespian.com

THESPIAN FILMWORKS

THESPIAN FILMWORKS nurtures original student-created films from the page to the screen through “run and gun” filmmaking. The program staff will choose up to two projects to be developed at the International Thespian Festival. Professional filmmakers will help the chosen finalists to create and present their films with student actors.

Eligibility

Filmmakers must be active members of the International Thespian Society enrolled in high school during the current school year. All finalists must be available to attend the upcoming Nebraska Thespian Festival.

Guidelines

All submissions must be the original work of no more than one Thespian. We will not consider collaborations, adaptations, or works that include music, lyrics, or dialogue created by anyone other than the submitting filmmaker. Filmmakers may submit more than one screenplay of 10 minutes or less for consideration, but each entry must include a shot of a dog leash and be in one or more of the following genres: dark comedy, suspense thriller, romantic comedy, zombie/virus, or sports film. Each screenplay also must be able to be shot during the assigned week. All submissions should include a five- to ten-page screenplay in standard format and a short essay (no more than 500 words) about why you want to be a part of Thespian Filmworks.

Deadline

Filmmakers may submit work for consideration from no more than one week (7 days) after the announcement of the criteria for each film.

Dates of filming at TBD but will be communicated via email and social media.

Finalist films will be screened for an audience at the Nebraska Thespian Festival.

Rights

All work is protected by copyright from the moment it’s created. Filmmakers own their films and have exclusive control of the rights to produce, publish, and adapt them. By submitting work to Thespian Filmworks, you agree to allow the International Thespian Society (at its discretion) to screen your film. The society may also (at its discretion) publish your script (or portions of it). All other rights remain the exclusive property of the filmmaker.

Procedure

Filmmakers should submit their entries themselves; 12-point type is preferred. The cover page of each submission should include the title of the film, your name and email address, your school name and troupe number, and your troupe director’s name and email address.

Actual films Videos should upload to this dropbox by **December 1, 2019**. Links listed above in teacher of the year nomination requirements.

Honor Troupe Application

Troupe # _____ School _____

Sponsor's Name _____ Submitting Troupe Member's Name _____

_____ Community/Educational Service Projects - List them.

_____ Fund-raisers – List fund-raisers and amount raised.

_____ Projects undertaken to boost the image of the troupe. (example troupe display or banner List projects.

_____ Maintain a Thespian points system.

_____ Induct new International Thespian Society members each year.
List number inducted last year.

_____ State Thespian Board member(s). List name(s) here. **Proof will be established by judges during conference.*

_____ Continued Education exposure- List and explain opportunities your troupe has found to help members get information on and apply for continued education.

_____ Honor Troupe Application Book is in order of criteria listed above. This is a requirement to reach the level for which the troupe is applying.

Please offer organized evidence of involvement and accomplishment in the above categories. We feel the level of attainment we have reached is: (circle one)

Bronze

Silver

Gold

Submitting Troupe Member's Signature: _____

Troupe Sponsor's Signature: _____

Honor Troupe Criteria

1. Honor Troupe Awards will be divided into three categories: bronze, silver, and gold.
2. Troupes will be assessed on current school year (2019-2020). Troupes may use upcoming events for service projects, troupe image boosting projects, productions, and continued education experiences.
3. Honor Troupe binders must be submitted at registration at State Festival in January.

	Bronze	Silver	Gold
Community/School Service	1 project	2 projects	3 projects

These projects give back to the community. The troupe will participate in such activities as community food drives, fundraising for not-for-profit organizations, beautification projects, the state philanthropy project etc. These projects can, but do not have to be theatre related.

(Examples of Proof: Photographs of workers working, thank you letter, news clipping, newsletter listing workers, etc.)

Fundraisers	1 project	1 project	2 projects
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Fund raising projects must earn at least \$50.00 and be different types (Concessions done more than once during the year will only count as one project.) The troupe notebook should include a brief summary of how the money was or is going to be used.

(Examples of Proof: receipt of money deposited listing project)

Troupe Image Boosting	1 project	2 projects	3 projects
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Troupe Image Boosting projects introduce the Thespian Troupe to school and community. The projects can be new or repeated from year to year.

(Examples of Proof: Troupe Display, Troupe Banner, Photographs, newsletter, news clipping, program, etc.)

Full Length Productions	1 show	2 shows	3 shows
(2 or more one acts performed together on the same night can be counted as a full length production)			

(Examples of Proof: Pictures of shows, programs, tickets, posters, etc.)

Thespian Point System-----Maintain Accurate Point System-----

(Examples of Proof: Copy of a few of your member's point sheets, or print out of points.)

Inductions from previous year-----Induct New ITS Members-----

(Examples of Proof: Photographs of ceremony, copy of form sent into headquarters, copy of member cards.)

State Board Members	N/A	N/A	1
member One of your two or three elected state board representatives must attend each meetings from September - December			

Continued Education	1 example	1 example	2 examples
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(Examples of Proof: Pictures from college visits, guest speakers, master class, professional production, etc)

Honor Troupe Application Book in order

The application book presented for Honor Troupe must be in the order of the criteria listed above. If the book is not in correct order, the troupe may not receive the level for which they have applied.

REMEMBER: You are not in competition with other Thespian Troupes in order to achieve status as an honor troupe. Hopefully, each troupe will be appropriately challenged by the criteria.