Appendix VIII

Theatrical Design Contest

(a.) PURPOSE. In the 1980s, the Texas Education Agency introduced courses in theatrical production (Theatre Production I-IV) and in technical theatre (Technical Theatre I-II). Since that time students in Texas schools have been provided instruction in these areas. This contest will afford recognition for their skills in design.

(b.) AIMS

The aims of the Theatrical Design Contest are:

(1) To foster appreciation of good theatrical design.

(2) To increase the number of schools which have adapted technical theatre as an academic subject in school curricula;

(3) To help students learn to lose or win graciously, accepting with good sportsmanship the decision and criticism with a view to improve future projects; and

(4) To satisfy the competitive, artistic spirit with friendly rivalry among schools

(c.) ENTRIES

(1) Representation. Each member school shall be allowed to enter one group entry. The group of four shall enter a portfolio as described in the current Theatrical Design Guide. In addition to the group, each school shall be allowed two individual entries in each of the design areas found in the current Theatrical Design Guide.

(2) Eligibility. Each contestant must be eligible under Subchapter M of the Constitution. Only high school students are eligible for this contest. Academic eligibility at the time of submission is required. There is no amateur rule in this contest. There is no loss of eligibility for a student who has worked professionally in theatre or film.

(3) Deadlines. Entry deadlines can be found in the current Official Calendar and the current Theatrical Design Guide. See the UIL website for official changes.

(d) CONTEST ENTRY

(1) Selection of Title. The title used for the Theatrical Design Contest shall be the same as that used by the UIL Literary Criticism Contest, unless it is deemed inappropriate for the aims and purpose of this contest. If the Literary Criticism script is a screenplay, another title, genre or playwright shall be announced. All designs submitted shall be for that title, genre or playwright.

(A) Prompt. A "directorial prompt" shall be provided each year. In it, students will be given certain conceptual parameters from which they will develop a design concept. The prompt can be found online and in the current Theatrical Design Guide.

(1) Faculty Sponsor

(A) Sponsors in the Theatrical Design Contest must be full-time employees of the school districts of the schools which the entries represent. Full-time means that the person is under contract to the school board of the school that the designs represent for the whole scholastic or calendar year, and the person has enough contractual duties to be considered a full-time employee by the Teacher Retirement System and state law. Exceptions: A retired teacher/ administrator who has 20 or more years of experience may be hired and paid for sponsoring the Theatrical Design Contest. Also, student teachers, during the semester they are assigned to a participant school to fulfill their student teaching requirements, may volunteer to assist for that school. Schools shall not pay student teachers for assisting.

(B) Sponsors may only provide guidance to the group or individuals. They shall not produce any of the materials contained in the submission.

(C) Sponsors shall not accept nor solicit aid in the preparation of the entries, or in coaching the students. (This provision is not intended to prevent sponsors from taking their students to the several theatre conferences and workshops conducted by the League and by numerous high schools, colleges and universities.)

(e.) SUBMISSION

(1) Fee. The submission shall be accompanied by the appropriate evaluation fees as published in the current Theatrical Design Guide.

(2) Packaging and Labeling. Schools shall submit all items required for groups and individuals by following the requirements as published in the current Theatrical Design Guide.

(3) Representation. Each participant high school of the League is entitled to enter one group entry consisting of three members and two individual entries in each design area found in the current Theatrical Design Guide. A school may elect to use an intramural elimination contest to determine their representative group and individuals.

(f.) EVALUATION. Each entry shall be shipped to the League and evaluated by qualified theatre and marketing professionals. Each entry shall be evaluated and awarded an Award of Merit, Award of Honor, Award of Achievement or Award of

Distinguished Merit. A certificate and a recorded oral evaluation shall be sent to the school.

(g.) ADVANCEMENT. Those entries receiving an Award of Distinguished Merit and designated as Exemplary shall be exhibited during the UIL OAP State Meet and ranked 1st -5th. The winners shall be recognized during an awards ceremony at the UIL OAP State Meet. A plaque and three individual medals shall be presented to the top three groups. Medals shall be presented to 4th and 5th place groups. Medals shall be presented to the individual winners.