UIL One Act Play Contest 2019-2020

Let's start from the very beginning...

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.



What you do matters. So much.

The purpose of this (One Act Play) contest is to assist the teachers in creating interest among the students in dramatics and aid them in using the drama as a social and moral force in their respective communities.

OAP State Tournament Program 1927

Directing a short play has also become this-

Secure the rights Cut in pen, not pencil Keep up with grades Order food, buses, scripts for CM's, Judges, Integrity Reader, Music OAP Enrollment Title Entry Deadline Spring Meet Entry MACH Form Entry, MACH MACH MACH MACH MACHMACH, FORM!!!!



OAP WEBSITE

STAT HERE

THEATRE & FILM

Overview

High School One-Act Play

Junior High One-Act Play

Theatrical Design

Play Lists

Adjudicator Information

Contest Managers

Resources & Forms

Film

CONTACT

Theatre Director:

Paula Rodriguez

Email:

theatre@uiltexas.org prodriguez@uiltexas.org

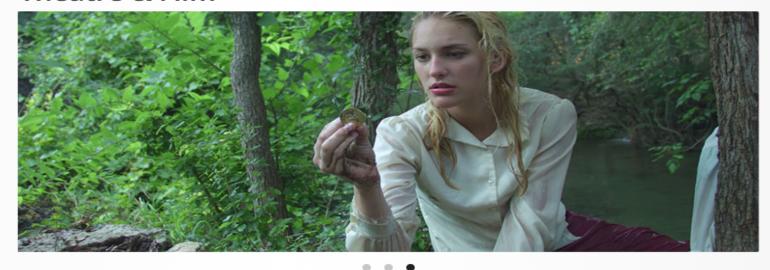
Department Phone: 512-471-9996

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Mailing Address:

1701 Manor Rd. Austin, Texas 78722

Theatre & Film



Quick Links

Resources & Forms

Theatrical Design 2020 Prompt 💫

Approved Plays and Publishers Updated 2019-20

The League's One-Act Play Contest, founded in 1927, is the largest high school play production contest or play festival in the world. More than 14,000 Texas high school students in more than 1,200 plays participate in 300 plus contests, which take place from the beginning of March through the three-day, 40-production State Meet One-Act Play Contest. The One-Act Play Contest is supported by more than 300 members of the Texas Theatre Adjudicator and Officials Organization. The League's theatre program is considered by historians to be the foundation of educational and community theatre in Texas. It continues to be a major factor motivating increasing numbers of schools to offer theatre arts as an academic subject.

ONE-ACT PLAY

HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT

DUE OCT 1

When/how do I begin?

Calendar 2019-2020

Dates	Task
August 10 Do you know where your Bi-district is?	Deadline to report bi-district information and adjudicators to state offices.
August 15 - Nov 1	Window to schedule zone and district OAP Planning Meetings. See <i>Handbook</i> on Planning Meetings
October 1	Deadline to enroll via the UIL Spring Meet Entry System.
Nov 2 - Feb 1	Dates to contact and contract the 2nd and 3rd members of a panel for zone and district contests opting to use a panel.
December 14	Deadline for requesting permission to produce plays not on the approved lists and scenic elements that are are not permissible under contest rules.

OAP District Entry

- •Texas Two- Step Process Step by Step Instructions found online.
 - Spring Meet Entry System- play and set information + 3 directors +
 - •Contestant Entry- add 4th director. That form will go to Contest Manager.

MARCH 26

•District and Bi- District Contests must be completed and Certified Deadline.

STATE Meet 2020

- April 30- May 2
- 1A- 3A Austin ISD, Performing Arts Center
- 4A-6A, Round Rock Performing Arts Center
- I ENCOURAGE you and your students to Apply for HONOR CREW.
- Two contests simultaneously. 30 minutes apart



State Judges 2019-2020

- 1A Cathy Huvar, Jerry Cotton, Alison Frost
- 2A Deb Shaw, Freddie Buckner, Mariana Jones Meaders
- 3A –R. Scott Allen, Terri Castleberry, Margaret Valenta Davis
- 4A –Robin Robinson, Phillip Morgan, Kim Hines
- 5A Yvonne Phillips Dupree, Gary Davis, Lisa Hale
- 6A Michael Kim Frederick, Kelsey Kling, Kathy Harvey

YOU be the Judge! Play Director's Contest Evaluation

Questions about the control of the c	ut the Contest Manager questions.
1. Was the Conte	est conducted as per the UIL OAP Handbook? If not, why? *
○ Yes ○ No	
	est Manager possess effective communication and organization skills, as well as, and UIL in an ethical and professional way? *
-	e the Contest Manager demonstrated high ethical standards of behavior during the explain what behavior you consider a breach of ethics or a possible violation of the le. *
○ Yes ○ No	
	on, were there violations of any One-Act Play Contest Rules (Section 1033)? If yes, aken by the Contest Manager. •
○ Yes ○ No	
5. Should this Co	ontest Manager be retained on the Accredited Contest Manager's List for next year? If
Yes No	
Please use the s	pace below for any other comments you would like to share regarding the Corest pace below for any clarification to your responses above, or use for any other would like to share regarding the Contest (Contest Manager performance, facilities, res. etc.)?
☐ Save my pro	ogress and resume later
Save my pro	ogress and resume later

Evaluation of the directing.			
aranaanon of the uncething.	0	0	0
Understanding of technical limitations of the OAP contest.	0	0	0
Educational value of the critique.	0	0	0
Specific use of examples to explain opinions and comments.	0	0	0
What were the strengths of the adjudicator's criti			
Vould you recommend this adjudicator to judge t	the following leve	els: (Multiple choi	ices allowed
Would you recommend this adjudicator to judge t	the following leve Area	els: (Multiple choi Region	ices allowed State

TTAO A, R, S Judge recommendation process

UIL

- Director's Evaluation are submitted to the State Office.
- State office removes school name, play title and directors names and sends to TTAO Chair.
- Chair shares evals with voting members of TTAO Board only- for reading and evaluation.
- Voting members of TTAO Board create a list of recommended Area, Region and State judges based on the strength of the evaluations, judging history.
- Recommended List is submitted to the State Theatre Director who assigns A,R,S judges.
- Process available on the TTAO website.



A+/Junior High/Middle School OAP Contest

Frequently asked OAP Questions

- Do we have to follow all the rules?
 - Yes and No. The Constitution and Contest Rules. (C&CR) states that "schools will produce a play in strict accordance to the rules and regulations in the current One-Act Play Handbook and C& CR."
 - Exceptions **listed specifically** in the *C& CR* Section 1454.

• Junior High/Middle School OAP Directors do not have to be fulltime employees of the school district.

 Winners shall be ranked first, second and third.

 Junior High/Middle School OAP – cannot advance past District level.

A+/Junior High/Middle School OAP Contest

Does our play have to be approved?

 Deadline for requesting permission to produce plays not on the approved list is 45 calendar days prior to your first contest.

- Do we have to submit a Title entry form?
 - Enrollment and Title Forms are not required, BUT you must submit the contest entry form found on the website.
- Do not get confused by the list of recommended junior high plays.

Rule Violations- what would make a play not rankeable?

- Use of ineligible student
- Exceeding the number of allowed in a Performing company.
- Exceeding time limits on performance, set or strike. (can't be over 40 minutes or under 18 minutes, either)
- The use of firearms, explosives or combustible materials.
- The use of additional unit set.
- The director communicating with the company during the performance.
 - Other violations are considered ethics violations and shall be reported to the appropriate executive committee.



NEWEST RULES

Approved by the Legislative Council and the Commissioner of Education, the following two amendments effective August 1, 2019.

Student Company Size

- The Company may include a maximum of 24 students and may include the following:
- 1. a maximum of 20 cast and crew members (NEW)
- 2. a max of 4 alternates(NO CHANGE).

Scenarios and Questions

- You may have a cast of 15 and a crew of 5.
- You may have a cast of 5 and a crew of 15
- You may have a cast of 19 and 1 crew member.
- A minimum of 3 actors, though.

Its flex!

Company Size

- Student will be listed on the contest entry as <u>either</u> a performer or a crew member.
- Crew members may not act onstage. Not eligible for acting awards.
- Crew members must have a crew assignment and may not serve as audience members during your performance.
- Alternates remain the same. A maximum of 4 alternates are allowed.

Question – CAN YOU DO THIS?

 Can crew members change scenery in transitions?

 Can an actor run the fog machine or other crew duty?



BEST PERFORMERS (NEW LANGUAGE)

C& CR, Section 1033:

ONE-ACT PLAY

- (c) CONTEST ADMINISTRATION AND PROCEDURES
- (8) Awards.
- (B) Individual awards shall include the **TWO BEST PERFORMERS**, all-star cast and honorable mention all-star cast. An honorable mention all-star cast, not to exceed the size of the all-star cast, may be selected at the discretion of the judge or judges.

Question – CAN YOU DO THIS?

- I know there are 2 outstanding performers, BUT....Can we still give a
 - Best Actor/Best Actress award?



PILOT STUDY FOR A TECH AWARD FOR 2020

 This proposal would add individual and group awards for technicians competing in the UIL OAP comparable to the acting awards.

• A top technician and top overall crew (team) will be selected by the <u>Contest/Stage Manager.</u>



Pilot Study of Tech Award

• THIS IS VOLUNTARY, NOT ALL SCHOOLS NEED TO PARTICIPATE.

 High Schools- all conferences, all levels of competition except state meet.

 Email with rubric will be sent to Contest Managers for contests who wish to participate.

There are no points attached to this award.

Pilot Study for Tech Award

PILOT 1: UIL One-Act Play Crew Award

PILOT 2: UIL One-Act Play Technician Awards

 1-First Place Plaque for winning team. and

1-Runner Up plaque for runner up team.

1-Plaque for winning team.

and

1-Gold Medal for winning individual.

Pilot Study for Tech Award

- PILOT 3: UIL One-Act Play Crew Award
- 1-First Place Plaque for winning team.
- 1-Runner Up plaque for runner up team.
- 1-Gold Medal for winning individual.

Criteria:

- Based on the criteria on evaluation form, <u>Contest Manager/Stage</u> <u>Manager</u> evaluates and selects the winning teams and the top single technician.
- The winning technician does not have to be a member of a winning team. Ties are to be broken by crew performance in the technical rehearsal. It is based on work and execution, not on design.

Rule Clarifications

Rule Clarifications- see Handbook

• A total of six (6) additional lighting instruments or projection devices provided by the company may be used.

- NOTE: Multiple Lighting/Projector *instruments and devices* may not be "daisy-chained" or connected together to equal one instrument.
- This does not apply to actual string, twinkle or "Christmas" tree lights used as properties to decorate an indoor or outdoor setting.
- Call the League for clarification for your production.

Lights as Props

All hand-held items <u>necessary to the</u> <u>play's action</u> which are carried on the set by actors. (i.e. flashlights, lanterns, electric candles).

Projected Images

 Projectors may be used to project static images including actors in the one- act play entry or animated images.
 Images of public figures, models, media footage or other copyrighted footage shall be in compliance with copyright law.

 Recorded/filmed scenes from the One-Act play entry, (for example, flashback scenes) may not be used in performance. Contact the State office for clarification.

Architectural Trim

- Refers to Lightweight and portable architectural trim may be used on individual unit set elements (i.e. brick, molding, pylon trim, wall textures, wainscoting, mill- work style).
- Is not fabric. If it cannot be rolled on a batten or folded into 4x4 piece it is architectural trim.
- Architectural trim and fabric should be separate pieces.
- 50% rule applies.

You shall not use a single piece of trim to cover multiple set elements.



Not So New Rules

Frequently Asked Questions

How long can I rehearse?

- No more than 8 hours of rehearsal time per school week per UIL/Extra Curricular Activity.
 - School week begins Monday morning start of school- last day of school week.
- Violations on rehearsal times are violations of state law.
- Your play will be made ineligible for a violation of the rehearsal rules. Again, State Law.
- See Handbook for OAP and the Side by Side document.





Why won't the host site let us...?

- Them's the rules-House rules
- The performing school shall be responsible for damages.

- The performing school shall follow the rules established by the host/site.
- Interested in hosting, are you?



How many clinics can I attend?

- 4 per school year
- 3 Sessions can occur on school days.

HOWEVER

 1 Session is permitted during any one school week.

- Each <u>Session</u> may not exceed TWO HOURS
 - Shall include a performance of the play.
 - No more than 2 sessions with same critic/per year.



Music Time Limits

• There is no time limit on recorded music.

•Live music shall not exceed 19 minutes of the total performance time.

Use of Live Musicians Onstage & Offstage

- Onstage Musicians are permissible if
 - their presence on stage is dialogue-driven or
 - prescribed by the playwright and
 - they are listed as cast members and <u>play roles</u> in the play.



Live Music



- Live musicians or singers used <u>off-stage</u> do not require approval. (must be cast/crew)
- All music selections used live on or offstage must comply with copyright law.

 Music log is still required. AND You must include it on your contestant entry, where it asks you to list your music credits.

Risky staging shall be avoided at all costs. No scenic effect is worth it.

Safety

 All weapons and <u>any action</u> where there is a possibility of injury shall be shown to the Contest Manager at each contest. (official rehearsal)

 Compliance and Copyright form 2020, Admins must sign off on the entire staged performance- includes if staging includes physical/sexual violence, intimacy...



Play Selection

Pick a show for your Actors

 BUT- Find a reason to come to rehearsal- a script you love, students who bring you joy.

- Who are your strengths?
- Who are your leaders?
 - Audition with several scripts???

Play Selection- where to find Plays?

- Avoid requesting "cuttings" on Social media.
 - What images does that conjure up?

Getting help with editing a play is NOT a violation.

 Sharing scenes from edited script is allowable under League rules.

Suggestions on where to find scripts

- See Resources and Forms -Participation lists on UIL website 2014-2019
- See list of Approved Long and Short Plays on UIL website
- · Approved Publisher list has been eliminated.
- Checkout the UIL Drama Loan Library

UIL Drama Loan Library

 You may check out up to 10 Plays; Up to 3 weeks max

•\$7 for shipping and handling

 See UIL Theatre website for checkout form and instructions.

Approved List Long or Short Plays

• You do not have to submit a play to UIL if it is on the Approved list of Short or Long plays.

 You will still need to submit to script(s) for the Contest Manager, judge(s) & Integrity script

Plays on the Approved List Long or Short Plays

- The Play still needs to be edited for Time.
- The play MUST STILL BE CUT to meet the Standards Rule.
- You must still request Publisher permission and obtain performing license.

Play Publishers- not limited to these

Most popular companies

- Samuel French
- Dramatists
- Dramatic
- Playscripts, Inc
- Broadway plays

- You may submit plays from foreign countries
- Original plays- seek the Author

Your original work.

 Apply online for permission and license for UIL COMPETITION

Info you need for Licensing- each company will be different

Application Questions and required responses:

- Producing Organization = Your school district
- Billing Organization = Your school district
- Venue = Your school district
- Performance Dates = List all contest dates
- Seating Capacity = Maximum capacity of your school's auditorium or theatre.

- Number of Performances = List all levels Z,D,B,A,R,S
 - For Junior High UIL = the number of performances you know you will be performing (It's usually only 1 or 2 performances).
- Is this for a Contest, Festival or Conference performance?" = YES

How much will this cost?

- How much will it cost- \$40-50/per performance- its safest to purchase performance rights from first contest through State meet.
- Play scripts- You will need to purchase scripts for production. Average is \$10/per script
- These companies suggest you not begin the production process until you obtain written permission.

Check with your Publisher for rules about cutting a script for competition.

Some companies/playwright's may require you to submit the edits to them.

Editing a play-What do you remove?

- Time- deleting lines or scenes to meet the time limit of the contest.
- Removal of Profanity/Obscenities
- Maybe- stage violence or scenes that require intimacy between minors? Local decision
- You may not rearrange the order of the scenes.

Question – CAN YOU DO THIS?

• CAN I HAVE

A FEMALE PLAY A MALE

ROLE or

VICE VERSA?



What are Adaptations?- the Handbook says....

 Has there been any other revision of the text other than deletions to comply with League rules?

• If the answer is "yes, you must provide permission from the League, and sometimes the publisher, to make the specific adaptations to the script.

Standards rule and approved list of plays

- Just because a play is on the approved list does not mean you can keep the profanities, expletives....
- You must still remove profanity, indecent and obscene language actions or scenes from the approved list of plays.



Community Standards

Directors shall eliminate or reject profane references to a deity and obscene language, actions or scenes from the approved production.

 The Standards Compliance Form serves to certify that the play and production have been carefully examined and approved for presentation.

• The UIL's Play Appraisal Committee may eliminate language, actions or scenes as a condition for approval of plays not on the approved lists.

When Can I Submit a Play?

Play Appraisal Committee evaluates from August 1–December 14 for High Schools and August 1-April 15 for Junior High schools.

No plays will be accepted after those dates.

Play Submission Procedures

- 1. Include Check \$30
- 2. Script
 - Hi-Lite in Yellow
 - Strike-through with pen, not pencil, but still be visible.
- Complete Request form-please read carefully.
- 4. Mail the items.



What Does the Reading Committee Look for?

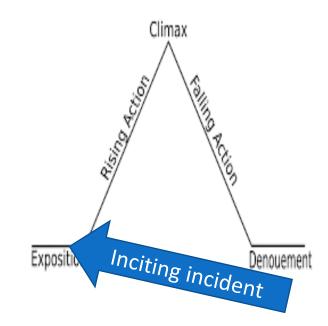
- Does it comply with UIL Rules?
 - **Length** Many times a play will get returned or rejected because the director has not cut enough.
 - **Profanity and Obscenity-** Please read the Standards rule in the UIL Constitution. Section 1033 c (3) (B) Committee will ask you to cut.
 - Action that insinuates sexual activity or sexual assault (shall be reviewed by administration)
- Plays that are mostly duet scenes or musicals, readers theatre, or monologues...shall not be used for contest.

Editing your scenes from

General suggestions

Editing your "Scenes from"- THE 2-hour play

- Immediately remove any profanity, yadayadayada
- What do you need to keep so that the story makes sense?
- Exposition
 - When/Where are we? How much does the audience need to know?
- BAM!- Inciting incident- where the play really begins.



Eliminate /trim scenes that do not advance the plot or character development

- There needs to be a journey in the story and a journey for the major characters.
 - i.e *Hamlet* the gravedigger scene- do you really need it?
 - No matter how much you love that scene.

The 1hour play- second round of cuts

Begin the reading aloud process with students.

- Listen to how the play sounds.
- If it takes a 2 minutes to say what two lines can say...-cut!
- Judges need your help: Make sure you have your 3 most memorable moments
 - STRONG OPENING
 - CLIMAX
 - STRONG ENDING

ASK Questions as you listen to the reading

- This can also be a checklist for the students
 - How much dialogue do you need or can it be said in a piece of staging a transition, a character's pause?
 - Which scenes drag on? CUT!
 - Cut repetitive words phrases
 - Does the plot make sense?

Play runs 40-50 minutes- still too long

- Visual narration- do we need dialogue to see R&J fall in love or marry?
- •Split the focus- play with the audience focus with lights by overlapping scenes.
- Have your students cut their own lines;
 everyone makes a sacrifice for the team.

Almost contest ready but at 39:50

- Rushing the story?
 Relationships are not clear? How can I do this visually?
 - •YOU MUST LEAVE TIME FOR THE MOMENTS-DECISION MAKING

CUT MORE

Auditions and Casting

Students are Auditioning the moment you meet them.

- If possible, direct a show in the Fall- a one act, a holiday show, children's show....You need to see these kids in action-
 - Their Rehearsal habits
 - Grades
 - Interaction with others- Teamwork

and you need the practice!

In my opinion...

Audition them for as long as you can take it.

Why?

Students will work harder.

Students will come up with creative ways to staging scenes and making character choices.

Ownership- They will feel part of the creative process.

How do **YOU** audition?

- Ensemble Exercises- Theatre Games
- Movement and music
- Memorize Something- speech/monologue/scene/poem
 - Coach them- how do they take direction.
- Storytelling Exercise
 - In groups- tell the story of the play/theme of the play/main idea-
 - Do you cold read?

Share your Audition Tips?

It is still an Acting Contest

Staging and Storytelling-Find what works for you.

Planned

- Stage the play quickly
- Gives the students a plan, a road map.
- Helps young actors create actions and stage business for their characters.
- Helps some with memorization by putting words to the actions.

Organic

- Allows actors to explore the blocking & come up with choices on their own.
- Allows actors to discover their motivation for actions and lines.
- Happy Accidents occur. Discoveries.
- More spontaneity

Basic Play Analysis-What are the Given Circumstances of the play?

- Research
- Inspiration Boards
- Watch Films
- Student Reports
 - History
 - Fashion
 - Current Events during the time period

- What is the plot?
- The Theme?
- Who are the characters?
- What kind of language?
- What do we see and hear in this play?

True story: OAP Critique

Judge: (to actor) Young man, I was a little confused by some of your choices. Where is your character coming from?

Student: Stage left???

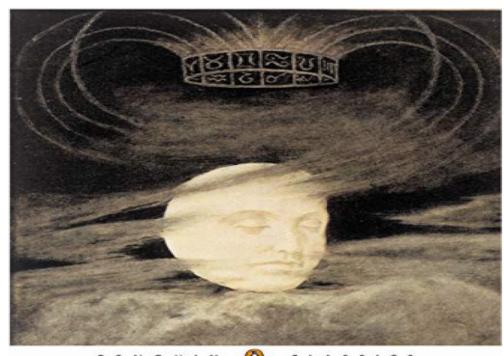
Moral: Character study is important!

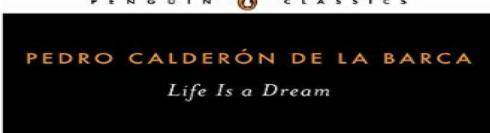
Exercises for Tablework/Characterization

- Character Journals
- Improvisational scenes- Create scenes that don't exist in the Play.
- Perform the play without words- how well have the students learned the plot?
- Include trust and relationship building exercises to build trust between characters.
- Gives them more ownership of the scenes.

life is a Dream by Pedro Calderon de la Barca

The Complete Handbook is on the website.





Questions?

Contact

 Rachael Gomez, State Contest Director, UIL Theatrical Design

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Film Contest

YOUNG FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL Participant Guide is on the Website

Luis Munoz, Contest director <u>Uilfilm.luis@gmail.com</u>



Important Film Dates

- Intent to Participate Form AVAILABLE NOW online
- December 10 Deadline to enroll school in contest. For judging purposes.
- January 15- Deadline for Entries

- State Festival- Late February Early March
- Survey will be sent to Film Sponsors of last year regarding changing of date for Film Contest



Entries and Time limits

• Each school may submit 3 FILMS in EACH CATEGORY.

Computer/Digital
 Animation- 30
 seconds – 3 min

Narrative- 3-7 minutes

Documentary- 3-7 minutes

 Traditional Animation-Claymation, handdrawn, stop motion...-30 seconds- 3minutes

YOUNG FILMMAKERS FESTIVAL



All Films compete in a preliminary round

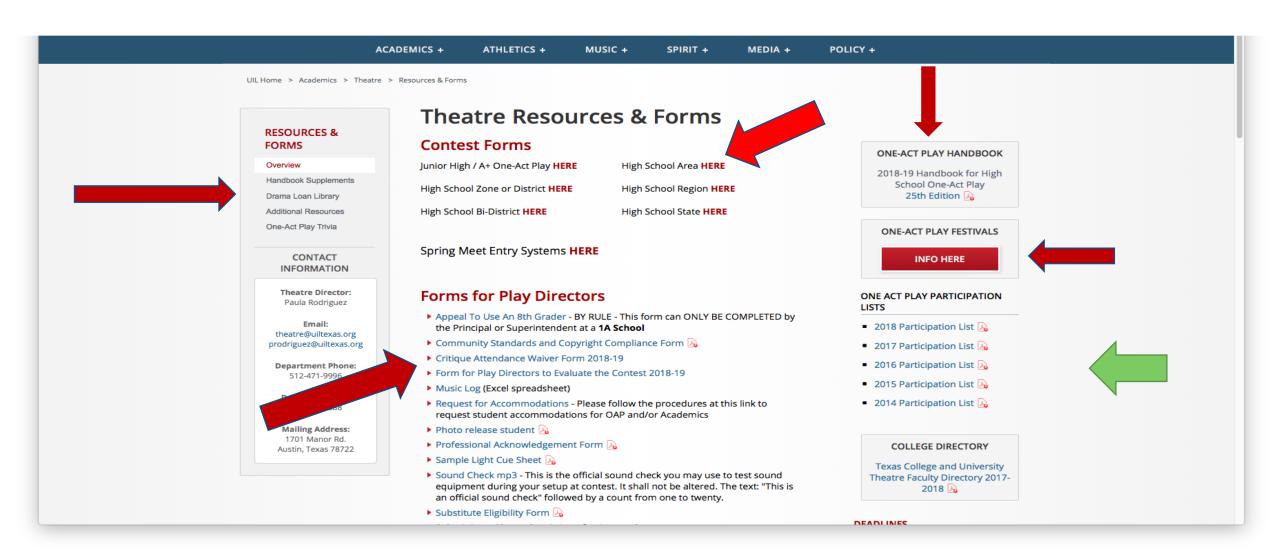
Advancing Films go to Second Round

Advancing Films go to State Qualifying Round

• State Finalists will be awarded 1st through 6th Place medals.



IMPORTANT PAGES-WHERE TO FIND THE GOOD STUFF



26TH EDITION CONTROL OF THE OAP HANDBOOK

Available for FREE download from the website under "Resources and Forms".

"LEARN IT. KNOW IT. LIVE IT."

- FAST TIMES AT RIDGEMONT HIGH.





SO NOW WHAT?

- CHECK TO SEE THAT YOU ARE ENROLLED.
- New teacher? Email me and send me your school email so I can update my mailing list. <u>prodriguez@uiltexas.org</u>
- Utilize the Drama Loan library, the Participation Lists for titles and plays.
- Don't wait till December 14 deadline to submit your play for approval.
 - You may get your response in late January.
- Read the Handbook.

Break-a-leg 2019-2020!!!

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