OAP Changes and Updates only 2023-2024

Play Cutting and Submissions
Start Early, VERY EARLY,
• If planning on having internal cuts, check with your publisher first, regardless if your play was approved by UIL or your play is on the UIL Approved list.
• You will need to apply for a UIL or Competition license depending on the publishing company.
• You must receive a license, pay royalties before you can perform your play at contest.
• Read and follow instructions on their site.
• Do apply/pay royalties for all levels of competition.
• Adding of characters, even non-speaking ensemble require publisher permission.
  Contact state office for clarification.
• Do Not hold auditions, begin rehearsals, or make any major production plans before you have obtained written permission from the publishers.

Rules for the unit set
• Any action that would damage the unit set, participants or audience members, is prohibited.
  This includes the slamming/smashing/dropping of any unit set element to the floor for a sound or special effect.

Stacking- nothing onstage taller than 12ft.
• Pylons shall not be stacked HIGHER than 12 ft. (measured from the floor)
• NEW: No item (including set pieces, properties), unit set element or combination of the unit set shall be taller than 12ft. (measured from the floor)
• No Pylons shall be stacked on 1’x1’ CUBES.
• No item (including set pieces, properties), unit set element or combination of the unit set shall be taller than 12ft.

Architectural Necessity Rules
• The use of unit set in front of the curtain line or on the apron is restricted to a 6' combined height (no change) UNLESS APPROVED BY THE CONTEST MANAGER AND THE HOST SITE AT THE SITE REHEARSAL. Not allowed at the State Meet.
• Nothing shall be done with the unit set that may damage it or endanger the site crew, audience or participants
  THE CONTEST MANAGER RULING IS FINAL.

PROPERTIES ALLOWED WITH SIZE OR QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS
• Bookcase/shelves/storage furniture/TV/entertainment centers-
  MAX Height standing is 6ft. Any item on top of shelves, bookcase... shall not exceed 12ft when measured from the floor.
• Commercially-made Dolly or Handtrucks have the following restrictions:
Limit 2 total per school.
- not to exceed 52” L x 41” W x 44” H
- for set up/strike use only.
- If used as a prop, the use of the dolly must be script driven.

PROPERTIES ALLOWED WITH SIZE OR QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS
- fireplace- new height - 5’Hx6’W x 4’ deep
- Properties- Any Handheld properties- handheld doors, puppets, jail bars, sticks SHALL NOT EXCEED 6’ tall x 4’ wide
- Street Signs, Commercial, Signs and Lamp Posts-SHALL NOT EXCEED 8’ high x 3’ wide. This includes stands.
- No item (including set pieces, properties), unit set element or combination of the unit set shall be taller than 12ft.
- Stumps- SHALL NOT EXCEED 24” high x 24” wide X 3’ long

PROPERTIES ALLOWED WITH SIZE OR QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS
- Glider/Outdoor Swings/hammocks- shall not exceed 6ft H x 4’ W

Scenery and Properties
Self-Supported Scenery
- Twelve linear feet, measured along the base, of lightweight, non-metallic and self-supported scenery is permissible. Sections may be used in conjunction with or attached to unit set elements. (no change)
- No one section of Self- Supported Scenery may exceed 4’ high by 8’ long. The width at the base shall not exceed 8 inches. (no change)
- Scenery shall not be used as handheld properties, they must be self-supported.

FABRIC/Standard AREA RUGS, CARPETING AND RUNNERS
- Just as scenic backdrops are prohibited, scenic ground covering is prohibited.
- The covering of the stage floor with fabric, vinyl materials or other textiles, where participants stand/move, is prohibited.
- The following items are prohibited if participants will walk/stand on it-
  - No Camo-netting, Artificial turf,
  - Wrestling/boxing flooring
  - Use of Tumbling mats? (contact the state office)

Rugs
Rugs shall not cover more than 50% of each visible unit set item.
**Architectural Trim**

- Trim shall not cover more than 50% of the visible surface of the unit set element.
- They shall not extend more than 6” in any direction from the edge of the unit set element.
  - Each section of trim shall be constructed so as to fit a specific unit set piece, including the 1’x1’ cube. You shall not use a single piece of trim to cover multiple set elements.

**Special Doors and Windows**

PERMISSIBLE - Two lightweight, non-metallic and non-wooden doors, entryways or windows (i.e. constructed from softgood or foam)

- NOT TO EXCEED 4’ wide X 8’ tall X 6” thick.
- Scenic flats are not permissible.

**Setting up and Strike**

- Setting up with an open curtain- your lighting including lamps and candles- shall be turned off when set up is complete. Lighting will need to be turned off along with the closing blackout.
- Set up may be accomplished with a closed or open curtain.
- Cast, Crew or director(s) may set properties or set pieces in front of the curtain line. The director shall declare that choice during the official rehearsal period.

**Choreographed or staged "setups" or "pre-shows rituals***

- Choreographed or staged "setups" or "pre-shows rituals in view of an audience" shall be considered a part of the action of the play. (examples)
- The Contest Manager will instruct you to stop. If you fail to do so, the CM may start the performance time. If in doubt, check with the State Office.

**Clarification on programming lights at contest**

- Programming of light cues by participants shall take place at the contest site and during the official rehearsal period.
- In an effort to be equitable, it is prohibited to bring pre-programmed light cues on a flash drive or other method to the site rehearsal and load the cues to the host’s lightboard.
- This does not prohibit the host site from programming cues for all participants prior to the rehearsal. Programming prior to the official rehearsals is strongly encouraged when schools have 60 minutes or less to rehearse.