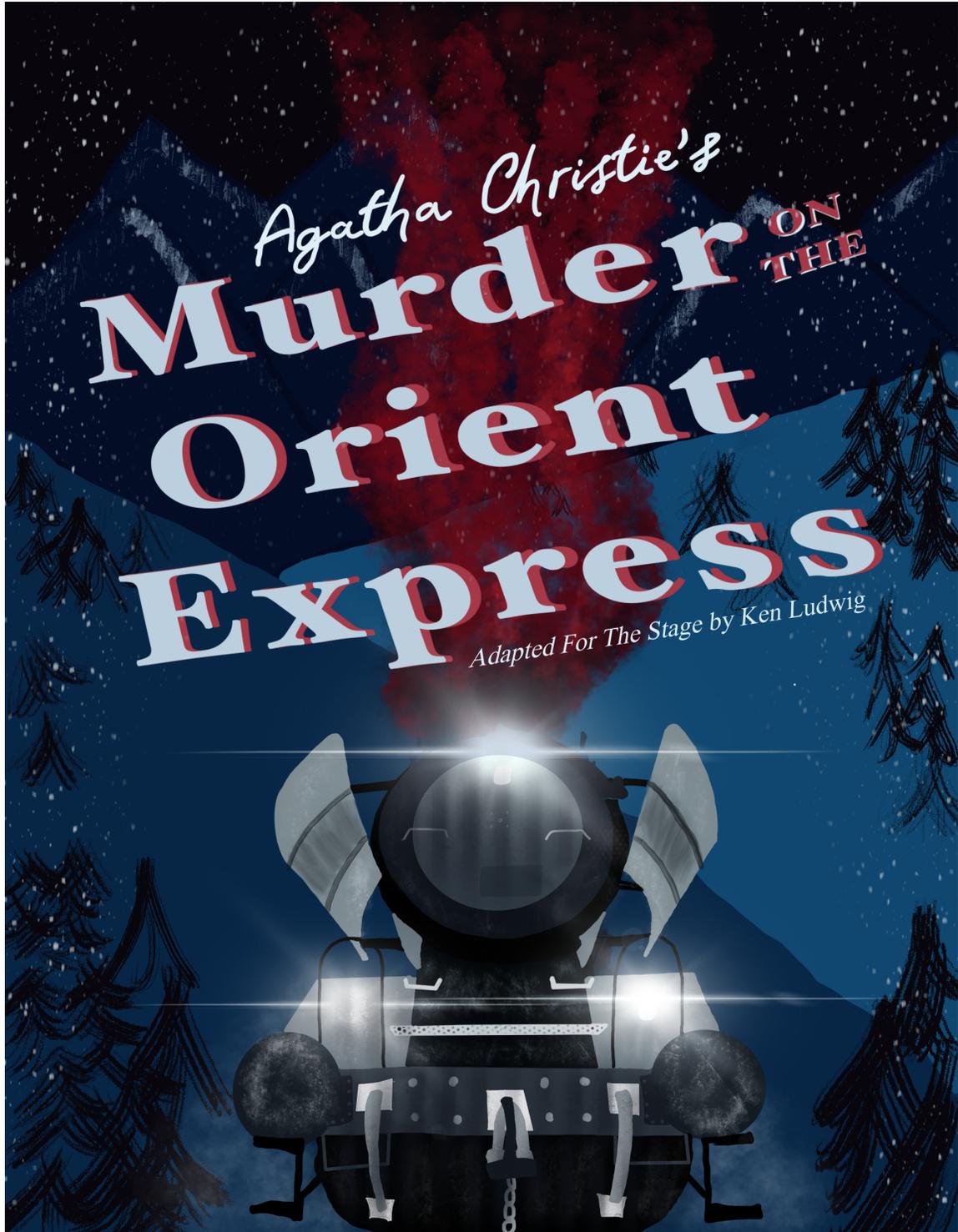


2021-22 UIL Theatrical Design Contest Prompt



2021-22 Theatrical Design Directorial Prompt

We will produce the play, ***Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express***, adapted for the stage by Ken Ludwig. Agatha Christie is one of the greatest mystery writers of all time, and this classic Hercule Poirot novel has been adapted for the screen multiple times since it was first published in 1934, including the most recent star-studded film in 2017. Agatha Christie's estate asked Ken Ludwig to bring a new adaptation for the stage of any one of her works and he chose perhaps her most well-known, "Murder on the Orient Express". His collaboration with those who knew her best breathed life into a captivating live action mystery. The story presents many design challenges as a stage play with its elaborate moving setting and its rich cast of characters, but this epic story deserves to be told to a new generation.

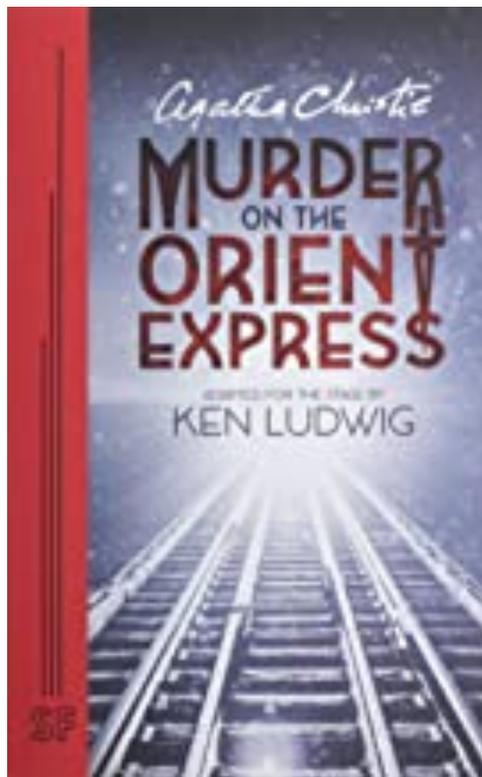
Our aim is to transport audiences into the thick of the story with the authentic feel of the intended era and locale described by Agatha Christie with historical accuracy. So, unlike in previous years' contests, this year's play **MUST** be set in its prescribed time and place.

Designers this year will be asked to find inspiration in the historical research of the time period and to trace the research into their final artistic choices. The challenges for each design category reflect this aspect of design. Pay special attention to all of the required elements/expectations contained within them as you prepare your entries. While designers are limited to the specific time and place, they are free to express these elements stylistically as they choose. The goal is to fully transport the audience into the world of the story with rich, well-chosen detail.

As always, your designs shall **NOT** reflect nor copy any other live or film, stage or broadcast versions of the play. You are encouraged to dig into the story and the history that surrounds it and figure out how to best bring it to life on a modern stage.

"The impossible cannot have happened, therefore the impossible must be possible in spite of appearances." --Hercule Poirot

The official version of the play is the acting edition available from multiple sources.



Please check the UIL website for new information and workshop opportunities.
<https://www.uiltexas.org/theatre/theatrical-design>

2021-22 UIL Theatrical Design COSTUME Challenge

Students designing costumes will submit a total of (4) plates plus their Justification Paper and Prompt Address Statement. They are outlined as follows:

Justification Paper Students will submit a **maximum two-page double-spaced** paper that includes the designer's character analysis for the characters addressed and justification for artistic/historic choices made. It should connect the characters to the specific inspiration research and the finished products.

Prompt Address Statement Students must also submit a **100-word maximum** explanation of their approach to the design.

Plate #1 Students will still submit a **10" x 15"** Inspiration/Mood Board showing the historical research and inspirations for the time period. Items contained in the Inspiration Board should give an overall impression of what the designer wants to see reflected most in their overall production design.

Plate #2 will be **10" x 15"** and will be a **full color rendering** with swatches. The designer will design **Hercule Poirot**. The plate should be labeled with the play name, the character name and the act/scene.

Plate #3 will be **10" x 15"** and will be a **full color rendering** with swatches. The designer will design **a female character of their choice**. The plate should be labeled with the play name, the character name and the act/scene.

Plate #4 will be **11" x 17"** and will be in a **colored illustration format** (Swatches are optional, notes/research can be included). This plate will include **a designer choice of a selected snapshot/moment from any scene in the play including a minimum of three characters**. The goal of this plate is to reflect how characters costumes will look together on stage in the moment. This is an opportunity for designers to show how they have artistically distinguished the looks for each character while still tying them together into a cohesive design. The characters should be seen together and the plate should be labeled with the name of the play, characters' names, act/scene.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 12th, 2022 by 11:59pm

2021-22 UIL Theatrical Design SET Challenge

Students entering Set Design will submit a total of (4) plates plus their Justification Paper and Prompt Address Statement. They are outlined as follows:

Justification Paper Students will submit a maximum two-page double-spaced paper that includes the designer's historical research/justification for artistic choices made. It should explain how the designer sees the set functioning throughout the play. **It is particularly important for them to address how they believe their set will help indicate the feeling of movement and allow for smooth transitions from scene to scene.**

Prompt Address Statement Students must also submit a **100-word maximum** explanation of their approach to the design.

Plate #1 Students will still submit a **10" x 15"** Inspiration/Mood Board showing the historical research and inspirations for the time period/setting. Items contained in the Inspiration Board should give an overall impression of what the designer wants to see reflected most in their overall production design.

Plate #2 Students will submit an **11" x 17"** plate showing **either** of the following options:

a) **Photographs** of a **scale scenic model** of the **Dining Car** setting. ...**OR...**

b) **Full color rendering** of the **Dining Car** setting.

Be sure to label the photos or the renderings to indicate the name of the play and the act/scene when appropriate. Students should also include a figure(s) for size reference.

Plate #3 Students will still submit an **11" x 17"** plate that includes colored concept sketches of the designer's choice of either of the following scene progression/transitions.

Option 1: Act 1 Scenes 1,2 and 3

Option 2: Act 1 Scenes 5,6 and 7

The plate should show the stage view for each of the three scenes and may include notes on how they move one to the next. They should be labeled with the name of the play and each sketch should be labeled with the scene number/location.

Plate #4 Students will submit an **11" x 17"** drafted scale ground plan of their set design for the **Dining Car** setting from their set rendering or model. (They are not required to draft the other settings). The ground plan must have a title block and should use USITT standards**. Stage dimensions for the stage to be used will be provided on the website under League High School Stage Dimensions.

**USITT Standards can be found on the [Theatrical Design Page of the UIL Website](#)

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 12th, 2022 by 11:59pm

SAMPLE OF CONCEPT SKETCH:

NOTE: This is not to scale, loosely drawn and suggestively colored. You should include figure(s) for size reference and may include actors used for creating the look. It should also be labeled with the name of the play and the act/scenes or location represented.



FIGURE ADDED

*HINT: THE PURPOSE OF THIS PLATE would be for the designer to use as a visual at a production meeting of how the set COULD change from scene to scene. **These ARE NOT final renderings.** They are illustrations to facilitate a discussion of your vision for the overall show.*

2021-22 UIL Theatrical Design HAIR/MAKEUP Challenge

Students designing makeup will submit a total of (7) plates plus their Justification Paper and Prompt Address Statement. They are outlined as follows:

Justification Paper Students will submit a **maximum two-page double-spaced** paper that includes the designer's character analysis for the characters addressed and justification for artistic/historic choices made. It should connect the characters to the specific inspiration research and the finished products.

Prompt Address Statement Students must also submit a **100-word maximum** explanation of their approach to the design.

Plate #1 Students will still submit a **10" x 15"** Inspiration/Mood Board showing the historical research and inspirations for the time period. Items contained in the Inspiration Board should give an overall impression of what the designer wants to see reflected most in their overall production design.

For Plates #2, #3 and #4 The student will create hair and makeup designs for a male character of their choice, a female character of their choice and for **Hercule Poirot**. Each plate should be **10" x 15"** and it should be labeled with the name of the play and the character name on each along with a product legend indicating the materials intended to create the design.

HINT: You may use a photo of the actor's face for the base of your renderings. Professional artists refer to this type of chart as a schematic as it shows the actual plan specific to the performer

For Plates #5, #6, and #7, the student will display **non-filtered photographs** of the realized designs that were rendered on plates #2, #3 and #4. Each plate should be **10" x 15"** and include a photo of the full-face. It may include detail shots at the designer's discretion. It should be labeled with the name of the play and the character name on each.

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2021-22 UIL Theatrical Design **MARKETING** Challenge

Students entering marketing will submit a total of (5) plates plus their Justification Paper and Prompt Address Statement. They are outlined as follows:

Justification Paper Students will submit a maximum two-page double-spaced paper that includes the designer's production concept and justification from the script for artistic choices made. It should connect the script to the inspiration board and the finished products and explain how the concept is carried throughout the design because of the choices made. Additionally, this paper should outline the marketing strategy and justify why it will work to bring audiences to the production.

Prompt Address Statement Students must also submit a **100-word maximum** explanation of their approach to the design.

Plate #1 Students will still submit a **10" x 15"** Inspiration/Mood Board showing the historical research and inspirations for the time period and style of the production. Items contained in the Inspiration Board should give an overall impression of what the designer wants to see reflected most in their overall marketing design.

Plate #2 Students will submit a **10" x 15"** marketing calendar showing when all planned aspects of the marketing campaign should occur.

Plate #3 Students will submit an **11"x17"** original poster design advertising the plays. They should use League High School as the producing organization and include the required information from the publisher as well as all the information needed to attend the show (when, where, how much, how to get tickets) ***The publisher guidelines will be included in the 2021-22 Theatrical Design Handbook.***

The performances should take place May 5th, 6th, and 7th at 7:00pm.

Plate #4. Students will submit a program that is playbill sized (**8.5"x 11" folded in half or 5.5" x 8.5 finished size**) The playbill must include the cast and crew information for the play. The playbill should be a minimum of four pages.

Plate #5 Students will create a **video commercial/trailer** for the production (Minimum of 30 Seconds/Maximum of 90 Seconds). A link to the trailer will be included on the entry plate. NOTE: Designers must adhere to all laws and policies surrounding video/music usage/permissions. Designers may, but are not required to use actors in their video trailer.

FOR PLATES 3,4 and 5, all images must be original or the designer must have legal rights to use them. You can address this in the Justification/Strategy paper.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: February 12th, 2022 by 11:59pm