Let’s Get Ready to OAP!!!

with Paula Rodriguez, UIL State Theatre Director
Meet your UIL Theatre Staff

Elisabeth Sikes, Senior Administrative Assistant

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The spring OAP contest is too far in advance to predict at this time.

The current structure of the contest and calendar remain the same, at this time.
Official UIL A+ Contests- Fall only

Organization of Fall UIL A+/Junior High OAP contests will be decided locally.

Activities would need to follow the guidance issued by their school, TEA guidance and the CURRENT UIL Covid-19 Risk Mitigation Guidelines related to UIL Activities, including

- Face Coverings- masks, face shields...see Executive Order GA-29
- General Operational Guidelines
  - 2020-2021 UIL Covid 19 Risk Mitigation Guidelines see UIL website.

Changes to the public health situation may necessitate changes to this guidance.
Fall Calendar - no changes on deadlines

August 10 - Bi-District Information due OVERDUE

August 15 - 1st day for Zone/District Planning Meetings - 1st judge to contact and draw for performance order.

October 1 - Deadline to Enroll in OAP. OVERDUE

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 to request scenic elements not permissible under contest rules & to submit plays not on Approved List
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.
Bi-District Information
Planning Procedures, Pairings and Forms found here
Reminder for District OAP Planning Meeting

- Check your Conference Academic Alignment.
- Be Mindful of the Calendar-CX Debate, District Academic Events
- March 24th is certification deadline- District and Bi-District Completed.
- Review Adjudicator lists.
- Need a Contest Manager- see TTAO site.
  - www.ttao.org
2021 State Meet Judges

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

Check UIL Adjudication page for Area and Region- Some have changed since spring 2020.

https://www.uiltexas.org/theatre/judge-assignments
Play Selection and Approval
What is the magic formula for OAP?
How do I find the perfect winning play?
One idea!

Plays on the Approved List - Long or Short Plays

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**Plays: Approved Lists**

**NOTE:** Even though a play has previously been produced for contest, this does NOT mean that play is "automatically approved" for entry in the UIL One-Act Play Contest. If the play you are considering does not appear on one of the approved lists which follow, then it must be submitted to the office of the State Drama Director for the play appraisal committee's approval prior to the deadline.

- **High School:** December 14
- **Junior High:** at least 45 calendar days before your contest.

**Plays** which are by nature dramatic monologues, duet acting scenes, reader's theatre, musical theatre or which are predominantly narrated, choral speaking or lack character interaction may NOT be used in this contest. This includes some versions of titles found on the approved lists where "various dramatizations" are permissible. (i.e. Alice in Wonderland has several musical versions which would not be allowed.)

**Publishers:** The League strongly encourages directors to select quality literature for competition. There are numerous publishing companies whose catalogues include many of the plays found on the list of approved plays. Directors may also submit original works, plays that are only available as internet downloads or originals with author permission, through the Play Approval process.

To reiterate, directors are NOT required to submit plays on the approved lists for approval.

It is the responsibility of the Director to check the current approved lists and secure performance rights with the publisher before starting work on a production.

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**Submit Your Play for Approval**

- Approved Short Plays
- Approved Long Plays

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**All plays on the list are approved for UIL contests, but you must still request Publisher permission and obtain performing license.**

- Don’t assume a certain play title is on the list, take time to check.
- Don’t get confused with other lists.
- The Play still needs to be edited for Time.
- There is no list of APPROVED PUBLISHERS.
Title Entry Deadline - February 14

- December 1 - February 14: You may enter your title in the Spring Meet System.
Community Standards Rule and the Approved list of plays

- Just because a play is on the approved list does not mean you can keep the profanities, expletives....
Play Selection - Where else to find Plays?

- Seek out play publisher websites.
  - Dramatists, Concord Theatricals, Dramatic, Playscripts, Pioneer are a few of the publishers who work with OAP.

- READ READ READ READ READ READ READ READ READ READ READ
Other Suggestions on where to find scripts

- See *Resources and Forms* - Participation lists on UIL website
- Asking for help with editing a play is NOT a violation.
  - Avoid DON’T requesting “cuttings” on Social media.

And......
UIL Drama Loan Library

- Located on Second floor UIL Building, 1701 Manor Road
- Closed to visitors, currently. But still taking orders.
- **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.
Not Permissible

- Plays with 1-2 persons
- Musicals
- Skits/comedy sketches
- Collection of monologues or duet scenes

Having Said that.....
FAQ’s

● Can we submit plays this year that, prior to this year were considered “predominately narration”?

● Some plays have not been approved in the past but this year may lend itself to social distancing. Send it in!
  ○ Not approved will be monologue plays- for example- Spoon River Anthology- Talking With, Latin History for Morons, Fires in the Mirror- one person shows
Play Submission Information

- **NEW** For 2020-2021 - You may request an extension of your Play approval *(your official 2020 Entry)*. See form on OAP web page.

- Please seek publisher permission/royalties before starting production.
Question: When Can I Submit a Play for Approval?

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

Special Note: A+/Junior High-plays need to be submitted at least 45 days before competition.
Question: Where do I send my play?

Due to Covid 19, access to UIL Mail and Drama Loan Library will be limited, submit early.

Detailed Information on submission process and form is found on the Theatre website.
Please send any written correspondence via USPS
MAILING ADDRESS:
Paula Rodriguez, State Theatre Director
UIL
P.O. Box 8028
Austin, Texas 78713
Question: Would you explain the UIL Reading Committee Process?

For plays not found on the Approved list, you submit your play to UIL. Play is assigned to the reading committee.

- If your play is approved- approval email sent to you and administrator.
- If disapproved by one reader, the play is sent to a second reader.
- If both readers disapprove, you and Administrator will receive the email with reason(s) for disapproval.
- If play receives one yes & one no, then the play is sent to a 3rd reader.

Do not call the State Office to check on status, please. Emails and scripts are processed as quickly as possible.
Question: Why would my play be rejected?

Review Handbook section on “Contest Play” and Play Approval page.

- **You Sent Photocopies** - without written publisher/playwright permission.
- **Length** - Many times a play will get returned or rejected because script is partially cut or submitted an unmarked script.
- **Excessive Profanity and Obscenity** - Please review the Standards rule in the UIL Constitution. Section 1033 c (3) (B) Committee may eliminate language as a condition for approval.
- **Sexual Activity or Violence** - Since most competitors are minors, particular attention shall be paid to any action that insinuates sexual activity and physical violence.
- **Material/Genre** not suitable for contest - - musicals, sketch comedy, monologues.
Question: What are the new rules?

No Rule Changes! Clarifications only.
For example: A clarification on the Community Standards Form

Community Standards – I certify that the script and the entire staged performance (add: all stage actions, stage combat/ violence and stunts) have been carefully examined as it is to be performed at the UIL competition by this school.

When are masks required?

- The Executive Order GA-29 regarding face coverings applies to all UIL activities. All employees, parents, visitors, and students ten years of age or older must wear face coverings or face shields upon entry to an area where UIL activities are being conducted and *when not actively practicing or playing in the contest.*
What does this mean?

- Every participant off the stage floor, backstage, booth, contest staff, adjudicators and visitors should wear facial coverings and follow the UIL COVID-19 guidance. Exceptions can be found on the UIL COVID-19 and the Executive Order GA-29 web pages.

- It is your responsibility to share with your Admin, what safety protocols are in place. i.e. Are characters touching, kissing....
How will this affect the judging?

- They have been informed that these choices have been required and/or approved by their administration and allowed by the host site.
- They have been asked to judge with empathy and as an educator. See the show as it is and “not what could have been if…”
- Expect longer contest days.
- Possible interruption in the schedule.
Spring Meet System Checklist

- Step 1 - OAP Enrollment due October 1
- Step 2 - Title Entry due February 14
- Step 3 - Enter Company and Set information. Deadline set by contest manager, at least 10 days before contest.

CM must ALSO receive a contestant entry MACH form found in Resources and Forms
Theatrical Design Contest
2020-2021

MAN OF LA MANCHA
by Dale Wasserman, Joe Darion and Mitch Leigh

Entry Deadline February 13, 2021
Design Prompt on UIL Website
2021 State Theatrical Design Contest- Virtual Format
The UIL Young Filmmakers Festival Contest

Intent to Participate Form online

January 20, 2021, Deadline for Entries

State Festival- VIRTUAL
Resources for Teachers


- Understanding Copyright and Compliance information Course (free) - National Federation of State High School Associations
  https://nfhslearn.com/courses/understanding-copyright-and-compliance
UIL Theatre Website Resource Page

- All contest forms
- Festival information and Clinic conflict forms
- Past School Participation Lists with Play titles and Directors’ names!
- Handbook and Handbook Supplements
- Drama Loan Library
New Directors- How to get ready?

- Seek a mentor in your District- Don’t be shy!
- Attend Workshops-
  - Texas Educational Theatre Association https://www.txeta.com
  - Texas Thespians https://www.texasthespians.org
  - UIL Student Activity Conferences and Capital Conferences- TBA
- See plays- live or online
- Read plays- as you learn who your kids are and what fits them and your community.
- Read the Handbook
COVID-19

- Stay up to date with Guidelines provided on the UIL Website.
- Communicate with your district directors and CM’s on safety protocols for contest.
- CM’s and Host Sites will need to work together.
Paula Rodriguez
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If you HAVE NEVER RECEIVED an email from me, send me an email to be placed on the most current email list.