

## Memorandum

**To:** Regional Coordinators and High School Drama Teachers  
**From:** Mr. Bradley Clarke, Director of Program Development  
**Date:** November 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011  
**Subject:** 36<sup>th</sup> Provincial Theatre Arts Festival

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It is time once again to think about the Annual High School Theatre Festival. This year's festival will be held in Grand Falls Winsor from May 10-13, 2012 and will be hosted by Nova Central School District under the regional chairmanship of Ms. Marlene Stanley and a regional committee. **Please note that there are a couple of regulation changes for this year's festival.**

### FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION:

All completed entry forms for the regional festivals must be submitted to the respective school district offices by **February 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012**. Incomplete or late entry forms will not be considered. Please note that it is the school's responsibility to ensure that any performance royalties' costs are paid as necessary.

All regional competitions must be completed by **April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012**. Once the successful school has been named in each region, the drama teacher in that school will forward program information (school, play, cast, director and production crew) and original script to the host school district for inclusion in the provincial theatre festival booklet. This information must be submitted immediately following the regionals to the attention of: Ms. Marlene Stanley, [marlenestanley@ncsd.ca] Program Specialist for Fine Arts, Nova Central School District at 203 Elizabeth Drive, Gander, NL A1V 1H6. Program information received after **April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2012** *will not* be included in the booklet.

### EXPENDITURES:

Both the Provincial Theatre Arts Festival and Visual Art Gallery are supported by the Department of Education through the Provincial Cultural Connections Strategy. The Department of Education sponsors the cost of accommodations, meals (breakfasts and evening banquets) and a portion of transportation only for students and teacher chaperones. Parents and supporters are welcome to attend the festival; however, they are responsible for any costs associated with their transportation, accommodations and meals.

### LOGISTICS:

Room allocations and bookings will be handled directly by the host Festival Committee.

### PROVINCIAL THEATRE ARTS FESTIVAL REGULATIONS:

To ensure that all participants in the regional theatre competitions are treated equally, teachers and students are reminded that the following guidelines **MUST** be followed:

- (i.) The maximum number of cast members is 16 (This includes students, teachers, directors and teacher chaperones). If there are more than eight students in a cast, it is required that a minimum of two teacher chaperones (one male and one female) will form part of the company. If there are less than eight in a cast there has to be one chaperone, unless the cast is co-ed. Then one male

and female chaperone is required.

- (ii.) Only students may perform on stage. Adults in the company may only operate in a production capacity.
- (iii.) Students must be comprised solely of intermediate or senior high school students (Grades 7- 12) in order to be eligible to participate. Troupes not adhering to this regulation must be notified immediately by their respective district coordinator that they can not participate in the provincial festival, nor be adjudicated at the regional level.
- (iv.) Plays must not exceed 45 minutes in duration.
- (v.) Only one play per school can be entered into competition. A student can only perform in one play, i.e., for one school.
- (vi.) If a regional competition winner cannot attend the entire provincial festival, then the second place winner shall be invited as the regional representative.
- (vii.) School representatives (including cast, teachers, directors and chaperones) must participate in all three evenings of the festival (either as an audience member or as a performer).
- (viii.) Schools must provide original copies of scripts for adjudicators to comply with copyright laws, **three weeks prior** to provincials. Photocopies will not be accepted. Digital copy should be forward electronically.
- (ix.) Regional adjudicators will be instructed to disqualify any troupe that does not adhere to these regulations.
- (x.) Any troupe in violation of any of the preceding rules will be disqualified. They will not receive an adjudication, trophy, or certificates/awards. Any extra financial costs associated with the disqualified troupes will be the responsibility of the school.

**PLEASE NOTE:** It is expected that teachers pay close attention when choosing a script. It is critical that consideration be given to the appropriateness of; language, performance, subject, and community values. Teachers and students should be reminded the ages of the participants and, most importantly, the audiences who will be attending their performances.

If you have any questions or concerns about this Provincial Theatre Arts Festival, please contact Ms. Mary Dinn at [marydinn@gov.nl.ca](mailto:marydinn@gov.nl.ca).

Thank you.

Encl. (1)

cc: Ms. Janet Vivian Walsh  
Ms. Georgina Lake  
Mr. Mark Jones  
Ms. Karen Hewett  
Ms. Mary Dinn