

Changes and New for 2020



Have you attended the festival before? Well, if so, then you should read over what has changed and is being newly introduced for 2020. As a growing organization, NJ Junior Thespians is making an effort to improve all aspects of the festival by streamlining registration, implementing new National EdTA standards, and providing students and teachers with the best opportunity for learning and celebrating theatre.

PARTICIPANTS

- Directors/Assistants are required to attend an Afternoon Information meeting held in The Green Room during Session 3, rather than a morning meeting.
- if your school has an activated Thespian troupe at the time of registration, your school will receive a \$10 discount off of the school fee.
- Lunchtime will be a half an hour long.
- Participant substitutions for the festival are not permitted. Additional participants may not be added, and participants who drop from attending the festival without a substitution are non-refundable. After completing and submitting registration, all participant names are final.
- There will no longer be vendors during lunch.
- The free student raffle has been discontinued.

SHOWCASE

- 4 stationary mic stands will be provided and pre-set on stage. They are stationary and will not be able to move. Schools will have to block accordingly (rather than 4 handhelds). If school's Showcase is accepted, a diagram of the stage will be given to each school.
- Showcases will be timed this year, and if you go over 10 minutes, you are unable to earn a Certificate of Excellence for participating in the Showcase at Closing Ceremony.

INTERNATIONAL THESPIAN EXCELLENCE AWARDS

- The NIEs, National Individual Events, is becoming the International Thespian Excellence Awards, or Thespys™ for short.
- From EdTA: "Why change an already successful program? NIEs' purpose is to honor student excellence in theatre. Making the name more prestigious, memorable, and theatre-focused will enhance that honor for students, teachers, and their schools in the eyes of administrators, the press, and the general public. The name reflects our dedication to supporting excellence in the theatre arts by recognizing the highest level of achievement in school theatre performance and technical theatre."
- Entrants must supply their own music and speakers or device to play music for their Thespys™.
- The per school student cap has been removed for each category. A total of 16 students maximum from each school may participate in any given Thespys™.

REGISTRATION

- There will be 3 parts to Registration. (1. Main School Registration, 2. Optional Showcase Registration, 3. Optional Thespys™.) All parts must be submitted by April 1.
- The address to mail checks has changed. Make checks and/or purchase order payable to NJ Thespians and mail no later than Friday, April 10, 2019 with a printed invoice to: Carolyn Little (NJ Chapter Director) 700 Beachwood Boulevard, Beachwood NJ 08722

QUESTIONS

This guide is not a replacement for the Festival Info Packet. Please read the packet in its entirety prior to completing registration. If you have any questions about the changes and new rules for 2020, do not hesitate to inquire at njrrthespians@gmail.com.