

International Thespian Excellence Awards (Thespys™) is an educational program that offers Thespians the opportunity to receive constructive feedback on prepared theatrical material. Students are able to perform in a virtual audition type setting. It is designed for students to be able to grow as theatre students.

PERFORMANCE RULES FOR ALL EVENTS

CATEGORIES

- o Monologue (1 student)
- o Duo Acting (2 students)
- o Solo Musical (1 student)
- o Duet Musical (2 students)

SLATING

- Slating is essentially introducing yourself and your song/scene before performing
- After the introduction (slating), time begins with the first word, musical note, or acting action (if it proceeds the first word or note).
- View our “How To Slate” guide @ www.njirthespians.org/thespys

TIME LIMITS

- Monologues= 3 minutes maximum
- Duo Acting, Musical Solo, and Musical Duet= 5 minutes maximum

PARTICIPATION

- Each student is permitted to participate in only one event.
- Substitutions are not allowed. A student who drops out of the event before or at the festival is subject to \$5 fee.

ATTIRE/COSTUMES/PROPS

- Props (including hand-held props), costumes, or theatrical makeup are not allowed
- Entrants must wear all black
- Entrants must wear all black shoes
- Clothing should be professional yet allow easy movement for the actor to accommodate the action of the performance
- Entrants should refrain from wearing anything that might distract the adjudicators

MUSICAL ACCOMPANIMENT

- Performers **MUST** use pre-recorded, non-vocal musical accompaniment
- No live music is permitted
- Accompanists are not permitted
- Acappella performances are not permitted

GENDER

Students may play a role of any gender regardless of the gender with which they identify. It is important to note that all copyright rules are to be enforced; for example, the student cannot change pronouns without the express, written consent from the publisher.

REGISTRATION

Registration is completed while registering for the festival. Student personal emails are required (not school). Students will then upload their submissions in the form of a Youtube link via OpenWater.

ADJUDICATION

SCORING/RUBRICS

- A performance-based assessment rubric is used for all Thespys™
- The ratings are (4) Superior, (3) Excellent, (2) Good, and (1) Fair.
- Student rubrics for each area can be found online under the International Thespian Excellence Awards tab @ www.njirthespians.org/thespys to help students understand adjudication.
- After registering, students will be directed to upload their submissions via our digital judging platform OpenWater.

SKILLS MEASURED

- Use of transitions into and out of character
- Ability to create a believable character
- Communication of objective, tactics, and relationships
- Use of focus and concentration
- Integration of voice, body, movement, and staging

ACCEPTABLE MATERIAL FOR ALL EVENTS

GENERAL

- It's difficult to address every situation in this document.
- Fundamentally, the guide is that the piece must either have: publisher permission (NOT author-only permission); or available for sale in a libretto, play, vocal selection, or musical score.

PUBLISHED SCRIPTS

- Published scripts written for the theatre.
- If the participant is using a piece that is also a movie, the performance must be from the play or musical, not the movie script.

MUSICAL SONGS

- Songs from a published musical that have been written for the theatre (*regardless of its previous publication as a classical or popular song* – e.g., *Forever Plaid*, *Mamma Mia*, etc.).
- Duo Acting, Musical Solo, and Musical Duet= five minutes maximum

RESOURCES

- Visit njirthespians.org for resources on material for Thespys™.
- A *small selection of D.M. Larson plays are available to use*. For a complete list of acceptable material for IEs, please visit www.njirthespians.org/ita

MONOLOGUE

- Begin with an introduction (slating)
- 3 minutes maximum.

DUO ACTING

- Begin with an introduction (slating)
- 5 minutes maximum

SOLO MUSICAL

- Begin with an introduction (slating)
- 5 minutes maximum

DUET MUSICAL

- Begin with an introduction (slating)
- 5 minutes maximum