

AACTFest Required Program Insert

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STATEMENT OF CENSORSHIP

The American Association of Community Theatre supports a policy permitting the widest possible range of dramatic material to be performed in a festival of American community theatre. Performing companies are expected to exercise taste, good judgment, and respect for the values of the host theatre. Host theatres, if they have reason to believe a festival performance may be locally unacceptable, may notify their patrons in advance or publish a disclaimer, but in no case may the host refuse to allow the company to perform. Should the controlling body for the host theatre forbid said performance, the host group, with approval of the Festival Commission, shall provide an alternate performance space.

PRODUCTION TIMING

The total performance time of each individual production may not exceed 60 minutes, including set changes, time lapses and curtain calls. There is an additional 10 minute set-up time and 10 minute strike time from an "on-deck" area with all performers and stage personnel beginning and ending the set-up and strike in, or immediately adjacent to, the area. If the set-up and/or strike set mood, establish character, or "enter the world of the play" in any way, it is considered part of the 60 minute performance time.

GUIDELINES FOR ADJUDICATORS

Plays are to be judged on the overall production, the major elements of which are acting and directing. The choice of material is to be as unlimited as possible with musicals judged by the same standards as other dramatic material. Because of the difficulties of touring (unfamiliar stage and technical crew, minimal rehearsal time, travel distance), entering companies should consider the technical aspects of performing "on the road" when choosing material. A blank stage or a complex set can be equally effective, if appropriate to the material selected. Technical competence is to be given consideration as to its effectiveness as an integral part of the total production experience.

Any and all statements made by adjudicators are strictly their own opinion and do not necessarily represent the opinions of AACT or any other organization with which they may be associated.

CRITERIA FOR CONSIDERATION

- Is the acting believable and technically skillful with effective timing?
- Are the characters well interpreted?
- Does the company display ensemble work?
- Is the material appropriate for the company?
- Is the concept appropriate for the material and realized by the company?
- Has the structure of the production been controlled?
- Are the movements and stage pictures effective?
- Is the production well paced?
- Do the technical elements support the overall production?
- How effective was the total impact?

The preceding information is excerpted from the AACTFest Handbook. The complete Handbook must prevail in case of disagreement or confusion.

The text of this insert is available in a basic unformatted text (.txt) file that can be copied into whatever software you use for producing your program. The file can either be downloaded from the AACT website (www.aact.org) or obtained by E-mail from the AACT Office.