

# TROUPE HONORS

## Standard Operating Procedures

There are two major honors a Thespian Troupe may be awarded as a Troupe:

**The State Production Showcase** provides an opportunity to perform on the main stage at the State Festival, before one of the most enthusiastic audiences of theatre lovers to be found anywhere!

**Honor Troupe** is a designation designed to honor those who are doing exemplary work to further quality theatre and theatre-related educational experiences throughout Oregon.

**STATE SHOWCASE:** Each year a number of shows, as determined by the State Conference Coordinator or the State Board, will be selected to showcase as main stage plays at the State Conference. Once screened, the showcase for the current year will be announced at the Regional Acting Competitions in February.

Selection criteria are to be developed by a Showcase Selection committee and are to be reviewed annually. In all cases, the selection criteria must focus on excellence in production and performance. Secondary criteria may include fitness for production at the State Conference, including considerations for the type of show, musical or full length play, and set considerations relevant to the host stage. Schools which have presented will be able to apply in three years after being awarded this honor (ensuring that students see a wide variety of shows over their potential attendance at the conference).

Eligible shows must have been performed between January of the previous year and January of the current year. Schools need not be Thespian affiliated to apply or to present at the showcase. Showcase applications are due by 2nd week of December of the current year or at least 4 weeks prior to the production opening.

Schools selected to showcase must present the same production at the conference, including cast and technical elements, as was screened. Minor allowances for the technical capacities of the host school can be made as well as replacing secondary cast members, however **WHAT WE SEE IS WHAT WE GET**. Schools that cannot meet these criteria must relinquish their performance spot. In order to respect the integrity of the showcase, this requirement is not subject to selection committee nor state board exception.

The State Showcase selection committee will be made up of at least three members and no more than five and can include adults or students. In all cases, committee members may not have a show in consideration nor potentially in consideration for the State Showcase that year. Ideally, the committee head will be selected at the previous State Conference and either volunteers can be chosen at that time to fill the committee or the committee head may contact others to

complete the committee. The committee is responsible for viewing, either live or by video tape, each submission and evaluating it according to the accepted selection criteria. Extra consideration in terms of accuracy should be given to an evaluation done by a live screening.

Evaluations for the State Showcase may be done two ways:

1. *Live performance.* A non-refundable, \$50.00 fee is due at least one week prior to the show for a live evaluation. Three video copies of the production must be submitted as well before the submission deadline. This fee, in its entirety, is to be given to one or more committee members or others designated by the committee chair as travel expenses for the live evaluation. Committee members do not necessarily have to be the ones who see the performance live, but are universally responsible for reading the live evaluation report and seeing a video tape of the production. The live reviewer is responsible for submitting a written evaluation, different than the evaluation score sheet developed by the committee, to the applying school within two weeks of viewing the production with a copy to the Showcase Selection Chair. The review should include the reviewer's objective observations of the show and could include the reviewer's opinions about the strengths and weaknesses of the performance. The State Director will release the \$50.00 to the live reviewer when the written review is received by the presenting school.
2. *Video tape / DVD.* The applying school will send three video tape or DVD copies of their production to the committee head who is responsible for each member of the committee to see the tape and evaluate it. There is no charge and no written evaluation. However, evaluators will provide copies of their REVIEWER'S REACTION sheets to the applying schools at or just after the Regional Acting Competitions.

**Guidelines for video tapes and DVD's:** Each entry submitted must be an exact copy. Video tape/DVD's should not be overly produced with special effects, but should give the evaluator a clear picture of the entire set, the bulk of the cast at periodic times, and should include periodic close ups of leads or other cast members.

It is an accepted fact that live evaluations are more accurate and weigh more heavily with the evaluators. However, schools will not be penalized for not having their shows evaluated by a live reviewer.

Presenting schools at the State Showcase receive \$100.00 and will be reimbursed for any royalty charges. All other costs associated with producing the show at State are the responsibility of the school. The presenting school will submit to any reasonable restrictions the conference host places on the production, including lighting and set restrictions, or material objections. All fire and safety codes in place at the showcase venue will be stringently adhered to. The presenting school is not required to register the entire cast and crew for the conference, but may have them attend only for the performance. The presenting school is still bound by the same attendance number restrictions as the other schools.

**THESPIAN HONOR TROUPE RECOGNITION:** Troupes wishing to be considered for Honor Troupe designation must submit the information below by the posted deadline. The responses will be read by a committee selected by the Chapter Director of a least three (3) Troupe Directors or other theatre/educational professionals. Based on the ranking of this committee, up to three (3) troupes may be designated as Honor Troupes and will be recognized with a plaque at the Conference.

*Please submit the following information, typed, and with no specific reference to your school.*

*Entries will be given a code by the State Director to ensure anonymity and given to the judges prior to the Conference. The judges will select as many as three troupes to be honored.*

*Please tell us a bit about your year...*

- *Identify what Oregon State Thespian events your troupe attended or participated in this year.*
- *Share your troupe involvement in your school (activity days, social activities, homecoming, etc...)*
- *Share with us your production season, both curricular and extra-curricular.*
- *Share your troupe involvement in your community (service projects, fund raisers, field trips, etc...)*
- *Share any interesting, unique or outstanding theatre experiences or projects your troupe had this past year.*
- *How many years of continuous affiliation with ITS have you had?*

**Click the “SCHOLARSHIPS/HONORS” tab at [oregonthespians.org](http://oregonthespians.org) for submission address information.**