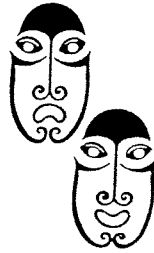


THE NEW ZEALAND THEATRE FEDERATION Inc.
Te Peterihana o te Whare o Aotearoa



FESTIVAL of COMMUNITY THEATRE

GENERAL INFORMATION and CONDITIONS of ENTRY

Updated 2009

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PURPOSE OF THE FESTIVAL

Festivals are devoted to the improvement of theatre standards by ...

- Affording each participating group an assessment of its work in respect of imagination and technique.
- Offering constructive criticism.
- Helping the audience to a fuller understanding of the performance.
- Friendship, learning, sharing, communicating.

Festivals are for learning. It is essential that participants have the right attitude about involvement in a Theatre Festival.

All teams entering a festival do so competitively and will receive an adjudication. Although Festivals are competitive, winning is by no means the sole purpose of entering.

The aspects to be stressed are the opportunities to observe one's peers, to learn through performance and education, and the enrichment of meeting other participants and groups.

There are three levels to the Festival of Community Theatre:

- District
- Regional
- National

Presentations are seen by a different Adjudicator at each level.

DISTRICT FESTIVALS

These are organised and controlled by a district committee in accordance with the conditions of entry and festival rules.

District Festivals are financed from District funds.

There is no minimum or maximum number of entries at a District Festival.

Teams entering a District Festival must be available if selected for the next level. There is no limit to the number of presentations an Adjudicator at District level can recommend to progress to a Regional Festival, including commending that no plays go forward if none are considered of sufficient standard.

The Adjudicator may recommend a youth presentation as an additional entry, provided that it is of sufficient standard and that it is not already included in the above and has been entered competitively in the District Festival.

The maximum age for actors in a youth presentation is 18 at the time of the District Festival. The ages of the director and crew are irrelevant.

REGIONAL FESTIVALS

Presentations at Regional Festivals are all seen by the one Adjudicator.

NATIONAL FINAL

Up to six presentations are selected from those at Regional Festivals to go forward to the National Final.

RULES OF THE FESTIVAL

- a) There is no restriction on the nature of the presentation except that there must be at least two performers.
- b) Presentations must be between 15 and 50 minutes in length.
- c) Scene changing during the course of a presentation must be included in this time limit.
- d) There is a maximum of 10 minutes permitted for setting and a maximum of 5 minutes for striking. Groups will not be held responsible for technical delays caused by factors beyond their control.
- e) Presentations will be given one hour's rehearsal at each Festival.
- f) Groups are responsible for all performing rights and royalty payments in connection with their presentation at District Festivals. Performing rights **MUST BE OBTAINED** before rehearsals begin and royalties **MUST BE PAID** prior to performance. Further clarification on rights and royalties can be sought from National Festival Secretary. Where composite, cut or adapted versions of plays are presented, the Playwright's or the Playwright's agent's written permission for such a presentation must accompany the entry form and a copy of all the cuts and/or adaptations in full **MUST** be forwarded to the National Festival Secretary. For plays obtained via the internet, copies of the web page authorising performances and/or cuts and adaptations must be included with the Festival entry form
- g) Infringement of the above rules will result in disqualification.

WHO MAY ENTER THE FESTIVAL?

- a) Any financial Member affiliated to the New Zealand Theatre Federation.
- b) A group that is affiliated as an Associate Member (e.g. a school drama club, a reading group). However, in order to enter competitively they must pay the difference in subscription and become a full member before their entry can be accepted.
- c) Any new group that becomes affiliated to the New Zealand Theatre Federation.

WHAT DOES IT COST TO ENTER THE FESTIVAL?

- a) Full membership subscription paid to the New Zealand Theatre Federation for the year of the Festival.
- b) National Adjudication levy of \$60 per presentation.
- c) Most Districts will also set up an entry fee to enter a District Festival, which is at the discretion of the organising committee.

HOW MANY PRESENTATIONS CAN A GROUP ENTER?

There is no limit to the number of presentations a group may enter into a District Festival. If a District is not holding a Festival, then a group may enter a Festival in another District, but only with the consent of that District's organising committee.

STAGE SETTING

The organising committee of a Festival, at all levels, will provide groups with information on the basic stage setting that will be available for that Festival.

Groups must provide their own specialist or additional settings.

ADJUDICATION

Presentations entering the Festival will be adjudicated. This will consist of:

- a) General comments from the stage to the group and audience.
- b) A more in-depth discussion with the group in the Green Room.
- c) A written report.

The results of the Festival will be announced by the Adjudicator at the end of each Festival.

PAYMENTS TO PARTICIPANTS

Actors may not receive remuneration, whether direct or indirect, for performing in any competitive presentation.

Directors may be paid, but if paid may not appear in a presentation.

SCRIPTS

Groups entering a Festival will be required to supply 3 authorised or original scripts of their presentation, one to the District organiser and 2 to the National Festival Secretary.

CENSORSHIP

There is no censorship within the festival system. However, it is advised that if a presentation has scenes or language that may cause offence (racism, equality, violence, sexual content, sexuality, ageism, etc.) then a warning should be given in the programme.

USEFUL CONTACTS FOR RIGHTS AND ROYALTIES and SCRIPT INFORMATION

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Te Aro
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info@playmarket.org.nz

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