

DRAMA
STUDENT PORTFOLIO INFORMATION SHEET 2017

Students who have been nominated for the Summer Honors Program Drama Class should develop a portfolio of examples of their own acting ability, and/or technical production experience. **These portfolios must be RECEIVED by Educational Service Unit #11 no later than 5:00 p.m. on Monday, March 6, 2017. Because of problems with video formats getting damaged in the mail, we prefer that you submit as a movie file on data DVD to: Summer Honors Program, Educational Service Unit #11, P.O. Box 858,**

412 West 14th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949. If mailing is necessary, please use a hard case or padded envelope to prevent damage, and be sure to allow sufficient time for us to receive it by March 6th. You would also have the option to post it electronically on YouTube, or some other site, and send us the address of the post. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.

A. COVER SHEET:

A cover sheet to the resume and video must include the nominee's name, home address, cell phone, school and an email address that you consistently use. The cover page will be removed when a number is assigned to the resume and video submission for judging so that selections can be made anonymously.

B. RESUME:

The resume (**with no student name or school mentioned**) should include the student's theater music contest, and speech contest experience. Experience could include but not be limited to: acting, dance, choreography, vocal and instrumental music, lighting, sound, set designing, set construction, costumes, make-up, publicity, and programs.

C. VIDEO:

Guidelines for portfolios of Drama nominees:

1. Each student nominated must put together a 2-minute video of acting and/or technical production skills that best conveys their abilities.

2. Tip for video: Home video of a play is often too far away and too low in volume to tell much about the expertise of the actor. Instead, actors should submit video auditions that include only one actor that shows something of the actor's personality and stage presence.

3. The presentation should include a brief introduction (with no mention of student's name or school) that gives your purpose, the name of the piece(s), author, and scene set up (who, what, when, where, why).

4. Format: All media must be able to be played in a standard DVD player, or may be electronically shared as well.

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Audition Video Do's and Don'ts From the Instructor

Do:

- 1. Include in your audition an introduction: Do not give your name, but state your purpose and the name of your pieces.** Feel free to be creative with the introduction, as long as it is appropriate and short.
- 2. Keep your audition to two minutes, max. You can use one two-minute monologue or two one-minute pieces, each not more than 1 minute long.** I know in the first 10 sec. if I want to consider you for the program. I will watch up to a minute of a monologue to see if my first impression was right. If an audition piece exceeds one minute, I fast forward through to the end.
- 3. Choose two contrasting pieces.** Contrasting pieces can be either a classic piece (Shakespeare, Chekhov, Moliere, Ibsen, or anything written before 1960) and a modern piece (anything written after 1960). Contrasting pieces can also be one serious and one comical.
- 4. Audition pieces can be taken from books or movies, but they should not tell a story.** Ex) Don't pick a monologue where you are telling me what happened last week, instead choose a piece where you are involved in an intense situation that is happening right now.
- 5. Watch your audition video before you put it in the mail. Check to make sure it is your best work and that you have identified yourself properly.** In the past couple years I have received video with multiple actors on it but no information to identify who was auditioning.
- 6. Take your time, rehearse and put your best work on video. I can tell when your audition is slapped together at the last minute.** Relax, I want you to be brilliant. If you put your best work on the video I will notice. If you don't I will also notice.
- 7. Memorize your pieces. I will not cast anyone who does not have their lines memorized.** It's only two minutes of text.
- 9. Mention your interest or willingness to be part of the technical crew. I have had brilliant students in these positions in the past and believe it or not, these are the positions where you can learn the most.**
- 10. Make sure your material is tasteful and appropriate for an audition. Don't send me something you couldn't show your grandmother.**

Don't:

- 1. Do not send clips of plays or speech performances you have done.** I can not tell how well you act from footage of you in your H.S. play.
- 2. Do not include footage of anyone other than yourself in the audition video.** You run the risk that I like your duet partner more than you and spend my time wishing they were trying out for my class.
- 3. Do not sing or dance for the audition.** It is nice to know you have these talents, but we are not set up to do musicals. Focus on your acting or technical skills.

Student's video auditions will be judged and ranked according to quality. Consideration will be given to the type of roles and/or characters needed for the production. The top ranked auditions will be given acting roles, according to the roles in the production or non-acting positions as stage/technical crew.

The drama will be presented once during the second week of the program, Wednesday, June 21, 2017, 8:00 p.m. at the "Tassel", the Phelps County Center for Performing Arts in Holdrege, NE (with talent show at 7:30 p.m.).

**Mail or hand deliver portfolios to: Summer Honors Program, ESU #11
P.O. Box 858, 412 West 14th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949 or email to dgeising@esu11.org**