

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA CHAPTER SELECT – ONE ACT PLAYS**

### **How to Participate:**

Performance opportunities are on a first-come, first-serve basis and are limited to 12 performance slots at the Provincial Thespian Festival with the Outstanding Production advancing to represent the Province at the International Thespian Festival in Indiana in June. Performances should be a maximum performance length of 45 minutes. One act plays that are performed at ABCDE/NTS Zone Festivals are welcome to also perform at the Provincial Thespian Festival Chapter Select Showcase. Any school registered to the PTF can participate in the Chapter Select Showcase, but only schools with an active thespian troupe can advance as the BC Chapter Select productions.

### **One Act Festival Rules and Becoming Chapter Select:**

British Columbia Thespians follow the [National Guidelines for One Acts](#), and selects a One Act to recommend for performance at the International Thespian Festival called the Chapter Select. To be chosen as Chapter Select, One Acts must be adjudicated at the BC Provincial Thespian Festival by an evaluation team selected by the chapter director and/or governing board. The evaluation team may select one top-quality show (and two alternates in case the first school is unable to attend) as the Chapter Select representing the Province of British Columbia in the Chapter Select Showcase at the International Thespian Festival. The Chapter Select will be the One Act that receives the highest rating on the [BC Chapter One Act Festival Rubric](#). At the International Thespian Festival, performances take place at Indiana University Bloomington. On both the provincial and international levels, a One Act is granted forty-five minutes of performance time, ten minutes to set, and five minutes to strike. At the provincial level, performance slots will be assigned on a first-come, first-served basis until the One Act schedule is full. To ensure the widest array of theatrical variety, no two schools will be allowed to present the same title at the same festival. If presenting a One Act the troupe must be registered for the entire Festival weekend.

### **Disqualifications**

Troupes that exceed any time limit (set, performance, strike) will be disqualified.

### **Pre-Performance**

1. Prior to performances all performers and technicians will be assigned a dressing room. All performers and technicians must remain in their assigned dressing rooms until given permission to leave.

2. Troupes will have 10 minutes to set and 5 minutes to return their set to their loading bay back stage.
3. The initial set up and strike for every one act play must be done in full view of the audience
4. Technicians may enter the booth 15 minutes prior to the beginning of his/her Troupe's performance.
5. Do not touch or use anything that does not belong to you or your Troupe. This includes, but is not limited to, ladders, stage weights, chairs, etc.

### **In Performance**

1. No video or audio recording is permitted during any one act performance.
2. Time begins immediately after the stage manager says "Go" to the Festival Backstage Manager and/or Tech Assistant.
3. Time ends when the stage manager and/or troupe director informs the Backstage Manager that everything is "clear," the stage is inspected, and the Backstage Manager agrees with the troupe's stage manager.
4. The official time will be kept by the designated Backstage Manager who may at his/her discretion appoint other timekeepers to help verify his/her times. The designated Backstage Manager is responsible for recording the official time.
5. No cue or theatrical action is permitted before or after the calls of "go" and "clear" by the stage manager except as required by the Troupe Director.
6. All music and/or sound effects must be contained within the forty-five minute time limit.
7. Only registered members of the performing school's cast and crew, venue technicians, adjudicators, and those granted permission by the troupe director are permitted backstage during any performance.
8. The use of any aerosol products (including but not limited to paint, hairspray, hair color, cleaning products, etc.) must be completely contained. None of the product can escape to the stage floor or curtains in any venue.
9. If food or drink is used within a production, the troupe must bring their own cleaning supplies to aid in the strike of any material that falls on the stage.
10. The spraying, throwing, sprinkling, spilling, dropping, or scattering of any liquid, powder, cleaning product, or any substance that can not be removed completely by a broom as a part of the strike is strictly forbidden. Special care should be taken if any form of glitter, powder, or confetti is used as a part of a

production, costume or make-up. All remnants must be removed from the floor before each Troupe's allotted time expires.

11. Since brooms may not be available at all venues, each participating Troupe should supply its own. The lack of a broom will not be an excuse for not cleaning the stage within the allotted time.
12. The use of smoke, fire, candles, matches, butane lighters, haze, fog, pyrotechnical effects or any other form of an open flame is strictly forbidden.
13. Prop Guns: A prop gun may be used if essential to the scene as long as it meets the following criteria:
  - Troupe Director has informed the British Columbia Chapter Director 30 days in advance.
  - The prop gun can not have any moving parts.
  - The prop gun must have a solid filled barrel.
  - Facility managers must inspect all prop firearms prior to the performance.
  - Students may not carry or transport the prop gun to or from the performance site.
14. Students may not jump off or on to the stage from the apron before, after, or during a performance.
15. Plan and/or adjust your blocking to ensure all members of your troupe's cast and crew remain within the designated acting area.
16. Do not plug anything into any electrical outlet. Submit any special electrical requirements with your registration packet.
17. Refrain from handling or touching any curtains or masking material. Even touching a curtain with the cleanest hand can reduce the life of the material.

### **Post - Performance**

1. Immediately following the performance an oral critique by members of the adjudicating team at the Provincial Thespian Festival will be presented on stage in front of the audience.
2. A written critique of each participating troupe's one act performance will be given to the sponsor following the close of festival.

## **Technical**

General area lighting is available (stage right, stage left, up centre, centre, and down centre stage) at the BC Provincial Thespian Festival. Due to the nature of the event, special lighting effects can not be achieved. Sound must be provided by the production and can be played using a CD player, amplification, and speakers. Groups may use their own “boom box” or utilize an MP3 player or laptop connected to the theatre sound system. Each production will get an equal amount of time on stage for a tech rehearsal. Please be aware that you will only have 30-45 minutes of tech rehearsal time in the venue... so plan and scale your tech needs accordingly.

## **Sets**

The use of flats is not allowed at the BC Provincial Thespian Festival, nor at the Chapter Select Showcase at the International Thespian Festival. The use of set pieces and props are allowed provided the following guidelines are followed:

- A set piece/prop is any item that will fit through a single door and can be carried by a single person.
- Hand props are those items to be carried onstage by the actors in one hand.

For your convenience conference room style chairs and other set pieces may be available at the venue. Please contact the BC Provincial Thespian Festival One Act Coordinator **Glen Pope** for more information on availability. If your school is invited to present in the Chapter Select Showcase at The International Thespian Festival, you will be sent detailed guidelines along with a list of stock set pieces that will be available at nationals.

*Please Note: All shows must adhere to the festival rules and guidelines stated above. Failure to do so will result in disqualification.*