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**KANSAS THESPIANS**

An Educational Theatre Association affiliated chapter

# 2011-12 Kansas Thespian Conference

Kansas Thespian Conference  
January 5 – 7, 2012  
Wichita Hyatt Regency / Century II



[www.edta.org](http://www.edta.org)

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## About this booklet...

Hopefully this booklet (and information located on the website at [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com)) will help to answer questions you might have about Kansas Thespians and about our annual Kansas Thespian Conference.

The booklet contains information on the following:

- State Board Members
- Honor Troupe Info
- Mainstage Shows (adjudication & performance info)
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# FAQs!!!

## **What does a state board member do?**

State board members select workshops for the conference, promote the theme for the conference, work the conference and share ideas for shows, fundraisers and community service projects.

## **What does the Kansas Thespian organization do?**

This organization has conference planning meetings throughout the state. In January a state conference is held. Kansas Thespians promotes and encourages various projects such as Trick or Treat So Kids Can Eat.

## **What happens at a Kansas Thespian conference?**

The conference is a total theatre experience. Over fifty workshops are presented for students and sponsors who attend. Sample workshops include, make-up, directing, acting, improv, costuming, dance, scenic design, stage combat and lighting. This is a partial list of workshops presented. Each school may bring one-acts for performance. They may have a regular length show adjudicated for a mainstage performance. Thespians may audition for college and Thespian scholarships. A theme dance and a talent show are held in addition to other theatrical late night activities such as improv and charades. Students may submit original plays. Three are selected to be workshopped in a staged reading. For more information contact the state director.

## **What is a state board member?**

These are selected school representatives who are invited to attend the monthly meetings. Each school may have up to two representatives selected to attend the meetings and they must be accompanied by a sponsor.

## **What is Kansas Thespians?**

This is a nonprofit high school theatre organization affiliated with The International Thespian Society. Students may earn membership into the national organization through work in theatre productions. Contact the International Thespian Society for membership information.

## **Who may attend the Kansas Thespian Conference?**

All schools with an active Thespian troupe are eligible to attend. Schools without a troupe may be considered every three years for attendance. If a school does not have a troupe, and would like to be considered as a guest, please contact the state director.

# STATE BOARD MEMBERS

State Board members are the heart of the Kansas Thespian Conference. Students and troupe directors from across the state meet throughout the year to help plan and organize this exciting event – and during the conference these members work hard to keep everything running smoothly! It is due to their energy, enthusiasm, creativity and hard work that our conferences are consistently successful!

What is a state board member? These are selected school representatives who are invited to attend the planning meetings. Each school may have two representatives and a sponsor at the meetings. Students must be in attend both meetings to qualify as State Board members

What does a state board member do? State board members select workshops for the conference, promote the theme for the conference, work the conference and share ideas for shows, fundraisers and community service projects.

How does a student become a state board member? It's easy! The application forms and health forms are available on the web site. Turn in these forms when you attend your first state board meeting. To be recognized at conference as a state board member, you must fully attend both planning meetings. (This includes sponsors as well as students.) Remember – an adult sponsor must attend the meetings with the students.

The State Board application form and the health form are available online at [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com).

Application - <http://www.kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/144-STATEBOARDAPPLICATION.pdf>

Health form - <http://65.162.96.61/resources/PDF/14-14-STATEBOARDHEALTHFORM0910.pdf>

# HONOR TROUPE INFORMATION

The Honor Troupe Awards are given to any school that completes the criteria within a certain category. It is not an event in which troupes compete against each other to achieve status as an honor troupe. Instead, this event allows each troupe to be appropriately challenged by the criteria.

Schools strive to reach bronze, silver or gold honor troupe awards as they count projects from last year's conference to this year's conference toward the criteria.

Information is posted on the website to help explain the criteria as well as offering examples of the documentation needed as proof in each category. The application for Honor Troupe is also included.

<http://kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/21-HONORTROUPEAPPANDCRITERIA0809.pdf>

So don't throw away those old receipts from fund-raisers or thank you notes from organizations --- use them in your honor troupe book!

# MAINSTAGE PERFORMANCES

The mainstage performances are full-length productions that are performed in front of the full conference delegation. A few years ago we added an additional mainstage slot to be performed as a late-night show in an alternate space.

Schools who are interested in having a full-length production screened for mainstage consideration must send in the application form and fee at least 4 weeks prior to their performance. Full length plays and musicals are eligible, provided the show has not been produced at the state conference in the last three years. These productions must be directed by school staff and may not be student-directed. (To have a production screened, the school's troupe membership must be current with EdTA/ITS.)

Those with mainstage shows have the option of having their show screened for internationals. When a school is invited to perform mainstage at state conference, they will be asked if they also want the show to be adjudicated for the International Thespian Festival. The state director will need to know right away so that arrangements can be made with the national office for adjudicators to be at the conference. Schools choosing to have their show screened for Internationals must pay the adjudication fee. Contact your state director with any questions.

(The mainstage application form and example of the adjudicator's scoring rubric is available online at [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com).)

<http://www.kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/93-MainstageAdjudicationGuidelines.pdf>

<http://www.kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/147-MainstageRubric11-12.pdf>

## **MAINSTAGE TECHNICAL INFO FOR THE CENTURY II STAGES**

### **Concert Hall:**

- Stage width – 60'
- Proscenium height – 30'
- There are 40 line sets
- There is a grand drape and two full stage travelers.
- There is a cyc and a scrim.  
(maybe not in the best shape.)
- We will provide a standard light plot with specials that can be changed.
- Century II has floor mics which they will use for both stages.
- There will be four stage hands at the call. This does not include a flyman, or spotlight operators. Extra technicians, equipment (sound, lights, musical instruments, etc...) are the responsibility of the school performing.)

### **Mary Jane Teal:**

- Stage width – 40'
- Stage depth – 36'
- There is a grand drape two black travelers and four sets of borders and legs as well as a cyc.
- They will have a standardized light plot as well with the possibility for adaptations. The stage will also be equipped with floor mics. There is no fly system in the MJT theatre.
- There will be three union stagehands for the theatre. Schools will be responsible for any additional needs.

# ONE ACT PLAY PERFORMANCES

One-act productions are presented at the same time as workshops throughout the conference.

Troupes also have opportunities to bring one-act plays to showcase during the conference. These small productions tend to happen in a variety of venues (such as hotel conference rooms), focusing mostly on acting and not on tech, as it's likely there will be no formal lighting or stage.

Each school can apply to bring up to two one-acts plays (schools who are also presenting a mainstage show will be limited to one). As long as the schedule and facilities permit, the second one-act will be scheduled as well.

Although the one-act productions may be student-directed, troupe directors are responsible for screening and selecting quality shows to be presented for performance.

*Troupes also have the option of having a one-act screened for the International Thespian Festival. One-acts that are screened for internationals require a fee of \$50.00 to cover adjudication expenses.*

(The mainstage application form is available online at [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com) along with an example of the adjudicator's scoring rubric.)

# ORIGINAL ONE-ACT PLAYS

Budding playwrights have a terrific opportunity at the Kansas Thespian Conference. Original one-acts can be submitted for possible selection for our original one-act play workshops.

All the info students need to know about this activity is on the next page. Please note the specific information about length, font size, deadline, fee, etc...

Don't forget --- the selected playwrights get to workshop their plays at conference! The one-acts are cast, rehearsed and have a performance during the workshop times. Those playwrights who are selected must be registered delegates at the conference.

And, of course, the information is also posted online!  
<http://www.kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/84-Playwriting-OneActs.pdf>

# COLLEGE / SCHOLARSHIP AUDITIONS

The College and Thespian Scholarship Auditions are open to Thespians who are graduating this year. There is a \$25.00 fee for each student who is auditioning. Even if a student is auditioning in more than one category (for example: tech and performance), there is still just one fee per student.

The student applicant must be a registered delegate to the state conference, a registered thespian at the International Thespian office in Cincinnati and must have at least one registered adult chaperone or sponsor at this conference. **THESPIAN MEMBERSHIP MUST BE ATTAINED AND ON RECORD IN THE EdTA OFFICE BY NOVEMBER 1.**

The audition categories include auditions for college and university representatives as well as scholarship opportunities from Kansas Thespians.

Schools are not limited to the number of students who audition (although it is recommended that troupe directors prepare students for auditions). Schools **ARE** limited to the number of students who are applying for the Kansas Thespian scholarships. **No more than 2 students per troupe may also be Kansas Thespian scholarship applicants.**

The Kansas Thespian scholarships include Performance, Technical and Theatre Educator.

Audition requirements and applications are available online at [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com).

## LATE NIGHT ACTIVITIES

On Friday evening of our state conference, following the mainstage show, late night events keep our conference rooms buzzing activity. A variety of activities are offered to provide students with many options.

The following are late night activities that have been offered in the past (don't be too surprised if you see a new one offered in the near future!):

- Improv
- Creative Costume
- Speed Charades
- Theatre Test
- Pantomime to Music
- Talent Showcase

More information about each of these activities is available online at [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com).

<http://kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/24-LATENIGHTACTIVITIES0809.pdf>

## INDIVIDUAL EVENTS

Since the addition of Individual Events at our Kansas Conference a couple of years ago, participation in these activities has grown. There are several different events that students can participate in – all listed on the website with explanation/scoring sheet. Look for the links beginning with NIES or I.E. and find out more about these popular events!

<http://kansasthespians.com/s/index.cfm?sid=3>

## KANSAS THESPIAN HALL OF FAME

Kansas Thespians recognizes individuals annually who have dedicated themselves to the cause of theatre education. Anyone wishing to be considered or to nominate someone else for consideration will be required to fill out an application.

A committee will judge all of the applications submitted and will select the individual(s) who will be inducted into the Kansas Thespians Hall of Fame. The state director will notify the recipient(s) by Dec. 1. The info and nomination form is available online.

[http://65.162.96.61/resources/PDF/19-19-HOFapp\(KT\)brief09-10.pdf](http://65.162.96.61/resources/PDF/19-19-HOFapp(KT)brief09-10.pdf)

## OTHER CONFERENCE EVENTS

Not only do we offer late night activities and Individual Events (I.E.s), but at the Kansas Thespian Conference, there are activities going on before, during and throughout the conference as well!

- Lobby Display
- Community Service Award
- Kansas Administrator Award
- Tech Olympics (a new pre-conference event tentatively scheduled for Thursday afternoon during registration). The details for this event are still in the works and will be posted online!

Oh yeah... and this information is available on the website as well!

<http://kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/28-OTHERCONFERENCEEVENTS08-09.pdf>

## FORMS

Each delegate attending state conference must complete the following forms.

The security forms help to enlighten the students of the expectations we have at conference. These security rules are very important! Please be sure to review them with your troupe.

**Three copies of the health form are needed** – one to turn in at registration, one copy for the troupe director to keep and one for each student to put in his/her name badge.

I guess when it comes to the health forms; one might say “Don’t leave home without ‘em!”

<http://kansasthespians.com/resources/PDF/20-HealthSecurityforms08-091.pdf>

## SAMPLE SCHEDULE

(on next page)

Please remember... it’s a *sample*... it’s *only a sample*... if it wasn’t a *sample* we would call it something else... 😊

As the conference nears, schedules will be posted and updated on the webpage. Keep checking [www.kansasthespians.com](http://www.kansasthespians.com)

# 2010 Kansas Thespian Conference

## “Rock The Stages: Hit Me With Your Best Spot!”

### THURSDAY, January 7, 2010

1:00..... Set Up IE’s and TO’s  
2:00-5:00.....Tech Olympics.....GBE  
Individual Events..... Room 203  
3:30-4:45 ..... Registration  
(Conference Entry – Hyatt Regency)  
Set Up Lobby Displays  
(2<sup>nd</sup> level – Promenade level)  
4:00 ..... State Board Delegates  
Meet for Assignments  
(Willow Room—2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Hyatt Meeting Room)  
5:00-5:45..... Dinner Seating One  
**Senior Audition Workshop– rm. 203**  
*Those auditioning should attend one of the scheduled  
workshops during this dinner break.*  
5:45-6:15..... Dinner Seating Two  
**Senior Audition Workshop– rm. 203**

7:00 ..... **Introductions**

**Mainstage Show**  
**Almost, Maine**  
**Olathe East High School**

*Immediately following the Mainstage Show*

**Theatre Education Scholarship**  
**Interviews – Room 207**

**Late Night Mainstage-Mary Jane Teall**  
**The Shadow Box**  
**Blue Valley North High School**

### *Evening activities*

**Dance – Grand Eagle Ballroom**

**11:30 p.m.** ..... Conclude Activities  
**12:00 a.m.**..... **IN YOUR ROOMS**  
(Sponsors check rooms)  
**12:30 a.m.**..... **LIGHTS OUT**

### FRIDAY, January 8, 2010

Silent Auction – By Registration Desk - Fri only

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. .... Session I  
10:15 – 11:45 a.m. .... Session II  
11:45---12:30.....Lunch Seating One  
12:30—1:15.....Lunch Seating Two

### FRIDAY, January 8, 2010 – cont...

1:30-3:00 p.m. .... Session III  
3:15-4:45 p.m..... Session IV  
3:15-4:45 p.m..... Performance Scholarship  
Auditions – Room 203  
5:00 – 6:45 p.m.  
Tech Scholarship Auditions – Room 209A  
State Board Dance Rehearsal – 101A Pear A  
5:00-5:45..... Dinner Seating One  
5:45-6:30..... Dinner Seating Two  
7:00 p.m. .... Opening Ceremony  
7:20 p.m ..... **Mainstage Show**

**Blithe Spirit**  
**Maize High School**

*Immediately following the Mainstage Show*  
Silent Auction ends – By Registration Desk

**Charades – Ballroom E & F/G/H**  
**Theatre Test – Rooms 205 & 208**  
**Pantomime to Music – Room 206 & 207**  
**Talent Showcase – 203**  
**Improvisation – Room 209 B & 210 C**  
**Creative Costumes – Ballroom A/B/C & D**

**11:30 p.m.** ..... Conclude Activities  
**12:00 a.m.**..... **In Your Rooms**  
(Sponsors check rooms)  
**12:30 a.m.** ..... **Lights Out**

### SATURDAY, January 9, 2010

8:30 – 10:00 a.m. .... Session V  
8:30 – 10:00 a.m. .... Performance Scholarship  
Auditions (2<sup>nd</sup> group) – Room 203  
10:15 – 11:45 a.m. .... Session VI  
10:15 – 11:45 a.m. Performance Scholarship  
Auditions (3<sup>rd</sup> Group) – Room 203  
11:45 – 1:30 p.m. .... Callbacks  
11:45---12:30.....Lunch Seating One  
12:30—1:15.....Lunch Seating Two  
1:45 p.m. .... **Mainstage Show**  
**You’re A Good Man, Charlie Brown**  
**Olathe South High School**  
3:15-4:00..... Awards and Farewell

# 2012 KANSAS THESPIAN CONFERENCE!

## HOTEL INFORMATION

Wichita Hyatt Regency  
400 West Waterman  
Wichita, KS 67202  
Phone (316) 293-1234

\$102.00 + tax  
- be sure to say you're with Kansas Thespians

The following is their policy concerning the tax rate: (This is the same policy as previous years.)

- The Hyatt will charge the full 12.3% tax – then reimburse schools for the sales tax (6.3%).
- If you provide them with a tax exempt form in advance, you will only need to pay the room tax (6%).

**THE INFO THAT IS HIGHLIGHTED WAS FROM A FEW YEARS AGO – I DON'T KNOW IF IT'S CURRENT. IT CAN BE UPDATED OR DELETED – DOESN'T MATTER TO ME.**

**\*\*\*INSTRUCTIONS ---** Reservations will begin at 8:00 am on September 19. The reservation phone number is 800.233.1234. You must have a credit card (not a debit card) to hold your rooms. Once the room block starts filling, the wait list will kick in. Remember – there won't be a debit card hold, only credit card hold and schools must fax in their tax exempt documents when confirmed. We will keep a waiting list, and in years past, as rooms are released, we fill those rooms from those on the list. Again – if you don't have your credit card information when you call, you will not be able to make reservations.

### ADDITIONAL ROOMS AVAILABLE AT THE FOLLOWING HOTELS!!!

(Some hotels provided information sheets – if so, those are attached at the end of this packet.)

The Drury Inn  
400 W. Douglas Ave  
316 262-5000

\$109.00 + tax  
- be sure to say you're with Kansas Thespians  
(free hot breakfast)

The Drury Inn (formerly The Broadview) is just across the street from the Hyatt and Century II

Holiday Inn Downtown  
221 E. Kellogg St.  
316 269-2090

\$85.00 + tax  
- be sure to say you're with Kansas Thespians

About 5-6 blocks from the conference site.

La Quinta Inn & Suites Wichita  
5500 W. Kellogg Dr.  
Wichita, KS 67207

\$79.00 + tax  
(single queen or 2 double beds)  
to reserve rooms for 2012 conference call  
1.800.255.6484 ask for Kansas Thespian Rate

Hotel at Waterwalk  
711 S. Main  
Wichita, KS 67213

\$99 + tax – King Suite  
\$109 + tax – One Bedroom Suite (queen bedroom,  
sleeper sofa in living room)  
\$109 + tax – Double/Double  
\$139 + tax – Loft (2 bedrooms/2baths)

# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

Registration for the Kansas Thespian Conference will again be an online process. The deadline for registration is November 1. The state director will send an e-mail update when the registration link is available.

We're excited about the upgrade in the online registration process. We are using Cvent as our registration program and believe that it will make the process easier for registrants and for those who help organize and run the conference. Many have requested to pay with credit cards – Cvent will allow us to have that option. Payment by check is still fine, too! Make checks payable to Kansas Thespians and mail to the state director.

Again --- the e-mail updates are the quickest and easiest way for information to get to everyone. Please make sure your state director has your correct e-mail address. You can also receive information at more than one email address if you'd find that more convenient.

If you know of sponsors who are not receiving information – please help them get in contact with the state director so they can be added to our email list!

## **\*\*\*\*IMPORTANT\*\*\*\***

**There will be very clear instructions provided as we begin the registration process with the new cvent program in the upcoming weeks. In order for the online registration to reflect the 'late fee' structure that has been our policy, the fees will actually be listed as higher and will offer a discount if registered by the deadline.**

So instead of ADDING a late fee – the registration will show a higher fee and then REDUCE that fee if the registration meets the deadline. This is confusing right now, we realize. When the online registration is setup, there will be information provided to answer any questions sponsors may have.

Example – a student registration fee of \$140 will actually list as \$240, but if the registration meets the NOVEMBER 1 DEADLINE a \$100 discount will go into effect and the fee will be reduced to \$140. If the registration is posted between November 2 and December 15 a \$50 discount will show and the listed fee of \$240 is reduced to \$190. (If the registration does NOT meet the deadline, the fee stays at \$240 since it is a LATE registration.)

**Please check the list of fees – the fees in italics reflect *late* registrations.**

**As you plan for registration - here is the updated list of 2011-12 registration fees. -**

- Free – Troupe Sponsor
- \$80 – for addition theatre sponsors  
(If your school has more than one theatre instructor)  
*\$130 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$180 - after December 16*
- \$140 – regular student delegates (full conference fee)  
*\$190 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$240 - after December 16*
- \$100 – regular student delegates – Thursday/Friday attendance only  
*\$150 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$200 - after December 16*
- \$50 – regular student delegates – Saturday attendance only  
*\$100 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$150 - after December 16*
- \$75 – State Board Members (no more than 2 per school – must have fully attended both meetings)  
*\$125 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$175 - after December 16*
- \$55 – SSOs  
*\$105 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$155 - after December 16*
- \$80 – Chaperones  
*\$130 - between November 2 – December 16*  
*\$180 - after December 16*

REMEMBER – ONLINE THE HIGHER PRICE WILL SHOW FIRST AND IF THE REGISTRATION MEETS THE DEADLINE A DISCOUNT WILL REDUCE THE FEE TO THE APPROPRIATE AMOUNT.

Other fees --

- \$30 – Original One-Acts
- \$25 – per one-act presented
- \$50 – one-act adjudication fee if having it screened for chapter select showcase
- \$50 – non-thespian troupe school fee
- \$25 – audition fee
- \$15 – per I.E. entry (per person)
- \$50 – group I.E. event
- \$25 – per tech Olympic team