

# The San Diego Student Shakespeare Festival

Balboa Park

Saturday, April 18, 2020

## Information Packet



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### Hear Ye, Hear Ye!

You are invited to participate in the 15th annual San Diego Student Shakespeare Festival produced by the San Diego Shakespeare Society and Write Out Loud. Your students will make Shakespeare come alive through spoken word, music and dance! The festival is held in Balboa Park on Saturday April 18, 2020.

Theatre, Dance, Music, English, and other teachers and programs are encouraged to participate in the Festival. There are performance opportunities for everyone. The festival begins with a parade. Students will gather at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion and will form a Grand Procession along Pan American Road, around the Plaza de Panama Fountain and back to the Organ Pavilion for the Opening Ceremony. Performances begin immediately following the Opening Ceremony. The day will conclude with an Award Ceremony.

### Who can participate?

All schools in San Diego City and County (public, private, parochial, independent, home-school) and other K-12 school-aged groups are invited to participate: elementary, middle and high school students, 5 - 18 years of age. A school/organization can enter up to 4 scenes in the festival for \$30; additional entries are \$10 each. Note: Buckingham Monologue is a separate entry, two high school seniors per school, and does not count as one of the 4 scenes.

# FESTIVAL PERFORMANCE INFORMATION

## Festival Performance Categories

- Duo or Trio Scene
- Ensemble Scene
- Collage
- Monologue/Sonnet
- Dance/Music
- Bilingual Performance

NOTE: Bilingual Performances may be presented as Exhibition only (non-competitive).

### ***Duo or Trio Scene –***

**Required for Duo/Trio Scene:** 2 to 3 actors present a scene or cutting from one of Shakespeare's plays.

Scene can be performed for competition or exhibition. For competitive scenes, two points are deducted for scenes over your registered performance time.

Suggested time allowed 3 - 5 minutes performance. No more than 7 minutes total allotted for setup, scene, and take-down.

### ***Ensemble Scene –***

**Required for Ensemble Scene:** 4 or more students present a scene or cutting from a Shakespeare play.

Scene can be performed for competition or exhibition. For competitive scenes, two points are deducted for scenes over your registered performance time.

Suggested time allowed 6 to 8 minutes performance. No more than 10 minutes total allotted for setup, scene, and take-down.

### ***Collage–***

**Required for Collage:** Spoken word performance piece inspired by Shakespeare's works that is unified by a specific thematic idea, issue or question.

Shakespeare's material is the guiding text and material of your theme, idea or issue. At least 50% (or More) of the collage must be directly from Shakespeare's works and can include sonnets, dialogue and soliloquies.

Scene can be performed for competition or exhibition. For competitive scenes, two points are deducted for scenes over your registered performance time.

Suggested time allowed 6 – 8 minutes performance. No more than 10 minutes total allotted for setup, scene, take-down.

### ***Monologue/Sonnet—***

**Required for Monologue/Sonnet:** Performer may choose either 1 sonnet or 1 monologue. Monologue must come from one of Shakespeare's plays. Sonnet performance is a complete sonnet.

Scene can be performed for competition or exhibition. For competitive scenes, two points are deducted for scenes over your registered performance time.

Suggested time allowed 2-3 minutes performance. No more than 5 minutes allotted for set-up scene, and take-down.

### ***Dance/Movement/ Choral/ Music –***

**Requirements:** Performance piece that uses music and/or dance and/or movement that is inspired by Shakespeare's works or the Renaissance period. Music or dance style may be from any period-- Medieval to Adele. Dance or movement may be any style: Street, Ballroom, Ballet, Modern, Jazz, Contemporary. Live singing/playing or recorded music acceptable but **NOTE: performers must provide their own device to play music on and their own amplification. None will be provided by the Festival.** Shakespearean text may or may not be included (spoken or sung).

Performance can be performed for competition or exhibition. For competitive performances, two points are deducted for performances over your registered performance time. Suggested time allowed 2-5 minutes performance. No more than 7 minutes allotted for set-up, scene, and take-down.

### ***Bilingual Performance— EXHIBITION, NON-COMPETITIVE ONLY***

**Required for Bilingual Performance:** Scene that combines English and an additional world language. Performance piece could include a monologue, a duo or trio scene, or an ensemble piece (4 or more actors).

**Bilingual Scene can be performed for exhibition only.**

Suggested Time: Same requirements for respective scene (Monologue/Duo/Trio/Ensemble)

### **IMPORTANT**

No language, behavior, attire or content that is inappropriate is allowed. Student participants are K-12, ages 5 - 18, and open space patrons are from all walks of life, so we must refrain from vulgarity and coarseness in our choices.

### **Performance Logistics**

#### **Timing**

Each participating school will be assigned a specific time slot that includes performance time and time for set-up and take-down. Students are required to report to the standby stage 15 minutes before the scheduled performance, and check in with the stage manager.

#### **Stage Set-Up**

Each stage will have a cloth background to eliminate some of the background distractions, and a shade canopy over the playing space. The performance space floor is **concrete**. Please plan footwear and staging appropriately.

The stages for Monologues and Duo/Trio Scenes are 10' x 10'.

The stages for Ensemble, Collage, and Dance/Choral Scenes are 10' deep x 20' wide.

#### **Set-Pieces, Props, Costumes**

Each stage will have a set number of stools. These can be sat on, stacked, and cautiously stood on. Please see diagram, photos, and dimensions below. A set number of these stools will be set on either side of the playing space to be set in place by the actors before the start of the scene, and cleared back to where they started at the end of each scene.

**NO OTHER SET PIECES WILL BE PERMITTED.**

Pictures of the stool:



Side View

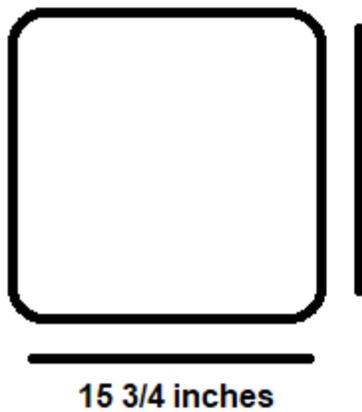


Top View

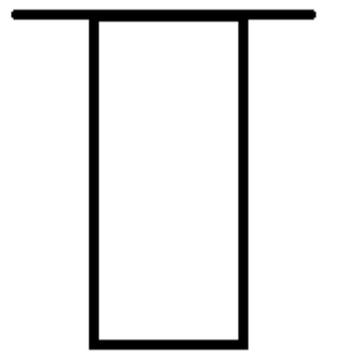


Bottom View

Measurements:



**TOP VIEW &  
MEASUREMNETS**



**SIDE VIEW & HEIGHT  
MEASUREMENT**

Monologues Stage will have one (1) stool, to start and end Stage Right.  
All other stages will have four (4) stools. Two will start and end Stage Right, Two will start and end Stage Left.

Each time allotment will begin with a blank performance space. Director and/or actors should decide and rehearse which actors will set their stools where at the beginning of the scene, and which actors will strike their stools to the appropriate side at the end of the scene.

Hand props may be used, and should be easily transportable by one person.

Costumes are at the discretion of the participants. Costumes are not required. The nearest bathrooms available for changing are across the street from the Spreckels Organ Pavilion. Further away, located across from the entrance to the Prado Restaurant, are more bathrooms.

### **AMPLIFICATION (or lack There-Of)**

**There will be no amplification this year. Performance stages will be set up in the Spreckels Organ Pavilion, and audiences will be close – the first row is two feet from the edge of the playing space. Students should project their voices when performing.**

### **Award Information**

Schools can participate in a competitive or exhibition (non-competitive) format. Award Medallions or Trophies are presented for outstanding scenes performers at Elementary, Middle, and High school levels. All students will receive certificates of participation.

Awards will be presented at the end of the Festival day.

NOTE: It is strongly encouraged that your group stay until the end of the event. If a group or individual is not present at the Awards Ceremony, they will receive their certificate, but will not receive their Trophy or Medallion.

Trophies or Medallions will be awarded in the following categories:

- Outstanding Duo/Trio Scene (Medallion for each winning participant)
- Outstanding Ensemble Scene (One Trophy to be shared by the Ensemble)
- Outstanding Collage (One Trophy to be shared by the Ensemble)
- Outstanding Monologue/Sonnet (Medallion for each winning participant)
- Outstanding Dance/Choral/Music (One Trophy to be shared by the Ensemble)

### **Buckingham Monologue**

This is a pre-festival event for Advanced High School Theatre Students, limited to two entries per school. Three highly qualified theatre professionals will be adjudicating this category. The Buckingham requires a soliloquy, speech, or monologue. Verse is preferable, but prose is acceptable. No Sonnets. Pieces can be cautiously edited to meet the time requirements. Participant cannot re-use a soliloquy, speech, or monologue being performed in other festival entries.

Time allowed 1 - 2 minutes. Performers will be penalized after 2 minutes.

Dress is business attire, no costumes, noting that suits are discouraged as they are designed to restrict movement and your students will want to be free to move. Plan to arrive ready, as there are not dressing rooms available for the monologues.

Check-In for Buckingham Monologues will be from 9:00 – 9:15. **Do Not Be Late.**

A monitor will check you in, confirm your number, and call you when it is your turn to present.

Buckingham Monologue Competition will take place in Room 102 of the Casa del Prado. Address: 1650 El Prado, San Diego, CA 92101  
The classrooms are to the left of the Theatre (the address given above). Go through the courtyard and you will see the numbered rooms. Find Room 102 to check in.

Buckingham Monologue awards \$200, \$100 and \$50, respectively to the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, and 3<sup>rd</sup> place winners. Winners will be announced at the Award Ceremony at the end of the Festival.

## **Festival Day Schedule and Logistics**

### **Day's Events**

9:00 a.m.	Buckingham Monologue Check-In
9:15 – 10:45 a.m.	Buckingham Monologue Competition
10:00 – 10:45 a.m.	Festival Check-In and line-up for Grand Procession
11:00 a.m.	Grand Procession!
11:15 a.m.	Opening Ceremony
11:45 a.m.	Performances Begin (Arrive 15 minutes before scheduled start time)
3:30 p.m.	Awards & Closing Ceremony

A credentialed teacher or group leader **must be with and stay with** the students **at all times**.

### **Grand Procession and Check-In**

The Festival will ring in the festivities with a Grand Procession along Pan American Road, around the Plaza de Panama Fountain and back to the Organ Pavilion.

All participants should plan to take part in the Grand Procession, which will immediately follow Festival Check-In. Upon completion of Registration, your group will be assigned a Check-In Time Slot and an Order Number in the Procession. Check In at your assigned time and take your place in the Procession! Check-In will be prominently located at the Spreckels Organ Pavilion. The Bard himself is rumored to be serving as Grand Marshall this year!

### **Banners**

Banners are encouraged but not required. The banner will lead your group as you participate in the Grand Procession. Banners should not drag on the floor when carried in the procession, and should be between two and four feet wide.

### **Transportation and Parking**

You will need to provide transportation for your students, costumes, and props. Parking that day is usually very heavy. We suggest you park behind the Organ Pavilion.

### **Food/Snacks**

There are limited food opportunities in the park, so you may consider packing a cooler of water, lunch and/or snacks for your students.

### **Time Line/ Prep Ideas**

- March 15 - Early Bird Registration Deadline. Early Bird registration guarantees a free optional in-school workshop with a local teaching artist to assist with performances.
- April 3 - Final Registration and Paperwork Deadline
- April 10 - Notification of Performance Time Slot Provided
- April 18 - FESTIVAL DAY!

Participants are encouraged to stay for the entire festival. **In the spirit of celebration of all participants, please plan to remain throughout the end of the Award Ceremony.**

Visit the Shakespeare Festival website listed below for suggested scenes and photos and videos of past festivals <https://writeoutloudeducation.weebly.com/shakes-fest.htm>

Question? Contact Festival Coordinator Rachael VanWormer at [Rachael@writeoutloudsd.com](mailto:Rachael@writeoutloudsd.com)