

## 2021-2022 THESPY AWARDS CATEGORY SUMMARY GUIDE

Category	# Per Group	Description	How long?	Performance rights?	Attire?	Other questions?
Acting - Monologue	1	Performance of two contrasting theatrical monologues	3 minutes	Check pages 4-5 and 27-28 of the Thespy's Program Guide  Complete the appropriate form(s) as needed	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Only one character from each play may be portrayed</li> <li>One chair may be used</li> </ul>
Acting – Duo	2	Performance of one group scene from a play	5 minutes		All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Two chairs may be used</li> </ul>
Acting - Group	3 – 16	Performance of one group scene from a play	5 minutes		All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>One table may be used</li> <li>Up to six chairs may be used</li> </ul>
Musical Theatre – Solo	1	Performance of one song (used in a musical) publicly available for sale that also has verifiable copyright protection	5 minutes		All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bluetooth speakers will be provided at ITF but can bring your own amplification</li> <li>Bring your own cd and player if need to use cd</li> <li>You must play a recorded accompaniment with no background vocals</li> <li>You may not sing a cappella UNLESS originally written to be performed a cappella in the script</li> </ul>
Musical Theatre - Duet	2	Performance of one song (used in a musical) publicly available for sale that also has verifiable copyright protection	5 minutes		All black	
Group Musical	3 – 16	Performance of one song (used in a musical) publicly available for sale that also has verifiable copyright protection	5 minutes		All black	
Costume Construction	1	Create a completed costume from a publicly available pattern. Present costume, design collage and all receipts.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4) *	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You may not spend over \$100, including donated materials (cost of the pattern not included) You will need to present a collage</li> </ul>

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Costume Design	1	Create and present 5 color costume designs for a play or musical.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4)*	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Each design is mounted to a 10x15 or 11x17 board Fabric swatches must be included</li> </ul>
Lighting Design	1	Create and present a lighting design for a play or musical.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4)*	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See <a href="#">Thespys Program Guide</a> for specific requirements</li> </ul>
Makeup Design	1	Create and present 5 character renderings and a makeup binder for a play or musical.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4) *	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renderings should be 8" to 10" tall and must be in full color</li> </ul>
Scenic Design	1	Create and present a set design for a play or musical.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4) *	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Design may be a scale model or a perspective drawing, but not both. If using a model, you must bring the model to the IE (photos are not acceptable)</li> <li>Include a floor plan</li> </ul>
Sound Design	1	Create and present a sound design for a play or musical.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4)*	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See <a href="#">Thespys Program Guide</a> for specific requirements</li> </ul>
Stage Management	1	Create and present a prompt book, contact sheet and artistic concept.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4) *	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Act as though you are applying for the job of Stage Manger</li> </ul>
Theatre Marketing	1	Create and present a marketing campaign for a play or musical.	12 minutes (Pres<=8; Q&A<=4) *	No rights required	All black	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>See <a href="#">Thespys Program Guide</a> for specific requirements</li> </ul>
Short Film	1+	Create an original film, either as an individual or as part of a student group.	5 minutes running time + 1 minute of credits	Use public domain or original music	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You will need to submit your film by State Festival Thespy deadline.</li> </ul>

- All technical event video presentation submissions must remain under the original 8-minute time limit. There will be no Q&A portion this year.

## **Further Considerations due to COVID-19 policies and limitations:**

**Social Distancing/Masking Policy:** Participants submitting a collaborative entry (group/duet entries) are expected to follow current masking and social distancing rules and recommendations while rehearsing and producing their final submission video. If participants are unable to perform safely together, they should consider submitting individual category entries instead.

For example, if a mask mandate is in effect, participants should wear masks in their video submission. If requirements state that individuals not housed together are required to maintain a distance of six feet, participants should record their video at the recommended distance.

It is important to note that certain masked and distanced performances may impact sound/speech and hide facial expressions, so discovering techniques to emphasize enunciation and characterization will be especially important. Participants may consider using clear face masks to allow facial expressions to be seen by adjudicators.

## **Securing Performance Rights**

It is the Thespian's responsibility to obtain permission for the use of copyrighted material where required. In certain cases, permission is not required.

- The performance of a song from a published musical score in an adjudicated category is considered a fair use, and no permission is required.
- The performance of a monologue or scene from a non-musical play at chapter conference/festival or in an adjudicated category may be subject to an agreement previously negotiated between EdTA and several major publishers. Thespy participants must use a monologue or scene from one of the pre-approved publishers listed on the Thespy website.
- If there is an exception noted in the approved publishers listing (e.g., Neil Simon or August Wilson plays), you will need to secure permission (and likely pay a fee) in order to use it. You must provide proof to the EdTA office that you have secured these rights by April 1, 2022.

**Approved Publishers:** It is very important to correctly identify the publisher of any material used in a Thespy entry in order to ensure you have permission to perform it. Securing permission from the publisher alone does not grant you permission to use it for a Thespy entry. Please refer to the approved list of acceptable material for detailed information about acquiring rights with approved publishers; not all material from every publisher is approved. Publishers not listed who wish to be added may [contact EdTA](#).

Thespy Program Guide : <https://thespys.secure-platform.com/a/page/program-guide>

Thespy Website: <https://thespys.secure-platform.com/a/>

Thespy Rules and Regulations by Event: <https://thespys.secure-platform.com/a/page/categories>

List of Approved Publishers: <https://thespys.secure-platform.com/a/page/approved-publishers>

## **Recorded Submission Guidelines**

### **Digital video submission requirements**

- Find an effective filming location.
- Area should be quiet so adjudicators can hear both you and your track (if applicable).
- Film in front of a non-distracting background. If possible, choose a solid-color wall or consider hanging a sheet behind you. The color should contrast with your clothing.
- Dress neatly, in proper attire as written in the guidelines. No costumes or props are allowed.
- Make sure you are lit well enough to be clearly visible.
- Before filming, conduct a full-volume test to make sure you and your track can be heard in the recording.
- Ensure your blocking is effective and visible when filmed. Consider whether to increase or decrease your movement or to adjust your camera angle.
- Video submissions should be recorded as full-body camera shots so that adjudicators may score movement.
- Shoot your video horizontally, not vertically.
- Try multiple takes and submit your strongest.
- No editing is permitted on performance videos (do not stop and start in between slating or transitions, do not add special effects or text). The video should resemble an in-person performance as closely as possible.
- Performances should be shot in one continuous take so that adjudicators can effectively score transitions.
- Microphones are acceptable in order to improve audio quality, provided that they are worn and not handheld. Be sure any mic packs and wires are securely attached and not distracting from the performance.
- Listen to and watch your video carefully afterward to make sure you are within the frame and that the accompaniment is not louder than your voice.

### **Digital portfolio submission requirements**

- You will be asked to share your portfolio as you would for an in-person presentation. Please upload the material asked for in the submission form in accordance with the program guidelines.
- Each of your uploaded samples should be clear and of good quality – good production or process photos, or easily readable documents.
- Uploads should be well-photographed or clearly readable. Though you will be able to expand on them in your video presentation, the sample should be able to speak for itself to a certain extent.

By submitting a performance or technical Thespy video, you are granting permission for EdTA to use your video during the International Thespian Festival and for possible future promotion of the Thespys, International Thespian Festival, EdTA, and the Educational Theatre Foundation.

*No performance or technical category may be filmed for rebroadcast or other use without prior written approval from EdTA.*