**Scholarship Explanation and Audition Information**

**Deadline to Submit is January 22, 2016**

**That includes all supporting documents from Counselor and Troupe Director**

**Scholarship Auditions**Festival 2016 Registration will only contain the profiles of students entering auditions for Thespian Scholarships, College/University Scholarships, and interviews for Honor Thespians. Thespian Scholarships participants are automatically entered in College/University auditions, therefore each student should only complete one application. **Each troupe may enter five students graduating in 2016 for College Auditions, one student graduating in 2016 for Honor Thespian Scholarships, plus two more graduating in 2016 for Thespian Scholarships.**

**Scholarship Information
Thespian Scholarships:**In addition to the five students auditioning for college scholarships **TWO STUDENTS PER TROUPE** may apply for the thespian scholarship which is held simultaneously with the college auditions. College and university representatives will be viewing the thespian scholarship auditions in addition to national thespian representatives. If more than two students per troupe complete this section applying for a thespian scholarship all of the students from the troupe will be disqualified from consideration for the thespian scholarship. Troupes may submit any two students who graduate in 2016for thespian scholarship auditions after submitting the appropriate and completed forms. Students must plan to major or minor in the communicative arts, theatre, speech, radio, television, film, broadcasting, music, dance or speech and theatre education. Eligible students must have a 2.75 or higher grade point average, based on 4.0. Students may audition in either performance, technical theatre, or theatre education.

* **Performance:**Those auditioning in performance theatre follow the same rules as in the college auditions.
* **Technical:**Those auditioning in **technical**theatre follow the same rules as in the college auditions.
* **Theatre Education:**Participants applying for a theatre educator's scholarship must also attach to the audition form an essay addressing two of the following three topics: (1) Describe your most inspirational teacher, (2) Describe why you want to be a theatre teacher, and (3) Describe what you feel is the most important issue facing high school theatre today. For theatre educator auditionees, a performance piece is optional; judges will not penalize theatre educator auditionees if the student chooses not to perform.

**Honor Thespian Scholarship:** Only **one student per troupe** may be nominated by the troupe director for the state honor thespian award. The student must be an inducted thespian and a senior before the registration deadline. This student does not have to major or minor in theatre or related field. These awards are separate entities from the thespian scholarships and the college/university scholarships. Each troupe may nominate an outstanding senior from their troupe that best promotes the ideals of being a high school thespian. It will recognize a student that has given more than 100% for his troupe through performance, technical work, scholarship, general leadership and troupe involvement. Application for this scholarship requires submitting the proper form accompanied by the troupe sponsor's recommendation and a scheduled seven-minute interview with the appropriate judges.

**AUDITION ORIENTATION SESSION WILL BE HELD (AS ANNOUNCED IN THE FESTIVAL PROGRAM). STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN THE AUDITION PROGRAM MUST ATTEND; IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT AUDITIONS WILL BE DISCUSSED.**

**Student Leadership Scholarship and Fund**
The Student Leadership Scholarship will be presented by the SSO Board to a deserving Student Representative of an Arkansas Thespian Troupe that has shown great leadership in his or her thespian troupe and drama community. Any student representative chosen by the troupe director is eligible upon completing an application by the festival registration deadline.

**The Student Leadership Scholarship (SLS) will go to a student who meets the following requirements:**

* Excellence in Leadership both in their Thespian Troupe and in their school’s drama community
* Have been appointed a Representative by their troupe director
* Have a GPA no lower than 3.0
* Will graduate in 2016

**Applications for the SLS should:**

* Be submitted by the Festival Registration deadline
* Include a brief essay written by the applicant describing in 500 words or less their leadership contribution to their Thespian Troupe and Drama Community
* Include a letter of recommendation from their troupe director citing their leadership abilities

The goal of the SLS is to raise $500 through business and private donations to be awarded as a non-renewable scholarship to the chosen applicant. The SSO will assume all responsibility for processing applications and choosing the recipient through the written applications and an interview process of the top three candidates during the festival.

**Scholarship Forms and Fees**

You will need to pay the application fee of $20.00 per student online using a credit card. This fee will not be accessed with the Troupe's registration for the State Festival. It is your responsibility to make sure your Troupe Director has you listed on the online registration for this event. There are no refunds.

**For all applicants:**

**(1)** Submit a completed Scholarship Form via Acceptd, including a head and shoulder photo in the proper space.

**(2)** Upload a one-page 8 ½ x 11, one side and one page only resume, including:

**(a)** your theatrical roles/technical jobs, location, director

**(b)** the theatrical classes/training, location and instructor

**(c)** other extracurricular activities

**(d)** your three most meaningful theatrical jobs, or theatre/Thespian awards

**(e)** your thespian troupe involvement, including offices, committee work, leadership, and service projects.

**(3)** Letter of recommendation from your sponsor

**Note for applicants:** Simply enter the name and email address of your sponsor (when prompted in the online form). Upon payment and submittal of your application, Acceptd will automatically email for your sponsor with specific instructions for providing the letter. Once your sponsor uploads their letter, it will automatically attach to your application. **Please plan ahead and submit your application early, allowing time for your sponsor to respond!**

**For specific information contact Hollie Shepherd,** **hollie.shepherd@pulaskiacademy.org****.**

**College/University Audition Information**Troupes may choose five students who will graduate in 2016 for college auditions after submitting the appropriate and completed forms. Students must plan to major or minor in the communicative arts, theatre, speech, radio, television, film broadcasting, music, dance or speech and theatre education. Eligible students must have a 2.75 or higher grade point average, based on 4.0. Students may audition in either performance or in technical theatre. Other students may not perform with you. **Auditions are closed to delegates who are not auditioning. Time will not permit oral or written critiques.** You will be asked to begin your audition with only an introduction (name, school; name of selection(s).

**Performance:** Students will be allowed a maximum of two minutes (not including the introduction). Time will be called if student exceeds the two-minute maximum.

**(a)** In the performance category you may perform one two-minute selection (song or monologue)**,** two contrasting selections (two monologues, two songs or one song/one monologue). **No taped music will be permitted, and no singing a cappella.** **A pianist will be provided.** You must provide your own sheet music.

**(b)** When choosing your performance piece, please avoid selections with dialects, accents, and any classical material unless you have been specifically trained in these areas.

**Technical:** Students will be allowed a maximum of five minutes (not including the introduction). Time will be called if student exceeds the five-minute maximum.

**(a**) In the technical category each student must prepare a portfolio that illustrates his or her expertise in technical theatre.

**Education:** Students will be allowed a maximum of five minutes (not including the introduction). Time will be called if student exceeds the five-minute maximum.

(a) In the theatre education category each student must prepare a portfolio that illustrates his or her expertise in theatre education.

(b) Student should prepare a lesson/unit plan including objectives, activities and assessments.

(c) Student should also be prepared to describe why you want to be a theatre teacher.

**Troupes may submit eight students (5 college, 1 honor thespian and 2 for thespian scholarship) who graduate in 2016. Students must plan to major or minor in the communicative arts, theatre, speech, radio, television, film, broadcasting, music, dance or speech and theatre education.**