

Changes from 2015-2016 to 2016-2017:

- **Introduction** (page 1):
 - Added direct link to NIES forms.
 - Added a direct contact for appeals, questions or needs for clarification. These will be directed to EdTA Deputy Executive Director, Doug Berlon. We are trying a single point of contact in 2016-2017 to improve consistency and to serve as a central repository for program enhancements.
 - Will be offering a legal size set of rubrics for chapters who prefer this size. The rubrics are the same, but allows the information to be collected on one side of a page. Chapters can use the form that work best for the event.
- **Showcase** (page 3): in 2015-2016 we allowed showcase participants to wear clothes other than black. We are returning to the all-black requirement in 16-17. All IEs and showcase participants must wear all black.
- **Volunteering** (page 3): We added a section on volunteering. At the International Thespian Festival, volunteers must attend a meeting the morning(s) of the events they are supporting. This will be used to check-in, answer any questions, and provide the volunteer information/resources needed for the day.
- **Time limits** (page 4):
 - Clarify start time. After the slate, timing starts with the first word, note or acting intention.
 - Clarify stop time. If the participant is over time by any amount, this is to be noted on the rubric after the judges' signature. If the student goes 30 seconds over, the timekeeper is to stop the performance.
- **Acceptable Material** (page 4):
 - Added clarifying language that if the participant is using a piece that is also a movie, the Individual Event selection must be from the play/musical, not the movie script.
 - Added examples of songs written for the theatre.
 - Added a general caveat/guidance that the piece must have either:
 - Publisher permission (NOT author-only permission).
 - Available for sale and purchased in a libretto, play, vocal selection, musical score.
- **Unacceptable Material** (page 4):
 - Added unacceptable language for props and costumes – including the use of hair, non-prescription glasses, earrings or other personal items.
- **Disqualification** (page 4): Added a new section clarifying disqualification process and procedures.
- **Filming of Individual Events** (page 4): Added a new section to clarify that Individual Events may not be filmed for rebroadcast or other use.
- **Specific Event Rules** (pages 6 – 21): The rubrics have remained consistent. The changes in this section are overall formatting, starting each event on a new page, and these specific items:
 - Black shoes are required.
 - For Costume Design, Lighting Design, Scenic Design, Sound Design, Stage Management, Theatre Marketing, the requirement of three identical binders has been set to requiring only one binder.
 - For Costume Construction (page 11):
 - The overall budget limit now excludes the cost of the pattern.

- For Scenic Design (page 15):
 - Added that the design needs to be of an entire show, not just a scene.
 - Added clarification that if the student is using a model (instead of a rendering), they must bring the model – photos of a model are not an acceptable replacement.
- **Performance Rights:** Clarifying language, specifically for Dramatists Play Service and Samuel French.
 - Dramatists Play Service:
 - Added language if the student(s) is selected for showcase, the student must obtain rights.
 - Added Edward Albee to Samuel Beckett as requiring prior approval for IEs and showcase. In both of these cases, the student must secure the rights in advance and for each time it is performed.
 - Samuel French:
 - Clarified language for when rights are required.
 - Added Neil Simon as requiring prior approval and fee (minimum \$125) for ANY presentation of his material.