



Kentucky Theatre Association

Festival Adjudication Rubric Guidelines

Each production is given a rating using the category criteria listed below. Adjudicators will need to determine if the benchmark has been met.

Ratings are determined by the following:

- The performance meets all four criteria = Superior performance rating
- Meets three of the four criteria = Excellent performance rating
- Meets two of the three criteria = Good performance rating
- Meets only one = Emerging performance rating

ACTING

CHARACTER DEVELOPMENT

- Demonstrates clear objectives and tactics throughout the production.
- Demonstrates a clear character story arc throughout the production.
- Demonstrates listening to co-actors (i.e. reacting and interacting without just staying in their own head).
- Demonstrates clear understanding of characters' given circumstances through researching the contextual evidence in script (i.e. socio-economic background, role in family/community, education level, etc...).

CONSISTENCY/BELIEVABILITY

- Demonstrates strong choices/tactics made match character development throughout performance.
- Demonstrates ability to stay in character and not be distracted by forces existing outside of established scene (i.e. audience reactions, set/prop/costume malfunctions, etc.).
- Vocal choices are appropriately matched to each character (i.e. if accents are used they are used appropriately – French doesn't sound German, or old characters do not sound young, etc...).
- Exhibits emotions that are appropriate for the scene and build appropriately.

OVERALL ENERGY/COMMITMENT

- Cast consistently demonstrates clear motivation/objectives.
- Students consistently and clearly show that they are invested in their craft through focus and effort.
- Cast consistently gives appropriate focus in each scene.
- Cast consistently shows appropriate energy throughout performance.

ACTING Continued

PHYSICALITY/MOVEMENT

- Performers move in character consistently for duration of performance.
- Performers believably physicalize their character actions and movements for duration of performance.
- Performers demonstrate clear control of movement during performance.
- Performers demonstrate complete control over nervous mannerisms.

AUDIBILITY (PROJECTION, ARTICULATION, DICTION)

- All performers are heard at all times during performance demonstrating sufficient projection.
- All performers are easily understood and demonstrated good diction throughout the performance.
- All performers use vocal expressiveness to demonstrate emotion and intent throughout the performance.
- Dialect/vocal choices are consistent throughout play.

UNITY OF ENSEMBLE

- Ensemble demonstrates cohesiveness and clarity of relationships throughout performance.
- Ensemble demonstrates clear understanding of context of the play and its theme.
- Performers and technicians work together to present a seamless and smooth production.
- Performers and technicians execute production with clear focus on both what is happening and what comes next in the story.

DIRECTION

BLOCKING/COMPOSITION/USE OF SPACE

- The Production consistently utilizes the entire space for a natural flow of events throughout the performance.
- Each scene and prominent character (when appropriate) consistently has a clear focus.
- Consistently demonstrates with clarity the use of direction to communicate the story arc/journey.
- Creatively and effectively utilizes stage pictures to enhance storytelling throughout entirety of performance.

TEMPO/PACING

- Tension(s) or mood(s) in scenes build and have a clear direction to appropriately assist in storytelling consistently throughout entire performance.
- Storytelling consistently never drags or moves too quickly to appropriately tell the story.
- Pace of play consistently varies to enhance storytelling and audience engagement.
- Scenes consistently have a satisfactory conclusion (or “button”).

CONSISTENCY OF DIRECTORIAL CHOICES

- Character development and actions are consistently appropriate to style/time period of play.
- World of the play is consistent and unified between acting and technical elements.
- Actors consistently seem well prepared and have solid understanding of historical accuracy and context of play.
- Directorial concept or theme is consistent, well prepared and maintained throughout entirety of performance.

TECHNICAL ELEMENTS

COSTUMES/MAKE-UP

- Demonstrates use of costumes/make-up to enhance (not distract from) overall storytelling.
- The characters are well defined through the choices of the character's costume/make-up.
- World of characters is unified through the costumes/make-up choices.
- Costumes clearly communicate production's theme.

SCENERY/PROPS

- Demonstrates use of scenery/props to enhance overall storytelling.
- Entrances/exits and set decoration are placed to establish a usable/dynamic ground plan.
- The world of the play is unified through the scenery and property choices.
- Theme is clearly communicated through the scenery/props.

LIGHTING/SOUND/FX

- Demonstrates use of lighting and sound/FX to enhance (not distract from) overall storytelling.
- Lights and sound/FX provides adequate focus to staging and supports the flow of the production.
- Demonstrates ability to use light and sound/FX to convey a variety of moods during performance.
- Lighting and sound/FX choices present a unified design and coordinates with other technical elements