

NSW Department of Education
The Arts Unit

NSW PUBLIC SCHOOLS STATE DRAMA FESTIVAL 2019

FESTIVAL GUIDELINES

Any schools performing in local Area Drama Festivals will be considered for the State Drama Festival and will be notified **only** if they are successful at the end of the local festival season (mid/late August). There is no need to make a separate application.

Any video submissions from schools where no local festival is available will need to be received by mid-August for consideration. The criteria for selection is below:-

PERFORMANCE:

- Sustained characterisation, belief, role, credibility (appropriate to style).
- Expressive/performance skills – voice, movement, focus, tension, symbol, timing, pace, energy, rhythm, use of levels.
- Ensemble work, group cohesion.

USE OF MATERIAL

- Material appropriate to group.
- Challenges actor and audience.
- Understanding of concept, text, coherent journey and sustained narrative/idea.

ENTERTAINMENT VALUE

- Engage and sustain interest – either comic or dramatic.

ELEMENTS OF PRODUCTION

- Use of space – awareness of space.
- Effective use of available resources – set elements, costume, props, lighting, sound.
- Establishing and maintaining an appropriate style.

GUIDELINES

- The Director of the NSW Public Schools Drama Festival has the responsibility for the organisation of the Festival programs in consultation with the State Drama Festival Audition Panel. Items selected will reflect a balanced program according to various styles and entertainment value.
- Items presented must observe the following requirements:-
 - Item Duration
 - Up to 10 minutes
 - Number of performers in each item:-
 - Primary Schools – up to 30 performers (or the size of a composite class)
 - Secondary Schools – up to 26 performers (or the size of a drama class)
 - Limited use of movable props
 - Each performer may use unlimited hand properties
 - Limited scenery may be used
 - Any major change to your item after acceptance into the Festival (such as cast size; time limits if interpreting a script) must be negotiated with the Festival Director.
 - The Festival Director may invite other items (eg from The Arts Unit's Ensembles Program, Performing Arts High Schools, HSC Pilot Marking items) in order to create an eclectic and balanced program.

Fee

Participating schools will pay a \$100.00 participation fee. This payment Invoice will be a direct debit by our Finance Department to the individual schools participating in the Festival.

Please Note: Schools that have not previously performed in a State Drama Festival are encouraged to apply