

The 1st Annual  
*Reagan Stage*  
NEW WORKS FESTIVAL



# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

**DEADLINE: DECEMBER 14<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Performance Dates: May 15<sup>th</sup> - 18<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

- The Reagan Stage New Works Festival is a process by which new works of theatre can find their way to the stage at Reagan High School. A new work can be defined as an original story being told through dialogue, movement, or sound.
- While the festival will primarily include plays of around 10-15 minutes in length, works of movement or choreography will also be allowed—so long as the piece communicates a clear story.
- **To submit your play:** sign-up for the [New Works Google Classroom](#) with code:
  - 88vaesj
  - You can submit your play by “turning in” the only assignment listed.
  - You **MUST** turn in your play as a PDF!
- **Play Requirements:**
  - Plays must be at least 8 minutes in length, but must not exceed 15 minutes.
  - Scripts must be formatted according to the attached document.
  - Plays must have at least two characters, but **NO MORE** than six.
  - When writing your play understand the technical limitations of the Black Box:
    - We will provide a set number of lighting areas, but “special” lighting instruments will not be utilized.
    - We will have basic set pieces/props available for your directors:
      - Boxes, Chairs, Tables, Sofa, Doors, Windows, etc.
    - It is possible to achieve multiple locations during a play, but it must be handled creatively and with minimal scene changes.
  - **Content:**
    - Plays concerning difficult subject matters are allowed, however:
      - Profanity, using the name of a deity disrespectfully, or words that shame any group due to race, gender, religion, orientation, etc. **WILL NOT** be permitted.
      - Be aware the audience for your play is the students, faculty, and parents of Reagan High School.

- **Works of Movement/Choreography:**
  - Works of Movement/Choreography must not exceed 5 minutes in length.
  - When submitting the work you must provide the following:
    - A typed outline that goes through each point of the story defining the beginning, middle, and end of the piece. This is your “script”.
    - A video of the work turned in to Google Classroom.
  - Other considerations:
    - For works of Movement/Choreography you will cast your own pieces— however understand the performance quality of the work will have a MAJOR impact on its selection. Also, be sure to cast people that will see the process through to the end of the year.
    - A Director will be assigned (by Mr. Fillingim/Mr. Kaiser) to these pieces to guide them in their storytelling. The director and the choreographer will work in a collaborative relationship to workshop and mold the piece.
    - Works of Movement/Choreography will participate in the process and adhere to the same deadlines for rewrites, readings, and showings as the other plays. This is non-negotiable. The video you submit will be treated as a “first draft”.
  
- **The Process:**
  - If your work is selected for production, you will be required to be an active part of the rehearsals in preparation for opening your play.
  - **3 Step Process:**
    - **Reading:** In early April a reading will take place of all of the plays/works in the festival. This will be done with your cast (you will have part in the casting process) sitting in front of music stands with scripts.
      - The audience, as well as professional playwrights who have agreed to work with the festival, will provide feedback on your play to be utilized during the next step.
    - **Rewrites:** A play is not written, it is re-written. As a playwright you will have multiple deadlines for rewrites. This is the **MOST IMPORTANT** part of the process. We are giving you the opportunity to make your play the absolute best it can be—and hopefully give it a life beyond our festival. This can only be done with your full cooperation in the process.
    - **Rehearsals:** Playwrights WILL NOT attend every rehearsal. They will be required to be at very specific rehearsals during the process at which they can give feedback to the director.
  
- **Workshops**
  - We will hold two workshops (both in the Black Box) for those who would like to submit a play, but may have some questions about how to begin writing. The workshop will cover the basics of playwriting and formatting.
    - **Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> & Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30pm**
    - This is not required, and it is only necessary to attend one session.

- **Formatting:**

- Follow the page below to format your play correctly.
- **Include a title page, with the play's title, your name, email, and phone number.**
- Include a character list with each character's name, age, and a short description.
- In this format 1 page=1 minute.
  - Act and Scene headings are centered.
  - Character's names are centered and capitalized.
  - Stage directions are indented one tab and italicized.
  - Character's names in stage directions are capitalized.
  - Page #'s in the top right hand corner.
  - Parenthetical stage directions are used for small actions.
  - 12 pt. Courier New Font ONLY!

**ACT I**

**SCENE 1**

(A clean, well-lighted place. A WRITER sits at a desk by the window, rifling a stack of index cards and staring at the blank page on the screen.)

WRITER

(muttering)

Who cares about how the darn thing is formatted? The play's the thing, right?

(A breeze rustles the curtains and two tiny figures, MELPOMENE and THALIA, both dressed in flowing robes, alight on the window sill.)

MELPOMENE

Look Thalia! Another blank page.

THALIA

Third one today. Shall we?

MELPOMENE

Lets.

(The two float to the top of the computer monitor.)

THALIA

(to Writer)

How come you're not writing, friend?

WRITER

Blocked.

MELPOMENE

So sad.

THALIA

And so unnecessary.

WRITER

How do people keep all these arcane formatting rules straight?

MELPOMENE

Formatting? Formatting has you blocked?

WRITER

Yes.

MELPOMENE

Ignore it!