

# 2019

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## National Society of Arts & Letters

### Drama Competition

May 30 - June 2, 2019

Washington, D.C.



## National Competition Rules

1. Contestants must show evidence of career potential but not be under exclusive contract to a theater, film or television agent at the time of the competition and must not be under professional management.
2. Competition is open to contestants who have passed their 18th birthday but not yet reached their 28th birthday as of May 30th. Proof of birthdate must be supplied. A photocopy of a birth certificate or recent passport will be acceptable.
3. Contestants must be citizens of or residing legally in the United States at the time of the competition and must have a social security number.
4. A contestant may not be related to any member of NSAL who is involved in any decisions relating to the competition at the chapter or national levels.
5. Contestants must have competed in and been declared the sole first place winner of an NSAL Chapter Competition prior to entering the National Competition. The contestant may choose a chapter in the area where he/she has been residing or where he/she is enrolled in a college, university, or acting school. In case there is no chapter in their hometown or in their place of residence, contestants may enter the competition of the nearest chapter.
6. Contestants may not compete in more than one chapter competition.
7. Contestants must be able to be in Washington, D.C. for the entire period from May 30th to June 2nd. Contestants must attend the orientation session to be held on May 30th, the Competition on May 31st and the Master Class and Awards Dinner on June 1st .
8. All expenses are the responsibility of the sponsoring Chapter.
9. After their names are announced, the national finalists selected by the judges for the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd awards will perform at the Awards Dinner on June 1st.
10. The meaning and interpretation of the above rules, along with local chapter and contestant rules, will be determined by NSAL. If such meaning or interpretation is questioned or not understood, the decision of NSAL National will be final and binding.

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### Performance Requirements

1. Contestants must present two audition monologues from memory and in English. Contestants must present one comedic piece and one serious piece. Contestants must select their comedic and serious pieces from the following list of playwrights.

#### Classical

Aeschylus	Christopher Marlow
Aristophanes	Moliere
Aphra Behn	Plautus
William Congreve	William Shakespeare
Euripides	William Brinsley Sheridan
Oliver Goldsmith	Sophocles
Ben Jonson	John Webster

#### Modern

Edward Albee	Beth Henley	David Rabe
Jean Anouilh	Amy Hertzog	Yasmina Reza
Alan Ayckbourn	Tina Howe	William Saroyan
Jon Robin Baitz	Langston Hughes	Peter Shaffer
Samuel Beckett	Henrik Ibsen	Ntozake Shange
Bertolt Brecht	Eugene Ionesco	Jon Patrick Shanley
Anton Chekhov	Adrienne Kennedy	George Bernard Shaw
Caryl Churchill	Arthur Kopit	Sam Shephard
Noel Coward	Tony Kushner	Neil Simon
Christopher Durang	Tracy Letts	Tom Stoppard
Margaret Edson	Terrance McNally	August Strindberg
Horton Foote	David Mamet	John Millington Synge
Richard Foreman	Mark Medoff	Wendy Wasserstein
Michael Frayn	Arthur Miller	Oscar Wilde
Jean Giraudoux	Lynn Nottage	Thornton Wilder
John Guare	John Osborne	Tennessee Williams
A. R. Gurney	Suzan-Lori Parks	August Wilson
Lorraine Hansberry	Harold Pinter	Lanford Wilson
Lillian Hellman	Luigi Pirandello	Paula Vogel

Note:

The contestant will provide the judges with one copy of the complete play from which the contestant has taken each monologue upon arriving for the competition. Contestants will identify on the front cover their contestant number, character name, and reference page numbers locating monologue.

2. If the contestant selects a comedic piece from the classical period, then the serious selection must be from the modern period or vice versa.
3. Selections must demonstrate contrasting characteristics.
4. Contestants must demonstrate a full and varied range of vocal and physical ability.
5. Upon entering the stage, contestants will announce their contestant number, the title of the play, playwright, and the name of the character of **BOTH** selections in the order of performance. The announcement time will not count in the performance time.
6. The total performance time may not exceed eight (8) minutes total time for both selections. Transition time will be included in the timing.
7. A chair will be available on stage. Hand props, costumes or recorded sound are not permitted.
8. Performance attire: Male contestants will wear black slacks and a black t-shirt. Female contestants will wear black slacks or a black skirt and a black t-shirt.