

Latest Update for Virtual Festival (01/04/2021)

This is an addition and/or a correction to information found in the Checklist or Delegate Worksheets

Reminder: All students involved in the one-act (actors and running crew) must be registered as a delegate to participate in any workshops, viewing one-acts, or to be recognized for any awards. The fee for student delegates has been greatly reduced to encourage involvement, but there are costs to running a virtual festival and the registration fee covers those costs. Playbills for the one-acts will be compared to the Delegate Registration roster.

PLATFORMS and FORMATS

OPENWATER: the platform to upload Thespy, Sr. Thespian Auditions, and One Acts. Each delegates who plans to upload any of these applications will need a *personal* email address. The teacher can decide to use his/her school email address instead of using a personal (or possibly a parent) email address. We believe that many school districts have a firewall or block for students to receive the application from OpenWater directly.

EVENTSENTIAL: the platform that will host the festival website. This will be a password-protected website that one-acts, workshops, the Thespy Award Showcase, and the Awards Ceremony will be used to live stream and on-demand stream events for the festival. This is a change from what we originally thought/planned. You may need to let the publisher of your one-act know of this change.

VIMEO: the format we are asking you to submit your one-act. In the OpenWater application will be instructions on how to upload into Vimeo. If you cannot access Vimeo, we will have a process in place to transfer your file to Vimeo. We recommend that you submit your file as soon as possible- before the February 23rd deadline- to help us with this noticeably short turn around.

Timetable for Virtual Festival

- ❖ Voting to pass the By-Law: A link to a Cognito form will be sent to all SC Thespian troupe directors to vote on the passing of the By-Laws. Please make sure to vote by January 22.
- ❖ Some items to be considered before the **Delegate Registration** is submitted (by January 22) is listed in the OpenWater Instructions at the end of this document.
- ❖ As soon as a school has registered its delegates- the OpenWater Application will be sent to the teacher and to any email submitted in the Delegate Registration within 48 hours. All delegate registrations received from January 20-22, will receive the OpenWater applications no later than January 26.
- ❖ A document specific to OpenWater- what it looks like, how to navigate it, and how to upload recordings into it will be published by January 15.
- ❖ Deadlines are FINAL, finite and cannot be extended. If **Thespy and Sr. Auditions** are not uploaded into OpenWater by **Friday, February 12**, they will not be viewed and critiqued. The same is true for the **one-act** deadline of **Tuesday, February 23**. For your sake, and the sake of your students, do not let these deadlines slip your notice.
- ❖ A basic schedule for the live streaming one-acts, workshops, college zoom meetings as well as the Thespy Awards Showcase and the Awards Ceremony will be published by February 1.

- ❖ During the festival week, 30-minute zoom meetings will be set up so that students can participate in discussion with college representatives. Some meetings will occur in the evening and some may occur during the lunch hour from noon to 1 PM. A final schedule will be posted as soon as all colleges are coordinated.
- ❖ A basic daily schedule for the festival week will include the following:
 - Noon- two 30-minute College Zoom meetings
 - 3:30 Live Welcome to the Festival, 1 60-minute workshop
 - 3:45-6:00 On Demand streaming of One-Acts
 - 4:30-6:00 90-minute workshop
 - 6:00-6:30 an STO Event or a College Zoom meeting
 - 6:30-8:45 3 Live Streaming One-Acts
- ❖ Two Teacher/Troupe Director Meetings have been planned. Saturday, Feb. 27 at 10 AM- this is to prepare the teachers for the upcoming virtual events and to discuss officers for the next year. Thursday, March 4 at 7:15 PM is a timeslot where on-demand shows will stream so teachers can attend this important meeting to vote on new officers and take care of any other special business. At 8 PM, the meeting will open to all Thespian troupe directors to include those that are not delegates for the virtual festival and/or Jr. Thespian troupe directors.
- ❖ The Student Thespian Officer interviews will occur on Sunday, February 28 from Noon until 5 PM by way of a Zoom meeting. Officer candidates will be notified by Wednesday, February 24 of their interview slots.
- ❖ The Blair Beasley Top Ten List will be posted on the pdascits.org website and the festival website on Eventsential. The interviews will occur on Monday evening, March 1 from 6:30 until 8:30.
- ❖ For the sake of monitoring purposes- the virtual festival will be available for streaming from 9 AM to 9 PM Monday thru Friday, March 1-5. On-demand streaming and possible college meetings will be available Saturday and Sunday, March 6 & 7 from 10 AM to 6 PM. Again, **a basic schedule** with timeslots will **be posted by February 1** and we hope to have **a full schedule of events** will be **posted by February 15**.

CHANGE

The Senior Thespian Audition Interviews have been modified. Once the judges have viewed all auditions and presentations uploaded thru OpenWater, the judges will create a list of those candidates to be interviewed- similar to the Blair Beasley Award. All Educational and Technical Theatre candidates, and the top 10 Performance candidates will be interviewed via Zoom Meeting. Those chosen will be notified by Wednesday, February 24 of their interview slots. Slots will be assigned from 10 AM to 3:45 PM on Saturday, February 27.

Also- with OpenWater the Sr. Thespian Audition application is NOT a separate document to be uploaded into the Delegate Registration. Instead, the student will fill out the form within OpenWater and upload a resume and headshot directly into the OpenWater application. The form still on our website is there for the senior to know what is needed to fill out the application.

OPEN WATER Instructions

All participants in Thespy Awards (formerly IEs) must be registered as a Student Delegate. Any senior who is participating in Blair Beasley or Sr. Thespian Auditions must be registered as an **Auditioning Delegate**. Either way, all delegates are eligible- but not required- to participate in a total of two Thespy categories.

Participating in a Group category or a design/technical category is considered one of the two categories allowed by each delegate. For the Film category, only the student who submits the film is registered in that category. Students may help with a film, acting or post-production, without the entry being considered one of the two entries for that student.

Only those emails submitted in the Delegate Registration will receive the OpenWater application. Every student does not need to submit an email address. However, an email address must be submitted in order for the OpenWater application to be sent to the delegates.

For each application entry there can only be one Primary Collaborator. This is for all categories: solo, duet, group, tech, or film. The primary collaborator may add multiple collaborators (duet partners or group members) and we highly recommend that the troupe director/teacher be added as a collaborator. All collaborators may make edits to the application and can receive the finished score sheets once those are published after the awards ceremony. And, the Primary Collaborator can be changed within the list of collaborators before the final submission of the application.

The Primary Collaborator is the only person that can **SUBMIT the application** for adjudication. This submission must occur by the end of the day, **Friday, February 12**. If the application is not submitted by the deadline, the application will not be forwarded to the judges for adjudication and recognition.

A teacher can decide to be the Primary Collaborator for all the entries; however, the teacher then has the burden of adding the students to each of the entries, uploading all the recordings and submitting all applications by the February 12th deadline.

We recommend designating one responsible, diligent student per Thespy entry ahead of delegate registration. That student's personal email should be submitted in the Delegate Registration and will receive the OpenWater application. All Sr. Thespian Audition candidates must submit an email address to have access to the OpenWater application.

The Primary Collaborator must be careful when selecting the category for the entry. The OpenWater applications will be sorted by the category selected to be sent to specific judges.

- For example, all applications that have *Duet Acting* selected will be sent to specific judges while another set of judges will receive Design categories or Musical categories. If Duet Acting is selected as the entry but a recording of a Group Musical is uploaded, the Duet Acting judges will not have access to the Musical score sheet and will not be able to adjudicate the musical number.

If a delegate is listed in more than two entries or a student is listed in an entry and was not registered as a delegate, the entry may not be sent on to the judges to be adjudicated or recognized for awards. Please be diligent when it comes to the Delegate Registration.

Again, further instructions about OpenWater- how to navigate it, upload the files or URL, how to use Vimeo will be posted on the website and sent to the teachers by January 15. This information is to let you know what you need to have as you prepare the Delegate Registration Worksheet to register the students- due by January 22.

If you need help in deciphering any or all of this information- because it is a lot and it took a while for the officers to figure out- please reach out and ask for help. Contact Anne Lavelly at pdascits@gmail.com and she can guide you through this process.