

Sherwood Collins Playwriting Contest

Attention, aspiring playwrights! If you have a story to tell, the Drama Guild invites you to submit a one-act play to the Sherwood Collins Playwriting Contest. Since its inception in 1983, the playwriting contest has generated 503 student-written plays

Any Massachusetts secondary school student in grades 9–12 is eligible to enter the contest. The rules are simple.

- The script must be *original*, typed in *12-point Courier font* with pages numbered, double spaced between characters' dialogues, 3-hole punched and fastened in a soft, flat folder with brads. Each playwright must submit *four* copies.
- A script may not exceed forty minutes (approximately one minute per page, or forty pages).
- The script must be written for stage presentation. Musicals, screen plays, teleplays, or adaptations of another author's work will not be accepted.
- A student may not submit more than one entry.
- The following information must appear on the first page (*cover page*): title of play, student's name, school, year of graduation, home address, city, state, zip code, home phone number, social security #, name of teacher, and signed statement certifying the originality of the submitted work.
- The following information must appear on the second page (*title page*): title of play. No other information may appear on this page.

Contest Judging:

The Guild will appoint a panel of readers to select the finalist(s), and a final judge will determine the winner(s).

Scripts will not be returned.

Prizes:

Winning playwright(s) will receive a cash prize. The first-place winning play will also receive a 10-minute staged reading at the State Finals.

Fees:

Member schools may submit up to five scripts at no cost. Additional scripts may be submitted with payment of a \$10.00 entry fee per script. Non-member schools may submit scripts with payment of a \$15.00 entry fee per script.

Deadline and Method of Payment:

Scripts must be postmarked by Thursday January 1, 2009. Please complete the "Playwriting Contest Entry Form" and mail with script(s) and check or purchase order to the address listed on the form.

Sherwood Collins Playwriting Contest Form

My school is _____ is not _____ a 2008–09 member of the Drama Guild.

Enclosed is _____ script(s) at the

- member rate of \$10.00 per script (first 5 entries are free) = \$ _____
- non-member rate of \$15.00 per script = \$ _____

Student's Name: _____

Home Address: _____

City/Town: _____

Zip: _____ Social Security #: _____

Home Phone: (_____) _____

E-mail: _____

School: _____

- Submit an individual entry form for each participating student and a separate page listing the names of all student playwrights from your school and their play titles.
- Students must **follow all instructions outlined in the contest rules**. Pay particular attention to the information required on the cover page and title page. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- **Playwrights are strongly encouraged to have their teacher read their entries for feedback and rewriting before submitting them to the competition.**
- ***A SIGNED STATEMENT MUST ACCOMPANY EACH ENTRY FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT ON THE COVER PAGE CERTIFYING THE ORIGINALITY OF THE SUBMITTED WORK.***
- All fees are non-refundable.
- Script(s), entry form, and payment must be postmarked by **Thursday January 1, 2009**.

Return completed form with script(s) and check or purchase order, payable to MHSDG, Inc., to:

**Massachusetts High School Drama Guild
P.O. Box 93
Chelmsford, MA 01824**