



Theatre Criteria

www.cincinnatiarts.org/education-community/overture-awards

CATEGORIES: Drama and Musical Theatre (Indicate which category on your application)

1. All criteria set forth on this page apply to the Regional, Semi-Final and Final Competitions unless otherwise noted.
2. Students should perform their best work and not choose works that are more difficult than their current level of proficiency to impress the judges.
3. You must select characters of an age that you can realistically portray.
4. No parents, teachers or coaches will be allowed in the competition area.
5. Performances will be primarily judged on, but not limited to, the following:
 - Individual talent, skill and potential
 - Stage presence
 - Projection
 - Articulation/Pronunciation
 - Interpretation and understanding of text, artistic expression
 - Physical movements and gestures
6. Prepared pieces must run **no less than 1.5 minutes** but **no more than 5 minutes** total and be performed with only a brief pause between the two selections.
7. Competitors will not be stopped at 5 minutes but time is being kept and they may be penalized for performances that are excessive.
8. Competitors need not perform the same pieces they perform at Regional if they advance to the Semi-Final and Final Competitions.
9. A chair and one table will be provided for use. Simple hand props are permitted if they are an integral part of the scene. They must be provided by the competitor.
10. **COSTUMES:** Costumes are optional. Blacks are appropriate at the Regional and Semi-Final Competitions. Audition apparel should enhance the work performed.
11. **DRAMA CATEGORY:** Competitor's two selections must consist of **one contemporary (20th and 21st century)** and **one classical (pre-1900)** monologue.
12. **MUSICAL THEATER CATEGORY:**
 - Competitor's two selections will consist of one classical (pre-1900) monologue and one song from the musical theater repertoire.
 - Competitors must be accompanied by piano for their song. If you do not have an accompanist, the Overture Awards will supply one for you. You must indicate your need on your application and send a copy of your music to the Overture Awards.
 - In order to adhere to time limits, appropriate cuts in the song are acceptable and should be marked on the accompanist's copy if you are using an Overture Awards accompanist.
 - Dancing will not be adjudicated. Blocking of your musical number, although not required, is strongly encouraged.