



15th annual New Voices Young Playwrights Festival

CONTEST GUIDELINES

What is the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival?

The New Voices Young Playwrights Festival celebrates new plays by young writers from our region. Every year we choose 8-10 short plays from the contest to produce in the festival, which takes place in April at Actors Theatre of Louisville. The winning playwrights work alongside professional dramaturgs, directors, designers and actors from our staff and Professional Training Company to bring their stories to life onstage. The plays are also published in our annual New Voices anthology.

Am I eligible?

The New Voices Young Playwrights Festival is open to middle and high school students, grades 6 through 12, living in Kentucky or the 812 area code of Southern Indiana. Students must be enrolled in the 6th-12th grade as of October 31, 2019. All young writers are encouraged to submit—you do *not* need to participate in a New Voices classroom residency to submit your play to the festival.

Where can I go for advice on writing a fabulous ten-minute play?

If you're feeling stumped or stuck, e-mail NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org for helpful hints and sample plays.

I wrote a play! How do I prepare the script for submission?

Scripts must be typed, individually bound or stapled, and no more than ten pages long. And be sure to fill out a cover sheet so we can contact you if we choose your play! You can send in a hard copy of your coversheet or fill out the form online with this link: www.tinyurl.com/NV1920WebCoversheet

Do I have to fill out a cover sheet?

All submissions must be accompanied by a completed cover sheet. You can fill out the coversheet online here www.tinyurl.com/NV1920WebCoversheet, or print out and mail in the cover sheet on page 3 of this document.

I hear you have a “blind reading policy.” What’s that all about?

Great question! Our blind reading policy means that we like to consider each play without knowing the playwright’s age, gender, school, or other identifying information. Please do not include this type of information on your script—that’s what the cover sheet’s for. Your title page should include the name of your play and, if you like, a description of the characters and setting.

What about e-submissions?

We welcome electronic submissions! Please read below for the appropriate methods to submit your documents.

MICROSOFT WORD & PDF: Please submit all Microsoft Word & PDF submissions to a NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org.

GOOGLE DOCS: Please share your google doc with NewVoicesContest@gmail.com

****We do not accept Apple Pages or Microsoft SharePoint Online documents.**

Can I submit more than one play?

Sorry, only one submission per playwright – send us your best!

I wrote a play with one of my friends. Can we submit that together?

Unfortunately, we only produce plays for the New Voices Festival that were written by a single playwright.

Where do I send my script?

Hard copy submissions:

NEW VOICES YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL

Attn: Janelle Renee Dunn
Actors Theatre of Louisville
316 West Main Street
Louisville, KY 40202

Email submissions:

Microsoft Word & PDF Documents: NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org
Google Documents: NewVoicesContest@gmail.com

What's the submission deadline?

Submissions must be postmarked by October 31, 2019. Winners will be notified in February 2020.

What do I win?

Winners have their plays produced in the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival in April 2020. As part of play development process winners participate in three playwriting workshops. Playwrights are also invited to attend the rehearsals of their play. The winning plays and honorable mentions are published in the New Voices Anthology.

ACTORS THEATRE

New Voices Young Playwrights Festival COVER SHEET

Title of play: _____

Playwright (*first and last name*): First name: _____ Last name: _____

State (circle one): Kentucky Indiana

County: _____

Playwright phone #: _____ (Circle one.) *home phone / cell* E-mail: _____

Name of parent or guardian: _____

Parent/guardian phone #: _____ (Circle one.) *home phone / cell* E-mail: _____

What grade are you in (circle one): 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th

Have you submitted to the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival in the past? (Circle one.) *yes / no*

School Name & City (if you are home-schooled, please write "home-schooled"):

Name

City

Teacher/Contact at school _____

Name

Email

If you wrote your play as part of an Actors Theatre New Voices or VSA residency, please list your teaching artist:

PLEASE NOTE: Contest winners will be posted on our website at www.actors theatre.org in February 2018. Please include an active email address on this form if you'd like us to send you a message when we make our announcement. Questions? E-mail NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org or call (502) 584-1265 x3046