



The Old Courthouse Cultural Centre

7 Seymour Street West Kamloops, BC V2C 1E4

Tel: (778) 471-5620 Toll: (888) 202-2913 Fax: (778) 471-5639

Web: www.theatrebc.org Email: info@theatrebc.org

GUIDELINES FOR MAINSTAGE ADJUDICATORS

Theatre BC's Festivals Committee will confirm the Adjudicator(s) for the MAINSTAGE dates provided in advance.

Theatre BC will be responsible for the initial travel costs, accommodation, adjudicator fee and the per diem.

The Adjudicator will be required to sign a contract to which these Guidelines will be appended.

The Adjudicator will meet prior to MAINSTAGE Festival for an orientation workshop and to establish a common ground for evaluation. Time and place will be designated by Theatre BC.

Adjudicators are expected to familiarize themselves with the plays entered in their designated MAINSTAGE Festival BEFORE arriving at the festival. The Theatre BC office will ensure that the Adjudicator has received the entered scripts and copies of publishers' permission letters, as submitted by the participating Member Clubs, well in advance.

Completion of a CONFIDENTIAL "Production Sheet" by the Adjudicator is required for each play in Festival. These are to be forwarded to the Theatre BC Office upon the completion of the Festival, including the entered scripts and publishers' permission letters.

The Adjudicator must primarily provide a constructive, educational experience for festival participants, through public (from the stage) and "Coffee Critique" adjudication.

The Adjudicator may also be requested to provide a short Written Critique (350- 500 words), based on a production's review sheet and Coffee Critique discussions. Member clubs pay \$25.00 for the written critique, which goes to the adjudicator in full. All requests will be made before the festival starts.

The Adjudicator should positively reinforce the efforts of all participants, but also set a STANDARD against which the performances and productions can be measured. This is best achieved by identifying the challenges of producing a particular script and comparing the production's achievements, in all respects, with the demands of the play.

The Adjudicator must be sensitive to the needs of community theatre.

The Adjudicator will also provide a MAINSTAGE "Coffee Critique" adjudication session, for more detailed adjudication, with each festival entry. "Coffee Critiques" are commonly open to all festival participants and tend to run approximately two (2) hours. Where there have been 2 Adjudicators hired for the festival – Artistic and Technical – the Adjudicator -Technical shall have at least 30 minutes **at the beginning of the session** for his/her critique.



BRITISH COLUMBIA DRAMA ASSOCIATION

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The Mainstage Chair and/or a designated Theatre BC/Mainstage Festival representative must be in attendance at adjudication sessions to help mediate comments and ensure that auditors do not manipulate or dominate the session

The Adjudicator will determine merited awards, in keeping with MAINSTAGE traditions The Adjudicator will present awards or trophies, and/or Certificates of Merit upon the conclusion of the festival at a ceremony in keeping with MAINSTAGE traditions. The Adjudicator is advised to request a list of MAINSTAGE festival award categories prior to the festival week and to confer with the designated Theatre BC representative upon arrival.

Overall, the Adjudicator's role is **to measure how well each theatre company meets or exceeds the challenges of producing the script they have chosen to produce**. This includes all aspects of production as well as interpretation and fulfilment of the playwright's intent. Groups are in essence "competing" first with the challenges of their script. No matter how different the material is from night to night, each production should be reviewed in this way. By going through this process, theatre groups should become more aware of all elements of production improve their skills and collectively, their production capabilities. We entrust such a process to "the trained eye" as opposed to simply opting for a "popular choice" format.

Ultimately, those productions and/or individuals who best meet the demands of their role as selected by the Adjudicator are recognized at the concluding Awards Ceremony.

If you have any questions regarding these guidelines please contact the Theatre BC Executive Director as below.

Sincerely,

Vance Schneider

Executive Director

Theatre BC

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