General Information

MISSION STATEMENT
The PSF Shakespeare Competition empowers participants and cultivates skill development and artistry in language, Shakespeare, and the art and craft of acting.

DESCRIPTION
Grounded in direct engagement with Shakespeare’s text, the Competition provides multiple performance opportunities, direct evaluation of each performance by working theatre professionals and observation of peer and university performances. Any high school-aged student of a public, private school, or home school is eligible to participate in the competition, registering through their school. The registration fee covers participation in all rounds of the competition and the optional panel discussions of professional artists. Panel topics may include: choosing your text, headshots, working in the theatre, and majoring in theatre.

COST
The cost for the competition is $25 per student participant. Attendance at the 8pm DeSales University Act 1 production of John Steinbeck’s *Of Mice and Men* requires an additional $20 per participant, submitted with the registration fee.

FORMAT
MONOLOGUES: A monologue is one person portraying the role of one person. The required duration is **1.5 to 3 minutes**, with a fifteen-second allowance. Timing begins after the introduction. Any participant going more than fifteen seconds under time or over time in two of the three rounds will be penalized in the final tabulation of their score.

DUO/TRIO SCENES: A duo/trio scene is a scene between two or three characters. Time limit is **3 to 5 minutes**, with a fifteen-second allowance. Timing begins after the introduction. Any entry going more than fifteen seconds under time or over time in two of the three rounds will be penalized in the final tabulation of their score.

REGULATIONS
Material must be from William Shakespeare’s plays. Schools may enter **three** Monologues and **three** Duo/Trio scenes. The same student may not be entered in both Monologues and Duo/Trio scenes. It is the responsibility of the school to select which students will present their Monologues or Duo/Trio Scenes at the PSF Shakespeare Competition. Schools may wish to hold their own preliminary screening to select participants.

*Use of props and costumes is discouraged.* The scoring of the scenes is based on the quality of the acting, and does not include costumes, make-up, and props.

**Entry forms must be received no later than Friday, February 12th 2010. No changes of entries will be allowed after that date.**

(more important information on other side)
EVALUATION CRITERIA
Each of the Monologues and Duo/Trio scenes will present three times, once in each of three rounds, evaluated by three separate adjudicators. Oral critiques will be given by the adjudicators in each round. (Ratings and rankings will not be disclosed, but running time may be given on request.) Any contestant not participating in all three rounds will be disqualified and no Team Points will be awarded. For more information on evaluation, please see our Guidelines for Students and Coaches.

SCHOLARSHIPS AND AWARDS
Four or more partial DeSales University Performing & Fine Arts scholarships will be awarded to outstanding participants. These scholarships range from $1,500 to $5,000 and are renewable for each of the four years a student would attend the University. First, second and third place awards will also be given in both Mono and Duo/Trio. Finally, a first, second, and third place Team Award will be given. Throughout the day, adjudicators will be nominating candidates to present their piece in the Showcase that are of distinctive value for all students present to observe. Participation in the Showcase does not affect final competition placement but will aid in identifying scholarship recipients.

HOSTS AND SPONSORS
The Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival hosts this event with the support of DeSales University as a part of PSF’s Linny Fowler WillPower Education Programs, made possible by a generous gift from Marlene “Linny” Fowler.

Questions? Erin Hurley, Education Director 610.282.WILL x9 Erin.Hurley@desales.edu