

MHSDG Scene Partner Contest

Attention undergraduate actors! The Drama Guild is offering a new contest to let you demonstrate your talent with a partner in an acting scene.

Eligibility:

Massachusetts students **in grades 9–11** are eligible to enter the contest provided their school is a member of the MHSDG. Each school is permitted to submit a maximum of two scenes to the competition. The rules are simple.

Audition Process:

- The emphasis during the scenes is on presentation and performance.
- Acting partners must perform one scene, not to exceed ***three minutes***. The timer will call time if the three-minute limit for the scene is exceeded.
- Before their scene, the partners will be allowed to set the stage; two straight-backed chairs and one small table will be provided. No additional set pieces, special lighting, or sound will be permitted.
- A maximum of two hand props are permitted, and must be provided by the actors.
- Costumes are not permitted. Applicants should wear simple clothing that allows for ease of movement.
- Judges may interview actors; however, due to time constraints, judges will not give oral or written critiques.

Judging Criteria:

- Applicants will be judged on the basis of the actors' ability to demonstrate concentration, control of material, flexibility and versatility of voice, movement and expression. Both actors should pursue strong, clear objectives and make varied and specific acting choices.
- Actors should give evidence of knowing the meaning, importance and place of their scene in the context of the whole play. The performance should be believable and make the audience care about what is taking place.
- Actors should be prepared to answer any questions from the judges about their scene.

Prizes:

Winning partners will receive a cash prize during the Awards Ceremony at the culmination of The Boston Globe State Drama Festival Finals.

Application Process and Fee:

Students must complete and submit a "Scene Partner Application Form" signed by a sponsoring teacher. **There is a \$10.00 non-refundable fee per application.**

Application Deadlines:

The "Scene Partner Application Form," signed by both the applicants and the sponsoring teacher, must be postmarked by the appropriate application deadline and sent to the address listed on the form. Applications postmarked after that date will not be accepted. **The application deadline is November 1.**

Contest Dates and Location:

The scene partner contest will be held on Saturday, December 5, 2009 at **St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers, MA**. In the event of a snow emergency, the contest will be held on Sunday, December 6.

MHSDG Scene Partner Application Form

TYPE OR PRINT — CLEARLY AND BOLDLY. USE BLACK INK ONLY. SPONSORING TEACHER'S SIGNATURE AND THE \$10 NON-REFUNDABLE FEE MUST ACCOMPANY EACH APPLICATION. APPLICATIONS ACCEPTED FROM MEMBER SCHOOLS ONLY. DEADLINE: NOVEMBER 1.

Partner 1 Name: _____ Date of Graduation: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: () _____

Partner 2 Name: _____ Date of Graduation: _____

Home Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____ Phone Number: () _____

High School: _____ Phone Number: () _____

School Address: _____

City: _____ Zip Code: _____

Is your school a 2009–10 member of MHSDG? _____

Name of Sponsoring Teacher _____

(Teachers are reminded that they may only sponsor TWO scenes for this contest)

Signature of Sponsoring Teacher _____

Partner 1 Signature

Date

Partner 2 Signature

Date

Mail completed form and \$10 non-refundable fee per application to:

**MASSACHUSETTS HIGH SCHOOL DRAMA GUILD,
P.O. BOX 93,
CHELMSFORD, MA 01824**

Make checks payable to MHSDG, Inc