

# BEFORE WE GET STARTED

**Register your  
attendance.**

Session numbers are in  
the program.



SCAN HERE FOR  
TYLER ROSTERS



TYLER JUNIOR COLLEGE



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# OAP RULES & UPDATES

**Let's Start from the Very Beginning**



# **AGENDA**

**Part I- Calendar Updates**

**Part II- Prepping for the contest season**

**Part III- Rules and/or Clarifications**

**Part IV-Your Questions**

# PART I: OAP CALENDAR 2024-2025

Dates	Task
<b>August 10</b> - Nov 1	Window to schedule zone and district OAP Planning Meetings. <b>First day to contact/hire acting awards/single judge and draw for performance order.</b>
<b>August 31-OVERDUE!</b>	Deadline to report <b>bi-district information</b> and adjudicators to state office.. <b>Bi-District judges can be contacted starting July 31.</b>
<b>October 1</b>	<b>Deadline to enroll via SPEECHWIRE. System will open by September 1.</b>
Nov 1- Feb 1	Dates to contact and contract the 2nd and 3rd members of a panel for zone and district contests opting to use a panel.
<b>December 6</b> <b>NOTE DATE CHANGE!!!</b>	<b>Deadline for requesting permission to produce plays not on the approved lists and scenic elements that are are not permissible under contest rules.</b>

Dates	Task
February 1, 2025	Deadline to organize your district's One-Act Play Contest. Deadline to set up One-Act Play Meets in SPEECHWIRE  Deadline for executing judging contracts.
<b>February 10, 2025</b>	<b>TITLE ENTRY DUE IN SPEECHWIRE. ZONE AND DISTRICT <u>CANNOT START BEFORE</u> FEBRUARY 10.</b>
<b>10 Days Prior to Your First Contest</b>	Deadline for <u>Contestant Entry</u> , Play, Set info and additional directors to be entered in SPEECHWIRE. for Zone or District contests
<b>April 3, 2025</b>	District and Bi- District Certification Deadline

# OAP CALENDAR 2024-2025

DATE	EVENT
<b>April 7-12, 2025</b>	<b>OAP Area Meets (coming soon)</b> check website for dates and venues,
<b>April 23-26, 2025</b>	<b>Regional Meets (coming soon)</b>
<b>MAY 12-21, 2025 TENTATIVE</b>	<b>STATE MEET- OAP and Theatrical Design</b>



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# Prepping for the Year

**How can I get ready, *right now*?**

# UIL needs your Bi-District information.

- Who is your Bi-District Representative?
  - Ask your Principal or District Chair.





# Need to Find your Academic Chair?

## 2024-26 Academics Organizing Chairs

Information for organizing chairs can be found on our website here:

<https://www.uiltexas.org/policy/dec/organizing-dec-chairs>

1A	2A	3A	4A
1. Follett	1. Sunray	1. Canadian	1. El Paso ISD AD
2. Hedley	2. Wellington	2. Muleshoe	2. San Elizario
3. Channing	3. Hale Center	3. Denver City	3. Andrews
4. Happy	4. New Deal	4. Preston	4. Canyon
5. Meadow	5. Seagraves	5. Pecos Moore	5. Big Spring
6. Loop	6. Fort Hancock	6. Wall	6. Stephenville
7. Petersburg	7. Ozon	7. Iowa Park	7. Burkburnett
8. Paducah	8. Coleman	8. Eastland	8. Fort Worth ISD AD
9. Dell City	9. Windthorst	9. Dallas Life Oak Cliff	9. Van Alstyne ISD AD
10. Rankin	10. Stamford	10. Ponder	10. Uplift ISD AD
11. Garden City	11. Santo	11. Leonard	11. Dallas ISD AD
12. Eden	12. Rio Vista	12. Lone Oak	12. Kennedale ISD AD
13. Clyde Eula	13. Era	13. Hughes Springs	13. Farmersville ISD AD

**EXAMPLE**

## Academics Organizing Chair LINK

See OAP Website for Bi-District planning procedures. (see example)

## **SCHEDULE YOUR DISTRICT OAP PLANNING MEETING**

***Before*** August 10 your District SHALL NOT

- Contact/Hire Judges
- Draw for performance order

***Before*** August 10 your District can select dates, site, contest manager.

**Directors are encouraged to attend district planning meetings.**

## **F.A.Q.- MUST WE ZONE OR NO?**

**The League *discourages* zoning with eight or less schools.**

**When nine or more schools are participating in a district contest, the district executive committee (DEC) should divide the district into zones.**

**Zone alignments shall be determined by a blind draw or be geographical to reduce travel.**

**No other methods shall be used.**

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# HELPFUL REMINDERS FOR PLANNING MEETINGS



# HIGH SCHOOL OAP PLANNING MEETINGS

- **You shall use TTAO certified judges and contest managers.**
- Before selecting your judge, check the Bi-District, Area, Region and State contest pages for conflicts. (COMING SOON)
- Districts can choose a single judge at the zone, district and bi-district levels.
- Districts can select critiques to be held either before or after awards.
- Work with Bi-district representative (provide input) on Bi-district contest.

# **A PLEA TO HIRE CERTIFIED TTAO CONTEST MANAGERS**

You want a contest manager who is knowledgeable on the updated rules and procedures.

For example: time warnings, acting awards, present at all rehearsals.

**You want a CM who can find answers to questions.**

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# SELECTING CONTEST PLAYS AND PUBLISHER UPDATES

Start from  
the very  
beginning

...



## DO'S AND DON'TS

**DO**

**START EARLY**

**DO**

**CHECK THE  
APPROVED LIST**

**DO**

**CONTACT THE  
PUBLISHER**





## **DO'S AND DON'TS**

**DON'T WAIT TILL  
NOVEMBER**

## **DON'T**

**SEND UIL  
APPROVED  
PLAYS TO UIL**

## **DON'T**

**ASSUME YOUR  
PLAY WILL BE  
APPROVED  
BECAUSE  
X,Y,Z...**



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***THE PLAY'S THE THING!***  
**W. SHAKESPEARE**

How do I  
choose a  
play?



**#1**  
**CHOOSE A PLAY**  
**THAT MEETS YOUR**  
**COMMUNITY'S**  
**STANDARDS**

It may play in Houston, but does it play in my hometown?

**#2**  
**CHOOSE A PLAY**  
**THAT HAS LITERARY**  
**MERIT**

Do the characters change and grow?  
Does the story evolve change?

**#3**  
**CHOOSE A PLAY**  
**THAT FITS YOUR**  
**KIDS**


Maturity, talent level,  
challenge yet nurturing



# #4

## CHOOSE A PLAY THAT MAKES YOU EXCITED TO COME TO REHEARSALS

**Enough already!  
What is the secret????**





**READ!**

**RESEARCH!!**



**RESOURCES AVAILABLE!!!**



**BROADWAY  
LICENSING  
INCLUDES**

**DRAMATISTS**

**PLAYSCRIPTS**

**CONCORD  
THEATRICALS,  
FORMERLY SAMUEL FRENCH**

**DRAMATIC  
PUBLISHING**

[Stageplays.com](https://www.stageplays.com)

**Public  
Domain  
(royalty  
free)**



**UIL Participation  
List**

**UIL Approved lists**

# NOW, WILL THIS PLAY WORK FOR ME AND MY KIDS?

Do I have the  
students for  
this play?

Can I stage  
this?

Does it require a ton of  
STUFF?

Will the publishers allow me to edit this play to meet contest rules?

# WHEN CONTACTING THE PUBLISHERS-ASK

“Can I produce and edit this play for competition?”

- If the answer is yes- ask, *what types of edits are allowed?*
- Internal cuts, excerpts...

Reminder- many publishers will not accept edits after the UIL submission deadline ( December 6) .

- **If the play is on the UIL Approved list, there is no need to submit the script or cuts to UIL.**

**Check the UIL Home Page for updated information on publishers.**



# Plays on the UIL Approved List of Plays

**27 new plays added!**

See UIL Theatre Home page for added plays.

# For Plays *Not* on the Approved list

## DO'S AND DON'TS

DO START  
EARLY

**DO**

CONTACT THE  
PUBLISHER FOR  
PERMISSION &  
INSTRUCTIONS

**DO**

SUBMIT TO UIL  
BY THE  
DEADLINE



# Remember

## UIL PLAY APPROVALS

**VALID FOR TWO CONSECUTIVE YEARS.**

- Approved for 2023-2024 season is approved for 2024-2025.

# UIL Drama Loan Library

**You may check out up to 10 Plays; Up to 3 weeks max**

\$7 for shipping and handling

See UIL Theatre website for checkout form and instructions.

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# Contest rules

**Part III: Some rules and clarifications**



# Rules for the unit set

Any action that would damage the unit set, participants or audience members, **is prohibited.**

**New: Be prepared for CM's to request photo(s) of your set; including stacking, clamping...**

**The use of any walls (substitute for walls), other than that which is specifically allowed in the contest rules and handbook, require special UIL approval.**

## **STACKING- NOTHING ONSTAGE TALLER THAN 12FT.**

Pylons shall not be stacked HIGHER than 12 ft. (measured from the floor) **this includes Capitals.**

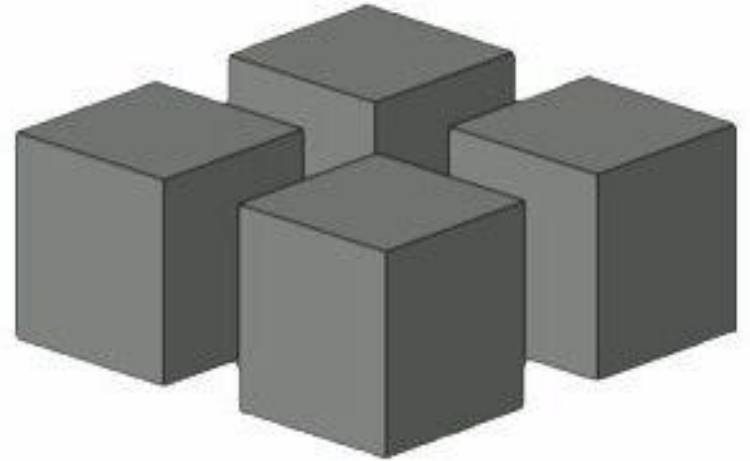
**No items (this includes stacking of set pieces, properties, unit set elements shall be taller than 12ft. (measured from the floor); **including capitals.****

# 1'x1' Cubes

No Pylons shall be stacked on 1x1 CUBES.

You can stack a cube on top of a pylon.

Yes, You can add a capital to a cube.





# PROPERTIES ALLOWED WITH SIZE OR QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS

**Bookcase/shelves/storage furniture/TV  
consoles/entertainment centers-**

**No more than 4 Bookcases/Bookshelves**

Shall not exceed 6ft.High x 4'Wide x 2' 6" Deep

Stacked- Bookcases/shelves shall not exceed 12 ft  
when measured from the floor.

Why limit to 4? Safety, storage issues. Bookcases/  
Shelves/Consoles shall not be used a substitute for  
walls- interior or exterior walls.

## PROPERTIES ALLOWED WITH SIZE OR QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS

Item	Description	Maximum Size	Additional Notes
Bookcases/ shelves	Furniture	6' high x 4' wide X 2' 6" deep	
Dollies or Hand Trucks	Utility Item or Prop	Limit of 2 PER SCHOOL total not to exceed 52" L x 41" W x 44" H	May only be used for strike. If used as a prop it must be script-driven
Fireplace units	Furniture	5' high x 6' wide X 4' deep.	Includes the mantel
Fountains	Exterior Decorative Prop- erty	5' high x 4' wide and 4' deep.	A circular fountain shall not exceed be 5' high x 4' in dia- ter. It fits on top of a Platform.
Glitter/Sand/ Powder, etc.	Must be approved by contest site. Not allowed at the State Meet facility.		Must be cleaned in 7-minute strike. It is allowed at State.

## PROPERTIES ALLOWED WITH SIZE OR QUANTITY RESTRICTIONS

Properties- *Any Handheld properties*- handheld doors SHALL NOT EXCEED 6' tall x 4' wide, rods for puppets, jail bars (6'tall)

Street Signs, Commercial Signs and Street Lamps/ Posts-SHALL NOT EXCEED 8' high x 3' wide; **this includes the stands.**



# SCENERY AND PROPERTIES

**Self- Supported Scenery-** Fencing, railing, groundrows, non-UIL flats used in a decorative manner shall not exceed...4ft H x 8ft L...

- Twelve linear feet, measured along the base, of **lightweight (i.e. styrofoam, cardboard, lightweight wood)**, non-metallic and self-supported scenery is permissible.

**Scenery shall not be used as as handheld properties and shall not be attached to unit set pieces.**



No one section of **Self-Supported Scenery** may exceed 4' high by 8' long.



## DECORATIVE Stage Properties- you may use...

**Any and all items** (properties) used to decorate the interior or exterior of a setting.

**Schools will be responsible for storing extra stage properties if site is unable to house all items in storage space.**



The Ferryman, Deer Park HS, 2024

# Architectural Trim

The use of *lightweight*, (styrofoam, cardboard, lauan wood and other materials) portable, architectural trim shall be **ATTACHED** to individual unit set elements (i.e. crown moulding, pylon trim, wall textures, baseboards, wainscoting, mill-work style).



# RULES ON ARCHITECTURAL TRIM

Lightweight Trim shall not cover more than 50% of the visible surface **(viewed from center of auditorium)** of the unit set element.

Trim shall not extend more than 6" in any direction from the edge of the unit set element.

Each section of trim shall be constructed and **ATTACHED/flush** to fit a **specific unit set piece.** You shall not use a single piece of trim to cover multiple set elements.



# Fabric vs Architectural Trim

**Fabric** can be used to fully cover a unit set item (100%) if the participants are not walking on the item.

**Architectural** trim should not be attached to fabric creating one piece.



The Book of Everything, Canyon Randall HS, 2024

# Fabric, Rugs, General Artificial Flooring..

Rugs shall not cover more than 50% of each visible unit set item.

***NOT A RUG. This is scenic ground cloth- and prohibited.***

Fabric/ground cloth covering stage floor





# Live music/singing/musicians



The Old Man and the Old Moon, ?

## Use of Live Musicians Onstage and Offstage

The use of live musicians or singers onstage is permissible **only if their presence on stage is text driven or prescribed by the playwright and indicated in the text.**

Live musicians/singers shall play roles in the play.

Live musicians or singers used *off-stage* do not require approval.


# STAGE LIGHTING

Flashlights, twinkle/string/ rope-style, lights may be used as properties and shall not count towards the 6 allotted stage lights.

No laser pointers or laser flashlights.




Keller Central, The Corn is Green, 2024



What to items, forms  
to bring to  
rehearsals/contest?

# OAP HANDBOOK 28TH EDITION

How many  
hours a week  
can I rehearse?



The planning meeting  
information



What rules will get me in  
trouble?



# F.A.Q'S





## HOW MANY HOURS A WEEK, CAN WE REHEARSE?

For each extracurricular activity, a school district must limit students to a *maximum of eight hours of practice and rehearsal* outside the school day per school week.

## LIGHTING (6)

**Theatrical lighting instruments-floodlights, spotlights, PAR, Strip, LED and other stage lighting fixtures and projectors (including outdoor “holiday style” projectors), may be used, but the combined total shall not exceed a total of six (6).**

Projectors and lighting instruments may be used but the combined total shall not exceed six (6).



# LIGHTING

**NOTE: Multiple Lighting/Projector instruments/devices/fixtures *may not be "daisy chained" or connected together to equal one instrument.***

“Daisy chaining as many as 10 fixtures= 10 instruments, not ONE instrument.”

EXAMPLE: 1 Strip light = 1 lighting instrument (1 of the 6)

This does not apply to actual “market style” string, twinkle or "Christmas" tree lights used as properties to decorate an indoor or outdoor setting. Call the League for clarification.



## NOW, A WARNING...

**NEW:** It is the responsibility of the company to locate the backstage electrical outlets and test their electrical equipment during the rehearsal period. A performance shall not be stopped for technical difficulties (failure of lighting, sound or special effects) under control of the company in performance.



# Can I run special lighting from the booth?

Competing schools shall not operate their portable lighting instruments, sound equipment or projectors from the house or in the light booth.



# WHICH VIOLATIONS WILL GET US DISQUALIFIED?

Entries may be declared ineligible for advancement or ranking for any of the following violations:

1. Use of ineligible students.
2. Exceeding the number allowed in the performing company.
3. Exceeding the time limits on performance or set-up or strike.
4. The use of firearms, explosives or combustible materials.
5. The use of additional unit set.
6. The director communicating with the company during the performance.

Ineligible Companies shall be considered for individual acting awards, points and the oral critique.

Violations of other rules are considered ethics violations and shall be reported to the appropriate executive committee.



## CAN WE BRING OUR OWN HEADSETS?

**Only ONE system will be used by all schools and for the entire contest.**

A system used exclusively by any performing company is not permitted.

If the host site system is non-functional, the CM can borrow a system from another school and must be available for *all* rehearsals and performances.

# SPIKE MARKS

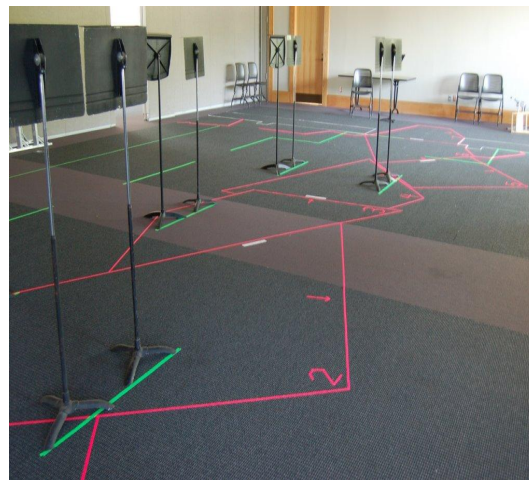
Minimal amounts of tape used to mark your furniture or set pieces; typically corners of the set piece.

Spike marks should not be used to outline furniture or scenic pieces or mark entrances and exits.

**YES!**



**NO!**



## OTHER RULES

**Footwear shall be worn for set up and strike.**

**Company rituals before performance- must happen before *moving to the stage*.**

**Trees/Bushes-** (6) Six items shall not exceed 4' wide by 4' deep by 8' high. (including stands and containers) Items of this size shall be used separately as to not create a single unit.

**Tombstones-see *statues* in Handbook (5ft H max)**

**Platforming- *substitutes* for platforms such scaffolding or pallets require special UIL approval.**

## Who can assist me at the contest?

REMINDER: **ONLY** directors and students on the official UIL entry shall be in the dressing room.

Adults serving as chaperones, *not on the official UIL entry*, are not permitted in the dressing room, nor onstage during set up, strike performance.

# AID IN DIRECTING

## Outside of the limits of a clinic/festival...

You **shall not** have someone stage/block your OAP entry, **nor shall they**

- Cast your play, stage your play...
- Coach your OAP Performers on acting, dialects, stage combat...
- Cut/edit your play...
- Design your set, lighting, costumes or props

## FOR YOUR OAP ENTRY.....

Directors may continue to rent, borrow, loan costumes, props to all schools. Theatrical supply companies, parents or volunteers may construct or provide scenery, properties or costumes.

# UIL RESOURCES

- Drama Loan Library form
- List of Approved Plays
- Participation Lists
- Theatre Website
- Theatre Resources
- Online TEACHING Resources
- One-Act Play THEATRE Resources

**Coming soon, contest scripts for CM's, Timekeepers, Content recording, UIL  
Test Slide...**



## All the forms you need!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

- **APPEAL To Use An 8TH GRADER** - 1A schools only
- **ACCOMODATION FORM**
- COMMUNITY STANDARDS Form
- CRITIQUE ATTENDANCE WAIVER Form 2024-25
- DRAMA LOAN LIBRARY Checkout Form
- **EVALUATION FORM** for Play Directors to Evaluate the Contest 2024-25
- LIGHT CUE (Sample Sheet)
- LIVE ANIMAL Request Form 2024-25
- PLAY SUBMISSION for plays not on the Approved List--DUE no later than December 6 (High School) or at least 45 days prior to contest (Junior High)
- **SUBSTITUTE ELIGIBILITY Form**

# **PART IV- QUESTIONS?**

# **HOT TOPIC QUESTIONS- UIL/Advisory Studies**

**Costs of mailing scripts to judges**

**Director's vision statement**

**Official UIL TECH Award**

**.....THOUGHTS???**

## **OAP SURVEY**

**Click the QR  
CODE for a brief  
survey on the  
current Hot Topic  
questions and  
issues.**





# **THEATRE CHANGES LIVES**



**STRIVE FOR  
EXCELLENCE,  
NOT TROPHIES**





**NO ONE IS  
ALONE.**

# **CONTACT INFORMATION**

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# THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING



Tyler Eval

**We value your  
feedback.**  
Please complete  
conference evaluation  
after your last session.



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