

# 2019 MAGNOLIA ONE-ACT PLAY

## COMPANY AUDITION PACKET

Based on reputation and performance, Magnolia HS Theatre has been among the Top 20 One-Act Play companies in Texas. And now the time has come to see if this year's presentation will execute the ideas and can live up to the *Expectations* and *Potential* that have been established for Magnolia Theatre in the past. *This year many will be new to the MHS OAP Tradition.* Agreeing to contribute to this group comes with a great deal of responsibility. Relying on past achievements of the department accomplishes nothing. Relying on YOUR past work shows what you are capable of accomplishing, HOWEVER, the proper attitude and work ethic towards this show it remains as potential and not actuality. This means that those who are in this company will have set and ACHIEVED high expectations through their actions. That is the minimum of what is required of MHS Theatre and those students who will represent MHS in this year's UIL One-Act Play. Through this process we will produce one of the top plays in Texas, and people will know this regardless of the advancing results. The successes of the past have served as a foundation on which to build the departments reputation. However, those successes are exactly that – in the past. So now the time has come to determine who will represent MHS in the 2019 UIL OAP Company, and who will become a part of the next age of success and quality theatre here at Magnolia High School. Our tradition of excellence will continue with this year's UIL One-Act Play... do you deserve to be in the company and will your efforts continue to help further our success? This packet will be the inside guide you need on how to prepare to give a good audition and hopefully become a member of what will once again be one of the top One-Act Plays in Texas!

This audition will be a little different than normal. FOR THIS AUDITION, YOU ARE AUDITIONING TO BECOME A PART OF THE COMPANY, NOT A POSITION. Since all those able to audition have worked throughout the year on and/or off stage, this audition will focus on your ability to work as a member of an ensemble, your work ethic, and some amount of theatrical talent. THIS WILL ALSO BE DIFFERENT THAN PREVIOUS OAP AUDITIONS. Before the audition you should do the following:

- Read this packet thoroughly
- Fill out all of the items needed for the application, including conflict form and permission sheet.
- There will be a prepared acting/tech aspect during the process.
- You and your parents/guardians need to sign the consent form to be in OAP. *Make sure you read this completely.*

### AUDITION SCHEDULE:

- Fill in the ONLINE REGISTRATION form before 2:30PM, MONDAY 12/17. ([www.MagnoliaDrama.com](http://www.MagnoliaDrama.com), OAP REGISTRATION BUTTON. Click the link)
- COMPLETED FORMS due by TUESDAY 12/18 before 145pm. MEET THIS DEADLINE!
- Individual Interviews TUESDAY, 12/18 245pm-6pm. This is for EVERYONE. Sign up for your time slot
- Small Group Auditions WEDNESDAY 12/19 Sign up for your group.
- LARGE GROUP will be WEDNESDAY 12/19 5-630pm
- THURSDAY 12/20 Company list posted & First Meeting for company will be afterschool 245-345pm.

This is going to be a very challenging production and an exciting show. REMEMBER: CREATIVE IDEAS MUST BE EXECUTED AND PUT INTO PRACTICE... There are very high expectations for this company and students will need to go well beyond the minimum. More information is attached about what is looked for in company members, so please read it and decide if you can fulfill the requirements for this show. If you have what it takes to be a part of this company, then we wish you the best with your auditions.

**R Sheffield & C Ridge**

## WHO IS GOING TO MAKE THE COMPANY...?

Since 1927 the One-Act Play competition has been held in Texas. For 90+ years the goals have been to build theatre programs and the emphasis has been on **ensemble** performance, rather than emphasizing individual "stars" or talent. This is also the philosophy adapted at MHS. It is extremely important that the department works TOGETHER to develop the show. To be a part of our production, it is important that you be able to contribute to the "whole" of the production by being a vital part of the ensemble. People who have the tendency to separate themselves from a group, place themselves above the group, or not work well with others will have a difficult time being a part of this production. Because of the nature of the show and the nature of the rehearsal process, there are certain things that are being looked for in company members. There are three things that make a good actor/crew member. These things *in order* are ATTITUDE, DEDICATION, and ABILITY. The people that represent these qualities will be representing MAGNOLIA in this production.

Attitude is the way a student approaches the production process. Yes, there are a lot of fun times in the process, but the student with the proper attitude also knows when to be serious and when it is time for fun. When running or blocking the show or in notes or in the contest surroundings, we should be focused on presenting the best show possible. These students are working on their part of the show off stage without having to be told. They are motivated and focused. **They also know that this is going to be a group effort, there are no individuals in this company and there will be no distinction between cast/crew/alternates.** This will be the Magnolia Theatre production and the ensemble must function as ONE GROUP. Anyone that has a personal agenda will not be working for the good of the company and should give auditioning a second thought. Students that have the attitude that they will do whatever necessary, however big or small, to make this a great production will be a part of the company. Those not willing to do the small tasks should not bother to audition. We are going to work together to make this a great show and with the proper attitude; we will have a great time doing it.

The second thing that is required is dedication. Students must be dedicated and committed to presenting the best show possible. This means giving a great deal of your time to the production. We will, for the most part, be rehearsing 2 hours per day Monday-Thursday and 3-4 hours on Saturdays. We will be attending mandatory festivals/clinics, and there is a possibility we will be working on this production through LATE APRIL, the date of the AAAAA State Competition. Students will be allowed minimal absences from the rehearsal process and you must be committed to being there at every practice. Flexibility is necessary on our behalf, we know, but when push comes to shove in January-April, understand that One-Act must be a priority. Students must also be dedicated to their school work. Students must be eligible from the 2<sup>nd</sup> 9 weeks report card, and those with below a 75 average at any time during your grade checks will be required to attend mandatory tutorials. Dedication is something that does not come out of the clear blue sky. If you did not devote the time necessary to make the grades prior to one-act, how are you going to find the time once one-act is in full swing? Dedication means you will do whatever is necessary to be at rehearsal every day *on time* and you will be dedicated to your education, the primary reason you are in school in the first place. Dedication also involves being willing to work in any capacity in the show. A number of the characters have no/few lines and the alternates will work as hard as the cast and crew for not as much recognition in the actual contest. No position is small, everyone is important to the ENSEMBLE of the company. **If you cannot eagerly accept ANY position in the company, whether it be an acting part or the person whose sole responsibility is making sure the trash is swept after strike, do NOT audition for the show.**

The least important of the three things is ability. You must be able to memorize lines and have natural delivery and develop a character, know how to operate various technical boards, organize costumes/sets, etc. But, these things are secondary to having the right attitude and dedication. You may have the talent of a Meryl Streep or Inigo Jones, but if you are not there or you are trying to make yourself the spotlight of the production, or if you cannot get along with every other actor/crew/alternate, what good are you doing for the company? You must have the correct acting and technical skills to fulfill your position in the production to the best of your ability. But there are numerous people in this department with the same skills. The ones who will become a part of this company will be the ones who have these skills as well as the proper attitude and dedication towards the project.

The plan to make this a top-notch, state recognized program is a reality. For this to continue, it will take all of the company and department working together. The company will be comprised of students that have exhibited the above traits and give a great audition. We will become a company of students who have class, are good sports, and represent all of the POSITIVE things that MAGNOLIA should represent. Pride and class are going to be major themes of this rehearsal process. Are you willing to dedicate yourself to this goal? There are up to 24 positions available in this company. There are far more qualified students in this department than that and I hope that those who are not in this company will take advantage of the other opportunities that will be presented in the future. For the Magnolia Theatre Department to grow and be recognized for excellence, it will take the performance of the company and the admiration of our spectators to spread the news of our emergence into the upper echelons of the theatre world. This is going to be a great production, but it starts with three things... ATTITUDE, DEDICATION, & ABILITY.

## **THE CONTEST:**

This year new changes are in effect for the OAP process. 98% of Texas High Schools will compete in the UIL OAP contest and present a 40 minute play this spring. Every school competes at the first level of competition. For us that level is DISTRICT. In our DISTRICT 19-5A, there are 8 schools and these schools present their shows on 3/23 at MWHS for a panel of 3 judges. These certified critic judges will rank the shows and the top THREE plays will advance to the next contest, BI-DISTRICT. At Bi-District (hosted by Magnolia), the 3 plays from District 19 will compete against the 3 advancing schools from District 20-5A. For this contest, there is also a panel. From those six shows, 3 will advance to the AREA contest. Area (hosted at Bastrop) will have six schools as well, three from our Bi-District and 3 from the Bi-District 17/18 (Central Texas and Austin area schools). This time, a panel of certified critic judges will choose the top to plays to advance to REGION III-AAAAA. This Region is without a doubt one of the most competitive in any region in any conference. Six schools will compete at San Jac and a panel of 3 judges will select the top 2 to go to the STATE competition. At STATE, eight schools, 2 from each of the states four regions, will then compete in AUSTIN and a panel will determine the AAAAA State Champion.

**PLEASE NOTE: OUR GOAL IS TO PRESENT ONE OF THE TOP SHOWS IN TEXAS. THAT WE CAN CONTROL. ANY OTHER GOAL IS OUT OF OUR HANDS.**

## **COMPANY MEMBERS:**

- **CAST** The male/female breakdown is flexible. The show(s) can be performed with 8-15 cast positions.
- **CREW [5]** There will be five crew members who will be asked to perform a variety of technical tasks.
- **ALTERNATES [4]**: There will be up to 4 alternates, people ready to assume any part/position in the production. They will do a great deal of work behind the scenes and are required to be at all rehearsals. According to the UIL Rules, alternates can help in any capacity up to the day of the contest, including unload and preparation in the dressing room, but they cannot be backstage for any reason. They will travel with the company and receive full benefits of being a company member.

*\*You will letter in Theatre if we advance past the District level if you are in one of the above roles.*

**PLEASE NOTE: THE SHOW HAS NOT BEEN SELECTED. THOSE WHO MAKE THE COMPANY MUST BE WILLING TO TAKE ON ANY POSITION.** Everyone who auditions must indicate that they would accept any position in this show on the audition form.

**If need be there will be an onsite group- those who perform work with the alternates and help with travel logistics, but not listed on competition form.**



## Items you need to PREPARE...

- ONLINE REGISTRATION/SURVEY BY 230pm MONDAY 12/17
- FOR AUDITION **APPLICATION** Due by 145 Tuesday 12/18

Each student auditioning needs to turn in the following items, in this order:

- Consent form signed by you and parent.
  - Conflict Sheet signed by parent.
  - Print a copy of your current IPR and 9-week report card. Highlight all grades ABOVE 80 and CIRCLE all grades below 75.
- FOR THE INTERVIEW TUESDAY:  
In your interview, only you and the directors will be in the room. You will begin with 30 seconds telling the directors what you have done this year that shows you deserve to be in the OAP Company. The remainder of the time will be questions asked by Sheffield/Ridge. Questions could include, but are not limited to, any of the following topics:
- Your Grades and or Attendance
  - Attitude and or Dedication
  - Conflicts
  - Particular choices you've made
  - Your ability to execute instructions/ideas/directions
- FOR THE AUDITIONS WEDNESDAY

Everyone will be given 90 Seconds TOTAL. During this time you must accomplish AT LEAST two things:

1. EXECUTION: You will show an example of something you have done THIS YEAR that proves you can put ideas/directions into action. Acting wise it could be the recreation of a line/monologue/performance where you were given direction and then put it into practice. Tech wise it could be show/tell of something you built or did. *You may use items from MHS Theatre PROVIDED you make arrangements to get items outside of audition times AND items are returned to their locations prior to 7pm Wednesday. EXAMPLES:*
  - a. ACTING: "In MUCH ADO I had to make a cover discover on this line..." Then act it out doing what you were told to do.
  - b. ACTING: "In OZ I had to subtly move this prop during the scene" Then act it out
  - c. ACTING: "In \_\_\_ I had a list in this monologue I kept flying thru, but then knew I needed to build it" Then do the line correctly.
  - d. TECH: "I built this prop for \_\_\_"
  - e. TECH: "I painted this \_\_\_"
  - f. TECH: "I ran this board by doing this" (You do not have to set up a system-just use control panel or show picture of the board and how to operate)

YOU ONLY NEED TO DO 1 EXAMPLE BUT MAY DO MORE IF YOU WISH

2. ABILITY: DO something LIVE that shows your talents in theatre. Do a monologue (any monologue), sew a button, drill a screw, perform a silent scene, do a quick change, paint something... WHATEVER YOU WANT, so long as it shows your talent and what YOU can contribute to MHS Theatre.

You have 90 seconds to fill with as much of the above as you wish, so long as you do at least 1 example from both areas. You will be stopped at 90 seconds so make sure you execute both!

## Parent/Guardian Consent Form:

The following must be signed and turned in before a student is allowed to audition.

I, the parent/guardian of \_\_\_\_\_ (student's full name) do give my permission for my student to audition for the 2019 MHS UIL One-Act Play. I understand that a great deal of time will be required of my student if they are selected to be in the company. I understand that there will be out of town trips for festivals, possibly on weekends, and that the group's return from these trips may be very late at night. Should the company advance, I also understand there is a potential for MULTIPLE over-night trips. I understand that, should we advance, there will be mandatory rehearsals/contests around Spring Break and Easter and that my student will be required to attend.

If my student has decided to be dedicated to this production and makes the company, I will do my best to support them in this effort and encourage them to do their best. I will help to make sure that they are at every rehearsal and are on time to these activities.

I also am aware that my student's schedule will be changed so that they are in the Theatre Production-OAP Class 7<sup>th</sup> Period. Students must be at all contests through the end of the critique. Students who are currently in 7<sup>th</sup> period who do not make the company will have their schedule switched to a comparable class of their choosing.

I hereby support my student's decision to audition for the UIL One-Act Play and give them my permission to participate in any position in the company:

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Student Consent:

I have read the Audition Packet and believe I am dedicated enough and have the right attitude to be in the UIL One-Act Play Company. I will accept the position I receive and will do my best to make this a great production. I know that there will be a great number of rehearsals and I will attend them on time and be serious enough to help make this one of the best OAPs in the state. I am mature enough to handle the subject matter of the play. I will work for the good of the company, not against it.

*I will be at all contests through the end of the critique.* I realize that I am auditioning for all positions and will accept either cast, crew, or alternate.

SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ SCHOOL ID# \_\_\_\_\_

Will your schedule need to be changed to be in Theatre 7<sup>th</sup> Period if you make the company?

\_\_\_\_\_ Yes. My schedule will change so I can be in 7<sup>th</sup> period. \_\_\_\_\_ No, I am already in 7<sup>th</sup> period.

Indicate which course you would change to be able to make this happen.

Current Schedule:

| Course                  | Teacher | What would you change: |
|-------------------------|---------|------------------------|
| 1 <sup>st</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |
| 3 <sup>rd</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |
| 4 <sup>th</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |
| 6 <sup>th</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> . _____ | _____   |                        |

**PARENT/GUARDIANS: PLEASE SIGN THIS AND THE CONFLICT FORM**  
**(2 TOTAL SIGNATURES)**

