



## Mississippi Theatre Association 2009 Annual Festival



October 28, 2009

### Dear Community Theatre:

Have you heard the news? The MTA Festival will be held in Natchez, MS. Join us in January for another fantastic theatre festival that brings together community theatres, high school theatres and college/university theatres for a full weekend of plays, workshops, social events and awards! You don't want to miss this opportunity to visit Natchez with all of its old world charm, experience walking around downtown and seeing all the antebellum homes and seeing some fantastic productions from all over the state. Stay at the historic Eola Hotel -- centrally located in downtown Natchez walking distance from the City Auditorium! Natchez Little Theatre and the City of Natchez are rolling out the red carpet to make this a wonderful festival!

The festival will be held January 15-18, 2009. The main theatre will be the City Auditorium located downtown Natchez and the college/university auditions and the Theater for Youth Festival will be held at Natchez Little Theatre.

MTA 2009 has something for everyone whether you are competing in the Community Theatre Festival or not. In addition to workshops, you'll be able to participate in the **Individual Events Festival** and compete for awards in different categories such as Monologues, Duets, Musical Duets, Solos, etc. Enter your favorite poster or newsletter in the Individual Events. For the second year, you'll be able to audition for a role in the readers theater production of the script selected as the winner of the **MTA One-Act Playwriting Competition**.

Since this is an AACTFest year (American Association of Community Theatre), please read the AACTFest Handbook which can be downloaded from this site: <http://www.aact.org/aactfest/handbook.html>. This has all of the AACTFest Rules and Regulations. While the MTA rules closely follow the AACTFest rules, during an AACTFest year we are required to strictly follow AACTFest rules. To enter the MTA Festival you will need to complete forms B, C, D and E from the AACTFest website listed above.

The director will be notified of the order and time of performance at a later date. If you have circumstances that require you to need to request a particular performance day, please make the division chair aware of your request. More specific information about the acting space, lighting plots, location of curtains, and a description of the theatre will be posted on the Festival Web site. Be **sure** to read this information closely. Check the MTA web site for this information (<http://www.mta-online.org>).

We want to encourage all theatres in the State of Mississippi to support the state organization by sending representatives to the festival regardless of whether your theatre is competing. The festival is not just about a competition. It is a time to see lots of excellent theatre, learn more about theatre, renew old friendships and make new ones. Being a part of this organization has shown me just how much talent there is in Mississippi.

If you do not plan to complete in the 2009 Festival, please complete the MTA Theatre Information Form and return it to us anyway. We want to be sure we have your most up-to-date information.

We look forward to seeing you in Natchez in January. If you need to contact me, please feel free to do so via one of the many ways listed below.

Sincerely,

Kenneth McDade, Community Theatre Division Chair  
[kenmcdade@comcast.net](mailto:kenmcdade@comcast.net) or 601.214.6897

Tom Hardy, Community Theatre Division Vice Chair  
[Thomas.hardy@usm.edu](mailto:Thomas.hardy@usm.edu) or 601.544.9806

Stephen Cunetto Executive Director (662) 418-3870 (c) (662) 325-8542 (w) <a href="mailto:scunetto@gmail.com">scunetto@gmail.com</a>	Tom Booth MTA President (662) 315-4771 (c) (662) 844-1935 (w) <a href="mailto:1tb@bellsouth.net">1tb@bellsouth.net</a>
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**Community Theatre Checklist**  
**Deadline: December 1, 2008**

1. Complete and return the AACT Festival Forms. Download forms at <http://www.aact.org/aactfest/handbook.html>
2. If your production must be edited to conform to festival production length requirements, you **must** obtain written permission from the publisher/royalty agent to perform in the festival. Attach proof of permission to this form.
3. In order to perform in the festival you must submit with your theatre packet a copy of the paid royalty.
4. In addition to the above information, 4 scripts of your production **as it is to be performed (highlighted with cuts)** must be submitted. **PHOTOCOPIES ARE UNACCEPTABLE UNLESS IT IS AN ORIGINAL SCRIPT** and/or not available in any other form (i.e., out of print, or rented materials) but the permission must then so state.
5. Copy of the organization's charter and/or organization's bylaws. **(This is only needed if your theatre did not perform during the 2007 or 2008 annual festival.)**
6. Proof that the organization is a not-for-profit organization. See other requirements for entering the festival in the Community Theatre Rules found on the MTA website.
7. Enclosed Organizational Registration Fees. To participate in the festival you must be an MTA Organizational Member and an Individual Member. Your organization must also either pay the AACT Festival Fee of \$55 OR be an AACT Member. If you are an AACT Member – you do not need to pay the \$55 AACT Festival Fee.

**Organizational Registration Fees Include:**

MTA Annual Membership Dues:	50.00
MTA Festival Registration:	25.00*
AACT Festival or Membership Fee:	see below

If you are not an AACT Member, you can either pay the AACT Festival Fee of \$55 OR become a member of AACT based on the ranges below. Pick your budget range below and add it to the fees paid to MTA. We will send your registration to AACT. We encourage ALL community theatres to become AACT members.

<b>1. Annual Budget under \$10,000</b>	<b>\$55</b>
<b>2. Annual Budget \$10,000-\$24,999</b>	<b>\$80</b>
<b>3. Annual Budget \$25,000-\$99,999</b>	<b>\$115</b>
<b>4. Annual Budget \$100,000-\$249,999</b>	<b>\$175</b>

— \*Not required if you are just renewing your membership. Please renew your membership even if you cannot attend the festival. Support your statewide theatre association!!

8. Make check out to MTA and mail to:

Kenneth McDade  
523 Bellevue St

Clinton, MS 39056





## MTA Theatre Information Form

Complete and return if you are not competing in the MTA Statewide Festival.

**Please support the Association by renewing your organizational membership.**

### Theatre Information

Theatre Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Theatre Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Theatre Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Theatre Website: \_\_\_\_\_

Theatre Email: (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Date your theatre was incorporated: \_\_\_\_\_ (year is fine)

President: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Executive Director: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Do you have a paid staff member? Yes No Positions: \_\_\_\_\_

Would you like more information on MTA? Yes No

I would like to renew my Organizational Members (\$50.00) Yes No

### **Pay by check or credit card.**

Credit Card Type: Mastercard / Visa

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Expiration Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-Digit Verification Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on the card: \_\_\_\_\_

Please  
complete  
this form  
and return  
even if you  
are not  
attending  
the festival.

Return this form to:

Stephen Cunetto  
1247 Bardwell Road  
Starkville, MS 39759