

WESTBROOK HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE PRESENTS

THE 24-HOUR PLAY FESTIVAL



A FESTIVAL OF 10-MINUTE PLAYS WRITTEN, DIRECTED, AND
PERFORMED BY STUDENTS, ALUMNI, STAFF, & PARENTS
...ALL WITHIN 24-HOURS.

June 1 & 2, 2018

Doors open Saturday, June 2nd at 6:45 P.M.

Tickets: \$5

All sales benefit the Westbrook High School Theatre Program

ABOUT THE FESTIVAL

The 24-Hour Play Festival is an event that takes place entirely in—you guessed it—24-hours. On Friday, June 1st, each volunteer will be placed in a company of 5-6 people. Each company will consist of one playwright, one director, and three to four actors. During Friday's meeting, the group will have time to get to know each other. At the end of the meeting, the writer will head home to pen the script, due to Ms. McKenna via email by 8:30 A.M. Saturday for approval and printing. At 10:00 A.M. Saturday, the groups will reconvene, receive their scripts, and conduct the first read-through. After this read-through, the writer may go home and get some rest! The actors and director then have the remainder of the morning and afternoon to rehearse, with a break for lunch and dinner. Each group will be given one half-hour time slot in the afternoon for dress rehearsal, then all groups will perform for the public beginning at 7:30 P.M. Tickets will be \$5 at the door, and all donations will support the Westbrook High School Theatre program!

HOW TO GET INVOLVED

#1 VOLUNTEER

In order for this event to run, we need volunteers to be actors, directors, writers, and production crew. We welcome any current WHS student, alumnus, staff member, or parent to sign-up -- no previous theatre experience required. Sign-ups will take place on the WHS website from Monday, April 23rd to Monday, May 14th. The sooner people sign up, the more likely they are to be guaranteed a spot in the festival, as we plan to cap the groups at 8 writers, 8 directors, and 36 actors.

- **ROLE OF THE WRITER**

- The playwright has the most important job, as the show cannot go on without a script! Writers need to create a 10-minute play (a roughly 10 page script) that he or she believes the actors can successfully perform. The writer should also write a script that requires minimal sets, props, and costumes. Each writer will also be required to address a specific prompt, not revealed until Friday's meeting. Any genre of play is acceptable, but the script needs to be appropriate for an audience of all ages. Writers have between the end of Friday's meeting (about 8:00 P.M.) and 8:30 A.M. Saturday to write and submit their scripts through email to Ms. McKenna (Keep in mind this is a *24-hour play festival*, so don't get stuck on perfection!). After writers conduct their initial read-through with their company Saturday morning, we encourage authors to go home and sleep until the show!

- **ROLE OF THE DIRECTOR**

- The director's job is to bring the script to life. The director will coach the actors throughout the day and set blocking. Directors will also act as a liaison between the company and the production team. Directors may also need to acquire necessary props or clothing from home or the theatre department to supplement the script.

- **ROLE OF THE ACTOR**

- It is the actor's job to bring the ideas of the writer and director to fruition. Due to the limited rehearsal time, memorization of lines is encouraged, but not required. Actors may also need to bring in props or clothing they have at home to supplement the script.

- **PRODUCTION TEAM**

- The Production Team makes up the tech and running crews, handling lights, sound, and sets as needed. This includes people who can help with hair, make-up, props, and costumes—essentially, anything needed to run the show! Volunteers will also help create the program, sell tickets, and work the refreshment table. *Production Team volunteers are needed on Saturday only.*

#2 DONATE

We are looking for donations for lunch and dinner on Saturday, June 2nd. Any food or snacks that any individuals or businesses are willing to offer us would be greatly appreciated, and we will make sure they are acknowledged in the show's program!

#3 PROMOTE

Please help us promote this program through social media and word-of-mouth! Please like and share our posts and tell friends! Look for our page on Facebook: "WHS 24-Hour Play Festival."

#4 WATCH

Please join our audience at 7:30 P.M. on June 2nd and watch our actors perform a play that was constructed less than 24 hours prior! The Westbrook High School lobby opens at 6:45 P.M., with doors to the auditorium opening at 7:00 P.M. Tickets are \$5 at the door; all sales support the Westbrook High School Theatre program. This is a one-night-only experience, so don't miss out!

Questions? Contact Molly McKenna at mmckenna@westbrookctschools.org

TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR VOLUNTEERS

FRIDAY, JUNE 1ST

6:30 P.M. — WHS LIBRARY

For writers, directors, and actors only

Informational meet & greet

- Volunteers will be split into teams
 - 1 writer, 1 director, and 3-4 actors per team
- Each writer will be given a line of dialogue and a prop that must be used in his/her play
 - Writers should use this time to learn about their actors

7:30 P.M. — Adjourn

SATURDAY, JUNE 2ND

8:30 A.M. — SCRIPTS DUE TO MS. MCKENNA

10:00 A.M. — WHS LIBRARY

For writers, directors, and actors only

- Companies reconvene, receive their scripts, then disperse to rehearsal locations
 - Writers are free to leave after their team's first read-through
- Companies have the day to rehearse, with a break for lunch and dinner

12:00 P.M. — BREAK FOR LUNCH

12:30 P.M. — RESUME REHEARSAL

1:00 P.M.— CALL FOR PRODUCTION TEAM

- Each director will address the Production Team with his or her group's needs

2:30 P.M.— DRESS REHEARSALS BEGIN

4:30 P.M.— DINNER ARRIVES

- Dinner break at discretion of director

6:45 P.M. — LOBBY OPENS

7:00 P.M. — DOORS OPEN

7:30 P.M. — SHOWTIME!

- *10 minute intermission*