

Out of the Box Ten Minute Play Festival

Rules and Entry Guidelines

Entry Dates: January 1 - March 31, 2012

First Prize: \$300 Second Prize: \$200 Third Prize: \$100

Six to ten plays will be produced on The Box Factory stage August 4 and 5, 2012. The three winning plays will be announced at the end of the performance on August 5.

The festival is open to residents of Michigan and Northern Indiana as well as members of the Berrien Artist Guild.

Rules:

1. Authors may submit more than one play.
2. The play must be unpublished and cannot have been given a public performance by a professional company.
3. Plays should be of a suitable length for a ten minute production (7-11 double spaced typed page using Times Roman 12 pt. font) for a small stage with limited props and no more than four characters. Dialogue and action should be appropriate for a Readers Theater production.
4. No musicals or children's plays may be submitted for this contest.
5. A \$5 registration fee must accompany each play submitted.
6. Three copies are to be submitted. Each copy must include two title sheets; one with the title and author's name and address, the other with the title only. (The author's name will not be made known to the judges.) Manuscripts received with any name appearing there on, except as above, will not be considered.
7. Each play submitted must have a cover letter with the author's name and contact information contained therein and must contain the following statement. "I understand that The Box Factory for the Arts will only consider original work. Plays submitted which are based on any other published work, including but not limited to novels, short stories, teleplays or other theatrical scripts, unless also written by the submitting author, are ineligible. I hereby state that my submission meets this standard."
8. Date of copyright must appear on both title sheets. Alternatively, the playwright may provide a letter indicating the manuscript does not have a copyright.
9. Authors wishing to have their scripts returned must submit an additional \$5 for return postage along with their registration fees. Note: For the peace of mind of playwrights sharing their work for consideration, The Box Factory shreds and discards all plays submitted but not selected for presentation.
10. A committee of three to five judges will select winners, and their decision shall be final.
11. Public announcement and presentation of awards will be made August 5, 2012. Winners will be personally notified if their play has been chosen for production by June 1, 2012.
12. Authors of the first and second place plays agree their plays will be offered to The Box Factory for the Arts following the contest without charge for royalties.
13. Entries must be mailed to: The Box Factory for the Arts, 1101 Broad Street, St. Joseph MI 49085. No revision will be submitted once a play is received.

The Process:

Plays submitted in accordance with Submission Requirements are eligible for consideration.

All eligible plays are circulated among three (3) readers selected by The Box Factory for their capability and integrity to select plays for inclusion in “Out of the Box Ten Minute Play Festival.” The readers are given specific directions for scoring each eligible play and they independently complete this assignment. Scoring criteria provided by The Box Factory includes five or more categories relating to story and plot, dialogue and characters and ease of production.

An artistic director engaged by The Box Factory reviews the plays submitted and the scores placed on them by the readers. The artistic director has the responsibility to report to The Box Factory any concern about the ability to present any play or plays eligible for presentation through the scoring process.

The authors of selected plays are presented with and required to sign an affidavit asserting the originality of the submitted work prior to the final decision to present by The Box Factory and the public announcement of plays selected for presentation.

The Box Factory selects individual directors for plays selected for presentation and auditions actors to play one or more roles in those plays.

The Box Factory selects three (3) adjudicators recognized for their capability and integrity to judge the plays presented during the “Out of the Box Ten Minute Play Write Festival.” Adjudicators cannot be the artistic director, a reader, author, director or actor participating in the “Out of the Box Ten Minute Play Write Festival.”