

YPiP 2010 Submission Guidelines

- Plays must be one-acts which can be presented in thirty minutes or less
- Plays must be original works. No adaptations will be accepted. No musicals or screenplays.
- Students must be enrolled full time in junior high, senior high or home school.
- Students may work together; however, all writers must be eligible full time students. Prizes will be divided between joint authors.
- In the event of a tie the IRT reserves the right to redistribute prizes.
- Students may submit more than one play; up to a total of three submissions per student.
- The title page should only include the TITLE of the play. DO NOT put the author's names on the title page.
- A completed YPiP entry form must accompany each submission.
- All pages MUST be numbered.
- All submissions should be PAPERCLIPPED not stapled.
- Submit one copy of your play to
YPiP
c/o IRT
140 W. Washington St
Indianapolis, IN 46204
Or
ypip@irtlive.com
- Semi-finalist will attend a day long workshop where they will have their plays read by professional actors. They will also spend the day working one on one with professional directors and dramaturgs. They will then take the suggestions from the day and have two weeks do to rewrites.
- The finalists, one in each age group, will attend a two day workshops with the professionals again.
- Semi-finalists will receive \$100 and tickets to an IRT production. Finalists will receive an additional \$1000, tickets and a full scholarship the IRT Summer Conservatory.

What is YPiP?

It is an exciting annual competition in playwriting for central Indiana junior high and high school students, sponsored by the Indiana Repertory Theatre. Students should submit original scripts only! Subject, style, and form are up to you.

What do the judges look for? Please see Tips for Writing Scripts

The panel will look for plays that focus on a core of dramatic principles: 1) a main character (protagonist) that has something at stake; 2) this protagonist experiences conflict with those around him over this thing he/she has at stake, and goes on some sort of journey (internally) to resolve the question at stake; 3) the play is written primarily, or solely, in dialogue, not narrative; 4) the dialogue reflects unique characters as well as the playwright's own voice.

Do I have to want to be a playwright?

YPiP celebrates students' voices. We don't expect all the writers submitting plays to become

playwrights. Perhaps you are a poet or you love to write short stories. Maybe you want to be a journalist or you enjoy writing in a journal. Maybe you even want to become an actor or screenwriter! Entering our contest may give you the opportunity to try your hand at something new, and will be a valuable exercise in examining the differences between other forms of prose or entertainment.

Can my teacher/friends help me write the play?

We want each play to be a true representative of the student's voice. It's OK to read your play to your parents, friends and teachers and ask for feedback. But the play has to be your work. It is OK, however, to team write a play. Students can collaborate on a work and submit it.

Helpful Hints

_ Remember that in plays, the story is told through speech and action rather than narrative and description. Keep stage directions to a minimum.

_ Try to limit the number of settings in your play. A large number of locales in a short play can often become confusing and distract from the characters and plot.

_ Try to limit the number of characters in your play to a maximum of ten (and that's probably too many!). It is difficult to adequately develop many characters when you are writing short works.

_ Type neatly, using a 12-point, simple font such as Times New Roman or Courier (do not use fancy fonts or type styles). Check carefully for typographical errors and reproduce your script neatly. Remember that if your play is chosen as one of the semi-finalists, many people will read it. Neatness and legibility count!

_ Format: Character headings should be centered above the line of dialogue, capitalized and either in **boldface** or underlined. Lines may be single or 1½ spaced. Stage directions should be indented, single-spaced and enclosed in parentheses. For example:

STUDENT PLAYWRIGHT

Absolutely nothing on earth will keep me from entering my brand new one-act play in the Young Playwrights in Process Competition!

MOTHER

You may do whatever you like with it, as long as you clean your room first.
(Mother exits)

STUDENT PLAYWRIGHT

You'll see! When I'm famous, you'll regret the way you treated me! (pause) Just kidding!
What's for dinner? (no answer) Mom? Mom?

Character lines that are continued from a previous page should be notated

_ Number your pages in the upper right hand corner of the page. If there are multiple scenes in your one-act plays, still do consecutive numbering of your pages.