



*16<sup>th</sup> annual New Voices Young Playwrights Festival*

## **CONTEST GUIDELINES**

### **What is the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival?**

The New Voices Young Playwrights Festival celebrates new plays by young writers from our region. Every year we choose 8-10 short plays from the contest to produce in the festival, which takes place in April at Actors Theatre of Louisville. The winning playwrights work alongside professional dramaturgs, directors, designers and actors from our staff and Professional Training Company to bring their stories to life onstage. The plays are also published in our annual New Voices anthology.

### **Am I eligible?**

The New Voices Young Playwrights Festival is open to middle and high school students, grades 6 through 12, living in Kentucky or the 812 area code of Southern Indiana. Students must be enrolled in the 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grade as of October 30, 2020. All young writers are encouraged to submit—you do *not* need to participate in a New Voices classroom residency to submit your play to the festival.

### **Where can I go for advice on writing a fabulous ten-minute play?**

If you're feeling stumped or stuck, e-mail [NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org](mailto:NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org) for helpful hints and sample plays.

### **I wrote a play! How do I prepare the script for submission?**

Scripts must be typed, individually bound or stapled, and no more than ten pages long. And be sure to fill out a cover sheet so we can contact you if we choose your play! You can send in a hard copy of your coversheet or fill out the form online with this link: [www.tinyurl.com/NV2021Webcoversheet](http://www.tinyurl.com/NV2021Webcoversheet)

### **Do I have to fill out a cover sheet?**

All submissions must be accompanied by a completed cover sheet. You can fill out the coversheet online here [www.tinyurl.com/NV2021Webcoversheet](http://www.tinyurl.com/NV2021Webcoversheet), or print out and mail in the cover sheet on page 3 of this document.

### **I hear you have a “blind reading policy.” What’s that all about?**

Great question! Our blind reading policy means that we like to consider each play without knowing the playwright’s age, gender, school, or other identifying information. Please do not include this type of information on your script—that’s what the coversheets for. Your title page should include the name of your play and, if you like, a description of the characters and setting.

**What about e-submissions?**

We welcome electronic submissions! Please read below for the appropriate methods to submit your documents.

MICROSOFT WORD | PDF | GOOGLE DOCS: Please submit your play to [newvoicescontest@gmail.com](mailto:newvoicescontest@gmail.com)

**\*\*We do not accept Apple Pages or Microsoft SharePoint Online documents.**

**Can I submit more than one play?**

Sorry, only one submission per playwright – send us your best!

**I wrote a play with one of my friends. Can we submit that together?**

Unfortunately, we only produce plays for the New Voices Festival that were written by a single playwright.

**Where do I send my script?**

*Hard copy submissions:*

NEW VOICES YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL

Attn: Janelle Renee Dunn

Actors Theatre of Louisville

316 West Main Street

Louisville, KY 40202

*Email submissions:* [newvoicescontest@gmail.com](mailto:newvoicescontest@gmail.com)

**What's the submission deadline?**

Submissions must be postmarked by October 30, 2020. Winners will be notified in February 2021.

**What do I win?**

Winners have their plays produced in the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival in April 2021. As part of play development process winners participate in three playwriting workshops. Playwrights are also invited to attend the rehearsals of their play. The winning plays and honorable mentions are published in the New Voices Anthology.

# ACTORS THEATRE

## New Voices Young Playwrights Festival COVER SHEET

Title of play: \_\_\_\_\_

Playwright (*first and last name*): First name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last name: \_\_\_\_\_

State (circle one): Kentucky Indiana

County: \_\_\_\_\_

Playwright phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle one.) *home phone / cell* E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of parent or guardian: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/guardian phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ (Circle one.) *home phone / cell* E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

What grade are you in (circle one): 6<sup>th</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> 12<sup>th</sup>

Have you submitted to the New Voices Young Playwrights Festival in the past? (Circle one.) *yes / no*

School Name & City (if you are home-schooled, please write "home-schooled"):

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*City*

Teacher/Contact at school \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Name*

\_\_\_\_\_  
*Email*

If you wrote your play as part of an Actors Theatre New Voices or VSA residency, please list your teaching artist:

\_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE NOTE:** Contest winners will be posted on our website at [www.actorstheatre.org](http://www.actorstheatre.org) in February 2021. Please include an active email address on this form if you'd like us to send you a message when we make our announcement. Questions? E-mail [NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org](mailto:NewVoices@ActorsTheatre.org) or call (502) 584-1265 x3046