

***Please note, regional and state festival bookend
Midwinter break. This was a statewide vote, so we
have no way to change it***

*Infinite Black Suitcase
Audition Packet*

Be sure to go over this packet
with a parent. Character
descriptions, calendar, and
audition scenes can be found
on the troupe website.

**ONLY BRING THE
LAST TWO SHEETS
TO AUDITIONS!**

Dear Parents,

By now you should be informed of your child's decision to audition/apply for the Stevenson's MIFA One Act Company. As exciting as it may be to your child, there are a few things that are important for the parents to know as their child begins this new experience. First off, what is MIFA? MIFA stands for Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association and is focused around the middle and high school levels of speech activities like debate, individual events, and theater. The One Act play competition is our focus. As a prospective MIFA parent there are many things that you would like to and should know...

How to be a MIFA parent

1. Show enthusiasm for your child's part in the company/production, no matter how large or small their part may appear. (Due to the smaller size of the company you'd be surprised the importance each student has.)
2. Recognize this is like participating in a sport; the children need a cheering section. There are potentially three separate competitions to attend.
3. Help us raise funds to off-set out of pocket expenses for traveling and other needs of the company. For the Regional Competition, overnight traveling is a minor possibility but is **mandatory** for the State Competition because it is in Grand Rapids, MI. There are also traditional expenses to the family associated with a show such as black clothing for crew, extra food at festivals, etc.
4. Realize that during MIFA season your child will have hours devoted to rehearsals but will still need to maintain their grades.

What we need from parents.

1. We need you to volunteer to be a part of a committee for Dinner theater (see schedule for specific date).
2. To help secure prizes for our dinner theater raffle.
3. Help organize homeroom food arrangements for the three festivals.
4. Help get as many people possible to see our show at the dinner theater and all levels of competition.

Why it's all worth it

1. Your child will gain self confidence, self worth, and self knowledge.
2. He/She will learn to work as a part of a close knit team.
3. He/She will be exposed to and learn about many of the technical aspects of a production. (sets, costumes, make-up, lighting, and sound all which are applicable in our daily lives)
4. The smile on your child's face! (It can be seen during the MIFA season, especially at the competitions)

General One Act Info

- This is a limited size traveling company and we will not be able to take all students who apply.
- Students must be available for the dinner theater and all festival days.
- Festivals may require overnight stay(s) that will be organized and supervised by SHS staff and adult volunteers.
- The company holds a large number of full company and full dress rehearsals. See calendar for details.
- Attendance is mandatory for all rehearsals. This is a team, not an "activity."
- In event of personal or school business that takes precedent, a note, email, or call to the director is expected. All company members will be given multiple responsibilities and must attend to each of them.
- All company members must participate in group and individual fundraising.
- It is the director's intent to realize the full potential of the group and the students as individuals. With that, expectations are high. Everyday and everyone is important and that concept will be stressed.
- There will be a parent meeting whose time and date are TBA.

A little information about MIFA and the SHS Festival entrant

The Michigan Interscholastic Forensic Association is an office created to serve middle and high school level forensic activities like theater, debate, and individual events. The association is run as an independent organization and is funded through school membership fees. The SHS drama department participates in the three tier theater festival. We have committed to attend the district festival and the current structure also guarantees us a trip to the regional festival. Stevenson has a long history of success in the festival series including State Championships in '11 and '15. Approximately 30 schools begin at the district level with festivals held all over Michigan. In the case of districts and regionals, geography is considered when schools are assigned to their sites. The state festival consists of the top 12 schools from the regional festivals and rotates sites all around the state. This year we expect the state festival to be held at Grand Rapids Christian HS.

The seasons alternate between plays of a humorous and a serious nature. With 2015-2016 being a serious year, SHS has chosen the relatively new script *Infinite Black Suitcase*.

This play consists of a series of scene, in some ways tied by characters, in others simply by theme. The overarching story follows the theme of how to deal with death, but does not focus on the dead or dying. The stories focus on those who are left behind, or must make plans for what happens once their loved ones are gone. Each of the three families must deal with a unique aftermath, pushing them to make decisions they never thought they would have to deal with.

One Act Audition Application

(all applicants, both acting and technical, must complete this form)

PRINT NEATLY!!

Name (As you wish it to appear in the program) _____

Grade _____ Gender _____ Age _____

Your Email Address _____

Your cell # _____

Parent(s) First and Last Name(s) _____

Parent Email Address(es) _____

Parent Cell ph.# for emergency contact _____ who's is this? _____

Have you read and understood all the information posted and included Yes / No
in this packet about this production?

Do you understand you are entering a competition wherein you are a Yes / No
delegate for the school and represent the drama department and its level of quality?

Do you understand this is a full drama department production and the Yes / No
same rules and standards of conduct apply?

Are you willing to accept any position in the company? Yes / No

Have you looked over the schedule and determined you have no major Yes / No
conflicts?

Please list any major conflicts you cannot work around. Remember that everyone is expected to attend all rehearsals unless otherwise excused. You will need to arrange your daily schedule, so do not list things you can change if you are accepted into the company.

| Date | Reason |
|-------|--------|
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ |

All members of the company will have a show and a production responsibility. List below your **1st, 2nd, and 3rd** choice for your show responsibility. Remember, 70% of the company is crew. You will be taught everything technical you need to know, so feel free to sign up for whatever crew interests you.

Actor _____

Light Crew _____ Set Crew _____ Props Crew _____

Sound Crew _____ Costume, Hair, and Make-up Crew _____

Are you interested in being a crew head? Yes / No

Please be sure to read the website for detailed descriptions of the above positions.

Why do you want to be a member of this company? _____

What will you bring to this company? _____

District Festival
January 30th
TBA

Dinner Theater
February 11th
SHS

Regional Festival
February 13th
TBA

State Festival
Feb 19th & 20th
Grand Rapids Christian HS

Student: _____
(Your signature implies that you read, understood, and
plan to abide by the information on your application)

date

Parent: _____
(Your signature implies that you have read and understood
the project your student is applying for)

date