The Educational Theatre Association seeks high-quality full-length productions to showcase on the main stage during the 2021 Virtual International Thespian Festival. There’s nothing like the thrill of seeing your performance presented to thousands of fellow Thespians. If your troupe would like to be adjudicated for the ITF 2021 main stage, please apply by January 31, 2021.

**ELIGIBLE SUBMISSIONS**

Two types of submissions will be considered for the Virtual ITF 2021 main stage:

1. Live performances (including virtual)
2. Hybrid and video-enhanced performances (prerecorded)

A *live performance* is a production for which the cast performance is captured on video, either by recording an onstage performance or by recording a virtual performance through video conferencing software. This includes live performances, virtual performances, online performances, and digital performances with appropriate licensing rights.

A *hybrid or video-enhanced performance* is a production in which scenes are edited together using prerecorded student performance video and video enhancements, such as animations, b-roll, etc., into a final creative product that combines elements of theatre and film. This category includes prerecorded virtual performances, online performances, and digital performances with video special effects or enhancements with appropriate licensing rights.

At least six total performances will be selected for Virtual ITF 2021. The total number chosen and the makeup by category will depend on the number and type submitted and determined by the selection process below.

Troupes may submit one show to be screened. This year, all shows will be adjudicated via video submissions due to COVID-19; no shows will be screened in person.

**SELECTION PROCESS**

Each performance will be evaluated independently by an adjudicator selected by EdTA, and the director will receive adjudicator feedback for educational purposes. Performances will be selected for the ITF main stage based on these factors:

1. Achieving among the highest scores according to the main stage adjudication rubric.
2. Promoting diversity, inclusion, and cultural competency through BIPOC representation in the cast, crew, director, playwright, and/or subject matter of the work.
   a. If the top scoring productions lack representation for underserved populations and artists, high scoring productions that do represent these artists and scripts may be selected to ensure diversity, equity, and inclusion.
3. Creating a well-rounded lineup of shows that provides variety for festival attendees and fits the themes and needs of the event (“producer’s choice”). For example:
   a. Two productions of the same show might not be chosen even if they are both among the top scorers.
   b. If the top-scoring productions are all musicals, the highest-scoring play(s) may be selected to provide variety.
Due to the complications of COVID-19, several previous rules will not apply in 2020-21: Main stage show selection will not be based on seasons (with proportional slots allotted to fall and spring shows), and all directors are welcome to submit, regardless of when they last had a main stage show selected.

Schools whose performances are selected may choose to present their screened video submission or livestream their performance during ITF.

**DIRECTORS’ RESPONSIBILITIES**

To have a show submitted and presented at Virtual ITF, directors must:

- Secure written permission from the publisher for presentation during Virtual ITF.
- Obtain video permission/rights granted to your school by the rights holder.
- Pay all royalties and adhere to the policies in their production contract with the publishing company.
- Include proof of applicable performance, virtual, and/or digital rights in your application.

**VIDEO SUBMISSION PROCESS**

Both the application and screening process will happen in EdTA’s online judging platform (OpenWater). When complete, directors will upload their performance videos to their chosen video hosting platform, such as Vimeo or YouTube, with appropriate privacy settings, then submit a link to the performance with your application.

Education is a central part of the screening process. Adjudicators will use an evaluation form designed to provide ample feedback to directors and students.

**You must submit your video within two weeks of your performance or no later than March 31.**

Adjudications will occur as videos are received by EdTA. If all videos are received near the final deadline, selection may be delayed.

Directors who do not submit their video by the March 31 deadline will not receive a refund of their application fee. EdTA will still arrange adjudication for educational purposes, but the performance will not be considered for ITF.

**FEES AND DEADLINES**

Applications will open November 1, 2020, and close January 31, 2021. To allow all adjudications to be arranged and scheduled, you must apply by January 31 to be screened.

The adjudication fee is $150. Troupes will be invoiced February 15 and must pay by March 31, 2021. Video performances must be submitted by March 31, 2021.

Shows selected for the ITF main stage will be informed in April 2021, and the slate will be announced to members no later than April 30, 2021.

Directors will receive their adjudications no later than April 30.