

Limelight Theatre Company Short Play Festival

Entry _____

Adjudicators will use this scoring guide to critique all short play submissions. Although a comments section is provided, this does not mean that all scripts submitted will receive commentary in addition to their adjudicator's completion of the scoring guide.

Area of Critique	Exemplary (4 points)	Proficient (3 points)	Emerging (2 points)	Needs Improvement (0-1 point)
Dialogue ____/4 points	Character dialogue is poignant, realistic, and believable. Each character is distinct in his/her voice.	Character dialogue is mostly realistic. Characters have strong voices, but may not be individually developed.	Character dialogue is clunky and awkward. A poor representation of true-to-life speech.	Difficult to distinguish between characters. Dialogue is inconsistent and poorly written.
Character Development ____/4 points	Characters are dynamic, multi-dimensional and original. There is a clear and powerful arc from beginning to end for one or more characters.	Characters are dynamic, but may lack depth. There is an attempt at a character arc.	Characters falter between dynamic and static choices. Little attempt is made to grow characters across the story.	Characters are static and do not develop as a result of the story.
Fluency ____/4 points	The writing of dialogue, setting, and stage directions is clear, concise and vivid.	The writing of the dialogue, setting, and stage directions is clear and concise.	The writing of the dialogue, setting, and stage directions is flawed, hard to understand, and/or unclear.	The writing of the dialogue, setting, and stage directions is lacking detail/missing, awkwardly phrased, and/or impossible to understand.
Plot Development ____/4 points	The story has a clear and engaging conflict that develops significantly and completely, resolving in a poignant way.	The story has a clear conflict that develops from beginning to end, resolving in some way.	The story has a conflict that develops somewhat over the course of the story. It may or may not be completely resolved.	The story does not have a conflict or it may be unclear. The story is stagnant and does not progress from beginning to end.
Structure ____/4 points	The story includes significant and well-executed exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, and resolution to form a complete and meaningful whole.	The story includes exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, and resolution to form a complete and meaningful whole.	The story includes exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, and resolution.	The story lacks exposition, inciting incident, rising action, climax, and/or resolution.
Pacing and Flow ____/4 points	An appropriate amount of time is spent developing characters and establishing plot. Moments/scenes transition effortlessly from one to the next.	An appropriate amount of time is spent developing characters and establishing plot. Transitions between moments/scenes may be awkward.	An inappropriate amount of time is spent developing characters and establishing plot. Transitions between moments/scenes may be awkward.	Inconsistent or inadequate time spent developing various points of the script. Transitions are weak or nonexistent.
Impact/ Effectiveness ____/4 points	The culmination of the story has a profound effect, leaving the audience with something to ponder or consider.	The culmination of the story makes an impact. The overall message or purpose may need clarification.	The culmination of the story does not make a significant impact. The message or purpose is unclear.	The story does not make an impact.

Use of Language _____/4 points	Diction is vivid, descriptive and appropriate to the story. Character vocabulary is precisely chosen.	Diction is appropriate to the story. Character vocabulary is wisely chosen, but may not always be the best choice.	Diction is not always appropriate to the story. Character vocabulary is not always well chosen for the context.	Diction is inappropriate for the story. Character vocabulary does not match expectation or context.
Conventions _____/4 points	All grammar, punctuation, and spelling is (near) perfect. Formatting is clear and effective.	Minor errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling. Does not detract from meaning. Formatting is clear and effective.	Errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling impact the meaning of the play. Formatting is unclear.	Significant errors in grammar, punctuation, and spelling impact the meaning of the play. Formatting is nonexistent or inappropriate.

Comments:

Total Score: _____/36 points

If this piece should be considered for Best in Show, please provide a rationale below: