

Enter Stage Left Theater Inc.

“The Write Stuff” Playwriting Contest - 2011

ESL invites aspiring playwrights of all ages and experience to submit an original work for our 1st play writing contest. Up to four one-act plays will be selected for a public performance to take place in July 2011. First prize will be \$250, second \$150, and third prize \$50. The first runner up play will be produced, but no cash prize will be rewarded.

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: March 1, 2011

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The play must be an original work. Entrants are allowed to submit up to three (3) original scripts for consideration. One writer or a collaboration of two writers may write the play(s).

The length of the play should be 15-20 minutes in length, not to exceed 30 minutes. (A standard rule of thumb is 1 page = 1 minute).

CONTENT OF SCRIPT

The play may be about any subject. However any scripts containing inappropriate language or subject matter will not be considered for final selection.

Musicals cannot be considered, nor can plays that include copyrighted music or song lyrics.

Plays must include at least 2 characters, but no more than 8 characters.

Plays should have limited set, costume and prop requirements. Only simple on/off or fade lighting will be available. Plays with special effects, lighting or elaborate sets can not be produced for the public performance.

FORMAT OF SCRIPT

The play must include a title page that includes:

- The name of the play
- The name of the author(s)
- The author's contact phone number
- The author's contact email address

Following the title page, please include a brief synopsis of the play. This synopsis may be used by ESL for publicity purposes.

Include a page that lists a brief description of each character. This information may be used by ESL when announcing auditions.

Please use Arial font no smaller than 12-point

Following the title page, please number the pages of your script.

SUBMISSION OF SCRIPT

All plays must be electronically submitted in a Microsoft WORD format. Email your script to **Dawn Anderson** (deaaja@charter.net) and **Sandee Buckley** (sandeezmail312@yahoo.com). **The deadline is March 1, 2011.**

An entry fee of \$25.00 is required via ESL's Paypal upon submission of your play. The fee will go towards the production costs of the selected plays. Fees can be paid via check mailed to Enter Stage Left Theater, 98 Hayden Rowe St., Hopkinton, MA 01748; or via credit card using the paypal button on the Upcoming Events page where the contest is described.

PRODUCTION OF PLAYS

A panel of 2 or more judges will read all of the submitted plays. The four selected plays will be determined no later than March 30, 2011. All entrants will be notified as to whether their play was chosen via email no later than March 31, 2010.

A meeting with the writers of the 4 selected plays will take place in early April. At that time, writers must determine if they intend to direct their play or request a Director be assigned to their play. For finalists participating in the direction of their scripts, the remainder of the rehearsal dates will be decided after discussion with the individual finalists.

The titles of the plays chosen as finalists will be put on the theatre's website prior to auditions. Auditions will be announced and take place late April/early May 2011. Rehearsals will take place during the month of May, June and early July. Finalists are encouraged to have friends and family audition for the plays. Auditions will be open to the public.

The plays will be performed in July 2011 (dates and location are TBD). The audience will vote on the winning play(s). Playwrights must be in attendance for the performances.

Once plays are chosen and announced, non-chosen playwrights may contact ESL for feedback on the script but must understand that it may not be possible for all such requests to be addressed quickly depending on the number of such requests.