

Rules & Regulations for the Congleton Players' One Act Play Writing Competition 2008 / 2009

- 1) The closing date for entries is January 31st 2009
- 2) There will be two categories of judging: a) plays written by those aged 18 years and under on January 2009 and b) plays written by those aged 19 years and over on January 31st 2009
- 3) The winner in category a) will receive £100 and the winner in category b) will receive £150
- 4) In the event of joint winners in either category, the prize money will be equally shared
- 5) If there are insufficient entries in either category, Congleton Players reserve the right to declare that category null and void and no prize will be awarded
- 6) Typed or printed entries will be preferred, but all legible scripts will be read
- 7) Each play should have a running time of 20-30 minutes (3500 to 4000 words should be a rough guide)
- 8) Ideally, plays should have between 2 and 6 characters, but this is a guideline only and monologues and plays with more characters will be fully considered. However, please think about the practicalities of staging your play when you are writing
- 9) A **brief** description of the layout of the stage, props, lighting etc as well as the characters in the play should be included at the front of the script.
- 10) The play should be set out with the name of the character who is about to speak in capitals or bold type on the left of the page in an undrawn margin. Look at any printed play for guidance on style if you are not sure.
- 11) All stage directions should be in brackets. Please remember that your play will be directed by an experienced director who will inevitably want to have their own freedom to interpret the play
- 12) Scene changes should be kept to a minimum and made as simple as possible. No scene changes (i.e. continuous action) are preferred, but again, this is only a guideline.
- 13) Each play submitted must be the writer's original work and should NOT have been previously performed at any public theatre
- 14) Scripts must NOT have the writer's real name. They should have a false name (for reading and judging only) and all entries must be clearly labeled with the writer's age category.
- 15) There is NO entry fee and our aim is not to make a profit, but to cover our costs. Would you therefore PLEASE make sure that you have the appropriate [postage on the script when you send it in. Any costs accrued for scripts from authors which do not have the correct postage will be charged back to the author.
- 16) THIS NEXT STEP IS VERY IMPORTANT! - Please place TWO self addressed stamped envelopes (at the correct postal rate) inside a third envelope. Seal this third envelope and then write the title of your play in CAPITALS on it. Send this with the script. Your script will be read

under your nom-de-plume, but your name and address (phone number and e-mail address if appropriate) are needed for updates and further details.

17) All plays submitted will be read in organised play-readings by Congleton Players members and then judged by the Congleton Players Management Committee who will choose the plays to be performed at the 300 seat Daneside Theatre in Congleton in July 2009.

18) The decision of the Congleton Players Committee is final.

19) YOUR SUBMISSION OF A PLAY IN THIS COMPETITION AUTOMATICALLY GRANTS CONGLETON PLAYERS AND THE DANESIDE THEATRE TRUST ROYALTY FREE PERFORMING RIGHTS TO PERFORMANCE OF THE PLAY ON AN ON-GOING BASIS.

20) PLEASE make sure that if you have any queries regarding these terms and conditions, that you contact us BEFORE you submit your play.

21) Completed entries should be sent by post to:

Congleton Players
22, Trinity Place
Congleton
Cheshire
CW12 3JB
England
United Kingdom

Electronic copies will NOT be accepted.

22) The aims and objectives of Congleton Players are to arouse and stimulate interest in plays and the theatre, to give a voice to hitherto unknown writers and to hold a series of one act play competitions in order to keep the spirit of live theatre alive.

23) PLEASE NOTE THAT IT WILL TAKE SEVERAL WEEKS TO READ THROUGH ALL THE SUBMISSIONS FOR THE COMPETITION AND SELECT THE FINALISTS. WE RESPECTFULLY ASK YOU TO BE PATIENT. ALL ENTRIES WILL GET A RESPONSE.