

Lex-Ham Community Theater



**September 23-24, 2005
Concordia University-St. Paul**

Preliminary - Event Information Packet

The Lex-Ham Community Theater's 2005 24-Hour Play Festival is an event where teams have 24 hours to write, cast, direct, design, memorize, and present the play before an audience. The play must include a set of "ingredients" (e.g., a wedding gown, the Civil War, and the number 17) that are told to the playwrights from each group at the start of the event. These ingredients must be written into the script by the playwright and/or presented on the stage as props or costume items.

Each team designates a person who will be the playwright for the group and another person who will be the director for that team. At the performance, audience members vote for the teams that will win cash prizes.

Registration

Individuals or groups of individuals can sign up to participate in the event using the official Registration Form located in this packet. People can sign up for the event as individuals and they will be assigned to a team. If more than one person signs up on the same registration form, they will be assigned to the same team. The registration fee is \$10 or \$12 on the day of the event. The form and the registration fee should be mailed to:

**24-Hour Play Festival
Lex-Ham Community Theater
1184 Portland Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104**

Location

All events for the 24-Hour Play Festival will take place on the campus of Concordia University-St. Paul. The performances will take place in the E.M. Pearson Theatre, 312 N Hamline Avenue, St. Paul. A map of the Concordia campus is located later in the packet.

Some of the dimensions and technical information about the performance space is as follows:

Proscenium 36' x 24'

Stage is 32' Deep

Apron in front of Proscenium is 5'

Pit adds another 9' to the front of the stage

Pit is 40' wide

Wings are 20' x 32'

Lighting: The rep plot is up. It is a three light area: one warm, one cold and one top no color. Areas 1 through 5 cover the pit, 6-10 covers from the back of the pit to the second alley, 11-15 covers to the second alley to the fourth alley (Middle part of the stage), 16-20 cover the back part. Each team will be allowed one special.

Sound equipment: Currently there are two CD players patched in.

Lit matches and candles are allowed. Alcoholic beverages and illegal substances are NOT allowed anywhere on Concordia's campus.

Teams

Up to six teams will be included in the event. This limit is due primarily to the fact that all the teams must perform their plays during the evening session. As part of the opening events, the members of the team will decide on a name for their team. It is anticipated that there will be no more than 10 persons on each team. Each team will designate one person to be the playwright and one person to be the director.

The playwright will be allowed to talk with the director at the end of the writing period, but will not be allowed to be with the team during the rehearsal period.

Each team will have a room to plan, design, and rehearse their play along with a short time on the actual performance space to It is expected that the teams will leave their room in the same shape as how they found it.

Schedule of Events

Friday, September 23

7:30 p.m. Registration closes
8:00 p.m. Opening information session for all participants
8:30 p.m. Teams are announced
9:00 p.m. Deadline for making changes to teams and deciding on a team name
9:30 p.m. Information session for playwrights
10:00 p.m. Playwrights sequestered to write plays

Saturday, September 24

5:00 a.m. Plays are given to event staff for rating
5:30 a.m. Plays are given to directors and playwrights leave; Casting begins
7:30 a.m. Final cast lists are turned in
10:00 a.m. Requests for lighting special due
1:00 p.m. Teams rotate 45-minute tech rehearsal in performance space
5:30 p.m. Food break for all participants in Green Room
8:00 p.m. Performances begin

Play Ratings

With only a few restrictions, the playwrights are given much freedom to write whatever they want. However, to help the audience members know they can expect, after the plays are written, the playwrights and event staff will discuss the content of the plays to give them one of three ratings:

Family Friendly: The play is considered acceptable to be watched by anyone.

PG-13: The play contains some language, situations, themes, or actions that may not be appropriate for younger audience members, but not so intense as to merit an “Adult Content” rating.

Adult Content: The play contains language, situations, themes, or actions that some adults may find offensive or upsetting, such as harsh profanity, intense violence, explicit sexual content and extensive drug use.

Plays that are rated “Family Friendly” will be performed earliest in the evening.

The restrictions on the plays are the following:

- 1) Maximum length of 30 minutes
- 2) No nudity

Sets and Props

Lex-Ham Community Theater will provide a table, two chairs, some cubes, and a bench that all teams can use as part of their set. Teams are welcome to supplement that set with items of their own. All items must be removed from the theater by the end of Saturday night.

Performances

Teams whose plays are rated “Family Friendly” will perform first and those that are rated “Adult Content” will perform last. Within that grouping, the performance order will be set by random draw.

Teams will have

- 1) Five minutes to set up the stage before their play;
- 2) Up to thirty minutes to perform their play; and
- 3) Five minutes to clear the stage after their play.

Prizes

Audience members will receive a ballot to vote for the People’s Choice Award. The three teams with the highest number of votes will receive the following prizes:

- 1st - \$200
- 2nd - \$100
- 3rd - \$50

Lex-Ham Community Theater



Registration Form September 23-24, 2005 – Concordia University-St. Paul

| Name | Phone(s) | E-Mail Address |
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Registration Fee: \$10 per person or \$12 on day of event

Mail this form along with a check with the registration fee(s) to:

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Lex-Ham Community Theater
1184 Portland Avenue
Saint Paul, MN 55104**

Map of Concordia University-St. Paul

E.M. Pearson Theatre – Building 2

