PURPOSE

The individual event theatre component of the Michigan Youth Arts Festival recognizes outstanding theater performances on the secondary school level. The Michigan Thespians, a chapter of the Educational Theatre Association (META) selects the representative(s) for the Michigan Youth Arts Festival using the evaluations at a minimum of two different levels of performance. Qualifying high school students must be selected at their district level as one of two qualifiers in their event to move on to participation at the state theatre festival. Superior rankings in select categories at the state level will qualify that student for MYAF auditions for showcase as well as for the national theatre festival. A superior rating in a musical theatre will qualify a student for META and MSVMA’s Musical Theatre Honor’s Ensemble Auditions. (MSVMA qualifications must be met if a student is from MSVMA and not META. MSVMA students will be selected from students attending a Musical Theatre Intensive through MSVMA.) A team of highly qualified theatre educators and/or professionals will make the final invitations for participation in the MYAF Individual Event Showcase and the guest director, a qualified META and MYAF representative will make final invitations for the Musical Theatre Collaboration.

ELIGIBILITY

Student must receive an overall rating of “Superior” at META State Festival in qualifying categories to have the option of submitting an application, and then, if selected, in performing at the Youth Arts Festival Showcase. Student must receive a “Superior” rating in a musical theatre category at META State Festival to have the option of submitting and application for the Musical Theatre Honors Ensemble and performing if selected. If auditioning through MSVMA, students will have been selected from those who were selected to attend a Musical Theatre Intensive. (Directions for this procedure are found through MSVMA.) Students will be able to submit the application form and fee after Festival if they decide to attend MYAF.

RULES OF PARTICIPATION: ACTING SHOWCASE OR MUSICAL THEATRE HONORS ENSEMBLE.

There are two ways to participate in Michigan Youth Arts Festival. One option is to perform your individual event from festival that earned a superior rating in the Theatre
Showcase. All students who would like to attend Michigan Youth Arts Festival must complete a form, application fee, and submit a video of their superior rated performance or presentation from Michigan Thespian Festival. The window for submitting usually closes near the end of January.

The second option, if a student earned a superior in a musical theatre category at META (Thespian) State Theatre Festival is to submit a video of a 32 bar cut of a solo musical theatre audition piece, fee, and form. This will be an earlier deadline due to rehearsal that takes place at Michigan Music Conference in mid January. (Note: MSVMA students should consult MSVMA website for more information.

More information can be found at: https://www.michiganthespians.org/myaf

Students must also cover the registration cost of MYAF. This year’s cost is $80 for a one day participation fee, $110 for an overnight stay, or $250 for full festival.

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