

## DRAMA STUDENT PORTFOLIO INFORMATION SHEET

**Teachers must have the student fill out the enclosed nomination form and return to ESU #11 on or before February 24, 2010.** Students who have been nominated for the Summer Honors Program Drama Class should develop a portfolio of examples of their own acting ability, and/or technical production experience. **These portfolios must be RECEIVED by Educational Service Unit #11 no later than 4:00 p.m. on Friday, March 19, 2010. ESU #11 will be CLOSED March 5 & 12 for Spring Break. Because of problems with video formats getting damaged in the mail, we prefer that you submit as a movie file on data DVD to: Summer Honors Program, Educational Service Unit #11, P.O. Box 858, 412 West 14th Avenue, Holdrege, NE 68949. If mailing is necessary, please use a hard case to prevent damage, and be sure to allow sufficient time for us to receive it by March 19. NO LATE ENTRIES WILL BE ACCEPTED.**

### **Guidelines for portfolios of Drama nominees:**

#### **VIDEO (See Audition Video Do's and Don'ts):**

1. Each student nominated must put together a 2 minute video of acting and/or technical production skills that best conveys their abilities. Each student may use new material especially prepared for this audition for a play production. The selection can be, but not limited to, one or two monologues, a cutting from an oral interpretation of prose or drama, or a scene showing technical experience.
2. Tip for video: Home video of a play is often too far away and too low in volume to tell much about the expertise of the actor. Instead, actor's should submit video auditions which include only one actor which shows something of the actor's personality and stage presence.
3. The presentation should include a brief introduction (with no mention of student's name or school) that gives your purpose, the name of the piece(s), author, and scene set up (who, what, when, where, why).
4. Format: All media must be able to be played in a standard DVD player. (i.e. no mini DVD's, 8mm tapes, VHS tapes, VHS-C tapes, etc.) If you need assistance in putting your video on a DVD, please contact Tim Burke or Danita Geisinger at ESU #11 (995-6585) for assistance. We in no way want to keep anyone from auditioning because they cannot produce a DVD.

#### **RESUME:**

The resume (**with no student name or school mentioned**) should include the student's theater, music contest, and speech contest experience. Experience could include but not be limited to: acting, dance, choreography, vocal and instrumental music, lighting, sound, set designing, set construction, costumes, make-up, publicity, and programs.

#### **COVER SHEET:**

A cover sheet to the resume and video must include the nominee's name, address, telephone number, school. The cover page will be removed when a number is assigned to the resume and video DVD for judging so that selections can be made anonymously.

Student's video auditions will be judged and ranked according to quality. Consideration will be given to the type of roles and/or characters needed for the production. The top ranked auditions will be given acting roles, according to the roles in the production or non-acting positions as stage/technical crew.

Students selected for the cast will receive their scripts in April or May. Students will be expected to have lines learned prior to the beginning of Summer Honors in June.

The drama will be presented twice towards the end of the two week session:

Wednesday, June 23, 2010, 8:00 p.m. at the "Tassel", the Phelps County Center for Performing Arts in Holdrege, NE AND Friday, June 25, 2010, 8:00 pm. at the Minden Opera House, Minden, NE.

## Summer Honors Drama Audition Video Do's and Don'ts From the Instructor

### Do:

**1. Include in your audition an introduction: Do not give your name, but state your purpose and the name of your pieces.** *Feel free to be creative with the introduction, as long as it is appropriate and short.*

**2. Keep your audition to two minutes, max. You can use one two-minute monologue or two one-minute pieces, each not more than 1 minute long.** *I know in the first 10 sec. if I want to consider you for the program. I will watch up to a minute of a monologue to see if my first impression was right. If an audition piece exceeds one minute, I fast forward through to the end.*

**3. Choose two contrasting pieces.** *Contrasting pieces can be either a classic piece (Shakespeare, Chekhov, Moliere, Ibsen, or anything written before 1960) and a modern piece (anything written after 1960). Contrasting pieces can also be one serious and one comical.*

**4. Audition pieces can be taken from books or movies, but they should not tell a story.** *Ex) Don't pick a monologue where you are telling me what happened last week, instead choose a piece where you are involved in an intense situation that is happening right now.*

**5. Watch your audition video before you put it in the mail. Check to make sure it is your best work and that you have identified yourself properly.** *In the past couple years I have received video with multiple actors on it but no information to identify who was auditioning.*

**6. Take your time, rehearse and put your best work on video. I can tell when your audition is slapped together at the last minute.** *Relax, I want you to be brilliant. If you put your best work on the video I will notice. If you don't I will also notice.*

**7. Memorize your pieces. I will not cast anyone who does not have their lines memorized.** *It's only two minutes of text.*

**9. Mention your interest or willingness to be part of the technical crew. I have had brilliant students in these positions in the past and believe it or not, these are the positions where you can learn the most.**

**10. Make sure your material is tasteful and appropriate for an audition. Don't send me something you couldn't show your grandmother.**

### Don't:

**1. Do not send clips of plays or speech performances you have done.** *I can not tell how well you act from footage of you in your H.S. play.*

**2. Do not include footage of anyone other than yourself in the audition video.** *You run the risk that I like your duet partner more than you and spend my time wishing they were trying out for my class.*

**3. Do not sing or dance for the audition.** *It is nice to know you have these talents, but we are not set up to do musicals. Focus on your acting or technical skills.*