



Monash Student Association Nationwide Open Playwrights' Competition 2005

Open to all Australian Residents

Guidelines & Rules

1. **ELIGIBLE PLAYS.** A full length play, or a collection of short plays. **Only original, unpublished, un-produced plays will be considered.** The following guidelines apply to submissions.
 - a. **Length of Play:** A full-length play is one with a running time of at least 1 hour and 20 minutes. A collection of short plays must have a combined running time of at least 1 hour and 20 minutes. A collection of short plays that meets this criteria is considered one entry.
 - b. **Cast requirements:** As these plays are to be produced by Monash University Student Theatre, large casts are encouraged. **Plays should include a minimum of 6 characters.** (Plays that incorporate a large cast, or lend themselves to participation by larger numbers of students will be looked on favourably.)
 - c. **Style:** There are no style restrictions, however no musicals, adaptations, translations, or screenplays will be considered.
 - d. **Simultaneous Submissions:** Simultaneous submissions will be considered. However, should the submitted play receive another award, or receive a production contract prior to the announcement of award winners for the Monash Student Association Playwrights' Competition, the play will become ineligible for this competition.

2. **ELIGIBLE AUTHORS.** Authors must be current residents of Australia. **Entries for every prize except the Monash Student Prize are open to all Australian Residents.** Submissions for the Monash Student Award must be from students who have been enrolled at the Monash University Clayton campus during the 2005 calendar year.

3. ENTRY FEE. A non-refundable entry fee of **\$5.00** is required for each different play submitted. Cash and credit card entries will not be accepted. Cheques or money orders should be made payable to the **Monash Student Association**.

4. NUMBER OF ENTRIES. Authors are free to submit more than one entry. A submission form and entry fee are required for each entry being submitted.

5. PLAY FORMAT. Please send two copies of each entered work. Plays must be submitted in **standard play format**, on standard A4 size paper and printed in at least a 12-point proportional font. (A plain font with seraphs such as Times New Roman is best.) Please print on one side of the page only. The script can be bound along the left-hand margin, however, a large fold back clip will suffice as long as the title of the play is on each page and the pages are numbered. We also recommend you use a cardstock cover.

Each of the two 'bound' scripts should include:

1. A **complete script** with numbered pages including the name of the work (or abbreviation) on each page;
2. A **title page** containing only the title of the play;
3. A **cast of characters** list;
3. A **setting and time** page. (You don't have to describe an entire set design, just indicate where and when the play takes place.)

Your name should not appear anywhere on the script.

Entries should also include:

1. A **second title page**, not bound to the script, which includes the title of the work along with your name and contact information. Please include an email address and day time phone number with your information. (one copy only needed)
2. A **brief synopsis** of the play for promotional purposes, approximately 100 words (one copy only needed)
3. A **brief biography** of the playwright for promotional purposes, approximately 50 words (one copy only needed)
4. A manuscript sized, **self-addressed stamped envelope** (SASE) if you would like your script(s) returned.
5. A blank **self-addressed stamped postcard** (SASP) if you would like an acknowledgement of your submission.
6. A non-refundable entry fee of **\$5.00** for each different play submitted. Cash and credit card entries will not be accepted. Cheques or money orders should be made payable to the **Monash Student Association**

6. ENTRY DEADLINES. Entries will be accepted from **May 1st, 2005 through to October 31st, 2005**. Plays postmarked after October 31st will not be accepted.

7. FINALISTS & PRIZES. There will be 2 categories of major prizes: **The Open Category** with a first and second prize for the overall Best Play, and **The Monash Student Award**. There will also be **two Honorable Mentions**.

- **Monash Student Association Playwrights' Competition First Prize**
 - **\$2000 cash Prize**
 - Production of the winning play by Monash Student Theatre in the 2006 or 2007 season.
- **Monash Student Association Playwrights' Competition Second Prize**
 - **\$1000 cash Prize**
 - Probable production of the winning play by Monash Student Theatre in the 2006 or 2007 season.
- **Monash Student Association Playwrights' Competition Student Award**
 - **\$1000 cash Prize**
 - Production of the winning play by Monash Student Theatre in the 2006 or 2007 season.
- **Honorable Mentions**
 - **Two cash prizes of \$500**
 - Each play will receive a reading, and possible future production.

Upon accepting a Major Award, the writer agrees that Monash Student Association has the right to first production of the winning work.

Please note that in the case that the judges deem none of the submissions in a given category to be of sufficient merit, the prize for that category may not be awarded.

8. RECEIPT & RETURN OF ENTRIES. If you would like to be notified when your play has been received, please include a self-addressed stamped postcard along with your entry. If you would like to have your script returned, please include a manuscript-sized self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE) with sufficient postage to cover the cost of returning your script. Entries that do not include the SASE will be destroyed at the end of the competition.

9. SUBMITTING PLAYS. Please send your completed plays, entry forms and fees to:
Monash Student Association Playwright Competition
Att: Yvonne Virsik – Artistic Director
Monash Student Theatre
Building 10, Campus Centre
Monash University CLAYTON, VIC 3800

Electronic submissions will not be accepted.

10. Decisions. Decisions of the judges are final, and no discussion will be entered into.

11. QUESTIONS. If you have questions concerning any of these rules and guidelines, please contact **Artistic Director Yvonne Virsik** on **03 9905 8173** or via an e-mail at <mailto:Yvonne.Virsik@adm.monash.edu.au>