



Just what is a MN Thespian Chapter Conference and what will happen to me if I go there?

The MN Thespian Chapter Conference is a gathering of high school students from across Minnesota where participants watch, do and learn. Our primary purpose is to help foster a statewide community of students who are being prepared for their journey into theater...whether as a patron, performer, producer, administrator or technician. Here's what your two day conference experience will look like...

Day One: Arriving at the Edina Performing Arts Center on Sunday, March 19th, at 1:00, you'll get your Conference Registration Packet, filled with interesting information about the conference. We'll all gather in the theater and

have a short welcome before moving into groups that will contain some folks from your school, but also some new folks destined to become your life long friends. You'll emote, run, hide, sing, gesture, listen, and otherwise express yourself in interesting ways in a series of workshops related to the performance of our All State Show, *The Laramie Project*. At 3:00, we'll all move back into the theater to watch the show, which is being performed by students from several schools. After the show, we'll regroup and talk about what we just saw. More emoting, I'm sure. Then, around 6, you'll leave with your school. If you are from greater Minnesota, you may be staying at a hotel or with host Thespians. If you're local, you're probably going home!

Day Two: The next morning, you'll bus over to The Guthrie to start your day of workshops, performances, socializing, and generally enjoying the experience of being at The Guthrie. After a short opening meeting in one of the theaters, you are free to seek out and enjoy the activities that you like best. If you want to do any of the performances or auditions, you'll want to sign up when you register. Here are some of the things you might do...

- **Workshops:** *Learn great stuff in a workshop.* There will be a wide range of workshops for performance and production. Workshops are located in Guthrie classrooms and rehearsal rooms, with a few demonstration/tour opportunities in the Guthrie tech shops. Workshops are led by Guthrie Teaching Artists as well as other professionals and educators from around the state.
- **Tech Challenge:** *Hang and focus a light in under 60 Seconds!* Participate in the Tech Challenge as an individual or form a team! You can compete for best times in hanging a light, changing a costume, folding a drop, tying a not, or a surprise category. Tech Challenge is fun and you learn stuff, too.
- **One Acts:** *Go in the theater and watch a One Act.* Six lucky schools will be selected in our January lottery and will perform a one act in the McGuire Proscenium Theater. The One Acts will be adjudicated, and one school will be invited to perform their one act at the International Thespian Festival in June, 2012.

- **NIES Performances:** *Watch (or perform) monologues, songs or costume design presentations.* Throughout the day, students will be participating in the National Individual Events Showcase program. In this program, students can prepare presentations in a wide range of categories, which they then present to a panel of judges for feedback. Other students can watch the sessions and cheer on students from lots of different schools. Spend an hour watching amazing duet musical numbers, monologues, or other categories of NIES performances.
- **Guthrie Tours and Demonstration Workshops:** *See the backstage areas of The Guthrie!* Take a general tour of the building, or get a special tour to the costume shop or the scene shop.
- **Take A Break and Eat With New Friends:** We provide a great box lunch, and there are snacks and beverages available at the Guthrie coffee bar all day.
- **College Scholarships:** Present an audition piece and you may be selected to win one of four \$1,000 college scholarships. Available for any students graduating with the class of 2012.
- **Discover New Colleges:** Meet with college reps at their tables, or present an informal college audition. It's a great way for Juniors to start that college search.

We wrap up Day Two with an Awards Ceremony and then put you back on your bus and off to your homes. Exhausted but happy, that's the plan!

...all this for just \$50 per student!*

It's Time For MN Thespian Conference Registration!



For more information and to find out how to sign up, check with your theater director.

Visit us on Facebook (MN Thespians) or visit our website... www.mnthespians.org!