



# WASHINGTON STATE THESPIANS<sup>SM</sup>

AN EDUCATIONAL THEATRE ASSOCIATION AFFILIATE

## February Newsletter

Dear Theatre Educators and Friends,

This is a big month! Between getting our students' Thespys submitted and signing up for our VIRTUAL State Festival there are a lot of moving pieces! Please see our updates below, visit our website for the latest information, and you can always send emails with all your questions.

### **VIRTUAL STATE FESTIVAL - March 17-20**

We are so excited to offer our State Festival online this year. Registration will open up on **February 22nd** and close **March 8th**. We will continue to offer the great workshops, performance (filmed and shared) opportunities, networking, and recognition! You will have the opportunity to submit cuttings of your virtual shows, recordings of your WIPS, and participate in our annual Lip Synch competition! Now is a great time to get your students excited and begin gathering materials you may wish to submit. For additional information visit our updated State page on the website: <http://www.washingtonstatethespians.com/virtual-state-thespian-conference.php>

More detailed information will be coming out soon in a separate email. As of this newsletter, we are still updating the STO and Scholarship applications.

### **STO NEWS:**

Hello everyone, and Happy February! Wow what a wild couple few months it has been. Well, as you all know Thespys is coming up soon, but with a little twist. As a virtual event we are excited and hopeful that everyone has a good time and is prepared. Attention all students! The Washington state STO have a new email they would like to share with you. It is [washingtonsto2021@gmail.com](mailto:washingtonsto2021@gmail.com), and they would really appreciate it if you guys sent them your photo for the Parade of Troupes!

**They will be accepting those until March 3rd!**

The STO will be running the lip sync battle, please submit your 30-60 second prerecorded Youtube link of your student(s) lip sync to Broadway song along with registration. **WIPS** will also be collected as Youtube links along with registration links!

## **THE THESPYS ARE HERE! Deadline is next Friday!**

For all the important information visit our Washington Thespian Website <http://www.washingtonstatethespians.com/virtual-thespys-20-21.php>. These documents will help you in your selections.

Here are some tips for your students:

### [Technical Theatre Submissions](#)

### [Filming your Thespys](#)

To film your selections you will need to follow the National guidelines and the Washington State guidelines for Coronavirus County Safe Start. <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/what-you-need-know/county-status-and-safe-start-application-process>.

The last date for submission will be **February 12, 2021!**

## **FILM THESPYS - ALSO due February 12th!**

This year, Film Thespys will be submitted with all other Thespys and submitted through OpenWater. This is different from years' past, so be sure to share this with your students!

Some things you need to know:

- Film Submissions will count toward the 3 events your students may submit for.
- Students can submit for different film categories (for example, submit one "Short Film" and one "Documentary Film"); however, each will count toward the three total Thespy submissions allowed.
- These different categories are identified in the drop-down menu on the registration website.

## **THESPIAN POINTS - During COVID**

If you are wondering how to honor student work while there are limited opportunities and participation from students, here is some information shared by EdTA on how you can offer Thespian Points during COVID. <https://www.schooltheatre.org/membership/covid-induction-points>

## Monthly Zoom Hangouts

If you'd like to connect with your theatre colleagues throughout the state, we are hosting Zoom Hangouts on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. This is a time to collaborate, share ideas, problem solve, and just enjoy the company of theatre people! As we move further into the year, we may offer specific topics / themes to our gathering. This month's meeting is on Tuesday, February 23rd at 7 p.m. A reminder will be sent out beforehand! [Zoom Link](#)

## TAA (Teaching Artist Alliance)

If you are looking for any additional support or fun activities/lessons for your students, look no further than the [Teaching Artist Alliance](#). The TAA is a growing network of highly skilled, vetted, sought-after, experienced teaching artists, who are all qualified specialists in their respective disciplines. TAA teaching artists offer both synchronous and asynchronous learning opportunities. Please check out the website for information about what [types of workshops](#) they offer. WA State Thespian board members Suzanne Maguire and Ruben VanKempen are both members of TAA and would be happy to answer other questions you might have!

## Dates of Virtual Events

**Thespys (All regions):** **Deadline February 12, 2021**

**Virtual State Thespian Festival:** March 17 - 20 (More information to come)

### A Note from our Webmaster:

Do you want a photo of your students or one of your productions featured on the WA State Thespians website? The website is undergoing updates often, and we are in need some new photos for each page. We're looking for production photos, photos from troupe meetings or photos from Thespian events. Please send to [sullivanbp@mukilteo.wednet.edu](mailto:sullivanbp@mukilteo.wednet.edu).

Best,  
Bryan

## COMMUNICATIONS

We have several ways for you to keep up to date on all our upcoming events. Have you joined our Facebook Page: Washington State Thespians - @washingtonthespians?

**WEBSITE** is continually being updated for the 2020 - 2021 school year; we encourage you to see what all we are offering-

**REMIND** text @wathespian to 81010 to join the free Washington Thespian text remind system. We will send you reminder texts about upcoming due dates and other helpful reminders throughout the year!

**EdTA COMMUNITY GROUP** just for Washington State Thespian and theatre teachers. You should have received an email from our home office regarding our new communication tool. Please join us in sharing your questions, thoughts, resources, etc. with our Thespian (and theatre educator) community. If you have not been contacted or you need information on how to join, please contact me to get set up.

**UPDATED TROUPE / TEACHER LIST:** [Current Active Troupe List](#) - as of November 8, 2020. This information is taken from our EdTA Data Center. If there is anything incorrect, be sure to check with [membership@schooltheatre.org](mailto:membership@schooltheatre.org).

Truly,

Kristina Cummins  
Co-Director, WA State Thespians

*"We are saved by love ~ love for each other and the love that we pour into the art we feel compelled to share."*

*Tennessee Williams, Playwright*