AACTFest Handbook 2021
Summary of Changes

As the 2021 Festival Cycle begins, the AACTFest Handbook has been updated and revised, as well. Although revisions are few, some may have significant impact on those participating in the festival process.

Here is a summary of changes in the 2021 Handbook:

1. Festivals with four or more participating productions must rank all shows through sixth place. This is to assure that alternate productions are available, should higher-placing shows not be able to advance. If an alternate production is chosen to advance, its rehearsal and performance slots will be the same as the show it replaces.

2. Region IV, which in the past has sent two shows to the national festival, has been divided into two regions. Region IVa (Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, West Virginia, and Virginia) and Region IVb (North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Alabama, and Florida) will each send one production.

3. Theatres performing at the national festival will be required to re-submit the T4 (technical information) form.

4. For panel adjudications, theatres will be required to provide a microphone for each adjudicator.

5. Audience members, who leave a performance once it has begun, may re-enter if the theatre facility allows for such reentry without disturbance (e.g. a balcony entrance).

6. New wording now clarifies that a rehearsal may not necessarily be scheduled on the same day as a company’s performance.

7. Adjudicators cannot be chosen by the host theatre if that theatre has a production competing in the festival. In addition, anyone involved with a festival production who has any “hands-on” duties (such as a director, actor, musician, or technician), is not allowed to choose adjudicators for the festival, or serve as festival chair.