

# Mini Play Format & Guidelines



1. Title page must include: title of play, playwright's name, age, phone number, school name, grade, and teacher's name.
2. Joint works may be submitted.
3. Students may submit more than one play.
4. Handwritten plays are not acceptable. Submissions must be typed.
5. All scripts must be original.
6. Plays must be written on the theme of:

## **ENGAGING THE ENVIRONMENT**

*\* The theme is mandatory for elementary and middle school students but is optional for high school.*

*The following are **GUIDELINES only**, to aid the playwright in the writing of the play. Plays will not necessarily be judged on how closely students follow these guidelines. The BPP encourages playwrights to use their imaginations and creativity, and have a good time.*

***After all, it is a PLAY!***

1. Plays may be any length up to 10 type-written pages
2. Due to limitations on the number of Mini Play camp participants, the BPP recommends no more than four characters per play

**SUBMISSION DEADLINE: December 9, 2009**



# The Value of Mini Play

## **Academic Aspects of Playwriting**

- \* Improves literacy skills
  - \* Provides a medium for self-expression within the context of school work
  - \* Connects theatre arts with other subject areas in school (writing, reading, research, critical thinking)
- \* Creates a forum in which a variety of youth, including those at-risk and with distinctive learning styles, can enjoy and excel

## **Community Involvement and Engagement**

- \* Builds a bridge between innovative arts education and community connections
- \* Offers free workshops between local professional playwrights and youth to learn about successful play construction
- \* Teaches youth about acting, directing, designing, and backstage crew from a team of local theatre professionals. As a result, youth learn that theatre is collaborative and dependent upon working as a team.
- \* Fosters local appreciation of young artists and in turn becomes a source of communication between youth and the wider community

## **Public Performance**

- \* Celebrates the success of youth teamwork and cooperation as opposed to supporting individual competition
- \* Awards many winners instead of a few
- \* Highlights an eclectic mix of theatrical styles which is Mini Play's trademark

## **Personal Growth**

- \* Demonstrates to youth their talents are integral and bring exceptional meaning to a successful final project
- \* Promotes key habits of self-discipline, creativity, and confidence to assist youth in succeeding in other areas of school, work, and life