

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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## **MARIN YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL: MTC ANNOUNCES ITS NEW PROGRAM FOR TEEN PLAYWRIGHTS**

MILL VALLEY, CA—Marin Theatre Company has established the first annual Marin Young Playwrights Festival (MYPF) and is accepting play submissions from high school students this fall as part of its commitment to the development of new plays. MYPF celebrates the work of teen playwrights and encourages a focus on playwriting in Bay Area high schools. Eight finalist plays will be performed by teens in an event at Marin Theatre Company. The play selected as the MYPF winner will receive a staged reading with professional actors and director, open to the public at MTC.

High school students will submit plays five to ten minutes long. MTC's Teen Advisory Board will read submissions and choose 8 to 10 finalists. Finalists will be performed by high school students at MTC in an event open to the public on Monday, February 1, 2010. The cast for each play will be either members of the Teen Advisory Board or students from the playwright's high school, as decided by the playwright.

MTC Artistic staff will select one winning script from the finalists. In conjunction with MTC's New Works series, the selected script will receive a staged reading with professional actors open to the public at MTC. It will be performed prior to a New Works full-length staged reading by a new or emerging playwright at a date to be announced next spring.

MTC's playwright-in-residence, Steve Yockey, is available to teach playwriting workshops at high schools prior to the submission deadline.

**ABOUT MTC.** Marin Theatre Company is the Bay Area's premiere mid-sized theater and the leading professional theater in the North Bay. We produce a five- to six-show season of provocative plays by passionate playwrights from the 20th century and today in two intimate theaters—a 231 seat proscenium and a 99-seat thrust. We are committed to the development and production of new plays by American playwrights, with a comprehensive New Play Program that includes at least one world premiere each season, two nationally recognized annual playwriting awards, numerous new play readings and workshops by the nation's best emerging playwrights, and a leadership position in the National New Play Network. Our educational programs serve more than 6,000 students each year.

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## **GUIDELINES: THE MARIN YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS FESTIVAL**

Plays must be five to ten minutes long (no more than ten pages) in any genre: comedy, drama, etc. Plays must be possible to perform with no more than four actors (fewer than four actors is also acceptable), with no design requirements beyond a few chairs or stools, a small table, and simple hand props. Musicals, translations, and adaptations are not eligible. Collaborations are welcome as long as all participating playwrights are eligible under these rules. Plays must not have received a production prior to submission. Playwrights must be enrolled in high school in the 2009–10 school year, and must be a resident of or attend school in Marin or Sonoma County. Only one submission per playwright is allowed each year.

### **Submission**

There is no fee to submit. Electronic submissions are accepted in Word or PDF format and should be sent to [youngplaywrights@marintheatre.org](mailto:youngplaywrights@marintheatre.org); please do not mail. Email subject line should be "MYPF submission"; body of email should include playwright's name, contact address, phone number, and affiliated high school, as well as the text below. For additional instructions, please visit

[http://marintheatre.org/programs/program\\_pages/playfest.php](http://marintheatre.org/programs/program_pages/playfest.php)

**Submission deadline is 5pm on Friday, November 13, 2009. Please, no phone inquiries.**

### **Finalists**

All selections will be read by MTC's Teen Advisory Board (TAB). TAB members who submit plays will not participate in the selection process. The TAB will select eight finalists. No more than two finalists will be accepted from any one high school. Finalists will be announced on Monday, December 7. ALL FINALIST PLAYWRIGHTS MUST ATTEND a meeting at 5pm on Thursday, December 10. All playwrights who submit plays should keep this date and time free. Failure to attend may result in losing a spot as a finalist.

### **Performance of Finalists**

The plays of the eight finalists will be performed at MTC in the Marin Young Playwrights Festival at 7pm on Monday, February 1, 2010. The cast for each play will be either members of the Teen Advisory Board or students from the playwright's high school, as decided by the playwright. This event will be open to the public. MTC's Artistic Staff will serve as judges, and will select one winning script.

### **Staged Reading of Winning Script**

The winning script will be presented as a staged reading with professional actors and a professional director at MTC, in conjunction with MTC's New Works Series. The date and time for this reading is TBA.

## **DATES**

**Submission Deadline:** 5pm Friday, November 13, 2009

**Finalists Announced:** Monday, December 7, 2009

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**Finalists Meeting at MTC:** 5pm Thursday, December 10, 2009

**Optional Finalists Rehearsals:**

Monday, January 25, 2010

Sunday, January 31, 2010

**Finalists Rehearsal:** 4pm Monday, February 1, 2010

**Marin Young Playwrights Festival** (performance of finalists):

7pm Monday, February 1, 2010

**Staged Reading of Winner:**

TBA

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