



"Promoting the Development of Theatre in BC since 1932"

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How Plays Are Chosen For the Provincial MAINSTAGE Festival

Theatre BC's Festivals Committee selects five adjudicators from the Association's "Talent Bank" of theatre professionals who take part in an intensive, Adjudicators' Orientation Workshop. This includes a complete review of Theatre BC's **Zone** and provincial MAINSTAGE Festival activity, the educational emphasis and the evaluation and selection process.

Adjudicators receive entered scripts in advance and compare each Member Club's production achievements with the intentions of the script: Did the performance meet or exceed all its objectives? Were all the challenges of that script met? At the end of the Zone Festival, individual awards are given at the Adjudicator's discretion and in keeping with established Zone traditions. The Adjudicator will select a "Best Production" and may announce additional plays to participate in the provincial MAINSTAGE Festival as a "Workshop Play". The adjudicators meet with the Festivals Committee upon the conclusion of the final Zone Festival to help set the schedule for MAINSTAGE. Clubs entering Zone Festival may also apply to the Theatre BC Festivals Committee to attend MAINSTAGE as a "Scene Development Play". There are three categories of participation:

"Mainstage" Productions

The traditional, adjudicated performances of the "Best Productions" from the 11 preceding Zone Festivals. Each Zone-winning play is given a "Best Production Workshop" by its Zone Adjudicator following the Zone Festival in preparation for "Mainstage" and in keeping with Theatre BC's "education" emphasis. These productions vie for coveted provincial honours, awarded since 1932.

"Workshop Plays"

Two Zone Festival-entered plays will be selected by Zone Adjudicators for their explorative and demonstrative value of varying theatrical styles, to participate in MAINSTAGE's non-adjudicated "Workshop Plays" component. Each gives an initial performance, is re-worked by a professional director and performed again in its revised form in a fascinating and instructional "before and after" process.

"Scene Development Series"

Six or more productions are selected through an application process for the rare opportunity to work closely on their play with a professional director. Each production receives 15 hours of intense, rehearsal-style instruction over the MAINSTAGE week with daily sessions open to festival registrants.

THEATRE BC's MAINSTAGE Festival is one of the oldest theatre traditions in Canada and offers the most comprehensive provincial theatre festival experience in the country.