



NEBRASKA STATE THESPIAN FESTIVAL DETAILS 2026

What: State thespian festival is the biggest weekend for all school theatre students in the state of Nebraska. Other Nebraska high School and middle school troupes will attend to watch and present plays and musicals, compete in the individual and group events for the National Thespian Excellence Awards (Thespys), participate in workshops with national teaching artists, compete in improv and tech challenges and make loads of new friends.

Location: Hilton Hotel in downtown Omaha, and Holland Performing Arts Center

Dates: January 7-10, 2026

Times Wednesday, January 7 (Bus departs from Burke at 4pm) – THREE Hotel Nights
Saturday January 10— 7:00 P.M.. (6:30 depart from Holland on bus) – 7:00p.m. (approx. return)

Students are not allowed to leave during Festival until preapproved by Mrs. Mokrycki and parent/guardian approval completed. There is no prorated cost for the festival or Hotel rooms at the Hilton.

Cost *Non REFUNDABLE**

\$165 registration per student

\$120 for three-night stay in Hilton hotel.

NO transportation Fee

Total: \$285.00 Per Student (Three Hotel Nights)

CHECKS MADE OUT TO BURKE VOCAL AND THEATRE BOOSTERS

REGISTRATION DEADLINE:

Thursday, October 2nd

PAYMENT DEADLINE:

Thursday, October 23rd

OPPORTUNITIES

- **National Theatre Excellence Awards (Thespys)**—this is an opportunity to show what you can do and be evaluated; those receiving a Superior rating are advanced to the International Festival in June; I would expect all who do this and do earn such a rating to strongly consider participating at the Festival in June. For more info on Thespys go to www.thespys.org
- **College Auditions**- Audition for College and University theatre programs around the state and the surrounding areas. Scholarships can not be given at the time of auditions but schools may notify you following the festival with monetary awards to their school. Students will sign up to perform/present live to show off their performance and/or technical skill.
- **Thespian Scholarships**—seniors may apply for these. This is for seniors planning to major or minor in Theatre Arts and/or Theatre Arts Education. It is the individual student's responsibility to know what is needed for the scholarship application and to have it ready by November.
- **Tech Challenge**—an event for tech interested student to compete in a fun and friendly way with hands on lighting, sound, stage dressing, and costuming activities. Need six members to cover a wide variety of events.
- **Improv Challenge**—as always, a favorite! Sign up if you are interested and if more than six students sign up, auditions will be held for the team
- **SHOWS!**- Performances of plays and musicals and one acts from across the state!
- **Workshops**—will be offered and you are expected to go...given by local and national theatre professionals! If one is filled, go to another; go to something different to you! There are acting and technical workshops

Things I need from those going by October 2nd:

- ✓ Healthcare form **completely** filled out and signed by delegate and parent/guardian
- ✓ Online Registration Form Complete
- ✓ Money if you can

**FESTIVAL REGISTRATION
QR CODE**



**STUDENT OPPORTUNITIES
PACKET QR CODE**



GRANT APPLICATION – Due October 1





STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

Observing the following rules will make the State Festival
a pleasurable experience for all in attendance.

- I realize that attending the state thespian festival is a privilege and that I am expected to attend all scheduled festival activities.
- I realize that as a participant of the festival, I may not be rude, uncooperative, or discourteous and I will be attentive, cooperative, and appropriate at all times.
- I realize that I am representing not only my school and troupe, but also my school district.
- I realize that the proper theatre response is applause with laughter (or tears) at appropriate moments, showing appreciation for all performers, presenters, and audience members.
- I will respect all festival participants; hotel personnel, Holland staff, and I will treat all workshop leaders as professionals and with courtesy and respect.
- I will not destroy, damage, take, or rearrange any property that does not belong to me.
- I will pick up any trash. I will not bring any food or drinks inside meeting rooms or the theatre at the festival.
- I will not take flash photography of any performance.
- I realize that if I am late to an all-festival event, I must wait outside quietly until the ushers allow me to enter.
- I realize that if I must leave during a performance, I must wait until an appropriate time to exit.
- I will not leave the festival at any time without the approval of my Troupe Director.
- I understand that consuming drugs, tobacco, or alcohol, or found to be under the influence of these substances at any time during the festival will mean that I will be sent home at my parent/guardian's expense on the FIRST violation. This includes smoking, chewing and vaping.
- I understand that proper attire (including shoes) must be worn at all times during the festival. I understand that I should wear comfortable clothes for workshop activities and dress appropriately for theatre attendance. I understand that I may not wear any gang apparel or hats in the theatre and that I may not wear any apparel with gang, sexual, drug and alcohol references at any time.
- I understand that I must wear my identification badge at all times and it is my admittance into all festival activities.
- I realize that festival members who cannot follow the code of conduct will be sent home.
- I agree to the code of conduct and will comply with all rules.