

Securing performance rights for National Individual Events materials

It is the responsibility of entrants to obtain permission for the use of copyrighted material. In certain cases, permission is not required.

- The performance of a song from a published musical in an adjudicated individual event program is considered a fair use, and no permission is required.
- The performance of a monologue or scene from a non-musical play at chapter conference/festival or in an adjudicated individual events program may be subject to one of a number of agreements negotiated between EdTA and several major publishers. Determine the identity of the publisher (check the title page of the script or consult an internet database like findaplay.com or doollee.com), then check the following listing for that publisher's most recent policy. If the work is published by a house not included below, an entrant must apply for a National Individual Events Special Rights Form ([Appendix A](#))
- If there is an exception as noted above (e.g., Neil Simon plays), complete the appropriate sections of the National Individual Events Rights Application and Permission Form and mail it to the publisher or leasing agent. The name and address of the publisher or agent should be in a notice of copyright published with the script.

Play Publishers

- Broadway Play Publishing Inc: <https://www.broadwayplaypub.com/performance-rights/>
 - o All competitions require a performance-rights license with the exception of those five minutes or under in duration for which no license is required. For competitions with a duration of greater than five minutes a standard fee of \$50.00 per performance applies for full-length plays and \$35.00 per performance for short plays.
- Dramatic Publishing Co.: <http://www.dramaticpublishing.com>

- o There is no charge for use in Thespian national or chapter conferences/festivals Individual Events as long as the piece is under 10 minutes.
- Dramatists Play Service: <http://www.dramatists.com>
 - o All Dramatists Play Service properties are pre-approved for Thespian national or chapter conferences/festivals, with no written permission required and for no royalty unless the student is selected for the NIE Showcase.
 - o If the student is selected for a Showcase, the student must secure performance rights within 48 hours of the showcase: <https://www.dramatists.com/cgi-bin/db/secure/scenenpa.asp>.
 - o The exceptions to this guide are the works of Samuel Beckett and Edward Albee. In both of these cases, the student must secure the rights in advance and for each time it is performed.
- Samuel French, Inc.: <http://www.samuelfrench.com>
 - o Monologues and brief excerpts of less than 10 minutes do not require a license or other permission from Samuel French. If the piece is under 10 minutes, there is NO need to ask or pay for the rights.
 - o The exception to this guide are works of Neil Simon and the musical Grease
 - If Neil Simon, the rights need to be secured, in advance, EVERY time it is performed (the minimum rate is \$125).
 - If Grease, a single song is OK, but if any dialogue or scenes are used, you must ask and secure the rights in advance.
 - o A license must be obtained through www.samuelfrench.com for any performance of a copyrighted work, including cuttings and excerpts over 10 minutes (this is not a National Individual Events issue, but wanted to share the information in case your chapter has other events). Titles approved for cuttings are marked "Cuttings approved for competitions." A brief summary of proposed cuts or scenes must be included in the appropriate section of your license request. If the piece is over 10 minutes:
 - 10-45 minutes - flat fee of \$45 is due and payable in advance.
 - Over 45 minutes - the same cost as a full production - due and payable in advance.
 - At the chapter level, Samuel French has requested that for ALL works over 10 minutes, the Chapter collect and remit a single payment with a list of all the pieces being done (vs. having each student submit separately).
 - o For more information, please visit www.samuelfrench.com or for a list of state specific licensing reps: <http://www.samuelfrench.com/contact-representative>.
- Playscripts, Inc.: <https://www.playscripts.com/help/rights>
 - o Royalties are waived for the performance of excerpts lasting less than 10 minutes at adjudicated school theatrical festivals or auditions, unless otherwise noted in the script. These particular performances, and only these, are automatically authorized by the playwright when you purchase books from Playscripts. (Note: Any other cuttings must receive prior approval from Playscripts.)
- Smith and Kraus: <http://www.smithkraus.com>
 - o Most Smith and Kraus collections include a blanket permission statement for use. Remember, however, the particular piece you're interested in performing must be found in one of these collections that include blanket permission.
- Theatrefolk: www.theatrefolk.com
 - o Monologues and scenes/excerpts lasting 10 minutes or less taken from scripts published by Theatrefolk may be performed in any Thespian national or chapter conferences/festivals program without royalty.
- YouthPLAYS: www.youthplays.com
 - o Royalties are waived for the performance of monologues and scenes/excerpts lasting less than 10 minutes for adjudicated competition at Thespian national or chapter conferences/festivals. Permission is granted automatically for this purpose only as long as each participating performer is in possession of a legally purchased script.

Appendix A - National Individual Events Rights and Application Form

If your national individual event (NIEs) performance material is a song from a published musical or covered by a publisher agreement described in these guidelines, you are not required to submit this form. If the material does not qualify for one of those exemptions, submit this completed form (signed by both the troupe director and proper licensing agent) with your event registration. For ITF, all performance permissions are due no later than May 1.

Troupe director of performer(s) School

School address City, State/Province/Country, Zip or Postal Code

School phone School fax

Name(s) of performers

Name of show(s)

Show(s) author(s)

State chapter conference where IE performed City, State where IE performed

Dear Licensing Agent:

I am requesting to use material represented by your company in the above performance. The above named student(s) will be performing in the National Individual Events program as a part of the above named Chapter Conference/Festival and/or the International Thespian Festival (affiliated with the International Thespian Society) in Lincoln, Nebraska, in June, 2019. The total performance time of this selection will not exceed three minutes for monologues or five minutes for scenes.

The selection they would like to perform is a: Scene Monologue

As troupe director of the above student(s), I agree that only the above piece(s) will be performed for adjudication in adherence to the rules of National Individual Events for Chapter Conferences or the International Thespian Festival.

Troupe director's signature Date

On behalf of , I grant permission for the indicated selection to be performed at the above conference and, if selected, at the International Thespian Festival.

Licensing agent's signature Date