

NATIONAL MONOLOGUE SLAM

Rules & Regulations

as of May 22, 2017

- I. **GENERAL** The National Monologue Slam is committed to providing a safe, supportive, nurturing opportunity for actors of all ages and experience to learn and grow in their craft. Each convention and competition will provide multiple opportunities to meet and work with industry professionals, and have fun doing so. Everyone is welcome to participate, no matter your experience or talent level. We are here to help you along in your path as a performer.
- II. **ENTRY INFORMATION**
- A. **CONVENTION ACCESS** The purchase of an All-Access Convention Wristband is required to attend the convention and enter the competition. One All-Access Convention Wristband allows one person to attend all convention events and classes, and includes one entry into the Competition. For an additional fee, individuals can purchase additional Competition entries for themselves. Also for an additional fee, individuals can purchase a Master Class Observer Wristband for interested friends and family wishing to participate in classes only. Parents and guardians of minors are invited to observe in the main performance/competition room and all common areas of the convention site for no additional cost, but cannot attend classes without the purchase of a Master Class Observer Wristband. Purchasing an All-Access Convention Wristband does not obligate you to perform in the Competition.
- B. **PRICES** Prices are subject to change without notice and all entries are subject to availability. The 2017-2018 Regional pricing structure is as follows:
- i. **All-Access Convention Wristband** \$300
 - ii. **Additional Competition Entries** \$50 each, and must accompany purchase of All-Access Convention Wristband.
 - iii. **Master Class Observer Wristband** \$50 each, and must accompany purchase of All-Access Convention Wristband.
 - iv. **Friends & Family** Free to observe in the main performance/competition room and common areas only, subject to space limitations.
- C. **TYPES OF COMPETITION ENTRIES** The Competition consists of three categories: **Comedic Monologue**, **Dramatic Monologue**, and **Musical Theatre Song**. Comedic and Dramatic entries are limited to 90 second monologues of any source, including theatre, film, TV, and/or original. The Musical Theatre Song entries are limited to 3 minutes and can be from any published musical. Piano sheet music or digital recordings of music accompaniment must be provided by the entrant. An audition pianist and playback audio equipment will be provided by the Slam. Each category will have multiple and appropriate age divisions to be determined based on entries.

- D. **NUMBER OF ENTRIES** Subject to space availability, individuals may perform multiple monologues or songs in the Competition. No individual can win more than one award in the same category and division. For instance, if a competitor performs two dramatic monologues and one comedic monologue in the 18 & Over division, that person is only eligible to win one award in the Adult Dramatic division and one award in the Adult Comedic division.
- E. **COMPETITION & CLASS SCHEDULING** Each individual will be given a time range, no less than 7 days prior to the event, regarding his/her performance time for the day of the competition. National Monologue Slam reserves the right to change performance times and the convention class schedule at any time, for any reason. Requests for specific times will be considered, but cannot be guaranteed. Missed competition times can be made up later in the day should time permit. Please keep in mind that many factors go into the scheduling of auditions and events, including number of entries and participants, local conditions, space constraints and other factors. Events will not be scheduled to begin before 7:00am, nor scheduled to end past 10:00pm. Friday events will not start before 4:00pm.
- F. **ENTRY DEADLINES** All entries will be accepted on first-come, first-served basis. National Monologue Slam reserves the right to close an event prior to the deadline should the number of entries meet or exceed the allotted schedule.

REGIONAL ENTRIES: Entries must be received with all completed forms/payment in full at least 30 days prior to the first day of event entered.

NATIONAL ENTRIES: Entries must be received with all completed forms/payment no later than 30 days prior to the first day of the event.

LATE ENTRIES: Any entries received after the deadline will be accepted on the sole decision of National Monologue Slam, schedule permitting. Late entries accepted may be subject to a late fee to be determined.

- G. **PAYMENT** Payment for individuals and their families must be done online at the time of registration. Groups of 10 or more may be paid by check or credit card, by calling 212.382.3410. A fee of \$25.00 will be charged for returned checks or credit cards denied. Payment in full for groups is due in our office no later than 5 days prior to the first day of event entered.
- H. **REFUNDS/CANCELLATION** Once entries are processed, there are no refunds of any kind. Deposits for group purchases are non-refundable. If a performer cannot participate due to illness or injury, a refund may be issued at the sole discretion of National Monologue Slam, and only upon receipt of verifiable proof from the performer's doctor. Notwithstanding the foregoing, Regional events may be cancelled due to inclement weather or other Act of God, and in such event all said entries for that particular event shall be credited towards a future Regional or rescheduled Regional event. Should an event not secure a minimum number of entries, National Monologue Slam may cancel that Regional event and refund all entries, or apply entry fees to a different Regional event at the customer's request.

III. COMPETITION DETAILS

A. CATEGORIES

Comedic Monologue: 90 second time limit from any source including theatre, film, TV, or original

Dramatic Monologue: 90 second time limit from any source including theatre, film, TV, or original

Musical Theatre Song: 3 minute time limit from any published musical. Piano sheet music or digital recordings of music accompaniment must be provided by the entrant. An audition pianist and playback audio equipment will be provided by the Slam.

B. AGE DIVISIONS There will be three major Age Divisions; **12 & Under**, **13 to 17**, and **18 & Over**. Subdivisions may be added or removed depending on the number of entries.

C. COMPETITION SEGMENTS The **main competition** for each Regional will occur between the hours of 9:00am and 6:00pm on Saturdays, with the exact schedule subject to final number of entries. A **finalist competition** will be held each Saturday evening of each Regional, showcasing the top performers in each category and division.

D. AWARDS Awards will be given to the top performers in each category and division, subject to a minimum number of entries to be determined.

E. JUDGES Judges are subject to change without notice, and will always consist of no less than three (3) industry professionals in varying fields, including but not limited to directors, casting directors, musical directors, talent agents, producers, and working professional actors.

F. RESULTS Each competition participant will receive a written critique from each judge in the form of a score card, plus personalized written notes that may include constructive and positive feedback.

IV. MASTER CLASS DETAILS

A. GROUP CLASSES Master Class details are determined by the number and types of entries, as well as the types of coaches and judges participating in your region. Subjects of Master Classes may include some of the following and are subject to change at any time:

- i. **Audition Prime & Prep:** Techniques on how to “rock your audition” from the moment you walk through the door.
- ii. **Improvisation for Performance Workshop:** Improvisation techniques and skills used by working professional actors on *Saturday Night Live*, *Who’s Line is it Anyway?*, and countless theatre companies.
- iii. **Monologue & Song Breakout Sessions:** Opportunity to practice your audition piece(s), with feedback from the professionals.
- iv. **Navigating the Theatre Biz:** Job descriptions, salary ranges, and anything else you want to know about “how it all works”.
- v. **Slam the Social:** Marketing and branding yourself through social media.

- B. INDIVIDUAL COACHING** On-site, private, one-on-one coaching sessions are available by request for an additional fee, subject to time and space availability, on a first-come, first-served basis. Additional coaching opportunities will be available via video conference year-round. Please email info@nationalslam.com for more information.

V. MISCELLANEOUS RULES AND REGULATIONS

- A.** Good Sportsmanship, respect, and professionalism are expected from everyone who attends any National Monologue Slam event, including performers, coaches, judges, friends, family, and audience members. Those not complying with this rule will be disqualified and/or subject to removal from the premises.
- B.** No private dressing rooms will be available for your use. Please come dressed in the outfit in which you wish to perform, or make arrangements to use a public restroom for your changing needs.
- C.** **NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINK ALLOWED IN ANY PERFORMANCE OR CLASS SPACE, except for water bottles.**
- D.** No one is allowed to walk in front of the Judge's table or approach the Judges. Restricted areas will be marked accordingly.
- E.** Props are welcome, but the following are specifically PROHIBITED: special lighting, sound effects, guns or gun replicas, knives, swords, fog, and fire. All props are the owner's responsibility. Any prop larger than a hand-held item may be stored until your designated performance time. Please see a National Monologue Slam staff member for assistance.
- F.** As with any physical activity, unforeseen accidents and or injuries can occur. Upon entering any National Monologue Slam event, it is agreed that all participants, parents, and/or guests will hold National Monologue Slam LLC, its staff, judges, owners, partners, affiliates, and its host facility harmless from any accident, injury and or loss of property during any and all events.
- G.** All performers, family, guests and audience members consent to the use of their photograph and or video likeness for use in future promotions and or advertisements of National Monologue Slam.
- H.** Performers are required to check in with the Competition Coordinator no less than 15 minutes prior to scheduled performance time.
- I.** Out of respect to our performers and audiences alike, observers are expected to remain in their seats when a performer is on the stage. Please enter and exit the auditorium between performances and do so quietly and quickly. With respect to others sitting around you, please save conversation for the lobby.
- J.** All electronic devices, including but not limited to cell phones must be turned off in the auditorium.
- K.** **NO PERFORMANCE IS COMPLETE WITHOUT APPLAUSE!** We encourage the entire audience to applaud for every performance they watch. Applause does not have any influence on the Judge's scoring. It does however show a powerful display to every performer, giving them the recognition, respect and appreciation they deserve. National Monologue Slam will always promote a friendly, family like atmosphere, a positive experience for all!
- L.** All scores and comments reflect the opinion of the Judges and not necessarily the opinion of National Monologue Slam LLC, its directors or staff. All Judges' decisions are final without dispute.
- M.** Some monologues may contain adult language and situations. While National Monologue Slam reserves the right to refuse any questionable monologue choice, we nonetheless wish to promote freedom of speech/expression. Therefore, viewer discretion is advised.

- N.** All participants and observers of any National Monologue Slam convention, conference, competition, class, workshop, performance or other event hereby consent to be photographed, filmed and/or otherwise recorded and that any such recording of your appearance, voice, and name may be used by National Monologue Slam and its affiliates in any and all media throughout the universe in perpetuity, for any purpose whatsoever.
- O.** Personal and third-party photography, audio recording, and visual recording of any event, performance, audition or class at any National Monologue Slam event is strictly prohibited.

VI. FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. What if I flub up and want another chance?

A. Once all competitions are complete, and if time permits, we will allow “do-overs” for those interested on a first come first served basis. An additional fee may apply. Errors due to technical glitches in music will automatically be offered a “do-over”.

Q. Should I wear a costume and/or bring props?

A. Auditions in real life rarely entail getting dressed in character or the use of props. That said, if your character is a business man, maybe you shouldn't wear a Hawaiian shirt and flip flops. However, you will not be judged on your clothing or on your use of props.

Q. What if I miss my scheduled competition timeslot?

A. If you miss your scheduled competition timeslot, you have forfeited your right to compete. However, if time permits at the end of all other performances, we may allow you to perform at that time, at our sole discretion.

Q. Can I take pictures or record video during the National Monologue Slam?

A. No, personal and third-party photography and recording is strictly prohibited. However, professional photography and videography may be available for purchase on-site from a National Monologue Slam approved vendor.