



Carnegie Mellon School of Drama West Coast Drama Alumni Clan

Addendum to the Awards Application

The WCDAC Awards Committee has prepared additional guidelines to help you prepare your submission. These are suggestions rather than requirements – every entry will be given equal attention and consideration. A copy of the official application can be found at our website (www.wcdac.org/awards).

Actors & MTs

A short video of your work is the most effective way to convey your abilities. Your video should be no more than 3 or 4 minutes in length and should highlight you. An audio-only recording of a dramatic reading or musical piece can be effective as well.

You may submit footage of a previously staged performance or create your own video. The Awards Committee does not expect broadcast quality video but your work must be clearly recognizable. A wide shot of the stage and entire cast does not put the focus on your performance. A well-framed, head and shoulders shot of you performing a monologue does. Please keep the following in mind:

- Audio quality is more important than picture quality.
- Elaborate sets and props are not required.
- Costumes and make up are only necessary if you feel they add to your performance.
- Lighting design is not necessary but make sure you can be seen.
- Context is important. As with any good monologue or scene, your selection should have a beginning, middle and end. It should provide a sense of character and story.
- Submissions should be on high quality VHS tape or DVD. Audio recordings should be on CD or high quality cassette tape.

Support materials demonstrate your hard work and talent. Here are some ideas:

- Theatrical reviews.
- Recommendations from teachers or professional colleagues regarding your work.
- Text work, script analysis and research related to preparing a role.

Directors

Directing submissions should demonstrate your entire process. Video footage is fantastic but your director's "bible", rehearsal notes, research materials and text work are clear examples of your directing methods and ideas.

If you are able to submit footage of a scene you directed please consider the production guidelines listed previously. A framed single camera shot of a ten minute scene can be very effective in showing what you can do. If you do have an existing line cut of a scene that you shot, so much the better.

Designers & TDs (PTM)

In keeping with the application guidelines, please limit your portfolio submissions to materials relating to a maximum of three unique productions. Send copies of your drawings, ground plans, light plots, costume designs, etc. If the design was realized, please send photographs as well. Sound designers can submit recordings along with an annotated script or scene (no more than three). Research and other support materials that explain the context of the work are helpful. Technical Directors should include budget breakdowns if available.

Writers

Submit short scenes, one-acts or selections from a screenplay, no more than 40 pages total. Please do not send full-length screenplays. You may also include a list of completed works since you enrolled at school and/or a synopsis of a current project. If the committee feels a need to see a complete play or screenplay, you may be asked to send it at a later date. Remember, you are being evaluated by professionals. Write in industry standard format and proof your work.

These awards are extremely important to the members of the West Coast Drama Alumni Clan. We take great pride in this program and we are always thrilled with the quality of the work we receive. Your creativity and talent are a constant reminder of our own experiences at Carnegie Mellon University. If you have any questions, please send an email to awards@wcdac.org or call Lee Miller at (310) 779-7776. We look forward to your submissions.

For information about the West Coast Drama Alumni Clan, please visit us online at www.wcdac.org