



## **Texas Educational Theatre Association**

### **Award of Distinction - District**

#### **About the Award**

The Texas Educational Theatre Association is pleased to recognize individual school districts making outstanding contributions to raising the standards for theatre education in the school, district, and the state. Districts are encouraged to apply annually to receive recognition for achievement, growth, and excellence.

Award winners receive the following:

1. Commemorative award and bound certificate
2. Letter of commendation to the school board and superintendent
3. Recognition in the Texas Educational Theatre Association media platforms
4. Award presentation during the annual TxETA TheatreFest convention
5. Award recipients have the option to purchase a banner from an approved Texas Educational Theatre Association vendor.

As defined in the tables below, Districts who meet the minimum requirements will be awarded one of the four designations determined by the total number of points a nominee has earned.

#### **Award of Distinction Tiers**

<b>School of Distinction Tiers</b>	
<b>Tier 1: 86-100 points</b>	Exemplary District
<b>Tier 2: 72-85 points</b>	Outstanding District
<b>Tier 3: 54-71 points</b>	Commendable District
<b>Tier 4: 40-53 points</b>	Recognized District

Course Offerings			
Approved Theatre Course Offerings			
Any sequenced TEA approved secondary Theatre courses at the high school level and taught by a certified theatre teacher.	<p>Any sequenced TEA approved secondary Theatre courses at the high school level and taught by a certified theatre teacher.</p> <p><b>High School</b> Theatre I- IV, Technical Theatre I-IV</p>	<p>Any sequenced TEA approved secondary Theatre courses at the high school level including alternative theatre courses and taught by a certified theatre teacher.</p> <p><b>Middle School</b> Theatre 1, Theatre 2, Theatre 3</p> <p><b>High School</b> Theatre I- IV, Theatre Production I-IV, Theatre and Media, Musical Theatre I-IV, Technical Theatre I-IV</p>	<p>Any sequenced TEA approved secondary Theatre courses at the middle and high school level and taught by a certified theatre teacher.</p> <p><b>Elementary School</b> Grade level theatre courses offered on a regular basis</p> <p><b>Middle School</b> Theatre 1, Theatre 2, Theatre 3, and Technical Theatre</p> <p><b>High School</b> Theatre I- IV, Theatre Production I-IV, Theatre and Media, Musical Theatre I-IV, Technical Theatre I-IV</p> <p>-AND-</p> <p>At least one of one of the following alternative or advanced courses:</p> <p>Theatre and Media, LIghting, Sound,</p>

			Stagecraft, Costume Construction, Make-up for the Theatre, Design for the Theatre, Theatre Management, Playwriting, Directing, IB SL/HL and/or Honors
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>Performance Venues</b>			
25% of all schools	50% of all schools	75% of all schools	100% of all schools
<p>Provide a dedicated performance venue with ample room to create, rehearse, and perform.</p> <p>Venue has technology in lighting and sound equipment.</p> <p>Venue has space in the backstage areas including wings, crossover, and access to public restrooms.</p> <p>Venues are adequately maintained.</p> <p>Venue provides reasonable accommodations</p>	<p>Provide a dedicated performance venue(s) using a Proscenium, thrust, and/or Black Box space with ample room to create, rehearse, and perform.</p> <p>Venue has acceptable technology in lighting and sound equipment and Productions are capable of delivering performances using sound enhancement, specialized lighting, and special effects.</p> <p>Venue has acceptable space in</p>	<p>Provide a dedicated performance venue(s) using a Proscenium, thrust, and/or Black Box space with ample room to create, rehearse, and perform with a dedicated rehearsal space solely for theatre.</p> <p>Venue has adequate technology in lighting and sound equipment and Productions are capable of delivering performances using sound enhancement, specialized lighting, and special effects.</p>	<p>Provide a dedicated performance venue(s) using a Proscenium, thrust, and/or Black Box space with ample room to create, rehearse, and perform with a dedicated rehearsal space solely for theatre.</p> <p>Venue has advanced technology in lighting and sound equipment and Productions are capable of delivering performances using sound enhancement, specialized lighting, and special effects.</p>

for people with disabilities.	<p>the backstage areas including wings, crossover, workshop and dressing rooms, box office, concessions, and access to public restrooms.</p> <p>Venues are maintained for safety, cleaning, updates, and inspections.</p> <p>Venue provides adequate seating for audience members with ADA compliant seating, entrance, exits, and provides reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.</p>	<p>Venue has adequate space in the backstage areas including wings, crossover, workshop and dressing rooms, box office, concessions, and access to public restrooms.</p> <p>Venues are maintained for safety, cleaning, updates, and inspections.</p> <p>Venue provides adequate seating for audience members with ADA compliant seating, entrance, exits, and provides reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.</p>	<p>Venue has ample space in the backstage areas including wings, crossover, workshop and dressing rooms, box office, concessions, and access to public restrooms.</p> <p>Venues are maintained for safety, regularly scheduled cleaning, updates, and inspections.</p> <p>Venue provides adequate seating for audience members with ADA compliant seating, entrance, exits, and provides reasonable accommodations for people with disabilities.</p>
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>Performance Opportunities</b>			
Secondary schools provide diverse production opportunities demonstrating an understanding of curricular techniques/ skills learned in the classroom and/or the extracurricular rehearsal process.	Secondary schools provide diverse production opportunities demonstrating an understanding of curricular techniques/ skills learned in the classroom and/or the extracurricular rehearsal process.	Secondary schools provide diverse production opportunities demonstrating an understanding of curricular techniques/ skills learned in the classroom and/or the extracurricular rehearsal process.	Secondary schools provide diverse production opportunities demonstrating an understanding of curricular techniques and skills learned in the classroom and/or the extracurricular rehearsal process.

<p>Conf. 1-3A: 1 production UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i></p> <p>Conf. 4-6A: 1 production per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required)</p> <p><i>Production: A play or musical that does not include variety, talent, or student directed shows.</i></p>	<p>Conf. 1-3A: 2 productions per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required)</p> <p>Conf. 4-6A: 2 productions per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required)</p> <p><i>Production: A play or musical that does not include variety, talent, or student directed shows.</i></p>	<p>Conf. 1-3A: 3 productions per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required).</p> <p>Conf. 4-6A: 3 productions per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required)</p> <p><i>Production: A play or musical that does not include variety, talent, or student directed shows.</i></p>	<p>Conf. 1-3A: 4+ productions per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required)</p> <p>Conf. 4-6A: 4+ productions per year (UIL <i>One-Act Play Entry</i> required)</p> <p><i>Production: A play or musical that does not include variety, talent, or student directed shows.</i></p>
<b>2 points</b>		<b>4 points</b>	

<b>Curriculum</b>	
<b>Curriculum Framework</b>	
<p>District provides a theatre curriculum supported and developed by theatre educators who have a working knowledge of standards and practices required by the Texas Education Agency TEKS for both elementary and secondary theatre.</p> <p>Teachers have the opportunity to collaborate with feeder programs to align vertical and horizontal curriculum needs through consistent coaching and resources.</p>	<p>District provides a theatre curriculum supported and developed by theatre educators who have a working knowledge of standards and practices required by the Texas Education Agency TEKS for both elementary and secondary theatre.</p> <p>Teachers have the opportunity to collaborate with feeder programs to align vertical and horizontal curriculum needs through consistent coaching and resources.</p> <p>Theatre curriculum for the theatre classes available for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elementary</li> <li>• Middle School</li> <li>• High School</li> </ul>

2 points		4 points	
Curriculum-Inclusion			
District offers theatre courses like partner-theatre with special education support and standard curriculum in order to promote inclusion.			
4 points			
Curriculum Requirements- Play Attendance			
All theatre and technical theatre students are required to observe and evaluate a live theatrical production(s) each semester.			
4 points			
Curriculum Requirements- Auditions/Performance			
High school theatre programs encourage students to participate in the production process and in the event of being cast, participate in curricular and extracurricular productions.	Secondary theatre programs encourage students to participate in the production process and in the event of being cast, participate in curricular and extracurricular productions.	Secondary theatre programs encourage beginning students to participate in the production process and all Advanced Theatre students are required to participate in all auditions and in the event of being cast, participate in curricular and extracurricular productions.	Elementary and secondary theatre programs encourage beginning students to participate in the production process and all Advanced Theatre students are required to participate in all auditions and in the event of being cast, participate in curricular and extracurricular productions.
1 points	2 points	3 points	4 points
Curriculum Requirements-Technical Crew and Performance			
Technical Theatre I-II classes are provided opportunities to work on supervised crews outside of the school		Advanced Technical Theatre courses are required to participate in supervised crew work and extracurricular performances.	

day and participate in extracurricular performances.	
<b>2 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>

<b>Leadership and Mentorship</b>			
<b>Department Leadership</b>			
All theatre department provides opportunities for students to serve in leadership positions within a theatre club or activity			
<b>4 points</b>			
<b>Technical Leadership</b>			
25% of all schools	50% of all schools	75% of all schools	100% of all schools
Provide opportunities for students to shadow production crew members.	Provide opportunities for students to assist production crew leaders for stage management, lighting, sound, props, costumes, and marketing.	Provide leadership opportunities: Students serve in leadership roles for stage management, lighting, sound, props, costumes, marketing and mentoring beginner technicians. Students serve and contribute to the overall design of the show.	Provide leadership opportunities: Students serve in leadership roles for stage management, lighting, sound, props, costumes, marketing and mentoring beginner technicians. Students serve and contribute to the overall design of the show. Students independently oversee and operate the productions.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>

<b>Theatre Advocacy</b>			
25% of all schools	50% of all schools	75% of all schools	100% of all schools

Promote programming and performances through campus communication.	Promote programming and performances through campus communication and parent groups.	Promote programming and performance through campus communication, parent groups, social media platforms, district communication, and community partnerships.	Promotes programming and performance through campus communication, parent groups, social media platforms, district communication, community partnerships, and outside news outlets.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>

Events/Activities			
Professional Development Opportunities			
Theatre staff are provided the opportunity to participate in TxETA sponsored conferences.		50% theatre staff participate in TxETA sponsored conference as a workshop presenter and/or event volunteer.	
2 points		4 points	
Activities			
UIL/TAPPS			
Participates in non-UIL theatrical festivals annually.		Participation in UIL or TAPPS OAP Contest.	
2 points		4 points	
UIL OAP Clinics			
Participates in one (1) OAP clinic annually.		Participates in at least two (2) OAP clinics annually.	
2 points		4 points	
Theatrical Design Contest			
Participates in at least one event of the Theatrical Design Contest.	Participates in at least two events of the Theatrical Design Contest.	Participate in at least three events of the Theatrical Design Contest.	Participate in at least four or more events of the Theatrical Design



			Contest.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>UIL Film Contest</b>			
At least one entry in the UIL Film Contest.	At least two entries in the UIL Film Contest.	At least three entries in the UIL Film Contest.	At least four (4) entries in the UIL Film Contest.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>Theatre Stipends</b>			
Theatre stipends are provided for extracurricular duties that include theatrical production rehearsal/performances, competitions, organization and preparation.		Theatre stipends are provided for extracurricular duties that include theatrical production rehearsal/performances, competitions, organization and preparation and are equivalent to or exceed comparable districts of size.	
<b>2 points</b>		<b>4 points</b>	

<b>Resources and Tools</b>			
<b>Theatre Library</b>			
Basic theatre library holdings include: Playwrights from contemporary, historic, children's literature, acting, directing, technical theatre, dance, theory and criticism, and theatre history, within the schools library with a minimum of 100 plays.	Basic theatre library holdings include: Playwrights from contemporary, historic, children's literature, acting, directing, technical theatre, dance, theory and criticism, and theatre history, within the schools library with a minimum of 200 plays.	Basic theatre library holdings include: Playwrights from contemporary, historic, children's literature, acting, directing, technical theatre, dance, theory and criticism, and theatre history, within the schools library with a minimum of 300 plays and access to some approved UIL	Basic theatre library holdings include: Playwrights from contemporary, historic, children's literature, acting, directing, technical theatre, dance, theory and criticism, and theatre history, within the schools library with a minimum of 400 plays and access to all approved UIL

		OAP plays within the district library system.	OAP plays within the district library system.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>Performance Venue Calendar</b>			
Designated theatre staff supervises all performance venue calendars and/or works with school administration to reserve campus events, non campus events, and facility rentals utilizing.			
<b>4 points</b>			
<b>Venue Management</b>			
Theatre Teacher (s) and/or/Tech Director or approved staff supervises all performance space events including all theatrical equipment, tools, scene shop, dressing rooms, storage, house, and lobby.			
<b>4 points</b>			
<b>Hourly Wages for Staff and Student Workers</b>			
All theatre teacher(s) and/or technical theatre arts students are paid an hourly wage for overseeing/working non-theatre events and venue rentals taking place after school hours.			
<b>4 points</b>			

<b>Technology</b>			
<b>Theatre Technology</b>			
25% of all schools	50% of all schools	75% of all schools	100% of all schools
Provide opportunities for students to work with theatre technology: fog/haze machines, lighting and sound boards, general	Provide opportunities for students to work with theatre technology: basic scene shop tools, sewing machines, fog/haze machines, lighting and sound	Provide opportunities for students to work with theatre technology: basic scene shop tools, sewing machines, fog/haze machines, lighting and sound	Provide opportunities for students to work with advanced theatre technology: basic scene shop tools, sewing machines, sergers, fog/haze machines,

lighting instruments.	boards, general lighting instruments.	boards, general lighting instruments, projections.	lighting and digital sound boards, intelligent lighting instruments, projections.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
<b>Computers/Software</b>			
Computers are available to all theatre and technical theatre classrooms for research and design	Computers are provided for all theatre and technical theatre classrooms for research and design.	Computers and color printers are provided for all theatre and technical theatre classrooms for research and design and theatrical and/or design software is made available.	A classroom set of computers and color printers are provided for individual students in all theatre and technical theatre classrooms for research and design and theatrical and/or design software is made available.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>

<b>Budget</b>			
<b>District/Campus Budget</b>			
Provides campus based budget to offset expenses associated with classroom supplies and theatrical production expenses	Provides campus based budget to offset expenses associated with classroom supplies and theatrical production expenses. A district based budget is provided to accommodate expenses associated	Provides campus based budget to offset expenses associated with classroom supplies and theatrical production expenses. A district based budget is provided to accommodate expenses associated	Provides campus based budget to offset expenses associated with classroom supplies and theatrical production expenses. A district based budget is provided to accommodate expenses associated

	with One Act Play and Theatrical Design Competitions. *Provides a complete UIL One Act Play Unit Set	with One Act Play Competition, Clinics, and a Theatrical Design competition or workshop. *Provides a complete UIL One Act Play Unit Set	with One Act Play Competition, Clinics, *equipment, and a Theatrical Design competition or workshop. *Auxiliary Sound, lighting, software, projection,
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>

<b>District Support</b>			
<b>School Board Attendance</b>			
At least one school board member attends at least one (1) performance or contest throughout the course of the academic year.	50% of school board members attend at least one (1) performance or contest throughout the course of the academic year.	75% of school board members attend at least one (1) performance or contest throughout the course of the academic year.	100% of school board members attend at least one (1) performance or contest throughout the course of the academic year.
<b>1 point</b>	<b>2 points</b>	<b>3 points</b>	<b>4 points</b>
Fine Arts Director or campus administrator attends at least one performance.		Fine Arts Director and/or campus administrator attends at least one performance and UIL competition.	
<b>2 points</b>		<b>4 points</b>	

### **Application Process**

Nominees applying for an Award of Distinction - District must:

- 1) Complete an application form: <https://forms.gle/NzVGw2H2XnBzfTb97>
- 2) Upload a letter of affirmation from one of the following: Fine Arts Director, Superintendent, Board of Director/Trustee.

Nominations must be submitted by May 31st each year. Applicants will receive immediate verification upon receipt of application. The awards committee will send a formal letter/email to announce application results prior to TheatreFest.