



## METG Lighting Design Contest

Dear Design Candidate,

Thank you for applying for the Lighting Design contest with METG! Enclosed you will find design requirements, and a copy of the scoring rubric. Applicants must bring their designs to St. John's Prep in Danvers, MA at 10:00 am on December 3, 2016 for judging. Winning designs are displayed at Finals in Boston at the Back Bay Events Center. Please note, in the event of a snow day, the auditions will take place on Sunday, December 4 at the same time.

If you have any further questions regarding the contest please contact Dan Biser at [dbiser@aol.com](mailto:dbiser@aol.com)

### *METG Lighting Design Contest*

Using a published work of your choosing, design an original concept and light plot for a hypothetical production of your chosen show. Shows may include traditional plays or musicals. Presentations should include the following elements:

- Chose a minimum of two or three scenes to base your design presentation on. Scenes need not be consecutive, but it is highly recommended to allow you to show transitions.

- Provide whatever materials you think will demonstrate your concept such as pictures, models, renderings, gel/color swatches, templates (gobos), etc. The choice of how you present your design is up to you as there are many ways to do so. The important part is that it conveys your thoughts and ideas so we have a clear idea of what your design will look like.
- Produce and provide a light plot, using the provided stage plan, showing where you would place your lights. The plans should be in  $\frac{1}{4}'' = 1'$  scale using standard notation/symbols and need only cover the lights specific to your chosen scenes. (Tip: be sure to include a key for your plot.) For this hypothetical situation, there are no restrictions regarding budget, circuiting, or placement. Be creative!
- You are responsible for any required scenic design associated with your show (what are you lighting?), but will not be judged on scenic elements.
- Come prepared to discuss your design. This will focus on your chosen scenes, but how it fits with the rest of the show will be considered. Some helpful hints on your presentation:
  - Show your research. What things did you look at and consider to determine what you did?
  - Justify your design. Why did you choose what you did? How does it serve the show?
- Presentations should be between 10 and 15 minutes in length (including discussion.)
- Please bring a copy of the script to your presentation.
- In keeping with similar contests, the stage for your show should be based on the John Hancock Hall stage where the State Finals for the High School Drama Festival are held. Plans for use in making the plot will be sent to all entrants, and additional information on the space can be found at <http://tillingers.com/pdf/jhrigging.pdf>

## Judging Criteria

Different students will naturally be at different points in their journeys and as such will have greatly varied experiences and skills. To try to make the contest as fair as possible while promoting openness to all students, and because artistic judgment is by default subjective, judging will focus almost as much on presentation as the actual design. It will be broken down as follows:

Did the entrant complete all required elements? (10%)  
Are all requested elements present in some fashion?

How organized and effective was the presentation? (40%)  
Was the entrant organized in their presentation and able to effectively convey their design concept?

How well does the design serve the chosen scenes? (40%)  
How well does the concept serve the overall show? (10%)  
Do the design concepts help set the mood of the scene or show? Do they help define the setting of the scene or show? Do they, in general, serve a defined purpose within the scene or show?

Have fun, be creative, and we look forward to seeing your presentations.



**C**alling all Lighting Designers! The METG invites any Massachusetts student to submit lighting design for this year's contest..

**Any Massachusetts student in grades 9 – 12 is eligible for the design contest.**

**Judging:**

Design applicants will present their entries in person on the day of the contest competition in December. Judges will interview design applicants. Judging will be based on the quality of the design's concept and execution, its originality, its appropriateness to the selected play and the responses of the applicant.

**Prizes:**

The winning design will receive a cash prize and be on display at The Massachusetts State Drama Festival Finals.

**Fees:**

Member schools may sponsor designers with payment of a \$10.00 entry fee per student. Non-member schools may submit designs with payment of a \$15.00 entry fee per applicant.

**Application Deadlines:**

The "Lighting Design Application Form," signed by both the applicant and the sponsoring teacher, must be postmarked by the appropriate application deadline and sent to the address listed on the form. Applications postmarked after that date will not be accepted. ***The application deadline is November 2.***

**Contest Date and Location:**

The Lighting design contest will be held on Saturday, December 3, 2016 at **St. John's Preparatory School in Danvers, MA**. In the event of a snow emergency, the contest will be held on Sunday, December 4.



# METG Lighting Design Contest Form



My school is \_\_\_\_\_ is not \_\_\_\_\_ a 2016–17 member of the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild.

I am registering

@ the member rate of \$10.00 per designer = \$\_\_\_\_\_

@ the non-member rate of \$15.00 per designer = \$\_\_\_\_\_

Student's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/Town: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

***PRINT EMAIL CLEARLY SO WE CAN CONTACT YOU***

School: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature of Sponsoring Teacher \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: (\_\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_

- Submit an individual entry form for each participating designer.
- Students must **follow all instructions outlined in the contest rules**. Failure to comply may result in disqualification.
- **Designers are strongly encouraged to have their teacher examine their work for feedback before submitting it to the competition.**
- All fees are non-refundable.
- Entry form and payment must be postmarked by **November 1**.

Return completed form with check, payable to METG, Inc., to:

***NEW ADDRESS!!!***

**Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild  
P.O. Box 2538 Mashpee, MA 02649**