

Madhatters Community Theatre
PO Box 127
Wadena, MN 56482

Dear fellow theatre enthusiast:

We are Madhatters Community Theatre in Wadena, MN. We have a long and rich history, performing plays and musicals since 1954. In 2019 we began what we hoped would be an annual event, a One Act Play Showcase (MOAPS) with audience voting and prizes. We would like to send you and/or your group an information packet and registration form for the next MOAPS on February 8, 2025. These can also be found on our website: madhattersinc.org

The winner of MOAPS 2021 was Chuck Johnson of Perham with his original one man show "The Night Before Gettysburg". After the showcase and several performances in the area, Destination Gettysburg contacted Chuck and asked him to perform his show at Gettysburg on the anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg that summer. He also applied for and received a Legacy Grant to bring "The Night Before Gettysburg" to schools and nursing homes and has returned to Gettysburg for a third summer.

We would love to hear from you or any other talented students, groups, or other individuals you know with an artistic adventurous spirit who might be willing to put together a one act and bring it to Wadena to compete for the first place prize of \$500, second place prize of \$200 and the MOAPie awards in February.

Thank you in advance and can't wait to see you there!

The Producers of MOAPS,
Michelle Curtis, 218-540-3268
Bronwynn Touchette, 218-820-8740

Madhatters One Act Play Showcase February 8, 2025

Madhatters Community Theater, Inc. invites you to be part of MOAPS' fourth year! The first MOAPS in 2019 was a success beyond our expectations as four groups competed for a large audience. Anticipation was high for the next year but of course that was 2020. 2021 saw us back with very exciting results. The winning one act went on to perform his original play "The Night Before Gettysburg" at Gettysburg on the anniversary of the Battle of Gettysburg! And then the third MOAPS in 2022 was postponed to right after the high school one act competition so the performing groups were high school groups which resulted in our largest audience to date! That is why we are keeping MOAPS in the spring with the hopes that, along with high school one acts, community theatres and others will be able to join in the fun!

So gather a few friends, pick a play, rehearse it to perfection, and put it on at our showcase on February 8 at Wadena Memorial Auditorium. If your play receives the most audience votes, your group will win the first prize of \$500! Second place wins \$200. The audience also votes on Outstanding Actor, Actress, Supporting Actor, and Actress with actual awards being presented, the MOAPies! All with no registration fee.

MOAPS is meant to be an exhibition of the entertainment and excitement that comes from the experience of live theater. It is an opportunity for anyone to express themselves through performance, be it through acting, directing, or design elements, just to name a few. By bringing together artists from a variety of communities, we can highlight our rich theatrical traditions. Come join us as we celebrate theater in Minnesota!

General Info:

- Plays may be original or pre-existing.
- Plays are limited to 10-30 minutes in length.
- Set up and strike of set needs to be as brief as possible – preferably no more than 5 minutes.
- Groups and participants of all ages may perform.
- Registration deadline is January 1st.
- To ensure a cohesive and complete showcase, MOAPS will have a minimum of four One Acts and a maximum of eight. Madhatters may cancel the contest by January 20th if there are less than four entries.
- Due to safety concerns, live animals, smoking/flame, and food/drink are prohibited. Also, Wadena Memorial Auditorium prohibits all firearms.
- In the case of more than enough entries Madhatters has the final say in which performances are chosen to be part of the Showcase. The producers of MOAPS will choose the sequence of performances.

Madhatters Will Provide:

- Light and Sound Personnel
- Stagehands
- Programs/Tickets/Posters
- Producing/Organizing
- Publicity/Advertising
- Performance Space for Showcase
- Access to Madhatters' sets and props (if needed).
- Staging trucks – 4'x8' & 4'x4' (access will be limited to a first come, first serve basis)

Participant Expectations

- Performing groups are responsible for choosing their plays and for paying the royalties for their play should that be necessary. Proof of payment of royalties must be provided to the producers.
- School groups may present shows previously performed as part of Minnesota State High School League One Act Play competition but any prize money won will go to the school program.
- Performing groups will provide directors, cast, props, costumes, and sets.
- Performing groups may design a show poster and submit it to MOAPS for purposes of publicity.
- Rehearsal schedule will be set by performing groups, but should January.
- MOAPS producers reserve the right to attend some rehearsals for the purposes of monitoring progress to ensure a quality performance.
- One Tech Rehearsal will take place at the Wadena Memorial Auditorium Friday before the MOAPS showcase, with exceptions made in the case of long (90+ minute) commutes. We highly recommend attending this so our tech personnel can become familiar with your show.
- All performing groups will be given tickets to sell to family, friends and their community. Remember, winners are picked by the audience!

Awards Presentation & Rules

- At the conclusion of the showcase we will hold our own mini awards show! The audience will vote in the following categories and the producers of MOAPS will present the MOAPieS awards – hand crafted statuettes created by a talented local artist. Please note – the categories may change depending on the plays presented:
 - **Outstanding Play** – this award will recognize the best overall play, with cash prizes and plaques given to First and Second place, \$500 and \$200 respectively.
 - **Outstanding Lead Performance** – this award is meant to highlight a lead or central performance. The director of each play submits one performance, male or female, for the audience vote in this category.

- **Outstanding Supporting Performance** – this award is meant to highlight a standout supporting performance. The director of each play submits one performance, male or female, for the audience vote in this category.
- **Outstanding Sets and Costumes** – this award is meant to highlight the visual aspects of a play, recognizing the use of sets and costumes as a way of telling the story. All plays will be eligible for this category.
- **Outstanding Direction and Blocking** – This award is meant to highlight the role of a director in determining the overall tone of the show and its performance. All plays will be eligible for this category.

NOTE 1: Please submit names for lead and supporting actor awards and costume and set design by Feb 1, 2025.

NOTE 2: The MOAPS Producers reserve the right to disqualify a performance from voting should it be determined that it does not fit within the category for which it has been submitted.

NOTE 3 : an individual performance may not be submitted for both Lead and supporting categories.

NOTE 4: Performances submitted for awards are allowed to submit image and/or video of the performance (video clips lasting no longer than one minute) to be displayed for the audience during the voting process.

In addition, there will be an optional award for:

- **Producer's Award for Special Recognition** – This award will be determined by the MOAPS Producers to highlight an outstanding element of a play that would not fall into the aforementioned categories. NOTE: this may not be submitted by performing groups and will be awarded solely at the discretion of the MOAPS Producers.

**Minnesota Amateur Athlete rules apply to aspects of the high school one act play competitions. Their rules state that anyone involved in this competition who wishes to also compete in the high school one act play competitions may not receive a cash prize over \$99. Therefore, in order to maintain a students' amateur status, if a high school student is a participant in a winning play they will receive a maximum of \$99. If their share of the prize money exceeds \$99, the remainder will be donated by Madhatters to the charity of the students' choice.*

Contact Information

If you have any questions, thoughts, or need any additional information, please contact one of our producers:

Michelle Curtis 218-640-3268, needlepointcrazy@yahoo.com

Bronwynn Touchette 218-820-8740, bronwynntouchette@yahoo.com

Madhatters One Act Play Showcase 2025
Registration Form

Theater/Group Name _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ E-mail _____

Name of Play _____

Author _____

(please check one) Original Play _____ Pre-existing _____

Royalties paid? _____ (Please provide a copy of receipt to Madhatters)

Number of participants (incl. Director, actors, other) _____

Length/Run Time of Play (not to exceed 30 minutes): _____

Please briefly describe your play:

Please fill out this form and mail to: Madhatters, PO Box 127, Wadena, MN 56482
You may also email it to one of our producers listed below.

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