



## FESTIVAL PARTICIPATION QUESTIONNAIRE

In light of the historic cancellation of the EMACT Annual Festival which had been scheduled for June 2009, the Board of Directors of EMACT want to get some feedback from our member groups about why you do or do not participate in the Festival. Please be as honest as possible in your responses so that we can better meet the needs of our member groups and make future festivals great successes. This is a three-page questionnaire, but not all questions may be applicable to your group depending on your past participation with the festivals. Please answer as honestly as possible. We ask that you complete the questionnaires and return them by May 30, 2009.

1. Name of your group:

2. Approximate number of active members:    0-50    51-100    101+

3. Your group has participated in an EMACT Annual Festival: (please circle one)

Regularly    Occasionally    Rarely    Never    New EMACT member group

3 a. Did your group consider participating in 2009? (circle one) Yes    No    Unknown.

3 b. Is your group going to participate in 2010? (circle one)

Definitely    Probably    Maybe    Unlikely    Definitely not

4. If your group has decided to participate in an EMACT festival or not, who makes that decision?

5. What are the factors usually discussed when the decision is made?

6. Is your group more or less likely to participate in a Regional qualifying year (when winning the Festival would mean going on to compete in the Region 1 Festival)? Please explain why.

7. What was your group's reason for deciding NOT to participate in this years Festival?

8. Are there members in your group who are interested in Festival participation? If so, what interests them about it?

9. When your group decides NOT to participate in a Festival what is/are the determining factor(s)?

10. What would have to be different about participating in the Festival in order to enable or encourage your group to participate more often (or ever)?

11. Do you feel your group has enough information about the following things?:

How to apply for Festival participation	Yes	No
What are the costs related to participation	Yes	No
How to find or cut material for participation	Yes	No
What makes for a competitive entry	Yes	No
What needs to be done to adapt sets/lights	Yes	No
How to read the Technical Package	Yes	No
Understanding the Festival rules	Yes	No
How Festival Adjudicators give feedback	Yes	No
How Festival award winners are decided	Yes	No

12. If your group has interest in festival participation, which of the following would make doing it *most* possible and appealing?

1. A venue close to your primary performance space
2. No entry fee for participation
3. A training session on how to prepare and compete at festival
4. An experienced liaison to explain the process
5. Money for expenses
6. Volunteers to help move sets, set up, and strike

13. Do members of your group attend the festivals as audience members?

14. If yes, what do they get out of it? And what do they say could be improved?

15. If they do not attend, why not?

16. What are the major reasons that your group participates in the Festival?

17. How does your group determine whether their entry in a festival has been successful?
18. Considering everything that goes into participation, what aspect is the most challenging for your group?
19. What do your groups participants find most rewarding about participation?
20. What is the *most* important element of a successful annual festival to your group?
  1. a well equipped theater to perform in
  2. articulate adjudicators with constructive feedback
  3. a fair and transparent adjudication process
  4. an experienced and supportive Festival Stage Management team
  5. a theater that is close to your home theater
  6. well attended performance sessions
  7. professionally done trophies and a big awards ceremony
  8. a chance to showcase your theater's talent and get exposure
21. If you are undecided about participating next year, what would keep you from participating?
22. What would make you definitely want to participate?
23. Whether you will participate or not next year, what one thing would you want changed from past festivals in order to improve the experience?
24. What is one thing that should definitely be retained from past festivals to keep the experience a good one?
25. When you do participate at the festival, does your group usually bring something that has been part of their season or something that is specifically for festival?
26. Does festival participation tie into the mission of your group or help draw members? If not, do you think it could in the future?

*If you have other comments about the festival or EMACT in general and would prefer to submit them confidentially, you can do so by writing them on a separate piece of paper and sending them to the address below.*

***Please return completed questionnaires to EMACT Festival Survey, 7 Grant Road, Winchester, MA 01890.***