

State Children's Drama Festival – 2021

Limited/Open

Objective and the Introduction

State Drama Festivals are among the several important events launched by the Department of Cultural Affairs for the better sustenance and promotion of culture in the country. It is envisaged to identify contemporary trends of the local art of drama and to direct the parties concerned to intervene in relevant fields of subjects.

- The State Drama Festival which commenced in 1959 is held under following two categories at present.
 - a) Length Drama (Sinhala/Tamil)
 - b) Short Drama (Sinhala/Tamil)

- From 1996, the State Children's Drama Festival is held under two events i.e. Limited and Open in Sinhala, Tamil and English.

There are general objectives and conditions with regard to these events and this document introduces special objectives and conditions with regard to each and every event. The Department possesses the authority to make any timely amendments to this constitution.

Events are held with following general objectives in view.

- a) Provide an impetus to promote the art of drama, one of the live components in our culture, to higher levels.
- b) To encourage and accolade all parties concerned in the art of drama by appreciating the drama of high caliber in front of drama lovers.
- c) Nurture the local art of drama through above procedure.

General Conditions

1. Competitors should agree to accept the special conditions of each event as well as the general conditions. (State Dramas/ State Short Dramas/State Children's Dramas)
2. Applications are called through media using paper advertisements or press notices. Only Sri Lankans could apply for all competitive events.
3. Prizes, awards and certificates are presented only to the creations which are formally evaluated under the competition from first to final round.
4. If it is decided by the Advisory Board of the Department of Cultural Affairs to offer any award in addition to the prizes, awards and certificates prescribed in pre notices or not to offer any award on account of nonconformity with the standards, violation of rules, the Department possesses the authority to act on accordingly.

5. True and correct information should be furnished in filling of applications. If the information given is proved to be false and incorrect, the Department shall have the authority to remove from the competition or to cancel the presentation of prizes, awards and certificates or to take effect both descriptions.
6. The duly filled application attached to this document issued by the State Drama Promotion Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, together with requisite documents in terms of the following schedule and a duly prepared script of the drama directed by you (If the script is not self-composed, the script should be accompanied by the original script in English on which the drama is based and its Sinhala copy) should be sent or handed over to the Department of Cultural Affairs, State Drama Promotion Division, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla (relevant information and the application could be obtained from the State Drama Promotion Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs or from the Cultural Officers of the District Secretariats and Divisional Secretariats throughout the island, or from the Department website. <https://www.facebook.com/culturaldept.gov.lk>
- 6.1 Drama Scripts should be submitted on A4 single side papers, clearly computer printed or type written. Hand written scripts should be legible. (The summary and the introduction of characters should be included on separate papers) The State Advisory Council of Drama of the Department of Cultural Affairs possesses the full authority to reject any script with illegible applications without considering the content of the drama. The scripts once submitted for the competition will not be returned.
7. State Children's Drama Festival 2021 should be written on the top left-hand corner of the enclosing envelope. The following all relevant documents should be sent with the application. Incomplete or illegible applications will be rejected.
- 7.1 Copy of letter of delegation of authority by the writer/translator/the person who adapted the drama for the production of the relevant script to the director/producer if the writer / translator/the person who adapted the drama is not the producer/director of the drama.
- 7.2 List of names of all artistes in the drama, their addresses, and signatures.
- 7.3 Photo Copy of permit issued by the Public Performance Board except for Children's Drama.
8. Once the Department received the duly filled application and the relevant schedule, the applicant will be informed of the registration number under which the application has been registered. This number should be used by the applicant in every correspondence conducted with the Department.
9. The first round of the competition would be the inspection of the drama script after examining the application and other schedules.
10. Selected scripts of dramas could be displayed in the district in which the producer or the director of the drama applied for. These are the dramas that have been qualified for the second round. The directors whose dramas have been recommended for the

final round in terms of the quality, will be informed with least possible delay by the Department of Cultural Affairs.

11. The final round will be held at an appropriate theatre hall nominated by the Department of Cultural Affairs.
12. Preliminary hall facilities and light facilities will be provided for the final round by the Department. But special lighting and audio-visual accessories will not be provided.
13. All the evaluations from the inspection of scripts to the final round will be done by a veteran Panel of Judges who are professionals in the art of drama and appointed by the Department of Cultural Affairs and the State Advisory Council of Drama. In case where this Panel of Judges is not accepted by the Director of any drama, such directors could remove their drama from the festival by informing in writing before staging the drama. The decision of the Panel of Judges would be the final.
14. The proposals submitted by the dramatists at all the stages from the commencement of the competition to the presentation of awards will be taken into consideration and such proposals will be implemented under the guidance of the State Advisory Council of Drama of the Department of Cultural Affairs.
15. If a drama is not displayed on a specific date at a specific location as agreed upon earlier without any unavoidable circumstances, the said drama is deemed to have been removed from the contest by the relevant producer / director at his own will. If the drama could not be displayed as agreed upon, a new date for display should be obtained from the Director of Cultural Affairs by informing such inability at least 07 days prior to the due date of display. However, the Department will not hold responsibility for any difficulties encounter in giving new dates, hindering the time schedule of the competition.
16. The Department of Cultural Affairs is not bound to make any payment to any dramatist who is participating in the competition. However, the Department will take steps to make financial grants for the dramas selected for the final round.
17. As the Awards Ceremony will be a state function with media coverage, all the relevant parties including the competitors are kindly requested to participate in the festival clad in appropriate clothes.
18. In the event of any expression of right or objection with regard to any drama selected for the competition, during any time of the drama festival, such right or objection should be submitted by an affidavit to the Department of Cultural Affairs. With due consideration to the said right or to the objection, the State Advisory Council of Drama of the Department of Cultural Affairs possesses the authority to make the final decision whether to display or not to display the said drama in the festival or to present or not to present awards even if it is recommended for awarding.

State Children's Drama Festival – 2021

Limited Category

1. The dramas presented by the children of government or nongovernmental schools will fall under this category.
2. The drama presented could be original/ translated/ adapted or any other model. It cannot be merely an extracted part of prescribed books or dramas.
3. Only live music is considered at the evaluations.
4. Actors, actresses, dancers, music, make-up, costume designers, stage decorators and other designers etc. must be the children or the teachers of the school.
5. In case of dramas produced only for a specific age group it should be indicated in the application.
6. The time duration of the drama should be between 20-30 minutes. The maximum time duration should not be exceeded.
7. The maximum number of total participant artistes in the drama including the participants of the consequential events should be 35.
8. The scripts of the drama presented should be produced or being produced in the year of 2020 or 2021. Scripts forwarded in previous occasions will not be reconsidered.
9. The script of the drama presented should be based on an incident, story or hypothetical plot suitable and appropriate solely for children and their activities reflecting their real life. Childhood is generally considered to be the age from 06 to 14. But children in the ages of 15 - 18 are allowed to participate in dramas. It is expected to use the relevant characteristics and the actions of each age group.
10. It is not a barrier to present a drama which has been presented previously to a drama contest, conducted by the Ministry of Education or in any other contest. However, this matter should be indicated in your application.
11. There is no limit in the number of drama scripts an individual can present but for each copy, a separate application should be presented and should submit with a covering letter through the principal.
12. The drama presented by the children between the ages 15-18 should reflect the characteristic activities and experiences of the relevant age group.
13. Attention should be drawn especially towards the language used and whether it is used in such a way that is suitable to the general children's audience.

Open Category

1. Arts Schools, children and youth clubs, associations, children's drama groups and individuals can participate under this category.
2. Time duration of the drama should be between 20-30 minutes. The maximum time duration should not be exceeded.
3. Even though there is no restriction on the maximum age of the actors/actresses, it is expected to give priority to young/child actors/actresses. The maximum number of total

participant artistes in the drama including the participants of the consequential events should be 35.

4. The drama presented in the contest should be a drama produced or being produced in the year 2020 or 2021.
5. The script of the drama presented is required to be based on an incident, story or hypothetical plot suitable and appropriate solely for children and the activities, reflecting their real life.
6. Merely extracted parts of prescribed books or dramas cannot be presented.

State Children’s Drama Festival – General Rules

1. Duly filled applications issued by the State Drama Promotion Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, together with 03 copies of the script and a summary of the drama directed by you, should be sent or handed over to the Director, Department of Cultural Affairs, 8th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla before **28th December 2021**. No fee is charged in this regard. “State Children’s Drama Festival- Limited/Open – 2021 “should be written compulsorily on the top left-hand corner of the enclosing envelope. Scripts suitable for production in the First Round will be evaluated by an independent Board and the relevant producers/schools/institutes will be informed in the month of May (2022).

2. Dramas selected to be staged in the Second Round will be selected at district/provincial level and the relevant applicants will be informed to stage their dramas on a date and a venue, closest possible to them. As these shows are conducted at day time, lighting facility will not be provided. Therefore, the Board of Judges will not consider make-up, costumes or lighting. But to encourage the drama troupe and to gain a better understanding on the drama, costumes, stage instruments and decorations, make-up could be used with the consent of the director of the drama.

3. Scripts presented for the festival will not be returned.

4. The name of the script writer should not be mentioned in the script but in the application.

5. As per the decision of the Board of Judges, the dramas that are most suitable to stage at the final round will be selected.

6. Artistes who have displayed outstanding performances at the Second Round will be issued a Merit Certificate at the occasion of the Awards Presentation Ceremony.

7. If there are several numbers of qualitative dramas, the Board of Judges will decide to have a Second semi-round.

8. It is envisaged to stage the dramas selected for the final round in Colombo. Each and every drama selected for the final round will be presented with a plaque at the Awards Presentation Ceremony.

9. The following prizes and certificates will be awarded for Limited and Open categories, on the decision of the proficient Panel of Judges at the Final Round.

Cash Prizes and Certificates for limited and open categories

❖ The best drama production of the year	
First Place	– Rs.50, 000.00
Second Place	– Rs.30, 000.00
Third Place	– Rs.25, 000.00
❖ Best drama script of the year	
First place	– Rs.25,000.00
Second Place	– Rs.15,000.00
Third Place	– Rs.10,000.00
❖ The most talented child actor of the year	– Rs.20,000.00
❖ The most talented child actress of the year	– Rs.20,000.00
❖ The most talented supporting child actor of the year	– Rs.10,000.00
❖ The most talented supporting child actress of the year	– Rs.10,000.00
❖ The best music of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best make-up of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best costume design of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best stage background of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best stage management of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best stage lighting of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best choreography of the year	– Rs.15,000.00
❖ The best sound management of the year	– Rs.15,000.00

In addition, according to the decision of the Panel of Judges merit certificates and cash prizes will be awarded to the participants who displayed special skills in the limited and open categories.

Special Remarks

- The details of the contributors of the drama (signatures of all the contributors for the drama should be included here), presented at the meeting of the producers, held prior to the Final Round should be considered as the final.
- Any changes in contributors before the Final Round could be done by handing over a letter mentioning such changes, to the State Drama Promotion Division of the Department of Cultural Affairs with the signature of the relevant contributor. The responsibility of such changes lies upon the director of the drama.
- The State Advisory Council of Drama possess the authority to remove any dramas or cancel awards in case of furnishing incorrect information or violation of rules and regulations of the competition.
- The State Advisory Council of Drama will draw its attention to print any scripts that shows outstanding qualities.
- Action will be taken to stage dramas of outstanding qualities at provincial level.
- The two dramas that have placed first in the Final Round, under the open and the limited categories, will be staged at the Drama Festival of the ensuing year.
- Steps will be taken to get the participation of the writers and producers who have presented dramas for the Limited Category, at preliminary workshops.
- Steps will be taken to get the participation of the writers and producers who have presented dramas for the Open Category, at regional level workshops.
- Officers of the Department of Cultural Affairs or their family members are not allowed to take part, or present dramas either to limited category or to open category in this competition.
- Names of only two artistes should be presented in maximum for any single award in the Limited Category and Open Category.
- The decision of the Panel of Judges would be the final.

The above document is the preliminary statute for the State Children's Drama Festival and its effective date is 31st January 2021. This is also the only decisive document of this Drama Festival. The scheduled application is also a part of this document. Any clarification on the festival will be made in future by the State Drama Promotion Division in writing or through telephone. The Department of Cultural Affairs and the State Advisory Council of Drama shall responsible for defining, revising, rescinding this document or compiling a new statute.

Inquiries :State Drama Promotion Division -011-2872385/011-2882534

Tharani Anoja Gamage
Director
Department of Cultural Affairs.
8th Floor, Sethsiripaya, Battaramulla.

State Children’s Drama Festival – 2021
Application

(03 scripts and the summary should be presented)

1. I. Name of the school by which the drama is presented: (for Limited category)

.....
.....

II. Name of the association/institution/person by whom the drama is presented (for Open Category)

.....
.....

III. Postal Address:

.....
.....

IV. Telephone No:

.....

V. District:

.....

VI. Province:

.....

(Please note that the address for all correspondence will be considered as 01. (III) above)

2. i. Name of the drama:

.....
.....

ii. Director of the drama:

.....
.....

iii. Address:

.....

- iv. Telephone No:
- v. Writer's name:
Original/ Translation/ Adaptation/ Other (Delete the words inapplicable)
- vi. Number of Actresses:
- vii. Number of Actors:
- viii. Number of Supporters:
- ix. Total number of the crew:
- x. Duration of drama:
- 3. Has this drama displayed or staged before? (Yes/No)
If so date and places
 - i.....
 - ii.....
 - iii.....
- 4. i. Convenient District to stage the drama in the first round.....
.....
- ii. Distance from Colombo to that
place.....

We hereby certify that the above particulars submitted by us are true and accurate, and we have read and understood the rules and regulations prescribed by the Department of Cultural Affairs, pursuant to this Drama Festival and also, we agree to adhere to such rules and regulations and to accept the decision of the Department of Cultural Affairs as the final decision by placing our signature below.

Signature:
Name.....
Principal/ Secretary of the Drama Association
Date:

Signature:
Name.....
Writer of the Drama/ Producer
Date:

Office use only

Province	District	City
<hr/>		
Suitable Regional Center		No