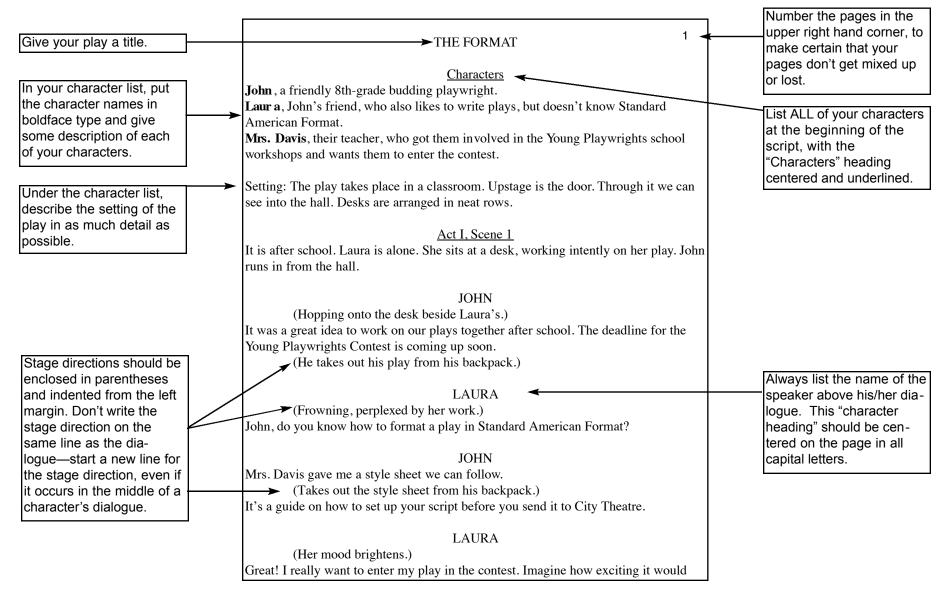


STYLE SHEET: "STANDARD AMERICAN FORMAT"

Please use the following guide to make sure your script is in **STANDARD AMERICAN FORMAT** before you send it to the Young Playwrights Contest. Questions? Call City Theatre at (412) 431-4400. Scripts must be typed, on one side of the page only, and bound in the upper left hand corner with a single staple.





entire stage direction.

be to have your play selected for production by the professionals at City Theatre! (John and Laura settle down to work on their plays.) Give a brief description The beginning of a new under the Act/Scene headscene should be marked. Act I. Scene 2 ing of anything a reader It is the next morning, before school has started. Mrs. Davis is in the classroom lookwith "Act" and "scene" needs to know, as your headings centered and ing over her lesson plans in preparation for the school day. Laura and John enter. scene begins, to be able to underlined. Act numbers picture the scene in his are indicated by Roman LAURA mind. numerals (I, II, III, etc.); Mrs. Davis, I'm so glad you copied the Standard American Format style sheet for John. I was able to finish my play last night and it's all ready to send to City Theatre. scene numbers by Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3, etc.). (She proudly shows her completed play to Mrs. Davis.) Make it easy for your **JOHN** reader to read your script. Make sure to double-space And mine should be done by the weekend! between one character's MRS. DAVIS dialogue and the next, and If either of you receive a City Theatre production, we'll organize a field trip for the after such things as the other 8th-graders to see your play performed! character list and the Unlike the character head-Act/scene headings (or ing (the name above the LAURA the scene description dialogue), the dialogue Even if we don't win, a trip to see the winning plays would be fun, especially since that follows the Act/scene itself should NOT be cenwe had a City Theatre workshop leader teach us playwriting in school this year. heading). Itered. It should be aligned with the left mar-**JOHN** gin of the page. I hope you've signed our school up for playwriting workshops again next year, Mrs. Davis. I already have a new idea for a play, and I liked hearing my friends' plays. MRS. DAVIS But within a single charac-(Laughs.) ter's name heading, dia-Well, you don't need to wait until next year to write your new play! But City Theatre logue, and stage direc-If stage directions continue Young Playwrights will be back in our school next year—I've already signed us up. tions, the lines should be for more than one line. (John and Laura start to express their excited approval but are cut off by the single-spaced. remember to indent the bell. They exit, running off to class.)

A couple other tips: Type your script—do not hand-write it. Leave margins of at least one inch all around your pages. Type on one side of the paper only. And ALWAYS double-check for spelling and other errors, and ask someone else (such as your teacher or a parent) to proofread your work for you, too.