



Summer Festival | 2023 / 2024



# REJOICE

Theatre Guidelines

*“ ... the Lord your God will bless you in all your produce and in all the work of your hands, so that you surely rejoice” (Deut 16:15)*



# “ REJOICE ”

## Theatre Festival (2023-2024)

### Performance Date & Venue

**Official Performance**

**March 2024**

(Detailed timetable of rehearsal and performance will be announced later on the summer festival website calendar page)

### Age Group

Participants can be from Grades 1-6, 7-12 and Uni- Open age (English and/or Arabic) combined, or separate plays for each age group.

### Deadlines

Registration Open by	27-Nov-2023
Registration Close by	16-Jan-2024
Teams to pay registration fees by	16-Jan-2024
Scripts to be submitted by	16-Jan-2024
Scripts feedback to churches by	30-Jan-2024
Final revised scripts to be submitted by	13-Feb-2024

### Fee Payments

Registration and submission fees will be posted on the summer festival website at a later stage.

You may choose to make a donation for summer festival using details below:

**Account Name:** Coptic Orthodox Church Diocese of Melbourne – Community Festival

**BSB :** 063-159

**ACC :** 10729454

### Theatre Terms and Conditions (T&Cs)

All participating churches **MUST** read the Theatre Festival T&Cs (from SF website theatre page), get it signed electronically as per the instruction given in the T&Cs document. **Your submission is not valid** till the SF Theatre Sub-Committee receives the Theatre T&Cs signed.

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## Guidelines

1. Scripts **Must** be reviewed and approved by one of the Church’s Priests and Superintendent online on the website.
2. It must be taken into consideration that the performance represents great values and traditions that are drawn from our Coptic Orthodox Church spirit
3. The performance should be suitable for the intended age group that will be presented to.
4. The production is **Preferably** to be associated with the theme of the summer festival “Rejoice”. **There will be extra 5 Marks up for grabs for the production that will address the summer festival theme.**
5. Scripts should be written using appropriate language, wordings and no violence or hate
6. The storyline should **NOT** be in the form of a sermon or a lesson, the script should have a clear message and if it is telling a true story there should be no altering in the events being told
7. The use of flammable materials or heavy smoke is prohibited during the performance
8. Please make sure to follow the timing guidelines to avoid losing points
9. Scripts must be submitted to the theatre committee online to the website one week before the specified deadlines for review and feedback:
  - a. Script Must be signed and approved by one of the Church’s Priests and Superintendent
  - b. **Script should have a cover page showing** church name, play name, targeted audience age group, responsible servant name and contact number, script author name and director and a brief of the spiritual story and message.
  - c. Script will be reviewed by the Theatre Committee, and If there is a feedback by the reviewing servants, the feedback will be submitted on the website to the church coordinator, and will be asked to resubmit the script by the mentioned deadline
10. Participants' names to be submitted online on the website a week before the actual performance day, with consent forms
11. All participants shall be registered with SF online system

## Interstate Productions:

- Recorded play/project shall be sent as a raw record without any editing or montage. The play should be performed on a stage, and to be recorded as a play (not a movie). No editing, sound effects or visual effects/backgrounds are allowed, as this will not meet the guidelines of a theatre performance.

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## Competition Format

- **Format Diversity:** Productions can take various forms, including Traditional plays, short plays, sketches, black theatre, shadow theatre, Musical Theatre, Physical silent theatre, puppet show, individual monologue, etc.
- **Production Technical requirements and evaluation criteria:** Each production type will have different technical requirements. The Traditional Theatre production will be evaluated as its own category, while the rest of the production formats will be evaluated under a different category with different evaluation criteria to suit each production type. This will be detailed in the next version of the guidelines for the different submitted production types.
- Any production that will use extensive media content (e.g. Visual content, long video content, interactive content, etc.) that could otherwise be done using theatre components will be classified as a Media Project and will not be evaluated as part of the Theatre category. Scripts might include hymns and soundtracks.
- There is NO limit for the number of actors/participants, We encourage as many kids as possible to participate in the production. This includes acting, helping with the music, lighting, decor, backstage, etc. Please note that the mark for technology setup and backstage work will be given according to the kids' performance and work within the time of the play.
- ***The performance timing will be as following:***
  - Every church will be allocated 65mins in total including: Setup, performance and packing up.***
    - Setting up and preparation
    - Performance time (up to 45mins)
    - Packing up and clearing the stage

Recommended combined time for setting up and packing up is up to 20min.

**If the overall church time exceeded the allocated 65mins, deduction of marks will be applied.**

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## **Evaluation Criteria (Traditional Play Performance ONLY) :**

- Technical support and backstage work to be rewarded as follows:
  - The relevance of the props to the scenes.
  - The importance of the light and sounds being used in servicing the story.
  - The quality of the murals/screen (according to the age group) and how they are all connected to the play.
  - **Blocking and Staging (10):**
    - Actors and setting are always clearly visible; stage space is fully used; movement is purposeful and well-rehearsed.
  - **Storyline (15):**
    - A story is presented with a clear beginning, middle and end, and with a positive message.
    - The performance has to mainly be using acting elements with limited narrations where possible.
    - The story should take into consideration the dramatic plot, so that the events and conflicts unfold to allow for audience engagement.
  - **Commitment (10):**
    - Energy, focus, memorization, listening and reacting, engaging and teamwork.
  - **Voice (10):**
    - projection, clarity, emotional range, and expressiveness.
  - **Characterization (20):**
    - Expressive, engaging and believable characters are created through movement, facial expression and gestures.
  - **Production Elements & Technical Support (25):**
    - Thoughtful use of costume, props, set, lighting (if available) and sound; production elements are well chosen and suited to the performance.
  - **Preparedness & Overall Production Value (10):**
    - evidence of preparation; performance is polished and professional; smooth execution; does not exceed the time limit.

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- As per Guideline Item 4, there will be extra **(5) Marks** up for grabs for the production that will address the summer festival theme.
- **If the overall church time exceeded the allocated 65mins, deduction of marks will be applied.**

**Please note that the Evaluation Criteria for the other production types (other than traditional Theatre Production) will be determined and issued 2 weeks after the submission of the revised scripts.**

## **Theatre Committee Contacts**

You can contact the committee on email: [sfmelbdrama@gmail.com](mailto:sfmelbdrama@gmail.com)

# “ REJOICE ”

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## Anthem 2023/2024

E

(By the grace of God we grow  
And give fruits a hundredfold  
And His Spirit dwells within us  
Gives us joy as the Bible told) **x 2**

J

(Rejoice in your faith and church  
Handed down to us by God  
Be firm in prayers and doctrine  
And build your life on His word) **x 2**

O

(Our Lord wants us faithful  
Glorified and joyful) **x2**  
Always joyful

I

For He has redeemed us on the cross  
And gave us eternal life  
When you're a temple for His dwelling  
Sadness will not be a choice

C

Praise and thank God every day and you...  
And you will surely rejoice!

E

### Contact us on:

**Website:** [www.sfmelb.org.au](http://www.sfmelb.org.au)

**Email:** [info@sfmelb.org.au](mailto:info@sfmelb.org.au)

**Facebook:** SummerFestivalMelbourne