

Young Playwrights Festival

Initial Ideas Sheet Last Updated 2.3.13

Your Name _____

We want to encourage you to get your preliminary thoughts about your play down on paper, so we can mentor you toward your specific playwriting goals. Don't feel that the choices you make here must be your FINAL choices. This is really a way to help you get started. Being creative means that sometimes you get inspired to start all over again.

Once you have filled in this sheet and returned it to your instructor, she/he will pass it along to Marcy Kearns at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre. She will then offer some suggestions for how you might approach ONE scene in the play you propose.



- Suggestions will be returned, in writing, to your teacher and passed along to you.
- Guided by this feedback, you will write ONE scene, in appropriate format.
- During Marcy's next visit to the school you will have the chance to share the scene you've written for more feedback.

Characters in the play you're currently imagining:

(Remember: Your cast cannot require more than **six actors**, including non-speaking roles. However, your actors may "double", if that seems important.)

| Character Name | Brief character description, including gender and age Remember: Emotional or personality traits are usually much more important than physical ones! |
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Please also complete the reverse of this sheet



List some themes/ideas that interest you:

For example: Here are some themes from past YPF-winning plays

- How parents' attitudes affect their children
- What really happens after death
- What one might sacrifice for someone they love
- Political parody
- Trying to have a real relationship in our computer-connected age

Setting: (You want to limit it to one location, or at most two, if they can be easily suggested by **simple** set pieces or lighting.)

Plot Synopsis in 1-5 sentences: (Try to think in terms of what the characters WANT rather than just what will happen to them.)