



The Mississippi Delta
TENNESSEE WILLIAMS FESTIVAL

Coahoma Community College - Department of Public Relations
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Dear Student Actors and Drama Instructors:

This is your invitation to star on center stage at the 17th annual Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival Drama Competition October 17, 2009, in Clarksdale.

Our celebration honoring playwright Tennessee Williams continues its extraordinary experience following the British Broadcasting Corporation's featuring the festival as a BBC radio documentary that aired to rave reviews in the UK on August 4, 2009 with award-winning British playwright/actor Kwame Kwei-Armah as narrator.

Directing the competition and the acting workshops will be acclaimed actress/director Erma Duricko, founder and artistic director of Blues Roses Productions. Miss Duricko has directed performances at Lincoln Center and conducts master classes across the country. Judges for the competition are out-of-town veteran theatre professionals.

Student actors receive trophies for their award-winning performances, and the schools they represent are awarded the following cash prizes for their drama departments:

Monologue competition winners: 1st place: \$500; 2nd place: \$200; and 3rd place, \$100
Scene competition winners: 1st place: \$700; 2nd place: \$400; and 3rd place: \$200
Other cash awards include: Stella contest winners: male and female: \$100 each
Best costume: \$100; Judges' Award: \$100

Registration is free, and a complimentary breakfast will be waiting for you at 8 a.m. in the Georgia Lewis Theatre. We invite you to register early; required registration forms are enclosed and may be downloaded from the festival website: www.coahomacc.edu/twilliams. **Time restrictions will be strictly enforced.** You are invited to attend the Saturday evening supper/presentation of winners at Clarksdale's historic railroad depot and dance to the music of the famous Wesley Jefferson Southern Soul Band. Cost is a special student rate: \$5 per person.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to compete and to meet celebrity Broadway stars Tammy Grimes, winner of two Tony Awards and a member of the American Theatre Hall of Fame; actor/director Joel Vig, a member of *Hairspray's* original cast; Johnny McPhail, star of the Sundance Film Festival winner, *Ballast*.

Registration deadline is October 2, 2009. See you soon.

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