**THE VALLEY PLAYERS**

**PLAYWRIGHT AWARD**

**RULES and GUIDELINES**

Thank you for your interest in the Valley Players’ Playwright Award. Established in 1982, the contest seeks to promote the theater arts and to encourage and support the creation of original plays by Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine residents.

The cash prize of $1,000 will be awarded to the winning playwright. Funding for the award is provided by the Audrey Mixer Endowment Fund. The Valley Players reserves the right not to give an award.

Plays will be judged by a panel of Valley Players members who have been actively involved in producing, directing, acting and/or technical aspects of productions.

The following is a list of rules governing the contest. Any entry not conforming to the rules will be ineligible. Judgement of eligibility is at the sole discretion of the Valley Players.

Any Vermont, New Hampshire or Maine resident is eligible to submit one or more original, full length, non-musical plays for consideration, providing the play has not been produced on stage before and has not been previously published. Plays which have had workshop readings are eligible.

Plays which have won an award or prize in any other playwriting contest are not eligible.

Playwrights must remain anonymous to the judges. **Therefore the playwright’s name must not appear anywhere on the manuscript except on the front title page which the Valley Players will remove for judging.**

Manuscripts must be typed on 8½x11 white paper in standard manuscript form. TWO (2) copies of the script must be submitted by snail mail, or ONE (1) copy submitted electronically. Copies that are mailed will not be returned unless accompanies by a self-addressed, stamped manuscript envelope.

 All plays must be controlled exclusively by the playwright. By accepting the prize money, the

 playwright agrees to allow the Valley Players exclusive production rights free of charge until the close

 of their production or for one year, unless otherwise negotiated.

 Plays must be suitable for production by a community theater group for a varied audience.

 The Valley Players are under no obligation to select a winner, nor to produce the winning play. All

 entries must be postmarked no later than February 1. The winner will be announced to all entrants and

 judges’ critiques may be provided.

 A copy of the enclosed form must be filled out and returned with manuscript(s). Your signature on the

 form indicates that you understand and comply with the rules of this contest.

Thanks again for your interest. If you have questions, please contact:

Vermont Playwright Award

PO Box 441

Waitsfield, VT 05673

 valleyplayers@madriver.com

or call Sharon Kellermann 802-793-8362