

Name _____
Period _____ Date _____

Theatre Current Event

Theatre, like all forms of art, is very dynamic. A play written and produced today will have very few elemental similarities to one written and produced fifty years ago. That is because there are so many pieces that work together to become a play — numerous areas in which various artists will contribute, changes in technology, trends, experimentation, and countless other facets in which “difference” can occur. On top of that, the demands of the locale, the audience, the culture, world events, politics, commerce, music, and even fashion all can have huge impacts on the evolution of theatre.

As a student of the theatre, whether you are on-stage, behind the scenes, or sitting in the director's chair, it is important that you know what is happening in the world around you. Just as a doctor subscribes to medical journals, you should consider subscribing to theatre journals. There are many, and some directly target students. Your newspaper is also very likely to have an “Arts” section; if you are not in an urban area, you can access many metropolitan newspapers online. Another option for staying current is to subscribe to theatre newsletters. Some larger theatres and theatre companies have them, as do many theatre organizations.

What is “Current” and what is an “Event?” *Current* means up-to-date or recent, and is up to interpretation. In most cases, if you complete a **Theatre Current Event** assignment often enough, *current* simply means that the article was written since the last assignment was completed. Your theatre teacher will tell you how recent your current event needs to be. An *event* is an occurrence. In your case, a current event can be any article relating to theatre today. In other words, an article about Tennessee Williams' impact on theatre in 1940 would not be current, even if it was published today, but an article about his continued impact on theatre today would be current. Lastly, your teacher may allow you to venture into article about film, TV, et cetera, but unless this is specifically noted, limit your findings to live theatre. If you are not sure about an article, clear it with your teacher ahead of time.

Assignment:

- Find a recent article about theatre.
- Read the article thoroughly, highlighting important facts, names, and main ideas.
- Attach the article to clean copy paper (unless it is already on sturdy 8½ x 11” paper), and staple it to the front of this assignment; put your name and other important heading information clearly on the top page.
- Complete the assignment, and turn it in to your teacher by the due date of _____.
- Be prepared to present your current event to the class or to answer the teacher's questions about the article.

1. Article Title: _____

2. Author: _____

3. Does the article tell you anything about the author? _____

4. Article Source: _____

5. Check one from each column in reference to your article:

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Very useful | <input type="checkbox"/> Very interesting | <input type="checkbox"/> Very easy to read |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat useful | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat interesting | <input type="checkbox"/> Somewhat easy to read |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Not useful | <input type="checkbox"/> Not very interesting | <input type="checkbox"/> Difficult to read |

6. Is the article mostly about: (circle one)

Acting Writing/Playwrights

Directing Producing/Finance

Technical Theatre (specify: _____)

Other (specify: _____)

7. Summarize the current event: _____

8. Why is this important to you, your organization, or to theatre today? _____

9. Write three significant questions about theatre today and answer them using quotes from the article.

a. Question 1: _____

Answer: _____

