



## SOUND DESIGN COMPETITION AND DISPLAY GUIDELINES

SETC 70<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention ♦ Knoxville, TN ♦ February 27 – March 3, 2019

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*SETC Sound Design Award Sponsored by Shure, Inc.*

Graduate and Undergraduate Student Designers can showcase their Sound Designs for realized or theoretical designs at the 2018 SETC Annual Convention. Sound Designs will be on listening display for all convention attendees during the annual Design Competition.

### **HOW TO ENTER**

- You may enter one entry in each competition category.
- Application Fees: Early-Bird (\$20): Oct. 15 – Dec. 14 (at NOON)  
Final (\$30): Dec. 15 – Jan. 22 (at NOON)
  - *Pre-registration is required for participation in SETC Auditions and Design/Tech Interviews. Late applications may be considered after the online registration deadline. Late application fee: \$45.*
- You must register for the Convention and apply for the Design and Technology Competition online at [setc.org](http://setc.org).
  - Registration and all applications must be completed by **January 22, 2019**.
  - Late entries may be allowed if space permits, but may be declared ineligible for awards.
- Your school must be an active Institutional member of SETC for you to win prizes.
  - Institutional membership is \$80.
  - Please contact SETC to verify school status.
- Carefully read these guidelines and prepare your materials accordingly.
- *We reserve the right to refuse to exhibit entries that do not adhere to the stated criteria.*

### **GENERAL GUIDELINES**

- Bring all entry elements to the determined sign in area at the designated time.
- Do not mail the entries to the SETC office.
- Collect your entry immediately after the close of Design and Technology Competition Saturday at noon.
- Neither SETC nor the Design/Technology Committee will assume responsibility for entries not picked up at the designated time.
- The area will be secured when displays are not open.
- You will be allowed to set up your own display, but it *may* have to be moved by others while you are not present.
- Entrants **MUST** be present for the critique of their work.

### **DISPLAY GUIDELINES**

- Each entry must be configured to occupy a 30" square of table, and the space above it.
- Your exhibit must be freestanding; wall space, hanging, suspension points, or anything like that will not be available to you.
- Your display should be self-supporting, lightweight, well-constructed and easily set up. It must be able to be quickly and easily moved by only one or two people in the event your submission is selected for response. (Entrants must be present during their response.)

- The committee reserves the right to restrict space allocations for exhibits which exceed the practical limitations of the exhibition space. Questions should be directed to Committee Chair Neno Russell at [nrussell@vcu.edu](mailto:nrussell@vcu.edu).
- Electricity will be provided for the sound design entrants. (Sound designers should provide their own listening device and headphones i.e. speakers and/or headphones, no personal ear buds).
- Please do not display your school's name, your business card or resume. If your school's name is already on drafting title blocks, you do not have to remove it.
- Place your name and phone number on the back of all artwork.

## **CRITERIA**

- All entrants will present both audio and written/documented components for their Sound Design.

### **Audio Presentation:**

Entrants should present audio files that represent the overall design of the show. This can consist of audio samples of the following work by the entrant:

- Cues built or recorded
- Music compiled or created
- Other sounds used for the show
- Atmospheric Soundscapes used in the production
- The compiled audio samples can be interesting to listen to on their own and can consist of multiple samples of sound(s) and music combined in a creative ways. If a single wav encompassing the production is submitted the entire length should be no longer than 3 minutes in length.

**Video Option:** Sound Designers have the option of presenting a video file containing the above audio samples in addition to visual elements (photos, video clips, etc.) provided that all visuals are images from the production or are directly related to their research. Video compilations should be in a self-contained format that can be played on a computer or small portable DVD device that would be provided by the designer.

### **Written Presentation:**

A Concept Statement, one half page or less, about the overall design. This could include obstacles you had to overcome in order to facilitate the design and your design process. The following required paperwork should also be submitted and displayed:

- Cue sheets samples
- A theatre ground plan of the production showing all speaker locations, placements and signal flow
- Any accompanying documentation about the entrant's research supporting their overall design or design process

### **Display Criteria:**

- Documents should be nicely displayed either on foam core, cardboard, or presented in a binder. Paperwork should accompany the audio submission in order to give the viewer a complete understanding of the overall sound design.
- Designers are responsible for supplying their own means of audio/video playback. Portable DVD player or audio devices, computer or small computer speakers are all acceptable forms of playback. Electrical outlets will be provided for sound design entries. Entrants are required to bring their own extensions cords & power strips as needed.

## **HELPFUL HINTS**

- Edit and proofread your Concept Statement. Be concise.
- The judges for each category will carefully review each entrant's work, giving special consideration to the merits of the concept and how that concept has been translated visually into the work that is presented. The judges will assess the quality of the entry, the clarity of the conceptual statement, the graphical presentation (renderings, sketches, models, drafting), the research (specifically considering how it ties into the project) and the overall presentation of the work. Additionally, the judges may take into consideration information gathered during the feedback session that they hold with the entrants.

## **AWARDS**

- Awards will be announced at the **Design Awards Ceremony on Friday night**.
  - Winners will be photographed at this event for recognition in SETC publications and on [setc.org](http://setc.org).
- Combined Graduate & Undergraduate Division winners: Shure Products for First, Second and Third Places
- Graduate entries will automatically be considered for the Ready to Work Awards.
- Participants **must be present for their critique** to be eligible.