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Keep It Brief, Heller Theatre's Annual Short Play Contest 2011

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The best presents often come in small parcels. Similarly, some of the best dramatic writing can often come in shorter formats, such as the one act play. These often provide a way for fledgling writers to test their wings and for more experienced writers to develop new ideas, or to work on an idea that doesn't stretch to three or more Acts. Which is why the return of Heller Theatre's Annual Short Play Contest for 2011 is welcome indeed.

Entitled *Heller Shorts – Keep it Brief*, this year's contest poses a unique challenge, namely that each script *must contain a briefcase*. Scripts must be between 10 to 15 pages, require minimal props, set and lighting and be able to be performed in less than 15 minutes. Scripts should be submitted in electronic form only. Submissions, which can be made from February 1st should be sent to HellerShorts@gmail.com and should include the playwrights name and contact information in the accompanying email. The playwrights name should not appear on the script itself. Closing deadline is April 1st, 2011. Scripts not adhering to these guidelines cannot be considered.

Submissions are then reviewed by a panel and results posted by May 15th, 2011.

The six to eight original plays successfully selected will be produced as part of the prestigious and highly successful Heller Short Play Festival, which this year will run from August 18th to 21st. Last year's inaugural four day festival sold out on all four days.

For further guidelines on submissions go to www.TulsaParks.com at Henthorne Performing Arts Centre. Or you can contact Susan Apker at susan.apker@gmail.com, whose desire to create an outlet for new, original works was the inspiration behind creating this wonderful opportunity for playwrights.

Chris O'Rourke

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