

2023 Jane B. Avery Keepsakes Award for High School Seniors

Greetings from Our Town Theatre,

Jane B. Avery was an accomplished Drama and English teacher at Southern Garrett High School from 1974 to 2002. One of the requirements for her Theatre II students was to research, write, and perform a *Keepsakes* monologue about an historical Garrett County Person.

In 1997 Jane founded Our Town Theatre and her students' *Keepsakes* performances were the first presentations at the theatre.

Jane died in 2016, and to honor Jane's memory and her love of local history and education, Our Town Theatre has established the Jane B. Avery Keepsakes Award.

The total yearly award will be \$2,000:

First Place—\$1,000 to a graduating senior

Second Place—\$600 to a graduating senior

Third Place—\$400 to a graduating senior

Each applicant will submit a monologue and works cited page that they have researched and written for a 3 - 7 minute performance based on one of these three criteria: a Garrett Countian who has been deceased at least 50 years, an event in Garrett County that occurred before 1970, or a place in Garrett County.

The written monologue and works cited page will be due **March 1, 2023**. A panel of reviewers will determine which of the monologues will proceed to being prepared for performance. Our Town Theatre's Board of Directors will supervise optional tutoring for applicants researching their topic, and preparing their performance, which will be presented **April 21-22, 2023**, at Our Town Theatre. Do not apply if you cannot perform on April 21-22. Selection of recipients by the panel of reviewers will be based on the quality and historical accuracy of their written work and performance. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Mikey Virts, Artistic Director, Our Town Theatre

Emily Elmlinger, President

Richard Hill, Vice-President

And the Board of Directors of Our Town Theatre

For more application forms contact Richard Hill
rahill56@gmail.com



2023 Jane B. Avery Keepsakes Award for High School Seniors

To support the future endeavors of local high school graduates, **Our Town Theatre** will provide a total of \$2,000 in cash awards to seniors each year. The awarded students must be residents of Garrett County. Performances will be the weekend of **April 21 and 22, 2023**. Do not apply if you cannot perform on April 21 and 22.

Three monetary prizes will be awarded to high school seniors who reside in Garrett County. You do not have to be enrolled in a theatre class. **Any senior** is eligible to compete, including, but not limited to, those within the school system, home school, private school, etc. Three or more finalists will be chosen. Immediate family members of the Theatre's board or of award judges are not eligible.

Three awards will be presented to graduating seniors:

First place—\$1,000

Second place—\$600

Third place—\$400

Please note:
The performance dates have
changed from April 28 - 29
to **April 21 - 22!**

The Application Process:

1. Completed applications and scripts must be received by **March 1, 2023**.
2. Attach a typewritten copy of your original script to your application form. Your script should depict a historic person, place, or event related to Garrett County history. It should be written in first person perspective, i.e. I am; I did; Let me tell you about . . .
3. Any person portrayed must be at least **50 years** deceased. All events presented must have occurred before **1970**.
4. Sources of information or research should be listed in detail at the end of the script.
5. Our Town Theatre (OTT) will have volunteers to help with research and writing. See attached flyer.
6. Do not put your name anywhere on your monologue script. Scripts will be judged anonymously.
7. Each presentation should be **3-7 minutes** in duration.

The Selection Process:

1. Applications, including written scripts, will be reviewed by the award committee, and finalists will be notified no later than **April 1, 2023**. Three or more finalists will be chosen.
2. Finalists will be asked to perform based on the historical accuracy and writing quality of their script. If you **do not** perform, you will be disqualified.
3. Finalists will memorize and present their monologues on stage at Our Town Theatre in front of a paying audience. The Theatre will provide assistance with props, costuming, and stage presence to any finalist who requests it.
4. Performances will be the weekend of **April 21-22, 2023**.
5. Three Garrett County award winners will be selected on the basis of their performances, by a panel of judges.
6. The award recipients will be informed by **May 5, 2023**.



**Our Town
THEATRE**
est. 1997

Garrett Arts
GARRETT COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

MSAC
MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL

2023 Jane B. Avery Keepsakes Award Application

Please print clearly:

Name _____ Date _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

Name of Parent/Guardian _____

Phone number _____

Email address _____

School: Northern Southern Home School: Contact _____

Other: _____ Contact _____

Title of Your Presentation: _____

Reason You Chose This Subject: _____

By signing below, you grant permission to Our Town Theatre to use the content of your monologue, in part or in whole, for future performances by Our Town Theatre. Your authorship will be acknowledged.

Signature _____ Date _____

Parent/Guardian Signature _____ Date _____

Please turn your completed application and a copy of your presentation into the Guidance Office, or mail a completed application with a copy of your presentation to:

Keepsakes Award Committee
Our Town Theatre
121 E. Center Street
Oakland, MD 21550

The deadline to receive applications is **March 1, 2023.**



**Our Town
THEATRE**

est. 1997

Garrett Arts
GARRETT COUNTY ARTS COUNCIL

MSAC
MARYLAND STATE ARTS COUNCIL