1067-S1-344 Harrison W. Straley* (straley_harrison@wheatonma.edu), 500 Elm St., Mansfield, MA 02048. Student-Written Plays in a History of Mathematics Class.

Mathematics does not stand alone; it lives in the historical context. Students seldom recall a paper they wrote years ago in a college class. However, it is reasonable to expect that students will recall a play they researched, wrote, produced, and presented to both an on- and an off-campus audience.

Eighteen students in the History of Mathematics course at Wheaton College, Norton, MA were partitioned into groups of three students. Each group researched, wrote, produced and presented an original play on a history of mathematics topic. The plays were presented on-campus to an audience representing the general student body and off-campus at either a meeting of the North Eastern Section of the MAA or at a local middle school. This paper outlines the procedures used to help the students select and research their topics and to support their efforts at writing, producing, and presenting a historical play about mathematics or mathematicians. The paper concludes with student reactions to this unique experience. (Received August 25, 2010)