

# Welcome!

People often ask, "What is the Junior Theater Festival?" Simply put, the Junior Theater Festival (JTF) is a weekend dedicated to celebrating young people and musical theater. Produced by iTheatrics and Theater of the Stars, JTF brings students, teachers and Broadway professionals together to celebrate outstanding student musical theater productions. Events include adjudication, workshops for students, professional development for directors, Broadway celebrities, a New Works Showcase, and Awards Ceremony. The festival has become a must attend musical theater event and has even served as the launch for Disney's High School Musical and NBC's "SMASH."

It's the 10th anniversary of the Junior Theater Festival and planning is underway to make sure JTF 2013 is our most amazing yet!

We think it's the biggest and best musical theater festival in the world, but don't take our word for it. Check out the notable quotes section on page 6 to see what other people think of the festival.

You can experience the festival by either bringing a group of students to perform, or by attending without students on our professional development track. Either way, we know you are going to have the time of your life.

Applying to participate is easy—just fill out the online form at juniortheaterproject.org.

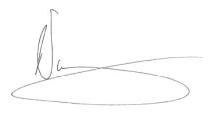
The festival has sold-out for the past three years. The priority application period for returning groups has begun and will end on April 13. New groups may apply starting April 14 and will be accepted until the festival sells-out (typically sometime around June 1).

We look forward to seeing you at the 2013 Junior Theater Festival!

Sincerely,



Timothy Allen McDonald



Nick Manos



motivate

Zac Efron

Authors of Annie



Stephen Schwartz



### **Key Events Include:**

### **Adjudication**

Student groups perform 15 minutes from a Broadway Junior Collection® musical for adjudication by leading theater professionals. Groups are rated in the areas of music, acting, dance and overall performance. The adjudicators offer constructive criticism to each group to encourage further learning in key areas.

#### **Workshop Round-Robin for Students and Teachers**

Broadway professionals and master teachers from across the country offer interactive workshops for teachers and students in all aspects of musical theater performance and technical theater.

#### JTF All-Stars

Selected student performers and student technicians are chosen as festival All-Stars. All-Stars participate in exclusive workshops and are given the opportunity to be a major part of the Freddie G Awards Ceremony.

### **Choreography DVD Auditions**

Selected students are invited to audition for Broadway Junior Resident Choreographer Steven G. Kennedy for future Broadway Junior Choreography DVD shoots!

#### **New Works Showcase**

Get a sneak-peak at the newest shows soon to be released in the Broadway Junior Collection.

#### The Broadway JR. Slam

One of the most anticipated events of the festival! Creative teams and casts are selected at random and have just one hour to rehearse a song and dance for presentation on the Main Stage!

### Freddie G Awards Ceremony

Named in honor of MTI's CEO and Tony Honoree, Freddie Gershon, the Freddie G Awards Ceremony is a celebration of the weekend's accomplishments. Featuring over 50 different awards, the ceremony also highlights performances by the festival All-Stars and outstanding groups.

#### And fun, Fun, FUN!

The fun begins Friday night with the Director's Reception. Saturday night is the Radio Disney Dance Party, and Sunday night everyone attends *Blue Man Group* at the Fabulous Fox Theatre! Add spontaneous student sing-alongs, meeting new friends, and confetti cannons and this is sure to be a weekend your students will never forget.



BATAVA, JTF 2012 Doctor Dolittle JR.

### **Tentative Schedule of Events**

#### FRIDAY, JANUARY 18, 2013

Sign In Begins	2:00 <sub>PM</sub>
Open Studio Rehearsals Begin	2:00рм
New Group Orientation	7:00рм
Director's Reception	8:00 <sub>PM</sub>

#### SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2013

Junior Theater Festival Kick-Off!	8:00am
Adjudication	9:00 <sub>AM</sub>
Lunch Break	1:00 <sub>PM</sub>
Workshop Kick-Off	2:30 <sub>PM</sub>

Workshop Round-Robin 3:00<sub>PM</sub>-5:00<sub>PM</sub>

**Choreography DVD Auditions** 

Dinner Break 5:30<sub>PM</sub>

New Works Showcase presented by Disney Musicals 8:00<sub>PM</sub>

Radio Disney Dance Party 9:30<sub>PM</sub>

### SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013

Sunday Kick-Off!	9:30 <sub>AM</sub>
From JTF to Success	10:00 <sub>AM</sub>
Choreography DVD Callbacks	
Teacher Technical Theater Workshops	

Broadway Junior Slam Performance 11:30<sub>AM</sub>
Celebrity Guest Presentation 12:00<sub>PM</sub>

Broadway JR. Award Presentation

Lunch 1:00<sub>PM</sub>

Book Signing

Freddie G Awards Ceremony 2:30<sub>PM</sub>
Dinner Break 4:00<sub>PM</sub>

Blue Man Group at the Fabulous Fox Theatre 7:00<sub>PM</sub>

### 2013 Pricing

### **Bringing a Student Group?**

If your group's application is accepted, you will be required to provide a nonrefundable registration fee of \$500 in order to secure your spot. Groups are not officially accepted to the festival until the registration fee has been received in full. Each person attending the festival including directors, students, chaperones and parents is required to pay a participation fee of \$165. All fees are due in full on or before **November 1st**.

### Want to join the fun without student performers?

Sign up for our Professional Development track for only \$250 per person and experience everything the festival has to offer plus special events. Email JTF@iTheatrics.com for more information.

### Participation Fee Includes:

- Access to all JTF events
- Festival T-shirt
- Ticket to see Blue Man Group at the Fabulous Fox Theatre
- Lunch on Saturday and Sunday (NEW)
- Souvenir Program (NEW)

### Participation Fee Does Not Include:

- Travel
- Lodging
- Transportation to and from the Fabulous Fox Theatre for Blue Man Group
- Breakfast and dinner on Saturday and Sunday

### 2013 Official Festival Hotel

The Junior Theater Festival is pleased to announce the Renaissance Waverly is once again our official hotel. Once your application has been accepted and we have received your \$500 registration fee, you will receive information regarding hotel reservations. Accommodations are available to groups on a first-come, first-served basis. In order to receive the special JTF rate, you must book through the Junior Theater Festival. Please do not contact the hotel directly.

### **How to Apply**

To apply, log on to **juniortheaterproject.org** and complete the online application. Once we've received your completed application, you will be notified whether your group has been accepted within two weeks.

# For more info!

Phone: (646) 467-8090
Email: JTF@iTheatrics.com
Web: juniortheaterproject.org

## **Notable Quotes**

"Everyone was bursting at the seams with energy as we performed our fifteen minute cut of the show, and I can't even find the words to describe the audience's reaction. I had to literally fight back tears while the crowd screamed like maniacs. I don't think I'll ever experience the amount of energy that was in that room ever again in my life. [The next day] was a bit of a blur as the excitement built up until we finally got onstage and began to perform for all 1,700 people in the audience. It was so thrilling. I love the energy at JTF with all the different groups coming together to perform. It was one of the best weekends ever!"

Sean Newman Student Performer Dawson County Arts Council "Just wanted to thank you for your comments to my students at adjudication. My parents were so taken with it! As 'newbies' to JTF they really didn't know what to expect and any parent is nervous knowing their child is being "judged" by professionals. You were wonderful! They learned so much from your comments to other groups as well. Mid-way through our pod, my parents and students finally understood what I meant about needing more dance basics to integrate into our choreography. Several of my parent chaperones and students (including my 14 year old son, Warbucks) mentioned they were encouraged by JTF to look into getting into dance."

Jill Atchley Director Woodland Fine Arts Academy

**Apply Today!** 

"I am so proud to be a part of this event! There are

people here that I can connect with and a place to express myself without being teased or bullied! It keeps me alive with my passion,

and keeps my abilities on edge!" Kendra Dukatnik Student Hub Performing Arts

"I just wanted to take a minute and send a huge thank you to all of you for your work on this festival. I have attended 5 years now, and each year just gets better and better! This year, about half of my team were "newbies" and left

with such amazing comments about the festival and the entire experience. One of the biggest things I want to thank you for is for what you are not doing: cultivating an atmosphere of competition. I have only "won" outstanding production twice, but my kids and I leave EVERY year with the same feeling of accomplishment... whether we have won or not."

Nathan Gerrells Director Dawson County Arts Council juniortheaterproject.org

Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School, JTF 2012 Finian's Rainbow JR

and your fellow festival staff members for giving my little group of students such an amazing experience last month! There are people around our community still stopping me in the grocery store to talk to me about it. My group came from an extremely poor, rural, secluded mountain community in North Carolina, and for a couple of them this was their first experience away from home (and I'm talking teenagers!). I'm sure you don't hear enough praise for all the things you do, so I wanted

"A big thank you to you

to take a moment to tell you how much what you do means to my students and our program. Upon returning with all the excitement of winning an acting award, seeing *Annie*, and all the other exciting events from the weekend everyone came home talking about, my program more than tripled in size that next week as we were registering for the Spring production! The board at our theatre had been talking about cutting the education program before we left because of theatre financial problems, so needless to say this saved our program and my job!"

Mary-Catherine Smith Director Parkway Playhouse