



January 14-18, 2016

Congratulations on being selected to participate in the National **Junior Theater Festival Invitational!** The only festival of its kind created and produced by the creators of Broadway Jr! Think of JTF as a musical theater version of the Little League World Series. This is the eighth consecutive year BRAVO has been invited and the seventh consecutive year as a program performing in the New Works Showcase! WOW!

Trip Cost & Summary of Inclusions – 5 days, 4 nights

- Round trip airfare from Chicago, IL to/from Atlanta, GA on Southwest Airlines
- One (1) Deluxe 55 passenger, climate controlled, VCR and restroom equipped motor coach (to/from airport + rental car and van for additional transportation of travelers)
- *Rental vehicles and Van to transport remaining parents/staff*
- Four (4) night's accommodations at **The Embassy Suites Galleria Center**
 - Students in quad, quin or sextet rooms
 - Adults in double or triple rooms
- All Meals including Four (4) **Full Breakfast Buffets** at the hotel
- Participation in **2016 Junior Theatre Festival**
 - Adjudication and feedback by a panel of Broadway professionals
 - Performance workshops for students and staff
 - Radio Disney Dance Party
 - Broadway Junior Slam
 - Celebrity talk back with a surprise guest
 - Ticket to **Professional Production** at the Cobb Galleria
 - Registration fee and official festival t-shirt
 - *Disney's New Works Showcase*
 - BRAVO! will be featured presenting in the New Works Showcase for an audience of 4,500-5,000
 - Technical Theater Track
 - Choreography DVD Auditions: Broadway Jr. scouts invite students to audition after adjudication
 - Students selected to perform in the JTF All Stars rehearsal and production number at the Awards Ceremony. Students selected by adjudicators.
 - Awards Ceremony
- 6 staff and 7 chaperones; 5 to 1 student to chaperone ratio with staff assistance
- **Professional Adjudication** and feedback by a panel of Broadway Professionals and Awards – In 2012, Bravo was the first group to earn Outstanding Production for three consecutive years; in 2015 we earned Outstanding Production for the 6th consecutive year! It has been an honor to participate in JTF and invited for the 8th consecutive year.
- **Professional Performance Workshops** – led by experts in the business
 - Workshops for students designed to build and improve theatrical skills
 - Separate workshops for teachers and directors

Package Trip Cost: \$900 per student; \$1000+ per adult double occupancy; \$1275 + single occupancy

Parents not packaging but attending: \$280 includes festival fee (Sat/Sun lunch) + dinners Fri, Sat, Sun

Current Flight Itinerary

- **Transportation to/from Midway is the responsibility of each family**
 - Thu, Jan 14: Check in at Midway by 4pm (**Southwest flight #422 departs 6:15pm, arrives in Atlanta at 9:10pm**)
 - Car-pool!
 - Eat dinner!
 - Pack snacks!
 - All students must bring a picture ID with their legal name or passport
 - No checked baggage. All students bring a carry-on for the 5 day journey
 - Mon, Jan 18: Pick up kids at baggage claim area at 3:45pm (**flight #1218 departs Atlanta 2:40pm**)

Out of Pocket Expenses

- All expenses are paid
- \$20 for personal items or snack in the airport

60+ Participants

- 48 students
- 12 adults: five staff and seven chaperones
- Parents you are welcome to join us!
 - **Package with us @ \$1000/person double occupancy (\$1275/single occupancy)**
 - Or you can make all arrangements on your own and book on the same flight
 - Hotel Accommodations/meals on your own vs. packaging – last year the hotel released rooms to families in January.

Adjudication and New Works Showcase

- BRAVO will present ***Beauty & the Beast, Jr. or Seussical, Jr.*** for adjudication
- Students attending will be blocked in at least one scene from the **Adjudication** and we are waiting on more information from iTheatrics regarding Showcase casting
 - Costumes For **Adjudication** are tee shirt and black bottoms
 - Costumes for **Showcase** are as performed & cast
 - Various props may be taken for **Showcase**
 - Hair...per Ms. Morrow
- It is such an honor for Bravo to be performing for the 7th consecutive year in the New Works Showcase!

Medicine/Medical Release Form

In order to make sure we are legally compliant, any student that requires medication during the trip must turn in a copy of the **District 97 Licensed Prescriber Treatment Authorization Form** (last page). This must be filled out and signed by parents and child's doctor. All students must turn in a completed **Medical History Form** and **Medical Release Form** (page 7) with copies of a parent/guardian's driver license and the front and back of their insurance card.

Fundraising & Scholarships - Fundraising for Student Funds

We feel it's so important students take personal responsibility for the trip cost. We will encourage them to "work and earn" monies toward the overall cost.

- Bravo's Fall Pie Fundraiser
 - 50% of the profit for each pie sold will be applied to students JTF account – 30 pies = approx \$90!
 - **All grades and students from other schools are eligible to participate in the pie fundraiser**

- BRAVO Scholarship:

Detailed criterion for this scholarship is available through the Bravo office. Funds are based on personal need. Awards will be determined by the JTF committee. **Scholarship applications are due no later than October 2** in the BRAVO office. Students may be awarded up to \$300.

- Oak Park Youth Township Services – students may receive up to \$250 in financial assistance through the Village of Oak Park and BRAVO.
 - Please complete and return applications to the BRAVO! Office **by October 2** with the required documents and signatures. The Bravo office is required to process these scholarships.
- Scholarship through Bob Rogers:
 - Moments That Matter Scholarship: bobrogerstravel.com/moments-that-matter-scholarship
 - SYTA Youth Foundation: sytayouthfoundation.org/road-scholarship

Fundraising for Scholarship Fund

- The annual Junior BRAVO fundraiser in December plans to raise \$8500! Proceeds will benefit the trip cost, meals, and scholarship fund. We will need LOTS of volunteers and help this day, please.
 - 7th annual *JUNIOR BRAVO! Performance Workshop*
 - **Saturday, December 5**, 9am – 5pm
 - Open to 1st – 5th graders in the Oak Park/River Forest Community
 - All day workshop taught by members of BRAVO, PA's and Staff
 - Culminate with a 30-minute show featuring participants on stage with Bravo kids.
 - Cost: \$85 per child participant
 - Goal: 125 kids
 - This fundraiser requires mandatory participation from all JTF students
 - **Rehearsals:** See Important Dates on page 6
 - Jr Bravo teachers are required from 8:30am – 5pm. Remaining JTF Cast from 2:30pm-5pm
 - Parents we need you! Volunteers for Registration, lunch supervision, pot-luck for Bravo kids and backstage supervision. Thank you!

Payment Schedule

- **Mon, September 21: \$300 Deposit Due**
- **Mon, October 19: Last chance to cancel; deposits are non-refundable after October 19**
- **Mon, November 2: \$300 Payment Due**
- **Mon, December 7: \$300 or less (or more for parents) Final Payment Due**

Junior Theater Festival Trip Expectations

Respect, Responsibility, Professionalism and Humility

- **Junior Theater Festival is a business trip.** It is an honor, and a privilege for any student to be invited to attend and participate. We are representing Brooks, District 97, Oak Park, Chicago and the award winning, nationally recognized Bravo program!
- **Be professional at all times! We will be watched & judged by other groups and programs. We must be humble, kind, respectful, enthusiastic and never speak ill about another program ever**
- NO outsiders near or in rooms
- **Curfews are NOT to be broken!**
- Inappropriate language will not be tolerated
- **All GBMS rules apply. Behavioral expectations are better than in school**
 - **NO Student will be allowed to travel with a U in any class or GPA of 2.5 or less**
- No use of cell phones or iPods during festival workshops or activities
- Up to (2) rooms will be assigned to each chaperone
- No student is allowed in any room but his or her own!
- Students are responsible for their own belongings and spending money
- Students are responsible for the cleanliness & organization of their hotel room. Chaperones will check rooms at least once per day.
- Pick up after yourself. Use trash receptacles at all times
- Any damage done to the hotel room will be the responsibility of the students in the room. If a student sees anything broken in a hotel room they must advise a chaperone immediately.
- Students are to respect the request of chaperones, directors, hotel employees, airport staff, Junior Theater Festival staff, parents traveling with us and all festival participants!
- NO running, jumping, or loud behavior (outside rooms, elevators, lobby, airport. **People ARE watching us**
- Students are expected to be in their hotel room or other designated areas at assigned times. No exceptions!
- Electronic Devices: Students will be allowed to have iPods, iPads & cell phones in the airport, or on the airplane. Home gaming consoles are not allowed (X-box, Wii). No tampering with Hotel TV's or use of hotel phones. **Bravo/D97 is not responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.**
- Cell phone usage will be allowed as a way to communicate with family
- Penalties for minor infractions will be assessed according to the infraction
- **SEVERE ACTION: Any student(s) caught with illegal substances, alcohol, or weapons will be sent home from the trip at their parents' expense**
- No inappropriate Instagram or Facebook posts will be tolerated at any time
- THANK your parents for *allowing* your child this *unbelievable* opportunity!!!

Students, YOU are representing BRAVO, Brooks, District 97 and the Oak Park Community!
*People outside our group will be **watching** our behavior and **judging** our respectful and responsible choices*
The best compliment that we can receive is a request to, "We can't wait for you to come back again!"

Sample Packing List

_____ Toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant & toiletries	_____ Medication – given to Ms. Joseph
_____ Ladies – hair accessories, makeup, curling/flat iron	_____ Meal or Snack Money - \$10-20
_____ Pajamas	_____ Jazz shoes, character shoes, walking shoes
_____ 2-3 Tees to under-dress	_____ Cinch bag for shoes, hoodie, water bottle
_____ Your ID or passport	_____ 1 carry-on suitcase
_____ Nice rehearsal clothes for 4 days	_____ Notebook & pens/pencils
_____ Dressy Outfit to wear Sunday night	_____ Snacks for airplane Thu afternoon
_____ Hoodie or long sleeve shirt to layer	_____ Coat, hat, gloves & possibly boots

Junior Theater Festival

January 14 - 18, 2016

Letter of Intent to Participate

(RETURN this PAGE: Due with \$300 deposit no later than September 21, 2015)

I, _____, give permission for _____
(Parent or guardian) (Name of participant)

to travel with the Gwendolyn Brooks BRAVO! program to Atlanta, GA and to participate in the Junior Theatre Festival from January 14-18, 2016. We have attended the informational meeting and have read the informational packet with our child and understand the following:

- The cost of the trip is **\$900.00** dollars and can be paid in full or in two installments plus deposit. Contact Tina or Randi should a different payment plan be needed.
- I have read the payment schedule and will make payments on time. If payments are delinquent, my child may lose the privilege to participate in the trip. (Please read cancellation policy.)
- I understand student eligibility requirements and the consequences of not being able to participate if academic and disciplinary expectations of either the BRAVO! Staff or District 97 is not met.
- I have read the Trip Expectations and understand that penalties for minor infractions will be assessed by the BRAVO! Staff according to the severity of the infraction. We understand that a severe infraction may result in the student being sent home from the trip at the parents' expense.
- I have reviewed the rehearsal schedule and understand that my child is committing to participate in all upcoming rehearsals for one or both performances at the JTF, as well as committing to participate in all rehearsals for Junior BRAVO and the Junior BRAVO Performance Workshop.

_____ (initial) We have reviewed the rehearsal schedule & understand that our child must attend all scheduled rehearsals or rehearsals specific to the show they have been assigned to, in order to be eligible to perform with BRAVO at Junior Theater Festival.

Comments: _____

Parent's Name – Please Print
(Legal Name if Attending)

Parent's Signature

Date

Student's Legal Name for Airport Check-In

Student's Signature

T-Shirt Size (indicate Y (youth) or A (adult))

Address

Parent Cell Phone

Parent Email Address

Date of Birth

Student Cell Phone

Student Email Address

PARENT Planning to ATTEND:

Parent Date of Birth if attending

Parent Tee Size if attending

Parent Legal Name if packaging with BRAVO

VIDEO/PHOTO RELEASE FORM:

Please complete one Video/Photo Release form for every person registered for the festival and then **MAIL** to **iTheatrics** no later than November 2015. These forms cannot be emailed.



Date: _____

JTF 2016 VIDEO/PHOTO RELEASE

I hereby authorize iTheatrics and its designee(s) to photograph and/or video record me/or my child, _____(full name). I further grant iTheatrics the right to broadcast, exhibit, market, sell, and otherwise distribute the photos/video recordings, either in whole or in parts, and either alone or with other products, for commercial or non-commercial purposes that iTheatrics or its designees in their sole discretion may determine. This grant includes the right to use the photos/video recordings for promoting or publicizing any of the uses. I understand no compensation of any kind will be made.

Parent or Guardian Signature

STUDENT/ADULT PERMISSION & MEDICAL RELEASE FORM

I, _____, give permission for _____
(parent or guardian) (name of participant)

to travel with BRAVO!/Gwendolyn Brooks Middle School to the Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta, GA. The group will depart on January 14, 2016 and return on January 18, 2016. I authorize treatment of the above-mentioned student by a qualified physician or nurse in the event the student would require medical treatment. I understand that should a serious or life-threatening medical emergency arise, initial treatment of the student may be rendered by an individual, trained in first aid, if in the opinion of that individual, delay might endanger his/her life, cause disfigurement or undue comfort. On the Medical Information Form I have listed any allergies, medications, ongoing medical treatment, or medical problems, which might influence treatment of the student. I will be responsible for charges incurred for the student's treatment. This permission is granted with the understanding that except in a serious medical emergency, a reasonable effort will be made to inform me prior to treatment.

In the case of an emergency, please contact

(emergency contact and relation to participant)

at _____ or _____.
(phone number) (second phone number)

Student's date of birth _____ Religion (optional) _____

Medical problems, medications or allergies, which might influence medical treatment (If none, please state "none known").

If student is under physician's care for ongoing medical treatment, please complete the following:

Medication(s) _____

Condition _____

Physician's name _____

Physician's telephone number _____
(Area Code) (Number)

INSURANCE INFORMATION:

Name of responsible party _____

Responsible party's employer _____

Insurance carrier _____

Group Number _____ Member Number _____

Please include copies of the front and back of the insurance card and driver's license of the policyholder