

Junior Theater Festival Trip Request

To: Dr. Roberts and the Board of Education

From: Tina Reynolds, BRAVO!

What: Field Trip request from BRAVO! to participate in Junior Theater Festival, 2013

Where: Atlanta, GA

When: January 17 – 21, 2013

Why: BRAVO is honored to be invited back to JTF for the 5th consecutive year for adjudication as well as invited to present, *Hairspray, Jr* for the expected 4,000 person audience.

How: Transportation via Southwest Airlines on January 17, returning Monday, January 21.

Dr. Roberts and the Board of Education, I am thrilled to inform you that BRAVO! has been invited back to the Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta, Georgia over the 2013 Martin Luther King Weekend! This is an enormous honor for our Brooks BRAVO! students to represent District 97, Gwendolyn Brooks, Oak Park and greater Chicago at this exclusive, Nationally recognized musical theater festival.

We are even more honored to be selected by iTheatrics and MTI to present our pilot adaptation (already an honor) of *Hairspray Jr.* at the Disney new Works Showcase. Only 4 out of 80 schools are selected for this prestigious honor! MTI will come to Oak Park in December to work personally with our children to prepare them for the enormous festival audience they will be performing for in January.

Each group attending presents a 15 minute excerpt of a Broadway Jr show for professional adjudication. For three consecutive years, Gwendolyn Brooks/BRAVO program has earned national recognition for being awarded the top honor of Outstanding Production. An honor that no other school or program has accomplished in festival history.

In January we hope to present 15 minutes from our fall musical, *Once On This Island, Jr.* We have had interest from over 50 students, and 12 chaperones, which would include 5 BRAVO Theater staff. Once the trip is approved we will confirm Chaperones, and run the procedural background check for each of them.

We are grateful for your support and look forward to hearing from you!

Best,

Tina



GWENDOLYN BROOKS MIDDLE SCHOOL
Field Trip Request

Adult volunteers on the field Trip: * To Be Determined - tentatively

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. <u>Leigh Ann Hughes</u> | 4. <u>Walter Reynolds</u> |
| 2. <u>Sally Prescott</u> | 5. <u>John Figel - paramedic</u> |
| 3. <u>Kathy Lynch - Dr.</u> | 6. <u>Med Crowley</u> |
| 7. <u>Rick & Marian Zandt</u> | |

* We will do background checks on all chaperones once the trip is approved and all chaperones are confirmed.

YOU MUST INCLUDE THE CELL PHONE NUMBER OF A GBMS ADULT ON THE FIELD TRIP: Cell Phone Number 708-829-8237

How does this field trip relate to the district standard/unit/theme you are currently working on with your team?

Packet attached.
Bravo has become nationally recognized (4 GBMS) by attending this prestigious invitation only National festival.

What do you anticipate students will gain academically from this trip?

The kids will not only grow from the trip experience but also through the process - teaching other students, knowing true teamwork, completing tasks on time & adhering to an intense & tight schedule, seeing tangible results for their hardwork & learning of the history of theatre, dance, music & artistic expression. Some of the best teaching moments are through real-life experiences.

Submitted by:

Jana Reynolds

Approved:

M. Mink
School Principal

Date:

8/1/12

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M. Mink

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OAK PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT 97
FIELD TRIP REQUEST

Please complete every time a class leaves the school. Times listed MUST be adhered to. All stops MUST be listed.

TYPE DISTRICT BUS WALK OTHER Airfare

SCHOOL Brooks GRADE/DEPT. _____ TEACHER(S) Tina Reynolds

DATE OF TRIP January 17-20-2013 ALTERNATE DATE _____

DESTINATION NAME Junior Theatre Festival DESTINATION ADDRESS Renaissance / Cobb Galleria
Atlanta, GA Atlanta, GA

BUS RESERVATION

Complete and submit no later than 2 weeks prior to trip (4 weeks prior to trip for May or June trips).
Athletic and other pre-arranged trips should send request as soon as trip is scheduled.

BUS AT SCHOOL FOR LOADING (students ready to board) _____ (not before 9:00 A.M.)

ARRIVE DESTINATION (the time you need to be there) N/A

LEAVE DESTINATION (students ON board) _____

RETURN BACK TO SCHOOL _____ (no later than 2:30 P.M., 1:45 P.M. on Wednesdays)

NUMBER OF STUDENTS 40-50 NUMBER OF ADULTS 10+ TOTAL 50-60

NUMBER OF BUSES NEEDED N/A (71 max, recommend 65 for K-5, 50 for 6-8)

CURRICULUM CORRELATION See attached materials, itinerary and DVD

COST OF TRIP CHARGED TO: (Check here if students will NOT be charged for bus cost _____)

- | | | |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Regular Field Trip Account | <input type="checkbox"/> Athletic | <input type="checkbox"/> Bowling |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Choral Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Art Start | <input type="checkbox"/> PTO (send copy of invoice to _____) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Instrumental Music | <input type="checkbox"/> Global Village | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other <u>BRAVO - paid by each student's family</u> |

SIGNATURE OF PRINCIPAL M. M. [Signature] DATE _____

SEND BOTH COPIES TO THE BUSINESS OFFICE
YELLOW COPY WILL BE RETURNED WITH CONFIRMATION BELOW

For Business Office Use Only

FIELD TRIP CONFIRMED BY BUS COMPANY YES NO Signed/Date _____



January 17-21 2013

The **National Invitational Junior Theater Festival** is the only festival of its kind. From the creators of Broadway Junior! Think of the Junior Theater Festival as a musical theater version of the Little League World Series. In order to maintain the quality of the festival a limited number of groups are invited and accepted. BRAVO has been invited for 5 consecutive years!

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

- **Cost: \$900**
- AirTran round trip flight (TBD)
- Motorcoach – transportation to/from airport & to the Fabulous Fox Theater
 - 4 nights lodging at Embassy Suites, Atlanta
 - Students in quad rooms
 - Adults in double rooms
- 8 meals
- 4 Full Breakfast Buffets at the hotel (Friday-Monday)
- Food court Friday
- Pizza Party Friday evening (provided by BRAVO)
- Lunch boxes Saturday & Sunday
- Saturday dinner in area
- Sunday dinner at Hard Rock Café or equivalent
- Registration fee and official festival t-shirt
- Festival Activities include:
 - *New Works Showcase* Performance, sponsored by *Music Theater International*
 - BRAVO! will be featured presenting *Hairspray, Jr.* for an audience of 4,000
 - Technical Theater Track
 - Radio Disney Dance Party
 - The Broadway Junior Slam
 - Choreography DVD Auditions – Broadway Jr. Scouts invite students to audition
 - Celebrity talk back with *special guests*
 - Ticket to *Blue Man Group* at the Fabulous Fox Theater
 - Up to 3 Bravo students selected to perform in the JTF All Stars rehearsal and performance workshop which perform at the Awards Ceremony.
 - Awards Ceremony
- 5 staff and 5 parent chaperones; 10 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.
- **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.

Tentative Flight Itinerary

- **Transportation to/from Midway is on your own**
 - Thur, Jan 17: Check in at Midway by 3:15pm (flight #379 departs 5pm, arrives in Atlanta at 7:55pm)
 - 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 21: Pick up kids at baggage claim area at (flight #393 departs Atlanta 4:15pm. arrives 5:25pm at Midway)

Out of Pocket Expenses/Meals not covered

- \$20 - \$25
 - Lunch on Friday, January 18
 - Souvenirs and personal items on their own

50-60 Participants

- 40 students
- 10 adults: Five staff and five chaperones
- Parents you are welcome to join us!
 - **Package with us @ \$900/person double occupancy**
 - Or - just fly with Brooks/Bravo and make all other arrangements on your own
 - Hotel Accommodations/meals on your own vs packaging

Adjudication and New Works Showcase

- BRAVO will present ***Once On This Island*** for 2013 adjudication
- Students attending JTF will be blocked in at least one scene from ***Once On This Island or Hairspray, Jr.***
 - Costumes For **Once On This Island**: tee shirt and black bottoms
 - Costumes for **Hairspray, Jr.**: as performed & cast
 - Props: various props for **Hairspray, Jr.**
 - Hair...per Ms.Morrow
- It is an honor for Bravo to be selected for the 4th consecutive year to present a New Works on behalf of MTI during the Disney New Works Showcase.

Fundraising & Scholarships - Fundraising for Student Funds

We feel its 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 kids from other schools are eligible to participate in the pie fundraiser

Fundraising for Scholarship Fund

- The JTF Committee is able to offer up to ten scholarships to students/families needing financial support
- The annual Junior BRAVO fundraiser in December plans to raise \$5000 or more! Proceeds will benefit the trip cost and Scholarship Fund.
- Detailed criterion for scholarships is available. Funds will be based on personal need. Awards will be determined by the JTF committee. **Scholarship applications are due by Friday, September 28** in the BRAVO office.
 - 5th annual *JUNIOR BRAVO! Performance Workshop*
 - **Saturday, December 8**, 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: \$75 per child participant
 - Goal: 100 kids
 - This fundraiser requires mandatory participation from all JTF students
 - **Rehearsals:** See Important Dates on page 6
 - Bravo teachers required from 8:30am – 5pm and Junior Bravo Cast from 2:30pm-5pm
 - **Oak Park Youth Township Services** – students may receive up to \$250 in financial assistance
 - All applications **must** be returned to the BRAVO! Office **by September 28** with the required documents. The Bravo office will process.

Payment Schedule

- **Fri, October 5: \$300 Deposit Due**
- **Fri, November 9, Last chance to cancel and receive a full refund**
- **Fri, November 16: \$300 Payment Due**
- **Fri, December 14: \$300 or less.Final Payment Due**

Trip Expectations

Respect, Responsibility, Professionalism!

- Student rooms are quads or quintets; 4-5 individuals per hotel room.
- Three 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 of their hotel room. Chaperones will check rooms at least once per day.
- Pick up after yourself. When you are done with something throw away your garbage. Please pitch in if someone needs help.
- Any damage done to the hotel room will be the responsibility of the students in the room. If a student sees anything broken advise a chaperone immediately.
- No phone calls will be allowed on the hotel phones. Students may use a calling card or their cell phone.

Trip Expectations, continued

- Students are to respect the request of chaperones, teachers, hotel employees, and any Junior Theater Festival staff.
- Students must be aware of their noise level in the hotel including rooms, lobby, elevators and hallway. No running, jumping, or loud behavior. There will be other guests at the hotel.
- Students are expected to be in their hotel room or other designated areas at the assigned times. No exceptions!
- All GBMS rules apply for the duration of this trip. Behavioral expectations are the same (or better) as if our students are in school.
- Electronic Devices: Students will be allowed to have ipods/mp3 players, cell phones, and small gaming devices in the airport, on the airplane and in their hotel room only. Do not bring your gaming console from home (X-box, Wii, etc.) Any tampering with the hotel TVs will not be tolerated. **We cannot be responsible for any lost, stolen, or damaged items.**
- Cell phone usage will be allowed as a way to communicate with family. Students should not use their cell phones during any JTF activities.
- Any student(s) caught with illegal substances, alcohol, or weapons of any kind, may be addressed by local law enforcement and will be reported to GBMS and Oak Park District 97 Administration pending further District 97 disciplinary actions. Students will be sent home from the trip early at their parents' expense.
- Penalties for minor infractions will be assessed according to the infraction.

*YOU are representing BRAVO, Brooks, District 97 and the Oak Park Community!
People outside our group will be **watching and judging** our behavior.
The best compliment that we can receive is a request to, "Please come back again."*

Sample Packing List

_____ Toothbrush & toothpaste	_____ Medication
_____ Deodorant	_____ Meal Money
_____ Shampoo & soap	_____ Souvenir Money
_____ Other toiletries needed	_____ Coat & hat
_____ Pajamas	_____ 1 carry-on suitcase
_____ Clothes for 4 days	_____ Notebook & pens/pencils
_____ Dressy Outfit to wear to the Fox	_____ Snacks

Medicine

Even though we have everyone's medical history on file, we do not have information about anyone who takes medication outside of the school day. 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** (page 8), a completed **Medical Release Form** (page 8) with copies of a parent/guardian's driver license and the front and back of their insurance card.

Notes:

Junior Theater Festival

January 17 - 21, 2013

Letter of Intent to Participate

(Due with \$300 deposit no later October 5, 2012)

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 17-21, 2013. 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.
- 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 are 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 would like our child to participate in the Hairspray, Jr. performance at the JTF. We have reviewed the rehearsal schedule & understand that our child must attend all upcoming rehearsals for this performance in order to be eligible.

_____ (initial) We do not want our child to participate in the Hairspray, Jr. performance.

Comments: _____

Parent's Name - Please Print Parent's Signature Date

Student's Legal Name for Airport Check-In Student's Signature T-Shirt Size (indicate Y or A)

Address Phone Parent Email Address

Students Date of Birth Student Cell Phone Student Email Address

Please make all checks payable to BRAVO! (deposits & payment available on revtrak)

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 2012. These forms can not be emailed.



Date: _____

JTF 2012 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 17, 2013 and return on January 21, 2013. 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, 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 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



 junior
theater
Festival '13

January
18, 19, 20, 2013
Atlanta, GA

A Jam-Packed Weekend of Musical Theater Mayhem!

- Adjudication • Awards • Professional Development
- Performance Workshops • Technical Theater Workshops
- Celebrity Guests • Radio Disney Dance Party
- New Works Showcase presented by Disney Musicals
- *Blue Man Group* at the Fabulous Fox Theatre

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.

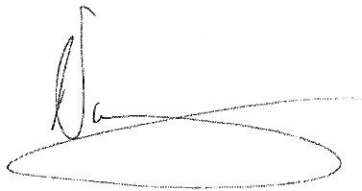
The festival has sold-out for the past three years. The priority application period for returning groups has begun and will end on April 13. New groups may apply starting April 14 and will be accepted until the festival sells-out (typically sometime around June 1).

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

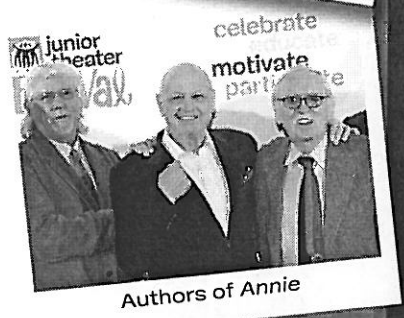
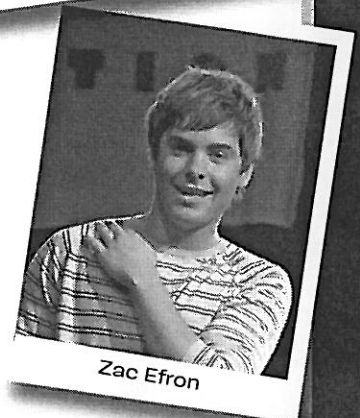
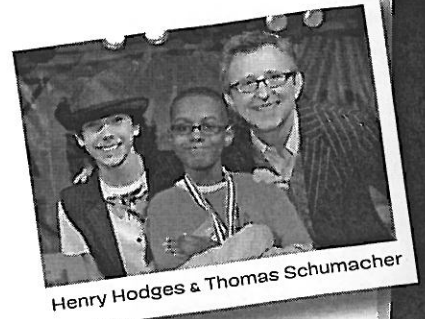
Sincerely,



Timothy Allen McDonald



Nick Manos



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	2:00PM
Open Studio Rehearsals Begin	2:00PM
New Group Orientation	7:00PM
Director's Reception	8:00PM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 19, 2013

Junior Theater Festival Kick-Off!	8:00AM
Adjudication	9:00AM
Lunch Break	1:00PM
Workshop Kick-Off	2:30PM
[Workshop Round-Robin	3:00PM-5:00PM
[Choreography DVD Auditions	
Dinner Break	5:30PM
New Works Showcase presented by Disney Musicals	8:00PM
Radio Disney Dance Party	9:30PM

SUNDAY, JANUARY 20, 2013

Sunday Kick-Off!	9:30AM
[From JTF to Success	10:00AM
[Choreography DVD Callbacks	
[Teacher Technical Theater Workshops	
Broadway Junior Slam Performance	11:30AM
[Celebrity Guest Presentation	12:00PM
[Broadway JR. Award Presentation	
[Lunch	1:00PM
[Book Signing	
Freddie G Awards Ceremony	2:30PM
Dinner Break	4:00PM
<i>Blue Man Group</i> at the Fabulous Fox Theatre	7:00PM

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

"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

"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!
juniortheaterproject.org



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

"A big thank you to you 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

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