



12 N. PRINCE STREET
PO Box 1865
LANCASTER, PA 17608-1865

High School Theatre Festival

Monday, April 2, 2012

Registration Materials due February 17, 2012.

\$100 payment due March 2, 2012.

Dear Educator,

For over 20 years, Pennsylvania high schools have been gathering at the Fulton Theatre to perform one-acts and monologues as well as scenes from plays and musicals.

Sponsored by the Fulton's Education department, our goal is to celebrate high school theatre and provide a forum for sharing your theatre program with other schools, in addition to providing both individual and group critical feedback from a panel of professional teaching artists.

This is not a competition. Each performing group will be recognized for its special contribution to the Festival. In addition, one group or individual will be recognized for truly embodying the spirit of excellence in High School Theatre Arts with the *Beth Bash Award*.

Don't pass up the chance for your students to perform on the same stage as Mark Twain, Sarah Bernhardt, The Barrymores, and Lancaster County's own Tony Award nominated Jonathan Groff (winner of the *Beth Bash Award* in 2002). **The fee to participate is only \$100!**

For more information and registration materials please contact us via email or phone.

We look forward to seeing you on stage on April 2, 2012!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Ridgway

Director of Education and Outreach

education@thefulton.org

717-394-7133 X106

- Registration Deadline:** **The registration deadline is Friday, February 17, 2012.** You must submit a completed registration form. The Director of Education and Outreach will contact you shortly after submitting your registration to schedule a visit by a Fulton Theatre Teaching Artist (see Teaching Artist Visit).
- Payment:** **Fee is \$100. All payments must be received by Friday, March 2, 2012.**
- Participant Form:** **One week prior to your scheduled teaching artist visit,** submit the participant form, a copy of your script for your 30-minute presentation, and if applicable, a copy of your sound effects CD. (Note on the script the starting and ending sound cues by their track numbers on the CD that you are providing. These cues will be played over the Fulton Theatre sound system by a Fulton technician.)
- Teaching Artist Visit:** On your registration form, you will identify three preferred dates & times for a one-hour visit by a Fulton Theatre trained teaching artist to your school or organization. During the visit, your company will share its 30-minute piece (in whatever stage of process) with the teaching artist who will provide your students with valuable feedback and insight prior to the Festival.
- Check In:** On-site **check-in** will be from **7:30AM-8:15AM at the Stage Door Lobby,** located just inside the Loading Dock in the alley beside the Fulton. You will receive a packet of Student Evaluations, the day's schedule, and your dressing room and storage area assignment for props and scenery. Groups unable to arrive by 8:15 AM should contact the Director of Education and Outreach in advance for special check-in arrangements.
- Loading:** Again, groups must unload and load at the loading dock in the alley beside the Fulton between 7:30-8:15am. **The alleyway is ONE WAY and can be accessed only via Water Street.** Groups will load costumes and set pieces to the assigned storage location.
- Parking:** Parking for buses, vans, and cars is available on South Water Street at Conlin Field. From the loading dock, turn right onto Prince Street. Turn right on Conestoga Street. Cross Water Street, and then access Conlin Field on your right.
- Student Stage Manager:** Faculty members are not permitted backstage during the performance. Groups should assign a student stage member to work with a Fulton Theatre staff member to cue the show.
- Playing Area:** Practical playing area on the Fulton stage is approximately 16' by 30'. Groups are encouraged to improvise on their set requirements whenever possible.
- Performance Time:** **Performances may not exceed 30 minutes.** The time limits will be strictly enforced. There will be a five-minute interval between performances for setting up and striking sets.
- Set Up and Strike:** Set up and strike cannot exceed the five-minute time limit. Note that as one group is setting up, the previous group is striking.
- Dressing Rooms:** Dressing rooms will be available the half hour before your performance and the half hour following. You are expected to be in the seating area during the entire Critical Response Session for your performance. If the session comes immediately after your performance, come into the theatre in costume and make-up. You will have access to the dressing rooms after the session.
- Seating Area:** Admittance to the seating area will be permitted only during intervals between performances. You may not leave or enter the theatre when a performance is in progress.
- Food/Drink:** Food and drink are not permitted in the theatre. Food & beverages are only permitted in the Lobby & Green Room.
- Fulton Stage Manager:** Direct any questions or problems to the Fulton Stage Manager who will be available during the Festival.

We are confident that the performing high school students will abide by these rules and treat the historic Fulton Theatre with the utmost respect.

The objective of the festival is to celebrate high school theatre and to give performing groups a forum for sharing their programs. Artistic expertise comes from cultivating self-knowledge and making all the mistakes you can make. At the Festival we emphasize a process of self-reflection and critical response, and scrupulously avoid a competitive atmosphere. Festival participants embrace mistakes and tolerate criticism so that they can tweak, improve upon, revise, modify, transform, adapt, alter, rework, evolve, grow and learn! Participants critically reflect on both their individual performance and their group performance. As the Fulton's Critical Response Panel completes the Critical Response Form following each group performance, the student participants in the audience flex their critical response muscles by doing the same, also completing the Form.

In each post-show critical response session, we stress the positive aspects of performance, suggest areas to build on, and offer encouragement. We recognize that performing groups represent schools with extremely diverse resources for theatre programs- from arts magnet schools with full time theatre programs to rural or urban schools with after-school extracurricular programs only. We expect that sets, costumes and lighting be minimal, and that plays often need cutting to be performed within the thirty-minute time limit. Schools will not be penalized for excerpting content, nor for providing nominal production elements.

Each performing group is recognized for its special contribution(s) to the festival. The Fulton's Critical Response Panel determines the specific citation(s). We avoid competitive awards such as Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Director and Best Play. However, the panel can recognize individuals, as well as ensembles. Further, an individual or a group can be recognized more than once. Beth Bash, a 1980 Fulton HS Theatre Festival participant, symbolized dedication and artistry throughout her high school and Northwestern University career. Her untimely death in May 1985 left Lancaster with only her memory and example. Every year, the Fulton Theatre memorializes Beth by recognizing a student, adult or an entire group's dedication and artistry. The recipient's name is engraved on the Beth Bash Memorial plaque, which is proudly displayed in the lobby of the Fulton Theatre.

Critical Response Form

School Name:

Performance Title:

	Excellent Professional	Good Developing	Fair Beginning	NA
Acting Evaluation				
Body/Gesture: Movements are expressive; bodies fully utilized.				
Voice: voices are audible and diction is clear.				
Character: characterization is clear and consistent. Movement, expression and motivation are used appropriately to the character and for the stylistic demands of the scene.				
Individual Performance: the individual actor's performance encourages a "willing suspension of disbelief," the acting succeeds.				
Ensemble: the cast shares a unified concept and works together as a unit.				
Staging Evaluation				
Interpretation: The play demonstrates a unified approach; choices reflect an understanding of the script; the scene is well-paced.				
Presentation: spatial elements support the concept and create a sense of time and place; the space is used effectively.				
Blocking: blocking, movement, and stage pictures are effective.				
Technical/Overall Production Evaluation				
Visual: the sets and properties support the stylistic demands of the scene. (Panel will respond to choices the group has made in response to Festival restrictions and under their own resource limitations. Working with restrictions and limitations, how do theatre artists effectively communicate story?)				
Costuming: use is consistent with character and supports the stylistic demands of the scene. (Panel will respond to choices the group has made in response to Festival restrictions and under their own resource limitations. Working with restrictions and limitations, how do theatre artists effectively communicate story?)				
Sound: use of sound is well-executed, establishes mood and supports the stylistic demands of the script.				
Unity: The various elements of the performance work to create a unified whole, which provides an aesthetically pleasing and emotionally satisfying theatrical experience. Any areas needing improvement are offset by strengths in other areas.				

Additional Comments:

**Register by Friday, February 17, 2012.
Full payment due Friday, March 2, 2012.**

Name of Faculty Contact _____

School _____

Address _____

City _____ PA Zip Code _____

Work Phone _____ Home/Cell Phone _____

Email: _____

_____ Monday, April 2, 2012 X \$100.00 Day Total \$ _____

Total Amount Enclosed \$ _____

Make checks payable to Fulton Theatre. Full payment is due by Friday, March 2, 2012 and is non-refundable.

Teaching Artist Pre-Festival Visit: Identify three preferred dates & times for a one-hour visit by a Fulton Theatre trained teaching artist to your school or organization. During the visit, your company will share your 30-minute piece with the teaching artist who will provide your students with valuable feedback & insight prior to the Festival.

1. Preferred Date _____ Time _____
2. Preferred Date _____ Time _____
3. Preferred Date _____ Time _____

Workshops: At the festival itself, Fulton Theatre teaching artists will facilitate one or two theatre workshops for your students. What topics and/or themes would you like to see addressed? _____

For additional information and questions, contact:

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Director of Education and Outreach
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