



junior  
theater

Festival<sup>®</sup>  
'26

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JTF Atlanta

JTF West

January 16-18, 2026  
Atlanta, GA

February 6-8, 2026  
Sacramento, CA

# Greetings Junior Theater Festival!

I'm thrilled to welcome you, your students, and their families to JTF 2026! Whether you are joining us in Atlanta (the OG JTF) or Sacramento (JTF West), our jazz hands are ready to celebrate another incredible year of musical theatre magic with you!

JTF 2025 brought so many exciting firsts. Our friends at Disney Theatrical Group launched the world premiere productions of Disney's *Dare to Dream JR.* in both Atlanta and Sacramento. Six different JTF troupes came together to create two breathtaking productions—an achievement that required next-level collaboration. I am deeply grateful to each of these JTF performers and their leadership teams for bringing these moving and magical productions to life.

At JTF West, we introduced a new venue: the beautifully renovated Memorial Auditorium! This fantastic theater allows us to provide access to even more young people, and we look forward to it serving as our homebase for many years to come.

Big news! In August of 2025, the Cobb Galleria in Atlanta, Georgia will be undergoing a multi-million-dollar remodel. The mall section of the facility is being replaced with a brand-new, state-of-the-art convention center, set to open in the summer of 2026.

We are working closely with Cobb County to ensure a seamless 2026 JTF Atlanta during this time of change. Good news! The exhibition halls (**home to our Broadway Junior Theatre and The JTF Little Theatre**), the ballrooms, and the Renaissance Waverly Hotel will NOT be impacted by the remodeling project.

I'll be hosting a JTF Atlanta Town Hall in April to share all the details about these updates. I also hope to unveil the plans for the new Cobb Galleria Centre, so you can get a sneak peek at the future of JTF's Atlanta home!

Thank you again for being a part of our JTF family. The impact your program has on your kiddos and community truly makes the world a better place, one musical at a time.

So help me, Sondheim!



Timothy Allen McDonald  
Founder and CEO  
Junior Theater Group

## THE BROADWAY JUNIOR THEATRE

*This is the main theater space where all groups unite for key festival events and celebrate the joy of theatre as a community.*

### Key Events

(subject to change)

#### **Festival Kick-Off!**

Kick off your JTF experience with an electrifying welcome event hosted by JTF Founder and CEO Timothy Allen McDonald!

#### **Direct From Broadway, Growin' Up Broadway, Mainstage Panels and, Keynotes**

Timothy McDonald and friends host exclusive mainstage events featuring Broadway professionals in performances and conversations about their careers and creative journeys.

#### **New Works Showcase**

Be among the first to experience the newest Broadway Junior® titles before they're released!

#### **Freddie G Awards Ceremony**

A celebration of the weekend's accomplishments, named in honor of Music Theatre International's CEO and Tony Award® Honoree Freddie Gershon. This inspiring event features performances by groups that win the All-Festival Performance award.

#### **JTF Headline Concert**

A must-see event featuring Broadway's best and curated just for the JTF audience! Past headliners include Caissie Levy, Michael James Scott, Ali Stroker, Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, Lindsay Mendez, Stephanie J. Block & Sebastian Arcelus, and more.



## BEYOND THE BROADWAY JUNIOR THEATRE

*Scheduled events for your group to explore and engage with the full festival experience, from adjudications to workshops to activities outside the mainstage.*

### Key Events

(subject to change)

#### Adjudication

Student groups perform a 15-minute selection from an MTI Broadway Junior® show or One-Act Edition for professional adjudicators and festival attendees. Groups receive ratings in music, acting, dance, and overall performance, with constructive feedback to encourage growth.

#### JTF All-Stars

Outstanding student performers and technicians are selected as JTF All-Stars! These students participate in exclusive workshops and may even perform in the Freddie G Awards Ceremony.

#### Workshops for Students & Teachers

Broadway professionals and master teachers lead interactive workshops in musical theatre performance and technical theatre, offering invaluable learning experiences for both students and educators.

#### Tech Olympics

Four students from each group compete in a high-energy technical theatre obstacle course designed to test their skills and enthusiasm for behind-the-scenes magic!

#### iTheatrics Video Auditions

Select students from each group are invited to audition for Broadway Junior® Resident Choreographer Steven G. Kennedy for future Broadway Junior® video shoots!

#### Social Media Ambassadors

Two students from each group document their JTF experience as official Social Media Ambassadors and receive special workshops with social media specialists from NYC!

#### Parent & Guardian Panels

These insightful panels provide a space to connect, share experiences, and learn from industry professionals about supporting young performers on their theatre journey.



# JTF Atlanta 2026 Schedule of Events

This schedule is subject to change. Final schedules will be sent out prior to the festival.

## THURSDAY, JANUARY 15

5:00 PM	Festival Sign-In
5:00 PM	Optional Group Rehearsals

## FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

9:00 AM	Festival Sign-In
10:00 AM	Optional Group Rehearsals
4:00 PM	Professional Development Orientation
5:00 PM	<i>Festival Kick-Off!</i>
5:30 PM	Dinner ( <i>on your own</i> )
7:00 PM	Adjudications

## SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

8:30 AM	Adjudications
1:00 PM	Lunch ( <i>on your own</i> )
2:45 PM	<i>Direct From Broadway</i>
3:45 PM	iTheatrics Video Audition
4:00 PM	Student Workshops
4:00 PM	Teacher Workshops
4:00 PM	Parent & Guardian Panel
6:00 PM	Dinner ( <i>on your own</i> )
8:00 PM	<i>New Works Showcase</i>

## SUNDAY, JANUARY 18

8:00 AM	iTheatrics Video Callback
8:00 AM	Tech Olympics
9:00 AM	Teacher Workshops
10:00 AM	<i>Growin' Up Broadway!</i>
11:15 AM	Student Workshops
11:15 AM	Teacher Workshops
11:15 AM	JTF All-Stars Workshops
11:15 AM	Parent & Guardian Panel
1:00 PM	Lunch ( <i>on your own</i> )
3:00 PM	<i>Additional Mainstage Programming</i>
4:00 PM	<i>Freddie G Awards Ceremony</i>
5:30 PM	Dinner ( <i>on your own</i> )
8:00 PM	<i>JTF Headline Concert</i>

# JTF West 2026 Schedule of Events

This schedule is subject to change. Final schedules will be sent out prior to the festival.

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6

10:00 AM	Festival Sign-In
12:00 PM	Optional Group Rehearsals
1:00 PM	iTheatrics Video Audition
3:00 PM	Festival Sign-In
6:00 PM	Professional Development Orientation
7:30 PM	<i>Festival Kick-Off!</i>

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:00 AM	Adjudications
12:00 PM	Lunch ( <i>on your own</i> )
2:30 PM	<i>Direct From Broadway</i>
4:00 PM	Student Workshops
4:00 PM	Teacher Workshops
4:30 PM	Parent & Guardian Panel
5:45 PM	Dinner ( <i>on your own</i> )
8:00 PM	<i>New Works Showcase</i>

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8

8:00 AM	iTheatrics Video Callback
8:00 AM	Tech Olympics
10:00 AM	<i>Growin' Up Broadway!</i>
11:30 AM	JTF All-Stars Rehearsal
11:30 AM	Student Workshops
11:30 AM	Teacher Workshops
11:30 AM	Parent & Guardian Panel
12:30 PM	Lunch ( <i>on your own</i> )
2:30 PM	<i>Additional Mainstage Programming</i>
3:45 PM	<i>Freddie G Awards Ceremony</i>
4:45 PM	Dinner ( <i>on your own</i> )
8:00 PM	<i>JTF Headline Concert</i>

# JTF 2026 Group Registration

## Pricing

Atlanta & West Group Registration Fee.....\$825

### JTF ATLANTA

Per-Person Participation Fee (*Academies, Community Theaters, Private Schools*).....\$350

Per-Person Participation Fee (*Public & Charter Schools*).....\$335

### JTF WEST

Per-Person Participation Fee (*Academies, Community Theaters, Private Schools*).....\$335

Per-Person Participation Fee (*Public & Charter Schools*).....\$320

## REGISTRATION FEE

The \$825 registration fee secures your group's spot at JTF. Your registration is considered complete once you have filled out the online registration form and we have received your registration fee. Your registration submission will be reviewed and you will be emailed if your group has been accepted to the festival within 3 weeks. If your group is not accepted, you can opt to add your group to the waitlist or your registration fee will be refunded.

## PARTICIPATION FEE

Each person who attends JTF must be registered with their group, including directors, students, chaperones, and parents. Each festival attendee is required to pay the per-person participation fee. **A minimum of 20 participants per group is required** (including directors, students, chaperones, and parents). Participation fees for JTF Atlanta are due by October 15, 2025 and participation fees for JTF West are due by November 15, 2025. After these dates, participation fees increase by \$30 per-person. You will not be able to register individuals at Festival Sign-In the weekend of the festival. Day passes are not available.

### Participation Fee Includes:

- Souvenir JTF t-shirt • All-access wristband • Mainstage shows curated for JTF audiences • Headliner concert featuring Broadway's finest • Adjudications, workshops for teachers and students, and so much more musical theatre mayhem!!! •

### Participation Fee Does Not Include:

- Transportation • Meals • Lodging (see page 9 for hotel information) •

## How to Register Your Group

To register your group for JTF, visit [juniortheaterfestival.com](http://juniortheaterfestival.com). If you are a returning group, log in with your existing credentials. If you are a new group, you will be prompted to create an account for your organization. Once that is complete and you are on the Registration page, select “Register As Group” and follow the prompts. You will be asked for estimated numbers of students, chaperones, directors, and any additional family and friends attending. This is a true estimate, and these numbers do not need to be finalized until the fall.

You will be asked to pay the \$825 registration fee in order to secure your group’s spot at JTF. We will accept payment by credit card or check. Registration priority will be given to those that pay by credit card. If paying by check, **make checks payable to JUNIOR THEATER GROUP** and mail to iTheatrics, Attn: JTF, 1501 Broadway, Suite 1900, New York, NY 10036.

Once your group has been officially accepted, registration fees are nonrefundable.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **CAN I REGISTER FOR BOTH FESTIVALS?**

You may register one group for JTF Atlanta and one group for JTF West. Groups that attend both festivals must bring different shows for adjudication, and we encourage you to bring different groups of students to each festival as well.

### **CAN I BRING TWO GROUPS FROM MY ORGANIZATION TO ONE FESTIVAL?**

No. You may only bring one group from your organization to JTF Atlanta and one group from your organization to JTF West.

### **CAN I REGISTER FOLKS AFTER THE PARTICIPATION FEES ARE DUE?**

This is done on a case-by-case basis and all additions must be approved by the JTF Festival administrator. Final numbers and payment are due by October 15<sup>th</sup> for JTF Atlanta and November 15<sup>th</sup> for JTF West in order to move forward with scheduling. If registered past those dates, there is no guarantee that additional participants will receive a festival t-shirt or have seats with your group in the main theater.

### **IS THERE AN AGE REQUIREMENT FOR PARTICIPATING STUDENTS?**

Any student between the ages of 8 and 18 is welcome to attend and perform with a group. No one who has graduated from high school is allowed to perform with a group.

### **WHAT SIZE IS A TYPICAL GROUP**

The average group size is 20 - 40 participants. There is a minimum of 20 participants per group. This number includes students, chaperones, directors, and any additional family and friends. The playing space for adjudication is roughly 20’ x 26’ so this is important to keep in mind when putting your group of students together.

*If you have more questions, do not hesitate to reach out at [jtf@itheatrics.com](mailto:jtf@itheatrics.com).*



# JTF 2026

## Professional Development Track

### Pricing

Atlanta & West Professional Development Registration Fee.....\$500

The Professional Development (PD) Track is the ideal way to explore, experience, and empower yourself to produce a musical theatre production with your kids! You will immerse yourself in workshops, adjudications, and discussions while having fun with fellow teachers and directors. If you are interested in bringing a group to the festival in the future, the PD track is a great way to experience JTF first without students. We promise to leave you inspired and energized with new strategies and resources.

### REGISTRATION FEE

The \$500 registration fee secures your spot on the PD track.

#### Registration Fee Includes:

- Souvenir JTF t-shirt • All-access wristband • Mainstage shows curated for JTF audiences • Headliner concert featuring Broadway's finest • Adjudications, workshops for teachers and students, and so much more musical theatre mayhem!!! •

#### Registration Fee Does Not Include:

- Transportation • Meals • Lodging (see page 9 for hotel information) •

## HOW TO REGISTER FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

To register for the Professional Development Track at JTF Atlanta or JTF West, visit [juniortheaterfestival.com](http://juniortheaterfestival.com). You will be prompted to create an account for your organization. Once that is complete and you are on the Registration page, select "Register on the Professional Development Track" and follow the prompts.

You will be asked to pay the \$500 registration fee in order to secure your spot at JTF. We will accept payment by credit card or check. If paying by check, **make checks payable to JUNIOR THEATER GROUP** and mail to iTheatrics, Attn: JTF, 1501 Broadway, Suite 1900, New York, NY 10036.

*Registration fees are nonrefundable.*

## Hotel Information

Official festival hotels for JTF Atlanta are the Waverly Renaissance, the Embassy Suites, and the Omni Hotel. Official festival hotels for JTF West are the Hyatt Regency Sacramento, and the Sheraton Grand Sacramento Hotel. Specific pricing and other pertinent information will be sent out once your group has been accepted to the festival. Rooms in these hotels must be booked directly through the Junior Theater Festival. Priority for official festival hotels will be given to groups based on the order registration is completed (online form submitted and registration fee received). You are not required to stay in an official festival hotel.

Please note, there is a limited amount of space in these hotels, and they fill up fast. There are many other great hotel options in the general vicinity of both festivals.



New Works Showcase JTF Atlanta '25 and New Works Showcase JTF West '25  
Photos: Avery Brunkus, Marcus Woollen ©2025