



junior
theater

Festival[®]

'27

© The Junior Theater Group

SEE YOU AT
JTF Atlanta



ATLANTA, GA
JuniorTheaterFestival.com



JTF Atlanta
January 15-17, 2027

SEE YOU AT
JTF West



SACRAMENTO, CA
JuniorTheaterFestival.com



JTF West
February 5-7, 2027

Greetings, Junior Theater Festival!

Every year thousands of individuals – students, directors, and families – gather from all corners of the globe, representing their individual programs at one of our Junior Theater Festivals. They present 15 minutes of a show for adjudication by a panel of Broadway and education experts. They take masterclasses in singing, acting, dance, and technical theatre. On our mainstages they experience the best of Broadway, National Tours, and regional theatre performances. Excellence is recognized in awards, and we end our epic weekend in a performance curated exclusively for JTF.

I am grateful to each of you who provide young people with access to the arts through your program, who organize the travel for your community, who navigate the numerous questions and challenges required to bring a group to JTF. I see you and I appreciate you. Your hard work inspires me and my team to make sure each JTF is the very best it can be.

I look forward to welcoming you, your kiddos, and community at JTF 2027!

So help me, Sondheim?
So help me, Sondheim!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Timothy Allen McDonald". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Timothy Allen McDonald
Founder and CEO
Junior Theater Group

WHY JTF?

For over 20 years, the Junior Theater Festival has celebrated young people and the transformative power of musical theatre.

Today, JTF is an international celebration of student theatre programs, welcoming over 20,000 people at one of our festivals including JTF Atlanta, JTF West, JTF Europe, JTF Australia, and JTF New Zealand. What sets our festivals apart is not only their scale, but our intention. Every element of the weekend is thoughtfully curated to celebrate and elevate student artistry, inspire arts educators, and strengthen programs.

Adjudications are the heartbeat of JTF. Each group performs a 15-minute selection and receives specific, skill-building feedback from experienced theatre professionals. Students are celebrated for their achievements while being challenged to grow. Directors gain meaningful artistic validation and actionable insights to bring back to their classrooms and rehearsal rooms.

Mainstage programming is carefully curated to inspire and connect. From Broadway's living legends to rising artists who once stood on our JTF stage themselves as students, our guest performers reflect the full arc of a theatrical journey. Students witness both excellence and possibility.

Throughout the weekend, workshops, panels, and performances create opportunities for collaboration, learning, and community-building. Our JTF community returns home not only energized, but strengthened.

JTF is more than a festival. It is an experience that supports youth theater programs, builds confidence, and leaves a lasting positive impact long after the curtain falls.

THE MAINSTAGE EXPERIENCE

At both JTF Atlanta and JTF West, the mainstage is where the entire festival community gathers. JTF Atlanta hosts this experience in **The Broadway Junior Theatre** at the Cobb Convention Centre. JTF West's mainstage programming takes place in the historic **Memorial Auditorium**.

Key Events

(subject to change)

Festival Kick-Off!

Launch the weekend together with energy, celebration, and community.

Direct From Broadway & Growin' Up Broadway

Live performances and conversations with Broadway professionals about their creative journeys.

New Works Showcase

Be among the first to experience upcoming Broadway Junior® titles before release.

Freddie G Awards Ceremony

A celebration of student achievement and All-Festival performances.

JTF Headline Presentation

Extraordinary Broadway talent curated specifically for the JTF audience! Past headliners include Jasmine Amy Rogers, Michael James Scott, Caissie Levy, Ali Stroker, Darren Criss, Benj Pasek & Justin Paul, Stephanie J. Block & Sebastian Arcelus, and more.

BEYOND THE MAINSTAGE

Where growth, collaboration, and connection come to life.

Key Events

(subject to change)

Adjudications

Student groups perform a 15-minute selection from a MTI Broadway Junior® show or One-Act Edition for professional adjudicators and festival attendees.

JTF All-Stars

Outstanding selected student performers and technicians participate in exclusive workshops and performance opportunities.

Student Workshops

Interactive performance and technical theatre workshops led by Broadway artists and master teachers.

Teacher Professional Development

Sessions designed to inspire, equip, and connect theatre educators.

Music Masterclass

A high-energy, interactive masterclass where educators and students work live with our professional team to deepen vocal craft and performance skills.

Oh, The Places You'll Go

Hear from inspiring voices who grew up in theatre and now thrive across many fields, both within the industry and beyond.

Why We Tell The Story

Panelists share how they found their spark, their people, and their place through the stage and the communities it creates.

Tech Olympics

Four students from each group compete in a high-energy technical theatre challenge celebrating behind-the-scenes magic.

iTheatrics Video Audition

An opportunity for students to be considered for future Broadway Junior® video projects.

Social Media Ambassadors

Two students from each group document their JTF experience as official Social Media Ambassadors and receive special workshops with professionals from NYC.

Parent & Guardian Panels

Conversations designed to support families on their student's theatre journey.

JTF ATLANTA SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

9:00 AM	Festival Sign-In
9:00 AM	Optional Group Rehearsals & Photos
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 16

8:30 AM	Adjudications
1:00 PM	Lunch (<i>On Your Own</i>)
2:00 PM	iTheatrics Video Audition
2:00 PM	Student Workshops
2:00 PM	Teacher Workshops
5:00 PM	<i>Direct From Broadway</i>
6:00 PM	Dinner (<i>On Your Own</i>)
8:00 PM	<i>New Works Showcase</i>

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

8:00 AM	iTheatrics Video Callback
8:00 AM	Tech Olympics
8:30 AM	Social Media Ambassador Workshop
8:30 AM	Teacher Coffee Connect
10:00 AM	JTF All-Stars Workshop
10:00 AM	Student Workshops
10:00 AM	Teacher Workshops
12:15 PM	Lunch (<i>On Your Own</i>)
2:00 PM	<i>Growin' Up Broadway</i>
3:00 PM	<i>Freddie G Awards Ceremony</i>
4:30 PM	Dinner (<i>On Your Own</i>)
8:00 PM	JTF Headline Presentation

JTF WEST SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

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

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5

9:00 AM	Festival Sign-In
9:00 AM	Optional Group Rehearsals & Photos
1:00 PM	iTheatrics Video Audition
5:00 PM	Professional Development Orientation
6:00 PM	<i>Festival Kick-Off!</i>

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 6

8:00 AM	Adjudications
1:00 PM	Lunch (<i>On Your Own</i>)
2:30 PM	Student Workshops
2:30 PM	Teacher Workshops
2:30 PM	Parent & Guardian Panel
5:00 PM	<i>Direct From Broadway</i>
6:00 PM	Dinner (<i>On Your Own</i>)
8:00 PM	<i>New Works Showcase</i>

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 7

8:00 AM	iTheatrics Video Callback
8:00 AM	Tech Olympics
8:30 AM	Social Media Ambassador Workshop
8:30 AM	Teacher Coffee Connect
10:00 AM	JTF All-Stars Workshop
10:00 AM	Student Workshops
10:00 AM	Teacher Workshops
10:00 AM	Parent & Guardian Panel
12:15 PM	Lunch (<i>On Your Own</i>)
2:00 PM	<i>Growin' Up Broadway</i>
3:00 PM	<i>Freddie G Awards Ceremony</i>
4:30 PM	Dinner (<i>On Your Own</i>)
8:00 PM	JTF Headline Presentation

JTF 2027 GROUP REGISTRATION

JTF ATLANTA

January 15 - 17, 2027

Registration Fee

\$875 per group

Per-Person Participation Fee

Academies, Community
Theaters, & Private Schools:
\$375

Public & Charter Schools:
\$360

JTF WEST

February 5 - 7, 2027

Registration Fee

\$875 per group

Per-Person Participation Fee

Academies, Community
Theaters, & Private Schools:
\$360

Public & Charter Schools:
\$345

Participation fees are due **October 10, 2026** for JTF Atlanta and **November 10, 2026** for JTF West. After these deadlines, participation fees increase by \$30 per person. A minimum of 20 participants per group is required. Day passes are not available.

Your Participation Fee Includes:

- **All-access** festival wristband
- **Curated** mainstage programming
- **Headliner** presentation
- **Professional** adjudication
- **Student & Teacher** workshops
- **Official** JTF t-shirt

Does not include: Transportation, Meals, Lodging

*The \$875 registration fee secures your group's spot at JTF.
All attendees must be registered with the group.*

HOW TO REGISTER YOUR GROUP

STEP 1: CREATE OR LOG INTO YOUR ACCOUNT

Visit juniortheaterfestival.com.

Returning groups may log in using existing credentials. New groups will be prompted to create an account for your organization. **Please ensure your account name matches the official name your group will use at the festival.**

STEP 2: SELECT “REGISTER AS A GROUP”

You will be asked to provide estimated numbers for students, directors, chaperones, and additional friends and family members attending JTF. These are preliminary estimates and may be finalized in the fall.

STEP 3: SUBMIT THE REGISTRATION FEE

An **\$875 registration fee** is required to secure your group’s spot. We accept payment by credit card or check. Priority is given to registrations paid 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?

Yes, you may register one group for JTF Atlanta and one group for JTF West. Groups attending both festivals must present different adjudication pieces. We also encourage bringing different students to each festival to maximize opportunity and growth.

Can I bring two groups from my organization to one festival?

No. Each organization may bring only one group to JTF Atlanta and only one group to JTF West.

Can I register participants after the participation fee deadline?

No. However, in extenuating circumstances additions are considered on a case-by-case basis and must be approved by the JTF Festival Administrator. Final numbers and payment are due by October 10 (Atlanta) and November 10 (West) in order to move forward with scheduling. Participants added after the deadline are not guaranteed a festival t-shirt or seating with their group during mainstage events.

Is there an age requirement for participating students?

Students ages 8–18 are eligible to perform with a group. Students who have graduated from high school may attend but are not permitted to perform.

What is the typical group size?

The average group size is 20–40 participants. A minimum of 20 participants is required to register your group for JTF, including students, directors, chaperones, and family members. The adjudication playing space is approximately 20' x 26', which should be considered when planning your performance.

Will JTF Atlanta return to a single-campus model once construction is complete?

The Cobb Convention Centre, home of JTF Atlanta, is currently undergoing a major renovation that will result in a newly expanded, state-of-the-art convention center expected to open in 2028. To accommodate the full scale of the festival during construction, JTF Atlanta will continue operating under a two-campus model in 2027.

JTF 2027 PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK REGISTRATION

JTF ATLANTA

January 15 - 17, 2027

JTF WEST

February 5 - 7, 2027

The Professional Development Track is designed for theatre educators and directors who want to deepen their craft, strengthen their programs, and connect with a national community of peers. If you are interested in bringing a group to JTF in the future, the PD Track offers a great way to experience the full festival without students.

Participants Engage In:

- Professional adjudications and observation
- Workshops led by Broadway artists and master teachers
- Director-focused conversations and collaborative sessions
 - Mainstage programming and headline performances
- Networking with theatre educators from across the country

The result is renewed inspiration, practical tools, and a broader perspective to bring back to your classroom or rehearsal room.

Professional Development Registration Fee: \$500

Your Participation Fee Includes:

- **All-access** festival wristband
- **Curated** mainstage programming
- **Headliner** presentation
- **Professional** adjudication
- **Access** to workshops and adjudications
- **Official** JTF t-shirt

Does not include: Transportation, Meals, Lodging

HOW TO REGISTER FOR THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK

STEP 1: CREATE OR LOG INTO YOUR ACCOUNT

Visit juniortheaterfestival.com.

Returning individuals may log in using existing credentials. New individuals will be prompted to create an account for your organization.

STEP 2: SELECT “REGISTER ON THE PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT TRACK”

Follow the prompts to complete your registration.

STEP 3: SUBMIT THE REGISTRATION FEE

A **\$500 registration fee** secures your spot on the PD Track.

We 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

There are official festival hotels for JTF Atlanta and JTF West. Due to the scale of the Junior Theater Festival, we are not able to accommodate all attendees within our official festival hotel room blocks. While we partner with select hotels in both Atlanta and Sacramento to support a seamless experience, availability is limited and official festival hotel room blocks fill up quickly. **Official festival hotel information, pricing, and booking instructions will be shared with accepted groups following registration.**

JTF Atlanta

Official festival hotels are located in close proximity to the Cobb Convention Center and surrounding festival venues. Rooms within the official JTF hotel blocks must be booked through the festival housing process. Priority placement is based on the date your group's registration is completed.

As construction continues at the Cobb Convention Center, JTF Atlanta will operate under a two-campus model in 2027. Hotel placements are thoughtfully coordinated to support convenient access to programming across both campuses.

JTF West

Official festival hotels are located within walking distance of primary festival venues in Sacramento. Rooms within official JTF room blocks must be reserved through the JTF housing process. Priority placement is based on registration completion date.

Additional Accommodations

Groups are not required to stay in official festival hotels. There are many additional lodging options available near both festival locations. We encourage groups to make housing plans early to ensure the best availability and pricing.