

AR Blue and Gold Junior FESTIVAL HANDBOOK

November 12, 2022 Searcy HS and November 19, 2022 Springdale Har-Ber HS
(9am-3pm) Arkansas Educational Theatre Association

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THIS DOCUMENT

1. Cost for Festival
2. Registration Information
3. Membership Status / Student Inductee Instructions
4. Troupe Flags
5. Thespys
6. Flagging
7. Conference Rules and Regulations (PLEASE REVIEW WITH STUDENTS)

1. Cost for Festival

- \$40 per student for in person attendees (this includes workshops, t shirt, and lunch)
- \$40 for troupe directors (this includes workshops, t shirt, and lunch)
- \$30 for each Chaperone (this includes a tshirt, lunch, and workshops)
- \$15 for bus driver lunch (no cost if not eating lunch)
- \$10 for each competing EVENT not person.

Students can only enter one group event (group acting, group musical), one individual event, and one short film.

2. Registration Information

- Students may only attend Junior Festival with their school
- Registration will happen on Open Water and registration will be open on **August 19, 2022**.
- **NO "TBA'S"**. You must list a name for all participants. Registrations with "TBA's" will not be processed in Open Water
- By completing and signing the registration you understand all material (Thespy's, Showcase performances, and etc. Being presented by this troupe and representing the school listed on the registration form) That includes foul language, offensive material, and/or obscenities must be flagged for content. You further understand that your school/ troupe will not be allowed to participate in next years festival should this rule be violated.
- Online registration deadline is **October 14, 2022** . No **additional** entries will be allowed after this date.
- Principals must sign the appropriate forms or your troupe's registration will not be processed!
- **No** changes can be made after October 31. 2021.
- If you have any questions, please feel free to call Summer Scott, Arkansas Jr, Coordinator, 870-917-5884; email summerscott884@gmail.com **PLEASE MAKE COPIES OF EVERYTHING FOR YOUR OWN RECORDS!**

3 . Troupe Status and Student Inductees

- This is the time of year each school needs to check on their **Membership status** or **Student Inductees**.
 1. Visit the official website at <https://www.schooltheatre.org/internationalthespiansociety/renew>
 2. Click on “Membership”
 3. Click on Charter a Troupe
 - Renewal Dues for middle schools who already are members of Arkansas Thespians. Fees are \$129.00.

THE DEADLINE FOR TROUPE RENEWAL IS OCTOBER 14, 2022! After this date, troupes that have not paid their troupe dues become inactive and their benefits are suspended. Troupes that have not paid their renewal dues by November 15 are withdrawn from active status and must pay an additional \$100.00 reinstatement fee.
- If you have any questions regarding the status of your troupe or inducted thespians, please call Brian Benz at Home Office of the Educational Theatre Association at 513.421.3900.

4 . Troupe Flags

- In the interest of boosting self-image, although not required, every troupe is encouraged to create a Troupe Flag. The flag design must be in banner-style, to be displayed vertically on an eight-foot standard or suspended from an overhead batten. The flag should be designed to attach the top to a wooden cross-piece (**3-1996**). If you are making a troupe flag, the maximum width is three feet and length six feet...to be displayed vertically (**10-14-2006**). Older larger flags, of a larger size, are "grandfathered in."
- Flags should display the school name and troupe number. Any color(s) may be used. Appropriate designs can be used to enhance the school's Troupe Flag. The flags are not judged but are currently (**2009**) displayed suspended from battens at the opening and closing ceremonies. To enable the stage crew to hang the flags, each participating troupe should present their flag at the time of registration. Flags will be immediately removed from the battens to be picked up after the closing ceremonies and before departure. At this time we do not have a designated space for the flags at festival, so bringing them to festival is not necessary.

5. THESPY'S

- [Rules and regulations](#) - PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU READ ALL OF THE PROGRAM GUIDE INFORMATION - FAILURE TO FOLLOW THE RULES WILL RESULT IN A DEDUCTION IN OVERALL RATING.
- *Thespy's events are \$10 per event*
 - **Performance Categories**
 - **Monologue**
 - **Duo Acting**
 - **Group Acting**
 - **Solo Musical Theatre**
 - **Duet Musical Theatre**
 - **Group Musical Theatre**

- **Technical categories**
- **Costume Construction**
- **Costume Design**
- **Lighting Design**
- **Makeup Design**
- **Scenic Design**
- **Short Film**
- **Sound Design**
- **Stage Management**
- **Theatre Marketing**

- Students can only be enrolled in 1 individual event (which includes duets) and 1 group event for the festival and one entry in a short film (creates or participants in)
- All entries will be evaluated asynchronously (prior to the start of the Jr. Festival). Performances that earn a superior may have the opportunity to perform for a new set of judges at Jr. Festival to be considered for Best of Show.
- Thespy's are designed to recognize the talents and hard work of inducted thespians. Students who meet the requirements outlined below will perform and are adjudicated in a category of their choosing in front of theatre educators and professionals. Selected participants with superior ranking and critic choice will perform their pieces on the main stage during the Festival awards ceremony. These guidelines can be found online at: <http://www.arkansasthespians.org/>
- All recorded event entries must be submitted by the troupe director into Open Water by Friday, October 21 at 11:59 p.m. There will be no refund for entries registered in Open Water that does not get uploaded to Open Water by the deadline. Substitutions will result in a change fee of \$10 per change.
- **Rubrics - [Thespy rubrics](#)** - Jr. Thespian will be evaluated using the Sr. Thespian Rubrics this year. Copies of the rubrics can be found on [arkansasthespians.org](http://www.arkansasthespians.org/).

6. HONOR TROUPE

- Through the Honor Troupe program, the Arkansas Thespian Society seeks to recognize troupes for their many achievements and endeavors during the school year. Activities must take place between the last day of this year's State Festival to the first day of next year's State Festival. The application for Honor Troupe is available on the website www.arkansasthespians.org under State Thespian Festival.
- Honor Troupe award recipients will be announced during the Arkansas Junior Thespian Festival in November. Honor Troupes will be designated as Gold, Silver, or Bronze Honor Troupes, based on the amount of points awarded to each troupe. We encourage all troupes to apply for Honor Troupe!

Deadline to submit your digital slide show and honor troupe form is October 14, 2022 to Amy Pumphrey at apumphre@fortsmithschools.org.

7. FLAGGING

Because of recent liability cases (i.e. Texas teacher losing her job because she took class to an art museum displaying nude art) all IE selections and one-act plays containing any "questionable material" in language and/or situation must be flagged to avoid disqualification. When registering on the on-line registration system, type the title of your piece followed by FLAGGED in all caps. For Example, *Fat Pig* FLAGGED. Then complete the form to be signed by your principal noting flagged material presented conforms to your campus rules. Failure to flag "questionable material" could result in disqualification and/or probation.

If your entry is flagged, you will be emailed and asked to explain why so that we can compile a document that will be available at the information desk that can be consulted by troupe directors.

8. GUIDELINES & RULES

Please review the guidelines & rules!

Troupe Directors and students must read all the rules carefully. The Arkansas Thespian Thespy Events are intended to be a non-competitive, educational program offering Festival delegates the opportunity to receive constructive feedback on prepared theatrical material and technical designs. The goal for participating students is to find their talent, strengths, and weaknesses and to grow as theatre artists. The Thespy Events culminate in the selection of a performance showcase cast of an outstanding entry from each category. These entries will present their selections during the closing ceremonies of the Festival on Saturday.

9. Review

1. Register in Open Water by October 14, 2022.
2. Thespy's are to be uploaded by October 21, 2022, at 11:59pm into Open Water
3. Complete a health form for every registered participant. Health forms and the conference rules and regulations must be scanned in and shared by a google doc by **FRIDAY, October 21, 2022**. Forms are on the website www.arkansasthespians.org on the State Jr. High Thespian Festival tab/page. The originals need to be on your person as well when coming to festival in November.
4. Send a **school affiliated** check to:
DEADLINE November 1, 2022 for payment of Festival

EDTA Arkansas Thespians
361 Southwest Dr #178
Jonesboro, AR 72401

This must be signed by each Thespian and their parent(s). Scan and email or mail a copy along with their health form by **October 21, 2022.**

CONFERENCE RULES AND REGULATIONS

Troupe Directors are requested to make a copy of the following rules and regulations for each student attending the conference. Signatures of both student and parent are required. Troupe Directors and Chaperones are responsible for the conduct of their students; please stay aware of what your troupe members are doing.

ALCOHOL/DRUGS: Students in possession of, consuming, or under the influence of drugs and/or alcohol including cigarettes, vapor cigarettes, and tobacco at any time during the Festival will be returned home on a first violation. The parent, guardian, or next of kin will be financially responsible for all necessary costs incurred in returning the student home.

DRESS CODE/BADGES: School dress code is required. Do not wear anything you would not wear to your own school on a regular school day. By direction of the State Student Board and EdTA Chapter Board, all conference participants must wear their badges at chest level on body front **EASILY VISIBLE TO ALL** at all times in any conference activity.

COURTESY: Students are expected to behave in a manner, which reflects positively upon their individual schools and Arkansas Thespians. Students who exhibit improper and disrespectful behavior in public may be subjected to disciplinary action by the Chapter Board. Any Troupe Director/chaperone has authority to pull the badge of any delegate whose behavior reflects poorly upon Arkansas Thespians regardless of their troupe affiliation.

SOCIAL MEDIA: As Thespians, we recognize that social media is a useful tool for expanding our theatre knowledge and for recognizing ourselves and others in a positive manner and that our words and images are not only a reflection of ourselves, but our peers, programs, directors, and the general theatre community. **Any** recordings of **any** part of the event are strictly prohibited.

EMERGENCIES: Please have health forms turned into troupe director with accurate contact numbers. If a student is running a fever over 100.3 on the day of the event they are not allowed to attend festival.

FESTIVAL ATTENDANCE: All student delegates are required to attend the events scheduled during the Festival (Thespy's, workshops, one-act plays, etc.) Delegates are not permitted, under any circumstances, to leave the Festival events without troupe director/chaperone permission. .

CELL PHONES: All cell phones are to be silenced and not to be used during workshops, Thespy's, group events, or during One-Acts.

LIABILITY: The host, all facilities, and the Arkansas Thespians shall not accept responsibility for the theft, loss or breakage of personal effects, monies, or valuables. All items found may be turned in to the Jr. Coordinator and or Registration Desk.

THEATRE: The taking of flash photography is not allowed at any time during a production. No recording equipment of any kind is permitted in the audience. No one is to enter or exit the theatre during a performance. Proper and acceptable behavior will be expected by all members of an audience. Inappropriate theatre etiquette includes feet on the seats, disruptive behavior, improper language, or discourtesy to other delegates, performers, and theatre personnel. Badges of any delegates violating any rule may be taken by ANY sponsor or chaperone and turned in at the registration desk. **Silence ALL CELL PHONES.**

VIOLATIONS: Delegates violating rules and regulations of the conference will be required to meet with their troupe director or chaperone along with the State Chapter Director and another State Board Member. Violations may cause non-participation of the school in the Festival activities until the meeting takes place. Violations could result in a letter to the student's school principal, contacting parents, and/or immediate removal from Jr.Festival.

SIGNATURES: I have read and understand the Arkansas Thespian Festival rules and regulations.

Parent(s) Print Name(s) Parent(s) Signature(s)

Date

Student Print Name Student Signature

Date

Troupe number _____ Print Troupe Director's Name _____

School Attending _____ School District _____

Health Form - Approval for Treatment

A health form **MUST** be completed by each student and adult attending Arkansas Junior Thespian Festival.

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PRINT Last Name

PRINT First Name

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Attendee Birthday

Attendee current age

Attendees School

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PRINT Guardian 1 Name

Contact Number

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PRINT Guardian 2 Name

Contact Number

Regarding Student Attending Festival

Allergic reactions to:	Medications presently taking:	Any past illnesses or other information

Anything else you would like the medical team to know about your health:

Attach scanned insurance card: or provide the information below

Health Insurance Provider: _____

Policy Number: _____

Consent to Treatment

The undersigned hereby releases and agrees to hold harmless the Arkansas Thespians, Arkansas Educational Theatre Association, The International Thespian Society, The Educational Theatre Association, and all respective agents, employees and representatives of the aforementioned entities from any and all claims, demands, actions and causes of action as a result of the delegate listed above participating in the Arkansas Junior Thespian festival 2022. The undersigned further agrees to be responsible for him/herself while traveling to and from said Festival including any expenses incurred by the delegate and/or any personal injuries which may occur to the delegate. The undersigned agrees to abide by the festival's security rules and regulations with the understanding that should any problems occur with the delegate during the festival the delegate will be returned home and the parents, guardian, or next of kin of the delegate will be financially responsible for all necessary costs incurred. The undersigned also realizes that festival registration fees cannot be refunded after October 30,2022. The undersigned further understands that should a major medical problem arise, he/she will be notified by telephone. In the event that he/she cannot be reached, he/she gives consent to such medical treatment as deemed necessary, including x-ray examination and anesthesia to be rendered by a licensed physician or physicians.

The undersigned hereby grants Arkansas Thespians permission to make photographs/video recordings of the delegate at said festival for use in coverage of the event, advertising, and for any lawful purpose without compensation to the delegate. The undersigned certifies that he/she has read and fully understands this authorization.

Signature Parent/Guardian/Next of Kin

Date

2022 AR State Thespian Festival ADULT of Conduct

The goal is to present a weekend of educational opportunities for all delegates in a safe environment.

This form must be read and signed by every adult delegate attending the festival:

Please circle which you represent: student, chaperones, directors, and guest artists.

Initial by each statement

_____ I will not bring or consume drugs, alcohol, or any illegal substance on the campus during the festival.

_____ I understand that the school is a smoke-free campus. I will not smoke/ nor vape on campus during the festival.

_____ I will not bring any weapons of any type onto the school campus.

_____ I will abide by and enforce the rules as stated in the festival handbook.

_____ I will not engage in behavior that constitutes discrimination or harassment in any way, including race, color, national origin, sex, gender, religion, age, disability, economic status, or citizenship of an individual.

_____ I will not use inappropriate language during the festival.

_____ I will not engage in inappropriate physical contact with any delegate.

_____ I verify that I have not been arrested for any criminal activity.

_____ I give consent for AR EdTA to conduct a background check.

Rules for you to enforce at festival:

Students are expected to participate at the festival. *Students are not allowed to skip workshops, One-Act plays, Tech Challenge, or Thespys to hang out. *Students and adults are not allowed to have cell-phones out during plays or workshops. *Students may use their smartphones to evaluate workshops *at the end* of each session. *Students are not allowed to talk or be disruptive during One-Act plays. *Food and drinks are not allowed in the auditorium.

_____ I will pull a badge if necessary for the above offenses or any violation of the guidelines discussed in the festival handbook, and turn it in at the information desk.

When a badge is pulled, the troupe director and the student will meet at the information table with the Security Coordinator and the State Chapter Director. Depending on the offense, the student could be sent home at the parents' expense. In all cases, a letter will be sent to the student's principal stating the offense and the action taken at festival.

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Print FULL name: _____

Birthday: ____/____/____

Home address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

NAME OF SCHOOL, TROUPE, or BUSINESS attending with: _____