

FESTUM. International Youth Theatre Festival of Murcia

24-27 March 2020

DESCRIPTION

Introduction

The International Youth Theatre Festival of Murcia, FESTUM, is a meeting and exchange space for youth theatre especially that developed in schools of dramatic art, universities and other training centres.

It came about to respond to the concerns and international vocation of the two organising entities: the Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art and the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia. They each have their own profile: the first one is a leading Higher School in Dramatic Art and Artistic Training, and the latter hosts and fosters theatre activities in the framework of the University of Murcia.

FESTUM is a festival including theatre performances, workshops, conferences and other side events with youth theatre at the core of it. The festival will connect with people in the city and the Region of Murcia, providing a dynamic international space for youth creation, a place for different cultures and artistic proposals to meet, and for theatre-based research.

This two-yearly festival will be held in 2020 for the first time, from 23 to 27 March (World Theatre Day), mainly at the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia and at the Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art. The Festival will also be held in other locations around the city: in emblematic places, such as Teatro Circo or Teatro Romea; characteristic locations for students, such as the Social University Centre; or close to the citizens, such as the streets of the city centre. This is a truly international gathering aiming to enrich the festival outlook of the Region of Murcia, being the first festival to focus on youth theatre, and held in a city with a Higher School of Dramatic Art and a Theatre Centre, both enjoying longstanding tradition.

Objectives

1. Be open in the outside world and intercultural dimensions.
2. Fruitful exchange in theatrical pedagogy and exchange of information and artistic experiences.
3. Theater Festival aims to create an international campus where young artists share and confront their skills.

Call for proposals

FESTUM will host theatre performances from higher schools of dramatic art, university theatre centres or universities in general, and other training centres specialised in stage arts.

In all cases, the members of the groups' cast shall be mainly students or graduates from 2015 onwards. This restriction does not apply to performance directors, technical teams or artistic teams. Having students in the artistic or technical team shall confer an advantage¹.

The deadline for submission of proposals is 20 December 2019. The organisation shall convey the list of selected performances by 20 January.

Programme preview

Tuesday 24 March

11:00 Press conference. Location: University of Murcia (UMU Vice-Chancellor Hall or Museum).

13:30 Introduction to the Festival: Open-air theatre at the University Social Centre. Street Theatre, organised by the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia.

20:00 h. Route prior to the opening performance: Street Theatre from the La Merced Campus through the city centre to the area surrounding Teatro Circo of Murcia.

¹ At the FESTUM Festival a distinction is drawn among the following concepts: cast, director, artistic team (lighting designers, set designers, choreographers, etc.) and technical team.

21:00 h. Opening performance by Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art or the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia. Teatro Circo of Murcia.

Wednesday 25 March

10:00 Workshop (Centro Párraga).

18:00 Performance. Venue: Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art (ESAD) (ESAD Theatre).

21:00 Performance. Venue: University (Hall at Teatro Concha Lavella).

At the end of the performances of the day, meeting with the audience and live music cafe.

Thursday 26 March

10:00 Workshop (Centro Párraga).

12:00 Master Class by an international specialist (ESAD or University venue depending on the format, to be confirmed).

18:00 Performance. Venue: ESAD (ESAD Theatre).

21:00 Performance. Venue: University (Hall at Teatro Concha Lavella).

At the end of the performances of the day, meeting with the audience and live music cafe.

Friday 27 March

10:00 Workshop (Centro Párraga).

12:00 Conference. Then, round table on youth theatre (ESAD venue).

Afterwards:

Banquet at the ESAD atrium (with the collaboration of the Catering and Tourism School of Murcia “La Flota”). Projection of the documentary about the FESTUM Festival.

18:00 Performance. University Venue (Hall at Teatro Concha Lavella).

21:00 Closing event: Reading of the World Theatre Day Manifesto and closing performance by ESAD or the Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia (Teatro Romea Murcia). FESTUM award-giving ceremony.

At the end of the day, meeting with the audience and live music cafe.

Saturday 28 March

10:00 Group visit to the Roman Theatre in Cartagena.

FESTUM Awards to Youth Theatre

A jury made up of specialists shall assess the most outstanding pieces in the field of youth theatre, granting a series of awards to the participating performances.

Participation of groups

The FESTUM Festival shall bear the accommodation and subsistence expenses of participating groups, up to a maximum of ten people. Up to a maximum of three nights will be borne for national groups, and up to four for international groups.

If the group has more than ten members, the additional members or the institution in charge shall bear the relevant accommodation and subsistence expenses. Nevertheless, the Festival organisation shall make their reservations for accommodation and meals with the rest of the group.

Likewise, the Festival shall bear the technical assistance to the groups (lighting, sound, projection of video).

Participating groups shall bear their travel expenses.

Participating groups shall be responsible for having the visas and travelling documents required (e.g. documents related to customs or travel insurance). The group shall have their own legal personality or be backed by a legal entity in terms of having their respective travelling documents.

The potential backing company and the participating group may not have any professional theatre-based relationship among them.

The selected groups shall enclose a letter informing that their play is royalty free. In the event that the plays require a permit from the Spanish General Society of Authors and Publishers (SGAE) or payment of royalties, both procedures shall be previously borne by the group. Therefore, the

organisation shall not be held accountable for these procedures concerning participating groups.

The organisation reserves the right to make modifications or take non regulated initiatives regarding this call, provided that they contribute to making it more successful owing to common interest reasons.

Meetings with the press, TV channels and radio stations will be promoted.

Assessment criteria for the election of plays

Since artistic plays are being selected, the committee shall weigh in a balanced way the drama-related and stage vision criteria, broken down into different aspects, but bearing in mind that each play has to be considered as a whole. The following aspects shall be assessed:

- Performing quality of the cast
- Artistic quality:
 - Stage direction
 - Staging design
 - Lighting and sound design
 - Costumes and stage set
- Script quality, in the case of an original play.
- Originality of the proposal.
- Suitability of the proposal for the purposes of the Festival.

Due to organisational reasons, performances shall not be longer than 90 minutes.

The selection committee has full powers not to select those groups failing to comply with the submission requirements and not successfully justifying why.

Registration form

Information about the institution:

Name:
Description of the institution:
Address:
Telephone:
E-mail:
Website:
Contact person:
E-mail and telephone for contact person:

Information about the participating group:

1. Participants covered by the Festival:

Full name	ID or Passport number	Please specify: -Actor/actress -Director -Technician -Other roles	Please specify: -Student -Tutor -Other	Gender (M/W)	Age
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					

2. Additional participants in the group:

Full name	ID or Passport number	Please specify: -Actor/actress -Director -Technician -Other roles	Please specify: -Student -Tutor -Other	Gender (M/W)	Age
1					
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					

Information about the performance:

Title:
Author:
Director:
Director's brief CV:
Brief background information about the group:
Cast:
Artistic and technical team:
Duration. Please state if there is a break:
Language:
Brief synopsis:
Introductory text for the Festival advertising booklet:
Two high-resolution pictures (please attach to the form)
Link to the performance trailer or teaser (Youtube, Vimeo):
Link to the complete performance recording (Youtube, Vimeo, WeTransfer, Dropbox):
Please state when and where the performance premiere took place:
Contact technician (name, e-mail, telephone):
Rider. [The groups shall be provided with the technical rider of the respective venues].

Organising entities

Murcia Higher School of Dramatic Art
Theatre Centre at the University of Murcia

Collaborating entities

Regional Ministry of Education and Culture of the Region of Murcia
Regional Ministry of Tourism, Youth and Sports of the Region of Murcia
Teatro Romea of Murcia
Teatro Circo of Murcia
Centro Párraga
Councillorship of Culture of the City Council of Cartagena
City Council of Murcia
International Festival of Theatre, Music and Dance of San Javier
Bankia and Cajamurcia Foundation
Teaching and Resources Centre of the Region of Murcia (CPR)
Murcia School of Catering and Tourism “La Flota”
Coca Cola European Partners Iberia, S.L.U.
Juan Gil Wineries
Cafés Salzillo
Estrella de Levante