



RUBBER CHICKEN THEATRE

Dunblane's Performing Arts Family

Junior Theatre Festival Trip 2022 – Pre-Registration Info & Itinerary

About the Festival

The Junior Theatre Festival (JTF) is organised by Music Theatre International, one of the largest musical theatre rights holders in the world. It is from MTI that we purchase the rights to perform many of our shows, including all of the Broadway Junior productions (eg. Aladdin Jr, Elf Jr, Matilda Jr and Madagascar Jr.).

As part of a Broadway Junior licence, we are invited to attend the Junior Theatre Festival which takes place at the ICC in Birmingham. At the festival, we will perform an excerpt from Madagascar Jr. in front of industry professionals and in competition with other groups from across Europe. Those attending also take part in singing, acting and dancing workshops as well as watching performances from West End stars and upcoming releases of future Junior productions. At the end of the day, group awards are given out for music, acting and ensemble as well as outstanding individual awards. The best performances from adjudication are also given the opportunity to perform on the main stage.

What to Expect

Adjudication

This takes place in one of the ICC's conference rooms. After a warm up, we perform in front of other groups in our 'pod' and then receive feedback from the adjudication panel. Afterwards there is a short group debrief session before returning to the pod to watch other performances. The panel feedback is designed to highlight where the group did well and offer advice on how to make the performance even better.

All Stars Workshop

As part of the adjudication, two performers from each group are selected as All Stars by the panel. They are then given the chance to rehearse a musical number throughout the afternoon which they perform on the main stage at the end of the festival.

Workshops

After lunch, there are three workshops focussing on the three disciplines of musical theatre: singing dancing and acting. The workshops last 45 minutes each and are led by industry professionals (Last year these included the dance captain from the Prince of Egypt and a former director of Matilda).

Awards Ceremony

At the end of the festival, we gather in the main hall to watch some of the outstanding adjudication performances from the morning and hopefully pick up an award or two! There are also some special guests as well as the All Stars performance and the Teacher performance!

Previous Festival Links

2019 MTI's montage – <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8ZCb6KnIPDM>

2021 MTI's montage - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q9fNyREakm0>

2021 RCT's adjudication - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8TWhyaqFVJU>



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Travel / Overnight Accommodation

To help ease tiredness on what is an already very busy day and so that our chickens can perform to their very best, we now travel down the day before and stop at a youth hostel overnight before heading to Birmingham on the Saturday. At the end of the festival, we travel straight back up with arrival time in Dunblane around 2.00am – 3.00am on the Sunday morning. Transport for 2022 is provided by Mackies Coaches and our overnight stop will be at YHA National Forest, Swadlincote which is about a 45-minute drive from the ICC.

Provisional Itinerary

Friday 20th May

07.30 – 07.45	Meet at Dunblane Christian Fellowship
08.00	Leave Dunblane. Journey will incorporate 2 x rest stops en route.
Approx 15.30	Arrive at hostel
16.00 - 18.00	Final rehearsal
18.00	Check in and room allocation
18.30	Dinner
19.15	Short forest walk (weather dependant) / down-time
20.45	Primary age to rooms (Lights out at 21.15) (additional down time for secondary)
21.15	Secondary age to rooms (Lights out at 21.45)

Saturday 21st May – Sunday 22nd May

06.30	Wake up calls: Get ready, pack and strip bedding.
07.00	Breakfast
07.30	Clear rooms and board coach
07.45	Leave hostel
08.30	Arrive at JTF and check in.
09.00 – 19.00	Day at JTF
19.15	Leave JTF. Early first stop to get dinner and a second shorter stop en route.
Approx 2.30am	Arrive in Dunblane.

Pre Trip Rehearsals / Casting

There will be three pre-trip rehearsals on 8th, 15th (both 2pm – 5pm) and 17th May (6.30pm – 9pm) at DCF.

Casting for the adjudication performance may change from the original shows, particularly where more than one performer of a principal part is attending.

Cost

The trip is £130 per person. This can be paid in one go at the time of booking or deferred and paid later.

To defer payment, use the code RCTDEFER at checkout. The fee includes:

- Admission to the festival and lunch,
- JTF t-shirt and wristband,
- Accommodation (on a dinner, bed and breakfast basis),
- Travel and supervision.

Lunch on the journey down and dinner on the return journey is NOT provided.



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FAQs

What age is the trip suitable for?

Anyone who takes part in Madagascar Jr is old enough to attend the festival and we enjoy taking a wide range of ages to it. It is however a busy couple of days and quite full on so we would suggest parents / carers decide themselves if it is suitable for their child. Last year the youngest on the trip was in P4.

Which adults are going?

At present we plan on taking at least five adults. Exactly who will be confirmed nearer the time once they've all checked their diaries, sorted time off etc. After two missed festivals, Pamela is confirmed as going (and we're going to try our absolute hardest to get her there)! All of the adults going are experienced in leading trips.

What happens at the rest stops on the journey down / back?

Those in S1 upwards are given a time to be back at the coach and are left to source refreshments themselves. Those in P6 & P7 are assigned an adult that they must meet up with before leaving the services and those younger than this will have an adult they must always stay with. A head count is performed and double checked before leaving any site.

What food do they get?

An evening meal at the accommodation and breakfast the following morning, menu choices will be provided nearer the time. A packed lunch is provided by the venue at the festival.

Parents / carers will need to provide a packed lunch (or money to purchase lunch) for the journey down and money to purchase dinner for the return journey.

What about medication?

We can hold / administer medication if requested or if old enough, the child can do it themselves.

Will my child be sharing a room?

Children will be in shared dorms of four to six people. Prior to the trip, we will ask if there are any preferences on sharing.

Can my child phone me if they get worried / homesick?

If your child has a phone of their own and brings it with them, it is their responsibility to keep it safe and we would not supervise its use, unless it affected others in the group. If children without a phone wish to speak to their parents, we can arrange this, although we would try to encourage them to do this at a reasonable time. Regular updates are provided to parents / carers via the trip WhatsApp group and through our social media channels.

Can I take my child separately and meet you at the ICC?

As well as the whole trip being part of experience, including the journey and the accommodation, there are security precautions in place at the ICC which means we must travel and arrive as a group.

If you have any other questions, please e-mail pamela@rubberchickentheatre.co.uk