

XII School Theater Festival

Amphitheater of Altomonte

Introduction

The City of Altomonte is continuously involved in the development of cultural programs that will excite and commit the new generation.

Since 1998 the “**School Theater Festival**” offers all types of schools the opportunity to represent and showcase their theatrical works at the end of the school year in the exciting Amphitheater of Altomonte. It is the perfect forum where the public, predominantly youth, change roles between stage and audience in order to compare and exhibit their talent and receive their well earned rewards.

A cultural exchange is achieved based on the comparison of concrete subjects. Interest is stimulated to study in depth diverse themes, to enrich one’s knowledge of different cultures or to simply find the certainty in the connection between integration, tolerance and sharing.

Today’s youth are destined to live their future in a world that is shrinking daily. This is why it is essential that they are given the opportunity to meet, compare and learn in an ideal environment.

Theater, as with all the artistic expressions, is an universal and precious tool able to overcome all language barriers. In a multiethnic society, the language of theater is the best form of expression to increase cooperation, solidarity, integration and freedom of speech.

Students from the European Union countries and from the Mediterranean area are invited to participate and to create in Altomonte a meeting center which will provide an opportunity to exchange school experiences and a cultural space without barriers; a place where the sea is not too vast to cross or the mountains too high to climb.

Every year over 2.000 student actors, accompanied by approximately 5.000 parents, teachers and contemporaries, through the amphitheater in May with enthusiasm to interpret a significant role on the stage and with the secret hope to be protagonists in life.

FESTIVAL REGULATIONS

1. The competition review of the “**School Theater Festival**” has the purpose of promoting the use of a theatrical speech in school activities and emphasizing the importance of the use of dramatization in the educational process.
2. The event is promoted by the City of Altomonte, the Head Office of Public Education for Calabria, the Councillorship of Education of Calabria and the Association Européenne des Enseignants.
3. The competition review is divided as follows;
 - a.) Primary Schools 4-13 years old.
 - b.) Secondary Schools 14-18 years old.Providing for each section a **first prize of 500,00 euro, a second prize of 400,00 euro and a third prize of 300,00 euro** besides plaques, trophies and particular mentions.
4. Any school from Italy, the European Union Countries and the Mediterranean area can participate in the Festival.
5. Theatrical performances and works of any type can be presented, provided that they are developed in a school environment by students, teachers and external collaborators. Each school can participate with more than one performance. Performances are allowed in the Italian language, including dialects, vernacular or mother languages of the European Union countries and the Mediterranean area. A commission will evaluate all of the requests for participation providing a copy of a valid didactic project is promptly submitted. The commission will select 15 works from each section for participation in the Festival. Particular attention will be given for the performances utilizing disabled students. No statement of justification will be given to the projects which are not accepted.
6. Students admitted to the Festival **must stay in Altomonte for 3 days**. It is recommended to stay in the local hotels as they will provide accomodation at affordable convention prices for the schools arriving for this event. Foreign students will receive hospitality for three days from our organization, free of charge, for a maximum of 10 students and 2 teachers.
7. The Festival will take place during the month of May (consult the dates in the home page). The first performance will start at 4 p. m. – the second one at 6,30 p. m. – and the third one at 9 p. m. All students, staying in Altomonte, for three days **must attend** the other school performances. **The jury committee will appreciate and evaluate the punctual and well-mannered presence of this audience**. The jury committee reserves the right to expel any school from the contest due to absence or rudeness during any of the performances. Every evening plaques and certificates will be awarded at the end of the three performances. In the mornings, there will be theatrical laboratories, animated by experts, where attendance is obligatory for all participating students.
8. All the performances will be evaluated by a qualified jury committee; most of which are students from the University of Cosenza in the Department of Music and Theater. The winners of the Festival will be invited to a **gala soirée** where they will receive their award.
9. Any school interested in participating will need to:
 - a.) make a request no later than **February 10**, using the application form found at the end of these regulations,
 - b.) make a payment of 100,00 euro for each performance submitted (which will be returned if the work is not selected) using the current **postal account no. 11310877 payable to: Carlo Danza – via Vomereto – Altomonte (Cs) Italy**,
 - c.) The application form, typewritten copy of the entire performance and a copy of the payment receipt must be mailed to:
**mister Carlo Danza
via Vomereto
87042 Altomonte (Cs) Italy.**
10. Only students from the repetitive school are allowed to perform in the school’s show. If necessary, a couple of adults (teachers or parents from the school), are allowed to perform in characters that cannot be impersonated by students.
11. The performances must last a minimum of 30 minutes and not exceed 90 minutes, including intermissions. Performances not abiding by these time limits will be excluded from the contest. The schools must provide their own scenes, dresses, music, special effects, etc... that are required to stage their performances, including transport, portorage,

- assembly/disassembly of the scenes and equipment.
12. Panels, elements, furniture and the necessary fittings for the painting scenes must not exceed 3 mt. in height and 1,20 mt. in depth. Furniture and the necessary fittings for the painting scenes can be rented at the local furniture makers, antique dealers and second hand dealers.
 13. The organization will provide the Amphitheater of Altomonte, or in case of bad weather the smaller enclosed "Theater Razetti", the dressing rooms, lighting, audio system, cassettes and CD players, technicians, safety personnel and will be responsible for complying with copyright laws.
 14. The schools will be allowed one light technician, one sound technician and two photo/audio/video technicians in the direction and press cabins.
 15. Schools admitted to the Festival will receive the calendar of the performances (hours and days will be picked using a lottery system). Soon after, the schools will receive a conspicuous number of play-bills. No later than March 30, specific play-bills for each school will be printed, reporting the names and roles of the students with their collaborators. It is requested that a photo of the school group be submitted so that it can be published in the brochures.
 16. Schools admitted to the Festival will receive a conspicuous number of "Lottery School Theater" tickets, in accordance with law. The schools are allowed to retain 50% of the ticket sales to subsidize their organization. The remaining 50% of the tickets sales and the unsold tickets must be returned to the Festival authorities before the school's performance.
 17. No request for participation will be considered if the application is incomplete or filed late. Only applications with proof of payment, typewritten copy of the entire performance and completed application forms/didactic project will be considered.
 18. The participation in the competition review is based on the unconditional acceptance of the foregoing regulations by the participants.

THE COORDINATOR
Carlo Danza