

Participants

Invited to apply are children's groups with theatre or dance productions as well as productions of movement theatre from all over the world. Groups will be recommended by the corresponding associations and umbrella organizations of each country. Participation in the World Festival of Children's Theatre will be made possible for 18 to 20 groups. 15 children and two accompanying adults will be invited per participating group and country. The children and youngsters should be between 8 and 14 years of age. In individual cases children may be younger or older than the given age-range. A prerequisite is for the groups to arrive in Lingen/Ems until June 22nd 2018 the latest and to stay for the entire festival.



The Motto "Children Move the World"

Children move the world, they disarrange it, change it, re-design it. When children play for children, they show each other their views of the world – and how they would like to change it. The childlike theatre play turns into a mirror of a possible future. Especially in a time where more and more people, who have left everything behind, who are in search of a new home, and who seek to be here with us; come to us, the common play of theatre may become a form of encounter. At the World Festival of Children's Theatre, children who have experienced the escape from war, and children, who join the festival along with their theatre group, will encounter each other. The theatre initiatives with refugees of the Center of Theatre Education (TPZ Lingen) will be incorporated into the festival. Within the event there will be numerous initiatives and approaches that introduce theatre work with refugees to a broad public. For the stage is the place where our wishes, dreams, and desires are given shape.



Productions

The productions for the theatre stage should be between 30 and 60 minutes long. Pieces which not solely count on the means of language and are hence easier to understand for an international audience are preferred. There will be two performance venues with theatre stages. The productions will be discussed at an accompanying symposium.

International Jury

In November 2017 an international jury, which also includes members of the Standing Committee for Children and Youth of the AITA/IATA, will select the groups which will be invited to participate in the festival. The nominated groups will be informed by December 31st 2017 the latest.

Supplementary Program

In the mornings of the festival days the children take part in theatre and dance workshops which will be run by an international team of pedagogues. For the first time, a children's symposium "See it, move it", during which the child-

ren are concerned with their impressions of the seen performances, will take place.

The festival area will be made into a sensuous, creative "Park of Elements" that invites visitors to join in and linger. A zone of play, relaxation and intercultural encounter will be created. Hence a lively atmosphere during the day, in the evenings, before, during, and after the performances will be achieved. Besides many other activities, there will be the "InitiativeCamp", in which exemplary pedagogical initiatives from all over the world present their work.

Accommodations

The children and youngsters will stay in pairs with host families; in exceptional cases they will stay in a youth hostel. The accompanying adults will be accommodated at guest houses respectively youth hostels.

Expenses of Accommodations and Travel

For the invited groups for the duration of the festival, expenses for room and board as well as insurance and transfer from and to a German airport and Lingen/Ems will be covered. Groups will have to pay for their own travel expenses. In individual, justified cases of need – given that financial means are available – the organizers may contribute to travel expenses. Participation in all activities of the festival will be free of charge.



Practical Research: Symposium and Future Workshop

The symposium accompanies the World Festival of Children's Theatre and is as far as content is concerned closely related to the festival. Its performances will be in the center of the professional debate and, in discourse with the directors, they will be questioned as far as their aesthetics and methodology are concerned. Furthermore there will be the "Future Workshop Theatre Pedagogy Transnational 2030", during which invited experts will call the development of the discipline theatre pedagogy into question. The symposium is hosted by the Institute of Theatre Pedagogy of the University of Applied Sciences Osnabrück, Campus Lingen, in cooperation with the Standing Committee for Children and Youth of the AITA/IATA and the European Theatre House. Responsible for the direction of the symposium is Prof. Dr. Bernd Ruppig.

