

# 2020 Bergen County Teen Arts Festival

Sponsored and Organized by the  
Bergen County Division of Historic and Cultural Affairs

Liaison Information Packet  
Preliminary Registration / Invoice Form

Friday – May 15, 2020  
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Bergen Community College, Paramus, N.J.

October 9, 2019

TO: 2020 Teen Arts Festival Liaisons

FROM: Cynthia Forster, Director

Bergen County Div. of Historic & Cultural Affairs Bergen County Teen Arts Festival

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We are pleased to announce that the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Bergen County Teen Arts Festival will be held on Friday, May 15, 2020 from 8:30 AM until 3:30 PM at Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, N.J. Preparations are well under way and the application process is beginning.

**This document contains your General Information and the Preliminary Registration Form (which also serves as an invoice for your school business office). The Final Application Forms for each of the six arts areas will be sent by email to all School Liaisons and will be posted at: <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/cultural-historic-affairs/teen-arts-program> (or by googling "Bergen County Teen Arts Festival). Final Applications will be mailed to any school that is unable to access them.**

Remember, if just a middle or high school is attending, the fee is \$400. If students from both middle and high schools are attending, the fee is \$800. Of course the \$800 fee means you have double the performance slots and more students will be able to attend the 35+ workshops that are presented each year.

The Preliminary Registration Form should be emailed or mailed back to us as soon as you receive approval from your administration to attend the festival. You do not need to wait for your Purchase Order to be issued to send the Preliminary Registration Form. Please do not forget to order your busses in a timely manner to insure your transportation arrangements for May 15!!!

Please play close attention to the deadlines listed in this packet. These dates have been established to allow for efficient organization and scheduling of our program. The festival will be a more effective celebration of the arts in Bergen County if all schools adhere to the guidelines listed herein.

Our offices are located in the Bergen County Administration Building at:

Bergen County Teen Arts Festival  
Division of Historic & Cultural Affairs  
One Bergen County Plaza – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601-7076  
Office telephone: (201) 336-7276.  
Email: [cforster@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:cforster@co.bergen.nj.us)  
FAX: (201) 336-7262.

Please note the following for 2020:

1. The Bergen County Teen Arts Festival date frequently coincides with the last day of the Advanced Placement Testing. Our date is controlled by the Bergen Community College calendar. This year the Advanced Placement tests on Friday, May 15, 2020 are Microeconomics, Computer Science A, Latin and, unfortunately, Music Theory. Please plan accordingly.
2. Due to the popularity of the festival and the continued increase in requests to perform, some groups last year were asked to perform very early or very late in our day. Large Group Theater performance slots were reduced in time to fit as many groups in as possible. This year, we will be taking steps to give every group adequate and reasonable time slots. Therefore, APPLICATION SUBMISSION DEADLINES WILL BE ADHERED TO MORE STRICTLY. Late applications may not be honored and groups may be turned away.
3. With the cooperation of the weather, outdoor performance sites and workshops will return to the festival in 2020.
4. The online presence of the festival will continue to expand. Again this year our full program will be available as a mobile-friendly website. Students and teachers will be able to access times and locations of critiques and workshops through their web-enabled devices. Certain additional information on the festival may only be accessed online.
5. Small Group Vocal Music and Piano Performance sites will not be combined this year. They will have separate critique sites so more performances will be possible.
6. A new "Spotlight Performance" site will be established in the cafeteria. Groups in Dance, Music, and Theater who are participating in the critique process may volunteer for a second public performance in this environment. Watch for more specific information on this new event at the festival later in the year.
7. Video and Creative Writing entries will continue to be submitted digitally. Continued refinements in the Creative Writing submission process will be made.
8. Allowing all students to attend the workshops that they are interested in continues to be one of our biggest problems. Students frequently are "shut out" of their workshop choices. We will expand the use of entry tickets for many popular workshops. Students who are on line to attend workshops that are typically over-subscribed will be issued tickets by the workshop volunteer. It is hoped that this will prevent students from waiting on line for a workshop only to be denied entry due to space limitations. However we cannot guarantee a place for everyone at all workshops.
9. We will continue to renew and refresh our workshop line-up while retaining favorite workshops from the past several years. Over 15 new and exciting workshops have been suggested by our Planning committees. Please watch for our new workshop line-up early next spring.
10. We will continue to make our critique process as effective as possible. Recorded critiques, amplified critiques and written critiques will be used appropriately at various sites.
11. Upon the recommendation of the Dance Planning Committee, Small Dance groups will now be 7 students or less (instead of 5) and Large Dance groups will be 7 students or more.
12. The very successful Art Show will remain in the Art Gallery in West Hall.

13. Sponsoring teachers should be careful about the number of students participating in Small Group Performance sites. Sending groups with too many participants to these sites decreases the effectiveness of those critiques and creates an uncomfortable situation for all.
14. Each school is required to supply two volunteers to assist at the festival (or pay an "in lieu of" fee). Teachers or parents are acceptable volunteers. As our festival grows, the assistance of volunteers becomes a more important element in the success of our program. Schools are encouraged to send volunteers who are interested in being an active part of the Teen Arts Festival. Volunteers who will not monitor attendance at workshops or assist with student control or assist workshop or critique artists are of limited help. Please inform your volunteers that we need them to be active participants in the festival rather than observers. Several steps will be taken this year to increase communication and supervision of volunteers to make this process more effective.

**Please note - all forms, Preliminary, Final or Information – have once again been created with PDF "Text Fields". You may complete the forms by typing directly into them or printing them out and completing them by hand.**

The entire Teen Arts Festival Application Form Packet is available as a download from the county web site at: <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/cultural-historic-affairs/teen-arts-program> (or by searching "Bergen County Teen Arts Festival"). If you have any questions, please let us know. We look forward to working with you again, and thank you for your continued support.

Cynthia Forster, Director  
Bergen County Division of Historic & Cultural Affairs  
Bergen County Teen Arts Festival

## DEADLINE DATES

Arrange busses for Friday, May 15, 2020.....	As soon as possible
Preliminary Registration Form due.....	November 15, 2019
Voucher for school registration fee (\$400 per building) for us to sign & return.....	November 15, 2019
Final Application Forms due.....	January 17, 2020
Insurance certificate due (from your insurance company).....	February 12, 2020
Registration fees due (\$400 or \$800).....	February 12, 2020
Changes or additions to final applications submitted by January 17.....	March 6, 2020
Volunteer Information due (2 from each school)*.....	April 10, 2020
Creative Writing entries due in our office*.....	April 10, 2020
Video entries due in our office*.....	April 17, 2020

\*If the April dates conflict with your school's Spring Break, it is your responsibility to submit the required materials prior to the deadline date, not afterwards.

Please note that the earlier you send in your final application forms, the better chance you have of getting a preferred time slot for performances. Also, the Creative Writing and Film & Video Final Application forms should be sent in with the rest of the final application forms in order to schedule critique times before the program is sent to the printer. The actual writing or film entries are not needed until the deadline dates indicated above.

If you have any questions, please call (201) 336-7276.

## General Instructions

Enclosed are General Information and your *Preliminary Registration Form & Invoice*.

*Preliminary Registration Form.* Please return to the Teen Arts office by November 15, 2019. This form will advise us that your school intends to participate in the festival and will allow us to determine how many workshops and critiquers will be needed.

*Voucher for payment.* If you are paying the registration fee by purchase order please send a voucher as soon as possible in the amount of \$400 for us to sign and return to your board office for payment by February 12, 2020.

*Insurance Certificates* covering your school/students on the festival date in the amount of one million dollars should be in our office by February 12, 2020. **The Certificate must show the insured as Bergen Community College, 400 Paramus Road, Paramus, N.J. AND also the Bergen County Department of Parks, Division of Historic & Cultural Affairs, One Bergen County Plaza, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor, Hackensack, NJ 07601 as additionally insured.**

*Final Application Forms* that tell us what genres your students will be entering, the amount of art you expect to display, and your arrival and departure times on festival day. Final Application Forms will be emailed to all School Liaisons and will be available on our webpage: <https://www.co.bergen.nj.us/cultural-historic-affairs/teen-arts-program> This information assists in the creation of effective schedules. Every effort is made to schedule performances during the times YOU indicate on these forms. **DUE BY JANUARY 17, 2020.**

*Volunteer names and addresses* are very important for a smooth-running festival, and must reach our office no later than **April 10, 2020**. It is imperative that we receive this information early, as the volunteer schedules have to be determined and a letter sent to each volunteer at their homes several weeks prior to the festival date explaining their duties on festival day. Each attending school is required to supply two (2) volunteers to assist us on the festival day. Please be sure that we get the names and addresses on time.

*Chaperones.* Each attending school will be asked to have at least one chaperone or teacher for every 25 students in attendance at the festival with a minimum of two. This can be teachers, para-professionals, or parents. This number does not include the 2 volunteers that are required to help manage the festival. Names and contact telephone numbers of chaperones will be collected on the day of the festival.

*Creative Writing entries:* Although the actual entries are not due until **April 10, 2020**, we do need the Final Application Form returned to us so that we may schedule your school for a critique time. This single page should list the total number of submitted work. Please forward the Final Application Form to us by the **January 17, 2020** deadline date.

*Video entries:* Again, the actual video entries are not due until **April 17, 2020**, but we do need the Final Application Form returned to us by **January 17, 2020** indicating your school will be submitting entries. This allows us to schedule critique times for you prior to the program going to the printer in March. Please do not list your school if the video entry will not be ready in the seven months from school opening until the deadline date.

THE REGISTRATION FEE ENTITLES EACH PARTICIPATING SCHOOL:

10 Creative Writing Entries	Each with a four-page limitation. Please adhere to the guidelines in the final application.
1 Dance Entry – Large Group	Any type group (over 7 students)
1 Dance Entry – Small Group	Any type Solo/Duo/Small (up to and including 7 students)
2 Film & Video Entries	Any type and length
1 Instrumental Music Entry- Large Group	Jazz Band, Rock Band, Concert Band, Orchestra, String Ensemble over 10 students
1 Instrumental Music Entry - Small Group	Solo/Duo/Small Group up to 10 students – multiple performances permitted but each entry must not exceed 10 minute limit
1 Piano Entry	Solo Piano Performance
1 Vocal Music Entry - Large Group	Vocal Ensemble over 10 students
1 Vocal Music Entry - Small Group	Solo/Duo/Small Ensemble up to 10 students - multiple performances permitted but each entry must not exceed 10 minute limit
1 Theater Entry – Large Group	Large Ensembles including musicals, over 5 students
1 Theater Entry – Small Group	1 Solo/Duo/Small Ensemble up to and including 5 students
10 Visual Art Entries	Must fit on a 6' x 6' panel. Total number includes sculpture (3-D). 3-D works will be placed on tables

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All entries beyond those which are listed above are \$20 per STUDENT or ITEM. For example, an additional choral group of 12 students performing in large vocal music would be an additional \$240. Over 10 submissions in creative writing, the cost would be \$20 per each additional entry. If you have extra art, either 2D or 3D, the fee is \$20 per piece. The above also depends upon space and time being available in order to accept the additional performance or critique entries. Purchase orders or checks for these additional entries must be received by Teen Arts by March 6, 2020 **prior to the program being sent to the printer.**

2020 Bergen County Teen Arts Festival

**PRELIMINARY REGISTRATION FORM &  
INVOICE  
for Registration Fee of \$400.00 per school building.**

**Note: Checks and/or vouchers should be made out to:  
"BERGEN COUNTY TEEN ARTS FESTIVAL"  
PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM BY NOVEMBER 15, 2019.**

**This form may be completed by typing directly into it or printing it out and completing by hand.**

School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

School Phone & Ext. ( ) \_\_\_\_\_ Ext. \_\_\_\_\_

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Liaison Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: ( ) \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

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Principal's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Superintendent's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

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Please return this original form to the Teen Arts office by email or hard copy (addresses below). Also send a voucher for signature for payment in the amount of either \$400 for each school attending the festival. Middle schools and high schools from the same district should be considered as two separate entries. Please be sure to send a copy of the Insurance Certificate covering your school's attendees on the festival day – **Friday May 15, 2020.**

**If your business office needs an invoice, consider this form as such and after completing the above information, make a copy for them, and send the original back to Teen Arts. Mail to:**

Bergen County Teen Arts Festival  
Bergen County Division of Historic & Cultural Affairs  
One Bergen County Plaza – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Hackensack, New Jersey 07601-7076

Or email to: [cforster@co.bergen.nj.us](mailto:cforster@co.bergen.nj.us)