



The aim of the 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada is to host a variety of performances that reflect the cultural diversity of the international amateur theatre community that present a global picture of the high quality of amateur theatre practice.

The theme of the event is “Diversity”

CHAPTER 1: GENERAL RULES

Article 1)

The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada will take place in Saint John, New Brunswick in Canada, during the period of August 26th to September 1st 2019.

Article 2)

In accordance with decisions taken by the June 2018 General Assembly of AIT/IATA asbl, Saint John, Canada was unanimously elected to host the 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival.

Article 3)

The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl Forum and General Assembly will take place in Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada during the festival period.

CHAPTER 2: AIMS

Article 4)

The aim of The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada is to present, through a variety of performances, discussions and workshops, a global picture of the diverse trends in amateur theatre, and to encourage encounters between theatre amateurs.

The theme of the festival is **“Diversity”** and one aim of the organising committee is to ‘Bring the World to Canada’.

In the words of our current Prime Minister, Justin Trudeau,
“Diversity is Canada’s Strength.... Our commitment to diversity and inclusion isn’t about Canadians being nice and polite—though of course we are. In fact, this commitment is a powerful and ambitious approach to making Canada, and the world, a better, and safer, place”

Address by the Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada in London, United Kingdom - November 26, 2015

The participating groups are not bound by this and can choose the performance and the subject themselves. However, priority will be given to those groups who have work that has exemplified this theme.

Article 5)

The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada wants to pay special attention to young adults. Groups can apply with participants of any age, but a minimum age of 19 for all participants, should be taken into account.

In accordance with the ideals of AITA/IATA asbl, it is essential that performances present cultural diversity, through scenic forms and dramatic expressions.

Since the performers and audience will be international, participating groups are advised to either:

- Present predominantly visual performances
- Present stories that are generally well-known canonical works
- Prepare sur-title slides with translations into approved languages. Sur-titles can be in a variety of formats so long as the company has their own laptop to work from and the laptop is compatible with projection equipment provided (specs available upon request)
The participating company should also have a multi-lingual technician who can operate the sur-title system in order for the festival to allow this method of translation.
- Upon application: deliver a 250-word synopsis of the work in English, French, and Spanish for inclusion into a festival brochure.

Article 6)

In accordance with the decision of AITA/IATA asbl, the 2019 AITA/IATA International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada is not competitive, and no prizes or monetary awards are given.

Article 7)

To support the festival theme “**Diversity**” and to promote education and cultural and artistic development, the Festival will organise workshops of a high international standard. These workshops will be free of charge to all the participants of 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada.

The organising committee will define the workshops and appoint the workshop leaders in conjunction with the Joint Committee.

To encourage dialogue, and to generate better understanding, between the international artists and the audience, productions are requested to make themselves available for a talk-back session with the audience. This session will be moderated by an individual chosen by the

organising committee in consultation with the artists. These talk-back sessions will happen either immediately after the performance or possibly the following morning depending on the length of production and overall festival schedule.

Chapter III: Conditions of participation

Article 8)

In order to justify its presentation at 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada, each performance has to be of the highest artistic quality, guaranteed by a National Centre Member of AITA/IATA asbl, if a Member organisation exists in the country of residence of the applicant. The application should be made in accordance with the selection procedures below.

Amateur theatre companies in countries with no AITA/IATA asbl National Centre and/or AITA/IATA asbl Associates, can also be invited by the Organising Committee to take part in the Festival, after consultation with the Joint Committee.

Article 9)

The number of participants at 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada is determined by the Organising Committee. This number will include at least 12 invitations to the National Centre Members of AITA/IATA asbl in conformity with the AITA/IATA asbl rules.

Article 10)

The participation of each country is limited to one amateur group which will present a theatrical performance of its own choice in Saint John, Canada during the Festival.

- Whenever possible, the National Centre Members of AITA/IATA asbl are invited to propose several companies, if appropriate. After examining these proposals, the Joint Committee will have the final decision.
- However, it is imperative to follow these two important points:
 - o the same company may not participate in two consecutive world festivals without the Joint Committee's special permission
 - o All issues will be submitted for consideration to the Joint Committee.

Article 11)

Each participating company will present a complete theatrical performance, from the national or international repertory, experimental or traditional, classic or modern, published or unpublished and not longer than 60 minutes duration.

Exceptions to this last rule will not be accepted.

Article 12)

The Organising Committee will pay for the accommodation costs of the groups participating in the Festival. The number of participants in each group is not limited, but the Organising Committee will only pay for the accommodation and meals of eight (8) people per group, invited for the festival period. The people involved can be actors, a director, technicians or stage management of the presented performance. The number of technicians and or stage management should not exceed three people.

All financial transactions must be settled upon arrival in Saint John, Canada.

Traveling expenses to and from Saint John, Canada will be the responsibility of the participating group.

Article 13)

The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada will offer a variety of equipped theatres for performances. The theatres will vary in size and style and will be assigned at the discretion of the Saint John Organising Committee. Basic technical support will be provided, but companies are advised to keep the technical requirements to a minimum. Participants are encouraged to work within strict parameters surrounding the set-up and tear-down of their productions in order to facilitate the overall festival schedule.

The companies are required to bring any special sets, furniture and properties needed for their performance, since the Organising Committee can provide only regular curtains, general furniture and properties.

We recommend participating groups restrict their set design to a minimum.

Set up time for sets, furniture and props on stage and technical set-up is limited to 90 minutes. Tear-down and dismantling of the stage is limited to 60 minutes after the post-show talk-back session. Specifications for the selected stages will be sent to the participating groups after 1st April 2019 to allow them to have an overview of the sites / locations prior to arrival in Saint John, Canada

Article 14)

Each company is responsible for obtaining, in accordance with the legal requirements for performance in the relevant country, from the relevant agent, written permission or documentation to present their performance at 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada.

This authorisation must reach the Organising Committee by 31st May 2019 at the latest.

Article 15)

For publicity purposes, each company should try to obtain authorisation for the live or recorded radio/television transmissions of either extracts or of the whole of their performance, subject to the same time limits and conditions.

Article 16)

Each company must supply the Organising Committee, within the deadline, with the information and documents requested in Festival questionnaires and circulars. Failure to do so could result in the company losing its right to participate in the Festival.

Article 17)

It is the group's sole responsibility to obtain an appropriate VISA and travel documents for Canada. If any groups need any material from the Organising Committee (i.e. invitation letter), please contact us as soon as possible.

We strongly recommend that all groups obtain appropriate travel insurance, props insurance, health insurance or any other insurance that could be considered appropriate when travelling abroad. Neither the Organising Committee nor AITA/IATA asbl can be held responsible for any losses, damage or properties of the participants or for costs for health care occurring during the participation in the Festival.

Chapter IV: Procedure of enrolment**Article 18)**

In countries with an AITA/IATA asbl Member National Centre, the application to participate in principle is formulated by the Member National Centre of AITA/IATA asbl. They have to supply, at the risk of nullity, the composition of the group selection structure and the description of the selection process which they hold. Theatre groups in non-AITA/IATA asbl Member countries or Associates of AITA/IATA asbl or any other cultural representative organisation of amateur theatre may also present requests for participation in principle. These requests for participation imply acceptance, without reservation, of the rules of the Festival, as well as the commitment to guarantee both a high level of artistic quality and the representation of that country's national amateur theatre.

Article 19)

In Accordance with the article 16, requests from National Centre Members of AITA/IATA asbl and from the appropriate body for participation should be addressed to the Organising Committee:

2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John,
c/o: 112 Princess Street, Saint John, NB, Canada E2L 1K4
Email : festival@iata-sj.ca

Complete dossier: no later than October 31st 2018. A request to participate does not automatically imply acceptance of the application to perform at the Festival.

Confirmation of participation and letter of invitation will be sent to selected participants by December 10th 2018. Updated information is to be found on the AITA/IATA webpage: <http://www.aitaiata.net>

Article 20)

The decision of final selection belongs to the Joint Committee mentioned in Article 25 of these rules.

Article 21)

Applicants requesting participation, in accordance with articles 18 and 19, will have to submit a complete dossier on the proposed companies and performances to the Organising Committee.

This should include:

- 1) A letter of recommendation from a National Centres Member of AITA/IATA asbl, according to article 18, legitimising the choice of the group and the performance, and guaranteeing that they represent amateur theatre in the applicant nation;
- 2) a certificate or letter of reference signed by selection structure members (according to article 19), guaranteeing the high quality of the performance (according to article 5);
- 3) an historical description of the group and its activity;
- 4) the full text of the play or the scenario in the case of a non-text play, in either French, English or in Spanish – all three if possible
- 5) the play synopsis in French, English and Spanish
- 6) the list of actors and their character
- 7) the detailed technical design
- 8) ten different photographs (colour and/or black and white) of the play
- 9) unless there is a strong reason not to do so, a video recording of the entire play, taken in wide shot with a fixed camera. This to be delivered via DVD or via a weblink to YouTube, or Dropbox folder.

Article 22)

No group will be allowed to give a performance within the province of New Brunswick, Canada during the period June 1st to September 30th 2019, without the Organising Committee's written authorisation.

Chapter V: Organisation

Article 23)

The responsibility for the organisation of The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada is entrusted to the 'Saint John Organising Committee' in accordance with decisions made by AITA/IATA asbl Council on June 29th 2018.

Article 24)

A Joint Committee will assume the responsibility for the general concept of The 2019 AITA/IATA asbl International Amateur Theatre Festival, Saint John, Canada and will decide on all important questions submitted either by AITA/IATA asbl or by the Organising Committee.

The Joint Committee is composed of members of AITA/IATA asbl as determined by the AITA/IATA asbl Council and members of the Saint John Organising Committee.

Article 25)

The Organising Committee is headed by a producer with the help of a management team. They will be entitled to appoint various members of the organising committee host companies:

Imperial Theatre: Saint John
The Saint John Theatre Company Inc.
Interaction School of the Performing Arts

They may also call upon other colleagues who have the required skills.

Article 26)

The Organising Committee will decide the date, time and place of the performances according to the requirements of the programme and in consultation with the Joint Committee.

The Organising Committee sets the planning of the Festival activities in consultation with the Joint Committee which are notified to the participants by means of circulars.

Participants must conform to the rules and most importantly to the timetable.

Article 27)

The interpretation of the general rules is the responsibility of the Joint Committee, except for matters of a financial nature which remain the prerogative of the Organising Committee. Points not covered in the above articles will be subject to the Organising Committee's decision. These decisions will be communicated to the participants by circulars.

Article 28)

Each company invited to take part in the Festival (actors, technicians or producers) is duty bound to respect these rules.

Serious infringement or non-application of these rules may, depending on the Organising Committee's decision following consultation with the Joint Committee, entail the immediate withdrawal of the invitation and the cancellation of the official presentation.

Companies that do not respect the above rules will be subject to sanctions decided by the Joint Committee.

Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, 7 September 2018