

**2020 American High School Theatre Festival at the Fringe for Golden Valley High School,
Merced, Ca**

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for supporting GV drama and sharing your wonderful children with the program! Our theatre program has been accepted to the the the American High School Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. It is a time commitment and does require theater experience. In brief, this experience involves an enormous amount of fundraising, and a dedication to rehearsing for a show they will take to the international stage. Therefore participants must audition through an online application and, if accepted, commit to rehearsals between **January and August of 2020**. As well as rehearsals for the production students must commit to **fundraising starting this March and ending in August of 2020 summer**. **The cost is \$4,000 each and includes the following:**

- 1-Free college preparatory credit
- Round-trip airfare from your nearest major airport
- Two nights' accommodations in London
- 10 nights' accommodations in Edinburgh
- One meal per day in London
- Two meals daily as specified in the final itinerary in Edinburgh
- Motorcoach service for group for airport and venue transfers, as well as sightseeing
- Half-day guided tour of London
- London theatre ticket
- One-day London Tube pass
- Transportation from London to Edinburgh
- Half-day guided tour of Edinburgh
- 1 Technical session in official AHSTF Fringe venue
- 4 Performances in an official AHSTF Fringe venue
- AHSTF Ceilidh (evening of Scottish dancing)
- Full-day guided excursion
- Night security
- Administration and accounting services
- On-site escorts throughout the trip
- Technical support throughout the year and during the Fringe
- Rental of venue, including basic lighting, sound, and stage components
- All participation and marketing fees associated with Fringe Festival Society
- Ticket and venue program printing
- Daily city bus passes

FAQ

Who selects the schools to participate in AHSTF?

Applications are sent to **selected** schools. Completed application packets are forwarded to our Board of Advisors, made up of **respected college theatre professionals**. Our Board ranks the applications based on the following criteria: **most recent bodies of work, honors and awards, technical ability, community involvement, philosophies, and letters of recommendation**. Top ranking applicants are invited to represent their communities at the Festival Fringe as members of AHSTF.

How much time do we get to perform?

You will have four performances. Time slots at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe are two hours long. Performances should be no more than to 1-½ hours to ensure enough time to load-in and strike.

Who travels with each group?

A group usually consists of students (performers, backstage and technical crew), the theatre director, and both teacher, parent and alumni chaperones. Participating students will be current freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

What educational components can I expect?

The WorldStrides mission of enriching students' lives through experiential travel is fully realized with AHSTF. From performance to tech rehearsal, to optional theatre workshops, and college fairs, AHSTF offers true hands-on learning. Additionally, FREE high school credit and college preparatory credit is available for students, and professional development points are awarded to directors.

How will my group's travel plans be coordinated?

AHSTF's full-time staff coordinates the program. All travel, touring and performance arrangements are coordinated through our association with WorldStrides. As a member of the WorldStrides family, AHSTF combines theatre education with the industry's best insurance protection policy to provide the highest-quality educational travel experience. WorldStrides' team-based support is evident from the personal account manager we provide for each group, to the staff in London and Edinburgh in the form of guides, bus drivers, tech team crew, and on-site logistical crew.

How does AHSTF address safety?

AHSTF is backed by WorldStrides, the leader in student travel for 50 years. AHSTF provides nighttime security at the group's residences, 24-hour stateside support, and on-site offices in both London and Edinburgh. Your group's safety is our primary concern, offering the peace of mind you should expect. The combined experience of AHSTF and WorldStrides in safely moving large numbers of students across the globe is second to none.

What performances have been done recently?

2017 30 Neo-Futurist Plays From "Too Much Light Makes the Baby Go Blind" (30 Plays in 60 Minutes), _____ Happens., A Picture's Worth Five Dollars, An Actor's Tribute, Alice & the Black Hole Blues, All the King's Women, Almost Maine, Avery Pierson, Deleted, Fiddler on the Roof, For the Record, Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum!, Guys and Dolls Jr., Hamlettes, Medea, Pinkalicious The Musical, Play On!, Prospect High: Brooklyn, Rapunzel! Rapunzel! A Very Hairy Fairy Tale, REELING, Rock of Ages: High School Edition, Room, Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, She Kills Monsters, Somebody Catch My Homework, The Addams Family A New Musical, The America Project, The Amish Project Ensemble Version, The BIRDS, The Cynical Martian, The Marowitz Hamlet, The Sneeze, The Tempest, The Three Musketeers, Volition, War of the Worlds: The Panic Broadcast, Wiley and the Hairy Man

2016 Alice: A Looking Glass Wonderland, The Shakespeare Club, Little Shop of Horrors, Seussical, The Third Wave, Shrek the Musical, Avenue Q School Edition, The Addams Family, Hā'Upu, Legends of the Pacific, In a Room Somewhere, Amazing Maurice & His Educated Rodents, Alan's Awkward Choose Your Own Adventure, Into the Woods, Midsummer Night's Dream, Wiley & Louie, The Ticket, Godspell, Metmorphoses, That Selfie Show, Dark of the Moon, Wild about Wilder, Inside Us: Original Work from Shady Side Academy, The Dining Room, Tom Jones, Holy Day, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Shakespeare On Love, Brother's Grimm Spectaculathon, Around the World in 80 Days, The Terrible False Deception, Begin Again, Almost, Maine, The Chronicles of Narnia: The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, Cosplay's the Thing

PASSPORTS

Each parent/guardian will have to secure a passport for your student on your own as the school can not legally handle those affairs. Passports cost \$80-\$110 (depending on students age) by check or money order and an extra \$35 in cash for Clerk processing fee. The form is called a DS-11.

Passports take 4-6 weeks to process, therefore they must be obtained by July of 2020.

Merced County Clerks office can explain the process of getting your passport in more detail, they are very kind and understanding. You can reach them at (209)385-7627

ARE YOU INTERESTED IN BEING A DRAMA BOOSTER?

Contact us gvcougarcompany@gmail.com