



TROUPE INFORMATION - JTF ATLANTA 2027

Participation in the JTF Troupe is a significant commitment requiring consistent attendance at rehearsals, participation in the festival in Atlanta, and full engagement in all troupe activities.

Performers: Rising 4th–12th grade students (by audition or invitation)

Tech Team: Rising 6th–12th grade students (by invitation or interview)

The DMR Junior Theater Festival (JTF) Troupe is an advanced, select ensemble of students committed to honing their skills in acting, singing, dancing, and technical theatre. Troupe members proudly represent DMR Adventures and Charlottesville, Virginia at the annual Junior Theater Festival. This experience is designed not only to develop strong performers, but also collaborative and confident young artists.

Students will have the opportunity to engage with and be inspired by peers from across the country and around the world, fostering a spirit of excellence, creativity, and shared passion for musical theatre.

This program is designed specifically to prepare students for the three-day Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta. While participation in our pre-professional programs is not required to audition, we strongly encourage students to pursue ongoing training in dance, voice, and acting. Enrollment in a DMR pre-professional program is one way to support continued growth and preparation.

WHAT IS JTF?

The Junior Theater Festival (JTF) is the world's largest and most acclaimed gathering dedicated to celebrating young musical theater performers. This exciting weekend event draws musical theater troupes from across the globe for a packed schedule of performances, workshops, and celebrations.

The core of the festival involves each troupe presenting a fifteen-minute selection from a Broadway Junior show to a panel of expert adjudicators. Beyond the performances, attendees participate in various workshops and have the opportunity to see a New Works Showcase featuring upcoming musical adaptations. JTF culminates in a spectacular grand finale concert, often headlined by prominent Broadway stars.

JTF 2027 will take place January 15–17 in Atlanta, Georgia.

DMR families should plan to **arrive in Atlanta by 5 PM on Thursday, January 14** for our official JTF rehearsal.

The festival concludes late Sunday evening, and most families return home Monday, January 18 (Martin Luther King Jr. Day).



AUDITION/INVITATION

Acceptance into the troupe is available by invitation and audition only. Students interested in auditioning must be between the ages of 8–18 and enrolled in grades 4–12.

EXPECTATIONS FOR TROUPE MEMBERS

Participation in DMR Adventures' troupe requires students to exhibit respect, maturity, and a capacity for positive collaboration with both peers and directors. Troupe members are the representatives of DMR Adventures in all settings (i.e., rehearsals, performances, and public events), therefore participants are expected to model outstanding behavior and personal responsibility.

A full commitment to the rehearsal and performance schedule is essential for both students and their families. While prior experience in dance, acting, or vocals is highly recommended, the most vital qualities are strong enthusiasm, excellent teamwork, a genuine interest in theatre, and a readiness to engage in a focused and fast-paced rehearsal process with an ensemble of students across various age groups.

REVIEW AND DISMISSAL POLICY

Should a student's and/or accompanying guardian's behavior or commitments outside the troupe begin to negatively impact the student's participation, performance, or overall conduct within the group, their acceptance and continued participation in the troupe will be reviewed. The Director reserves the discretion to dismiss a student from the troupe in such circumstances.

CASTING AND REHEARSAL PREPARATION:

Casting for the 15-minute JTF performance piece is limited to registered troupe members and is determined at the discretion of the directing team. Information on audition requirements will be provided during the first meeting on August 16, and auditions will take place after registration, with the current casting date scheduled for August 23.

Casting for our JTF piece is ensemble-based and process-driven. This experience is designed to prioritize the strength and storytelling of the ensemble as a whole. Throughout rehearsals, the directing team evaluates overall participation, including attendance, preparation, collaboration, and the needs of the ensemble.

As a result, casting is ongoing and may evolve over time, and we reserve the right to adjust lines, solos, featured moments, choreography, and staging.

Students who are not consistently present, prepared, or engaged may have featured material reassigned or be adjusted within the ensemble as needed.

ATTENDANCE AND REHEARSAL COMMITMENT POLICY

Consistent attendance and preparation are essential to the success of the JTF Troupe. Each rehearsal builds on the last, and every student plays a critical role in the ensemble's progress.

Registration requires agreement to attend all mandatory rehearsals and events. Given our limited schedule, every rehearsal is essential. Because this is an ensemble-based process, absences impact not only the individual student but the entire group. Students should expect to dedicate approximately 40–50 hours of rehearsal time in preparation for JTF. A tentative rehearsal schedule is available [here](#).

Students are expected to attend every rehearsal. Any absence may impact casting, featured moments, and overall participation in the performance.

Conflict Submission

- All known conflicts must be submitted during or before the casting process in August.
- Conflicts submitted after this deadline will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis and may not be excused.

Unexcused Absences & Illness

- More than one unexcused absence may result in removal from the performance team.
- While we understand that illness is sometimes unavoidable, please note that any absence may affect a student's role, casting, or participation, as rehearsal time is limited and material moves quickly.

Missed Rehearsals

- Due to the pace of the rehearsal process, instructors are not able to re-teach material that was missed.
- Students who miss a rehearsal are responsible for:
 - connecting with fellow cast members
 - reviewing any available rehearsal videos or materials
 - coming prepared to the next rehearsal
- Students should reach out to instructors only with specific questions after completing this preparation.
- **Please note:** Not all portions of rehearsal will be recorded, and materials for every number may not be available.

January Rehearsal Commitment

- The final rehearsal period in January is critical preparation for adjudication.
- Students are expected to attend all rehearsals scheduled in January. Absences during this period may result in removal from portions of the performance or from the troupe.

Outside Activities

- Joining the troupe signifies a primary commitment and takes precedence over other extracurricular activities.
- If a student commits to a new activity or production after submitting their conflict list to our team, any resulting conflicts will be considered unexcused absences.
- If a student participates in another program, it is the family's responsibility to communicate JTF rehearsal dates as conflicts with that program and make decisions accordingly.
- By registering, families acknowledge that the DMR JTF Troupe schedule takes priority over other extracurricular commitments during the rehearsal period.

PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSIBILITIES & FINANCIAL COMMITMENT

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

Parents/guardians play a critical role in supporting the success of this program. By registering, families agree to:

- Ensure students arrive on time and prepared for all rehearsals and events.
- Review and honor the full rehearsal and festival schedule before committing.
- Support attendance expectations and understand that this program takes priority over other extracurricular activities.
- Communicate absences or concerns promptly.
- Monitor and respond to all communications through the BAND app.

All students attending the festival must be accompanied by a parent or guardian chaperone. Students who do not have a parent or guardian attending must arrange for a designated chaperone. DMR staff will not serve as individual chaperones during the festival.

Communication (BAND)

- BAND is a web and mobile-based application used as our primary mode of communication. If cast, at least one parent/guardian per family is required to be active on the platform for essential updates and information.
- Upon registration, families will receive a link to join. Tutorial support is available, and staff are happy to assist if needed.

FINANCIAL COMMITMENT & CANCELLATION POLICY

- The troupe tuition is a non-refundable and non-transferable commitment. Should a student withdraw, all scheduled payments remain due on the agreed-upon dates.
- Travel-related expenses—including conference packages, hotel accommodations, and transportation arranged by DMR, as well as any associated fees—are also non-refundable once committed. Some components may be transferable depending on vendor policies.
- We work to secure group pricing and discounts based on participation numbers. Cancellations may impact these rates for the group; therefore, we are unable to offer refunds for committed travel expenses.
- Families are encouraged to consider travel insurance if additional flexibility is desired.

JTF ATL 2027 Rehearsal Schedule (as of March 16) We have built in extra time in the schedule to accommodate possible weather cancellations.	
Sunday, August 16	Family Meeting - 3-4PM Class/Rehearsal 4PM-6PM
Sunday, August 23	Casting at Studio D in one hour groups. 3-6PM
Sunday, August 31	3-6PM
Sunday, September 6	No rehearsal (Labor Day weekend)
Sunday, September 13	No large group rehearsal. We may have small group rehearsals. 3-6PM at Studio D
Sunday, September 20	3-6PM
Sunday, September 27	3-6PM
Sunday, October 4	3-6PM
Sunday, October 11	No rehearsal (performance DMR 1)
Sunday, October 18	3-6PM
Sunday, October 25	3-6PM Likely not in black box.
Sunday, November 1	No rehearsal Fall Break & possible show
Sunday, November 8	3-6PM
Sunday, November 15	3-6PM
Sunday, November 22	3-6PM
Sunday, November 29	No rehearsal – Thanksgiving
Sunday, December 6	5PM-7:30 PM (unusual time) (DMR Show 3 at 3PM)
Sunday, December 13	2-7 PM – longer day w/dinner last rehearsal of 2026



JTF 2027 ATLANTA INFORMATION SHEET
 Jan 15-17, 2027 | Atlanta, Georgia



Sunday, January 3	No rehearsal
Monday, January 4	Daytime rehearsal possible if students are not in school 5:00-7:30 PM
Tuesday, January 5	5:00-7:30 PM
Wednesday, January 6	5:00-7:30 PM
Thursday, January 7	5:00-7:30 PM
Friday, January 8	OFF
Saturday, January 9	10AM-3 PM
Sunday, January 10	1:30PM-6:00 PM
Monday, January 11	5:30-8:30 PM
Tuesday, January 12	5:30-8:30 PM
Wednesday, January 13	OFF (please rest)
Thursday, January 14	Arrive in Atlanta by 5 PM Rehearsal in ATL
Friday, January 15	Rehearsal and Kickoff!
Saturday, January 16	JTF in Atlanta continues
Sunday, January 17	JTF in Atlanta last day
Monday, January 18	Travel back to Charlottesville

PROGRAM COSTS

Tuition Pricing for Performance and Tech Students:	
Performer Tuition- \$465	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tuition for JTF training program, including over 30 hours of professional training/performance preparation ● Payment plans are available
Tech Tuition \$200	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Tuition for JTF training program, including approx. 8-10 hours of technical theatre training for four select students ● Payment plans are available
Conference Package Pricing for Performance and Tech Students, Chaperones, and all other attendees traveling with DMR Adventures.	
*JTF Conference Costs \$675 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Troupe members ● Tech students ● Anyone attending the festival 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Registration for JTF Conference in Atlanta <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Event wristband ○ JTF Pod T-shirt ○ All program performances ○ Group classes and workshops with professional artists ○ Adjudication/feedback from professional artists ● Three meals (usually one lunch and 2 dinners) ● Grab and go breakfast on Saturday and Sunday ● DMR Troupe T-Shirt <p>*Please note that no one may enter the adjudication room or other events without a conference package/wristband. Wristbands may not be exchanged.</p>
Other costs (<u>not</u> included above): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● DMR jacket - approx \$55-60 ● Performance pants (often black pants) ● Performance shoes (often black jazz shoes) ● Transportation (see below) ● Hotel/Housing and some meals 	

Transportation - Families will be responsible for their own transportation. Please note, the airport is not close to the event location, so if you fly, you will need to arrange transportation from the airport.

FUNDRAISING/SPONSORSHIP

Group fundraising is currently not required, however DMR may have some optional fundraisers to help with group fees and scholarships. We are actively seeking sponsors for this program.



VOLUNTEERING

While parent involvement is not mandatory, it is strongly encouraged and greatly appreciated. It is valuable and vital to the success of the showcase/conference and trip.

We are looking for parents to support in the following areas. You will not be expected to manage these alone, as we will put teams together as needed:

- Sponsorship
- Transportation
- Meals
- Other details/gear (e.g., t-shirts, wristbands, bags)

Finally, please keep in mind that musical theater is a dynamic process. Things may not always proceed exactly as planned, and changes to the schedule and details are likely to occur throughout rehearsals. We commit to providing you with as much advance notice as possible for any changes that arise. If you have any questions or concerns at any point, please do not hesitate to contact me or our staff for assistance.

Sincerely,
Melissa Charles, Producing Artistic Director

Please note our office email address: office@dmradventures.com
434.227.4710

Deadlines at a glance:

JTF Troupe Studio Fee/Tuition Paid Via Active	Deposit due upon registration. Payment plans available. Sibling discounts available.	\$465/cast \$200/tech
JTF Conference Registration	Deposit due upon registration. Payment plans available.	\$675
Hotel Payment (you are not required to stay with group - we will not know if we won the hotel lottery until late August)	You will be required to fill out a hotel form in the summer to help us with hotel arrangements. DMR will only collect hotel payments if the hotel requires the reservation to be paid through a single group payment.	Budget for \$250-\$300/night



DMR JTF ATLANTA 2027 – Registration Commitment Checklist

Before registering for the DMR JTF Troupe, please review and acknowledge the following expectations.

Program Commitment

I understand that participation in the DMR JTF Troupe is a **significant commitment** requiring attendance at rehearsals, participation in the Junior Theater Festival in Atlanta, and full engagement in troupe activities.

Rehearsal Attendance

- I have reviewed the **tentative rehearsal schedule** and understand that students are expected to attend rehearsals consistently throughout the rehearsal period.
 - I understand that unexcused absences may result in **reassignment of lines, solos, choreography, or removal from portions of the performance.**
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January Rehearsal Week

- I understand that the **final rehearsal period in January is critical preparation for the festival** and that students are expected to attend all rehearsals scheduled that week.
 - I understand that absences during the January rehearsal period may result in **removal from portions of the performance or from the troupe if preparation is impacted.**
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Outside Activities

- I understand that once rehearsal conflicts have been submitted, **JTF takes priority over other extracurricular activities.**
 - I understand that if my child commits to another activity after submitting conflicts, those conflicts may be considered **unexcused absences.**
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Communication

I understand that **BAND is the primary communication platform** for the troupe and that at least one parent/guardian must remain active on BAND for important updates.

Festival Participation

I understand that students are expected to **fully participate in the Junior Theater Festival**, including rehearsals, adjudication, workshops, and troupe activities.

I understand that students may **not leave the festival early without prior approval** from the directing team.

Festival Travel

I understand that families are responsible for **arranging transportation to and from Atlanta**.

I understand that the troupe plans to **arrive in Atlanta by 5 PM on Thursday, January 14** and that festival activities conclude Sunday evening.

Financial Commitment

I understand that **tuition and conference fees are non-refundable and non-transferable**.

I understand that if a student withdraws after committing to the troupe, **scheduled payments must still be completed**.

Casting Flexibility

I understand that **casting may evolve throughout the rehearsal process** and that the directing team may adjust featured moments, solos, lines, choreography, or staging based on attendance, preparation, and the needs of the ensemble.



Final Acknowledgment

I confirm that I have reviewed the **JTF information packet, rehearsal schedule, and program expectations**, and I agree to the commitments outlined above.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Student Name: _____

Date: _____