Georgia Thespian Conference 2023

Dear Parents and Students,

Georgia Thespian Conference is a statewide festival in which the students get to participate in a variety of workshops led by professionals in the field. They also get to meet theatre students from all over the state and attend several performances produced by Georgia high schools . It is a tremendous opportunity for our students. Below you will find information about the conference as well as the rules and requirements for the trip. **Please read through this entire document.**

**The REGISTRATION FORM and NON-REFUNDABLE DEPOSIT is due back to Mrs. Prost by September 22nd. This is a HARD DEADLINE. Registration will not be accepted without both the form, conference agreement form and the payment.**

Date: February 1-3, 2024

Location: Columbus State University

Website: <https://gathespians.org/thescon/>

There is a lot of great, detailed information on this site about everything in this handout. They have updated the website and it is very

informative and user friendly. Please reach out with any questions.

**IMPORTANT:** You will have to submit the **Conference Agreement Form**  You will access the website <https://register.gathespians.org/agreement-form/> for this form. This must be uploaded for your registration to be complete. The form will be available starting Sept 10th

Attendees: Students must be an inducted, registered Thespian in good standing to attend

conference.

Transportation: We will use a charter bus to transport our students to the conference. We will leave from school on Thursday and return Saturday night. Parents are responsible for picking up their students from the school Saturday night or the students may drive themselves home. If students are taking other students home, parents must provide written permission.

Costs: $350 per student

This price includes registration, two nights at the Springhill Suites Marriott, Columbus, four meals(Thursday dinner, Friday lunch, Friday dinner and Saturday lunch), conference t-shirt, all workshops, performances, and Thescon social events.

The students may choose to purchase spirit wear before the Conference. This will be an additional expense and it will not be required. Students must also bring money for lunch on the way to Thescon on Thursday.

**We have to register early for the conference and the registration is non-refundable. Therefore we need a non-refundable deposit of $200.00 by September 22nd in order to hold a spot. The balance of $150.00 will be due by January 12th.**

**If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Mrs. Prost at** [prostd@fultonschools.org](mailto:prostd@fultonschools.org)

**Conference Activities**

**Below is a small description of some of the events/opportunities taking place at Thescon. The following items are described in more detail (guidelines and requirements) on the Georgia Thespian Website:** <https://gathespians.org/thescon/>.  **Every event listed below earns us points toward maintaining our status as an honor troupe.**

**Awards:** You may nominate people in several areas including Outstanding Student Achievement, Outstanding Student Technical Achievement, Outstanding Theatre Educator and Outstanding Administrator’s award. **Deadline for nomination is December 6th.**

**Film Festival** Students can showcase their student-produced films in a festival style with talk back by

the student filmmakers. Each school can submit up to 3 films. Films are 3-10 minutes.

Format and other information available on-line. **Entry (film) must be received by December 6th**

**Freestyle:** If you have a performance piece that runs between 10 and 20 minutes and requires little (if any) technical support, then consider submitting it for the annual Freestyle Festival. This is the perfect showcase for student written works, scene studies, short plays, improv troupes, mime performances, musical theatre dance numbers, puppet shows, and almost anything else that would work well in an intimate setting. **Works must be submitted by January 6th.**

**Improv!**  Improv! is an educational program that combines Thespians from schools who have all been working on playing specific improvisation games with Thespians from other schools who have been working on playing the same games. A strong improv student will embrace the opportunity to work with new identities on familiar games as students get to work with peers they are meeting for the first time. A guide is available on the website. Teams are made up of 5 students and students must work on three short form

games before Thescon.  **This event will be first come/first serve based on registration sign up.**

**Thespys :**  Each troupe is allowed six total entries in the **Performance areas** of Solo Musical, Duet Musical, Group Musical, Solo Acting and Duet Acting There are also several **technical theatre** categories which can have unlimited entries. This is a great opportunity for you to gain feedback on your performance/portfolio from a professional adjudicator. All entries will be submitted digitally to be evaluated before Thescon. Showcase performances will be selected from Superior entries and perform live at Thescon.  **All IE’s must be registered by December 6th. Video submissions due by January 12th.** **If needed, we will have auditions for the six spots in November.**

**Playworks:** This program is an opportunity for Georgia Thespians to see their original scripts

workshopped with professionals. Plays can be about any subject but should have a running time of up to 10 minutes (approximately ten typed pages). **Scripts must be submitted by December 6th. There is also a MusicalWorks category.**

**Scholarships:** Each year Georgia Thespians offers $24,500 in college scholarships to twelve senior

**College Auditions** Thespians (technical, performance and theatre educator).  Juniors and Seniors also have an opportunity at conference to audition for colleges and universities from across the nation. **Deadline for registration and submission is December 6th. An additional fee is required. For this event, students register themselves.**

**Tech Challenge:** Schools can send a four person team in the Tech Challenge. The team will compete in knot tying, light hang/focus, costume quick change, drop fold, props shift, cable coil relay and legging a platform. **This event will hold auditions if more than four apply.**

**Design Challenge** Georgia’s Team Design Challenge is an opportunity for our student designers to work together in a collaborative team to develop a design concept for a play which they will use to create individually one of the design components (scenic, costume, makeup, and properties). Students then create models/examples of their work to communicate their designs.  A design prompt will be released at the designated date and students will have until the deadline to complete the work. **Deadline for entry form is December 6th. prompt announced December 7th.**

**Quiz Bowl** Quiz Bowl is an event in which two teams compete in a high-stakes game of theatre smarts!  Teams answer questions in rapid recall from all areas of theatre knowledge, including history, performance, design and more. Those who move on to the championship will have the opportunity to compete during ThesCon with an entertaining game show host and live audience!

* **TEAM:**Each troupe can register ONE TEAM to compete
* **PLAYERS:** One team is comprised of FOUR PLAYERS and two alternate players
* **COACH:** Team coach must be troupe director or an adult assigned/approved by director
* **REGISTRATION:** Submit your entry fee and application by the registration deadline **December 6th.**
* Preliminary games will be held **IN PERSON at LeadCon** 2 (Houston County High School) on January 6th.
* The top four teams will move on to the Quiz Bowl Championship, which will be held in front of a LIVE AUDIENCE during ThesCon.
* Games will consist of a series of questions, organized around the following topics:
  + - Theatre History
    - Technical and Design
    - Musical Theatre
    - World Theatre Traditions
    - Wild Card Questions
    - Bonus Questions

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Registration Form

***Registration Form, Conference Agreement Form and Deposit of $200 is due to Mrs. Prost by September 22nd***

***There are 3 steps to register and secure your spot for Thescon***

***\*This document is also on Thespian Team (so all links work)***

* 1. **Go to** https://register.gathespians.org/agreement-form/**.**

**Follow all directions to fill out and submit the conference agreement form. This form will be available on Sept. 10th.**

* 1. **Fill out registration form** <https://forms.office.com/r/HHz9LBP1ys>

**or**

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* 1. **Pay the deposit of $200 (NON REFUNDABLE) or full payment of $350. You can send a check or cash (JCHS Drama Boosters) to Mrs. Prost, or you can pay by Venmo, link below.**

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**YOUR APPLICATION IS NOT COMPLETE UNTIL ALL THREE ITEMS ARE COMPLETE.**

**SEPTEMBER 22nd IS FINAL DEADLINE**