Bard Youth Fest 2022
Teen & Young Adult Troupes

(For information on troupes based in Elementary & Middle Schools, please click here.)

Join Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival in a new program that celebrates young people making Shakespeare their own! Alongside troupes from local schools and communities, participants will embark on a creative journey that culminates with a mini-Festival, where each troupe will share their unique Shakespeare pieces.

A special note for 2021/2022:
As we continue to navigate the ways schools and communities must respond to the Coronavirus pandemic, Bard Youth Fest will adapt as needed to provide online experiences when in-person collaboration isn’t possible. Bard Youth Fest is all about exploration, discovery, adaptation, and invention, so it is well-suited to this uncertain time.

Who is this for?
- Bard Youth Fest is for school-aged youth (K-grade 12) and young adults (18-25) from across BC. Troupes with participants ages 13-25 will participate in the Teen/Young Adult track.
- A troupe is a group of anywhere from 3 to 25 youth. Troupes may be based in schools or can be formed of individuals.
- We welcome participants of all ages and abilities. No experience necessary!

Supporting the Troupe
Each troupe will need a Troupe Champion, who will act as liaison between troupe members and families, school administration, Bard Coaches, and Bard Education staff.

For troupes based in high schools, a teacher or other staff member will be the Troupe Champion. School-based Troupe Champions will also need to attend the Dress Rehearsal and mini-Festival in June and help solve student transportation to these events hosted by Bard.

For troupes outside of schools, a participant can be Troupe Champion with support from Bard Education staff. Youth Troupe Champions will collaborate with Bard staff and Bard Coaches to create a rehearsal schedule.
**What will we do?**

Each troupe will work with one or two **Bard Coaches**, professional theatre artists who will provide advice, support, and coaching to their troupe. All Bard Coaches are experienced Teaching Artists with Bard Education.

**Troupes will work with their Bard Coaches to create their own Shakespeare piece.** This will be a participant-led journey that is driven by troupe members’ skills, interests, and ideas. In June, all troupes will share their presentations and celebrate each other’s creativity at a mini-Festival hosted by Bard.

**When will it happen?**

Rehearsals will be held outside school hours. Each troupe will work to a different schedule that best suits their troupe members’ needs.

Below is a timeline for the 2021/2022 Bard Youth Fest:

- **Until January 15th at 5 pm:** Apply online.
- **February 18, 2022:** Professional Development Day kickoff for Troupe Champions and Bard Coaches (optional for Troupe Champions of community-based troupes, required for those who are teachers running Bard Youth Fest at their schools).
- **Early April – Mid-June:** Rehearse with your Bard Coaches over several weeks! Troupe Champions will liaise with their troupe members and families, Bard Coaches, and Bard Education staff to create a rehearsal schedule that suits your troupe’s needs.
- **Mid-June:** Attend a Dress Rehearsal to put the finishing touches on your piece. Date, time, and location TBD.
- **June 20th, 2022:** (Tentative date) All troupes gather for the mini-Festival! Share your piece and celebrate each other’s work in this showcase. Exact, time, and location TBD.

**Where will it happen?**

School-based troupes will rehearse at their schools. Troupes not affiliated with a school will be responsible for finding a place to rehearse, such as a classroom or community space. Bard Education may be able to host rehearsals at the BMO Theatre Centre (162 West 1st Avenue, Vancouver), subject to availability.

**What does it cost?**

$3,000** per troupe** **FREE**, thanks to the generosity of the Pamela and David Richardson Family Foundation!

Apply [online](#) until January 15th at 5 pm!