



Junior Bard Youth Fest 2024

For students in grades K - 8

What's Junior Bard Youth Fest in 2024?

- A teaching artist from Bard will introduce your students to Shakespeare's language, characters, and stories
- With the help of this Bard Coach, each participating troupe will **prepare a brief section of the play**, with opportunities for the entire class to take part
- **Troupes will share their work with one another** in the Bard Youth Fest finale at the end of May
- Participants will be **given complimentary tickets** to attend Bard's 2024 Festival production of *Twelfth Night* in June.

What will Bard provide?

- A **Bard Coach**: a [professional teaching artist](#) to facilitate rehearsals and guide your Troupe through regular sessions between February and May
- **Resources**: such as text, abridged scripts, games, and acting exercises
- **A venue for the Junior Bard Youth Fest showcase**: at the BMO Theatre Centre in Vancouver's Olympic Village
- **Complimentary tickets**: to see a production at Bard on the Beach Shakespeare Festival in June.

Supporting the Troupe:

Your troupe will need a **Troupe Champion**, an adult such as a teacher or other staff member, who will be responsible for:

- Communications between troupe members and families, school administration, Bard Coaches, and Bard Education staff
- Creating the rehearsal schedule in collaboration with the Bard Coach and the Bard Education staff
- Troupe supervision during all Bard Youth Fest activities
- Coordinating transportation for participants to the finale events (the stage rehearsal and showcase) and the professional Festival performance

Timeline:

Now Until December 20 at 5 PM: Sign up!

February – late-May: Rehearse with your Bard Coaches over approximately 10 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.

Thursday, May 30: Attend a stage/dress rehearsal at the [BMO Theatre Centre](#). Exact times TBD.

Friday, May 31: All troupes gather for the finale! They will share their piece and celebrate each other's work in a showcase at [BMO Theatre Centre](#) on Newmont Stage. Exact times TBD.

June: The Troupe attends a performance at our Festival!

Where will it happen?

- **Rehearsals:** 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.
- **Stage rehearsal & Finale:** on the Newmont Stage at the BMO Theatre Centre in Vancouver's Olympic Village.
- **Trip to see Bard's Festival production:** the BMO Mainstage at our Festival site at Señákw/Vanier Park in Vancouver.

What does it cost?

~~\$3,000 per troupe~~ **FREE**, thanks to the generosity of the Pamela and David Richardson Family Foundation! Troupes will need to find funding to cover any transportation to the stage rehearsal, finale, and Festival production.

About Scripts & Resources

Our Bard Education team have many interactive, inquiry-based resources to offer you and your troupe. These can be used to support the Troupe's exploration of Shakespeare and enhance your own teaching practice! Resources include theatre games with a focus on expression and language, and "Shakespeare Shorts", or abridged versions of popular plays.

*Bard Youth Fest is made possible thanks to the ingenuity and generosity of the
Pamela and David Richardson Family Foundation*