



Aberdeen International Youth Festival

Aberdeen International Youth Festival is the highlight of Aberdeen's cultural calendar and the major summer arts event in North East Scotland.

Celebrating the best youth talent from all over the world, the Festival brings Aberdeen to life with dazzling entertainment, music, theatre and dance.

With events taking place throughout the North East there is something for everyone, from orchestral concerts to steel drums, song recitals and massed choirs to traditional music, ballet to African dance and drumming, as well as critically acclaimed opera performances and special events for children.

“One of the cultural highlights of the year”
Deputy First Minister, Scottish Executive

“Aberdeen is host to the one of the world’s biggest and probably the most prestigious festival for young performers and artists”
Chinese Ministry of Culture

“The leading festival for youth arts in the world”
High Commission of Canada

“A multi-cultural joyous event, bursting with energy and creative vitality, the Youth Festival creates a unique atmosphere in the city”
Press & Journal



Important information for applicants

Groups accepted to the Aberdeen International Youth Festival will be scheduled into performances in the City (including venues such as the Music Hall, His Majesty's Theatre, The Sanctuary – Queen's Cross Church, Beach Ballroom, Aberdeen Arts Centre and The Lemon Tree. Performances will also be scheduled in smaller venues in towns and villages across North East Scotland.

Groups are requested to bring repertoires suitable for a 45 and/or 90 minute performance, and also shorter pieces of 5 – 10 minutes which can be performed in Gala shows and in performances shared with other groups. The Festival's Production Department run every event and will work with groups to decide on repertoire for shows. In some cases groups will be asked to work collaboratively together and with the Festival Producers to create short pieces of new work which will be performed at the Gala performances.

If appropriate, groups will be scheduled to take part in outdoor performances in Aberdeen City Centre during the "Festival in the City Event" If you have any questions, please contact the festival office by email info@aiyf.org or telephone + 44 (0) 1224 213800

Opportunities and arrangements

The ethos of the Aberdeen International Youth Festival is firmly based on the exchange of culture and experience. As such we encourage groups, wherever possible, to interact, collaborate artistically and socialise. For example:

- On free evenings Festival participants are invited to attend other Festival performances, in Aberdeen, free of charge.
- Throughout the Festival period, we arrange workshop and collaboration sessions between companies, which can often lead to performance opportunities.
- Every night groups are invited to socialise and present informal cabarets to each other.

For a nominal daily individual participant fee (£36 approx) The Festival organises the following for each group:

1. Full board (3 meals a day) and accommodation at the University of Aberdeen (single rooms with shared bathrooms).
2. All transfers to performances and rehearsals, in Aberdeen and other towns and venues in Scotland during the Festival period.
3. All publicity.
4. The Festival assigns each group its own courier to accompany the group leaders and be the point of contact with the Festival organisation at large.
5. Professional production/technical crew is also provided for performances.

Conditions for applicants- VERY IMPORTANT please read carefully-

- ◆ Applicant groups must be of **amateur status** i.e. not in receipt of professional fees.
- ◆ Groups applying must be made up of young people **not over the age of 26 years**; although it is understood that managers, directors and chaperones will be older.
- ◆ There is no restriction on numbers within groups, however larger groups (such as dance groups) with more than 20 performers may be asked to perform as small ensembles in the smaller venues.
- ◆ All groups are expected to arrange and cover the cost of their travel to Aberdeen and return.
- ◆ Aberdeen International Youth Festival negotiates a subsidised rate for campus accommodation during the festival. The daily rate for accommodation, food (3 meals per day) and festival travel will be approximately £36.00 including all taxes. This rate will be confirmed each year, upon confirmation and acceptance of the application.

Please retain this page for your information

Aberdeen International Youth Festival Application Form

Please complete the form below and return it complete with all supporting material (detailed on page 4) to:

Stewart Aitken, Artistic Director
Aberdeen International Youth Festival,
Custom House, 35 Regent Quay, Aberdeen, AB11 5BE, Scotland U.K.

Group Name:

Description of group:

.....

.....

Name of Organiser:

Address:

.....

.....

Tel No:

Fax No:

Email:

Web address:

Total Number in Group:

Number of Performers (under 26 years): Number of Accompanying Staff:

Proposed arrival date and length of stay:

We are applying for Aberdeen International Youth Festival in the year (please tick

2011 (27 July – 6 August)

In order to assess your application, we require the supporting material detailed below. Your application cannot be forwarded to the festival committee without this. Please confirm the following by ticking the relevant boxes

I have enclosed:

A recent recording of a performance on: VHS video tape / DVD / CD

Full information about the group (i.e. repertoire details, press reviews, previous tours, short history of the group, past programmes, letters of support, awards etc.)

At least 5 high resolution colour photographs of your group performing - preferably in electronic format (i.e. saved on data CD)

If accepted to take part in the Aberdeen International Youth Festival:

I accept on behalf of the group that all photograph and publicity materials forwarded will be used to promote Aberdeen International Youth Festival in leaflets and brochures produced by the Festival, in advertisements, in the press, on the world wide web and in the media.

I confirm that the group will allow television, film/video and radio networks to televise, film/video and interview at concerts, rehearsals, performances and other various activities whilst at the Aberdeen International Youth Festival.

Having been accepted by the Aberdeen International Youth Festival, we will undertake to arrange and cover the cost of their travel from their country of origin to Aberdeen and return.

We can meet the reduced rate negotiated by the Festival for full board and lodging, transport and VAT which will be approx £35 per person per day- this will be confirmed each year.

We agree to pay a 20% deposit of the total accommodation charge to the festival by the end of April in the year of the festival in order to secure the relevant number of rooms. The balance of the charges is payable on or before 16 July that year.

I hereby agree to abide by the conditions listed above

Signature:

Date:

On behalf of: **(Name of Group)**

The Festival Committee assesses all applications at regular intervals during the year. Groups are accepted on a basis of quality of performance and suitability of programme. The Festival is looking for a high level of performance due to the international stature of the Festival. If accepted, a formal letter of invitation and contract will be forwarded.

Please return pages 3 and 4 complete with all supporting material to the address above not later than the 28/29 February in the year of the festival you are applying for.