

MEDWAY STAGE FESTIVAL 2020

Dear Teacher/ Competitor

We invite you to submit entries for the 2020 Medway Stage Festival to be held at the Brook Theatre, Old Town Hall, The Brook, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4SE over the three weekends of 26th April, 2nd/3rd May 2020 and 9th/10th May 2020. We are pleased to be hosting once again one of the heats for the IDTA "Miss Dance of Great Britain 2020" on Saturday 2nd May 2020 (tbc). (NB – as per current IDTA rules, entry into this heat is open to female dancers only who will be 16 years of age & over by 31st May 2020.)

Body of Persons Approval (BOPA)

The National Network for Child Employment & Entertainment, (NNCEE) currently states that Festivals are classed as performances and not as educational activities, and therefore Festivals need to be covered by a BOPA. If the children taking part in the Festival have performed for more than 3 days in the last 6 months, they must be covered by a BOPA or have an individual licence in order to perform. If this does not apply, the dance school will still need to apply for an exemption form for that particular student.

A dance school can choose whether they want to be covered by the festival BOPA or if they wish to apply for individual licences. If individual licences are applied for, a copy of the issued licence must be with you at all times for inspection. If, on inspection, dance schools are found to be taking part without one of the above, regretfully they will not be permitted to perform and they will be asked to leave the premises, and no refund of entry fees will be made.

The BOPA number granted by Medway Council for Medway Stage Festival is BOPA0051.

We are awaiting advice from Medway Council as to how they will require the information from dance schools to be submitted to them for 2020. Once we have this information it will be posted on our website and/or e-mailed to Teachers. Please ensure you provide us with an e-mail address on your entry form so we can contact you if necessary.

Entry Forms are attached and should be returned to the address below with a cheque to cover your entry fees made out to "Medway Stage Festival". Photocopies are acceptable if more entry forms are required. (If you are a 'Private Entry' please ensure you enter this into the space for Dance School on the Entry Form.) **Please also include on your entry form the names, age and DOB of all those performing in Groups/Troupes who are not already entered for other dances.**

Teachers please note that we can only allow free entry to 2 teachers from each school on any one day. Can you please provide us with a list of all Teachers who might be attending the Festival over the three weekends and we would appreciate this being returned with your entries. Anyone whose name is not provided to us in advance may be asked to pay for their admission to the Festival.

If you would like to take an advert in our Official Programme please contact me for further details and prices. Please note that advertisement copy for inclusion in the Programme will be required at least 4 weeks prior to the first day of the festival.

The last day for the receipt of your Festival entries is 8th February 2020.

Please note that due to the anticipated number of entries and restricted performance times, entries will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, and late entries will not be accepted if the event is likely to be over-subscribed.

Best Wishes

Chris Hill

Chris Hill
Medway Stage Festival

NOTE: IF YOU WISH TO BE REMOVED FROM OUR MAILING LIST PLEASE E-MAIL YOUR REQUEST TO 'chrissie.hill218@gmail.com'

