**CALL FOR APPLICATION**

**Festival of International Student Theatre – FIST**

BREATH OF LIFE

WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU FOUGHT FOR SOMETHING?

It is with great pleasure that we inform you that **applications are now open** to take part in this year’s 16th edition of the **FIST Festival**! The Festival shall be held from **May 21 to May 25, 2021**, however, this year in a somewhat altered, hybrid form.

We invite you to share your battle with us, apply and join us in creating a memorable and significant experience at the 16th FIST Festival.

The deadline for applications is **March 1st, 2021.**

**ABOUT US**

The **Festival of International Student Theater - FIST** was established in 2005 at the initiative of the students of the Department- management and production of theatre, radio and culture at the [**Faculty of Dramatic Arts**](https://fdu.bg.ac.rs/en/departments/management-and-production-department) **in Belgrade.**

The Management students have successfully organized the Festival for 15 years as part of their project curriculum, making it an integral part of their main course – Theatre Production.

The FIST Festival is a platform which connects the students of performing arts, during which they exchange knowledge, skills and experience. This cooperation inspires innovation and courage to experiment, as well as to introduce new theatrical practices.

The Festival’s vision is to encourage young theater professionals to initiate and create innovative programs via networking and intercultural cooperation, which differ from the dominant theatrical models, with the objective to contribute to their further development.

 **FIST 16**

The 16th edition of the **FIST Festival** shall be held **from May 21 to May 25, 2021** in an altered, hybrid form.

During 2020 the world we are living in has significantly changed. The pandemic significantly impacted our lives but in special way cultural events, and as such performing arts.

The main Festival event will be the place where international guest plays will be presented within FIST’s online platform as part of the competition program. FDA productions along with all other side programs will be held in physical environment but also showcased on the same platform and accessible to international audience.

International theater community, that we feel very much a part of, had to adapt to newly risen circumstances. We feel it is our obligation to continue to fight to allow theater to find way to its public. There is no doubt that a live presentation at the Festival would look different for all participants as well as the public and we are aware that an online event does not give the same effects. However, we need to be responsible, therefore, in the given circumstances’ theatre needs to fight back and find new ways to present itself to its community.

**THIS YEAR WE FIGHT!**

Are you ready?

We live in uncertain times. We are all facing global challenges together. The pandemic is a challenge that has taken center stage and is part of our everyday life. It has changed our lives. That is what we see and what we are aware of. However, is that the only problem this planet and humanity faces? Let’s dig deeper. We seem to have suppressed problems which have changed our planet for a long time. More dangerous and invisible - climate change and global warming which we ourselves have caused. We as individuals, communities, societies, countries, the planet.

Can you remember the last time you fought for something? Or are we as a society fighting to reclaim our will to fight?

Fighting is an integral part of our lives, whether it is a fight we are waging on a personal level, or the one we are waging as a society. We are facing it each and every day.

That is the incentive which guides us on to move forward, a human’s innate reaction to various occurrences. The drive and energy which appear are strong enough to initiate even the greatest changes. We fight for all that we desire, our dreams, happiness, values and freedom. So that our voice can be heard. For the air that we breathe. To correct the injustice. For our home – our planet. For the future. For us.

The fight is the most important value we should be fighting for. If you had considered giving up, we won’t allow you to.

**FIST 16 understands the importance of the fight and strives to remind both you and us of its significance, as well as to ignite the will to fight.**

We are the key to any change. Let’s state loudly and clearly what we wish to change. Let’s fight.

Because life doesn’t exist without a fight. Life is a constant battle.

Are you ready? Ready, set, **FIGHT!**

**REQUIREMENTS TO TAKE PART IN THE FESTIVAL**

* A theatrical play with which to apply should be a result of the teaching process at the academies of the faculties of dramatic arts, which was staged and in which actors are students and whose duration is no longer than 180 minutes.
* All institutions may take part in the competition program with one play only.
* **Subtitles:** For the selection participants should provide translations of the play to the Festival in the English language. The deadline for sending in translations is February 25, 2021.
* **Author’s rights:** The plays which are sent in for the competition must have regulated all author’s rights, including those which allow online viewing of the play, i.e., live streams of the plays as well as documents which provide evidence thereof
* The candidates must be prepared to participate remotely
* The participants should bear in mind that they should organize and prepare for the type of viewing which shall be selected independently.

**PARTICIPATION AT THE FESTIVAL**

The participants shall be able to take part in the two following manners:

1. **Via a live stream emission of its plays**
2. **By playing previously recorded videos of the plays**

We believe that now, more than ever before, an exchange between students of diverse student approaches and via diverse academies is extremely significant, and in order to realize this exchange it is vital to accept this new form of cooperation, and as such digital cooperation.

Therefore, our recommendation and proposal suggest that if you can, opt to present your plays via live stream, since that gives us the possibility to achieve horizontal networking within the circumstances, we find ourselves in.

The advantage of online events also lies in the fact that a wider public can view it whereby a larger public will be reached allowing us to share our message with a larger number of people.

The plays which will take part in the Festival’s competition program shall have a chance to be awarded with the following prizes:

* The Festival’s Grand Prix – award for the best play of the Festival
* Best play of the Festival: public’s choice
* Best director award

A decision on the awards (with the exception of the award of the public) shall be made by an independent jury composed of three members, professionals from the field of dramatic arts. The institution which organizes the Festival – the Faculty of Dramatic Arts in Belgrade, does not have the right to take part in the competition program of the Festival.

**REQUIREMENTS NECESSARY TO SUBMIT AN APPLICATION**

The application should contain a filled in [**application form**](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdPrtKZDTLTvPRMo6skQoXN2_hjIPEyoNgkx_s22I1fL8hmTA/viewform)(provided in the e-mail), together with the following materials:

1. A link which accesses the recording of the entire play. YouTube or Vimeo links can be sent in, as well as links to download plays (i.e., WeTransfer)
2. Pictures from the play
3. Evidence pertaining to author’s rights of the play and right to stream the play
4. English translation of the play (Deadline: February 25, 2021)

**Signature**

I hereby \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(name of the applicant),
on behalf of \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_(name of group) declare that I have read and understood the conditions to take part in FIST 16. I hereby agree to independently technically organize preparations for the chosen type of viewing of the play. I agree that our play can be livestreamed on the network and I hereby certify that I have all rights hereto. I hereby ascertain that the guest play with which I am taking part in this contest has regulated all author’s rights and that we are aware that any violation of such rights and all costs thereof would be borne by the guest crew itself.

Signature: Place: Date:

Applications should be sent to the e- mail address fist.mainprogram@gmail.com by March 1st, 2021. All candidates shall be informed of the selection via e-mail.

**DEADLINE FOR APPLICATIONS**

**March 1st, 2021**