



December 5, 2016

Dear Performing, Literary and Visual Arts Teachers/Supervisors & Arts Advocates,

Last year the New Jersey State Teen Arts Festival returned and is coming back this year, May 31, June 1 & 2, 2017 at Ocean County College in Toms River, NJ. Harrison H. Haney, the NJ State Teen Arts Coordinator, has asked the county Cultural & Heritage agencies to reach out to you.



What is the NJ Teen Arts Festival?

During the three festival days, esteemed young artists, teachers and professional artists from around the state come to critique, as well as to teach workshops and master classes in their individual specialties, including drama, filmmaking, voice, acting, instrumental music and more.

Prior to the State Festival, students in their home schools prepare and practice their chosen art, performance and creative writing presentations for critiques and critical analysis, in one or two arts disciplines. Many counties have their own county-level competitions, during which students who excel in their particular art form are selected to be sent to the state level. For counties (like Hunterdon) where a county-level festival is not held, teachers may call 732-566-2787 to find out how to nominate students to be selected for state competition. Only students who are invited to participate can be adjudicated by state level judges.

During the State Festival, students who have been invited can receive valuable feedback about their art in group and individual critiques, both written and verbal, and often “sit-in” on the critiques of other emerging artists in their discipline, increasing their educational experience. Professional artists at the Festival provide in-depth critical reviews and

analysis of student work, performances and group presentations, a process that all students report to be most beneficial to their growth as artists.

In addition to the critiques, workshops and master classes will be provided to expose student artists to help students develop perceptual, intellectual and technical skills; gain cultural awareness and understanding; and develop personal aesthetic values.

All New Jersey high schools that have registered with Teen Arts are welcome to send students to participate in the workshops, observe performances, exhibits and attend our college fair.

Please consider registering today: <http://www.njteenarts.com/>

The NJ State Teen Arts Coordinator, Harrison H. Haney, may be reached at (732)566-2787.

Thank you for your consideration.

Best regards,



Carrie A. Fellows  
Executive Director  
Hunterdon County Cultural & Heritage Commission