# Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival October 2<sup>nd</sup> to October 9<sup>th</sup> 2020, Bethlehem | Palestine Bethlehem - Capital of Arab Culture 2020

May 21, 2019

## Subject: Bethlehem International Performing Arts Festival

Dear Madam/Sir,

The Diyar Theatre / Dar Al-Kalima University College for Arts and Culture is planning to organize the second edition of Bethlehem International Performing Festival in 2020. The aim of BIPAF is to link international performers with the youth of Palestine. Palestinians are often unable to travel freely, so by bringing together cultures from all over the world, we'll be allowing these youth opportunities to experience and learn from different cultures. Additionally, the BIPAF offers the participating international groups a firsthand perspective on the situation in Palestine, to show that despite the war and conflict, Palestine is also a country rich in creativity, innovation and hope.

During the festival, the different troupes and companies will have the opportunity to get involved in several workshops and activities. The festival will be providing tours to visit the nearby cultural, political and religious sites. Bethlehem will be celebrating being the Capital of Arab culture during 2020.

We at the Diyar Theatre held the first edition of BIPAF in October 2018 in which we hosted 100 artists and 12 performances from 9 countries including Palestine, USA, Lithuania, Taiwan, Hungary, Spain, France, Germany and China. The festival was a great success, and we are now eager to our second edition of the festival in October 2020. Bethlehem will be the Capital of the Arab culture as BIPAF 2020 will include dance, theatre, puppetry, dance theatre, circus, musical theatre and storytelling groups. We are now opening the global application process for performing arts companies, groups, independent theaters, dance makers and artists.

The festival will take place from October 2nd to October 9th 2020. We invite performing artists, groups and companies from all over the world to apply to participate at the BIPAF. All artists who want to donate their time to perform individually or/and provide workshops for children and adults are also welcome. All performers must be above 16 years old.

The application phase starts immediately and will be open until October 31st 2019. On the 15th of January 2020, our artistic committee will select the finalists who will then be invited to participate in the festival.

Applicants are required to complete and return the application form below. They must also provide a video example of their production via Youtube, Vimeo, e-mail or by sending a DVD with the application, as well as an attached technical rider and stage plan.

#### **HIGHLIGHTS OF BIPAF 2020**



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- People from Palestine and across the world will come together to celebrate Art, expression and friendship.
- •No registration fees or charges.
- Participants will be provided with the following: Three free meals each day for 5 days, including soft drinks, accommodation at local guest houses for up to 15 performers and staff (additional guests will be required to pay for accommodation), and transportation within Palestine. For groups arriving/departing through Israel, transportation from and to the airport will be provided. For groups arriving from Jordan, transportation will be provided from Jericho.
- Participants will share training sessions and workshops during the daytime of the festival to strengthen the cultural exchange and encourage friendships between performers.
- •The productions should last between 40 50 minutes. The productions will be performed at different venues within the West Bank. They should be easy to understand for an international crowd and therefore not solely depend on the use of language.

Come join us!! Celebrate Bethlehem as the capital of the Arab culture in 2020. We look forward for your applications!

### **Application Form**

The application must be submitted by e-mail no later than October 31st 2019. Applicants must attach a video of their performance via Youtube, Vimeo, e-mail, as well as a technical rider and stage plan.

#### **Application Link:**

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=uvHnFWYrIUKs0bFrW5HbFgPY73fk2CNMoTwOLj9llZhUNk8zT1VGUDVLSTRBTTBWR042S1FWTDVVUS4u&fbclid=lwAR3 CDFWcHJPbE9DFW ikayP6maOr-4jAvr2nYOjkAVlxJda7QbXsFW38Fo

Submit Application To:

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