**Banja Luka, 15th February 2025**

Dear Colleagues,

It is an honor to invite you to apply for the official selection of the 24th International Festival of Children’s Theatres - BANJA LUKA 2025. The festival will be held from **October 5th to October 11th, 2025**.

The International Festival of Children's Theatre in Banja Luka, organized by the Children's Theatre of the Republic of Srpska, has been held since 2002 with the support of the Ministry of Education and Culture and the City of Banja Luka. Over the years, the festival has welcomed more than two hundred children’s theatres from around the world.

This event promotes the development of puppetry and theatre arts in the Republic of Srpska and Bosnia and Herzegovina, and is recognized as one of the most significant children’s festivals in the Balkans. The festival’s main aim is to promote puppetry as the most demanding, attractive, and important theatrical expression for children. Its primary goal is to affirm the art of puppetry.The festival is competitive in nature, with performances judged by an international jury of esteemed experts in the field of puppetry. Previous jury members have included: Professor Henryk Jurkowski (Poland), Prof. Dr. Hartmut Lorenz (Germany), Prof. Dr. Nikolina Georgijevna (Bulgaria), Dragan Dovlev (Macedonia), Distinguished Artist Prof. Dr. Boris Pavlovich Goldovski (Russia), Prof. Zoran Djeric, Theatrologist Miroslav Radonjic, Playwright Igor Bojovic (Serbia), Director Robert Waltl (Slovenia), Jaroslav Antonjuk (Poland), Nicolai Naumov (Russia), and others.

**We invite all professional theatres to apply with their best performance. The deadline for applications is June 15th, 2025. Only selected theatres will be contacted via email.**

To participate, please submit the following:

* Completed application form
* Video of the show
* 5 photos
* Summary of the play
* Technical requirements

Please send your applications to: festival.dprs@gmail.com

**The festival organizer will cover the accommodation for up to 12 participants from each theatre, including full board, which encompasses all meals and lodging costs for two days. However, travel expenses (such as transportation to and from the festival) and any other additional costs not directly related to accommodation or meals must be covered by the participating theatres. This means that theatres will be responsible for arranging and financing travel, as well as covering any other expenses not provided by the festival organizer.**

The 24th International Festival of Children's Theatres - BANJA LUKA 2025 is competitive, and the performances will be evaluated by the members of the International Expert Jury. The following awards will be presented:

* Grand Prix for the Best Show
* Award for Best Direction
* Award for Best Stage Design and Costumes
* Award for Best Music
* Five Equal Acting Awards
* Special Festival Award
* "Dragan Banjac" Award for the Best Comic Actor Performance

For further information, please contact us at +387 65 273 552 (Viber, WhatsApp, Telegram) or via email at: festival.dprs@gmail.com.

We look forward to your participation.