

First Night Saratoga '09

Artist Application

*Thirteenth Annual New Year's Eve Celebration of the Arts!
Wednesday, December 31, 2008
Downtown Saratoga Springs, New York
A Program of the YMCA of Saratoga*



Qualified Candidates Should:

- Offer appropriate entertainment for family audiences;
- Be willing to perform 2-3 times over the course of the First Night Saratoga program;
- Have simple technical requirements, and efficient set-up and transition between acts;
- Be available on Wednesday, December 31, 2008, between 6 p.m. and midnight.

Application Process:

If you have applied to perform for First Night Saratoga in the past, please complete a new application. Applications are due June 1st, 2008, and decisions will be communicated by early autumn. Applications will be reviewed by the Artist Selection Committee, and artists will be selected based on originality, artistic merit, financial and technical feasibility, appropriateness for family audiences, and contribution to a diverse program. If possible, please submit a video tape, CD, or cassette tape, and any photos or promotional materials you may have. If you believe that we have a CD or tape on file, please make note of that on the application. New photos are necessary each year, to be submitted to the media. These items will be kept for future promotions and publicity.

Applicant Background:

Name of Individual/Group: _____
Group Contact Person: _____
Telephone (day): _____ (evening): _____ (cell): _____
Address: _____
City/State/Zip: _____
Fax: _____ Email _____ Web Site: _____

Please circle performance type:

- | | | | | |
|---------------|--------------|-------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Children's | Comedy/Magic | Music | Exhibit/Demonstration | Storytelling |
| International | Theater | Dance | Workshop/Hands-On | Other |

Please circle appropriate audience age(s): Children Teens Adults Seniors
All Ages

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Is your performance participatory? Yes No If yes, how?

Number of people in your group:

How long has your group been in existence?

For publication purposes, briefly describe your performance (in 10 words or less):

Please provide a more detailed description that would get our audience excited about your performance! Again, for publication purposes (20-40 words):

Technical Needs:

Due to the complexity of a First Night event, stage management and performers must work cooperatively and efficiently. Set-up time must be kept to a minimum (20 minutes or less) and lengthier set-ups and sound checks must be arranged in advance.

Transition time between performances is typically 15-20 minutes. Please remember that there may be an act performing on the same stage as you, prior to your performance. Applicants are encouraged to select material that lends itself to quick set-up and breakdown. Please be specific as to which materials you will be supplying and which you will need from First Night crews.

Due to the number of Artists and performance sites, First Night will require, in most cases, that each artist supply their own sound equipment and sound operator that evening, and in many cases, lighting set-ups. In the past, many performers have shared some sound equipment and operational needs. We will continue to foster these relationships to the benefit of the performers and First Night.

Please provide a brief description of the equipment YOU will be bringing:

With proper supervision, are you willing to share or pool equipment with other performers?

If YOU require First Night Saratoga to provide technical support, please answer the following:

*Please note: As our resources are limited, First Night Saratoga cannot guarantee that all requests for technical support and equipment will be met. Performers will be notified in advance regarding what can and cannot be done. **First Night Saratoga strongly prefers artists to supply as much equipment as possible, and technical needs may impact selection decisions.***

Please list your exact needs in the following categories:

Sound Equipment: # of Microphones _____ Direct Inputs _____ CD player _____
Tape player _____ # of Channels for Board _____ Other _____

Technical Support: Hands _____ Operators _____ Other _____

Staging:

Lighting:

Other:

(Technical Needs Cont.):

For all applicants:

Initial set-up time required for your performance: _____

Will a sound check or tech rehearsal be required? Yes No

Transition time required between your performances or that of another group: _____

Draw a diagram (on the back of this page) of your ideal stage/space size and setup, indicating special needs:

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Performance Information:

List 3 past performance sites and/or references: _____

List any performance(s) between the present date and August 30, 2008 which a First Night Saratoga representative could attend (include date, time, venue, and whether admission would be charged):

Would you and/or your group be willing to perform briefly on a complimentary basis for event promotion (i.e. TV, kick-off reception)? Yes No

First Night Saratoga prefers to hire performers who are available between 6 p.m. and midnight on December 31. Please indicate here, if there is a conflict which prevents you from being available for the entire duration of the program:

Desired First Night Performance Fee:

First Night Saratoga is a community-wide event supported through non-profit and corporate sponsorship. As a celebration of the arts, it is important that First Night Saratoga artists are fairly compensated. We strive to give our artists a positive performance experience, and a level of promotion which creates additional value. In return, we appreciate your consideration of our status as a non-profit event to benefit the YMCA of Saratoga when structuring your fee. Thank you!

Fee for one 40 minute performance \$ _____

Fee for two 40 minute performances \$ _____

Fee for three 40 minute performances \$ _____

Is there room for negotiation

with this fee? Yes No

If more appropriate, please note hourly or lump-sum fee (such as in the case of a demonstration, ongoing exhibit, or "strolling" artist).

Special selection consideration may also be given to performing groups who can supply volunteer hosts/hostesses to staff their venue during the evening for a 3-hour period. Please note here if this may be a possibility from your ranks of family and friends, and how many may be relied upon. (A one-hour training session is required of new volunteers):

Where did you hear about First Night Saratoga's artist selection process? _____

Authorized Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please Return by June 1, 2008 to:
First Night Saratoga Artist Selection Committee
YMCA of Saratoga 290 West Ave.
P.O. Box 4610
Saratoga Springs, NY 12866
Questions? Call (518) 583-9622 ext. 132