

EJC 2008 – open stage information

Hello,

The EJC open stages are becoming more and more popular, both with the audiences and the performers wanting to take part.

Over the past few years this has led to 5 artists turning up to do something on the first Open Stage of the EJC... and 30 acts wanting to perform on the final night! This means that we always had the right number of performers, but still had to turn people away.

To better organize the Open Stages this year we are putting a different system in place. It will happen like this:

1. On Sunday 12am there will be a meeting in the Open Stage venue for anyone who wants to perform on any night.

2. The Open Stage team will take all the details of all the artists and ask which night they want to perform, or if they are okay with performing any night.

3. We'll sort out who is performing in the first Open Stage that Sunday evening.

4. Once we have all the info, we'll make up provisional running orders for the other 6 Open Stage shows. We'll try to let everyone perform on the night they want, but we'll ask people to move round if there are too many artists for one show, or if there are 6 diabolo acts in one show and none in another, or if we have all French jugglers one night and all Japanese the next. In other words, by planning in advance we can have consistently varied shows.

5. Before and after the Open Stage show on Sunday all the artists can come back and get confirmation on what night they will be performing. This will all be covered in the initial meeting, of course.

6. There will be another meeting on Monday afternoon (probably 4pm in the Open Stage tent) where other artists can turn put their name down if they missed the first meeting or if they are just arriving at the convention. And depending on how many people have signed up, another meeting later in the week.

Also, by signing people up in advance we can plan the technical setup and rehearsals more efficiently, the hosts of the shows can get to know those performing, any questions can be answered, and (the best thing) the shows will actually start on time and not run to 3 hours with no break.

To make things easy, if you know already that you'd like to perform on the Open Stage this year, send an email to openstage@ejc2008.de with the following information:

Name:

Prop or skills performed:

Style of act:

Duration of act:

Nationality:

Which show? (Sunday to Saturday):

Where in the show? (start, middle, last act, etc):

Do you have any special technical requirements? (please keep to a minimum!):

Finally, what happens if too many people sign up? There are 7 shows, and we are aiming for about 12 acts per show, so if more than 80 people sign up we are pushing things a bit. If it looks like too many acts are wanting to take part, we'll have to make a selection on who will perform. There is never an entirely fair way to do this, so for now we have decided to select who will perform over who based on the following considerations:

1. How many of the same prop/skill/style of act have signed up. If there are 20 diabolo acts and 1 devilstick act, the devilstick act will perform.
2. The quality of the act. We'll have plenty of time to review certain acts and if there is a large difference in the quality between two or three acts, we'll come down on the side of the audience, who want to see the most interesting/creative/unique/new/skillful/clean/professional show overall.
3. If for some reason there isn't time to review the acts beforehand, it will be down to whoever signed up first.
4. The producer of that night's Open Stage show has the final say, as they are the person who is responsible for the show starting on time, not running over and the overall quality.

So, to make sure you get to perform, sign up quickly and get practicing!

Thanks,

EJC Open Stage Team