

GROUP / POD ORGANISER APPLICATION FOR SAMHUINN FIRE FESTIVAL 2020

Please submit to festival@beltane.org by 10pm, Friday 28th August 2020

PLEASE READ THE GROUP ORGANISER GUIDANCE NOTES BEFORE FILLING IN THE APPLICATION FORM. Provide all information requested, and answer the questions as clearly as possible. Thank you, and good luck!

GO Interviews will be held in the evenings of 1st / 2nd September.

The Group Organiser (GO) preparation days will be on 5th-6th September.

If possible all GOs must attend the entirety of the preparation day, but there must be AT LEAST ONE GO from each group for the duration.

The Open Meeting will be on Sunday 13th of September

GO meetings are on Tuesday evenings

GOs are responsible for facilitating a positive and cohesive festival experience for a group of volunteers. Normally, we ask you to have at least **two fully informed and prepared GOs** on the form to ensure group leadership can continue should one GO become unable to take part. Recruiting a member of the group is not appropriate, as all GOs need to be considered and approved by the Board in advance. If you are struggling to find a co-GO, feel free to contact the Board or Blues, who can help.

Whilst two GOs is preferable, **we will consider individual GOs for smaller groups / pods**, and there may be occasions when there are good reasons for the presence of a third organiser. If you feel a third GO is necessary to your group, please submit their name in the application, along with a brief explanation of the reasoning behind their presence, and the role(s) they will undertake in the group.

Please provide the following information and answer the questions as clearly as possible:

Group and Organiser Details:

Name of Proposed Group:

The Dying Flame

What type of group is this? An In Person Pod (outdoor or indoor), or Digital Group?

In-Person Pod (indoor)

Rules for group sizes:

In Person Pod (outdoor) - up to 5 households (max 15 people)

In Person Pod (indoor) - up to 3 households (max 8 people)

Digital - no limit, but you'll need a good explanation of how you're going to manage more than 20!

What is the maximum number of people you propose to have in your group? This must include all helpers, fire tech etc . (please provide a breakdown of numbers e.g.: 10 group, 2 GOs, 2 helpers, 1 tech, also, see limits above for groups with in-person activities).

6 people:

2 GOs - Kelly and Sabrina (we live together, so count as 1 household)

1 Fire Tech

3 Group

Full name, email address and mobile phone number of all proposed organisers

Kelly Garrett – 01234678910, kgarret@ca.com

Sabrina Duncan – 010987654321, sduncan@ca.com

Dates you will be unavailable, throughout the festival period

Kelly – Available from open meeting throughout.

Sabrina – Unavailable 2nd – 5th September

Important Dates and Times:

1st/2nd September - keep available for GO interviews if necessary

5th-6th September - GO Preparation weekend

13th September - Digital Open Meeting

Tuesday evenings - GO Meetings

10th November - GO Debrief

What is your previous group organising, performance and participation experience within and outside of BFS?

Kelly has been in Air Point twice, Summer at Samhuinn and led Fire Point once. She ran a workshop in stilt walking for BFS last summer. She has also done fire tech for a performance group in the past.

Sabrina has been in Fire Point twice. She has worked as a team leader at a woodland visitor centre where she is responsible for 15 people. She also worked on producing a Fringe physical theatre show in 2011 and has a background in producing and acting in plays from her time in University.

Group Concept:

Please give us a summary description of the concept, character and core themes for your proposed group. Please keep it to a maximum of 300 – 350 words.

- The main concept and core themes for the group are death and extinguishing the last warmth of summer. Fire has reveled in the heat of summer, but now faces the last embers burning out.
- The character will be based on fire, with each group member showing a different representation of what embers can look like.
- The Dying Flame will start by showing the last wild and flaring flashed of summer warm, but will slowly run out of energy, with the final flame being dramatically put out.

Please give us a summary of how / where you think your group fits into the the overall festival Please keep it to a maximum of 100-200 words.

The Dying Flame is a representation of the warmth of Summer and how it is slowly but inevitably extinguished by winter. We envisage taking our group members through a journey which involves basking in the heat through to investigating how the cold makes us feel as it creeps into us so they can then relate that to the viewers in their performance.

We'd really like this Samhuinn to tell a more consistent story this year. Is there a specific bit of a Samhuinn story you'd like your group to tell? (Don't worry about it being super-traditional, we're going to build a story from what you create)

Please keep it to a maximum of 100-250 words.

We'd like to be the last Summer group out there, and we'd like to show our dying flame as symbolic of the Summer's end

Do you envisage your group interacting with other groups / court? If so, how? (NOTE: We don't want in person groups meeting up, but digital interactions, and shared projects are very welcome)

Please keep it to a maximum of 100-200 words.

We would like to find a way for our final flame to be extinguished by the Winter King but are aware this might not be possible so will be flexible about how we manage this. Maybe a bit of interspersed performance video?

If the Voice of Winter group gets in, we know they've got a song about the coming of the cold, and we'd love to dance to that!

Running your group:

How do you intend to recruit your group and in what style do you intend to lead it? *(This year, we are more willing to accept closed groups than normal for the 3-5 household pods)*

We intend to recruit all our groups' 3 dancers from the online open meeting.

We, as Group Organisers, intend to set the schedule and run the necessary workshops to achieve the basic plan; but we intend to leave time available to the group, to offer to lead workshops and suggest other relevant activities. We would also hope that the group would bring the ideas to build the performance, from our framework of ideas.

What specific skills or knowledge do you think it will require to make your ideas happen and who do you envisage bringing these to the group? If you will be seeking assistance from people outside of the group, have you already contacted them to discuss their involvement?

We intend to bring the necessary skills in performance; both of us have extensive performance experience in this area.

We wish to raise the fitness level of the group and as such intend to run some exercise workshops. As neither of us has particular abilities in this area we're hoping to work out to a zoom chat video with our friend Jill who is a fitness fanatic.

What additional support might you require in order to realise the concept or performance of your group? If you feel that your group will be unusually expensive due to the need for practices to be in a hired venue (e.g. for drum groups), or expensive props, please tell us here. We'll consider requests on a case-by-case basis, but can't guarantee extra funding.

We are a fire based group so we will require support to make sure that we have the correct equipment and knowledge to safely teach our group how to handle and perform with fire.

Sabrina's done a bit of video editing at University, but could probably do with a little help from someone to learn to use modern software.

If one, or all, of the proposed GOs of your group were unable to continue leading, how would you manage this situation, to ensure that the group continues?

While we were creating our concept and plan for the group, we consulted with people who have the relevant knowledge and skills to oversee costuming, performance and admin for the group should we both become unavailable. We also intend to keep the group up to date on interactions and ensure that they are all well informed about details of the festival right from the beginning. If necessary, we are prepared to appoint two responsible group members to take our place.

How much money do you think your group members will have to spend as part of your group and how do you intend to organise this?

We intend to ask our group members for £30.00 up front which we will use to cover any costs. Anything from this pot that we do not spend will be returned equally to the group.

How will you minimise the risks for the members of your group, the larger society, and our audience? How will you ensure responsible and respectful behaviour from the members of your group?

We will plan our workshops in advance and ensure we know what we are doing before we do it.

We will ensure we get a plan from our volunteers for their workshops in advance so we can ensure they are safe too.

We will speak with the Health & Safety Officer before we start our group to make sure they are happy and will take on board any advice they have to offer.

We shall make it clear to our group members what we consider to be responsible behaviour and will take responsibility for ensuring that we deal with anyone who breaks the rules.

Will this group require any of your members to be physically present with other people? (if so, you'll need to make this clear to all participants in advance of joining the group.)

Yes, we're hoping to have a choreographed dance routine, so in-person practice will be needed. We're also planning to give out homework so that people who can't make the in-person training can practice.

Do you foresee any possible risks related to Coronavirus from this group? If so, what actions will you take to minimise these?

We're planning to be socially distant at all times, but we're aware that in-person groups are more dangerous. We won't be sharing any food, drinks, fire-toys or any other props.

At the beginning of each in person session, we'll check in with our group members for coronavirus symptoms, and send anyone with them home, and tell them to get a test.

We'll also make sure that our members know that our in-person sessions are the only time they can meet up with other households on that day.

If a volunteer with a disability or illness joined your group, what difficulties do you think they might encounter and how might you offer support in that situation?

We are intending that the group is quite physically active so that could inhibit those with physical disabilities. However we are more than willing to accommodate them and let them guide us on how to include them.