IMPERIAL WORLD SCHOOL

PRESENTS

LALABALA

INTERNATIONAL THEATRE FESTIVAL 2026

SEASON 6

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES:



NOVEMBER
2ND - 6TH, 2026

IMPERIAL WORLD SCHOOL
HATTIGAUDA, BUDHANILKANTHA

Advisory board

Dr. Pro. Abhi Subedi, Nepal
Dr. Chua Soo Pong, Singapore
Dr. Dani Karmakar, India
Sachitra Rahubadda, Sri lanka
Erina Saji, Japan, (eru Himal Puppet Theatre)
Harihar Sharma, Nepal
Sunil Pokharel, Nepal
Anup Baral, Nepal
Amir Nawaj, Pakistan
Lisa Dalton, USA
Joerg Andress, Germany
Zhou yiyan, China

Organizing Committee

Organized By: Imperial World School
Conceptualized by: Lalabala Theatre, School Theatre Nepal
Festival Administrator: Rabin Subedi
Logistic In-Charge: Anita Maharjan
Communication: Aayusha Rana
Transportation In-Charge: Anita Maharjan
Props and Setting: Bibek Lama
Light: Raj Kumar Pudasaini
Dance Choreographer: Sunita Darnal and Soniya Shakya
Stage Manager: Prakash Dahal
Festival Director: Tanka Chaulagain

Message from School Chairman



It is a great pleasure and honor for Imperial World School to organize the 6th LaLaBaLa International Theatre Festival 2026, bringing together young performers, theatre artists, and creative minds from different countries.

At Imperial World School, we believe that education goes beyond textbooks and classrooms. Theatre is a powerful medium that nurtures creativity, confidence, communication, empathy, and cultural understanding. Through LaLaBaLa, we aim to provide children with a meaningful platform to express themselves, explore their imagination, and learn from diverse cultures and artistic experiences.

We warmly welcome all participating teams, artists, educators, and guests to this wonderful celebration of theatre, friendship, and creativity.

Let us celebrate the voices, dreams, and limitless imagination of children through the magic of theatre.

Kumar Karki
Chairman

Message from School Principal

Dear Parent and Students,

Imperial World School (IWS) is delighted to collaborate with LaLaBaLa International Theatre Festival to celebrate the power of theatre as a medium for creativity, cultural exchange, and global learning.

It is a privilege for Imperial World School to collaboratively present the LaLaBaLa International Theatre Festival, a celebration of creativity, cultural diversity, and the transformative power of theatre.

Over the past editions, LaLaBaLa theter featival has evolved into a vibrant international platform where children from diverse backgrounds come together to share stories, explore cultures, and express themselves through the performing arts. Each edition has strengthened our belief that theatre is not merely a performance, but a powerful medium for nurturing confidence, empathy, collaboration, and global citizenship.

At Imperial World School, we believe in learning beyond classroom walls, where every experience opens new horizons and every voice



deserves to be heard. Through LaLaBaLa, we aspire to create meaningful connections across cultures and inspire young learners to become expressive, compassionate, and globally minded individuals.

May this edition bring fresh perspectives, unforgettable performances, and lasting friendships across borders.

Let us celebrate stories, connect cultures, and empower young voices through the magic of theatre

Junita Karki
Principal

Message from Festival Director

Lalabala is not just a project for me—it is my passion, my dream, and a very important part of my life. Since 2016, I have continued this journey with the same love, hope, and commitment because I truly believe in the power of theatre and its impact on children.

At the heart of Lalabala is a simple purpose: to give children a space where they can express themselves freely, discover their creativity, build confidence, learn from one another, and experience the joy of theatre. We want every child to feel that their voice matters, their imagination has value, and they have a place on the stage and in the world.

Lalabala is also about bringing children together across schools, communities, cultures, and

countries. Through theatre, we create opportunities for children to listen, understand, collaborate, dream, and see the world from different perspectives.

I am deeply grateful to all the children, schools, parents, teachers, and international theatre artists who have believed in Lalabala and joined us on this journey. Your trust, encouragement, friendship, and positive support have given Lalabala the strength to continue and grow.

I may have started this journey, but I could never have come this far alone. Lalabala is what it is today because of all of you. This journey belongs to every child who has stepped onto our stage, every parent and school that has supported them, and every artist who has shared their art, knowledge, and heart with us.

Since 2016, Lalabala has been growing through the dreams, voices, and imagination of children. And as long as there are children who want to create, explore, and tell their stories, the Lalabala journey will continue.



Thank you for believing in Lalabala, for believing in children, and for walking with us on this beautiful journey.

Tanka Chaulagain
Festival Director

INTRODUCTION

Building on the experiences and successes of its previous five editions, the 6th LaLaBaLa International Theatre Festival 2026 continues its journey of bringing people together through theatre, creativity, and cultural exchange. Over the years, the festival has provided a shared platform for children, young performers, theatre practitioners, educators, and artists from different parts of the world to present their work, exchange ideas, and learn from one another. Organised by Imperial World School, Kathmandu, and conceptualised by LaLaBaLa Theatre and School Theatre Nepal, the festival continues to create opportunities for young people to discover their creative abilities, express themselves through theatre, and appreciate different cultures and perspectives.

Scheduled from 2 to 7 November 2026, this year's festival will bring together participants from Nepal, India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Japan, Israel, the Czech Republic, and China. The six-day programme will feature 11 theatrical productions and a series of interactive workshops, offering a rich blend of performances, creative exploration, and artistic learning. Participants will have the opportunity to experience different forms of theatre, explore diverse storytelling traditions, and learn through interaction with artists and theatre groups from across the participating countries. The festival will officially open on 3 November 2026, with an opening ceremony and theatrical performances, followed by performances and workshops from 4 to 6 November, concluding with the

closing ceremony on 6 November.
With the support and guidance of an international advisory board comprising experienced theatre practitioners and experts, the festival aims to make theatre an engaging and meaningful learning experience for everyone involved. Beyond performances and workshops, it provides an opportunity to build friendships, appreciate cultural differences, share experiences, and develop lasting connections through the performing arts.

As it enters its sixth edition, LaLaBaLa remains committed to celebrating the voices, imagination, and creative potential of children and young people. It is founded on a simple belief: every child has a story to share, and every voice deserves to be heard. Through theatre, the festival continues to bring people together beyond differences in language, culture, and nationality, keeping alive a shared spirit of creativity, understanding, and artistic expression.

Key Objectives of the Festival

- Provide an international platform for children and young performers to showcase their creativity, talents, and theatrical abilities.
- Promote cultural exchange by celebrating diverse traditions, stories, perspectives, and artistic expressions.
- Encourage experiential learning through theatrical performances, interactive workshops, and engagement with theatre practitioners.
- Foster international friendships, collaboration, mutual respect, and cross-cultural understanding.
- Develop confidence, communication, teamwork, empathy, and creative thinking among young participants.
- Continue LaLaBaLa's legacy of promoting theatre as a medium of education, artistic expression, and meaningful human connection.

Country: Nepal
Group: Imperial World School
Play: Chup Laaga!
Writer & Director: Tanka Chaulgain

Synopsis
There is nowhere outside in the city for children to play. Every Saturday, all the children would come to play in the rented room, they are friends of rabina and santosh. The landlords were very strict. This is a play within a play. I don't want to say anything more; director is ready to tell the story to you.

Artists
Niharika Bhandari, Pratyush Joshi, Priyana Dhakal, Aahan Bashistha, Aaryav Bhandari, Aavish Shrestha Dhauvadel, Saharsh Evan Roj KC, Sajal Nepal, Samragya Bikram Singh, Sankirtan Pandey, Trayee Dahal, Bipul Sapkota, Saharsh Bista, Advik Raj Regmi, Alex Tamang, Allwin Kunwar, Aarya Lakandri, Arogya Tiwari, Nityaveer Shahi, Paaliza Shrestha, Tanishq Gurung

Country: Nepal
Group: Imperial World School
Play: Beauty is a Beast
Writer: D.M Larson
Associate Director: Avineet Chaulagain
Director: Tanka Chaulagain



Synopsis
Play is about the real beauty. And I am confident that you know about it what real beauty is!

Artists
Abiraj Thapa, Advika Thapa, Amig Budha, Arshi Khanal, Bardan Thapa Magar, Ichchha Bhandari, Prabuddha Parajuli, Prajita Khanal, Vedanshi Chand, Deepisha Pandit, Jetsun Rigpa Tamang, Nidhi Dhamala, Pratish Karki, Samdung Hang Rai, Yashika Ghimire, Samrat jung Khatri

Country : India
Group : NAIHATI RANGASENA
Play : DEBEE HOLEI BABY
Writer : DHRUPAD GHOSH
Director : DEEP BHOWMIK



Synopsis
Debee Holei Baby is a vibrant and entertaining children's theatre production inspired by the Bengali Mangalkabya Monsa Mangal. Combining the playful spirit of traditional Naihati Rangasena folk theatre with the physical comedy and colorful style of Commedia dell'Arte, the production reimagines a classic myth for young audiences.

The story begins with the birth of Manasa, whom Lord Mahadev brings to Kailash. But Goddess Chandi refuses to accept the newcomer as a goddess and sends her away. As lively quarrels, comic misunderstandings, and witty exchanges unfold, Manasa discovers that becoming a goddess is not a gift—it is something that must be earned through courage, determination, and inner strength.

Filled with humour, music, dynamic performances, and colourful visuals, Debee Holei Baby celebrates perseverance, self-belief, and the joy of discovering one's own identity. This imaginative adaptation introduces children to the richness of Bengali mythology through a fun, engaging, and visually spectacular theatrical experience.

Participants
Dhrupad Ghosh, Deep Bhowmik, Saptarshi Ghosh, Anjan Kr Das, Anup Mondal, Sukla Banerjee, Susmita Sarkar

Country: Bangladesh
Group: Hiron Kiron Theatre
Play: A Father's Sky
Writer: Jahangir Alam
Director: Jahangir Alam



Synopsis

The narrative of the play, titled "The Ethereal Anklet" (or "A Father's Sky"), unfolds as a poignant chronicle of the sublime, unyielding bond of love and devotion between a father and his daughter. Having lost her mother in the tender dawn of her infancy, young Tuli is raised by her father, Rahman, who wraps her in an absolute mantle of affection, gracefully assuming the mantle of both parents. Shielding her from the bleak void of maternal absence, Rahman becomes the silent architect of her aspirations, most notably nurturing her fervent dream of ascending as a celebrated classical dancer.

Through her father's tireless devotion and her own innate artistry, Tuli blossoms over the years, successfully completing her education to emerge as an illustrious, spellbinding danseuse, filling their modest world with a radiant, harmonious joy. Yet, at the zenith of their happiness, a cruel stroke of destiny shatters their tranquil existence; on the precipice of a monumental performance, Tuli collapses, only to be diagnosed with a malignant brain tumor that has already advanced to its terminal, cancerous stage.

Though Rahman wages a desperate, agonizing battle against time, exhausting his every earthly possession to save his daughter, medical science fails against the absolute decree of fate, and Tuli softly closes her eyes to this world forever. Consumed by an unbearable grief and anchored to her memory by an unbreakable tether of love, Rahman finds himself utterly incapable of reconciling with her absence; he retreats into a profound, melancholic silence, forsaking sustenance and completely fracturing in spirit. Ultimately, the world without his daughter proves too desolate to endure, and succumbing to the fierce, lingering cadence of her memory, Rahman falls gravely ill and departs this life to join her, leaving behind a timeless testament to a love that transcends the boundaries of mortality itself.

Participants

Rahaman - Jahangir Alam Dhali
Tuli - Shamima Akter Mukta
Nahid - Mohammad Samim Sheikh
Rajib - Md Razibul Hasan
Tuli's Childhood - Riddho Haque
Playwrite & Direction - Jahangir Alam
Light - Md Mojibul Haque
Music - Mohammad Samim Sheikh
Choreography - Shamima Akter Mukta



Country: Sri Lanka
Group: Red Apple international Theatre gathering
Play: CAPTAIN JACK CRUISE
Writer: Kaushalya Weerasinghe
Director: Sachithra Raubadda



family has searched for a legendary treasure containing gold, jewels, and three magical golden pearls. Generation after generation disappears while pursuing it, defeated by greed, fear, rivalry, and the dangerous mysteries of the deep sea. Then comes Jack Cruise, a very different kind of pirate. He has no interest in robbery or wealth. A talented musician, Jack travels the seas with his musical crew, spreading happiness through songs and stories. But after a dream involving his grandmother, he decides to complete his family's unfinished mission.

His journey takes him through violent storms, a lonely mermaid, a magical underwater paradise, and a giant ancient turtle. Using music, intelligence, courage, friendship, and kindness, Jack succeeds where generations before him failed.

At the bottom of the Bermuda Triangle, Jack discovers the lost treasure—and members of his forgotten family. When the magical pearls finally choose Jack, he learns that the greatest treasure is not gold, but a good heart and the ability to make other's happy.

Artists:
Vinjaya Herath, Dulakshika Sajeewani

Country: Japan/Nepal
Group: eru Himal Puppet Theatre and Utervision Company Japan
Play: His POEM / His DEATH
Writer: Erina Saji
Director: Erina Saji & Team



Synopsis
An old man lives alone. One by one, the poems he once wrote bring back the memories of his life: the people he loved, the places he passed through, the moments he thought he had forgotten. As past and present gently overlap, his memories come alive before our eyes, and a quiet, warm story unfolds about a life lived and its final chapter.

Artists
Ramita Rai, Bijay Sapkota, Shankar Bhandari, Erina Saji

Country: Israel
Group: Nephesh Theatre
Play: Without an Evil Eye
Writer: Assaf Ben Shimon and Sarel Piterman
Director: Sarel Piterman



Synopsis

"Without an Evil Eye", a one man play is an innovative comedy blending theatrical story-telling and stand-up comedy to recount the inspiring true life story of Asaf Ben Shimon whose gradually descent into blindness enabled him to see and affirm the gift of life.
Suited for junior high and high school students.

Participants

Howard Rypp - producer translator, Assaf Ben Shimon -actor writer Sarel Piterman- writer director, Noam Toplian- lighting design and technician

Country: Czech Republic
Group: Punc
Play: Kluk Mysliva
Writer: Michaela Kopelentová, Vilém Nachtmann
Director: Michaela Kopelentová



Synopsis

Kluk mysliva, a cheeky folk devil is booted out of his cushy job at the torment factory for signed-away souls. Stranded in a fairytale forest of happy animals, he finds the locals insufferable, and quickly runs away. He arrives in a big dirty city, where he must confront a rival: a former colleague, now gathering souls of the townsfolk. They are both locked in a race for their former employer's renewed favor. Our hero tries to get people to sign their souls away by offering protection from local thieves and bandits, whom he scares away with his imposing appearance. The competition soon becomes neck-and-neck, so the rival tries to sabotage him, exposing his cheap tricks. When the people who signed up to our hero learn of this, they turn against him, but it's too late – their souls are in his hands, and so he forces them to do his bidding. They get to work signing other city-dwellers up for the scheme, and soon Kluk mysliva has so many souls, not even his former boss knows what to do with them anymore. The factory falls into our hero's hands and he turns it into a prison for those who don't sign his contract. With his old job back in business, he lives happily ever after.

Participants:

Michaela Kopelentová
Vilém Nachtmann
Ema Leitnerová

Country: China
Group: W. Yip Theatre & Education Associates
Workshop title: Beyond the Finish Line: Reimagining The Tortoise and the Hare
Resource person: William Yip



Performance Details

S No.	Date	Country	Name of Theatre Group	Play Title	Time
1	Nov 3	Nepal	Imperial World School	Chup Laaga!	12:00 PM–1:00 PM
2	Nov 3	Bangladesh	Hiron Kiron Theatre	A Father's Sky	5:00 PM–6:00 PM
3	Nov 4	Japan / Nepal	Eru Himal Puppet Theatre and Utervision Company Japan	His POEM / His DEATH	11:00 AM–12:00 PM
4	Nov 4	Japan / Nepal	Eru Himal Puppet Theatre and Utervision Company Japan	His POEM / His DEATH	01:00 AM–02:00 PM
5	Nov 4	Israel	Nephesh Theatre	Without an Evil Eye	5:00 PM–6:00 PM
6	Nov 5	India	Naihati Rangasena	Debee Holei Baby	1:00 PM–2:00 PM
7	Nov 5	Nepal	Imperial World School	Beauty is a Beast	5:00 PM–6:00 PM
8	Nov 6	Sri Lanka	Red Apple International The - atre Gathering	Captain Jack Cruise	11:00 AM–12:00 PM
9	Nov 6	Sri Lanka	Red Apple International The - atre Gathering	Captain Jack Cruise	1:00 PM–2:00 PM
10	Nov 6	Czech Republic	Punc	Kluk Mys - liva	5:00 PM–6:00 PM

Glimpse of Season 5





















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