



2019-2020 High School Musical Theatre Awards Rules and Guidelines

Eligibility

- The Orpheum's High School Musical Awards are open to all schools located within a 150 mile radius of The Orpheum Theatre, Memphis, Tennessee.
- Eligible musicals must be performed between October 10, 2019 and April 13, 2020. If your musical will be out of this date range, please contact the Director of Education, Lindsay Krosnes to discuss.
- Adjudicated performances must be held in theatres not affiliated with The Orpheum Theatre Group, this includes the historic Orpheum and the Halloran Centre.
- **Schools between 45 and 150 miles from The Orpheum must offer a Saturday or Sunday matinee performance for judging.**
- Productions entered must meet one of the following criteria and be billed accordingly in the program:
 - A published musical, operetta, or revue currently held by a licensing house or having entered public domain.
 - An original piece that features an original script, music and/or lyrics, and is covered under a valid copyright.
- 101 Collection, Broadway Junior, G2K/Getting to Know Series, Young Performers Edition, or Young@Part, or Concert Versions **will not be eligible** for Outstanding Featured, Supporting, or Lead Actor/Actress nominations or an Outstanding Overall Production nomination.
- Each school must secure the rights to perform the show and may be subject to verification by the Orpheum. If selected to perform at The Orpheum High School Musical Theatre Awards, schools may be required to secure rights and pay an additional royalty. **Schools must list/acknowledge the Licensing House in their musical production program.**
- Schools must list/acknowledge their eligibility for The High School Musical Awards (including the show date of May 21, 2020) in the program for their musical production. The logo and copy will be provided to schools by the Director of Education no later than September 30, 2019.
- **Any use of vocal tracks during the submitted musical will result in the disqualification of the school.**
- Schools must submit the following within one week of show closing or no later than April 14, 2020: **one (1) show program or full cast and production list, two (2) high resolution digital photos of costumes, two (2) high resolution digital photos of set, one (1) high resolution digital production/cast photo. Photos should be in a jpeg format.**
- Judges will provide an official Orpheum voucher for complimentary admission (with guest if requested) into a performance. Schools will not be made aware of which show(s) judges will attend. Between three and five judges will attend each school's musical.
- **Judges should not receive preferential seating, treatment, or gifts of any kind. Schools may be disqualified for providing special treatment.**
- Schools with double casts must select one cast for adjudication and communicate all applicable performance dates to Director of Education, Lindsay Krosnes.

Individual Role Eligibility

- **Lead Eligible Roles:** In order to be eligible to compete at the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, Outstanding Lead Actor/Actress nominees must have played a role considered a Qualifying role by American Theatre Wing (Tony Awards) and/or the show's licensing house. A list of all eligible roles may be found at <https://www.jimmyawards.com/>
- **Featured, Supporting and Lead** must fall into **one of two categories:**
 - They must be enrolled at the participating high school, presenting the musical
 - They are cast in a show at a single-gender school who relies on students of the opposite gender to fulfill casting requirements.
- The named teacher/ director on the application is responsible for communicating any changes from their original application (e.g. understudies, hired professionals, budget details) to Orpheum staff two weeks prior to their show opening.
- Eligibility is at the discretion of The Orpheum Theatre, which reserves the right to amend rules as necessary to maintain a fair process.

Applications

- Schools that intend to participate should submit the "Intent to Apply" form by September 6, 2019. **The Intent to Apply form is to let us know you intend to submit a musical, so that we may have an idea of how many schools will be participating. It is not the formal application.**
- Applications should be submitted online. For musicals performed in the fall semester, applications are due by 4:00pm on September 27, 2019. For spring semester musicals, applications are due by 4:00pm on January 10, 2020. Early applications are encouraged.
- Schools may submit an application for one production per school year.
- Adjudicator comments will be made available to the coordinating teacher in August of 2020.

Nominations and HSMTA Ceremony

- **The Orpheum HSMTA Nominations will be announced April 20, 2020**
- All participating schools will be asked to choose **up to two** students to participate in opening and closing numbers at the May 21, 2020 ceremony. These students are expected to attend all required rehearsals May 16-21 and to conduct themselves professionally while at The Orpheum.
- Students nominated in the Outstanding Lead Actor/Actress categories will perform part of one of their songs at the May 21, 2020 ceremony. These students are expected to attend all required rehearsals May 16-21 and to conduct themselves professionally while at The Orpheum. A mandatory meeting for all Lead nominees will be held on Wednesday, April 22, 2020 at 4:00 p.m. Students must attend this meeting to be eligible to perform and compete for Outstanding Lead Actor/Actress.
- The winner of Outstanding Lead Actor/Actress must be over the age of 16 on the first day of the national program in order to be eligible to compete at NHSMTA. In the event that the winner is under the age of 16, a runner-up over the age of 16 may be sent to Nationals as the HSMTA representative.
- Schools nominated in the Outstanding Overall Production category will be invited to perform one number from their show at the May 21, 2020 ceremony. **The Orpheum reserves the right to choose which number will be performed.** Students and coordinating teachers are expected to attend all required rehearsals May 16-21 and to conduct themselves professionally while at The Orpheum.

Nominations and HSMTA Ceremony continued...

- Outstanding Overall Production nominee performances **must be under five minutes in length and must consist of a single production number from the nominated musical.** The time limit will be enforced. Schools will be asked to cut the number to the appropriate time limit if necessary.
- Outstanding Overall Production nominees may have a maximum of 22 students in their production number. Each school will have access to a maximum of five lavalier microphones for soloists.
- On-stage props for Outstanding Overall Production and Outstanding Lead Actor/Actress nominees are limited to pieces that can be easily carried on and off stage. Props are subject to approval by Orpheum staff.
- Lighting and sound decisions are at the discretion of Orpheum staff. To maintain fairness, special lighting and sound requests cannot be accommodated.
- Performances at the May 21, 2020 ceremony should be appropriate for all ages. The Orpheum reserves the right to cut any material that is determined by producers to be inappropriate.
- The People's Choice Award will be determined by online voting. Voting will open on April 27, 2020 and will end May 16, 2020.
- The Orpheum reserves the right to use the voice or likeness of any participating student or adult in its marketing and public relations efforts.
- Acceptance of an award indicates agreement with the terms of the publicity waiver.