



2021-22 Center Stage High School  
Musical Theater Program

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**PARTICIPATION GUIDE**



Corporate Partner



Workshop and Rehearsal Partner



Updated July 2021

Welcome!

Thank you for your interest in the Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program. We understand that we may continue to wrestle with unknowns, changes and challenges as we return this school year. The Center Stage Program has been updated this year to increase flexibility in our support of your program, including no longer requiring a Jimmy Awards® qualifying musical to participate. We are planning a season filled with education and networking opportunities to keep you and your students growing and learning.

The health and safety of our community is a top priority. Throughout the season the Center will continue to monitor the ongoing situation, consult industry and local health officials regarding recommended health and safety measures and continue to adjust, as necessary.

Schools no longer must produce a Jimmy Awards® qualifying musical; however, the musical presented must be a licensed musical. We recognize that flexibility is an important aspect of inclusivity and are meeting schools where they are at.

### **PROGRAM GOALS**

The Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program is an education initiative from the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center which celebrates and supports the achievements of high school theater while developing confidence, creativity and collaboration among high school students in Northeastern Wisconsin. Throughout the school year there will be education opportunities for students and directors lead by local and national arts professionals.

The Center Stage Program has four main goals:

1. To recognize area high school students, their school communities and their families by encouraging and celebrating student excellence in high school musical theater productions.
2. To highlight and advocate for the importance of performing arts education in high schools.
3. To provide high quality educational experiences in dance, theater and music for high school students.
4. To build confidence, creativity and collaboration in students participating in the arts.

Please review the program guide for this season and let us know if you have any questions. We wish you all the best with your students and staff this school year and we look forward to working with you.

Sincerely,

Sammi Stelzl  
Education Programs Manager  
(920) 730-3764  
[sstelzl@foxcitiespac.com](mailto:sstelzl@foxcitiespac.com)

400 W. College Ave. | Appleton, WI | (920) 730-3782  
[foxcitiespac.com](http://foxcitiespac.com)

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## **PARTICIPATION**

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The Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program is open to public and private high schools, as well as state-registered homeschool high schools producing musical theater. To be eligible for participation, a school must meet the below criteria:

### **Schools/Location**

Schools must be within Brown, Calumet, Door, Fond du Lac, Kewaunee, Outagamie, Manitowoc, Shawano, Waupaca or Winnebago counties.

State-registered homeschools can participate in the Center Stage Program if their production only includes student performers (it cannot be a community theater production). Homeschools must secure a performance space/theater in which to perform.

### **Affiliation**

To qualify, school programs may not participate in another NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards® regional program during the 2021-22 school year (example: The Overture Center's Jerry Awards).

### **Number of Productions**

If schools perform more than one musical production during the school year, only one musical production may be registered for participation in the Center Stage Program.

### **Production Dates**

The high school production must take place between **Monday, September 27, 2021** and **Monday, April 4, 2022** with more than one performance date.

### **Production Type**

Any musical must be presented with the approval or permission of the original creators, publishers or representatives. Schools are allowed to present a musical either on or off the Jimmy Awards® qualifying musical list, however only students in a Jimmy-qualifying lead role will be eligible to audition for and represent the program at the Jimmy Awards®.

## REGISTRATION

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Registration opens **Monday, August 9, 2021** and the application is available online at [foxcitiespac.com](http://foxcitiespac.com). A director or teacher at the participating high school must submit the application to participate. Participating schools are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, so early registration is strongly encouraged. Deadline for registration is **Friday, September 10, 2021** or until filled.

### Application Fee

The participation fee\* for the 2021-22 Season is \$150.00. If a school would like a second cast to be adjudicated, there will be an additional \$100 required (see page 9 for more information on double casting). After submitting the registration application, a confirmation email will be sent with an invoice. Schools will have 90 days from the invoice date to send in payment. Checks should be made payable to the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center.

\*Scholarships are available for any participating schools that need assistance with the participation fee, please contact the Education Programs Manager to discuss further.

### Primary Contact

Each school will need to identify a primary contact for the program. This contact must have access to phone and email and be able to serve as the liaison between the Center and school.

### Primary Contact Responsibilities:

- Serve as the primary liaison between the Center and school during the program.
- Attend periodic informational meetings with the Center as scheduled.
- Provide the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center with information and digital versions of production photos to be used in marketing materials and at the Showcase as requested.
- Assign a student representative and work with them to share education opportunities to share with classmates when available.
- Provide students with information pertaining to rehearsals, workshops and the Showcase as appropriate.
- Share information about discounted tickets and special learning opportunities with students when available.
- Respond to correspondence with the Center in a timely and efficient manner.
- Utilize the Google Group (page 6) to watch for updates from the Center and participating schools.
- Be responsible to return all forms by the deadline indicated on each form.
- Provide information and prepare as necessary for Showcase.

### Student Representative

Each school may provide the name and email address of a chosen student representative. The role of this student representative will be to inform their classmates of various Center Stage student opportunities. The school's primary contact will always be copied on any emails to the student representative from the Center. The student representative can still apply to be a Student Ambassador (more on page 8), as they are two different opportunities.

### Orientation Meeting

Required Primary Liaison Meeting via Zoom – Tuesday, September 14, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. Other school representatives interested in attending are welcome.

## FORMS & DOCUMENTS

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### **Google Platform**

To make the registration and forms as easily accessible as possible for participants, the Center has decided to utilize Google Drive. The Participation Form is available at this [Google Form](#). Once a school is registered for the program, they will be provided access to a Google Folder with various forms that may be needed throughout a season. The liaison will also be given access to a Google Group where the Center and participating schools can share program and show updates. Any additional school contacts are welcome to join the Google Group to receive updates on workshops and meetings. Please include them on the Participation Form.

### **Photography Release & Informed Consent**

During the program, there may be times when Fox Cities Performing Arts Center will photograph/videotape students, faculty and other staff and volunteers or use provided assets. Please be aware that by participating in the program, teachers and students are giving full rights and permissions to Fox Cities Performing Arts Center for the use of such video and photos whether taken in person or virtually. Please also be aware that the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center may use a school's name and students' names in any press releases associated with the Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program.

Please note that students under the age of 18 will need to obtain the signature of their parent/guardian to complete the form. Teachers will only need to submit one completed form for each student for the entire 2021-22 Season. Releases will be sent to the school primary contact as appropriate.

### **Production Information**

Each participating production will need to have a completed production information form which includes information about show dates, times and cast lists that will be shared with adjudicators. There will also be space for schools to share supplementary information on their productions including resources available to school or theater department, director's notes, rationale of artistic choices and specific areas the school is requesting feedback on. Completed forms will need to be returned no later than **3 weeks** before the show opens.

Please note: The Center Stage staff is 100% dependent upon your school's production information form for accurate information regarding spelling for students and faculty involved. Please make sure this information is correct before submitting.

### **Participation Statement for Programs**

All schools participating in the Center Stage Program are required to feature the Center Stage logo and participation statement as part of their program books. Inclusion of this information serves as the school's statement of participation. The participation statement will be available for download in the Google Folder.

### **Publicity**

All media interview or appearance requests regarding the Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program are required to go through the Center's marketing department. If a school receives any requests directly from a journalist, please direct them to: [twitt@foxcitiespac.com](mailto:twitt@foxcitiespac.com). Schools are not

permitted to speak on behalf of the Center Stage Program or market the program without contacting the Center first.

The Center encourages high schools to announce their participation in the Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program in school newspapers, websites, social media sites, newsletters and other materials produced by the school. Please tag #foxcitiespac when posting rehearsal photos, show photos or updates about your production or program. The Center will promote the participating schools on the Center’s website and social media. The Center will also be partnering with WFRV to promote the Center Stage Program and participating schools.



Outstanding Actor and Actress recipients recording “Don’t Rain on My Parade” for the 2020-21 Center Stage Showcase

## EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

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An important component of this program is the educational experiences exclusively available for students and directors participating in the Center Stage Program. Opportunities in development for this season for both students and directors are workshops, networking opportunities, invitations for performance opportunities as they arise, applications for the Student Ambassador Program and Center Stage Chorus and production feedback.

The health and safety of our community is a top priority. Throughout the season the Center will continue to monitor the ongoing situation, consult industry and local health officials regarding recommended health and safety measures in addition to being in contact with participating schools about current school policies.

### **Workshops**

Workshops will be scheduled on a variety of topics throughout the season for both students and directors. The Center will bring various local and national performing arts professionals in to host virtual and in-person workshops. If your school would be interested in hosting a specific workshop for your students, please contact the Education Programs Manager. Each workshop will require reservations ahead of time to participate.

### **Networking Opportunities**

In addition to formal workshops during the season, the Center is planning opportunities for both directors and students to continue connecting throughout the season. This will allow them to share best practices and create additional opportunities for students to connect from different schools to meet other students that share the same interests.

### **Student Ambassador Program**

Students from participating Center Stage schools are eligible to apply to participate in this program that focuses on leadership, communication, digital media and marketing skills. More information and student applications will be available in September.

### **Center Stage Chorus**

New to the 2021-22 Season, students from participating schools will be able to audition to be a part of the exclusive Center Stage Chorus. These students will attend rehearsals and be given performance opportunities throughout the year at Center events. More information will be available in September.

### **Performance Opportunities**

Throughout the season, the Center will invite participating schools and students to assist with various programs as opportunities present themselves. Past examples include students dressing in period costumes and welcoming guests to season ticket holder parties during *Hamilton*, recording phone messages for the Center and performing for 2020-21 Season Reveal event.



## ADJUDICATION AND FEEDBACK

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A group of arts professionals will serve as adjudicators charged with the task of evaluating how each high school musical theater production is meeting or exceeding its potential. Each participating school is evaluated and critiqued against itself for consideration, rather than against all the schools in the program. The purpose of the critique is to provide the school with educational feedback in hopes of celebrating the notable achievements of each production and offering suggestions on how better to improve areas of development. This critique is to serve as a learning tool, not as a review of the production. **It is up to the discretion of the director whether to share the feedback with their students, creative staff or administration.**

A team of three adjudicators are assigned to review each submitted musical and are selected by the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. The production is critiqued based on a predetermined rubric which can be found on page 11. Adjudicators' comments are compiled into one document and provided to the primary contact approximately 3 weeks after the production has been evaluated. \*Please note, feedback may take longer during months of a high volume of productions.

Directors are able to select the featured performers they would like adjudicated. Schools will be able to nominate up to six (6) students per school. Students will be adjudicated in the category corresponding to their gender identification, not the gender of the role being played.

### **Double-Cast**

If a show is double-cast, there is an additional fee (\$100) if they wish to have both casts adjudicated. Students playing qualifying lead roles in both casts are eligible to be adjudicated; however, the Center Stage Program will only consider scores for six (6) students per school. The names and roles of these students must be clearly labeled on the school's production form as well as what cast the student performs with. The casts must perform at least two separate dates to allow for scheduling flexibility so all adjudicators may attend. Scores for the school's ensemble will be averaged between the two casts. Please note, the second cast adjudication is subject to the availability of the adjudicators.

### **Adjudicator Qualifications**

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center has selected a qualified group of arts professionals to serve as adjudicators in this program and help lead workshops. Adjudicators have backgrounds in the field of music, dance, theater or in another related field. All Center Stage adjudicators receive annual training and attendance of Center staff at each Center Stage event allows for monitoring and compliance. Adjudicators who do not meet the Center Stage standards are not invited to return.

### **Conflict of Interest**

Adjudicators are required to alert the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center immediately if there is a conflict of interest with a participating school.

### **Production Attendance**

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center education staff will contact schools to confirm which performances will be attended by adjudicators. Once the dates are confirmed, schools should reserve 2 complimentary tickets per adjudicator under the name "Center Stage Program." Please do not label seats or stanchion off areas for adjudicators. It is also encouraged to not share with students which performance adjudicators are attending.

### **Tickets**

Three adjudicators plus a Center staff member will attend each production on behalf of the Center Stage Program. Each school must provide the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center with eight (8) complimentary tickets (two for each reviewer, plus staff) on the date(s) selected by the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. Tickets should be held at the box office for adjudicators to pick up before the performance under the name "Center Stage Program." Please note that adjudicators assigned to your show may or may not attend the same performance.

### **Confidentiality**

Adjudicator feedback is submitted through a secure online form. Please note that adjudicators will not provide oral critiques following a performance. Adjudicators are not allowed to discuss the results, evaluations or feedback with anyone in any format. This includes, but is not limited to faculty, staff and students from participating high schools, other adjudicators, colleagues, social media networks, etc. All questions or comments from schools should be directed to the Education Programs Manager– not the adjudicators.



Students recording the closing number for the 2020-21 Virtual Showcase at Rock Garden Studios.

# RUBRIC

| SINGING & VOCALS   | EMERGING (1)   | DEVELOPING (2)  | PROFICIENT (3)   | EXCELLENT (4)  |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| <b>Evaluation Criteria:</b><br><br><b>Tone</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Quality</li> <li>Resonance</li> <li>Projection</li> </ul> <b>Accuracy</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Pitch</li> <li>Rhythm</li> <li>Intonation</li> </ul> <b>Technique</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Breath Support</li> <li>Dynamics</li> <li>Posture</li> <li>Placement</li> <li>Phrasing</li> <li>Balance</li> </ul> <b>Diction</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Articulation</li> <li>Vowel Shapes</li> <li>Consonants</li> </ul> | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Many cast/ensemble members sing with thin tone quality and needs improvement</li> <li>Many errors in rhythm and precision throughout; some members struggle to stay with the beat</li> <li>Diction unintelligible for audience, majority of the lyrics were not understood</li> <li>Minimal variety in vocals or expression</li> <li>Needs development in understanding and execution of the musical style of the show</li> <li>Needs to work on projection</li> </ul>                    | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A couple of cast/ensemble members sing with thin tone quality and needs improvement</li> <li>Occasional isolated errors in pitch</li> <li>Good diction and some lyrics were understood</li> <li>Is beginning to understand vocal variety and expression to the emotional experience of the character</li> <li>Good projection and breath support</li> <li>Understanding and execution of the musical style of the show are still in development</li> </ul> | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Demonstrated clear tone quality</li> <li>Accurate rhythm and precision</li> <li>Diction intelligible for audience and majority of the lyrics were clearly understood</li> <li>Demonstrated vocal variety and expression as a group</li> <li>Cast/ensemble sings with proper posture and breath support</li> <li>Clear understanding and execution of the musical style of the show</li> </ul>                   | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Accurate rhythm and precision throughout</li> <li>Excellent diction intelligible for audience, all lyrics clearly understood</li> <li>Mastery of pitch and tone with exceptional vocal range</li> <li>Vocal variety and expression to enhance the emotional experience of the characters</li> <li>Understands and executes the musical style of the show</li> <li>Excellent harmonies throughout</li> </ul>   |
| <b>ACTING</b><br><br><b>Evaluation Criteria:</b><br><br><b>Voice</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Projection</li> <li>Volume</li> <li>Pace</li> <li>Diction</li> <li>Dialect (<i>if applicable</i>)</li> </ul> <b>Physicality</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Gesture</li> <li>Facial expressions</li> <li>Energy</li> </ul> <b>Believability</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Character Relationships</li> <li>Motivation</li> <li>Commitment</li> <li>Emotion</li> <li>Preparedness</li> </ul>                                   | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Drops character traits vocally, physically and emotionally</li> <li>Shows uncertainty of the meaning of the musical, character, directors' vision, setting, style, focus and pace</li> <li>Unmotivated in articulation and expression in delivery of the lines – lines were frequently difficult to hear and understand by the audience</li> <li>Physical choices and expression are inconsistent and detract</li> <li>Cast/ensemble seems unprepared and needs more rehearsal</li> </ul> | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Character traits were held, but not fully supported through vocal, physical and emotional qualities</li> <li>Few examples of understanding the meaning of the musical, character, directors' vision, setting style, focus and pace</li> <li>Developing articulation and expression in delivery of lines – some lines were not heard and/or understood by the audience</li> <li>Energy was focused with good overall pacing</li> </ul>                      | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Character traits were developed featuring quality vocal, physical and emotional examples</li> <li>Demonstrated understanding of the meaning of the play, character, directors' vision, setting style, focus and pace</li> <li>Articulate and expressive in the delivery of lines – most lines were easily heard and understood by the audience</li> <li>Cast delivered lines with energy and purpose</li> </ul> | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Complete and fully developed character traits – vocal, physical and emotional qualities</li> <li>Understood the meaning of play, character, directors' vision, setting style, and focus</li> <li>Exceptionally articulate and expressive in the delivery of lines - all lines are easily heard and understood by the audience</li> <li>Pace was excellent, and the commitment of the character relationships led to easy believability in the story being told</li> </ul> |
| <b>DANCE &amp; MOVEMENT</b><br><br><b>Evaluation Criteria:</b><br><br><b>Execution of Movement</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Choreography</li> <li>Blocking</li> <li>Motivation</li> <li>Commitment</li> </ul> <b>Technical Skills</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Footwork</li> <li>Musicality</li> <li>Rhythm</li> <li>Precision</li> </ul> <b>Stage Presence</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Confidence</li> <li>Energy</li> <li>Focus</li> </ul>   | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Does not seem confident in the routines, stage presence and poise need to be stronger</li> <li>Unengaged with character bodily awareness and visibly disconnected to other dancers</li> <li>Cast/ensemble did not cohesively or precisely execute movement assigned to them</li> </ul>  | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Acceptably executed routines and demonstrates developing stamina, stage presence and poise</li> <li>Does not demonstrate bodily awareness and visual connection to other dancers</li> <li>Acceptably executed movement but did not relate to the characters</li> <li>Does not seem confident in movement being performed as it related to the characters</li> </ul>  | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precisely executed main routines, demonstrated stamina, stage presence and poise throughout majority of the performance</li> <li>Movement was performed as it related to the characters</li> <li>Demonstration of bodily awareness and visual connection to other dancers</li> </ul>  | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Precisely executed routines, demonstrated stamina, stage presence and poise throughout the performance</li> <li>Movement was performed with vibrancy as it related to the characters</li> <li>Excellent bodily awareness and visual connection to other dancers</li> <li>Cast/ensemble displayed superior musicality, footwork and technical skills</li> </ul>  |
| <b>STORYTELLING</b><br><br><b>Evaluation Criteria:</b><br><br><b>Storytelling</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Character Development</li> <li>Believability</li> <li>Interpretation</li> </ul> <b>Stage Presence</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Active Listening</li> <li>Confidence</li> </ul>  | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cast/ensemble was aware of duties as an actor but demonstrated little character development</li> <li>Unengaged and emotionally disconnected in the world being created, takes away from the storytelling</li> <li>Presented the story as outlined in the script</li> </ul>  | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cast/ensemble was aware of duties as an actor and beginning to understand their role in the creation of the world being portrayed</li> <li>Lack of engagement and investment which impacted the creation of the world being created and storytelling</li> </ul>  | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Engaged in the world of the musical and added depth to the storytelling</li> <li>Ensemble was relaxed and exhibited the confidence of being well-prepared</li> <li>Actors actively listened to one another, were focused</li> <li>Character development was complete</li> </ul>   | <b>Examples:</b><br><ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Fully engaged and emotionally invested in the world being created, adding depth to the storytelling</li> <li>Created a story so detailed that it engaged the audience and forever placed it in their memories</li> <li>Ensemble was at home on stage and able to communicate the joy of performing</li> </ul>   |

## PROGRAM CATEGORIES

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Participating schools will have their high school musical adjudicated by a panel of educators and industry professionals. Based on adjudicators' comments and tabulations, productions and individuals that receive nominations in specific categories will be recognized at a Showcase held at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center on Saturday, May 7, 2022.

### Program Categories for 2021-22

(Multiple schools/students may be recognized as performances merit)

- Outstanding Ensemble
- Outstanding Performance by Lead Actor
- Outstanding Performance by Lead Actress
- Outstanding Performance by Supporting Actor
- Outstanding Performance by Supporting Actress
- Outstanding Student Pit Orchestra

(Selected from an application process)

- Community Engagement
- Outstanding Achievement
- Outstanding Student Stage Manager
- Backstage Spirit
- Influential Theater Educator
- Inspiration Through the Arts Scholarships

### Outstanding Ensemble

Ensembles will be recognized in this category and will be determined by the top-ranking adjudication scores from both the Overall Ensemble and ensemble number.

### Outstanding Performance in a Lead Role

Multiple performers will be recognized in this category and will have the opportunity to perform at the showcase in a medley group. Recognition will be based on adjudicators' scores. Students who performed in a non-Jimmy qualifying musical are still eligible for a lead role recognized by Center Stage; however, that student will not be eligible to be a nominee sent to the Jimmy Awards®.

A lead role must follow the following criteria:

- For licensed musicals with both a book and libretto, a lead role must, at minimum, include:
  - At least one solo, featured song
  - Appearances in more than one scene with spoken dialogue with other leading or featured performers
  - Appearances in both or all acts
- For licensed musicals with a libretto only, a lead role must, at minimum, include:
  - At least one solo, featured song
  - At least one song featuring solo lines or dialogue with other leading or featured performers in the same song
  - Appearances in both or all acts

\*The Center will have final say over whether a role can be considered a lead role in a non-Jimmy Awards qualifying licensed musical.

\*One actor and one actress will be selected from this category through an additional audition process to represent the Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program at the Jimmy Awards® in June 2022.

\*\*Please note: For Outstanding Actor and Actress nominees to be considered for the NHSMTA®/Jimmy Awards® program, they must meet the criteria for a Qualifying Role. Visit <https://www.jimmyawards.com/participation/qualifying-shows-and-roles/> for more information.

Once a student has represented the Center Stage Program at the Jimmy Awards®, they will not be eligible to return to the Jimmy Awards® in subsequent years.

### **Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role**

Multiple performers will be selected and recognized. Recognition will be determined by adjudicators' scores. For characters to be nominated for a supporting role, the character must have:

- At least one solo verse in a featured song
- Appearances in more than one scene with spoken dialogue with other leading or featured performers
- Clear, significant contributions to either the central or sub-plots

The Center will have final say over whether a role can be qualified as supporting. The production form must have a clear character description if the role might be difficult for the adjudicators to identify onstage.

### **Outstanding Student Pit Orchestra**

Pit orchestras are pivotal to the success of performance as both the audience and performers rely on the music. Schools who have a pit orchestra made up of at least 60% students and 40% adults are eligible for this recognition. Schools who utilize recorded tracks or have a pit orchestra made up of over 40% adults are not eligible.

### **Community Engagement**

This recognition will be selected based on the engagement of the community throughout the production run. Teachers may nominate their community engagement program for this recognition through an application process.

### **Outstanding Achievement**

Each participating school may nominate a student who has demonstrated outstanding dedication in the face of challenges. This recognition will celebrate the strength and commitment it takes to reach for ones' dreams. Teachers may nominate a student for this recognition through an application process.

### **Outstanding Student Stage Manager**

With the knowledge that behind every successful production is a skilled stage manager, this recognition will celebrate the organization, dedication and hard work of the student stage manager. Teachers may nominate the student stage manager of their production through an application process.

### **Backstage Spirit**

To celebrate the hard work and dedication of an individual or crew who served the production behind the scenes. Backstage Spirit will recognize exemplary teamwork in this category such as

lighting, run crew, sound, production team, etc. Teachers may nominate a student or team of students for this recognition through an application process.

**Influential Theater Educator**

Current or past students, fellow educators, school administrators or community members may nominate educators for this recognition that honors educators at participating Center Stage schools for their significant impact in performing arts education. Nominations will be accepted through a public application process.

**Senior Scholarships**

Up to two \$1,000 student scholarships will be awarded to graduating seniors from participating schools interested in pursuing degrees through higher education in an arts related field. Scholarships will be selected through an application process.

**Recognition Notification**

Schools and students being recognized will be notified in spring 2022 after all productions are complete.

## SHOWCASE

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The Center Stage Program culminates in a Showcase on **Saturday, May 7, 2022** that honors and recognizes the dedication, creativity and collaboration in high school musical theater. In a red-carpet experience that is modeled after the Tony Awards®, participating schools are encouraged to invite faculty, friends and families to attend the Showcase in support of their students. Throughout the evening, participants will be recognized and have performance opportunities.

A lead actor and actress nominee will be announced at the Showcase to participate in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards® program in June 2022.

### **Tickets**

The Showcase is open to the public with tickets going on sale fall 2021. Tickets will be available by calling (920)730-3760 or in person at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center ticket office.

Students performing in the Showcase and being recognized will not need a ticket. Each participating school will receive up to 10 complimentary tickets to use as desired. Additional tickets may be purchased.

### **Event**

The evening Showcase celebrates and recognizes the hard work and dedication from the past year. During the evening, audiences will experience performances by:

#### **Center Stage Chorus**

The members of the Center Stage Stars Chorus for the 2021-22 Season will perform a number during the Showcase.

#### **Center Stage Ensemble**

All participating high schools are invited to select two students, of different identifying genders, whom are not being recognized at the Showcase to join the 2021-22 Center Stage Ensemble. The Center Stage Ensemble will perform a number during the Showcase.

#### **Outstanding Ensemble Productions**

The schools being recognized for Outstanding Ensemble will be invited to perform one number from their recognized musical. These production numbers should be 4 to 5 minutes.

#### **Outstanding Actor/Actress Medley**

Students being recognized for Outstanding Actor and Actress will be invited to sing in a medley number.

### **Music**

Each participating school is strongly encouraged to retain copies of their conductor/piano scores for the production until after nominees are announced in case they are invited to perform at the Showcase. The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center will work to secure agreements with licensing houses and representatives for all participating musicals to ensure that the schools are not responsible for additional fees associated with the Showcase performances. Each school invited to perform in the Showcase will need to submit the arranged music from their recognized production. Performers will be

accompanied by a live band during the Showcase. \*Schools who perform at the Showcase are subject to license approval.

### **Showcase Performers and Rehearsal Schedule**

High schools invited to perform as part of the Showcase will have approximately three weeks to prepare numbers, solos and/or medleys from their reviewed productions. Music will be selected in collaboration with the Center Stage music director and production team.

All performers are required to attend rehearsals at the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center during the week prior to the Showcase. Most rehearsals are scheduled during the evening.

Rehearsals with the band will be held the morning of **Saturday, May 7**; in the afternoon, all participants will be required to attend a dress rehearsal. The Showcase takes place Saturday, May 7, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.



## **NATIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS® (NHSMTA)**

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The Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program participates in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards® (The Jimmy Awards®) in New York City, a program presented by The Broadway League Foundation. The selected students receive roundtrip airfare and room and board as they move on to participate at the national level. In addition to competing for the national title, each student spends a week with Broadway professionals, producers, directors and casting agents to further their knowledge and talent.

The Jimmy Awards®/The National High School Musical Theatre Awards® (NHSMTA) program impacts more than 140,000 students who participate in high school musical theater competitions sponsored by presenters of Touring Broadway productions throughout the United States. Presented by the Broadway League Foundation, the program sends a Best Actress and Best Actor winner from each of these regional ceremonies to New York for a week-long theater intensive of coaching and rehearsals with industry professionals in preparation for a one-night-only talent showcase on Broadway. Named for Broadway impresario James M. Nederlander, the program has been the catalyst for more than \$4,000,000 in educational scholarships.

For more information, please visit [www.JimmyAwards.com](http://www.JimmyAwards.com).

\*Please note, the Center and the Broadway League will continue to monitor the ongoing health situation and adjust the program, as necessary.

THE National High School  
Musical Theatre Awards  
JIMMY AWARDS™

PRESENTED BY



## **IMPORTANT DATES**

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Registration Opens – Monday, August 9, 2021

Registration Deadline – Friday, September 10, 2021

Required Orientation Meeting via Zoom – Tuesday, September 14, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

Showcase Tickets on Sale – Fall 2021

Adjudication Period Begins – Monday, September 27, 2021

Student Ambassador Applications Due – Friday, October 1

Center Stage Chorus Auditions – Fall 2022

Adjudication Period Ends – Monday, April 4, 2022

First Vocal Rehearsal for Showcase – Monday, April 25, 2022

Jimmy Awards® Representative Auditions – Monday, April 25

Center Stage Educator Appreciation Reception – Sunday, May 1, 2022

Showcase Rehearsals – Week of May 2, 2022

Showcase – Saturday, May 7, 2022

The Jimmy Awards® - End of June 2022

### **Time Commitment**

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center knows that many hours of hard work go into preparing a high school musical theater production. One of the goals of the program is to provide visibility for the work that is already being produced, not to create additional work for directors and teachers. During the school year, the time commitment required of the directors/teachers is related to communicating pertinent information to the Center and students. During the spring, some additional time may be required to assist with preparing for Showcase to help collect information and prepare students for production numbers.

Thank you to our Center Stage High School Musical Theater Program Partners



*Angelo &  
Jennifer Ninivaggi*

