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## **THE FOX CITIES P.A.C. ANNOUNCES THE FOX CITIES HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATER AWARDS**

### **PROGRAM DESIGNED TO RECOGNIZE EXTRAORDINARY LOCAL TALENT TO START DURING THE 2016-17 SCHOOL YEAR**

**APPLETON, WI (Jan. 27, 2016)** — The [Fox Cities Performing Arts Center](#) is proud to announce the Fox Cities High School Musical Theater Awards, a new program presented by the Center and designed to recognize local high school theatrical accomplishments.

The Fox Cities High School Musical Theater Awards is an education initiative that celebrates and supports the achievements of high school theater programs in Northeastern Wisconsin. A team of adjudicators provide education feedback and determine awards for participating schools based on extraordinary achievements and processes of developing young artists, onstage and offstage, in local high school musical theater programs. The program culminates with an annual awards showcase (modeled after the Tony Awards®) to recognize outstanding student performances. The program also provides students with opportunities to engage in the arts throughout the school year with educational experiences.

"We are thrilled to be able to provide participating students with unique opportunities to learn and grow through the arts. By bringing them together for these experiences, students can learn from each other and also from local and touring artists," said Amy Gosz, Director of Programming and Community Engagement. "We think it is also important to celebrate the great work our students are doing in theater programs throughout Northeast Wisconsin."

The Fox Cities High School Musical Theater Awards is open to private and public high schools with musical productions running from fall 2016 through spring of 2017. To enter for adjudication, schools must be within a 45 mile radius of the Fox Cities Performing Arts Center. Registration will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis later this spring.

In 2017, the Center will recognize students in a professionally produced showcase which features honorees performing segments of their production live for the public.

Two students will be selected to represent the program as participants in [The National High School Musical Theatre Awards](#) (NHSMTA), also referred to as The Jimmys, presented by The Broadway League. This program is the year-end culmination of awards programs across the country and brings selected students to New York City to experience private coaching, master classes and rehearsals with theater professionals. The program culminates with students performing in an awards showcase at the Minskoff Theater in New York. Students will also receive opportunities for merit scholarships, professional advancement and other prizes.

Schools or teachers seeking more information about the registration requirements or the program should contact education coordinator Cassie Schroeder at (920) 730-3764.

### **ABOUT THE FOX CITIES PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**

The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization located in downtown Appleton, provides a premier venue for live performing arts. Since 2002, the Center has proudly served as a gathering place for the community to engage in educational opportunities while enhancing a greater understanding and appreciation of the live performing arts. The Fox Cities Performing Arts Center — *Where the Arts Come Alive!*

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