

## ***Lexus “A World of Possible” Improvement Grant***

**Premise:** School theatre programs provide a home where students can feel accepted, valued, and part of something larger than themselves. Given that the creative process of mounting a full scale musical is daunting, this program will endeavor to identify and support the improvement of fledgling musical theater programs in middle and high schools in Massachusetts. The Lexus World of Possible Improvement Grant is part of their pledge to better children's lives—allowing them to pursue their dreams.

**Purpose:** To search out and support promising, but struggling Massachusetts school musical theater programs that share the passion and enthusiasm of mounting a musical, but need financial backing to begin the process of improving both the technical and performance quality of their annual shows. This program should also ensure improvement to give these students the chance to be recognized for their achievements in theatre arts as part of the MET Awards Program.

**Who is eligible to apply:** All members of the Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild who currently produce at least one musical production per year.

**Amount of Award:** Lexus Corporation has promised \$5000 per year to award to one or two schools to improve their programs.

### ***Process:***

1. Applicants will submit an application by February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.
2. Applicants will submit a letter of support from the school's administration stating the programs strengths and weaknesses by February 1<sup>st</sup> deadline.
3. The MET Grant Committee will review the applications and schedule an on-site visit hopefully during a production rehearsal or performance to determine the scope of the school's existing theater program.
4. The MET Grant Committee will choose finalists for the grant award that will be presented to LEXUS for the final approval.
5. Winners will be notified in late May with the award presentation at the MET awards in June.

### ***Grant Restrictions:***

1. The grant may be used for Capital Expenditures that are specific to a theater program, i.e. lighting and sound improvements.
2. The grant may also be used for professional technical training for both teacher and students, i.e. technical design (set, lighting, costume, sound etc.), director training, choreographer training etc.
3. The grant may NOT be used as a replacement for a director/musical director/choreographer or any production stipend which is normally the responsibility of the school and the individual program.

### ***Grant Follow up:***

1. Final report is required which details the expenses of the grant.
2. Follow up performance visit to see improvements in action.

***Lexus "A World of Possible" Improvement Grant Application***

School Name:

School Address:

Drama Director:

Email address:

Best Phone Contact Number:

Principal/Headmaster:

Principal/Headmaster Email address:

Grade levels involved in your program:

School Population for these grade levels:

Approximate number of student participants in your program:

Age of the program:

How many years has the drama director run the program at your school?

Is the drama director a teacher at the school or hired as an outside agent?

How many musical/non-musical productions per year?

Average musical ticket price:

Average Box Office revenue over the past five years:

Average total budget expenses for your musicals. (Do NOT include stipends for director/musical director/choreographer.)

Is your directing/technical staff paid or volunteers?

How many seats in your theater space?

What is your average attendance for the full run of a show?

How would you describe the strengths of your group?

What do you see as the weaknesses of your program that need improvement?

How would you describe your level of parental support?

What would you spend the money on? How would this grow your program?

1. Please include a letter of support from your administration.
2. Please include a final budget for your last completed musical.
3. Feel free to include any other information such as photos/personnel resumes etc., which may help the committee in its deliberations.
4. MAIL THIS APPLICATION WITH SUPPORTING MATERIALS BY FEBRUARY 1 TO:

Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild  
P.O. Box 2538  
Mashpee, MA 02649

OR: Email all materials to [METG@METG.ORG](mailto:METG@METG.ORG)