

Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild Marquee Musical Theater Awards

Jimmy Awards Participation & Nomination Selection Overview

2019-2020

PURPOSE

The Massachusetts Educational Theater Guild's (METG) Marquee Musical Theater Awards promote the value of musical theater in schools, celebrate emerging talent on stage, and recognize the hard work and dedication of production designers, technicians, and producers that bring beautiful theater to life across the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

As part of our work recognizing emerging talent on stage, the METG is excited to participate in the National High School Musical Theater Awards[®] (NHSMTA)—also known as the Jimmy Awards[®]. The Jimmy Awards are a national celebration of outstanding student achievement, recognizing individual artistry in vocal, dance, and acting performance and elevating the importance of theater arts education in schools. The Jimmy Awards are presented by The Broadway League Foundation.

In Massachusetts, two high-school aged students (one best actor/actress) will represent the Commonwealth and go on an all-expense paid trip to New York City and participate in a week-long intensive experience, including coaching and rehearsals with industry professionals. The week culminates in a one-night-only showcase on Broadway, where a panel of judges crowns the nation's top performers. The Jimmy Awards are named for legendary Broadway theater owner and producer James M. Nederlander. The METG is delighted to be sponsored by ***Broadway in Boston*** and to join the network of theaters across the country participating in The Jimmy Awards.

PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

In Massachusetts, Broadway in Boston, the METG, and the METG Marquee Musical Theater Awards are the joint collaborators that facilitate the local Regional Awards Program. The program is administered on behalf of Broadway in Boston by the METG. The local program administrators include:

Regional Program Manager: Dennis P. Canty, METG Executive Director (dcanty@metg.org)

Regional Program Assistants: Katie Fleischer, METG Operations Coordinator (metg@metg.org)

Sam Nudler, METG Program Coordinator (snudler@metg.org)

Questions or concerns about the facilitation of the local program should be directed to the individuals identified above. Please do not contact Broadway in Boston, NHSMTA, or the NHSMTA Advisory Board.

PROGRAM PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

Student Eligibility

For student performers to be considered, they must attend a public, private, charter, or parochial high school located in Massachusetts that has presented an officially licensed production of a qualifying Broadway musical during the current academic year. These students must have performed in a qualifying ROLE in a qualifying SHOW approved by NHSMTA. Information about this requirement is outlined [HERE](#).

Participation Requirements- SCHOOLS

Schools may up to select two actors and two actresses for consideration as potential Jimmy Awards nominees. Schools interested in having their student performers qualify as potential nominees to the Jimmy Awards MUST have their production adjudicated as part of the Marquee Musical Theater Awards.

Schools may elect from one of three adjudication options:

1. **Traditional adjudication:** Participating schools will have their musical evaluated by three qualified adjudicators and will receive written and/or oral feedback (school's choose which method they prefer). Schools electing this option are eligible for Marquee Awards nominations, and students in eligible roles and eligible shows are eligible for consideration to the NHMSTA/Jimmy Awards.
2. **Summary-only adjudication:** Participating schools will have their musical evaluated by three qualified adjudicators and will receive a short written summary of the show's strengths and weaknesses. Schools electing this option are eligible for Marquee Awards nominations, and students in eligible roles and eligible shows are eligible for consideration to the NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards.
3. **NHSMTA ONLY adjudication:** Participating schools will have their musical evaluated by ONE qualified adjudicator to determine whether the show and the student performer(s) met a minimum qualifying score for potential nomination to the NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards. The production is NOT eligible for Marquee Awards nominations.

To complete the METG Marquee Awards registration form [CLICK HERE](#).

Participation Requirements- STUDENTS

Student's interested in participating must FIRST confirm that their school has completed the METG Marquee Awards registration process outlined above. Students should also confirm eligibility as outlined in the Student Eligibility section of this document. Schools may nominate up to two actors and two actresses from the approved list of shows and roles.

Students that wish to be considered for nomination are required to participate in a supplemental audition and performance event where the nominees will be selected. This audition event will evaluate student ability across three categories: voice, acting, and movement. This audition event will take place from 12PM-9PM on **April 5, 2020** at **LOCATION TBD**. The event will culminate in a public performance for family members and friends. For

more information on the audition event, please see the **Nominee Selection Process** section of this document.

Students that wish to be considered for nomination are required to attend the METG Marquee Musical Theater Awards Ceremony on **June 15, 2020** and must be available for the last ten days of June (June 20-June 30, 2020) for the NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards intensive and public performance. During this time students will reside in dormitories at New York University with other student nominees from across the United States. **Please note: The NHSMTA does not allow absences for any reason including family events and/or school productions, graduations, proms, etc.**

Expenses related to the students' participation in the NHSMTA are paid by Broadway in Boston and the METG; including housing, food and local transportation to/from program.

Unfortunately, students who are unavailable for any of the events described above **WILL NOT** be considered for nomination.

Students that wish to be considered for nomination must register for the audition event and pay a \$25 application fee. To register for the auditions [CLICK HERE](#). **The deadline for student submissions is WEDNESDAY MARCH 18, 2020.** The student's show may open after that date, but the application must be in by the 18th.

NOMINEE SELECTION PROCESS

Step 1: Performance-level qualification process

In order to qualify for nomination to the NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards, eligible student performers must first have their qualifying show and their performance in a qualifying role evaluated by a METG Marquee Musical Theater Awards adjudicator. **Both the SHOW and the STUDENT must achieve a minimum qualifying score to be considered for nomination.** Qualifying scores are NOT shared with participants. Students who do not meet the qualifying score will not be disqualified from participating in the supplemental audition process or from being named as a finalist (see below).

Step 2: METG Jimmy Awards Supplemental Audition Event

Date/Time: April 5, 2020; 12PM-9PM

Location: TBD

On the day of the event, nominees will participate in a preliminary round in the morning that includes a performance session and a dance session. Students will be asked to prepare a cut of a song (32 bars) from the role in the production that the school entered into the METG Marquee Musical Theater Awards. Students should also be prepared to sing 32 bars from another musical of their choice, and should select a song that showcases their talent and range. A panel of adjudicators comprised of theater professionals will evaluate the performances.

After lunch, students will be broken into small groups to prepare a musical performance (music will be distributed ahead of time) that will be shared with the public that evening. Additionally, a small number of students may be asked to perform their role-based musical numbers at this event.

After a short dinner break, participants will present a 60-minute performance that will be open to the public. The first 30 minutes will be dedicated to the group and individual performances. After the first 30 minutes, the adjudicators will publicly identify ten semi-finalists (five best actors and five best actresses) who will sing their second song to the audience.

The two nominees will be announced after the conclusion of the METG Marquee Awards season on May 18, 2020.

Step 3: Preparation of NHSMTA Submission Materials

The two students selected as nominees to the NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards are required to prepare materials that will need to be submitted to NHSMTA. These materials include, but are not limited to, a resume, demographic information, photos from their performance in a qualifying role, a video of them singing two 32-bar cuts – one from the qualifying role another the choice of the finalist.

Step 4: Participation in the METG Marquee Musical Theater Awards Ceremony

The ten students selected as finalists to the NHSMTA/Jimmy Awards will be invited to perform in a musical number that will conclude Act 1 of the METG Marquee Musical Theater Awards Ceremony. The two nominees will be publicly announced at the Ceremony. The adjudicators' decisions are final. In the event the Best Actor or Actress becomes unable to participate in the NHSMTA, the next highest score in the corresponding category will represent the METG at that NHSMTA.