



IOWA HIGH SCHOOL **MUSICAL THEATER AWARDS**

Presented By  **EMC**
INSURANCE

2018-2019 RULES AND GUIDELINES

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PROGRAM OVERVIEW

The Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards, presented by EMC Insurance Companies, is an initiative of Des Moines Performing Arts that celebrates the extraordinary achievements of young musical theater artists. The program aims to create visibility and support for high school musical theater programs and to highlight the importance of arts education.

The program consists of four main components:

1. ADJUDICATION

Panels of community adjudicators comprised of performing arts educators and professionals attend and review each participating school's musical production. Students and directors receive valuable constructive feedback that can be used to grow and strengthen their future work.

Adjudication is the foundational component of the IHSMTA program. Every participating school participates in the adjudication process. The other components of the program are optional, allowing schools to create a level of involvement that fits their particular circumstances.

2. LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Participating schools receive access to exclusive learning opportunities offered throughout the year that are designed to help both students and directors advance their understanding of the craft. Workshops and master classes addressing performance, technical and creative topics are led by theater professionals from the state of Iowa as well as by visiting Broadway industry experts.

3. AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

Based on adjudication results, schools receive awards that honor their achievements in performance, technical and creative categories.

The Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards is designed to be celebratory rather than competitive in nature. Any student or school at an outstanding level is recognized for their achievement. Multiple honorees may be named in each category as achievements merit.

4. AWARDS SHOWCASE

The year culminates in a professionally produced Awards Showcase event held at the Des Moines Civic Center – Iowa's top destination for touring Broadway productions. The Awards Showcase is a full evening featuring excerpts from award-winning productions.

In addition to being a celebration of student achievements, the Awards Showcase allows students to watch and learn from their musical theater peers, as well as to work directly with a guest choreographer and music director from New York City to rehearse several special medley performances for the Awards Showcase.

ELIGIBILITY

School Location

Eligible high schools must be located in the state of Iowa.

Production Dates

Musical productions must take place between September 20, 2018 and May 6, 2019.

Student Participation

Musical productions must be primarily cast with currently enrolled high school students.

Type of Productions

To be adjudicated, a musical production qualifies if it fits one of the following categories:

1. A published musical, operetta or revue that is currently held by a licensing house or is in the public domain.
2. An original piece which features an original script, music and/or lyrics and which is covered under a valid copyright.
3. An original theatrical compilation of musical/text material from other sources that is presented with the approval or permission of the original creators and their representatives. This excludes show choir, choral or vocal jazz arrangements.

APPLICATION TO PARTICIPATE AND APPLICATION FEES

Applications for the 2018-2019 Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards are accepted online until **September 14, 2018**.

A finite number of schools will be accepted per production weekend. As such, schools are encouraged to apply early and will be accepted on a first-come, first-serve basis.

An \$85 application fee* is required with the application. The application fee is due no later than October 1, 2018. Payment methods:

1. Checks should be made payable to Des Moines Performing Arts and sent to: Des Moines Performing Arts, Attn: Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards, 221 Walnut Street, Des Moines, Iowa, 50309.
2. The application fee may also be paid by credit card over the phone by contacting Sarah Florian, Community Programs Coordinator, at 515-246-2358.

[APPLICATION FORM](#)

If a school wishes to have more than one musical adjudicated (example: fall musical and spring musical), the second production carries an application fee of \$300.

Likewise, productions that double-cast and wish to have both casts reviewed, will be assessed an additional \$300 for the secondary cast. Please see page 5 for full information regarding double-casting.

TEACHER/DIRECTOR ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES:

Expectations for the teacher/director's role within the program are:

1. Maintain open communication with Des Moines Performing Arts regarding program needs and participation.
2. Act as the primary liaison between Des Moines Performing Arts and the school community (faculty, students, parents, etc.). This includes the distribution of important updates and information related to the program to students and the community.
3. Provide Des Moines Performing Arts with digital production photographs within 2 weeks of your production for use at the final Awards Showcase and for promotional purposes.

PRODUCTION PHOTO UPLOADER

(As the program has grown, we have seen an upwards trend in school production photos being published or broadcast by media outlets such as the *Des Moines Register* in their promotion of the final Awards Showcase. Help us make sure your school is represented well by submitting as high quality of photos as possible.)

4. Provide Des Moines Performing Arts with sheet music in a readable format from the production for use at the final Awards Showcase, when and if requested.
5. Schedule and coordinate rehearsals with students prior to the Awards Showcase, if performing.
6. If school is invited to perform at the Awards Showcase and accepts the invitation, attend the school's tech rehearsal on either Friday, May 31 or Saturday, June 1.

ADJUDICATION PROCESS

Adjudicators

Adjudicators are qualified performing arts professionals and performing arts educators. All adjudicators go through program training on rubric scoring and feedback. Adjudicators are required to inform program staff if there is a conflict of interest with a participating school and will not be scheduled to review a show for which there is a conflict of interest.

Rubrics

Adjudicators use a set of standard rubrics to review each school's production. Directors receive a copy of the rubrics prior to the school's production. The rubrics are used to review each production on its own merit and are not used to compare one production against another.

Adjudication Standards and Evaluation Rubrics can be found online here:

<https://desmoinesperformingarts.org/ihsmta-directors/>

Adjudication Form

Two weeks prior to the production, directors are required to submit a completed Adjudication Form. This form gathers the information on cast, creative, and technical roles, helping adjudicators determine which awards a school is eligible to receive. This is also an opportunity for directors to communicate with adjudicators about the resources available to their school and any additional information they would like to share about their production.

ADJUDICATION FORM

ADJUDICATION PROCESS, cont.

NOTE: Program staff will work with you prior to filling out the Adjudication Form to determine which students will be reviewed for their individual roles. The number of roles reviewed is limited to eight, and certain roles will be required to be reviewed.

Double-Casting

Productions which double-cast (either completely or only certain roles) must communicate that information to program staff with enough lead time to make sure adjudicators are appropriately scheduled to review the performances by the designated/primary cast. Any individual roles not seen by a full adjudicator team will be ineligible for award consideration.

Fall shows must communicate double-casting schedules by September 14, 2018; spring shows must communicate double-casting schedules by February 1, 2019.

Contingent on adjudicator ability, schools may elect to have both casts adjudicated. If you desire to have both casts reviewed, please communicate that you wish to have both casts reviewed by the dates listed above so that a second adjudicator team can be assigned to your production. Please note that an additional \$300 fee is assessed to review a second cast. A second cast is defined as a full second cast, partial second cast or one role with two students alternating performances.

Production Attendance

Schools will provide 8-10 complimentary tickets for adjudicators and program staff:

- A minimum of three adjudicators will attend each participating school's production. Each school must provide 2 complimentary tickets per adjudicator (generally six to eight tickets total) on the performance date(s) for which adjudicators are available to attend.
- Program staff may also wish to attend your production and may request complimentary ticket(s).

Adjudicators and program staff may not all attend the same performance. Des Moines Performing Arts will communicate with each school director which performance(s) the adjudicators and staff members are attending one week prior to opening night of the production.

Tickets should be held at the box office for adjudicators to pick up the night of the performance. Tickets are to be held under "Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards" and not the name of the adjudicator. Adjudicator names will not be shared with the school in advance.

Adjudicator seating arrangements:

- *Reserved Seating:* Adjudicator seats should be on an aisle and placed inconspicuously as possible while still allowing for a strong viewing experience. Adjudicators attending the same performance prefer their pairs of tickets be spaced throughout the auditorium and not right next to each other.
- *General Admission:* If you anticipate a full house, reserve seats for adjudicators and mark the seats simply "RESERVED". Please do not indicate on the signs that they are reserved for adjudicators or the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards. Adjudicators attending the same performance prefer their reserved seats be spaced throughout the auditorium and not all right next to each other. If you anticipate ample open seating, adjudicators may select their own seats.

Adjudicator Feedback

Adjudicator feedback will be emailed to the director following the performance. Directors are encouraged to use the adjudicator feedback and rubrics for reflection and future growth. Schools should anticipate receiving feedback within three weeks after the performance. (All efforts are made to turn around feedback sooner, but peak production weeks may necessitate more time for processing.) Directors are encouraged to consider sharing the adjudicator feedback with collaborators, administrators, and students as they feel is appropriate.

RECOGNITION OF PARTICIPATION

Participating schools are required to recognize their involvement in the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards within their program or playbill. There are three options available to schools, listed in order of program preference.

1. PREFERRED OPTION: PROGRAM INSERTS

Schools electing for this option will be sent informational inserts to include in their programs/playbills. The goal of these inserts is to provide more detailed information about the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards.

2. SECONDARY OPTION: PRINTED GRAPHIC

Schools that prefer an alternative to the inserts should plan to include a provided ad graphic in their playbill to indicate their participation in the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards. Schools may select from four different versions of this ad based on individual program needs, all of which can be [downloaded from the program website here](#). Please ensure the graphic is sized appropriately and of high enough resolution so that it is readable.

3. FINAL OPTION, IF NEEDED: LANGUAGE

In the event that utilizing inserts or printing the ad graphic is not an option based on school policy or program format, schools may instead elect to include the following language in their program to highlight their participation.

This production is being adjudicated as part of the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards, presented by EMC Insurance Companies – a program of Des Moines Performing Arts which celebrates the extraordinary achievements of Iowa students in high school musical theater. For more information, visit DMPA.org/education. #IowaHSMTA

Des Moines Performing Arts encourages schools to further announce their participation in the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards in school newspapers, newsletters and school or program websites. Des Moines Performing Arts will post promotional information on each participating high school musical on the Des Moines Performing Arts website and social media platforms.

PHOTO/VIDEO RELEASE

During the course of the program, there may be times when Des Moines Performing Arts will photograph or video students, school staff, volunteers, and audience members. Please be aware that by participating in the program, teachers and students are giving full rights and permissions to Des Moines Performing Arts for the use of such video and photos. Please also be aware that Des Moines Performing Arts may use a school's name and students' names in press releases and other program communications. Please inform program staff in writing if an individual's name should not be published.

LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES AND OTHER RESOURCES

Program participation opens up the opportunity for various learning opportunities for students and theater educators. These include but are not limited to Broadway master classes, technical and performance workshops led by Iowa theater professionals and accredited courses for theater educators. Learning opportunities are announced throughout the year as details are confirmed. Many learning opportunities carry no additional fee. In some instances, a fee is required to cover the cost of a ticket for the participant to attend a touring Broadway production as part of the experience.

Examples of recent learning opportunities include:

- Acting-a-song master class with two-time Tony Award-winner Sutton Foster;
- Stage Management workshop with professional stage manager Janet Albanese, including a behind-the-scenes tour with the stage manager of the National Tour of KINKYBOOTS;
- Master Class Tour of northern/eastern Iowa with Broadway Teaching Artist Carlos Encinas
- Tech Intensive for students and directors focused on three tracks: stage management, lighting, and scenic design
- Directors Retreat focused on sharing best practices, answering burning questions, and relevant workshop topics, including the opportunity to receive license renewal credit;
- Stage Combat Workshop with Steve Czarnecki of the National Tour of LES MISÉRABLES

Other Resources – Ticket Exchange

Participating schools are invited to participate in a ticket exchange program. The ticket exchange encourages students and educators to see other productions and to lend support to the endeavors of their peers. All directors who indicate interest in participating in the ticket exchange on their application will receive a list of other participating schools' production dates and contact information mid-October via email. The number of tickets to be exchanged between schools will be determined by the teachers and schools involved. Reservations will be made between schools and not through the Des Moines Performing Arts education department.

AWARDS – TYPES AND PROCESSES

A complete listing of award categories may be found in Appendix A.

Awards Based Solely On Adjudication

The majority of awards given through the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards are based solely on adjudicator scores, comments, and nominations. No additional submission materials are needed to be considered for the following awards:

- Outstanding Musical Production
- Outstanding Overall Performance
- Outstanding Overall Technical and Creative Achievement
- Distinguished Scene
- Outstanding Ensemble
- Outstanding Student Orchestra
- Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role
- Outstanding Performance by a Featured Dancer

See page 9 for an overview of the system used for determining awards and honors through the adjudication process.

Awards with Additional Components

There are several award categories that require additional submission materials and evaluation for consideration. Additional submission materials are needed to be considered for the following awards:

- Outstanding Achievement in a Technical, Creative or Business Role
- Outstanding Community Engagement
- Impact Award
- Triple Threat Award

Please see the pages 10-14 for specific details and processes for these categories with additional application components.

ADJUDICATION-BASED AWARD DETERMINATIONS AND NOTIFICATION

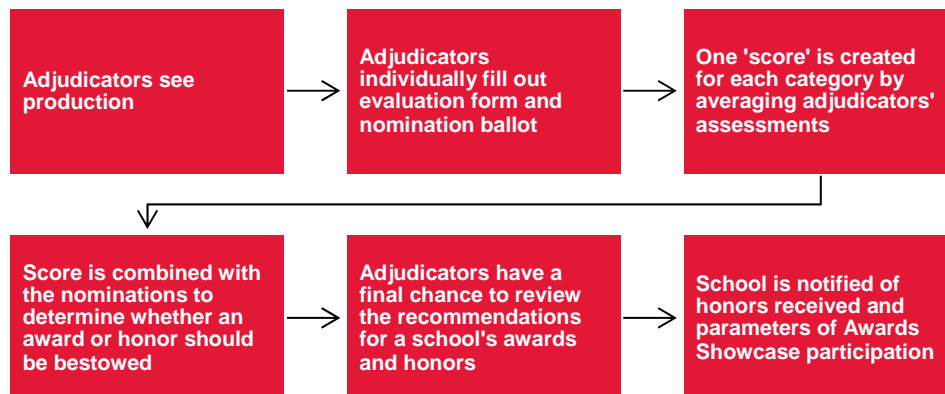
For each category under consideration for an award, each adjudicator takes part in a two-step process after seeing a production:

1. Adjudicators individually fill out an **evaluation form** using the scoring rubric. (The combined evaluation forms are shared back with the directors and schools shortly after the production closes with the goal of providing feedback.)
2. Adjudicators also individually fill out a **nomination ballot**, which is seen only by Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards staff.

Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards staff members then combine the evaluation forms and nomination ballots to determine the awards and recognitions to bestow. First, the evaluation forms are used to **assign a score to each category or individual student performance**. This is done by averaging the adjudicators' assessments utilizing the scoring rubric. The score is then combined with the **number of nominations** received to determine if an award or recognition should be bestowed.

As the last step of the process, adjudicators have the chance to do a **final review** of the honors a school will receive. Recommendations for the cumulative awards and recognitions that a school should receive are shared based on the scores and nominations. Adjudicators affirm the recommendations. If adjudicators are in disagreement with a recommendation, particularly if an award or recognition is on the "bubble" of being recognized or not, adjudicators may override the initial recommendation.

AWARD DETERMINATION PROCESS



Notifications of awards received will be sent to school directors on a rolling basis, based on timing of productions.

Multiple schools and individual students may be recognized for outstanding achievement within the same category as scores and nominations warrant.

TECHNICAL, CREATIVE AND BUSINESS AWARDS

As noted, there are some award categories that require additional components outside of adjudication. This includes Technical, Creative and Business Awards.

Technical, Creative and Business Awards for specific areas are given for individual and team contributions by students. In order to evaluate the specific contributions made by students in these capacities, these areas utilize a student-created portfolio in addition to production feedback.

Areas

Students whose work or contributions fit in any of the following areas may submit a digital portfolio to be considered for a technical or creative achievement award:

Creative Roles (primarily design or direction focused)	Technical Roles (primarily execution focused)	Business Roles (primarily administrative focused)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Direction ➤ Music Direction ➤ Lighting Design ➤ Sound Design ➤ Scenic Design ➤ Props Design ➤ Costume Design ➤ Hair/Makeup Design ➤ Choreography ➤ Dramaturgy ➤ Other applicable aspect of the production not listed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Stage Management ➤ Technical Direction ➤ Backstage Crew (props, set, costume construction or maintenance, hair/makeup, etc.) ➤ Board Operations (Lights, Sound, etc.) ➤ Video Production (used as part of the show) ➤ Other applicable aspect of the production not listed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Marketing and Publicity ➤ Video Production (used for promotion) ➤ Front of House Management (event management, ushers, box office, etc.) ➤ Other applicable aspect of the production not listed

Please note: students serving in assistant capacities may also be considered.

Steps to Be Considered

There are two components to be considered for a technical, creative or business award.

Step One: Submit a Portfolio

Applying students will submit a self-created, digital portfolio in support of their work on the production. Portfolio deadlines are on a rolling basis based on production dates. Those deadlines are as follows:

- Productions in September through November – Portfolios due by December 3, 2018
- Productions in December through March – Portfolios due by April 8, 2019
- Productions in April – Portfolios due by May 6, 2019

Portfolio Requirements:

1. 1-2 page personal essay about his or her experience with the production.
2. Supplemental artifacts that demonstrate the student's work on the production. Possible artifacts include scans of renderings, sketches, prompt book, crew or shift lists, lighting plots, videos* and photos. Multiple artifacts are encouraged.

Create one Word or PDF document that includes your digital artifacts. Include your name, school and production title in the top left of your artifact document.

*Videos are to be submitted via Vimeo or YouTube with the link provided in the artifact document. If the video is longer than 5 minutes, indicate the start time; the panelists will only review up to 5 minutes per artifact.

TECHNICAL AND CREATIVE ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS, cont.

Step Two: Interview with Adjudicator Panel

A brief phone interview will be scheduled between a panel of adjudicators and the student after the portfolio is received. This is an opportunity for the adjudicators to ask clarifying questions after reviewing the portfolio and for the applicant to provide additional insight into his or her process.

Interviews are scheduled on a rolling basis based on production dates. Interview dates are as follows:

- Productions in September through November – Interviews scheduled December 11-12, 2018
- Productions in December through March – Interviews scheduled April 10, 2019
- Productions in April – Interviews scheduled May 8-9, 2019

Adjudicators will be asked to review the applicant's portfolio and phone interview based on a rubric.

[TECHNICAL, CREATIVE AND BUSINESS RUBRICS](#) (note that rubrics are periodically updated)

NOTE: There is no additional fee to be considered for a Technical, Creative, or Business award.

Application (*NEW* All portfolios must be submitted digitally this year.)

1. Fill out the online [PORTFOLIO SUBMISSION FORM](#)
2. As part of the form, you will be required to upload an electronic version of your personal essay and your artifact document.
3. As part of the information form, you will also indicate your availability for your phone interview with the adjudicator panel. Assigned interview times will be communicated to students shortly after the portfolio submission deadline.

***NEW* Technical, Creative and Business Achievement Portfolio Submission Limit**

Please note that beginning in the 2018-2019 school year, each school may only submit up to FIVE portfolios to be considered for a Technical, Creative and Business Achievement Award. The first five portfolio submissions from any one school will be the five portfolios reviewed. Any additional portfolios submitted will not be reviewed or considered for an award.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD

As noted, there are some award categories that require additional components outside of adjudication. This includes Community Engagement Awards.

Scope

Theater inherently has the power to move, enlighten and to promote change. The Community Engagement Award is presented to a school that utilizes their production and its theme/message in a meaningful way to make a difference within the community. This award challenges schools to use their musical productions to creatively make connections, fill a need, resolve conflict, provide services, or in other unique ways to engage their community.

Schools considering applying for the Community Engagement Award are encouraged to think about the following questions: What are some of the challenges of your production, and how can it affect the community? Was the musical chosen to coincide with a social, political, economic, or community initiative? Is there contextual information you are providing to your audience in innovative ways such as post-show discussions or programs in conjunction with neighborhood organizations? How has positive change or learning come as a direct result of working with the community? What will the impact of this production be after the show has closed?

Recent Examples of Community Engagement Projects by Participating Schools:

- Clarke Community High School connected the way Ariel loses her voice in DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID to the voiceless-ness experienced by victims of domestic violence. Students raised awareness about teen dating violence and also collected items to donate to a local crisis intervention center.
- The cast of SEUSSICAL from Nevada High School honored Dr. Seuss by promoting childhood literacy through two events for children. Cast members read aloud, hosted activities, and gave away over 500 books. Students also raised funds at their performances to help their library expand its collection.
- The cast from Sioux City North High School assembled interactive kits that allowed young audience members to participate in key parts of the story of DISNEY'S THE LITTLE MERMAID. Proceeds from the sale of each kit funded scholarships for water safety lessons for under-privileged kids in their community.

Application

To be considered, submit a Community Engagement Award Application online. *NEW* All Community Engagement Applications must be submitted online this year. Application deadlines are on a rolling basis based on production dates. Those deadlines are as follows:

- Productions in September through November – Application due by December 3, 2018
- Productions in December through March – Applications due by April 8, 2019
- Productions in April – Applications due by May 6, 2019

The application consists of a 1-2 page summary of your project and any supplementary materials that demonstrate its implementation. At least one photo of the project is required when submitting your application online.

[COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT AWARD APPLICATION](#)

NOTE: There is no additional fee to be considered for a Community Engagement award.

IMPACT AWARD

As noted, there are some award categories that require additional components outside of adjudication. This includes Impact Awards.

Scope

While the primary focus of the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards is to celebrate student achievements, adults also make tremendous contributions to school drama programs and make a lasting impact on students.

The Impact Award is a student-nominated award presented to an adult who leads and/or supports their school's productions. This award provides an avenue to recognize educators or community members, such as parent volunteers, that go above and beyond to support the high school musical experience.

Nomination Process

To be considered, a current student or group of students must complete the nomination process online. If submitting a nomination as a group of students, please identify one student to serve as the primary contact for the nomination. All nominations must be completed and received by March 29, 2019.

The nomination process consists of the following components:

1. 1-2 page essay written by the nominating student describing how the nominee goes above and beyond to make a positive impact on students' experience in their high school musical.
2. Written testimonials from three to six individuals who have worked directly with the nominee on one or more school musical production. Testimonials may come from but are not limited to:
 - Current high school students
 - Alumni of the school's drama program
 - Production Staff (Director, Music Director, Choreographer, Costumer, etc.)
 - Other adults that work on productions with this mentor (school employees and community members are acceptable)
 - School Administrators
 - Parents

Each testimonial should be no more than 300 words.

Nominations should be submitted online: [IMPACT AWARD NOMINATION FORM](#)

(Please note, the nomination form asks for the nominee's years of service at the school, the nominee's role in the school musical, and whether they are a school staff member, a contracted adult, or a volunteer.)

NOTE: There is no additional fee to nominate someone for an Impact Award.

TRIPLE THREAT AWARD PROGRAM

As noted, there are some award categories that require additional components outside of adjudication. This includes the Triple Threat Awards.

Scope

Students playing qualifying roles as defined by the [National High School Musical Theatre Awards](#) are under consideration to participate in the Triple Threat Award program. This is the only directly competitive award in the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards and is awarded to one male and one female student who possess outstanding singing, dancing, and acting skills.

The Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards program is a regional awards program for the National High School Musical Theatre Awards. The Triple Threat Award recipients will represent the state of Iowa at the National High School Musical Theatre Awards in New York City in June 2019, all-expenses-paid.

Top achieving students in qualifying roles will be invited to come together during the week and weekend prior to the Awards Showcase to put together one of the Inter-School Medleys to be performed at the Awards Showcase. In addition, each participating student will perform a solo for a selection panel and receive individual coaching on their performance. Based on solo performances, coaching sessions, and observations of the medley rehearsal, the Triple Threat Awards will be decided. These awards are the only awards that will not be announced to the public in advance of the Awards Showcase event.

Qualifying Roles

If you have specific questions about which roles are eligible for consideration for the Triple Threat Award program, please see Nationals' list of [QUALIFYING ROLES](#). (Note that this list is periodically updated.)

Please note: actors not currently enrolled in high school are ineligible to participate in the Triple Threat Award program.

Invitations

Students who qualify for the Triple Threat Award program will be notified on a rolling basis, based on timing of their school production. An invitation with specific details and parameters will be sent to the director to pass on to his or her qualifying students, if any, at the time of notification of any other awards received through the adjudication process.

Please note: directors are encouraged to inform students in qualifying roles that Triple Threat program activities will occur Friday, May 31 through Monday, June 3, 2019. Families should be encouraged to not make other plans, schedule graduation receptions, etc. this weekend until they learn whether their student has been invited to participate.

AWARDS SHOWCASE – MONDAY, JUNE 3, 2019

One of the goals of the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards is to provide as many students as possible with the experience of performing on the Des Moines Civic Center stage. In addition to having the opportunity to perform, this allows students from across schools to be inspired by the work of their peers that they may not otherwise have a chance to experience.

Types of Participation - There are several pathways for participation in the Awards Showcase.

1. Inter-School Medleys (Featuring student representatives from all schools)

All schools will be invited to select student representatives to participate in an inter-school medley. Students who perform in the inter-school medleys will work with the Awards Showcase choreographer and music director, who are typically guest Broadway artists from New York City, as well as have the opportunity to build connections with students from other schools.

Directors will receive information by mid-spring about the parameters of this year's inter-school medleys, including how students qualify to participate. Based on the parameters given, directors will be asked to confirm which of their students will participate in each inter-school medley in advance of the Awards Showcase week.

2. Production Excerpt Performances*

Some schools will be invited to showcase an excerpt from their school's musical production. Production Excerpt Performance invitation parameters will be determined closer to the 2019 Awards Showcase. Performance parameters will be sent out with performance invitations. In addition to performance excerpts, productions will also be highlighted in videos throughout the event.

3. Technical, Creative and Business Achievement Gallery

Individuals/teams of students who receive an award for a technical, creative, or business capacity will be invited to create a display showcasing their work that will be exhibited in a lobby gallery the evening of the Awards Showcase.

4. Assistant Stage Manager Track

A small number of students will have the opportunity to serve as Assistant Stage Managers for the Awards Showcase rehearsals and events. Students will work directly with professional stage manager Janet Albanese to assist in executing the Awards Showcase event. Details on eligibility requirements and the application process will be provided to directors in early spring.

**Note about eligibility:* Eligibility to perform an excerpt from your school's production at the Awards Showcase is also contingent on IHSMTA being able to secure the needed performance rights. Most productions in the past have been approved with little problem. In the event rights cannot be secured, IHSMTA regrets that it may have to revoke a school's invitation to perform an excerpt from their production.

Please note: Productions of GREASE will no longer be eligible for Awards Showcase inclusion due to rights considerations.

Tickets to the Awards Showcase

On-sale information and additional ticketing information will be provided to all directors once available to share with their students and school community.

Awards Presentation

Awards will be presented to school representatives on Monday, June 3, 2019 prior to the start of the Awards Showcase. More details about this process will be sent to directors closer to the event.

AWARDS SHOWCASE, CONT.

Music

Performances will be accompanied by the Awards Showcase band, made up of musicians provided by Des Moines Performing Arts.

If invited to perform an excerpt from your production, directors will be asked to submit copies of music for their school's performance. As such, please keep all copies of production music after your production closes (specifically the piano/conductor score, percussion, bass, guitar, cello and violin parts). Des Moines Performing Arts will work with licensing houses to attain extensions on music and will send you a copy of this permission for your records once secured.

All submitted music should be clear and readable. This includes all cuts and transitions being clearly marked in all scores/parts submitted. In addition, please ensure that your cuts adhere to the time guidelines set forth in your performance invitation.

Costumes, Wardrobe, and Props

No costumes from the production will be worn during the Awards Showcase event. Performers will wear all black per the guidelines below. Accessories and hand props may be utilized to suggest character, time, and place if desired.

Wardrobe for male performers: black shirt with a collar, such as a button up or polo; black dress pants; black shoes; black socks. No shorts or sweats, visible lettering or logos.

Wardrobe for female performers: black tops; black dress pants; black dresses or skirts at or below the knee due to choreography considerations; black shoes, character-style preferred if already in your possession; black hosiery or socks. Please no shorts, sweats, visible lettering/logos, or yoga pants (can appear sheer under stage lights). If wearing a dress or skirt, black hosiery is required.

Sets

No sets from school productions will be used during the Awards Showcase event. Schools may elect to utilize basic boxes, stair units, or similar elements to create levels or visual interest. Units must be black and portable enough for students to move them on and off stage quickly. Directors should communicate what, if any, units they will be using in advance to make arrangements for loading in and storing the units.

Advance Preparation and Rehearsals

Each school that is performing an excerpt from their production – either a solo or ensemble excerpt – must attend one tech rehearsal in the days prior to the Awards Showcase. The tech rehearsal will include an orientation period, a chance for school director(s) to finesse spacing on the Civic Center stage, a run through of the number with the Awards Showcase band, and mic check for soloists. Students should arrive fully knowing their music and blocking so that the tech rehearsal can be used for final tweaks. This year's tech rehearsals will be held on Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1.

Music for the Inter-School Medleys will be provided to school directors to distribute to their participating students in early May. Each inter-school medley will have two or more group rehearsals between Tuesday, May 28, 2019 and Monday, June 3, 2019. Full attendance at the group rehearsals is mandatory to perform in an Inter-School Medley.

Students in Inter-School Medleys are expected to learn and memorize their music in advance of their first group rehearsal, as rehearsals will be focused on learning choreography, assigning any solos, and stylization. It is up to each school director's discretion on whether assistance from the school will be offered in preparing for the Inter-School Medleys or whether participating students should prepare themselves independently.

(See Appendix B for a sample of the past year's Awards Showcase rehearsal schedule.)

APPENDIX A: 2018-2019 AWARDS CATEGORIES

PRODUCTION AWARDS

Outstanding Musical Production

Takes into consideration all performance, technical and creative elements

Outstanding Overall Performance

Takes into consideration all performance elements

Outstanding Overall Technical and Creative Achievement

Takes into consideration all technical and creative elements

Distinguished Scene

Outstanding Ensemble

Outstanding Student Orchestra

Community Engagement

Awarded to schools that create and implement activities or events that engage their local community with their high school's production and its theme or message.

INDIVIDUAL/TEAM STUDENT AWARDS

Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role

Outstanding Performance by a Featured Dancer

Outstanding Technical, Creative and Business Achievement*

Includes Stage Management, Technical Direction, Backstage Crew (props, set, costumes, hair/makeup, etc.), Board Operations, Master Carpenter, Video Production (used as part of the show), Direction, Music Direction, Lighting Design, Sound Design, Set Design, Props Design, Costume Design, Hair/Makeup Design, Choreography, Dramaturgy, Marketing and Publicity, Video Production (used for promotion), Front of House Management (event management, ushers, box office, etc.) or other applicable aspect of the production not listed.

**Awarded to schools where students serve in these roles and those students completed the portfolio submission process to be considered.*

OTHER AWARDS

Impact Award

Given to adults, based on student nomination.

APPENDIX B: SAMPLE AWARDS SHOWCASE WEEK SCHEDULE (BASED ON 2018)

TUESDAY, MAY 29	
12:30 – 4:45 PM	Opening Number Rehearsal: Cohort A schools only
1:15 – 5:45 PM	Opening Number Rehearsal: Cohort B schools only
WEDNESDAY, MAY 30	
12:30 – 4:45 PM	Opening Number Rehearsal: Cohort C schools only (Cedar Rapids)
THURSDAY, MAY 31	
10:15 AM – 2:45 PM	Finale Rehearsal: Cohort D schools only
11:30 – 3:45 PM	Finale Rehearsal: Cohort E schools only
12:30 – 3:45 PM	Assistant Stage Manager Orientation (Des Moines)
3 – 7:15 PM	Finale: Cohort F schools only
FRIDAY, JUNE 1	
9:30 AM – 1 PM	Opening Number Rehearsal: A, B, C cohorts combined
12:15 – 7 PM	Triple Threat Coaching Sessions – 20 minute blocks (Nominees from A, B, C schools preferred)
1:30 – 7:45 PM	Production Excerpts Tech Rehearsals (A, B, C schools preferred)
1 - 8 PM	Assistant Stage Managers assist with tech rehearsals
SATURDAY, JUNE 2	
8:30 AM – 12 PM	Finale Rehearsal: Cohorts D, E, F combined
10 AM – 7 PM	Triple Threat Coaching Sessions – 20 minute blocks (Nominees from D, E, F schools preferred)
12:30 PM – 7 PM	Production Excerpts Tech Rehearsals (D, E, F schools preferred)
12:15 PM – 7 PM	Assistant Stage Managers assist with tech rehearsals
7 – 9:30 PM	Triple Threat Program Rehearsal
SUNDAY, JUNE 3	
10:30 AM – 6:45 PM	Triple Threat Program Rehearsal and Auditions
10:30 AM – 6:30 PM	Assistant Stage Managers call book prep – ½ day shifts
MONDAY, JUNE 4	
12:45 – 10 PM	Assistant Stage Managers assist with dress rehearsals and Awards Showcase
12:45 – 2:30 PM	Triple Threat Program Dress Rehearsal
1 – 4 PM	Technical, Creative and Business Achievement Gallery set-up window
2:30 – 4:15 PM	Finale Number Dress Rehearsal (Cohorts D, E, F)
4:15 - 6 PM	Opening Number Dress Rehearsal (Cohorts A, B, C)
4:45 – 5:30 PM	Directors pick up awards and photo op in lobby (Cohorts D, E, F)
5:30 – 6:15 PM	Directors pick up awards and photo op in lobby (Cohorts A, B, C)
6 – 7 PM	Technical, Creative and Business Achievement Gallery open
6:30 PM	House Opens
7 – 10 PM	AWARDS SHOWCASE

**THIS IS A SAMPLE SCHEDULE ONLY.
2019 CONTENT, DATES AND EXACT TIMES SUBJECT TO CHANGE.
THE FINAL SCHEDULE WILL BE SHARED WHEN PERFORMANCE INVITATIONS AND PARAMETERS
ARE ISSUED IN THE SPRING.**

APPENDIX C: AWARDS SHOWCASE WARDROBE EXAMPLES

Example of students in all black for the Awards Showcase:

