2021-2022 Spotlight Awards – Nashville High School Musical Theatre Awards

STUDENT GUIDE

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ABOUT THE SPOTLIGHT AWARDS PROGRAM

The Spotlight Awards program is an arts education initiative which celebrates, supports, and grows the artistry and diverse community of high school theatre programs in Tennessee while developing confidence, creativity, empathy, and collaboration among schools. The Spotlight Awards strives to embody a spirit of camaraderie, diversity and inclusion, celebration for the arts, and a growth mindset.

Community instead of competition
Participating schools are not directly competing against each other, but rather challenging themselves to continually grow and create the best possible work they can in their unique circumstances regardless of budget or size of the production. Instead of comparing schools, adjudicators are asked to provide valuable feedback in the hopes of celebrating the achievements of each production and offering insights for strengthening future shows. The Spotlight Awards strives to embody a spirit of camaraderie, diversity and inclusion, celebration for the arts, and a growth mindset. We hope that each school will cultivate the arts community by supporting each other during the year, as well as at the ceremony.

Program Goals

- To celebrate, support, grow, and advocate for high school theatre education by recognizing excellence in area high school theatre productions
- To strengthen our community by instilling values of diversity and inclusion, artistic excellence, creativity, a growth mindset, and collaboration in our participants
- To engage community members, schools, and families in an inclusive celebration of theatre
- To provide high quality, diverse educational experiences in dance, theatre, and music for students, directors, and school arts programs
- To grow and develop artists, theatre audiences, and arts advocates in Tennessee by building a diverse high school theatre community

The Spotlight Awards program is Nashville’s regional awards program affiliated with the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (NHSMTA) (also known as the Jimmy™ Awards, named in honor of James M. Nederlander, legendary Broadway theatre owner and producer). The Jimmy™ Award for Best Performance by an Actress and Best Performance by an Actor is awarded annually to two grand prize winners selected from a group of student performers representing participating professional theatres. For more information on the Jimmy Awards, visit: www.jimmyawards.com

Expectations
All participants are expected to respect the Spotlight Awards program, other Spotlight participants, and the Spotlight Awards goals throughout the year. Those that do not demonstrate respect for the Spotlight Awards program, participants, and goals will not be accepted into the program the following year.
IMPORTANT DATES AND INFORMATION

Applications Open – November 1-15, 2021 (School Registration, LEGACY Track, and Spotlight Society)
Spotlight Society Alumni Celebration Event – December 28, 2021, 6:30 PM CT
Kickoff Event for Schools (Virtual) – January 27, 2022, 4:00-5:00 PM CT
School Performance Window for Adjudication – February 3 - April 17, 2022
Free Headshot Session and Resume Building – February 12, 2022
School Award Nominee Announcement – April 22, 2022
Outstanding Lead Nominees submit Audition Information Form – May 1, 2022
Outstanding Lead Nominees Audition Sessions – May 7-8, 2022
Outstanding Lead Finalists Submit Performance Information Forms – May 9, 2022
Spotlight Awards Ceremony – May 14, 2022
Outstanding Lead Actor and Actress film Audition Videos for Jimmy Awards – May 16-17, 2022
Spotlight Society Hosted Reception for 6 Finalists – May 22, 2022
Jimmy Awards – June 2022
Theatre TechShop – July 2022

Spotlight Awards Instagram Page

The Spotlight Awards program encourages all students to follow our Instagram page (@SpotlightAwards) to get all updates and added events throughout the year. Please like our page, and feel free to send us any ideas for what content you would like to see included.

Join us for fun, engaging content such as:

- Games, Challenges and Contests
- Master Class and other event notices and registration links
- Award nominations and other notifications
- Entertaining takeovers by participating schools, students and alumni through the year
- Community Artist shout-outs and workshop announcements
- Details on all Spotlight Awards events and added options during the year
- Other arts opportunities
REGISTRATION OPTIONS

SCHOOL PARTICIPATION
If you are interested in your school participating in the Spotlight Awards, let your school theater director know about the program, as they will need to register for school participation. Registration is open online at www.lipscomb.edu from November 1-15, 2021.

- **School Adjudication Level ($300 per school)** – Schools may choose to register at this level if they would like adjudication of their performance. This registration level includes all master classes and workshops throughout the year, invited dress rehearsals, adjudication of your school musical, inclusion in the Awards Nominations and Ceremony, and 35 free seats to Ceremony.

- **School Community Participation Level ($150 per school)** – Schools participating at the Community Level will have access to all master classes, workshops and other events throughout the year and are not limited by other eligibility requirements, such as distance. This level does not include adjudication, nominations or awards. Community Schools will receive a discount for Ceremony tickets provided for those who want to attend.

INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPATION
Does your school not want to participate? Students who wish to participate with the Spotlight Awards program independently have several options.

- **LEGACY Track** – The LEGACY Track creates opportunities for students in the BIPOC community to engage with artists and arts administrators through job shadowing and workshops. Students join this track individually at no cost, regardless of school participation.

- **Master Class Mailing List** – If you are a theater student and your school doesn’t participate in the Spotlight Awards program, you can still be invited to participate in some of the Master Classes and other events. To be added to our Master Class Mailing List for theater students, contact us at education@tpac.org.

- **Spotlight Society (Alumni Association)** - Spotlight students are invited to join our Alumni Group after they graduate to continue engaging with our program and the arts community. Spotlight Society members will enjoy many of the perks of participating schools, including discounts to performances and invitations to Master Classes. Additionally, special events will be created specifically for our Alumni during the year as well.

- **Theatre TechShop** - Technical students can join TPAC Tech staff for a day of interactive workshops exploring the technical side of theatre and portfolio creation. The Spotlight administration will select up to 10 students to shadow in technical roles during the awards ceremony, including stage management, lighting design, sound design, and more. For more information on TechShop contact us at education@tpac.org.

Student Communication
Students are always welcome to reach out to the Spotlight Awards with questions. You can send a message to the @SpotlightAwards Instagram account, or to education@tpac.org.
SHOW SELECTION AND CASTING FOR SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion
The Spotlight Awards is committed to our community and recognizing the diverse individuals represented in Tennessee. We want our participating students, teachers, and adjudicators to feel valued, appreciated, and free to be who they are. We strive to foster a culture that exemplifies teamwork, embraces innovation, and values diversity, equity, and inclusion to achieve excellence. We are listening and engaging with our diverse communities and are committed to continually elevating their voices and stories through fuller representation and visibility in this program.

While we understand the educational value of using the classroom to teach about different stories and experiences outside of students’ regular lives, we expect schools to consider their own diverse community and audiences as well as the competition level (local and national) audiences when selecting shows and casting for performances. With so many musicals to choose from, directors are expected to select musicals and make casting choices that represent genuine stories, cultures, and people, and do not encourage stereotypes in the script or direction.

Color-Conscious Casting
An equitable theatre that reflects the range and diversity of American culture is a relevant theatre. We encourage directors to consider color-conscious casting (not color-blind casting). To be blind to someone’s race or ethnicity is to be blind to their experience. Color-conscious casting acknowledges the differences that we see and experience daily and asks, how can these differences enhance the story?

Gender Identity
Although we are currently limited by the gender naming standards used on Broadway and by the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, the Spotlight Awards program is committed to honoring our students by identifying them in the way with which they are most comfortable within our existing parameters. In order to do that, we ask for teachers or students to help by letting us know which category (Actor or Actress) is most appropriate for students. Awards are nominated based on the gender identity of the student, not the gender of the character.

Character Representation
When selecting a show, directors should consider what characters are represented in the story and how those characters will affect the students portraying them and the audience. Directors are encouraged to select shows that do not require objectification of women in the text or costumes or demonstrate stereotypes of specific cultures or sexual identity.

Student Communication
If you feel uncomfortable with your school’s show selection or directing choices and aren’t sure how to communicate with your director or would like to be nominated in a different category based on your gender identity, you are always welcome to reach out to the Spotlight Awards for help. You can send a message to the @SpotlightAwards Instagram account, or to education@tpac.org.

Show Choice/Casting and Scoring
The Spotlight Awards program does not select shows or help with casting of adjudicated performances. School show selection and casting is solely up to the school’s discretion. However, please note that show choice and casting are included in the scoring elements of Outstanding Direction’s Overall Experience, which may also affect the Outstanding Musical score for your school.
**SPOTLIGHT AWARDS CEREMONY AT TPAC**

The Spotlight Awards Ceremony is an inclusive community celebration of arts education that acknowledges outstanding achievement, growth, and artistry in high school musical theatre and provides an opportunity for students to share their art with each other.

**At this time, we cannot know what the health and safety guidelines will be for in-person events in May 2022. It is possible that masks will be required or that other policies could be in place as well. We will communicate any additional policies regarding the ceremony in the Spring of 2022.**

**Time and Place**
The Spotlight Awards Ceremony will take place May 14, 2022, 7:00-10:00 pm in TPAC’s Jackson Hall (505 Deaderick Street, Nashville).

**Ticketing**
Schools participating at the Adjudication Level will be given 35 comp tickets to the Awards Ceremony. Additional tickets will need to be purchased and may be located in a different section than your comp tickets. Schools participating at the Community Level will be given a discount code to purchase tickets. Individual students participating in the program will be provided with comps or discounts to tickets. Tickets can be purchased at [www.tpac.org](http://www.tpac.org) once tickets are on sale in the Spring.

**Awards Ceremony Attire**
The Nashville High School Musical Theatre Awards is a red-carpet-style event based on the Tony Awards. The dress for this event is formal. **At this time, we do not know what the health and safety guidelines will be for in-person events in May 2022. It is possible that masks will be required or that other policies could be in place as well. We will communicate any additional policies regarding the ceremony in the Spring of 2022.**

**Arrival**
All participating school groups will need to arrive prior to the opening of the house doors. Schools are asked to arrive by 6:00 p.m. to be seated, hear instructions for the evening, and walk-through backstage paths as needed. Doors will open to the public at 6:30 p.m.

**Transportation**
Bus parking around TPAC will be provided for those bringing school buses. Cars will need to find parking in one of the lots downtown but be aware that many lots do have parking costs. Plan ahead for your parking if you are coming in cars – and remind parents of this as well.

**Seating**
Schools eligible for awards and all nominees will be seated in an assigned location on the orchestra level of Jackson Hall, separate from the rest of the audience. Nominees will be seated near the aisles in Jackson Hall to provide an easier transition to the stage and may be separate from the rest of their school. Additional audience members will be seated in the remainder of the house (tier, loge, and balcony).

**Award Presentation**
The Nashville High School Musical Theatre Awards will present both school and individual awards for those participating on the School Adjudication Level and will acknowledge both students and teachers. The full outline of the ceremony and award presentations will be provided as we get closer to the ceremony.
HONORS AWARDED – SCHOOL PARTICIPATION (ADJUDICATION LEVEL)

Participating schools will have their musical reviewed by a panel of adjudicators. Based on the adjudicators’ comments and scores, schools and individuals will be nominated in specific categories to be recognized and honored at the awards ceremony at TPAC on Saturday, May 14, 2022. Participation in the Spotlight Awards program does not guarantee receipt of any nominations or awards.

Award Categories for 2021-2022:

School Awards
• Outstanding Vocals
• Outstanding Ensemble
• Outstanding Costume Design
• Outstanding Hair and Makeup Design
• Outstanding Lighting Design
• Outstanding Set Design
• Outstanding Orchestra
• Outstanding Sound Design
• Outstanding Technical Execution
• Outstanding Design Concept
• Outstanding Choreography
• Outstanding Music Direction
• Outstanding Direction
• Outstanding Musical *

Individual Awards
• Outstanding Male Dancer
• Outstanding Female Dancer
• Outstanding Male Soloist
• Outstanding Female Soloist
• Outstanding Ensemble Actor
• Outstanding Ensemble Actress
• Outstanding Supporting Actor
• Outstanding Supporting Actress
• Outstanding Comedic Actor
• Outstanding Comedic Actress
• Outstanding Dramatic Actor
• Outstanding Dramatic Actress
• Outstanding Technical Achievement
• Outstanding Lead Actor**
• Outstanding Lead Actress **

All-Star Cast
All-Star Crew

* 10 Nominees for Outstanding Musical are invited to perform at the Spotlight Awards Ceremony.
** All 50 Outstanding Lead Nominees are invited to perform the Closing Number at the Ceremony.
The 6 Outstanding Lead Finalists will perform solos at the Spotlight Awards Ceremony.

Nominee Announcement
Nominees for all awards (excluding All-Star Cast and Crew) will be announced on April 22, 2022. The All-Star Cast and Crew will not be announced until the Awards Ceremony.

Eligibility for Award Nominations
Eligibility for awards is at the discretion of the Spotlight Awards administration, which reserves the right to amend rules, overrule adjudicators, or select Wild Card nominees as necessary to maintain a fair process.

Gender Identity
Although we are currently limited by the gender naming standards used on Broadway and by the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, the Spotlight Awards program is committed to honoring our students by identifying them in the way with which they are most comfortable within our existing parameters. In order to do that, we ask for teachers to help by letting us know which category (Actor or Actress) is most appropriate when your students are being evaluated. Awards are nominated based on the gender identity of the student, not the gender of the character.
AWARDS RUBRIC OVERVIEW

In the theater, we tell stories.

The Spotlight Awards adjudicators review the storytelling abilities put to work in each production. We are looking for an authentic tale well told, by your production team, ensemble, and individual performers.

We want to see how well you use the elements of theatre to tell the story you have chosen:
- How well does your company understand the story they are telling? How clearly do they relate that story and its themes to the audience?
- How passionately do your actors embody their characters and express their journey through this story?
- How do your actors use the performance skills of musical theatre (singing, dancing, and acting) to enhance the story?
- How collaborative was your company in presenting a unified concept for the audience to engage with?
- How did you showcase the unique talents and resources of your school and cast to advance the story and concept you created?
- How creatively did your company transfer the story from page to the stage?
- How does your storytelling create a memorable experience, creating emotion and change in your audience?

Rubric Scoring
Each rubric is comprised of elements to be rated on a 1-10 rating scale and includes detailed descriptions of each scoring range. An overarching look at what we are looking for in each scoring range is below.

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<tr>
<th>DEVELOPING (1-2)</th>
<th>PROFICIENT (3-5)</th>
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<tr>
<td>• Presented the story practically, so that the events logically transpired but without impact to the characters. At times the effort to improve skills supersedes the story.</td>
<td>• Created a layered story with clear, evolving characters through a practical approach with moments of creativity evident.</td>
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<td>• All technical elements served the basic requirements outlined in the script, but there is no evidence of collaboration with other areas to present a unified concept.</td>
<td>• An attempt was made to present a unified concept with input from all technical and performance components.</td>
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<td>• The musical selection was not appropriate, included harmful content or stereotypes, or did not showcase the school/cast talents and resources and produced few engaging moments.</td>
<td>• The musical selection rarely showcased the school/cast’s diverse talents and resources, producing some interesting and engaging moments with some obvious missed opportunities.</td>
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<th>SKILLED (6-8)</th>
<th>ADVANCED (9-10)</th>
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<td>• Strong storytelling with solid, believable characters and a creative approach.</td>
<td>• Masterful storytelling with authentic, emotion-driven characters and a meaningful, memorable and unique approach.</td>
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<td>• A clear vision of the concept for the production was carried out with some evidence of creative collaborations from technical and performance areas.</td>
<td>• A clear, focused vision of the concept for the production was fully integrated with creative collaboration from each technical and performance area to ensure design consistency and advance nuanced themes.</td>
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<td>• The musical selection was appropriate and showcased some of the diverse talents of the school’s performers and technicians, producing mostly strong elements of musical theater.</td>
<td>• The musical selection was appropriate and showcased the diverse talents of the school’s performers and technicians, producing elements of quality musical theater.</td>
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LEGACY TRACK – INDIVIDUAL PARTICIPANTS

The LEGACY Track creates opportunities for students in the BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) community to engage with artists and arts administrators through job shadowing and workshops. This track includes job shadowing opportunities with TPAC’s Administration, Education, Marketing, and Tech teams, as well as the chance to engage with artists in the BIPOC community through workshops and other events.

Registration Fee
Students join this track individually at no cost, regardless of school participation.

Transportation
Although there is no cost for the LEGACY Track, we know that transportation can create an obstacle and expense. We plan to have funding for transportation help for the Job Shadowing experiences and some of the workshop opportunities. Please let us know what help we can provide for your transportation.

Job Shadowing
LEGACY offers opportunities for participants to work with professionals in multiple areas of the arts. Students may choose to work within one area, or to experience all areas. Additionally, some students will be able to work backstage during the Spotlight Awards Ceremony or assist at other events.

- Marketing: Students selecting this area can learn about elements of marketing by shadowing some of the TPAC Communications team. Activities may include assisting in the creation of promotional language, learning about the press release process, or how to effectively utilize social media to reach an audience.
- Education: Working with the Education team will give LEGACY participants a chance to see how some education events come to fruition, from creative idea to execution. Participants may attend meetings with production teams, learn about classroom connections to the arts, preview performances, or assist with execution of small events.
- Tech: Participants interested in technical theatre, or in STEM concepts, may choose to shadow TPAC’s technical crew and learn behind the scenes work for the Spotlight Awards Ceremony or other small events.
- Administration: All participants will have the opportunity to meet with some of TPAC’s Administration team including the Chief Diversity and Inclusion Officer and members of the Security team.

Workshops and Events
Participants in the LEGACY Track will be invited to participate in all of the Master Classes and events created for the Spotlight Awards program. Additionally, there will be some events and workshops created specifically for the LEGACY Track with artists in the BIPOC community.

Student Communication
Students are always welcome to reach out to the Spotlight Awards with questions. You can send a message to the @SpotlightAwards Instagram account, or to education@tpac.org.

Registration Link
To register for the LEGACY Track, fill out the application here –
SPOTLIGHT SOCIETY (ALUMNI ASSOCIATION)

Graduating Seniors that participate in the Spotlight Awards program are invited to join our Alumni Association to continue to engage with our program and the arts community. Spotlight Society members will enjoy many of the perks of participating schools, including discounts to performances and invitations to Master Classes. Additionally, special events will be created specifically for our Alumni during the year as well.

Celebration Event – December 28, 2021
Our opening event for the Spotlight Society this year will be in December in TPAC’s Polk Theater. Attendees will enjoy a dessert reception, games and crafts, videos from their past years at the Spotlight Ceremony, and more.

Registration for Seniors
To register for the Spotlight Society as a Graduating Senior, fill out the registration form in the Spring of 2022 to be inducted in May.

Finalist Reception, presented by the Spotlight Society Alumni Group – May 22, 2022
All 6 Outstanding Lead Finalists are invited to a reception in their honor to celebrate their artistic work, and to officially welcome any graduating Seniors into the Spotlight Society.

Events for Current Spotlight Students
In addition to their own events, the Spotlight Society will host other opportunities for the current Spotlight participants. This year the Spotlight Society will host a free event that includes Headshot session and Resume building opportunities for students, as well as a college preparedness event for Alumni at multiple colleges to give insight into the audition process for their schools.
OUTSTANDING LEAD NOMINEES - AUDITION SESSION INFORMATION

Audition Process
On April 22, nominees for all Spotlight Award categories will be announced. At this time, 50 students will be selected as Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress nominees. All 50 Outstanding Lead Nominees will attend an audition session on May 7. After the First Round of Auditions, up to 16 Outstanding Lead Nominees will be selected to attend the Call-Back Auditions on May 8.

Following the Call-Back Auditions on May 8, the 3 Finalists for Outstanding Lead Actor and the 3 Finalists for Outstanding Lead Actress will be notified. These Finalists will perform solos at the Awards Ceremony on May 14. Two students will be selected from the Finalists as the Spotlight Award recipients for Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress and will continue to the national competition in New York.

Tentative Schedule - Audition Sessions and Call-Backs at Lipscomb University – May 7 and 8, 2022
**At this time we do not know what the health and safety guidelines will be for in-person events in May 2022. It is possible that masks will be required or that other policies could be in place as well. We will communicate any additional policies regarding the ceremony in the Spring of 2022.

May 7, 2022
8:30 a.m. – Check in, Closing Number tracks and lyrics presented
9:00 a.m. – Group Dance Call
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. – Workshops provided for all nominees
12:00 p.m. – Lunch break (provided)
12:45 p.m. – 2:00 p.m. – Workshops provided for all nominees
2:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. – Auditions (First Round)
7:30 p.m. – Call-Back lists posted

May 8, 2022
12:00 p.m. – Up to 16 Call-Back Nominees arrive, give interviews, and receive basic information about the process, what needs to be turned in, video needs, forms, Jimmy Awards info and schedule, etc.
1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. – Auditions (Second Round/Call-Backs)
6:00 p.m. – 6 Outstanding Lead Finalists posted

Dress
Nominees will participate in a group dance call prior to their audition sessions. They should dress for movement, while maintaining a professional appearance for the auditions. A short break will take place prior to the audition time in the event that students wish to change clothes, but this is not required.

Audition Session Submissions
Printed copies of the following items will be submitted by each nominee when they arrive to the audition session on May 7.
- Headshot for the nominee – must be high-res jpg files (8"x10 at 300 DPI)
- Resume for the nominee – one (1) page (preferred format can be provided)
Nominees are also required to provide a track for their audition, no accompanists will be used for audition sessions.
**Audition Content**

Finalists should prepare 2 songs for their audition sessions, providing a track for each according to these guidelines:

1. 32 bars of a song from their nominated role - **This should be the same selection that the Nominee will perform during the Spotlight Awards Ceremony if they are selected as a Finalists.**
2. One solo song of their choice, no more than 2.5 minutes in length from the Jimmy Awards Library of Approved Solo Song Selections.

**Nominees are strongly encouraged to have additional options prepared in case panelists ask to see something different.**

**Scoring for Outstanding Lead Actor and Actress Awards**

Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress nominations must be based on the National High School Musical Theatre Awards Qualifying Roles list. To view the full list, visit www.jimmyawards.com.

Scores from adjudicators attending school performances will determine the top 15 nominees for each of these 2 categories. Additionally, 10 more spots in each category will be filled by wild card selections from each of the remaining schools, for a total of 50 Nominees. To determine the final award recipients, the adjudicator score will count for 80% of the final score and the panel scores at the audition session will provide the remaining 20% of the score.

**Judging Panel**

Students will audition for and receive valuable feedback from industry professionals. Our panel of judges is filled with representatives that have substantial education, experience, and passion for the performing arts, and includes professional theatre artists, lead adjudicators and Spotlight administration that will have cumulatively attended every school performance.

**Determining Finalists and Award Recipients**

In order to determine the finalists and recipients of each award, The Spotlight Awards administration considers all eligible candidates with a fresh perspective, focusing on the auditions on May 7 and 8, while thoroughly reviewing and considering the Adjudicator feedback, scoring and support material provided.

Criteria and Tools used:

- Rubric scoring and panelist feedback for the live auditions on May 7 and 8
- Cumulative observations of each nominee during school performances, live audition sessions, dance call and workshops
- Ballots submitted by adjudicators, including rubric scores, comments, and adjudicator nominations
- Required forms and support material submitted by the nominees
- Experience and accumulated musical theatre knowledge of The Spotlight Awards administration

The Spotlight Awards administration brings a variety of factors into consideration in reaching their decisions. In some cases, this may lead to the office overriding the Adjudicators, but this is only done when deemed necessary. All decisions of The Spotlight Awards administrators are final.
OUTSTANDING LEAD NOMINEES – REQUIRED SUBMISSIONS

All nominees will be announced on April 22, including the 50 Nominees for Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress. Once this has been announced, any updated requirements will be sent to the director and students as necessary.

OLA Audition Information Form – Due May 1
This online form includes provides information about the audition session on May 7-8. All 50 students who are nominated for Outstanding Lead Actor or Outstanding Lead Actress will submit this form online by May 1.

Audition Session Submissions – Due May 7
Printed copies of the following items will be submitted by each nominee when they arrive to the audition session on May 7.
- Headshot for the nominee – must be high-res jpg files (8”x10 at 300 DPI)
- Resume for the nominee – one (1) page (preferred format can be provided)
- Nominees are also required to provide a track for their two audition songs, no accompanists will be used for audition sessions.

Performance Information Form – Due May 9
This form includes information about the performances during the awards ceremony. The 3 Outstanding Lead Actress Finalists and 3 Outstanding Lead Actor Finalists will submit this online form by May 9.

Required Submissions – Due May 14
The following items will be submitted by the 6 Outstanding Lead Finalists when they arrive to TPAC on May 14. Items should be submitted as digital files on a jump drive (that will be returned).
- Essay – one (1) page, double-spaced, describing their experience participating in this year’s musical
- Headshot for the finalist – must be high-res jpg files (8”x10 at 300 DPI)
- Resume for the finalist – one (1) page (preferred format can be provided)
- Bio – no more than 200 words, written in complete sentences and in third person format
- 3 production photos from your school performance

Additional submissions required from the Spotlight Award recipients of Outstanding Lead Actor and Actress
The award recipients of the Spotlight Award for Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress will continue to the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, aka the Jimmy Awards, in New York. Additional submissions will be required of these students immediately following the Spotlight Awards.

*Note – Guidelines may change as the NHSMTA updates their requirements. If the guidelines change, finalists will be notified of the changes after the nominee announcement.
OUTSTANDING LEAD ACTOR/ACTRESS AWARD RECIPIENT SUBMISSIONS

The recipients of the Spotlight Award for Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress will continue to the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, aka the Jimmy Awards, in New York. Additional submissions will be required immediately following the Spotlight Awards. In the event the selected students cannot attend the Jimmy Awards, the second-place finalists will continue to the Jimmy Awards.

*Note – Guidelines may change as the NHSMTA updates their requirements. If the guidelines change, finalists will be notified of the changes after the nominee announcement.

Award Recipients
When the Awards Ceremony ends, the recipients of the Spotlight Award for Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress will remain backstage for additional media opportunities. Parents/Guardians and Teachers are asked to wait by the stage for a staff member to lead them to the students.

Additional Form Submissions
Award Recipients will submit the following items for the Jimmy Awards by May 16.
- Signed Personal Release/Waiver Form
- Parental Release Form
- Medical Information Form
- Music Submission Form - Finalists will list 2 of the most prominent songs from their winning performance and provide the song titles and key. In addition, they will select 2 solo musical theatre songs to prepare for solo work with the vocal coaches during their week in New York. Selections should include one ballad and one up-tempo, NOT from their winning performance, but from a show on the Qualifying Show List.

Video Submissions
The recipients of the Spotlight Award for Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress will return to TPAC on May 16 or 17 to film 2 videos for submission to the Jimmy Awards – A Topic Response Video, and an Audition Video. Please dress in basic clothing, with basic hair and makeup – nothing distracting.

Topic Response Video – Finalists will select from a list of topics provided by the Jimmy Awards to answer on video. Topics will be provided to school directors immediately following the nominee announcement. Responses should be between 3-5 minutes in length and are intended to show the personality of the finalist. Past topic examples include - What or who first sparked your interest in musical theatre? Why is musical theatre meaningful to you? What is something you are passionate about besides theatre? Who is one person you would like to meet, living or not, and why? What was your funniest or most awkward audition experience?

Audition Video – Finalists will perform 32 bars of one song from their nominated role and one solo song of their choice, no more than 2.5 minutes in length from any show on the Qualifying Roles list. Finalists will need to provide a track or a live accompanist during their filming time.

All video submissions become the property of NHSMTA. These submissions may affect what performance group nominees are placed in at the Jimmy Awards. Planning ahead is encouraged for those in Qualifying Roles so they are represented in the best way possible if they become finalists. Students should choose songs that best showcase their talent.
THE JIMMY AWARDS – The National High School Musical Theatre Awards

Jimmy Awards
The Jimmy Awards will take place in June, with the Outstanding Lead Actor and Outstanding Lead Actress Award winners visiting New York with a chaperone for a week before the ceremony to rehearse and work with Broadway artists. Detailed information and schedule will be given to the Finalists as soon as it is available.

**For the 2022 Jimmy Awards, we are hopeful that it will be held in person, but please be aware it could change to virtual at any time. In the event it is in-person, students may need to follow Broadway guidelines for masking and vaccinations.**

About the Week
Students attending the Jimmy Awards will participate in a week of intensive workshops, auditions, rehearsals, and coaching provided by Broadway professionals. This week allows students to network with other talented students, connect with industry professionals in a meaningful way, and perform to a sold-out Broadway theatre.

Chaperone
TPAC will provide a Chaperone to travel with the students and be present to take care of their needs during the week in New York. The chaperone will be confirmed by May 1. A meeting time will be set up in early June for the students, parents, and the chaperone to get to know one another before the trip takes place.

Travel to New York
Student travel to and from New York is covered by TPAC as part of the program. After the ceremony, TPAC will contact the students and their parents to confirm dates and times for travel. The chaperone and students will travel to New York together. Return flights may be scheduled with the chaperone or with a parent.

Schedule for the Jimmy Awards
The Jimmy Awards schedule changes slightly each year, and we will not have the current schedule for this year until the end of May. The following is an example of a few days from a past schedule for your reference.

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**Wednesday, June 21st**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Walk to Judson</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Stage/Rehearsal Opening &amp; Closing</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Walk to Tisch</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Medleys Vocals / Coaching Session 1</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:30 pm</td>
<td>Medleys Vocals / Coaching Session 1</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Medleys Vocals / Coaching Session 1</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4:00 pm</td>
<td>Medleys Vocals / Coaching Session 1</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Bus to Sardi's departs Founders</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Dinner at Sardi's</td>
<td>Sardi's</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7:00 pm</td>
<td>Photos at Duffy Square</td>
<td>Duffy Square</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 pm</td>
<td>Broadway Show Come From Away / Schoenfield Theatre</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 pm</td>
<td>Bus to Founders Hall</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Friday, June 23rd**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Walk to La Mama</td>
<td>La Mama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Opening &amp; Closing Rehearsal, present for Press</td>
<td>La Mama</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:30 am</td>
<td>Lunch &amp; Walk to Tisch</td>
<td>NYU Dining Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Medley &amp; Production Number Rehearsal / Coaching Session 4</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Medley &amp; Production Number Rehearsal / Coaching Session 4</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Saturday, June 24th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:00 am</td>
<td>Walk to Judson</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Rehearsal Opening &amp; Closing</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 am</td>
<td>Boyce Audition Solo Rehearsal (Boy's rest, lunch in Dining Hall 12:00-1:00)</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30 pm</td>
<td>Medleys Vocals / Coaching Session 2</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:30 pm</td>
<td>Production Number &amp; Medleys in Costume (Staggered Dinner)</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Sunday, June 15th**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:30 am</td>
<td>Breakfast</td>
<td>Founders Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:30 am</td>
<td>Walk to Judson</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:00 am</td>
<td>Physical &amp; Vocal warmup</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30 am</td>
<td>Rehearsal All Show Material</td>
<td>Judson Gym</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10:00 am</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Medley Group Lunch &amp; Rest</td>
<td>NYU Dining Hall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12:00 pm</td>
<td>Production Group walk to Tisch, Lunch, &amp; Change</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2:00 pm</td>
<td>Production Group Judging Session</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5:00 pm</td>
<td>Staggered Dinner</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8:15 pm</td>
<td>Medley Group Judging Session</td>
<td>Tisch Building</td>
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</tbody>
</table>