



THE MASSACHUSETTS
EDUCATIONAL
THEATER GUILD, INC.



The MET MUSICAL AWARDS

What is the MET Musical Awards Program?

The MET Musical Awards is an educational program sponsored by **Broadway in Boston** and run by the METG as a way of recognizing outstanding performance and production values as displayed by Massachusetts high schools and middle schools during the course of the theater season. METG schools that wish to participate in the MET program submit their shows for consideration to a panel of experienced theater adjudicators who evaluate each participating production and score them in a number of performance and design categories based on standard scoring criteria. Educational comments are returned to the directors to share with their students in order to improve scholastic programs. Scores are tabulated at season's end with the top scores in each category receiving a MET Award Nomination and the top score receiving the MET Award at the annual ceremony. Middle schools and high schools will be separated for awards consideration. Productions that include both middle and high school students will be considered under the high school division.

Who is eligible to participate in the MET Awards?

In order to participate in the program, a production must meet the following criteria:

- METG Member and non-member middle schools and high schools from Massachusetts may apply by paying the appropriate fee.
- The production must have completed its originally scheduled performance run during the course of the MET season, which runs from **Sept 1st through May 14th**.
- A completed MET Application and entry fee must be submitted to the Guild Administrative Assistant **30 days PRIOR** to the production's opening performance.

How much is the entry fee?

For METG member schools, the entry fee is **\$150 per production**. For non-member schools, the fee is **\$200 per production**. This fee is primarily used to reimburse the respective MET adjudicators for travel and time expenses as well as award ceremony expenses.

Do all participating productions receive awards and nominations?

Participation in the MET program does **NOT** guarantee receipt of any nominations or awards. The program is designed first to provide educational feedback from professionals to high school and middle school directors and subsequently to recognize the most outstanding achievement amongst all participating productions over the course of the entire season. Due consideration is given to each

production viewed, with the physical and technical limitations of a given theater space and/or obvious budgetary restrictions weighed accordingly.

Do participating schools receive any feedback from the adjudicators?

Since the main focus of this program is educational, the METG wishes to foster learning through a critical exchange of ideas regarding your production. Within one month of your musical closing date, the participating director will receive a written critique from two of the three adjudicators providing feedback on production values, technical design and execution, directorial accomplishment (stage, musical, choreographic), and student performance.

How does the program work?

Upon acceptance of an application, the MET Coordinator will assign three available adjudicators to a production. The adjudicators will then coordinate with the producing company which performance they wish to attend. The producing company will provide each attending adjudicator **two complimentary tickets** for the performance of their choice.

Having viewed a performance of the production, each adjudicator will complete and submit an MET Critique/Ballot. Completed ballots will be compared and tabulated by the MET Coordinator, with each ballot counting 33% towards a production's overall score. In the event that one adjudicator is unable to attend a production, each remaining adjudicator's ballot will count as 50% of the overall score.

At the completion of the MET Season, the MET Coordinator will compile and compare all scores to determine the top individual scores in each designated category. The team of lead adjudicators who have seen all the shows will use the scores and production photos to determine the top nominations in each category. These nominees will be announced publicly at the end of May. The top individual score in each category will then be presented with an MET Award at the MET Awards Ceremony, which is to be held in June of each year.

What are the award categories?

Productions will be broken into two divisions: High School (grades 9-12) and Middle School (grades 5 – 9). Productions that include both high school and middle school students will be considered high school productions. Separate nominees/awards will be issued for each category in each division.

Technical

- Best Set Design and Execution
- Best Lighting Design and Execution
- Best Sound Design and Execution
- Best Costume Design and Execution
- Best Hair & Make-up Design and Execution
- Best Props Management
- Best Stage Management

Performance

- Best Dance Ensemble

Best Choral Ensemble
Best Acting Ensemble
Best Student Orchestra
Best Production

Individual Performance

Best Featured Actor
Best Featured Actress
Best Supporting Actor
Best Supporting Actress
Best Lead Actor
Best Lead Actress
Best Specialty Ensemble

For the category of "Best Production", the combined score of all technical categories will count as 35% of the total score while the combined score of all performance categories will count as 65%. This weighted scoring is intended to balance the inequity in the number of categories in each area (technical vs performance) as well as to give slightly more weight to performance elements.

Individual Performance scores do not count towards a production's overall score. Individual actors are scored at the adjudicators' discretion based on what they feel are outstanding performances worthy of individual recognition. Adjudicators are not required to recognize any individual performances within a production if they feel none merit award consideration. In the instance where one visiting adjudicator chooses to score an individual performance while the second does not, the second adjudicator will be asked to provide a score for said individual. If a second score is not provided, a median score will be attributed as the second score.

Who are the Adjudicators?

The MET adjudicator list is made up of experienced theater veterans, many of whom have extensive theatrical training and/or professional experience who contribute their many talents to the local theater scene. Every effort is made to avoid having adjudicators consult on productions involving companies or individuals with whom they have significant connection and/or history. Adjudicators are approved by the METG Executive Councils.