



## ***The Marquee AWARDS***

### **What is the Marquee Awards Program?**

The Marquee Awards (formerly the MET 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 Marquee 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 Marquee Award Nomination and the top score receiving the Marquee 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 Marquee 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 Marquee season, which runs from **Sept 1st through May 21st**.
- A completed Marquee 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 **\$200 per production**. For non-member schools, the fee is **\$250 per production**. This fee is primarily used to reimburse the respective Marquee adjudicators for travel and time expenses as well as award ceremony expenses.

### **Do all participating productions receive awards and nominations?**

Participation in the Marquee 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 both 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 Marquee 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 a Marquee Critique/Ballot. Completed ballots will be compared and tabulated by the Marquee Coordinator, with each ballot counting equally towards a production's overall score. In the event that only two adjudicators are able to attend a production, their score will count for 50%.

At the completion of the Marquee Season, the Marquee Coordinator will compile and compare all scores to determine the top individual scores in each designated category which will comprise the list of Marquee Award nominees. These nominees will be announced publicly at the end of May. The top individual score in each category will then be presented with a Marquee Award at the Marquee 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 Marquee 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 Marquee Executive Councils.