



Jester Awards Rules and Guidelines

Applications should be received no less than a month prior to your production (the sooner the better in order to adequately assign judges). Incomplete applications will not be considered.

There is a \$30.00 non-refundable application fee per school. Checks should be made payable to Music Theatre Wichita.

All productions must take place prior to April 15, 2018.

Productions entered must fall into one of the following categories and must be billed accordingly in the program:

- A published musical, operetta or revue (either currently held by a licensing house or having entered public domain);
- An original piece which features an original script, music and/or lyrics and which is covered under a valid copyright;
- An original compilation of material from other sources that is presented with the approval or permission of the original creators or their representatives.

Each school shall furnish Music Theatre Wichita with complimentary tickets to its productions.

The Jester Program utilizes volunteers to serve as Jester Judges, who attend annual trainings to qualify to serve. A minimum of three judges representing Music Theatre Wichita will attend each performance (per production for schools more than 100 miles from the Wichita area). If MTWichita is unable to assign at least three judges, the application fee will be refunded.

Dates and number of tickets for the judges for each school will be arranged in advance.

Judges may bring a guest with them to performances and tickets for these individuals will be arranged by MTWichita when reservations are made. Additional tickets shall not be unreasonably requested by MTWichita nor unreasonably denied by participating schools.

Due to the great number of shows to be seen and the challenge of coordinating schedules, we request that you provide us with the dress rehearsal, preview, and matinee dates, in addition to the regular evening performances.



Productions shall be nominated in the category of Outstanding Overall Production based on the following criteria:

- Continuity and appropriateness in all production elements according to the demands and specifications of the scripts
- Balance between attending to the physical aspects of the production and the performances of the students
- Demonstrated enthusiasm and commitment from the cast
- The average numerical value awarded each school (as provided by the judges)
- The number of nominations received by each school in individual categories

Only schools using orchestras comprised primarily of student musicians will be eligible in the category of Outstanding Achievement by an Orchestra. Determination of eligibility in this category will be based on information provided in the school's application form and program listings and shall be at the discretion of the awards committee.

In the category of Technical Achievement, teachers are invited to make recommendations of one student who has given his or her time and talent in a backstage capacity (e.g., stage manager, stage crew, light board operator, costumes, etc.). Teachers are asked to submit a one-page essay/letter outlining the student's contributions to the production. All recommendations must be received by the deadline listed in the application.

Lists of the nominations for the Awards shall be e-mailed to each school's instructor in late April. For tickets to the May 6 Awards Ceremony* please contact Music Theatre Wichita box office at 316.265.3107.

Schools nominated in the Leading Actor, Leading Actress, and Overall Production categories will be asked to present one musical number from their production at the Awards Ceremony in May. Selection of the number will be made by the school's instructor and the Awards Committee. No scenic or lighting elements will be allowed for the performance, but costumes and hand props that can be easily transported by the students will be permitted. Production numbers will be performed with limited accompaniment only, and the accompanists can be provided by the school.

*Date subject to change