



OVATION AWARDS

Rules and Regulations

Recognizing Excellence in Theatrical Performance in Michigan High Schools

DEADLINES

Applications Due	April 14, 2014
Applicants Notified	April 28, 2014
Wharton Event	May 17 and 18, 2014
NHSMTA Program	June 24 – 30, 2014 (Tentative)
NHSMTA Performance	June 30, 2014

Please complete online application at:

<http://www.whartoncenter.com/education-engagement/programs-for-students/ovation-awards>

MSU Federal Credit Union Institute for Arts & Creativity at Wharton Center presents the Ovation Awards to enable Michigan schools to participate in the National High School Musical Theater Awards (NHSMTA, www.nhsmta.org), a national celebration of outstanding student achievement in high school musical theater. There is no fee to participate, as application fee has been waived for the 2014-15 season.

Categories:

- Best Performance by an Actor in a musical
- Best Performance by an Actress in a musical

Eligibility Requirements:

Nominees must be enrolled in grades 9-12 in a Michigan public or private high school and have performed in a high school-affiliated musical theater production during the 2013-2014 academic year.

To compete in the Best Performance by an Actor or Best Performance by an Actress category, a nominee must have played the lead role in a full-length high school musical theater production. A supporting role does not qualify. A comprehensive list of eligible roles can be found at:

<http://nhsmta.com/pages/qualifying-lead-roles>

Rules:

The application must be completed in full (online), submitted electronically, and a five minute highlight reel of the applicant's performance in the show they are being nominated from on DVD, mailed and received no later than April 14, 2014 at Wharton Center for Performing Arts, ATT: Kris Koop Ouellette, 750 E. Shaw Lane, Michigan State University, East Lansing, MI 48824. All nominees will be notified via email by April 28, 2014 of their acceptance into the Ovation Awards. ****Please note: If your musical is performed after this date, you will still be eligible to submit. Just please contact us as soon as possible.

Schools may nominate one student for Best Performance by an Actor and/or one student for Best Performance by an Actress for the role performed in the high school musical production.

Only one lead male and one lead female submission will be accepted per nominating school program.

The application must include:

1. Five-minute highlight video of each nominee's performance for which they are being nominated. (Each applicant's submission must be submitted on a separate DVD – hard copy, no electronic submissions will be accepted.) In the event the production has not yet occurred by the application deadline of April 18, 2014, comparable video and photos of a similar performance having occurred in the last 12 months may accompany the application.
2. A recent headshot (8x10, 300 dpi or higher) submitted electronically
3. A resume submitted electronically – see suggested sample at http://whartoncenter.s3.amazonaws.com/doc/sample_resume_template.pdf - Must follow that format
4. A letter of recommendation from the director/musical director of the high school production.
5. An essay (one-page double-spaced, describing student's experience while participating in the high school musical for which they are nominated).
6. Wharton Center Photo Release Form signed and returned, available at <http://www.whartoncenter.com/education-engagement/programs-for-students/ovation-awards>
7. Participating students music submission (actual sheet music must be submitted).
 - a. One FULL song from the show student is nominated for, along with a 32-bar cut. This is the song they will sing for their vocal audition for the judges.
 - b. One musical theater song of student's choice that best shows off their range and ability (applicant must bring a CD of accompaniment of this musical theater song of choice for vocal and acting coaching). This is the song the nominee will sing if they become a finalist in the awards program.

Candidates will be evaluated on Saturday, May 17, and Sunday, May 18, 2014, by a panel of qualified adjudicators and judges selected by Wharton Center. The judges' decision is final.

Judging Guidelines:

The nominees will be evaluated through an audition process that includes the live performance of a solo (one up-tempo or one ballad, if applicable) from the lead role the student played in the musical for which they have been nominated. No substitutions allowed.

Participation in the National High School Musical Theater Awards/Jimmy Awards:

If selected as an Ovation Award winner, the student must be available and willing to participate in the National High School Musical Theater Awards, held in New York City June 24 – 30, 2014 (tentative dates).

The Ovation Awards and the National High School Musical Theater Awards include one-on-one coaching, auditions and rehearsal for the awards presentation. A panel of judges made up of Broadway & industry professionals selects finalists.