



Program Overview 2024-2025 Season

Dear New York City Regional High School Educators,

The Broadway Education Alliance is pleased to present The Roger Rees Awards for Excellence in Student Performance. A regional awards and honors program designed to promote the value of arts education in schools, as well as celebrate emerging talent – on stage, backstage, and off stage.

The Broadway Education Alliance along with educational and industry partners present a portfolio of awards and recognition opportunities for theater arts students. These include*:

- **The Roger Rees Awards for Outstanding Performer in a Musical** – awarded to two students who performed in qualifying roles in their high school’s musical. These two students go on to represent the Greater New York City region at The Broadway League Foundation’s National High School Musical Theatre Awards® (NHSMTA®), the Jimmy Awards®.
- **New Faces Honors for Excellence in Solo Performance** – acknowledges 30 students for their dedication and excellence in their craft of acting, dancing, or singing. Open to students grades 9-12, this recognition track offers various educational and scholarship opportunities.
- **The Harmony Helper® Award for Excellence in Choral Group Performance** – showcases high school choral groups around the region. One group is awarded the Harmony Helper® prize package along with the opportunity to perform on stage at The Roger Rees Awards Showcase.
- **The Student Reporter Search** – features students with an interest in media marketing and journalism. One student will be selected as The Roger Rees Awards Student Reporter. This student will co-host The Roger Rees Awards Showcase Pre-Show as well as represent the Greater New York City region in The Jimmy Awards’ Student Reporter Contest.
- **The New York City Center Student Orchestra Award** – spotlights student musicians that demonstrate exceptional accomplishment in musical theater performance. The winning group will be featured at the Roger Rees Awards Showcase.
- **The New York City Center Scenic and Costume Designer Showcases** – highlights the work of students interested in designing for the stage. Selected students’ story boards will be displayed at The Roger Rees Awards Showcase, as well as on-stage recognition, and other educational opportunities.

**Awards, recognition opportunities, and scholarships may vary each year based on sponsors and educational partners.*

If you are interested in enrolling your high school in The Roger Rees Awards program, please carefully review this packet which contains information regarding guidelines for registering and the details of each award category. Please note procedures may change year-to-year.

Questions may be directed to RRA program management at RRAadmin@bealliance.org.

Best regards,
The Roger Rees Awards Team

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REQUIREMENTS FOR HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPATION

REGION

Any public or private high school located in the following counties may register for participation: Bronx, Dutchess, Kings (Brooklyn), Nassau, New York (Manhattan), Orange, Putnam, Queens, Richmond (Staten Island), Rockland, Suffolk, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester.

SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVE

High Schools in the Roger Rees Awards (RRA) region interested in participating in any award track offered by the program must submit a new registration each school year. Schools must designate **one representative** who will be the point-of-contact. This person must be an employee or contractor of the school. The School Representative is responsible for registering the school and will receive all communications from the RRA team. Upon completing registration, the School Representative will receive additional materials for participation including all instructions, links and forms for each award/recognition category.

REGISTRATION

A registration fee of **\$250** will be charged to participating schools. This fee helps cover administrative and production costs associated with the showcase and the educational experiences organized for student participants. *Registration fee will be waived for Title 1 Schools.*

Payment may be made via the online registration form using a credit/debit card, OR a check can be mailed. If the check payment option is selected, an invoice will be emailed to the School Representative. Registrations will not be finalized until payment is received – please plan accordingly if your school district requires additional documentation or a lengthy turnaround time for check processing. FINAL deadline for payment is December 31. Registrations with outstanding payments will be voided and schools from the waitlist will be invited to sign up.

Visit www.RogerReesAwards.com for the link to complete your school’s online registration. (See page 15 for the full list of school registration questions for reference prior to registering).

DEADLINE FOR REGISTRATION

Schools should be registered a minimum of two weeks prior to musical performance dates (if participating in the Outstanding Performer Award category) and in no case later than the registration deadline of **December 31**. Registration will be closed once the program hits capacity – additional schools will be added to the waitlist.

AWARD CATEGORIES

Registered schools are eligible to participate in any or all award categories presented during the current season. Each category has its own specific guidelines and requirements. Please carefully review the details of each category. We highly encourage submitting students in ALL categories to maximize opportunities and recognition for students.

2024-2025 ROGER REES AWARDS IMPORTANT DATES

September 9	School Registration Opens
October 1	Award/Recognition categories open for submissions
December 31	Deadline for School Registration (or when program hits capacity)
January 6	Student Orchestra Award open for submissions
January 31	Student Reporter applications due
March 18	Student Orchestra Award applications/video auditions due
March 31	New Faces Honors applications/video auditions due Harmony Helper Choral award applications/video auditions due Scenic and Costume Designer Showcases submissions due
April 25	Final Deadline for Outstanding Performer Award student submissions from participating schools (Musicals must be completed prior to this date).
May 2, 3 & 4	Outstanding Performer “Nominee Selection Phase” Auditions and Workshops
Approx May 5	Outstanding Performer Nominees notified and confirmed
May 8	Deadline for Playbill Ad purchase
May 10	New Faces Honoree Workshops
Approx May 16-19	Roger Rees Awards Weekend and Showcase EXACT DATES AND TIMES TO BE ANNOUNCED

[2024-2025 ROGER REES AWARDS SHOWCASE](#)

The 2024-2025 Roger Rees Awards Showcase will take place the 3rd weekend of May 2025. Exact date, times, and location to be announced. Showcase tickets will go on sale early May.

The Roger Rees Awards Showcase is open to the public and tickets will be available for purchase. All family, friends, and community members are invited to attend.

[AWARD CATEGORIES](#)

The following pages contain the details and guidelines for each award/recognition category. Please carefully review each section as participation requirements vary. We highly encourage schools to submit students in all categories.

THE ROGER REES AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A MUSICAL

AWARD TRACK OVERVIEW

The Roger Rees Award for Outstanding Performer in a Musical recognizes student performers from Greater New York Area high schools for distinction in performance. The two (2) student winners of this award will go on to represent The Roger Rees Awards at The National High School Musical Theatre Awards® (NHSMTA®), also known as The Jimmy Awards®.

SCHOOL/STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

All public and private high schools located in the eligible regions presenting an officially licensed edition of a NHSMTA® approved Broadway musical during the current academic year are eligible to submit students for participation. Students performing a qualifying role as defined by the NHSMTA® are eligible for in-school adjudication.

The school must be registered by the school representative a minimum of 2 weeks prior to their show dates. To meet programmatic deadlines, ALL participating shows should take place prior to April 25, 2025.

**To learn more about what defines an “Approved Musical” and “Qualifying Roles”, please visit the Jimmy Awards website at: <https://www.jimmyawards.com/participation/qualifying-shows-and-roles/>.*

IN-SCHOOL ADJUDICATION

All interested students performing an eligible role in their musical should be evaluated by a team of unbiased Adjudicators using the RRA rubric. Based on the Adjudicators scores, this evaluation process will identify the top two students to be submitted to The Roger Rees Awards who will move onto the **Nominee Selection Phase**.

In accordance with the NHSMTA’s eligibility requirements, The Roger Rees Awards has instituted an adjudication process whereby each participating school must identify a minimum of three (3) credentialed and impartial theater professionals to serve as adjudicators for the eligible roles of their high school production. **School Representatives are responsible for managing the in-school adjudication phase of the program, including:**

- (1) Vetting and securing unbiased Adjudicators (see below for Adjudicator Eligibility)
- (2) Providing Adjudicators with instructions and the official RRA scoring rubrics
- (3) Collecting and tabulating scores to determine the top two scoring students
- (4) Submitting a copy of the of final score sheet with all students’ scoring totals
- (5) Completing the RRA form to submit top two (2) students to move onto the “Nominee Selection Phase”

The Roger Rees Awards team will provide School Representatives with:

- (1) Rubric and scoring systems for Adjudication
- (2) Form to submit the two top scoring students
- (3) Final Score Sheet template

ADJUDICATOR ELIGIBILITY

Adjudicators must be impartial theater professionals with at least one of the following qualifications:

- A degree or professional certification in music, theatre, dance, or other aspect of performing arts with at least 5 years of professional experience
- Membership in one of the Broadway Industry unions or guilds, with at least 5 years of experience in the professional theatre
- At least 5 years of experience as a teacher or teaching artist of any aspect of the performing arts at the high school or college level
- An industry professional with at least 5 years of experience in theatre arts education, audience development and/or youth enrichment

Note: Adjudicators should NOT be directly involved with the musical production, and/or a family-member of the cast or crew.

STUDENT SUBMISSION

Once in-school adjudication has occurred, the School Representative will use the provided form to submit student information and the final score sheet to the Roger Rees Awards team within **ONE (1) WEEK** following their show and in no case later than April 25. (See page 17 for Student Submission Form questions). Upon the RRA team receiving student information from the School Representative, the parents/guardians of the selected students will be required to officially register their student for participation in The Roger Rees Awards.

The top two (2) students from each school will need to be available for the **Nominee Selection Phase**. Students should also be available for The Roger Rees Awards program should they be selected as one of the 50 Nominees.

NOMINEE SELECTION PHASE

The **Nominee Selection Phase** will involve an in-person vocal audition in front of a panel of industry professionals and an educational workshop that will take place at one of three locations based on the geographic location of the school. See below for dates and corresponding counties; locations to be announced. Qualifying students should keep their corresponding audition date open. These sessions which will run approximately 4.5 hours, will give students the unique opportunity to participate in a professionally run audition to gain experience in a supportive educational setting.

Friday, May 2: Bronx, Kings (Brooklyn), New York (Manhattan), Queens, Richmond (Staten Island)

Saturday, May 3: Nassau, Suffolk

Sunday, May 4: Dutchess, Orange, Putman, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, Westchester

The Nominee Selection Phase will result in fifty (50) students being selected as the official “Nominees” for The Roger Rees Award for Outstanding Performer in a Musical. These students will attend The Roger Rees Awards Weekend and perform in The Roger Rees Awards Showcase. The RRA Weekend will be held the **3rd weekend in May 2025 (approx. 8/16 – 8/19)**. During the RRA weekend/Showcase, two (2) Outstanding Performer winners will be selected and offered the opportunity to represent The Greater NYC Area at The Jimmy Awards® in June.

STUDENT REGISTRATION

A parent/legal guardian is required to complete an online registration for their student's participation in the program. This registration must be completed in its entirety prior to the Nominee Selection phase. (See page 18 for registration questions and requirements).

The student registration requires uploading a **headshot** and a **PDF copy of a 2-2 ½ minute song cut** from a solo song they performed in their musical. Theater Educators and Musical Directors are a valuable resource as they can provide support in acquiring sheet music, making appropriate cuts, and preparing students for success. This music cut will be used as their audition song during the Nominee Selection Phase and during The Roger Rees Awards coaching and finalist selection. It should be a cut that the student is happy with and confident performing.

NOMINATION ANNOUNCEMENTS

Following the "Nominee Selection Phase," students will be notified if they have been selected as a Roger Rees Award Nominee. An immediate response will be required either **ACCEPTING** or **DECLINING** the Nomination and confirming the student is willing and available to participate in the Roger Rees Awards Weekend and Showcase as well as willing and available to participate in The Jimmy Awards in June. Nominees will be publicly announced via press release shortly thereafter and the Nominee List will be posted on The Roger Rees Awards website.

ROGER REES AWARDS WEEKEND

The Roger Rees Awards weekend will consist of showcase rehearsals and coaching sessions. During the coaching sessions, nominees will work with a Broadway Coach and Music Director on their solo song cut from their qualifying role. All Nominees will perform in the Opening and Closing numbers of The Roger Rees Awards Showcase.

The weekend will culminate with The Roger Rees Awards Showcase. During the showcase, 12 finalists will be announced live, and those students will perform their solo song cuts. Their performances will be scored by a panel of distinguished judges to determine two (2) Outstanding Performers and two (2) Emerging Artists. The Outstanding Performer winners and their parents/guardians will be provided with further instructions for submitting for participation in The Jimmy Awards.

NEW FACES HONORS FOR EXCELLENCE IN SOLO PERFORMANCE

HONORS TRACK OVERVIEW

Established in 2021 and presented by the Broadway Education Alliance (BEA) and the Casting Society (CSA), New Faces Honors was developed to expand access to recognition and training for performing arts students with a passion for acting, dancing, and/or singing – in any genre.

The name “New Faces” is inspired by *New Faces of 1952*, a musical revue with songs, dances, and comedy sketches that ran on Broadway for nearly a year. Later made into a movie and a TV Show, many top entertainers of the day began their careers with a performance on this program with winners occasionally going on to great success in the entertainment industry.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Students, grades 9-12, who attend a high school registered for participation in The Roger Rees Awards, are eligible for participation. Students do not have to be cast in the school’s musical production. This is an opportunity to recognize students outside of the musical production setting. We encourage School Representatives to involve drama, choral departments, and/or other extracurricular clubs to engage students.

Note: The two students who are submitted for the Outstanding Performer Award are NOT eligible for the New Faces Honors Program.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

School representatives will be provided with the details for students to apply and submit their audition for the New Faces Honors track. If selected as an Honoree, parents/guardians will be sent the information needed to officially register their students for the in-person workshops and recognition events.

AUDITIONS

Students may choose to submit an audition video in one of the performance categories: acting, dancing, or singing. There are limited parameters with regards to the genre or style because submissions should be personal and highlight student’s interests and strengths. Auditions are collected through Acceptd, an online audition management platform that is widely used by colleges and other performing arts organizations.

ADJUDICATION

Audition videos will be reviewed by a panel of professional casting directors, and up to ten (10) students from each category will be recognized as Honorees. Other educational partners will have the opportunity to review the submissions and present additional scholarships and prizes.

NEW FACES HONOREES

There is not one specific “winner” in the New Faces Honors program. All New Faces Honorees will be invited to attend a 2-hour workshop in their specific performance category taught by top Broadway industry professionals. Students will be recognized during The Roger Rees Awards Showcase and names will appear in The Roger Rees Awards Playbill. These students will also have an opportunity to be selected for various scholarships and exclusive training opportunities based on their audition videos.

HARMONY HELPER® AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHORAL GROUP PERFORMANCE

AWARD TRACK OVERVIEW

Broadway Education Alliance is proud to partner with Harmony Helper® and The Goren Family Foundation to present the Harmony Helper® Award for Excellence in Choral Group Performance. This award celebrates the artistry and creativity of high school choral groups and rewards the talent, dedication, and teamwork essential in choral music.

CHORAL GROUP ELIGIBILITY

Schools registered for participation in the current season of The Roger Rees Awards are eligible to submit a choral group for consideration for the Harmony Helper Award.

Choirs or student vocal groups should feature a minimum of 4 students. The content used for the video submission should be an approved licensed arrangement performed during the current academic year.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Detailed instructions for submitting videos will be sent upon completion of school registration for The Roger Rees Awards Program.

- The School Representative will submit a video of the student choral performance.
 - Song selection may be in any genre including contemporary pop/rock show choir, a cappella vocal ensemble, musical theatre, or any other style that represents the group's vocal skills and performance capabilities. *While the song may be a musical theater song, it should not be a video clip from a musical production.*
 - Submission should include an introduction that highlights the name of the school and group, any background on the program, and the title of the piece being submitted. The introduction should not exceed 60 seconds.
 - The choral performance piece should not exceed 4 minutes.

ADJUDICATION

Videos will be reviewed by a panel of judges from Harmony Helper that will include theatre industry professionals and music directors. The top scoring choir will be invited to perform at The Roger Rees Awards Showcase as well as receive additional prizes.

ROGER REES AWARDS SHOWCASE

The winning choral group will be featured and perform one number during The Roger Rees Awards Showcase. The choir, choir director, and chaperones will receive instructions for arrival and on-stage rehearsal/sound check prior to the showcase.

STUDENT REPORTER SEARCH

AWARD TRACK OVERVIEW

The Broadway Education Alliance is pleased to partner with BroadwayWorld to present The Roger Rees Awards Student Reporter Search, an opportunity for students with an interest in media marketing and journalism to demonstrate their passions and work with the top professionals in the industry. One student will be selected to appear as the co-host for The Roger Rees Awards Pre-Show presented by BroadwayWorld, as well as invited to represent the Greater New York Region in The Jimmy Awards® National Student Reporter Search. (Requires additional application submitted to The Jimmy Awards).

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY/APPLICANT REQUIREMENTS

- Student in grade 9-12 attending a high school participating in the current season of The Roger Rees Awards
- Complete online registration with all assignments uploaded by the final due date
- Available to attend and co-host The Roger Rees Awards Pre-Show
- Student should not be up for consideration for any other award category
- Willing to represent The Roger Rees Awards in The Jimmy Awards Student Reporter Search

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Applicant assignments may vary each year based on the season's theme and award partners. Details for the Student Reporter Search will be provided to School Representatives.

ADJUDICATION

Students will be assessed on their submitted assignments and participation in planned Student Reporter events. Reviews will be completed by a panel of industry professionals in the media, marketing, and journalism fields to select one student as The Roger Rees Awards Student Reporter.

ROGER REES AWARDS PRE-SHOW AND SHOWCASE

The Roger Rees Awards Student Reporter will appear as the co-host for The Roger Rees Awards Pre-Show presented and live streamed by BroadwayWorld. The student will be recognized during The Roger Rees Awards Showcase and also could be presented with other opportunities for supporting special announcements and hosting interviews.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER DESIGNER SHOWCASE AWARDS

AWARD TRACK OVERVIEW

The Broadway Education Alliance is excited to partner with New York City Center to present the Scenic and Costume Designer Showcase Awards, an opportunity to highlight talented students with interest in designing for the stage. Up to five students will be selected as winners from each design category to showcase their unique scenic and costume designs.

STUDENT ELIGIBILITY

Students grades 9-12 in the Greater New York City area with an interest in costume or scenic design are eligible for participation.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Applicant assignments may vary each year based on the season's theme. Students will be required to submit Scenic or Costume design renderings along with supporting materials and digital mood board. Details for submissions will be provided to School Representatives.

SELECTION PROCESS

A panel of esteemed costume and scenic designers will review submissions and select the winning entries based on attention to detail, creativity in design, and depth of concept.

ROGER REES AWARDS SHOWCASE

Selected students' designs will be displayed at The Roger Rees Awards Showcase and students will receive on-stage recognition.

NEW YORK CITY CENTER STUDENT PIT ORCHESTRA AWARD

AWARD TRACK OVERVIEW

The Broadway Education Alliance is excited to partner with New York City Center to spotlight student musicians that demonstrate exceptional accomplishment in musical theater performance. One school's group will be selected as the featured orchestra and student musicians will have the opportunity to accompany the opening and closing numbers of The Roger Rees Awards showcase, as well as work with a guest conductor affiliated with the New York City Center Encores! series.

ORCHESTRA ELIGIBILITY

Student pit orchestras at high schools in the Greater New York City area are eligible to submit for this opportunity. This award highlights the achievements of student musicians; therefore, musicians must be high school students grades 9-12. We understand that there are circumstances which may require adult or professional musicians, if this applies to your group, there is a place on the application to provide more context.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Submission guidelines may vary each year based on the season's theme. Schools will be required to submit a video recording of their selected group of student musicians performing a piece in accordance with the season's assignment. Details for submissions will be provided to School Representatives.

SELECTION PROCESS

A panel of esteemed musicians and musical theater professionals will review submissions for quality and richness of sound, and musicality.

ROGER REES AWARDS SHOWCASE

The winning group will be required to learn and rehearse the provided opening and closing numbers for The Roger Rees Awards Showcase prior to the weekend of the event. Dedicated time will be coordinated during the RRA weekend for fine-tuning and dress rehearsal with the Outstanding Performer Nominee ensemble.

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS

This section is to prepare School Representatives and Parents to complete online registrations. These questions are for reference and subject to change.

School Registration – To be completed only by School Representative

School Payment Form

1. School Name (as it should appear in printed materials)
2. School Representative First/Last Name
3. School Representative Email Address
4. School Address
5. City, State, Zip
6. County

If paying by check or a Title 1 School, please select the “Pay Later” option.

School Information

7. School Name (as it should appear in printed materials)
8. School Address
9. City, State, Zip
10. County
11. Payment method

School Representative Information

12. First Name
13. Last Name
14. Phone Number
15. Email Address

Award/Recognition Categories

16. Is this your first time participating in The Roger Rees Awards?
17. Select the Award Categories that your school will participate in (select all that apply).
 - Outstanding Performer Award (musical performance must be completed by April 25, 2025 in order to qualify)
 - Harmony Helper Award for Excellence in Choral Group Performance
 - New Faces Honors for Excellence in Solo Performance
 - Student Report Search
 - Scenic and Costume Designer Showcase
 - Student Orchestra Award

Musical Production Information

18. Show Title (full show title as licensed)
19. Opening Date of Show
20. Licensing Agency
21. Director
22. Music Director
23. Choreographer
24. Estimated number of student participants involved in the Musical Production. Including cast, crew, and orchestra. (This can be an estimate).

25. Does your school involve students in design or production? (Lighting, Scenic, Costume, etc.)

26. Production Budget (select one)

- Under \$5000
- \$5000 - \$10,000
- Over \$10,000

Waivers

27. I understand the procedures for the 2024-2025 program are exclusive to this year and subject to change in future seasons. I understand that it is at the discretion of the school's administration to participate in the program and implement a fair selection process.

(Signature Required)

28. I understand that during the course the program including but not limited to nominee auditions, programmatic activities, and the presentation of The Roger Rees Awards Showcase, video and audio recordings and photos may be taken. By submitting this application, you are giving full rights and permissions to companies approved by the Broadway Education Alliance, The Roger Rees Awards, and The National High School Musical Theatre Awards to use video/audio recordings and photos for posters, press releases, websites, and/or other promotional materials associated with the production and presentation of this event. There is no commercial value associated with these materials.

(Signature Required)

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS

This section is to prepare School Representatives and Parents to complete online registrations. These questions are for reference and subject to change.

Outstanding Performer Award, selected students – To be completed by School Representative within 1-week of musical performance. A total of 2 students submitted per school.

1. Student First Name
2. Student Last Name
3. Role
4. Show Title
5. School
6. Parent/Guardian First Name
7. Parent/Guardian Last Name
8. Parent/Guardian Email Address
9. Parent/Guardian Phone Number

REGISTRATION QUESTIONS

This section is to prepare School Representatives and Parents to complete online registrations. These questions are for reference and subject to change.

Outstanding Performer Award Student Registration – To be completed only by parent/guardian.

Student Info

1. First Name (as it should appear in printed materials)
2. Last Name (as it should appear in printed materials)
3. Date of Birth
4. Grade Level
5. Pronouns
6. T-Shirt Size

Parent/Guardian

7. First Name
8. Last Name
9. Email Address
10. Phone Number

School Info

11. School Name

Musical Production Info

12. Show Title
13. Show Role

Medical

14. Emergency Contact Name
15. Emergency Contact Phone Number
16. Are there any health concerns the on-site staff should be aware of?
17. Does your students have any food allergies or dietary restrictions?
 - For on-site events where food is provided, we will accommodate allergies and dietary restrictions so long as we are notified prior to the event. All provided food will be peanut and nut free. Students are welcome to bring food, we kindly request that food is peanut and nut free.

Required Uploads

18. Headshot
19. Music Cut (PDF, approx. 2 – 2.5 mins in length, in the appropriate key, with cuts clearly marked)