



Theatre Director Handbook

Purpose

The Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards (MVHSTAs) and Awards Showcase are designed to **celebrate, support, and advocate** for high school theatre education throughout the Miami Valley region. The program celebrates high school plays, musicals, students, and educators by formally recognizing the extraordinary achievements of our community's productions.

Goals

1. To recognize, honor, and encourage excellence in high school theatre through a constructive review process of nominated productions by qualified Adjudicators;
2. To provide educational workshops and advancement in dance, voice, acting, and stagecraft for high school students locally, regionally, and nationally;
3. To provide professional development and networking opportunities for students, directors, and school programs; and
4. To give students an opportunity to perform on a Victoria Theatre Association stage.

About the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards

Born from the strong foundation laid by the DayTony High School Theatre Awards, the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards (MVHSTAs) celebrate the accomplishments of area high school teachers and students by recognizing achievements in productions by participating Miami Valley area high schools. To participate, schools register to have their productions reviewed by a qualified team of Adjudicators, who then provide directors with valuable feedback. During the spring, the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards will present an Awards Showcase to recognize the outstanding achievements of high school productions and students. Modeled after the Tony Awards®, the showcase features outstanding performances from participating high schools and celebrates their enthusiasm, dedication, and talent while encouraging participating schools to grow and continue improving their programs. To learn more, go to www.mvhsta.org.

Changes from the High School DayTonys

There are several aspects of the high school theatre awards that are different than in previous years. Created by a committee of theatre directors and DayTony members, these changes have been made to support the goals of the MVHSTAs. Some of the changes include:

- A name change: the new awards are called the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards.
- Every participating school will be given the opportunity to have students perform on one of the Victoria Theatre Association stages — the Victoria Theatre or the Mead Theatre in the Schuster Center.
- Selected students will perform from their nominated musicals and roles, and/or perform in an opening and/or closing number during the MVHSTA Awards Showcase.

- Shows will be rated by trained, experienced Adjudicators who will be assessing each school's production on its own merits.
- Students will no longer be required to adjudicate shows. However, MVHSTA encourages participating schools to continue offering visiting students backstage tours and other opportunities to engage with their peers.
- Victoria Theatre Association will offer participating schools VIP access to a variety of fee-based and free Broadway master classes, workshops, camps, and intensives throughout the year.

Participant Eligibility

The MVHSTA program is open to public and private high schools producing plays and musicals in the Miami Valley region. To be eligible for participation for the 2018-2019 Season, a school will meet the following qualifications:

❖ School Location

- High schools must be in the Miami Valley (Montgomery, Butler, Warren, Clinton, Greene, Clark, Champaign, Logan, Miami, Shelby, Darke, and Preble Counties).

❖ Production Dates

- High school productions should take place between September 7, 2018, and May 5, 2019;
- There must be more than one (1) performance of each nominated production or cast.
Please see note about double-casting on page 3.

❖ Production Types

- **Musical theatre** productions will fall into one or more of the following categories:
 - A published musical, operetta, or review (either currently held by a licensing house or in the public domain) presented with the approval or permission from the original creators or their representatives.
 - A new or unpublished musical, operetta, or review (featuring an original script, music, and lyrics) presented with the approval or permission from the original creators or their representatives.
 - An original musical theatre compilation featuring excerpts or scenes from a variety of sources (either currently held by a licensing house or in the public domain) presented with the approval or permission of the original creators or their representatives.
- **Plays** will fall into one or more of the following categories:
 - A published play (either currently held by a licensing house or in the public domain) presented with the approval or permission from the original creators or their representatives.
 - A new or unpublished play (featuring an original script) presented with the approval or permission from the original creators or their representatives.
 - An original play featuring excerpts or scenes from a variety of sources (either currently held by a licensing house or in the public domain) presented with the approval or permission of the original creators or their representatives.

How To Register

1. A Theatre Director, or an official representative from the school will go to www.mvhsta.org and click on the PARTICIPATE tab at the top of the website.
2. Read through the page for details about eligibility, fees, etc. Then, click on the “Register Now” button near the middle of that page (if you’ve already read through all of the eligibility information, you can go directly to www.mvhsta.org/register).
3. Once you are on the Registration page, scroll down and you will see boxes to fill in your information including contact info, school info, show info, dates, etc. Please fill out as much information as you can, including clicking the button(s) if you need a copy of VTA’s W-9 and/or an official invoice emailed to you directly. The required information has a * by it.
4. Once you are finished filling in as much information as possible, click SUBMIT at the bottom of the page. You will see a little message pop up on the page thanking you for starting the process. Your information is sent to us and will quickly be downloaded into our database.
5. That’s it! You have completed the initial registration.

Participant Fees and Payment

The cost of the program is \$100 per school. This fee gives each school the opportunity to nominate two (2) productions of either a play and/or a musical. If a school would like to nominate an additional play or musical, an additional fee of \$50 per show will be assessed. *If a school only wants to nominate one (1) play or only one (1) musical, the fee is still \$100.*

Once we receive your initial registration, our staff will make sure you receive any documentation you need to start your school’s payment process. This includes VTA’s W-9 and/or an official invoice outlining costs of participation based on the information you submitted.

NOTE: If you wish to add a show at a later date, you can as long as there is enough time for the MVHSTA team to schedule Adjudicators and collect the additional fee.

Remember, you will not be officially registered until payment has been received.

Once you submit your fee payment, you will receive a confirmation email that acts as your receipt. Checks should be made payable to **Victoria Theatre Association**.

Double-Casting

If a school decides to double cast one or more roles, the school must select only one set of cast members to be adjudicated. It will not be possible to adjudicate multiple students for the same role. Please contact Gary Minyard with information about which performances have been selected for the adjudication panel. ***However, if you wish for an additional cast to be adjudicated independently, Theatre Directors can submit to have an additional performance of the same show adjudicated for awards by paying an additional fee of \$50.***

Performance Details Form and Nominations

Theatre Directors must complete their Performance Details Form(s) and submit it to the MVHSTAs no later than two (2) weeks before the first performance of the nominated production.

Theatre Directors may submit for Special Recognition Awards (listed on page 7). ***Please note, that awards in these categories are not automatically given.*** Directors must list them on their Performance Details Form to be considered.

General Timeline

Registration Opens:	Thursday, August 23, 2018
Deadline to Register:	Monday, January 9, 2019 (<i>see below</i>)
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Participating schools must be registered at least eight (8) weeks before their first performance.• Participating schools must confirm show titles no later than two (2) weeks before their first performance.
Adjudication Period Begins:	Wednesday, September 7, 2018
MVHSTA Showcase Tickets on Sale:	Friday, March 3, 2019
Adjudication Period Ends:	Sunday, May 5, 2019
Award Recipients Notified:	Friday, May 10, 2019
Timeline for Showcase Rehearsal:	May 31 - June 10, 2019
MVHSTA Showcase:	Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 7:30 p.m.

Publicity

As an endorsement of your school's participation in the program, schools are asked to include the below text in their show programs/playbills:

*"This production has been submitted for adjudication for the new Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards (MVHSTA). The MVHSTA Awards Showcase is on **Tuesday, June 11, 2019**, at the Schuster Center. Go to mvhsta.org for details on how you and your family can attend the MVHSTA Awards Showcase and support high school theatre in the Miami Valley."*

VTA encourages high schools to announce their participation and encourage ticket sales for the MVHSTA Awards Showcase in school newspapers, school/department websites, social media sites, and newsletters. Digital marketing such as logos, copy, and photos will also be provided.

VTA will post promotional information on each participating high school's production(s) on the MVHSTA website.

Liability and Media Release Form

This form can be found on page 12 in this handbook and is also available for download on the MVHSTA website. Each form is required to be signed by each student and educator participating in the MVHSTA Awards Showcase and other select VTA activities offered throughout the year.

E/Mail all forms to: Victoria Theatre Association, c/o MVHSTAs, 138 North Main Street, Dayton, OH 45402, or email MVHSTA@victoriatheatre.com .

Adjudicators

As mentioned earlier, nominated productions of plays and musicals will be adjudicated by a group of trained, experienced community members who have a background in the performing arts. Adjudicators will complete a mandatory training and adjudicate each production on its own merits. Adjudicators will submit scores securely and electronically to the MVHSTA team within 72 hours after attending a nominated production.

Each nominated production will have three (3) Adjudicators attending performances. Each production is evaluated on its own merits, not against other school productions; thus, schools are encouraged to create the best possible work for their unique circumstances and environment.

Adjudicator Production Tickets

Each nominated production will have a total of three (3) Adjudicators attending a production. The MVHSTA team will contact schools to confirm which performances adjudicators will attend.

Participating schools agree to reserve up to two (2) complimentary tickets to their production for each Adjudicator — a total of up to six (6) tickets per production. Tickets should be reserved under the name of “MVHSTA Adjudicator.” Please note that the three Adjudicators assigned to your production may or may not attend the same performance.

Adjudicator Production Attendance

CONFIDENTIALITY

Feedback and scoring will be submitted through a secure online form. Please note that at this time, Adjudicators will not provide oral critiques following the performance, nor should schools expect to receive scores verbally. *Adjudicators must not discuss their opinions, evaluations, scores, or feedback with anyone, in any format.* This includes faculty, staff or students from participating high schools, other adjudicators, colleagues, reviewers, social media networks, etc. Please do not contact Adjudicators with questions. All inquiries should be directed to Gary Minyard at Victoria Theatre Association.

SCORING

Scores will be used to determine “Merit” and “Excellence” awardees in each award category for the 2018-2019 Season. On a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the highest score and 1 being the lowest score), Adjudicators will rank how well the evaluation criteria are executed by students. (*See Evaluation Criteria*). Scores are strictly confidential. However, once submitted to MVHSTA and vetted, scores will be shared with Theatre Directors as soon as possible.

FEEDBACK

Directors will receive feedback on various elements of their high school productions. The MVHSTA team will email Adjudicator feedback to the primary contact teacher after the production has been evaluated.

MVHSTA Awards Showcase

On **Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.**, the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards will present a Tony Awards®-inspired showcase at the Schuster Center honoring schools, students and directors for artistic excellence in high school theatre. Participants have the opportunity to receive awards and perform on the Schuster Center stage as a part of the evening's program. Students, faculty, administrators, and staff from participating high schools are encouraged to promote and attend the awards showcase.

Awards: Individual, Production, and Awards Showcase

There are two (2) levels of individual awards given: **Awards of Merit** and **Awards of Excellence**. The awards are assigned for each category to a top percentage of all submitted productions. The cutoff percentages will be determined by a review of the ballot results without show or school details attached. This is a cutoff for scores to receive recognition – not a determination of who or what school is the best.

Overall production awards will be given for the highest scored productions.

All awards are distributed at the MVHSTA Awards Showcase held on Tuesday, June 11, 2019 at 7:30 p.m. at the Schuster Center.

Regardless of whether or not your nominated musical or play is recognized with an award, each participating school may select two (2) students to perform in the opening and/or closing numbers at the MVHSTA Awards Showcase. These students are selected at the Theatre Director's discretion.

Awards Categories

Awards will be assigned for each category to a top percentage of all submitted productions. **Awards of Merit** and **Awards of Excellence** for high school musical theatre and play productions, as well as student performances and special recognition awards, are based on adjudication scores. Participants will be notified of their nomination when the contact teacher receives the adjudication feedback for a particular production. Winners will be honored in each of the following award categories:

Core Awards (Adjudicator Scored):

Outstanding Musical Awards

Outstanding Play Awards

Outstanding Lead Role in a Play Awards (Actor/Actress)

Outstanding Lead Role in a Musical Awards (Actor/Actress)

Outstanding Supporting Role in a Play Awards (Actor/Actress)

Outstanding Supporting Role in a Musical Awards (Actor/Actress)

Outstanding Ensemble Awards

Special Recognition Awards (Theatre Program Director Nominated):

Outstanding Student Directors (Direction, Music Direction, Choreography) Awards
Outstanding Ensemble Performance Awards
Outstanding Student Designers (Lights, Set, Costumes, Sound, Make up, Props) Awards
Outstanding Stage Management Awards
Outstanding Featured Dancer Awards
Outstanding Student Orchestra Awards
Theatre Program Director of the Year Award *

** This award is community nominated. Go to mvhsta.org for more information on this nomination process.*

Actor / Actress

For the purposes of the MVHSTAs, students are adjudicated in the category corresponding to their gender identification, not the gender of the role that they played. The MVHSTAs will work with Theatre Directors to ensure all performers are listed on the ballots correctly. Please direct questions to VTA staff.

Award Notification

In May 2019, the MVHSTA team will meet to decide which of the nominated individuals and performances will be awarded MVHSTAs. Schools are notified of award recipients no later than **Friday, May 12, 2019**.

Awards Showcase Performance and Rehearsal Schedule

There may be multiple winners for each category, and they will be honored onstage throughout the ceremony. High schools invited to perform as part of the awards showcase will have three to four weeks to select and prepare numbers, solos, and/or medleys from their adjudicated productions. Performers are required to attend rehearsals at the Schuster Center or other rehearsal space. Most rehearsals will be scheduled during the evenings and/or weekends.

Outstanding Musical Award winners are invited to perform a 5-minute (or less) number from the award-winning production. Any student winning an Outstanding Lead Performer Award from a musical is invited to perform a 2-minute (or less) solo from the nominated show and is also invited to perform in the finale. Any student winning an Outstanding Supporting Performer, Outstanding Dancer, and Outstanding Ensemble Award is invited to perform in the Opening and/or Finale of the Awards Showcase.

Rehearsals are required for participation and are mandatory. Rehearsals with the band (piano, bass and drums) will be scheduled May 31 through June 10, 2019. Times/location to be determined. The Awards Showcase takes place on Tuesday, June 11, 2019, at 7:30 p.m.

Awards T-Shirts

All student winners performing in the MVHSTA Awards Showcase are given a T-shirt to keep and wear for the performance. Additional T-shirts are available at a nominal cost.

Awards Showcase Tickets

Tickets will be available for purchase through the Ticket Center Stage box office and online. The student ticket price is **\$10**, which includes any ticketing fees. We encourage all participating schools to attend.

Award-winning students performing in the showcase have a designated seating area and do not need a ticket. All non-performing winners receive a complimentary ticket available at Will Call the night of the showcase.

Two (2) complimentary tickets are available for the Theatre Director who organized their school's involvement with the MVHSTAs. We are not able to provide additional complimentary tickets.

Music

Schools invited to perform as a part of the MVHSTA Awards Showcase will be asked to submit the arranged music from the production at least two (2) weeks before the MVHSTA Awards Showcase. Music must also be submitted for any Outstanding Production and Lead Performer Award winners who are performing. Directors should plan on retaining copies in case they are selected to perform. *(See page 11 for sample rights extension request letter).*

National High School Musical Theatre Awards™ (NHSMTA)

The National High School Musical Theatre Awards™ (NHSMTA) is a national celebration of outstanding student achievement in high school musical theatre recognizing individual artistry in vocal, dance, and acting performance, and honors teachers and their school's commitment to performing arts education. MVHSTA is planning to participate in future National High School Musical Theatre Awards (The Jimmy Awards) in New York City. The program is designed to connect promising young performers to the professional theatre industry. The program is the culmination of over 30 regional awards programs across the country. Approximately 50,000 students in about 1,000 schools participate. For more detailed information, go to www.jimmyawards.com. More details about the MVHSTA's involvement with The Jimmys will become available at a later date.



Alice In Wonderland, Franklin High School, 2017

Additional Learning Opportunities

All participating high schools can participate in theatre education activities throughout the year at Victoria Theatre Association. Education activities for the 2018-2019 Season include:

- Fee-based and free master classes, workshops, and intensives in musical theatre, dance, voice, music, acting, and technical theatre, led by Broadway touring artists and other industry professionals;
- Discounted ticket packages for select Premier Health Broadway Series performances, when available;
- Chatbacks with touring artists and performing arts professionals;
- Participating educators receive first access to the Teacher's Lounge on opening night of Broadway tours;
- Groups attending Bagels & Broadway to watch a Broadway tour load in their sets to the Schuster Center; and
- Educational tours of theatres operated by Victoria Theatre Association.

A Note on Time Commitment

MVHSTA knows that many hours of hard work go into preparing a high school musical theatre and/or play production. One of the goals of the program is recognize, honor, and encourage excellence in high school theatre through a constructive review process of nominated productions. During the school year, there is little additional time commitment from directors/teachers other than communicating pertinent information to MVHSTA. However, if your show or student(s) is/are selected to receive a MVHSTA, it may require an additional time commitment for brush-up and/or staging rehearsals in addition to the showcase performance.



Catch Me If You Can, Springboro High School, 2017

A Checklist of Responsibilities for Each Participating School

Please read through this list of responsibilities for each participating school. If you have questions, please contact Victoria Theatre Association.

- Register your school's productions by submitting the registration form online (*see pages 2-3*). Registration begins Thursday, August 23, 2018. The last day to register is Monday, January 9, 2019. Remember, participating schools must be registered at least eight (8) weeks before their first performance and participating schools must confirm show titles no later than two (2) weeks before their first performance. **Only one Theatre Director or official school representative may officially register a school.**
- Pay the appropriate fee based on the shows you are registering. You will receive email confirmation once registration is complete.
- Confirm the dates of performances that the MVHSTA Adjudicators will be attending.
- Reserve two (2) complimentary tickets for each MVHSTA Adjudicator at specified performances. You will be contacted with information regarding which performances an Adjudicator is attending.
- If another school (participating or not) attends a performance, consider organizing a backstage tour after the performance.
- Contact VTA if you have any questions about scheduling, dates, or changes to your production calendar that was previously submitted.
- Be sure your students know what the MVHSTAs are and pass along information about the end of the year MVHSTA Awards Showcase so that students can attend and meet other theatre students in the area.
- Publicize your participation in the MVHSTAs by adding language (*see page 4*) to your Playbill.

Performance Details Form

Approximately 2-weeks before the show opens, Adjudicators will receive the Performance Details Form, filled out by Theatre Directors, which will include: cast lists, names of students/characters to be evaluated in lead and supporting roles, preferences for feedback, show run times, driving directions, instructions for parking, and other important information pertaining to the production. Please be sure to read through the school's production information form before attending the performance.

Sample Letter to Licensing House Requesting Permission to Perform

[DATE]

[NAME]

[LICENSING HOUSE]

[ADDRESS]

Dear [NAME]:

As you know, our production of [NAME OF PRODUCTION] was very successful. In fact, our production has been honored with [LIST AWARD(S) HERE] by the new Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards (MVHSTA) in Dayton, Ohio, hosted by the Victoria Theatre Association. This honor includes an invitation to perform a production number (less than 5 minutes) from our production at the MVHSTA Awards Showcase on June 11, 2019 at the Schuster Center.

The Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards and Awards Showcase are designed to celebrate, support, and advocate for high school theatre education throughout the Miami Valley region. The program celebrates high school plays, musicals, students, and educators by formally recognizing the extraordinary achievements of our community's productions. You can find out more at mvhsta.org.

I am requesting permission to extend our rights agreement to include a benefit performance of one production number without any additional royalties being due.

I realize you will need to make this request of our rights holders, and I ask you to do so stressing several factors to them. First, the opportunity to increase the support and awareness of high school musical theatre in the Miami Valley is vital to a growing and healthy arts community. The MVHSTA Awards Showcase is not a fund-raising or profit-making event. A low-cost admission is charged, but additional funds must be raised from donors to enable the event to break even. Finally, all of the performers are high school students from schools in the Miami Valley region.

Thank you for your on-going support of this important new program in the Dayton, Ohio, area. Please contact us with any additional question or concerns you may have.

Best regards,

[NAME]

[TITLE]

{CONTACT INFO}

Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards Informed Liability Agreement and Media Release

(To be completed by parent or legal guardian of applicant and signed by preparer and student.)

I, _____, as parent/legal guardian of _____, agree that my child will participate fully in all aspects of the program. In addition, I understand, too, that if my child does not attend a schedule rehearsal for the MVHSTA Awards Showcase, he or she may be removed from the program at the discretion of Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards staff.

I also authorize Victoria Theatre Association and Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards to permit photos and/or video to be taken of me or my child and to use negatives or prints prepared therefore as may be considered necessary by Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards for both internal and external purposes.

By agreeing to the release form, I understand I will receive no form of compensation for pictures/video of me or my child used by Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards.

I hereby give the staff of Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards the authority to accept medical treatment for my child in the event that I cannot be reached. I also release Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards from all liabilities and judgments.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Participant Agreement *(To be completed by Participant)*

I, _____, understand the commitments involved in participation in the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards, and I understand that all events are mandatory and absences or poor conduct can result in removal from the program at the discretion of Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards staff. I also agree to be a positive member of this experience, supporting other participants the best I can, and making a commitment that no bullying of any kind will take place.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Liability Waiver: I, the parent or legal guardian of the child/participant listed above, hereby give approval for the child/participant's participation in the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards. I do waive, release, absolve, indemnify and agree to hold harmless Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards, its officers, employees and volunteers from any and all liability, claims, demands, and causes of action whatsoever, arising out of or related to any loss, damage, or injury, including death, that may be sustained by the participant and/or the undersigned, while in or upon the premises or any premises under the control and supervision of VTA.

Medical Authorization/Release: I hereby certify that this child/participant does not have any medical condition which would preclude or restrict his/her participation in the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards. I hereby authorize, consent and direct Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards, its directors, officers, and employees, and any physician, hospital, or other health care provider selected by Victoria Theatre Association and the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards, to take such action as is necessary in the circumstances to provide emergency care and related treatment to my above-named child/participant in my absence, should the need arise while he/she is participating in the program.

Signature of Parent/Guardian

Date

Evaluation Criteria

Adjudicators will evaluate students and school productions on the execution of various performance and production elements. The following pages are included to help Theatre Directors understand what MVHSTA Adjudicators are using to score each individual production. This list is not meant to be all-inclusive, but a list of general guidelines to inform Theatre Directors. Production elements include:

Overall Production

- Overall quality of high school musical theatre or play production;
- Appropriateness of material for student performers;
- Execution of all performance elements (acting, dancing, singing, technical/design, etc.);
- Flow/pacing of scenes and/or musical numbers;
- Communication of story and overarching themes to audience; and
- Level of professionalism and teamwork demonstrated by cast and crew.

Acting

- Overall quality of acting;
- Emotional believability (depth of character);
- Strength of vocal and physical choices;
- Presence of active objectives (character working towards a goal);
- Relationship with other characters (listening/reacting to others); and
- Commitment to role.

Voice

- Overall quality of singing;
- Articulation and diction;
- Projection and volume;
- Breath support;
- Pitch and tone;
- Rhythm and pace;
- Vocal range; and
- Variety (speaking/singing with expression).

Dance

- Overall quality of dancing;
- Technical execution of choreography;
- Anatomical and kinesthetic awareness;
- Artistic expression within the choreography;
- Clarity of intent within given steps; and
- Investment by performers in dancing.

How are Adjudicators Rating Performances?

This rubric is meant to be a simple guide for MVHSTA Adjudicators to help rate each production on its own merits.

1 2 3

4 5 6

7 8 9



Ratings of 1-3: This means that the performance or aspect of the production was below average or expectations for the rest of the production. If the performer is not in a coma then they should get at least a 2!

** If you give a low rating please explain your reasons for giving such a low rating in the form of constructive criticism.*

Ratings of 4-6: This means that the performance or aspect of the production was average or not exceptional. If you give an average rating then you feel that this performance is not worthy of any special recognition.

Ratings of 7-9: This means that the performance or aspect of the production was higher than normal. Ratings of 9 mean that you feel that performance or aspect of the production might be worthy of special recognition.

Ratings of 10: This means that the performance or aspect of the production was truly exceptional! This rating is not common and should only be used for truly outstanding qualities. Ratings of 10 mean that you feel that the performance or aspect of the production is deserving of the highest recognition.

** Please note that for a school/student to receive a 10 in any evaluation area, the school/student should exhibit the caliber of work that would be considered outstanding if executed by industry professionals.*

An 8-10 in OVERALL:

- developed the major idea of the play or musical
- left a positive overall impression
- is a play or musical that you would highly recommend to your friends

An 8-10 in ACTING:

- portrayed a believable performance as the character
- was spontaneous, yet consistent
- vocally, physically, and clearly communicated what his/her character wanted on stage
- moved and used his/her body to convey the character
- had good stage presence, energy, and poise
- (if called for) used a specific dialect effectively

An 8-10 in ENSEMBLE:

Has a cast that worked well onstage with others by:

- performing a cohesive production with little lapses in character or story
- representing each character completely and accurately leading to a believable performance and interacting with other actors in a fitting/appropriate way according to the story
- honoring the playwright/composer and the work as a whole
- adding specific nuances to heighten the experience for the audience

To earn an 8-10 a DIRECTOR should:

- have a consistent vision, and convey that vision through their interpretation of the play or musical
- compose stage pictures to give additional meaning to the moments
- pace the show in an appropriate and compelling way
- make good use of the entire space
- have variety in the movement of the show
- have a consistent message in association with lighting, sound, set, costumes, props, and actors

An 8-10 in SET DESIGN:

- had an environment that supported the production
- seemed appropriate to the style or time period of the play or musical
- created a reaction to the play or musical in a specific way, or created a focus on something particular in the play or musical
- was successful in creating an environment for the characters
- elicited proper use of color, line, mass, and texture
- provided a logical and suitable setting for the action of the play or musical
- used colors, style, and layout that created an attractive/effective environment
- had scene changes (if any) that were handled efficiently without disrupting the action of the production

An 8-10 in COSTUME DESIGN:

- used costumes that conveyed the essence of the characters
- helped define the time period of the play or musical
- used costumes that were well executed
- elicited proper use of line, texture, and color
- allowed for ease of movement by the character
- used makeup and/or hair/wigs that contributed to the characterization and the overall appeal of the show

An 8-10 in LIGHTING DESIGN:

- was effective in moving the attention of the audience to the action of the play or musical
- allowed for good visibility

- was effective in changing locations and moods
- (when appropriate) used exceptional effects

An 8-10 in SOUND DESIGN:

- (if used) had microphones that helped, rather than hindered the performance
- In a musical, had a balance between vocal singing and the orchestra
- used effective sound effects
- created mood/tone effectively through recorded music/sound
- helped to establish the time and place through recorded music/sound
- established transitions between scenes through recorded music/sound



@MVHSTA

Questions/Comments/Help

If you have any questions, would like to give feedback about the program or need any help at all throughout the adjudication process, please contact the VTA Staff directly. We are always happy to help! You can email general inquiries to: mvhsta@victoriatheatre.com or

Gary Minyard

937-228-7591, ext. 3034

gary.minyard@victoriatheatre.com

Leah Thomas

937-228-7591, ext. 3032

leah.thomas@victoriatheatre.com