



THE 2024-2025 BETTY LYNN BUCKLEY AWARDS

CELEBRATING 25 YEARS OF EXCELLENCE IN HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE

PARTICIPATION GUIDELINES

The Betty Lynn Buckley Awards recognize and celebrate student excellence in high school theatre. Our goal is to recognize students' artistic contributions for the further enrichment and education of our diverse community of patrons and partners.

**The 2024-2025 Betty Lynn Buckley Awards Ceremony
will be held at Casa Mañana on
Thursday, May 8, 2025, at 7:30 PM.**

All Buckley Award winners will receive a **\$1000 SCHOLARSHIP** awarded from the following categories:

OVERALL CATEGORIES

- *Excellence in a Musical*
- *Excellence in a Play*

PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES

- *Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Musical*
- *Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Musical*
- *Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Musical*
- *Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Musical*
- *Best Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role in a Play*
- *Best Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role in a Play*
- *Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Play*
- *Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Play*

DESIGN, PRODUCTION, AND ARTISTIC CATEGORIES

- *Excellence in a Student Orchestra (in a musical production only)*
- *Excellence in Choreography*
- *Excellence in Stage Management*
- *Excellence in Costume Design*
- *Excellence in Lighting Design*
- *Excellence in Scenic Design*



Celebrating 25 Years of Excellence in High School Theatre

- *Excellence in Sound Design*
- *Outstanding Educator Award*

In the event of multiple winners for an award, the \$1000 scholarship will be divided among them. For *Excellence in a Musical*, *Excellence in a Play*, and *Excellence in a Student Orchestra*, the \$1000 award will be presented to the winning department.

ELIGIBILITY

Interested and eligible schools should submit applications as soon as possible.

Applications are due by 5:00 PM, Friday, September 20, 2024.

1. Schools located within Tarrant, Johnson, Hood, Parker, Denton, Wise, Ellis, and Dallas Counties are eligible to participate. Schools that have previously taken part in the Buckley Awards are also invited to participate.
2. All performances must occur from **Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – Sunday, April 6, 2025.**
3. **Schools may submit up to 2 productions (Musical or Play).** If applying for more than one production, please list them in order of preference. The first choice is guaranteed, and the second choice will be granted by availability in order of applications received.
4. If more than one production is selected from your school, 2 entrance fees will apply.

ENTRANCE FEE

The entrance fee is determined on a tiered basis based on the following:

Tier I: \$175.00 per selected production

Schools that are classified as a Title I.
School must not be a private or charter school.

Tier II: \$225.00 per selected production

Schools that do not fall within Tier I.
All private and charter schools.

1. The entrance fee must be paid via a check made payable to Casa Mañana, Inc. **All payment is due within 1 month of acceptance.** All entrance fees are non-refundable. We are unable to adjudicate productions with outstanding payments.
2. Once accepted, participating schools must submit a completed Production Details form on our website and (for musicals) a musician list **NO LATER THAN 2 WEEKS BEFORE OPENING NIGHT.** **Failure to do so may result in your production's ineligibility for awards. If the production is double cast, only 1 CAST will be adjudicated.**

ELIGIBILITY FOR NOMINATIONS

Only students in grades 9th through 12th are eligible for consideration.

Merit is not based on budget size or adult involvement.

While productions may have teacher/adult guidance, please note:

ALL CONSIDERATION FOR ANY BUCKLEY AWARD ULTIMATELY RESTS ON THE STUDENTS' STRENGTHS AND ABILITIES ALONE.



1. **FOR PERFORMANCE:** UP TO 6 STUDENT PERFORMANCES PER PRODUCTION are eligible for adjudication in both lead or supporting roles. Performers must be in grades 9th-12th to be considered. Schools are not obligated to fill all 6 slots for consideration but **ONLY 6 ROLES MAX** are to be adjudicated per production. Directors will determine lead and supporting roles for their production based on the following criteria.
2. **NEW: Buckley Judges attending the show will be able to nominate an extra 2 student performers who fall under the Lead or Supporting categories for consideration.**
 - **MUSICALS:** All eligible **LEAD** roles are defined by the Jimmy Award guidelines. (www.jimmyawards.com) Any lead role must have a name, at least 1 solo, a featured song, and appearances in more than 1 scene with spoken dialogue with other leading or featured performers. Lead roles must appear in all acts. All eligible **SUPPORTING** roles must have a name, 1 solo (either in a featured song or group number), and significant spoken dialogue with others.
 - **PLAYS:** All eligible **LEAD** roles must have a name and considerable dialogue with other leading or featured performers in more than 1 scene. Lead roles must appear in all acts. All eligible **SUPPORTING** roles must have a name and significant spoken dialogue with other performers.
3. **FOR STUDENT ORCHESTRA** (*in a musical production only*): To be considered for the Student Orchestra award, an orchestra may be no more than 20% adults (including the conductor). Schools will provide a list of **ALL** musicians involved, indicating whether they are students or adults, as part of their submitted Production Details.
4. **FOR STAGE MANAGEMENT:** A collaborative group of **UP TO 3 STUDENTS** may submit for a single nomination. Students may have teacher/adult guidance, but all responsibility of execution must fall to the students **ALONE**. To be considered for Stage Management, you must submit a Design Portfolio no later than 1 week before the school's production via Google Drive. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the nominee. The Design Portfolio must contain the following:
 - a. Blocking diagrams
 - b. Props tracking or preset
 - c. 1 rehearsal report
 - d. 1 production report
 - e. Run Sheet
 - f. and any other relevant paperwork.
5. **FOR COSTUME DESIGN:** A collaborative group of **UP TO 3 STUDENTS** may submit for a single nomination. Students may have teacher/adult guidance, but all responsibility of execution must fall to the students **ALONE**. To be considered for Costume Design, you must submit a Design Portfolio no later than 1 week before the school's production via Google Drive. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the nominee. The Design Portfolio must contain the following:
 - a. 2 separate renderings for 2 different characters in the musical or play.
 - b. A photo of each submitted costume design in their final phase.
6. **FOR SCENIC DESIGN:** A collaborative group of **UP TO 3 STUDENTS** may submit for a single nomination. Students may have teacher/adult guidance, but all responsibility of execution



must fall to the students **ALONE**. To be considered for Scenic Design, you must submit a Design Portfolio no later than 1 week before the school's production via Google Drive. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the nominee. The Design Portfolio must contain the following:

- a. 1 rendering of the set or a photo of the model built.
- b. 1 photo of the set design completed.

7. **FOR LIGHTING DESIGN:** A collaborative group of **UP TO 3 STUDENTS** may submit for a single nomination. Students may have teacher/adult guidance, but all responsibility of execution must fall to the students **ALONE**. To be considered for Lighting Design, you must submit a Design Portfolio no later than 1 week before the school's production via Google Drive. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the nominee. The Design Portfolio must contain the following:

- a. 1 lighting plot
- b. 3 photos of different light cues from the show.

8. **FOR SOUND DESIGN:** A collaborative group of **UP TO 3 STUDENTS** may submit for a single nomination. Students may have teacher/adult guidance, but all responsibility of execution must fall to the students **ALONE**. To be considered for Sound Design, you must submit a Design Portfolio no later than 1 week before the school's production via Google Drive. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the nominee. The Design Portfolio must contain the following:

- a. Examples of sound cues used in the show.
- b. Mic List

9. **FOR CHOREOGRAPHY:** A collaborative group of **UP TO 3 STUDENTS** may submit for a single nomination. Students may have teacher/adult guidance, but all responsibility of execution must fall to the students **ALONE**. To be considered for Choreography, you must submit a Design Portfolio no later than 1 week before the school's production via Google Drive. Failure to do so will result in the disqualification of the nominee. The Design Portfolio must contain the following:

- a. 2-3 minute video of student choreographer teaching dances, practice videos and (if available) final performance video.

HOW TO SEND DESIGN PORTFOLIO:

- Please send all Design Portfolios via Google Drive to Buckleys@casamanana.org
- Please put in the Subject line: **School Name, Show Title – Design Portfolios**

THE ADJUDICATION PROCESS

1. Each production will be evaluated by a panel of 3 judges. In some circumstances, there may be a need for a judge to view a video submission of the performance. **Please ensure a video recording of the show will be available in a timely manner.** Again, should your production be double cast, **only 1 cast** will be adjudicated.
2. Each school will receive an electronic copy of the judges' comments following the Buckley Awards Show. Each criterion will be scored from 25 – 1. These scores will determine the final nominees.
21-25: "Excellent"



16-20: "Exceeds expectations"

11-15: "Meets expectations"

6-10: "Needs improvement"

1-5: "Room for growth"

3. All criteria are adjudicated along the following guidelines:
 - **MUSICAL:** *Design, Show Choice, Direction & Pacing, Musical Proficiency, Dynamics, Characterization, and Overall Performance*
 - **PLAY:** *Design, Script Choice, Direction & Pacing, Dynamics, Characterization, and Overall Performance*
 - **PERFORMANCE:** *Projection & Breath Support, Diction, Vocal Inflection & Pitch/Interpretation, Acting Technique & Characterization, Physicality & Coordination and/or Movement Proficiency, and Music Proficiency.*
 - **STUDENT ORCHESTRA:** *Execution, Musical Proficiency, Dynamics, and Overall Performance*
 - **CHOREOGRAPHY:** *Execution, Musicality, Technical Proficiency, and Overall Performance*
 - **STAGE MANAGEMENT:** *Execution, Cohesion, Seamlessness of Action, and Overall Performance*
 - **COSTUME DESIGN:** *Execution, Aesthetic, Originality, and Overall Performance*
 - **LIGHTING DESIGN:** *Execution, Setting, Originality, and Overall Performance*
 - **SCENIC DESIGN:** *Execution, Setting, Originality, and Overall Performance*
 - **SOUND DESIGN:** *Execution, Setting, Originality, and Overall Performance*
4. **Video Recordings, Time Stamps, and Photography:** All adjudicated productions must submit a post-adjudication form on our website within 2 weeks of your final performance containing your production video, timestamps, and photography.
 - a. Each school is responsible for submitting an **accessible** video link of their **full production**. The link must be sent via Google Drive. Please provide an HD quality video since selections from your video may also be used during the awards ceremony.
 - b. With your video, please submit a list of time stamps for all eligible categories as explained below.
 - **EXCELLENCE IN A MUSICAL AND ORCHESTRA:** A full ensemble number.
 - **EXCELLENCE IN A PLAY:** Up to 5 minutes of showcasing production.
 - **ALL PERFORMANCE CATEGORIES:** Up to 2 minutes of song/scene showcasing the nominee.
 - **ALL DESIGN CATEGORIES:** Up to 2 minutes showcasing each design element.
5. All schools will be responsible for submitting high resolution image files of the following in addition to the Production Video:
 - a. 1-2 images of all nominated performers.
 - b. 1-2 images of all nominated designs.
 - c. 3-4 images of the Production.
6. **Betty Lynn Buckley Awards Program Ad.** Casa Mañana requires all schools to place the provided ad in the printed and digital program for adjudicated productions. The ad serves to promote the high school as one of the schools involved in the Betty Lynn Buckley Awards. Casa Mañana will provide the artwork. If interested, Casa Mañana can also provide artwork for our Casa Mañana School for Musical Theatre and TYA/Broadway season.

NOMINATIONS



1. A preliminary nomination list will be sent to the contact person listed on the original application as close to **Monday, April 8, 2025**, as possible.
2. Once nomination emails are sent, schools will have 24 hours to submit spelling corrections to buckleys@casamanana.org before announcing nominations on Casa Mañana's social media.
3. **Schools must not announce nominations before the information is made public through Casa Mañana.**

CEREMONY

The 2024-2025 Betty Lynn Buckley Awards Ceremony
will be held at Casa Mañana on
7:30pm, Thursday, May 8, 2025.

**All Excellence in a Musical Nominees will be invited to perform 1 number from their show.
ALL PERFORMERS AND NOMINEES MUST PURCHASE A TICKET TO ATTEND THE CEREMONY.**

More information on tickets will be provided in Spring 2025.

1. Each school nominated for Excellence in a Musical must submit a track from their production to be used in the performance during the ceremony.
2. All musical numbers will be limited to **4 minutes and 25 performers ONLY** per school. **If you bring more than 25 performers, you will not perform in the ceremony.**
3. **NO SET PIECES OR PROPS WILL BE USED FOR PERFORMANCE DURING THE CEREMONY.**
4. Casa Mañana reserves the right of final approval of the chosen number due to stage space and program balance considerations.
5. Casa Mañana will arrange for each school nominated for Excellence in a Musical to perform their number without further royalties. Schools should, however, notify the appropriate licensing agent of their participation in the Betty Lynn Buckley Awards at the time performance rights are sought.
6. All Excellence in a Musical materials must be emailed to buckleys@casamanana.org **by 5:00 PM, Thursday, April, 14, 2025.**

2025 BETTY LYNN BUCKLEY AWARDS OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR

1. The Betty Lynn Buckley Awards is proud to introduce the Outstanding Educator Award in the 2024-2025 season. This award recognizes a high school theatre educator who fosters our mission to recognize students' artistic contributions for the further enrichment and education of our diverse community of patrons and partners.
2. Educators must be nominated for this award by a student, parent, or community member. **Educators may not self-nominate.**
3. The nomination form will be posted on our website in Spring 2025.
 - a. This award recognizes a high school theatre educator who fosters our mission to recognize students' artistic contributions for the further enrichment and education of our diverse community of patrons and partners.



CORRESPONDENCE AND SOCIAL MEDIA

1. When emailing, please ALWAYS use this format in the subject line: **School Name – Show Title – Topic (e.g., B.L. Buckley High School – Cats – Video Submission)**
2. By participating in the Buckley Awards, you grant Casa Mañana the right to post your production photos to all our social media sites.
3. By participating in the Buckley Awards, you also agree to not announce nominations until Casa Mañana has made them public via social media and our website.
4. Students may be featured on:
 - **Facebook:** [facebook.com/casafb](https://www.facebook.com/casafb)
 - **Instagram:** [@CasaManana](https://www.instagram.com/CasaManana)
 - **Twitter:** [@CasaManana](https://twitter.com/CasaManana)

2024-2025 BUCKLEY AWARDS TIMELINE/IMPORTANT DATES

- **APPLICATION DUE DATE:** 5pm, Friday, September 20, 2024
- **PRODUCTIONS OCCUR:** Wednesday, September 25, 2024 – Sunday, April 6, 2025

Production Details due 1 week **BEFORE** opening night.
Post-Adjudication Form due 2 weeks **AFTER** the final show.

- **NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCEMENT:** Tuesday, April 8, 2025
- **SPELLING CORRECTIONS DUE DATE:** 5pm, Wednesday, April 9, 2025
- **EXCELLENCE IN A MUSICAL MATERIALS DUE DATE:** 5pm, Monday, April 14, 2025
- **BUCKLEY AWARDS CEREMONY:** 7:30pm, Thursday, May 8, 2025

IMPORTANT CONTACTS

Education Office: (817)-321-5040
buckleys@casamanana.org

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