Contents

Before the Kenny Ceremony.................................................................................................................. 5
Eligibility .................................................................................................................................................. 5
Timeline and Important Dates ............................................................................................................. 5
Workshops & Opportunities .................................................................................................................. 6
Facebook Group .................................................................................................................................... 6
Adjudicators ............................................................................................................................................ 6
  Who Are They? ....................................................................................................................................... 6
  Judges’ Tickets to Your Production .................................................................................................... 7
  What Criteria Do the Judges Use When Evaluating Our Production? .............................................. 7
Award Categories ..................................................................................................................................... 7
  Awards presented: ................................................................................................................................. 8
Independent Spotlight Award ............................................................................................................... 9
  Kenny Leading Performer (virtual auditions) ....................................................................................... 10
Feedback from Judges ........................................................................................................................... 11
Nominations .......................................................................................................................................... 11
Leading Actor and Actress Nominations ............................................................................................... 12
Promotion ................................................................................................................................................. 12
  Director’s Statement ............................................................................................................................. 12
  Your Production .................................................................................................................................... 12
  Kenny Awards Ceremony Ad.............................................................................................................. 13
  Your Show’s Programs, Tickets, and Show/Rehearsal Photos ............................................................ 13
Show Background Information ........................................................................................................... 13
Photo Release Forms .............................................................................................................................. 13
  Director’s Name(s) for the Kenny Ceremony Playbill ......................................................................... 14
Kenny Ceremony Ticket Information ................................................................................................... 14
Musical Accompaniment ...................................................................................................................... 14
Day of the Kenny Ceremony .................................................................................................................. 16
  Kenny Ceremony Performance Requirements ..................................................................................... 16
  Dressing Rooms ................................................................................................................................... 17
  Ceremony Length & Post-Ceremony Reception .................................................................................. 18
  Kenny Merchandise ............................................................................................................................. 18
  Photography .......................................................................................................................................... 18
After the Kenny Ceremony .......................................................... 19
Participation Surveys .................................................................. 19
School Assembly for Outstanding Musical Production Recipient ....... 19
National High School Musical Theatre Awards® / The Jimmy Awards® .................................................................................. 19
Dates ......................................................................................... 20
Location .................................................................................... 20
What To Expect .......................................................................... 20
Awards ....................................................................................... 21
Connecting With the Jimmy Awards ............................................ 22
Kenny Director Checklist ............................................................ 23
Student/Participant Release Form .................................................. 24
The Kenny Awards ..................................................................... 26
The Kenny – Outstanding Musical Production .............................. 26
Individual Awards: ...................................................................... 26
  Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role .............. 26
  Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role .......... 26
  Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role ......... 26
  Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role ....... 26
  Outstanding Featured Ensemble ............................................. 26
  Blossom Cohan Award ......................................................... 27
  Individual Spotlight Award .................................................. 27
Production Awards ................................................................... 27
  Showstopper Award .................................................................. 27
  Outstanding Dance Performance ........................................... 27
  Outstanding Dramatic Performance ....................................... 27
  Outstanding Choral Performance ......................................... 27
  Outstanding Orchestral Performance ...................................... 27
  Outstanding Technical Design ............................................ 28
  Outstanding Scenic Design ................................................ 28
  Outstanding Costume Design ............................................ 28
  Outstanding Hair and Makeup ............................................ 28
Standards of Excellence ............................................................. 29
  Individual Awards: ............................................................... 29
The Adjudication Rubrics ......................................................................................................................... 31
Outstanding Performance Rubric ...................................................................................................... 32
Choreography Rubric .......................................................................................................................... 32
Orchestral Performance Rubric ......................................................................................................... 33
Technical Design Rubric .................................................................................................................... 33
Scenic Design Rubric .......................................................................................................................... 34
Costume Design Rubric ....................................................................................................................... 34
Hair and Makeup Design Rubric ........................................................................................................ 35
LETTER FROM KENNY MUSIC DIRECTOR .................................................................................. 36
Before the Kenny Ceremony

Eligibility
All public, private, and charter schools in Erie, Niagara, Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua counties producing a full-length musical production are eligible and encouraged to apply for and participate in the Kenny Awards. This includes ‘School Editions’ but not Broadway Junior or TYA shows. Participating casts must be largely made up of students in grades 9-12. Participating programs must acquire proper licensing for their production and let the licensing house know that they are participating in this program.

Individual awards, such as the Leading, Supporting, and Blossom Cohan Awards, are only given to students in grades 9-12. Students from other schools or a homeschool program can participate in your production, but they must be cast based on audition. This year, students in grades 9-12 whose schools are not involved CAN audition (by video submission) to be considered for Outstanding Leading Performer Awards and a chance to represent WNY at The Jimmy Awards. Additionally, performance students can also submit to earn a spot in the new Shea’s Spotlight Ensemble. The Ensemble will get the chance to be coached by industry professionals for five to six weeks in late spring, and they will create an original performance piece to premiere on the Shea’s stage at the 2022 Kenny Awards.

Timeline and Important Dates
The Kenny Awards has many important dates and deadlines that you must follow in order to participate in the awards ceremony in May 2022. Please review these dates carefully and don’t hesitate to contact Jen Mysliwy if you have any questions or concerns.

- **November 2021** – Kenny Adjudication period begins
- **Wednesday, December 1, 2021** - Virtual Directors Meeting
  - NOTE: Directors need only to participate once
- **Monday, December 13, 2021** – Virtual Directors Meeting
- **Friday, December 31, 2021** – Kenny Application Deadline
- **Wednesday, January 5, 2022** – Virtual Directors Meeting
- **March 1, 2022** – Individual Spotlight Video Submissions due
- **April 10, 2022** – Kenny Adjudication period ends
- **Wednesday, January 19, 2022** – Kenny Social Event for all participating schools
  - @ Shea’s Performing Arts Center
- **April 22, 2022** – Nominations Announcement (virtual)
- **May 16-20, 2022 (tentative)** – Leading nominee bootcamp and assessment
  - @ Shea’s Rehearsal Halls
- **Saturday May 21, 2022 (tentative)** – Kenny Day and Ceremony
Workshops & Opportunities
As a participant in The Kenny Awards program, you and your students will be invited to participate in various workshops, networking events, tours, and guest speakers throughout the year. Most of these opportunities will be held virtually and/or at Shea’s Performing Arts Center in Buffalo and will be free of charge.

Dates for our Virtual Master Classes are:

- Wednesday, November 10, 2021
- Thursday, December 16, 2021
- Tuesday, January 11, 2022
- Wednesday, February 16, 2022
- Tuesday, March 15, 2022
- Wednesday, April 13, 2022

Titles, times and teaching Artists will be announced soon. In-person workshops are expected to be held on Kenny Day for all participants.

Facebook Group
We have a Kenny Awards Facebook group that is open to anyone who wishes to share information about their programs, ask for suggestions, or just stay up to date on high school musical theatre. The group can be found here - https://www.facebook.com/groups/KennyAwards/. Please feel free to join the group and join the conversation!

Adjudicators
Who Are They?
We have a panel of Kenny Awards judges consisting of area professionals in the arts and education communities. Once this season’s adjudicators are in place, we will share their names and bios in an email, on the website and on social media. To keep the evaluations fresh, we try to add new judges to our panel each year. To ensure our judges are qualified to evaluate your productions, we do use area professionals. Because of this, we realize there may be some conflicts of interest with some of our judges. All judges are required complete a conflict-of-interest form prior to the start of the season and before any decisions about finalists are made. Any conflicts with our judges will be brought to the attention of our finalists at the October directors meeting. If you have any questions about a judge or their potential conflicts, please contact Jen Mysliwy at JMyśliwy@sheas.com or 716-829-1171 as soon as possible.
Judges’ Tickets to Your Production

The Kenny judges will view the participating schools shows in their entirety and complete evaluation forms and comments for feedback. Judges are allowed up to two complimentary tickets each to your production. Judges’ tickets should be held at the schools will call and will be picked up by the judges on the day of the performance that they are attending. Shea’s Arts Engagement and Education will also try to see all shows and will request 1-4 complimentary tickets for each run. All tickets requested should be held under each judge’s name or The Kenny Awards.

Shea’s will contact you approximately one week before your show with the date, time and number of tickets each Kenny judge requests. If you need to know the ticket reservation prior to the time she contacts you (ex. if your show is close to selling out), please call or email Jen Mysliwy to get the reservations earlier. For planning purposes, you might be asked to share from 8 to 16 complimentary tickets for Kenny Awards purposes.

If you normally have general seating but wish to reserve seats for the judges, we ask that you do not announce that a Kenny judge will be in that seat. A simple “reserved” sign will suffice. Our judges like to maintain an open mind and professional anonymity that becomes difficult when family, friends, and colleagues in the audience approach them to ask their opinion or make prejudiced comments within earshot.

Please be aware that there may be some last-minute adjustments to the reservations due to personal/professional conflicts and health concerns. We aim to have 3 to 6 judges attend each schools production will attend your production to ensure you get a well-rounded evaluation. We may also ask if you have a dress rehearsal or school performance that they can attend. Our judges are theatre professionals and know that a dress rehearsal is not the same quality as an actual performance. However, we often have multiple shows in the same weekend, and we may need additional opportunities to fit all the shows into the schedule. We appreciate your flexibility and understanding on this matter.

If a judge does not attend your performance and you were not notified ahead of time, please confirm this with Jen Mysliwy as soon as possible.

What Criteria Do the Judges Use When Evaluating Our Production?

We have a Standards of Excellence rubric that our judges use for their evaluation rubric. For each production they see, our judges are required to complete one production evaluation and one individual evaluation for each Jimmy Awards qualifying role. You can find the Standards of Excellence and Evaluation forms elsewhere in this manual.

Award Categories

Our set award categories are listed below. While we do not guarantee everyone will win or be nominated for an award, the nominations are a way to provide feedback to our finalists. Based on the nominations a school receives, the finalists can determine which areas they were strong in and those in
which they can use some work. The top four schools in each award category, excluding leading actor and actress, will receive a nomination. The top six individuals in leading roles will receive a nomination for Outstanding Leading Actor and Actress. Nominations will be announced approximately three weeks prior to the ceremony.

Please note that awards are given based on student participation. If sets or costumes are rented or borrowed, or professionals are hired to design, build, perform, or run an aspect of the show, then your school will be ineligible for that award. We understand circumstances may change as you go through your process. To be fair to the other finalists, we ask that you please keep us informed of any changes in personnel or supplies that would impact your eligibility for certain awards. We will check in with you a week or two prior to your show to ask about changes.

Awards presented:

- Outstanding Musical Production (The Kenny)
- Outstanding Leading Performance in a Male Role
- Outstanding Leading Performance in a Female Role
- Outstanding Performance in a Male Supporting Role
- Outstanding Performance in a Female Supporting Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Ensemble
- Blossom Cohan Award
- Showstopper Award
- Outstanding Dance Performance
- Outstanding Dramatic Performance
- Outstanding Choral Performance
- Outstanding Orchestral Performance *(performed by students and faculty with limited mentors)*
- Outstanding Technical Design *(set changes, sound, lighting, and effects – run by students)*
- Outstanding Scenic Design *(created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers)*
- Outstanding Costume Design *(created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers)*
- Outstanding Hair and Makeup *(created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers)*

And, new this year:

- Independent Spotlight Award (for students from schools who are not participating in the 2022 Kenny Awards)
- Kenny Leading Performer (for students from schools who are not participating in the 2022 Kenny Awards, this option is only approved for the 2021-22 season)

*NOTE: For more info, see below*

The winners of the Outstanding Leading Actor and Actress awards will be invited to compete in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (The Jimmy Awards) in New York City in June 2020. All expenses associated with this opportunity will be covered for the two students by Shea’s Performing Arts Center. While in NYC, the students will receive complimentary coaching and training from Broadway professionals and will compete for various college scholarships.
NOTE: If you ‘double-cast’ any of the roles in your production, please contact Jen Mysliwy at jmysliwy@sheas.org or (716) 829-1171 before the judges view your production.

The school that wins “The Kenny” for Outstanding Musical Production will receive a $10,000 grant from The Lipke Foundation to be used solely by their theatre department. Every finalist is eligible to win this award regardless of their nominations in other award categories. Schools that win the top award must take a two-year hiatus from the program.

**Independent Spotlight Award**

After making a huge pivot to an all-virtual platform for 2021, we really liked the inclusiveness of all students into the program. While understanding that The Kennys are a part of the National High School Musical Theatre Awards and therefore MUST adjudicate live performances, Shea’s also feels strongly about celebrating the dedication and hard work of all young artists in our region. It is for this reason that we have created this new award.

Students who attend an eligible school that is not participating in The Kenny Awards this year can submit a 4-minute video of themselves performing in a medium of their choice. This can be dance, vocal, acting, juggling, beat boxing, magic, etc. ANY type of performance art that the student excels in. Adjudicators will score and award the top 12 submissions with the Independent Spotlight Award. These students will then get to take part in the Shea’s Spotlight Ensemble. For six weeks, these ensemble members will work with a team of Teaching Artists to create a unique performance piece that incorporates the talents of the students. Shea’s Spotlight Ensemble will premiere their performance piece at Shea’s during the 2022 Kenny Awards.

**Requirements:**

- **Individuals must reside within** Erie, Niagara, Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua counties, be in grades 9-12, and cannot be a student at a school that is or will be participating in the 2022 Kenny Awards. Please check with your school directors as we have many new schools participating this year. You can ONLY be considered one time, so if you are submitting for the Independent Spotlight Award, you are not involved in a Kenny school musical, or submitting a video audition for Kenny Leading Performer. Email Jen Mysliwy at jmysliwy@sheas.org with ANY questions or concerns.

- Audition videos must be under 4 minutes long and can be submitted via Dropbox, Google drive, or by a free file share site like WeTransfer. YouTube videos are not accepted.

- Students must introduce themselves (slate) at the beginning of their audition. Please include your name, age and grade, school name or school district, and a short statement about what you are performing.

- To be considered for an Independent Spotlight Award you must submit your audition video and a complete application by March 1, 2022. Late submissions will not be adjudicated.

You can find the application for Independent Spotlight Award and for Kenny Leading Performer here: [https://www.sheas.org/arts-engagement-and-education/kenny-awards/](https://www.sheas.org/arts-engagement-and-education/kenny-awards/)
Kenny Leading Performer (virtual auditions)

This opportunity is only available for this 2021-22 season and is for students who wish to be considered for Outstanding Leading Performer Awards and a chance to represent WNY at The Jimmy Awards, but attend schools who are not producing a musical and/or participating in the 2022 Kenny Awards.

Requirements:

Individuals must reside within Erie, Niagara, Allegany, Cattaraugus, and Chautauqua counties, be in grades 9-12, and cannot be a student at a school producing a musical for adjudication for the 2022 Kenny Awards. Please check with your school directors as we have many new schools participating this year. You can ONLY be considered one time, so if you are submitting a virtual audition for the Kenny Leading Performer, you are not involved in a Kenny school musical, or submitting a video audition for Individual Spotlight Award. Email Jen Mysliwy at jmysliwy@sheas.org with ANY questions or concerns.

• Please fully answer all application questions. Because this audition is taking the place of seeing you perform in a full production, adjudicators will want to understand your connection and motivation for the role you are portraying.

• Applicants must audition with a Jimmy Approved Musical and Qualifying Role to be considered for this award category. You can find the list of approved shows and roles here: https://www.jimmyawards.com/participation/qualifying-shows-and-roles/

• Prepare then record one three-minute song, making sure to act out distinct character choices. If you need to make cuts to your song, please get approval from Jen Mysliwy jmysliwy@sheas.org prior to submitting your audition. All songs MUST have piano accompaniment, have your school music teacher/director assist you, or find an appropriate backing track online. If the role you are portraying is a dancer, please use movement in your audition. It is important to remember that you are auditioning for a chance to be recognized as an Outstanding Leading Performer, use those three minutes to showcase your vocal, acting, and movement talents as much as you are able to, with respect to your song choice.

• Audition videos should be under 3 minutes 30 seconds. Your song portion should be three minutes and your introduction/slate can be 30 seconds. Video auditions can be submitted via Dropbox, Google drive, or by a free file share site like WeTransfer. YouTube videos are not accepted.

• In your introduction slate please include your name, age and grade, school name or school district. Please also state the title of the show, character name, and song title you are performing for the audition.

• Please use best practice for self-tape auditions. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcWJO_BIl
• Proper lighting and good sound quality are important. If you would like to have your video screened for quality prior to submitting please reach out to me, Jen Mysliwy at jmysliwy@sheas.org before the due date of 3/18/21. I am not a Kenny judge, and I am happy to mentor any applicant who is looking for an educated/non-biased eye.

• To be considered for the Kenny Leading Performer award you must submit your audition video and a complete application by March 18, 2022. Late submissions will not be adjudicated.

All students who are auditioning for the Independent Spotlight Award, or the Kenny Leading Performer are encouraged to get in touch with me prior to submitting. I can answer ALL your questions and as this is a new process, hearing your inquiries will help me know where I need to define requirements more clearly for everyone. If you would like to have your video screened for quality prior to submitting please reach out to me, Jen Mysliwy at jmysliwy@sheas.org before the due date of 3/18/21. I am not an adjudicator, and I am happy to mentor any applicant who is looking for an educated/non-biased eye.

If you need assistance in creating a resume for the Kenny Leading Performer application, please visit: https://www.ace-your-audition.com/actor-resume.html

If you are looking for self-tape hints, please watch: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WcVWJ0_BIs8

Feedback from Judges
Approximately one month following your production, finalists will receive feedback from the judges. This feedback is based on what the judges saw and is designed to help strengthen your program and not to criticize the hard work you all put into your productions.

The Kenny Awards is a team effort. Our judges can provide the best feedback and evaluations if they know exactly what you are working with. Likewise, we strive to provide you with all the information you need to be successful. However, if any questions or concerns do arise throughout the year, we encourage you to ask them as we go along and not wait until after the program ends.

Nominations
Approximately three weeks prior to the awards ceremony, we will announce the nominees in each award category. Nominations are given to the top five schools or individuals in each award category, excluding the leading actor and actress awards where the top six nominees will be announced. You and your students will be invited to join us for this announcement. Details on the announcement will be sent to you in the spring of 2022.
If your student is nominated for either Outstanding Leading Actor or Actress, they will be invited to participate in an additional evaluation and training session the week of May 16, 2022. More details about this process are outlined below.

**Leading Actor and Actress Nominations**
We will be selecting the winners of the Outstanding Leading Actor and Outstanding Leading Actress awards based on a two-step evaluation process. Part of their score will come from their show evaluations by the judging panel. The other score will come from participation in a week-long training session the week of May 16, 2022. This training week is mandatory for all nominees who wish to be considered for these awards. If a nominee is unable to attend the training, they can still receive their nomination, but will be ineligible to win the award.

This training will include coaching on their show and non-show solo songs, mock auditions, and rehearsal for a new medley that will be performed at the Kenny Awards Ceremony on Saturday, May 21.

During this week, the students will also be required to provide:

- **Headshot** – Must be a high-res jpg file (8”x10” at 300 DPI)
- **Photo of the student in the production** – Higher res photos are preferred
- **Resume** – One (1) page detailing musical and performance experience
- **Bio** – No more than 200 words, written in complete sentences and in third person format
- **Essay** – One (1) page, typed, double-spaced essay describing his or her experience while participating in the high school musical
- **Personal Release/Waiver** – Completed and signed by student and parents/guardians (as necessary)
- **Medical Release** – To be completed by parent or guardian

In addition, we will be naming six (6) student nominees in these two award categories only. All 12 students will receive more details about this session immediately following the nominations announcement.

**Promotion**
**Director’s Statement**
As part of our intent to make the Kenny awards a celebration of the incredible work happening in programs across the region, directors are asked for a statement highlighting the unique aspects that make their departments/programs/productions special. This will mean something different for every school. Adjudicators are informed to consider this statement when scoring the overall production.

**Your Production**
We would like to help promote your production! As soon as they are available, please send Jen any electronic promotional files you have, including your show poster design and/or photos from your production/rehearsals. We will post these on Shea’s website, the Kenny Awards blog, and our social
media pages. Please make sure your photos are good quality. For larger files and high-resolution images feel free to mail a flash drive, or share a link to Dropbox, Google Drive, or other cloud-based storage site. If you have a website for your production or theatre department that you would like linked to our sites, please send that along as well. Be sure to include information on how patrons can purchase tickets to your show.

Kenny Awards Ceremony Ad
You will be provided with an ad announcing your school’s participation as a finalist in the Kenny Awards. Please place this ad in your show’s playbill or design a similar ad promoting your participation in the program. We also encourage you to tag all your social media posts and photos about your production or the Kenny program with #kennyawards. The success of the Kenny Awards depends on the support of our family, friends, colleagues, and the community at large. We appreciate your help in spreading the word!

Closer to the date of the ceremony you will be sent an electronic advertisement for the Kenny Awards Ceremony. We encourage you to share this with your students, friends, and colleagues. If you would like a press release for your school’s newspaper or other promotional materials for this event, please contact Jen. We encourage you, your students, and your school to help spread the word to your community so they can support you on Kenny day.

Your Show’s Programs, Tickets, and Show/Rehearsal Photos
Your production’s programs, tickets, and photos will be used at the Kenny Ceremony. The recipient of the Outstanding Musical Production award will also receive a shadow box containing tickets and programs from their show. Please refer to the Director Checklist on page 15 of this handbook and send all the materials required from your show to Jen no later than Monday, April 11, 2022.

Show Background Information
To make the ceremony more personal, we ask you to write a short anecdote, a maximum of 100 words, about your production. Our Master/Mistress of Ceremonies will read this when introducing your performance. It can describe your school’s experience with the show, the reason why that show was selected, a recount of something that happened during the production, or another similar account. Please submit this information at the same time you submit your Video Highlights and Form.

Photo Release Forms
We would like to be able to use any photos and videos taken or quotes obtained during the Nominations Announcement, Kenny Day, and the Ceremony to promote the program. These photos may be used in Shea’s Education brochure, Shea’s website, social media pages, and other promotional materials. A Photo Release Form is included in this packet on page 14. Please copy this form and give it to everyone who will be participating in Kenny Day. Any students under 18 must have the form signed by a parent. Please use the form that is included in this packet and do not create your own. We list specifics of how
photographs, etc. may be used on the form. All signed forms must be returned to Jen Mysliwy at your earliest convenience or by Friday, April 15, 2022. If you have an individual who is unwilling to sign the release, please notify Jen as soon as possible.

Director’s Name(s) for the Kenny Ceremony Playbill
Please include the names of your production’s directors and any student directors you would like listed in the Kenny Ceremony playbill. Please note that the title of each director (music director, stage director, etc.) may not be listed due to space limitations.

Kenny Ceremony Ticket Information
Kenny Ceremony tickets are $10. Once tickets are on sale, they may be purchased in person at Shea’s Box Office, or through Ticketmaster online or by phone. Shea’s Box Office is open 10:00 am to 5:00 pm on Monday-Friday, and 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Saturdays. They will also be open all day on Saturday, May 21 for walk-up ticket sales.

Musical Accompaniment
We are thrilled to be able to provide a live orchestra of professional area musicians to accompany your performance at the Kenny Ceremony. Our music director, Lon Gormley, will contact you regarding the musical selections and arrangements you will be using for your six-minute piece. To keep our ceremony at a reasonable length and to be fair to all of our finalists, your musical feature cannot be any longer than six (6) minutes in length. You will be asked to cut the medley if you come to rehearsal with a piece that runs longer than six minutes.

Your music director will need to arrange a time to rehearse with the Kenny orchestra the week prior to your 20-minute student rehearsal on May 21. Your students will not attend this rehearsal. This is the music director’s/conductor’s time to work with our musicians and make any last-minute changes that may need to be made. This can either be a production/ensemble number from your show or a short medley that you put together. You will need to bring copies of your medley for the orchestra members to use. The Kenny music director, Lon Gormley, will reach out to every school’s pit conductor with more details in the spring.

We also ask that you submit the musical accompaniment of the Overture or Entr’acte, or a number with all vocal parts from your production that the orchestra can play as the audience is being seated. Please see the enclosed letter from the Kenny music director on page 36 and share with your music director.

Finally, Shea’s will be notifying the licensing companies of your participation in The Kenny Awards in the fall and will request permission on your behalf for you to keep your materials until after our ceremony without being charged a late fee. We recommend that you do the same just to be safe. A copy of any approvals will be given to each school. We will also notify you if we do not hear back from the licensing company.
Day of the Kenny Ceremony

‘Kenny Day’ is Saturday, May 21, 2022!

Kenny finalists are encouraged to join us for the entire day on May 21. All groups should check in between 9:00 am and 9:45 am in Shea’s grand lobby. Detailed schedules will be provided during check in the morning of the Ceremony. The first events will begin at 10:00 am and will run until approximately one hour before the start of the ceremony. Please notify Jen Mysliwy immediately if you have a conflict and cannot stay the entire day or if you require handicap access.

Kenny Ceremony student rehearsals are scheduled to take place throughout the day on stage at Shea’s Buffalo Theatre. Each group will have 15 minutes to run their piece or warm up with their directors in a rehearsal hall with a keyboard, and a maximum of 20 minutes to rehearse their piece twice on stage at Shea’s Buffalo Theatre. After the first run through on stage, Shea’s production staff will provide feedback about your performance. You will then be allowed to make any necessary adjustments and run through the piece a second time. Please see Kenny Ceremony Performance Requirements below for details on your medley.

When your group is not rehearsing on the stage, you will be scheduled to either watch another group rehearse or to participate in various musical theatre-related workshops and events. We encourage you to pay attention to the notes Shea’s production staff provides to other groups as it may apply to you and your group. Complimentary theatre workshops will provide additional training for your students. A schedule and sign-up sheet of available workshops will be provided approximately three weeks prior to Kenny Day.

PLEASE NOTE:

- Rehearsals will take place on stage at Shea’s Buffalo Theatre with the Kenny orchestra.
- Your group will be given only 20 minutes to rehearse your 6-minute musical feature twice. No exceptions will be made. Encourage your students to focus so you can make the most of your time.
- You may be scheduled to watch other groups rehearse their feature. This is done in response to past feedback about the groups not getting to see each other’s performances. We also want you to learn from the feedback the other groups are receiving so you are prepared when you go on stage for your rehearsal and/or performance.
- When your group is scheduled to watch another group’s rehearsal, please make sure your group remains quiet and respectful, so you do not distract the group working with Shea’s production staff. Please wait until your turn to rehearse to ask questions of the production staff. If you have an immediate or timely question, please find a volunteer inside the theatre.
- Groups will receive approximately one hour-long lunch break in the middle of the day and an hour-long dinner break before the ceremony. You may have students bring a bag lunch or leave the grounds to get lunch as long as you return to Shea’s before your next scheduled event.

Kenny Ceremony Performance Requirements

Your group will perform musical selections from your production at the Kenny ceremony. Due to copyright and royalty laws, there are some restrictions regarding the presentation of your six (6) minute
number. If you have any questions regarding what might be permitted on stage, please do not hesitate to contact Kathleen Washington. All these requirements and procedures will be explained by Shea’s production staff during the directors’ meeting in October and reiterated as necessary on Kenny day during your rehearsal.

The Kenny Ceremony is a choral performance of musical theatre numbers from your production with movement. We recommend you select one production number and one solo. If you put together a medley, please try to do so in 30-second increments that can easily be taken out should you run over the allotted six minutes. Solos, duets, and ensemble numbers are allowed provided they fall within the guidelines.

The use of costumes, costume pieces, set pieces, or props associated with the production is prohibited at the ceremony. Your students may wear t-shirts from the production or outfits of your choosing provided these outfits are not costumes from your production. Any choreography, staging, makeup, dress, or props that would identify an individual or a group of people as specific characters, or a specific scene from the production are prohibited.

Here are some examples of what is NOT permitted:

- A dance/solo number such as the Laurie/Curley ballet from “Oklahoma!”, or the Havana scene from “Guys and Dolls.”
- Use of any dialogue from the show not contained within the actual score.
- An article of clothing or makeup that would identify someone as a specific character. The onstage look must be generic.

The curtain will be down between each performance. Your group will wait off stage and must enter from stage left. You can take your places on stage while the curtain is down or wait until the curtain lifts to enter the stage. You will be provided with six (6) wireless microphones in addition to the floor mics. After your performance, your group must exit stage right and return to the front of the house to your assigned seats where you will watch the rest of the ceremony.

**Dressing Rooms**

Each school will be assigned dressing rooms based on the size of the group. You will receive your dressing room assignment when you arrive on Saturday, May 21, 2022. A volunteer will show you to your dressing room when you arrive in the morning where you can store your possessions for the day.

When you arrive at the dressing room(s) assigned to your group, please inform a Shea’s staff member immediately if you observe any damage to the room that was created prior to your arrival. Your school will be held responsible if there is any damage incurred to your assigned dressing room during your stay. Please make sure that the students and staff members do not sit on anything other than the chairs provided. Sitting on sinks, countertops, or tables is strictly prohibited and can cause injury and a lot of damage to the facility.
Ceremony Length & Post-Ceremony Reception
The Kenny Ceremony will begin at 6:00 PM on Saturday, May 21 and will last approximately two and one half (2.5) hours, including one intermission. Your group is encouraged to stay for the entire ceremony to support your colleagues and new friends. Complimentary refreshments will be served in the lobby immediately following the ceremony. All schools are welcome to stay and enjoy the refreshments with their family, friends, and other guests.

Kenny Merchandise
Every year, we offer an array of Kenny Awards merchandise for sale before, during, and after the ceremony, including t-shirts with the finalist schools listed on the back. Prices will range from $5 to $25 and can be purchased with cash or credit. Please let all your students know ahead of time in case they want to purchase any items. There is an ATM located in Shea's box office. All proceeds from merchandise sales go directly toward the operating costs of the program.

Photography
Photos of your cast and crew may be taken on Shea’s beautiful Grand Lobby staircase prior to the ceremony on Saturday, May 21. Parents, family members, friends, and supporters are welcome to take photos of the students before, during, and after the ceremony. However, flash photography and video are strictly prohibited during the ceremony. If a video is taken and posted online, the person posting the video may be liable to pay any fees associated with copyright infringement.

Shea’s will have a photographer and videographer at the ceremony and events throughout the day. Local media is also invited to attend the ceremony. Please see the Photo Release Form on page 15. The two students who win the Outstanding Leading Actor and Actress awards, and the school that wins the Kenny for Outstanding Musical Production will be ushered to the stage by a Shea’s staff member for photos immediately following the production. Shea’s will have a professional photographer on site to take these photos. While family and friends are encouraged to take photos from the audience, we do ask that everyone on stage focus on our photographer’s direction.

We will also have a videographer on site to record the ceremony. This will be for archival and promotional purposes only and copies will not be for sale. The videographer will also be backstage immediately following the ceremony to get a testimonial from the two students who win the Outstanding Leading Actor and Actress awards.
After the Kenny Ceremony

Participation Surveys
Following the ceremony, we will send an electronic survey out to all participating directors asking for your feedback about our program. This survey is an opportunity for you to share your thoughts and ideas. If you require more space for your comments, you are also welcome to send an email or letter to the program coordinator. The changes and adjustments we make to the Kenny program each year are in direct response to this feedback.

School Assembly for Outstanding Musical Production Recipient
The week following the Kenny Awards Ceremony, representatives from Shea’s Performing Arts Center and the Lipke Foundation will participate in an assembly at the school that is awarded the Kenny for Outstanding Musical Production. Each member of the cast, crew, and orchestra will receive a medallion to commemorate their participation. Students, staff, and volunteers who were vital to the production (costume staff, makeup artists, etc.) will also be honored with a medallion. We prefer to do this in front of your entire student body to help give credence to your program and support your students in front of their peers. Please submit the exact number of medallions that your school will need if you win the Kenny for Outstanding Musical Production by April 3, 2020.

Please make arrangements with your school ahead of time to schedule the date and time you would like to hold the assembly at your school should your school win “The Kenny.” Select a date between May 18 and 22, 2020, the week immediately following the ceremony. The recipient school may organize the assembly as they see fit and may invite the entire school, school officials, public officials, parents, or any other interested party. The winning school may also choose to perform selections from their musical at the assembly. The Kenny Awards may invite media to join the assembly but cannot guarantee their attendance.

National High School Musical Theatre Awards® / The Jimmy Awards ®
The two students who receive the Outstanding Leading Actor and Actress awards will be invited to participate in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards in New York City in June 2020 to compete for various scholarships and recognition awards. Along with more than 84 other students from across the country, the winners of these awards will spend the week participating in in-depth workshops and rehearsals with Broadway professionals, and will get to perform on a Broadway stage.

If your student wins the award for Outstanding Leading Actor/Actress, we will need the following information within three days of the Kenny Ceremony or by the end of the day on Tuesday, May 19, 2020.

NOTE: Please see page 6 for a list of items your student will need to provide if he/she is nominated for one of these awards.

- Completed music submission form – will be provided
• **Prepared songs:**
  o Two (2) prominent songs from the student’s winning performance. Copies of the scores will be provided by The Jimmy Awards. Please note any applicable markup and key change notations on this form.
  o Three (3) musical theatre ballads* for solo work with NHSMTA vocal coaches. The pieces should not be from the show just performed.
  o Three (3) musical theatre up-tempo pieces* for solo work with NHSMTA vocal coaches. Again, the pieces should not be from the show just performed.

  *NOTE: A list of approved song selections will be provided by the Broadway League Foundation. Should you wish to select a song not on the list, please submit song name, show, composer, and the key with sheet music for approval (submit the entire song with the cuts notated). Songs must be 2 minutes and 30 seconds long. More details will be provided closer to the ceremony date.

• **Topic Response Video**
  o Nominee Topic Response Video recordings must follow the designated order, which will be provided by the Jimmy Awards in spring 2020. All submissions become the property of NHSMTA and will not be returned.

We will assist students with their solos and music submission form during their training sessions the week of May 16, 2022. See the section about Leading Actor and Actress nominations on page 6 for more details.

**Dates**
The 2022 Jimmy Awards ceremony will be June 27, 2022 and is held at the at the Minkoff Theatre. The two student winners will be in NYC between Monday, June 20 and Tuesday, June 28, 2022. You can check www.JimmyAwards.com or their social media pages for updates.

**Location**
The Jimmy Awards will be held at NYU’s Tisch School for the Arts in New York City, NY. The majority of the events throughout the week will take place on campus. There will be a couple outings into the city for dinner and a show. Program chaperones will be on hand at all times.

The Jimmy Awards Ceremony will be held at Broadway’s Minskoff Theatre (home of Disney’s The Lion King), located at 200 West 45th St.

**What To Expect**
The two winners of the Kenny Awards’ Outstanding Leading Actor and Leading Actress awards will be invited to New York City to participate in the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (aka the Jimmy Awards) as nominees representing Western New York and the Kenny Awards. A chaperone provided by the Kenny Awards will accompany the students to New York City.
While in NYC, students will spend their days in various workshops and rehearsals with theatre professionals. Students will be broken into groups and taught an opening and closing number for the ceremony. They will participate in individual lessons and coaching sessions with various theatre professionals and program adjudicators who will get to know each student and their abilities. Students will also be invited to various receptions, lectures, discussions, and performances.

Throughout their stay in NYC, students will be provided:

- Complimentary airfare to and from New York City
- Complimentary ground transportation in New York City
- Complimentary lodging at the NYU dorms
- Complimentary meals
- Complimentary workshops, training sessions, and rehearsals with Broadway and theatre professionals

Students must provide:

- Personal effects necessary for the trip
- Comfortable clothing and shoes for movement and rehearsals
- Performance attire, including costume from their production. Note: If your costume was rented, please plan to create or rent the costume for your student for this program.
- Spending money
  - While there will not be much down time during the week, and students are not permitted to leave the campus unless out for a group activity, there may be times when students will want or need to purchase additional items.

Students will arrive in NYC the day before the program begins. They will spend the following week rehearsing and working with industry experts.

The Jimmy Awards ceremony will be held the following Monday. Tickets will be available to purchase. Immediately following the ceremony, students will attend an After-Party at a local restaurant. The day after the ceremony is a half day and will include a group meeting with various Broadway Professionals, lunch, and then departure.

Throughout their time in New York City, students are not allowed to receive outside guests or leave the campus for any reason except group outings. Students will be guided by chaperones at all times. Please refer to the attached Code of Conduct and Rules for more detail.

Awards
Top prize for winners will receive a $25,000 scholarship that can be used at any accredited national university.

Runners Up will each receive a $3,000 scholarship for their future education.

Other possible awards include eight (8) Special Recognition, Best Performance in an Ensemble, Rising Star, Best Dancer, and Spirit of the Jimmy Awards. All additional awards include a $2,000 scholarship.
All award winners are selected by a panel of Broadway professionals who work with the students throughout the rehearsal and workshop process in New York City. Check out http://www.jimmyawards.com for details on past programs, including behind the scenes videos.

Connecting With the Jimmy Awards
A message from The Jimmy Awards:

To all high schools participating in Regional Awards Programs associated with the Jimmy Awards® / National High School Musical Theatre Awards® (NHSMTA®):

We hope your school year is off to a wonderful start. As a participant in the twelfth year of the National High School Musical Theatre Awards, you are part of a network of over 1,500 schools involving more than 100,000 students creating theatrical productions across the country this year. Many of you are presenting Jimmy Awards eligible shows this year, and we are thrilled to have you as part of our Jimmy Awards family!

To connect with your students throughout the year, we have created a specific list serve intended exclusively for schools who are participating in local Regional Awards Programs. If you are interested in receiving occasional communication via email directly from the Jimmy Awards, please take a moment to fill out the form by clicking on the link below. This occasional correspondence may include opening night congratulatory messages, opportunities to be featured on Jimmy Awards social media channels, and other relevant program information. Please note, this is a list serve ONLY intended for principals, teachers or other staff members who serve as the primary contact between their high school production and their Regional Awards Program affiliated with the National High School Musical Theatre Awards.

The Jimmy Awards applauds your hard work and your outstanding commitment to high school musical theatre. We wish you all the best with your upcoming productions!

LINK TO OPT-IN: https://www.jimmyawards.com/school-signup
Kenny Director Checklist

Please submit all information and materials by the date listed to Jen Mysliwy JMysliwy@Sheas.org or send to:

Jen Mysliwy, Arts Education Coordinator
Shea’s PAC
PO Box 1130
Buffalo, NY 14205

Of course, you may send in your information sooner than the deadline, too!

- **1 Playbill, 2 Tickets, Show/Rehearsal Photos, and Director Statement**
  - These are used to create the slides that will be presented on the stage and in the lobby at the ceremony. If we do not receive these by April 15, we may not be able to include photos from your school’s production in the ceremony. Show photos may be submitted earlier to be included in promotion of your production.
  - Due (4) weeks prior to production.

- **Cast & Directors**
  - The complete number of students & directors who will be directly involved with the Kenny Ceremony on May 21.
  - Due (4) weeks prior to production.

- **Crew & Orchestra**
  - The complete number of students involved in the crew and orchestra who will be attending the Kenny Ceremony.
  - Due (4) weeks prior to production.

- **Directors’ Names for Program**
  - The names of any directors and student director you would like listed in the Kenny Ceremony Program. Please note the title of the director (music director, stage director etc.) may not be listed due to limited space.
  - Due (4) weeks prior to production

- **Highlight Video and Submission Form**
  - Please use the form included in the Participation Handbook. Videos can be sent to Jen Mysliwy via a file sharing site, or a delivered hard copy on DVD.
  - Due (1) week after your production closes

- **Background Information on Your Production**
  - One paragraph (100 words) detailing an experience or anecdote concerning your production to be added to the Master/Mistress of Ceremonies’ script.
  - Due (1) week after your production closes
• **Photo Release Forms**
  - Signed forms that give Shea’s permission to use photos, videos and quotes from students and participants in our promotional materials.
  - Due by April 15, 2022

• **Nominees for Outstanding Leading Actor/Actress**
  - Directors with nominees will be sent all forms directly after the nomination announcement. A high-res jpg file Headshot, photo of the student in the production, one-page Resume detailing musical and performance experience, one page, typed, double-spaced Essay describing student’s experience while participating in the high school musical, completed, and signed Personal Release/Waiver, completed and signed Medical Release.
  - Due Friday, May 6, 2022

**Student/Participant Release Form**

Please see the following page for the Student/Participant Release Form.
Please copy and distribute to all cast members and Kenny Ceremony participants. Please return signed copies to Jen Mysliwy by Friday, April 15, 2022.

KENNY AWARDS
STUDENT/PARTICIPANT RELEASE FORM

The Kenny Awards is dedicated to recognizing local high school talent for excellence in producing and performing musicals. In order to ensure the success of this program and the continuation of the Kenny Awards Ceremony in the future, we request your permission to be included in our publicity efforts.

Student/Participant Name: ______________________________________________________________

School Name: __________________________________________________________________________

By participation in this program, I, ___________________________________, grant Shea's Performing Arts Center & The Lipke Foundation permission to:

• Take photographs and/or make video or audio recordings of my performance, awards presentation and workshop participation for promotional use and publicity of the Kenny Awards, Shea's Performing Arts Center & The Lipke Foundation
• Speak with and/or be interviewed by the press
• Use my quotes, name, and written responses about the program in future print and marketing materials

__________________________________________________________ Date: ___________________
Student/Participant (Print Name)

__________________________________________________________ Date: ___________________
Student/Participant (Signature)

____________________________________________________________ Date: ___________________
Parent or Legal Guardian for Students Under 18 Years of Age (Print Name)

____________________________________________________________ Date: ___________________
Parent or Legal Guardian for Students Under 18 Years of Age (Signature)

The 29th annual Kenny Award Ceremony is on Saturday, May 21, 2022 at 6:00 PM at Shea's Performing Arts Center. Tickets will be sold at the Shea’s Box Office, online and by phone.
The Kenny Awards

The Kenny – Outstanding Musical Production
Schools will be evaluated on their overall production quality and appropriateness of the musical in showcasing the talents of the performers based on the school’s size and available resources. This category ties all aspects of the performance together including direction, performance, and design. Everyone involved in the production should display professionalism, talent, originality, and enthusiasm. Outstanding musical productions should effectively tell the story and convey the overarching themes to the audience, execute the musical score successfully, and demonstrate the diverse talents of the student population.

Individual Awards:

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role
This award is given to an actor in a leading role whose performance was consistently outstanding in acting, singing, and dance. The winner will represent western New York at the Jimmy Awards (The National High School Musical Theatre Awards) on Broadway.

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role
This award is given to an actress in a leading role whose performance was consistently outstanding in acting, singing, and dance. The winner will represent western New York at the Jimmy Awards (The National High School Musical Theatre Awards) on Broadway.

Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role
This award is given to an actor in a supporting role whose performance was consistently outstanding in acting, singing, and dance.

Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role
This award is given to an actress in a supporting role whose performance was consistently outstanding in acting, singing, and dance.

Outstanding Featured Ensemble
This award is given to a small group of individuals within the larger show who clicked whenever they were on stage together, or who performed one scene in such a moving and memorable way that the audience will never forget their performance.
Blossom Cohan Award
This award, named after Mrs. Blossom Felder Cohan, honors an actor or actress in a minor role who blossomed in his or her role, leaving a lasting impression on the audience.

Individual Spotlight Award
New for 2022. This award will be given to 12 students who are enrolled at a school that is not currently producing musicals or participating in the 2022 Kenny Awards. Candidates for this award will submit a 4-minute video which shares them performing an arts medium of their choice.

Production Awards
Showstopper Award
When all aspects of a performance come together for a musical number, it can be incredibly awe inspiring. This award is given to the production for the performance of a musical number that truly was a showstopper, leaving a lasting impact on the audience.

Outstanding Dance Performance
The choreography in a production should assist in the telling of the story by reflecting the time period, and the age and social status of the characters. Outstanding execution of the choreography should be flawless, relaxed, and precise, and the dancers should remain in character throughout the entire performance.

Outstanding Dramatic Performance
Whether serious or comedic, great dramatic performance requires the performers to fully develop their characters and always be mindful of their actions while on stage, presenting a realistic scene that the audience can connect to. The Kenny Awards’ Dramatic Performance award is given to the production with outstanding character development and interaction.

Outstanding Choral Performance
Choral singing requires all involved to be perfectly in sync in their intonation, rhythm, diction, and dynamics. In an outstanding choral performance, no individual voices stand out, and yet the sound the audience hears comes through as one voice. This category honors the production with outstanding choral performance.

Outstanding Orchestral Performance
Broadway scores require students to perform 2 to 3 hours of difficult material for the production without overpowering the cast and be flexible enough to cover any mistakes that may happen on the stage. The orchestra creates the mood, supports the performers, and keeps the show moving forward.
This award is given to the production with the best orchestra performance by students and faculty with limited mentors or paid professionals.

**Outstanding Technical Design**
While the acting, singing, and dancing are important elements of a musical, none of it would be effective without the technical aspects of the production. The technical design helps ensure the audience can not only hear and see the performers but is transported to another time and place. This award recognizes flawless set changes, sound, lighting, and effects - all run by students.

**Outstanding Scenic Design**
The set and scenery help the audience determine the time and place of a production and assist in telling the story. An outstanding set effectively and safely uses the available space, while maintaining functionality and artistry. This award is for an outstanding set created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers.

**Outstanding Costume Design**
Costumes help present the time period and location of the story being told. They designate a character’s status, personality, and relationships. Costumes should be tailored to fit while allowing freedom of movement. This award is for outstanding costume design created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers.

**Outstanding Hair and Makeup**
Hair and makeup finish the overall look of the character and enhance costuming to help present the time period and location of the story being told. They designate a character’s status, personality, and relationships. Hairstyles should be secure and allow freedom of movement. Makeup should be appropriate and natural for character and physical space. This award is for outstanding hair and makeup created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers.
Standards of Excellence
The Kenny Awards recognizes area schools and their students in (16) award categories, including The Kenny for Outstanding Musical Production. There are two different types of awards: production awards given to the finalist schools and individual awards acknowledging individual student performances. The production awards and the individual awards have their own respective evaluations and scoring.

Performance categories include acting, singing, and dancing for individuals and ensembles. Performers should understand their characters’ motivations and how they fit into the larger picture, while executing lines, songs, and movement in an accurate and artistic manner.

Technical execution includes flow and execution of set and prop changes by the stage crew or performers, sound execution and quality, lighting, and technical effects (animation, audio-visual, automation, and rigging) based on the school’s size and resources. To be considered for this category, all technical aspects must be run by students. Sets should be created by students, faculty, staff, or volunteers and not rented, borrowed, or purchased. Costumes must be created by students, faculty, staff, or volunteers and not rented or borrowed.

Four nominees are selected for each award category, except for The Kenny for Outstanding Musical Production. All finalist schools are automatically nominated for this award upon acceptance into the program.

All the award nominees and winners are selected by our active judges at the private selection panel discussion where evaluations and scores are reviewed and deliberated. The Kenny for Outstanding Musical Production is given to the school that produces the best musical given their unique challenges.

Individual Awards:
The Individual Category Awards are as follows:

- Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Leading Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Leading Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role
- Outstanding Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role
- Outstanding Featured Ensemble
- Blossom Cohan Award

Performers considered for Individual Awards are evaluated on the following areas:

- For **Acting**, individuals are scored on projection, diction/articulation, facial expression, timing, interaction with other characters, stage presence, concentration/focus, and believability.

- For **Singing**, individuals are scored on tone quality, intonation, consistency, breath control, flexibility, diction/articulation, accuracy for notes and rhythm, and dynamics.
• For Dancing/Movement, individuals are scored on control/strength, flexibility, skill, presentation, sense of rhythm, accuracy, concentration, and stays in character.

The above qualities are rated as follows:

• **Fair (1):**
  o Interpretations and choices for character(s) lack thorough understanding and consistency. Deeper character study and training is necessary for a stronger performance. Their acting, singing, and dancing/movement skills need to be strengthened for characterization and balance.

• **Average (2):**
  o Interpretations and choices for character(s) showed understanding and consistency. More character study and training is necessary for a stronger performance. Their acting, singing, and dancing/movement needs to be further strengthened for more characterization and balance.

• **Good (3):**
  o Interpretations were strong and cohesive, and aspects of their performance were pulled together in a manner that would be considered above average for artists at the high school level. Increased character study and training would make the strong performance outstanding.

• **Outstanding (4):**
  o Interpretations were strong and cohesive. Individual(s) exhibited thorough understanding of character(s) choices and overall comprehension of the whole production. Caliber of performance would be considered superior if executed by industry professionals.

The Outstanding Performance Rubric details the standards that are applied to the individual awards. Please note that eligible actors for these awards must be registered students in grades 9-12.

Production Awards

The Production Awards are as follows:

• Showstopper Award
• Outstanding Dance Performance
• Outstanding Dramatic Performance
• Outstanding Choral Performance
• Outstanding Orchestral Performance
• Outstanding Technical Design
• Outstanding Scenic Design
• Outstanding Costume Design
• Outstanding Hair and Makeup
These areas are rated as follows:

- **Fair (1):**
  - Interpretations and choices lack thorough creativity, forethought, and cohesive planning. Considering the school’s circumstances and available resources, elements were pulled together in a manner that would be considered less than average at the high school level.

- **Average (2):**
  - Interpretations and choices showed creativity, forethought, and planning. Considering the school’s circumstances and available resources, elements were pulled together in a manner that would be considered average for a high school production.

- **Good (3):**
  - Considering the school’s circumstances and available resources, the production exceeded standards and guidelines. Interpretations were strong and cohesive, and elements were pulled together in a manner that would be considered above average for artists at the high school level.

- **Outstanding (4):**
  - Considering the school’s circumstances and available resources, the production far exceeded all standards and guidelines. Interpretations were strong and cohesive. Caliber of work exhibited would be considered superior if executed by industry professionals working with the same budget and facility.

**The Adjudication Rubrics**

The Outstanding Performance Rubric details how the standards are applied to the awards for the Showstopper Award, Outstanding Dance Performance, Outstanding Dramatic Performance, and Outstanding Choral Performance.

The awards for Outstanding Orchestral Performance, Outstanding Technical Design, Outstanding Scenic Design, Outstanding Costume Design, and Hair and Makeup each have their own rubric on how the standards are applied.
Outstanding Performance Rubric
Eligible actors must be registered students in grades 9-12.

### 2022 Kenny Awards
**Outstanding Performance Adjudication Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/RANKING</th>
<th>Fair 0-5</th>
<th>Average 6-10</th>
<th>Good 13-15</th>
<th>Outstanding 16-20</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Acting           | • Did not give a consistent performance.  
                  • Rarely made strong and imaginative character choices.  
                  • Appears to broadly understand character’s objectives within the context of the show.  
                  • Interacts well with other characters.  
                  • Able to react and interact as the character.  
                  • Has a good understanding of the themes of the show and how his/her character fits into the action.  
                  • Creates a fully-realized and believable character and is able to communicate that character to the audience.  
                  • Remains in character throughout production even when not the focus of a scene.  
                  • Consistently sings with proper diction, correct pitch, nice tone, supported breath, dynamics, and dramatic expression.  
                  • Able to express character through song without breaking character.  
                  • Moves awkwardly across the stage with no direction or purpose.  
                  • Unable to execute staging and choreography.  
                  • Moves with precision but lacks animation appropriate to character.  
                  • Inconsistent execution of staging and choreography  
                  • Aids in communication of the scene.  
| Singing          | • Rarely sings with proper diction, correct pitch, nice tone, supported breath,  
                  • Rarely listens to other performers while singing as an ensemble or reacts accordingly.  
                  • Sometimes sings with proper diction, correct pitch, nice tone, supported breath,  
                  • Mostly maintains character while singing.  
                  • Often sings with proper diction, correct pitch, nice tone, supported breath, dynamics, and dramatic expression.  
                  • Understands and executes musical style and timing of the show.  
                  • Movement & physicality fully reflects the character (i.e. age, social status, history, etc.).  
                  • Flawless execution of staging and choreography.  
                  • All blocking choices are clearly motivated.  
| Movement         | • Evidence of nervousness, distraction, or arbitrary movement (i.e. fidgeting or playing with costume).  
                  • Appears distracted.  
                  • Character’s motives seemed unclear.  
                  • Presents a passable performance as the character with few personal tics.  
                  • Character is usually in the moment of the scene.  
                  • Character is capable of keeping the audience’s attention.  
                  • Character appears natural and comfortable.  
                  • Commands attention and focus from the audience.  
                  • Performance enhances and adds value to the overall production.  
| Stage Presence   | • Movement was rarely appropriate for the show, story, and ability level.  
                  • Formations and combinations of steps were rarely accurate and appropriately synchronized.  
                  • Choreography sometimes allowed actors to continue to tell the story through dance/movement.  
                  • Formations and combinations of steps were sometimes accurate and appropriately synchronized.  
                  • Choreography often allowed actors to continue to tell the story through dance/movement.  
                  • Formations and combinations of steps were often accurate and synchronized.  
                  • Choreography was always appropriate for the show, story, and ability level.  
                  • Performances and combinations of steps were always accurate and appropriately synchronized.  
                  • Excellent use of stage space, levels, and formations.  

Total Score:

---

### Choreography Rubric

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/RANKING</th>
<th>Fair 0-5</th>
<th>Average 6-10</th>
<th>Good 13-15</th>
<th>Outstanding 16-20</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| Choreography     | • Movement was rarely appropriate for the show, story, and ability level.  
                  • Formations and combinations of steps were rarely accurate and appropriately synchronized.  
                  • Choreography sometimes allowed actors to continue to tell the story through dance/movement.  
                  • Formations and combinations of steps were sometimes accurate and appropriately synchronized.  
                  • Choreography often allowed actors to continue to tell the story through dance/movement.  
                  • Formations and combinations of steps were often accurate and synchronized.  
                  • Choreography was always appropriate for the show, story, and ability level.  
                  • Performances and combinations of steps were always accurate and appropriately synchronized.  
                  • Excellent use of stage space, levels, and formations.  

Total Score:
Orchestral Performance Rubric
Performed by students and faculty with limited mentors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/RANKING</th>
<th>Fair 0-5</th>
<th>Average 6-10</th>
<th>Good 11-15</th>
<th>Outstanding 16-20</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Intonation</strong></td>
<td>• Rarely were instruments in tune.</td>
<td>• Most instruments in tune.</td>
<td>• Sections remain in tune.</td>
<td>• Solid pitch and intonation maintained throughout the show.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Students rarely played on pitch.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Sound quality is pleasing.</td>
<td>• Blend is evident within and between sections.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Balance</strong></td>
<td>• Overall orchestral sound is unbalanced.</td>
<td>• Overall orchestral sound is balanced.</td>
<td>• Provides complimentary accompaniment to stage performers.</td>
<td>• Complete balance between pit and stage.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Orchestras distract from stage performers.</td>
<td>• Orchestras does not overpower stage performers.</td>
<td>• Sections do not overpower each other.</td>
<td>• Correct instrumentation and necessary tools to perform (proper lighting, good sight lines, etc.)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Familiarity With Score</strong></td>
<td>• Players seem unfamiliar or uncomfortable with the overall score.</td>
<td>• Players demonstrate a basic knowledge of the overall score.</td>
<td>• Sometimes employed appropriate dynamics and executed clean entrances.</td>
<td>• Score is performed without mistakes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Missed or rushed entrances.</td>
<td>• Sometimes employed appropriate dynamics and executed clean entrances.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Students paying attention to and reacting to conductor.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Professionalism</strong></td>
<td>• Orchestras members talk or visibly do other activities when not playing during the production.</td>
<td>• Orchestra members arrive on time.</td>
<td>• Orchestra members stay focused throughout the performance.</td>
<td>• Conductors stand when musical director and/or conductor enters.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Some students are unfocused throughout the performance.</td>
<td>• Students stay focused throughout the performance.</td>
<td>• No talking during scenes.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Score:**

Technical Design Rubric
Set changes, sound, lighting and effects all run by students.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/RANKING</th>
<th>Fair 0-5</th>
<th>Average 6-10</th>
<th>Good 11-15</th>
<th>Outstanding 16-20</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Establishes Time and Place</strong></td>
<td>• Revealed little to no collaboration among the designers and the directors to ensure design consistency.</td>
<td>• Revealed some collaboration among the designers and the directors to ensure design consistency.</td>
<td>• Revealed clear collaboration among the designers and the directors to ensure design consistency.</td>
<td>• Complete collaboration between the designers and directors to ensure full design consistency.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Minimum indication of time and place evident in design.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Continuity of time and place evident from scene to scene.</td>
<td>• Lighting and sound appropriate to time of day and geographic location, in addition to time period, social class, and mood.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Practical/Functional</strong></td>
<td>• Sets and scenery appear unstable or unsecured.</td>
<td>• All instruments are appropriately and safely rigged.</td>
<td>• Set pieces and props are usable by the performers and enhance the story.</td>
<td>• Balance is always achieved between the pit and the ensemble, and all characters in any scene.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Performers are often difficult to hear or see.</td>
<td>• Set leaves playing space for actors.</td>
<td>• Limited to no distortion; each performer is clearly audible and sound levels are comfortable.</td>
<td>• Complete focus on action with no spill onto non-essential elements.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Technical Execution</strong></td>
<td>• Actors' microphones were rarely used properly and live when appropriate.</td>
<td>• Cues were sometimes called and implemented appropriately.</td>
<td>• Cues were often called and implemented appropriately.</td>
<td>• No missed cues.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Lighting cues and blackout were rarely executed smoothly.</td>
<td>• Actors' microphones were mostly used properly and live when appropriate.</td>
<td>• Lighting cues and blackout were often executed smoothly.</td>
<td>• Lighting cues and blackouts were always executed accurately and smoothly.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Set changes were clumsy, drawn out, and distracting.</td>
<td>• Sets changes often flowed seamlessly and crew was rarely seen by audience.</td>
<td>• Smooth transitions between scenes without stopping the action of the show.</td>
<td>• All scene transitions were smooth, quiet, brief, organized, and did not distract from the show.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Artistry</strong></td>
<td>• Little to no use of color, patterns, gobos, and texture.</td>
<td>• Some use of color, patterns, gobos, and texture.</td>
<td>• Specials and area lighting used for dramatic intensity of theatrical effect.</td>
<td>• Design contributes to and helps define the show's theme and story.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Little to no use of lights and effects that contribute to telling the story.</td>
<td>• Lights and effects contribute to telling the story.</td>
<td>• Noticeable attempt at creative collaboration among designers and directors.</td>
<td>• Lights and effects significantly help to tell the story.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Score:**
### Scenic Design Rubric

Created by students, faculty, and volunteers.

#### 2022 Kenny Awards

**Scenic Design Adjudication Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/BANDING</th>
<th>Fair (0-5)</th>
<th>Average (6-10)</th>
<th>Good (11-15)</th>
<th>Outstanding (16-20)</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Effective Use of Space</strong></td>
<td>Set is not proportionate to the stage space and actors.</td>
<td>Set is proportionate to the stage space and actors.</td>
<td>Multiple levels are employed to provide additional playing spaces and variety in staging.</td>
<td>Entrances and exits are integrated into the design and allow for a variety of blocking and stage movement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Practical/Functional</strong></td>
<td>Most scenes have scenery and set pieces.</td>
<td>All sets are safe and sturdy.</td>
<td>All scenic elements are consistent and work as planned.</td>
<td>The stage arrangement always represents the theme(s) of the play and demonstrated a meaningful, unified production concept.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Artistry</strong></td>
<td>Theatrical settings and design elements were rarely appropriate to represent time and place, establish character, enhance theme and mood and create dramatic environments.</td>
<td>Theatrical settings and design elements were generally appropriate to represent time and place, establish character, enhance theme and mood and create dramatic environments.</td>
<td>Theatrical settings and design elements were often appropriate to represent time and place, establish character, enhance theme and mood and create dramatic environments.</td>
<td>Theatrical settings and design elements were always appropriate to represent time and place, establish character, enhance theme and mood and create dramatic environments.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Set pieces and props are not complete – have unfinished edges and unpainted surfaces that are not an intentional part of the design.</td>
<td>There is some detail incorporated into the design.</td>
<td>Scenery contributes to and helps define the theme and vision of the production.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Total Score:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Costume Design Rubric

Created by students, faculty, staff, and volunteers.

#### 2022 Kenny Awards

**Costume Design Adjudication Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/BANDING</th>
<th>Fair (0-5)</th>
<th>Average (6-10)</th>
<th>Good (11-15)</th>
<th>Outstanding (16-20)</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visual Picture/Workmanship</strong></td>
<td>The costumes rarely fit appropriately, and the actors were rarely able to move well in their costumes.</td>
<td>Costumes were mostly appropriate for the performers, but sometimes hindered movement.</td>
<td>Costumes were tailored to the individual performers.</td>
<td>Costumes were fully tailored to fit and flatter the individual performers, while allowing total freedom of movement for all performers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Fit/Ease of Movement</strong></td>
<td>The costumes rarely fit appropriately, and the actors were rarely able to move well in their costumes.</td>
<td>Costumes were mostly appropriate for the performers, but sometimes hindered movement.</td>
<td>Costumes were tailored to the individual performers.</td>
<td>Costumes were fully tailored to fit and flatter the individual performers, while allowing total freedom of movement for all performers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Originality/Creativity</strong></td>
<td>Costumes for the entire cast did not appear to be coordinated to time period, economic status, etc.</td>
<td>Costumes for the entire cast are somewhat coordinated to time period, economic status, etc.</td>
<td>Preliminary color palette is used.</td>
<td>Costumes coordinate with design concept and interpretation of entire show.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Copied or completely borrowed from previous or other productions.</td>
<td>Mostly original design, not directly copied from previous or other productions.</td>
<td>Costumes reflect personalities of characters in addition to fitting theme and time.</td>
<td>Advanced use of color enhances theme and mood of scenes.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period Authenticity</strong></td>
<td>Overall look of time and place is unclear.</td>
<td>Overall look of time and place achieved.</td>
<td>Details of costuming contribute to audience's knowledge of time and place.</td>
<td>Characterization is enhanced through costuming.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Maintenance</strong></td>
<td>Costumes are insecure or do not stay intact throughout performance (i.e. shirts untucked, hems lose, hats/treadwear come off).</td>
<td>Costumes largely stay intact throughout the performance (i.e. shirts stay tucked in, hems stay on, etc.).</td>
<td>All costumes are cleaned and neatly pressed.</td>
<td>All costumes are in excellent condition.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>No costume malfunctions take place throughout the performance.</td>
<td>Total Score:</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### 2022 Kenny Awards

**Hair and Makeup Adjudication Rubric**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY/RANKING</th>
<th>Fair 0-5</th>
<th>Average 6-10</th>
<th>Good 11-15</th>
<th>Outstanding 16-20</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Establishes Character</strong></td>
<td>• There does not appear to be any effort made into designing hair and makeup.</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup generally match characters’ age, economic status, personality, and relationships.</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup often represented the characters.</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup clearly designate characters’ status, personality, and relationships.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Originality/Creativity</strong></td>
<td>• Design appears to be copied from another production.</td>
<td>• All design choices are unique, and none directly copy other productions.</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup reflect personalities of characters in addition to fitting theme and time.</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup designed for entire cast.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Period Authentic</strong></td>
<td>• Hairstyles and makeup do not represent time period or location.</td>
<td>• Some attention is given to time and location.</td>
<td>• Details contribute to audience’s knowledge of time and place.</td>
<td>• Entire cast looks appropriate for time period and location.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Execution</strong></td>
<td>• Hair is constantly in the performers’ faces or falling down.</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup mostly stay intact throughout the performance (i.e. hair does not fall, makeup does not run, hats or other head gear remains in place, etc.).</td>
<td>• Hair and makeup are appropriate for all characters</td>
<td>• Design allows for total freedom of movement.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Makeup is inappropriate or lacking.</td>
<td></td>
<td>• Hair and makeup do not hinder actors’ performance</td>
<td>• Considering school’s circumstances, design would be considered superior by industry professionals.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Total Score:**
LETTER FROM KENNY MUSIC DIRECTOR

This letter is directed to all the music directors who are participating in this year’s Kenny Awards Ceremony at Shea’s Performing Arts Center. The schools’ casts represented at the Kenny Ceremony will have the privilege of performing with the Kenny pit orchestra (instead of recorded music or just a keyboard for their musical accompaniment).

In order to make this experience as exciting as possible for your students, the orchestra will need you to provide copies of the accompaniment parts which you used for your school’s performances (whether rentals or other) so that the pit musicians will have the correct music to play from while accompanying your students at the Kenny Ceremony.

Shea’s is a member of ASCAP (American Society of Composers, Authors, and Publishers) which for our purposes means that there is NO problem with copying the music (even rented scores with the copyright laws) to use at Shea’s. The fact that the copies will be used for an event at a licensed ASCAP venue makes the copying of the copyrighted music legal.

The Kenny orchestra instrumentation includes violin, cello, trumpet, trombone, two woodwind players who cover flute, clarinet, and saxes, bass, piano, drums and guitar. Some shows will not have parts for all these instruments. Keep in mind that often the musicians can fill out the original instrumentation by doubling certain parts.

As well as playing for the students’ segments on stage at the day of the Kenny Ceremony, the orchestra will play “preview music” while the audience is being seated. This preview music is essentially the overture from each of the schools’ shows. For this, the orchestra will need copies of the actual overture from your show or from the entr’acte (whichever you feel is better or provide copies of both & let the orchestra decide). For shows without overtures or entr’actes, pick a few numbers you feel are the best or most well-known tunes from your show. Please make copies of your accompaniment for the orchestra to use. Keep in mind that there are no vocalists performing the preview music, so the vocal parts will need to be included in the copies for the instruments to cover. Please consider the orchestra’s instrumentation when copying the vocal parts and consider making more than one copy in case multiple instruments need to cover these lines.

I hope these requests for accompaniments are clear. If you have any questions as to what might work best or anything related to the copying and saving of parts, please feel free to contact me.

During the Kenny Ceremony, the orchestra will need a music director/conductor for the parts of the show where we accompany your students on stage. This of course will allow the orchestra to make whatever tempos, ritardandos, etc. that were done when the students performed at their schools. The Kenny Ceremony orchestra conductor should be someone who was involved in the school performances and is familiar with how the music was learned and performed.

There will be two rehearsal dates (usually on the Tuesday & Thursday prior to the Kenny Ceremony) with four time slots on each evening to choose from. These rehearsals will be at one of Shea’s rehearsal spaces. Whoever will be conducting the Kenny Ceremony will need to be available to rehearse with the orchestra on one of those two evenings. You can either send scores ahead of the two rehearsal dates or bring them with you to the rehearsal.
The scores will need to be prepared with any cuts or changes prior to the orchestra rehearsal. When making cuts please keep in mind that the musicians cannot read from a full score due to the amount of page turns.

For example, the musician will be unable to play every time they have to turn the page, so there will be gaps in the music. If your accompaniment is only in score form, someone will need to either cut and paste to make parts or have every four pages taped together so that the musicians can stack the four pages taped sets per musical number on their stand and simply drop each four pager as they finish playing it. This is not ideal, but will work if it’s all you have.

The idea is to provide the orchestra with music which is prepared for easy reading at rehearsals and the performance. The preparation of said parts for use by the orchestra should be done before sending in or bringing to first rehearsal.

Again, if you have any questions about any of this, please feel free to contact me at my e-mail or on my cell phone.

Thanks for reading this long letter and for your work preparing music for your students’ experience at the Kenny Ceremony.

Lon Gormley, contractor for Shea’s pit musicians

5045 Bank St., Clarence, NY 14031 /// Lontractor@aol.com /// 310-6654