



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
PERFORMING ARTS  
Education & Community Engagement



# **RULES & REGULATIONS**

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS AT-A-GLANCE**

- Plan to produce a legally licensed musical between **9/24/26 and 4/11/27**
- Produce a school sanctioned performance
- Application authorized and submitted by the faculty or school administration
- Submit a complete registration online including the fee of **\$350**
- Submit all required registration forms **as soon as show is cast & before deadlines**
- Hold up to **four (4) tickets** for each performance on reserve for adjudicators attending
- Adhere to submitting current qualified shows and roles within the guidelines provided by The Jimmy Awards/NHSMTA

## **ONLINE APPLICATION**

The Bobby G Awards accepts 50 productions for adjudication. Acceptance is based on a first come, first served basis.

The application is a combination of an online form and additional supplemental information available on The Bobby G Awards website at [BobbyGAwards.org](http://BobbyGAwards.org).

Schools receive an email confirmation of receipt of your online application within 72 hours of your application submittal. If schools do not receive an email receipt confirmation within 72 hours, they should assume there was trouble transmitting the application and should contact the Program Manager immediately at [lorbett@dcpa.org](mailto:lorbett@dcpa.org). Do not assume we have received any documents that we have not specifically confirmed. **PLEASE NOTE:** If your school's agreement with a licensing house is still pending you may enter "To Be Announced" for the title of the musical, but please enter the **dates** of the musical. All other questions must be completed.

## **REGISTRATION FEE**

In addition to submitting the application digitally via the online form, all applicants must provide a **\$350 registration fee** per school. The Denver Center for the Performing Arts is a 501(c) 3 not-for-profit organization, and all registration fees go directly back into funding the program including adjudicator stipends and travel, skill building workshops with professional teaching artists as well as ceremony costs.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



Payments are accepted electronically as part of the registration process at the Bobby G website [HERE](#).

If your school does not allow electronic payments, checks or money orders are accepted made payable to “The Denver Center for the Performing Arts.” Please make sure to write your school’s name on the check. School purchase order forms are accepted as an indication of payment and must be received by The Bobby G Awards within 10 business days of receipt of the application.

Send check, money order or school purchase orders to:

**Denver Center for the Performing Arts - Education**

**Attn: Bobby G Awards**

**1101 13th St**

**Denver, CO 80204**

## **FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE & SUPPORT**

The Bobby G Program offers scholarship assistance for schools who need support towards payment of the registration fee of \$350. If your school is a Title 1 school, please select that option from the registration form and you will be directed to an application. You may also reach out directly to the Program Manager at [lorbett@dcpa.org](mailto:lorbett@dcpa.org). All registration fees must be submitted and completed by **October 1, 2026**.

Additionally, The Bobby G Award Program includes **THE RANDY WEEKS MEMORIAL PRODUCTION SUPPORT FUND** that offers up to \$500 for any participating school to use for technical needs of their production. Title 1 schools or lower budget departments may be directed to this assistance from our School & Production Information form. You can also directly find the application for those funds [HERE](#).

## **TICKETING AND ADJUDICATION ATTENDANCE**

Three (3) Adjudicators representing the Bobby G Awards attend each production and provide an evaluation.

Reservation process:

- Adjudicators attend regular public performances and are only assigned to rehearsals or student matinees if no other scheduling option exists.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



- Educators hold **four (4) tickets to each performance** until an email is sent with specific dates and times the Adjudicators will attend. The Bobby G's try to send this information out 2 weeks prior to the first public performance.
- PLEASE HOLD TICKETS UNDER THE ADJUDICATOR'S NAME. Please do not hold the tickets under the name "Bobby G Awards." Adjudicators pick up the reserved tickets from "will call" immediately prior to their assigned performance. Please do not mail tickets to The Bobby G Awards office.
- DIGITAL TICKET PROCESS: Please reach out to the program manager if your school uses digital tickets and send them to the manager directly. They will distribute digital tickets to each adjudicator's email personally before the performance. This will maintain adjudicator anonymity, privacy and ease in seeing your production.

#### Cancellations and unforeseen circumstances:

- If an adjudicator's guest cancels and will not accompany the adjudicator to the production, that adjudicator will inform the box office that one seat may be released upon picking up their reserved ticket.
- If, due to unforeseen circumstances, an adjudicator fails to attend an assigned performance, The Bobby G Awards attempts to re-assign that adjudicator or send another adjudicator to another performance, if any remain. If no performance remains, The Bobby G Awards staff average the scores received from the remaining two (2) adjudicators assigned to that production.
- If, due to unforeseen circumstances, two or more adjudicators fail to attend an assigned performance, rendering a fair assessment of the production impossible, the school is regrettably withdrawn from the competition, and the application fee is refunded in full.
- Every attempt is made to re-schedule adjudicators in the event of inclement weather or cancelled performances.

The Bobby G Awards makes every effort to send a full complement of adjudicators to each participating production. Should any school believe that an adjudicator did not pick up tickets or attend their scheduled performance, they should email [lcorbett@dcpa.org](mailto:lcorbett@dcpa.org) immediately.

Adjudicators are instructed to contact The Bobby G Awards in case they cannot make a particular performance so that replacement adjudicators may be sent. On weekends and at other times, it may not be possible to reach the schools and make actual reservations for the replacement adjudicators. In this case, the adjudicator will



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



purchase tickets at the door, and The Bobby G Awards will refund the price of the ticket to the adjudicator.

The Bobby G Awards strongly recommends teachers allow the adjudicators to attend performances anonymously so they can fairly evaluate the production without lobbying from cast members' families and friends or other school representatives. We recommend teachers not tell their students when the adjudicators are coming so they may see a typical performance as an average member of the audience. Reserving seats is welcome, but roping off or placing reserved signs on seats that read "Bobby G Awards Adjudicators" is strongly discouraged.

## **NOMINATIONS**

To determine all nominations and the eventual recipients of each award, The Bobby G Awards staff considers all eligible candidates with a fresh perspective and thoroughly reviews the adjudicator feedback, scoring and mandatory support material. Once determined, the full list of nominees is sent to each school and announced on The Bobby G Awards' website by late April or early May.

### **CRITERIA AND TOOLS USED FOR NOMINATIONS:**

- Evaluation forms and scores submitted by adjudicators
- Required forms and supplemental materials submitted by the school
- Experience and accumulated musical theatre knowledge of the attending DCPA Education Team that has viewed all productions, which will acknowledge the disparity of production requirements between shows and recognize the level of difficulty in mounting these productions.

The Bobby G Awards staff brings a variety of factors into consideration in reaching their decisions regarding nominations. In some cases, this may lead to the office overriding the adjudicators, but this is only done when deemed necessary. All decisions of The Bobby G Awards staff are final.

School productions directed by employees of The Bobby G Awards are not eligible to compete. Bobby G Awards' employees who serve as choreographers, musical directors or designers (or who work in other prominent positions on the creative or technical staff of a participating production) are also not eligible for nomination in their work on the production.



## **DOUBLE CASTING**

### **ASSIGNING A DESIGNATED CAST**

- Schools that double or triple cast their show, must choose **one cast**, their Designated Cast, to enter in The Bobby G Awards and provide us with the Designated Cast's performance date(s) on the School and Production Form. Please note that if the Designated Cast is featured for one performance only, all three assigned adjudicators will be in attendance for the same performance, a practice we try to avoid. For scheduling purposes, it is preferred that the Designated Cast performs in at least two public performances. Additionally, having more than one performance by the Designated Cast increases the chance that the required number of adjudicators can attend your production.
- Each school must determine who will perform in their Designated Cast. It is not The Bobby G Awards intention to imply that principal roles should be played by upperclassmen. Whichever cast the director determines best represents the efforts of that school should be selected as the Designated Cast.
- Once submitted, a school may not change the dates of their Designated Cast performances. The players may change during the rehearsal process, please send an updated cast list, but the performance dates may not.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
PERFORMING ARTS  
Education & Community Engagement



## **ROLE DEFINITIONS AND EXPECTATIONS**

The Bobby G Awards have reviewed the professional standards for identifying the definition of a Qualifying Leading and Supporting Role. For our program, these standards serve as a guide to create a minimum standard and criteria for what defines a Qualifying Leading and Supporting Role in an amateur production of a musical.

### **DEFINITION OF A QUALIFIED LEADING ROLE:**

The Qualifying Roles are determined by the Jimmy Awards (NHSMTA) and their standards at a national level (please refer to the annually updated list provided by the program manager). A Qualifying Leading Role in a musical is a role in which the character has a name, provides a vehicle for the performer to demonstrate the ability to deliver the exceptional performance of two (2) solo songs and the ability to interact with other leading and featured performers in scenes and/or songs. PLEASE NOTE: Leading roles that do not sing will not be qualified for nomination. Additionally, Qualified Leading Roles may NOT be placed in the Supporting Role category.

**For musicals with both a book and libretto**, a Qualifying Leading Role must, at minimum, include:

1. At least two solo, featured songs
2. Appearances in more than one scene with spoken dialogue with other leading or featured performers
3. Appearances in both or all acts

**For musicals with a libretto only**, a Qualifying Leading Role must, at minimum, include:

1. At least two solo, featured songs
2. At least one song featuring solo lines in dialogue with other leading or featured performers in the same song
3. Appearances in both or all acts

### **DEFINITION OF A QUALIFIED SUPPORTING ROLE:**

**For musicals with both a book and libretto**, a Qualifying Supporting Role must, at minimum, include:

1. At least one solo verse in a featured song



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
PERFORMING ARTS  
Education & Community Engagement



2. Appearances in more than one scene with spoken dialogue with other leading or featured performers
3. Clear, significant contributions to either the central or sub-plot(s)

**For musicals with a libretto only**, a Qualifying Supporting Role must, at minimum, include:

1. At least one solo, featured song
2. At least one song featuring solo lines in dialogue with other leading or featured performers in the same song
3. Clear, significant contributions to either the central or sub-plot(s).

### **THE ROBERT & JUDI NEWMAN RISING STAR**

This category is specifically for underclassman (Freshman or Sophomore) students that are cast in a Qualified Lead or Supporting Role. A musical may not have more than one (1) Rising Star up for nomination. An underclassman who has been cast in a Lead or Supporting Role can be considered for a Rising Star nomination, but educators must select them for one category or the other- never both.

### **ADULT/MIDDLE SCHOOL PERFORMERS**

The Bobby G Awards defines an adult performer as someone who has graduated from high school or home-schooled individuals 18 years of age and over. Middle School performers are students currently enrolled in 6-8<sup>th</sup> grade.

If a school chooses to cast adult/middle school performers in their production, they are doing so with the understanding that they will be disqualified from individual nomination consideration in the categories affected by that casting and potentially Outstanding Overall Production.

The Bobby G Awards will make disqualification determinations on a case-by-case basis as they arise, and all decisions will be final.

EXAMPLES- Officer Krupke and Lt. Schrank in West Side Story vs. Miss Hannigan in Annie/Matilda in Matilda the Musical.

- In these cases, the school producing West Side Story would not be eligible to win an Outstanding Performance Awards for those specific roles but would still be eligible for Outstanding Overall Production as those characters are not principal roles.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



- However, the school producing Annie would have the adult portraying Miss Hannigan disqualified from the Outstanding Lead category and the entire production would be disqualified from the Outstanding Overall Production category since Miss Hannigan is a principal role and the quality of that portrayal contributes to the overall effectiveness of the production. The same would apply for a middle school student portraying Matilda in Matilda the Musical. All other STUDENT leading and supporting roles in the same production WOULD be eligible in their category.

## **DESIGN AWARDS**

To be eligible for a nomination in a design category, schools MUST have a student involved and listed as either a primary assistant or lead designer in that category. Most design categories will have at least an adult designer/advisor or professional artist listed, but if no student participation is present, they will not be qualified for adjudication and possible nomination in that category.

Any productions renting more than 75% of their costumes or scenic elements will not be eligible for these design categories. Eligibility is based off information provided in your registration forms. Design categories evaluate the design itself, not the work of the technical crews, run crews or production build.

## **ORCHESTRATION**

- Only schools using orchestras comprised of a minimum of 90% student musicians are eligible to be nominated in the category of Outstanding Achievement by an Orchestra.
- Student musicians must be currently enrolled in a high school.
- School alumni or college age musicians are not considered student musicians for the purpose of determining eligibility in the Outstanding Achievement by an Orchestra category.
- Determination of eligibility in this category is based on information provided in the school's Cast & Crew Form and is at the discretion of The Bobby G Awards.

## **CHORUS**

Only schools utilizing a chorus comprised of 100% student ensemble members will be eligible to be nominated in the category of Outstanding Achievement by a Chorus.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



## **OVERALL PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL**

To be considered for an Overall Production nomination, a musical must demonstrate substantial student involvement, be adjudicated in all design categories, and include an eligible student chorus.

## **OUTSTANDING SPECIAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARDS**

Applications are accepted from schools wishing to recognize a student or multiple students for outstanding achievement in any area related to the production that falls outside of the listed awards. The nominated achievement must represent a significant contribution beyond a student's assigned production responsibilities and demonstrate exceptional leadership, innovation, service, or initiative. The work should have a measurable and lasting impact on the production, theatre program, or school community. For consideration of this award, educators must submit the Outstanding Special Achievement Nomination Form before the deadline in the spring. Special Achievement Awards are not guaranteed and are presented at the discretion of The Bobby G Awards staff. All decisions of The Bobby G Awards are final.

## **OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN A LEADING ROLE**

Students nominated for Outstanding Performance by in a Leading Role undergo a secondary audition process. The combined scores they receive from their final audition and performance adjudication are used to determine the award recipients. Like The Jimmy Awards (NHSMTA), this audition consists of a solo song from their nominated musical and a secondary song from a list of qualified Jimmy Awards approved songs.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Bobby G Program Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role award category sends two winners to The Jimmy Awards/National High School Musical Theatre Awards (NHSMTA), produced by The Broadway League, to New York City each June.

Qualification Guidelines from the NHSMTA, under the management of The Broadway League, state:

*"For the purposes of the NHSMTA program, students are adjudicated in the category corresponding to their gender identification, not the gender of the role that they played. Students identifying as non-binary or gender-fluid may choose either to select the category in which they wish to be adjudicated (regardless of the gender of the role) OR they may be adjudicated based on the gender of the role they played. All casting or script change requests for performances in the NHSMTA program must be approved beforehand.*



*The regional awards program should be prepared to submit proof of approval from the show's licensing organization."*

- Participating Bobby G educators will need to identify this category selection (*either Lead Actor or Lead Actress*) for all Lead Performance nominees at the time of the Cast & Crew form submission.
- The Bobby G Program encourages all schools to include cast and crew pronouns in the programs for their production.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



## **ADJUDICATION ELIGIBILITY FOR QUALIFIED ROLES**

When completing the Cast & Crew Form, schools may submit up to six (6) total performers for adjudication across the following categories.

- Up to four (4) Qualified Leading Roles
- Up to two (2) Qualified Supporting Roles
- Up to one (1) Rising Star

Schools may choose any combination of categories that best reflects their production, provided they do not exceed six (6) total adjudicated performers. Examples of eligible combinations include:

- 4 Qualified Leading Roles
- 4 Qualified Roles and 1 Rising Star
- 4 Qualified Leading Roles and 2 Qualified Supporting Roles
- 3 Qualified Leading Roles, 2 Qualified Supporting Roles, and 1 Rising Star
- 2 Qualified Leading Roles and 1 Rising Star
- 1 Qualified Leading Role, 2 Qualified Supporting Roles, and 1 Rising Star

These examples are not exhaustive. Schools are not required to submit six performers.

When a production qualifies fewer than six performers for adjudication, the Bobby G Program Manager may encourage adjudicators to provide additional feedback on another noteworthy student performer. Any such performer would receive feedback only and would not be eligible for nomination or award consideration.

The Bobby G Awards guidelines align closely with National High School Musical Theatre Awards (Jimmy Awards®) standards and are designed to promote greater consistency and equity among participating schools during the adjudication and nomination process.



**DENVER CENTER** FOR THE  
**PERFORMING ARTS**  
Education & Community Engagement



## **AWARDS CEREMONY AND TICKETING**

**The Bobby G Awards Ceremony will be held on Friday May 21, 2027, at The Ellie Caulkins Opera House.**

The ceremony features performances of production numbers from the top nominated musicals as well as a medley from all the Outstanding Leading Performer nominees.

After the nominations are announced, tickets to the award ceremony are made available to the public through the Bobby G website. Each nominee receives one (1) complementary ticket to attend the ceremony. Complementary tickets are non-transferable.

Individuals recognized for an award are invited on stage to make an acceptance speech not exceeding one minute in length.

Transportation and parking to the theater for the awards ceremony is the responsibility of each individual school.

Schools nominated in the Outstanding Overall Production Category are asked to present one (1) musical number from their production at the awards ceremony in May. Final selection of the number is made by the nominated school with approval by The Bobby G Awards. Scenic elements are not allowed for the performance, but costumes and hand props that can be transported to the theater by the students are permitted. Due to limited dressing room space, students are asked to wear their costumes throughout the ceremony.

## PUBLICITY AND MARKETING

All media interviews or appearance requests regarding The Bobby G Awards go through our PR/Marketing & Social Media Managers. If you receive any requests directly from a journalist, please direct the journalist to [bobbygawards@dcpa.org](mailto:bobbygawards@dcpa.org) and we will be happy to facilitate these to ensure the journalist has the information they need on The Bobby G Awards. Schools are not permitted to speak on behalf of The Bobby G Awards or market The Bobby G Awards without contacting the Program Manager first at [lcorbett@dcpa.org](mailto:lcorbett@dcpa.org).

Participating schools will be provided with a DCPA-approved Bobby G Awards digital advertisement for inclusion in their production program. The advertisement is intended to recognize your school's participation in The Bobby G Awards and promote student involvement in the program.

Schools are encouraged to include the advertisement whenever possible. However, a production's eligibility for adjudication, nominations, or awards will not be affected if the advertisement is omitted due to printing, budgetary, or other logistical constraints.

Please contact the Program Manager if you need assistance accessing or using the advertisement. An example of the approved advertisement is shown below.



(School name)

production of

(Production title)

is proud to participate in

THE **BOBBY G** AWARDS

a program recognizing and awarding excellence  
in the production of high school musicals