

Welcome to the

2023
ENCHANTMENT!
AWARDS ★

An awards show once a year. An education program every day.

April 28, 2023
7:30pm
Popejoy Hall
on the UNM Campus

Your information packet

Sponsors and Support



This project is supported in part by New Mexico Arts, a division of the Department of Cultural Affairs, and by the National Endowment for the Arts.



Count on us.

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NEW MEXICO HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL THEATRE
ENCHANTMENT
AWARDS! 

Welcome!

Congratulations, and welcome to the 2023 Enchantment Awards! You are now part of the biggest celebration of high school theatre in New Mexico.

Our program honors your accomplishments in the dramatic arts and those of your peers across the State of New Mexico, as well as all the value your education in theatre yields for you. A report from a Harvard business and law professor noted that collaboration is the best skill anyone can have in the work environment. Theatre teaches that every day. We model that attribute all week in our program.

You and every student in our program will come together to make an exciting and entertaining production to showcase the talents of New Mexico high school students, and to represent all high school drama programs in our state. We will choose two students as our Best Actor and Best Actress. We will send those two students to represent our state in New York City at the Jimmy Awards, the National High School Musical Theatre Awards which is a part of the Broadway League, producers of the Tony Awards. Those two students will collaborate with nearly 100 others from across the country to put on an extraordinary show on a Broadway stage.

Meanwhile, we have work to do and a process in place to support you and to prepare you for your contribution to our annual showcase. We want you to dedicate yourself to improving as a performer and as a collaborator, and take the lessons we offer to heart. We know they will help you no matter what profession you choose to pursue in life.

Help us make the case that high school drama deserves more recognition for what it does for students — for you! — and be a great collaborator in the 2023 Enchantment Awards.



Terry S. Davis
Co-Executive Directors



Laura A. Maness

Program Overview

The Enchantment Awards is the biggest celebration of your work in your high school theatre program in New Mexico. We recognize individual artistry in performance, honor teachers and your schools' commitment to theatre education, and celebrate the accomplishments of drama students (like you) and teachers from all over our state.



Our opening number from the 2022 Enchantment Awards.
Photo: [Hank Henley Headshots](#)

We select the top 20 high school students in New Mexico from all who are nominated to our program. These are our Best Actor and Best Actress nominees. We coach them for a week in solo and group performance.

We also select up to 20 Best Supporting Actor and Best Supporting Actress nominees and invite two students from every registered school to participate in our Directors Choice Chorus. This group arrives the day before our awards show, rehearses together, and performs the Act One finale. Our professional staff coaches these students to improve their skills, too.

Additionally, the top five productions are invited to perform a five-minute selection from their show.

Students who work with us gain so much that they return to their programs as more advanced students, seeding those drama programs with additional resources, depth, and insights. And, when you all come together as a group, you will put on a heck of a show!

Now is the time to [register](#) if you haven't already done so.

Awards

During the show, we announce the winners of our Spotlight Award (recognizing unsung heroes in productions we've seen), the Best Supporting Actress and Best Supporting Actor awards, and our Best Ensemble, Best Direction, and Best Production awards. Those awards have already been determined by the evaluations of our adjudicators. We also choose a Best Actor and Best Actress, sending them to the Jimmy Awards in New York City, where they work with Broadway professionals and perform with dozens of their peers from across the country.

While we are an awards program once a year, we are an education program every day. All our work with you during rehearsal week is grounded in storytelling, musical theatre skills, and honest character portrayals.

CS Music Scholarships

This year, we are very excited to offer all our nominees for Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, and Best Supporting Actress full and partial scholarships to the 2023 CS Music Competition.

Top universities and professional singers from across the country participate in judging at the CS Music competition, and millions of dollars in scholarships are offered each year. Our students also get the opportunity to attend the 2023 CS Music Convention taking place in San Francisco May 26-29. The organization offers competition tracks for classical singers as well as musical theatre singers along with the chance to check out more than 60 colleges and universities.

Here's how these scholarships break down:

Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress winners:

These four will each receive a full scholarship to attend and compete in the 2023 CS Music convention, a \$125 value per person. Further, our Best Actor and Best Actress will automatically move to the semifinal round of competition, if they enter. Semi-finals are for the top 25 singers who are Seniors (out of hundreds of participants), and the top 45 singers who are Freshmen through Juniors (again, out of hundreds).

Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, Best Supporting Actress nominees:

All students who participate as nominees for our four acting awards in the Enchantment Awards in Popejoy Hall on April 28 will receive partial scholarships to the CS Music convention and competition.

Best Production and Best Ensemble winners:

CS Music also invites winners of our Best Production and Best Ensemble awards to participate in the CS Music Ensemble Showcase during the convention. Cash prizes are awarded to the schools who win in the showcase divisions of opera scenes, musical theatre, and choir.

All winners are responsible for any travel and accommodation expenses. Visit the [CS Music website](#) for more information about the conference and competition.

What Students Can Take Away from the Enchantment Awards



Students from the 2022 Enchantment Awards rehearse the opening number.
Photo: [Hank Henley Headshots](#)

Students leave our program with greater confidence, improved skills, more friendships, and better preparation for the world at large. High school theater programs also provide these benefits, of course. Our program expands the horizons and opportunities for those benefits.

Some of our students come away with individual awards or as participants in a production that earned an award. All should feel personally fulfilled by their time spent with us and their new friends because all our students were selected to perform on the only Broadway League theatre stage in the state, and all contributed to the growth and recognition of New Mexico drama programs generally and their own school programs specifically.

An Important Note About Awards Shows

Any awards show is a tactic to market something. In our case, we market the contributions drama programs make to our students and our communities. While we wish we could give away an award to every participant, an awards shows must be competitive to be entertaining. We know that from our theatre studies: conflicts and competition contribute to the making of a good story. That's what we're all doing in the Enchantment Awards: telling a story in real time about the winners of our trophies this year.



The cast of the 2017 Enchantment Awards congratulates Trey Caperton on being named our Best Actor.

Photo: [Max Woltman Photography](#)

We only award eight awards in our show. We want them to be very meaningful, to the audience most of all. We want audience members to follow the inherent drama in the awarding of those awards, a harder task when there are more of them.

We do not reveal our scores, just as the Tony Awards or Academy Awards do not reveal theirs, so no one knows how close the final scores are. You or your school could have been one point away from an award. You won't know. The only thing you can know is the effort you put forward. By the time you sing on stage in Popejoy Hall, you should be performing better than you ever have before. And that, believe it or not, is an incredible reward that no trophy can embellish.

Interns

Several students each year participate as interns, working as assistant stage managers and production assistants. We also have interns for lighting, sound and, for the first time this year, costumes. These students work alongside our professional staff and gain insight into how to tell a story from the specific vantage point of their backstage or offstage discipline. Our interest is to expand the knowledge and confidence of these students so they return to their drama programs and help improve them.

Nominee Requirements

An Enchantment Awards student participant must be a current high school student, grades 9 through 12.

- Students must be available for rehearsals as outlined on Page 9 below: Saturday, April 22 – Friday, April 28, 2023.
- Best Actress and Best Actor nominees are required to attend rehearsals in Albuquerque to participate in a week that will include individual coaching and group rehearsals.
- Nominees understand and agree to all possible videotaping, televised opportunities, photos, press interviews, and print advertising.
- Once a nominee has won the Enchantment Award for Best Actor or Best Actress, they may not return in subsequent years to participate as a Enchantment Awards Best Actor or Best Actress nominee.
- Best Actor and Best Actress winners must be fully vaccinated against Covid-19 at least six weeks prior to going to New York. In the event that either winner cannot attend because they do not meet the Jimmy Awards eligibility requirements connected with COVID, or for any other reason, the runner up in the appropriate category will be sent to New York in that student's place.

Nominee Submissions

For Best Actor/Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor/Actress, and Spotlight Award nominees:

Please send us a headshot of you for our program or for the slides we display during the show. If you do not have a professional headshot, you can send a picture specifically taken for this purpose. The photo can be taken on phones with high resolution cameras. Pose against a neutral background. Lean forward slightly when your picture is being taken. Look at the camera directly as though you were looking in the eyes of someone you really want to meet. Take several. Pick the best and send it to us by April 15, 2023.

To do so, please complete [our questionnaire](#) and upload your photo in that form.

Best Actor/Best Actress Nominees only:

Choose two solos you would like to sing during the Enchantment Awards. These songs cannot be a song you sang in your high school's musical. We will select the one for you to sing as a solo in the Enchantment Awards after hearing you sing both.

Songs should be no more than 2 Minutes and 30 seconds long. If you choose your songs from the [Jimmy Awards list](#) of approved songs, you will be one step ahead should you be chosen to represent New Mexico in New York. Songs do not have to come from the Jimmy Awards list. If one or both is not, they must be from a Broadway musical [on this list](#). If the song you choose is not from a Broadway (as opposed to off-Broadway; *Cats* is a Broadway musical, *Dogfight* is not) musical, you will be required to pick another song. Please be prepared to tell us what key the songs are in and what musical they are from.

We will also ask your vocal range. If you do not know your range, you can go to [Tone Gym online](#) to determine what it is.

Finally, please record a video of you singing your solo selections. For accompaniment, ask a teacher or friend who plays piano to record the accompaniment, or to accompany you while you record the song. You can also find piano accompaniments on YouTube. Another option is to download the app called Appcompanionist and search for your song in there.

Do not be concerned about being perfect in this video. It is not an audition (you are already in!) and will not count in any way in determining any awards. Our team will use your video to determine how we can best help you in your coaching sessions.

Once you have recorded your video upload it to YouTube or a similar site, mark it as Unlisted, copy the URL for the video and paste that URL in the appropriate space in the [Vocals and Visuals form](#). Submit your form with all elements complete by April 17.

Scoring

All Best Actress and Best Actor nominees start as equals. Scores for Best Actress and Best Actor nominees during the Enchantment Awards are submitted by judges in the hall the night of the show after watching each performance. Judges issue scores for student solo performances and the solo portions of the character medleys. These are the only scores we use to determine our Best Actor and Best Actress winners.

COVID Protocols

We have not made our final determinations about COVID protocols. We use information from a variety of sources to make our determinations, including Popejoy Hall, our rehearsal space, the State Health Department, participating school districts, and the Jimmy Awards.

Be prepared to:

- prove your initial vaccination status;
- wear an N95/KN95 mask (or equivalent) at all times during rehearsals;
- be tested for COVID during the rehearsal period;
- return home at once should you test positive for COVID.

** If chosen as our Best Actor or Best Actress, you will have to prove your initial vaccination status and be tested at least once the week before your arrival at the Jimmy Awards in New York. If you test positive for COVID, you cannot participate. There may be other requirements that we will share once our winners are chosen. If you cannot or are unwilling to meet these protocols, we will send your runner-up in your place.

Costumes/Wardrobe

All Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actor, and Best Supporting Actress nominees, and Directors Choice Chorus members must bring what we refer to as a Dressy Blacks outfit. It is very similar to the Dressy Blacks required by the Jimmy Awards. This outfit is used in the opening and closing numbers, for the Act One finale, and for Best Actor and Best Actress solos.



Dressy blacks in our 2022 opening number.
Photo: [Hank Henley Headshots](#)

Dressy Blacks

- Black suit, black dress pants, or black dress skirt with:
 - Two contrasting, collared, button-down dress shirts OR blouses – one dark and one vibrantly colored (solid colors only, please)
 - (Optional) Standard tie or bow tie – solid black, or solid color when worn with a black shirt/blouse
 - (Optional) Vest, suspenders, suit jacket – solid black
 - (Optional) A splash of color, such as a hair clip, sash, scarf, vest, suspenders, or similar
- Knee-length black dress
 - No mini-skirts or mid-thigh length dresses
 - Wrap-style tops must be secured or sewn closed; modest neckline
 - Black Spanx®, dance trunks, Spandex® exercise shorts, or similar
- Dressy Black Jumpsuit
- Shoes & Accessories
 - Black dress shoes of choice (character shoes, heels, dress shoes, etc.)
 - Black socks, if applicable to shoe choice
 - (Optional) 2 – 3 inch skin-tone character shoes
 - Skin tone tights for those in knee-length dresses (2 pair in case one runs)

Show Costumes

All Best Actor/Best Actress nominees must bring a costume from their show to wear during their character medley segment. We may make adjustments as necessary to help performers with movement, facial visibility, placement of our microphone, etc. If the show's costumes are no longer available to the student (e.g., they were rented and returned), we will help students with a replacement costume.

If you are performing with your school's ensemble as a production award finalist, wear the costume from your production appropriate to the song being performed. Bring the costume. We will provide changing facilities.

Rehearsal Week

The rehearsal schedule, subject to change, is as follows:

| Date | Sun. April 23 | Mon. April 24 | Tue. April 25 | Wed. April 26 | Thu. April 27 | Fri. April 28 |
|----------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|-----------------------|
| Location | NHCC | NHCC | NHCC | NHCC | Popejoy | Popejoy |
| Time | 1:30-10pm | 4-10pm | 4-10pm | 4-10pm | 4-10pm | 8am-close |
| Called | BAs | BAs | BAs | BAs | BAs | BAs |
| Time | | | | | 4-10pm | 8am-close |
| Called | | | | | BSAs, DCC | BSAs, DCC |
| Time | | | | | | 9am* |
| Called | | | | | | Production ensembles† |

Key:

NHCC = National Hispanic Cultural Center (see below)

BAs = Best Actress/Best Actor nominees

BSAs = Best Supporting Actress/Best Supporting Actor nominees

DCC = Directors Choice Chorus members

• Online link will be sent to you closer to the rehearsal.

† Production ensembles will be scheduled for specific time slots on Friday morning, April 28.

Production interns will be scheduled separately.

A more detailed version of this rehearsal schedule will be sent by April 15.



Eli Hanks and Matthew Taylor working on an exercise in rehearsal at the NHCC in 2022.
Photo: [Hank Henley Headshots](#)

Locations

National Hispanic Cultural Center (Rehearsals Sunday through Wednesday)

Address: 1701 Fourth Street NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104

Rehearsal spaces in the National Hispanic Cultural Center (NHCC) are in the back of the complex and on the second floor. Go to the performing arts center on the NHCC campus by heading straight south from the parking lot. The performing arts center is the southernmost building, farthest from the parking lot. Enter at the center of the building. Turn right. Follow the signs for the PNM Rehearsal Halls or watch for Enchantment Awards directional signage.

Popejoy Hall (Rehearsals Thursday and Friday, performance)

Physical Address: 203 Cornell NE, Albuquerque, NM 87106

Popejoy is New Mexico's only Broadway League member. As such, it serves as the host venue for the Enchantment Awards. Cast and crew enter at the stage entrance. From the southeast corner of the building, go to the first loading dock on your right. Enter through the tan doors. Follow directional signage once inside to locate the auditorium (house), green room, and dressing rooms.

Band

Address: <https://band.us/n/a5ad8fn8w2xOX>

This is where all communications regarding the show will be sent out and is also a place to chat with other students participating in the Enchantment Awards. Join the Band group for this year's Enchantment Awards. You'll receive updates, information, videos, and other materials through Band. We will post complete rehearsal schedules, rehearsal notes, and more in Band. Please turn on notifications.

Housing

Any student participating in the program who cannot commute to rehearsals will be put up at the Sonesta ES Suites Albuquerque at our expense. All students will have at least one roommate. We assign all rooms. Chaperones will be at the hotel with the students.

- Best Actor/Actress nominees along with Assistant Stage Managers and Production Assistants begin their stay the night of Sunday, April 23.
- Best Supporting Actress/Actor nominees, Directors Choice Chorus members and any production award finalists from any Las Cruces high school begin their stay the night of Thursday, April 27. (Las Cruces students and teachers will depart Friday night after the show.)
- Any other production ensemble members requiring accommodations will be housed the night of Friday, April 28.
- All remaining students will depart accommodations on Saturday morning, April 29.



The Sonesta ES Suites Albuquerque studio suite with two double beds accommodates three with the very comfortable fold-out couch

Meals

We feed all students working with us during rehearsals. That includes those performing with their ensembles as production award finalists. We will accommodate all food allergies and vegetarian diets noted in your registration forms. Meals are dinners Sunday through Thursday night and lunch and dinner on Friday. Complimentary breakfasts are available at the hotel each morning.

After the Show

We host a post-show celebration in the main lobby of the UNM Center for the Arts. We bring all performers out in groups based on their awards. Parents and friends are encouraged to take photos of each group on the red carpet in front of the step-and-repeat banner. Light refreshments will be available as well.

We are expected to be out of Popejoy Hall an hour after the show closes. Students will be asked to make sure they have left nothing in the dressing rooms, the green room, or backstage. If you brought it to Popejoy, you must take it with you that night. We can leave nothing in Popejoy to be picked up later.

For Parents

Tickets

Enchantment Awards tickets may be purchased through Popejoy Hall's ticketing system. Enter the code "Family" to get \$5 off adult ticket prices and \$4 off tickets for anyone 18 and under. You must use the link above to be able to enter the discount code.

If you wish to buy a group of tickets (of 10 or more, students and adults) at a discount, please contact us.

Hotel

If you need hotel accommodations for the show, we have made arrangements with Sonesta ES Suites Albuquerque to offer 15% off rooms. This is the hotel where our students will be staying. Please reserve your accommodations early. The date of our show, April 28, is the first day of Gathering of Nations Pow Wow, an event that attracts people from across the continent to Albuquerque. Hotel rooms become scarce very quickly.

To redeem the discount, go to the Sonesta website, select Sonesta ES Suites Albuquerque and, when prompted, enter the code BOOKDIRECT. The code also allows you a complimentary room upgrade (based on availability) and complimentary parking.

Parking

Parking shuttles are not available for our show. Therefore, you must park close to Popejoy Hall on the UNM campus. The closest parking is in the Cornell Parking Structure. Because Popejoy is on the campus of The University of New Mexico and finals begin 10 days after our show, parking will be challenging on or near campus. Please give yourself extra time to park and get to the show.

Paid parking is available in the Cornell Parking Structure at a Special Events rate of \$8.00. All handicapped parking spaces located in the structure are free during Popejoy Presents events, but be aware that space for the general public can be limited.

The entrance is just west of Stanford and Redondo. To park in the structure, enter the campus at Princeton and Central. Turn left (west). Stay in the right lane. Once parked, remember your stall number. Pay for parking at the kiosks located on each level of the structure. If paying in cash, you can only use the kiosk on the third level.

Once you've parked, note your parking stall number. Go to a pay station. There are two on every level. Enter your stall number and use a debit or credit card for your payment. To pay in cash, go to the third level where there are two cash machines. However, those machines do not dispense change. Be sure to bring exact change for your \$8.00 parking fee.



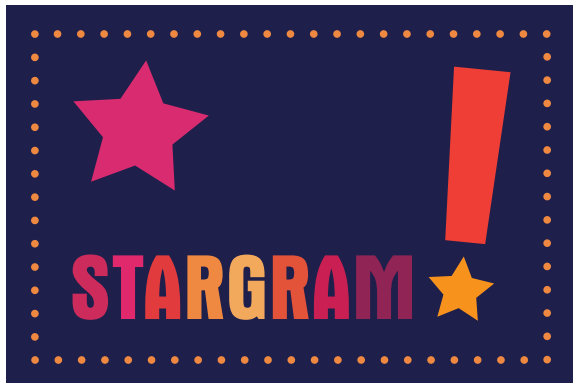
The Cornell Parking Structure on the UNM Campus

A limited number of metered and free parking spaces are available in the A lot on the northwest corner of Central and Stanford. Enter the lot from the north side. Do not park in reserved spaces. Further information and a map may be found on the [Popejoy Hall website](#).

Send a Positive Message

We offer two ways for you to send encouragement to your student backstage before the show: Stargrams and our Playbill Message Board.

Our Stargrams are postcards that go back to the dressing rooms before the show. You can purchase them ahead of time. We will then put your sentiment on the Stargram. Or, you can buy Stargrams up to 15 minutes before the show in the lobby and write the note yourself. Either way, we will deliver your Stargrams backstage. Stargrams are \$2.50 each when purchased in advance and \$3.00 each when purchased in the lobby.



To: _____

School: _____

From: _____

ENCHANTMENT AWARDS !★

Stargram design may vary.

Our Playbill Message Board will allow you to send a message in our show's online playbill. Your messages must be purchased by April 21. Single-size posts are \$25 each. Double-size posts (like the bottom post on the illustration at right) are \$45.

To purchase Stargrams and Playbill Message Board notices in advance, please [use our order form](#).

Merchandise

We will offer T-shirts very soon. We may have one or two other items as well. Please watch your email for that information.

Photography

We encourage you to shoot photos and video using your smartphones from your seats during the show. You must turn off your flash. Otherwise ushers will ask you to stop.

Please do not move around in the auditorium to take photos or video. The photos we have taken during the performance will be available from [Hank Henley Headshots](#). The video we shoot professionally is for archival and programmatic use only.

We encourage you to post your photos to social media and to use the tag #enchantmentawards. Please do not post any videos with audio to social media. The music we perform during the show is copyrighted material and is not licensed for use on social media channels.

Questions?

Please [send us an email](#) if you have any questions.

We truly look forward to working with your student!

Enchantment Awards Staff

Wendy Barker, Director/Choreographer
Kari Reese, Assistant Director
Lina Ramos, Music Director
Terry S. Davis, Co-Producer
Laura A. Maness, Co-Producer
Laura Cummins Wright, Stage Manager
DeAnna Gonzales, Costumer



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New Mexico High School Musical Theatre Awards Board of Directors

Robb Anthony Sisneros, President

Wendy Barker, Vice President

Laura Cummins Wright, Secretary

Warren Wilgus, Treasurer

Zane Barker

Tasha Booth

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DeAnna Gonzalez

Stevie Nichols

Pam Powers

Lina Ramos



Giovanni Martinez, Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School, as Lord Farquaad from *Shrek*, in one of the character medleys from the 2018 Enchantment Awards. Photo by [Ponic Photography](#)