



2021-2022 Adjudicator Handbook

Purpose

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

Goals

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

About the Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards

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

Adjudication Overview

The Miami Valley High School Theatre Awards will provide adjudication for participating high schools located in the Miami Valley. Adjudicators are responsible for evaluating high school straight play and musical theatre productions. Evaluations must consist of educationally focused feedback and scoring. We know Adjudicators are busy people, and we ask you to commit in advance to adjudicate when you are available. Our requirement is that each Adjudicator evaluate a minimum of three (3) high school play and/or musical theatre productions for the 2020-2021 Season. Adjudicators may evaluate more shows based on scheduling, conflicts of interest, and the number of schools that register for the program.

Meetings & Important Dates

Adjudicators are **required** to attend one orientation session at Dayton Live. Multiple orientations are planned, and Adjudicators will be notified of scheduled training sessions in advance. Adjudicators are also strongly encouraged to attend the Awards Showcase the evening of Tuesday, June 7, 2022 at the Schuster Center.

Awards & Awards Showcase

There are two (2) levels of awards given for Individual and Production categories: **Outstanding Awards** and **Awards of Merit**. Recognition is assigned for each award category to a top percentage of all submitted productions. The cutoff percentages will be determined by a review of the ballot results. This is a cutoff for scores to receive recognition – not a determination of who or what school is the best.

All awards are distributed at the Awards Showcase held on Tuesday, June 7, 2021 at 7:30 p.m. at the Schuster Center.

Honorarium for Adjudicators

Adjudicators will be paid an honorarium of **\$35** per show for evaluating schools. Adjudicators who adjudicate individual awards like “Outstanding Student Stage Manager” that do not require travel will be paid an honorarium of **\$20** for each adjudicated student. **Honorarium payments will be issued in June 2021**. Completed tax documentation will be required for payment to be issued. Full-time exempt Dayton Live staff who adjudicate performances will only be reimbursed mileage and not be paid the honorarium. Adjudicators may also donate their honorarium back to the program and a tax receipt will be issued. Please notify Dayton Live if you wish to donate your honorarium back to the MVHSTAs.

Scheduling with SignUpGenius

High school theatre productions take place between September 2020 and May 2021. Scheduled adjudications will be made online through SignUpGenius. Adjudicators are encouraged to sign up for shows early. *See page 6.*

Production Detail Form

Approximately 1-2 weeks before the show opens, Adjudicators will receive a **Production Detail Form**, which includes cast lists, names of students/characters to be evaluated in lead and supporting roles, show run times, instructions for parking, and other important information pertaining to the production. Please read through the school’s Production Detail Form *before* attending the performance.

Tickets

Each participating high school reserves two (2) complimentary tickets for the Adjudicators attending the production. High schools will hold ticket(s) under “MVHSTA Adjudicator” for Adjudicators to pick up when they arrive at the performance venue. In most cases, seating will be general admission. Adjudicators should contact MVHSTA staff with any special needs or requests regarding seating.

Attendance Procedures

The day of the performance, Adjudicators should arrive at least 15 minutes before curtain, and must remain throughout the duration of the performance. Adjudicators will make best efforts to maintain anonymity after the performance, and no oral critique should be provided.

If Adjudicators are unable to attend any of the productions they have selected to evaluate, they must contact Stephanie Radford immediately at either stephanie.radford@daytonlive.org or 937-607-5649 for week-of emergencies/conflicts.

Confidentiality

Adjudicators, and any guests attending performances with adjudicators, **must not discuss their opinions, evaluations, scores, or feedback with anyone in any format.** This includes, but is not limited to: students, faculty and staff from participating high schools, other audience members, colleagues, friends and family, other Adjudicators, reviewers, social media networks, etc. For the protection of the adjudicator, the director, and most importantly the students it is important that any opinions or feedback come through their MVHSTA paperwork. Please contact the MVHSTA staff with questions about confidentiality.

Conflicts of Interest

Adjudicators must agree to uphold MVHSTA's conflict of interest policy and should not allow personal preferences or bias to influence evaluations. In accordance with this policy, Adjudicators should not adjudicate a performance where there is a personal or professional relationship with a participating high school's theatre production. If an Adjudicator thinks a conflict of interest might exist, the Adjudicator must contact MVHSTA staff immediately. Definitions and examples of potential conflicts of interest include, but are not limited to:

Professional Conflicts of Interest

This includes employment, receiving or providing compensation, gifts, financial support, favors that are substantial in nature, or donations from participating high schools. This also includes board connections, organizational partnerships, volunteer work, business ties, financial investments, or any other professional ties that might positively or negatively influence the evaluation.

Personal Conflicts of Interest

Examples of this type of conflict of interest include alumni status (if evaluating that high school's theatre production), the involvement of immediate family members, spouses, partners, siblings, parents, children in participating high schools' theatre productions, or any other personal ties that might positively or negatively influence the evaluation.

Evaluation Guidelines

Adjudicators will evaluate the overall play and musical theatre production, the ensemble*, performers in lead roles, and performers in supporting roles. Adjudicator evaluations consist of written feedback and scores. Adjudicators are prohibited from sharing feedback or scores with schools directly, or provide an oral critique following the performance. Each Adjudicator will be emailed a secure link to an official online ballot form through Survey Monkey where Adjudicators will enter their written feedback and scoring decisions. **Adjudicator evaluations must be completed within 72 hours of attending the production.**

* "Ensemble" for the MVHSTAs is defined as the entire company working together to tell a story, and NOT a group of individual performers outside of leads, supporting roles, or other identifiable roles.

Reference Materials

When entering feedback/scores, please reference the evaluation rubric (*pages 12-14*) which provides detailed criteria for evaluating each category and is available for download in the Adjudicator section of www.mvhsta.org. The school's Production Detail Form features the names of the characters/students being evaluated in lead/supporting roles, notes on any specific feedback the director might want, and other details. The school's program book (or playbill) is also valuable, as well as any notes you might have taken.

Feedback

The purpose of written feedback is to provide each Theatre Director with detailed notes in the hopes of commending the notable achievements of the production and offering solutions to the aspects where the production could improve. ***This is an educational tool, not strictly a review or critique.*** Feedback should include praise and constructive criticism. Please include examples to support comments and be as detailed as possible. Feedback should not mention or allude to scoring decisions and should not focus on areas that are outside of the student's control, including: design/technical aspects, orchestra, director's artistic decisions, etc.

Adjudicator feedback will be reviewed by MVHSTA staff before being forwarded to Theatre Directors.

A reminder to avoid any feedback that compares a production or performance to a film, another "famous" actor, another production of the same show, or any other reference to another adaptation of the material.

Scores

Scores will be used to determine "Outstanding" and "Merit" Awardees in each award category for the 2020-2021 Season. On a scale of 1-10 (with 10 being the highest score and 1 being the lowest score), Adjudicators will rank how well the evaluation criteria are executed by students.

Actor / Actress

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



Franklin High School's SHERLOCK HOLMES, 2018

Health and Safety Procedures & Policies

Because of COVID and the desire to keep everyone safe, school districts may create or change their policies when it comes to audiences, casts, performances, and rehearsals. Likewise, Adjudicators may have varying comfort levels with COVID-19 precautions. The MVHSTA Staff will do its best to keep track of these changes and alert Adjudicators of any updates or changes.

We have created a quick shorthand to note any health restrictions. These acronyms will be used on SignUpGenius to indicate if a show has any restrictions in place:

NR - No Restrictions

MRSD - Mask required; social distancing requested

NMSD - No mask required; social distancing requested

Please note, if you sign up to adjudicate a show, you are expected to follow the recommended guidelines of that school which will be listed in the description on SignUpGenius.

If an adjudicator is no longer comfortable with the health protocols in place for the audience of a show and are unable to attend any of the productions they have selected to evaluate, they must contact Stephanie Radford immediately at either stephanie.radford@daytonlive.org or 937-607-5649 for week-of emergencies/conflicts.



Peter and the Starcatcher, Tippecanoe High School, 2018

How Do I Schedule My Shows?

Adjudicators are required to schedule their productions online through a program called SignUpGenius. Here are the steps:

1. Create a SignUpGenius account by going to www.signupgenius.com. Please use the same email you have given to the MVHSTAs. This program also allows you to receive reminders via text if preferred.
2. Once you have an account, Adjudicators will receive a link in their email from SignUpGenius. This link provides access to all participating productions.
3. Please select a minimum of three (3) productions to adjudicate.
4. **ALTERNATES:** In addition to your required (3) productions, we ask that you add two (2) "Alternative Adjudicator" slots in case of an emergency cancellation. To do so, please select a time slot for the selected show and type the word "Alternate" in the text box.
5. Shows are on first-come, first-served basis. **We must have a minimum of three (3) official adjudications per production.**
6. You will receive official confirmations/reminders from SignUpGenius and MVHSTA on which shows you selected.



Milton-Union High School's THE ADDAMS FAMILY, 2019

How Do I Fill Out My Online Ballot?

Adjudicators are required to submit their official scores through a secure, online survey managed in Survey Monkey *within 72 hours of seeing a performance*. Here are the steps:

1. On the opening day of the production, you will receive an email from Survey Monkey with a secured link to a survey for the production you are adjudicating. This link is connected to you and your email, so please do not share. **Survey Monkey ballots are sent to the same email address you used in SignUpGenius.**

Some email security settings prevent links from being sent, so please check your junk folder for the link. Contact MVHSTA staff if you do not receive a link to the survey.

This survey will have all the elements for adjudication including Overall Production, Acting Categories, Ensemble, and other Specialty Categories. *Please refer to pages 7-15 for guidance.*

2. Once you click on the survey, please fill it out in its entirety. *Please note the “How Should I Rate It” on page 11 for guidance.*
3. Once you have completed your “Director Feedback” section, hit “Done,” and the survey will be sent to MVHSTA for tabulation.

Please note, if there is an error on the ballot, or there is some other technical challenge, contact MVHSTA staff as soon as possible.



FEEDBACK

Your feedback matters. Please remember to keep your notes and observations constructive and positive. Adjudicator feedback will be reviewed by MVHSTA staff before being forwarded to Theatre Directors.

Everything You Wanted to Know about Adjudication*

**but were afraid to ask*

Before Seeing a Show

- MVHSTA Adjudicators are given two (2) free tickets to performances. ***You are encouraged to bring a notebook to take down notes.*** Please do not bring a guest who may distract you from adjudicating.
- Please make sure you have directions to the school in advance. This information is in SignUpGenius and on the Production Detail Form. All schools have provided directions from the school's Director. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the show. Late arrivals can skew scoring. Call Stephanie Radford if an emergency occurs.
- Report to the box office and introduce yourself by name, and let the attendant know that you are there to adjudicate for the MVHSTAs. They will have your tickets ready for you.

While at the Show

- Before the show starts, take the time to look over the ballot to see who and what you are adjudicating. Make note of the actors you are to look for, and other aspects of the production you will adjudicate. If you notice any significant name changes or a last-minute substitute for any reason, please make a note of that, and continue to adjudicate the performance.
- ***Enjoy Act 1!*** Make mental notes as you are watching, and do not commit yourself to any final judgment until the conclusion of the performance. You can make some notes during intermission, ***but you should not give any scores until after the show.***
- Immediately after the show, you may have an urge to grab a pen to fill out your Performance Detail Form- **but WAIT!** Do that at home.

After the Show

- Do not offer advice, or critique what was done, in person or on social media. Your ballot from Survey Monkey is the place to add your constructive feedback and praise.
 - **As a requirement for being a MVHSTA Adjudicator, you must submit your official ballot online through Survey Monkey within 72 hours of seeing the designated performance.**
 - Use the rubric enclosed in this packet (and in Survey Monkey) to make your score assignments. Remember what a 10 represents, a 9, an 8, etc. Be fair when giving one actor a 7, and another a 5. Do the scores balance out? Consult the rubric in your packet.
 - **All shows must be adjudicated on their own merits.** Are you being too critical? Remember high school productions are as good as any shows that are out there, but are you considering all aspects of the show fairly and are you judging based on what you saw onstage or what you personally think is good?
 - Every Theatre Director is prepared to receive feedback, and we encourage constructive advice or accolades when completing the online ballot. Nothing is worse than seeing a bunch of numbers without any explanation. MVHSTA staff will read, and possibly edit, comments before forwarding to any participating school.
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What to Expect on the Adjudication Survey Forms

Depending on the needs of the nominated performance, each of the below category headings could be on the Survey Monkey forms. Though the categories will change for each survey, the Ranking Rubric will remain the same. This document is to serve as a reference for the adjudication process throughout the year to help Adjudicators establish a framework for their critique.

Ranking Rubric on Survey Monkey:

10 Truly exceptional work deserving of the highest recognition; **9** Elevated work definitely deserving recognition; **8** Very good work deserving recognition; **7** Above average work deserving recognition; **6** Slightly above average work and may deserve recognition; **5** Average work and not worthy of special recognition; **4** Slightly below average work; **3** Below average work; **2** Poor work; **1** Very poor work

Standard Survey Adjudication Categories

Overall Production:

1. Overall execution of artistic direction (including directing, music directing, choreography, etc.).
2. Overall execution of production design (including sets, lights, costumes, sounds, props, etc.).
3. Flow/pacing of scenes and/or musical numbers.
4. Communication of story and overarching themes to audience.
5. Level of professionalism and teamwork demonstrated by cast and crew.
6. Overall quality of acting.

Lead/Supporting Actor/Actress:

1. Acting: Strength of physical choices on stage (specific gestures used by actors, use of stage presence/body language).
2. Acting: Emotional believability (depth of character).
3. Acting: Presence of active objectives (character working towards a goal).
4. Acting: Relationship with other characters (listening/reacting to others).

Ensemble:

1. Overall quality of ensemble (including depth of characters, presence of active objectives, and the relationship with other characters).
2. Acting: Strength of vocal and physical choices; relationship with other characters (listening/reacting to others); and commitment to roles.
3. Vocals – Speaking: Articulation and diction; projection and volume; breath support; pitch and tone; rhythm and pace; and variety (speaking with expression).

Outstanding Student Director:

1. Student Director: Overall vision and artistic performance of the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Student Director: Effective use of stage pictures.
3. Student Director: Effective use of the space including the stage, set, levels, and performers.
4. Student Director: Overall pacing of the scene/number/play/musical.

Outstanding Student Music Director:

1. Student Musical Director: Overall vision and artistic performance of the musical qualities within the nominated scene/number/show.

2. Student Musical Director: Effective use musical expression and vocal dynamics of characters.
3. Student Musical Director: Relationship between characterization and the musical elements within the nominated scene/number/show.
4. Student Musical Director: Incorporation of healthy posture and vocal support within the nominated scene/number/show.

Outstanding Student Choreographer (Dance/Fight/Movement):

1. Student Choreographer: Overall performance of the choreography within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Student Choreographer: Effective use of physical spacing throughout the number.
3. Student Choreographer: Overall effectiveness of the stylization of choreography within the nominated scene/number/show.
4. Student Choreographer: Overall pacing of the scene/number/play/musical.

Outstanding Student Lighting Design:

1. Lighting Design: Overall vision and artistic design of the lighting within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Lighting Design: Overall use of the lighting design, including specials, gobos, spotlights, etc., to help differentiate spaces within nominated scene/number/show.
3. Lighting Design: Effectiveness of using light during transitions, which include the start of the show, between scenes, and curtain call.
4. Lighting Design: Technical execution of the lighting design to see the action on the stage.

Outstanding Student Costume Design:

1. Costume Design: Overall vision and artistic design of the costumes within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Costume Design: Overall use of line, texture, and color within the costume design to distinguish characters on stage.
3. Costume Design: Overall use of makeup and/or hair/wigs to enhance characterization of actors on stage.
4. Costume Design: Overall use of costume design to define the time period within the scene/number/show.

Outstanding Student Sound Design:

1. Sound Design: Overall artistic sound design within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Sound Design: Quality and cohesiveness of the sound design within the world of the play.
3. Sound Design: Effectiveness of the mood/tone in the sound design contributing to the world of the play.
4. Sound Design: Sonic transitions between scenes within the nominated scene/number/show.

Outstanding Student Set Design:

1. Set Design: Overall vision and artistic design of the scenic elements within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Set Design: Overall use of color, style, texture, and layout of the set design to establish the environment/setting of the nominated scene/number/show.

3. Set Design: Functionality of the scenic design to help tell the story of the nominated scene/number/show.
4. Set Design: Practicality of the scenic design fitting naturally within the world of the play/musical.

Outstanding Student Makeup Design:

1. Makeup Design: Overall vision and artistic design of the makeup within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Makeup Design: Technical execution of makeup blending, colors, aging, and/or special effects to enhance characterization of actors within the nominated scene/number/show.
3. Makeup Design: Overall functionality of hair styles, facial hair, and/or wigs to enhance the characterization of actors within the nominated scene/number/show.
4. Makeup Design: Practicality of the makeup design fitting naturally within the world of the play/musical.

Outstanding Student Prop Design:

1. Prop Design: Overall artistic design of the props within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Prop Design: Consistency of the prop design within the nominated scene/number/show.
3. Prop Design: Practicality of the props fitting naturally within the world of the play.
4. Prop Design: Functionality of the props to help tell the story.

Outstanding Student Stage Management:

1. Name of student has been nominated for this award and will be adjudicated outside of Survey Monkey. A PDF of the requirements can be found on the MVHSTA website. If you have any additional notes regarding stage management for this production, please type below.

Outstanding Featured Student Dancer:

1. Featured Dancer: Overall dance performance by the featured dancer telling the story within the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Featured Dancer: Emotional believability of the featured dancer throughout his/her performance.
3. Featured Dancer: Physical connectivity of the featured dancer's body and movement to the sound accompaniment of the nominated scene/number/show.
4. Featured Dancer: Overall execution of dance technique by the featured dancer to tell the story within the nominated scene/number/show.

Outstanding Student Orchestra:

1. Student Orchestra: Overall musical performance of the student orchestra telling the story of the nominated scene/number/show.
2. Student Orchestra: Overall quality of sound (pitch, dynamics, timing, timbre) created by the student orchestra during the nominated scene/number/show.
3. Student Orchestra: Overall connection of the student orchestra to the performers on stage to tell the story within the nominated scene/number/show.
4. Student Orchestra: Overall technical execution of music technique by the student orchestra within the nominated scene/number/show.

What Should I Rate It?

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

1 2 3

4 5 6

7 8 9



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

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

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

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

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

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

Want to give an 8, 9 or 10?

An 8-10 in OVERALL:

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

An 8-10 in ACTING:

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

An 8-10 in ENSEMBLE:

Has a cast that worked well onstage with others by:

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

To earn an 8-10 a DIRECTOR should:

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

An 8-10 in SET DESIGN:

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

An 8-10 in COSTUME DESIGN:

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

An 8-10 in LIGHTING DESIGN:

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

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

An 8-10 in SOUND DESIGN:

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



Chaminade Julianne Catholic High School's CINDERELLA, 2018



@MVHSTA

Resource Questions to Help You Evaluate

What was your overall opinion of the entire production?

- a. Was the major idea of the play developed?
- b. What was the style of the production?
- c. Did the elements (production and performance) emphasize/maintain consistency with style?
- d. Would you recommend this show to your friends?

What did you think of the direction?

- a. Did the production seem to have a consistent vision?
- b. Did the director compose the stage pictures to give additional meaning to the moments?
- c. Was the pace of the show appropriate and compelling?
- d. Did the staging make good use of the entire space?
- e. Was there variety in the movement of the show?
- f. Did all the elements (sets, costumes, lights, props, actors) have a consistent message?

What did you think of the scenic (set) design?

- a. Did the environment of the set support the production?
- b. Did it seem appropriate to the style or time period of the play or musical?
- c. Did it either make you react to the play/musical in a specific way, or to focus on something particular in the play/musical?
- d. Was it successful at creating an environment for the characters?
- e. How well were color, line, mass and texture used?
- f. Did the scenery provide a logical and suitable setting for the action of the play or musical?
- g. Did the color, style, and layout create an attractive/effective environment?
- h. Were the scenic changes (if any) handled efficiently without disrupting the action of the production?

What did you think of the lighting design?

- a. Was the lighting effective in moving the attention of the audience to the action?
- b. Was there good visibility?
- c. Was the lighting effective in changing locations and moods?
- d. Were there any exceptional effects?

What did you think of the costume design?

- a. Did the costumes convey the essence of the characters?
- b. Did they help define the time period of the play or musical?
- c. Were the costumes executed well?
- d. Were line, texture, and color used?
- f. Did the makeup and/or hair or wig design contribute to the characterizations and the overall appeal of the show, or was it distracting?

What did you think of the sound design?

- a. If microphones were used, did they help or hinder the performance?
- b. In a musical, was there a balance between the vocal singing and the orchestra?
- c. Were the sound effects well done?
- d. Was recorded music/sound used effectively to help set the mood or tone?
- e. Did recorded music/sound help to establish the time and place?
- f. Did recorded music/sound help to establish transitions between scenes?

What did you think of the properties/set dressing?

- a. Did the props seem appropriate to the style and time period of the play or musical?
- b. Did the props “read well” from the audience?
- c. Did personal props help the actors create their characters?
- d. Were specialty props innovative and well executed?
- e. Did the set props adhere to the color, line, and texture of the scenic design?
- f. Did the set dressing help to create an attractive and effective environment?
- g. Were the props handled effectively without problem, and without disrupting the action of the play or musical?

What did you think of the ensemble?

- a. Did the actors work well on stage with other performers?
- b. Did any actor stand out to the detriment of the other actors?

What did you think of the individual acting?

- a. Is the actor/actress believable as the character?
- b. Was actor/actress spontaneous and consistent?
- c. Was the actor/actress clear vocally, physically and in terms of what their character wanted from others on stage?
- d. Did the actor/actress move and use their body to convey the character?
- e. Did the actor/actress have good stage presence, energy, and poise?
- f. Did the actor/actress fulfill the demands of a specific time period or dialect?
- g. Was the actor/actress loud enough, expressive, and easily understood?

Questions/Comments/Help

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

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