



SPOTLIGHT MEDLEY INFORMATION

Students who receive an award for **Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role** and receive an invitation to perform at the Awards Showcase = perform a 45-second solo or up to 70-second duet from their role(s), which will be woven into a medley of honored soloists and duets.

CURATION INFORMATION

Students honored at the Outstanding Achievement level for their work in a principal role are considered by the Adjudicator Stewards committee to perform an excerpt from their role in a “Spotlight Medley” (featuring solos and duets). The Adjudicator Stewards committee is made up of adjudicators and staff who attend each participating musical. The committee reviews all Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role recipients (with the exception of those whose schools are being featured in an ensemble performance) to curate the Spotlight Medleys for the year’s showcase. A variety of factors go into performance invitations – adjudicator nominations, geographic and school-size representation, material’s appropriateness for a solo or duet feature, etc. Due to time constraints, not all Outstanding Performance in a Principal Role recipients are invited to perform.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS TRACK

Invitations Issued	Monday, May 4, 2026
Director Information Call	Tuesday, May 5, 2026 4:30 – 5 PM
Tech Rehearsal Schedule Communicated	Thursday, May 7, 2026
Music Submission Due	Friday, May 8, 2026 by 4 PM
School’s Participation Form Due, with Spotlight Medley performer(s) included	Friday, May 8, 2026 by 4 PM
Waiver and Emergency Contact Form(s) Due	Friday, May 15, 2026 by 4 PM

MUSIC/SCORE SUBMISSION

Program staff will provide guidance on which song the student should consider based on input from adjudicators. (In rare cases, the scene may involve additional students from the production based on adjudicator nomination.) Final selection is subject to program staff and Awards Showcase music director approval.

The Awards Showcase band will consist of keyboard, bass, drums, guitar, violin, and cello.

Please submit PDF copies of your piano/vocal score as well as any of the above-listed orchestral parts in your possession no later than **Friday, May 8 by 4 PM** using the uploader below. If music is received past this deadline, we cannot guarantee inclusion in the Awards Showcase (unless other arrangements are made prior to the deadline with program staff).

- *Submit via [AwardForce](#).
Category: “Showcase > Music Submission”*

Please clearly mark the beginning and ending point of your student’s preferred cut from their song. Typically, a verse and a chorus of the song works well for this purpose, if at or under the 45-second time limit (solo) or 75-second time limit (duet).

If you do not read or play music yourself, please enlist a friend or colleague who can assist you.



SPOTLIGHT MEDLEY INFORMATION, cont.

MUSIC/SCORE SUBMISSION, cont.

In addition, please time the cut to ensure it meets the time parameters. Submissions over the stated permissible length will not be accepted and may be subject to further editing by the Awards Showcase music director.

Please also ensure that the excerpt makes sense to the listener both musically and lyrically. Please avoid starting or stopping mid-musical phrase.

Due to rights considerations, dialogue or spoken material is not permitted in production excerpts. In rare instances, dialogue written directly into the music may be approved. Please contact ihsmta@dmpa.org to inquire.

STAGING INFORMATION

Your student(s) will have approximately a 20 feet wide x 30-foot deep space in which to perform their number. Songs within the medley will alternate from one half of the stage to the next.

The band will be located in the orchestra pit in front of the stage, and each performing student will have access to a wireless headset microphone.

Set pieces are not allowed. You may elect to use a chair, stool, or other stage box through prior arrangement and approval. One condition of approval is that stage boxes, chairs, or stools should be painted black. Please label the underside of the unit with the school name and a contact phone number. (All units must be removed from the theater at the conclusion of the Awards Showcase event.) To secure approval, note on your participation form. Small hand props are not allowed due to rights considerations.

TECH REHEARSAL

Your student(s) will be required to attend a 2-hour coaching/tech time on either Tuesday, May 27 or Wednesday, May 28 at the Des Moines Civic Center. During this time, students will have the opportunity to meet the other students in their medley group, receive coaching on their section of the medley, and work through the tech logistics of their medley on the Des Moines Civic Center stage, including working with the Awards Showcase band. This is a valuable opportunity to build a sense of support amongst the medley performers, as well as to provide students the opportunity to fine tune their performance without the other characters and production elements they may be used to.

Students should arrive fully knowing their music and blocking so that the tech rehearsal can be used for final tweaks.

If possible, we recommend that the director or another knowledgeable adult attend the tech rehearsal with the student(s).

Students are required to come in their performance clothes and shoes to the tech rehearsal. This is used as an opportunity to ensure that all costume guidelines are met, that students have practiced performing in the same shoes on the Civic Center stage as they will on the event night, and that mic packs work with what they plan to wear. Any student without a waistband strong enough to clip a mic pack onto, such as those wearing a skirt, bodysuit, or a dress, should also plan to wear the same type of undergarments as they will during the event to ensure mic pack placement will work. Please see page 11 for complete wardrobe and hair guidelines.



SPOTLIGHT MEDLEY INFORMATION, cont.

EVENT DAY CALL TIME

All performing students should arrive at the theater on Thursday, May 28 fully dressed in their performance clothes by 1:30 PM.* Students will enter the building through the Ticket Office entrance to check-in.

**NOTE: Students in the Opening, Finale, or Triple Threat Track will be called earlier that day for their number's final tech rehearsal.*

Due to the number of students and guests in the building, schools should plan to warm up prior to leaving school or on the bus. Dedicated warm-up space is not available.

TICKETS

Please see information on page 12 regarding tickets to the Awards Showcase.