



TECHNICAL THEATER SCHOLARSHIPS

(By application)



TECHNICAL THEATER SCHOLARSHIPS - By Application

The Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards Technical Theater Scholarship program celebrates student leaders in technical theater. Recipients representing each division will receive a one-time scholarship of \$2,500, with the goal of aiding them in their future studies.

IMPORTANT DATES FOR THIS TRACK

Application and Notification	
Deadline for Application	Monday, April 27, 2026 by 4 PM
Notification of Results	Monday, May 4, 2026
If selected as a Scholarship Recipient, the following dates are required:	
School's Participation Form due, with recipient information included	Friday, May 8, 2026 by 4 PM
Waiver & Emergency Contact Form Due	Friday, May 15, 2026 by 4 PM
Behind-the-Scenes Day / Filming Day	Wednesday, May 20, 2026 11 AM – 12 PM: Filmed Interview 1– 7 PM Participation in Behind-the-Scenes Day
2026 Awards Showcase	Thursday, May 28, 2026 Call Time: 1:30pm

ELIGIBILITY & DIVISIONS

REQUIREMENTS

1. Applicants must be enrolled in a high school that is a current participant in the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards.
2. Applicants must have served in a leadership capacity for an offstage role for their school's 2025-2026 musical in one of six pre-identified divisions, as listed below.
3. Applicants should demonstrate leadership, creativity and technical skills demonstrated through their work on their school's 2025-2026 musical and beyond, as well as display a track record of working to grow and improve their technical theater craft.
4. Applicants must apply as individuals. Team applications will not be accepted.

DIVISIONS

There are six divisions for applicants:

1. Costuming Division
2. Makeup and Hair Division
3. Lighting Division
4. Scenic and Properties Division
5. Sound Division
6. Stage Management Division



TECHNICAL THEATER SCHOLARSHIPS, cont.

DIVISIONS, cont.

Please note: applicants must meet a minimum score on the review rubric to be considered for a scholarship. If no applicant within the division meets the minimum score threshold, no award will be bestowed in that division.

APPLICATION MATERIALS AND SUBMISSION

Please submit all materials no later than Monday, April 27 at 4 PM.

- Submit via [AwardForce](#).
Category: "Showcase > Technical Theater Scholarship"

REQUIRED APPLICATION MATERIALS

	ITEM	FORMAT
1	Letter of Recommendation Written by school theater director, tech director or equivalent mentor or supervisor of your work on your school musical	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 page, double-spaced • PDF
2	Theater resume <i>Note that this is different than a professional or work resume</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Limit to 1 page in length • PDF • View a sample technical theater resume HERE
3	Essay Describing your personal experience while working on your high school musical and highlighting your overall leadership skills and contributions to your program's technical theater department. Potential topics include vision or goal for your role, how it fits within the overall production, what worked well, challenges and any learning from the process, steps you have taken to mentor others, etc.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 page, double-spaced • PDF

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APPLICATION MATERIALS, cont.

4	<p>Work Sample(s) and Statement, Representing your current year’s musical You may upload 2-8 artifacts representing the work you did in an eligible division for your current year’s musical production. You will also provide a short description of each artifact to highlight the aspects you most want adjudicators to pay attention to and to give context to what the artifact is intended to demonstrate about your work or the skills you gained during your current year’s musical.</p> <p>Note about videos: While you may upload a video of any length, adjudicators will only watch up to 45 seconds of a video clip. In the description, please provide time markers if the video is longer than 45 seconds.</p>	<p>Minimum: Two Maximum: Eight</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifacts can be uploaded either as a File or URL • Any File Type Accepted
5	<p><i>Optional but recommended:</i></p> <p>Work Sample(s) for up to 2 Additional Show(s) You may upload additional work samples or artifacts for up to two additional shows that you have worked on, to further demonstrate your work to grow and improve your technical theater craft. You will also provide a short description of each artifact to highlight the aspects you most want adjudicators to pay attention to and to give context to what the artifact is intended to demonstrate about your work or the skills you gained on the particular show(s).</p> <p>Note about videos: While you may upload a video of any length, adjudicators will only watch up to 45 seconds of a video clip. In the description, please provide time markers if the video is longer than 45 seconds.</p>	<p>Maximum: Eight total</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Artifacts can be uploaded either as a File or URL • Any File Type Accepted
6	<p>Short bio, appropriate for publication, should you be selected as a recipient.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No more than 200 words, written in third person and in complete sentences • View sample bio HERE
7	<p>Headshot Photo, appropriate for publication should you be selected as a finalist, such as a school photo.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jpeg file format • Professional photo <u>not required</u> • Primary framing should be of your head and shoulders • <i>Example: a school photo</i>



TECHNICAL THEATER SCHOLARSHIPS, cont.

RECIPIENT NOTIFICATION AND SHOWCASE INVOLVEMENT

Students will be notified on Monday, May 4 if they were selected as a scholarship recipient.

For full information on recipient activity, how to receive their scholarship funds, etc., please see the [TECHNICAL THEATER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT PACKET](#).

In-person components are:

Filmed Interview and Behind-The-Scenes Day

Recipients are required to come to the Des Moines Civic Center on Wednesday, May 20 to film a short interview and to participate in Behind-the-Scenes Day. Filming will take place 11 AM – 12 PM; Behind-the-Scenes Day will take place from 1 – 7 PM. Bring your own lunch for during the break; dinner will be provided as part of Behind-the-Scenes Day activities.

Awards Showcase

Recipients will be acknowledged in an on-stage moment during the Awards Showcase on Thursday, May 28. Recipients call time is 1:30 PM to participate in dress rehearsal. Dinner will be provided between dress rehearsal and the Awards Showcase. Please see page 11 for student wardrobe information.

Directors should confirm the recipient's participation on the school's Participation Form to ensure a ticket is set aside for the student's personal use when not on stage (due Friday, May 8 by 4 PM).

FUND USE AND DISBURSEMENT

Awards for **graduating students** will be disbursed as follows:

1. Whenever possible, awards will be made directly to an institution of higher education rather than directly to the student.
2. A student taking a gap year may defer receipt of their award for up to one year to allow the award to be made directly to an institution of higher education upon the student's enrollment.
3. If a student does not intend to enroll in an institution of higher education, awards may be made directly to the student.
 - *The student will be advised that the award may be subject to tax and to consult their tax professional for any tax-related implications.*

Awards for **underclass recipients** will be disbursed as follows:

1. Des Moines Performing Arts will remain the custodian of the student's award through their graduation year *or* upon the student providing documentation that they have qualified education expenses at an eligible education institution. At that time, the student may designate their award be made directly to their institution of higher education on their behalf.
2. If upon graduation, the student does not intend to enroll in an institution of higher education, awards may be made directly to the student.
 - *The student will be advised that the award may be subject to tax and to consult their tax professional for any tax-related implications.*