



National Society of Arts and Letters
Supporting young talent in the performing, visual, and literary arts since 1944

**2024
NATIONAL
MUSICAL
THEATRE
COMPETITION**

**MAY 16-19, 2024
CHAMPAIGN-URBANA, ILLINOIS**

**FIRST PLACE NATIONAL
AWARD: \$15,000**

More cash prizes will be awarded

2024

National Society of Arts & Letters

Musical Theatre Competition

May 16 - 19, 2024

Champaign-Urbana, Illinois

National Competition Rules & Performance Requirements

1. Competition participants are expected to demonstrate a high level of talent and aptitude as well as career potential. While a participant may possess representation through a talent agency or management company, they may not be a member of any of the performance unions (e.g., AEA, SAG/AFTRA, AGMA) at the time of the competition.
2. Contestants must provide a social security number, passport and/or visa documentation to serve as proof of lawful residence in the United States.
3. Competition is open to contestants who have passed their 18th birthday but have not yet reached their 28th birthday as of May 16, 2024. Proof of birthdate must be supplied. A photocopy of a birth certificate, passport, or state-issued ID may serve as proof.
4. Contestants may not be related to any member of NSAL involved in any decisions relating to the winners at the chapter or national levels.
5. Performers must have competed in and been declared the sole first-place winner of an NSAL Chapter competition before being advanced to the National Competition. A contestant may choose a chapter in the area where he/she/they have been residing or where he/she/they are enrolled in a college, graduate program, or acting school. If there are no chapters in their hometown or place of residence, contestants may enter the competition of the nearest chapter.
6. Contestants may not compete in more than one chapter's National Musical Theatre competition.
7. Contestants must be in Champaign-Urbana, Illinois for May 16-19. Contestants must attend the orientation session to be held on May 16th through the Awards Dinner on May 18. All expenses are the sponsoring chapter's responsibility.
8. Contestants must attend the orientation session, the competition, the Master Class, and the Awards Dinner.
9. The national finalists selected by the judges for the 1st, 2nd and 3rd place awards will perform at the Awards Dinner on May 18th.

10. The meaning and interpretation of the above rules, along with the local chapter and contestant rules, will be determined by NSAL. If such meaning or interpretation is questioned or not understood, the decision of NSAL National will be final and binding.

Performance Requirements

1. Contestants must present two songs and a monologue from memory. A contestant's vocal selections must be from the genre of American Musical Theatre.
2. Vocal Selections should include one song from the Golden Age of Broadway (prior to 1965) and one song from the Contemporary Musical Theatre era (1965 and after 1965).
3. Selections must demonstrate contrasting characteristics. An example of vocal selections could include up-tempo vs. dramatic, belt vs. legit, comedy vs. ballad.
4. Contestants monologue selection must come from a published or produced play, film, or musical and should contrast with musical selections. Proof of publication or production will be required.
5. In their application, contestants must include PDFs of all sheet music, including composer(s) and lyricist(s) names. A copy of the monologue including publication and production information must also be included in the contestant's application.
6. Upon entering the stage, contestants will slate (announce) their contestant number, and the order of their performance; including the title of their songs, the title of the shows, as well as the character and work from which the monologue is taken. The announcement time including conversation with accompanist will not count in the performance time.
7. The total performance time may not exceed eight (8) minutes for both songs and monologue. Performance transition time will be included in the timing.
8. Musical cuts are allowed and must be clearly stated in the competitor's music for live accompanist (provided at both local and national levels). We encourage performers to sing material that best aligns with their gender expression. Key transpositions are acceptable.
9. A chair will be available on stage. Hand props, costumes or recorded music / sound are not permitted.
10. Performance attire: All contestants must wear black clothing and shoes.
11. Contestants must also participate in an adjudicated movement component of the competition. Contestants will be taught a movement sequence and perform the sequence in small groups. A contestant's movement score will be included in their overall competition score. During the movement call contestants should wear comfortable clothing that allows for freedom of movement. Movement clothing may be any color, but logos or other graphics are not allowed. Adequate time to change into/out of movement-appropriate clothing will be granted

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