



58TH

JEFF

AWARDS

EQUITY WING

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026



HARRIS THEATER

MILLENNIUM PARK

jeffawards.org

BRAVO

JEFF AWARD NOMINEES!



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MICHAEL MOORE AGENCY

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR NOMINATED CLIENTS!

RAQUEL ADORNO

COSTUME DESIGN | *GASLIGHT* | NORTHLIGHT THEATRE

DEE ETTI-WILLIAMS

SOUND DESIGN | *COVENANT* | GOODMAN THEATRE

AMANDA GLADU

COSTUME DESIGN | *AMADEUS* | STEPPENWOLF THEATRE

TERRY GUEST

PRODUCTION OF A PLAY | *OAK* | RAVEN THEATRE

GREG HOFMANN

LIGHTING DESIGN | *SOUTH PACIFIC* | PARAMOUNT THEATRE

JEFFREY D. KMIEC

SCENIC DESIGN | *SOUTH PACIFIC* | PARAMOUNT THEATRE

CHRISTOPHER KRIZ

SOUND DESIGN | *OCTET* | RAVEN THEATRE

ORIGINAL MUSIC IN A PLAY | *EELPOUT!* | SHATTERED GLOBE THEATRE

ORIGINAL MUSIC IN A PLAY | *GEORGIANA AND KITTY:*
CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY | BUFFALO THEATRE ENSEMBLE

KELVIN ROSTON JR.

SOLO PERFORMANCE | *TWISTED MELODIES* | NORTHLIGHT THEATRE

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congratulates the Chicago theatre community
and the **directors and choreographers** nominated for Jeff Awards!

Director of a Play (Large)

Felix Barrett
Phillip Breen
Selina Cadell
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Robert Falls
Wendy Mateo
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Carey Perloff
Malkia Stampley

Director of a Play (Midsized)

Mikael Burke
Connie Canaday Howard
Elyse Dolan
Kirsten Fitzgerald
Hallie Gordon
Jeremy Wechsler

Director of a Musical (Large)

Braden Abraham
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Stephen Schellhardt
Trent Stork

Director of a Musical (Midsized)

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2026 PRODUCTION TEAM

PRODUCER
BARRY TAYLOR

DIRECTOR
RAY FREWEN

ASSOCIATE PRODUCER
MERRIL PRAGER

MUSIC DIRECTOR
MICHAEL MAHLER +

HOSTS
MICHELLE DUFFY *
JAMES EARL JONES II *

MUSICIANS
ELISA CARLSON + BASS & VIOLIN
KIERAN MCCABE + DRUMS

ANNOUNCER
JANET ULRICH BROOKS *

STAGE MANAGER
IMANI M. ROSS *

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ANTHONY CHURCHILL

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER
CASSIDY WRAY *

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& SOCIAL MEDIA
BRAYER TEAGUE

AMBASSADORS
CORY GOODRICH *
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* Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States
+ Member of Chicago Federation of Musicians, Local 10

JEFF AWARDS

The Jeff Awards is one of the most active and engaged theater award organizations in the country, evaluating hundreds of theatrical productions annually and celebrating outstanding achievement across the Chicago stage. Through recommendations, awards, and honors, the Jeff Awards fosters the growth of companies and artists, brings appreciation to diverse storytelling, and cultivates civic pride in our vibrant theater community. Originally chartered in 1968, the organization continues its decades-long legacy of honoring excellence in Chicago theater.

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JEFF AWARDS

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JUDGES OF THE A/T TEAM

Opening nights are judged by members of the Jeff Awards and the Arts & Technical (A/T) Team, a volunteer group of local theatre professionals. Thanks to them, with special appreciation to Kevin Heckman, A/T Coordinator.

JONATHAN ALLSUP	KEVIN HECKMAN	TOMMY NOVAK
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ESTEBAN CRUZ	JOSH JOHNSON	MICHAEL RYCZEK
MAJEL CUZA	ROB KAUZLARIC	STEVE SCOTT
HAMID DEHGHANI	KRISTIN LARSEN	RICHARD SHAVZIN
DINA DICOSTANZO	DANA LOW	CHUCK SMITH
ELYSE DOLAN	KAY MARTINOVICH	MAGGIE SPEER
ALAN DONAHUE	BILL MASSOLIA	MADRID ST. ANGELO
TRISH ELLIOTT	ELE MATELAN	JUDY VERAMENDI
MEIGHAN GERACHIS	JOAN MAZZONELLI	CHRIS WALSH
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ROSE GUCCIONE	SHOLE MILOS	

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- JULIE M. KOERNER
- PAULETTE A. PETRETTI
- MARVIN POLLACK AND BARRY TAYLOR

PRINCIPAL PERFORMER

- JAMES AND CAROLYN CHHUTANI
- DIANE HIRES AND BILL CROWTHER
- JEFFREY MARKS

SUPPORTING PERFORMER

- JOHN D. GLOVER AND MICHAEL B. MALTENFORT
- RACHEL KRAFT, DOUG BROWN AND BEN MAGGIO IN MEMORY OF MICHAEL MAGGIO
- MERRIL PRAGER AND JOHN LEVINE, IN HONOR OF BARRY TAYLOR

PRODUCTION TEAM

- CHARLES A. BERGLUND AND WILLIAM H. RUSH
- L. WALTER STEARNS
- NATALIE VAN STRAATEN AND JOHN HIRSCH

CAMEO PERFORMER

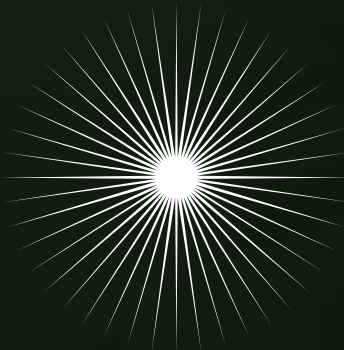
- ALYSSA DICKMAN
- JERRY PROFFIT
- DR. RICHARD SHAPIRO AND JEFFREY DAVIS
- PATTI WOZNY

FRIEND

- DRS. RENEE AND HUBERT DOLEZAL
- MICHELLE GREENBERG
- DEBORAH HAIMES
- SHARA AND MATT LIEBERMAN
- SUE MELCHER, IN MEMORY OF LOIS R. HASS
- TAMARA AND JAY SIMS
- BRAYER AND KRISTEN TEAGUE

UNDERSTUDY

- MARLENE BALIK, IN MEMORY OF LOIS R. HASS
- JENNY BARBIERI
- JOHN KNIGHT
- BILL AND GAIL NEIMAN, IN HONOR OF SUSAN HAIMES



THIS PROJECT IS PARTIALLY SUPPORTED BY A GRANT FROM THE CITY OF CHICAGO DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS AND SPECIAL EVENTS

SPECIAL THANKS

- Andrea Hoeschen, David Kolen, Sarah LaBarr, Jayne Spring & Staff Central Region, Actors’ Equity Association
- Marcia Hustad for her invaluable service to the Jeff Awards

2026 CHICAGO EQUITY PRODUCING COMPANIES

- A Red Orchid Theatre
- About Face Theatre
- American Blues Theater
- Black Ensemble Theater
- Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
- Chicago Shakespeare Theater
- Chicago Shakespeare Theater in co-production with Center Theatre Group, American Conservatory Theater, and Shakespeare Theatre Company
- Court Theatre
- Drury Lane Productions
- Eli Bauman and Monica Saunders-Weinberg (Hana Black Productions), in association with Anthony "Brew" Brewster, Steve McKeever (Hidden Beach Recordings), Conrad Bauer, and Shanice & Kerry Gordon
- Goodman Theatre
- Her Story Theater
- Karl Sydow
- Lookingglass Theatre Company
- Marriott Theatre
- New Theatre Project
- Northlight Theatre
- Oak Park Festival Theatre
- Paramount Theatre
- Porchlight Music Theatre
- Raven Theatre
- Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
- Rivendell Theatre Ensemble
- Shattered Globe Theatre
- Steppenwolf Theatre Company
- The Second City
- Theater Wit
- TimeLine Theatre Company
- Tiwary Entertainment Group
- Writers Theatre



CONGRATS
TO ALL PARAMOUNT THEATRE NOMINEES!
We're so proud to have you as a part of Paramount Nation.



FEATURED PERFORMANCES

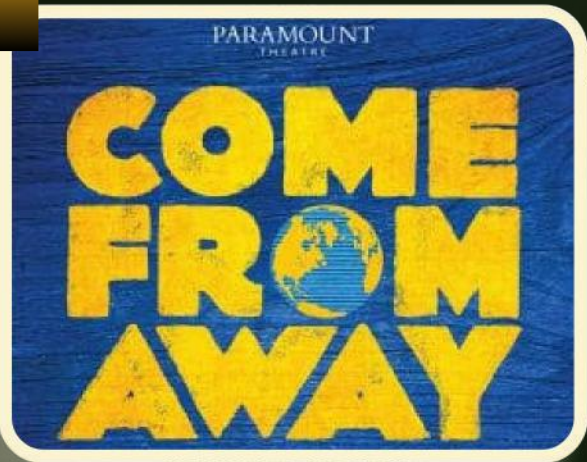
Appearances of Equity Actors courtesy of **Actors’ Equity Association**, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States



ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater



AS YOU LIKE IT
Writers Theatre



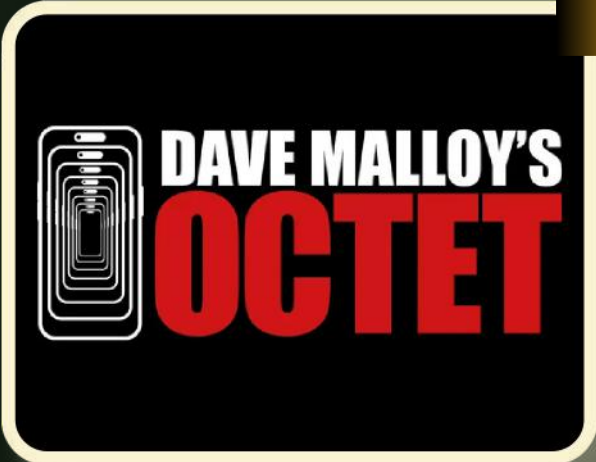
COME FROM AWAY
Paramount Theatre



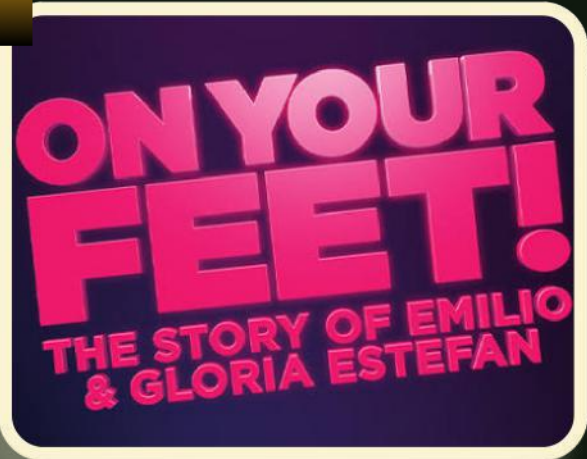
DEAR EVAN HANSEN
Paramount Theatre



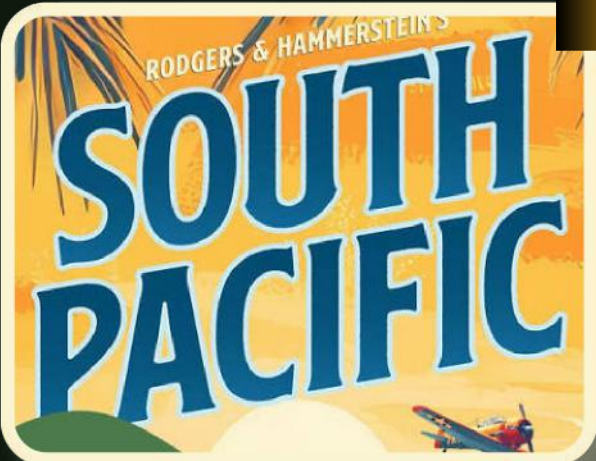
MEN OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater



OCTET
Raven Theatre



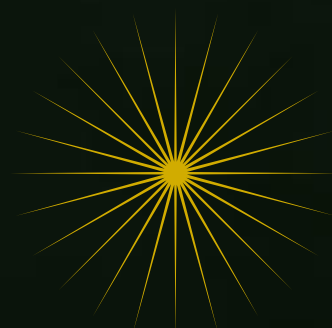
ON YOUR FEET!
Drury Lane Productions



SOUTH PACIFIC
Paramount Theatre



IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre



2026 NOMINEES

PERFORMER IN A SUPPORTING ROLE PLAY

ALANA ARENAS
WINDFALL
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

AUDREY FRANCIS
CATCH AS CATCH CAN
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

ERIN NOEL GRENNAN
THE ANGEL NEXT DOOR
Northlight Theatre

KEVIN GRULLON
THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO
Goodman Theatre

TIMOTHY EDWARD KANE
GASLIGHT
Northlight Theatre

TIMOTHY EDWARD KANE
THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

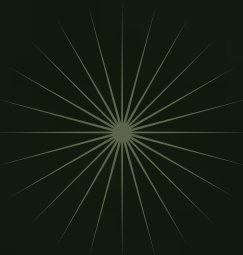
KEITH KUPFERER
PIVOT
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble

STEPHANIE SHUM
THE TARGETED
A Red Orchid Theatre

DAVID STOBBE
PIVOT
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble

WESLEY TAYLOR
HOLIDAY
Goodman Theatre

REBEKAH WARD
EUREKA DAY
TimeLine Theatre Company



SCENIC DESIGN – MIDSIZE

MORGAN LASZLO
BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

LAUREN M. NICHOLS
WISH YOU WERE HERE
Remy Bumpopo Theatre Company

SHAYNA PATEL
COME BACK, LITTLE SHEBA
American Blues Theater

JACQUELINE & RICHARD PENROD
GEORGIANA AND KITTY: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

GRANT SABIN
THINGS WITH FRIENDS
American Blues Theater

JOE SCHERMOLY
THE ALLY
Theater Wit

PERFORMER IN A SUPPORTING ROLE MUSICAL

DANIELLE DAVIS
ROME SWEET ROME
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

CHAD DORECK
44 – THE MUSICAL
Eli Bauman and Monica Saunders-Weinberg (Hana Black Productions), in association with Anthony “Brew” Brewster, Steve McKeever (Hidden Beach Recordings), Conrad Bauer, and Shanice & Kerry Gordon

MICHELLE DUFFY
SISTER ACT
Drury Lane Productions

LAWRENCE FLOWERS
SISTER ACT
Drury Lane Productions

VERONICA GARZA
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Marriott Theatre

GREY HENSON
ICEBOY! THE MUSICAL OR THE COMPLETELY UNTRUE STORY OF HOW EUGENE O’NEILL CAME TO WRITE “THE ICEMAN COMETH”
Goodman Theatre

NICK OFFERMAN
ICEBOY! THE MUSICAL OR THE COMPLETELY UNTRUE STORY OF HOW EUGENE O’NEILL CAME TO WRITE “THE ICEMAN COMETH”
Goodman Theatre

CLAUDIA QUESADA
ON YOUR FEET!
Drury Lane Productions

ABBY C. SMITH
IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

SARAH STILES
ICEBOY! THE MUSICAL OR THE COMPLETELY UNTRUE STORY OF HOW EUGENE O’NEILL CAME TO WRITE “THE ICEMAN COMETH”
Goodman Theatre

SCENIC DESIGN – LARGE

FLY DAVIS
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
Chicago Shakespeare Theater in co-production with Center Theatre Group, American Conservatory Theater, and Shakespeare Theatre Company

KEVIN DEPINET
ASHLAND AVENUE
Goodman Theatre

JEFFREY D. KMIEC
SOUTH PACIFIC
Paramount Theatre

COLLETTE POLLARD
THE DANCE OF DEATH
Northlight Theatre

COLLETTE POLLARD
GASLIGHT
Northlight Theatre

WALT SPANGLER
HOLIDAY
Goodman Theatre



2026 NOMINEES

COSTUME DESIGN – MIDSIZE

ALY GREAVES AMIDEI
GEORGIANA AND KITTY: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

DELENA BRADLEY
EELPOUT!
Shattered Globe Theatre

KRISTY LEIGH HALL
WISH YOU WERE HERE
Remy Bumpo Theatre Company

LILY WALLS
ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater

ANNA WOODEN
TOP GIRLS
Raven Theatre

COSTUME DESIGN – LARGE

RAQUEL ADORNO
GASLIGHT
Northlight Theatre

MARA BLUMENFELD
IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

SALLY DOLEMBO
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Marriott Theatre

AMANDA GLADU
AMADEUS
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

ALEX JAEGER
LEOPOLDSTADT
Writers Theatre

YVONNE L. MIRANDA
BIG WHITE FOG
Court Theatre

SULLY RATKE
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Marriott Theatre

NEW WORK THE LIBBY ADLER MAGES AWARD

RICHARD GREENBERG
HOLIDAY
Goodman Theatre

LAUREN GUNDERSON
BILLIE JEAN
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

HANNAH KIME
THE TARGETED
A Red Orchid Theatre

ALEX LUBISCHER
PIVOT
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble

TARELL ALVIN MCCRANEY
WINDFALL
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Q BROTHERS COLLECTIVE (GQ, JQ, JAX & POS)
ROME SWEET ROME
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

MARCO ANTONIO RODRIGUEZ
THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO
Goodman Theatre

JAMES SHERMAN
THE FIRST LADY OF TELEVISION
Northlight Theatre

PROJECTION DESIGN

STEFANIA BULBARELLA
THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO
Goodman Theatre

ANTHONY CHURCHILL
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Marriott Theatre

ANTHONY CHURCHILL
DEAR EVAN HANSEN
Paramount Theatre

RASEAN DAVONTÉ JOHNSON
MR. WOLF
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

MIKE TUTAJ
SOUTH PACIFIC
Paramount Theatre

2026 NOMINEES

LIGHTING DESIGN – MIDSIZE

GARRETT BELL
BIRTHDAY CANDLES
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

BEN CARNE
TOP GIRLS
Raven Theatre

MAXIMO GRANO DE OREO
OCTET
Raven Theatre

ERIC WATKINS
OAK
Raven Theatre

LEVI J. WILKINS
THINGS WITH FRIENDS
American Blues Theater

LIGHTING DESIGN – LARGE

LEE FISKNESS
THE DANCE OF DEATH
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

GREG HOFMANN
SOUTH PACIFIC
Paramount Theatre

GINA PATTERSON
COVENANT
Goodman Theatre

ANNA WATSON
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
Chicago Shakespeare Theater in co-production
with Center Theatre Group, American Conservatory
Theater, and Shakespeare Theatre Company

HANNAH WIEN
WHITE ROOSTER
Lookingglass Theatre Company

SOUND DESIGN – MIDSIZE

ERIC BACKUS
DO SOMETHING PRETTY
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble

THOMAS DIXON
COME BACK, LITTLE SHEBA
American Blues Theater

ETHAN KORVNE
BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

ETHAN KORVNE
OAK
Raven Theatre

CHRISTOPHER KRIZ & HANNAH KWAK
OCTET
Raven Theatre

SOUND DESIGN – LARGE

ERIC BACKUS
TWISTED MELODIES
Northlight Theatre

DEE ETTI-WILLIAMS
COVENANT
Goodman Theatre

GARETH FRY
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
Chicago Shakespeare Theater in co-production
with Center Theatre Group, American Conservatory
Theater, and Shakespeare Theatre Company

ANDRÉ PLUESS
TWO SISTERS AND A PIANO
Writers Theatre

JANE SHAW
LEOPOLDSTADT
Writers Theatre



**Big Mouth. Big Stages.
Biggest Congratulations
To Our Nominees!**
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2026 NOMINEES

SHORT RUN DESIGN

NICK SOLYOM
Lighting Design
THE MOVEMENT YOU NEED: AN EVENING WITH
BRENDAN HUNT
Tiwary Entertainment Group

SHORT RUN NEW WORK

KURT MCGINNIS BROWN
THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY
Her Story Theater

BRENDAN HUNT
THE MOVEMENT YOU NEED: AN EVENING WITH
BRENDAN HUNT
Tiwary Entertainment Group

SHORT RUN PERFORMER

AARON COSTA GANIS
AVA: THE SECRET CONVERSATIONS
Karl Sydow

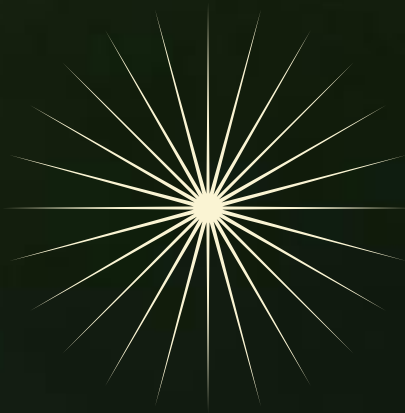
GARY HOUSTON
THE OFFICIAL BIOGRAPHY
Her Story Theater

BRENDAN HUNT
THE MOVEMENT YOU NEED: AN EVENING WITH
BRENDAN HUNT
Tiwary Entertainment Group

ELIZABETH MCGOVERN
AVA: THE SECRET CONVERSATIONS
Karl Sydow

SHORT RUN PRODUCTION

**THE MOVEMENT YOU NEED: AN EVENING WITH
BRENDAN HUNT**
Tiwary Entertainment Group



ARTISTIC SPECIALIZATION

CHRIS FISHER – ILLUSION DESIGN
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
Chicago Shakespeare Theater in co-production
with Center Theatre Group, American
Conservatory Theater, and Shakespeare Theatre
Company

CAITLIN MCLEOD – PUPPET DESIGN
WHITE ROOSTER
Lookingglass Theatre Company

JESSE MOONEY-BULLOCK – PUPPET DESIGN
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
Marriott Theatre

STEPH PAUL – MOVEMENT DIRECTOR
BILLIE JEAN
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

CASSY SCHILLO – PROPERTIES DESIGN
FATHER OF THE BRIDE
Drury Lane Productions

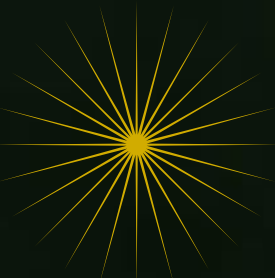
TOM WATSON – HAIR, WIG & MAKEUP DESIGN
LEOPOLDSTADT
Writers Theatre

IMPRESARIO AWARD EXCELLENCE IN STAGE MANAGEMENT

NIKKI BLUE
Goodman Theatre

JINNI PIKE
Paramount Theatre

CAITLIN I. QUINN
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble



2026 NOMINEES

ORIGINAL MUSIC IN A PLAY

LINDSAY JONES
THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

ETHAN KORVNE
BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

CHRISTOPHER KRIZ
EELPOUT!
Shattered Globe Theatre

CHRISTOPHER KRIZ
GEORGIANA AND KITTY: CHRISTMAS AT PEMBERLEY
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

JOSHUA SCHMIDT
DIAL M FOR MURDER
Drury Lane Productions

RICK SIMS
THE DANCE OF DEATH
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

ELIZA THOMPSON
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

CHOREOGRAPHY

DEIDRE GOODWIN
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Marriott Theatre

DEIDRE GOODWIN
HEARTBREAK HOTEL
Marriott Theatre

TANJI HARPER
ROME SWEET ROME
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

TIFFANY KRAUSE & ANNIE JO FISCHER
IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

LUIS SALGADO
ON YOUR FEET
Drury Lane Productions

PERFORMER REVUE

LIZ CHIDESTER
ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater

MOLLY HERNÁNDEZ
ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater

CAT MCDONNELL
PANDEMONIUM, PLEASE HOLD
The Second City

EDDIE MUJICA
PANDEMONIUM, PLEASE HOLD
The Second City

MAXEL MCLOUD SCHINGEN
MEN OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater

MUSIC DIRECTION

KORY DANIELSON
COME FROM AWAY
Paramount Theatre

KORY DANIELSON
IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

MICHAEL MAHLER
ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater

MICHAEL MAHLER
AS YOU LIKE IT
Writers Theatre

RYAN T. NELSON
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Marriott Theatre

ROBERT REDDRICK
MEN OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater

NICK SULA
OCTET
Raven Theatre

SOLO PERFORMANCE

KELVIN ROSTON, JR.
TWISTED MELODIES
Northlight Theatre



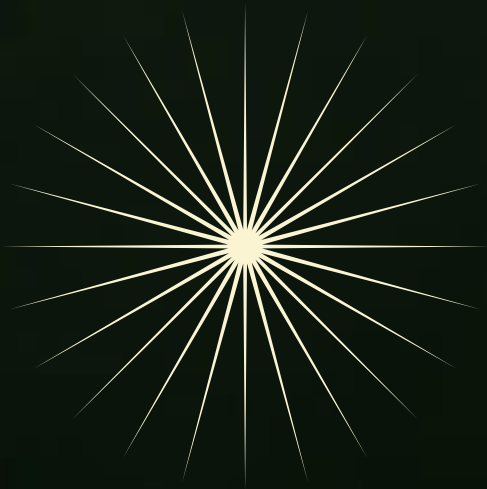
SPECIAL AWARD



The Joseph Jefferson Awards Committee is proud to present the **2026 Special Equity Award** to the Black Ensemble Theater in celebration of 50 extraordinary years of artistic excellence, innovation, and vital cultural leadership in Chicago. Founded in 1976 by actress, producer, and playwright Jackie Taylor, Black Ensemble Theater has grown from a humble community-arts collective into an internationally renowned institution. As the only theater in the nation dedicated to eradicating racism and its damaging effects through the power of the arts, Black Ensemble Theater has spent the last five decades delivering an authentic African-American voice while fostering dialogue, understanding, acceptance, and healing across diverse audiences.

From its historic opening of the Black Ensemble Theater Cultural Center in Uptown in 2011 to its groundbreaking, award-winning educational outreach programs, the company has consistently redefined theater as an agent of social change. Their vibrant, high-impact musical biographies and original productions have not only entertained generations of Chicagoans but have continuously worked to dismantle prejudice and bring communities together in shared celebration.

We congratulate Jackie Taylor and the entire Black Ensemble Theater family on a half-century of transformative storytelling and thank them for an indelible legacy that enriches the very fabric of Chicago theater.



2026 NOMINEES

DIRECTOR REVUE

CARISA BARRECA
PANDEMONIUM, PLEASE HOLD
The Second City

DARYL D. BROOKS
MEN OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater

HARMONY FRANCE
ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater

DIRECTOR MUSICAL – MIDSIZE

KEIRA FROMM
OCTET
Raven Theatre

DIRECTOR PLAY – MIDSIZE

MIKAEL BURKE
OAK
Raven Theatre

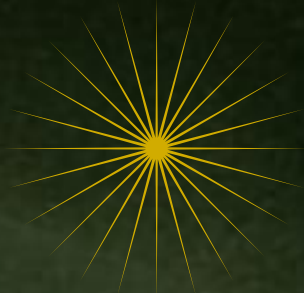
CONNIE CANADAY HOWARD
GEORGIANA AND KITTY: CHRISTMAS AT
PEMBERLEY
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

ELYSE DOLAN
COME BACK, LITTLE SHEBA
American Blues Theater

KIRSTEN FITZGERALD
BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

HALLIE GORDON
PIVOT
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble

JEREMY WECHSLER
THE ALLY
Theater Wit



DIRECTOR MUSICAL – LARGE

BRADEN ABRAHAM
AS YOU LIKE IT
Writers Theatre

NICK BOWLING
A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Marriott Theatre

JESSICA FISCH
DEAR EVAN HANSEN
Paramount Theatre

STEPHEN SCHELLHARDT
IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

TRENT STORK
COME FROM AWAY
Paramount Theatre

DIRECTOR PLAY – LARGE THE MICHAEL MAGGIO AWARD

FELIX BARRETT
PARANORMAL ACTIVITY
Chicago Shakespeare Theater in co-production with
Center Theatre Group, American Conservatory
Theater, and Shakespeare Theatre Company

PHILLIP BREEN
THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

SELINA CADELL
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

DAVID ESBJORNSON
JOB
Writers Theatre

ROBERT FALLS
AMADEUS
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

ROBERT FALLS
HOLIDAY
Goodman Theatre

WENDY MATEO
THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO
Goodman Theatre

RON OJ PARSON
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE
TimeLine Theatre Company

CAREY PERLOFF
LEOPOLDSTADT
Writers Theatre

MALKIA STAMPLEY
COVENANT
Goodman Theatre

IN MEMORIAM

LOOK TO THE STARS MUSIC & LYRICS BY MICHAEL MAHLER

HONORING

TONY ADLER
GUY BARILE
JOSEPH BEAL
KIM BERINGER
SCOTT BRADLEY
WALTER BRODY
STEVEN J. CALZARETTA
DEBORAH DAVIS
RON DEAN
MATT DECARO
MERCITA DEMUYNCK
KEVIN DOYLE
PAUL EDWARDS
PAT FINN
TONY FITZPATRICK
KIMBERLY HÉBERT GREGORY
DONALD PATRICK HALL
LARRY HART
JOHN HERRERA
AARON ASHTON HUNT
JOHN R. LAZZARA
TOM LOGAN
CHRISTOPHER MERRILL
PENELOPE MILFORD
MICHAEL MINER
NANCY NICKEL
JAMES NORMAN
KEVIN O'BRIEN
BILL PULLINSI
JOHN RANDLE
BRUCE SAGAN
WARREN L. SAMPSON
SHERRY SIMPSON
JOHN STARRS
BEN VEATCH
AFRAM BILL WILLIAMS
BOB WILSON

READERS

Michelle Duffy – Kelly D. Felthous – Cory Goodrich
James Earl Jones II – Janet Ulrich Brooks

2026 NOMINEES

PERFORMER IN A PRINCIPAL ROLE PLAY

WILL ALLAN
AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE
TimeLine Theatre Company

MARK BEDARD
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

DAVID DARROW
AMADEUS
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

CHRISTOPHER DONAHUE
JOB
Writers Theatre

RAE GRAY
JOB
Writers Theatre

FRANCIS GUINAN
ASHLAND AVENUE
Goodman Theatre

LENIN D’ANTHONY IZQUIERDO
THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO
Goodman Theatre

JOHN JUDD
BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

CHILINA KENNEDY
BILLIE JEAN
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

AL’JALEEL MCGHEE
MA RAINEY’S BLACK BOTTOM
Goodman Theatre

JEFF PERRY
THE DANCE OF DEATH
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

MICHAEL POTTS
WINDFALL
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

CASSIDY SLAUGHTER–MASON
BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

GWENDOLYN WHITESIDE
COME BACK, LITTLE SHEBA
American Blues Theater

PERFORMER IN A PRINCIPAL ROLE MUSICAL

GABY ALBO
ON YOUR FEET!
Drury Lane Productions

CODY COMBS
DEAR EVAN HANSEN
Paramount Theatre

JACKSON EVANS
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
Marriott Theatre

HERSHEY FELDER
HERSHY FELDER’S RACHMANINOFF AND THE TSAR
Writers Theatre

PHOEBE GONZALEZ
AS YOU LIKE IT
Writers Theatre

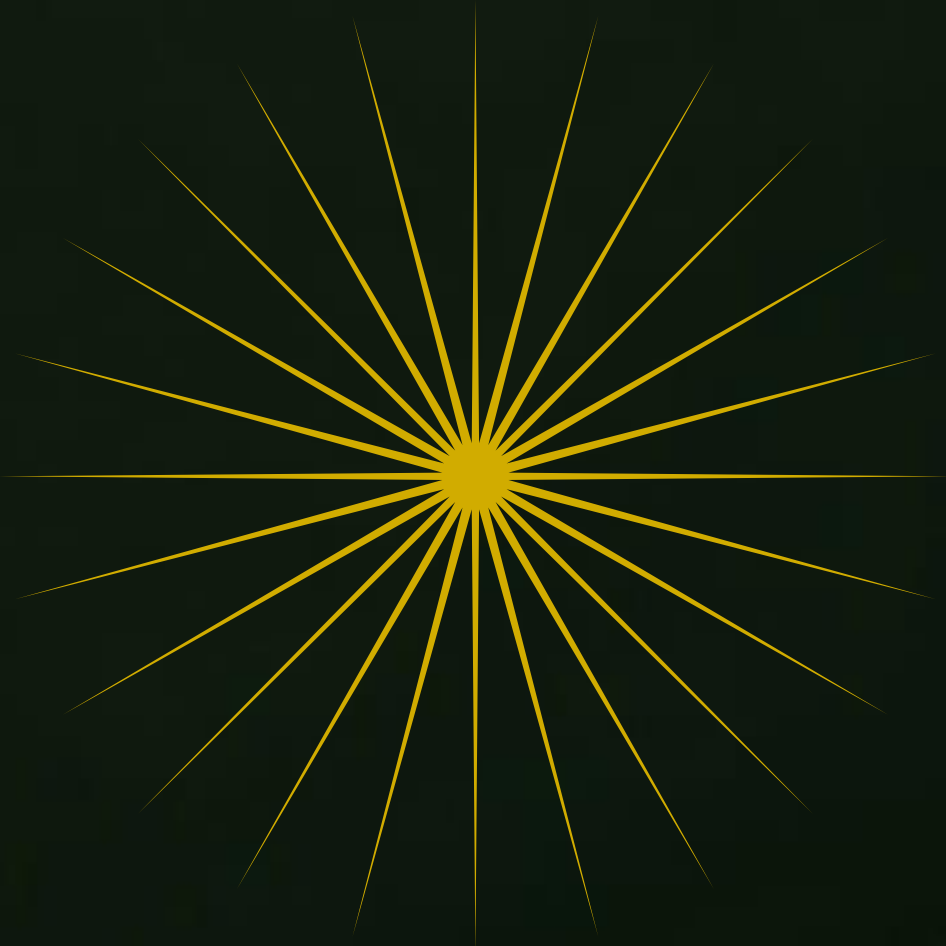
JJ NIEMANN
CATCH ME IF YOU CAN
Marriott Theatre

ALLSUN O’MALLEY
SOUTH PACIFIC
Paramount Theatre

MAYA ROWE
LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS
Marriott Theatre

ALEX SYIEK
IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

JAITEE THOMAS
THE JACKIE WILSON STORY
Black Ensemble Theater



2026 NOMINEES

ENSEMBLE **MUSICAL OR REVUE**

AS YOU LIKE IT
Writers Theatre

COME FROM AWAY
Paramount Theatre

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Marriott Theatre

MEN OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater

OCTET
Raven Theatre

PANDEMONIUM, PLEASE HOLD
The Second City

ROME SWEET ROME
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

PRODUCTION **REVUE**

ALWAYS...PATSY CLINE
American Blues Theater

MEN OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater

PANDEMONIUM, PLEASE HOLD
The Second City

PRODUCTION **MUSICAL – LARGE** **THE SUSAN & HARLAN HAIMES AWARD**

AS YOU LIKE IT
Writers Theatre

COME FROM AWAY
Paramount Theatre

DEAR EVAN HANSEN
Paramount Theatre

IRVING BERLIN’S WHITE CHRISTMAS
Paramount Theatre

A LITTLE NIGHT MUSIC
Marriott Theatre

ON YOUR FEET!
Drury Lane Productions

SOUTH PACIFIC
Paramount Theatre

ENSEMBLE **PLAY**

THE ANGEL NEXT DOOR
Northlight Theatre

COVENANT
Goodman Theatre

EUREKA DAY
TimeLine Theatre Company

LEOPOLDSTADT
Writers Theatre

MA RAINEY’S BLACK BOTTOM
Goodman Theatre

THE MERRY WIVES OF WINDSOR
Chicago Shakespeare Theater

THINGS WITH FRIENDS
American Blues Theater

PRODUCTION **MUSICAL – MIDSIZE**

OCTET
Raven Theatre

PRODUCTION **PLAY – MIDSIZE**

THE ALLY
Theater Wit

BIRDS OF NORTH AMERICA
A Red Orchid Theatre

COME BACK, LITTLE SHEBA
American Blues Theater

OAK
Raven Theatre

PIVOT
Rivendell Theatre Ensemble



2026 NOMINEES

PRODUCTION **PLAY** – LARGE

AMADEUS
Steppenwolf Theatre Company

THE BRIEF WONDROUS LIFE OF OSCAR WAO
Goodman Theatre

COVENANT
Goodman Theatre

AN ENEMY OF THE PEOPLE
TimeLine Theatre Company

EUREKA DAY
TimeLine Theatre Company

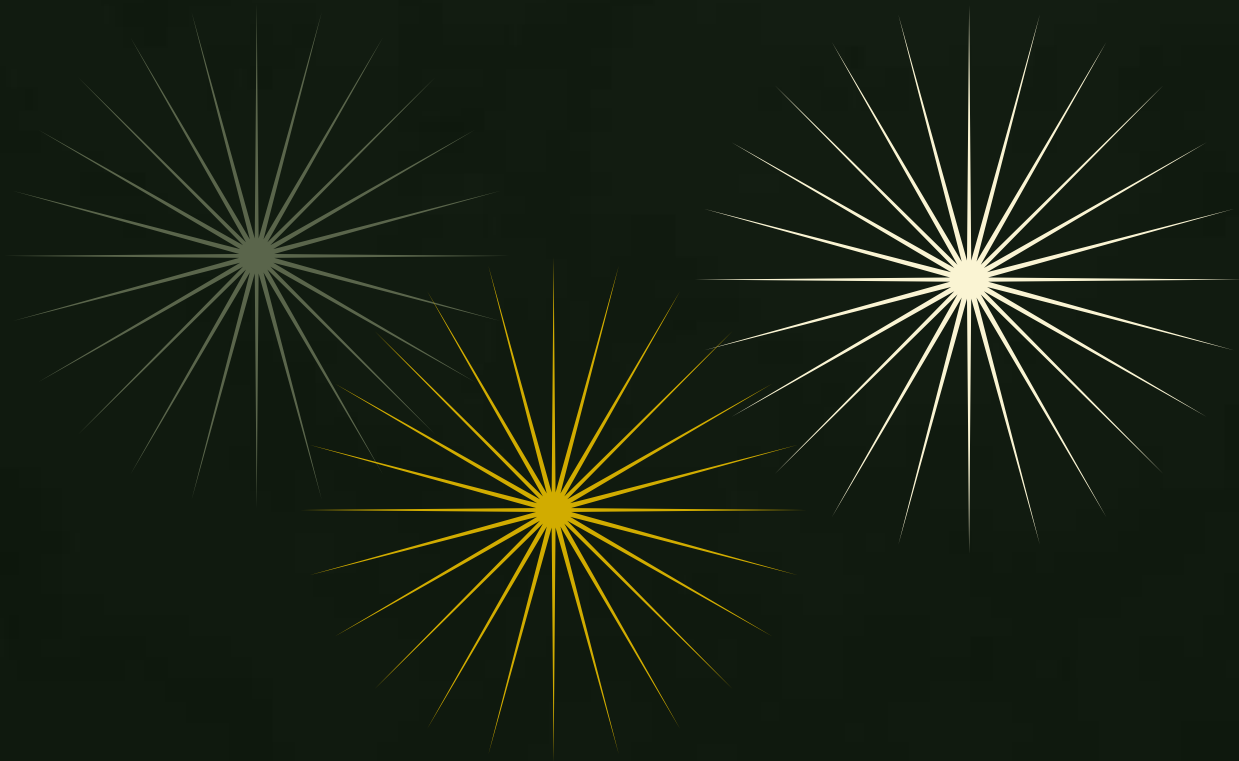
HOLIDAY
Goodman Theatre

JOB
Writers Theatre

LEOPOLDSTADT
Writers Theatre

MA RAINEY’S BLACK BOTTOM
Goodman Theatre

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING
Chicago Shakespeare Theater



58TH

JEFF

AWARDS

EQUITY WING

SEPTEMBER 14, 2026