

NEWS

GPJNB Arts Council



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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'The Teeny's Are Coming! The Teeny's Are Coming...'

FIRST ANNUAL 2008 TEENY AWARD NOMINEES ARE ANNOUNCED!

Shea Theater, Selden: In a multi-media extravaganza on television and radio that featured live performances from high school productions, **The Greater Port Jefferson Northern Brookhaven Arts Council** [GPJNB] announced the nominees of their *First Annual Teeny Awards*.

The Teeny Awards are modeled after Broadway's Tony Awards®. Qualified judges attended student-produced plays and musicals at the participating Long Island high schools throughout the school year and assessed a variety of skills and disciplines. The top scoring students were selected as the nominees, and will attend a **formal red carpet, black tie gala awards ceremony on June 15 at the Suffolk County Community College SHEA THEATRE**, where the winners will be announced and presented with a beautiful glass trophy, a scholarship from the Greater Port Jefferson Northern Brookhaven Arts Council, and a matching scholarship from Stony Brook University.

In celebration of their achievements the nominees and their parents, along with five representatives from each participating high school, will attend the *First Annual Nominee Congratulatory Dinner* - sponsored by Stony Brook University - at the Wang Center on the campus of SUNY-Stony Brook on May 15, 2008.

According to Lori Anne Casdia, the Executive Director of the GPJNB TEENY AWARDS, this awards ceremony and scholarship recognition is made possible as a result of major partnerships and sponsorships from Wal*Mart Stores; Suffolk County Community College, SUNY-Stony Brook University, Times Beacon Records Newspapers, Assemblyman Steve Englebright, Legislator Dan Losquadro, PTP Consultants, Citibank, Channel 12 News, WLIU, WBAB, WBLI, Show Biz Shots, Crackerjack Advertising Specialties Corp, Ad Count Direct, and Bank of Smithtown.

"With more than a dozen stores on Long Island, Wal-Mart takes great pride in giving back to local communities in Nassau and Suffolk County," said Steven V. Restivo, Director of Corporate Affairs

– Northeast Region, Wal-Mart. “The Teeny Awards foster healthy competition in the performing arts and provides a terrific incentive for local students. Congratulations to the nominees.”

The Greater Port Jefferson Northern Brookhaven Arts Council supports artistic activity in the Northern Brookhaven area by coordinating its efforts with arts organizations, artists, local municipalities, schools, art galleries, libraries, and theaters. Through extensive services including grant writing, technology, software and Internet support, and an aggressive programming schedule the Council seeks to inspire our youth to achieve excellence.

High Schools participating in the GPJNB TEENY AWARDS include Rocky Point, Mt. Sinai, Port Jefferson, Comsewogue, Newfield, Centereach, and Ward Melville. For more information please visit our website at www.teenyawards.com or www.gpjac.org

Nominees in each category are listed alphabetical order:

COMEDY

Lead Actor in a Comedy

Matt Foy, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Matt Newby, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Ralphie Picciarelli, **Newfield**, “Fools”
Dylan Poulos, **Newfield**, “Fools”

Lead Actress in a Comedy

Sara Costantino, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Margaret Riche, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Michelle Ventimilla, **Newfield**, “Fools”

Supporting Actor in a Comedy

Nicholas Abreu, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Ethan Stein, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Anthony Toto, **Newfield**, “Fools”

Supporting Actress in a Comedy

Caroline D’Angelo, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”
Erin Quinn, **Newfield**, “Fools”

DRAMA

Lead Actor in a Drama

Mike Riggs, **Centereach**, “A Murder is Announced”
Justin Schaffner, **Port Jefferson**, “Enemy of the People”

Lead Actress in a Drama

Sarah Bradley, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”
Jessie Lee Duncan, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”
Sarah Osit, **Port Jefferson**, “Enemy of the People”

Supporting Actor in a Drama

Dan Anemone, **Centereach**, “A Murder is Announced”
Alexander Steiner, **Port Jefferson**, “Enemy of the People”

Supporting Actress in a Drama

Amanda Galasso, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”
Angelica LaLota, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”
Hayley Moir, **Port Jefferson**, “Enemy of the People”
Sara Pena, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”

MUSICAL

Lead Actor in a Musical

Richard Kraus, **Ward Melville**, “Miss Saigon”
Billy Lewis, Newfield, “Anything Goes”
David Schwartz, Mount Sinai, “Godspell”
Daniel Solomon, Ward Melville, “Miss Saigon”

Lead Actress in a Musical

Sappir Baumvoll, **Newfield**, “Anything Goes”
Michelle Cosentino, **Newfield**, “Anything Goes”
Brittany Infranco, **Rocky Point**, “Annie”
Hope Pedisich, **Ward Melville**, “Miss Saigon”

Supporting Actor in a Musical

Robert Haltiwanger, **Ward Melville**, “Miss Saigon”
Christopher Oill, **Mount Sinai**, “Godspell”
Ralphie Picciarelli, **Newfield**, “Anything Goes”
Kalyan Ray-Mazumder, **Ward Melville**, “Miss Saigon”

Supporting Actress in a Musical

Jessie Duncan, **Rocky Point**, “Annie”
Brianna Gobetz, **Ward Melville**, “Miss Saigon”
Julia Tavolaro, **Rocky Point**, “Annie”
Michelle Ventimilla, **Newfield**, “Anything Goes”

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE

- This category was created to recognize a student who “shines brightly” in a role that is not eligible for adjudication in the leading or supporting categories.

Outstanding Performance

Gina Angelone, **Newfield**, “Fools”
Sappir Baumvoll, **Newfield**, “Fools”
Tina DeFalco, **Newfield**, “Fools”
Kelsey Gordon, **Ward Melville**, “A Fatal Combination”
Marguerite Jones, **Port Jefferson**, “And The Beat Goes On”
Lisa Lauto, **Ward Melville**, “A Fatal Combination”
Cody Snider, **Ward Melville**, “A Fatal Combination”
Lauren Stern, **Ward Melville**, “A Fatal Combination”

Judges Choice Award

*This award is chosen by the judges in a vote., It is for a particular scene, musical number, dance number, ensemble effort, or group that the judges feel stands out enough to warrant the special merit.

Newfield “Anything Goes” Reno & Her Angels
Newfield “Blow Gabriele Blow” Ensemble Work
Mount Sinai “Godspell” Ensemble Work

Port Jefferson “And the Beat Goes On” Ensemble Work
Ward Melville “Murder Mystery” Ensemble Work/Dinner Theatre

Lighting Design

Troy Abbott, **Newfield**, “Anything Goes”
Troy Abbott, **Newfield**, “Fools”
David Schwartz, **Mount Sinai**, “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”

Set Design

Laurie Phillips & Ashley Martin, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”

Playbill Cover/Poster Art

Sarah Bradley, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”
Jaelyn O’Sullivan, **Ward Melville**, “Miss Saigon”

Stage Management

Emily Anderson, **Port Jefferson**, “Enemy of the People” & “And The Beat Goes On”
Inbar Baumvoll, **Newfield**, “Fools” & “Anything Goes”
Laurie Phillips, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”

Student Director

Krystal Calvano, **Centereach**, “The King & I”
Charlie Freeman, **Rocky Point**, “Steel Magnolias”
Kelsey Gordon, **Ward Melville**, “A Fatal Combination”
Erica Fagundes/Sabrina Torres, **Centereach**, “A Murder is Announced”

Innovation in Theatre Education Award

* This award was created to recognize schools that go beyond the regular theatre program of classes and yearly plays by supporting an activity that nurtures theatre arts in education. The winner of this category will be announced at the TEENY AWARDS GALA on JUNE 15th.