2022 RISING STAR AWARDS NOMINATIONS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS

OUTSTANDING OVERALL PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL

Final Nominations
- Clearview Regional HS: THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME
- Columbia HS: NEWSIES
- Immaculate Heart Academy: LEGALLY BLONDE
- Ridge HS: MATILDA
- Scotch Plains Fanwood HS: LES MISERABLES
- Summit HS: FOOTLOOSE
- West Milford Township HS: ANASTASIA

Honorable Mentions
- Haddonfield HS: RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CINDERELLA
- Hopewell Valley Central HS: BIG FISH

OUTSTANDING LEADING PERFORMER IN A FEMALE-IDENTIFIED ROLE

Final Nominations
- Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS: LEGALLY BLONDE by Talia Fabrizio as “Elle Woods”
- Clearview Regional HS: THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME by Leah Rose Crossan as “Esmerelda”
- Columbia HS: NEWSIES
- Haddonfield HS: R & H's CINDERELLA by Katie Walsh as “Cinderella”
- Jonathan Dayton HS: CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION by Gabby Gutierrez as “Roxie Hart”
- Ridge HS: MATILDA by Libby Schmitt as “Matilda”
- West Milford Township HS: ANASTASIA by Mia Grizzuti as “Anya”

Honorable Mentions
- Carteret HS: CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION by Jasmin Langomas as “Roxie”
- Hopewell Valley Central HS: BIG FISH by Piper Ward as “Sandra Bloom”
- Kinnelon HS: THE LITTLE MERMAID by Katie Nieto as “Ariel”
- Summit HS: FOOTLOOSE by Anna Sullivan as “Arielle Moore”
OUTSTANDING LEADING PERFORMER IN A MALE-IDENTIFIED ROLE

Final Nominations
Hopewell Valley Central HS .......................... BIG FISH ........................................ Elliot Block as “Edward Bloom”
Jose Marti STEM Academy .......................... CABARET ........................................ Carlos de la Cruz as “Emcee”
Piscataway HS ........................................ THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL Najm Muhammad as “SpongeBob”
Saint Peter's Preparatory School ................. Jekyll and Hyde .................. Nicholas Matos as “Dr. Jekyll/Mr. Hyde”
Somerville HS ........................................... LES MISERABLES .............................. Marcello Fois as “Javert”
West Milford Township HS .......................... ANASTASIA ................................. Jason Pritchett as “Dmitry”

Honorable Mentions
Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS .... LEGALLY BLONDE ......................... Tyler Sautner as “Emmett Forrest”
County Prep HS ........................................ HEATHERS: SCHOOL EDITION......... Mathew Segovia as “JD”
North Hunterdon HS .................................. THE LITTLE MERMAID .................. Alek Lipinski as “Prince Eric”
Summit HS ............................................. FOOTLOOSE ................................ Evan Gunter as “Reverend Shaw”

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING PERFORMER IN A FEMALE-IDENTIFIED ROLE

Final Nominations
Columbia HS ............................................. NEWSIES ......................................... Rocky Anicette as “Medda Larkin”
Ewing HS ............................................... THE 25TH ANNUAL...SPELLING BEE Maddie Marsola as “Rona Lisa Peretti”
Immaculate Heart Academy ......................... LEGALLY BLONDE ...................... Taylor Terry as “Paulette Bonafonte”
Ocean County Vocational Tech. School ........ BRING IT ON .................................. Aj Ring as “Bridget”
Ridge HS ................................................ MATILDA .......................................... Rachel Vanek as “Miss Honey”
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS ......................... LES MISERABLES .............................. Ashley Hoberman as “Cosette”
Westfield HS .......................................... MAMMA MIA! .................................. Kayla Louison as “Tanya Chesham-Leigh”

Honorable Mentions
Clearview Regional HS ............................. THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Kaitlyn Dubeau as “Clopin”
Morris Knolls HS ...................................... MAMMA MIA! ................................. Caroline Tenberge as “Rosie”
Northern Highlands Regional HS ............... SOMETHING ROTTEN! .................... Gillian DuBroff as “Bea Bottom”
Somerville HS ........................................... LES MISERABLES .............................. Andi Kern as “Eponine”

OUTSTANDING SUPPORTING PERFORMER IN A MALE-IDENTIFIED ROLE

Final Nominations
Clearview Regional HS ............................. THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Adam Bathurst as “Claude Frollo”
Columbia HS ............................................. NEWSIES ......................................... Alex Iozzio as “Davey”
Ewing HS ............................................... THE 25TH ANNUAL...SPELLING BEE Jayden White as “Chip Tolentino”
Northern Highlands Regional HS ............. SOMETHING ROTTEN! .................... Patrick Keeble as “Nigel Bottom”
Ridge HS ................................................ MATILDA .......................................... Oscar Grob as “Mr. Wormwood”
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS ......................... LES MISERABLES .............................. Gavin Lesnevich as “Thenardier”

Honorable Mentions
Carteret HS ............................................ CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION Andres Lanza as “Billy Flynn”
Eastern Regional HS ............................... LEGALLY BLONDE ......................... Ethan Cauffman as “Prof. Callahan”
Morris Knolls HS .................................... MAMMA MIA! ................................. Michael Luciano as “Harry Bright”
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN A FEATURED ROLE

**Final Nominations**

- Columbia HS ................................................. NEWSIES ............................................. Katie Trzaska as “Race”
- Haddonfield HS ............................................. R & H’S CINDERELLA ................................ Erica Watts as “Charlotte”
- Immaculate Heart Academy ....................... LEGALLY BLONDE ................................ Katherine Ryan as “Vivienne Kensington”
- Morristown HS .............................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN! ................................ Peyton Wild as “Nostradamus”
- Morristown-Beard School ......................... SWEET CHARITY ................................ Alana Smith as “Mama Brubeck”
- Oakcrest HS ................................................... MEMPHIS ........................................... Elliot Newman as “Bobby”
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS ......................... LES MISERABLES ................................ Maya Handler as “Madame Thenardier”

**Honorable Mentions**

- Bridgewater-Raritan Regional HS ............... CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION Fallon Billy as “Mama Morton”
- Hillsborough HS ............................................ THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL ............ Ellie Beder as “Slightly Soiled”
- Overbrook HS ............................................... FOOTLOOSE ...................................... Jeremy Davis as “Willard”
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS ......................... LES MISERABLES ................................ Graeme Daniskas as “Enjolras”

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY A FEATURED ENSEMBLE MEMBER

**Final Nominations**

- Clearview Regional HS ................................. THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Jacob Stiles as “Saint Aphrodisius”
- Delaware Valley Regional HS ....................... PETER PAN ........................................ Dakota Krouse as “Slightly Soiled”
- Gloucester County Institute of Tech. .......... CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION Colin McMahon as “Fred Casely”
- Northern Valley Regional HS Demarest .... LEGALLY BLONDE ................................ Noa Saban as “Serena”
- Overbrook HS ............................................... FOOTLOOSE ........................................ Simone Pratt as “Cowgirl Barb”
- Ridge HS ...................................................... MATILDA ........................................... Gabriel Subervi as “Escapologist, Doctor”
- West Milford Township HS ......................... ANASTASIA ......................................... Jaidan Becker as “Count Ipolitov”

**Honorable Mentions**

- Piscataway HS ............................................... THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL ............ Jackson Bartle as “Perch Perkins”
- Northern Highlands Regional HS ............... SOMETHING ROTTEN!........................ Alyssa Laze as “Shylock”
- Saddle River Day School .............................. LEGALLY BLONDE ................................ Elaine Blessed Smith as “Enid Hoops”

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY A FEATURED ENSEMBLE GROUP

**Final Nominations**

- Columbia HS ................................................. NEWSIES ............................................. “The Bowery Beauties”
- Hillsborough High School ......................... THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL .............. “The Sardines”
- Immaculate Heart Academy ....................... LEGALLY BLONDE ................................ “The Delta Nu Greek Chorus”
- Moorestown HS ............................................. HONK! .............................................. “The Ducklings”
- Morristown-Beard School ......................... SWEET CHARITY ................................ “The Dance Hall Girls”
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS ......................... LES MISERABLES ................................ “The Lovely Ladies”
- Somerville HS ............................................... LES MISERABLES ................................ “The Students”

**Honorable Mentions**

- Gloucester County Institute of Tech. .......... CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION “The Merry Murderesses”
- Wallkill Valley Regional HS ......................... CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION “The Merry Murderesses”
OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY A CHORUS

Final Nominations

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus

Clearview Regional HS............................................................. THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME
Columbia HS .............................................................................. NEWSIES
Haddonfield HS ....................................................................... R & H'S CINDERELLA
Immaculate Heart Academy ................................................... LEGALLY BLONDE
Morristown HS ...................................................................... SOMETHING ROTTY!
Ridge HS ............................................................................... MATILDA
Summit HS .............................................................................. FOOTLOOSE

Honorable Mentions

Outstanding Performance by a Chorus

Academy of Performing Arts as UCVTS................................. LEGALLY BLONDE
Hopewell Valley Central HS .................................................... BIG FISH
Morris Knolls HS .................................................................... MAMMA MIA!
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS........................................................... LES MISERABLES

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ORCHESTRA

Final Nominations

Outstanding Performance by an Orchestra

Carteret HS .............................................................................. CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION
Jose Marti STEM Academy .................................................... CABARET
Morristown HS ....................................................................... SOMETHING ROTTY!
Newark Academy .................................................................. MAMMA MIA!
Princeton HS ......................................................................... CURTAINS: SCHOOL EDITION
Ridge HS ............................................................................... MATILDA
Summit HS .............................................................................. FOOTLOOSE

Honorable Mentions

Outstanding Performance by an Orchestra

Cicely L. Tyson Community School ........................................ 42nd STREET
Hillsborough High School .......................................................... THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL
Hopewell Valley Central HS .................................................... BIG FISH

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY A TEACHER OR OUTSIDE DIRECTOR

Final Nominations

Outstanding Achievement by a Teacher or Outside Director

Clearview Regional HS ............................................................. THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Paul Sommers
Columbia HS .............................................................................. NEWSIES Tricia Benn, Bethany Pettigrew
Haddonfield HS ....................................................................... R & H'S CINDERELLA Matt DiDonato
Immaculate Heart Academy ................................................... LEGALLY BLONDE Jodi Capeless
Morristown HS ...................................................................... SOMETHING ROTTY!
Ridge HS ............................................................................... MATILDA Erica Scanlon Harr
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS........................................................... LES MISERABLES Morgan Knight

Honorable Mentions

Outstanding Achievement by a Teacher or Outside Director

Ewing High School................................................................. THE 25TH ANNUAL…SPELLING BEE Christina Monaco Caldwell
Hopewell Valley Central HS .................................................... BIG FISH Katie Rochon
Summit HS .............................................................................. FOOTLOOSE Anne Poyner
West Milford Township HS....................................................... ANASTASIA Heather Burns
OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC DIRECTION

Final Nominations
Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS .... LEGALLY BLONDE ......................... Bruce De La Cruz
Clearview Regional HS ......................... THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Romel McInnis, Diana Gable
Haddonfield HS ......................................... R & H’S CINDERELLA ......................... Tyler Mills
Immaculate Heart Academy ..................... LEGALLY BLONDE .................................... Edward Ginter
Morristown HS ...................................... SOMETHING ROTTEN! .................. David Gallagher
Ridge HS ................................................. MATILDA ............................................ Carol Beadle
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS ....................... LES MISERABLES ............................. Jan Allen and Trey Shore

Honorable Mentions
Egg Harbor Township HS ....................... SISTER ACT ........................................ Richard Tinsley
Ewing HS ................................................. THE 25TH ANNUAL...SPELLING BEE ... Alexander Minter
Hopewell Valley Central HS ..................... BIG FISH ............................................ Randy White

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CHOREOGRAPHY AND STAGING

Final Nominations
Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS .... LEGALLY BLONDE ......................... Jaimie Woodruff
Columbia HS ........................................... NEWSIES ........................................... Tricia Benn, Bethany Pettigrew
Hopewell Valley Central HS ..................... BIG FISH ............................................ Louis Palena, Jordan Brennan
Ridge HS ................................................ MATILDA ............................................ Rachel Miranda, Jennifer Digiuseppe
Summit HS ............................................. FOOTLOOSE ...................................... Kelly Mott-Sacks
Union City HS ........................................ CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION .. Anthony Gusevich, Felix Tavarez
West Milford Township HS ..................... ANASTASIA ........................................ Randy Accardi

Honorable Mentions
Gloucester County Institute of Tech......... CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION .. Erica Cavanaugh
Haddonfield HS ......................................... R & H’S CINDERELLA ......................... Sara De Rossi
Morristown HS ...................................... SOMETHING ROTTEN! .................. Chelsea Gower, Anne Fattal

OUTSTANDING SCENIC ACHIEVEMENT

Final Nominations
Clearview Regional HS ......................... THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME Harry Snyder (Stage Krew Productions), Luke Hansen
Columbia HS ........................................... NEWSIES ........................................... Louis J. Medrano
Harrison HS .......................................... THE APPLE TREE .............................. Colin Shields
Immaculate Heart Academy ..................... LEGALLY BLONDE ............................. Vincent Gunn
Midland Park HS .................................... THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL ............ Donna Halliwell, Cindy Mahoney
Moorestown HS ..................................... HONK! ............................................. Luke Capritti, Andrew Robinson
Ridge HS ................................................. MATILDA ............................................ Jason M. Stewart

Honorable Mentions
Chatham HS .......................................... ANASTASIA ........................................ Brittany Vasta
Haddonfield HS ....................................... R & H’S CINDERELLA ......................... Bob Shindle
Princeton HS .......................................... CURTAINS: SCHOOL EDITION ........ Jeffrey Van Velsor, Bridget Schmidt
Summit HS ............................................. FOOTLOOSE ...................................... Jordan Jonato
OUTSTANDING LIGHTING ACHIEVEMENT

**Final Nominations**
- Clearview Regional HS - THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME - James Oldt Lighting and Sound, Chris Wood, John Schwab, Henry Daniluk
- Columbia HS - NEWSIES - Tara Marie Abbondante
- Harrison HS - THE APPLE TREE - Colin Shields
- Hopewell Valley Central HS - BIG FISH - Jeffrey Kelly
- Immaculate Heart Academy - LEGALLY BLONDE - Nikki Belenski
- Midland Park HS - THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL - Donna Halliwell
- Ridge HS - MATILDA - Dallas Harvey

**Honorable Mentions**
- Haddonfield HS - R & H'S CINDERELLA - Camilla Manskopf, Jack Novak
- Madison HS - SWEET CHARITY - Cameron Filepas
- Summit HS - FOOTLOOSE - Rik Clark
- Wallkill Valley Regional HS - CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION - Michael Kimmel, Lisa Weinshrott

OUTSTANDING COSTUMING ACHIEVEMENT

**Final Nominations**
- Haddonfield Memorial HS - R & H'S CINDERELLA - Sabrina Windt, Matt DiDonato
- Harrison HS - THE APPLE TREE - Mary Pat Shields
- Hopewell Valley Central HS - BIG FISH - Jordan Brennan
- Midland Park HS - THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL - Joanna VanVliet, Donna Halliwell
- Pinelands Regional HS - THE SOUND OF MUSIC - Kathleen Barr
- Piscataway HS - THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL - Janet Van Allen, Patti Bell, Christie Hall
- Ridge HS - MATILDA - Bonnie Grube

**Honorable Mentions**
- Columbia HS - NEWSIES - Barbara Canace
- Ewing HS - THE 25TH ANNUAL...SPELLING BEE - Sean Hubert
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS - LES MISERABLES - Joanne Sprague

OUTSTANDING HAIR AND MAKE-UP ACHIEVEMENT

**Final Nominations**
- Columbia HS - NEWSIES - Derek Alfano
- Haddonfield HS - R & H'S CINDERELLA - Dawn Sheidt
- Hammonton HS - SHREK - Dawn Baldwin
- Harrison HS - THE APPLE TREE - Colin Shields
- Midland Park HS - THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL - Joanna VanVliet, Helene Rosso, Melissa Quinn
- Moorestown HS - HONK! - Al Fuchs
- Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS - LES MISERABLES - Student-Led

**Honorable Mentions**
- Clearview Regional HS - THE HUNCHBACK OF NOTRE DAME - Carol Maggioncalda
- Gloucester County Institute of Tech. - CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION - Caitlin Geiser, Caitlin Sweitanski
- Morristown HS - SOMETHING ROTTEN! - Colleen Lavin, Dalia Elkady
OUTSTANDING SOLO PERFORMANCE DIGITAL SUBMISSION

Final Nominations
Atlantic County Institute of Technology ...“Elaborate Lives” ......................... Ben Silvesti
Atlantic County Institute of Technology ...“How I Know you” .......................... Dominic Roberts
Dover HS .................................................. “It Won’t Long Now” ................... Alyssa Correa
High Tech HS ......................................... “What Kind of Fool” ....................... Avery Ramsey
High Tech HS ......................................... “Raise a Little Hell” ....................... Christopher Martinez
High Tech HS ......................................... “Show Off” ................................. Hannah Beemer
Livingston HS ........................................... “If I Were a Rich Man” ............ Jonah Ruderman

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD
(20 finalists, 10 recipients will be announced)

Final Nominations
Academy of the Holy Angels .............................................................. THE 25TH ANNUAL...SPELLING BEE .... Chloe Ibrahim, Asst. Director
Carteret HS .................................................. CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION .... Jossue Torres, Stage Manager
Carteret HS .................................................. CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION .... Nia Serrano, Dance Captain
Carteret HS .................................................. CHICAGO: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION .... Pottery Pereira, Lighting Designer
Fair Lawn HS ............................................. AIN’T MISBEHAVIN’ .................... Rebecca Peisach, Script Coordinator
Harrison HS ................................................ THE APPLE TREE ............................ Rafael Andrade, Asst. Stage Manager
Holmdel HS ................................................ OKLAHOMA ...................................... Nicole DiBlasi, Gisela Cubas, Rocco Impreveduto Social Media Coordinators
Jose Marti STEM Academy .......................................................... CABARET ........................................ Melanie Arias, Stage Manager
Morristown HS ............................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN! ................... Arthur Wawrzyniak, Technical Director
Morristown HS ............................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN! ................... Dalia Elkady, Hair and Makeup Design Asst. Pit Director
Morristown HS ............................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN! ................... Heidy Carranza, Asst. Stage Manager
New Milford HS ............................................ THE WEDDING SINGER ............. Elisa Longhini Xavier, Stage Manager
Newton HS .................................................. THE WIZARD OF OZ ...................... Abigail Nicholas, Stage Manager
Northern Valley Regional HS Demarest ............................................ LEGALLY BLONDE .......... Eliza Longhini Xavier, Stage Manager
Randolph HS ................................................ BEAUTY AND THE BEAST .................. Nicholas Zelley, Lead Set Builder
Ridge HS .................................................. MATILDA ........................................ Jordan Perla, Student Director
Summit HS .................................................. FOOTLOOSE ..................................... Sydney Veloso, Dance Captain
West Milford Township HS .......................................................... ANASTASIA ............................ Amanda Dellagio, Asst. to the Director
West Milford Township HS .......................................................... ANASTASIA ............................ Langdon Frey, Audio Crew

THE EDUCATIONAL IMPACT AWARD

Final Nominations
Christian Brothers Academy .......................................................... 13
Morristown HS .................................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN!
Mount Olive HS .................................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN!
Perth Amboy HS .................................................. FREAKY FRIDAY
RISING STAR “THEATRE FOR EVERYONE” INCLUSION AND ACCESS AWARD

Final Nominations

Eastern Regional HS................................................................. LEGALLY BLONDE
Madison HS................................................................. SWEET CHARITY
Moorestown HS................................................................. HONK!
Morristown HS................................................................. SOMETHING ROTTEN!
Randolph HS................................................................. BEAUTY AND THE BEAST
Ridge HS ............................................................................. MATILDA

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Final Nominations

Collier HS................................................................................... Dr. Michael Penna
Harrison HS............................................................................ Colin Shields
Madison HS............................................................................... Blake Spence
Mount Olive HS ........................................................................... Jodi Bosch
Piscataway HS ........................................................................... Erik Hall
Ridge HS .................................................................................... Martha Harvey

Tickets to the live Rising Star Awards Ceremony on Monday, June 6th will be made available to final nominees via their school contact on May 4.
Please do not call Paper Mill Box Office for tickets.

The Rising Star Awards will be livestreamed for free on Monday June 6 at 7:30pm. Go to PaperMill.org for more information and log in details.

Scholarship applicants and recipients will be notified by email the week of May 9.

Please email all spelling corrections to RisingStarAwards@PaperMill.org by Friday, May 13.

Rising Star Awards - Presented by the Investors Foundation is supported by The Blanche and Irving Laurie Foundation.
Rising Star scholarships are made possible by Ruth Bedford in memory of Jane Burgio, Walt Santner in honor of Janet Sovey, and the Douglas Michael Krueger Scholarship Fund Trust. The Theatre for Everyone Inclusion and Access Award is supported by the New Jersey Theatre Alliance.

Rising Star Awards is made possible, in part, by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State, A Partner Agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.
Paper Mill Playhouse is a not-for-profit arts organization.