

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE

PAPER MILL PLAYHOUSE
29TH
RISING STAR Awards

Presented by



2024 RISING STAR AWARDS NOMINATIONS AND HONORABLE MENTIONS

OUTSTANDING OVERALL PRODUCTION OF A MUSICAL

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS.....	42 nd STREET
Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN
Delaware Valley Reg. HS.....	NEWSIES
Mt. Olive HS.....	ROCK OF AGES
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS.....	THE ADDAMS FAMILY
St. Joseph Reg. HS.....	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL EDITION
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES

Honorable Mentions

Cherry Hill HS East.....	MEAN GIRLS: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION
Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A FEMALE-IDENTIFIED LEADING ROLE

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS.....	42 nd STREET.....	Willow Dixon as "Peggy Sawyer"
Cherry Hill HS East.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION.....	Charlotte Lemaire as "Cady Heron"
Cherry Hill HS East.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION.....	Lily Tewfik as "Regina George"
Eastern Reg. HS.....	URINETOWN.....	Zoey Blackman as "Hope Cladwell"
OCVTS Grunin Performing Arts Academy.....	THE PROM.....	Kelly Clark as "Dee Dee Allen"
Pinelands Reg. HS.....	THE LITTLE MERMAID.....	Kali Tucker as "Ariel"
St. Peter's Prep.....	HOW TO SUCCEED.....	Gabby Beredo as "Rosemary Pilkington"
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES.....	Sarah Walsh as "Reno Sweeney"

Honorable Mentions

Dwight-Englewood School.....	SPELLING BEE.....	Sophia Vemes as "Olive Ostrovsky"
Franklin HS.....	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION.....	Teya Wright as "Velma Kelly"
Livingston HS.....	R + H'S CINDERELLA.....	Sylvie Friedman as "Ella"
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS.....	THE ADDAMS FAMILY.....	Olive Gomez as "Wednesday Addams"

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A MALE-IDENTIFIED LEADING ROLE

Final Nominations

Delaware Valley Regional HS	NEWSIES	Dakota Krouse as "Jack Kelly"
Mt. Olive HS	ROCK OF AGES	Jack Scarsi as "Lonny Barnett"
Princeton HS	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	Elliott Becker Peeler as "Beast"
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS	THE ADDAMS FAMILY	David Gomez as "Gomez Addams"
Shawnee HS	SINGIN' IN THE RAIN	Michael Lasovitz as "Don Lockwood"
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Jack Laux as "Javert"
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Liam Fahey as "Jean Valjean"

Honorable Mentions

Gill St. Bernard's School	SHE LOVES ME	John Besjak as "Georg Nowack"
Mt. St. Dominic Academy	ANASTASIA	Bridget Castano as "Dmitry"
Old Bridge HS	THE MUSIC MAN	Camryn Burniston as "Harold Hill"
Randolph HS	INTO THE WOODS	Brendan Angilello as "The Baker"

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A FEMALE-IDENTIFIED SUPPORTING ROLE

Final Nominations

Eastern Reg. HS	URINETOWN	Sydney Steiner as "Penelope Pennywise"
Mary Help of Christians Academy	MATILDA	Lily Kopacz as "Miss Honey"
Sayreville War Memorial HS	TUCK EVERLASTING	Gianna Roman as "Mae Tuck"
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Catherine Ryan as "Cosette"
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Maddie Heiniman as "Fantine"
Summit HS	ANYTHING GOES	Rosie Gaeta as "Hope Harcourt"
Verona HS	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION	Faith Brolly as "Janis Sarkisian"

Honorable Mentions

Academy of the Holy Angels	URINETOWN	Ellie Finnegan as "Penelope Pennywise"
Pinelands Reg. HS	THE LITTLE MERMAID	Summer Hudak as "Ursula"
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Marlie J. McKenzie as "Eponine"
Westfield HS	HEATHERS: TEEN EDITION	Lily Erneta as "Heather McNamara"

OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A MALE-IDENTIFIED SUPPORTING ROLE

Final Nominations

Cherry Hill HS East	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION	Aviv Haroz as "Damian Hubbard"
Eastern Reg. HS	URINETOWN	Andrew Rickey as "Officer Lockstock"
Moorestown HS	MAMMA MIA!	Lucas Kirmsee as "Sam Carmichael"
Morris Knolls HS	LEGALLY BLONDE	Aidan Sales as "Professor Callahan"
Mt. Olive HS	ROCK OF AGES	Lincoln Vera as "Stacee Jaxx"
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Derek Bedell as "Marius"
Summit HS	ANYTHING GOES	Ben Schachne as "Moonface Martin"

Honorable Mentions

Somerville HS	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION	Christian Fodor as "Damian Hubbard"
North Star Academy	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION	Justin Mincy as Billy Flynn

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN A FEATURED ROLE

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS.....	42 ND STREET.....	Elyana Barroqueiro as "Ann Reilly"
Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN.....	James Coleman as "Hot Blades Harry"
Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN.....	Valentina Gonzalez as "Becky Two Shoes"
Columbia HS.....	MAMMA MIA!.....	Alonzo Gallo as "Pepper"
Delaware Valley Reg. HS.....	NEWSIES.....	Alex Apgar as "Race"
Immaculata HS.....	GODSPELL.....	Jewelina Taylor as "O Bless the Lord Solo"
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS.....	THE ADDAMS FAMILY.....	Ashley Hoberman as "Alice Beineke"

Honorable Mentions

Hightstown HS.....	THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL.....	Lily Rivenburgh as "Pearl Krabs"
Morris Knolls HS.....	LEGALLY BLONDE.....	Marisa DeStefano as "Brooke Wyndham"
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES.....	Ben Strauss as "Eli Whitney"

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY A FEATURED ENSEMBLE MEMBER

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS.....	42 ND STREET.....	Nicholas Hernandez as "Andy Lee"
Clearview Reg. HS.....	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION.....	Adam Wax as "Emcee"
Delaware Valley Regional.....	NEWSIES.....	Maxim Verdicchio as "Albert"
Madison HS.....	MAMMA MIA!.....	Becca Axler as "Ali"
Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS.....	Charlotte Cama as "Bird Woman"
Mt. Olive HS.....	ROCK OF AGES.....	Juno Copen as "Protestor/Ensemble #4"
Piscataway HS.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION.....	Savannah Weaver as "Taylor Wedell"

Honorable Mentions

Eastern Reg. HS.....	URINETOWN.....	Dominic Giampetro as "Robby the Stockfish"
Wallkill Valley Reg. HS.....	CATCH ME IF YOU CAN.....	Skylar Tomlin as "Cindy"

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY A FEATURED ENSEMBLE GROUP

Final Nominations

Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN.....	"The Rebel Poor"
Franklin HS.....	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION.....	"Merry Murderesses"
Morris Knolls HS.....	LEGALLY BLONDE.....	"Delta Nu Greek Chorus"
Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS.....	"Sweeps"
Somerville HS.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION.....	"Mathletes"
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES.....	"Reno's Angels"

Honorable Mentions

Pope John XXIII Reg. HS.....	PIPPIN.....	"The Manson Trio"
Red Bank Catholic HS.....	THE ADDAMS FAMILY.....	"The Ancestors"

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY A CHORUS

Final Nominations

Academy for the Performing Arts at UCVTS.....	42 ND STREET
Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN
Delaware Valley Reg. HS.....	NEWSIES
Gill St. Bernard's School.....	SHE LOVES ME
Gloucester County Inst. Of Tech.	BIG FISH
Ridge HS.....	SOMETHING ROTTEN!
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES

Honorable Mentions

Immaculate Heart Academy.....	MAMMA MIA!
Columbia HS.....	MAMMA MIA!

OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ORCHESTRA

Final Nominations

Columbia HS.....	MAMMA MIA!
Eastern Reg. HS.....	URINETOWN
Howell HS.....	SHREK
Livingston HS.....	R + H'S CINDERELLA
Mt. Olive HS.....	ROCK OF AGES
Shawnee HS.....	SINGIN' IN THE RAIN
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES

Honorable Mentions

Cherry Hill HS East.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION
Ewing HS.....	BETWEEN THE LINES
Ridge HS.....	SOMETHING ROTTEN!

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT BY A TEACHER OR OUTSIDE DIRECTOR

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS....	42 ND STREET.....	Steven Collins
Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN.....	Katie Collins
Delaware Valley Reg. HS.....	NEWSIES.....	Clinton Ambts
Gill St. Bernard's School.....	SHE LOVES ME.....	Paul H. Canada
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS.....	THE ADDAMS FAMILY.....	Morgan Knight
Summit HS.....	ANYTHING GOES.....	Anne Poyner

Honorable Mentions

Cherry Hill HS East.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION.....	Peter Gambino, Sandi Makofsy
Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS.....	Stephanie Rubin

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN MUSIC DIRECTION

Final Nominations

Academy of the Holy Angels.....	URINETOWN.....	George Croom
Cherry Hill HS East.....	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION.....	Heather Lockart
Gill St. Bernard's School.....	SHE LOVES ME.....	Paul H. Canada, Jack Williams III

Gloucester County Inst. of Tech.	BIG FISH	Anthony Vitalo
Immaculate Heart Academy	MAMMA MIA!	Edward Ginter
Livingston HS	R + H'S CINDERELLA	Daniel King
Westfield HS	HEATHERS: TEEN EDITION	John Brzozowski

Honorable Mentions

Piscataway HS	MEAN GIRLS: TEEN EDITION	Haley Lopez, Megan Suozzo
Mt. Olive HS	ROCK OF AGES	Matthew Vanzini

OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN CHOREOGRAPHY AND STAGING

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCPTS	42 nd STREET	Jensyn Modero
Delaware Valley Regional HS	NEWSIES	Heather Fleischman
Howell HS	SHREK	Brittany Cohen-Locke, Ella Clemenko
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS	THE ADDAMS FAMILY	Kyra Robinson
Summit HS	ANYTHING GOES	Kelly Mott-Sacks

Honorable Mentions

Gloucester County Inst. of Tech.	BIG FISH	Erica Cavanaugh
Morristown HS	MARY POPPINS	Melanie Della Peruti

OUTSTANDING SCENIC ACHIEVEMENT

Final Nominations

Columbia HS	MAMMA MIA!	Louis J. Medrano
Gill St. Bernard's School	SHE LOVES ME	Paul H. Canada
Princeton HS	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	Bridget Schmidt
Ridge HS	SOMETHING ROTTEN!	James M. Stewart
Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS	THE ADDAMS FAMILY	Joseph Napolitano
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Vincent Gunn

Honorable Mentions

Christian Brothers Academy	THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL	Unlisted
Piscataway HS	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION	Matt Nickles
Summit HS	ANYTHING GOES	Vincent Gunn

OUTSTANDING LIGHTING ACHIEVEMENT

Final Nominations

Harrison HS	STARMITES: HIGH SCHOOL	Colin Shields
Immaculate Heart Academy	MAMMA MIA!	Nikki Belenski
Madison HS	MAMMA MIA!	Cameron Filepas
Mt. Olive HS	ROCK OF AGES	Andrew Laudor
Princeton HS	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	Florencia Curchitser
St. Joseph Reg. HS	LES MISÉRABLES: SCHOOL ED.	Asa Lipton, Michael Yesenosky
Westfield HS	HEATHERS: TEEN EDITION	Emily Clare Gocon, Keira Redmond

Honorable Mentions

Ridge HS	SOMETHING ROTTEN!	Colin Berry
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Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS.....THE ADDAMS FAMILY.....Christian Confalone
 Washington Township HS.....THE PROM.....Shawn McGovern

OUTSTANDING COSTUMING ACHIEVEMENT

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS....42nd STREET.....Steven Collins, Jensyn Modero
 Academy of the Holy Angels..... URINETOWN.....Axcel Portillo
 Gill St. Bernard’s School.....SHE LOVES ME.....Paul H. Canada
 Harrison HS.....STARMITES: HIGH SCHOOL.....Mary Pat Shields
 Morristown HS.....MARY POPPINS.....Brenda Burns
 Summit HS.....ANYTHING GOES.....Luciana Mallozzi
 Wallkill Valley Regional HS.....CATCH ME IF YOU CAN.....Christine Molnar

Honorable Mentions

Mt. Olive HS.....ROCK OF AGES.....Mary Ann Hannon
 Ridge HS.....SOMETHING ROTTEN!.....Bonnie Grube
 Sayreville War Memorial HS.....TUCK EVERLASTING.....Cynthia Gallagher

OUTSTANDING HAIR AND MAKE-UP ACHIEVEMENT

Final Nominations

Gill St. Bernard’s School.....SHE LOVES ME.....Unlisted
 Harrison HS.....STARMITES: HIGH SCHOOL.....Colin Shields, Mary Pat Shields
 Howell HS.....SHREK.....Shannon Naughton
 Morristown HS.....MARRY POPPINS.....Malik Letta, Ollie Gonzalez
 Scotch Plains-Fanwood HS.....THE ADDAMS FAMILY.....Frankie Dobies, Cast
 Summit HS.....ANYTHING GOES.....Zuleikha Reroma, Elisabeth Husveth

Honorable Mentions

Gateway Reg. HS.....SEUSSICAL.....Unlisted
 Pinelands Reg. HS.....THE LITTLE MERMAID.....Unlisted

OUTSTANDING SOLO PERFORMANCE (DIGITAL SUBMISSION)

Final Nominations

Bridgewater Raritan HS.....“All for the Best”, GODSPELL.....Cole Januzzi
 Bridgewater Raritan HS.....“By My Side”, GODSPELL.....Indianna Lu
 Cedar Creek HS.....“Close Every Door”, JOSEPH.....Matthew Goodrich
 Memorial HS.....“The Ballad of Farquaad”, SHREK... ..Isaiah Delgado
 Memorial HS.....“Forever”, SHREK.....Karina Calderone
 Moorestown Friends HS.....“Diva’s Lament”, SPAMALOT.....Makenzie Kirby
 Voorhees HS.....“In My Life”, LES MISÉRABLES.....Emily Denis
 Voorhees HS.....“Who Am I?”, LES MISÉRABLES.....Nick Leyesa

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

(20 finalists, 10 recipients will be announced)

Final Nominations

Academy for Performing Arts at UCVTS.. 42 nd STREET	Julie Cariello, Dramaturg	
Delaware Valley Reg. HS	NEWSIES	Kacy Burd, Percussion/Scenic
Madison HS	MAMMA MIA!	Leland Borchering, Daania Fakhar, Lighting Designer
Manasquan HS.....	INTO THE WOODS	Jessica Slovak, Student Choreographer
Marlboro HS.....	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION	Julia Catuogno, Production Stage Manager
Mt. Olive HS.....	ROCK OF AGES	Dylan Kovach, Ensemble Captain
North Star Academy	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION	Victoria Lockhart, Playbill Designer
Ocean Township HS	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION	Maya Stein, Hair & Makeup
Piscataway HS	MEAN GIRLS: HS EDITION	Scenic Artists
Princeton HS	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	Colin Lansky, Projection Designer
Princeton HS	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	Isabella Kolleeny, Lead Painter
Princeton HS	BEAUTY & THE BEAST	Florencia Curchitser, Lighting Designer
Randolph HS	INTO THE WOODS	Tingyu Yuan, Production Manager
Ridge HS.....	SOMETHING ROTTEN!.....	Morgan Wiehe, Costume Crew
Ridge HS.....	SOMETHING ROTTEN!.....	Shibani Sarkar, Production Stage Manager
Ridgefield Park Jr/Sr HS	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION	Ryan Flynn, Costume Designer
Shawnee HS	SINGIN' IN THE RAIN	Michael Dowd, Film Assistant
Westfield HS	HEATHERS: TEEN EDITION	Keira Redmond, Lighting Designer
Woodstown HS.....	BRIGADOON.....	Colin Schmidt, Stage Manager

Honorable Mentions

Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS	Elizabeth Gillen, Vocal Captain
The Pingry School.....	INTO THE WOODS	Jessica Poprik, Violinist

THE EDUCATIONAL IMPACT AWARD

Final Nominations

Christian Brothers Academy.....	THE SPONGEBOB MUSICAL
Dumont HS	MEAN GIRLS: TEEN EDITION
Hillsborough HS	SOMETHING ROTTEN!
Madison HS.....	MAMMA MIA!
Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS
Summit HS	ANYTHING GOES

RISING STAR "THEATRE FOR EVERYONE" INCLUSION AND ACCESS AWARD

Final Nominations

Clearview Reg. HS	CHICAGO: TEEN EDITION
Madison HS.....	MAMMA MIA!
Moorestown HS.....	MAMMA MIA!
Morristown HS.....	MARY POPPINS
Mt. Olive HS	ROCK OF AGES
West Milford Township HS	FOOTLOOSE

OUTSTANDING EDUCATOR AWARD

Final Nominations

Atlantic County Inst. Of Tech	Elizabeth Volpe
Butler HS	Kelsie Daniels
Madison HS.....	Blake Spence
Mount Olive HS	Jodi Bosch
North Star Academy	Jessica Lisboa
The Pingry School.....	Joseph Napolitano
Princeton HS	Julianna Krawiecki
Sayreville War Memorial HS	Laura DiStaulo

Tickets to the live Rising Star Awards Ceremony on Tuesday, June 11th will be made available to final nominees via their school contact on May 1. Please do not call Paper Mill Box Office for tickets.

The Rising Star Awards will be livestreamed for free on Tuesday June 11 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 20.

Please email all spelling corrections to RisingStarAwards@PaperMill.org by Friday, May 12.

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HEARST *foundations*

Paper Mill Playhouse is a not-for-profit arts organization.

