



Inspiring Teacher Award

The Orpheum Theatre Group recognizes that the wealth of talent and dedication to musical theatre in our mid-south high schools is the result of the many passionate and dedicated theatre teachers who educate, encourage, and inspire students on a daily basis. Inaugurated at the 10th anniversary of the Orpheum High School Musical Theatre Awards, we are thrilled to now offer the annual ***Inspiring Teacher Award***.

Eligibility

- Candidates must be currently teaching at a school that participates in the Orpheum High School Musical Theatre Awards.
- Candidates must be teachers whose positions are dedicated to or include aspects of theatre arts education.
- Candidates must have held this position for a minimum of 2 academic years.

To be considered, candidates must be nominated by a student(s) currently in grades 9-12 of a participating Orpheum High School Musical Theatre Awards school.

The following materials are required:

- A completed online, electronic submission form, including name and contact information for the candidate and the name and contact information of the nominating student(s)
- A 1-2 page essay, written by the student nominator, that describes the impact that the educator has had on them and what they have learned from them. The student should include how long they have known the educator
- 1 letter of recommendation from a former student
- 1 letter of recommendation from a current peer or administrator of the Teacher

Essay and letters of recommendation should be submitted through the dropbox link in the application by the submission deadline. Please clearly label each submission "Nominated teacher first name_ nominated teacher last name_ name of school_ name of item being submitted_ your initials". Please do not fill out the application unless all materials are ready to be uploaded. **Applications without proper submission materials will not be considered.**

Nominations and necessary supporting materials can be submitted here: <https://forms.gle/gbrDuB87EGw65Ye77>

All materials should be submitted electronically beginning February 2nd, 2026 and no later than March 30th, 2026.

Questions can be directed to Lena Wallace Black at lblack@orpheum-memphis.com