

April 27, 2015
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Note to editors: Please see attached full list of nominees and nominations by school.

13th ANNUAL CAPPIES AWARDS HONOR SOUTH FLORIDA HIGH SCHOOL THEATER STUDENTS

Twenty-three area schools compete for outstanding achievement in 42 categories

FORT LAUDERDALE – The Critics’ Awards Program, or Cappies for short, will celebrate outstanding achievement in high school theater when students from 23 public and private schools throughout Broward and Palm Beach County vie for top honors in the **13th Annual Cappies Awards Gala on Tuesday, May 19, 2015 at 7 p.m.** in the Au-Rene Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts.

Modeled after Broadway's Tony Awards, the Cappies Awards will feature songs and scenes from the top-nominated shows and recognize the best in high school theater in 42 categories encompassing awards for performers, designers, technicians and critics.

Top nominees are South Plantation High School with 19 nominations for its musical production of *The Addams Family* and Boca Raton Community High School with 16 nominations for *The Drowsy Chaperone* and three for criticism. Stoneman Douglas High School leads in the play category with 16 nominations for *Twelfth Night*.

As the sole nominee in her category, American Heritage student Katrina Hickey has won the Cappies Award for Comic Actress in a Play for her performance in *Completeness*.

The awards ceremony is presented with support from the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. “The Broward Center is a leader in arts in education and has hosted the awards since the South Florida chapter was founded in 2002,” said South Florida Cappies Program Director Lori Sessions. “Students performing and being honored on its stage is a wonderful way to celebrate the culmination of the year’s program.”

Cappie Award winners are determined by votes from the students through a weighted peer review voting process. Nominations are made by student critics from participating schools who attend productions at rival schools and write reviews, which are then edited by theater educators and published on FloridaTheaterOnStage.com.

Tickets are \$20. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at BrowardCenter.org or, Ticketmaster.com; by phone at 954.462.0222 or TTD/TTY at 800.359.2525; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center’s AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. We **CANNOT PROVIDE REFUNDS OR CUSTOMER SERVICE** for tickets purchased from unauthorized sites, brokers or secondary ticket sellers.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale.

ADT Security Services, AutoNation, Bank of America, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, Latam Airlines Group, MasterCard, Paramount Refreshment Solutions, Rick Case Automotive Group and Sun Sentinel are proud sponsors of the Broward Center.

All dates, programs and artists are subject to change without notice.

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BRIEF: Theater students from public and private schools throughout Broward and Palm Beach County will vie for top honors at the **13th Annual Cappies Awards Gala**, which will be held on **Tuesday, May 19 at 7 p.m.** in the Au-Rene Theater. Modeled after Broadway's Tony Awards, the gala award ceremony will feature excerpts from the top-nominated songs, plays and musicals from high school productions. The Cappies honor excellence in high school theater recognizing performers, designers, technicians and critics. Tickets are \$20. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at BrowardCenter.org or Ticketmaster.com; by phone at 954.462.0222 or TTD/TTY at 800.359.2525; in person at Ticketmaster outlets or the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

Cappies Nominations by School

American Heritage School - 9
Archbishop McCarthy High School - 10
Boca Raton Community High School - 19
Cardinal Gibbons High School - 4
Cooper City High School - 1
Coral Glades High School - 8
Cypress Bay High School - 9
Deerfield Beach High School - 6
JP Taravella High School - 11
North Broward Preparatory - 10
Pine Crest School - 6
Piper High School - 1
Pope John Paul II High School - 6
Somerset Academy - 1
Sagemont School - 9
South Plantation High School - 19
St. Thomas Aquinas - 6
Stoneman Douglas High School - 16
Suncoast Community High School - 4
University School of Nova Southeastern University - 18
West Boca High School - 6
West Broward High School - 2
Western High School - 7

About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is one of America's premier performing arts venues. Presenting more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, the Center showcases a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events, and offers one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, serving more than 150,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit BrowardCenter.org.

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, Museum of Art | Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.