



NOTICE TO NOMINEES:
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Editor's Note:

The complete list of Equity Jeff

Awards nominees follows this

**release and is also available
on-line in the**

News and Events section at

www.jeffawards.org

Jeff Awards Equity nominations honor outstanding 2016-2017 productions

Wednesday, August 23, 2017 - Chicago, IL – Seven world premiere plays seen first by Chicago audiences were among those receiving nominations by The Jeff Awards. 158 nominations in 33 categories honor Chicago Equity theatrical productions that opened between August 1, 2016 and July 31, 2017.

Drury Lane Productions led all theatres with nineteen nominations, all for musicals in the Large Theatre category. “Smokey Joe’s Café” and “Chicago the Musical” received seven each and “Crazy For You”, five. Paramount Theatre and Writers Theatre each garnered 15 nominations. Paramount Theatre received six each for “Disney’s The Little Mermaid” and “Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street”, two for “Jesus Christ Superstar” and one for “Mamma Mia!”. Writers Theatre received five for “Parade”, four for “East Texas Hot Links”, and two each for “The Hunter and The Bear”, “The Mystery of Love & Sex” and “Julius Caesar”. Goodman Theatre received 14 nominations, six for “Uncle Vanya”, five for “Objects in the Mirror” and three for “Wonderful Town”. In the Midsize Theatre category, Porchlight Music

Theatre earned 13 nominations, four each for “End of the Rainbow” and “Marry Me a Little”, three for “In the Heights” and two for “The Scottsboro Boys”.

In the coveted Ensemble category, the Jeff Awards nominated six productions: 16th Street Theater’s “Blizzard ‘67”, Writers Theatre’s “East Texas Hot Links”, American Blues Theater’s “It’s a Wonderful Life: Live in Chicago!”, Porchlight Music Theatre’s “The Scottsboro Boys”, Drury Lane Productions’ “Smokey Joe’s Café” and The Royal George Theatre’s “Spamilton”. Actors’ Equity Association supports the Equity Jeff Awards by sponsoring the Ensemble award.

New Play nominations recognized plays and adaptations that had their world premieres in Chicago. Nominations went to Michael Cristofer’s “Man In The Ring” at Court Theatre, Selina Fillinger’s “Faceless” at Northlight Theatre, Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon’s “Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley” at Northlight Theatre, Ike Holter’s “The Wolf at the End of the Block” at Teatro Vista, Antoinette Nwandu’s “Pass Over” at Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Madhuri Shekar’s “Queen” at Victory Gardens Theater and Charles Smith’s “Objects in the Mirror” at Goodman Theatre.

During the 2016-17 season, Jeff Awards judges attended opening nights of 159 Equity productions offered by 42 producing organizations, and from these openings, 123 productions were “Jeff Recommended” and eligible for award nominations.

The 49th Annual Equity Jeff Awards ceremony honoring excellence in professional theatre produced within the immediate Chicago area will be held on Monday, November 6th, at Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane, Oakbrook Terrace.

Performances featuring cast members from nominated musicals and revues will highlight the November 6th ceremony. Pre-show appetizers and cash bar will be offered from 6:00 to 7:30 PM, followed by the awards ceremony directed by Michael Weber and a lavish buffet reception immediately thereafter.

Advance purchase tickets, which include the ceremony and pre- and post-show parties, are \$75 (\$55 for members of Actors’ Equity Association, United Scenic Artists, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Stage Managers’ Association, The Dramatists Guild of America, and American Federation of Musicians) (\$85 and \$65, respectively, if purchased at the door). The evening is black tie optional and the public is invited to attend. To purchase tickets, visit the Jeff Awards website at www.jeffawards.org. For more information, contact Jeff Awards Equity Ceremony Producer Jack Phillips at johngphillips@att.net.

The Jeff Awards has been honoring outstanding theatre artists annually since it was established in 1968. With up to 55 members representing a wide variety of backgrounds in theatre (including producers, directors, actors, playwrights, designers, professors of theatre, entertainment lawyers and agents and theatre lovers), the Jeff Awards is committed to celebrating the vitality of Chicago area theatre by recognizing excellence through its recommendations, awards and honors. Opening night judges include not only Jeff members but also the team of Arts and Technical theatre volunteers (the “A/T Team”) which is comprised of artistic directors, producers, directors from major Chicago theatres, actors and designers. The Jeff Awards fosters

the artistic growth of area theatres and theatre artists and promotes educational opportunities, audience appreciation and civic pride in the achievements of the theatre community. Each year, the Jeff Awards judges 300 theatrical productions and host two awards ceremonies. Originally chartered to recognize only Equity productions, the Jeff Awards established the Non-Equity Wing in 1973 to celebrate outstanding achievement in non-union theatre.

2017 EQUITY JEFF AWARD NOMINEES

PRODUCTION PLAY - LARGE

Blues for an Alabama Sky	Court Theatre
East Texas Hot Links	Writers Theatre
Hand to God	Victory Gardens Theater
Man in the Ring	Court Theatre
Uncle Vanya	Goodman Theatre

PRODUCTION PLAY - MIDSIZE

Born Yesterday	Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
The Columnist	American Blues Theater
End of the Rainbow	Porchlight Music Theatre
It's a Wonderful Life: Live in Chicago!	American Blues Theater
Silent Sky	First Folio Theatre

PRODUCTION MUSICAL - LARGE

Chicago the Musical	Drury Lane Productions
Crazy for You	Drury Lane Productions
Disney's The Little Mermaid	Paramount Theatre
Parade	Writers Theatre
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street	Paramount Theatre

PRODUCTION MUSICAL - MIDSIZE

Disney's Mary Poppins	Mercury Theater Chicago
In the Heights	Porchlight Music Theatre
The Scottsboro Boys	Porchlight Music Theatre

PRODUCTION - REVUE

Marry Me a Little	Porchlight Music Theatre
Smokey Joe's Café	Drury Lane Productions
Spamilton	The Royal George Theatre

ENSEMBLE

Blizzard '67	16th Street Theater
East Texas Hot Links	Writers Theatre
It's a Wonderful Life: Live in Chicago!	American Blues Theater
The Scottsboro Boys	Porchlight Music Theatre
Smokey Joe's Café	Drury Lane Productions
Spamilton	The Royal George Theatre

NEW PLAY

Michael Cristofer
 Selina Fillinger
 Lauren Gunderson and Margot Melcon

Ike Holter
 Antoinette Nwandu

Madhuri Shekar
 Charles Smith

Man in the Ring
 Faceless
 Miss Bennet: Christmas
 at Pemberley
 The Wolf at the End of the Block
 Pass Over

Queen
 Objects in the Mirror

Court Theatre
 Northlight Theatre
 Northlight Theatre

Teatro Vista
 Steppenwolf Theatre
 Company
 Victory Gardens Theater
 Goodman Theatre

DIRECTOR OF A PLAY

David Darlow

Gary Griffin
 Charles Newell
 Ron OJ Parson
 Ron OJ Parson
 Chuck Smith

Born Yesterday

Hand to God
 Man in the Ring
 Blues for an Alabama Sky
 East Texas Hot Links
 Objects in the Mirror

Remy Bumppo Theatre
 Company
 Victory Gardens Theater
 Court Theatre
 Court Theatre
 Writers Theatre
 Goodman Theatre

DIRECTOR OF A MUSICAL OR REVUE

Jim Corti

Matthew Crowle
 Marcia Milgrom Dodge
 Gary Griffin
 William Osetek

Sweeney Todd: The Demon
 Barber of Fleet Street
 Crazy for You
 Smokey Joe's Café
 Parade
 Chicago the Musical

Paramount Theatre

Drury Lane Productions
 Drury Lane Productions
 Writers Theatre
 Drury Lane Productions

PRINCIPAL ACTOR IN A PLAY

Allen Gilmore "Emile Griffith"
 Allen Gilmore "John Workolo"
 Erik Hellman "Arthur de Bourgh"

Daniel Kyri "Shedrick Kennedy
 Yarkpai"

Mike Nussbaum "Albert Einstein"
 Alex Weisman "Jason/Tyrone"

Man in the Ring
 Objects in the Mirror
 Miss Bennet: Christmas
 at Pemberley
 Objects in the Mirror

Relativity
 Hand to God

Court Theatre
 Goodman Theatre
 Northlight Theatre

Goodman Theatre

Northlight Theatre
 Victory Gardens Theater

PRINCIPAL ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

Clyde Alves "Bobby Child"
 Patrick Andrews "Leo Frank"
 Alex Goodrich "Georg Nowack"
 Paul-Jordan Jansen "Sweeney Todd"

Nathaniel Stampley "Robert"

Crazy for You
 Parade
 She Loves Me
 Sweeney Todd: The Demon
 Barber of Fleet Street
 The Bridges of Madison County

Drury Lane Productions
 Writers Theatre
 Marriott Theatre
 Paramount Theatre

Marriott Theatre

PRINCIPAL ACTRESS IN A PLAY

Cassandra Bissell "Henrietta Leavitt"
 Chaon Cross "Hilary"
 Angela Ingersoll "Judy Garland"
 Elizabeth Ledo "Erica"
 Eliza Stoughton "Billie Dawn"

Lisa Tejero "Vivian Bearing"

Silent Sky
 The Hard Problem
 End of the Rainbow
 Bright Half Life
 Born Yesterday

Wit

First Folio Theatre
 Court Theatre
 Porchlight Music Theatre
 About Face Theatre
 Remy Bumppo Theatre
 Company
 The Hypocrites

PRINCIPAL ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

Kelly Felthous	“Roxie Hart”	Chicago the Musical	Drury Lane Productions
Bri Sudia	“Mrs. Lovett”	Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street	Paramount Theatre
Bri Sudia	“Ruth Sherwood”	Wonderful Town	Goodman Theatre
Kathy Voytko	“Francesca”	The Bridges of Madison County	Marriott Theatre
Aerial ”Mon’Aerie”	“Younger Josephine”	Black Pearl: A Tribute to Josephine Baker	Black Ensemble Theater
Williams			

SOLO PERFORMANCE

Will Allan	“Chester”	Circumference of a Squirrel	The Greenhouse Theater Center in association with Forum Productions
Linda Reiter	“Rose Kennedy”	Rose	The Greenhouse Theater Center in association with Forum Productions
Simon Slater	“Derek Eveleigh”	Bloodshot	The Greenhouse Theater Center and Ingenious Purpose Ltd. in association with Forum Productions
Gene Weygandt	“Matty”	Uncle Phillip’s Coat	The Greenhouse Theater Center in association with Forum Productions

SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A PLAY

Marton Csokas	“Astrov”	Uncle Vanya	Goodman Theatre
Keith Kupferer	“Howard”	The Mystery of Love & Sex	Writers Theatre
Adam Poss	“Arvind Patel”	Queen	Victory Gardens Theater
Tommy Rivera-Vega	“Eli”	Parachute Men	Teatro Vista

SUPPORTING ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

Larry Adams	“Bela Zangler”	Crazy for You	Drury Lane Productions
Jonathan Butler-Duplessis	“Sebastian”	Disney’s The Little Mermaid	Paramount Theatre
Jonathan Butler-Duplessis	“Jim Conley”	Parade	Writers Theatre
Alex Goodrich	“Bud Frump”	How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying	Marriott Theatre
James Earl Jones II	“Ladislav Sipos”	She Loves Me	Marriott Theatre

SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A PLAY

Kristen Bush	“Yelena”	Uncle Vanya	Goodman Theatre
Kymberly Mellen	“Susan Mary Alsop”	The Columnist	American Blues Theater
Lia Mortensen	“Lucinda”	The Mystery of Love & Sex	Writers Theatre
Caroline Neff	“Sonya”	Uncle Vanya	Goodman Theatre

SUPPORTING ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

Felicia Boswell	“Mary Magdalene”	Jesus Christ Superstar	Paramount Theatre
E. Faye Butler	“Matron Mama Morton”	Chicago the Musical	Drury Lane Productions
Angela Ingersoll	“Hedy La Rue”	How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying	Marriott Theatre
Iris Lieberman	“Fraulein Schneider”	Cabaret	Theatre at the Center
Meghan Murphy	“Tanya”	Mamma Mia!	Marriott Theatre

ACTOR IN A REVUE

Austin Cook	“The Man”	Marry Me a Little	Porchlight Music Theatre
Justin Keyes	“Little Walter”	Smokey Joe’s Café	Drury Lane Productions
Yando Lopez	“Ensemble”	Spamilton	The Royal George Theatre
Evan Tyrone Martin	“Ensemble”	I Left My Heart: A Salute to the Music of Tony Bennett	Mercury Theater Chicago

ACTRESS IN A REVUE

Michelle Lauto	“Ensemble”	Spamilton	The Royal George Theatre
Donica Lynn	“Willie Mae”	Smokey Joe’s Café	Drury Lane Productions
Meghan Murphy	“Ruth”	Smokey Joe’s Café	Drury Lane Productions
Bethany Thomas	“The Woman”	Marry Me a Little	Porchlight Music Theatre

SCENIC DESIGN - LARGE

William Boles	Native Gardens	Victory Gardens Theater
Linda Buchanan	Blues for an Alabama Sky	Court Theatre
Jeffrey D. Kmiec	Disney’s The Little Mermaid	Paramount Theatre
Jack Magaw	East Texas Hot Links	Writers Theatre
Courtney O’Neill	Harvey	Court Theatre
Todd Rosenthal	Uncle Vanya	Goodman Theatre

SCENIC DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Angela Weber Miller	Captain Blood	First Folio Theatre
Greg Pinsoneault	In the Heights	Porchlight Music Theatre
Christopher Rhoton	End of the Rainbow	Porchlight Music Theatre
Grant Sabin	Born Yesterday	Remy Bumpo Theatre Company
Joe Schermoly	Naperville	Theater Wit

COSTUME DESIGN - LARGE

Theresa Ham	Disney’s The Little Mermaid	Paramount Theatre
Theresa Ham	Mamma Mia!	Marriott Theatre
Rachel Healy	Blues for an Alabama Sky	Court Theatre
Susan E. Mickey	Shakespeare in Love	Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Sully Ratke	Chicago The Musical	Drury Lane Productions

COSTUME DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Kristy Leigh Hall	Pygmalion	Remy Bumpo Theatre Company
Izumi Inaba	A Comedical Tragedy for Mister Punch	The House Theatre of Chicago
Kate Setzer Kamphausen	In the Heights	Porchlight Music Theatre
Bill Morey	End of the Rainbow	Porchlight Music Theatre
Mieka van der Ploeg	The Great and Terrible Wizard of Oz	The House Theatre of Chicago

SOUND DESIGN - LARGE

Mikhail Fiksel	The Hunter and the Bear	Writers Theatre
Rob Milburn and Michael Bodeen	Julius Caesar	Writers Theatre
Andre Pluess	Man in the Ring	Court Theatre
Richard Woodbury	Uncle Vanya	Goodman Theatre

SOUND DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Joe Court
Heath Hays
Grover Hollway

Jeffrey Levin

10 Out of 12
The Room
The Great and Terrible
Wizard of Oz
The River Bride

Theater Wit
A Red Orchid Theatre
The House Theatre of
Chicago
Halcyon Theatre

LIGHTING DESIGN - LARGE

Nick Belley and Jesse Klug

Bart Cortright
Lee Fiskness
Greg Hofmann
Jesse Klug

Sweeney Todd: The Demon
Barber of Fleet Street
The Hunter and the Bear
Chicago the Musical
Jesus Christ Superstar
Disney's The Little Mermaid

Paramount Theatre

Writers Theatre
Drury Lane Productions
Paramount Theatre
Paramount Theatre

LIGHTING DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Erik Barry

Christine Binder
Cat Davis
John Kelly
Michael Stanfill

Circumference of a Squirrel

Bright Half Life
The River Bride
I Am My Own Wife
Wit

The Greenhouse Theater
Center in association with
Forum Productions
About Face Theatre
Halcyon Theatre
About Face Theatre
The Hypocrites

CHOREOGRAPHY

Matthew Crowle
Jane Lanier
Ericka Mac
Tammy Mader
Alex Sanchez

Crazy for You
Chicago the Musical
Mamma Mia!
Singin' in the Rain
Wonderful Town

Drury Lane Productions
Drury Lane Productions
Marriott Theatre
Marriott Theatre
Goodman Theatre

ORIGINAL MUSIC

Neil Bartram

Orbert Davis

Christopher Kriz
Ronnie Malley

Shakespeare in Love

Paradise Blue

Silent Sky
Great Expectations

Chicago Shakespeare
Theater
TimeLine Theatre
Company
First Folio Theatre
Silk Road Rising and
Remy Bumppo Theatre
Company

MUSIC DIRECTION

Austin Cook
Roberta Duchak
Michael Mahler
Doug Peck
Tom Vendafreddo

Marry Me a Little
Smokey Joe's Café
Parade
Wonderful Town
Sweeney Todd: The Demon
Barber of Fleet Street

Porchlight Music Theatre
Drury Lane Productions
Writers Theatre
Goodman Theatre
Paramount Theatre

PUPPET DESIGN

Jesse Mooney-Bullock

Jesse Mooney-Bullock
Blair Thomas

A Comedical Tragedy
for Mister Punch
Disney's The Little Mermaid
Mr. and Mrs. Pennyworth

The House Theatre of
Chicago
Paramount Theatre
Lookingglass Theatre
Company

PROJECTION DESIGN

Christopher Ash
Paul Deziel
Stephan Mazurek

Mamma Mia!
Beauty’s Daughter
The Fundamentals

Paramount Theatre
American Blues Theater
Steppenwolf Theatre
Company
Writers Theatre
Goodman Theatre

Mike Tutaj
Mike Tutaj

Julius Caesar
Objects in the Mirror

MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS

THEATRE COMPANY

Drury Lane	19	
Paramount Theatre	15	
Writers Theatre	15	
Goodman Theatre	14	
Porchlight Music Theatre	13	
Court Theatre	11	
Marriott Theatre	10	
Remy Bumppo Theatre Company	6	(1 with Silk Road Rising)
Victory Gardens Theater	6	
American Blues Theater	5	
The Greenhouse Theater Center in association with Forum Productions	5	(1 with Ingenious Purpose, Ltd.)
First Folio Theatre	4	
Northlight Theatre	4	
The House Theatre of Chicago	4	
The Royal George Theatre	4	
About Face Theatre	3	
Chicago Shakespeare Theater	2	
Halcyon Theatre	2	
Mercury Theater Chicago	2	
Steppenwolf Theatre Company	2	
Teatro Vista	2	
The Hypocrites	2	
Theater Wit	2	

PRODUCTION

Chicago The Musical	7
Smokey Joe's Café	7
Disney's Little Mermaid	6
Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street	6
Uncle Vanya	6
Crazy for You	5
Man in the Ring	5
Objects in the Mirror	5
Parade	5
Blues for an Alabama Sky	4
Born Yesterday	4
East Texas Hot Links	4
End of the Rainbow	4
Marry Me a Little	4
Spamilton	4
Hand to God	3
In the Heights	3
Mamma Mia!, Marriott Theatre	3
Silent Sky	3
Wonderful Town	3
A Comedical Tragedy for Mister Punch	2
The Bridges of Madison County	2
Bright Half Life	2
Circumference of a Squirrel	2
The Columnist	2
The Great and Terrible Wizard of Oz	2
How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying	2
The Hunter and the Bear	2
It's a Wonderful Life: Live in Chicago!	2
Jesus Christ Superstar	2
Julius Caesar	2
Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley	2
The Mystery of Love & Sex	2
Queen	2
The River Bride	2
The Scottsboro Boys	2
Shakespeare in Love	2
She Loves Me	2
Wit	2

INDIVIDUAL

Jonthan Butler-Duplessis	2
Austin Cook	2
Matthew Crowle	2
Allen Gilmore	2
Alex Goodrich	2
Gary Griffin	2
Theresa Ham	2
Angela Ingersoll	2
Jesse Klug	2
Jesse Mooney-Bullock	2
Meghan Murphy	2
Mike Tutaj	2
Ron OJ Parson	2
Bri Sudia	2

SPECIAL NOTICE TO NEWS MEDIA

Your complimentary ticket to the 49th Annual Equity Jeff Awards Ceremony will be held at the News Media Table at Drury Lane Theatre only if you make a reservation in advance with Jeffrey Marks at [312.606.0400](tel:312.606.0400) or media@jeffawards.org.

Names of award recipients will be released immediately following the ceremony on November 6th by email and on our website. Photos from the event will be available on our website.

A Media Curtain is available for your own photos. We will also have an interview area available to you and will assist in bringing interviewees to that area. If you need a quote or an interview with any Jeff Awards member, please contact Jeffrey Marks at [312-606-0400](tel:312-606-0400) or media@jeffawards.org.

The Jeff Awards website, www.jeffawards.org, lists all the current Equity nominees and statistics, along with previous recipients and nominees and other Jeff Awards information and news.

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