



News Release

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Editor's Note:

A complete list of nominees can also be found online in the Equity and News and Events sections at www.jeffawards.org.

THE JEFF AWARDS CELEBRATES 56th ANNIVERSARY WITH ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE EQUITY WING AWARD NOMINEES

(August 6, 2024 - Chicago, IL) – The 2023-2024 Equity Jeff Awards feature 193 nominees across 34 categories of excellence in theater production among shows from 36 producing entities. During the most recent season, which ran from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024, Jeff Awards members attended 99 Equity productions. From these, 82 productions became “Jeff Recommended” and therefore eligible for award nominations.

The 56th anniversary Equity Jeff Awards will take place September 30, 2024, at Drury Lane Theatre in Oakbrook, IL. The ceremony will be directed by Johanna McKenzie Miller, hosted by Lillian Castillo and Kelvin Roston, Jr. and announced by Janet Ulrich Brooks, with musical direction by Carolyn Brady. More details on the program will be announced soon.

Goodman Theatre garnered the most honors with 20 nominations from nine productions, two of which were co-productions with other companies, followed by Mercury Theater Chicago (18), Marriott Theatre (17) and a tie between Chicago Shakespeare Theater and Drury Lane Productions (14). “Turret” at A Red Orchid Theatre and “Young Frankenstein” at Mercury Theater Chicago tied for the largest number of nominations for a single production (9). Among New Work, five world premiere plays and two new musicals are in award consideration.

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2024 EQUITY JEFF AWARD NOMINEES

PRODUCTION - PLAY – LARGE

"Birthday Candles" - Northlight Theatre
"Joe Turner's Come and Gone" - Goodman Theatre
"The Lehman Trilogy" - TimeLine Theatre Company
"Little Bear Ridge Road" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company
"The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at the Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years" - Goodman Theatre
"Purpose" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company
"A Streetcar Named Desire" - Paramount Theatre
"Twelfth Night" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater

PRODUCTION - PLAY - MIDSIZE

"Blues for an Alabama Sky" - Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
"Gods and Monsters" - Frame of Reference Productions
"Silent Sky" - Citadel Theatre
"Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre
"A View from the Bridge" - Shattered Globe Theatre

PRODUCTION – MUSICAL – LARGE

"Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre
"Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" - Marriott Theatre
"Guys and Dolls" - Drury Lane Productions
"The Matchbox Magic Flute" - Goodman Theatre
"Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre
"Next to Normal" - Paramount Theatre

PRODUCTION – MUSICAL – MIDSIZE

"Jersey Boys" - Mercury Theater Chicago
"Rock of Ages" - Mercury Theater Chicago
"She Loves Me" - Citadel Theatre
"Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago

PRODUCTION – REVUE

"Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions
"A Taste of Soul" - Black Ensemble Theater
"The Time Machine: A Tribute to the 80s" - Black Ensemble Theater

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ENSEMBLE – PLAY

"English" - Goodman Theatre and the Guthrie Theatre

"The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at the Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years" - Goodman Theatre

"The Penelopiad" - Goodman Theatre

"POTUS: or, Behind Every Great Dumbass Are Seven Women Trying To Keep Him Alive "
- Steppenwolf Theatre Company

"Purpose" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company

ENSEMBLE – MUSICAL OR REVUE

"Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions

"Illinoise" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater in association with Arktype/Thomas O. Kriegsmann

"Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre

"A Taste of Soul" - Black Ensemble Theater

"The Time Machine: A Tribute to the 80s" - Black Ensemble Theater

NEW WORK

Levi Holloway - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre

Samuel D. Hunter - "Little Bear Ridge Road" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Branden Jacobs-Jenkins - "Purpose" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Nambi E. Kelley - "Stokely: The Unfinished Revolution" - Court Theatre

Brett Neveu - "Revolution" - A Red Orchid Theatre

Sufjan Stevens, Justin Peck and Jackie Sibblies Drury - "Illinoise" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater in association with Arktype/Thomas O. Kriegsmann

Mary Zimmerman - "The Matchbox Magic Flute" - Goodman Theatre

DIRECTOR - PLAY - LARGE

Susan V. Booth - "The Penelopiad" - Goodman Theatre

Nick Bowling and Vanessa Stalling - "The Lehman Trilogy" - Timeline Theatre Company

Lili-Anne Brown - "The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at the Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years" - Goodman Theatre

Joe Mantello - "Little Bear Ridge Road" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Tyrone Phillips - "Twelfth Night" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater

Phylicia Rashad - "Purpose" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company

DIRECTOR – PLAY – MIDSIZE

Mikael Burke - "Blues for an Alabama Sky" - Remy Bumppo Theatre Company

Louis Contey - "A View from the Bridge" - Shattered Globe Theatre

Levi Holloway - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre

Chuck Smith - "The Reclamation of Madison Hemings" - American Blues Theater

Paul Oakley Stovall - "Gods and Monsters" - Frame of Reference Productions

Beth Wolf - "Silent Sky" - Citadel Theatre

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DIRECTOR - MUSICAL - LARGE

Jim Corti - "Next to Normal" - Paramount Theatre
Jessica Fisch - "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" - Marriott Theatre
Katie Spelman - "Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre
Michael Weber - "Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre
Mary Zimmerman - "The Matchbox Magic Flute" - Goodman Theatre

DIRECTOR - MUSICAL - MIDSIZE

Matthew Silar - "She Loves Me" - Citadel Theatre
L. Walter Stearns - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
L. Walter Stearns and Brenda Didier - "Jersey Boys" - Mercury Theater Chicago

DIRECTOR - REVUE

Daryl D. Brooks - "The Time Machine: A Tribute to the 80s" - Black Ensemble Theater
E. Faye Butler - "Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions
Deidre Goodwin - "Beehive: The 60's Musical" - Marriott Theatre

PERFORMER IN A PRINCIPAL ROLE - PLAY

Scott Aiello (Eddie) - "A View from the Bridge" - Shattered Globe Theatre
Jason Alexander (Sammy Campo) - "Judgment Day" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater by Special Arrangement with Broadway & Beyond Theatricals, Martian Entertainment, Paige Price Productions and Hendel Productions
Bryan Burke (Gunner) - "The Outgoing Tide" - Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
Kate Fry (Ernestine Ashworth) - "Birthday Candles" - Northlight Theatre
Jon Michael Hill (Nazareth "Naz" Jasper) - "Purpose" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company
Anthony Irons (Stokely Carmichael) - "Stokely: The Unfinished Revolution" - Court Theatre
Travis A. Knight (Rabbit) - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre
Laurie Metcalf (Sarah) - "Little Bear Ridge Road" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company
Jon Hudson Odom (Madison Hemings) - "The Reclamation of Madison Hemings" - American Blues Theater
Michael Shannon (Green) - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre
Rebecca Spence (Eleanor of Aquitaine) - "The Lion in Winter" - Court Theatre
Bethany Thomas (Sister Rosetta Tharpe) - "Marie and Rosetta" - Northlight Theatre

PERFORMER IN A PRINCIPAL ROLE – MUSICAL

Kaitlyn Davis (Carole King) - "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" - Marriott Theatre
Lissa deGuzman (Ella) - "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella" - Drury Lane Productions
Sean Fortunato (Dr. Frederick Frankenstein) - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
KJ Hippensteel (Harold Hill) - "Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre
Mark David Kaplan (Tevye) - "Fiddler on the Roof" - Drury Lane Productions
Donna Loudon (Diana) - "Next to Normal" - Paramount Theatre
Sophie Madorsky (Dina) - "The Band's Visit" - Writers Theatre and TheatreSquared
Michael Metcalf (Frankie Valli) - "Jersey Boys" - Mercury Theater Chicago
David Moreland (Drew) - "Rock of Ages" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Meghan Murphy (Reno Sweeney) - "Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre

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SOLO PERFORMANCE

Hershey Felder (Monsieur Chopin) - "Hershey Felder as Monsieur Chopin" - Writers Theatre
David Kwong (Performer) - "The Enigmatist" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater

PERFORMER IN A REVUE

Leila Gorstein (Performer) - "Oh, The Places You'll Glow" - The Second City e.t.c.
Thee Ricky Harris (Head Chef Ricky) - "A Taste of Soul" - Black Ensemble Theater
James T. Lane (Performer) - "Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions
Leah Morrow (Performer) - "Beehive: The 60's Musical" - Marriott Theatre
Lorenzo Rush, Jr. (Performer) - "Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions

PERFORMER IN A SUPPORTING ROLE - PLAY

Breon Arzell (Guy) - "Blues for an Alabama Sky" - Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
Daniel Breaker (Father Michael) - "Judgment Day" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater by Special Arrangement with Broadway & Beyond Theatricals, Martian Entertainment, Paige Price Productions and Hendel Productions
E. Faye Butler (Grace Dubose Dunbar) - "The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at the Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years" - Goodman Theatre
Alexandra Chopson (Beth) - "In Quietness" - A Red Orchid Theatre
Mitchell J. Fain (Henry Lehman) - "The Lehman Trilogy" - TimeLine Theatre Company
Mildred Marie Langford (Actor 1) - "Notes from the Field" - TimeLine Theatre Company
Eileen Niccolai (Beatrice) - "A View from the Bridge" - Shattered Globe Theatre
Tim Rhoze (Bynum Walker) - "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" - Goodman Theatre
Shariba Rivers (Actor 2) - "Notes from the Field" - TimeLine Theatre Company
Paul Oakley Stovall (Malvolio) - "Twelfth Night" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Natalie West (Georgia) - "Revolution" - A Red Orchid Theatre

PERFORMER IN A SUPPORTING ROLE - MUSICAL

Adrian Aguilar (Tommy DeVito) - "Jersey Boys" - Mercury Theater Chicago
McKinley Carter (Marie) - "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella" - Drury Lane Productions
Lillian Castillo (Elizabeth Benning) - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Jackson Evans (Lord Evelyn Oakleigh) - "Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre
Alex Goodrich (Mayor Shinn) - "Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre
Andrew MacNaughton (The Monster) - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Steve McDonagh (Moonface Martin) - "Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre
Andrew Mueller (Gerry Goffin) - "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" - Marriott Theatre
Ron E. Rains (Dad) - "Billy Elliot" - Paramount Theatre
Mary Robin Roth (Frau Blücher) - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Ryan Stajmiger (Igor) - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Erica Stephan (Cynthia Weil) - "Beautiful: The Carole King Musical" - Marriott Theatre

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SCENIC DESIGN – LARGE

Linda Buchanan - "Joe Turner's Come and Gone" - Goodman Theatre
Angela Weber Miller - "A Streetcar Named Desire" - Paramount Theatre
Lauren M. Nichols - "The Hot Wing King" - Writers Theatre
Todd Rosenthal - "The Matchbox Magic Flute" - Goodman Theatre
Todd Rosenthal - "Purpose" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company
Arnel Sancianco - "The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at the Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years" - Goodman Theatre

SCENIC DESIGN – MIDSIZE

Bob Knuth - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Caitlin McLeod - "Lavender Men" - About Face Theatre
Lauren M. Nichols - "Blues for an Alabama Sky" - Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
Grant Sabin - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre
Jessica Kuehnau Wardell - "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley" - Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

COSTUME DESIGN - LARGE

Raquel Adorno - "Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre
Gregg Barnes - "Jim Henson's Emmet Otter's Jug Band Christmas" - iTheatrics and Broadway & Beyond
Theatricals
Theresa Ham - "Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella" - Drury Lane Productions
Ana Kuzmanic - "The Matchbox Magic Flute" - Goodman Theatre
Ryan Park - "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" - Paramount Theatre

COSTUME DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Sarah Albrecht - "¡Bernarda!" - Teatro Vista
Aly Greaves Amidei - "Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley" - Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
Rachel Boylan - "Jersey Boys" - Mercury Theater Chicago
Gregory Graham - "Blues for an Alabama Sky" - Remy Bumppo Theatre Company
Bob Kuhn - "Rock of Ages" - Mercury Theater Chicago

SOUND DESIGN - LARGE

Pornchanok Kanchanabanca - "Richard III" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater
Jeffrey Levin - "Eurydice" - Writers Theatre
Jeffrey Levin - "Selling Kabul" - Northlight Theatre
André Pluess - "The Lehman Trilogy" - TimeLine Theatre Company
André Pluess - "Rosencrantz & Guildenstern Are Dead" - Court Theatre

SOUND DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Joe Court - "Gods and Monsters" - Frame of Reference Productions
Forrest Gregor - "The Rise and Fall of Little Voice" - The Gift Theatre
Christopher Kriz - "The Outgoing Tide" - Buffalo Theatre Ensemble
Jeffrey Levin - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre
Rick Sims - "The Reclamation of Madison Hemings" - American Blues Theater

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LIGHTING DESIGN - LARGE

Brandon Stirling Baker - "Illinoise" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater in association with Arktype/Thomas O. Kriegsman

Reza Behjat - "Sanctuary City" - Steppenwolf Theatre Company

Lee Fiskness - "Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions

Jason Lynch - "Lucha Teotl" - Goodman Theatre in Association with Chicago Latino Theater Alliance (CLATA) and National Museum of Mexican Art

Cat Wilson - "A Streetcar Named Desire" - Paramount Theatre

LIGHTING DESIGN - MIDSIZE

Conchita Avitia - "The Brightest Thing in the World" - About Face Theatre

Mike Durst - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre

G. "Max" Maxin IV - "Young Frankenstein" - Mercury Theater Chicago

Gabrielle Strong - "The Rise and Fall of Little Voice" - The Gift Theatre

Levi Wilkins - "Gods and Monsters" - Frame of Reference Productions

CHOREOGRAPHY

William Carlos Angulo - "In the Heights" - Marriott Theatre

Christopher Chase Carter - "The Time Machine: A Tribute to the 80s" - Black Ensemble Theater

Dan Knechtges - "Guys and Dolls" - Drury Lane Productions

Tammy Mader - "Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre

Justin Peck - "Illinoise" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater in association with Arktype/Thomas O. Kriegsman

Katie Spelman - "Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre

ORIGINAL MUSIC IN A PLAY

Satya Chavez - "¡Bernarda!" - Teatro Vista

Samuel Davis - "The Penelopiad" - Goodman Theatre

Christopher Kriz - "The Outgoing Tide" - Buffalo Theatre Ensemble

Jeffrey Levin - "Turret" - A Red Orchid Theatre

Jon Trenchard - "Richard III" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater

MUSIC DIRECTION

Amanda Dehnert - "The Matchbox Magic Flute" - Goodman Theatre

Eugene Dizon and Linda Madonia - "Jersey Boys" - Mercury Theater Chicago

Nathan Koci - "Illinoise" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater in association with Arktype/Thomas O. Kriegsman

William Foster McDaniel - "Ain't Misbehavin'" - Drury Lane Productions

Ryan T. Nelson - "Meredith Willson's The Music Man" - Marriott Theatre

Nick Sula - "Anything Goes" - Porchlight Music Theatre

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PROJECTION DESIGN

Anthony Churchill - "Black Sunday" - TimeLine Theatre Company
Anthony Churchill - "The Lehman Trilogy" - TimeLine Theatre Company
Paul Deziel - "Charlie and the Chocolate Factory" - Paramount Theatre
Mike Tutaj - "Fiddler on the Roof" - Drury Lane Productions
Mike Tutaj - "Gods and Monsters" - Frame of Reference Productions

ARTISTIC SPECIALIZATION

Timo Andres - Music Arrangements and Orchestrations - "Illinoise" - Chicago Shakespeare Theater in association with ArKtype/Thomas O. Kriegsmann
Miguel A. Armstrong - Wig Design - "Beehive: The 60's Musical" - Marriott Theatre
Luis "Aski" Palomino – Wrestling Coordination – "Lucha Teotl" – Goodman Theatre in Association with Chicago Latino Theater Alliance (CLATA) and National Museum of Mexican Art
Puppeteer Ensemble - Puppeteering - "Jim Henson's Emmet Otter's Jug Band Christmas" - iTheatrics and Broadway & Beyond Theatricals
Keith Ryan - Wig Design - "A Taste of Soul" - Black Ensemble Theater

SHORT RUN - PRODUCTION

"How I Learned What I Learned" - Congo Square Theatre Company and Goodman Theatre
"It's A Wonderful Life: Live in Chicago" - American Blues Theater
"Welcome to Matteson!" - Congo Square Theatre Company

SHORT RUN - PERFORMER

Brandon Dahlquist (George Bailey) - "It's A Wonderful Life: Live in Chicago" - American Blues Theater
Anthony Irons (Performer) - "Welcome to Matteson!" - Congo Square Theatre Company
Harry Lennix (August Wilson) - "How I Learned What I Learned" - Congo Square Theatre Company and Goodman Theatre
Alexis J. Roston (Performer) - "Welcome to Matteson!" - Congo Square Theatre Company

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MULTIPLE NOMINATIONS

BY THEATRE COMPANY

Goodman Theatre	20	(3 in association with other companies)
Mercury Theater Chicago	18	
Marriott Theatre	17	
Chicago Shakespeare Theater	14	(8 in association with other companies)
Drury Lane Productions	14	
A Red Orchid Theatre	12	
Steppenwolf Theatre Company	12	
Paramount Theatre	9	
Black Ensemble Theater	8	
TimeLine Theatre Company	8	
Porchlight Music Theatre	7	
American Blues Theater	5	
Buffalo Theatre Ensemble	5	
Congo Square Theatre Company	5	(2 with Goodman Theatre)
Frame of Reference Productions	5	
Remy Bumpo Theatre Company	5	
Citadel Theatre	4	
Court Theatre	4	
Northlight Theatre	4	
Shattered Globe Theatre	4	
Writers Theatre	4	(1 with TheatreSquared)
About Face Theatre	2	
The Gift Theatre	2	
iTheatrics and Broadway & Beyond Theatricals	2	
Teatro Vista	2	

BY PRODUCTION

"Turret"	9	
"Young Frankenstein"	9	
"Meredith Willson's The Music Man"	8	
"Ain't Misbehavin'"	7	
"Anything Goes"	7	
"Illinoise"	6	
"Jersey Boys"	6	
"The Matchbox Magic Flute"	6	
"Purpose"	6	
"Beautiful: The Carole King Musical"	5	
"Blues for an Alabama Sky"	5	
"Gods and Monsters"	5	
"The Lehman Trilogy"	5	
"The Nacirema Society Requests the Honor of Your Presence at the Celebration of Their First One Hundred Years"	5	
"Little Bear Ridge Road"	4	
"A Taste of Soul"	4	
"The Time Machine: A Tribute to the 80s"	4	
"A View from the Bridge"	4	
"A Streetcar Named Desire"	3	

"Beehive: The 60's Musical"	3
"Joe Turner's Come and Gone"	3
"Next to Normal"	3
"The Outgoing Tide"	3
"The Penelopiad"	3
"The Reclamation of Madison Hemings"	3
"Rock of Ages"	3
"Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella"	3
"Twelfth Night"	3
"¡Bernarda!"	2
"Birthday Candles"	2
"Charlie and the Chocolate Factory"	2
"Fiddler on the Roof"	2
"Guys and Dolls"	2
"Jim Henson's Emmet Otter's Jug Band Christmas"	2
"Judgment Day"	2
"Lucha Teotl"	2
"Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley"	2
"Notes from the Field"	2
"Revolution"	2
"Richard III"	2
"The Rise and Fall of Little Voice"	2
"She Loves Me"	2
"Silent Sky"	2
"Stokely: The Unfinished Revolution"	2

BY INDIVIDUAL

Jeffrey Levin	3
André Pluess	3
E. Faye Butler	2
Anthony Churchill	2
Levi Holloway	2
Anthony Irons	2
Christopher Kriz	2
Lauren M. Nichols	2
Justin Peck	2 (1 with Sufjan Stevens and Jackie Sibblies Drury)
Todd Rosenthal	2
Katie Spelman	2
L. Walter Stearns	2 (1 with Brenda Didier)
Paul Oakley Stovall	2
Mike Tutaj	2
Mary Zimmerman	2

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About The Jeff Awards

The Jeff Awards is one of the most active and engaged theater awards organizations in the country evaluating hundreds of theatrical productions annually and holding two awards ceremonies highlighting work over the past Equity and Non-Equity seasons. Through our recommendations, awards, and honors we help foster the growth of companies, encourage artists, bring new appreciation for diverse storytelling, and cultivate civic pride in the achievements of the Chicago theater community. Originally chartered in 1968 to recognize Equity productions, the Jeff Awards Non-Equity Wing was established in 1973 to celebrate outstanding achievement in non-union theater.

For more information, visit www.jeffawards.org.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON NOMINATIONS AND THE AWARDS PROGRAM

The Jeff Awards website lists all the current nominees, along with previous recipients and nominations as well as other Jeff Awards information and news. Visit www.jeffawards.org

The 56th Anniversary Jeff Awards for Equity Theater will be held Monday, September 30, 2024 at Drury Lane in Oakbrook, IL. Details on the program and tickets will be announced soon.

Names of award recipients will be released immediately following the program on September 30th by email and on our website under Equity Awards at www.jeffawards.org

Media may contact theaters and artists directly for interviews. For quotes or an interview with any Jeff Awards committee member, please call or e-mail Suzanne Ross at 312-953-6987 or suzanne@suzanne-ross.com.

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