



HIGH SCHOOL

Musical Theatre

AWARDS

**2020 DSM HIGH SCHOOL
MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS
SCHOLARSHIP INFORMATION
PACKET**

REVISED: 12/16/19

2020 DSM HSMTA SCHOLARSHIP GUIDELINES

Dallas Summer Musicals will be awarding scholarships to outstanding participating students and educators of the DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards. All participating schools will be provided with scholarship guidelines and applications for their students to submit.

The scholarship panel, comprised of DSM staff, board members, and community leaders, thoroughly reviews all the applications and selects the recipients. The scholarship recipients are announced the evening of the awards ceremony **Thursday, May 14, 2020.**

Eligibility

- Students must be a current participant in the DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards. The student may have participated in any aspect of their respective 2019-2020 musical (performer, designer, stage crew, etc.).
- Students must be a graduating senior.
- Students must be in good standing at their high school and with DSM Awards program.
- Scholarship awardees are asked to attend the awards show. However, their scholarship shall not be revoked if they are unable to attend.

Application Requirements

Each of the scholarship categories has specific application requirements. Below you will find a breakdown of available scholarships and application requirements related to each of them.

Please note that all scholarships are due by February 4, 2020.



2020 DSM HSMTA Available Scholarships

Theatre Major Scholarship

(5 available @ \$2,500)

Theatre Ambassador Scholarship

(5 available @ \$2,500)

Backstage Excellence Award Scholarship

(5 available @ \$2,500)

Outstanding Educator Award Scholarship

(2 available @ \$2,500)

DSM Spirt Award Scholarship

(2 available @ \$1,250)

Best Actor Award Scholarship

(1 available @ \$5,000)

Best Actress Award Scholarship

(1 available @ \$5,000)

TOTAL:

21 Scholarships | \$55,000

Number of scholarships and monetary amount of scholarships are subject to change with or without notice.

Scholarship Panel & Application Adjudication Information

DSM HAMTA Scholarship Panel:

- The DSM Scholarship Panel has been reorganized to further embrace the program's core values of equity and fairness.
- DSM's Scholarship Panel will determine the awardees for the Theatre Major, Theatre Ambassador, Backstage Excellence and Outstanding Educator Scholarships.
- The Panel is comprised of DSM representatives and DFW community members.
- Panelists will remain anonymous.
- Applicants may not request to meet with any panelist. Applicants will be disqualified if it is found they, or any representative of theirs, have attempted to contact or influence panelists in any way.
- Panelists shall not have any conflict of interest with participating schools.

Application Adjudication:

- Scoring rubric for adjudication of applications is still being developed and will remain internal to DSM Staff and Scholarship Panelists. However, DSM Staff will offer several key points to guide applicants.
- Current Key Points
 - Focus will not be on GPA or Class Rank, however, these items may play a small role in application scoring.
 - Largest focus for application scoring will be placed on the essay questions.



2020 DSM HSMTA Theatre Major Scholarship

Dallas Summer Musicals will award scholarships to outstanding student participants of the DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards who plan on pursuing a theatrical degree after their graduation from high school.

Application Requirements:

- Students are required to submit three (3) essays. Essay prompts are available on the DSM website and listed below.
- Students must upload certain academic files. These required files can be found on the DSM website and are listed below.

Other Information:

- All applications must be submitted by Tuesday, February 4, 2020. No application will be accepted after this deadline.
- The scholarship panel, comprised of DSM representatives and community leaders, thoroughly review all the applications and select the recipients.
- If awarded a DSM scholarship, the scholarship will be sent directly to the student's chosen college/university.

Application Questions and Essays:

As part of the application, students will be asked the answer the following:

- Please list any Awards, Honors, and Community Involvement.
- Please list all Extra-Curricular Activities.
- List school(s) to which you have been accepted to or are waiting for acceptance to for the Performing or Technical Arts.

In addition to these questions, students will be required to submit three (3) essays (250-500 words), which include:

- The following two (2) essay questions (required):
 - Describe the most memorable moment from participating in your school's musical production this year.
 - What does theatre/musical theatre mean to you and how has it positively affected your life?
- One (1) of the following three (3) essay questions (student choice):
 - Describe leadership in your own words and the importance of being a leader in the modern society.
 - What is one (1) dream role you would like to portray in the future and why?
 - Who is your role model and why?

Required Files:

Students will be required to submit the following:

- Resume
- High School Transcript
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation



2020 DSM HSMTA Theatre Ambassador Scholarship

Dallas Summer Musicals will award scholarships to outstanding student participants of the DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards who plan on pursuing a college degree in a non-arts related field.

Application Requirements:

- Students are required to submit three (3) essays. Essay prompts are available on the DSM website and listed below.
- Students must upload certain academic files. These required files can be found on the DSM website and are listed below.

Other Information:

- All applications must be submitted by Tuesday, February 4, 2020. No application will be accepted after this deadline.
- The scholarship panel, comprised of DSM representatives and community leaders, thoroughly review all the applications and select the recipients.
- If awarded a DSM scholarship, the scholarship will be sent directly to the student's chosen college/university.

Application Questions and Essays:

As part of the application, students will be asked to answer the following:

- What do you plan to study in college?
- Please list any Awards, Honors, and Community Involvement.
- Please list all Extra-Curricular Activities.
- List school(s) to which you have been accepted to or are waiting for acceptance.

In addition to these questions, students will be required to submit three (3) essays (250-500 words), which include:

- The following two (2) essay questions (required):
 - Describe the most memorable moment from participating in your school's musical production this year.
 - Describe leadership in your own words and the importance of being a leader in the modern society.
- One (1) of the following two (2) essay questions (student choice):
 - What does theatre/musical theatre mean to you and how has it positively affected your life?
 - Who is your role model and why?

Required Files:

Students will be required to submit the following:

- Resume
- High School Transcript
- Two (2) Letters of Recommendation



2020 DSM HSMTA Backstage Excellence Award

Scholarship Information:

Dallas Summer Musicals will award scholarships to outstanding student participants of the DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards whose teachers believe have demonstrated outstanding work in the area of technical theatre. Nominated students must be a current participant in the DSM High School Musical Theatre Awards and have participated in a technical theatre aspect of their respective 2019-2020 musical (designer, stage crew, etc.).

STUDENTS MUST BE NOMINATED FOR THIS AWARD BY THEIR TEACHER AND MAY NOT SELF-NOMINATE.

Application Questions and Essays:

Teachers must answer the following questions (250-500 words):

- Why have you selected to nominate this student for the DSM HSMTA Backstage Excellence Award and why do you feel this student should receive the Backstage Excellence Award?
 - Please give specific examples of how this student demonstrated skills such as excellent technical theatre skills, organization, managing/coordinating large groups of people, multitasking, attention to detail, and communication.
- In your own words, what makes this student special?



2020 DSM HSMTA Outstanding Educator Nomination

Scholarship Information:

The DSM Outstanding Educator Award recognizes a high school theatre educator who demonstrates monumental impact on the lives of students and embodies the highest standards in the profession.

EDUCATORS MUST BE NOMINATED FOR THIS AWARD BY A STUDENT, PARENT OR COMMUNITY MEMBER AND MAY NOT SELF-NOMINATE.

Application Requirements:

- A completed online submission form.
- Essay (250-500 words): Tell your teacher's story! Explain why your teacher has a compelling story and how they have gone above and beyond in the field of theatre education. For example, describe how your teacher has made a difference in your life or the lives of their students, school, or community; or how they are working to advance and champion theatre education in today's landscape.
- Two (2) letters of reference: letters may be submitted by any individual, including students, colleagues in the candidate's school, parents / booster club members, a former student, or a community member.



Other 2020 DSM HSMTA Scholarships

DSM Spirit Award Scholarship

- Two (2) students who are participating in the DSM HSMTA Awards Show will receive this special award and a financial scholarship for demonstrating professionalism, teamwork and going above and beyond during the DSM HSMTA Awards rehearsal process.
- This award will be decided by DSM Staff / Awards Show Production Team.
- These students are not required to be graduating seniors.

Best Actor/Actress Award Scholarship

- The winners of Best Actor and Best Actress at the 9th annual DSM HSMTA will automatically receive a \$5,000 scholarship.
- These students are not required to be graduating seniors.



FAQs

- When are applications due?
 - 11:59pm on February 4, 2020. No application will be accepted after this.
- What happens if there is a glitch in the online submission system on the day of the deadline?
 - Individuals are highly encouraged to submit their applications prior to the day of the deadline. If an issue does arise with the online submission system, DSM staff will determine the proper course of action.
- How do we submit applications?
 - All applications must be submitted online. Links to the applications can be found on DSM's website.
- Do students need to be graduating seniors in order to be eligible for a DSM HSMTA scholarship?
 - Yes, students must be graduating seniors in order to receive a DSM HSMTA scholarship, with the exception of the Best Actor/Actress and DSM Spirt Award recipients.
- How many students can apply for the Theatre Major and Theatre Ambassador Scholarships?
 - Unlimited. However, students may not apply for both scholarships.
- How many students can teachers nominate for the Backstage Excellence Award?
 - Unlimited.
- Can educators be nominated by more than one individuals for the Outstanding Educator Award?
 - Yes. If this occurs, each nominator must fill out the application separately. A group of individuals cannot submit an application together. However, one of the letters of reference can be signed by a cohort of individuals.
- How long should the essays be?
 - All essays should be between 250-500 words. Any essay over 500 words will not be accepted or reviewed by the Scholarship Panel.
- How are scholarships distributed?
 - Scholarships awarded to students will be sent directly to their chosen colleges/universities. Scholarships award to educators will be sent directly to their school or district to support their program.
- What happens if students choose to take a gap year after graduation?
 - Students must use their scholarships within two (2) years of the award. For example, if a student is awarded a scholarship in May 2020, they have until the Fall 2022 to use their scholarship. After this, their scholarship will be considered void and forfeited. The two (2) year window begins at the moment of their high school graduation.
- When will individuals be notified if they have been selected to receive a scholarship?
 - Individuals should expect to be notified one (1) week prior to the Awards Show.
- Can students receive more than one (1) scholarship?
 - No, a students may only receive one (1) DSM scholarship in a school year.

All information and requirements are subject to change at the discretion of DSM staff with or without notice.