

ARTS FOR LIFE



Theatre Masks Awards

Judges' Panel

Is a separate committee whose duty is to review every eligible drama and comedy production produced by St. Louis area community theatre groups during a calendar year for the purpose of nominating and voting "Theater Masks Awards".

MEMBERSHIP: This panel is comprised of individuals from the Metro St. Louis Community Theatre groups but not restricted to such. The panel also includes and encourages theater critics, writers, drama teachers, professional performers and anyone with an avid interest and knowledge of theater. Membership is established by contacting ARTS FOR LIFE or the Theatre Masks Awards steering committee.

RESPONSIBILITY: Members of this panel are required to attend two (2) Judges' Panel meetings a year and are expected to attend and review the plays assigned to them by the Judges' Panel chairperson. Tickets for the assigned plays are complimentary. Judges are not expected to review all productions eligible for award consideration, although they may choose to do so as a paying audience member. Show assignments are random and are not left to the discretion of the individual judge. Each judge shall "score" all aspects of the production as set forth in the following Scoring section.

SCORING: After an eligible production has been seen, the judge shall assign a score on a scale of 10 to 1 (10 for the highest, 1 for the lowest) to the following categories in order to nominate:

**SHOW, DIRECTION, LIGHTING DESIGN, SET DESIGN, COSTUME DESIGN,
ENTIRE CAST OF CHARACTERS (as they appear in the program).**

Scores are collected anonymously and are recorded on a prorated scale based on the number of attendees.. A reviewer has the right to not score any category and in particular to not score an individual listed as a character in the cast if that part is not distinguishable. The top five (5) scores in each category are the official nominees. It is the discretion of the Judges' Panel Chairperson to increase that number to, but not to exceed, six (6) nominees per category. Committee members who fall under the "Exclusion Principle" may not score shows with which they are affiliated. Attending anything other than a "Live Production" as set forth by the producing theater company is not considered attending said production, Live production dates are designated by the Community Theatre group in their posters/program books and advertisements and do not include dress rehearsals and brush-up rehearsals. A Community Theatre group has the right to exclude performance dates from the Judges' Panel schedule as long as those dates are indicated at time of submittal.

EXCLUSION PRINCIPLE: Judges who represent a Community Theater group may not score for nomination any production associated with that Community Theater group. Furthermore, any judge "directly associated" with *any* production eligible for nomination may not score that production. "Directly Associated" with a production includes any involvement with stage performance, direction, crew, design, house management, publicity, box office, etc. At NO time can a judge vote for oneself.

REWARDS: Judges who attend and review at least eight (8) assigned shows in a calendar year are eligible for a complimentary ticket to the Theatre Masks Awards the following year.