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

16th ANNUAL SOUTH FLORIDA CAPPIES NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

Twenty-four area high schools compete for outstanding achievement in theater

FORT LAUDERDALE – The Critics’ Awards Program, or Cappies for short, will celebrate outstanding achievement in high school theater when students from 24 public and private schools throughout Broward and Palm Beach counties vie for top honors in the **16th Annual South Florida Cappies Awards Gala on Tuesday, May 22 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. This year, the National Cappies (www.cappies.com) is currently collecting donations to support Stoneman Douglas High School.

The top nominee in the musical category is Boca Raton High School with 19 nominations for its musical production of *Sweet Charity*. The Calvary Christian Academy leads in the play category with 14 nominations for *The Matchmaker*.

“The Cappies was founded in part as a response to the tragedy at Columbine High School to highlight the positive contributions teenagers were making in the arts,” said South Florida Cappies Program Director Lori Sessions. “As we now face a similar tragedy in our own community, we especially look forward to recognizing some of the most talented students and their achievements in theatre and journalism. We thank the Broward Center for helping make this event successful.”

Cappie Award winners are determined by votes from 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 then are 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 the Broward Center’s AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets.

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

For more information visit BrowardCenter.org, like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BrowardCenter](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardCenter), follow us on Twitter and Instagram @BrowardCenter, subscribe to our channel at [Youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter](https://www.youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter) and join the conversation with #BrowardCenter.

The Broward Center 2017-2018 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation. AutoNation, Bank of America, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, JetBlue, MasterCard, Paramount Refreshment Solutions and *Sun Sentinel* are proud sponsors of the Broward Center.

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About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

One of America's premier performing arts venues, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts presents more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, showcasing a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events. Guest experiences at the Broward Center include the all-inclusive JetBlue Flight Deck on the Club Level, special events in the Huizenga Pavilion, waterfront dining at Marti's New River Bistro and innovative classes and workshops for all ages at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center. With one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, the Broward Center serves 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, NSU Art Museum 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.

BRIEF: Theater students from public and private schools throughout Broward and Palm Beach counties will vie for top honors at the **16th Annual Cappies Awards Gala on Tuesday, May 22 at 7 p.m.** in the Au-Rene Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts. 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. 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 the Broward Center's AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets. 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 – 8
Archbishop McCarthy High School – 8
Boca Raton Community High School – 19
Calvary Christian Academy – 14
Cardinal Gibbons High School – 8
Cooper City High School – 4
Coral Glades High School – 5
Cypress Bay High School – 12
Deerfield Beach High School – 2
Dillard Center for the Arts – 6
JP Taravella High School – 10
North Broward Preparatory – 12
Palm Beach Central – 7

Pompano Beach High School – 1
St. Andrew's School – 3
St. Thomas Aquinas – 4
The Sagemont School – 13
Somerset Academy – 1
South Plantation High School – 5
Stoneman Douglas High School – 20
University School of NSU – 17
West Boca High School – 11
West Broward High School – 4
Western High School – 3