

# 2025 NOMINATIONS



**Awards for adult on-stage performances are gender neutral – to ensure appropriate recognition there are 2 awards in each of these categories**

## Musical Theatre

### Outstanding Set

Chris Zuber, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Ian Croker and Kelda McManus, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Ian Croker, Charlotte Jackson and Sophie Hope-White, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Jarrad West, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

Martin Rowney, Ruddigore, Child Players ACT

Nina Stevenson, High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

### Outstanding Lighting Design

Alexander Clifford, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Craig Muller, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

Jacob Aquilina, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Nikki Fitzgerald, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

William Malam, Ruddigore, Child Players ACT

Zac Harvey, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

### Outstanding Sound Design

James McPherson, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

Nikki Fitzgerald, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

Telia Jansen, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Telia Jansen, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Telia Jansen, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Thomas Heather, High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

### **Outstanding Costume Design**

Fiona Leach, Musical of Musicals (the Musical),  
Everyman Theatre

Fiona Leach, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre  
Company

Jennie Norberry, Come From Away, Dramatic  
Productions

Jennie Norberry, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor  
Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Rheannan Vergano and Michaela Vergano, High  
School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

The Dragon Mothers (Sarea Nicholas, Jessica Coates,  
Karen Malam, Tam Connor, Mel McDonald, Kitty  
Malam, Judy Gould and Vicki Young), Dr Dolittle, Child  
Players ACT

### **Outstanding Supporting Performance in a Musical (2 awards)**

Amelia Andersson-Nickson as Alice Beineke, The  
Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Ash Syme as Uncle Fester, The Addams Family,  
Canberra Philharmonic Society

Cassie Ramsay for Killer Instinct – Bring It On, Cabaret,  
Green Oak Theatre

David Cannell, as Jacob, Joseph and the Amazing  
Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic  
Society

Emma Sollis as Val, A Chorus Line, Free-Rain Theatre  
Company

Joe Dinn as the Pharaoh, Joseph and the Amazing  
Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic  
Society

Joshua Kirk as Oscar, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre  
Company

Kay Liddiard as Sheila, A Chorus Line, Free-Rain Theatre  
Company

Lachlan Agett as Larry, A Chorus Line, Free-Rain  
Theatre Company

Vanessa Valois as Nickie, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain  
Theatre Company

Kristy Griffin as Helene, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre  
Company

### **Outstanding Featured Performance in a Musical (including individual or group) (2 awards)**

Katie Lis as Daddy Brubeck, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain  
Theatre Company

Lauren Nihill as Grandma, The Addams Family,  
Canberra Philharmonic Society

The Brothers, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor  
Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

The Cast, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

The Cast, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman  
Theatre

Bradley McDowell for Angel in Heaven solo, Joseph  
and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra  
Philharmonic Society

**Outstanding Lead Performance in a Musical  
(2 awards)**

Amy Orman as Charity Valentine, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Giuliana Baggoley as Morticia Addams, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Leah Peel Griffiths as Wednesday, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Michael Cooper as Zach, A Chorus Line, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Quintin Gravatt as Gomez Addams, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Taylor Paliaga as the Narrator, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Tim Dal Cortivo as Joseph, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Ylaria Rogers as Cassie, A Chorus Line, Free-Rain Theatre Company

**Outstanding Youth Performance in a Musical  
(18yo and under)**

Children's Ensemble, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Edward Murphy as Ryan, High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

Ellie Leiper as Gabriella, High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

Lucinda Hope-White as Pugsley, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Nicolla Maguire as Martha, High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

The Cast, Dr Dolittle, Child Players ACT

The Cast, Ruddigore, Child Players ACT

The Sharpettes (Isabel Maguire, Jesse Hamood, Mia Williams and Zaija Gambrell, ), High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

**Outstanding Orchestra**

A Chorus Line, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Ruddigore, Child Players ACT

Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

### Outstanding Musical Director

Caleb Campbell, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

Callum Tolhurst-Close, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Darcy Kinsella, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Georgia Pike-Rowney, Dr Dolittle, Child Players ACT

Jenna Hinton, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Nicholas Griffin, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

### Outstanding Choreographer

Caitlin Schilg, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Caitlin Schilg, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Directing Team, Dr Dolittle, Child Players ACT

Hannah Ley, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

James Tolhurst-Close, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Nathan Rutups, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

### Outstanding Direction of a Musical

B J Anyos, Dr Dolittle, Child Players ACT

Duncan Driver, Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

Joel Horwood, Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Kelda McManus, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Kelly Roberts, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

Nina Stevenson, High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

# Theatre

## Outstanding Set

Andrew Kay, Baby Jane, Canberra Repertory Society

Cate Clelland, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Jarrad West, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

Karen Vickery and Michael Sparks, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

Sarea Coates, Spider's Web, Canberra Repertory Society

Tom Berger, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

## Outstanding Lighting Design

Craig Muller, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

David Brown, Spider's Web, Canberra Repertory Society

Lachlan Houen, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

Lachlan Houen, Julius Caesar, Chaika Theatre

Nathan Sciberras, Baby Jane, Canberra Repertory Society

Nathan Sciberras, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

## Outstanding Sound Design

Crystal Mahon, Neville Pye and Patrick Dixon, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Neville Pye, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

Neville Pye, Baby Jane, Canberra Repertory Society

Neville Pye, The House of Bernarda Alba, Chaika Theatre

Nikki Fitzgerald, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

Paris Scharkie, Julius Caesar, Chaika Theatre

## Outstanding Costume Design

Chris Zuber, Crystal Mahon and Students, Orlando, Gungahlin College Theatre Company

Emily Austin, Lara Connolly and Archie Church, The Squirrels, National University Theatre Society

Fiona Leach, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Fiona Leach, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

Helen Drum, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

Winsome Ogilvie, If I Got Some More Cocaine I Could Show You How I Love You, Everyman Theatre

## Outstanding Featured Performance in a Play, (including individual or group)

Alice Ferguson, as Maria Josefa, The House of Bernarda Alba, Chaika Theatre

Amy Kowalczyk, as Portia, Calpurnia and Others, Julius Caesar, Chaika Theatre

Justice-Noah Malfitano, as Bellhop, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Sam Thomson, as Nugget/Horseman, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

The Horses (Jamie Johnston, Finlay Forrest, Samara Glesti, Bianca Lawson, Sam Thomson and Robert Wearden), Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

William "Wally" Allington, as Timmy, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

## Outstanding Youth Performance (18yo and under)

Anna Lorenz, as Emmy, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

Manassa Kannan as Pippa Hailsham-Brown, Spider's Web, Canberra Repertory Society

Yzzy Bryant, as Mombi, Marvelous Land of Oz, Child Players ACT

**Outstanding Supporting Performance in a Drama  
(2 awards)**

Amy Kowalczuk, as Magdalena, The House of  
Bernarda Alba, Chaika Theatre

Bruce Hardie, as Pato Dooley, The Beauty Queen of  
Leenane, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Callum Doherty, as Henry/Mackie, The Forsaken, ACT  
Hub

Colin Giles, as Mark Antony, Julius Caesar, Chaika  
Theatre

Janie Lawson, as Dora Strang, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre  
Company

John Whinfield, as Jeremy Warrender, Spider's Web,  
Canberra Repertory Society

Rhys Robinson, as Torvald, A Doll's House, Part 2,  
Canberra Repertory Society

Robbie Haltiner, as Ray Dooley, The Beauty Queen of  
Leenane, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Steph Roberts, as Vivienne, The Almighty Sometimes,  
Off the Ledge Theatre

Yanina Clifton, as Cassius, Julius Caesar, Chaika  
Theatre

**Outstanding Supporting Performance in a  
Comedy  
(2 awards)**

Amy Kowalczuk, as Margery, Hand to God, Everyman  
Theatre

Callum Doherty, as David, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

Christina Falsone, as Maria, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-Rain  
Theatre Company

Jenna Roberts, as Miss Erikson, Present Laughter, ACT  
Hub

Joe Dinn, as Maurice, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

Karina Hudson, as Joanna, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

Lachlan Ruffy, as Pastor Greg, Hand to God, Everyman  
Theatre

Meaghan Stewart, as Diana, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-  
Rain Theatre Company

Meaghan Stewart, as Jessica, Hand to God, Everyman  
Theatre

Michael Cooper, as Roland, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

**Outstanding Lead Performance in a Drama  
(2 awards)**

Jack Shanahan, as Alan Strang, Equus, Free-Rain  
Theatre Company

Janie Lawson, as Maureen Folan, The Beauty Queen of  
Leenane, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Lachlan Ruffy, as Brutus, Julius Caesar, Chaika Theatre

Lainie Hart as Nora, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra  
Repertory Society

Louise Bennet as Jane Hudson, Baby Jane, Canberra  
Repertory Society

Robert Kjellgren, as Mikey, If I Got Some More Cocaine  
I Could Show You How I Love You, Everyman Theatre

Sian Harrington, as Clarissa Hailsham-Brown, Spider's  
Web, Canberra Repertory Society

Victoria Tyrrell Dixon, as Blanche Hudson, Baby Jane,  
Canberra Repertory Society

Winsome Ogilvie, as Anna, The Almighty Sometimes,  
Off the Ledge Theatre

Yanina Clifton, as Martirio, The House of Bernarda Alba,  
Chaika Theatre

**Outstanding Lead Performance in a Comedy  
(2 awards)**

Crystal Mahon, as Liz, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

De Mars Ketley, as Scieuridae, The Squirrels, National University Theatre Society

Jarrad West, as Garry, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

John Whinfield, as Max, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Lachlan Abrahams, as Joe, Low Pay? Don't Pay!, Canberra Repertory Society

Maxine Beaumont, as Maggie, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Michael Cooper, as Jason/Tyrone, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

Peter Holland, as Charles, Blithe Spirit, Canberra Repertory Society

Tracy Noble, as Monica, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

William "Wally" Allington, as Tito Mirelli, Lend Me a Tenor, Free-Rain Theatre Company

**Outstanding Direction of a Play**

Ed Wightman, Baby Jane, Canberra Repertory Society

Jarrad West, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

Cate Clelland, The Beauty Queen of Leenane, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Joel Horwood, A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

Karen Vickery, Present Laughter, ACT Hub

Caitlin Baker, Julius Caesar, Chaika Theatre

## Major Awards

### Judges' Award for Outstanding Achievement – Theatre

To be announced at the Celebration

### Judges' Award for Outstanding Achievement – Musical Theatre

To be announced at the Celebration

### Behind the Scenes Award Musical Theatre

Dr Dolittle, post-show cast meet and greet with young audience members while still in costume and character, Child Players ACT

India Cornwell for hair and make up, The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Justine Ramsey, Maggie Wright and Paris Ellis for excellent preparation of double cast of children's chorus, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Canberra Philharmonic Society

Joanne Golack, Aron Gadd and Chris Zuber for suitcases, Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

### Behind the Scenes Award Theatre

Amy Campbell, Horses' Movement, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Michael Sparks and Andrew Kay, for Technical Achievement in the Final Scene, Blithe Spirit, Canberra Repertory Society

Lucy van Dooren, Special Effects Coordinator, Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

Patrick Dixon, Emerging Production Artist, Present Laughter, ACT Hub; Baby Jane, Canberra Repertory Society; and Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

### Outstanding Original Work or Adaptation

Crystal Mahon, Neville Pye and Patrick Dixon, Live and Recorded Soundscape Creation, Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Ed Wightman, Baby Jane script, Canberra Repertory Society

Karen Vickery, Adaptation of The House of Bernarda Alba, Chaika Theatre

Rylee de Salis, Composition, When He Cries, Green Oak Theatre

### Outstanding Production of a Play – Community

A Doll's House, Part 2, Canberra Repertory Society

Baby Jane, Canberra Repertory Society

Spider's Web, Canberra Repertory Society

The Crucible, National University Theatre Society

Marvelous Land of Oz, Child Players ACT

### **Outstanding Production of a Play – Independent**

Equus, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Hand to God, Everyman Theatre

Julius Caesar, Chaika Theatre

Present Laughter, ACT Hub

The Almighty Sometimes, Off the Ledge Theatre

The Beauty Queen of Leenane, Free-Rain Theatre Company

### **Outstanding Musical (2 awards)**

A Chorus Line, Free-Rain Theatre Company

Cabaret, Green Oak Theatre

Come From Away, Dramatic Productions

Dr Dolittle, Child Players ACT

High School Musical 2 JR., Pied Piper Productions

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat,  
Canberra Philharmonic Society

Musical of Musicals (the Musical), Everyman Theatre

Ruddigore, Child Players ACT

Sweet Charity, Free-Rain Theatre Company

The Addams Family, Canberra Philharmonic Society

### **Standing Ovation**

To be announced at the Celebration

For the sake of transparency, The Ovations wants to be clear that anyone involved in the judging of The Ovations is prohibited from being nominated to receive an award. Members of the judging panels take no part in discussions or voting on nominees or winners for productions in which they are involved. Members of the committee and office-bearers who are not involved in the judging process, and who exert no influence on the outcomes of the judging panels, may be nominated. For more information on The Ovations see our website at: <https://ovations.org.au/>

## 2025 Member Companies

ACT Hub  
Canberra Philharmonic Society  
Canberra Repertory Society  
Canberra Youth Theatre  
Chaika Theatre  
Child Players ACT  
Dramatic Productions  
Everyman Theatre

Free-Rain Theatre Company  
Greek Theatre Now  
Green Oak Theatre  
Gungahlin College Theatre Company  
National University Theatre Society  
Off the Ledge Theatre  
Pied Piper Productions  
Red Herring Theatre Company

## 2025 Judging Panels

### **Musical Theatre and Cabaret**

Naida Blackley OAM, Head  
Angie Ford  
Garrick Smith  
Grant Pegg  
Greg Hood AO  
Ian McLean AM, CSC  
Jill Young  
Jordan Kelly  
Michelle Heine

### **Theatre**

Anne Somes, Joint Head  
Elaine Noon, Joint Head  
Adele Lewin  
Ange Fewtrell  
Bec Clode  
Judi Crane  
Kate Blackhurst  
Sarah Byrne  
Simon Tolhurst

## 2025 Ovations Committee

Michael Sparks OAM, President  
Ruth Boddy, Vice President  
Jenny Wookey, Secretary  
Peter McDonald, Treasurer  
Jude Gould  
Mel McDonald  
Paris Ellis