



THE OVATIONS AWARDS

WINNERS

6 FEBRUARY 2026

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

THEATRE

Outstanding Set – to the person who designed the set and/or design team

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

Outstanding Lighting Design – to the person who created the design and/or design team

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

Outstanding Sound Design - to the person who designed the sound and/or design team

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

Outstanding Costume Design – to the person who designed the costumes and/or the design team

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

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

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

Outstanding Youth Performance in a Play (18yo and under)

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

Outstanding Supporting Performance in a Play – Drama (2 awards)

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

and

Yanina Clifton,
as Cassius,
Julius Caesar,
Chaika Theatre

THEATRE

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

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

and

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

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

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

and

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

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

Jarrad West,
as Garry,
Present Laughter,
ACT Hub

and

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

Outstanding Direction of a Play

Ed Wightman,
Baby Jane,
Canberra Repertory Society

MUSICAL THEATRE

Outstanding Set – to the person who designed the set and/or design team

Chris Zuber,
Sweet Charity,
Free-Rain Theatre Company

Outstanding Lighting Design – to the person who created the design and/or design team

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

Outstanding Sound Design - to the person who designed the sound and/or design team

James McPherson,
Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

Outstanding Costume Design – to the person who designed the costumes and/or the design team

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

Outstanding Supporting Performance in a Musical (2 awards)

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

and

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

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

The Cast,
Jarrad West, Louiza Blomfield, Hannah Ley, Will Collett,
Musical of Musicals (the Musical),
Everyman Theatre

and

The Cast,
Come from Away,
Dramatic Productions

Outstanding Lead Performance in a Musical (2 awards)

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

and

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

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

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

and

The Sharpettes ,
Isabel Maguire, Jesse Hamood, Mia Williams, Zaija
Gambrill,
High School Musical 2 JR.,
Pied Piper Productions

Outstanding Orchestra

Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

Outstanding Musical Director

Caleb Campbell,
Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

Outstanding Choreographer

Nathan Rutups,
Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

Outstanding Direction of a Musical

Kelly Roberts,
Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

MAJOR AWARDS

**Judges' Awards for Outstanding
Achievement - Theatre**

Lachlan Ruffy,
Movement and fight choreography for Antigone, Greek
Theatre Now; and fight choreography for The Squirrels,
NUTS

**Judges' Awards for Outstanding
Achievement – Musical Theatre**

Nick Griffin,
For solo piano playing,
Musical of Musicals (The Musical)
Everyman Theatre

and

Bronwyn Potter,
For violin playing,
Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

Behind the Scenes Award – Theatre

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

Behind the Scenes Award – Musical Theatre

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

and

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

Outstanding Original Work or Adaptation – Theatre

Rylee de Salis,
For composition,
When He Cries,
Green Oak Theatre

Outstanding Production of a Play – Community

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

Outstanding Production of a Play – Independent

Hand to God,
Everyman Theatre

Outstanding Musical (2 awards)

Come From Away,
Dramatic Productions

and

Musical of Musicals (the Musical),
Everyman Theatre

Standing Ovation

Lucy van Dooren

Encore! Award For Lifetime Achievement

Dr Andrew Kay