



Blumey Awards Student Critic Program *for students in grades 9-12 from Charlotte area high schools or home school groups*

Program Highlights

- Students selected for the program will participate in a one-day workshop to learn the best practices for theater criticism while receiving training in the mediums of traditional print, social media, vlogging and on-camera reporting. Workshop panelists and instructors will include three local media professionals and/or journalists who will also serve as the adjudicators of the Blumey Award for Best Student Critic.
- Students will attend and review three musical theater performances of three high schools participating in The Blumey Awards at their respective home venues.
- Each student will submit two traditional, written reviews and one submission using an element of new media (podcast recording, vlog, Tik Tok, etc).
- Students will receive up to two tickets for each performance they review.
- Written reviews must be submitted within one week of each performance reviewed; new media submissions may be submitted within two weeks of each performance.
- All submitted reviews will be adjudicated by the three guest artists who are brought in to facilitate the workshop in late January. These guests will all be local media professionals and/or journalists. The student with the highest cumulative score will win *The Blumey Awards Student Critic Award*.

What does the Winner Receive?

- one review posted or published in a local publication at the end of the program (All participants will have their picture published on the website as part of a story at the end of the program.)
- opportunity to join Blumenthal's media team to cover Blumey Awards rehearsals (May 14-20) and the Blumey Awards Ceremony (May 21, 2023)
- the Student Critic Award trophy, presented at the Blumey Awards ceremony, May 2023
- the possibility to compete for the Jimmy Awards Student Report Search (the national high school musical theater awards program) and a chance to go to NYC (all expenses paid) for the Jimmys Awards ceremony in late June 2023.

Participation Requirements

Students accepted into the program must commit to the following:

- participation in the Student Critic Workshop (briefly described above) on Sunday, January 29th, 2023 (1-4pm) at Blumenthal's Stage Door Theater in Uptown Charlotte
- attendance at three assigned high school musical theater performances between February 1 – April 20, 2023
- submission of a theatrical critique for the three corresponding shows above – two submissions following a traditional print media format and one utilizing new media
- meeting the prescribed short deadlines for submission of reviews

Application Process

Students in grades 9-12 from Charlotte area high schools or home school groups interested in journalism, broadcasting, writing, PR, and/or new media involving the performing arts are encouraged to apply for the Student Critic program. ***Students in the cast their high school musical production are NOT eligible to apply.*** A maximum of 20 students total will be accepted into the program. To be considered for participation, students must submit the following items to Blumenthal's Education team no later than

Friday, January 20th at 5pm.

- a completed application form
- a one-page writing sample (may be an essay or critical review of a performance)
- a half-page summary of your interest in journalism, podcasting, social media, and/or marketing
- a completed teacher recommendation form