



## **Las Casas Foundation's Performing Arts Scholarship Program Rules and Guidelines *Best Lead Actress/Actor in a Musical***

***Deadline to submit application: Sunday, January 31, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.***

***Deadline to submit audition video: Sunday, March 21, 2021 at 11:59 p.m.***

***Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.***

Now in its 13<sup>th</sup> year, Las Casas is proud to present the 2021 Performing Arts Scholarship Program. This annual program, which culminates in the Joci Awards, a one-night showcase of talented performing arts students in San Antonio and the surrounding area, offers area high school students numerous educational opportunities and scholarships. Since its inception in 2009, Las Casas has awarded more than \$1.1 million in scholarships, making it the largest funding source of its kind in the United States.

Las Casas Performing Arts Scholarship Program also serves as a Regional Award Program (RAP) for the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (NHSMTA) or the Jimmy Awards, a national celebration of outstanding student achievement in high school musical theatre. In addition to winning scholarships, two finalists (one Lead Actress and one Lead Actor) will have the opportunity to represent the region at the virtual Jimmy Awards during the summer of 2021, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 20 through Thursday, July 1, 2021.

### **PARTICIPATION**

Las Casas Foundation's Performing Arts Scholarship Program is open to students in grades 9-12. Students may only compete in one category.

### **STUDENT REQUIREMENTS**

All students must submit a complete application via the Las Casas Foundation website by *Sunday, January 31, 2021*. In addition to basic information, students are required to submit a resume and headshot. Student's audition video must be submitted by *Sunday, March 21, 2021*. If selected as a finalist, students will be required to attend a virtual master class, Joci Awards virtual rehearsal and submit any materials as requested by the Las Casas Foundation staff and Joci Awards production team. If selected as a Jimmy Awards nominee, student must be conflict-free and available for all days during the Jimmy Awards week, tentatively scheduled for *Sunday, June 20 through Thursday, July 1, 2021*.

## **APPLICATION PROCESS**

All application submissions must be completed by the student online at [www.lascasasfoundation.org](http://www.lascasasfoundation.org) and include the following:

1. Completed application form
2. Recent photo/headshot (*Note: If selected as a finalist, photo will be used in Joci Awards program, social media, and other marketing materials*)
3. Resume
4. Audition video uploaded to the Embark portal (see details, including tips for filming, under Preliminary Auditions section below)

***Late or incomplete applications will not be considered.***

## **SCHEDULE**

### **WORKSHOP (Virtual; Optional, but Highly Recommended)**

Dates & Times: TBD (*Applicants may attend one or all*)

All students who successfully complete their application will be invited to attend free virtual, professional workshops for audition basics, performance strategies, and material selection with individual coaching.

Dress code: Casual

### **PRELIMINARY AUDITIONS (Virtual Submission; Mandatory)**

Students will submit an audition video performing two (2) songs (one up-tempo and one ballad) from The Jimmy Awards' eligible show list by Sunday, March 21, 2021. A comprehensive list can be found under the Qualifying Shows & Roles page at [www.JimmyAwards.com](http://www.JimmyAwards.com). One song must be performed in full in costume (students are encouraged to not spend money by buying or renting a costume but be creative with what they have on hand at home); the second selection will be a 32-bar cut performed in audition-appropriate attire. *Songs may be from two separate musicals, but musicals must be from The Jimmy Awards' eligible show list.*

Filming tips and guidelines to be provided at a later date. Applicants must use a piano track or live accompaniment in audition video; applicants may not accompany themselves, and no acapella performances are allowed. If selected as a finalist, student will select one (1) of their audition pieces to be performed for the Joci Awards.

- Selections should be age and content-appropriate. The Joci Awards are a family-friendly production; no strong language or innuendo.
- A panel of judges will rank each preliminary audition on a point scale; audition results will be tabulated by the Foundation. Students receiving the highest combined rankings based on adjudication and preliminary audition scores advance as finalists. Results are final.
- Finalists and non-finalists will be notified by Friday, April 16, 2021.
- Advancing to the Joci Awards in previous years does not guarantee advancement in subsequent years.

- Judges feedback (scores) will be available upon request.

### **MASTER CLASS (*Virtual; Mandatory for Finalists*)**

Date & Time: TBD

A virtual Master Class for finalists will provide instruction by theatre professionals.

### **JOCI AWARDS REHEARSAL & PRE-PRODUCTION (*Virtual; Mandatory for Finalists*)**

Dates & Times: TBD

Finalists will work with professional production team remotely to fine tune solo numbers and learn group and transitional pieces via Zoom. Best Lead Actor/Actress finalists will perform one (1) of their submitted pieces from preliminary auditions in full. Please be advised that failure to attend scheduled rehearsals or submit materials for the Joci Awards virtual production may result in disqualification; final decision is at the discretion of the show's producers.

### **JOCI AWARDS**

Program airs virtually Sunday, May 16, 2021

View the 2020 Joci Awards [here](#).

### **NHSMTA/JIMMY AWARDS PARTICIPATION**

Preliminary audition, and Joci Awards scores are all factored into an overall score. The two finalists with the highest overall score in the Best Lead Actor and Best Lead Actress categories will advance to the Jimmy Awards.

If selected to represent their region at the National High School Musical Theatre Awards:

- The student must be available and willing to participate in the National High School Theatre Awards, tentatively scheduled for Sunday, June 20 through Thursday, July 1, 2021.
- The student must be willing to participate in news stories via print, radio, TV, etc. when available, as requested.

***Results from preliminary auditions, Joci Awards, and the finalists selected to advance to the Jimmy Awards are final. Any attempt to contact judges, staff, or Board of Directors to influence the outcome will disqualify students from the program with a lifetime ban.***