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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Suzi Bass Awards Nominations

Nominees announced from 29 categories, including TYA and representing 17 professional companies and 34 productions

Full list of nominations and tally breakdown at the end of this release

Atlanta, GA—October 9, 2023: The Suzi Bass Awards will reveal the winners for the 2022-2023 Atlanta professional theatre season on Monday evening, November 13, 2023, at a party at the DeKalb History Center, 101 E Court Square, Decatur, GA 30330 to celebrate the Atlanta theatre community and industry artists.

Members of the media are invited to attend as guests of the Suzi Bass Awards. Due to limited space, journalists may receive **one complimentary ticket**. Please reply to this email (kate.warner@thesuzis.org) to reserve your press ticket. There are a very limited number of press tickets, so please respond quickly!

More details about the evening of awards and celebration and how to purchase tickets to the party of the year will be released soon.

NOMINATIONS BY THEATRE

Alliance Theatre	30	Center for Puppetry Arts	7
Actor's Express	26	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	5
Atlanta Lyric Theatre	19	Synchronicity Theatre	5
Aurora Theatre	17	True Colors Theatre Company	5
Horizon Theatre Company	10	7 Stages	4
Oglethorpe Theatre (co-producer)	10	Out of Hand Theater	2
Georgia Ensemble Theatre	9	Dad's Garage (co-producer)	1
Jennie T. Anderson Theatre	9	Dominion Entertainment	1
Theatrical Outfit	9		

A full list of categories and corresponding nominees is attached. Please note, any spelling errors or errors in the nominees list are the fault of this author, not the organization. Please feel free to send any corrections to kate.warner@thesuzis.org

Lifetime Achievement Award, Spirit of Suzi Award, Volunteer of the Year, Callboard Award and Gene-Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award will be announced closer to the event.

ABOUT THE SUZI BASS AWARDS

The Suzi Bass Awards were founded in 2003 by Gene-Gabriel Moore along with a group of industry professionals to celebrate outstanding work in live theatre and the artists who produce it. This season, The Suzi Bass Awards volunteer judges chose nominees and recipients in 29 categories. In addition, the annual Spirit of Suzi Award honors a person or organization for their long-time dedication to Atlanta theatre; the Gene-Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award recognizes Atlanta's talented local playwrights through special notice of a recently produced play; and the Volunteer of the Year Award recognizes an individual or group with long-time volunteer contributions to a particular theatre.

MUSICALS

Choreography:

Brian Jordan, Jr.	<i>The Wiz</i>	True Colors Theatre Company
Jesse Robb+ & Shana Carroll	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
David Rossetti	<i>Mary Poppins</i>	Aurora Theatre
Veronica Silk	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Precious West	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre

Costume Design:

Jarrold Barnes	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre
Jarrold Barnes	<i>The Wiz</i>	True Colors Theatre Company
Dr. L. Nyrobi Moss	<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Alice Neff	<i>Mary Poppins</i>	Aurora Theatre
David Israel Reynoso^	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre

Direction:

Freddie Ashley	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre
Kayce Grogan-Wallace	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Thomas W. Jones II+	<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Jessica Stone+	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Amanda Wansa Morgan	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre

Ensemble:

	<i>Lizzie</i>	Actor's Express
Jasmine Renee Ellis*, Christina Leidel*, Jessica De Maria*, Megan Zhang*		

Featured Performer (10 nominees, 2 awards)

Caleb Brink as Nicely Nicely Johnson	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Patty de la Garza as Little Becky Two Shoes	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre
Lawrence Flowers as James "Thunder" Early	<i>Dreamgirls</i>	Dominion Entertainment
Desiré Gaston as Disco Donna	<i>Summer: The Donna Summer Musical</i>	Aurora Theatre
Sara Gettelfinger* as Barbara	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Tatum McBride as Little Sally	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre
Wade McCollum* as Wade	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
James Allen McCune as Jimmy Ray Dobbs	<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Golbanoo Setayesh as Natalie	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
Jacob Ryan Smith as Gabe	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre

Lighting Design:

Andre C. Allen/Blacklight Productions	<i>The Wiz</i>	True Colors Theatre Company
Maranda DeBusk	<i>Lizzie</i>	Actor's Express
Bradley King^	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
D. Connor McVey	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
D. Connor McVey	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre

Music Direction:

John-Michael D'Haviland & Holt McCarley	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
Matt Hinkley	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Christian Magby & LeReil Ross	<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Ann-Carol Pence	<i>Mary Poppins</i>	Aurora Theatre
Ashley Prince	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre

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Principal Performer (10 nominees, 2 awards)

Marcello Audino as Sky Masterson	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Mary Nye Bennett as Diana	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
Taylor Buice as Dan	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
Chloe Cordle as Miss Adelaide	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Jaymyria Etienne as Sarah Brown	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Bryan Fenkart* as August/Charlie	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Megan K. Hill as Pennywise	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre
Liza Jaine* as Alice Murphy	<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Isabelle McCalla* as Marlena/June	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Ryan Vasquez* as Jacob	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre

Projection Design:

David Bengali^	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Kimberly Binns	<i>The Wiz</i>	True Colors Theatre Company
Kimberly Binns	<i>Summer: The Donna Summer Musical</i>	Aurora Theatre
Maranda DeBusk	<i>Lizzie</i>	Actor's Express
Bobby Johnston	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre

Scenic Design:

Seamus M. Bourne^	<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express & Oglethorpe Theatre
Isabel & Moriah Curley-Clay^	<i>The Wiz</i>	True Colors Theatre Company
Takeshi Kata^	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Stephanie Polhemus	<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Stephanie Polhemus	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre

Sound Design:

Jeremiah Davison	<i>Summer: The Donna Summer Musical</i>	Aurora Theatre
Caleb Hurst	<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
Bobby Johnston	<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
Jessica Paz^	<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre
Daniel Terry	<i>Mary Poppins</i>	Aurora Theatre

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PLAYS

Costume Design:

Anne' Carole Butler	<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company
Anne' Carole Butler & Clint Horne	<i>As You Like It</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company
Dr. L. Nyrobi Moss	<i>Designing Women 2020</i>	Horizon Theatre
Dr. L. Nyrobi Moss	<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre
Jennifer Schottstaed	<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts

Direction:

Freddie Ashley	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
Jason Hines	<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts
Amber McGinnis	<i>Tiny Beautiful Things</i>	Theatrical Outfit
Heidi McKerley	<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre
Matt Torney & Tim Stoltenberg	<i>The White Chip</i>	Theatrical Outfit

Ensemble:

The Play That Goes Wrong Aurora Theatre

Marcello Audino*, Skyler Brown, Caleb Clark*, Arianna Hardaway, Chris Hecke, Jeff McKerley*, Candy McLellan*, Anthony Rodriguez

Designing Women 2020 Horizon Theatre

Beth Beyer, Robin Bloodworth*, Lane Carlock, Joanna Daniels*, Luis R. Hernandez, Eve Krueger*, Katherine Lanasa*, Tiffany Porter

Much Ado About Nothing Atlanta Shakespeare Company

Mila Bolash, O'Neil Delapenha, Jaclyn Hofmann Faircloth, Nick Faircloth, Chris Hecke, Adam King, Amanda Lindsey McDonald, Daryel T Monson, Mary Ruth Ralston, Cameryn Richardson, David Rucker III, Charlie Thomas, Kelly Clare Toland, Tyra Watkins, Kenneth Wigley

Tiny Beautiful Things Theatrical Outfit

Robin Bloodworth*, Candy McLellan*, Maria Rodriguez-Sager*, Stephen Ruffin

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)
Atlanta Shakespeare Company

O'Neil Delapenha, Ebony Jerry, Trevor Perry

Featured Performer (10 nominees, 2 awards):

Jeremy Aggers* as Doug	<i>The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd</i>	Alliance Theatre
Brandon Burditt* as Uncle Craig	<i>The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd</i>	Alliance Theatre
Lamar K. Cheston* as Rich/Mr. Lee/Mike/Alex	<i>Kim's Convenience</i>	Aurora Theatre & Horizon Theatre Company
Jay Jones* as TJ	<i>The Hot Wing King</i>	Alliance Theatre
Faina Khibkin as Elodie	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
Aliya Kraar as Molly	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
Antonia LaChé as Ensemble	<i>Mlima's Tale</i>	7 Stages
Adir Lev Mann as Daniel	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
Cara Mantella as Mary Jane	<i>Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train</i>	Actor's Express
Susan Shalhoub Larkin as Momo	<i>The Humans</i>	Theatrical Outfit

Lighting Design:

Liz Lee^	<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts
Joseph P. Monaghan III^	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
Mary Parker	<i>Designing Women 2020</i>	Horizon Theatre
Ben Rawson^	<i>The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd</i>	Alliance Theatre
Toni Sterling	<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre

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Principal Performer (10 nominees, 2 awards):

Ross Benjamin* as Patrick	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
LaLa Cochran* as Deidre Blake	<i>The Humans</i>	Theatrical Outfit
Carolyn Cook as Marcelle	<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
Bjorn Dupaty* as Cordell	<i>The Hot Wing King</i>	Alliance Theatre
Alan Edwards* as Erik Blake	<i>The Humans</i>	Theatrical Outfit
Cristian Gonzalez as Angel	<i>Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train</i>	Actor's Express
Ingrid Griffith as Shirley Chisholm and others	<i>Shirley Chisholm: Unbossed & Unbowed</i>	Out of Hand Theater
Sekou Laidlow* as Lucius	<i>Jesus Hopped the 'A' Train</i>	Actor's Express
Christina Leidel* as The Woman	<i>The Turn of the Screw</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Olubajo "Bajo" Sonubi as Mlima	<i>Mlima's Tale</i>	7 Stages

Projection Design:

Milton Cordero^	<i>Everybody</i>	Alliance Theatre
Caitie Hevner^	<i>The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd</i>	Alliance Theatre
Jason Hines	<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts
Daniel Pope	<i>Kim's Convenience</i>	Aurora Theatre & Horizon Theatre Company
Olubajo "Bajo" Sonubi	<i>Mlima's Tale</i>	7 Stages

Scenic Design:

Michael Carnahan^	<i>The Hot Wing King</i>	Alliance Theatre
Isabel & Moriah Curley-Clay^	<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre
Isabel & Moriah Curley-Clay^	<i>Designing Women 2020</i>	Horizon Theatre Company
Isabel & Moriah Curley-Clay^	<i>Support Group for Men</i>	Horizon Theatre Company
Ryan Sbaratta	<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts

Sound Design:

Christopher Darbassie	<i>The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd</i>	Alliance Theatre
Mikaela Fraser	<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre
Bailey Gafeny & Johnathan Taylor / Multiband Studio	<i>Designing Women 2020</i>	Horizon Theatre
Winston Johnson	<i>The Turn of the Screw</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
Sharath Patel^	<i>The Humans</i>	Theatrical Outfit

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THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

Performance:

The Boy Who Kissed the Sky

Alliance Theatre

Deborah Bowman*, Alexandria Joy*, Aishé Keita*, Cedric Lamar*, Brandon L. Smith*, Mike Spee*, Adam Washington*

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Synchronicity Theatre

Jonathan Bryant, Brandin Jay, Kendra Johnson, Brittani Minniweather, Anthony Nash, Ja'Siah Young

Design:

The Boy Who Kissed the Sky

Alliance Theatre

Alan Yeong^ (costumes), Connie Yun^ (lighting), Miko Simmons (projections), Carey Wong^ (scenic), Chris Lane (sound)

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Synchronicity Theatre

Emily McClain (costumes), Maliya McCall (lighting), Gabrielle Stephenson (scenic), Johnathan Taylor (sound)

Direction:

The Boy Who Kissed the Sky

Alliance Theatre

Tim Bond+ (director), Eugene H. Russell IV (music director), Sonia Dawkins (choreographer)

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Synchronicity Theatre

Taryn Janelle (director/choreographer), LeRel Ross (music director)

New Work:

The Boy Who Kissed the Sky

Alliance Theatre

Idris Goodwin (book), Eugene H. Russell IV & Divinity Roxx (music)

Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters

Synchronicity Theatre

Karen Abbott (book), LeRel Ross (music), Taryn Janelle (lyrics)

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OUTSTANDING PRODUCTIONS

Musical:

<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre
<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre
<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre
<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express and Oglethorpe Theatre
<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre

Play:

<i>Designing Women 2020</i>	Horizon Theatre Company
<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre
<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express
<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts
<i>Tiny Beautiful Things</i>	Theatrical Outfit

World Premiere:

<i>By My Will</i> by Douglas Post	Atlanta Shakespeare Company
<i>Flex</i> by Candrice Jones	Theatrical Outfit
<i>Oh, To Be Pure Again</i> by Kira Rockwell	Actor's Express
<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i> by Jason Hines	Center for Puppetry Arts
<i>Water for Elephants</i> by Rick Elice (book), Pigpen Theatre Co. (music and lyrics), based on the novel by Sara Gruen	Alliance Theatre

Social Justice:

<i>The Hot Wing King</i>	Alliance Theatre
<i>Jesus Hopped the "A" Train</i>	Actor's Express
<i>Kim's Convenience</i>	Aurora Theatre & Horizon Theatre
<i>Mlima's Tale</i>	7 Stages
<i>Shirley Chisholm: Unbossed & Unbowed</i>	Out of Hand Theater

Theatre for Young Audiences:

<i>The Boy Who Kissed the Sky</i>	Alliance Theatre
<i>Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters</i>	Synchronicity Theatre

NOMINATIONS BY PRODUCTION

<i>Water for Elephants</i>	Alliance Theatre	15	Musical
<i>Guys and Dolls</i>	Atlanta Lyric Theatre	10	Musical
<i>Urinetown</i>	Actor's Express	10	Musical
<i>Next to Normal</i>	Jennie T. Anderson Theatre & Atlanta Lyric Theatre	9	Musical
<i>Prayer for the French Republic</i>	Actor's Express	8	Play
<i>Bright Star</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre	7	Musical
<i>Tesla vs. Edison</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts	7	Play
<i>The Play That Goes Wrong</i>	Aurora Theatre	7	Play
<i>Designing Women 2020</i>	Horizon Theatre Company	6	Play
<i>Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters</i>	Synchronicity Theatre	5	TYA
<i>The Boy Who Kissed the Sky</i>	Alliance Theatre	5	TYA

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<i>The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd</i>	Alliance Theatre	5	Play
<i>The Wiz</i>	True Colors Theatre Company	5	Musical
<i>Jesus Hopped the "A" Train</i>	Actor's Express	4	Play
<i>Mary Poppins</i>	Aurora Theatre	4	Musical
<i>Mlima's Tale</i>	7 Stages	4	Play
<i>The Hot Wing King</i>	Alliance Theatre	4	Play
<i>The Humans</i>	Theatrical Outfit	4	Play
<i>Kim's Convenience</i>	Aurora Theatre & Horizon Theatre Company	3	Play
<i>Lizzie</i>	Actor's Express	3	Musical
<i>Summer: The Donna Summer Musical</i>	Aurora Theatre	3	Musical
<i>Tiny Beautiful Things</i>	Theatrical Outfit	3	Play
<i>Much Ado About Nothing</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	2	Play
<i>Shirley Chisholm: Unbossed & Unbowed</i>	Out of Hand Theater	2	Play
<i>The Turn of the Screw</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre	2	Play
<i>As You Like It</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	1	Play
<i>By My Will</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	1	Play
<i>Dreamgirls</i>	Dominion Entertainment	1	Musical
<i>Everybody</i>	Alliance Theatre	1	Play
<i>Flex</i>	Theatrical Outfit	1	Play
<i>Oh, To Be Pure Again</i>	Actor's Express	1	Play
<i>Support Group for Men</i>	Horizon Theatre Company	1	Play
<i>The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	1	Play
<i>The White Chip</i>	Theatrical Outfit & Dad's Garage	1	Play

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