

The Suzi Bass Awards

2024-2025 Full Guidelines and Processes

What are The Suzis?

The mission of the Suzi Bass Awards is to celebrate and promote Atlanta professional theatre through the evaluation and recognition of excellence.

Our vision is of Atlanta as a vibrant home for numerous professional theatres that entertain extensive audiences with quality productions, provide a livelihood for a large and diverse family of theatre professionals, and draw ever-growing attention and business to the greater Atlanta area.

Our vision for the Suzi Awards organization is to be self-sustaining, well recognized in the community, and respected by other organizations, theatres, theatre professionals, and individuals.

Qualification Requirements for Companies, Productions, and Performers

1. **LOCATION:** Companies must perform within the Atlanta Metropolitan Area. Theatres outside the core five counties of Clayton, Cobb, DeKalb, Fulton, and Gwinnett counties may be considered with approval of the Judging Committee.
2. Producing companies must be professional theatre organizations (for-profit or not-for-profit) and must legally acquire the rights to present the production.
3. **PAY FOR WORK:** For a production to qualify for consideration, the producing company must compensate the directors, performers, and stage manager each with a sum equivalent to the “Suzi minimum” (currently \$150) per week of work in rehearsals and performances. If requested, the theatre company must provide documentation of amounts paid to production artists. The Suzi minimum may be increased no more often than every three years. The Suzi minimums for the near future will be:

2024-2025 = \$150 per week

2026-2027 = TBD

1. 2025-2026 = TBD

2027-2028 = TBD

4. **NUMBER OF PERFORMANCES: Qualifying productions must have a minimum of nine (9) performances over three (3) weeks (exclusive of previews) for which Suzi Judge complimentary tickets will be provided.**
 - a. For runs of at least 9 performances but less than three weeks, the Suzi Award judging committee can decide to judge the production if the theater company will allow our judges to make ticket reservations before the run opens and before we know if the show is Suzi-Recommended. If the

show ends up not recommended, the producer may reclaim any reserved judge tickets for the remainder of the run or may allow the judges to use them as a courtesy.

2.

- b. Producers will provide a “last seat guarantee” to Suzi Panel judges for any performance that is not 100% sold out, so that judges have the best chance of seeing all Suzi Recommended Shows.

These requirements are necessary to facilitate judges’ attendance of limited run shows since our judges must be able to schedule their time in advance. Suzi judges on certain panels see up to 60 shows per year.

5. EQUITY, DIVERSITY, AND INCLUSION: Producing theatres must meet five EDI requirements for their productions to be Suzi-eligible.

- a. If the organization has a Board of Directors, the board must include at least 30% people of color by June 30, 2025.
- b. Producers must hold an EDI discussion at the beginning of the rehearsal period to cover potential issues such as hair, make-up, costumes, microphones, lighting, mobility, tasks when off stage, story line themes, trauma, casting, dramaturgy, etc.
- c. Producers must hold at least two anti-bias training sessions for everyone in the organization before June . The Suzi Awards will make some anti-bias trainings available to participating theatres at no charge. Contact the Executive Director at admin@thesuzis.org for more information.
- d. Producers will encourage all staff, interns, artists, and board members to complete the Suzi EDI Self-ID form, and producers will submit theatre and production EDI forms listing all personnel involved in each production when the Suzi forms become available.
- e. Producers will review their board, staff, and production personnel and identify any homogenous groups. Does the organization have 50% people of color, 50% Women, 15% Women over 50, 20% LGBTQIA+ and 15% Persons with Disabilities? Identify where the organization can make any changes to become more equitable, diverse, and inclusive. Consider how the organization can build bridges and promote equity, diversity, and inclusion in these groups through cross-cultural exchanges, non-traditional mentoring and skill-set acquisition, fostering friendships, trust and loyalty, creating new work opportunities in the future and building a commitment to allyship.

Productions that meet these EDI standards and are Suzi-Recommended will be eligible for all individual awards (directing, design, and acting).

EDI STANDARDS FOR OUTSTANDING PLAY, MUSICAL, TYA, WORLD PREMIERE AND SOCIAL JUSTICE PRODUCTIONS

To be considered for any of the “Outstanding Production” awards, producing theatres must meet additional EDI standards regarding Specific Production Elements, Industry Access & Opportunities, Marketing/Publicity/Community Outreach, and Cultural Competency & Social Justice. Details are included in Addendum A.

5. A producer may submit any production during the current season that qualifies for consideration. It is not required that all a producer’s shows qualify to submit only one.
6. By participating in the Suzi Awards, each company affirms its responsibility to fulfill all legal and contractual obligations involved in the production of plays. This includes agreements with

performers, holders of rights, and any performing, writing, technical or other unions with which the producer contracts.

7. The Suzi Awards staff and judges expect that Consideration Forms, Production Programs, and other promotional material regarding the production will truthfully reflect the creators of the production, including playwrights and composers, production creative team, performers and musicians; and indicate when designs, choreography or direction are based on another artist's work. In cases of willful omission or false information regarding the production, the Judging Committee of the Suzi Awards has the right to exclude the production from some or all Nominating Ballot categories.
8. **TYPES OF PRODUCTIONS:** Opera, performance art, or community theatre will not be considered for Suzi Awards. Productions by participating theatres that are play readings or workshops, book musicals performed "in concert," or performances that are unscripted and/or substantially improvisational will not be considered for Suzi Awards.

10. **YOUTH & INTERN CASTING:** The Suzi Bass Awards recognizes the value of hands-on education in theatre and specifically acting. The long tradition of apprenticeship in the theatre should be continued, and the organization does not wish to penalize producers who provide valuable educational opportunities in their shows. However, to maintain an equal playing field across multiple levels of production budgets, we must restrict unpaid involvement in awards consideration. For a production to be considered for inclusion in the judging process:
- a. No more than 30% of a cast can be made up of adult unpaid (or underpaid) interns. Any unpaid or underpaid intern in a principal role will not be considered for individual acting categories but will be considered in ensemble award categories.
 - b. Children or “youth ensemble” cast in non-principal roles may be unpaid or underpaid with no restrictions as to their percentage of the full cast. However, these young actors will not be considered for any category inclusion (individual or ensemble)
 - c. Under no circumstances will productions be considered for Suzi Awards if the “youth ensemble” performs in the production as part of a tuition-based class or paid performance program.

10. REMOUNTS AND REVIVALS OF PRODUCTIONS:

- a. Remounts and revivals opening less than seven (7) years from the closing of the previous production will not be eligible for Suzi Awards consideration.
 - b. Annually-produced works will be considered once every seven (7) years, regardless of cast or production element changes.
 - c. For theatres specializing in a limited canon, such as Shakespeare, the time limitation on remounts is reduced to four (4) years. If a limited canon theatre produces an annual work, that production will be considered only once every (7) years as in (b.) above.
 - d. Any participating theatre’s production remounts opening in less than seven (7) years but more than four (4) years, with **substantial changes to cast or artistic team**, may be submitted to the judging committee for consideration. The changes must be detailed in an attachment to the consideration form.
 - e. For the purposes of the Suzi Awards, substantial changes are defined as two out of the three below:
 1. 50% or more of the cast has changed
 2. There is a new director
 3. At least two design elements are new
 - f. **In no event will any remount opening within 4 years of the previous production be considered regardless of changes in production team and/or elements.**
11. **COMMERCIALY-ENHANCED PRODUCTIONS:** The budgetary scale of commercially-enhanced, “Broadway-bound” productions makes for outsized competition and the majority (while not all) of the lead designers and actors involved with "enhanced" productions are not typically participants of Atlanta's professional arts community. With this in mind, the Suzi Awards are no longer allowing these productions to submit for consideration for the awards.

12. ELIGIBILITY OF PERFORMERS & ARTISTS:

- a. To be Suzi Awards eligible, a cast member must perform the role at the performances seen by the Suzi Opening Weekend Judges and must perform in at least the minimum number of performances required for eligibility: nine (9).
 - b. If scheduled cast changes will occur during a run, the Suzi Awards must be informed immediately of such changes. This notice allows us to alert the judging panels to a limited number of viewing opportunities.
 - c. If a cast member is otherwise eligible but is repeating a role for which they have previously won a Suzi Award, that performer is not eligible regardless of the category the role may have been placed in previously.
 - d. Eligibility for elements previously nominated for a Suzi (performance, direction or design) will be determined on a case-by-case basis by the Suzi Judging Committee. Elements/work that won a Suzi Award for a previous production will not be considered in remounted productions.
13. **CROSS MARKETING & PROMOTION:** Companies that participate in the Suzi Awards agree to promote the Awards through provided signage to be displayed in their lobbies. Companies also agree to participate in additional promotional opportunities throughout the season and particularly in the lead-up months to the Awards Event in November. Such promotional activities may include, but are not limited to: program stuffers, Suzi event and membership lobby displays and promotions during performance intermissions, web links, emails to subscribers, inclusion in subscriber newsletters, etc.
14. **COMPLIMENTARY JUDGE TICKETS:** Companies requesting judging consideration must agree to, and abide by, the process outlined below for notification and complimentary ticket accommodation for Suzi Judges.

Submission and Judging Procedures

1. **The judging season will follow the average theatre season. The 2024-2025 season will begin July 1, 2024 and end June 30, 2025.** Companies with qualifying shows whose opening date falls within the judging season will be considered for awards given the November following the completion of the judging season. Companies following a calendar-year season will have their season split between judging cycles.
2. **SUBMISSIONS BY THEATRES:**
It shall be the responsibility of each participating theatre to send the Suzi Awards their production information using the Consideration Request form available at <https://forms.gle/wwXW4Neon9j5niC48>.
3. Information requested includes the name of the company, contact information for the company's administrative liaison and box office liaison, title and playwright of the production, venue, official opening and run dates (exclusive of previews), performance days and times, number of performances, whether the production is a world premiere or by an Atlanta playwright, and whether the theatre wants the production adjudicated for the Outstanding Social Justice Production award. See Addendum B.

The Consideration Request form must be submitted at least sixty (60) days prior to opening. Should the theatre fail to notify the Suzi Awards staff within that time frame, the production may still be judged if the coordinators determine that enough performances remain to allow judging panels to attend.

It shall also be the responsibility of each theatre to notify the Awards office of any additions to or changes in their schedule as soon as these are known.

At least thirty (30) days prior to opening, the theatre must submit the Production Personnel Form available at <https://forms.gle/9L1C6GwgrmGqpPUG8>. This form includes names of creative staff (directors and designers) and the cast, including whether the cast should be judged as an ensemble or individually as principal and featured performers. See Addendum C.

4. If there are any changes to the cast line-up during the run, the producer will notify the Judging Coordinator as soon as possible.

3. SUZI-RECOMMENDED PROCESS:

- a. **As many as nine Opening Weekend judges from either the play, musical, or TYA panel, as appropriate, will attend the first three performance days of the production.** Judges will make their own reservations with the theatre's box office or administrative staff. Productions opening on a Saturday will have only their first two performance days judged as their Opening Weekend. Without conferring, these judges submit their Play, Musical, or TYA scoring forms to the Judging Co-Coordinator.
- b. Judges score separate elements of a performance with a detailed rubric. This rubric is attached to the guidelines as Addendum D. The major advantages of this scoring matrix are:
 - Individual scoring of Principal and Featured Actors
 - Detailed questions tailored to each category and vetted by professionals working in that category help focus a judge's thoughts when scoring
 - Scores on a 10-point scale including four decimal places, instead of 60 -100 points will provide a wider range of scoring possibilities.
 - The addition of scores for non-award categories relevant to overall production quality: Chorus and Technical Execution.
- d. Individually scored elements are tabulated into a show score for each Opening Weekend Judge and averaged with the other Opening Weekend Judges to obtain a recommending score for the production. (World Premieres are also scored on material and considered for the "New Play or Musical" category.)
- e. In addition to scoring, for verification, each Opening Weekend Judge must answer the question: "Do you think this production should be Suzi Recommended?" A "Yes" answer will indicate that the judge believes there are elements in that production which are likely to receive a Suzi nomination, and judges are encouraged but not required to list those elements.

- f. The recommending score for the production and the judges' "Yes/No" answers will determine whether that production is designated as "Suzi Recommended."
 - If the overall scores do not meet recommendation requirements, but all have voted a single element very highly, the judging co-coordinator will Recommend the production. The Suzi Awards Judging Committee implemented this change specifically to prevent the exclusion of a high-scoring element from the possibility of Nominations. Panel judges will not be informed that the Suzi Recommendation is based on this element and will score all the elements of the production.
 - PLEASE NOTE: Changes to the tabulation formula and Suzi Recommended minimum score thresholds will likely result in good shows not receiving a Suzi Recommended designation. The goal here is to limit panel judge attendance to the excellent and superior productions most likely to have elements in Nomination.
- f. If the Judging Coordinators, Judging Committee, or Executive Director feel that additional judging is necessary before announcing a Recommended designation, they will contact the producer and send staff members or highly experienced judges to the production. This would be a rare event and relies upon the sole discretion of the Suzi Awards staff.
- g. As soon as possible, Companies will be notified whether the production is "Suzi Recommended." Companies with Suzi Recommended shows will receive graphics files for use in their lobby and subsequent print ads, or on their marquee or website. The production will be marketed on Thesusis.org website under "Suzi Recommended Shows" with links to the theatre's show webpage. Each theatre is free to promote its "Suzi Recommended" shows in any way it sees fit by using the Suzi Awards logo and graphics.

4. JUDGING PANEL PROCESS:

- a. For Suzi Recommended shows, the appropriate panel judges will be notified. **Producers of each Suzi Recommended show commit to provide one (1) complimentary ticket for each judge on the appropriate panel.** Guests accompanying a judge shall purchase their own tickets. Panel Judges will make their own reservations with the theatre's box office or administrative staff. Administrative and box office personnel will be provided a list of the current Suzi Judge Panels and are requested to keep the list confidential.

- b. World Premiere productions are judged by both the appropriate play or musical panel and the world premiere panel. Only the World Premiere panel will vote in the category for “New Play or Musical.”
- c. Productions that are submitted for Outstanding Social Justice production are judged by both the appropriate play or musical panel and the Social Justice panel. Only the Social Justice panel will vote in the category for Outstanding Social Justice production. Guidelines for the Social Justice panel are attached as Addendum E.
- d. After seeing the production, panel judges will score elements using the same rubric as the Opening Weekend Judges. Submission of these scoresheets to judging@thesuzis.org should take place within 48 hours of seeing the production. The judging co-coordinator will use these submissions as proof of a judge’s attendance.

5. NOMINATION AND AWARD ANNOUNCEMENT PROCESS

- 7.
- a. At the end of the season, each panel judge who has seen and scored 40% or more of the Suzi Recommended shows for their panel is eligible to participate in year-end discussions and voting. Judges whose attendance falls below 40% will be excused from discussions and voting but their scores will be included in the panel averages.
- 8.
- b. Before the panel discussions, individual judges will receive a list of their scores in each award category ranked highest to lowest, as well as a list of the panel average scores in each award category ranked highest to lowest.
- 9.
- c. Each judging panel will meet either in person or virtually to discuss the categories and come to consensus for the five nominees per category (ten nominees in principal and featured acting categories).
- d. Chosen nominees will be placed on the Final Ballot for voting by the judging panels and Suzi Members. If necessary due to panel discussions, Final Ballot categories may contain more than five nominees. Where warranted by the panel discussions, a category may contain fewer than five nominees. If there are fewer than three eligible entries in a category, the winner will be required to reach 60% first place votes to receive the award.
- e. Thirty to sixty days prior to the Awards Ceremony, a public event will be held to announce the Nominees in each category.

- f. A panel-specific Final Ballot will be sent to each judge. Judges may vote on every category and will state how many nominees they saw in each category. Votes will be counted from all judges who saw at least 80% of the nominees.
- g. Member voting: The Final Ballot will be sent to the Members of the Suzi Bass Awards eligible to vote. Members at the Voting, Contributing, Sustaining, and Lifetime Levels are eligible to vote, and their submitted votes will be tabulated as a bloc. The results of this tabulation will be considered as an additional judge on each panel, and these "Member's Choice" votes will be tabulated together with votes of the panel judges. Members are not subject to any attendance or scorebook requirements.
- h. After tabulating the returns, one recipient will be awarded in each category, except where there is an exact tie.
- i. The Awards Ceremony will be held in November following the end of each judging season.

Special Awards

The Spirit of Suzi Bass Award

Each season, the Suzi Awards Board of Directors solicits nominations from the professional theatre community. The Board will choose a recipient of the Spirit of Suzi Award from among those nominated. The Spirit Award will be presented, and the recipient profiled during the Suzi Awards Event in November. The recipient will be a person or organization that demonstrates qualities reflecting Suzi Bass herself. Such qualities might include:

- Dedication to increasing the level of professionalism in the Atlanta Theatre Community;
- Selfless service to the Atlanta theatrical community through the development and support of theatre companies, professional artists, students of theatre, or new audiences;
- Consistent striving to better the working conditions of theatre artists, the support of audiences for theatre, or the environment for a strong and vibrant theatre community;
- True commitment to the joy of theatre as an avenue for self-expression, community empowerment, global connection, or cultural enrichment;
- Dedication to the belief that theatre can make a difference in Atlanta, and Atlanta theatre can make a difference in the world.

Volunteer of the Year Award

Each season the current Voting Members of The Suzi Bass Awards will vote to award a special prize to a person from the greater Atlanta theatre community. This award is intended to recognize the long-term, intensive, or extraordinary work of a volunteer for a Suzi Participating Theatre. Nominees for this award will have contributed significant time and talent to their chosen organization. Since the support of volunteers is so vital to the functioning of theatre organizations in the Atlanta community, this award strives to recognize the contribution of all volunteers by highlighting a few.

- Nominations for the Volunteer of the Year Award are submitted by the Administrative Personnel of Participating Theatres using the Special Award Consideration Form.

Possible examples:

- 1) A long-time volunteer who fills a staff position that must otherwise be budgeted;
- 2) A dedicated board or committee member who has personally spearheaded a successful major campaign or initiative;

- 3) A volunteer who has remained consistently involved through difficult times or over a long period;
- 4) A volunteer that your audiences or staff have come to recognize as part of your organization, and who actively contributes to your successful operation.

Since volunteer jobs are as varied as those that fill them, the possibilities are endless!

- **Each organization may nominate one volunteer each year (an individual or a couple) by submitting a written statement of 250 words or less and a photograph. Those submitted for the Volunteer of the Year award will be highlighted at the Nomination Announcement Event and on the Suzi Facebook Page.**
- Before the Awards Event in November, a ballot with nominating statements will be sent to the Voting Members of the Suzi Awards, who will determine a winner. (Any tie will be re-balloted, resulting in only one winner each year.) Members will vote by internet/email only, and the results will be confidential.
- The Volunteer Award may be presented at an opening night or other special event at the nominating theatre, and the winner recognized during the Suzi Awards Event in November.
- Previous Volunteer of the Year winners may not be re-nominated for a period of ten (10) years.

Callboard Award

Each season, the current Voting Members of The Suzi Bass Awards will award a special prize to a person from the greater Atlanta theatre community. This award is intended to recognize the work of a stage manager or other technical crew, front of house staff, or production staff of a Suzi Participating Theatre. Anyone working on a production but not fitting into regular "Suzi" categories may be nominated by any Suzi Member, or by the administration of a participating theatre.

Nomination is submitted through a written statement of 250 words or less and a photograph, along with a Special Awards nomination form. Those submitted for the Callboard Award will be highlighted on the Suzi Facebook page. Before the awards event in November, a ballot with nominating statements will be sent to the Voting Members of the Suzi Awards, and tabulated results will be confidential.

(Any tie will be re-balloted, resulting in no more than one winner each year.)

Lifetime Achievement Award

From time to time the Board of Directors of the Suzi Bass Awards may choose to recognize a member of the Metro Atlanta theatre community with a Lifetime Achievement Award.

- Unlike the Spirit of Suzi Bass Award, which focuses on a person or organization which demonstrates qualities embodied by Suzi Bass herself, this Award will focus on a body of work having a significant and long-term effect on the theatre community.
- Anyone may submit candidates for this award to any organizational staff or Board Member. Please include a short statement about the candidate's achievements. Candidates should be brought before the Board in sufficient time to research their body of work.
- The Recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award will be notified prior to the Awards Ceremony in November, and the award may be presented at a connected theatre or organizational event, with a profile and announcement at the Suzi Awards Ceremony.

Anyone may submit a nomination for the four special awards above by filling out the form available from admin@thesuzis.org. With each form, we request that you "make a case" for why your nominee is a great choice. We will share this information with the appropriate group choosing the award. We may use part of your nomination wording on the Suzi website or Facebook and Twitter platforms, for promotional purposes.

The Gene-Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award

Named in honor of a founder of The Suzi Bass Awards, and continuing in memory of his enthusiastic support of local playwrights, this award is currently an inscribed plaque. A committee of local theatre professionals, scholars and playwrights will read plays by local playwrights which have been produced in the current season and submitted to the committee as set out below.

To qualify for the Playwriting Award, the play must be:

- Written or co-written by a playwright/composer whose professional residence is the Atlanta Metro Area;
- Given a full production by a local theatre (no readings, staged readings or concert versions);
- Submitted for judging consideration no later than July 31 after the season in which it is produced, using the form available on the web at <http://Thesuzis.org>. This includes sending a digital copy of the final production script to judging@thesuzis.org.
- Released by the playwright to share among the Playwriting Award Committee for the sole purpose of judging for the award.

- **Productions of plays submitted for the GGM Award need not be eligible for consideration in the Suzi Performance Awards.**
- **Plays submitted for the GGM Award need not be premieres, nor need they be produced by a Suzi Participating Theatre.**

The Audience Choice Award for Outstanding Season

The public will choose this award to recognize an **outstanding overall season** by a Suzi Participating Theatre.

- Voting for this award is open year-round and closes the day before the Awards Event.
- The winner of the Audience Choice Award will be announced at the Awards Ceremony, and the Award and prize money will be presented at a subsequent opening night or special event at the winning theatre.
- Voting will occur through links on the Suzi Awards website. Voting/donation links will be placed on participating theatre pages, as well as the Audience Choice voting page, with \$1 designating one vote. There is no limit to the number of votes a person may cast, or the number of times they may vote.
- Tabulation of votes will involve a formula combining total votes per theatre company and the number of individuals voting for that company.
- Each theatre will receive 50% of the proceeds raised by their voters.
- The winner of the Audience Choice Award each year will be provided with graphics and verbiage for use in promoting the Award to their constituents and the public. However, this award is not a “Suzi” and should not be confused with the regular Performance Awards.

Administration and Oversight of Awards

The Suzi Bass Awards, Inc., a Georgia 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, is the entity devoted to the establishment, oversight, and continuation of the Suzi Bass Awards. The qualification requirements and judging processes are determined by the Judging Committee and ratified by the Board of Directors and may be revised prior to the beginning of each judging cycle.

Volunteer Staff Contact information:

Kate Warner, Board Liaison	admin@thesuzis.org	678-612-7027
Margaret Rhodes, Judge Co-Coordinator and Theatre Liaison	judging@thesuzis.org margaret.rhodes@thesuzis.org	770-597-1887
Taryn Janelle, Judge Co-Coordinator and Judge Liaison	judging@thesuzis.org taryn.janelle@thesuzis.org	256-652-2411
Webmaster	web@thesuzis.org	

Qualifications and Terms for Judges

Panel Judges are chosen after application to the Suzi Awards Judging Committee. Because there are more productions of plays than musicals or TYA, the number of judges per panel will be:

Play	25-35 judges
Musical	15-20 judges
Theatre for Young Audiences	10-15 judges
World Premiere	15-20 judges
Social Justice	15-20 judges

Judges agree to an initial commitment of one year, with additional terms dependent upon fulfillment of duties and compliance with the Suzi Awards Standards of Conduct. Judges may serve up to three consecutive terms on a panel before being rotated off that panel for at least one year.

Panel Judges are chosen based on their practice evaluation, academic background or career in theatre, significant professional experience, a history of theatre involvement, and/or extensive consistent theatre attendance in Atlanta and other major theatre centers.

Appointed Panel Judges make a commitment to the organization to:

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1. Serve as a representative of The Suzi Bass Awards while attending productions as a judge, and to reflect the integrity and professionalism of the awards,
2. Diligently check email or voice mail for messages from the Judging Co-Coordinators,
3. Communicate with the Judging Co-Coordinators in a timely manner, and provide scoresheets for Suzi Recommended Productions,
4. Attend as many as possible “Suzi Recommended” shows applicable to their panel (40% minimum),
5. Understand the judging process, score productions, and vote the ballots based on objective consideration of the artists and their work in those productions,
6. Agree to abide by the Suzi Awards Standards of Conduct and reveal any potential conflicts of interest.

Potential Panel Judges may apply at any time through our application form at:

<https://www.thesuzis.org/get-involved/judging/>

To be considered for the upcoming Judging Panel selection, applications must be received by April 30.

All Suzi Judges are unpaid. They volunteer their time and provide their own transportation to productions. Although costs for travel and parking are not regularly reimbursed, such costs may be deductible as a 501(c)(3) charitable contribution. Beginning in 2021-2022, the Suzi Awards established a transportation reimbursement program for judges who need assistance to be able to participate as a Suzi Award judge.

Categories of Performance Awards (2024-2025)

Production - Play	Production - Musical
Director - Play	Director - Musical
Principal Performer – Play (10 nominations and 2 winners)	Music Direction
Featured Performer - Play (10 nominations and 2 winners)	Choreography
Ensemble - Play	Principal Performer – Musical (10 nominations and 2 winners)
Costume Design - Play	Featured Performer - Musical (10 nominations and 2 winners)
Lighting Design - Play	Ensemble - Musical
Projection Design - Play	Costume Design - Musical
Scenic Design - Play	Lighting Design - Musical
Sound Design - Play	Projection Design - Musical
	Scenic Design - Musical
Production - TYA	Sound Design – Musical
Direction – TYA	
Performance - TYA	World Premiere Production (Play or Musical)
Design – TYA	
New Work - TYA	Social Justice Production (Play or Musical)

Possible Special Awards (2024-2025)

The Gene-Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award

For a play by a local playwright in production during the previous season; voted by a special committee of educators, playwrights, and other theatre professionals

The Spirit of Suzi Bass Award

For long-term and consistent commitment to professional theatre, reflecting the qualities of Suzi Bass herself, voted by the Board of Directors of The Suzi Bass Awards

The Volunteer of the Year Award

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For a dedicated volunteer working with a Suzi Participating Theatre; voted by the Members of
The Suzi Bass Awards

Callboard Award

Recognizing the work of a stage manager or other technical crew, front of house staff, or production staff of a Suzi Participating Theatre; intended for those working on productions that do not fit into “Suzi” categories; nominations may come from any Suzi Member, or from the administration of a participating theatre.

The Audience Choice Award for Outstanding Season

For an outstanding total season; decided by the public through “donation votes” to
The Suzi Bass Awards

Lifetime Achievement Award

For an outstanding body of work by an Atlanta theatre artist, playwright or producer having a significant impact on the theatre community; voted by the Board of Directors of
The Suzi Bass Awards

Addenda Attached:

A: Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion Standards for Outstanding Production Awards

B: 2024-2025 Suzi Awards Consideration Request – Information and Instructions

C: 2024-2025 Suzi Awards Production Personnel Form – Information and Instructions

D: Judges’ Scoring Rubric

E: Guidelines for Outstanding Social Justice Production