

THE READING CIVIC THEATRE

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2024

6 pm — Reading Civic Theatre

**Celebration of The Arts
Scholarship Competition
Berks County High School
Students in Theatre & Music**

Dear Theatre/Music Director or Counselor,

For the last fourteen years, Reading Civic Theatre (RCT) has held an event that is the organization's annual major fundraiser while providing an opportunity for our talented Berks County high school students, particularly those involved in a theater or music program, to compete for scholarship monies. We offer three scholarship awards totaling at least \$1200.

We are asking the "show" director, school choral director and/or counselor to each identify up to five (5) students, in either 11th or 12th grade, who would be interested in performing in this competition. All students identified by the school representatives will be offered an opportunity to attend an audition on either October 21, or October 22, 2023, at RCT's new venue located at 4350 Perkiomen Avenue in Exeter, site of the former Fox East Theater. There will be a \$10 audition fee to defray the cost of holding the audition.

The purpose of the audition is to identify 10 finalists who will attend the Gala to compete. The audition and actual event will showcase the students' ability in singing and acting. The song must be from a musical and the contestant must bring the music (no voice track) of the song on a flash drive to the audition. See attached "Contestant Rules" for further information.

The 10 finalists will be notified by Friday, November 3 of their acceptance to perform at the Gala being held on February 10, 2024. There will be three judges at the Gala as identified by the RCT Gala Committee. To assure fairness in judging, we will have the names of the judges by the audition. One of the requirements to be eligible for the event is that a contestant is not related to, or be a student of, a Gala judge. The winners will be identified the night of the Gala, and monies will be disbursed within two weeks after the event.

A complimentary seat at the competition will be provided to the contestant, however, a parent or guardian who must be present with the student will need to purchase a ticket.

Please submit the names of your contestants to us via email to RCTGala@readingcivic.org by Friday, October 6, 2023, and provide each contestant with a copy of the "Contestant Rules" (enclosed) as the deadline to signup is Friday, October 13, 2023, for them to setup an audition time on Signup Genius. The link for signups and further information may be found at readingcivic.org at the Scholarship Competition tab. Jeannette DeAngelo, from the Gala committee, will be available to answer any questions via email at jmbway@aol.com.

Thanks for your support of the Arts!
Jeannette DeAngelo, Barbara Yurick
RCT Gala & Scholarship Competition Committee

THE READING CIVIC THEATRE

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 10, 2024

**Celebration of the Arts
Scholarship Competition**

6 - 11 PM

**for Berks County High School Juniors and
Seniors in Music and Theatre**

***Deadline to request an audition date is October 13, 2023!**

Contestant Rules

ELIGIBILITY:

The following requirements apply to your eligibility for attending the audition and Gala event.

- You are in 11th or 12th grade at your school.
- You can attend an audition on October 21 or October 22, 2023, at RCT's new venue located at 4350 Perkiomen Avenue in Exeter, site of the former Fox Theater East.
- You must sign up for an audition time by the deadline on Signup Genius by Friday October 13, 2023. You will find the link for the sign-up and contestant rules on readingcivic.org (click on the Scholarship Competition tab). Jeannette DeAngelo, from the Gala committee, will be available to answer any questions via email at jmbway@aol.com.
- You and a parent or legal guardian will attend the RCT Gala from 6 -11 pm on February 10, 2024 at the Reading Civic Theatre, 4350 Perkiomen Avenue, Exeter.
- You are not related to, or be a student of, a Gala judge. The names of the judges will be provided by the audition. Note: You may be related to or a student of an RCT member or be an RCT member yourself.

THE AUDITION PROCESS

SIGN UP:

Auditions will be held on October 21 and October 22 (Saturday and Sunday) at RCT located at 4350 Perkiomen Avenue, Reading PA 19606. You MUST schedule your audition by 11 p.m. Friday, October 13 via Signup Genius. Choose the day (Saturday/Sunday) and time that you would like for your audition. You must provide your name, school, phone number, email address. To secure the audition.

date/time of your choice, signup early. Auditions will be scheduled on a first come-first serve basis.

* Saturday auditions will begin at 10:00 am at ten-minute intervals. Sunday auditions will begin at 1:00 pm at ten-minute intervals.

The purpose of the audition is the selection of 10 contestants that will perform in the competition for Scholarship Funds.

PROCEDURE:

- Plan on arriving at the audition 15 minutes prior to your assigned time to sign in and do any last-minute preparation. No props may be used.
- When called, you will have 5 minutes total on stage to setup, introduce yourself, and sing your audition piece. People who exceed that time will be asked to stop and will be judged based on their completed segment only.

WHAT TO BRING:

1. Two (2) forms of ID that show proof of your age and photo - birth certificate and one of the following photo IDs: your school ID, driver's license, or state ID). At least one of these forms must have your photo.
2. Your music should bring a pre-recorded, non-vocal musical accompaniment on your phone or flash drive. Please test your flash drive before arrival and label it with your name. No live music, no accompanist, and no "a cappella" allowed.
3. You will be allowed only one family member to accompany you in the audition due to limited space.
4. Your audition registration fee of \$10 in cash or check made payable to "Reading Civic Theatre."

WHAT TO SING:

Material must be drawn from published scripts written for theatre only. The song should be age appropriate and should be able to be sung comfortably in your vocal range. Works from other forms such as film or television, poetry, fiction, or popular song lyrics are not permitted.

JUDGING:

You will be evaluated in the following areas:

Character:

- o Clear character development
- o Establishment of mood or setting
- o Consistency and believability
- o Timing and pace

Voice:

- o Projection
- o Pitch, tone
- o Diction, vocal honesty
- o Interpretation
- o Energy
- o Connection to movement

Movement:

- o Use of body to convey character
- o Staging, use of space
- o Stage presence
- o Gestures and nuances
- o Connection to voice

Overall Presentation:

- o Appropriate material within your ability
- o Lines/blocking memorized
- o Commitment to the scene
- o Focus and concentration
- o Talent well showcased

NOTIFICATION:

The ten final contestants will be notified through email (RCTGala@readingcivic.org) by Friday November 13, 2023 of their selection to perform at the Gala. RCT reserves the right to reduce the number of final contestants that perform at the Gala if there are last minute cancellations (after Friday, December 13, 2023) or there are not enough qualified audition contestants. If you were not selected for the Gala this year, you are invited to audition next year if you are a high school senior.

SONG ASSIGNMENT:

If you are notified of RCT's acceptance as a Gala contestant, you will have until Friday, November 24, 2023, to email your list of songs (RCTGala@readingcivic.org) that you would like to perform at the Gala. This list should include at least three (3) songs and the musicals they are from and should be ranked in order of preference. You will only be performing one (1) song at the Gala. There will be no duplicate songs performed among the 10 contestants, therefore, you are not guaranteed one of the songs you initially submitted. The assignment of the song to each contestant will be on a first come first serve basis using the email date and time received. RCT reserves the right to request a resubmission of song preferences if there are exact duplicates or if your song preferences have already been assigned to another contestant. All ten final contestants will be notified, by Friday, December 1, 2023, of their song assignment. Note: You may submit the same song you performed at the audition.

HEADSHOTS & BIO:

Each contestant will need to submit a bio which will be used in the Gala program and other advertisements. The bio is to be no more than 75 words (not including your name and school.) Submit your bios via email to RCTGala@readingcivic.org by Friday, December 29, 2023. Headshots will be taken at the meeting in January.

THE GALA:

A mandatory meeting will be held on Sunday, January 7, 2024 at 1:00 pm at RCT, located at 4350 Perkiomen Avenue, Reading PA 19606, site of the former Fox Theater East, to review the activities for the Gala, answer questions, review bios and song assignments, review the judging process, rules, awards, confirm the release forms, and purchase tickets (if needed). Please bring a copy of your gala song on a flash drive labeled with your name to this meeting. A parent or legal guardian must accompany the contestant to this meeting as they will need to sign a Personal Release form. This is a very important meeting as a lot of information will be reviewed and discussed.

Each of the 10 contestants will be provided a seat at the Gala, however, the parent or legal guardian will need to purchase a ticket. Go to www.readingcivic.org and click on the TIX link to purchase your tickets. Be sure to include on the back of the order form all the people attending including the contestant and the parent/guardian. To make it convenient, order forms and monies can be handed in at the mandatory meeting on January 7, 2024.