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**2025 Suzi Bass Awards for the 2024-2025 theatrical season
to be presented at the
20th Suzi Awards event to be held on November 10, 2025
at the Variety Playhouse, 1099 Euclid Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia 30307**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Suzi Bass Awards Nominations

Nominees announced from 28 categories, including TYA, and representing 18 professional companies and 34 productions

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

Atlanta, GA—August 26, 2025: **Suzi Bass Awards** will take place at the Variety Playhouse in a live event, revealing the recipients for the 2024-2025 Atlanta professional theatre season and to celebrate the Atlanta theatre community and industry artists. Information about tickets will be released soon.

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 (dave.stevens7@icloud.com) to reserve your press ticket.

Nominees are listed on the Suzi website, Suzi Facebook and Suzi Instagram pages.

* Member, Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States
+ Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society
^ Member, IATSE United Scenic Artists

PLAYS DESIGN AND DIRECTION

Costume Design:

Jarrold Barnes

JaJa's African Hair Braiding

Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company

April Carswell

The Dark Lady

Synchronicity Theatre

April Carswell

The Lehman Trilogy

Theatrical Outfit

Jennifer Schottstaedt

Émilie: La Marquise du Châtelet défend sa vie ce soir

Théâtre du Rêve

Jennifer Schottstaedt

Marie Antoinette

Actor's Express with Oglethorpe Theatre

Lighting Design:

CJ Barnwell

The Gods of Comedy

Aurora Theatre

Mary Parker

I Carry Your Heart with Me

Horizon Theatre

Ben Rawson^

The Mountaintop

Alliance Theatre

David Reingold^

The Lehman Trilogy

Theatrical Outfit

Yi Zhao^

Bust

Alliance Theatre

Projection Design:

Victoria Nation
I Carry Your Heart with Me
Horizon Theatre

Daniel Pope
The Gods of Comedy
Aurora Theatre

Matt Reynolds
Wild with Happy
Horizon Theatre

Miko Simmons
The Mountaintop
Alliance Theatre

Scenic Design:

Tony Cisek^
The Mountaintop
Alliance Theatre

Isabel^ & Moriah^ Curley-Clay
The Lehman Trilogy
Theatrical Outfit

Isabel^ & Moriah^ Curley-Clay
A Raisin in the Sun
Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment Group

Isabel^ & Moriah^ Curley-Clay
Doubt
Actor's Express

Matt Saunders^
Bust
Alliance Theatre

Sound Design:

Andrew Cleveland
The Dark Lady
Synchronicity Theatre

Melanie Chen Cole
The Mountaintop
Alliance Theatre

Mikaela Frasier
Doubt
Actor's Express

Kendall Simpson
The Lehman Trilogy
Theatrical Outfit

Mikaal Sulaiman
Bust
Alliance Theatre

Direction:
Lisa Adler
I Carry Your Heart with Me
Horizon Theatre

Shelley Butler+
The Reservoir
Alliance Theatre

Eric J. Little
Topdog/Underdog
Actor's Express

J.L. Reed
The African Company Presents Richard III
Atlanta Shakespeare Company

Matt Torney
The Lehman Trilogy
Theatrical Outfit

PLAYS PERFORMANCE

Ensemble:
The African Company Presents Richard III
Atlanta Shakespeare Company
Destiny Danielle, O'Neil Delapenha, Tyren Duncan, Greg Hunter, Eric Lang, Jake West, Tre' Whitley, Vallea Woodbury

JaJa's African Hair Braiding

Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company

Aba Arthur, Veanna Black*, Ernaisha Curry*, Paris Cymone*, Shakirah Demesier*, Asha Basha Duniani, Marita A. McKee*, Adetipo Thomas, Dane Troy*, Zora Umeadi

The Lehman Trilogy

Theatrical Outfit

Andrew Benator*, Brian Kurlander*, Eric Mendenhall*

The Reservoir

Alliance Theatre

Joyce Cohen*, Mark Kincaid*, Rodney Lizcano*, Vanessa Lock*, Philip Schneider*, Peter Van Wagner*, Lori Wilner*

Topdog/Underdog

Actor's Express

Lamar K. Cheston*, Aaron Goodson*

Featured Performer:

In this category, there are 10 nominees and there will be 2 winners selected.

Mark Bedard* as Tomlin/Jack

Bust

Alliance Theatre

Marlon Andrew Burnley* as Joseph Asagai

A Raisin in the Sun

Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment Group

Matthew Busch as Sheep

Marie Antoinette

Actor's Express with Oglethorpe Theatre

Caroline Stefanie Clay* as Retta

Bust

Alliance Theatre

Kelly Criss as Gertrude

Hamlet

Atlanta Shakespeare Company

Tiffany Denise Hobbs* as Mrs. Muller

Doubt

Actor's Express

Cara Mantella as Adrienne

Cry It Out

Stage Door Theatre

Brad Raymond* as Mo

Wild with Happy

Horizon Theatre

Doyle Reynolds as Carl Linder

A Raisin in the Sun

Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment Group

Ivan Cecil Walks* as Boobie

Bust

Alliance Theatre

Principal Performer:

In this category, there are 10 nominees and there will be 2 winners selected.

Cynthia D. Barker* as Ruth Younger

A Raisin in the Sun

Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment Group

Carolyn Cook* as Esther

I Carry Your Heart with Me

Horizon Theatre

Dionna D. Davis as Émilie du Châtelet

Émilie: La Marquise du Châtelet défend sa vie ce soir

Théâtre du Rêve

Alexandra Ficken as Marie Antoinette

Marie Antoinette

Actor's Express with Oglethorpe Theatre

Jen Harper* as Lena Younger

A Raisin in the Sun

Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment Group

Tess Malis Kincaid* as Sister Aloysius

Doubt

Actor's Express

Enoch King* as Gil

Wild with Happy

Horizon Theatre

Joe Sykes* as William Shakespeare

The Dark Lady

Synchronicity Theatre

Justin Walker* as Father Flynn

Doubt

Actor's Express

Markell Williams as Solo

How to Make a Home

Out of Hand Theater

MUSICALS DESIGN

Costume Design:

Jarrold Barnes

Hot Jambalaya

Dad's Garage

Nicole Clockel

Cabaret

Actor's Express

Dr. L. Nyrobi Moss

The Color Purple

Aurora Theatre

Jeffrey Meeks & Alice Neff

King of Pangea

Aurora Theatre

Alice Neff

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Lighting Design:

Rachael N. Blackwell

Amelie

Horizon Theatre

Rachael N. Blackwell

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Joseph P. Monaghan III^

Cabaret

Actor's Express

Ben Perkins

The Last Five Years

Earl and Rachel Smith Strand Theatre

Ben Rawson^
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

Projection Design:

Victoria Nation, Lisa Adler, Isabel^ & Moriah^ Curley-Clay
Amelie
Horizon Theatre

Daniel Pope
The Color Purple
Aurora Theatre

When a category has fewer than 3 nominees, the winner must receive at least 60% of the votes cast.

Scenic Design:

Isabel^ & Moriah^ Curley-Clay
Amelie
Horizon Theatre

Michael Hidalgo
Winter Wonderettes
ART Station

Gavin Mosier
Hot Jambalaya
Dad's Garage

Dustin Pettegrew
Cabaret
Actor's Express

Shannon Robert & Brandon Roak
Waitress
Aurora Theatre

Sound Design:

Dan Bauman
Hot Jambalaya
Dad's Garage

Anna Lee
Waitress
Aurora Theatre

Allison Lourens
Amelie
Horizon Theatre

Matt Reynolds
Cabaret
Actor's Express

Matt Reynolds
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

MUSICALS PERFORMANCE

Ensemble:

Hot Jambalaya
Dad's Garage

Alexander Hudson, BriAnne Knights, Charis Sellick, Chris Hecke, Christina Cusack Curbelo, Marcie Millard, Mya Burns, Noelle McIntyre, Sully Brown, Trevor Perry

King of Pangea
Aurora Theatre
Logan Corley, Riley McCool, Wendy Melkonian*, Matthew Alvin Brown*, Isa Martinez, Barry Stoltze*

Winter Wonderettes
ART Station
Chelcy Cutwright, Kate Fahrner*, Avani Lesane, Molly Ann Tucker

Featured Performer:

In this category, there are 10 nominees and there will be 2 winners selected.

Jennifer Alice Acker as Georgette/Ensemble
Amelie
Horizon Theatre

Lawrence Flowers* as Reverend Doctor & Others
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

Lawrence Flowers* as Harpo
The Color Purple
Aurora Theatre

Tiffany Denise Hobbs* as Shug Avery
The Color Purple
Aurora Theatre

Steve Hudson* as Herr Shultz

Cabaret

Actor's Express

Brandin Jay as Jim Lawson & Others

Young John Lewis

Theatrical Outfit

Frankie Marasa 5th* as Ogie

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Mary Lynn Owen* as Fraulein Schneider

Cabaret

Actor's Express

Daja Rice as Becky

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Kari Twyman* as Dawn

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Principal Performer:

In this category, there are 10 nominees and there will be 2 winners selected.

Michael Bashil as Young John

Young John Lewis

Theatrical Outfit

Chloe Cordle* as Jenna

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Anna Dvorak as Amelie

Amelie

Horizon Theatre

Amitria Fanae* as Celie

The Color Purple

Aurora Theatre

Neal Ghant* as Stokely & Others

Young John Lewis

Theatrical Outfit

Alexandria Joy* as Dianne Nash & Others
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

Catherine Moulton as Cathy Hiatt
The Last Five Years
Earl and Rachel Smith Strand Theatre

Latrice Pace* as Willie Mae & Others
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

Hayden Rowe as Emcee
Cabaret
Actor's Express

Terrence J. Smith as Emmett & Others
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

MUSICALS DIRECTION

Choreography:

Thomas W. Jones II+
Young John Lewis
Theatrical Outfit

Pytron Parker
The Color Purple
Aurora Theatre

Kari Twyman*
Cabaret
Actor's Express

Kari Twyman*
Hot Jambalaya
Dad's Garage

Kari Twyman*
Waitress
Aurora Theatre

Music Direction:

Holt McCarley
Amelie

Horizon Theatre

Javar La'trail Parker

Hot Jambalaya

Dad's Garage

Ann-Carol Pence

King of Pangea

Aurora Theatre

Ann-Carol Pence

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Ann-Carol Pence & Chanel Bailey Ross

The Color Purple

Aurora Theatre

Direction:

Michael Barron

King of Pangea

Aurora Theatre

Candy McLellan Davison*

Hot Jambalaya

Dad's Garage

Liza Jaine

Winter Wonderettes

ART Station

Thomas W. Jones II+

Young John Lewis

Theatrical Outfit

Amanda Wansa Morgan

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

THEATRE FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

Outstanding Design:

Doctor De Soto

Alliance Theatre

Garry Lennon (costume design), Ben Rawson^ (lighting design), Lynn Jeffries (puppet design), Kat Conley^ (set design), Bahar Royaei (sound design)

Milo Imagines the Universe

Alliance Theatre

Jahise Labouef (costume design), Ben Rawson^ (lighting design), Brittany Bland (projection design), Josh Oberlander (set design), Joel Abbott (sound design)

Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote

Center for Puppetry Arts

Jennifer Schottstaedt (costume design), Liz Lee (lighting design), Stephen Mullinax (projection design), Jason Hines (puppet design), Isabel^ and Moriah^ Curley-Clay (set design)

Petite Rouge

Synchronicity Theatre

Dr. L. Nyrobi Moss (costume design), Elisabeth Cooper (lighting design), Tierney Breedlove (properties design), Gavin E. Mosier & Alexander Whittenberg (set design), Jeremiah Davison (sound design)

A Wrinkle in Time

Georgia Ensemble Theatre

Laurel Crowe (costume design), David Reingold^ (lighting design), Charlie Cote (projection design), Kallie Robinson (set design), Gamble (sound design)

Outstanding Direction:

Doctor De Soto

Alliance Theatre

Mark Valdez+ (director)

Milo Imagines the Universe

Alliance Theatre

Dell Howlett+ (director and choreographer), Christian Magby* (music director)

Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote

Center for Puppetry Arts

Jason Hines (director)

Petite Rouge

Synchronicity Theatre

Candy McLellan Davison* (director), Amy Duffy (music director), Pytron Parker (choreographer)

A Wrinkle in Time

Georgia Ensemble Theatre

Laurel Crowe (director), Imani Joseph (movement director)

Outstanding Performance:

Doctor De Soto

Alliance Theatre

Aretta Baumgartner, Ernaisja Curry*, Shelli Delgado*, Sarah Beth "Essbee" Hester, Bethany Anne Lind*, Shaun MacLean*, Kala Ross*

Milo Imagines the Universe

Alliance Theatre

Kendra Nicole Johnson*, Candy McLellan*, Ben Ohnemus, Jordan Patrick, Josiah Watson, Ja'Siah C. Young

Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote

Center for Puppetry Arts

Dolph Amick, Christopher Hernandez, Luis Hernandez, Isa Martinez, Amy Sweeney, Juan Carlos Unzueta*

Petite Rouge

Synchronicity Theatre

Mila Bolash, Morgan Crumbly, Brandin Jay, Roberto Méndez, Daja Rice, Barry Westmoreland

A Wrinkle in Time

Georgia Ensemble Theatre

Ashley Izzo, Aavyn Lee, Trevor Poll, Angel Fabián Rivera, Sydney Terry, Megan Zhang

Outstanding New Work:

Doctor De Soto

Alliance Theatre

Adapted from the book by William Steig, written by Idris Goodwin, music by Brandon Bush

Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote

Center for Puppetry Arts

Based on the book series by Duncan Tonatiuh, adapted by Jessica Espinoza, music by Clayton Colwell, lyrics by Jessica Espinoza

When a category has fewer than 3 nominees, the winner must receive at least 60% of the votes cast.

OUTSTANDING PRODUCTIONS

Outstanding World Premiere Production

Hot Jambalaya

Matt Hobbs & Travis Sharp

Dad's Garage

How to Make a Home

Amina McIntyre

Out of Hand Theater

Pride and Prejudice

Claire F. Martin

Atlanta Shakespeare Company with Belle Esprit Theatre Collective

The Reservoir

Jake Brasch

Alliance Theatre

Young John Lewis

Book & Lyrics by Psalmayene 24+, Music by Eugene H. Russell IV
Theatrical Outfit

Outstanding Social Justice Production

The African Company Presents Richard III
Atlanta Shakespeare Company

The Chinese Lady

Alliance Theatre

How to Make a Home

Out of Hand Theater

JaJa's African Hair Braiding

Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company

Young John Lewis

Theatrical Outfit

Outstanding Production, Theatre for Young Audiences:

Doctor De Soto

Alliance Theatre

Milo Imagines the Universe

Alliance Theatre

Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote

Center for Puppetry Arts

Petite Rouge

Synchronicity Theatre

A Wrinkle in Time

Georgia Ensemble Theatre

Outstanding Production of a Musical

Cabaret

Actor's Express

Hot Jambalaya

Dad's Garage

King of Pangea

Aurora Theatre

Waitress

Aurora Theatre

Young John Lewis

Theatrical Outfit

Outstanding Production of a Play

The African Company Presents Richard III

Atlanta Shakespeare Company

Doubt

Actor's Express

I Carry Your Heart with Me

Horizon Theatre

The Lehman Trilogy

Theatrical Outfit

A Raisin in the Sun

Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment Group

Producing Theatre	# of Nominations
Theatrical Outfit	27
Aurora Theatre	26
Alliance Theatre	23
Actor's Express	20
Horizon Theatre	15
Dad's Garage	9
Synchronicity Theatre	7
Atlanta Shakespeare Company	6
Dominion Entertainment (co-producer)	6
Center for Puppetry Arts	5
Georgia Ensemble Theatre	4
ART Station	3
Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company	3

Out of Hand Theater	3
Oglethorpe University (co-producer)	3
Earl and Rachel Smith Strand Theatre	2
Théâtre du Rêve	2
Stage Door Theatre	1

Production	Theatre	# of nominations
<i>Young John Lewis</i>	Theatrical Outfit	14
<i>Waitress</i>	Aurora Theatre	12
<i>Cabaret</i>	Actor's Express	9
<i>Hot Jambalaya</i>	Dad's Garage	9
<i>The Color Purple</i>	Aurora Theatre	7
<i>Amelie</i>	Horizon Theatre	7
<i>The Lehman Trilogy</i>	Theatrical Outfit	7
<i>Doubt</i>	Actor's Express	6
<i>Bust</i>	Alliance Theatre	6
<i>A Raisin in the Sun</i>	Theatrical Outfit with Dominion Entertainment	6
<i>Doctor De Soto</i>	Alliance Theatre	5
<i>King of Pangea</i>	Aurora Theatre	5
<i>Pancho Rabbit and the Coyote</i>	Center for Puppetry Arts	5
<i>I Carry Your Heart with Me</i>	Horizon Theatre	5
<i>Milo Imagines the Universe</i>	Alliance Theatre	4
<i>The Mountaintop</i>	Alliance Theatre	4
<i>The African Company Presents Richard III</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	4
<i>A Wrinkle in Time</i>	Georgia Ensemble Theatre	4
<i>Petite Rouge</i>	Synchronicity Theatre	4
<i>Marie Antoinette</i>	Actor's Express with Oglethorpe University	3
<i>The Reservoir</i>	Alliance Theatre	3

<i>Winter Wonderettes</i>	ART Station	3
<i>Wild with Happy</i>	Horizon Theatre	3
<i>JaJa's African Hair Braiding</i>	Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company	3
<i>How to Make a Home</i>	Out of Hand Theater	3
<i>The Dark Lady</i>	Synchronicity Theatre	3
<i>Topdog/Underdog</i>	Actor's Express	2
<i>The Gods of Comedy</i>	Aurora Theatre	2
<i>The Last Five Years</i>	Earl and Rachel Smith Strand Theatre	2
<i>Émilie: La Marquise du Châtelet défend sa vie ce soir</i>	Théâtre du Rêve	2
<i>The Chinese Lady</i>	Alliance Theatre	1
<i>Hamlet</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	1
<i>Pride and Prejudice</i>	Atlanta Shakespeare Company	1
<i>Cry It Out</i>	Stage Door Theatre	1

ABOUT THE SUZI BASS AWARDS

The Suzi Bass Awards were founded in 2003 by a group of artists and industry professionals to celebrate outstanding work in live theatre and the artists who produce it. The Suzi Bass Awards volunteer judges chose nominees and recipients in over 30 categories.

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