

Butler Arts Awards Overall Production Rubric

Grading Scale

All criteria in categories below will be evaluated on the following scale:

RATING	SCORE RANGE	DESCRIPTION
OUTSTANDING	90–100	Exemplary achievement. Criteria are demonstrated at an exceptional level and significantly enhance the overall performance.
ACCOMPLISHED	75–89	Strong achievement. Criteria are demonstrated effectively, with only minor areas for improvement.
SOLID	60–74	Effective achievement. Criteria generally meet expectations, though some inconsistencies are evident.
DEVELOPING	40–59	Partial achievement. Some elements meet expectations, but noticeable development is still needed.
EMERGING	Below 40	Limited achievement. Criteria are beginning to be demonstrated but require significant development.

Rating Breakdown

- **OUTSTANDING: 90-100**

- The “Is this the best high school production I’ve ever seen?” level.
- This is an exceptional, memorable performance that stays with you after you leave the theatre. The work demonstrates an unusually high level of preparation, artistry, skill, specificity, and commitment.
- Think: Unforgettable. I would tell someone they absolutely need to see this show. I would gladly see it again.
- Ask yourself:
 - ♣ Did this work genuinely surprise, move, or impress me?
 - ♣ Were there moments I will remember after leaving the theatre?
 - ♣ Did the production consistently demonstrate exceptional achievement?
- 90–94: Outstanding
- 95–100: Exceptional / truly unforgettable

- **ACCOMPLISHED: 75-89**

- The “Such a fantastic show!” level.
- This is a strong, polished production or performance that consistently demonstrates developed skills and artistic choices. There may still be opportunities for growth, but the work is clearly above average and frequently approaches an exceptional level.
- Think: This was a fantastic show. I was impressed by the students' preparation, talent, and artistic choices.
- Ask yourself:
 - ♣ Did the students consistently demonstrate strong skill and understanding?
 - ♣ Did the production frequently exceed expectations?
 - ♣ Were there many moments that felt especially successful?
- 75–79: Strong Accomplished
- 80–84: Very strong Accomplished
- 85–89: Exceptional Accomplished / approaching Outstanding

- **SOLID: 60-74**

- The “Really great, above-average high school production” level.
- This is a successful, well-done production or performance that demonstrates solid preparation and skill. The work accomplishes what it sets out to do, though there are noticeable opportunities for greater specificity, consistency, depth, or polish.
- Think: That was really great. This is a strong high school production.
- Ask yourself:
 - Was the work successful overall?
 - Did the students demonstrate competent and consistent skills?
 - What would elevate this from a good production to a truly memorable one?

- o 60–64: Lower Solid
- o 65–69: Strong Solid
- o 70–74: Very strong Solid / approaching Accomplished
- **DEVELOPING: 40-59**
 - o The “Good program, with room to grow” level.
 - o This is a production or performance that demonstrates positive work and emerging skills but also has noticeable inconsistencies or areas that need development.
 - o There should be genuine accomplishments to recognize at this level. Developing does not mean unsuccessful—it means the work is still developing toward greater consistency, specificity, and artistic maturity.
 - o Think: There is good work here. I can see what this program is capable of, and I can identify clear next steps for growth.
 - o Ask yourself:
 - ♣ What is working?
 - ♣ Where are the students beginning to demonstrate skill?
 - ♣ What specific improvements would make the greatest difference?
 - o 40–49: Beginning Developing
 - o 50–59: Strong Developing / approaching Solid
- **EMERGING: 0- 39**
 - o The “This program needs significant work” level.
 - o This is a beginning level of achievement in which the criteria are demonstrated infrequently or inconsistently. There are significant opportunities for growth in preparation, execution, understanding, or artistic development.
 - o Think: This program needs more development, preparation, or foundational work before the production can consistently meet the expectations of the rubric.
 - o Ask yourself:
 - ♣ What foundational skills need to be developed?
 - ♣ What is the most important next step?
 - ♣ What evidence of potential or beginning skill can I identify?
 - o Important: An Emerging score evaluates the current work in relation to the specific rubric criterion. It is not a judgment of the students' talent, potential, effort, or worth.

Production Rubric

CATEGORY	CRITERIA
OVERALL PRODUCTION	• Performance is organized, fluid and cohesive with an appropriate tempo. • Production choices demonstrate originality and creativity. • Storytelling is central to the production. • Production effectively showcases a range of student talents and strengths. • The themes and message of the show are defined and delivered effectively to the audience. • Production choices are appropriate to the performers' abilities while providing opportunities for artistic growth. • Performers demonstrate clear understanding, investment, growth, and artistic ownership throughout the production.
ACTING ENSEMBLE	• Listens to each other and reacts accordingly. • Maintains clear, strong characters. • Each member of the company shows evidence of character development and backstories. • Ensemble exhibits focus and appears confident, engaged, and natural onstage. • Performs with energy.
VOCAL ENSEMBLE	• Emotional understanding. • Appropriate volume, proper diction, correct pitch and tone, and supported breathing. • Expression and artistry. • Balance and blend of vocal parts create a cohesive ensemble sound. • Maintains consistent character through song.
DANCE ENSEMBLE	• Effective use of patterns, formations and space. • Stage presence, poise and energy. • Precision and synchronization. • Knowledge of routines and combinations. • Choreography demonstrates an appropriate level of challenge for the performers and is executed effectively.
PRODUCTION DESIGN	• Design elements effectively support the artistic intent of the production. • Design elements address the artistic and practical needs of the production. • Design elements are cohesive and work together effectively.
PRODUCTION CREW	• Deck crew: scene shifts demonstrate planning, knowledge, timing, and efficiency. • Lighting crew: cues are executed accurately and follow spots are used effectively when applicable. • Sound crew: cues are executed accurately; volume and balance are consistent and appropriate. • Safety: backstage areas are organized, clean, and maintained for safe operation. • Crew members maintain appropriate backstage attire, focus, and professional behavior.

Production Score Summary

CATEGORY	SCORE (0-100)	COMMENTARY (3-5 sentences)
Overall Production		
Acting Ensemble		
Vocal Ensemble		
Dance Ensemble		
Production Design		
Production Crew		