



**GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL
MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS**
Shuler Hensley Awards® an ArtsBridge Program

2026–2027

**Pre-Registration
Town Hall**

19th Annual GHSMTA Season





GEORGIA HIGH SCHOOL
MUSICAL THEATRE AWARDS
Shuler Hensley Awards® an ArtsBridge Program

Our Team

Who is here to help tonight

Beth Lenhart

Director of Arts Education &
Director of the Shuler Awards

Maddi Peddie

Production Manager &
Live demo support

**Please feel free to put your questions
in the comments as they come up.**

Welcome!

A few quick notes before we begin



**Tonight's Zoom recording
and slide deck**

www.artsbridgega.org

or



[@artsbridgega](https://www.instagram.com/artsbridgega)

Urgent Actions

NEW SCHOOLS:

Create your Acceptrd account
before Wednesday, August 5th at 8:00 AM.

ALL SCHOOLS:

Create your GHSMTA Portal account
before Monday, August 10 at 8:00 AM.

Questions or need help?

Beth's cell: 404-295-9052

GHSMTA: Our Mission

Celebrating excellence in high school musical theatre across Georgia

To serve as a resource and partner for each participating school, helping to move the needle of performing arts for your students and program.

19th Season

- New GHSMTA portal access for teachers: communication (to all teachers, or to Beth), adjudication scheduling, document library and all uploads.
- New platform for adjudicators: more efficient system to support their work
- Record name pronunciations right on the site.



Why This Work Matters

2025–2026 GHSMTA impact snapshot



67

Georgia high schools

30

counties represented

3,439

students engaged

18

Title I schools

6

first-time schools

\$18,215

student scholarships

More than recognition: the program helps schools improve, connect and build stronger theatre programs year after year.

Why This Work Matters



GHSMTA impact snapshot

2026 Student opportunities

Shuler Ensemble: 92
S.T.A.R. Council: 70

Program Growth (since 2022)

37%

Returning School Improvements From 2025 to 2026

63%

Total Category Improvements

14 of 16

Biggest category improvements

Technical Execution
Sound Design
Direction
Costumes
Choreography

National Award Winners

3

New This Season

A transitional year as we migrate into the new GHSMTA Portal

TRANSITION YEAR

Two systems will work together this season.

- Directors: Application remains in **Acceptd**
- The **New GHSMTA Portal** becomes the new home for **scheduling** and season **communication**.
- Uploads from Acceptd Application will automatically go to the **new portal**, or can be uploaded directly.
- **Director's Document Library** will be found in the **New GHSMTA Portal**
- **Post Nomination** information will be entered on the **New GHSMTA Portal**.



For NEW Schools

Create your Acceptd account

BEFORE REGISTRATION DAY ON

Wednesday, August 5th

8:00 AM

This account is **required** to complete registration.

Always use CHROME as the Search Engine for proper functionality with the Acceptd platform

Account link: <https://app.getacceptd.com/login>

Accepted Account

Preparation Steps

- Click **Directory** in the top menu
- Search: **ArtsBridge Foundation**
- Click the **GHSMTA logo**
- Select **Start an Application** on the left-hand menu
- Read all instructions before accessing the application link on August 5th.



For All Schools

Create your GHSMTA Portal account

BEFORE ADJUDICATION DATE SELECTION ON

Monday, August 10
8:00 AM

This account is **required** before schools can select an adjudication date on the new platform.

Account link: ghsmta.getproductionops.com/signup

Set up your New GHSMTA Portal Account



- Enter your full name
- Enter your personal email
- Create a Password
- Click “Create Applicant Account”

A screenshot of the GHSMTA Awards Portal website. The page has a dark blue background. In the top left corner, there is a logo with a yellow 'G' inside a circle, followed by the text "GHSMTA AWARDS PORTAL". Below this, it says "2026-2027 SEASON". The main heading in large white letters is "Create your school's secure portal account." Below this heading, there is a line of smaller white text: "Submit applications, choose adjudication times, upload program materials, and communicate with the GHSMTA team from one place." On the right side of the page, there is a white box with a dark blue header that says "SCHOOL APPLICANTS". Below the header, the main heading is "Create account" in a large, bold, dark blue font. Underneath, there is a line of smaller text: "Use the primary school contact's information. Mobile numbers are collected for contact and account recovery. Text verification is temporarily disabled." Below this, there are four input fields: "Full name", "Email address", "Mobile number" (with a placeholder "(404) 555-1234"), and "Password". Below the "Password" field, there is a yellow button with the text "Create applicant account". At the bottom of the white box, there are two links: "Already registered? [Sign in](#)" and "GHSMTA staff or adjudicator? [Staff signup](#)".

Which Platform Do I Use?

The goal is a full switch for the 2027-2028 season. This year, we slowly transition.

Accepted

- ✓ Registration / Section A
- ✓ Pre-Production/Section B1,B2,B3 (B4?)
- ✓ Post-Production/Section C

GHSMTA Portal

- ✓ Portal account creation
- ✓ Document signatures: Director's Agreement, I.D.E.A. Policy, Mandated Reporter.
- ✓ Adjudication date selection
- ✓ Messaging
- ✓ Directors' Document Library
- ✓ Direct Upload Capability
- ✓ Student Scholarship Application
- ✓ Post-nomination materials

What Stays in Accepted

Registration/Section A

Registration Day

Wednesday, August 5
8:00 AM – 11:59 PM

- **Section A** is the registration application.
- Once submitted, you'll receive a confirmation message.



No more panic or rush: registration stays open all day.

Registration Application Includes

Keep these details nearby before you begin

Director Info

- First and last name
- Pronouns
- Cell phone
- Email address

Tip: confirm your school firewall will allow GHSMTA / Acceptd notifications.

School Info

- School name
- Phone + extension
- Address
- County
- District
- School type
- URL for theater program website and/or social media platforms
- # of years as Shuler participating school



Registration Application Includes

Keep these details nearby before you begin

Basic Musical Production Info

- Name of Musical
- Production Run dates
- Licensing Company and any specific restrictions

Tip: Including the title of your musical helps to get adjudicator sign-ups.

Track Selection

- Competition Track
- Mentorship Track

Acknowledgements

- \$600 competition track registration fee (\$300 Title I fee)
- \$150 mentorship track registration fee
- Payment due, Monday, August 31st, 2026
- Title I scholarship options available
- Participating Director Town Hall: Sept. 9 at 7:00 PM
- Section B & C Deadlines

Two Participation Tracks

Season dates: October 9, 2026 – March 7, 2027

Mentorship Track

- ✓ Written feedback only
- ✓ 1–3 adjudicators
- ✓ Designed for growth and improvement for developing or transitioning programs.
- ✓ Date outside of season window: requests for approval

Competition Track

- ✓ Scores and comments
- ✓ 3 adjudicators
- ✓ Eligible categories considered for awards

Both tracks include student opportunities:

Shuler Ensemble

S.T.A.R. Council

Student Scholarships

**Purple Carpet & Show
Tickets**

Student Reporter

Student Musicians

Selecting Your Adjudication Date

This is the biggest process change for 2026–2027

- 1 Sign in to the **New GHSMTA Portal** at 8:00 AM on Monday, August 10.
- 2 Click Schedule and review available dates.
- 3 Choose your preferred date or join a waitlist.
- 4 Watch for official confirmation once a full panel is secured.

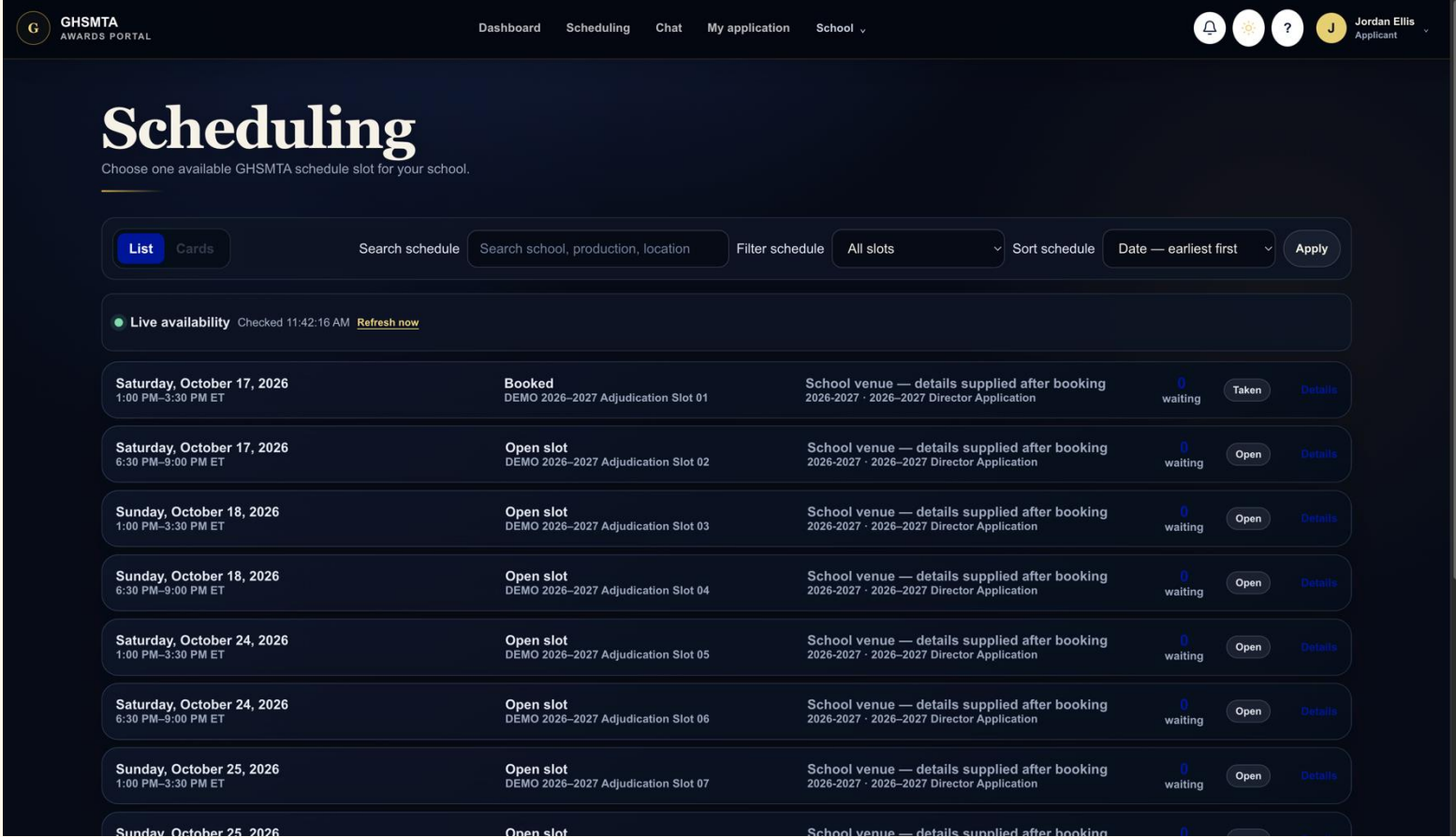
Have alternate dates ready before you sign in.



Scheduling in the New GHSM TA Portal

Scheduling is the first major process change

- Step 1: Sign into your GHSM TA Portal account
- Step 2: click “Scheduling” in the menu bar at the top of screen
- Step 3: Locate your desired date
- Step 4: Look for availability of date, marked as “Open”
- Step 5: Click anywhere on the available date line and complete requested information



The screenshot shows the 'Scheduling' page of the GHSM TA Awards Portal. The page has a dark blue header with the portal name and navigation links: Dashboard, Scheduling, Chat, My application, and School. A user profile for Jordan Ellis is in the top right. The main heading is 'Scheduling' with a subtext 'Choose one available GHSM TA schedule slot for your school.' Below this is a filter bar with tabs for 'List' and 'Cards', a search field, a filter dropdown set to 'All slots', and a sort dropdown set to 'Date — earliest first'. A 'Live availability' status bar shows the last check at 11:42:16 AM. The main content is a table of available slots:

Date	Slot	Details	Status	Action
Saturday, October 17, 2026 1:00 PM–3:30 PM ET	Booked DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 01	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Taken Details
Saturday, October 17, 2026 6:30 PM–9:00 PM ET	Open slot DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 02	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Open Details
Sunday, October 18, 2026 1:00 PM–3:30 PM ET	Open slot DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 03	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Open Details
Sunday, October 18, 2026 6:30 PM–9:00 PM ET	Open slot DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 04	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Open Details
Saturday, October 24, 2026 1:00 PM–3:30 PM ET	Open slot DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 05	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Open Details
Saturday, October 24, 2026 6:30 PM–9:00 PM ET	Open slot DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 06	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Open Details
Sunday, October 25, 2026 1:00 PM–3:30 PM ET	Open slot DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 07	School venue — details supplied after booking 2026–2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application	waiting	Open Details
Sunday, October 25, 2026	Open slot	School venue — details supplied after booking	waiting	Open Details

Adjudication Calendar Capacity



Capacity depends on available adjudicators and travel

Each weekend can support up to 10 school sign-ups.

Performance Type	Capacity
Thursday evening	2 schools
Friday evening	2 schools
Saturday matinee	2 schools
Saturday evening	2 schools
Sunday matinee	2 schools

Your adjudication date will be official confirmed once a full panel is secured.

Open, Taken

What the scheduling status means

OPEN

Click to sign up for that date.

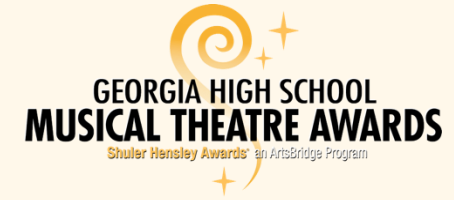
TAKEN

All available spots have been filled. To join the waitlist, click on the date and complete the information in the pop-up.

Only dates with available spots are guaranteed a full panel.

Join the Waitlist

What the scheduling status means



WAITLIST

Schools are added in the order they signup.

A Waitlisted Date cannot be confirmed until a full panel can be secured (October).

Saturday, October 17, 2026
1:00 PM–3:30 PM ET

Booked
DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 01

School venue — details supplied after booking
2026-2027 · 2026–2027 Director Application

0
waiting

Taken

Details

2026-2027 · 2026–2027 DIRECTOR APPLICATION

DEMO 2026–2027 Adjudication Slot 01

Saturday, October 17, 2026
1:00 PM–3:30 PM ET · School venue — details supplied after booking

Join this timeslot waitlist

If this reservation opens, schools are offered the slot in queue order for 15 minutes.

Alternate date 1 Optional
mm/dd/yyyy

Alternate date 2 Optional
mm/dd/yyyy

Alternate date 3 Optional
mm/dd/yyyy

Reason or scheduling context Optional
Travel, performance schedule, or other timing context

Additional notes Optional
Anything else the scheduling team should know

Join waitlist for this slot

Reservations and waitlist offers are enforced by the database, even when many schools click at the same moment.

The Full span of the Production Run will be considered to provide more secure date options.

Travel & Date Guidance

Help us build a workable route for adjudicators

- Schools more than one hour outside Metro Atlanta should select a matinee or earlier evening time when possible. This helps create safer, more manageable travel for adjudicators and secures full panels quicker.
- Have several alternate date options ready before entering the Portal.
- Recruiting more qualified adjudicators makes it easier to serve the dates schools need.

Link to [Adjudicator Application](#) (Can also be found on IG profile linktree.)

Adjudication Team

Professional feedback with a statewide lens



- Arts professionals across performance, production, design, education, and creative industries.
- Representing experience from regions across Georgia.
- All adjudicators apply, interview, and are approved by the GHSMTA Advisory Committee.
- **Adjudicators will work exclusively through the new Portal this season.**

Feedback Tailored to Your Program

Tools designed to make feedback more useful

Pick 6

Completed Adjudications by February 13 receive preliminary comments for their preferred six categories.

Director's Check-In

A 20-minute post-show check-in to clarify adjudicator questions and support advocacy, funding, and resources.



Award Categories



Competition Track schools are reviewed across eligible categories

Production

Overall Production *

Direction

Music Direction

Choreography

Orchestra

Performance

Ensemble

Leading Actress

Leading Actor

Supporting Performers (2)

Featured Performer

Technical

Costumes

Technical Execution

Lighting Design

Sound Design

Scenic

Specialty

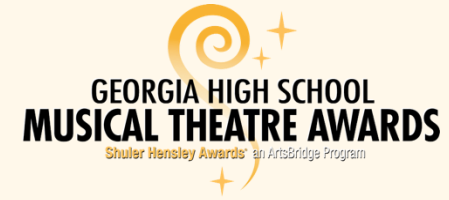
Showstopper

Spotlight

Standing Ovation

*** Overall Production eligibility requires at least 10 eligible categories. Check category requirements carefully.**

Key Dates: Registration Window



August and September deadlines

Aug. 5	Registration Day via ACCEPTS	8:00 AM – 11:59 PM
Before Aug. 10	New Portal Account Creation Deadline	8:00 AM
Aug. 10–14	Adjudication Date Selection	opens 8:00 AM on the 10th/ closes 5:00 PM on the 14th
Aug. 31	Registration Payment Due	5:00 PM
Sept. 9	Participating Director's Town Hall	7:00 PM

Key Dates: Season & Spring

Planning dates for the full GHSMTA season



Oct. 9 – Mar. 7	Shuler Season	2026–2027
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Mar. 18	Nomination Announcement	12:00 PM
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Mar. 21	Secondary Auditions	CEPAC
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Apr. 22	19th Annual GHSMTA Ceremony	8:00 PM
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Your Next Three Steps

The simplest way to leave ready



- 1 Complete registration on August 5.**
- 2 Create your NEW GHSMTA Portal account before August 10 at 8:00 AM.**
- 3 Have alternate adjudication dates ready before scheduling opens on August 10th.**

Questions can o in the comments.



Questions

Thank you for helping us build a stronger and more connected community.