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## **41<sup>ST</sup> ANNUAL LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS** **NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED**

**Audible Theater and P3 Productions' *MEXODUS* leads with nine nominations including Outstanding Musical.**

***PRINCE FAGGOT* from Playwrights Horizons and Soho Rep most nominated play with six.**

**New York, NY (Wednesday, April 1, 2026)** – Nominations for the 41<sup>st</sup> Annual Lucille Lortel Awards – the only New York theatre award to exclusively honor Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway – were announced today by **Amber Gray** and **Harvey Guillén**, both currently appearing in the Broadway revival of *The Rocky Horror Show*. The 2026 Awards will be presented at the annual ceremony scheduled for Sunday, May 3, 2026, at NYU Skirball beginning at 7:00pm. The event is open to the public, with tickets available for purchase at [tickets.nyu.edu](https://tickets.nyu.edu) or at the NYU Skirball box office Tuesday – Saturday 12pm–6pm. The Lortel Awards are produced by the Off-Broadway League and the Lucille Lortel Theatre, with additional support provided by TDF. TodayTix Group is a Red Carpet sponsor, Studio Seaview is a Producing Sponsor, and AudienceView, Checks & Balances Payroll, Line-Up, and The Pekoe Group are Presenting Sponsors.

Notable first-time Lortel Award nominees include **Sean Hayes** (*The Unknown*), **Dulé Hill** (*Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole*), **John Krasinski** (*Angry Alan*), **Amber Ruffin** (*BIGFOOT!*), and **Sia** (*Saturday Church*.) Artists with multiple nominations include **Brian Quijada** and **Nygel D. Robinson** (*Mexodus*) for Outstanding Musical and Outstanding Lead Performer in a Musical, **Darrell Grand Moultrie** (*GODDESS* and *Saturday Church*) for Outstanding Choreographer and **Isabella Byrd** (*Glass. Kill. What If If Only. Imp.* and *Prince Faggot*) for Outstanding Lighting Design. In total, the nominating committee saw 98 Off-Broadway shows this season, with 41 receiving nominations.

As previously announced, special honorees this year include *Lifetime Achievement Award* recipient **Mia Katigbak**, performer and founder of the National Asian American Theatre Company (NAATCO); and legendary composer and lyricist **William Finn**, who will be posthumously inducted onto the famed *Playwrights' Sidewalk* in front of the Lucille Lortel Theatre.

The Off-Broadway League's Lortel Awards Administration Committee (Jeremy Adams, Alana Canty-Samuel, George Forbes, Joey Monda, Kenneth Naanep, Ralph Peña, Catherine Russell, Michael Sag, Jonathan Whitton, Casey York, and Jeffrey Shubart, Chair) and the Lucille Lortel Theatre (George Forbes, Jeffrey Shubart, Nancy Hurvitz, Alana Canty-Samuel, Maura Le Viness, Karla Liriano, Kathryn McCumber, and Rascher Alcasid) produce the Lortel Awards Ceremony. Acclaimed writer/director Michael Heitzman directs the Lortel Awards. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, United Scenic Artists, the Lucille Lortel Theatre, in addition to theatre journalists, academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee.

For updates and news visit [www.LortelAwards.org](http://www.LortelAwards.org). Follow the Lortel Awards (#LortelAwards) on Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/lorteltheatre>), and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LortelTheatre>). Subscribe to the Lortel Awards [YouTube](#) channel to watch clips from previous ceremonies.

## **2026 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS NOMINATIONS**

### **Outstanding Play**

#### *Cold War Choir Practice*

Produced by MCC Theater, Clubbed Thumb, and Page 73

Written by Ro Reddick

#### *Kyoto*

Produced by Lincoln Center Theater, by arrangement with The Royal Shakespeare Company, Good Chance, Rachel Styne and Jessica Fount

Written by Joe Murphy and Joe Robertson

#### *THE MONSTERS*

Produced by Manhattan Theatre Club in association with Two River Theater

Written by Ngozi Anyanwu

#### *Mother Russia*

Produced by Signature Theatre Company

Written by Lauren Yee

#### *Prince Faggot*

Produced by Playwrights Horizons and Soho Rep

Written by Jordan Tannahill

### **Outstanding Musical**

#### *BIGFOOT!*

Produced by Benson Drive Productions, David Carter, Frankly Spoken Productions, The Shubert Organization, Robin Thede, Carson Gleberman, Sean Nyberg, Adam Riemer, Stark Sands, in association with Manhattan Theatre Club

Book by Amber Ruffin and Kevin Sciretta, Lyrics by Amber Ruffin, Music by David Schmoll and Amber Ruffin

#### *Mexodus*

Produced by Audible Theater and P3 Productions in association with Gabrielle Palitz, Gina Maria Leonetti, Todd B. Rubin, Willette and Manny Klausner, Adam Zell & Co, MTTM Theatrics, Thompson Creative Group/Balsam Levitan, QM Productions / The Movement Theatre Company, Bright & Shiny Productions/DKIM Caldwell, Bazarach Productions/Brian Guy, Erica Berger/Studebaker Theater, Drama Club/Rick Feldman

Written by Brian Quijada and Nygel D. Robinson

#### *My Joy Is Heavy*

Produced by New York Theatre Workshop

Created by The Bengsons

#### *Night Side Songs*

Produced by Lincoln Center Theater/LCT3

Words and Music by The Lazours

*Saturday Church*

Produced by New York Theatre Workshop

Book and Additional Lyrics by Damon Cardasis and James Ijames, Music and Lyrics by Sia, Additional Music by Honey Dijon

**Outstanding Revival**

*The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Produced by Barbara Whitman, Aaron Glick, Timothy Bloom, James L. Nederlander, Nancy Nagel Gibbs, Debra Martin Chase, Rachel Sussman, Patrick Catullo, Ryan Solomon, by special arrangement with David Stone

Written by Music and Lyrics by William Finn, Book by Rachel Sheinkin

*Bus Stop*

Produced by Classic Stage Company, National Asian American Theatre Company, and Transport Group

Written by William Inge

*Gruesome Playground Injuries*

Produced by Seaview, Sue Wagner, John Johnson, Jillian Robbins, Adam Zell, Stella La Rue, Willette & Manny Klausner, Joan Rechnitz, Kyle Valentine, Bergère Cohen Productions, Steinfast & Moellenberg, Imaginespace, No Guarantees, Melissa Chamberlain & Michael McCartney, deRoy & Trezza, by special arrangement with the Lucille Lortel Theatre

Written by Rajiv Joseph

*Titus Andronicus*

Produced by Red Bull Theater

Written by William Shakespeare

*The Weir*

Produced by Irish Repertory Theatre

Written by Conor McPherson

**Outstanding Solo Show**

*Hold Me in the Water*

Produced by Playwrights Horizons

Written and Performed by Ryan J. Haddad

*I'm Assuming You Know David Greenspan*

Produced by Atlantic Theater Company

Written by Mona Pirnot

Performed by David Greenspan

*Nothing Can Take You From The Hand Of God*

Produced by Playwrights Horizons

Written by Jen Tullock and Frank Winters

Performed by Jen Tullock

*Other*

Produced by LaChanze, Marc Platt, Marvin Krislov/Adam Cohen, Anna Jenefsky, Bob Stachel/Aaron Yeshayahu

Written and Performed by Ari'el Stachel

### *The Unknown*

Produced by Seaview, ATG Productions, Pam Hurst-Della Pietra & Stephen Della Pietra, Mickey Liddell & Pete Shilaimon, Tom Tuft, Craig Balsam/Ken Levitan, Julie Boardman, Creative Partners Productions, Front Row Productions, Lloyd Tichio Productions, MarketStall, New Ventures Entertainment, in association with Hayes Entertainment, Inc.

Written by David Cale

Performed by Sean Hayes

### **Outstanding Director**

Knud Adams – *Cold War Choir Practice*

Shayok Misha Chowdhury – *Prince Faggot*

Stephen Daldry and Justin Martin – *Kyoto*

David Mendizábal – *Mexodus*

Keenan Tyler Oliphant – *Practice*

### **Outstanding Choreographer**

Edgar Godineaux and Jared Grimes – *Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole*

Darrell Grand Moultrie – *GODDESS*

Darrell Grand Moultrie – *Saturday Church*

Tony Thomas – *Mexodus*

Rickey Tripp – *THE MONSTERS*

### **Outstanding Lead Performer in a Play**

Noah Galvin – *The Reservoir*

Marin Ireland – *Queens*

John Krasinski – *Angry Alan*

Aigner Mizzelle – *THE MONSTERS*

Okieriete Onaodowan – *THE MONSTERS*

Susannah Perkins – *Antigone (This Play I Read In High School)*

Kara Young – *Gruesome Playground Injuries*

### **Outstanding Featured Performer in a Play**

Jorge Bosch – *Kyoto*

Felicia Curry – *Bowl EP*

Crystal Finn – *Cold War Choir Practice*

David Greenspan – *Prince Faggot*

Lizan Mitchell – *Cold War Choir Practice*

Deirdre O'Connell – *Glass. Kill. What If If Only. Imp.*

David Turner – *Mother Russia*

### **Outstanding Lead Performer in a Musical**

Abigail Bengson – *My Joy Is Heavy*

J. Harrison Ghee – *Saturday Church*

Dulé Hill – *Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole*

Ruthie Ann Miles – *The Seat of Our Pants*

Brian Quijada – *Mexodus*

Nygel D. Robinson – *Mexodus*

Daniel J. Watts – *Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole*

### **Outstanding Featured Performer in a Musical**

Nick Rashad Burroughs – *GODDESS*  
Judy Kuhn – *The Baker's Wife*  
Erin Morton – *Heathers The Musical*  
Stephanie Jae Park – *Monte Cristo*  
Caleb Quezon – *Saturday Church*  
Natalie Walker – *The Last Bimbo of the Apocalypse*  
Lynne Wintersteller – *About Time*

### **Outstanding Ensemble**

#### *Initiative*

Olivia Rose Barresi, Brandon Burk, Greg Cuellar, Harrison Densmore, Carson Higgins, Andrea Lopez Alvarez, Jamie Sanders, Christopher Dylan White

#### *Night Side Songs*

Robin de Jesús, Brooke Ishibashi, Jonathan Raviv, Kris Saint-Louis, Mary Testa

#### *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*

Philippe Arroyo, Autumn Best, Leana Rae Concepcion, Justin Cooley, Lilli Cooper, Jason Kravits, Matt Manuel, Kevin McHale, Jasmine Amy Rogers

### **Outstanding Scenic Design**

Miriam Buether – *Glass. Kill. What If If Only. Imp.*  
Afsoon Pajoufar – *Cold War Choir Practice*  
Riw Rakkulchon – *Mexodus*  
Adam Rigg and Anton Volovsek – *Bowl EP*  
David Zinn – *Prince Faggot*

### **Outstanding Costume Design**

Montana Levi Blanco – *Prince Faggot*  
Enver Chakartash – *TARTUFFE*  
Qween Jean – *Saturday Church*  
Celeste Jennings – *minor.ity*  
Kaye Voyce – *The Seat of Our Pants*

### **Outstanding Lighting Design**

Isabella Byrd – *Glass. Kill. What If If Only. Imp.*  
Isabella Byrd – *Prince Faggot*  
Mextly Couzin – *Mexodus*  
Cha See – *The Unknown*  
Studio Luna – *Marcel on the Train*

### **Outstanding Sound Design**

Caroline Eng – *The Unknown*  
Mikhail Fiksel – *Mexodus*  
Ryan Gamblin – *Bowl EP*  
Drew Levy – *The Weir*  
Bray Poor – *Eurydice*

## **Outstanding Projection Design**

David Bengali – *My Joy Is Heavy*

Stefania Bulbarella – *Nothing Can Take You From The Hand Of God*

Akhila Krishnan – *Kyoto*

Johnny Moreno – *Mexodus*

John Narun – *Bughouse*

## **HONORARY AWARDS**

### **Lifetime Achievement**

Mia Katigbak

### **Playwrights' Sidewalk Inductee**

William Finn

## **NOMINATIONS BY SHOW**

<i>_Mexodus</i>	9
<i>Prince Faggot</i>	6
<i>Cold War Choir Practice</i>	5
<i>Saturday Church</i>	5
<i>Kyoto</i>	4
<i>The Monsters</i>	4
<i>Bowl EP</i>	3
<i>Glass. Kill. What If If Only. Imp.</i>	3
<i>Lights Out: Nat "King" Cole</i>	3
<i>My Joy Is Heavy</i>	3
<i>The Unknown</i>	3
<i>The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee</i>	2
<i>GODDESS</i>	2
<i>Gruesome Playground Injuries</i>	2
<i>Mother Russia</i>	2
<i>Night Side Songs</i>	2
<i>Nothing Can Take You From The Hand Of God</i>	2
<i>The Seat of Our Pants</i>	2
<i>The Weir</i>	2
<i>About Time</i>	1
<i>Angry Alan</i>	1
<i>Antigone (This Play I Read In High School)</i>	1
<i>The Baker's Wife</i>	1
<i>BIGFOOT!</i>	1
<i>Bughouse</i>	1
<i>Bus Stop</i>	1
<i>Eurydice</i>	1
<i>Heathers The Musical</i>	1

<i>Hold Me in the Water</i>	1
<i>I'm Assuming You Know David Greenspan</i>	1
<i>Initiative</i>	1
<i>The Last Bimbo of the Apocalypse</i>	1
<i>Marcel on the Train</i>	1
<i>minor.ity</i>	1
<i>Monte Cristo</i>	1
<i>Other</i>	1
<i>Practice</i>	1
<i>Queens</i>	1
<i>The Reservoir</i>	1
<i>TARTUFFE</i>	1
<i>Titus Andronicus</i>	1

### **ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS**

The Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway were created in 1985 by the Off-Broadway League. The Lortel Awards recognize excellence in Off-Broadway by honoring the invaluable contribution of artists to the theatre community. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, United Scenic Artists, the Lucille Lortel Theatre, in addition to theatre journalists, academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee. Awards may be given in the following categories: Play, Musical, Solo Show, Revival, Alternative Theatrical Experience, Director, Choreographer, Lead Performer in a Play and Musical, Featured Performer in a Play and Musical, Ensemble, Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound, and Projection Design. The following honorary awards may also be given: Lifetime Achievement Award, Body of Work (awarded to an institution), Edith Oliver Service to Off-Broadway Award, and induction onto the Playwrights' Sidewalk in front of the historic Lucille Lortel Theatre in New York City. For more information, please see [www.LortelAwards.org](http://www.LortelAwards.org).

### **ABOUT THE OFF-BROADWAY LEAGUE**

The Off-Broadway League was founded in 1959 to foster theatrical productions produced in Off-Broadway theatres (productions in Manhattan in venues with 76-499 seats), to assist in the voluntary exchange of information among its members, and to serve as a collective voice of its membership in pursuit of these goals. In recent years the League has grown to represent an average of 150 individual members and theatres and 100 non-for-profit and commercial shows per season.

### **ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE**

Lucille Lortel Theatre's mission is to foster both new and established artists, increase awareness and appreciation of Off-Broadway, and uphold fair and equitable business and artistic practices in service of creating a larger, more diverse community of theatre makers and audiences. The Company builds on the legacy of its founder, Lucille Lortel (1900–1999), who was a champion of work by artists including Samuel Beckett, Caryl Churchill, Athol Fugard, Jean Genet, Adrienne Kennedy, Larry Kramer, Terrence McNally, Marsha Norman, Sam Shepard, and Wendy Wasserstein, among others. In addition to its Off-Broadway theatre, which has been in continuous operation since 1955, the Company is renovating a three-story carriage house in Chelsea that will act as the Company's new headquarters and a new studio theatre committed to the development of new works. The Lortel's programs include The Alcove at the Lortel, a commissioning and development program for early and mid-career playwrights; the 121 Project, a tailored development program for new musicals; NYC Public High School Playwriting Fellowship, Fellowships in NYC Theatre at Bennington College, the New York Emmy-Winning *Dangerous Acts: A Series Uplifting Black Writers from Our Past* (in partnership with HBCUs), Lucille Lortel Awards and Playwrights' Sidewalk, and Non-Profit Theatre Strategic and Management Services. [www.lortel.org](http://www.lortel.org).

## **ABOUT TDF**

Founded in 1968, TDF (Theatre Development Fund) is a not-for-profit service organization dedicated to sharing the power of the performing arts with everyone. TDF's mission is to engage a broad and diverse audience by removing the financial, physical, and invisible barriers to participation in the performing arts. TDF's initiatives include the **TKTS by TDF Discount Booths**; **TDF Memberships**; the **TDF Costume Collection**; and **TDF Accessibility, Education, and Community Programs**. Those Programs include open captioned, audio described, and ASL-interpreted performances; Autism Friendly Performances; the Veterans Theatregoing Program; school programs serving more than 11,000 NYC public school students annually; and partnerships with over 150 NYC community organizations serving 18,000 people in the tristate area. TDF welcomes NYC's vibrant communities to the theatre because experiencing the performing arts improves mental health and social connections. Learn more about TDF at [tdf.org](http://tdf.org).

## **ABOUT NYU SKIRBALL**

NYU Skirball, located in the heart of Greenwich Village, is one of New York City's major presenters of international work, and has been the premier venue for cultural and performing arts events in lower Manhattan since 2003. The 850-seat theater, led by Director Jay Wegman, provides a home for internationally renowned artists, innovators, and thinkers and presents ground-breaking events ranging from re-inventions of the classics to cutting-edge premieres, in genres ranging from dance, theater and performance arts to comedy, music and film. NYU Skirball's unique position within New York University enables it to draw on the University's intellectual riches and resources to enhance its programming with dialogues, public forums and conversations with artists, philosophers, scientists, Nobel Laureates, and journalists. [nyuskirball.org](http://nyuskirball.org).

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