

# The 2024-25 Hillcrest High School Season Announcements and CALLIE Award Winners

## 2024-2025 Theatre Season

- Performing Arts Large Cast Musical:
  - *Hedestown (Teen Edition)* by Anais Mitchell
    - Performances: November 21, 22, 23 & 25
- Productions Company Play:
  - *The Lord of the Flies* by Nigel Williams based on the novel by William Golding
    - Performances: January 22, 23, 24 & 25
- All-School Small Cast Play:
  - *Beautiful Burnout* by Bryony Lavery
    - Performances: March 7, 8, 13, 14, 15 & 17
- Productions Company Musical:
  - *Cymbeline: A Musical Fairytale Adventure* by William Shakespeare with music by Kristian Huff and various pop music legends
    - Performances: May 15, 16 & 17

## 2024-2025 Theatre Presidency

- PRESIDENT: Ellie Spilker
- VICE PRESIDENT: Maile Gonzalez
- SECRETARY: Caleb Timmerman
- STAGE CREW PRESIDENT: Harrison Treat
- STAGE CREW VICE PRESIDENT: Brooklyn Rood
- STAGE CREW SECRETARY: Kailee Paskins
- Sarah Baird
- Claire Bartlett
- Gideon Kirby
- Elise Parry
- Ryan Rasch
- Avery Rinke
- Elsie Slabbert
- Luke Summers
- Riley Thompson

## 2024 HUSKY THESPIAN CIRCLE:

Wesley Arbon  
Fischer Coleman  
Munashe Tanjani  
Mary Willhite  
Eliza Williams  
Gabe Williams

**2024 JASON LONG AWARD RECIPIENT:**

Auston Beals

**2023 THEATRE LETTER AWARDS:**

Aubrey Colson (TRIPLE Letter)  
Emily Alvey-Despain (DOUBLE Letter)  
Cache Despain (DOUBLE Letter)  
Lucas Fife (DOUBLE Letter)  
Jamie Jackson (DOUBLE Letter)  
Max Kratz (DOUBLE Letter)  
Nayantara Nair (DOUBLE Letter)  
Ellie Spilker (DOUBLE Letter)  
Jacob Tew (DOUBLE Letter)  
Riley Thompson (DOUBLE Letter)  
Eliza Williams (DOUBLE Letter)  
Gabriel Williams (DOUBLE Letter)  
Tasha Atwood  
Sarah Baird  
Peyton Denkers  
Anna Fetzer  
Maile Gonzalez  
Cole Madsen  
Anya Mertz  
Danielle Mertz  
Elise Parry  
Ryan Rasch  
Avery Rinke  
Kalia Schmidt  
Cameron Sorenson  
Tyler Strong  
Harrison Treat  
Mary Willhite

**2024 CALlie Award Winners:**

*The following nominations and winners were selected by a committee of 8 adult theatre experts:*

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTOR IN A LEAD ROLE:**

Gabriel Abbott, *James II: Day of the Innocents*  
Auston Beals, *James III: The True Mirror*  
Gideon Kirby, *James II: Day of the Innocents*  
Gabriel Williams, *Into the Woods*  
Gabriel Williams, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS IN A LEAD ROLE:**

Emily Alvey-Despain, *Into the Woods*

Hannah Fellows, *Into the Woods*

Munashe Tanjani, *James III: The True Mirror*

Munashe Tanjani, *Sister Act*

Mary Willhite, *Into the Woods*

Mary Willhite, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTOR IN A FEATURED ROLE:**

Lucas Fife, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

Briggs Hunt, *Into the Woods*

Phillip Hurst, *Sister Act*

Max Kratz, *The James Plays*

Cole Madsen, *Into the Woods*

Cole Madsen, *Sister Act*

Gabriel Williams, *King Henry VI Part 2 Ensemble Scene*

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ACTRESS IN A FEATURED ROLE:**

Aubrey Colson, *The James Plays*

Hannah Fellows, *Sister Act*

Anna Fetzer, *Sister Act*

Jamie Jackson, *Sister Act*

Nayantara Nair, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Ellie Spilker, *The James Plays*

Eliza Williams, *The James Plays*

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE IN A CAMEO ROLE:**

Aubrey Colson, *Sister Act*

Cache Despain, *Into the Woods*

Abram Meinzer, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Cooper Runnells, *Into the Woods*

Caleb Timmerman, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Kyrsten Tinsmith, *Sister Act*

**OUTSTANDING GROUP PERFORMANCE:**

Gabriel Abbott, Briggs Hunt & Abdul Khan, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

Cooper Cox, Lucas Fife & Luis Morales, *Sister Act*

Anna Fetzer, Ellie Spilker & Eliza Williams, *Into the Woods*

The Giant, *Into the Woods*

The Nightmare Demons, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

The Nuns at Queen of Angels Church, *Sister Act*

**OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE BY AN ENSEMBLE MEMBER:**

Summer Al-qaaydeh  
Grant Allen  
Kyleena Ballash  
Avery Rinke  
Kalia Schmidt  
Ginger Witkamp  
Clarissa Yeoman

**OUTSTANDING STUDENT COACHING:**

Sarah Baird, *Ajax*  
Cache Despain & Luke Summers, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*  
Abella Finch, *Wooded & Viewed*  
Eliza Hanson, Jamie Jackson & Eliza Williams, *King Henry VI Part 2*  
Abby Mettler, Jacob Tew & Mary Willhite, *The Winter's Tale*  
Brooklyn Rood, *On the Marry-Go-Wrong*  
Catherine Rubsam, *The Comeuppance*

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN STAGE MANAGEMENT:**

George Ereksan, *James II: Day of the Innocents*  
Elsie Slabbert, *James III: The True Mirror*  
Tyler Strong, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*  
Harrison Treat, *Sister Act*  
Harrison Treat, *Into the Woods*

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN LIGHTING DESIGN:**

Fischer Coleman, *Into the Woods*  
Fischer Coleman, *Sister Act*  
Connor Holley, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*  
Kailee Paskins, *James II: Day of the Innocents*  
Eli Skinner, *James III: The True Mirror*

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN SOUND:**

Wes Arbon (Engineer) – *Into the Woods*  
Wes Arbon (Engineer/Designer) – *James III: The True Mirror*  
Racer Phillips (Engineer) – *James II: Day of the Innocents*  
Brooklyn Rood (Engineer) – *Sister Act*  
Cameron Sorenson (Engineer) – *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN STUDENT DESIGN:**

Claire Bartlett & Cameron Sorenson (Prop Design) – *Sister Act*  
Elise Parry (Scenic Painting) – *Into the Woods*  
Elise Parry & Elsie Slabbert (Makeup Design) – *The James Plays*  
Elsie Slabbert (Makeup Design) – *Sister Act*  
Elsie Slabbert & Cameron Sorenson (Window Design) – *Sister Act*

**OUTSTANDING ACHIEVEMENT IN STAGE CREW:**

Claire Bartlett & Cameron Sorenson (Mic Techs) – *Sister Act*

Fischer Coleman (Kist Design) – *The James Plays*

Dane Rasmussen (Weapons Master) – *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

Elsie Slabbert, Cameron Sorenson & Harrison Treat (Castle Proscenium) – *The James Plays*

Rowan Willis (Dive Bar Design) – *Sister Act*

**FRUIT BASKET AWARDS**

*The following fun awards were voted on by the student body*

**BEST DEATH SCENE:**

Gabe Abbott, Lucas Fife, Jamie Jackson, Abdul Khan & the ensemble – The execution of the Stewart family, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

Gabe Abbott & Gideon Kirby – The Stabbing of William Douglas, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Auston Beals & Cole Madsen – The Shooting of Ernie, *Sister Act*

Jamie Jackson, Munashe Tanjani & the cast – The Giant kills The Narrator & Rapunzel, *Into the Woods*

Abram Meinzer, Sam Smith, Caleb Timmerman & ensemble – The Nightmare Execution of Young Douglas & Davey, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

**STAGE CREW MEMBER MOST LIKELY TO BE CAST AS A LEAD IN THE MUSICAL:**

Wes Arbon

The Fabulous Rowans (Rowan Hamill & Rowan Willis)

The Stage Right Dancers (Maddie Coleman & Eli Skinner)

Elise Parry

Harrison Treat

**BEST VILLAIN:**

Max Kratz, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Cole Madsen, *Into the Woods*

Cole Madsen, *Sister Act*

Ryan Rasch, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

Riley Thompson, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

The Giant, *Into the Woods*

**NAME A MORE ICONIC DUO:**

Tasha Atwood & Riley Thompson, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Anna Fetzer & Ellie Spilker, *Into the Woods*

Briggs Hunt & Cole Madsen, *Into the Woods*

Cooper Runnells & Luke Summers, *Into the Woods*

Gabe Abbott & The Kist, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

**WORST PARENTING AWARD:**

Emily Alvey-Despain, *Into the Woods*

Auston Beals, *James III: The True Mirror*

Lucas Fife, *James I: The Key Will Keep the Lock*

Max Kratz, *Into the Woods*

Max Kratz, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

Wary Willhite, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

**MOST MEMORABLE THEATRICAL MOMENT:**

The Baker, Little Red, Cinderella and Jack turn around to witness dozens of trees flying in from 3 sides of the stage to create the woods at the end of the opening number, *Into the Woods*

The Giant first appears in the rafters above the audience, *Into the Woods*

James II & William Douglas perform a physical theatre duet that launches them into 70 minutes of nightmare sequences before James wakes up in his bedroom, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

The Medieval Football Match, *James II: Day of the Innocents*

James IV's ancestors appear to guide him to the throne at the end of the trilogy, *James III: The True Mirror*

The first time the nuns perform revealing their fancy costumes and LED light displays, *Sister Act*