



## **What are the Jessies?**

The Jessies are Vancouver's professional theatre awards. Independent juries attend eligible productions and vote for the most outstanding work. Awards are divided into the categories of Large Theatre, Small Theatre, and Theatre for Young Audiences.

## **Who qualifies for the Jessie Awards?**

The Jessie Richardson Theatre Awards promote and celebrate excellence in Vancouver's professional theatre industry. In order to be eligible, a production must be a professional production and originate in the GVRD (or be co-produced with a member company). Remounts are not eligible.

Companies must register the production at least 21 days before their first performance.

## **If I am a visiting artist can I submit for the Jessie Awards?**

No – only shows produced (or co-produced) by GVRD-based companies are eligible.

## **What makes a production professional?**

Professional can be defined in a lot of ways, but for the sake of clarity and consistency, the Jessies define it as artists who are paid for their work or are members of a professional association (Canadian Actor's Equity Association). For a production to be eligible for the Jessies:

- 1) at least 51% of the applicable roles (see below) must be engaged under a professional form of contract (for example: CAEA/UDA/FIA) and be receiving the equivalent to the minimum fee of a **CAEA Indie 2.2 contract**.

**OR**

- 2) COLLECTIVE: all artists must be receiving a share of net box office profits in a production where at least 51% of the applicable roles (see below) are filled by full members of CAEA/ACTRA/UdA/FIA member unions or other professional artistic associations.

## **APPLICABLE ROLES**

Actors

Directors

Stage Managers

Assistant Stage Managers

Choreographers

Fight Directors

Productions working under a different model or form of contract may contact the JRC to request consideration.

### **I'm in a professional production, and the show originates in the GVRD. Now what?**

You can register your production online at <https://www.jessieawards.com/register>. Shows produced by companies with budgets of up to \$300,000 will pay \$55 +GST. Shows produced by companies with budgets of over \$300,000 will pay \$110 +GST for each show they register. Productions must be registered at least **21 days prior to the first public performance**.

It is then up to you to invite the jury to see your show and arrange for complimentary tickets for jury members. You may invite them through the Jury Chair, whose contact information you will receive upon registration. The Fringe will also give you more information on how Jurors get their tickets, and may assist in contacting the jurors directly.

### **What category do I register in?**

Categories for the Jessies are Large Theatre, Small Theatre, and Theatre for Young Audiences. The categories are determined based on a company's annual budget and theatre size. Chances are excellent that all Fringe Festival companies fall under Small Theatre, unless your budget is over \$300,000 per year. More information on registration can be found on the Jessies website ([www.jessies.ca](http://www.jessies.ca)).

### **How will I know if I am nominated?**

The theatre season for the Jessies runs from May-April, and so every year in May the nominees are announced at the Nominations Party. Companies with nominees are notified by phone that they should attend the announcement party.

### **When are the winners announced?**

The winners are announced at the Jessie Awards Ceremony and Party every year in June/July. Public ticket sales are done through Ticketmaster.