



The Roger Sturtevant Musical Theatre Award

About The Award

The Roger Sturtevant Musical Theatre Award, given under the auspices of the **Actors' Equity Foundation**, is available to current **Equity Membership Candidates** (EMC) who have demonstrated outstanding abilities in the musical theatre field. The award, consisting of a \$1,000 check and a certificate, is presented to one male and one female EMC based on a video recording of their work, written recommendations, and an application. A panel including actor/members of the Actors' Equity Foundation and members of the Casting Society of America choose the recipients of the award and announce the winners each April. The judging panel strictly adheres to the principles of non-traditional casting and actively encourages actors of all cultural backgrounds to apply for the award.

Roger Sturtevant June 11, 1937 - June 29, 2003



Roger Sturtevant, a beloved and much respected casting director, was born in New York City, grew up in Pelham, New York, and graduated from Middlebury College in 1958. He then served a tour of duty with the Merchant Marines.

In love with the theater from an early age, Roger began a show business career as box office treasurer (and sometimes as casting director) for summer theaters in the northeast, including the New London Barn Playhouse in New Hampshire and the Pocono Playhouse in Mountainhome, Pennsylvania. On Broadway he served as assistant treasurer in several theater box offices, including the Winter Garden during the original run of *Follies*, his favorite musical.

Roger began his 30-year casting career as an associate at Circle in the Square. In 1975 he began working at Ogilvy & Mather Advertising Agency in the commercial casting department. From 1979 to 1981 he joined Pat McCorkle and cast the NBC soap *The Doctors*, as well as regional theater and independent productions, and films. He later moved to Bates Worldwide to become its voice-over casting director in New York.

A renowned record collector, Roger had a collection of albums, tapes, discs, and related books which comprised a history of American music, and particularly the Broadway musical in the 20th century. He was regarded as a "walking encyclopedia" of theater and music and was often a source of factual inquiries for The Museum of the City of New York, major television networks, producers, authors, editors, performers and musicians from around the world.

Roger was an avid world traveler and is fondly remembered as the organizer of a popular, annual theater trip to London, sometimes involving more than 50 friends and their families. He was widely known and appreciated for his commitment to actors and actresses from their first audition onward. As many have said, "Roger believed in me, so I believed in myself."

The Actors' Equity Foundation

The Actors' Equity Foundation, Inc. is a 501C(3) organization incorporated in the State of New York. It is the charitable arm of the Actors' Equity Association and is supported through donor contributions. The Foundation provides assistance to organizations that help actors in need and grants to non-profit theatre companies throughout the United States. In addition, the Foundation administers a number of awards that have been endowed over the years, including the Roger Sturtevant Musical Theatre Award.

The Equity Membership Candidate Program

The Equity Membership Candidate Program (EMC) permits actors in training to credit theatrical work in Equity theaters across the United States towards eventual membership in Actors' Equity.



The Roger Sturtevant Musical Theatre Award Application

The Roger Sturtevant Musical Theatre Award, given under the auspices of the **Actors' Equity Foundation**, is available to current **Equity Membership Candidates** (EMC) who have demonstrated outstanding abilities in the musical theatre field. The award, consisting of a \$1,000 check and a certificate, is presented to one male and one female EMC, who are at least 15 years old, based on a video recording of their work, two written recommendations, resume and headshot and a completed application. A panel including actor/members of the Actors' Equity Foundation and members of the Casting Society of America choose the recipients of the award and announce the winners each April. The judging panel strictly adheres to the principles of non-traditional casting and actively encourages actors of all cultural backgrounds to apply for the award.

Name:		EMC #:			
Address:			Apt:		
City:		State:		Zip:	
Phone:		E-mail:			

Please submit the following with your application:

- 1) Current valid proof of enrollment in the EMC program. Staple a COPY of either your EMC card or EMC acceptance letter to this form. (Please contact the EMC Administrator at your nearest Equity office if you do not have proof of EMC Membership.) You must be at least 15 years old to apply.
- 2) A recent DVD of yourself singing a song or songs from musical theatre not to exceed five (5) minutes in total length. At the beginning of the recording, include a spoken introduction of yourself and the piece(s) you will be performing. Videos from actual theatrical productions are not acceptable. DVDs will not be returned. (Please ensure that DVDs are compatible with major stand-alone DVD players.)
- 3) Two (2) separate letters of recommendation from current or former teachers or theatre professionals. Please ask those who recommend you to describe their association with you and their opinion of your potential as a musical theatre artist.
- 4) A current photo and resumé of recent theatrical activity.

Mail your application form, including all of the requirements stated above to:

The Roger Sturtevant Musical Theatre Award
c/o Actors' Equity Foundation
165 W. 46th Street
New York, NY 10036

Application will be accepted annually between January 1st and March 15th, postmarked by March 15th.

Please note that incomplete applications will not be considered or returned.

I hereby affirm the above information to be true.

Applicant's Signature

Date



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Helpful Suggestions and Tips

- It is suggested that you submit two contrasting songs showing vocal and acting range (versatility and contrast) and musicality. Choices could include: up-tempo, ballad, contemporary, traditional musical theatre. When possible, women are encouraged to show belt and legit vocal capabilities.
- Be mindful of the acoustic dynamics of your recording. Review the recording prior to submission checking for clarity of sound and distracting background noise.
- Lighting in the room should allow you to be sufficiently well seen.
- Begin your submission with an introduction - say your name and the songs you will be singing.
- The minimum age for entry is 15 years old --- applicant should be High School age or older.
- Treat your submission as an audition --- it is. Dress and conduct yourself professionally.
- Include two letters of recommendation only.
- Remember that you have a **maximum** of five minutes to introduce yourself and your selections and to perform your songs.