



Zelma H. Weisfeld Costume Design and Technology Award Requirements & Eligibility

Candidates for the Zelma H. Weisfeld Award in Costume Design must display a strong design aesthetic competency in a variety of areas. The successful entrant will demonstrate clear execution regarding artistic and technical choices, process, and product. There are two categories of submission materials the designer may submit for consideration: primary and secondary. The primary consideration materials are REQUIRED and should show clear artistic choices and design execution in both process and product. The secondary consideration materials are optional and supplemental, to showcase other technology, making skills and/or artistic work.

Eligibility

- Nominees must be completing or have completed a graduate degree within the last two years.
- Two nomination options:
 - USITT members (faculty or other non-student professional) may submit a nomination
 - Students may self-nominate
- Nominees/nominators must be current USITT members by November 1, 2019.
- Nominated students and early career professionals are not eligible under a USITT organizational membership.
- Awards are open to all ages and recognize promising newcomers in each award area.

SUBMISSION PROCESS

1. Nominees must complete on-line form including a non-refundable \$25 entry fee by November 1, 2019.
2. Once registration is completed, each nominee will receive an e-mail containing a link to submit the required documents.
3. Submission Materials:
 - Resume
 - Letter of recommendation from a faculty member
 - Letter of support
 - Personal Artistic Statement
 - Statement of Conceptualization by Production
 - 5 digital image plates
4. Submission must be complete by **November 1, 2019**



PRIMARY CONSIDERATION MATERIALS

These materials are REQUIRED and are meant to showcase a strong artistic voice through understanding of text/music, collaboration within the design team, research and design development, and execution of the design.

LETTER & RESUME GUIDELINES:

- Nominees' current resume. PDF format only. Citations of websites are not permitted.
- Letter of Recommendation from a faculty member. The faculty member may include a design instructor, an instructor or supervisor in the shops, acting and history professors, department chairs, and other faculty mentors.
- Letter of Support may come from fellow collaborators, directors, choreographers, production team members, faculty members, or others in the entertainment industry.

PLATE GUIDELINES:

The primary consideration materials should be organized as follows:

- Five (5) plates of digital images are required. Plate refers to a single image or a collage of images, much like one page in a portfolio.
- Maximum size and resolution is 18 x 24 inches, 300dpi, 20MB.
- PDF format only.
- Event/play/piece title, scene and character clearly labeled with an appropriately sized and colored, easy-to-read, well-placed font.
- Recommendation of three (3) realized shows across all submitted plates.
- Multiple shows or projects *may* be placed on a single plate with proper organization, BUT for the most part there should be a maximum of one (1) show/project per plate and/or one (1) show/project that takes up multiple plates.
- Consider a way to organize the plates so that the process is shown in a clear, concise, and thoughtful manner. Quality should be stressed over quantity.
- On each plate, there must be one (1) full-stage photograph of a scene or moment featuring multiple characters in costume under stage lighting
- Should a production only have a single character/performer, than one (1) full-stage photograph of a scene or moment of the performer in costume under stage lighting is acceptable. Please note in the written component that the piece features a single character/performer
- Paper work should be legible, labeled, and be examples that best reflect process.

WRITTEN COMPONENT:

- Each applicant must submit a **personal artistic statement** articulating who you are as a artist. What is your creative working philosophy? What your personal approach to costume design? (Max 300 words)
- For each production featured on the five (5) required plates, the applicant must submit a **statement of conceptualization** articulating the design process, collaborative process within the production team and shop, research and development, communication with the run crew and others in the team and the ability to work within the parameters of the production as whole. (Max 800 words per show, no photos, may include but is not limited to):



- Demonstrate an artistic analysis of the event content (script, dance, music, etc.) and a discussion of the use of design elements to support the analysis.
- Synopsis of the overriding themes, motifs or elements as presented by the director/choreographer/musician.
- Explain the research and development process, and analysis/usage of other designer materials (scenic, paint, props, sound, lighting, projections, dramaturgy, etc.).
- Explain how collaboration was achieved with director, choreographer, other production and design team members, actors/dancers, costume shop staff, run crew, etc.

DEMONSTRATION OF THE DESIGN PROCESS:

The plates should be organized to show the process of design creation and implementation within the production process. It is recommended that the applicant submit materials for **at least** one (1) character's design development and execution. These may include (but are not limited to):

- Conceptual research and/or visual inspiration
- Sketches, drawings, renderings, and/or working drawings
- Sketches, drawings, renderings, and/or photographs of character design evolution
- Color palette information and/or imagery
- Fabric swatches
- "Process" photographs of costume fittings, costume builds, and/or crafts "in-progress"
- Productions photographs: featuring characters onstage and under stage lighting

SECONDARY SUPPORT MATERIALS

An additional three (3) plates of material may be submitted for a maximum of eight (8) plates total. These optional plates may include projects, from other areas of costume technology, entertainment technology or artistic work. This work may be produced or classroom projects, realized or conceptual, and should showcase the range of the applicant.

ADJUDICATION

Judges will **score (not rank)** each entry on the following:

- Adherence to the submission guidelines: plate size, format, and parameters
 - **Submissions not adhering to the format listed will be considered ineligible.**
- Content and organization of plates and photographs (image size & quantity, labeling, legibility, and clarity)
- Illustration and explanation of process: analysis to research, research to design, design to execution, and execution to production
- Demonstration of costume rendering/communication skills
- Quality, complexity, and appropriateness of design choices
- Written materials: clarity, articulation, and thoughtfulness