

**1. PARTICIPATION IN THE COMPETITION: GENERAL ENTRY**

1.1 This competition recognises the best dramatic talent in schools across Ireland and is run via the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards. Entry to the competition is made by submitting material in written or video format (as applicable to the category guidelines).

Categories are as follows:

1. **Best Overall School Play**
2. **Best Overall School Musical**
3. **Best Original Production**
4. **Best Costumes**
5. **Best Set**
6. **Best Male Performance in a Leading Role**
7. **Best Female Performance in a Leading Role**
8. **Best Performance in a Supporting Role**
9. **Best Musical Number**
10. **Best Choreography**
11. **Best Short Scene Script**
12. **Best Dramatic Review**

1.2 Participants submitting an entry must be enrolled in a primary or secondary school from the Republic of Ireland to be a valid entry. Bord Gáis Energy reserves the right to seek verification from the relevant school of the registration of any students, pupils or teachers who have entered the competition.

1.3 It is the responsibility of all participating schools to give permission for their students/pupils to participate in the programme and oversee their participation therein. A teacher/principal must sign each entry form to validate permission for all participants.

1.4 By entering the Bord Gáis

Energy Student Theatre Awards you agree that Bord Gáis Energy and all connected parties have the right to include entries received, or part there of, in any external press, publications, websites, social media and/or in any promotional material connected to this competition.

1.5 Entries may be completed, and productions may be considered for nomination, either in Irish or English.

1.6 The closing date for the receipt of Production Category entries is Friday 27 January 2017. The closing date for Written Category entries is Friday 10 February 2017. (Unless a specified date extension is announced by the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards).

1.7 A school may enter more than one production for consideration. A separate entry form must be used in the case of multiple entries (a photocopied form will suffice). However just one entry form is required for multiple category nominations within one production.

1.8 Employees, family members of awards, judges or employees directly associated with the running of the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards, or companies involved in the running of this project, are not eligible to enter this competition.

1.9 The personal details of entrants will be used solely for the purposes of the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards.

1.10 Entries must be in keeping with the law and must not violate the Consumer

Protection Act (2007) or any copyright law. All staged performances must have the necessary rights and permissions purchased prior to entry in the competition.

1.11 Please ensure you have read the detailed entry requirements which can be found on the entry form and the awards website [bgesta.ie](http://bgesta.ie).

1.12 Entry Terms and Conditions by Category are as follows:

**Production Categories 1 – 10: Entries through video submissions**

I Any staged material (contemporary, historical, musical etc) can be nominated in these categories, which can include existing (e.g. West Side Story) or original (entrant's own) work.

II Responsibility for procuring all copyright to performance and musical numbers lies with the school. No liability can be taken by the promoters for any infringement that may occur.

III It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that no element of their entry infringes the copyright of any third party or any laws.

IV The production must be students' own work but may be aided/guided by a class teacher. As theatre production is a collaborative process it is understood that parents/teachers will have provided support/assistance to the project. Each entry form must have the signature of a teacher to attest it is the entrants' own work and has the support of the school.

V Entries for Categories 1 – 10 must have been staged during the twelve month period between 27 January

- 2016 and 27 January 2017.
- VI By submitting an entry, the entrants and the relevant school grant the promoter the right to reproduce the entry (in full or in part) in print, or media, online or in such other publication as the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards, or any connected parties, might nominate without payment.
- VII By entering this competition the school confirms that they have secured publicity consent from all parents/guardians of all students/pupils involved in the production. This includes the right to use video or stills photography of all entries, in whole or in part, for publicity purposes. Bord Gáis Energy may seek proof of consent.

**Written Categories 1 and 2: Entries through written submissions**

- I All written submissions in Written Categories 1 and 2 must be original work. Entries must be the work of the individual submitting them and must not have been published elsewhere, or have won a prize in any other competition.
- II It is the responsibility of each entrant to ensure that no element of their entry infringes the copyright of any third party or any laws.
- III All written submissions must be original work. Plagiarism will result in immediate disqualification
- IV Copyright of all original material entered in this competition is retained by the author. By submitting an entry, the entrants and the relevant school or college grant the promoter the right to reproduce the entry (in

full or in part) in print, or media, online or in such other publication as the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards, or any connected parties, might nominate without payment.

**2 ADJUDICATION**

- 2.1 The awards are judged as follows:
- Primary: 3rd – 6th class (in the case of whole school productions, entry is open to all primary school pupils from junior infants to 6th class)
  - Secondary: 1st – 6th year
  - Categories 1, 2 and 3 (Best Overall School Play, Best Overall School Musical and Best Original Production) may include participants outside of the specified class groups, once they are enrolled in the school.
- 2.2 Please note that entrants' ages will be taken into consideration during the adjudication process.
- 2.3 Entries from Special Needs Schools will be adjudicated with the abilities of the pupils/students taken into consideration.
- 2.4 Please note the budget for the production will be taken into account during the adjudication process.
- 2.5 All shortlisted finalists will be selected and notified by 15 March.
- 2.6 All care will be taken but no responsibility will be accepted for misplaced work. Bord Gáis Energy cannot accept responsibility for lost, damaged or delayed entries. Proof of posting is not proof of receipt.
- 2.7 We regret that entries cannot be returned to entrants under any circumstances. Please retain original copies of all

entries, or your own digital records of all creative work submitted.

- 2.8 Shortlisted entrants may be asked to provide proof of age and to confirm the authenticity of their entry.
- 2.9 All shortlisted entrants and teachers may be required to participate in publicity (photographs, interviews, quotations etc). Consent forms will be made available for parental/guardian signatures for all minors in attendance at the Awards Ceremony.
- 2.10 Bord Gáis Energy reserves the right to amend, with draw or terminate the competition or alter the specification of the competition without prior notice in the event of reasons beyond their control.
- 2.11 The judges' decision is final and no correspondence will be entered into.
- 2.12 Canvassing of adjudicators will result in automatic disqualification.

**3 PRIZES**

- 3.1 Bord Gáis Energy reserves the right to change prize specifications subject to availability at conclusion of the awards. Substitute prizes will be of greater or equal value. No cash equivalents are available as an alternative in whole or part for the prizes that are offered
- 3.2 Notwithstanding that the winners may have been declared, if Bord Gáis Energy discovers before the distribution of prizes that for any reason under these rules a winner should have been ineligible to enter the competition or if the entry should have been declared invalid, Bord Gáis Energy reserves the right

to determine that a winning entrant is disqualified.

- 3.3 Shortlisted entries will be invited to the final Awards Ceremony which will take place in the Bord Gáis Energy Theatre in Dublin on 8 May 2017. A restricted number of participants will be able to attend the Awards Ceremony to represent the school. Each school will be notified of the number of attendees, should they progress to that stage.
- 3.4 All students/pupils travelling to attend the final Awards Ceremony must be accompanied by a parent, teacher or guardian.

#### 4 THE PROMOTER

- 4.1 The promoter of the Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards and to whom all correspondence should be addressed is:

##### **Bord Gáis Energy Student Theatre Awards,**

Real Nation,  
Fumbally Court,  
Fumbally Lane  
Dublin 8.  
**T:** 01 522 4840  
**F:** 01 522 4809  
**E:** sta@bordgais.ie

- 4.2 The promoter is not liable in any way for costs, expenses, damages, liability or injury arising out of or in anyway connected with the programme.

#### 5 ACCEPTANCE OF TERMS AND CONDITIONS

- 5.1 All entrants agree to be bound by the rules of the competition; failure on the part of any entrant to adhere to any or all of these rules will render their entry invalid.
- 5.2 These terms and conditions

may be amended at the discretion of the organisers at any time during the duration of the awards. Any amends to terms and conditions will be posted on [bgesta.ie](http://bgesta.ie).

#### **Bord Gáis Energy Terms and Conditions**

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- Users shall be responsible for the content of all communications to the Site, including its lawfulness, truthfulness and accuracy. Users must ensure that all such communications to the Site, whether by e-mail or otherwise, are free of all viruses, trojan horses, logic bombs, time bombs, worms or any other computer programmes which could prejudice the normal and proper functioning of the Site or which would do anything which if done by the user would be a breach of these TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE.

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- Bord Gáis Energy Limited will try to make the Site available but cannot guarantee that the Site will operate continuously or without interruptions or be error free and can accept no liability for its

unavailability. You must not attempt to interfere with the proper working of the Site and, in particular, you must not attempt to circumvent security, tamper with, hack into, or otherwise disrupt any computer system, service, web site, router or any other internet connected device.

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- Bord Gáis Energy Limited may alter these TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE from time to time and post the new version on the Site, following which all use of the Site will be governed by that version. You must check the terms and conditions on the site regularly.
- These TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE are governed by Irish law. The courts of Ireland shall have exclusive jurisdiction to hear and determine all disputes, questions and differences arising out of or in connection with these TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE, and the parties irrevocably submit to that jurisdiction for that purpose.
- If any provision or term of these TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF USE shall become or be declared illegal, invalid or unenforceable for any reason whatsoever, such term or provision shall be severable from the other terms and conditions and shall be deemed to be deleted from them.