



ADJUDICATOR PROFILE

Merrilie Stonewall



At an early age, I was classically trained in both piano and voice. I competed at the local Kiwanis Music Festivals for voice and came in first for many classes. I also received awards for excellence with the Royal Conservatory of Music and Mount Royal College. I also received a scholarship to the Banff School of Fine Arts for opera. I attended the University of Calgary and graduated from the faculty of Education, having a double major in both Music and Biological Sciences.

I went on to teach Band and performing Arts for 37 years. My Concert Band toured many cities in both Canada and the United States. We performed at music festivals and visited many underprivileged schools encouraging students to find enjoyment in music and maybe even become musicians. I believe that music should be encouraged and all students should be given the opportunity to learn to love music regardless of their talent.

I have directed over 60 Broadway Musicals during my teaching career including: Into the Woods, Les Miserables, Beauty and the Beast and Legally Blonde, to name a few.

I have had several students who have used their experiences in these high school productions to go on and perform on Broadway and at fringe festivals, become playwrights and actors, both on stage and in film and become recording artists. As well, several students excelled backstage and have gone on to lead lives as experts in technical theatre.

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The AMNA awards were created in 2015 to recognize and celebrate the talent, energy, enthusiasm and support for and of the arts in Airdrie.

