

MTCA 2026 INFORMATION

What is it?

- The competition is February 5 - 9, 2026 in Anaheim, California.
- The MTCA festival kicks off Thursday night with the MTCA Open Call—live auditions open to all students, offering a chance at a real-world audition experience to earn a featured role in our culminating showcase.
- Throughout the weekend, students will participate in Masterclasses led by Broadway professionals and industry leaders, gaining hands-on training in everything from vocal performance and choreography to audition technique and career development.
- The energy builds to our Broadway Finale Performance, a professionally directed production featuring students cast from the Open Call.
- Finally, we close the weekend with the MTCA Awards Ceremony at Knott's Berry Farm—honoring exceptional achievements in performance and creative artistry, featuring some unforgettable moments!
- We then will celebrate those achievements with time at Disneyland
- It is a yearly event that brings together theatre companies/groups, about 1500 students, from all over the country and is an amazing opportunity for young performers.
- In 2025, MTCA awarded over **\$350,000** in college and summer intensive scholarships to help students take their next step.

How much does it cost?

- The competition costs \$675.00 for everything.
- You can pay those fees in full here: [FULL PAYMENT](#)
- There is also the option to pay in 3 installments of 225.00 each which can be found here: [PAYMENT PLAN](#)
- If other arrangements need to be made, please contact Mrs. B at rbaez@ohanatheatricalproductions.com and we will work with you. Our goal is that everyone will attend the competition.

Are there scholarships?

The Musical Theatre Festivals Educational Foundation is offering scholarship opportunities for students attending MTCA 2026!

- Applications will open on October 1, 2025, and close on October 15, 2025.
- Scholarships may cover full or partial MTCA student fees or MTCA individual entry fees. A selection committee will review all applications and determine the awards.
- I will share the scholarship application links when they are provided to me.
- I can also submit one need-based scholarship application for a student, so please let me know if you would like me do this for you.

When is registration due?

- Ohana has to have all students registered by September 15th to participate. If you haven't done so already, please fill out the [Google Form](#) to register

How are you getting there?

- We will be flying from the Oakland airport to the Burbank Airport.
- Students will be asked to be dropped off and picked up from the airport.

- Our departing flight is at 11:20 a.m. with Southwest Flight #1678 (Should be at airport between 9:00 - 9:20 - don't be late)
- Our returning flight is at 7:25 p.m. with Southwest Flight #1170
- From the airport we will be taking a private shuttle to the hotel and they will be returning us on the evening of February 9th as well.

Where are you staying and what is the rooming situation?

- Students will be staying up to quad occupancy
- We will be staying at:
Hilton Anaheim
777 W. Convention Way
Anaheim, CA 92802
- The competition is held in the same hotel we are staying at.

How many chaperones do you need and how are chaperones incorporated in the events?

- I have two official parent chaperones for 18 kids plus myself.
- Chaperones/parent attendees must be registered with a group and purchase a wristband to attend any MTCA Festival Events. MTCA cannot make any exceptions to this requirement.
- Wristbands are issued only for registered attendees.
- Directors' and students' wristbands are a different color from the Parent/Chaperones.
- A chaperone ticket does not guarantee a seat in the main theatre for the opening and finale performances.
- Chaperones attending with my group will conduct themselves respectfully and professionally at all times toward staff, other directors, all students, all parents, and festival attendees.
- MTCA 2026 Main Stage Event Seating: Students & Directors will be seated together. Parent/Chaperones will not be seated with Directors and Students. Parent/Chaperone seating is not guaranteed and will be open based upon availability.
- As a parent, you can also attend but will need to register and purchase a wristband to be able to participate in all the festivities. Make sure to mark that you are interested in attending and I will make sure to get that information to you when it becomes available.

Can I attend if I don't chaperone?

- MTCA is a closed festival. Due to the nature of our Festival, MTCA does not permit any attendee who is not registered or identified to attend. The safety and security of students is the highest priority.
- Every attendee must be registered with a group and purchase the designated wristband type for Directors, Students, or Chaperones.
- All attendees must be identified with a wristband. Wristbands are limited and will sell out.
- **The cost of an All Access Wristband is \$345.00.** Includes all 4 days of Festival events *plus* the MTCA Private Award Ceremony at Knott's Berry Farm, with a park ticket.
- Wristbands are not guaranteed to be sold at the Festival.
- Separate wristbands are issued for the award ceremony. Any parents accessing the Festival without registering will be asked to leave.

What will my child be competing in?

- As a group, we are entering our show *The Lightning Thief - The Percy Jackson Story* into the competition.

- Category 1: Musical Production Group - we perform a condensed version of the show that includes dialogue, solos, ensemble work and dance.
- Category 2: Showtune Group - We will be performing the song *D.O.A.* from the show
- Students will also attend an open call audition for a chance to be in the festival performances that will happen on the evening of Thursday, February 5th.

Can my child compete in an individual category?

- Yes, the competition offers four other opportunities to compete with whatever work they wish to do. Trophies are given for 1 - 4th place and students will compete only against participants in the same grade.

Here are the categories and requirements.

1. Vocal Solo

- Song must be from a published stage musical or musicals in pre-production
- NOT ACCEPTABLE: songs from films/tv, Popular or classical songs not used in stage works, tracks with other people singing.
- No longer than 5 minutes and that includes the slate (Introducing name and song title)
- Hand props only, 1 chair provided
- Only accompaniment is your personal media device and speakers (performers provide)
- Costumes allowed
- Music cannot have any background vocals

2. Vocal Duet

- Students will be placed in the oldest participants division.
- Song must be from a published stage musical or musicals in pre-production
- NOT ACCEPTABLE: songs from films/tv, Popular or classical songs not used in stage works, tracks with other people singing.
- No longer than 5 minutes and that includes the slate (Introducing name and song title)
- Hand props only, 1 chair provided
- Only accompaniment is your personal media device and speakers (performers provide)
- Costumes allowed
- Music cannot have any background vocals

3. Monologue

- Must be from a published play or musical.
- NOT ACCEPTABLE: unpublished material
- No longer than 5 minutes and that includes the slate (Introducing name and monologue title)
- Hand props only, 1 chair provided
- Costumes allowed
- Only accompaniment is your personal media device and speakers

3. Musical Theatre Dance Solo

- Song must be from a published stage musical, musicals in pre-production
- Can use tracks with background vocals
- NOT ACCEPTABLE: Songs from film/tv or Popular or classical songs not used in stage works

- No longer than 4 minutes and that includes the slate (Introducing name and song title)
- Hand props only, 1 chair provided
- Costumes allowed
- Only accompaniment is your personal media device and speakers (performers provide)

What will my student need to pack?

This will be updated as we get closer but students will need the following:

For Comp:

- Costumes for competition
- Costumes for solo/duet/etc if applicable
- Any props you are responsible for
- Appropriate shoes
- Speaker with a charger

Clothing and Other Personal Items:

- You must travel in your Ohana Team Jacket (that will be provided for you in January). It makes keeping us together so much easier in a crowded place like an airport.
- Ohana shirt for Thursday (Will be provided in January)
- Comfortable clothes for Friday when not performing
- Something that stands out for Cattle Call Audition
- Comfortable clothes for Saturday when not performing.
- Something dressy for dance party on Saturday Night
- Ohana Theatre Team Jersey Shirt for Monday/airport
- Comfortable shoes to walk in
- Clean socks and undergarments
- Swimsuit
- Pajamas
- Dirty clothes bag
- Portable battery charger for your phone
- Water Bottle
- Medication (if necessary)
- Sundries - deodorant, toothbrush, toothpaste, hair products and tools, contacts, glasses, retainers, sunscreen, lotion, etc...
- Any stage makeup you might want
- SNACKS! Lots of them!
- Money for meals and spending at Disney
- School ID
- DO NOT bring any jewelry or valuables of any kind for the chance they may go missing.
- Helpful - label easy to lose clothing items with your name

Baggage:

- Nothing will be checked at the airport so everything needs to fit in a carryon.
- Bring a backpack for homework and to carry everything around daily both at the competition and the park.

