

Board Recognition

June 10, 2025

Dr. Charlene Parham, Denton ISD Receive Awards from Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Denton ISD and Dr. Charlene Parham, Area Superintendent of the Guyer High Zone, both received awards from the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR).

Dr. Parham received the ESGR Patriot Award for her support of Dr. Landon Turrbuiarte – who was recently named principal of Stephens Elementary – while he was in the National Guard. The Patriot Award reflects the efforts made to support citizen warriors through a wide-range of measures including flexible schedules, time off prior to and after deployment, caring for families, and granting leaves of absence if needed.

In addition, the ESGR also recognized Denton ISD and Dr. Susannah Holbert O'Bara, Superintendent of Schools, with the Above and Beyond Award,

The Above and Beyond Award is presented by ESGR State Committees to recognize employers at the local level who have gone above and beyond the legal requirements of the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act by providing their Guard and Reserve employees additional, non-mandated benefits such as differential or full pay to offset lost wages, extended health benefits, and other similar benefits. The award is given in limited numbers by State Committees to employers who have had at least one of their supervisors/managers recognized with a Patriot Award, and who have signed or agree to sign an ESGR Statement of Support.

Guyer High Theater Department Wins State Awards

The Guyer High School theater department received multiple awards from Broadway Dallas, Casa Manana Betty Buckley and Schmidt & Jones.

The Broadway Dallas High School Musical Theater Awards aim to inspire and honor excellence in high school musical theater while recognizing the importance of musical theater and arts education in North Texas.

Students and educators are recognized with an annual awards ceremony modeled after the Tony Awards and include both performance and production categories. The qualifying performances are scored by a select group of adjudicators with backgrounds in various art forms in education, music, theater, dance and related fields. Adjudicators follow rubric criteria to determine the winners in each category

The Betty Lynn Buckley Awards are named after Fort Worth's own Tony Award-winning Best Actress and Casa Mañana alumna, Betty Lynn Buckley. This scholarship awards program has celebrated the best in high school performing arts since 2000. A panel of distinguished judges – composed of local theater professionals and educators – votes for a winner in 17 award categories.

Established in 2010, and named after composer Harvey Schmidt and lyricist Tom Jones, the Schmidt & Jones Awards honor excellence in high school musical theatre in Dallas-Fort Worth.

This year, Denton ISD had the following award-winners in three Broadway Dallas categories, two Betty Buckley categories and one Schmidt & Jones category.

Broadway Dallas

Best Lighting Design

Fiddler on the Roof

Brayden Dorman

Best Ensemble

Fiddler on the Roof

Payton Abbott

Mae Adkins

Julissa Amaya

Seth Blanck

Landon Burch

Katheryn Camacho

Cristian Cendejas

Penelope Coleman

Kennedy Cook

Aly Delloro

Brayden Dorman

Ella Kate Freeman

Yahaira Garcia

Megan Gorman

Ava Hernandez

Emma Howell

Jenna Johnson

Lorelai Jones

Yubin Layman
Cecilia Legorreta
Lucas Madrid
Niala McBride
Olivia McDonald
Karmendy Miller
Daniel Obafemi
Chimdike Okere
Alyssa Nejeschleba
Finn Plunkert
Oliver Plunkert
Kinsley Roberts
Ella Rybowicz
Colton Scott
Jayden Shelby
Matthew Stalhood
Natasha Starnes
Olivia Temer
Jack Turner
Jamilah Turner
Noah Watson
Mads Wills

Best Direction

Eleshia Crotwell
Chris Crotwell

Casa Manana Betty Buckley Awards

Excellence in Sound Design

Hadestown: Teen Edition
Yahaira Garcia

Excellence in Scenic Design

Hadestown: Teen Edition
Brayden Dorman
Yaharia Garcia
Jenna Johnson

Schmidt & Jones Awards

Outstanding Ensemble

Hadestown: Teen Edition

Payton Abbott
Mae Adkins
Julissa Amaya
Landon Burch
Cristian Cendejas
Penelope Coleman
Kennedy Cook
Aly Delloro
Brayden Dorman
Ella Kate Freeman
Yahaira Garcia
Megan Gorman
Ava Hernandez
Emma Howell
Jenna Johnson
Lorelai Jones
Cecilia Legorreta
Lucas Madrid
Niala McBride
Olivia McDonald
Karmendy Miller
Chimdike Okere
Finn Plunkert
Oliver Plunkert
Ella Rybowicz
Colton Scott
Jayden Shelby
Logan Smith
Natasha Starnes
Olivia Temer
Jack Turner
Jamilah Turner
Noah Watson

The Guyer High School theater directors are Chris and Eleshia Crotwell. The principal of Guyer High School is Dr. Shaun Perry.