



**The School District of Osceola County, FL**  
Terry Andrews, Superintendent

## **Press Release (English and Spanish)**

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## **Osceola Drama Students Excel At District Competition**

Osceola Drama students and their teachers earned high marks in their performances for the Thespian District XI Individual Events competition held at Vero Beach High School on November 5. This event featured 30 schools from District XI, which includes Osceola, Brevard, and Indian River Counties. All Osceola County high schools participated in the competition this year, sending approximately 800 students to compete in the Theatre Performance Assessments of Individual Events. Below are some of the exemplary highlights from each school:

### **Celebration High School: Barbara Bowers, Drama Director**

1 Best of Show  
24 Superior ratings  
7 Excellent ratings

### **Gateway High School: Donald Rupe, Drama Director**

CRITICS CHOICE (Overall winner of the Festival) for large group musical "The Circle of Life." As a result of winning the Critic's Choice for the second year in a row, Gateway High School will perform their selection at the Opening Ceremonies of the State Thespian Festival for an audience of approximately 2,000 theatre students at the largest high school theatre festival in the United States.

3 Best of Shows  
27 Superior ratings  
5 Excellent ratings

### **Harmony High School: Diane Sherman, Drama Director**

1 Best of Show  
21 Superior ratings  
10 Excellent ratings

### **Liberty High School: Nathan Uhrig, Drama Director**

1 Best of Show  
19 Superior ratings  
6 Excellent ratings

### **Osceola County School for the Arts: April Isaacs and LaMonte Clegg, Drama Directors**

Aimee Victoria received a \$250.00 scholarship for Senior Monologue  
17 Superior ratings  
1 Excellent ratings

**Osceola High School: Jay McBride, Drama Director**

12 Superior ratings  
12 Excellent ratings

**Poinciana High School: James Thompson, Drama Director**

7 Superior ratings  
7 Excellent ratings

**St Cloud High School: Karen Loftus, Drama Director**

2 Best of Shows  
15 Superior ratings  
6 Excellent ratings

Out of only five original student-written plays per district selected to compete on the State level, two playwrights came from St. Cloud High School. Nick Simmons and Stephanie Pagan's original plays will go on to compete at the State and possibly the National level, with a chance of having their plays published.