

For Immediate Release

Young Performers Compete on “Broadway or Bust” on NET Television

LINCOLN, Neb. (Aug. 29, 2012) -- It's non-stop drama when 60 of America's top high school musical theater performers arrive in New York City for an intensive week of “theatrical boot camp” as they vie for a shot at stage stardom in the ultimate national theater competition.

The three-part series, “Broadway or Bust,” airs on consecutive Sundays at 7 p.m. CT on NET1 and NET-HD, premiering Sept. 9.

“Broadway or Bust” captures the behind-the-scenes coaching and grueling rehearsal schedule leading up to the National High School Musical Theater Awards (NHSMTA). Popularly known as “The Jimmy Awards” -- named in honor of renowned Broadway theatre owner and producer James M. Nederlander -- this national competition culminates in a unique weeklong New York experience -- a make-it-or-break-it week of rehearsals, coaching and auditions capped by an awards event on a Broadway stage in front of a live audience and a panel of high-profile judges.

Part competition, part performance and part non-fiction drama, “Broadway or Bust” will capture the highly charged atmosphere as the country's most talented teens are plunged into the theatrical capital of the world to compete for a shot at Broadway and college scholarships. The series pulls back the curtain to reveal the whole process -- the talent, ambition, drive, vulnerability, discipline, resiliency, dreams dashed and dreams fulfilled -- both the highs and lows of what it takes to make it to Broadway.

The premiere episode (Sept. 9) shows young talent from all over the country trying to catch their big break at highly competitive, regional musical theater awards competitions in over 30 cities including, San Diego, Memphis, Atlanta and Pittsburgh. The Sept. 16 episode follows the finalists in New York for a grueling and energizing week of behind-closed-door performances, voice and acting sessions. The final program (Sept. 23) showcases “The Jimmy Awards” at New York's Minskoff Theatre, the finalist performances, the celebrity hosts and presenters, and the naming of the winners -- the top male and female performers.

NET1 and NET-HD are part of NET Television, a service of NET. For a complete program schedule, visit NET's website (netNebraska.org/television).

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NET Television:

NET1 is Nebraska's first public television broadcast service and includes PBS and award-winning, locally produced public television programming. NET1 programming is also obtainable on Dish and DirectTV satellite networks in available areas; **NET2 World** offers live coverage of the Nebraska Unicameral, and other news and public affairs programming; **NET3 Create** features the most popular how-to, travel and lifestyle series; and **NET-HD** presents high-definition digital broadcast programming displayed in a wide-screen format.