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## **Jeff Awards Committee to Combine New Work and New Adaptation Categories**

*March 7, 2016* - The Jeff Awards Committee has determined that categories for new work and new adaptation will be combined so that all world premieres will be judged as either new plays or new musicals. These categories are non-competitive and multiple winners are permitted.

Jeff Awards Chair David Liesse states, “Increasingly, the Jeff Awards has been faced with determining whether new works opening in Chicago should be classified as new works or new adaptations, depending on the source material and the extent of its use in the work. We recognize that our classifications affect the designations of other award programs as the works are produced at other venues. By addressing the issue, we are committed to recognizing and supporting the creative writing process.”

The New Play category will consist of world premieres of both new plays and adaptations.

The New Musical category will consist of world premieres of both new musicals and adaptations.

The new categories will become effective for Non-Equity productions premiering on or after April 1, 2016, and for Equity productions premiering on or after August 1, 2016.

Both the New Play and New Musical categories are non-competitive with multiple winners permitted.

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