

A Place Where Nobody Dared To Go

Instead of giving the whole laundry list of nominees for the Tony Awards to be presented on June 15, I will touch on a few of the biggies.

BEST MUSICAL

[Cry-Baby](#) (the latest 1980s movie to be turned into a huge musical extravaganza a la Hairspray)

[In the Heights](#)

[Passing Strange](#)

[Xanadu \(have I not mentioned this before? Amazing... and no... it is not about the home of the future\)](#)

BEST PLAY

August: Osage County

Rock 'n' Roll

The Seafarer

The 39 Steps (based upon the Hitchcock movie of the same name)

BEST REVIVAL OF A MUSICAL

[Grease](#) (panned heavily by the critics... thank goodness for the reality series that cast Danny and Sandy)

[Gypsy](#) (Patti LuPone gets her Turn as Mama Rose)

[South Pacific](#) (the clear-cut favorite in this category... still find it amazing that this is its first revival)

[Sunday in the Park With George](#)

BEST REVIVAL OF A PLAY

[Boeing-Boeing](#)

[The Homecoming](#)

[Les Liaisons Dangereuses](#)

[Macbeth](#) (starring Tony nominee Patrick Stewart)

BEST BOOK OF A MUSICAL

Cry-Baby, Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan

In the Heights, Quiara Alegría Hudes

Passing Strange, Stew

Xanadu, Douglas Carter Beane

BEST ORIGINAL SCORE (MUSIC AND/OR LYRICS) WRITTEN FOR THE THEATER

Cry-Baby, Music & Lyrics: David Javerbaum & Adam Schlesinger

In the Heights, Music & Lyrics: Lin-Manuel Miranda

The Little Mermaid, Music: Alan Menken; Lyrics: Howard Ashman and Glenn Slater

Passing Strange, Music: Stew and Heidi Rodewald; Lyrics: Stew

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTOR IN A PLAY

Ben Daniels, Les Liaisons Dangereuses

Laurence Fishburne, Thurgood

Mark Rylance, Boeing-Boeing

Rufus Sewell, Rock 'n' Roll

Patrick Stewart, Macbeth (who was a well-established star in

the Royal Shakespeare Company long before becoming Captain Jean-Luc Picard)

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTRESS IN A PLAY

Eve Best, *The Homecoming*

Deanna Dunagan, *August: Osage County*

Kate Fleetwood, *Macbeth*

S. Epatha Merkerson, *Come Back, Little Sheba*

Amy Morton, *August: Osage County*

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTOR IN A MUSICAL

Daniel Evans, *Sunday in the Park With George*

Lin-Manuel Miranda, *In the Heights*

Stew, *Passing Strange*

Paulo Szot, *South Pacific*

Tom Wopat, *A Catered Affair*

BEST PERFORMANCE BY A LEADING ACTRESS IN A MUSICAL

Kerry Butler, *Xanadu*

Patti LuPone, *Gypsy*

Kelli O'Hara, *South Pacific*

Faith Prince, *A Catered Affair*

Jenna Russell, *Sunday in the Park With George*

What surprises me is the Best Original Score Category. Is it original to have the score from a movie possibly with a few extra songs added to be considered? Two of the musicals listed are indeed movies turned into Broadway shows. I guess [Young](#)

[Frankenstein](#) was not original enough to warrant a nomination. I really need to find a copy of the 1980 movie *Xanadu* to see if it was really as good as I remember because it might help to explain why it seems to have gotten so many nominations. Or the Johnny Depp starring movie *Cry-Baby* that I do not remember at all. Will this become the next *Hairspray*? So much for originality.

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