



# Empire State Development

## MUSICAL AND THEATRICAL TAX CREDIT – ANNUAL REPORT CALENDAR YEAR 2021

Empire State Development (ESD) oversees administration of the Empire State Musical and Theatrical Tax Credit Program.

The Program is designed to encourage musical and theatrical production companies to conduct pre-tour activities, technical rehearsals and to perform shows at locations in Upstate New York, home to some of the premier regional venues for musical and theatrical production.

The Program provides incentives for qualified production companies to conduct technical rehearsals and other pre-tour activities and perform shows in qualified regional theaters throughout Upstate NY. The Program requires the use of these Upstate entertainment venues, making them competitive with other venues located in the Northeast States that offer similar tax incentives to musical and theatrical productions produced on Broadway.

Program credits of \$8 million per year can be allocated and used to encourage companies to perform and conduct technical rehearsals and other pre-tour activities in Upstate New York, helping to stimulate local economies. Production companies may be eligible to receive a fully refundable credit of 25 percent of qualified production and transportation expenditures.

This report reflects activity during calendar year 2021. The information presented includes the number of productions that applied and projected spending and estimated credits for qualified production projects deemed eligible to participate in the Program.

Empire State Development

1 625 Broadway, Albany, NY 12207  
(518) 292-5100 | [www.esd.ny.gov](http://www.esd.ny.gov)

## INITIAL APPLICATIONS

ESD accepts initial applications on a rolling basis and reviews them when deemed complete. A preliminary eligibility determination is made for all applications that meet the criteria set forth in statute and regulations and applicants are required to submit a final application once projects are finished. This report reflects initial applications submitted in 2021.

During calendar year 2021, initial applications for five musical and theatrical productions were submitted. These projects estimate:

- \$9.2 million in production expenditures related to the qualified production facilities, including labor
- \$1.8 million in additional expenditures in NYS, including transportation, travel and hotels.
- 470 hires by the qualified touring productions
- 87 hires by the qualified production facilities
- \$2.7 million in tax credits.

## FINAL APPLICATIONS

When a project is completed, a final application must be submitted for review and audit by ESD before a credit is issued. Additional information is required to be disclosed about the name of the company receiving the tax credit, the amount of tax credit issued, and the credit eligible hours and wages for each project issued a credit. In 2021, ten tax credits were issued.

PROJECT	COMPANY	CREDIT ELIGIBLE HOURS	CREDIT ELIGIBLE WAGES	TOTAL QUALIFIED COSTS	TAX CREDIT AMT.
A Bronx Tale	Bronx Tale Touring Inc.	29,895	\$1,056,096	\$2,228,319	\$557,080
Finding Neverland 2018 Tour	Neverland Touring Inc.	17,122	\$554,718	\$1,048,746	\$262,187
Fiddler on the Roof	Fiddler Touring Inc.	25,966	\$861,367	\$1,866,691	\$466,673
Rock of Ages	Here I Go Again LLC	13,888	\$689,850	\$1,308,410	\$327,102
Hello Dolly	Elegance Tour, Inc.	46,109	\$2,060,989	\$4,145,854	\$1,036,463

<b>PROJECT</b>	<b>COMPANY</b>	<b>CREDIT ELIGIBLE HOURS</b>	<b>CREDIT ELIGIBLE WAGES</b>	<b>TOTAL QUALIFIED COSTS</b>	<b>TAX CREDIT AMT.</b>
Jesus Christ Superstar	Hosanna Tour, LLC	15,720	\$584,991	\$1,791,403	\$447,851
My Fair Lady	MFL Productions, Inc.	24,276	\$967,178	\$3,631,629	\$907,907
Mean Girls	Mean Girls Buffalo Inc.	39,590	\$2,289,308	\$5,585,254	\$1,396,314
Sponge Bob 19/20	SpongeBob Touring Inc.	24,840	\$1,301,137	\$1,935,995	\$483,999
A Bronx Tale 19/20	Belmont Avenue Touring Inc.	18,269	\$412,187	\$698,866	\$174,717