



**PRESS EMBARGO UNTIL DECEMBER 30, 9:00am EST**

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## **ANNOUNCING THE 2021 TOBY AWARDS**

The *Toby Awards* have been celebrating theatrical excellence since 1998, promoting special recognition, irrespective of function, genre or geographic location within the global performing arts community based on individual impact.

Today, two 2021 Toby Awards honors are bestowed upon:

**GREGORY GESCH** *for his Outstanding Ongoing Commitment to the Australian Theatre Community.* Since the 1970's, a cherished Australian theatre director and leading actor who has voluntarily evolved his time to sustained efforts via social media promoting new opportunities for Australians, coupled with his creation of an active online Queensland Theatre community.

His partial Australian Stage Credits can be seen at:

<https://www.ausstage.edu.au/pages/contributor/567>

**GLENN WEISS** *for his Outstanding Producing & Direction in the Preservation of the Arts on Film & TV.* He is enjoying a long career as director and producer for various awards and theatrical shows including The Tony Awards, The Academy Awards, Kennedy Center Honors, Billboard Music Awards, BET Awards, *Peter Pan Live!*, Dick Clark's New Year's Rockin' Eve, Emmy Awards, *Live from Lincoln Center*, and the American Music Awards.

His partial Film & TV Credits can be seen at:

<https://www.imdb.com/name/nm0918999/>

Both Gregory Gesch & Glenn Weiss join an elite club, currently with only 49 theatrical awards having been bestowed since 1998. The awards are unique since they recognize individuals that typically would be overlooked by other global performing arts awards which have narrowly defined categories.

Throughout its 23-year history, awards have been presented at the end of each calendar year, except for 2020. Previous recipients include an eclectic mix of theatre creatives, performers, musicians, journalists, production, stage and general managers, marketing and public relations experts, logistics and production crew and more, each consistently showcasing theatrical excellence, coming from around the world from Australasia, Europe, UK, Canada, South America, and the USA.

Anyone can nominate, but a small group reviews and short lists potential candidates, with Toby Simkin selecting the final recipients.

For details, see:

<https://TobySimkin.com/TobyAwards/>

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