

Awards

In Festival Awards		
Outstanding Technical Achievement	Forever Love My Old Lady Halfway There	For creating a world with light, sound, set, colour, and the absence of colour. Tech doesn't need to be expansive, it needs to be effective.
Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role	Eve Cohen - My Old Lady Michele Legere, Marnie Renaud-Gare , and Melissa McLeod - Halfway There	This character was gentle, kind, insecure, vibrant, with a signature laugh and fought with a coat like her life depended on it.
Outstanding Performance in a Supporting Role	Eve Cohen - My Old Lady Michele Legere, Marnie Renaud-Gare, and Melissa McLeod - Halfway There	On the page this character could have been quite sad, angry, and dour and this actress brought her to life her humour.
Outstanding Ensemble	My Old Lady Forever Love Halfway There	I appreciate experiences when the world of the play is extended beyond the text. Not only did our named characters demonstrate an effective ensemble but by including customers and bringing Junior to life we had an ensemble beyond the text.
Outstanding Performance in a Major Role	Joe Brenner - Forever Love John Settle - My Old Lady Dean Valentino - Halfway There	I think authenticity and believability are two key traits for characters and to believe them in multiple age ranges is especially strong.
Outstanding Performance in a Major Role	Liz Dennis - Forever Love Tanya Thompson - My Old Lady Kristen Lamoure-Dias	On the page, I wasn't sure why this character would wait for her true love for 30+ years and in performance she made me believe.
Adjudicators 1 - Grace Under Fire	Samantha Muller - Stage Manager - My Old Lady	While this is a performance festival, you hear stories in the private that give you behind the scene insight. Sometimes things don't go to plan and you have to remain calm when those things are kind of on fire around you. And I commend this individual because I never saw the chaos bleed into the

		performance.
Adjudicators 2 - Effective Scene Transitions	Halfway There	I've said this before and I'll say it again. When you need time to complete scene transitions, you need something for the audience to look at that remains in the world of the play. This production excelled at this.
Adjudicators 3 - Seamless Quick Changes	Tracy Leighton, Karen Adouian, Tom Bolton - Forever Love	I know space was at a premium for our companies backstage, and all of our shows had multiple costume changes. This trio worked to make these quick changes smooth and seamless to the audience.
Adjudicators 4 - Memorable Moment	John Settle - My Old Lady	When characters have attitude and temper, it's easy to play every moment with attitude and temper. The silence before and the stillness of the "I was 16" story that Mathias tells in My Old Lady was very impactful.
Adjudicator 5 - Best Running Gag not in the script	Vi's Water Bottle Halfway There	I love character details that are never spoken about and add to the world of the play.
Adjudicator 6 - Effective Costumes	Tracy Leighton and Ashley Grimshaw - Forever Love	All three shows used costumes effectively to help communicate their characters. The costumes for this show could have been exaggerated and over the top but ended up being just right.
Adjudicator 7 - Powerful Restraint	Sally Johnston - My Old Lady	When a script comes at you with exclamation points and all caps, it's easy to fall into that trap with emotional overwhelm. I commend this director for powerful restraint.
Adjudicator 8 - Commitment to the Cause	Joe Brenner - Forever Love	When I saw Act Two of this show, my first thought was, did this actor wear a wig in Act One, their hair is so different. No, he didn't wear a wig, Joe Brenner got a hair cut during intermission.
Best Visual Production	Forever Love My Old Lady	There are so many small details in the set of this show, from

	Halfway There	couples corner, to the kids pictures, a changing menus, to the oar in hudson bay colours.
Outstanding Direction	Michael Grant - Forever Love Sally Johnston - My Old Lady Dean Valentino - Halfway There	All three directors demonstrated a connection to the script, a belief in the story and characters and this award goes to the most effective communication of these elements
Best Production in the Festival	My Old Lady Forever Love Halfway There	Again I want to thank all three shows for their time and effort. For 2025 the Best Production in the Festival is Halfway There