Scene 1

(As the fanfare introduction to the opening song (cd track 8) is playing, the children enter and take their positions to sing.)

song – The Stars Are Coming Out For Christmas (lyrics page 17)
(whole cast)

(The children take their places on and around the stages – see below – an announcer dressed in evening-wear steps forward to speak, if possible into a microphone.)

Announcer ~ (flamboyantly) Ladies and gentlemen, boys and girls, welcome to an evening of celebration and song. This is the showbiz event of the year – the Christmas Awards Ceremony! We’re live from Holly-wood, in Tinsel-town, with a cracker of a show, to find out who will win the top award of ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’! But first, give a huge round of applause for your hosts, Mr Noël Knowles and the beautiful Miss Carol Singer!

(To rapturous applause, Carol and Noël enter, dressed in eveningwear, and stand on a small separate stage/podium to one side of the main stage – see staging suggestions. Carol carries a gold envelope and Noël a gold statuette of a Christmas cracker, which they place on a small table on their podium. They can carry clipboards, or have decorated music stands in place, on which scripts can be put, to prompt them with their words – they have quite a few.)

Noël ~ Thank you everyone, and good evening. It’s a pleasure to be here tonight. Wow! Carol, I must say how truly stunning you look!

Carol ~ Thank you, Noël. You don’t scrub up too badly either! Nice tux! Yes, hello everyone. It’s lovely to see so many of you here. I bet you, like us, are just itching to find out who will win the ‘Cracker’, the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas.’

Noël ~ But before we have a look at all the nominees, let’s go over to Ollie Berry and Chrissie Pressie, who are out on the red carpet with some fans of tonight’s stars! Hello Ollie and Chrissie. You’ve got quite a crowd with you out there.

(To the other side, or in a separate section of your hall, Ollie and Chrissie stand in front of a rope barrier holding microphones, and clip boards with their words attached – they too have a lot to say. Behind the rope barrier stands an excited crowd of fans, waving banners in support of the various stars we will be meeting.)

Chrissie ~ Thanks Noël. That’s right. These fans have been here all day. Some of them even camped out over night to get a good position next to the red carpet, to see their favourite Christmas stars arrive.

Ollie ~ So you lot, who do you think is going to walk away with the award for ‘Outstanding Contribution To Christmas’ tonight? How about you?

(He points his microphone to a fan)