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PRESENTS



The Hip Hop Nutcracker



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The Hip Hop Nutcracker | November 24, 2018 | TPAC's Polk Theater

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TENNESSEE PERFORMING ARTS CENTER and
NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER with
Executive Producer EVA PRICE
PRESENT



Adapted by
MIKE FITELSON

Based on "The Nutcracker" by Peter Ilyich Tchaikovsky

with Special Guest MC
KURTIS BLOW

Produced by
NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER
JOHN SCHREIBER, President & CEO
DAVID RODRIGUEZ, Executive Producer

JULIA KRAUS, Producer

Lighting Designer
BURKE WILMORE

Video Designer
MOE SHAHROOZ

Company Manager
REBECCA EASTON

Production Stage Manager
JAMES STEELE

Original Beats & Remixes
DJ BOO

Associate Choreographer/Director
RANDI FREITAS

General Manager
MAXIMUM ENTERTAINMENT

Exclusive Tour Direction
INHOUSE BOOKING

Directed & Choreographed by
JENNIFER WEBER

Featuring freestyles by the company

Powered by
Panasonic

Cast

Maria-Clara	ANN-SYLVIA CLARK
The Nutcracker	JOSUE "BEASTMODE" FIGUEROA
Mom	NUBIAN NENE
Dad.....	MICAH "JUST JAMZ" ABBREY
Drosselmeyer	LISA "LBOOGIE" BAUFORD
Mouse King/Ensemble	RANDI "RASCAL" FREITAS
Toy/Ensemble.....	ANTHONY "OMEN" CABRERA
Toy/Ensemble.....	LILY FRIAS
Chocolate/Ensemble	BRANDON RON
Tea/Ensemble.....	JACKIE "JK-47" AGUDO
Russian/Ensemble	SETH "REAKTION" HILLARD
Flute/Ensemble	DUSTIN PAYNE
Violinist.....	JARVIS L. BENSON
Performance DJ	DJ BOO



KURTIS
BLOW



ANN-SYLVIA
CLARK



JOSUE
"BEASTMODE"
FIGUEROA



NUBIAN
NENE



MICAH
"JUST JAMZ"
ABBREY



LISA
"LBOOGIE"
BAUFORD



RANDI
"RASCAL"
FREITAS



ANTHONY
CABRERA



LILY
FRIAS



BRANDON
RON



JACKIE
"JK-47"
AGUDO



SETH
HILLARD



DUSTIN
PAYNE



JARVIS L.
BENSON

*The Hip Hop Nutcracker will be performed
with one 20-minute intermission.*

Place

New Year's Eve - Uptown, USA

Act I

During the annual uptown holiday street party, Maria-Clara is upset by her parents' constant bickering. The mysterious Drosselmeyer appears, bringing magical toys to the party. Drosselmeyer then introduces Maria-Clara to a street vendor selling roasted nuts, who catches her eye because he is different from the other boys on the block. After the party breaks up, Maria-Clara heads home, but on her way, she runs into the menacing Mouse Crew. The Nutcracker, aided by a magic pair of sneakers, defeats the Mouse King and the couple enjoys the romance of winter's first snowfall.

Act II

Drosselmeyer meets Maria-Clara and the Nutcracker and takes them back in time to the Land of Sweets nightclub on New Year's Eve, 1984. Invisible, the couple watches the party-goers show off the dance styles of the day. Suddenly, Maria-Clara realizes she is witnessing the night her parents first met and is overcome by how they were once deeply in love.

Back in the present, and with a little more magic, Maria-Clara and The Nutcracker help Mom and Dad reconcile. The community joins them in the celebration.



John Cody

Chris Karbowiak, center, with Bridgestone Americas guests



Let's Rock!

TPAC Honors Bridgestone Americas and John Cody with Applause Awards



Brenda & Dr. Phil Wenk with Kimberly Hewell & Norman Scarbarough

Shannon Franks & Glen Perdue



Brenda & Jack Bovender



Kathleen O'Brien, John Cody & TPAC Board Chair Jim Schmitz

Michelle & Jim Schmitz, TPAC Board Chair, with Sara & Kevin Hartley, TPAC Board Member



Donors, partners, art lovers, businesses, community partners – even KISS impersonators – rocked out at TPAC Gala to support Tennessee Performing Arts Center.

TPAC Gala provides critical funding for TPAC's expansive work in arts education, a variety of programs that expose students to world class performances, aid teachers with valuable resources and training, send teaching artists into classrooms, to improve learning, and more.

Gower Elementary teacher and 2018 TPAC Teacher of the Year Miya Robertson shared her first-hand account of how TPAC empowers teachers, encourages students, and enriches the community.

"On behalf of students, educators, parents, and community members and leaders across Tennessee, thank you for investing in the future of so many students and educators in all that you do for TPAC," Robertson said. "We are better artists and citizens because of your support and care."

TPAC also presented John Cody, former Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of BMI, Inc., and Bridgestone Americas with its highest honor, the Applause Award, in recognition for their longstanding commitment to TPAC's mission.

Cody, who served on TPAC's Board of Directors from 2007 to 2016, including two years as chair from 2010 to 2012, regularly applied his skills to major projects like TPAC's historic step to launch a national tour of 9 to 5 with Dolly Parton in 2010.

"Whether on stage or in the classroom, TPAC creates moments every day in which audiences are transported to incredible places and student learning is transformed by the arts," Cody said. "I'm honored to accept the Applause Award, and I look forward to new opportunities to assist TPAC."

For 30 years, Bridgestone Americas Trust Fund has helped students to attend the Humanities Outreach in Tennessee Season for Young People.

TPAC Gala was co-chaired by Micaela and Sam Reed and Katherine and Chris Spencer, with help from reservation co-chair Julie Boehm, auction chair Abby Bass, and floral designer Phillippe Chadwick of Electric Flora.

Delta Dental of Tennessee was the title sponsor of TPAC Gala with additional sponsors including Barbara and Jack Bovender, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Tennessee, Dollar General Corporation, Earl Swensson Associates, Gannett, HCA/TriStar Health, JohnsonPossKirby, MEDHOST, Nissan North America, Phillips Printing, Vanderbilt University, and Woodmont Investment Council. ♦



TPAC Gala...5

"The arts impact our lives in many unique ways, often before someone ever takes the stage. Applied to learning at all ages, the arts build empathy and collaboration, transform classroom engagement, and unlock understanding, critical thinking, and overall development. Our honorees understand that arts access and arts education are essential to the enrichment and success of our community."

– Kathleen O'Brien
TPAC President and CEO



KISS impersonators with Melissa Garcia Smith & Brad Smith



DELTA DENTAL

Title Sponsor of 2018 TPAC Gala

Who's Who in the Cast

KURTIS BLOW (*Special Guest MC*) A hip-hop legend, Kurtis Blow was 20 in 1979, when he became the first rapper to be signed by a major label. Mercury released "Christmas Rappin'," and it sold more than 400,000 copies, becoming an annual classic. Its gold follow-up, *The Breaks*, helped ignite an international "Rap Attack." He released 10 albums in over 11 years: his full-length debut, *Kurtis Blow*; his second, *Deuce*, a Top 50 Pop album and a big hit across Europe; *Party Time* featuring a pioneering fusion of rap and gogo; and *Ego Trip*, including the hits "8 Million Stories," "AJ" and "Basketball." In 1985 he released *America*, featuring "If I Ruled the World," a Top 5 hit on Billboard's R&B chart; Columbia/Sony recording artist Nas debuted at No. 1 on *Billboard's* Pop Album chart with a cover of the song in 1997. For more information, visit KurtisBlow.com.

ANN-SYLVIA CLARK (*Maria-Clara*) was born and raised in Norway. At an early age, she began training in gymnastics, ultimately traveling across Norway and Europe with the gymnastics team. Over time, she became interested in dance, attending the Flow Dance Academy (CPH, DK), Europe's first hip hop and urban dance school, and began pursuing it as a career. She performed with Snoop Dogg and Pharrell Williams at the 2006 MTV Europe Music Awards (EMA's) held in Copenhagen. Since moving to New York, Ann-Sylvia's career has flourished, with tours in the U.S. and the United Kingdom. She has performed on a variety of television shows including, *Good Day New York* on Fox 5, CBS, Telemundo and *Fake Off* on TruTV. She has also performed at the Jacobs Pillow Dance Festival, and danced in music videos for artists such as Alicia Keys, Styles P, Ben L'Oncle Soul and Laila Biali. TV viewers can find her in commercials for Samsung, Smirnoff vodka, Reebok, Digicel mobile phones, Makeup Forever cosmetics and Sixt car rental.

JOSUE "BEASTMODE" FIGUEROA (*The Nutcracker*) Born in Puerto Rico and raised in Florida, Josue Figueroa (aka Beastmode) discovered his passion for breaking and the performing arts at the age of 15. His continual love and pursuit of these arts has earned him work in the "Step Up" franchise, several international breaking championship titles with his world renowned crews MIND180 and Skill Methodz, and featured roles in numerous commercials. Combining his love for dancing and acting, Josue is returning to the *Hip Hop Nutcracker* for the third straight year and looks forward to once again sharing the holiday spirit with audiences around the country.

NUBIAN NENE (*Mom*) Montreal native Nubian Nene's muse is music. She is a well-versed dancer/choreographer who finds inspiration weaving the hip hop, house, waacking and breaking styles of dance together to create her unique approach. Her ability to expand her creativity into a choreographer, performer, producer, director and host makes her an asset to any project. Living in New York for the past

nine years has enabled Nene to work with some of the pioneers of the hip hop culture. Her lifetime involvement with cultural awareness began in 2007 when she joined the Canadian company BluePrintForLife, which teaches the principles and values of the Hip Hop Culture and aims to facilitate some of the social issues facing the Inuit communities of Northern Canada. She has done as many as fifteen weekly trips as a teacher and facilitator for the group. Nene pursues her teaching career participating in multiple dance festivals including the "Ladies of Hip Hop Festival (LOHHF)" held in Vienna, Austria; New York; Los Angeles and Toronto, Canada. She has also participated in the "Illadelph" and "Funky Fundamentals" in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and the "Block Party" in Boulder, Colorado, among others. For the last five years, Nene has served as Master of Ceremony in the "Ladies Battle," an annual street dance competition presented by the Ladies of Hip Hop (LOHHF), as well as presenting her choreography and teaching expertise at the festival for the last 10 years. In 2013, she created a dance company, A Lady in the House Co., for which she has developed and presented numerous shows. Nene's experience as a dancer, choreographer and teacher has led her to showcase her talents on television, in music videos, and in live performances in some of the most prestigious festivals and stage productions in the world.

MICAH "JUST JAMZ" ABBREY (*Dad*) is an artist/choreographer and teacher with a concentration in Urban Improvisational Movement and Techniques (Freestyle/Streetdance(s)). He specializes in movement innovation and total body integration methodologies with an emphasis in musical aural skills and meditative approaches to movement in order to heighten creativity and self-awareness. He travels extensively to international urban arts communities both to compete and teach his techniques, which he calls "The Avatar State." Additionally, he collaborates with various companies, including Embodiment Project, Heidi Duckler Dance Theatre and Groovaloo's, to bring powerful, performative, creative and thought-provoking street dance to the dance theatre world. Through his unique style and approach to dance, Micah has also been able to build and gain respect as a Competitive (Battle) Dancer throughout the U.S and internationally in the street dance realm. Recently he earned the opportunity to represent the U.S. in the International Freestyle Dance Competition, "Keep On Dancing 2018," in the Hip Hop category.

LISA "LBOOGIE" BAUFORD (*Drosselmeyer*) hails from St. Petersburg, Florida, where she worked on perfecting her craft as a dancer while also working as a youth development worker helping children from ages 5 to 18. Lisa's background in dance focuses upon hip hop. She has danced with iLuminate, a dance company based on the fusion of technology and dance, which was featured on *America's Got Talent*. She also spent more than two years performing Off Broadway in New York,

where she continued to hone her craft. Lisa has also performed internationally, including Saudi Arabia, where she was one of the first women to be permitted to perform on stage. She has also travelled to New Zealand and Samoa on educational tours.

RANDI "RASCAL" FREITAS (*Associate Choreographer/Director/Dance Captain/Mouse King/Ensemble*) is a professional dancer in both the underground freestyle and commercial industry scenes in Los Angeles. A member of The Beat Freaks Crew, her recent credits consist of an AT&T commercial, sharing the stage with IAMMe Crew for their 2018 Canada tour, and appearing as a soloist on *The Ellen Show* for Justin Timberlake. For the past two years, Randi has been the Associate Choreographer and Director, as well as principle performer, of the *Hip Hop Nutcracker* national touring company. Other credits include Anthropologie, Jimmy Kimmel, Toyota, Nike, JW Marriott, The Emmys, Kaytranada and Meghan Trainor. Randi also works for Universoul/Hip Hop, performing in schools throughout the LA area. She is the co-creator of The Dance Fight, one of LA's top open style battles. She has taught and battled internationally as well. You can also find Randi among the professional teaching staff at both Debbie Reynolds Legacy Studio and Movement Lifestyle, teaching her signature style of floor movement. She hopes to continue to spread her love for dance and the arts on stages and in cyphers throughout the world.

ANTHONY CABRERA (*Toy/Ensemble*) was born on November 7, 1983. A vivacious child, he always loved to dance—it didn't matter if it was a family gathering or a large party. While growing up in Boston and the Dominican Republic, he discovered hip hop and breakdancing (Bboying) through television, but it wasn't until his high school years that he started training in Bboying. Soon after, he realized his natural ability for dancing and improved rapidly. With the body awareness to control the acrobatic elements of Bboying and the creativity to develop an original style, Omen was quickly recognized by peers and established Bboys of the dance community. Currently, Omen is part of the world-renowned Bboy crew based out of New York City, Supreme Beings. In addition to winning numerous solo and group competitions at both the national and international level, Anthony has contributed to the dance community by sitting on judging panels and conducting workshops. As a performer, he is part of both G-Force Entertainment and Raw Miami Entertainment. When he is not onboard a Carnival cruise ship as a performer, Anthony keeps busy performing for music artists, corporate parties, clubs and street shows. His other professional interests include modeling and acting.

LILY FRIAS (*Toy/Ensemble*) Born and raised in Mexico, Liliana (Lily) Frias has been dancing for 13 years and is currently working as a professional dancer in Los Angeles. Beginning her career as a technical dancer,

Lily found her true calling the hip hop styles and the art of freestyle, specifically the styles of whacking and popping. She has been featured in a variety of productions, including "So You Think You Can Dance" (season 12), "America's Best Dance Crew" (season 7), Cirque du Soleil, dance battles, national commercials, and Red Bull BC One 2018. She is also known for teaching and performing in the U.S., Europe, Latin America, and Japan, individually and as a part of her crew known as Femme Fatale.

BRANDON RON (*Ensemble*) Although Hawaiian-born Brandon Ron has an eclectic array of talents and interests, including the combat sport of Muay Thai, playing several musical instruments (guitar is his personal favorite), and giving friends fresh fade haircuts, his greatest passion by far is dancing. Five years after he began dancing in earnest, he and a crewmate competed internationally in the "Kia Dubstep World Championship" in Warsaw, Poland. They won first place, bringing home a new Kia Rio Sedan. Currently residing in Los Angeles, Brandon continues to work hard pursuing his dream of being a professional dancer.

JACKIE "JK-47" AGUDO (*Russian/Ensemble*) aka Bgirl JK47 of Diamonds in the Rough Crew, can serve as a role model for multi-talented, hard-working artists everywhere. A recognized international competitor, she recently took top prize at Red Bull's 2018 "BC One Camp USA B-Girl Cypher" in Houston. In addition to performing on a plethora of stages with Project Soul, she also tours throughout the U.S. and the world as a workshop facilitator teaching, encouraging and inspiring people of all ages with her love and passion for the culture and art of street dance. Currently residing in Phoenix, Arizona, she hails from Vancouver, Canada, where she continues to be a leader in the Vancouver dance community. As a representative in the Canadian bgirl scene, she was one of 16 Bgirls representing Canada at the first "Red Bull BC One," held in Zurich, Switzerland.

SETH HILLARD (*Russian/Ensemble*) grew up in Toledo, Ohio, where he fell in love with hip hop culture - especially Bboying—at an early age. He crafted his love for dance and choreography at the Toledo School for the Arts. A true chameleon of dance, Seth combined uncanny flexibility, imaginative versatility and meticulous musicality to make a name for himself as B-boy Reaktion (rĕ'akSHĕn), winning Midwest and National Bboy competitions. While evolving his craft in dance, Seth also developed other skills in tumbling, skateboarding and martial arts, including Capoeira. In 2012, he followed his dream and moved to Los Angeles to pursue a dance career. In just a few short months, Seth landed his target agency, booked his first audition, and was working as a professional dancer. Michael Jackson's video, "Love Never Felt So Good" and Nick Cannon's video, "Looking For A Dream" are just some of the work Seth has on his blossoming resume. Featured in commercials for Pepsi, Men's Warehouse, and a VH1 Super Bowl

Who's Who in the Cast *continued*

spot, the extremely humble and always smiling Seth has grown fast in the entertainment industry. He credits his advances in dance to working with top choreographers such as Chuck Maldonado, Tone & Rich, Oth'than Burnside and many more. "A dancer's job is to turn an audible art form into a visual art form. As dancers we translate music for people to physically see. We are all artists and our only job is to follow our dreams."

DUSTIN PAYNE (*Flute/Ensemble*) has been dancing and playing music as far back as her can remember. Four years ago, to pursue his dream of a career as a dancer, he drove across country from his Columbus, Georgia hometown to Los Angeles. Every year since his arrival he has achieved and surpassed the previous years' accomplishment. Beginning the first year as a street performer on Hollywood Boulevard, he moved on the second year to win a few freestyle and popping battles. The third year, he auditioned for *So You Think You Can Dance* (season 14), making it to the top 40 contestants, as well as winning the battle for "World of Dance (Convention)" in San Diego. This year, his fourth in LA, Dustin has twice been a battle judge for "World of Dance," featured in the "Teen Choice Awards" after party event and featured in "So You Think You Can Dance" as one of the top 10 men (season 15). And, capping this year, he was cast in *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*.

JARVIS L. BENSON (*Violinist*) comes from a family of musicians and covers a lot of musical ground in the artistic world. The classically-trained New York-based musician has had the opportunity to collaborate with many major artists—most notably Shawn Mendes, PJ Morton, OneRepublic, Chris Martin, and many others. He was also part of the Emmy Winning production of "Jesus Christ Superstar—LIVE" on NBC featuring John Legend. He currently serves as principal violist/violinist and Personnel Manager for Rootstock Republic, a string production company based in New York City, and is the violinist in *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*.

DJ BOO (*DJ*) is a Filipino-American artist born and bred in New York who lives and breathes music. From high school, as a drummer who marched in both the Cotton Bowl and Orange Bowl, to the present, his passion for music has led him to the success he enjoys in this field. Boo has shared the stage with Hip Hop luminaries like Ghostface Killah, DJ Kool Herc and Common. He has backed many wordsmiths, including Eternia, The Juggaknots and Omar Offendum. As a member of The Nomadic Wax Collective he served as a cultural ambassador for the U.S. in Asia and Africa as part of the American Music Abroad Tour. For over a decade he has been the resident DJ for "WORDS: Hip Hop & Poetry Showcase & Open Mic" at Nuyorican Poets Café, a New York staple in the spoken word/poetry/music and theater scene. Additionally, Boo had the honor of being involved with "One Mic: Hip Hop Culture Worldwide," the first international Hip Hop festival at The Kennedy Center in which he not only performed, but also created a promotional mix featuring artists who performed throughout the

multi-day event. As a music producer, Boo, along with director and choreographer Jennifer Weber, helped bring holiday phenomenon *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* to life. And if that weren't enough; he is also performing in the production as the show's DJ.

JENNIFER WEBER (*Director/Choreographer*) is a Lucille Lortel and Bessie-nominated choreographer. Her work has been performed at Jacob's Pillow, The Apollo, The Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, London's Southbank Center, and The Stanislavsky Music Theatre, Moscow. Recently, Weber was commissioned by New York City Center to create a new work for NYCB principal dancer Tiler Peck and hip hop legend Lil Buck for the 2018 Fall For Dance Festival. Theatre choreography credits include KPOP (Ars Nova/Lortel Nom), Teenage Dick (The Public/Ma-Yi) Cruel Intentions (LPR), Stockholm (Stageworks Hudson/US Premier), PBS's Odd Squad Live! (National Tour). Commercial direction/choreography: Marc Jacobs, CK2, American Express, Uber, Ulta, L'Oreal, Reebok, and Philosophy. Weber is also the creative director of Lifetime's Bring It Live! national tour. jenniferwebernyc.com.

MIKE FITELSON (*Writer/Co-Creator*) is the executive producer at the United Palace, the 88-year-old Wonder Theatre in Washington Heights, Manhattan's 4th largest theatre. Previously as the executive director of the United Palace of Cultural Arts (UPCA) he co-created *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* with Jennifer Weber, adapting the story and supplying the images for the scenery, and produced its premiere. Fitelson has worked to build the Northern Manhattan arts community for 15 years. He co-founded the annual arts festival, the Uptown Arts Stroll, in 2003; served in every capacity of the Manhattan Times, the bilingual community newspaper of Washington Heights and Inwood, from 2002-2011; and helped found the nonprofit Northern Manhattan Arts Alliance in 2006. He is delighted the show is playing the Paramount Theatre in Oakland, California where he was born and raised.

BURKE WILMORE (*Lighting Designer*) is a member of United Scenic Artists Local 829 and an honors graduate of Wesleyan University. He has designed or adapted seven works for BODYTRAFFIC and has also lit the work of Camille A. Brown (*Black Girl: Linguistic Play*, *Mr. Tol E. Rance*, *City of Rain*). He was the resident designer for *Battleworks* (2001-2010) and to date has lit seven of Robert Battle's works for Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater. For the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, he lit *Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Red Velvet*. He frequently collaborates with Broadway star André de Shields, for whom he lit the Louis Armstrong musical *Ambassador Satch*, and designed scenery and lighting for de Shields' production of *Ain't Misbehavin'*. Mr. Wilmore designed scenery and lighting for Apollo Club Harlem, and Ellington at Christmas, both at the Apollo Theater.

JAMES STEELE (*Production Stage Manager*) is thrilled to be working with Maximum Entertainment on this fantastic production. Broadway: *Mrs. Warren's Profession* (Roundabout); *One Man, Two Guvnors*.

Tour: *Small Mouth Sounds*. Off-Broadway: *Small Mouth Sounds* (Signature), *By the Water* (MTC), *Pageant* (SAS), *Tail! Spin!*, ... *The Great Comet of 1812* (Ars Nova/Kazino), *My Name is Asher Lev* (Westside Theatre), *An Iliad* (NYTW), *The Tribute Artist* (Primary Stages), *The Divine Sister* (DRTM). Thanks to Jenn, Eva, Carl, Rebecca and Josh, as always love to Mom and Gram.

REBECCA EASTON (*Company Manager*) is an arts manager and producer working in dance, theater, and circus around the world. As a company manager, she has toured to over thirty countries with Pilobolus (*Shadowland* & *Shadowland 2*), and to forty-eight states with Cirque Productions, G4 Productions, Inbal Pinto & Avshalom Pollak Dance Company, and the Guthrie Theater. Most recently, she was the company manager for the Lincoln Center's 2018 Mostly Mozart Festival in NYC. As a producer, she works with Loom Ensemble (Vermont, NYC, Dubai) and Band of Toughs (Denver & Boulder, Colorado.) She also has a background in directing, dramaturgy, and teaching, and she graduated from Columbia University's School of the Arts in 2008. She is thrilled to join Maximum Entertainment for this year's tour of *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*.

MAXIMUM ENTERTAINMENT (*General Manager*) is a producing, developing and management company founded by Avram Freedberg, Mary Beth Dale and Eva Price; and is joined by Managing Director/General Manager Carl Flanigan. Select Broadway, Off-Broadway and Touring credits include *Small Mouth Sounds*; *Cruel Intentions: The '90s Musical*; *Jomama Jones's Black Light*; *Verso*; *Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons on Broadway!*; *The Lion*; *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*; *Born for This* (LA and Boston); *50 Shades! The Musical*; *Ivy + Bean The Musical*; *Voca People*; and *Colin Quinn: Long Story Short*. www.maximumcompany.com

NEW JERSEY PERFORMING ARTS CENTER (NJPAC) (*Producer*) located in downtown Newark, N.J., is America's most diverse performing arts center, and the artistic, cultural, educational and civic center of New Jersey - where great performances and events enhance and transform lives every day. NJPAC brings diverse communities together, providing access to all and showcasing the state's and the world's best artists while acting as a leading catalyst in the revitalization of its home city. Through its extensive Arts Education programs, NJPAC is shaping the next generation of artists and arts enthusiasts. NJPAC has attracted nearly 10 million visitors (including over 1.6 million children) since opening its doors in 1997, and nurtures meaningful and lasting relationships with each of its constituents.

EVA PRICE (*Executive Producer*) is a two-time Tony Award-winning producer of over 15 Broadway plays, musicals, and concerts, one of Crain's NY 40 Under Forty Rising Business Stars, a member of The Broadway League's Board of Governors, and a creative advisor to Killer Content and Abigail Disney's new studio venture *Level Forward*. Credits: *Jagged Little Pill* (A.R.T.); *Oklahoma!* (St. Ann's Warehouse); *Angels in America* (Tony-winning revival starring Nathan Lane and Andrew Garfield);

Dear Evan Hansen (6 Tony Awards including Best Musical); *On Your Feet!*; *Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons on Broadway!*; *Peter and the Starcatcher* (5 Tony Awards); *Colin Quinn Long Story Short* (directed by Jerry Seinfeld); *Annie* (Tony-Nominated Musical Revival); *The Merchant of Venice* starring Al Pacino (Tony-Nominated Play Revival); Carrie Fisher's *Wishful Drinking*; *The Addams Family*; *Off-Bway: Cruel Intentions: The '90s Musical*; *Drama Desk-nominated Found*; *The Lion* (Drama Desk-winner, Off-West End-winner); *Small Mouth Sounds*. Touring: *The Hip Hop Nutcracker* with Rap Icon Kurtis Blow; *The Magic School Bus Live!: The Climate Challenge*; *Ella*, a bio musical about the life and music of Ella Fitzgerald.

Production Staff Credits	
Dance Captain	RANDI FREITAS
Assistant Company Manager	ROB GAETANO
Technical Director	JONATHAN IRIZARRY
Master Electrician/ Lighting Director	JUSTIN SPAETHE
Original Company Associate Director/ Choreographer	TAEKO KOJI
Original Costume Design	WHITNEY ADAMS
Wardrobe Supervisor/ Additional Styling	STEPHANIE IRIZARRY
Additional Casting	MEISHA LEE & JANET LANGER

General Management	
MAXIMUM ENTERTAINMENT PRODUCTIONS	
EVA PRICE	CARL FLANIGAN
JOSH ALTMAN	JOHN ALBERT HARRIS
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2018-19 SEASON *for*

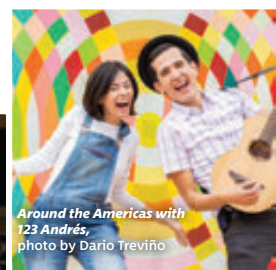
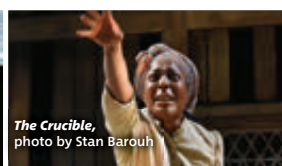
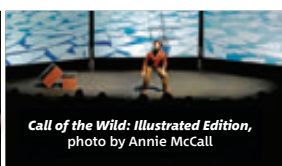
Parents,

Does your child's teacher know
about bringing students to the 2018-19
HOT Season for Young People?

Arts education sets the stage for meaningful learning today and contributes to the creative thinking and problem-solving our students will need tomorrow. Each year, Tennessee Performing Arts Center presents a series of exceptional performances of theatre, dance, and music through its Humanities Outreach in Tennessee (HOT) program.

TPAC.ORG/HOT
Questions?

Education@TPAC.org | 615-687-4288



Young People

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◆ ***A Christmas Carol***
NOV 29-30, 2018 | Grades 7-12
IN-SCHOOL TOUR NOV 26-27 &
DEC 3-7, 10-14, 2018

◆ ***Call of the Wild:***
Illustrated Edition
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◆ ***Fisk Jubilee Singers®***
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◆ ***A Literature to Life® Stage Presentation of***
The Giver by Lois Lowry
FEB 11-15, 2019 | Grades 6-9

◆ ***The Crucible***
FEB 19-22, 2019 | Grades 9-12

◆ ***The Rainbow Fish***
FEB 25-28 & MAR 1, 2019
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◆ ***Me... Jane: The Dreams and***
Adventures of Young Jane Goodall
MAR 4-8, 2019 | Grades 1-3

The HOT Season for Young People works with teachers to serve students in grades PreK-12 from public, private, and home schools located in the Nashville area and surrounding counties.

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Q&A

Roberta Ciuffo West on TPAC's 2018-19 Season for Young People



Photo by: Carla Ciuffo

TPAC's 2018-19 Season for Young People features a mix of classics and new works that examine cutting-edge issues. We sat down with Roberta Ciuffo West, Executive Vice President for Education and Outreach, to discuss the 14 works on the season, selected especially to meet classroom goals for students from preschool through high school.

Q: What are the major themes running through the season?

Roberta Ciuffo West: Classic literature is a clear theme, overall. We're bringing great literary works to life, along with American and British history. We're also providing opportunities to explore issues that matter to young people, like homelessness, political persecution, and conservation. Live performances help young people reflect safely on these issues. They're drawn into the work in meaningful and lasting ways because humans respond to other humans. We're wired that way.

Q: What inspired you to include *Call of the Wild: Illustrated Edition, A Literature to Life® Stage Presentation of The Giver by Lois Lowry, and The Phantom Tollbooth*?

RCW: I really like this production of *Call of the Wild* and the way it's done. The actor is surrounded by giant projections that convey the action and heighten the events in California and the Yukon in the late 1800s. The

story is artfully told from the perspective of a remarkable dog.

Now, more than ever, we're trying to present works with subjects, situations, and characters that matter to young people. In *The Giver*, a boy finds himself in a situation which challenges his entire understanding of humanity. Theatre provides a place to examine serious issues we see in the news or experience in our lives.

The Phantom Tollbooth has the best of everything - a great story, an exciting adventure, humor, and brilliant language. Norton Juster found a beautiful way to marry entertainment to the literary devices you learn in English class.

Q: How does a contemporary work by an Israeli dance troupe fit into the season?

RCW: We're so excited to welcome the Nadine Bommer Dance Company to Nashville. *Invisi'BALL*, tells the story of a highly competitive and exciting soccer match through dance. School audiences will love this. It's funny and athletic. The sounds of a soccer stadium and music surround audience members, who are invited to take sides and cheer their teams. Sections are choreographed in slow motion, recreating the replays we see on television. It's a cross between being at a soccer game, seeing it on TV, and watching a dance performance.

Q: Tell us about the new musical about Dr. Jane Goodall, the famous primatologist.

RCW: *Me...Jane: The Dreams and Adventures of the Young Jane Goodall*, is based on the book by Patrick McDonnell, who worked with the Kennedy Center to create the musical, to tell a true story about Dr. Goodall as a child. It's great



Photo by: Mimosa Arts

inspiration for girls and boys to see the possibilities of following their dreams. Here's this smart, caring, and determined individual who doesn't discount any living thing, great or small, throughout her entire life. She is an extraordinary role model, still working to protect chimpanzees and promote conservation around the world. Educator resources include science experiments and ways to connect students with their own backyards or neighborhood park.



Photo by: Mimosa Arts



Photo by: Teresa Wood

Q: You are also presenting two in-school tours. What titles are touring and why?

RCW: *The Curious Picnic* is our first foray into touring a short piece created for young children. Created by local playwright Carolyn German, it's a lively story about a girl getting ready for a picnic. Physics, sound, airspeed, electricity, problem-solving, and all kinds of things are embedded in the action.

Our in-school tours of *A Christmas Carol* are very popular. Mark Cabus adapted it from the Charles Dickens' classic, a title with a universally embraced message about kindness and self-reflection. It's an exemplary work of art by an exemplary artist who connects so beautifully with young people with great fun.

Q: A Christmas Carol will be offered at TPAC as well?

RCW: *A Christmas Carol* can be performed without any special lighting, which is why it's perfect for in-school performances. But we're presenting two performances at TPAC where we can seat more students and add lighting effects. This is a great field trip opportunity during the holiday season and before winter break.

Q: What do STAND and the Fisk Jubilee Singers® bring to student audiences?

RCW: We're so lucky to have in Nashville the *Fisk Jubilee Singers®*, under the direction of Dr. Paul Kwami. The ensemble is world-renowned, touring internationally since the late 1800s. We have the distinct honor of presenting them to students every year.

STAND is a powerful work connected to a real-life relationship between a homeless man and a volunteer at Nashville's Room in the Inn. The play is a unique, compassionate, and compelling look at homelessness and addiction, causing us to examine how we deal with these challenges as individuals and as a community.

Q: Another music performance is the exciting Around the Americas with 123 Andrés. Tell us about it.

RCW: Very young students – plus teachers and parents – are going to love this show, starring Andrés Salguero, an

accomplished musician who has a PhD in music education and plays multiple instruments. He and his band connect with young audiences, taking them on a musical journey through the Americas. They encourage audience interaction on the geography, heritage, and culture of Latin America. You can expect a lot of singing along and maybe a little dancing, too. It's a great way for students to learn and practice English and Spanish as well.

Q: Young audiences will recognize The Rainbow Fish, a popular book written and illustrated by Marcus Pfister. What can they expect?

RCW: Three stories about *The Rainbow Fish* and his friends in the sea are told with stunning beauty, while imparting messages about sharing, friendship, kindness, and not judging others by their appearance. Mermaid Theatre has adapted the books of Eric Carle and Leo Lionni, and we're excited to have them back. They bring the best in young literature to life with some of the most amazing puppetry and lighting we've ever seen. Teachers love their shows as much as the kids.

Q: Do you have any closing thoughts?

RCW: I think you can see why this season will energize and inspire young people. Arts education sets the stage for meaningful learning today and contributes to creative thinking and problem-solving we'll need tomorrow. We want art to set students on a pathway of discovery as they learn and grow. I hope teachers will continue to see the value in bringing their students to see performances at TPAC. ♦



Photo by Dario Treviño

TPAC's Humanities Outreach in Tennessee Season for Young People leads student audiences to new worlds and helps teachers expand classroom learning with:



A variety of performances from national, international, and local artists curated for school groups and students pre-K to 12th grade;



Ticket subsidies and travel grants to ensure no child from public, private, and home school settings is turned away for inability to pay;



Special needs accommodations for students with visual, auditory, sensory, and physical limitations; and



Performance guidebooks, post-show TalkBacks, printable aids, and other educational resources to expand on the theatrical experience.



Photo by Mimosas Arts

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Tennessee Performing Arts Center (TPAC) is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing and supporting the presentation of the performing arts.

Serving more than 1.8 million children and adults over three decades, TPAC education programs engage up to 40,000 learners of all ages each year, bringing learning to life at little or no cost to participating students and teachers.

Our mission is to lead with excellence in the performing arts and arts education, creating meaningful and relevant experiences to enrich lives, strengthen communities, and support economic vitality.

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photo by Philicia Endelman

Tegan Marie, Garrett Clayton Join Star-filled 'Peter Pan and Tinker Bell - A Pirate's Christmas' December 13-23



Tegan Marie



Garrett Clayton



John O'Hurley



Diana DeGarmo



Clarice Ordaz



Ben Giroux

Country phenom **Tegan Marie** and Disney Channel's **Garrett Clayton** (*Teen Beach Movie*, *Hairspray Live!*) join *Seinfeld* star **John O'Hurley**, Broadway star and recording artist **Diana DeGarmo**, *So You Think You Can Dance* alum **Clarice Ordaz**, and **Ben Giroux** (Nickelodeon's *Henry Danger*) in *Peter Pan and Tinker Bell - A Pirate's Christmas* at TPAC's Polk Theater December 13-23.

Take off on a wild quest with Tinker Bell (DeGarmo), Wendy (Marie), and Peter Pan (Clayton) as they try to put a stop to the plot of some dastardly pirates who plan to kidnap Peter as a Christmas present to Captain Hook (O'Hurley).

This star-filled interactive production by Lythgoe Family

Panto blends fairytales, comedy, dancing, contemporary songs, and local references to create an unforgettable theatre experience for the holidays.

Cheer for Peter Pan, Boo Captain Hook and sing-a-long to songs from Bruno Mars, Faith Hill, and many more!

Directed by Broadway's BT McNichol (*Cabaret*, *Spamalot*) and choreographed by Spencer Liff (*Head Over Heels*, *Deaf West Broadway Revival of Spring Awakening*, and *So You Think You Can Dance*), *Peter Pan and Tinker Bell* also features local actors Jackson Nolan, of Franklin, TN, and Andrew Hansen, of Murfreesboro, TN, sharing the role of John and Alan Harrisohn Foeder, of Franklin,

TN, and Lucas Shane, of Hermitage, TN, sharing the role of Michael.

Known for their creativity and involvement in television hits *American Idol* and *So You Think You Can Dance*, the Lythgoes are dedicated to bringing affordable theatre to families across America and creating a memorable experience a family can share together.

Make this your family's new fun holiday tradition!

Single tickets to *Peter Pan and Tinker Bell - A Pirate's Christmas* start at \$35, or get a four-pack of tickets for \$99 at TPAC.org, by phone at 615-782-4040, and at the TPAC Box Office. For groups of 10 or more, call 615-782-4060. ♦

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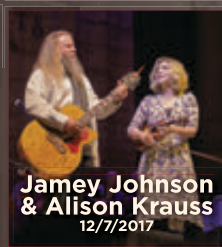
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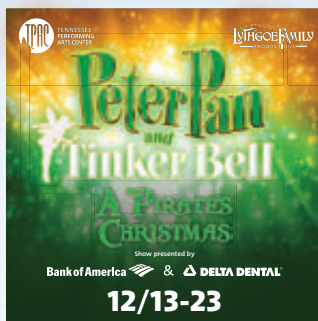
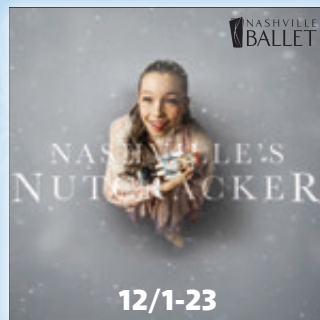
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