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Welcome to the Tennessee Performing Arts Center. I hope your time here is magic and memorable – for you and for the family or friends who are sharing the experience with you.

As you've already noticed, this year of HCA/TriStar Broadway at TPAC is a blend of entertainment legends and innovative, new works. The three winners of the Tony Award® for Best Musical on our season illustrate the ongoing variety and diversity of Broadway, in New York and Nashville. In October, quirky *Avenue Q*, winner of the top Tony® honors in 2004, took us to places we've never been before in American musical theatre. In February, we revisit scenes in American life and work, Bob Fosse-style choreography, and songs we've heard all our lives; The classic *Pajama Game* received the 2006 Tony® for Best Revival, in addition to Best Musical in 1954. Then, in April, we'll enjoy *Jersey Boys*, featuring more familiar songs,



Welcome
KATHLEEN W. O'BRIEN
TPAC PRESIDENT AND
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

with a compelling story, that is new to most of us, and fresh, energetic staging that signals new directions in Broadway theatre.

We're also following the yellow brick road with beloved characters from our youth... flying to new comedy heights from Tuna, Texas to Las Vegas... and saying goodbye to the legendary *Riverdance*, another modern success story on its farewell tour, celebrating the rich cultural traditions of Ireland and connecting them to American, Spanish, and Russian forms of tap dance.

This is Broadway – the biggest, the best, the latest, and the greatest touring to Nashville and taking us from our own backyards to faraway lands. From the familiar to the cutting-edge, from the classic to the contemporary, we continue to share the excitement, adventure and memories. ❀

Kathleen W. O'Brien

Bank of America is committed to the economic strength and stability of the communities in which the company does business. The bank's approach to charitable investments deploys philanthropic resources to help neighborhoods grow and prosper. Bank of America's Neighborhood Excellence Initiative is a component of this strategy and is designed to recognize, nurture and reward organizations, local heroes, and student leaders that are helping their neighborhoods achieve excellence.

Since the program began in 2004 nearly \$2 million dollars have been awarded to outstanding

organizations that are changing neighborhoods across Nashville. The Neighborhood Excellence Initiative program is in addition to the annual charitable investments that are made through the Bank of America Foundation across middle Tennessee.

Recently, Bank of America honored two Nashville non-profit organizations as Neighborhood Builders. **Big Brothers & Big Sisters of Middle Tennessee** and **Siloam Family Health Center** each received a \$200,000 grant to help them continue their work in our community. ❀

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WOLF TRAP EARLY LEARNING
THROUGH THE ARTS**

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Arts Education in Action

A nationally respected model, TPAC Education serves adults and children of all ages, from pre-school to high school. One program, sponsored by Bank of America, will serve approximately 1,000 pre-school children in 54 Head Start classrooms in Metro Nashville this year.

TPAC's Wolf Trap Early Learning Through the Arts partners professional artists with pre-school teachers to advance early childhood learning and development with music, theatre, storytelling, dance, and puppetry. Children take part in fun arts activities that strengthen problem-solving, expression, confidence, enthusiasm for learning, and more. Teachers discover new educational tools to engage students and enhance instruction.

"What we do through the arts, in my case percussion, is to teach fundamental literacy skills and life skills," said percussionist Dann Sherrill, one of six Wolf Trap artists who is specially trained to work in Head Start classrooms this school year.

"The children are always very enthusiastic and excited to see us when we come in. We develop quite a bond with the children and teachers over the six weeks that we work with them. The activities I lead tend to include percussion instruments, and range from basic playful rhythm explorations to interactive storytelling about the adventures of my big conga drum. The structure and content are geared to helping children expand their senses, relate to other people, and develop emerging literacy skills—what you need to learn a language," said Sherrill, noting that language has its own rhythm, which makes percussion the ideal instrument to help children master English before they learn to read. His activities accent the emphasis, tone and cadence of the language which are vital to preparing children to read.

Sherrill is a percussionist and drum set player from Nashville who plays Afro-Cuban and Brazilian Percussion, playing regularly with salsa dance orchestras. As a session drummer/percussionist, he has recorded numerous CDs with a range of artists including Steve Winwood, Michael English, Engelbert Humperdinck, Mel Tillis, Bonnie Bramlett, Armando Perazza, Arturo Sandoval, Hayseed Dixie, Mark Selby, Jamie O'Hara, and Alvin Slaughter. He teaches ensemble classes at the Nashville Jazz Workshop, has

PHOTO: Rob Stack



TPAC EDUCATION'S "WOLF TRAP"

is a regional affiliate of the national program, founded at the internationally renowned Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts in Vienna, Virginia. "Our Wolf Trap Artist has brought to our center a richness that these children have never experienced," said Head Start teacher Vicky Collins about another one of the TPAC teaching artists. "She brings the world of ethnicity in song and dance and has helped the children to have an appreciation for the earth, community and each other."

a thriving private teaching practice, and conducts workshops, classes, clinics and performances at schools, universities, and community organizations.

"It's energizing to be around people that age. If you have your game on, the children participate gladly and put their hearts and souls into it," said Sherrill, who sees the impact of his time in each classroom. "I can think of children who were complete wallflowers before the lessons. At the conclusion of the residency, they came out of their shells, participating more in class activities and expressing themselves better.... It works. I just hope that it continues. No question, the program is worthwhile and valid. Working with children through the arts is another arrow in the quiver that is necessary to help children grow and learn in challenging environments."

Read more! Visit www.tpac.org/education. 🐾

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Riverdance™

LEAD DANCERS:

**CRAIG ASHURST, CATERINA COYNE, MARTY DOWDS,
CHRISTINA HAVLIN, ALANA MALLON, PADRAIC MOYLES**

THE RIVERDANCE IRISH DANCE TROUPE

THE RIVERDANCE BAND

THE RIVERDANCE SINGERS

THE RIVERDANCE FLAMENCO SOLOIST

THE MOSCOW FOLK BALLET COMPANY

THE RIVERDANCE TAPPERS

THE RIVERDANCE BARITONE SOLOIST

THE RIVERDANCE DRUMMERS

Set Designer

ROBERT BALLAGH

Lighting Designer

RUPERT MURRAY

Costume Designer

JOAN BERGIN

Sound Designer

MICHAEL O' GORMAN

Projection Animation

BENJAMIN PEARCY

Poetry Written by

THEO DORGAN

Orchestrations by
NICK INGMAN AND
BILL WHELAN

Senior Executive Producer
JULIAN ERSKINE

Press Representative
MERLE FRIMARK
ASSOCIATES

COMPOSER
BILL WHELAN

PRODUCER
MOYA DOHERTY

DIRECTOR
JOHN McCOLGAN

CAST

The Riverdance Irish Dance Troupe

Lead Dancers:

**CRAIG ASHURST, CATERINA COYNE, MARTY DOWDS,
CHRISTINA HAVLIN, ALANA MALLON, PADRAIC MOYLES**

Liam Ayres, Jessica Baffa, Patrick Barnett, Brendan Campbell, Patrick Coyne, Maeve Croke,
Kevin Horton, Ciara Lee Jenkinson, Meghan Lucey, Ellie Maguire, Marcus Maloney,
Fiona McCabe, Christina McGrath, Nicole McKeever, Jemma McSloy, Derek Moran,
Brian Mullane, Lisa Murphy, Niamh O'Connor, Andrew O'Reilly,
Anne Toner, Chloey Turner, Nick Yenson

The Riverdance Band

Musical Director/Keyboards – Cathal Synnott

Fiddle– Pat Mangan

Uilleann Pipes/Low Whistles – Matt Bashford

Drums/Percussion/Bodhran – Mark Alfred; Saxophone – Daniel Dorrance

The Riverdance Singers

Laura Yanez (Soloist)
and members of the company

The Riverdance Baritone Soloist

Michael Samuels

The Riverdance Flamenco Soloist

Rocio Montoya

The Moscow Folk Ballet Company

Anja Brovkina, Sergey Bukreev, Igor Karpenko,
Natia Rtveliashvili, Evgeniya Starodubova, Iouri Zhivoglotov

The Riverdance Tappers

Kelly Isaac, Lee Payne

The Riverdance Drummers

Members of the company

Poetry Narrated by

John Kavanagh

**ORIGINAL PRINCIPAL IRISH DANCE CHOREOGRAPHY –MICHAEL FLATLEY
ORIGINAL CHOREOGRAPHY BY MAVIS ASCOTT, JEAN BUTLER, COLIN DUNNE,
CAROL LEAVY JOYCE, MOSCOW FOLK BALLET COMPANY,
MARIA PAGÉS, TARIK WINSTON**

Cast subject to change without notice.

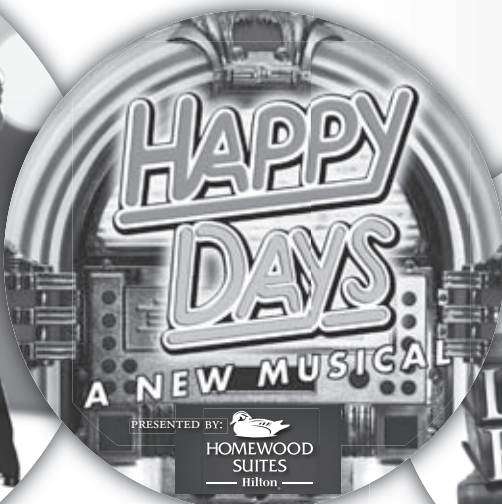
WARNING

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TPAC GROUP SALES: Group tickets for individual shows available
 at 615-782-4060 or www.tpac.org/groups
 Group minimums vary show-by-show, but are typically 10–20 tickets to the same performance.

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Please note that some of these shows contain adult language and content.
 As always, we encourage you to contact TPAC directly for more specifics.
Artists, schedules and show titles are subject to change.

* *Jersey Boys* contains profane "authentic Jersey language."

*2008–2009 Season Ticket Holders are among the first
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THE SHOW

ACT I

Reel Around the Sun	The Irish Dance Troupe
The Heart's Cry	The Riverdance Singers
The Countess Cathleen	The Female Irish Dance Troupe The Male Moscow Folk Dancers
Caoineadh Chú Chulainn (Lament)	The Riverdance Irish Piper
Thunderstorm	The Male Irish Dance Troupe
Shivna	The Moscow Folk Ballet Company The Riverdance Singers
Firedance	The Riverdance Flamenco Soloist The Male Irish Dance Troupe
Slip into Spring - The Harvest.	The Riverdance Band
Riverdance	The Irish Dance Troupe The Riverdance Singers and Drummers

ACT II

American Wake	The Company
The Harbour of the New World:	
Heal Their Hearts – Freedom	The Riverdance Baritone Soloist
Trading Taps	The Riverdance Tappers
Macedonian Morning	The Riverdance Band
The Russian Dervish	The Moscow Folk Ballet
Osail an Doras (Open the Door)	The Irish Dance Troupe The Riverdance Singers
Andalucia	The Riverdance Flamenco Soloist
Slow Air/Tunes	The Riverdance Band
Heartland	The Irish Dance Troupe
Finale	The Company

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THE RIVERDANCE IRISH DANCE TROUPE

Many of the *Riverdance* Irish Dance Troupe are World Champion Irish Dancers. The troupe hails mostly from Ireland, but also from Great Britain, the United States, Canada and Australia. Between them, the dancers can boast of literally hundreds of championships won in Ireland and abroad. All started dancing at three or four years of age at local dance schools and progressed to World Championship level before being chosen to perform in *Riverdance*. The dancers would have known and competed against each other at various competitions, including the World Championships. *Riverdance* has given them the opportunity to perform together for the first time in a non-competitive way. The grace and eloquence of their soft-shoe dance, the power and precision of their hard shoe routines clearly display the endless hours of practice and their dedication to the art of Irish Dance.

THE RIVERDANCE BAND

The exciting developments and cross-cultural fusion that have taken place in Irish music in recent years is reflected vividly in the multi-talents of the *Riverdance* Band. Their schooling and wealth of experience would seem to have destined them for a key part in this production. They play a blend of instruments which, in ensemble and in solo passages, complement perfectly the visual excitements on-stage. The breadth and scope of Bill Whelan's music for *Riverdance* presents a challenge – but it's one for which they are well equipped. As individual performers they are in constant demand, their talents have made them much sought-after as accompanists as well as on stage and in television and recording studios world-wide. They now bring this wealth of experience to *Riverdance*.

THE RIVERDANCE SINGERS

The haunting, beautiful voices of the *Riverdance* Singers are closely interwoven with all the other elements of the show, their harmonies and solo passages bringing echoes of an ancient mysticism. The singers come from many backgrounds and are all high achievers in their own right. Most of them also have other professional qualifications far removed from the stage. But all have one thing in common – a love of Irish music and an urge to bring it to a world audience in the wonderful new guise showcased in this unique production.

BILL WHELAN (*Composer*) Bill has worked extensively in theatre and film. He was appointed composer to the W.B. Yeats International Theatre Festival at Ireland's National Abbey Theatre in 1989, writing original music for 15 Yeats plays. His adaptation of *HMS Pinafore* received a Laurence Olivier Award nomination. His compositional work in film includes original scores for *Dancing At Lughnasa* starring Meryl Streep, *Some Mother's Son* starring Helen Mirren and *Lamb* starring Liam Neeson. Music for television includes *The Seven Ages*, Sean Ó Mordha's history of the Irish State. *The Seville Suite* was his first large scale orchestral work, commissioned for Ireland's National Day at Expo '92 in Seville. *The Spirit Of Mayo* followed in 1993. Bill recently completed a trilogy of pieces for chamber orchestra: *Inishlacken*, which has been performed in Europe and the US; *Carna*, which premiered in Carnegie Hall in March 2005 and *Errisbeg*, which received its world premiere in December 2005. All three works are included on Bill Whelan's latest CD, *The Connemara Suite* released in December 2007. His many production and arranging credits include U2, Van Morrison, Kate Bush, Richard Harris and Planxty. He has written and recorded a new composition with the classical violinist Vanessa-Mae, and is currently writing a new theatre work which has been commissioned by the New York Metropolitan Opera and Lincoln Center. Bill was honored with the 1997 Grammy Award for

“Best Musical Show Album” for his *Riverdance* CD. The album is a certified Platinum record in the US, Ireland and Australia. Bill holds two honorary Doctorates and has just been awarded a fellowship by the Royal Irish Academy of Music. He is a member of the Boards of Berklee School of Music in Boston, The University of Limerick, and the board of the Irish contemporary music “*Crash*” Ensemble.

MOYA DOHERTY (*Producer*) Moya Doherty’s career includes theatre, radio and television production, both in Ireland and internationally. Moya is the Producer of *Riverdance*, the worldwide acclaimed theatrical phenomenon. Moya is a director of Tyrone Productions, Ireland’s leading independent television production company, whose output includes drama, documentary and entertainment programming. She was a founding Director of Today FM, Ireland’s national independent radio station, she is a former Chair of the Dublin International Theatre Festival and served on its Board for seven years. Moya produced, with John McColgan, Boublil & Schönberg’s musical *The Pirate Queen* which premiered on Broadway in the spring of 2007. Moya and John are currently producing, and are involved in, a diverse range of projects for the Irish and international stage. Moya has won many awards and accolades over the years. She was named the Veuve Clicquot Business Woman of the Year, received the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award and has been bestowed with Honorary Doctorates from the University of Ulster & from the National University of Ireland in recognition of her ongoing commitment to the world of the arts in Ireland.

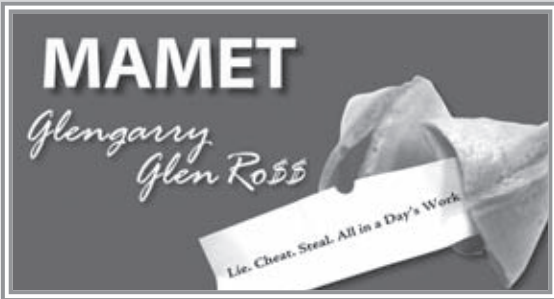
JOHN McCOLGAN (*Director*) John McColgan’s career as a highly successful television director began in the mid seventies in RTÉ Television, Ireland’s national television service, where he went on to become Head of Entertainment. While in RTÉ John produced and directed an impressive range of top quality programmes, from drama to documentaries. He is a founding Director of Tyrone Productions, Ireland’s premier independent television production company and is Chairman of Today FM radio station. He played a key role in the evolution of *Riverdance* from the original seven-minute dance number and went on to direct the full stage-show spectacular. John has been closely involved with The Abbey Theatre, Ireland’s National Theatre, he was on the Board of the Theatre for five years, served as Chairman of the Abbey Centenary Committee and directed a critically acclaimed production of the 19th century melodrama, *The Shaughbraun*, for the theatre. John produced, with Moya Doherty, Boublil & Schonberg’s musical *The Pirate Queen* which premiered on Broadway in the spring of 2007. John McColgan and Moya Doherty are currently producing, and are involved in, a diverse range of projects for the Irish and international stage. John has received many awards during his career, including an Honorary Doctorate of Law from the National University of Ireland in recognition of his services to the arts and entertainment industry.

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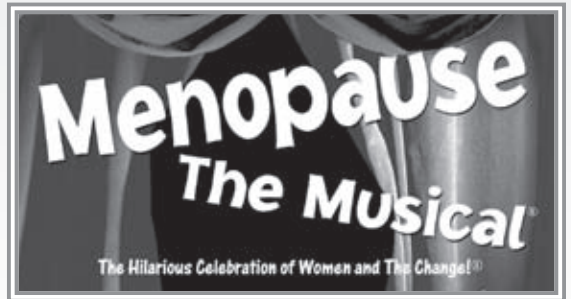
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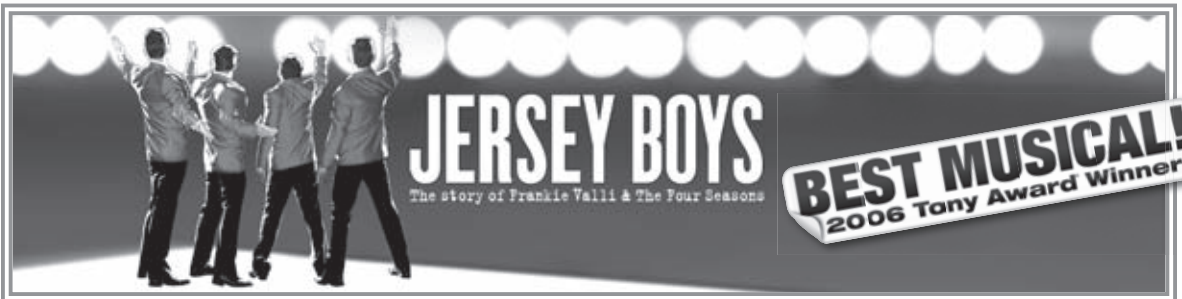
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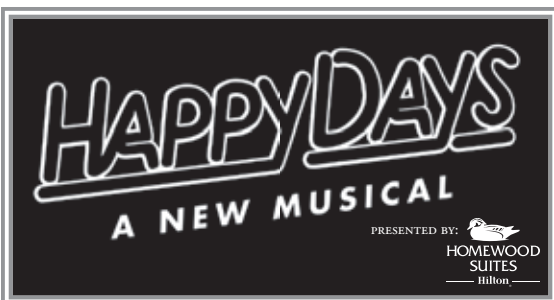
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John McColgan
Joan Egan
Executive Manager Paula Burke

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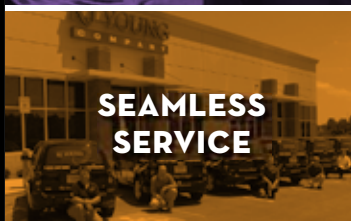
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


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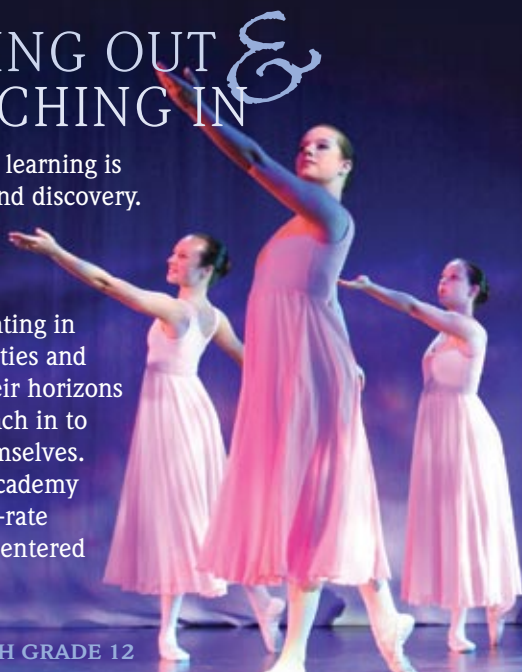
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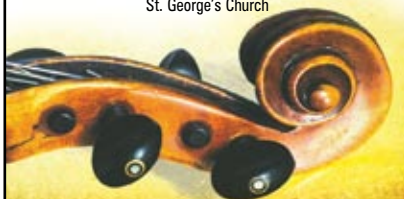
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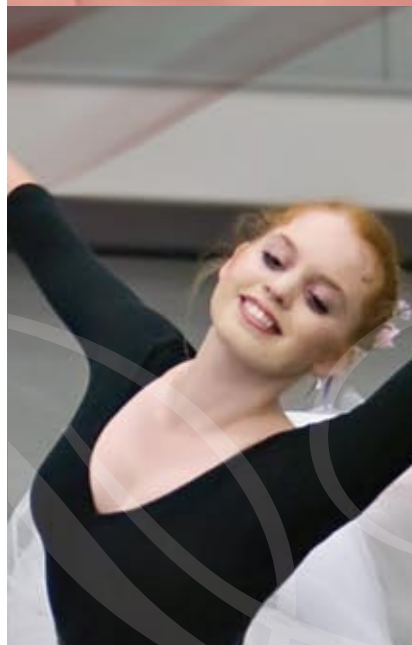
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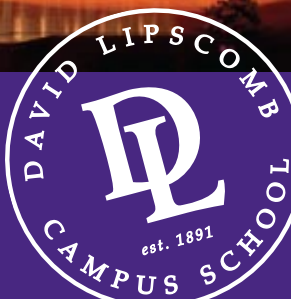
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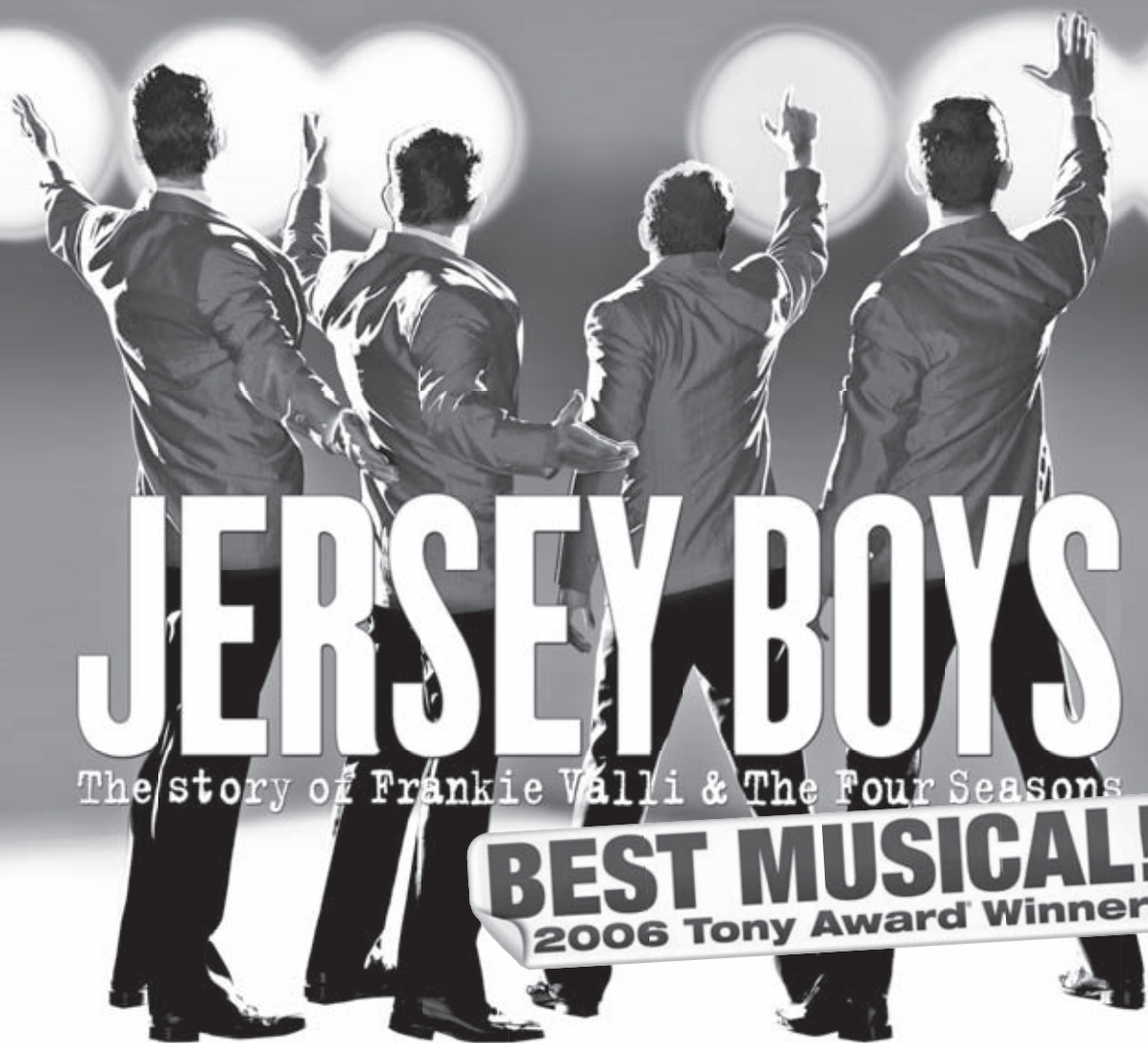
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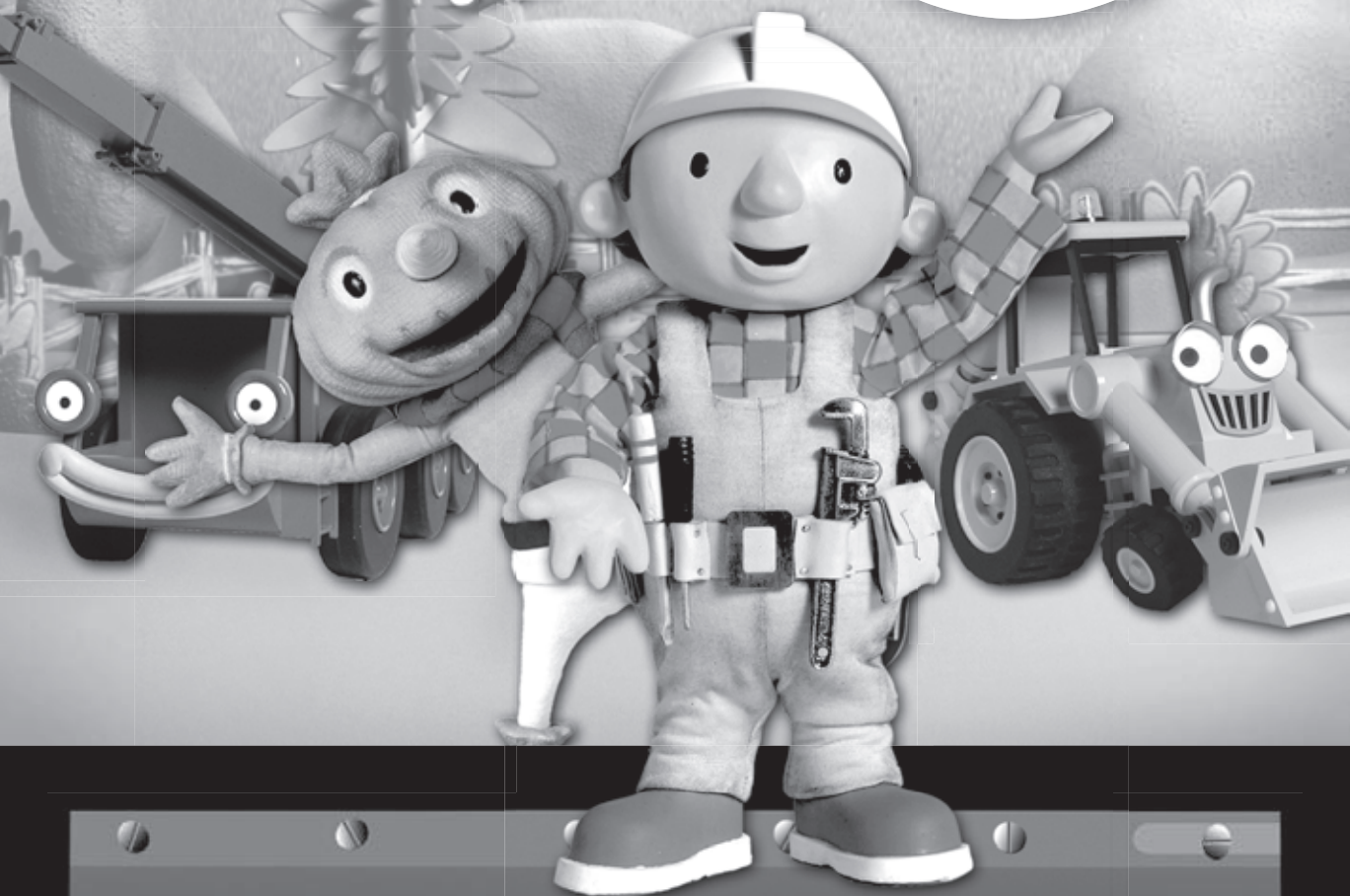
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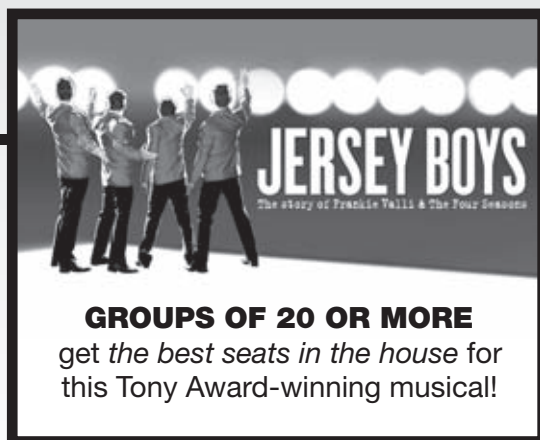
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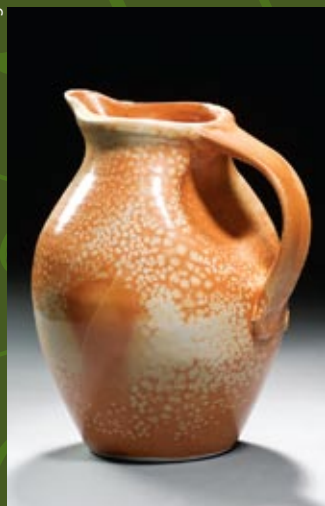
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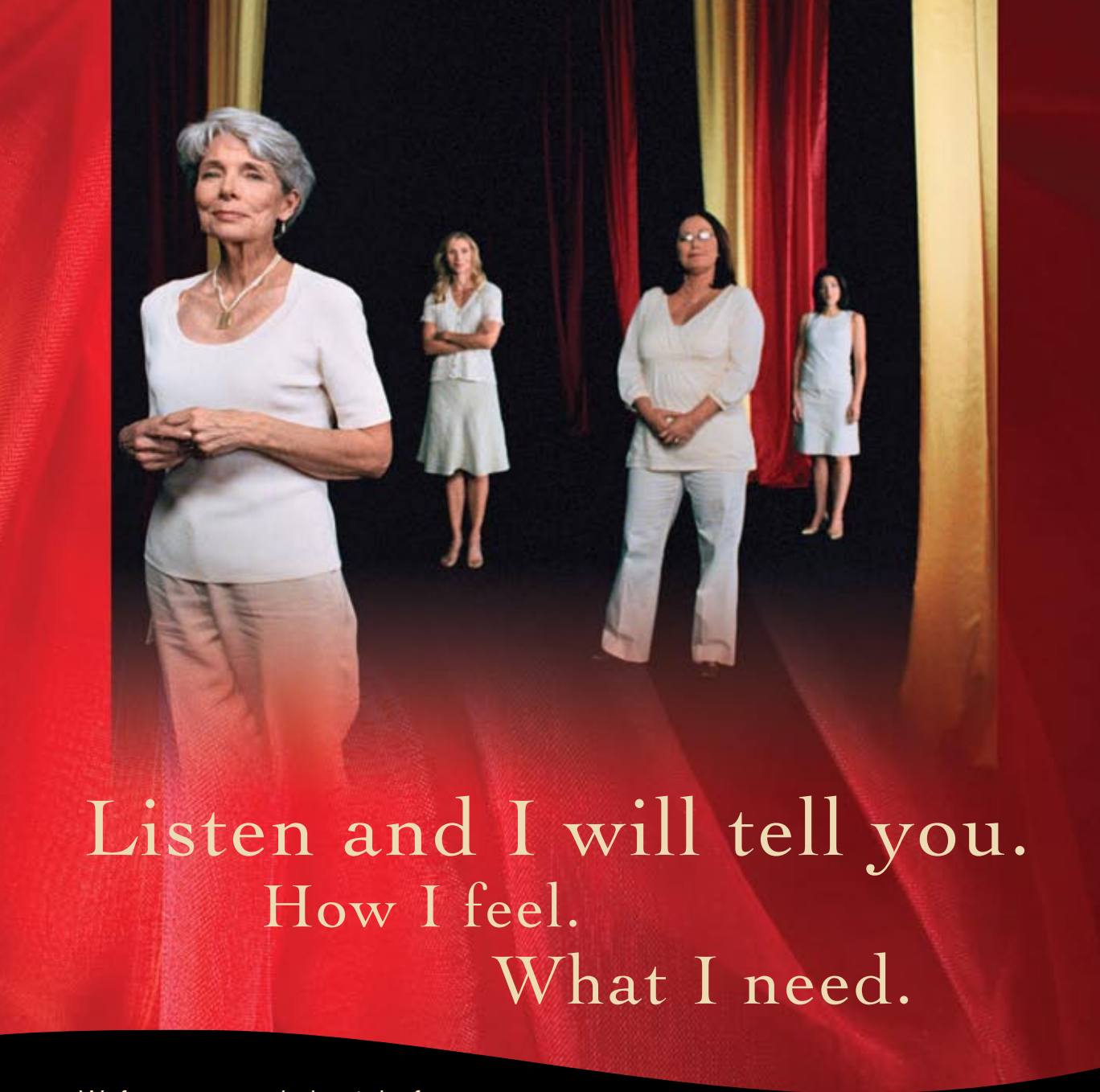
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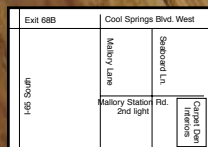
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TPAC FACILITY INFORMATION

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Accessibility Services at TPAC include parking; elevators; wheelchair seating; use of a TPAC wheelchair; designated restrooms; and services for hearing and visually impaired patrons. Infrared assisted listening devices are available at no charge at the entrance to each theater. TPAC offers signing for hearing impaired patrons, and audio description and Braille programs for blind and visually impaired patrons on the Sunday matinee in the HCA/TriStar Broadway at TPAC Series. The third Saturday matinees of Tennessee Repertory Theatre plays also are signed. Large print programs are available for shows in the Broadway, TPAC Presents and Family Field Trip series. Special accessibility requests and concerns, excluding assisted listening headsets, should be discussed in advance with the TPAC House Manager at 615/782-4087. Reservations for a TPAC wheelchair should be made on the day of performance.

Restrooms for Andrew Jackson Hall are located one level down from the 6th Avenue entrance; in the halls behind the seats in the tier and balcony; and downstairs in the back of the orchestra level. Restrooms for Polk Theater are located down the stairs to the left of the entrance to the orchestra level and on the balcony level.

All cellular phones, pagers, watch alarms, cameras, recorders and other electronic devices should be turned off prior to the performance or checked-in with the floor manager or an usher, who will note the seating location of physicians and others who expect emergency calls.

Call "Lost and Found" at 615/782-4098 to report an item which may have been left at TPAC.

Natural Herb Cough Drops, courtesy of RICOLA USA, Inc., are available in the back of Andrew Jackson Hall and in the Polk Theater lobby.

In case of an emergency, the number to leave with others is 615/782-4000 (along with performance attending, theater, and seat location).

Smoking is permitted outside of the building.



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FACILITY INFORMATION

Location The Ingram Center for Performing Arts is located at the corner of 24th Avenue and Capers Avenue.

Late Arrivals Late arrivals will be seated only at times designated by the artists and/or company. Please consult ushers stationed at the entrances of the orchestra level.

Discounted Parking Discounted parking for Ingram events is available in the Capers Avenue Garage at the corner of 24th Avenue and Capers Avenue. Please show ticket stubs when exiting.

No Smoking There is no smoking allowed in any building on University campus.

Restrooms In the Ingram Center, restrooms are located in the rear of the lobby area.

Accessibility Wheelchair accessible seating, restroom and radio frequency assistive hearing devices are available in Ingram Hall. Please call 322-2471 at least three days in advance of the performance date to make arrangements for all special needs.

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