

A CO-PRODUCTION OF





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A Co-Production of Open Stage and Someone to Tell it To



I'm Proud of You

Mar 22—Apr 12, 2025 a new play by TIM MADIGAN and HARRY PARKER based on the memoir I'M PROUD OF YOU: MY FRIENDSHIP WITH FRED ROGERS by TIM MADIGAN

lighting design by TRISTAN STASIULIS

costume design by AIDAN LEWIS

stage managed by CHRIS WALLEN directed by KELLI KAUTERMAN

Season 39 at Open Stage is made possible through the generous support of The Stabler Foundation,
Capital Blue Cross, Dauphin County,
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members of The Inner Circle, and patrons like you.

<u>THE GOOD AT HE</u>ART FESTIVAL 2025

PRESENTED BY OPEN STAGE

Festival Schedule

Please note event location in parentheses.

Saturday, March 22

12 pm - Anne Frank Remembered documentary screening (MC) 7:30 pm - I'm Proud of You opening with post-show reception (OS)

Sunday, March 23

2:00 pm - I'm Proud of You with post-show discussion (OS)

Tuesday, March 25

9:45 am - The Diary of Anne Frank (SR) 7:00 pm - John Lewis: Good Trouble documentary screening (MC)

Wednesday, March 26

9:45 am - The Diary of Anne Frank (SR) 7:30 pm - Black NewsBeat w/ Dr. Kimeka Campbell (OS)

Thursday, March 27

7:30 pm - The Diary of Anne Frank (SR)

Friday, March 28

7:30 pm - I'm Proud of You show and post-show discussion with author Tim Madigan (OS)

Saturday, March 29

7:30 pm - I'm Proud of You show and post-show discussion with author Tim Madigan (OS)

Sunday, March 30

2:00 pm - I'm Proud of You matinee and post-show discussion with author Tim Madigan (OS)

LOCATIONS

OS = Open Stage (25 N Court St, Hbg) SR = Scottish Rite (2701 N 3rd St, Hbg) MC = Midtown Cinema (250 Reily St, Hbg)



THE GOOD AT HEART FESTIVAL 2025

PRESENTED BY OPEN STAGE



author of l'm Proud of You:
My Friendship with Fred Rogers



following I'm Proud of You performances March 28, 29, & 30 Open Stage, 25 N. Court Street, Harrisburg tickets at openstagehbg.com

CAST

| Tim Madigan | Stuart Landon |
|-------------|-------------------|
| 9 | Michael Gingerich |
| _ | Michael Rodriguez |
| Actor 2 | Suzanne Thomas |

PRODUCTION TEAM

| Director | Kelli Kauterman |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| Production Stage Manager | Chris Wallen |
| Lighting Designer | Tristan Stasiulus |
| Costume Designer | Aidan Lewis |
| Production Manager | Janos Boon |
| Scenic Painter | Heather Jannetta |
| Fight Choreographer | Nick Wasileski |
| Program Designer | Finn Kelly |
| Box Office Manager | Patti Fox Miller |

ABOUT THE COMPANY

MICHAEL GINGERICH (he/him) - Fred Rogers

OPEN STAGE: Debut. OTHER: *Milton Hershey, the Play* (George Copenhaver); *The Sound of Music* (Party Guest, Soldier, Sagerbund Trio Member); *The Crucible* (Reverend John Hale); *The Fantastiks* (Bellomy).

HEATHER JANNETTA (she/her) - Scenic Painter

OPEN STAGE: A Christmas Carol (Scenic Painter); Ride the Cyclone (Assistant Scenic Artist); The Exorcist (Scenic Painter); Treasure Island (Scenic Painter); Who's Holiday! (Scenic Painter); Tiny Beautiful Things (Scenic Painter); Violet Oakley Unveiled (Director).

KELLI KAUTERMAN (she/her) - Director

OPEN STAGE: Treasure Island (Silent Sue); Little Women (Marmee); The Old Friends (Sibyl Borden); Bill W. and Dr. Bob (Lois Wilson); In the Next Room (Annie). GAMUT THEATRE: The Comedy of Errors (Director); Richard III (Duchess of York); Our Town (Myrtle Webb). THEATRE HARRISBURG: Now and Then (Director); Doubt (Director). OTHER: Our Town (Julia Gibbs); A Child's Christmas in Wales (Flo Thomas). Kelli holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Penn State University.

WARNING

This production contains discussions of suicide.

If you or someone you know is struggling, you are not alone. The 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline provides 24/7, free, and confidential support for people in distress. Call or text 988 or chat 988lifeline.org.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

STUART LANDON (he/him) - Tim Madigan See the "About the Staff" page.

AIDAN LEWIS (he/him) - Costume Designer

OPEN STAGE: Peter and the Starcatcher (Costume Coordinator); A Christmas Carol (Costume Designer). OTHER: Urinetown (Asst. Costume Designer); Grace Pollock Center Summer Program (Costume/Set Designer); Mamma Mia! (Set Designer). Aidan holds a B.A. in Theatre from Messiah University and studied acting at the Gaiety School in Dublin, Ireland.

MICHAEL RODRIGUEZ (he/him) - Actor 1

OPEN STAGE: A Christmas Carol (Cannon Quill/Past).

TRISTAN STASIULIS (he/him) - Lighting Designer

OPEN STAGE: Ride the Cyclone; Go Your Own Way; Sweeney Todd; Space Oddity; Into the Woods; Treasure Island; Crowns; The Mad Ones; Every Brilliant Thing; Amelie; Heathers; Who's Holiday!; A Christmas Carol; Ragtime; The Wolves; For Colored Girls...; Carrie; Little Women; Collective Rage; The Flick; Akeelah and the Bee; Fun Home; Red; Sondheim on Sondheim; Fences; A Child's Christmas in Wales; Frost/Nixon; Ma Rainey's Black Bottom; The Santaland Diaries; Stories From Home series (2012-15). Among many others. GAMUT THEATRE: The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe; Much Ado About Nothing; All The King's Men; Pericles Prince of Tyre; A Midsummer Night's Dream; Our Town; A Streetcar Named Desire. Keystone theatrics: Mamma Mia; The Little Mermaid. Harrisburg Symphony Orchestra Lighting Designer since 2007.

SUZANNE THOMAS (she/her) - Actor 2

OPEN STAGE: A Christmas Carol (Mrs. Fezziwig/Elizabeth); POTUS (Jean). OTHER: The Odd Couple (Cecily Pigeon); Barefoot in the Park (Corie Bratter); Black Comedy (Miss Furnival); Amadeus (Katherina Cavalieri); The Vagina Monologues (Director); Deathtrap (Helga Ten Dorp); The Odd Couple (Vera); Murder on West Moon Street (Charlotte); A Murder is Announced (Mitzi). FILM CREDITS: Arinthum Ariyamalum (Assistant Stylist/Bus Stop Crowd); Pattiyal (Air Stewardess). Suzanne holds a BA in English Literature and a Master's in Fashion Communication. She spent 13 years in various positions with the Fort Smith Little Theatre in Fort Smith, Arkansas.

CHRISTOPHER WALLEN (he/him) - Production Stage Manager

OPEN STAGE: POTUS (Production Stage Manager). ĞAMUT THEATRE: Pride and Prejudice (ASM); The Comedy of Errors (ASM). OTHER CREDITS: Turn of the Screw (ASM); A Christmas Story (ASM); Barefoot in the Park (Stage Hand). Chris holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theatre.

ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHTS

TIM MADIGAN is a New York Times bestselling author, playwright, journalist and lecturer whose work has often focused on humanitarian concerns and race history and reconciliation.

His books include the critically acclaimed and best-selling *The Burning: The Tulsa Race Massacre of 1921*, which is a definitive account of America's worst episode of racial violence. In 2019, it was primary source material for the depiction of the massacre in the pilot episode of the Emmy-winning series *Watchmen* on HBO. *The Burning* became a New York Times bestseller in June 2021. His most recent major work was a November 2024 cover story in Smithsonian Magazine on a forgotten massacre of a village of Lakota Sioux in 1855.

In 2017, Tim collaborated with grief therapist Patrick O'Malley on the critically acclaimed, *Getting Grief Right: Finding Your Story of Love in the Sorrow of Loss*, published by Sounds True.

In 2020, Tim published *Extra Innings*, the story of Fred Claire's remarkable career as general manager of the Los Angeles Dodgers, and in his later years, Claire's triumph over a near-fatal case of skin cancer at the City of Hope Medical Center in California.

A 1995 newspaper assignment led to Tim's interview with Fred Rogers, the icon of children's television, and a close friendship between the two men that lasted until Rogers' death in 2003. Tim's memoir, *I'm Proud of You: My Friendship With Fred Rogers*, is an intimate account of Rogers' human greatness, and a testament to the healing power of friendship. First published in 2006, *I'm Proud of You* continues to inspire readers around the globe. The stage adaption of *I'm Proud of You*, written by Madigan and Harry Parker, made its world premiere at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth on October 28, 2023.

The transformative relationship between Tim and Fred Rogers, and Tim's own experiences as a seeking and healing human being remain at the heart of his work. Tim continues to speak of Mister Rogers and matters of the heart to varied audiences ground the nation.

Tim lives with his wife Catherine in Texas.

HARRY PARKER has been a Professor of Theatre at Texas Christian University since joining their faculty in 2003. He also served as the Chair of the Department of Theatre for 18 years (2003-2021), and as the Founding Managing Director of the Trinity Shakespeare Festival, which was hosted at TCU for 10 years (2009-2018). A native of Oklahoma City, Harry received a B.F.A. in Theatre from TCU, and from the University of Kansas he earned an M.A. in Theatre (Acting/Directing), and a Ph.D. in Theatre and Film. He has also served on the faculty of Westmar College in Iowa, and spent eleven years as the Director of Theatre at Emporia State University in Kansas.

For seven seasons Harry worked professionally as the Assistant Artistic Director at Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma, where he assisted in staging more than 35 musicals. He has directed more than 125 professional, community and academic theatre productions across the country including professional productions at the Kennedy Center (Washington D.C.); Stages Repertory Theatre (Houston); American Heartland Theatre (Kansas City); Bishop Arts Theatre (Dallas); and Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma (Oklahoma City) and the Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre.

Harry directed the premiere production of the play *I'm Proud of You* at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth, and he is scheduled to direct another production of this play at Theatre Arlington in Texas, later in 2025. In the Dallas-Fort Worth metroplex he has directed professionally for Stage West, Circle Theatre, Amphibian Stage Productions, Jubilee Theatre, Lyric Stage, and Water Tower Theatre.

Harry served a term as the National Chair for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, and has twice been awarded the Kennedy Center Medallion of Excellence. He has also been honored with the TCU Chancellor's Award as a Creative Scholar and Teacher and the Elston Brooks Lifetime Achievement Award by the Live Theatre League of Tarrant County, Texas. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild, and an Associate Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society. Harry is married to Karen Parker, and they have two adult children.

A NOTE FROM SOMEONE TO TELL IT TO

I'm Proud of You

These are the words that we have told thousands of people for the past 13 years, when they have reached out to Someone To Tell It To, seeking the safety to tell their stories of loneliness, loss, broken relationships, uncertainty, and fear, as well as joy, excitement, and hope. We want them to know that we care about them and are grateful for the trust they have in us and our teams of compassionate listeners.

The book, I'm Proud of You: My Friendship with Fred Rogers, by Tim Madigan, which led to this play – I'm Proud of You – was foundational to the creation of Someone To Tell It To in 2012. Its message of unconditional love, kindness, and goodness, that leads to deeper human connections, inspired us to establish our nonprofit. It is a model for us in the ways we support and interact with the many people, in Pennsylvania and around the globe, whom we serve.

We are very excited to be co-producing this play with Open Stage, for they too are also about creating deeper human connections through theater and the performing arts. Together, we work to help others live lives filled with better listening, greater hope, and abundant reassurance that they are not alone amidst the challenges in their lives.

Tim Madigan has become a dear friend of ours. We share with him a profound concern to foster a more empathetic and caring world. To have his story to tell is a tremendous privilege for us. In this often



relationally disconnected world, we find hope and promise in stories such as this one about his friendship with Fred Rogers. We hope you do too.

Since 2012, Someone To Tell It To has:

- had more than 25,000 listening interactions with people around the world
- trained more that 1,250 people in listening better businesses, schools, faith communities, other organizations, and individuals, and
- most importantly, exponentially fostered greater human connections because we have equipped others to listen with greater intention and purpose.

In the most treasured letter that Tim Madigan received from Mister Rogers:

"We all need someone to be proud of us, no matter who we are, or how old we are, or what our lot in life is like."

Yes, we do. And if you would like to connect with us in enabling so many more people to know that they are worthy of others being proud of them, too, we invite you to go here - https://www.someonetotellitto.org/ - or use the QR Code below to learn and do more. We are proud of you for being partners with us in this mission.

To celebrate *I'm Proud of You*, the play, we are giving away one copy at each performance of Tim Madigan's book, *I'm Proud of You: My Friendship with Fred Rogers*. To be eligible for the drawing, all you need to do is go to the QR code here or to the table in the lobby and bar area during the intermission and register. The winner of the book will be announced at the end of the show.

Thank you for being at this performance today. Thank you for giving your support for others to hear:

"I'm proud of you."





Scan to enter the giveaway!

ABOUT THE STAFF AT OPEN STAGE

JANOS BOON (they/them, Production Manager) | [YAWN-uhs BOO-n] has worked across the country as a fabricator or scenic designer. They graduated with a B.A. in Theatre and Performance from SUNY at Purchase College in (2016-2019) and an M.A. in Theatre from Villanova University (2021-2023) with a concentration in Scenography. Janos has been training in carpentry and stage management since 2016, with properties and paint work since 2019. Prior work experience includes Utah Shakespeare Festival (scenic carpenter, 2022), Gamut Theatre Group (freelance, 2019-2022), Ogunquit Playhouse (scenic carpenter, 2023), and The REV Theatre Co. (scenic carpenter, 2024). They currently serve on the Board of Directors at Philadelphia Scenic Works and Harrisburg Fringe as Visual Arts Co-Chair. When not at work, Janos can be found hiking, reading poetry, and scoping out the best spots for an oat milk latte. Special thanks to Ryan Henry and Jordan Campbell for being my rocks, and to my sister Molly McCarthy Boon-I love you and you belong here always.

FINN KELLY (they/them, Operations Manager) Born and raised in South Jersey, Finn first moved to Pennsylvania for college in 2016, then again in 2022 after completing their Master's degree in Community Psychology with a concentration in Program Development. Finn is passionate about nonprofit work and the arts, so Open Stage feels like the perfect fit! At Open Stage, Finn has directed Charlotte's Web and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory as an instructor for The Alsedek Theatre School. Their stage credits include The Insanity of Mary Girard (Mrs. Lum/Fury), Live in Color (Christy), and The Addams Family (Ancestor). In their free time, they enjoy crocheting, foraging for mushrooms in the woods, and spending time with their cats, Buttons and Loki.

RACHEL LANDON (she/her, Education Coordinator) Favorite regional credits include Hedwig and the Angry Inch (Yitzhak), Silence! The Musical (Clarice), Tell Me On a Sunday (Emma), Next to Normal (Diana), and The Who's Tommy (Mrs. Walker). She is an award-winning director for shows such as Assassins, Peter and the Starcatcher and The Mystery of Edwin Drood. Open Stage acting credits: POTUS, Sweeney Todd, Treasure Island, The Mad Ones, Carrie the Musical, A Christmas Carol, and as Cindy Lou Who in Who's Holiday!. At Open Stage, she has directed Mean Girls, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Wolves, Ragtime, Heathers the Musical, Puffs, Charlotte's Web, and The Vagina Monologues.

STUART LANDON (he/him, Producing Artistic Director) was born an Okie, reared a Texan, and schooled a Sooner. Stuart has been a proud resident of Harrisburg since 2007. DIRECTING: Ride the Cyclone What the Constitution Means to Me; The Exorcist, Sweeney Todd; Tiny Beautiful Things; Into the Woods; Treasure Island; The Mad Ones; Frankenstein; Carrie the Musical; Little Women; The Flick; Akeelah and the Bee (alongside Sharia Benn of Sankofa African American Theatre Company); Fun Home; A Christmas Carol; Peter, Hook, & the Darlings; The Hobbit, L. Frank Baum's OZ; and The Diary of Anne Frank. PERFORMANCE: Every Brilliant Thing, Poirot Investigates!, Ragtime, Sondheim on Sondheim, Court Street Cabaret, The Santaland Diaries, Clybourne Park, A Christmas Memory, Frost/Nixon, A Child's Christmas in Wales, Little Shop of Horrors, Hedwig and the Angry Inch, Well, 8 the Play, The Normal Heart, [title of show], Doubt, The Full Monty, Oklahoma!, Lucky Stiff, Jesus Christ Superstar, and The Last Five Years. Stuart holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Oklahoma. He also proudly serves as Director of Community Engagement for Midtown Cinema where he is also a panelist for Down in Front! comedy movie riffina.

PATTI FOX MILLER (she/her, Box Office Manager) Born in Brooklyn, NY, she has lived in Pennsylvania for many years, but will always consider herself a New Yorker. Patti has worked as a radio disc jockey and news director in Central PA, and has had the pleasure of performing on stage at Lebanon Community Theatre in the past. One of her favorite theatre memories is appearing as Mother Goose in Babes In Toyland, with her daughters also in the cast. Patti is loving her position as the Box Office Manager here at Open Stage.

ANTHONY PIERUCCINI (he/him, Marketing & Multimedia Coordinator) Anthony is an LVC graduate with a BA in Music Performance. He has spent the years since graduating fine-tuning a multitude of skills including music composition and arranging, recording/audio technology, marketing, and many more! Anthony has worked for a variety of regional and community theatres across central PA, and has been involved in many of Open Stage's productions. A few favorite productions are Something Rotten, Heathers, and Absolutely Freaked! In 2022 Anthony won the CPMA for Instrumental Album of the Year with his project The Masque of the Red Death released under Tony Wayne. In his free time, Anthony enjoys spending time with his cats (Tamao and Kiki) and rescues/TNRs the stray cats of Lebanon with Whisker Warriors. Anthony loves his versatile work with Open Stage, and is looking forward to supporting and growing with the theatre!

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Open Stage of Harrisburg is a regional professional theatre and educational program dedicated to supporting a company of artists to present diverse offerings of thought-provoking theatre and educational activities in intimate settings.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We work and create art upon unceded Indigenous territory: the ancestral homeland of the Susquehannock peoples.

OUR COMMITMENT

Open Stage is committed to radical inclusion, accessibility, and justice. We firmly believe that inclusion, diversity, equity, and accessibility present unparalleled opportunities. Our creative spirit thrives on individual initiative, personal convictions, and collaborative efforts, uniting diverse perspectives while encouraging the sharing of unique viewpoints. We recognize that commitments to anti-racism and radical accessibility are an ongoing journey rather than a fixed destination. We believe that every individual plays a vital role in our inclusive community. We invite you to join us in our ongoing mission to champion inclusion, combat racism, and cultivate a more just and equitable arts community in our city, state, and nation.

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Open Stage is a nonprofit, professional regional theatre with 501(c)(3) approval. All donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent allowed by current law. Open Stage is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for non-profit, professional theatres.





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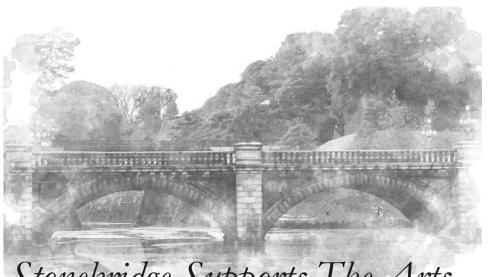


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Tempesta di Mare

Saturday, November 9, 2024 at 7:30 PM St. Michael Lutheran Church

Stuart & Friends

Sunday, January 5, 2025 at 4 PM Market Square Presbyterian Church

Mark Markham, Piano

Saturday, February 22, 2025 at 7:30 PM Market Square Presbyterian Church

Trio Gaia

Wednesday, March 26, 2025 at 7:30 PM Derry Presbyterian Church - Hershey

Jasper String Quartet

Sunday, April 27, 2025 at 4 PM Temple Ohev Sholom







THEATRE HARRISBURG

SEASON 99

2024 - 2025



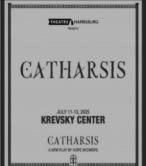


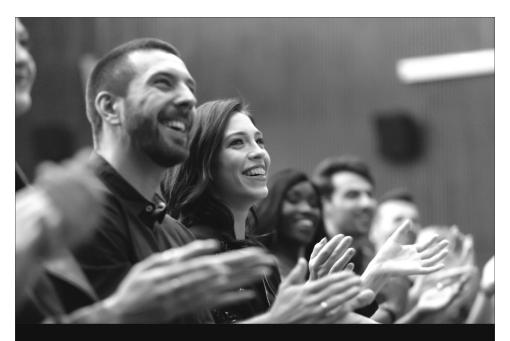












Finding inspiration is important.

At M&T Bank, we understand how important the arts are to a vibrant community. That's why we offer our time, energy and resources to support artists of all kinds, and encourage others to do the same. Learn more at mtb.com.

M&T Bank is proud to support Open Stage of Harrisburg and Season 39: Journeying Beyond.





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ENGAGING AND ENRICHING THE HARRISBURG REGION AROUND THE AFRICAN AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE ON RELEVANT ISSUES THROUGH THOUGHT-PROVOKING THEATRE THAT REFLECTS ARTISTIC EXCELLENCE.



ABOUT: Written by Langston Hughes, the acclaimed American poet and playwright of the Harlem Renaissance, BLACK NATIVITY, a retelling of the Nativity story, is an expression of the playwright's interest in African American spirituality and the oral traditions of the African American church. Hughes' Christmas story is set to jubilant Cospel music that incorporates dance and Biblical narrative. Sharia Benn's stage direction blended with the musical direction and arrangements by Brian McCrady offers the audience an inspiring celebration of seasonal joy.

DATES: DECEMBER 6.4, 2024

DATES: DECEMBER 6-8, 2024

West Shore Theatre 317 Bridge St., New Cumberland, PA

Performances: Friday at 7:30PM Saturday at 2:30PM & 7:30PM and Sunday at 2:30PM



ABOUT: Four years have passed since Kay's last encounter with the spirits of the Eighth Ward, and her life is spiraling out of control once more. Desperate for guidance and a soul-stirring reunion with Della, her kindred spirit from the past, Kay ventures to Harrisburg's Lincoln Cemetery to summon her soul-sister. However, her plans are disrupted when Kayah, the fierce "SOAL" warrior dedicated to preserving the city's crumbling Black cemetery, intervenes. Kayah calls upon the ancestors to help Kay learn from the past so she can reclaim her future.

Will Kay find the strength to course-correct before it's too late?

Experience the life-affirming power of connecting with your heritage and history in this gripping sequel to Voices of the Eighth.

DATES: FEBRUARY 15 - MARCH 2, 2025

Gamut Theatre 15 North 4th Street Harrisburg PA, 17101



ABOUT: Step into "The Colored Museum," where bold satire meets provocative storytelling. Originally premiering in 1986, this groundbreaking show presents a series of 11 "exhibits" that challenge and redefine Black American culture. Playwright George C. Wolfe describes it as both 'an exorcism and a party," electrifying, discomforting, and delighting audiences of all colors. From confronting stereotypes to celebrating resilience, each exhibit offers a unique perspective on what it means to be Black in contemporary America. With fearless humor and insightful commentary. "The Colored Museum' delivers a thought-provoking exploration of identity, history, and hope. Don't miss this innovative and seriously funny tour that shakes up perceptions and demands attention.

PATES: MAY 31 - JUNE 31 2025

Open Stage 25 N Court Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Scan QR Code for tickets and more info. about Sankofa African American Theatre Company, or visit our website at sankofatheatrehbg.com







sankofa@sankofaaatc.org

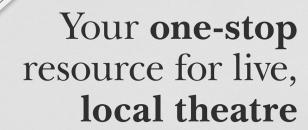








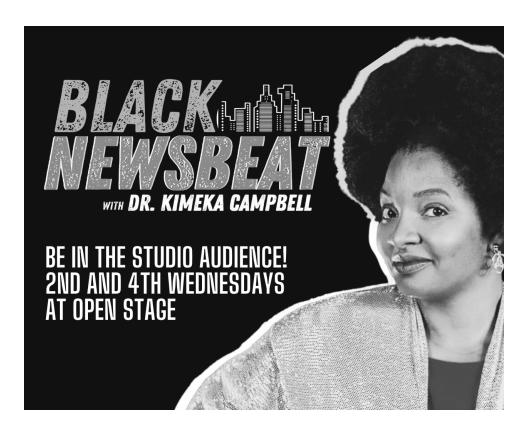


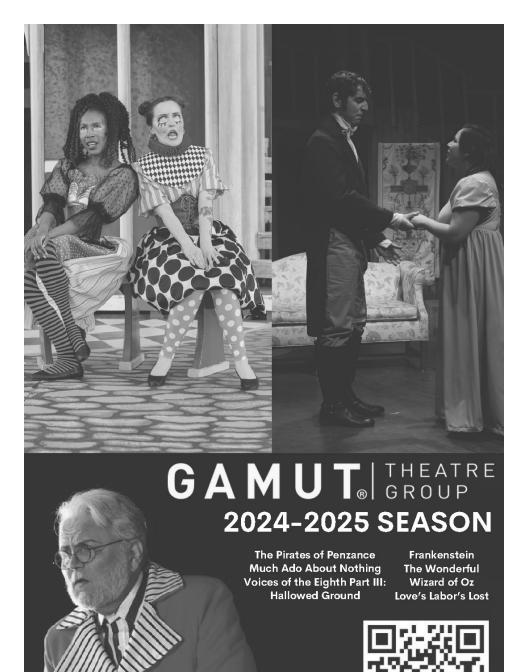


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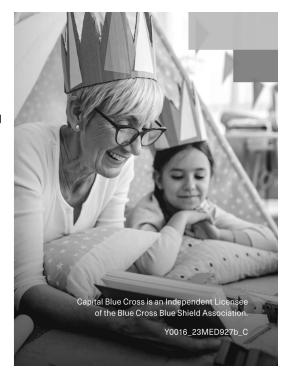




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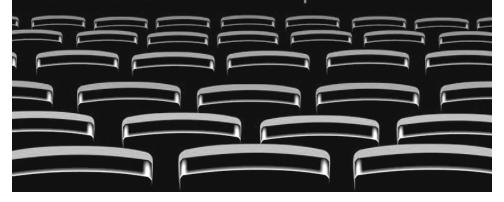
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— Eugene Ionesco, Playuright —

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