

SEAS

2023-24 SEASON





STAGESTHEATRE.ORG

Welcome to Stages Theatre Company's 40th Anniversary Season!

When I consider the life cycle of a forty-year-old arts organization that serves young people, it is humbling. You learn along the way and not unlike raising a child, you do what you think is right, try to lead by example, invest time and energy in them, all the while trying to balance what is best for them with what is just plain FUN!

Forty wonderful, inspiring and sometimes wacky years of bringing stories and smiles to countless young people and the adults who have brought them here. Looking around our world, it seems so much has changed since 1984, but much has remained constant. The Stages Theatre Company mission of enrichment and education of children and youth in a professional theatre environment that stimulates artistic excellence and personal growth is unchanged, and our 40th ANNIVERSARY SEASON reflects that and MORE!

This season celebrates some of our favorite titles from past seasons and introduces audiences to regional and world premieres. The first show Stages EVER produced back in 1984 was a play version of *Beauty and the Beast*, and our holiday production of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR*. remains one of the highest attended productions in our history so we wanted to bring this gorgeous musical back for our audiences. We party with Dragons, re-visit our favorite square pumpkin patch and celebrate the young people in these stories who bravely teach us that 'nobody but me is gonna change my story'. Through it all we continue to celebrate the collaborations with our amazing artistic partners - some new, some old - all working to center young people in what we do and how we do it.

There is much to celebrate this season, and YOU are why we celebrate! Stages Theatre Company has grown from serving 6,000 people in 1984 to more than 145,000 today. The circle has grown, and continues to get wider, by being a radically welcoming theatre, empowering young people to create a positive influence in their world. We have made the commitment to creating a space where diverse opinions, courageous dialogue, and community engagement is not only valued, but vital to our shared artistic and educational success.

Lean into the FUN and come celebrate with us all season long!

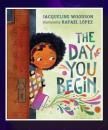
Sandy Boren-Barrett Artistic Director

> CELEBRATE OUR 40[™] ANNIVERSARY WITH A SPECIAL SEASON TICKET PACKAGE! See page 13 for details.









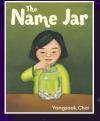




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The Day You Begin September 29 - October 22, 2023

Spookley the Square Pumpkin October 6 - 29, 2023

Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. November 17 - December 27, 2023

Dragons Love Tacos: The Musical January 26 - February 25, 2024 **The Name Jar** March 22 - April 14, 2024

Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. April 19 - May 19, 2024

Disney's Finding Nemo JR. June 21 - August 4, 2024

The Dandelion Seed August 7 – 25, 2024

Our Mission Statement

Stages Theatre Company is committed to the enrichment and education of children and youth in a professional theatre environment that stimulates artistic excellence and personal growth.

Our Inclusion Statement

Stages Theatre Company is dedicated to creating a space where diverse opinions, courageous dialogue, and local, national, and international community engagement is not only valued, but vital to our shared artistic and educational success. We make this pledge in the hope of curating a welcome home for all.

Our Access Statement

Stages Theatre Company is committed to addressing barriers that can restrict participation to our performances and programming. We believe that every individual should be able to access the joy, wonder, and benefits of participation in the theatre arts. We are working towards a future beyond compliance- toward a fully inclusive environment where all programs and performances are accessible to all.



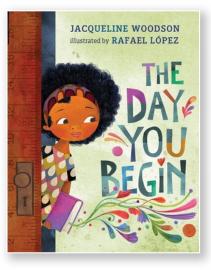
Make this the day you begin!



Based on the Book by Jacqueline Woodson, Illustrated by Rafael López Script by Jacqueline Woodson Music and lyrics by Toshi Reagon

IN COLLABORATION WITH: THE KA





It's not easy to take those first steps into a place where nobody really knows you, but somehow you do it. With the start of school and new beginnings looming, National Book Award Winner Jacqueline Woodson's heartwarming musical celebrates the courage it takes to make new friends, hear new stories, and see your own magic in the world.

SEPTEMBER 29 - OCTOBER 22, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		9/29 7 PM	9/30 1PM			
10/1 1 PM • 4 PM*	10/2	10/3	10/4 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/5 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/6 10 AM	10/7 10 AM ↔ • 1 PM
10/8 1 PM • 4 PM	10/9	10/10	10/11 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/12 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/13 7 PM	10/14 10 AM • 1 PM
10/15 1 PM	10/16	10/17	10/18 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/19 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/20 7 PM©▲	10/21 1PM
10/22						

SINGLE TICKET PRICES AGES 2-17: \$16 • AGES 60+: \$16 • ADULTS: \$18 LAP PASS AGE 4 AND UNDER: \$5

This play was commissioned by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was first produced at the Kennedy Center during the 2022-2023 season.

American Sign Language Interpreted Performance * Pay What You Can Performance
Audio Described Performance
Sensory-Friendly Performance

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Be our pick of the patch!

Spookley the Square Pumpkin

Stage play by Joe Troiano Based on the film Spookley the Square Pumpkin by Joe Troiano and Tom Hughes and the book The Legend of Spookley the Square Pumpkin by Joe Troiano

Lyrics by Joe Troiano Music composed and arranged by Jeffrey Zahn



Spookley, who is teased for being the only square pumpkin on Holiday Hill Farm, doesn't believe a square pumpkin could ever win 'Pick of the Patch'. But when a storm hits, he is the only one who can save the day! With the help of his friends, Spookley learns that what makes him different is what makes him special.

OCTOBER 6 - 29, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		10/6 7 PM	10/7 1PM			
10/8 1 PM • 4 PM*	10/9	10/10	10/11 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/12 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/13 10 AM	10/14 10 AM ◇ • 1 PM
10/15 1 PM • 4 PM	10/16	10/17	10/18 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/19 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/20 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/21 10 AM
10/22 1 PM©▲ • 4 PM	10/23	10/24	10/25 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/26 10 AM • 12:30 PM	10/27 10 AM • 7 PM	10/28 1PM
10/29 1PM						

SINGLE TICKET PRICES AGES 2-17: \$16 • AGES 60+: \$16 • ADULTS: \$18 LAP PASS AGE 4 AND UNDER: \$5

© Holiday Hill Enterprises, LLC

American Sign Language Interpreted Performance * Pay What You Can Performance
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Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.

Music by Alan Menken Lyrics by Howard Ashman & Tim Rice Book by Linda Woolverton Originally Directed by Robert Jess Roth Originally Produced by Disney Theatrical Productions

A wintry evening changes two lives forever. Through love, and with the help of an enchanted collection of characters, they discover that true beauty comes from within. Based on the animated movie, this Tony award winning Broadway musical celebrates the importance of family. Share this timeless tale with the ones you love this holiday season!

NOVEMBER 17 – DECEMBER 27, 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		11/17 7 рм	11/18 1 PM			
11/19 1 PM • 4 PM*	11/20	11/21	11/22	11/23	11/24 10 AM • 1 PM	11/25 10 AM • 1 PM
11/26 1 PM • 4 PM	11/27	11/28	11/29 10 AM • 12:30 PM	11/30 10 AM	12/1 7 PM©▲	12/2 1PM
12/3 1 PM • 4 PM	12/4	12/5	12/6 10 AM • 12:30 PM	12/7 10 AM	12/8 7 PM	12/9 1PM
12/10 1 PM • 4 PM	12/11	12/12	12/13 10 AM • 12:30 PM	12/14 10 AM	12/15 7 PM	12/16 10 AM * • 1 PM
12/17 1 PM • 4 PM	12/18	12/19	12/20 10 AM • 12:30 PM	12/21 10 AM • 12:30 PM	12/22 10 AM • 12:30 PM	12/23 10 AM • 1 PM
12/24	12/25	12/26 10 AM • 1 PM	12/27 10 AM • 1 PM			

SINGLE TICKET PRICES

AGES 2-17: \$18 • AGES 60+: \$22 • ADULTS: \$25 LAP PASS AGE 4 AND UNDER: \$5

Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

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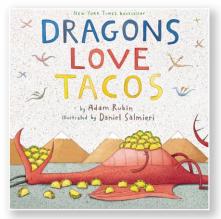
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Beat the winter blues and join our taco party!



Dragons Love Tacos: The Musical

An adaptation of the best-selling book Dragons Love Tacos by Adam Rubin and Illustrated by Daniel Salmieri



Stages Theatre Company brings you a new musical adaptation of the wildly popular, laugh out loud funny, *Dragons Love Tacos*. Join us for the party of the year, because after all, the only thing Dragons love more than parties, or tacos, is TACO PARTIES!



JANUARY 26 - FEBRUARY 25, 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1/26 7 PM	1/27 10 AM • 1 PM			
1/28 1 PM • 4 PM*	1/29	1/30	1/31 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/1 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/2 7 PM	2/3 10 AM • 1 PM
2/4 1 PM • 4 PM	2/5	2/6	2/7 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/8 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/9 7 PM	2/10 10 AM� • 1 PM
2/11 1PM	2/12	2/13	2/14 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/15 10 AM	2/16 10 AM	2/17 1 PM©▲
2/18 1 PM • 4 PM	2/19 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/20	2/21 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/22 10 AM • 12:30 PM	2/23 7 PM	2/24 10 AM • 1 PM
2/25						

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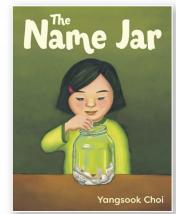


Celebrate the meaning behind your name!

The Name Jar

Based on the book by Yangsook Choi Adapted for the stage by Susan Pak

A CO-PRODUCTION WITH:



TEACHER'S TOP PICK!

Unhei has moved from Korea to America with her family and has started a new school. When the kids struggle with her name, she wonders if she should choose a new one to fit in. Her classmates decide to help out by filling a glass jar with names for her to pick from, but will any of them fit? *The Name Jar* is a celebration of culture, family and what's in a name.

THEATER



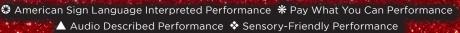
MARCH 22 - APRIL 14, 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		3/22 7 PM	3/23 1PM			
3/24 1 PM • 4 PM*	3/25	3/26	3/27 10 AM • 12:30 PM	3/28 10 AM • 12:30 PM	3/29 7 PM	3/30 10 AM • 1 PM
3/31	4/1	4/2	4/3 10 AM • 12:30 PM	4/4 10 AM • 12:30 PM	4/5 10 AM	4/6 10 AM�•1 PM
4/7 1 PM • 4 PM	4/8	4/9	4/10 10 AM • 12:30 PM	4/11 10 AM • 12:30 PM	4/12 7 PM©▲	4/13 10 AM • 1 PM
4/14						

SINGLE TICKET PRICES

AGES 2-17: \$16 • AGES 60+: \$16 • ADULTS: \$18 LAP PASS AGE 4 AND UNDER: \$5

The Name Jar is produced with the permission of the Author.





Nobody but me is going to change my story!



Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR.

Book by Dennis Kelly Music and Lyrics by Tim Minchin



Rebellion is near in *Matilda JR*., a gleefully witty ode to the anarchy of childhood and the power of imagination! With the help of the students at her new school, Matilda's about to teach some grown ups that 'even if you're little you can do a lot'. *Matilda JR*. celebrates the power of young people to change their own stories.

APRIL 19 - MAY 19, 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		4/19 7 PM	4/20 1PM			
4/21 1 PM • 4 PM*	4/22	4/23	4/24 10 AM • 12:30 PM	4/25 10 AM	4/26 10 AM • 7 PM	4/27 1PM
4/28 1 PM • 4 PM	4/29	4/30	5/1 10 AM • 12:30 PM	5/2 10 AM	5/3 10 AM • 7 PM	5/4 10 AM ∻ • 1 PM
5/5 1 PM • 4 PM	5/6	5/7	5/8 10 AM • 12:30 PM	5/9 10 AM • 12:30 PM	5/10 10 AM • 7 PM	5/11 1 PM©▲
5/12 1PM	5/13	5/14	5/15 10 AM • 12:30 PM	5/16 10 AM • 12:30 PM	5/17 10 AM • 7 PM	5/18 1PM
5/19 1PM						

SINGLE TICKET PRICES

AGES 2-17: \$16 • AGES 60+: \$16 • ADULTS: \$18 LAP PASS AGE 4 AND UNDER: \$5

Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical JR. is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIShows.com

American Sign Language Interpreted Performance * Pay What You Can Performance
Audio Described Performance
Sensory-Friendly Performance



Explore the big blue world this summer!

Disney's Finding Nemo JR.

Book, Music and Lyrics by Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez

Book Adapted by Lindsay Anderson



Music and Orchestrations Adapted and Arranged by Myrna Conn Based on the 2003 Disney / Pixar film *Finding Nemo* written by Andrew Stanton, Bob Peterson, David Reynolds and directed by Andrew Stanton

Disney's Finding Nemo JR. is a celebration of true friendship, bravery and the love between father and son! Nemo and Marlin remind us to 'Just Keep Swimming' in this epic adventure through the ocean. This 60-minute musical adaptation features new music by award-winning songwriting team Kristen Anderson-Lopez and Robert Lopez (Frozen). The treasured 2003 Pixar movie *Finding Nemo* comes to Stages Theatre Company's mainstage this Summer!

JUNE 21 - AUGUST 4, 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		6/21 7 PM	6/22 1PM			
6/23 1 PM • 4 PM*	6/24	6/25	6/26 10 AM • 12:30 PM	6/27 10 AM • 12:30 PM	6/28 7 PM	6/29 10 AM • 1 PM
6/30 1PM	7/1	7/2	7/3 10 AM • 12:30 PM	7/4	7/5 10 AM • 7 PM	7/6 10 AM∻ • 1 PM
7/7 1 PM	7/8	7/9	7/10 10 AM • 12:30 PM	7/11 10 AM • 12:30 PM	7/12 7 PM	7/13 10 AM • 1 PM©▲
7/14 1PM	7/15	7/16	7/17	7/18 🍯	7/19 🍏	7/20
7/21	7/22	7/23	7/24 10 AM • 12:30 PM	7/25 10 AM • 12:30 PM	7/26 7 PM	7/27 10 AM • 1 PM
7/28 1PM	7/29	7/30	7/31 10 AM • 12:30 PM	8/1 10 AM • 12:30 PM	8/2 7 PM	8/3 10 AM • 1 PM
8/4 1PM						

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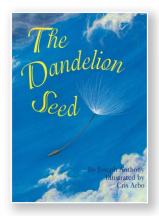
Bring your little one to explore a new theatrical adventure!



THEATRE FOR THE VERY YOUNG

The Dandelion Seed

Based on the book by Joseph P. Anthony and Cris Arbo Written by Jim Hibbeler Original music by Nate Rowan New music by Matt Ouren



Theatre for the Very Young began its life at Stages 10 years ago with *The Dandelion Seed* and we're celebrating how far we've come by bringing it back! One tiny dandelion seed is happy in its cozy home until a wind carries it away. It worries that it won't be able to find its place in such a big, scary world but the seed finds that everything is more beautiful than it could have imagined. Perhaps change isn't so bad after all.

AUGUST 7 - 25, 2024

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
			8/7	8/8	8/9	8/10
			9 AM • 10:30 AM 12:30 PM			
8/11	8/12	8/13	8/14	8/15	8/16	8/17
2:30 PM • 4 PM*			9 AM • 10:30 AM 12:30 PM			
8/18	8/19	8/20	8/21	8/22	8/23	8/24
2:30 PM • 4 PM			9 AM • 10:30 AM 12:30 PM			
8/25		~				·
2:30 PM • 4 PM						

SINGLE TICKET PRICES AGES 1-17: \$16 • AGES 60+: \$16 • ADULTS: \$18

What is Theatre for the Very Young?

Theatre for the Very Young is an interactive experience for our youngest audience members. The Dandelion Seed will be held in the Jaycees Studio. Seating is limited and includes floor seats.

American Sign Language Interpreted Performance * Pay What You Can Performance
Audio Described Performance
Sensory-Friendly Performance

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SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS & GROUP TICKETS

2023-24 SEASON SUBSCRIPTION OPTIONS

40TH ANNIVERSARY PACKAGE 7 Shows for \$100 per person.

Book before 9/22/23

Excludes The Dandelion Seed

FLEX PASSES THE ULTIMATE FLEXIBILTY! 10 & 20 Pass Options

Excludes Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. and The Dandelion Seed

3 SHOW PACKAGE CREATE YOUR OWN FUN!

Choose 3 shows for \$48 per person. Excludes Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR. and The Dandelion Seed

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT: StagesTheatre.org/Tickets/#Subscribe

All packages are subject to a \$4 per order ticket processing fee. Other fees may apply.

WHY SUBSCRIBE?

- 1 Savings of up to 25% off individual ticket prices Up to \$50 savings per person.
- 2 Holiday savings for Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.
- **3** Save on handling fees.

GROUP TICKETS*

SCHOOL & HOME SCHOOL GROUPS

\$8 per ticket for school day matinees.\$9.50 per ticket for school day matinees of Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.

PUBLIC GROUPS

\$10.50 per ticket for public performances and school day matinees.\$18 per ticket for public performances and school day matinees of Disney's Beauty and the Beast JR.

*\$10 handling fee added to all group orders (excludes home school groups). Group orders require minimum of 10 tickets per order (excludes home school groups).

HEY EDUCATORS, INTERESTED IN EXPANDING YOUR FIELD TRIP?

Contact our education programs department for more information on pairing your field trip with an in-school theatre residency. Phone: 952-979-1117 | Email: education@stagestheatre.org



GENERAL INFORMATION / ACCESSIBILTY

GENERAL INFORMATION

Ticket Policy: Ticket orders will not be processed without full payment. We do not issue refunds. Exchanges can be made up to 24 hours prior to a scheduled performance. Exchanges can only be made for another performance of the SAME TITLE. Subject to availability. **Box Office Hours:** Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. and one hour prior to all performances.

Mainstage: Unless otherwise noted, performances take place in the mainstage theatre. Seating is reserved and begins 30 minutes prior to showtime.

Jaycees Studio: All

performances of Spookley the Square Pumpkin, The Name Jar and The Dandelion Seed will be in the Jaycees Studio, a versatile space located in the Hopkins Center for the Arts. Seating is general admission and begins 30 minutes prior to show time. Come early for the most seating options!

LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Stages Theatre Company acknowledges with respect and gratitude that the land on which we live and work is the unceded, traditional land of the Dakota Nation. We are committed to learning from the past and critically examining the implications of colonial histories in our day to day lives.

To honor the traditional custodians of this land, complimentary tickets to every performance are available specifically for our indigenous community. We hope these resources can move us in taking collective action towards land repatriation.

Please call our box office at (952) 979-1111 to secure these complimentary tickets.

ACCESSIBILITY

At Stages Theatre Company we believe that theatre experiences are for everyone! We are working towards a fully inclusive environment where all programs and performances are accessible to all.

Sensory-Friendly Performances

Relaxed performances designed for people with Autism Spectrum Disorder, Sensory Processing Disorder, or others with sensory sensitivities.

American Sign Language (ASL) Interpreted Performances

American Sign Language interpretation by certified interpreters for patrons who are deaf or hard of hearing.

Audio Described (AD) Performances

Audio Description services are intended to enhance the understanding of and access to visual information primarily for but not limited to people who are blind or have low vision.

Pay What You Can Performances (PWYC)

These performances have no minimum price, and patrons are asked to "pay what you can" the day of the show to support the theatre's programming.

Open Door Program

The Open Door Program provides free and reduced cost tickets, bus subsidies, and tuition assistance to families, schools, and social service agencies. An application and further information can be found on our website: stagestheatre.org/access

Additional Services Available

- Assisted Listening Devices are available for all Stages Theatre Company's Mainstage productions.
- Wheelchair Accessible Seating is available at every Stages Theatre Company performance.
- Accessible Parking and Accessible Restrooms are available at the Hopkins Center of the Arts.

Accessibility Performances are available for all season subscription options.

For more information, visit stagestheatre.org/access



SUPPORT STAGES THEATRE COMPANY

Since our founding in 1984, Stages Theatre Company has put the well-being and growth of youth at the center of everything we

do—on stage, backstage, in the audience, and in the classroom. We center youth in the stories we tell, the programming we develop, and the decisions we make.





We are grateful for the individuals, corporations, and foundations that support Stages Theatre Company!

You can help make this season possible.

Join us as a show sponsor or make an individual donation and experience the joy of bringing theatre into the minds and hearts of children and their families.

Make your gift today!

ONLINE: stagestheatre.org/donate OR VIA MAIL: Stages Theatre Company 1111 Mainstreet Hopkins, MN 55343



To learn more, scan the QR code or visit: stagestheatre.org/donate/





This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a Minnesota State Arts Board Operating Support grant, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.





HOW TO FIND US



CONTACT INFORMATION Box Office: (952) 979-1111

Hours: Tuesday through Saturday, noon to 6 p.m. and one hour prior to all performances.

Administration & Education: (952) 979-1123 Weather & Cancellation Line: (952) 979-1128



Visit: stagestheatre.org



Stages Theatre Company is located in the Hopkins Center for the Arts, 1111 Mainstreet, Hopkins, MN 55343.

Free parking is available in the municipal parking ramp on 11th Avenue.





1111 Mainstreet Hopkins, MN 55343 ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



UnitedHealthcare

season sponsor