2023–2024 SEASON

Baylor Theatre

Baylor University
CELEBRATING CHANGE

Life is full of change. We see it all around the Baylor campus: Collins Hall is being refurbished and we are opening the new Hurd Welcome Center. Seniors have graduated and new students are moving in. We are even getting new cubs in the Baylor Bear Habitat. Welcome to Waco, Judge Indy and Judge Belle!

At the Department of Theatre Arts, we have experienced change as well. Our long-serving professor of lighting design, JoJo Jones, has become the Interim Chair with the shift of DeAnna Toten Beard to Pat Neff Hall for a new administrative role.

And just as we celebrate the change from the hot Texas summer into a less hot Texas autumn, we are excited to share what is next for Baylor Theatre.

For 2023-2024, we are pleased to offer everything from a splashy musical to Shakespeare, with special experiences including a staged reading of Long Day’s Journey into Night which signaled a major change in Baylor Theatre’s own history 60 years ago. This season you will meet characters from the Bible, from an 1869 expedition to the Colorado River, from Imperial Russia, and from contemporary Japan. To quote The Tempest—which closes our season—”O brave new world that has such people in it!”

There is a lot to love, both old and new, at Baylor Theatre this season. We’ll see you there!

Dr. DeAnna Toten Beard, Chair, Department of Theatre Arts
CONNECT WITH US

If you are wondering where to find Baylor Theatre updates look no further than our social media pages. You can also email theatreboxoffice@baylor.edu to get updates on our season or get on our email list. Follow us to see all the things we are cooking up for you this season!

Facebook: Baylor Theatre
Twitter: @baylortheatre
Instagram: @butbackstage
TikTok: @baylortheatre
YouTube: @baylortheatre
Email: theatreboxoffice@baylor.edu
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LONG DAY’S JOURNEY INTO NIGHT

by Eugene O’Neill
Staged Reading
Directed by John-Michael Marrs

September 15 at 7:30pm
September 17 at 2pm
in the Mabee Theatre

Widely regarded as O’Neill’s greatest work, *Long Day’s Journey into Night* is a modern classic. In this autobiographical and unflinching depiction of love, betrayal, and addiction, the “father of American theatre” examines the fragility of family bonds and the fallout of intergenerational trauma.

* This play contains profanity, depictions of addiction and violence, and mature themes.
JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOR DREAMCOAT

Tickets go on sale on September 13

Lyrics by Tim Rice
Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber
Directed by Lisa Denman

September 27-30 & October 4-6 at 7:30pm
October 1 & 8 at 2pm
in the Jones Theatre

Go, go, go, Jo! We are thrilled to be producing one of the most popular musicals of the last 50 years. This upbeat reimagining of the biblical story of Joseph, his father Jacob, his eleven envious brothers, and his coat of many colors, follows Joseph the dreamer as he faces adversities and triumphs, and manages to keep his dreams and faith intact.

Written by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber, this show is a musically eclectic journey told using different genres of music from pop to country, with a few stops in between. And it features memorable tunes like Close Every Door and Any Dream Will Do, which you’ll be singing long after. Joseph is a witty, sparkling, inspirational show that is perfect for the entire family.
THREE SISTERS

by Anton Chekhov
A New Version by Sarah Ruhl
based on a literal translation by Elise Thoron
with Natalya Paramonova
and Kristin Johnsen-Neshati

Directed by Lucas Skjaret
In partial fulfillment of the MFA in Directing

Tickets go on sale on October 24

November 7-11 at 7:30pm
November 12 at 2pm
in the Mabee Theatre

In early 20th century Russia, sisters Olga, Masha, and Irina long to return to Moscow. Instead, they must contend with their brother’s love life, unfulfilling employment, and a troupe of soldiers stationed in the town. Sarah Ruhl has adapted Anton Chekhov’s tragicomic masterpiece about memory, inertia, and the duality in life.
MEN ON BOATS

by Jaclyn Backhaus
Directed by Marian Barshinger
In partial fulfillment of the MFA in Directing

February 20-24 at 7:30pm
February 25 at 2pm
in the Mabee Theatre

It is the summer of 1869, and a government-sanctioned expedition led by John Wesley Powell seeks to charter the new frontier. Traversing the Green and Colorado Rivers, Powell, his comrade William Dunn, and eight other explorers encounter perilous rapids, raging rocks, capsized boats, slitherin’ snakes, and a rescue by a pant-less man! Told entirely by a female cast, this story invites us to experience the joy of exploration, while also considering whose stories have been left untold or erased.

* This show contains strong language not suitable for all audiences.

Tickets go on sale on February 6

MEN ON BOATS is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service collection. (www.dramatists.com)
by Abe Kōbō
Directed by David Jortner

March 19-23 at 7:30pm
March 24 at 2pm
in the Jones Theatre

Everyone needs friends! Friends make your life better! In this time of social isolation and cyber communities, who wouldn’t want a big group of real friends! Friends to help you with your style, your career, and even your love life! Whether you want them or not, everyone needs friends!

From one of Japan’s greatest post-war writers, Abe Kōbō, comes this darkly comedic look at social isolation, togetherness, and friendship.

* This show includes depictions of violence and dark themes that are not suitable for all ages.
William Shakespeare’s
The Tempest
Directed by Steven Pounders

April 23-27 at 7:30pm
April 28 at 2pm
in the Mabee Theatre

Tickets go on sale
on April 9

A tempestuous sea shipwrecks the Ruler, the Prince and their retinue on a mysterious island. But they soon discover that this magical tempest was brought on by old betrayals; and this island, filled with spirits, still has a score to settle. What happens next may lead to either love or vengeance. Join us for Shakespeare’s celebrated romance of enchantment and castaways, The Tempest.
Join us this Fall for CaBEARet: Concert Edition, a concert version of a musical, and this Spring for CaBEARet, our musical revue. Both performances will feature students from our Musical Theatre Concentration: **December 1 & 2, April 30 & May 1**

This program — led by Melissa Johnson, Guilherme Almeida, and Lauren Weber — moves beyond vocal instruction to emphasize the staging of musical theatre numbers and culminates in the final performance of a concert musical or our musical revue, CaBEARet. This musical revue features our upperclassmen studying musical theatre singing, dancing, and acting in group and solo musical numbers from various Broadway shows, all relating to a theme chosen for the semester.

All proceeds benefit the Leta Horan and Jerry MacLauchlin Endowed Scholarship for Musical Theatre. Suggested donations are $20 for adults and $10 for students (cash, check, and credit cards are all accepted).

There are no advance ticket sales. Box office opens at 6:30pm for general admission seating and the shows start at 7:30
CREATIVE ARTS EXPERIENCE

The Creative Arts Experience is an exciting opportunity for students to experience the arts on campus as part of Baylor’s Core Curriculum. The objectives of the Creative Arts Experience (CAE) program include:

1. Exposing students to a wide variety of fine arts and cultural events on the Baylor campus and with Baylor-sponsored programs.
2. Allowing for maturation and growth in a student’s reception, interpretation, and appreciation of the fine arts and cultural events over an extended period of time.
3. Fostering cultural literacy, critical thinking, interpretive analysis, acceptable social interaction, human empathy, and patronage of the arts.

Students will be expected to scan in and out at the beginning and end of each performance, per the rules instituted by the CAE office.

CAE tickets are available online through

www.baylor.edu/theatre/cae

Baylor students must initially register their Baylor email address with the theatre ticketing system, after which the CAE pricing will be available for each show. Every student may buy one ticket per show at the special CAE price and one additional ticket at the regular BU discounted price. Mobile ticketing is available; please look for two confirmation emails, one of which will include your PDF needed for entry.

CALL THE BOX OFFICE AT 254.710.1865 WITH ANY QUESTIONS

CAE Tickets for Gold or Green Series
on sale 2 weeks prior to opening night
$10 CAE discounted price (limit 1)
Graduate Program

The Department of Theatre Arts has a strong tradition of excellence in graduate training — preparing professional stage directors, educators, and theatre scholars through MFA and MA programs.

With small classes and close faculty mentorship, our programs offer intensive and personalized training. Baylor Theatre audiences experience the work of graduate students in the MFA Directing program through productions featured in the Summer Series and during our regular mainstage season. The MFA thesis productions in 2023-2024 will be Three Sisters, directed by Lucas Skjaret and Men On Boats, directed by Marian Barshinger.

Summer Series

Every summer, Baylor Theatre presents a short summer series of plays. Typically staged in our smaller blackbox space, the summer series is an opportunity to experience contemporary theatre in an intimate setting.

The 2023 Summer Series included Cry It Out by Molly Metzler directed and designed by Alex Stahl.
Faculty

JoJo Jones, MFA, Lighting Design, Interim Chair
Guilherme Almeida, MM, Musical Theatre
Lisa Denman, MFA, Directing, Acting, Undergraduate Program Director
Stan Denman, PhD, Directing, Playwriting
Sam Henderson, MFA, Acting for Theatre and Film
Melissa Johnson, MA, Musical Theatre Voice
David Jortner, PhD, History, Theory, Directing, Graduate Program Director
Ryan Swift Joyner, MFA, Sound Design
Amanda Slamcik Lasseter, MA, Production & Stage Management
Kelly MacGregor, MM, Musical Theatre Voice (Adjunct)
John-Michael Marrs, MFA, Acting, Head of Performance
Sarah Mosher, MFA, Costume Design and Technology
Carla Neuss, PhD, Theatre History, Literature, and Theory
Steven Pounders, MFA, Acting
Lexie Rains, MM, Musical Theatre Voice (Adjunct)
Adam Redmer, MFA, Technical Direction, Head of Design and Technology
Brandon Sterrett, MFA, Acting
Skye Strauss, PhD, Theatre History, Literature & Theory
Michael Sullivan, MFA, Scene Design
Meredith Sutton, MFA, Dance & Choreography
DeAnna Toten Beard, MFA, PhD, History, Dramaturgy
Lauren M. Weber, MFA, MM, Musical Theatre

Staff

Bailey Cole, MFA, Assistant Costume Shop Manager
Renee Cluke, Department Administrative Manager
Breshena Crosby, BFA, Box Office & Marketing Manager
Cody Harrell, BA, Shop Foreman and Master Carpenter
Erin Torkelson, MFA, Costume Shop Manager
Josh Wilson, MFA, Electrics Supervisor
Angelica Ynfante, BFA, Assistant Technical Director & Scenic Artist

Baylor University is accredited by the National Association of Schools of Theatre.

The Mission of Baylor University is to educate men and women for worldwide leadership and service by integrating academic excellence and Christian commitment within a caring community.

The Mission of the Department of Theatre Arts is to nurture a close-knit community of intellectually-curious and artistically-daring theatre practitioners while preparing students for future success through liberal arts education and professional training.
Season Tickets for Gold Series Package
on sale August 1- October 8
$60 for 4 shows (only $15 per show)

Individual Tickets for Gold Series
on sale 2 weeks prior to opening night
$20 regular price
$17 discounted price (Baylor ID, season ticket holders, seniors, military, & students)

Individual Tickets for Green Series
not available in a package, on sale 2 weeks prior to opening night
$15 regular price
$12 discounted price (Baylor ID, season ticket holders, seniors, military, & students)

Group Rates for Gold Series
$17 for groups of ten or more
$10 for educational groups of ten or more

Group Rates for Green Series
$12 for groups of ten or more
$10 for educational groups of ten or more

For more information and to make special arrangements for your group, contact the Box Office Manager at 254.710.1865. Group reservations may be made anytime during the year.

Policies
There are no refunds or exchanges, except for season ticket holders. Season ticket holders will get their choice of performances and seating preference when purchasing the package. The box office will send all season ticket holders an email reminder prior to general ticket sales, giving you the exclusive opportunity to exchange your tickets if your plans have changed. If you have special seating needs, please contact the box office before tickets go on sale to the general public.

3 easy ways to order
*Online: www.baylor.edu/theatre
By phone: 254.710.1865 from 9-5 Monday-Friday
In person: Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center Box Office
ARRIVING AT BAYLOR THEATRE

Construction on I-35 will present ever-changing challenges approaching Baylor campus over the next few years. Please visit this website before your event for the most current closures and delays to expect:

www.baylor.edu/i35

Consider taking alternate routes, and please allow for plenty of extra time for construction traffic and parking. All parking lots — including those labeled faculty, employee, and students — are available for performances. Keep in mind that there is always a possibility of other nearby events on campus, which may limit parking next to the Hooper-Schaefer Fine Arts Center.

The box office will open one hour before curtain time on the night of performances, and the house generally opens 30 minutes before the curtain. Late seating will be limited and at the discretion of the House Manager.

Getting to the theatre early means

• less congestion through construction traffic
• better parking availability
• and a chance to visit the Martin Museum of Art for free while you wait for the performance to begin

Questions? Email us at theatreboxoffice@baylor.edu or call us at 254.710.1865
SEASON TICKET ORDER FORM
Available August 1 - October 8

Name _______________________________________________________
Address _____________________________________________________
City, State, Zip _______________________________________________
Phone _______________________________________________________
Email _______________________________________________________

Reservation reminder emails are sent out before each play

Season Tickets for Gold Series Package _______ x $60 = _________

Preference of seating in the Jones Theatre ______________________________
Preference of seating in the Mabee Theatre ______________________________

Regarding seating preference: we will do our best to accommodate specific
seating requests. Orders are filled from best available seating for each per-
formance. Indicate section, row, and aisle/middle preference.

Gold Series performance date:
Joseph and the
Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat Date ______
Three Sisters Date ______
Men On Boats Date ______
Friends Date ______

Add additional tickets for Gold Series
In order to ensure that any additional tickets will be adjacent to your
season tickets,
we recommend that you buy them with your package. As season ticket
holders, this
discounted price is available to you at any time.
Joseph and the
Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat _____ x $17 = ______
Three Sisters _____ x $17 = ______
Men On Boats _____ x $17 = ______
Friends _____ x $17 = ______

Green Series performance dates
You may elect to order these tickets now or when the individual tickets go
on sale prior to the opening of each show. As season ticket holders, you can
get the discounted price at any time.

Long Day’s Journey Into Night Date ______ _____ x $12 = ______
The Tempest Date ______ _____ x $12 = ______

Payment Options
For your security, please DO NOT enclose credit card information. Through the
mail, either enclose a check (payable to Baylor University) or provide us the best
phone number(s) to reach you to process your request when we receive it. Or
better yet, simply call us at your convenience and take care of the entire transaction
over the phone.

Detach form and mail to
Baylor University
Theatre
One Bear Place #97262
Waco, TX 76798

or call us at 254.710.1865