

# Theatre

PennState  
College of Arts and Architecture

Penn State's professional theatre training program • 2017-18 Season Guide

**We are...  
THEATRE at Penn State**



**2017-18 SEASON**

**Your Blues Ain't Sweet Like Mine,  
Sweet Charity, Argonautika, Cosí fan tutte,  
Love in Hate Nation, Kiss of the Spiderwoman**

**KICK OFF THE SEASON**

**ATTEND OUR FALL AND SPRING  
OPENING NIGHT RECEPTIONS!**



# OUR MISSION

Dear Friends,



Welcome to *Theatre at Penn State* and our 2017-18 season. As you may have noticed, the guy on the cover is new. Well, kind of new. Though I've been at Penn State for a while, I'm new in the role of director for the School of Theatre. We're undergoing many changes, including our name—Theatre at Penn State—and the evolution of our board of directors to our Community Advisory Council. Change

is inevitable, but there are also some important constants. Our commitment to you and to our students will continue to guide us on the next phase of our journey.

We are fortunate to have students at every level of development in technology, design, performance, directing, musical theatre, stage management, and the study of the rich and diverse historical, social, and literary traditions of the theatre. We encourage them to stand firmly in the present day, with all its complexities, challenges, and needs, while also investigating the past for the traditions that continue to influence our present day. We expect our students to move fluidly and expertly between classics, musicals, and new and devised work, while developing skills that will serve their efforts to build and sustain full lives and careers. Preparing, educating, and training our students for a life in the arts is at the heart of our season selection process.

We also believe we continue to find new and compelling ways to entertain you, engage you, and offer you experiences that allow you to share directly in our students' growth and development. We count on you to make sure we never forget the value of our relationship with the audience, a relationship as old as time. Please join us as we work to understand the human condition in all its mess and glory, which is the privileged work of making theatre.

To quote the great Peter Allen,

*Don't throw the past away  
You might need it some rainy day  
Dreams can come true again  
When everything old is new again.*

I look forward to seeing you at the theatre!

William J. Doan, Ph.D.  
Director, School of Theatre  
Producing Artistic Director, Theatre at Penn State

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# JOIN US

Our opening night receptions have always been a complement to our productions! Seeing friends, meeting other theatre lovers, and learning about the making of the production through the directors' and designers' eyes all contribute to their success.

This season we will host an opening night reception for the first show of the fall and spring season. Meet the directors and designers who will be producing the upcoming shows, and learn about what we have in store for you in the months to come. We look forward to seeing you!

*Fall Season Opening Night Reception*

## **YOUR BLUES AIN'T SWEET LIKE MINE**

Friday, September 8, 2017, \$30

**Penn State Downtown Theatre Center**

(Includes pre-show hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.;  
show begins at 7:30 p.m. DOES NOT INCLUDE SHOW TICKET.)

*Spring Season Opening Night Reception*

## **LOVE IN HATE NATION**

Friday, February 16, 2018, \$30

**Penn State Downtown Theatre Center**

(Includes pre-show hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.;  
show begins at 7:30 p.m. DOES NOT INCLUDE SHOW TICKET.)

## **BECOME A MEMBER OF OUR COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL...**

The Community Advisory Council (formerly the board of directors) includes members who support Theatre at Penn State through philanthropy and advocacy.

Fundraising efforts increase production budgets and provide small grant assistance for students with financial need to take advantage of extra-curricular opportunities such as master classes, regional theatre productions, and conference participation.

Advocacy includes outreach designed to create appreciation for the School of Theatre including, but not limited to, the productions it offers to the public. Members accomplish this by planning celebratory events such as opening night receptions and broadcasting the school's breadth of accomplishments (awards, alumni successes, etc.). For more information about how you can become involved, please contact us at [theatre@psu.edu](mailto:theatre@psu.edu).

# 2017–18 MAINSTAGE

SEPTEMBER 6–14

PENN STATE DOWNTOWN THEATRE CENTER

## YOUR BLUES AIN'T SWEET LIKE MINE

**By** Ruben Santiago-Hudson

**Directed by** Steve Broadnax III

An Upper West Side dinner party invitation brings an unlikely group together, spawning a passionate and explosive debate on America's relationship to race. Tony Award-winner Ruben Santiago-Hudson brings humor and poignancy to one of the most potent conversations in American life. In our shared history, we all sing the blues. But are your blues sweet like mine?



Playwright Ruben Santiago-Hudson

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	MATINEE
Sept. 11	Sept. 12	Preview Sept. 6 Sept. 13	Preview Sept. 7 Sept. 14	<b>Sept. 8</b>		

Evenings: \$20 • Preview/Matinee: \$18.50 • Penn State Student (with valid PSU ID): \$12.50

Opening Night Reception in the Woskob Family Gallery, Fri., Sept. 8: \$30 (DOES NOT INCLUDE SHOW TICKET) (Includes pre-show hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; show begins at 7:30 p.m. Purchase show ticket separately.)

OCTOBER 3–8

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

## SWEET CHARITY

**Music by** Cy Coleman • **Lyrics by** Dorothy Fields • **Book by** Neil Simon • **Directed by** Erin Farrell Speer

Meet Charity Hope Valentine, the optimistic dance hall hostess who sings, dances, and pours her heart out to one undeserving man after another in her pursuit of finding true love. Emboldened by her girlfriends at the Fan-Dango Ballroom, she and the other hard-working women declare their intent to obtain the better lives that they deserve.

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	MATINEES
	Preview Oct. 3		Preview Oct. 5	<b>Oct. 6</b>	Oct. 7	Sat., Oct. 7 Sun., Oct. 8

Evenings: \$25 • Preview/Matinee: \$20 • Penn State Student (with valid PSU ID): \$12.50

OCTOBER 24–NOVEMBER 3

PAVILION THEATRE

## ARGONAUTIKA

**By** Mary Zimmerman • **Adapted from** The Voyage of Jason and the Argonauts

**Directed by** Steve Snyder

Written by Tony Award-winning director Mary Zimmerman, *Argonautika* is a modern take on an old tale of ambition, deception, heroism, love, and unintended consequences. Jason is on his ancient quest for the Golden Fleece—an epic journey of love and loss, hubris and honor, danger and adventure. Jason confronts giants, kings, sirens, nymphs, centaurs, sea monsters, and one heartsick sorceress. In this perilous voyage, Zimmerman shows us that love is the bane of all mankind—and yet it's all that we know of heaven on this earth.

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	MATINEE
Oct. 30	Preview Oct. 24 Oct. 31	Nov. 1	Preview Oct. 26 Nov. 2	<b>Oct. 27</b> Nov. 3		Sat., Oct. 28

Evenings: \$20 • Preview/Matinee: \$18.50 • Penn State Student (with valid PSU ID): \$12.50



Tickets: [www.theatre.psu.edu](http://www.theatre.psu.edu)

## NOVEMBER 15–16

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

### COSÌ FAN TUTTE

**Composed by** W.A. Mozart • **Libretto by** Lorenzo Da Ponte • **Directed by** Ted Christopher

The schools of Theatre and Music present Mozart's *Così fan tutte*, a fully produced opera with chamber orchestra, sets, and costumes.

Thinking himself worldly and experienced, Don Alfonso decides to relieve his young friends, Ferrando and Guglielmo, of their faith in romantic love. He challenges them to a bet, promising that within 24 hours their fiancées will prove unfaithful. They accept, but find the challenge too painfully revealing and difficult to withstand. Disguised as exotic 'Albanians', the two men break their own hearts and the hearts of their fiancées. A comedy that is a tragedy underneath is the perfect stuff for the uncanny genius of Mozart, so clearly revealed in this dazzling score.

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	MATINEE
		Nov. 15	Nov. 16			

Evenings: \$25 • Penn State Student (with valid PSU ID): \$12.50

## FEBRUARY 13–22

PENN STATE DOWNTOWN THEATRE CENTER

### LOVE IN HATE NATION

**Music, Lyrics, and Book by** Joe Iconis • **Directed by** John Simpkins

*Love in Hate Nation* is a romance set in a 1960's juvenile hall for girls. It uses classic "bad girl" movies as the inspiration for a story of young people caught between eras of a changing America and their attempt to break out of the boxes society has created around them.

*Love in Hate Nation* is the first project in a new musicals initiative in Penn State Musical Theatre. A writing team visits the junior musical theatre majors each spring – the students sing for the writers, get to know each other artistically, and the writers depart and write the first draft of a musical. They return throughout the students' senior year to work on the development of the show, culminating in New York and State College performances.

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	MATINEE
Feb. 19	Preview Feb. 13 Feb. 20	Feb. 21	Preview Feb. 15 Feb. 22	<b>Feb. 16</b>	Feb. 17	Feb. 17

Evenings: \$20 • Preview/Matinee: \$18.50 • Penn State Student (with valid PSU ID): \$12.50

Opening Night Reception in the Woskob Family Gallery, Fri., Feb. 16: \$30 (DOES NOT INCLUDE SHOW TICKET) (Includes pre-show hors d'oeuvres and desserts. Doors open at 6:00 p.m.; show begins at 7:30 p.m. Purchase show ticket separately.)

## APRIL 10–14

PLAYHOUSE THEATRE

### KISS OF THE SPIDERWOMAN

**Music by** John Kander and Fred Ebb • **Book by** Terrence McNally • **Directed by** Darcy Evans

Winner of the 1993 Tony Award for Best Musical, *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* follows Luis Alberto Molina, a homosexual window dresser in prison in a Latin American country for corrupting a minor. He lives in a fantasy world to flee the prison life—the torture, fear, and humiliation. His fantasies turn mostly around movies, particularly around a vampy diva, Aurora. He loves her in all roles, but one scares him: That is the spiderwoman, who kills with her kiss.

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	MATINEE
	Preview April 10		Preview April 12	<b>April 13</b>	April 14	

Evenings: \$25 • Preview/Matinee: \$20 • Penn State Student (with valid PSU ID): \$12.50

# Our Patrons

## Become a Patron

Penn State School of Theatre is home to one of the finest theatre training programs in the country. We invite you to have a richer theatre experience by becoming a patron of Theatre at Penn State.

**With your gift, the show can go on.** Let our students know that you love the theatre and care about ensuring opportunity for artists by completing the attached form or visiting [GiveTo.psu.edu/PStheatre](http://GiveTo.psu.edu/PStheatre)

## PATRON LEVELS

### Friend \$100 to \$249

Playbill recognition

### Benefactor \$250 to \$499

Above benefit, plus:  
Name recognition in lobby

### Supporter \$500 to \$999

Above benefits, plus:  
4 regular show tickets

### Performer \$1,000 to \$2,499

Playbill recognition  
Name recognition in lobby  
4 regular show tickets  
2 opening night tickets

### Director \$2,500 to \$4,999

Playbill recognition  
Name recognition in lobby  
6 regular show tickets  
4 opening night tickets

### Producer \$5,000+

Playbill recognition  
Name recognition in lobby  
6 regular show tickets  
6 opening night tickets

*In-kind contributions receive the same patron benefits!*

## We are able to do what we do because you believe in us.

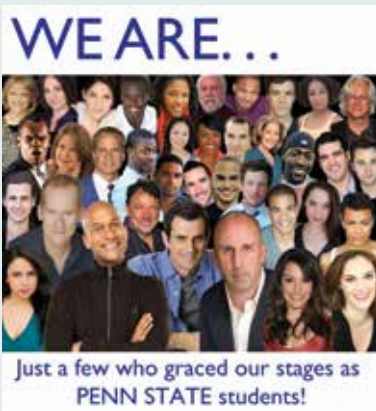
Our students, faculty, and visiting professionals bring tremendous talent to the stage—and you give them a stage to stand on. Our choreographers, costume and scenic designers, lighting technicians and all our artistic team, envision new worlds—and you give them the resources to realize these worlds.

While Penn State provides a foundation for our theatrical productions, we rely on the generosity of our community to provide the additional resources needed to perform at the highest level. Your gifts provide financial assist with show rights, costumes, technical equipment, set materials, music, marketing, supporting visiting artists and educators who come to share their craft.

Your patronage will also provide assistance for students with financial need to take advantage of extra-curricular opportunities such as master classes, regional theatre productions, and conference participation.

By supporting Theatre at Penn State, you support a home where young artists discover their gifts and you show them the impact that theatre has on everyone it touches.

**We're thankful for your partnership and philanthropy**, and we applaud every person who joins us in our mission to make our theatre training program one of the top ranked in the country. We can't wait to show you what's next.





## Support the 2017–18 Theatre Season

You can make a tax-deductible donation to Theatre at Penn State by phoning 888-800-9163, or by visiting [www.MakeADifference.psu.edu](http://www.MakeADifference.psu.edu). Specify "Theatre at Penn State–XAFPS" when you make a credit card gift by phone or online. You can also mail a check to: Theatre/Penn State, 116 Theatre Building, University Park, PA 16802-1506.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Method of Payment:

- Check enclosed (payable to Penn State)
- I will arrange for my company to match this gift (for more information, visit [www.matching.psu.edu](http://www.matching.psu.edu))
- Electronic Funds Transfer (EFT) Download the EFT authorization form at [Giveto.psu.edu](http://Giveto.psu.edu) (Ways to Give link)

Bill my credit card:  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ 3-digit Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Gift Amount: \_\_\_\_\_

Name as it appears on card: \_\_\_\_\_

XAFPS/AD5C3

### IMPORTANT TAX INFORMATION FOR CONTRIBUTORS OF \$500 AND ABOVE:

You may elect to take all, part, or none of the donor benefits. Please indicate below if you choose to accept or not to accept show tickets. Your gift receipt will reflect that the tax deductibility of your contribution is reduced by the monetary value of the benefits you accept. (For 2017-18 the average value of a show ticket is \$20.) If you have any questions, please contact the College of Arts and Architecture Development Office at 814-863-2142.

- I wish to accept the benefits (number of tickets based on giving level)
- I do not wish to accept the benefits, so that my donation will be eligible for a full tax consideration.



**PennState**  
College of Arts and Architecture

# Season Subscriptions

Subscribe to 4 or more shows and save 10 percent!

Tickets must be purchased at one time. No other discounts apply.

- Free exchange privileges! Only subscribers can exchange their seats prior to the date they are holding free of charge for another performance of the same show based on availability.
- Lost ticket insurance! We'll replace lost or misplaced tickets at no additional charge right up to performance time.

## Perfect for Groups

Save big when you see a preview or matinee priced 20–40 percent lower than the regular ticket price—call 814-863-0255 today!

Or buy ten regular tickets at the same time (all to the same show or mix and match) and receive a discount of 10 percent off ticket price. Tickets must be purchased as one transaction (does not apply to previous sales or opening nights). For more information and ordering assistance, call 814-863-0389 or 800-278-7849.

## Venues & Parking



Penn State Downtown Theatre Center, 146 S. Allen St., State College



Pavilion Theatre  
Corner of Shortlidge and Curtin Rds.  
University Park



Playhouse Theatre, Theatre Building  
(near Palmer Museum of Art)  
University Park



Parking for Penn State evening and weekend events is easy. Simply go to [www.theatre.psu.edu](http://www.theatre.psu.edu) and click on the link for Parking. The link will open a Parking form that you can print and send with payment to the University Parking Office. It's that simple!

## Ticket Locations

Arts Ticket Center at Eisenhower Auditorium: M-F 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Penn State Tickets Downtown: M-F 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., Sat. 10 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Bryce Jordan Center Ticket Window: M-F 10 a.m. – 5 p.m. (Summer)  
M-F 10 a.m. – 6 p.m. (Fall/Spring)

HUB Outlet (while Penn State classes are in session,  
fall and spring semesters): M-F 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

## Tickets:

814-863-0255

800-ARTS-TIX

[www.theatre.psu.edu](http://www.theatre.psu.edu)

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We're on twitter—follow us! @psu theatre

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School of Theatre

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