2019/2020 SEASON
CELEBRATING COLOR CULTURE AND CREATIVITY
“This is the best kept secret in Dallas! A-list performers in an intimate setting! Never a dull moment and always a great time!!”
- Leana Baxley-Johnson

Welcome to Bishop Arts Theatre Center!

Tenacious, dynamic, and a force of nature. These are just a few words to describe Bishop Arts Theatre Center, one of DFW’s most vibrant and progressive artistic organizations producing in the non-profit arts field today.

For 26-years, we’ve made good on our promise to deliver thought-provoking theatre performances, world-class jazz concerts, life changing arts education initiatives, and profoundly inspiring speaker events.

Join us this season as we journey a path celebrating the color, culture, and creativity. We’re proud to produce a season of performances that pushes buttons, asks difficult questions, and encourages us all to make our community better by sharing in the stories that depict our most authentic self.

Can’t wait to see you at the theatre,

TERESA
COLEMAN
WASH
Executive Artistic Director

Photo credit: Jesse Hornbuckle Photography
“The talent packed performances this theater is offering the community is phenomenal!”
- Megan McCutchen Mitchell

Decadence and excess are the life of the party in this jazzy 1920’s musical juggernaut. Based on Joseph Moncure March’s 1928 steamy love triangle of the same name, this darkly brilliant show features one of the most exciting pulse-racing scores ever written. It’s the party to end all parties with a slew of colorful guests living on the edge in prohibition-era Manhattan. A hardboiled Jazz Age musical tragedy full of love, jealousy, and passion that will leave you breathless.

This show is recommended for mature audiences due to drug and alcohol abuse, violence, and sexual content.

Andrew Lippa
Composer & Librettist
For 16 years, Langston Hughes’ joyous story of the birth of Christ has transformed the Bishop Arts Theatre stage into a gathering that unites artists and audiences of different ages, backgrounds, and beliefs through the heart-stirring power of music, story, and dance. With an inspirational score, *Black Nativity* is an Oak Cliff tradition that shares the unforgettable story of the Nativity through compelling gospel music and the beautiful poetry of Langston Hughes.

Inspired by the true love story between Richard and Mildred Loving, an interracial couple from Virginia who were arrested in 1958 for being married, this play examines the landmark Supreme Court Case, Loving v. Virginia. Beginning in the present day and flashing back to the 1950s and ‘60s, this historical drama is told from a 21st-century perspective and puts a human face on this famous court case and the ongoing legacy in a multiracial America.
Back for a fifth year, Down For #TheCount honors The Women Who Compose For Broadway. Over the course of the last century little recognition has been given to the women who compose Broadway scores and the barriers they have faced. Created by the director, actor, and UNT Professor, Marjorie Hayes, the show shines a light on these ground-breaking women who have made their mark on the Broadway stage. With a bit of historical context, the show celebrates the depth, breadth, and wit of their heart-pounding music.

Julia Rodriguez has sacrificed everything for her family comprised of her alcoholic father, her miserable mother, her absentee older sister, and her lively little sister. When “the one that got away” re-enters her life and asks her to run away with him to California, she begins to question if she’s made a mistake. Dealing with themes of familial obligation and identity within the Latinx community, Curse of the Puerto Ricans follows one family’s dysfunctional Christmas celebration.
A SOUND FOR ALL AGES

JAZZ SERIES

“Always a top scale concert. Doesn’t matter the artist, always great. Small venue makes for a very personal experience.”
– Bob Morris

COCKTAILS WITH THE ARTISTS | 2 SHOWS NIGHTLY

“Getting to meet the artists afterwards is pretty cool too. They are as nice as they can be!”
– Eric S. Brandenburg

Julian Vaughn & Paula Atherton 2/1/20
A VOICE FOR ALL PEOPLE

Presented By

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS
COMMUNITY CONVERSATION SERIES
Monday, March 16, 2020 | 7:00 PM

Broadway's Christine Toy Johnson, award-winning actor, playwright, and director comes to the Bishop Arts Theatre Center stage for a community conversation on access and representation. Best known for her work as “Sherry Yang” on the Netflix/Marvel series Iron Fist, Christine is an advocate for diversity and inclusion in the entertainment industry serving as an officer of the Alliance for Inclusion in the Arts.

Join us as we go behind closed doors for an intimate conversation on access and representation for women creators of color hosted by Executive Artistic Director, Teresa Coleman Wash.
There are 111,000 women in prison in the United States. More than 60% of women in state prisons have a child under the age of 18. Who are these women and how has more expansive law enforcement efforts, stiffer drug sentencing laws, and post-conviction barriers to reentry negatively impacted them?

Join us as we go behind closed doors for a community conversation on women in the corrections system moderated by Miles of Freedom Founder, Richard Miles.

Saturday, July 15, 2020 | 3:00 PM

Facing Facts: The Harsh Truth About Women Behind Bars

Moderated by Richard Miles

Texas is the state with the largest number of people in U.S. immigration detention per day with over 60% of people being held in privately-run immigrant prisons. But what about those left behind? As families are ripped apart for seeking the American Dream, what is the price we place on the children in the name of border security?

Join us as we go behind closed doors for a community conversation on the complicated politics and heartbreaking humanity of immigration, moderated by the founder of De Colores Radio, Eva Arreguin.

Saturday, August 15, 2020 | 3:00 PM

Left Behind: Immigration, ICE, and the Real Cost of the American Dream

Moderated by Eva Arreguin
A DRESS FOR LONELY DEATH  
(UN VESTIDO PARA LA MUERTE SOLA)  
NOVEMBER 1–2, 2019

By Esmeralda Rios  
Adapted by Patricia Urbina

No one dies alone. When you pass on, the first thing you see as you begin your journey to a new life is an intense light that spreads from the dress of Death. As you contemplate the brilliant embroidery of the fine stitching of the garment, your eyes recognize the infinite stars sewn into the dress.

Join us this November as Bishop Arts Theatre Center celebrates Day of the Dead with Teatro Flor Candela’s beautiful theatrical event, A Dress For Lonely Death. Directed by Teatro Flor Candela Artistic Director Patricia Urbina, this production is bilingual and perfect for the whole family.

Silver Stories was designed to engage seniors while combating social isolation and loneliness that negatively affects the health of our aging community. Seniors travel to the theatre to engage in music, movement and dance, improvisation, visual arts, and storytelling workshops.
Bishop Arts Theatre Center Teens In Theater (TNT) apprenticeship program offers students an innovative hands-on experience in learning how to perform on stage as well as teaches them the design aspects of theatre. Students are also taught the fundamentals of various components of theatre including audience etiquette, script analysis, improvisation, directing, and playwriting.

TNT was created to foster and support the next generation through arts education, peer mentoring abilities, and free expression. Our objective is to touch students with the arts in a way that informs the rest of their academic interests and transforms their sense of personal potential.

GIRLS WHO CODE
Computing skills are the most sought-after in the US job market, with demand growing three times the national average, but fewer than 1 in 5 computer science graduates are women. We’ve partnered with Girls Who Code to help build the pipeline of female computer scientists with this FREE after-school program for 6-12th grade girls. Utilizing computer science, our young ladies can impact their community and join the sisterhood of supportive peers and role models.

DONATE TODAY I am in support of building dreams, inspiring audiences, and creating dramatic opportunities. Please accept my tax-deductible donation of $__________________________

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