

2021 - 2022 Season **Continues!**

JANUARY 2022

Opera Up Close:
Happy Birthday, Mozart!
Sunday, January 23 at 4 p.m.

Viva Momix Forever
Saturday, January 29 at 7:30 p.m.

FEBRUARY 2022

25 Years of Broadway and Beyond
GSU Dance Company, TAPS
Friday, February 11 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, February 12 at 7:30 p.m.

Breach of Peace: Stories of the Freedom Riders of 1961
Tuesday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m.

MARCH 2022





A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul
Sunday, March 13 at 4 p.m.

APRIL 2022

12 Angry Jurors, TAPS
Thursday, April 7 at 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 9 at 7:30 p.m.



CONNECT WITH US

-  Facebook @centeratgsu
-  Twitter @TheCenter_GSU
-  YouTube @GSUCenter
-  Instagram @gsu_center



Respecting our Past. Reimagining our Future. **Together.**



WAYS TO SUPPORT

JOIN US in ensuring that your Center for Performing Arts will continue to thrive as the premier cultural destination in the Southland, bringing quality and diverse entertainment and educational programs to over 50,000 community members. Your support in any role and at any level is **greatly** appreciated.

SIX WAYS TO SUPPORT YOUR CENTER

1. ONLINE DONATIONS at

<http://www.govst.edu/CPAdonation/>

2. TEXT "GOVST" to 44944

You will be prompted to follow a link; in the "Select School or Initiative" field please select "Center for Performing Arts".



3. SPONSORSHIP (small business/corporations)

By supporting this premier venue, your company/business will receive a customized plan to maximize and amplify your brand awareness in the community.



4. Playbill Advertising

Increase your organization's exposure to a captive audience with a vested interest in local organizations through Playbill advertising.



5. VOLUNTEER

Our volunteer ushers are valued members of the Center's team. They assist with Mainstage productions, Arts in Education and Rental events.

6. IN-KIND donors

From gift certificates to restaurants (to feed our artists) to donated auction items, there are many ways to support your Center.

Visit the Support page on CenterTickets.net for details, or contact Jane Cox at 708.235.2811.



Welcome to Governors State University's 2021-22 Cultural Season. For 25 seasons, the Center has provided world-class entertainment and educational enlightenment to the Chicago Southland region, making GSU *THE* cultural destination of the Chicago Southland.

This season features international, critically-acclaimed acts such as MOMIX; socially relevant dramas such as Mike Wiley's *Breach of Peace: Stories of Freedom Riders of 1961*; burgeoning local talent from our Theater and Performance Studies students; and joyful concerts from Grammy-Award winning Karen Clark Sheard and Emmy-Award winning Orbert Davis.

Our campus is also home to the Nate, rated as the number one sculpture park in the country by *USA Today's* Reader's Choice. Open from dawn to dusk, 365 days a year, this stunning collection of 30 large-scale works of art is displayed across 100 acres of breathtaking prairie and is free and open to the public.

Join us for what will be a transformative season of art, music, dance, and storytelling.

Sincerely,

Cheryl Green, Ph.D.
President, Governors State University



The Center's 25th Anniversary Cultural Season was unexpectedly seized by the COVID-19 pandemic. It shut down the performing arts industry and most of the world but we did not stop. Our anniversary included cultural events streamed from and recorded on our stage, broadcast on WTTW and shared with patrons, educators, and parents. After more than 18 months of separation, it's so good to be together in person again!

Today, I invite you to experience the power of present, the power of LIVE moments. Unlike an art exhibit, your favorite music recording or a TV show, LIVE experience could only happen once.

This is YOUR Center for Performing Arts. Please know that our team deeply cares about your experience. If you have suggestions about artists to bring to the theater or ideas on how to make your visit a more welcoming one, I am all ears. Reach out, speak up, share your ideas.

Sincerely,

Lana Rogachevskaya
Executive Director, Center for Performing Arts

CENTER WHO'S WHO

CPA Board of Advisors

Co-Chairs

Faye Terrell-Perkins
John Concepción

Members

Michael Cavaliere
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Sylvia Ewing
Kathleen Field Orr
Damion Gibson
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Inge K. Marra
Cynthia Pryor
Vivian Purnell

MEET OUR TEAM

Programming & Administrative:

Lana Rogachevskaya,
Executive Director
Kathleen Brennan, *Arts in Education*
Director
Virginia Lionberger, *Office*
Administrator

Marketing:

Jane Cox, *Cultural Marketing Director*
C. Kimberly Gonzalez,
Publicity-Promotion Associate
Sadé May, *Marketing Assistant*

Technical:

Michael Krull, *Technical Director*
Ian West, *Assistant Technical Director*
Tracey Offett, *Stagehand*

Ex-Officio Members

Cheryl Green, Ph.D.
President of GSU

Dr. Colleen Sexton
Interim Provost of GSU

Will Davis
Vice President, Institutional
Advancement and CEO, GSU
Foundation

Dr. Andrae Marak
Dean, College of Arts and Science
and Graduate Studies

Dr. Jason Zingsheim
CAS Division Chair, Arts and Letters

Box Office:

Patricia Guy, *Box Office Manager*
Autumn Price, *Ticketing Assistant*
Stevie Allen, *Student Assistant*
William Benik, *Student Assistant*
Cynthia Jones, *Student Assistant*

Operations / Front of House:

Ingrid Anderson, *Patron Services Manager*
Nekia Driver, *Concessions & Event Assistant*
Maya Shelton, *Concessions & Event Assistant*

HOUSE INFORMATION
708.235.2222 • CenterTickets.net

Patron Services

Assisted Services & Seating

Special seating areas for wheelchair accessibility are available. Please contact the box office in advance to secure a seat in this area. Audio amplification is available for the hearing impaired free of charge. A driver's license or other identification is all that is required for deposit. An elevator serving the balcony is located at the east end of the main floor lobby. Do not use the elevator during an emergency.

Camera/Recording Devices/Phones and Smart Devices

Audio and visual reproduction of any kind is prohibited. Please silence all cell phones. Please refrain from bringing video cameras or any other type of recording equipment into the theater.

Emergency Fire Exits

Emergency exits are clearly marked and may be found outside each door to the hall. The lighted "Exit" sign nearest your seat is the shortest route outdoors.

Late Seating

As part of our commitment not to disturb other audience members, late arrivals may be seated at the back of the house at the discretion of the House Manager. For best service, plan to arrive 15 minutes prior to scheduled curtain time.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located in the Celebrity Gallery in the outer lobby. There are no restrooms in the balcony.

Policies and Ticketing

All sales are final. There are no refunds or exchanges on single ticket or group sales. Groups of 10 or more should call 708.235.2222 for tickets to Field Trips and Mainstage shows. Serving you from 10am-4pm Monday-Friday (6pm Thursday) and Two Hours Prior to CPA Curtain Time.

Children

All children, even those sitting in laps, must have their own ticket. We suggest children under one year old not attend performances.

Smoke-Free

Governors State University is a completely smoke-free campus. Smoking is not permitted anywhere on campus, inside or outside.

Rental Information

The theater is available to rent for many types of events. Contact the Theater Manager at 708.235.2237 for details.

Center for Performing Arts COVID - 19 Audience Safety Precautions

Masks

Patrons ages 2 and older who attend a performance at the Center for Performing Arts (CPA), even if they are vaccinated against COVID-19, are required to properly wear masks at all times while visiting Governors State University's indoor campus spaces, including restrooms, lobby areas and inside the theatre while walking to their seats and throughout the performance. Unvaccinated individuals ages 2 and older are also required to properly wear masks while in any outdoor spaces on Governors State University's campus, including in parking lots and on sidewalks and lawns. Vaccinated individuals are encouraged, but not required, to wear masks while in outdoor spaces on campus for the protection of their health, especially whenever they are unable to maintain social distancing. Children younger than the age of 2 are exempt from being required to wear masks.

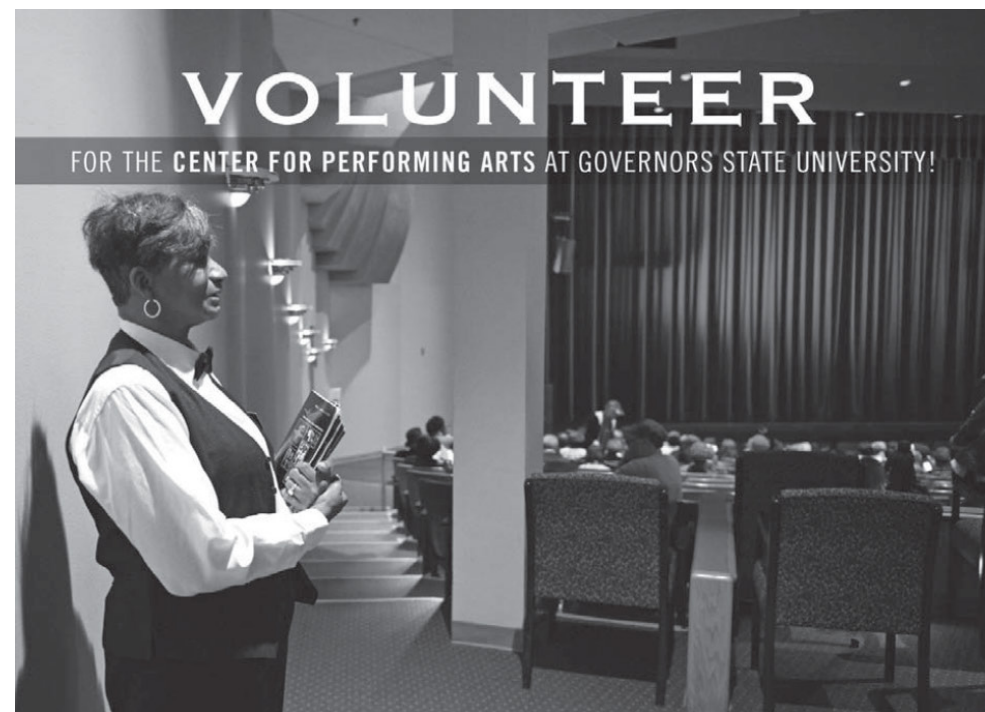
Proof of Vaccination

Patrons of the CPA are required to show proof they are fully vaccinated ("Proof of Vaccination") until further notice. Proof can include either an electronic copy, photo copy or photo along of an official CDC vaccination record card along with photo ID at the time of entry into the venue with a valid ticket. "Fully vaccinated" means the performance date must be at least 14 days after the second dose of a two-dose COVID-19 vaccine, or at least 14 days after a single-dose vaccine.

For those that are not fully vaccinated on the performance date, for any reason, proof of negative COVID-19 test ("Proof of Negative Test") will be required. The negative result of a PCR COVID-19 test is acceptable only if the test was taken within 72 hours of the performance start time; the negative result of a COVID-19 antigen test is acceptable only if the test was taken within 6 hours of the performance start time. No results from home tests will be accepted. This proof of negative COVID-19 test alternative includes accommodations for people with a medical condition or closely held religious belief that prevents vaccination.

Children

Children (12 and over) must bring proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test result. Children under 12 may attend performances without showing Proof of Negative Test, but must be fully masked at all times if age 2 or older.



**Join our dedicated Usher Corps Team
to share your skills and passion, while seeing
performances free of charge!**

Duties include greeting and directing patrons, scanning tickets, passing out programs, seating patrons, and assisting latecomers and patrons with limited mobility.

Visit www.govst.edu/volunteer for a complete list of duties and upcoming events. Contact Patron Services Manager, Ingrid Anderson at ianderson@govst.edu or call 708.235.2239 to sign-up.

**CENTER FOR
PERFORMINGARTS**
Governors State University

1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484

CenterTickets.net
708.235.2222

VIVA MOMIX FOREVER

ExperiencetheExceptional...ExpecttheUnexpected!



Known internationally for presenting work of exceptional inventiveness and physical beauty, MOMIX is a company of dancer-illusionists under the direction of Moses Pendleton. Transporting audiences from their everyday lives to a fantasy world through its trademark use of magical lighting and imagery, MOMIX has thrilled fans in over 22 countries and has been featured on stage, screen, and television.

"Momix's inventiveness and artistry far surpass the popular Cirque du Soleil. - The Philadelphia Inquirer

**Saturday, January 29
at 7:30 p.m.**

Tickets: \$45/\$50/\$55/\$60

Children 14 & under: \$20

This engagement is supported by the National Endowment for the Arts, with additional contributions from the Illinois Arts Council and the Crane Group.



Upcoming TAPS Productions GSU Dance Company Presents ***25 Years of Broadway and Beyond...***

Directed by Megan Lindsay



Friday, February 11, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 12, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

GSU's Center for Performing Arts

12 Angry Jurors

Directed by Patrick Santoro

Adapted by Sherman L. Sergel

Based on the Emmy award-winning television movie by Reginald Rose
Produced by Special Arrangement with The Dramatic Publishing Company of Woodstock, Illinois



Thursday, April 7, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, April 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

GSU's Center for Performing Arts

Breach of Peace:

Stories of the Freedom Riders of 1961

A Mike Wiley Production



Tuesday, February 22 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$15

On May 24, 1961 19-year-old Jean Thompson boarded a Trailways bus in Montgomery, Alabama, with 11 other young Freedom Riders bound for New Orleans - and history. Within three months, approximately 300 other riders took up the mantle to desegregate buses, following the path of the first brave few. Mobs assaulted many. Others were arrested shining a light on a brutal, segregated South. Breach of Peace is based on true accounts of surviving participants of the Freedom Rides as well as many other individuals involved in the early struggle for African-American equality.

This one-man play is a living monument to those remarkable young men and women of various races, religions and backgrounds who rose to face the dangers of fighting for just and equal treatment for all.

ENJOY A MAGICAL TALE OF FAMILY, FRIENDSHIP & HOPE AS

Lightwire
THEATER

PRESENTS

A VERY ELECTRIC CHRISTMAS



Follow the story of a young bird named Max and his family, as they begin their journey south for the winter. When Max gets blown off course and ends up at the North Pole...his adventure begins!

Arts
MIDWEST

This engagement is supported by the Arts Midwest Touring Fund, a program of Arts Midwest that is funded by the National Endowment for the Arts.

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Ian Carney

MANAGING DIRECTOR & CO-CREATOR

Eleanor Carney & Corbin Popp

ROAD MANAGERS

Ian Blanco & Kevin Chick

MUSIC DIRECTOR

Jay Weigel

CAST

Reece Austin

Danielle Goldstein

Ian Blanco

Devin Hatch

Kevin Chick

Tristan Rodney

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

Barry Mendelson

THE CAST

IAN CARNEY (*Artistic Director, Ensemble*) is best known for his long run in Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's musical, *Movin' Out* on Broadway. Born in New Hampshire and raised in New Orleans, he started dancing as a child, studying Ballet in New Orleans and in New York City. He danced lead roles in *The Nutcracker*, *Sleeping Beauty* and many other Ballets. He has been a guest dancer, teacher and choreographer in companies across the United States. While still performing, Ian earned a degree in English Literature from Tulane University. He is the co-creator of the family shows that continue to delight audiences around the world - *Dino-Light*, *The Ugly Duckling*, *Lightwire the Show*, *A Very Electric Christmas* and *The Tortoise and Hare the Next Generation*. Ian has appeared on television with Lightwire Theater on *America's Got Talent*, *Game of Talents*, Italy's *Tu si Que Vales*, TF1's *The Best Show in France* and as the 2014 winner of Tru TV's *Fake Off*.

Eleanor B. Carney (*Managing Director, Ensemble*) is originally from New Orleans, Eleanor began her dance training with Harvey Hysell and Joseph Giacobbe. She graduated from Southern Methodist University with a B.F.A. in Dance and a B.A. in Anthropology. She has danced professionally with Indianapolis Ballet Theater, the Lexington, Northwest Florida, Delta Festival and Montgomery Ballet. Career highlights include dancing Aurora in *Sleeping Beauty*, Desdemona in *The Moor's Pavane*, the title roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, *Cinderella*, *Giselle* and *Coppelia* and, of course, the Sugarplum Fairy in *The Nutcracker*. Mrs. Carney is delighted to have appeared with Lightwire Theater on *America's Got Talent*, Italy's hit show *Tu si Que Vales*, *Game of Talents*, *The Best* on TF1 and as the 2014 winner of Tru TV's *Fake Off*. She is eternally grateful to work besides her husband, Ian, and share their art with the world.

Corbin Popp (*Co-Creator, Technical Supervisor*) is from Lincoln, Nebraska. He earned a degree in biochemistry at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, while also studying math, physics and dance. Opting for dance, Corbin performed in *The Phantom of the Opera*, Billy Joel and Twyla Tharp's *Movin' Out* on Broadway. He has toured throughout the United States with many shows and all over Europe with Tharp's dance company. Corbin speaks German, studied in Germany on a Fulbright scholarship and recently graduated from dental school, yet still continues to perform and collaborate with Lightwire Theater.

Reece "Reset" Austin (*Ensemble*) is an explosive conceptual freestyler who discovered his passion in dance after an injury ended his potential sports career. As he sought other ways to compete, he attended a local dance competition and hasn't stopped dancing since. After years of continuous battling around the United States, he started doing performing for multiple agencies in Las Vegas. Representing JBWKZ cast, Bang Squad crew and Hybrids crew; Reset believes that being a great dancer directly ties to being a great person, so he continues to push his craft and creativity to new heights as he studies dance and the philosophy surrounding the art form.

Ian Blanco (*Road Manager/Ensemble*) is a New Orleans native and BFA graduate of Wright State University's Theater program. His favorite productions include *La Cage aux Folles* (Mercedes), *Kiss Me Kate* (Gremio) and *Chicago* (Master of Ceremonies), to name a few. Ian has been performing internationally and across the USA since he was the age of 15, and now loves sharing the stage with his wife, Liz. He's also SAFD certified in stage combat and a proud Eagle Scout. Love you, family!

THE CAST - CONTINUED

Kevin Chick (*Road Manager/Ensemble*) is a puppeteer and clown standup comedian. Most notable credits include: The Jim Henson company, The Kimmel Center of Philadelphia, The Guthrie of Minneapolis, Southern Colorado repertory theater, educational theatre throughout South America Mexico and Argentina, Coca-Cola zero commercials and political activist puppet videos with daily show writer Liz Winstead. Kevin's hails from Iowa and received his BA in theater from the University of Iowa. Most recently he accomplished one of his dreams by blasting across the United States on his motorcycle. He would like to say a big thank you to his family for their continued love and support.

Dani Goldstein (*Ensemble*) was born and raised in Toms River NJ. She received her BFA from The Boston Conservatory. Some of her professional credits include National Tour: *CATS* (Jennyanydots) *NY: Candide* - Lincoln Center (NYCO) Europe: *RCCL-Mamma Mia* (Ali/Sophie) Regional: PCLO, Goodspeed Festival of New Works, Reagle Music Theatre. Many thanks to Lightwire Theater for this opportunity!

Devin Hatch (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be returning to Lightwire Theater after working for them in 2019. Previous credits include; The Broadway tour of *CATS* (Swing), *Newsies* (Henry), Lightwire Theater's *Dino-Light* (Brutus), and *Evil Lives Here* on Investigation Discovery. Much love to friends and family who continue to support.

Tristan Rodney is a graduate of the University of Technology, Jamaica earning a BA. in Communications Arts & Technology (BaCAT). His dance training includes Jamaica's Quilt Performing Arts Company, Ashe, University Dance Society, the Company Dance Theater as well as Texas Ballet Theatre. His commercial experience spans Mary Kay's *Friends of Time*, Arlington Music Hall, Amway International, Texas State Fair, DIFFA Dallas, Eclipse Entertainment & most recently Universal's *Jurassic World*. He was a founding member of TMJ Dance Project, Ballet North Texas, soloist with Dallas Neo Classical Ballet & company member with Anita Martinez Ballet Folklorico, Urban Performing Company & Herrera Dance Project. He's currently in his 4th and final season with Beckles Dancing Company. Tristan joins Lightwire Theater in his first official company tour.

Lightwire Theater has been featured as the winner of Tru TV's Fake Off (Season One), semi-finalists on America's Got Talent (Season 7) and as finalist on My TF1's, The Best Le Meilleur Artiste in Paris, ABC's Game of Talents and Italy's Tu Si Que Vales.

Internationally recognized for their signature brand of electroluminescent artistry and poignant storytelling, Lightwire Theater is based in New Orleans and continues to create and deliver innovative theatrical experiences to audiences worldwide including:

Mendelson Entertainment Group LLC, proudly manages and represents Lightwire Theater.
www.MEGARTSMEDIA.com

A very special thanks to The Music Hall Center for the Performing Arts, who commissioned and premiered Darwin The Dinosaur on October 13, 2007, Detroit, Michigan.

LIGHTWIRETHEATER.COM   

BEYOND CONVERSATION:



Saturday, March 26, 2022 at 1 p.m.

Governors State University – Center for Performing Arts – **Reservation Required**

1 – 2:30 p.m. in Center for Performing Arts:

- + Premiere Staging Performance
- + Playwright Panel
- + Q&A

2:30 p.m. in the Hall of Governors

- + Refreshments
- + Conversations
- + Resources

Art in Response to Red Summer

View artwork from regional high school students prior to, and after the event.

Be the first to SEE excerpts of the premiere staging of **RED SUMMER**

MEET the playwrights and the artistic team

ENGAGE with panelists and experts dedicated to social justice

BREAK BREAD and **CONNECT** with artists, partners, and community neighbors

REFLECT on the Legacy of 1919 and **COMMIT** to be a part of the solution **TOGETHER**

RED SUMMER takes place during the Chicago race riots of 1919. Two WWI soldiers – one black, one white – return from the battlefields of Europe only to find themselves caught in the violence of a Chicago that is struggling to accommodate the Great Migration, the return of WWI veterans, a downturn in the economy, and long-standing ethnic tensions. Having fought on the same side in The Great War, they are now pitted against each other as their friends, family, and neighbors wage block-by-block warfare and the city's ethnic enclaves rage and burn. Historic figures Mayor "Big Bill" Thompson and Ida B. Wells loom in the background of this historic pivot point. One hundred years later, the same issues still simmer and smolder in every metropolitan area in the country.

Save-the-Date! See the premiere production of Red Summer

Friday, September 16, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, September 17, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 18, 2022 at 2 p.m.

Friday, September 23 at 10 a.m.

Saturday, September 24, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 2 p.m.



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Governors State University

1 University Parkway
University Park, IL 60484

Reserve your spot at

www.govst.edu/RedSummer

(708) 235-2222

Reservations must be made by March 15, 2022



A Tribute to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul

Featuring Damien Sneed
With Special Guest Karen Clark Sheard
Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 4 p.m.



Tickets: \$39/\$49/\$54/\$65



This deeply tender and spiritual tribute pays homage to Aretha Franklin: The Queen of Soul with fresh renditions of her most cherished hits including "Respect", "Knew You Were Waiting", "Precious Memories", "Think", "Until You Come Back to Me", "Daydreaming", "Freeway", "Natural Woman", and more.

RSVP at (708) 972-6382



This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CenterTickets.net



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