INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL
A NC Black Rep Experience

July 29 – August 3, 2024
Winston-Salem, NC
These preferred hotels of the Festival are stops for shuttle service to the Marriott Downtown, which is the transportation hub. From the transportation hub, guests can then take designated shuttles to performance venues. Shuttles will run Tuesday, July 30 through Saturday, August 3, 2024.

For more information and TO MAKE YOUR HOTEL RESERVATIONS, go to: https://mmxreservations.com/fer/#/winstonsalem?pageCode=2024IBTF

For hotel-related questions, contact Visit Winston-Salem at 336-728-4237 or services@visitwinstonsalem.com

Marriott Downtown (Host Hotel)
425 N. Cherry Street, W-S, NC 27101

Embassy Suites
460 N. Cherry Street, W-S, NC 27101

Best Western Plus (Hanes Mall)
3330 Silas Creek Parkway, W-S, NC 27103

Best Western Plus (University)
3050 University Parkway, W-S, NC 27105

Courtyard by Marriott (Hanes Mall)
1600 Westbrook Plaza Drive, W-S, NC 27103

Courtyard by Marriott (University)
3111 University Parkway, W-S, NC 27105

Doubletree by Hilton (University)
5790 University Parkway, W-S, NC 27105

Fairfield Inn & Suites (Hanes Mall)
1680 Westbrook Plaza Drive, W-S, NC 27103

Hampton Inn & Suites (University)
309 Summit Square Court, W-S, NC 27105

Hampton Inn & Suites by Hilton (Hanes Mall)
1990 Hampton Inn Court, W-S, NC 27103

Hawthorne Inn & Conference Center (Downtown)
420 High Street, W-S, NC 27101

Historic Brookstown Inn (Downtown)
200 Brookstown Avenue, W-S, NC 27101

Holiday Inn Express Medical Center
110 Miller Street, W-S, NC 27103

Homes2 Suites by Hilton (Hanes Mall)
1010 Marriott Crossing Way, W-S 27103

Hotel Indigo (Downtown)
104 W. 4th St., W-S, NC 27101

Kimpton Cardinal Hotel (Downtown)
401 N. Main St., W-S, NC 27101

Residence Inn (Hanes Mall)
3885 Oxford Station Way, W-S, NC 27103

SpringHill Suites by Marriott (Hanes Mall)
1015 Marriott Crossing Way, W-S, NC 27103

Jackie Alexander
NC Black Rep Producing Artistic Director

India Mack
NC Black Rep Managing Director
This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

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The North Carolina Black Repertory Company is supported by the Arts Council of Winston-Salem and Forsyth County.

In-Kind Sponsors*  

* As of 5/15/24

For a full list of our Sponsors and Contributors, please visit the Sponsors page at NCBlackRep.org.
Benton South
• Reese Theatre in the Gallery Ballroom – Lower Level (Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion)
• Gaines Ballroom – Lower Level
460 N. Cherry Street, Downtown W-S, NC 27101

Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts
• Hanesbrands Theatre
209 N. Spruce Street, W-S, NC 27101
• Reynolds Place Theatre
• Mountcastle Forum/Theatre
251 N. Spruce Street, W-S, NC 27101

R.J. Reynolds Memorial Auditorium
301 Hawthorne Road, W-S, NC 27104

Salem College Elberson Fine Arts Center
• The Drama Workshop Theatre
• Shirley Recital Hall
• Hanes Auditorium
500 E. Salem Avenue, W-S, NC 27101

SECCA
Southeastern Center for Contemporary Art
McChesney Scott Dunn Auditorium
750 Marguerite Drive, W-S, NC 27106

The Benton Convention Center
• Salem Ballroom – Main Level
• Gwendolyn Williams Theatre – Lower Level
301 West 5th Street, Downtown W-S, NC 27101

University of North Carolina School of the Arts (UNCSA)
• The Gerald Freedman Theatre
• Catawba Arena Theatre
585 Giannini Drive, W-S, NC 27127
• Agnes de Mille Theatre
1960 DeMille Drive, W-S, NC 27127

Wake Forest University (WFU)
Scales Fine Arts Center
• Harold C. Tedford Mainstage
• The Ring Theatre
• Brendle Recital Hall
1775 Wake Forest Road, W-S, NC 27109

Winston-Salem State University (WSSU)
Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center
601 MLK, Jr. Drive, W-S, NC 27110

Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance
650 W. 6th Street, W-S, NC 27101
Welcome to the International Black Theatre Festival (IBTF), formerly the National Black Theatre Festival (NBTF). Founder Larry Leon Hamlin coined the word “Marvtastic,” which is defined as nothing greater or better than.

This historic event marks the 45th anniversary of the North Carolina Black Repertory Company (NC Black Rep) as well as the 35th anniversary of IBTF. This festival illuminates the powerful theatrical spirit and extraordinary talent of performers, designers, directors, producers and technicians from across the country and abroad. During its six life-impacting days, you will experience electrifying performances, informative workshops, riveting films and insightful spoken word poetry that will open your eyes to a new perspective on our culture’s artistic endeavors.

The star-studded Opening Night Gala gets underway with a vibrant parade of powerful African drummers and dancers of Otésha Creative Arts Ensemble followed by a grand and royal procession of more than 25 celebrities of stage, television and film.

Theatrical Productions
The 18th biennial IBTF will offer a wide range of over 120 theatrical performances. A selection of new works, world premieres, and Black classics will be performed by national and international professional Black theatre companies at multiple venues throughout Winston-Salem. Tickets range in price from $10-$60. Nathan Purdee, former soap opera star of The Young & the Restless and One Life to Live will appear in Coconut Cake, winner of the Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin Rolling World Premiere Award. A Woman in Waiting starring legendary South African actress Thembi Mtshali-Jones; Dorian Missick of Shirley and Being Mary Jane guest stars in August Wilson’s King Hedley II; Broadway veteran Chester Gregory in A Motown Celebration with Chester Gregory; Tina Fabrique in How High the Moon: The Music of Ella Fitzgerald. Emmy Award winner and R&B singer Alyson Williams joins Grammy nominee Terry Steele in BETCHA BY GOLLY WOW, there’s NEVER TOO MUCH, a tribute to Phyllis Hyman and Luther Vandross. Thomas “Nephew Tommy” Miles of “The Steve Harvey Morning Show” performs his one-man show Nephew Tommy’s Life After 50; a festival favorite, Chicago’s Black Ensemble Theater, returns with A Taste of Soul, and much more.
Disney Live Entertainment Auditions
Disney Live Entertainment will actively be seeking talent for global performance opportunities during the 2024 International Black Theatre Festival. Through innovative storytelling and a culture of collaboration, Disney Live Entertainment creates, produces, and delivers remarkable and engaging entertainment experiences. From the intimate to the spectacular, their work can be seen at Disney theme parks, resort hotels, cruise ships and other locations around the world. During this singular audition experience, candidates will have the opportunity to be considered for professional performance roles at Walt Disney World®, Disneyland Paris®, Shanghai Disney® Resort, Disneyland Resort®, Hong Kong Disneyland®, and Disney Cruise Line®. Performers will be asked to prepare a 1-2-minute monologue or vocal selection of your choice with sheet music. (Benton Convention Center Lower Level Piedmont Three, 9am–1pm, Wednesday, July 31 – Friday, August 2). All candidates will be seen by appointment only. Performers may sign-up for auditions beginning July 15, 2024 by visiting www.ncblackrep.org.

Finding Holy Ground
Finding Holy Ground: Performing Visions of Race and Justice in America is a collaboration between NC Black Rep, Wake Forest School of Divinity, and Wake the Arts. Examining the intersection of race, religion, sexism, and justice in America, the project features: the world premiere of two commissioned plays, I Am…a Shepherdess by Eljon Wardally and Heritage by JuCoby Johnson, a voter registration drive (Benton Convention Center – 11:00am – 7:00pm – on July 31) and celebrity staged reading of Turning 15 on the Road to Freedom, which tells the story of Lynda Blackman Lowery, the youngest participant in the 1965 Selma Voting Rights March (Benton Convention Center – 5:30pm on July 31), panel discussions with scholars, religious leaders, and artists critically exploring how art can impact the communities they serve (Marriott – 11am on August 1 & 2), a screening of gOD Talk (apertrue cinema – 11am, August 3), a feature length documentary spotlighting the rising phenomenon of religious and spiritual shifts among Black millennials, and a concert by Common Hymnal, a group of artists whose music centers life, justice and underground spirituality, covering a wide range of subject matter in a broad range of styles. (Wait Chapel - 5:30pm, August 3)

Garland Thompson, Sr. Readers’ Theatre of New Works
Over 30 original works written by renowned and aspiring playwrights are showcased. Professional actors will read for an audience of entertainment industry professionals, scholars and the general public. The first component, New Plays at High Noon, runs Wednesday-Saturday. The original component of the series, Theatre Conversations at Midnight, will run Tuesday-Friday beginning at 10:30pm. Seating is limited at midnight readings. The Out on Holy Ground component features plays that highlight the LGBTQIA+ experience. The series is coordinated by Garland Lee Thompson, Jr., executive director, Frank Silvera Writers’ Workshop. (Marriott Hotel)

IBTF Film Fest
The Film Fest celebrates independent filmmakers of Color for their enormous contributions to the industry. Featured selections include: A King Like Me, which follows members of the Zulu Club, New Orleans’ 100 year old (and first ever) Black Mardi Gras krewe, as they work to bring Zulu back to the streets for Mardi Gras 2022, and gOD Talk, a feature-length documentary spotlighting the rising phenomenon of religious and spiritual shifts among Black millennials. A seat is waiting for you at a/erture Cinema in downtown Winston-Salem every morning, July 30 - August 3. Complete Film Fest schedule available July 1 at ncblackrep.org. Coordinated by Clareille Marsh.

IBTF Fringe
In its continued effort to cultivate the next generation of Black theatre professionals, the Festival highlights collegiate theatre. Productions include Chicken & Biscuits (North Carolina Central University), King Hedley II (University of Southern California), Seven Guitars (North Carolina A&T State University), and Thoughts of a Colored Man (Norfolk State University).

International Black Theatre Festival Cultural Tours
Embark on a captivating journey through Winston-Salem’s rich history and cultural heritage with our diverse array of tours. From the Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin Celebrity Tour, where you’ll indulge in a wine tasting brunch at Sylvan Sprinkle-Hamlin Celebrity Tour, to the Up South Tour celebrating IBTF founders, to the Heritage Unveiled Trolley Tour led by guest Muralist Leo Rucker, immersing you in vibrant public art and compelling stories. Explore living history at the St. Philip’s Moravian Church and the Shotgun House Legacy Site during the Vessels of Memory Tour or delve into the narratives of the Great Migration on the Up South Tour. Take an immersive look into inclusive museum design at the Kaleideum’s Behind The Scenes Tour or experience a profound visit to the Civil Rights Museum in Greensboro. Each tour promises a unique and enriching experience, uncovering the resilience, triumphs, and legacies of African American communities in Winston-Salem and beyond. To reserve a seat, visit the Triad Cultural Arts website, www.triadculturalarts.org.

International Colloquium
The International Colloquium, conceived by Dr. Olásope O. Oyèläràn, is a collaborative effort between the IBTF, Winston-Salem State
University's [WSSU] Department of Liberal Studies, Program in Africana Studies, Africa World Now Project, and Black Theatre Network (BTN). The theme for the 2024 Colloquium is “Echoes of FESTAC ‘77.” Dr. Abdul Alkalimat will deliver the keynote address on Tuesday, July 30th, with a participatory public conversation facilitated by James Pope on August 1st. The four-day colloquium is facilitated by international theatre professionals, art and human rights activists, cultural workers, and academicians. This year’s colloquium will be in-person with sessions taking place on Wednesday, July 31 to Friday, August 2. Full schedule is forthcoming. IBTF-IC is coordinated by Dr. Olásopé O. Oyèláràn and Dr. James Pope. (The Benton Convention Center)

International Vendors Market
The International Black Theatre Festival Vendors Market is a curated global exhibition of original artwork made by hand and through fair-trade partnerships. This Afro-centric shopping experience includes one-of-a-kind paintings, photographs, books, jewelry, fashion, glasswork, woodwork, home decor, bath and body products, and much more. The IBTF Vendors Market is open to the public in the South Main Hall on the Upper Level of the Benton Convention Center from July 31st to August 3rd. The International Vendors Market is coordinated by Darleny Del Rosario.

HOURS OF OPERATION
Wednesday, July 31st – 2:00pm to 9:00pm, August 1st – 9:00am – 11:00am, August 2nd – 9:00am – 7:00pm, August 3rd – 9:00am – 6:00pm

Larry Leon Hamlin Solo Performance Series
This specialized series, named after the Festival’s founder, presents historical biographies of known and unknown African Americans. Historical figures spotlighted this year are Muhammad Ali (Float Like a Butterfly), Lena Baker (Who Will Sing for Lena?), Nell Carter (From Birmingham to Broadway), and Bessie Coleman (Two Wings to Heaven: The Bessie Coleman Story).

Midnight Poetry Jam
Starting at midnight, join us as we bring you special featured poets and celebrity guest appearances. Bring your brightest words and let them shine for the world on Black Theatre Holy Ground. Coordinated and hosted by Larry “LB” Barron. (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level)

National Youth Talent Showcase
Youth from across the country take center stage and showcase their extraordinary and diverse talents before a panel of celebrity judges. Coordinated by Dr. Stephanie “Asabi” Howard. (The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level)

Reimagined Volume III: Young Thang - A Virtual Reality Experience
Inspired by “The Woman with Two Skins” of Southern Nigeria, the story follows Young Thang, a human girl living within The Community, a place where humans are forbidden; deemed dangerous and ugly. To blend in and survive, Young Thang’s guardians urge her to wear a second skin to transform her appearance. After the pressure to conform pushes Young Thang to the brink, she unknowingly puts her beloved guardians and The Community in peril. Can Young Thang find the courage to reveal her full self and save the very beings that discriminate and suppress her? Written and directed by Melissa Joyner. (Admission is free. The Benton Convention Center, Screenings from 11am-7pm Friday, August 2 & Saturday, August 3) Reserve your screening time beginning July 15 by visiting NCBlackRep.org.

TeenTastic (Collaborative Teen Initiative)
TeenTastic, a collaboration with the City of Winston-Salem, and Winston-Salem Recreation and Parks Department offers programs to entertain and educate teens from ages 13 - 17 about the arts. Activities include a Fashion Show, a live DJ, and opportunities for teens in the community to showcase their talent, and even some celebrity sightings. Coordinated by Maxine Ford and Bryce Sherman from the Winston-Salem Recreation and Parks Department. (Education Annex, Winston-Salem Fairgrounds)

Therapeutic Power of Theatre
Alyson Williams, who portrays Phyllis Hyman in BETCHA BY GOLLY WOW, there's NEVER TOO MUCH, and Kelvin Roston, who channels Donny Hathaway in Twisted Melodies, join mental health providers from Novant Health for a panel discussion on suicide prevention and the mental health challenges faced by artists. (Marriott Hotel – 11am, July 31)

Workshops & Seminars
Enjoy a variety of free workshops and seminars daily. Master Acting Coach Vera Katz guides you through the art of character development. Discover the dynamic strength of Black Women Behind the Mic. Learn how actors 50+ continue to thrive in the arts. Keep your body and spirit in harmony during morning rhythmic dance. Complete Workshops and Seminars schedule available July 1 at ncbblackrep.org, Coordinated by Maxine Ford. (Marriott and Embassy Suites Hotels)

Youth Celebrity Project
Youths of all ages from across the country interact with celebrities and theatre professionals. The Youth Celebrity Project includes a youth talent show, a storytelling festival, and select productions. Coordinated by Cleopatra Solomon. For additional information, call 336.723.2266. (Embassy Suites Winston-Salem)
A MOTOWN CELEBRATION WITH CHESTER GREGORY
Lucid Life, LLC, Los Angeles, CA

Broadway legend Chester Gregory leads this epic Motown bash. Get ready to groove as Chester performs your favorite classics from the Motown era like no other. Dive into his heartfelt stories of meeting and working with icons like Michael Jackson, Stevie Wonder, Smokey Robinson, and the man who started it all, Berry Gordy. This isn’t just any show – it’s a full-on party packed with tunes that’ll have you dancing in your seat! You definitely don’t want to miss this explosion of tunes and tales. Light up your night with this unforgettable celebration!

(Musical, General Audience)

Wake Forest – Brendle Recital Hall
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $60
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $60
Thursday, August 1, 2:00pm, $60
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $60
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $60

A TASTE OF SOUL
Black Ensemble Theater, Chicago, IL

With songs from some of Soul’s greatest hit makers like Barry White, Lou Rawls, Gladys Knight and duets from legends such as Peaches & Herb, Ashford & Simpson, A Taste of Soul cooks up more than an appetizer. It serves a gigantic musical feast full of fun and laughter - with a little history for good measure. Written and directed by Daryl Brooks. (Musical, General Audience)

(RJ Reynolds Memorial Auditorium)
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $60
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $60
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $60
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $60

A WOMAN IN WAITING
Spirit Sister Productions, Cape Town, South Africa

International award winning A Woman in Waiting depicts Thembis Mtshali-Jones’s life, highlighting women’s struggles in apartheid-era South Africa. It celebrates the nation’s history while offering hope for the future amid the 30th anniversary of freedom and democracy. Co-written, originally directed by Yael Farber and performed by Thembis Mtshali-Jones. (Celebrity Solo Performance, General Audience)

(Salem College – Shirley Recital Hall)
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45

AT LAST, AN ETTA JAMES STORY
Blake Vision Entertainment, Atlanta, GA

Embark on a mesmerizing journey through At Last: An Etta James Story, where the stage comes alive with the parallel narrative of Etta James’ personal struggles and her electrifying rise to stardom, intertwining into a soul-stirring theatrical masterpiece. Written and directed by Lateefa Mosley. (Musical, General Audience)

(Benton South - Reese Theatre in the Gallery Ballroom – Lower Level)
Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $50
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $50
Thursday, August 1, 2:00pm, $50
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $50
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $50

“BETCHA BY GOLLY WOW, there’s NEVER TOO MUCH”
Ebony Repertory Theatre, Los Angeles, CA

An evening in tribute to Phyllis Hyman and Luther Vandross, featuring Emmy winner Alyson Williams and Grammy nominee, Terry Steele, singing the chart topping hits of these two legendary artists. (Concert, General Audience)

(Salem College – Hanes Auditorium)
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $60
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $60
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $60
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $60

BLUES IS THE ROOTS
New Horizon Theater, Inc., Pittsburgh, PA

Willie Dixon, premier songwriter/musician of the Chicago Blues era is recognized with Muddy Waters as the primary creators of the genre. Producer/Sideman at Chess Records, Dixon performed with or wrote for blues, rock/roll and folk giants. Written by Charles Dumas. Directed by Herb Newsome. (Biomusical, General Audience)

(Salem College – Shirley Recital Hall)
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45
BOTH AND (A PLAY ABOUT LAUGHING WHILE BLACK)
Boston Court Theatre, Pasadena, CA
As her mother is dying, Teayanna finds herself in a netherworld between life and death. Her task: to help her mother cross over. The journey reveals the legacy of the Middle Passage, the power of laughter, and profound discoveries about what's inside her mother's purse. Written and performed by Carolyn Ratteray. (Solo Performance, General Audience)
(Salem College - The Drama Workshop)
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45

CHICKEN & BISCUITS
North Carolina Central University, Durham, NC
The Jenkins family coming together to celebrate the life of the family patriarch – hopefully without killing each other! But any hopes for a peaceful reunion unravel when a family secret shows up at the funeral. Written by Douglas Lyons. Directed by Dr. Stephanie "Asabi" Howard. (Comedy, IBTF Fringe, General Audience)
(WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center)
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $30
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $30
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $30
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $30

COCONUT CAKE
North Carolina Black Repertory Company, Winston-Salem, NC
Four retirees spend their days debating the mysteries of life over coffee and games of chess at a local McDonald's. But when a mysterious woman moves to town, tempting Eddie Lee and his chess buddies to indulge in melt-in-your-mouth coconut cakes and medicine cabinet secrets, their lives are changed forever. Written by Melda Beaty. Directed by Nathan Ross Freeman. (Drama, Celebrity Performance, General Audience)
(Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre)
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45
Thursday, August 1, 2:00pm, $45
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45

CROWNS
Agape Theatre Project, Durham, NC
Weaving together faith, fashion and family, Crows is an inspirational, joyous musical celebration of love and redemption that will make your spirit sing! Written by Regina Taylor. Directed by Terra Hodge. (Musical, General Audience)
(UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre)
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $50
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $50
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $50
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $50
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $50

DISSONANCE
Three Cord Productions LLC, Pace, FL
Dissonance asks the question, "Can a Black woman and a White woman—who have been friends for 20 years–have an honest, open conversation about race?" Written and performed by Kerry Sandell and Marci J. Duncan. Directed by James Webb (Drama, General Audience)
(Salem College - The Drama Workshop)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $45
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45

FEED THE BEAST – The Tuskegee Experiment
Layon Gray American Theatre Company, New York, NY
A young doctor faces moral turmoil when he discovers the horrific truths of the Tuskegee syphilis experiments. Through the lives of five unknowing participants, this haunting and heartbreaking play exposes the brutal truths behind this unethical study. An intense and powerful examination of right vs. wrong. Written and directed by Layon Gray, author of Cowboy. (Drama, General Audience)
(UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $45
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45
**PRODUCTIONS**

*FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY*
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, Sarasota, FL
An homage to heavyweight boxer Muhammad Ali, who took a stand against injustice. As an American icon, he proved he could "float like a butterfly, sting like a bee" – far beyond the boxing ring. Written by Michael Jacobs. Directed by Nate Jacobs. Performed by Darius Autry. (*Larry Leon Hamlin Solo Performance Series, General Audience*)
(Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $45
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45

*FLY*
African Diaspora Arts and Sciences Institute (ADASI), Panama City, Panama
A mesmerizing solo journey of a Black man convinced he will receive the power to fly on the night of a special celestial event. Come soar through the captivating and transcendent performance of AUDELCO award winner Joseph L. Edwards. Written and directed by Joseph L. Edwards. (*Dramatic Comedy, General Audience*)
(Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance)
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45

*FROM BIRMINGHAM TO BROADWAY*
Auntie Pat Productions, New York, NY
A snapshot of Nell Carter’s career, demonstrating the determination this nontraditional Black woman possessed despite the odds against her. Faced with early tragedy, Carter’s refusal to give up on her dreams and her buoyant, larger-than-life onstage persona have left a lasting legacy. Written and performed by Tarra Conner Jones. Directed by Nate Jacobs. (*Larry Leon Hamlin Solo Performance Series, General Audience*)
(Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $45
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45

HERITAGE (World Premiere)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company, Winston-Salem, NC
Fusing traditional Black gospel hymns and punk rock, *Heritage* takes place in the world of a small storefront church in a rapidly changing neighborhood facing the threat of demolition after their beloved Pastor/Patriarch dies suddenly. After being away for many years, Mahalia (the Preacher’s daughter) returns, reopening old wounds and asking a timeless question: “Can you ever really escape your past?” Written by JuCoby Johnson. Directed by H. Adam Harris. (*Drama with music, General Audience*)
(Wake Forest - The Ring Theatre)
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45

HOW HIGH THE MOON: The Music of Ella Fitzgerald
Mangin Medea, Bronx NY
Starring Broadway performer Tina Fabrique, who toured the country for several years singing Ella’s music, and now brings you this beguiling tribute to “The First Lady of Song.” This concert experience features many favorites, including Mr. Paganini, A-Tisket, A-Tasket, and of course, *How High the Moon*. It had its first performance at the Merrimack Theater last year where the *Lowell Sun* said, “Tina channels Ella and brings her to life.” A not to be missed musical experience! Music direction by George Caldwell. Conceived and directed by Rob Ruggiero. (*General Audience*)
(UNCSA – Gerald Freedman Theatre)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $50
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $50
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $50
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $50
I AM…A SHEPHERDESS (World Premiere)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company, Winston-Salem, NC

At a wedding rehearsal, four women navigate the trials and tribulations of being Black women in America while finding humor and solace within the bonds of their sisterhood. When an outside incident threatens to tear them apart, they must confront what haunts them in order to heal each other. Written by Eljon Wardally. Directed by Bianca LaVerne Jones. (Drama, General Audience) (Wake Forest – Harold C. Tedford Mainstage) Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45 Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45 Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45

KING HEDLEY II
USC School of Dramatic Arts, Los Angeles, CA
August Wilson's American Century Cycle masterpiece King Hedley II begins with King planting seeds in dirt he's been told where nothing can grow. Set in the 1980s, Wilson captures a world permeated by money, love, honor and retribution. As King insists on living by his own rules, the past smashes into the present. August Wilson expresses the collision with humor, and unparalleled eloquence. Dorian Missick guest stars. Written by August Wilson. Directed by Michele Shay. (IBTF Fringe Spotlight, Drama, Celebrity Performance) (UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre) Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $35 Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $35 Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $35 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $35

LOVE WARRIOR
New Heritage Theatre Group, New York, NY
Love Warrior highlights that power of the human spirit to triumph over immeasurable trauma. Through intimate stories, poetry, song, dance, and multi-character transformation, Daniel Koa Beaty shares his journey to transform his pain to power, including a life-changing visit to the plantation where his great, great grandmother was enslaved, and his enstooling as a King in Ghana. Written and performed by Daniel Koa Beaty. Produced by LaChanze and Vanessa Williams. Directed by John Scutchins. (Celebrity Solo Performance, General Audience) (Salem College – Shirley Recital Hall) Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $45 Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45 Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45

MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM
Please join us at midnight as host Larry “LB the Poet” Barron brings you featured poets as well as celebrity co-hosts and special guests. Bring your brightest words and let them shine for the world on Black Theatre Holy Ground. Coordinated and hosted by Larry “LB” Barron. (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00 midnight, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00 midnight, $15

NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE
National Youth Talent Showcase
Youth from across the country take center stage and showcase their extraordinary and diverse talents before a panel of celebrity judges. Coordinated by Dr. Asabi (Stephanie Howard). (General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00pm, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00pm, $15

PRODUCTIONS

MICHAEL COLYAR’S COMEDY
EXTRAVAGANZA
The Rayloc Group LLC, Los Angeles, CA
This is a magical journey of joy, laughter, love, and positivity. It’s ugly out there. Come on in! Warm your heart with laughter and fun from a Master Entertainer and a few of his friends. Written and performed by Michael Colyar. (Celebrity Performance, Late Night, General Audience) (Benton South – Gaines Ballroom – Lower Level) Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom Tuesday, July 30, 10:30pm, $35 Wednesday, July 31, 10:30pm, $35 Thursday, August 1, 10:30pm, $35 Friday, August 2, 10:30pm, $35

NEPHEW TOMMY’S LIFE AFTER 50
TNT Entertainment, Spring, TX
Thomas “Nephew Tommy” Miles stars in a monodrama of a man debating whether to go to his own birthday party. While he contemplates, he reviews, reminisces and reflects on life after reaching fifty. It’s a poignant, hilarious and insightful perspective based on Tommy’s experiences as a father, husband, and his personal health battles with Covid and cancer. Written and performed by Thomas “Nephew Tommy” Miles. (Celebrity Performance, General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Room – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $50 Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $50

NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE
Youth from across the country take center stage and showcase their extraordinary and diverse talents before a panel of celebrity judges. Coordinated by Dr. Asabi (Stephanie Howard). (General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00pm, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00pm, $15

MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM
Please join us at midnight as host Larry “LB the Poet” Barron brings you featured poets as well as celebrity co-hosts and special guests. Bring your brightest words and let them shine for the world on Black Theatre Holy Ground. Coordinated and hosted by Larry “LB” Barron. (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00 midnight, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00 midnight, $15

NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE
National Youth Talent Showcase
Youth from across the country take center stage and showcase their extraordinary and diverse talents before a panel of celebrity judges. Coordinated by Dr. Asabi (Stephanie Howard). (General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00pm, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00pm, $15

MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM
Please join us at midnight as host Larry “LB the Poet” Barron brings you featured poets as well as celebrity co-hosts and special guests. Bring your brightest words and let them shine for the world on Black Theatre Holy Ground. Coordinated and hosted by Larry “LB” Barron. (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00 midnight, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00 midnight, $15

NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE
National Youth Talent Showcase
Youth from across the country take center stage and showcase their extraordinary and diverse talents before a panel of celebrity judges. Coordinated by Dr. Asabi (Stephanie Howard). (General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00pm, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00pm, $15

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NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE
National Youth Talent Showcase
Youth from across the country take center stage and showcase their extraordinary and diverse talents before a panel of celebrity judges. Coordinated by Dr. Asabi (Stephanie Howard). (General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level) Thursday, August 1, 12:00pm, $15 Friday, August 2, 12:00pm, $15
PARADISE BLUE
The Ensemble Theatre, Houston, TX
A jazz infused, noir inspired drama where we will meet Blue, a gifted trumpeter, who contemplates selling his once vibrant nightclub in Detroit’s Blackbottom neighborhood. Set in 1949 against the backdrop of urban renewal, Blue must choose between escaping his demons and the human cost of leaving the only home he’s ever known. Written by Dominique Morisseau. Directed by Eileen J. Morris. (Drama, General Audience)
(UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre)
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45

SEVEN GUITARS
North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC
August Wilson paints a melodic tragic-comedy portrait depicting the complicated lives of an African-American friend group chasing dreams and grieving loss. Floyd, an aspiring blues musician finds himself at a crossroad of morality, love versus the dream. Directed by Autumn Carter. (Drama, IBTF Fringe, General Audience)
(WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $30
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $30
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $30
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $30

SOUL CROONERS SOLID GOLD EDITION
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, Sarasota, FL
Soul Crooners Solid Gold Edition is a new updated celebration of the popular music of male artists like the O’Jays, Earth Wind and Fire, Marvin Gaye, Teddy Pendergrass, Temptations and more! Acclaimed WBTT artists sing the music that ushered in the 1970s new era of soul and croon out rich harmonies and energized choreography that will have you clapping and dancing in your seats. Written and directed by Nate Jacobs. (Musical, General Audience)
(UNCSA – Gerald Friedman Theatre)
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $50
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $50
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $50
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $50
Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $50

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: Stories for Young People
Storytellers from across North Carolina skillfully weave tales of cultural history, fiction, humor and life lessons through this age-old tradition. Presented by the NC Association of Black Storytellers. (For Young & General Audiences)
(Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre)
Thursday, August 1, 10:00am, $10
Friday, August 2, 10:00am, $10

TELLING OUR STORIES THROUGH POETRY
Augusta Mini Theatre, Augusta, GA
In Telling Our Stories Through Poetry African American youth storytellers weave together familiar African American cultural experiences through poetry, prose, songs, chants, and movements. The collection tells how slaves were snatched from our Africa and degraded yet held onto Hopes and Dreams while insisting that this is not a Lost Generation. These cultural experiences joined together become one moving and heartfelt story. (Family Programming, Ages 5 and up)
(The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level)
Tuesday, August 3, 11:30am, FREE

TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL
New Federal Theatre, New York, NY
Unique perspectives of four noted female prime movers (Cunard, Fauset, Larsen, Hurston) during the Harlem Renaissance, revealing their ambitions, longings, resentments, the inequities women confronted and illuminating the brilliant work they created during these vibrant rich times. Not having seen one another in over twenty years, they gather at the Hotel Theresa after the funeral of Alain Locke. Disturbing revelations unravel about the great man and the four women who have come to honor him. Written by Wesley Brown. Directed by Woodie King, Jr. (Drama, General Audience)
(Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre)
Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 2:00pm, $45
Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45
Saturday, August 3, 2:00pm, $45

THE BLUEGRASS MILE
Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company, Pittsburgh, PA
In 1899, two Black horse jockeys (America’s first professional athletes) compete for the inaugural running of the Bluegrass Mile, which proves to be more than a race for prestige when the quest for truth becomes the ultimate prize. Written and directed by Mark Clayton Southers. (Drama, General Audience)
(Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance)
Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $45
Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 2:00pm, $45
Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45
1955. Before Rosa and Martin made their entrance, there was Claudette Colvin, a 15 year old who stood for justice by staying seated. With Harriet Tubman and Sojourner Truth on her shoulders, 83 year old Claudette shares her powerful, and often overlooked story. Written by two-time Obie Award winner Stephanie Berry and Lawrence Floyd. Directed by Bianca Laverne Jones. (Larry Leon Hamlin Solo Performance Series, General Audience) (Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre) Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45


*THOUGHTS OF A COLORED MAN Norfolk State University, Norfolk, VA Infused with poetry, music, comedy and drama, this unforgettable exploration into what it means to be a man of color in the 21st century is an experience you don’t want to miss. Written by Keenan Scott II. Directed by Anthony Stockard. (Mixed Genre, IBTF Fringe, Mature Audience) (Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre) Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45

*TURNING 15 ON THE ROAD TO FREEDOM A new musical filled with traditional and original Gospel and Freedom songs, tells the moving and inspiring true story of Lynda Blackmon, the youngest person to walk all the way from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama on the Voting Rights March in 1965. Adapted by Fracaswell Hyman from the memoir of Lynda Blackmon Lowery. (Special Staged Reading, General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom - Main Level) Wednesday, July 31, 5:30pm, FREE

*TWISTED MELODIES Congo Square Theatre, Chicago, IL Celebrate the iconic soul of Donny Hathaway in this immersive one-man show. Witness his genius, his struggles, and his journey through Kelvin Roston, Jr’s gripping performance. This is a tribute to a legend. Written by Kelvin Roston, Jr. Directed by Alexis J. Roston. (Solo Performance, General Audience) (SECCA – McChesney Scott Dunn Auditorium) Tuesday, July 30, 2:00pm, $50 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $50 Thursday, August 1, 2:00pm, $50 Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $50

*UNENTITLED Negro Ensemble Company, New York, NY Downsized attorney Frank Saunders attempts to sell the Hamptons summer home inherited by his wife, Deanna, and her brother, Ben, but Deanna refuses to sell. The dispute fractures the marriage, but a more serious threat to the property arises and forces the family to unite. Written by Charles L. White, author of Succession. (Drama, General Audience) (The Benton Convention Center - Gwendolyn Williams Theatre - Lower Level) Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45 Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45 Friday, August 2, 8:00pm, $45 Saturday, August 3, 8:00pm, $45

*WHO WILL SING FOR LENA? The Lexington Players of New England, Brooklyn, NY A captivating one-woman show about Lena Mae Baker. It follows Lena, a Black housemaid, working in 1940s rural Georgia, and how her dream was deferred by the times she lived in. Written by Janice Liddell. Directed by Sal Jones. Perfomred by Jes Washington. (Larry Leon Hamlin Solo Performance Series, General Audience) (Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre) Tuesday, July 30, 8:00pm, $45 Wednesday, July 31, 8:00pm, $45 Thursday, August 1, 8:00pm, $45
Welcome to the 18th Biennial International Black Theatre Festival®

CONNECT WITH THE MARVASTIC PASSION, splendor and valor of the African and the African American cultures as Black Theatre takes center stage in Winston-Salem, NC over six exciting days. Take advantage of our free workshops, Film Fest, Readers’ Theatre, the International Colloquium, the Youth Celebrity Project and TeenTastic activities.

Also, purchase cultural garments and artwork at the International Vendors Market. Don’t forget to buy a 2024 Souvenir Journal and learn more about the participating companies, our distinguished IBTF honorees, a map of the performance venues and much more.

6:30pm – OPENING NIGHT GALA - $275
Make reservations for this glamorous event. Tickets $275 per person, $2,750 table seating 10. Featuring a comedy set by Michael Colyar.
(The Benton Convention Center – Salem Ballroom – Main Level)

7:30pm – CELEBRITY PROCESSION
(With IBTF Co-Chairs, Clifton Davis & Tamara Tunie)

7:45pm – AWARDS PRESENTATION

9:30PM – LOVE WARRIOR
New Heritage Theatre Group, New York, NY
Love Warrior highlights that power of the human spirit to triumph over immeasurable trauma. Through intimate stories, poetry, song, dance, and multi-character transformation, Daniel Koa Beaty shares his journey to transform his pain to power, including a life-changing visit to the plantation where his great, great grandmother was enslaved, and his enstooling as a King in Ghana. Written and performed by Daniel Koa Beaty. Produced by LaChanze and Vanessa Williams. Directed by John Scutchins. (Celebrity Solo Performance, General Audience)

2024 INTERNATIONAL BLACK THEATRE FESTIVAL® HONOREES

Sidney Poitier Lifetime Achievement Award
Robert Hooks
Larry Leon Hamlin Producer Award
Mark Clayton Southers
August Wilson Playwright Award
Marcus Gardley
Lloyd Richards Director Award
A. Dean Irby
Living Legend Award
Larry Marshall • Lizan Mitchell • Denise Nicholas
Count Stovall
Outstanding Achievement in Costume Design
Mylette Nora
Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design
Jason Lynch
Outstanding Achievement in Scenic Design
Wynn P. Thomas
Theatre Longevity Award
Crossroads Theatre Company, New Brunswick, New Jersey
Special Recognition Award
Teresa Eyring • Stanley Wayne Mathis
Alton Fitzgerald White
Theatre Arts & Humanitarian Award
Lynda Blackmon Lowery
Sylvia Sprinkle-Hamlin Rolling World Premiere Award
(Will be presented at the Opening Night Gala)
Mabel P. Robinson Emerging Artist Award
(Will be presented at the Opening Night Gala)
Tonya Pinkins Legacy Award
(This inaugural award will be presented at the Opening Night Gala)
2:00pm

**KING HEDLEY II** ($35)
University of California (Los Angeles, CA)
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre

**HOW HIGH THE MOON: The Music of Ella Fitzgerald** ($50)
Mangin Medea (Bronx NY)
UNCSA – Gerald Freedman Theatre

**FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY** ($45)
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)

**FROM BIRMINGHAM TO BROADWAY**
Auntie Pat Productions (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre

**LOVE WARRIOR** ($45)
New Heritage Theatre Group (New York, NY)
Salem College - Shirley Recital Hall

**DISSONANCE** ($45)
Three Cord Productions LLC (Pace, FL)
Salem College - The Drama Workshop

**TWISTED MELODIES** ($50)
Congo Square (Chicago, IL)
SECCA – McChesney Scott Dunn Auditorium

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**THE BLUEGRASS MILE** ($45)
Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company (Pittsburgh, PA)
Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance

**SEVEN GUITARS** ($30)
North Carolina A&T State University (Greensboro, NC)
WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

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8:00pm

**AT LAST – AN ETTA JAMES STORY** ($50)
Blake Vision Entertainment (Conyers, GA)
Benton South - Reese Theatre in the Gallery
Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion

**KING HEDLEY II** ($35)
University of California (Los Angeles, CA)
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre
HOW HIGH THE MOON: The Music of Ella Fitzgerald
($50)
Mangin Medea (Bronx, NY)
UNCSA – Gerald Freedman Theatre

WHO WILL SING FOR LENA? ($45)
The Lexington Players of New England
(Brooklyn, NY)
&
THE CLAUDETTE COLVIN STORY
Carl Nelson & Associates (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY ($45)
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)
&
FROM BIRMINGHAM TO BROADWAY
Auntie Pat Productions (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre

LOVE WARRIOR ($45)
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(Pittsburgh, PA)
Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance

SEVEN GUITARS ($30)
North Carolina A&T State University
(Greensboro, NC)
WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

UNENTITLED ($45)
Negro Ensemble Company (New York, NY)
The Benton Convention Center – Gwendolyn Williams Theatre - Lower Level

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY ($45)
The Tuskegee Experiment On The Negro Male
Layon Gray American Theatre Company
(New York, NY)
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

FEED THE BEAST ($45)
The Tuskegee Experiment On The Negro Male
Layon Gray American Theatre Company
(New York, NY)
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

I AM…A SHEPHERDESS ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company
(Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – Harold C. Tedford Mainstage

HERITAGE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company
(Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – The Ring Theatre

A MOTOWN CELEBRATION WITH CHESTER GREGORY ($60)
Lucid Life, LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Wake Forest – Brendle Recital Hall

MICHAEL COLYAR’S COMEDY EXTRAVAGANZA ($35)
The Rayloc Group LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Benton South – Gaines Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom
2:00pm

**KING HEDLEY II** ($35)
University of California (Los Angeles, CA)
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre

**HOW HIGH THE MOON: The Music of Ella Fitzgerald** ($50)
Mangin Medea (Bronx, NY)
UNCSA – Gerald Freedman Theatre

**WHO WILL SING FOR LENA?** ($45)
The Lexington Players of New England (Brooklyn, NY)

**THE CLAUDETTE COLVIN STORY**
Carl Nelson & Associates (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

**FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY** ($45)
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)

**FROM BIRMINGHAM TO BROADWAY**
Auntie Pat Productions (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre

**SEVEN GUITARS** ($30)
North Carolina A&T State University (Greensboro, NC)
WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

**UNENTITLED** ($45)
Negro Ensemble Company (New York, NY)
The Benton Convention Center – Gwendolyn Williams Theatre – Lower Level

**FEED THE BEAST** ($45)
The Tuskegee Experiment On The Negro Male
Layon Gray American Theatre Company (New York, NY)
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

**5:30pm**

**LOVE WARRIOR** ($45)
New Heritage Theatre Group (New York, NY)
Salem College - Shirley Recital Hall

**DISSONANCE** ($45)
Three Cord Productions LLC (Pace, FL)
Salem College – The Drama Workshop

**HERITAGE** ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – The Ring Theatre

**5:30pm**

**TURNING 15 ON THE ROAD TO FREEDOM**
(Staged Reading – FREE TO PUBLIC)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

**8:00pm**

**AT LAST – AN ETTA JAMES STORY** ($50)
Blake Vision Entertainment (Conyers, GA)
Benton South - Reese Theatre in the Gallery Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion

**KING HEDLEY II** ($35)
University of California (Los Angeles, CA)
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre
COCONUT CAKE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company
(Winston-Salem, NC)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre

HOW HIGH THE MOON: The Music of Ella Fitzgerald ($50)
Mangin Medea (Bronx, NY)
UNCSA – Gerald Freedman Theatre

WHO WILL SING FOR LENA? ($45)
The Lexington Players of New England (Brooklyn, NY)

THE CLAUDETTE COLVIN STORY
Carl Nelson & Associates (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

FLOAT LIKE A BUTTERFLY ($45)
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)

FROM BIRMINGHAM TO BROADWAY
Auntie Pat Productions (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Reynolds Place Theatre

LOVE WARRIOR ($45)
New Heritage Theatre Group (New York, NY)
Salem College - Shirley Recital Hall

DISSONANCE ($45)
Three Cord Productions LLC (Pace, FL)
Salem College - The Drama Workshop

“BETCHA BY GOLLY WOW, there’s NEVER TOO MUCH” ($60)
Ebony Repertory Theatre (Los Angeles, CA)
Salem College – Hanes Auditorium

TWISTED MELODIES ($50)
Congo Square (Chicago, IL)
SECCA – McChesney Scott Dunn Auditorium

THE BLUEGRASS MILE ($45)
Pittsburgh Playwrights Theatre Company (Pittsburgh, PA)
Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance

SEVEN GUITARS ($30)
North Carolina A&T State University
(Greensboro, NC)
WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

UNENTITLED ($45)
Negro Ensemble Company (New York, NY)
The Benton Convention Center – Gwendolyn Williams Theatre – Lower Level

FEED THE BEAST ($45)
The Tuskegee Experiment On The Negro Male
Layon Gray American Theatre Company
(New York, NY)
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

I AM...A SHEPHERDESS ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company
(Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – Harold C. Tedford Mainstage

A MOTOWN CELEBRATION WITH CHESTER GREGORY ($60)
Lucid Life, LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Wake Forest – Brendle Recital Hall

A TASTE OF SOUL ($60)
Black Ensemble Theater (Chicago, IL)
RJ Reynolds Memorial Auditorium

10:30pm

MICHAEL COLYAR’S COMEDY EXTRAVAGANZA ($35)
The Rayloc Group LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Benton South - Gaines Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom

12:00 Midnight

MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM ($15)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level
10:00am

TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL ($45)
New Federal Theatre (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts – Reynolds Place Theatre

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: Stories for Young People ($10)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre (Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom)

Noon

NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE ($15)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

2:00pm

AT LAST – AN ETTA JAMES STORY ($50)
Blake Vision Entertainment (Conyers, GA)
Benton South - Reese Theatre in the Gallery Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion

WHO WILL SING FOR LENA? ($45)
The Lexington Players of New England (Brooklyn, NY)

&

THE CLAUDETTE COLVIN STORY
Carl Nelson & Associates (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

COCONUT CAKE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre

TWISTED MELODIES ($50)
Congo Square (Chicago, IL)
SECCA - McChesney Scott Dunn Auditorium

I AM...A SHEPHERDESS ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – Harold C. Tedford Mainstage

A MOTOWN CELEBRATION WITH CHESTER GREGORY ($60)
Lucid Life, LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Wake Forest – Brendle Recital Hall

8:00pm

NEPHEW TOMMY’S LIFE AFTER 50 ($50)
TNT Entertainment (Spring, TX)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

COCONUT CAKE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre

10:30pm

MICHAEL COLYAR’S COMEDY EXTRAVAGANZA ($35)
The Rayloc Group LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Benton South - Gaines Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom

12:00 Midnight

MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM ($15)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level
FRIDAY

10:00am

STORYTELLING FESTIVAL: Stories for Young People ($10)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre (Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom)

Noon

NATIONAL YOUTH TALENT SHOWCASE ($15)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

2:00pm

TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL ($45)
New Federal Theatre (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts – Reynolds Place Theatre

THOUGHTS OF A COLORED MAN ($30)
Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

TWO WINGS TO HEAVEN: THE BESSIE COLEMAN STORY ($45)
April for Stars (Yonkers, NY)
& FLY
African Diaspora Arts & Sciences Institute (Panama City, Panama)
Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance

8:00pm

NEPHEW TOMMY’S LIFE AFTER 50 ($50)
TNT Entertainment (Spring, TX)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

AT LAST – AN ETTA JAMES STORY ($50)
Blake Vision Entertainment (Conyers, GA)
Benton South - Reese Theatre in the Gallery Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion

COCONUT CAKE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre

BOTH AND (A PLAY ABOUT LAUGHING WHILE BLACK) ($45)
Boston Court Theatre (Pasadena, CA)
Salem College – The Drama Workshop

A WOMAN IN WAITING ($45)
Spirit Sister Productions LTD (Cape Town, South Africa)
The Benton Convention Center - Gwendolyn Williams Theatre – Lower Level

BLUES IS THE ROOTS ($45)
New Horizon Theater, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA)
Salem College - Shirley Recital Hall

CROWNS ($50)
Agape Theatre Project (Durham, NC)
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre

PARADISE BLUE ($45)
Ensemble Theatre (Houston, TX)
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

SOUL CROONERS SOLID GOLD EDITION ($50)
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)
UNCSA - Gerald Freedman Theatre

TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL ($45)
New Federal Theatre (New York, NY)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts – Reynolds Place Theatre
THOUGHTS OF A COLORED MAN ($30)
Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

TWO WINGS TO HEAVEN: THE BESSIE COLEMAN STORY ($45)
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“BETCHA BY GOLLY WOW, there’s NEVER TOO MUCH” ($60)
Ebony Repertory Theatre (Los Angeles, CA)
Salem College – Hanes Auditorium

TWISTED MELODIES ($50)
Congo Square (Chicago, IL)
SECCA – McChesney Scott Dunn Auditorium

A WOMAN IN WAITING ($45)
Spirit Sister Productions LTD (Cape Town, South Africa)
The Benton Convention Center - Gwendolyn Williams Theatre - Lower Level

CHICKEN & BISCUITS ($30)
North Carolina Central University (Durham, NC)
WSSU - Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

SOUL CROONERS SOLID GOLD EDITION ($50)
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)
UNCSA - Gerald Freedman Theatre

CROWNS ($50)
Agape Theatre Project (Durham, NC)
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre

PARADISE BLUE ($45)
Ensemble Theatre (Houston, TX)
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

I AM...A SHEPHERDESS ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – Harold C. Tedford Mainstage

HERITAGE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company (Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – The Ring Theatre

A MOTOWN CELEBRATION WITH CHESTER GREGORY ($60)
Lucid Life, LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Wake Forest - Brendle Recital Hall

A TASTE OF SOUL ($60)
Black Ensemble Theater (Chicago, IL)
RJ Reynolds Memorial Auditorium

10:30pm

MICHAEL COLYAR’S COMEDY EXTRAVAGANZA ($35)
The Rayloc Group LLC (Los Angeles, CA)
Benton South - Gaines Ballroom - Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites – Gaines Ballroom

12:00 Midnight

MIDNIGHT POETRY JAM ($15)
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

Erin Cherry
Khalil Middleton
Mychal-Bella Bowman
**SATURDAY**

**11:30am**

**TELLING OUR STORIES THROUGH POETRY**  
(FREE TO PUBLIC)  
Augusta Mini Theatre (Augusta, GA)  
The Benton Convention Center - Salem Ballroom – Main Level

**2:00pm**

**COCONUT CAKE** ($45)  
North Carolina Black Repertory Company  
(Winston-Salem, NC)  
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrands Theatre

**TELLING TALES OUT OF SCHOOL** ($45)  
New Federal Theatre (New York, NY)  
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts – Reynolds Place Theatre

**THOUGHTS OF A COLORED MAN** ($30)  
Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)  
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

**TWO WINGS TO HEAVEN: THE BESSIE COLEMAN STORY** ($45)  
April for Stars (Yonkers, NY) & FLY  
African Diaspora Arts & Sciences Institute  
(Panama City, Panama)  
Winston-Salem Theatre Alliance

**BLUES IS THE ROOTS** ($45)  
New Horizon Theater, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA)  
Salem College - Shirley Recital Hall

**BOTH AND (A PLAY ABOUT LAUGHING WHILE BLACK)** ($45)  
Boston Court Theatre (Pasadena, CA)  
Salem College – The Drama Workshop

**A WOMAN IN WAITING** ($45)  
Spirit Sister Productions LTD  
(Cape Town, South Africa)  
The Benton Convention Center – Gwendolyn Williams Theatre – Lower Level

**CHICKEN & BISCUITS** ($30)  
North Carolina Central University (Durham, NC)  
WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

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**REGINA TAYLOR**  
**QAASIM MIDDLETON**  
**COLBY CHRISTINA**

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**SOUL CROONERS SOLID GOLD EDITION** ($50)  
Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe (Sarasota, FL)  
UNCSA - Gerald Freedman Theatre

**CROWNS** ($50)  
Agape Theatre Project (Durham, NC)  
UNCSA – The Catawba Arena Theatre

**PARADISE BLUE** ($45)  
Ensemble Theatre (Houston, TX)  
UNCSA – Agnes de Mille Theatre

**I AM...A SHEPHERDESS** ($45)  
North Carolina Black Repertory Company  
(Winston-Salem, NC)  
Wake Forest – Harold C. Tedford Mainstage
HERITAGE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company
(Winston-Salem, NC)
Wake Forest – The Ring Theatre

A TASTE OF SOUL ($60)
Black Ensemble Theater (Chicago, IL)
RJ Reynolds Memorial Auditorium

AT LAST – AN ETTA JAMES STORY ($50)
Blake Vision Entertainment (Conyers, GA)
Benton South - Reese Theatre in the Gallery
Ballroom – Lower Level
Formerly Embassy Suites Grand Pavilion

COCONUT CAKE ($45)
North Carolina Black Repertory Company
(Winston-Salem, NC)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Hanesbrandts Theatre

THOUGHTS OF A COLORED MAN ($30)
Norfolk State University (Norfolk, VA)
Milton Rhodes Center for the Arts - Mountcastle Forum/Theatre

BLUES IS THE ROOTS ($45)
New Horizon Theater, Inc. (Pittsburgh, PA)
Salem College - Shirley Recital Hall

Both and (A Play About Laughing While Black) ($45)
Boston Court Theatre (Pasadena, CA)
Salem College – The Drama Workshop

“BETCHA BY GOLLY WOW, there’s NEVER TOO MUCH” ($60)
Ebony Repertory Theatre (Los Angeles, CA)
Salem College – Hanes Auditorium

CHICKEN & BISCUITS ($30)
North Carolina Central University (Durham, NC)
WSSU – Dillard Auditorium, Anderson Center

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