



the mead center
for american theater

ARENA STAGE MEDIA RELEASE

Molly Smith Artistic Director Edgar Dobie Executive Director Zelda Fichandler Founding Director

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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ARENA STAGE KICKS OFF 2017/18 SEASON
WITH FREE COMMUNITY DAY & COSTUME SALE
OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY
SATURDAY, AUGUST 26, 2017

*** Community Day offers FREE activities for all ages, including live music,
dance performances, storytelling, poetry, face painting, great food and more ***

*** Plan ahead for Halloween with Costume Sale featuring items from theater's iconic productions ***

(Washington, D.C.) Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater kicks off the company's 2017/18 season with a free **Community Day on Saturday, August 26, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. at the Mead Center (1101 Sixth St., SW)**. Featuring family-friendly activities for all ages, this full day of programming celebrates the American voices that have shaped the theater's upcoming season by showcasing America's rich history and cultural diversity. This event is FREE and open to the public. No reservations are required.

Scheduled activities include live music from acoustic pop/soul artist Cecily Bumbray, Americana band "Justin Trawick and the Common Good" and the musical theater cabaret series La-Ti-Do DC; dance performances; storytelling; poetry readings; face painting; historic and cultural presentations; and great food from restaurants on The Wharf and in Southwest including Mike Isabella's Requin, Muze at the Mandarin Oriental, Masala Art, Station 4 and Richard's Place. Partner organizations for the event include the American Folklife Center at the Library of Congress, American Indian Society of Washington, Mount Vernon, National Japanese American Memorial Foundation and Japanese American Citizens League.

Plan ahead for Halloween with Arena Stage's **Costume Sale from 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.**, featuring select costume items from historic productions including *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Damn Yankees*, *Carousel*, *The Music Man*, *Smokey Joe's Café*, *Oliver!* and *Christmas Carol 1941*. Items range from \$2-\$200 and include shirts, blouses, vests, pants, jeans, skirts, shoes, dresses, jackets, wigs, sweaters, furs, handbags, purses and specially-priced vintage and designer costume items. Both cash and credit card accepted.

For additional details on the August 26 Community Day and Costume Sale, visit arenastage.org/communityday/.

To learn more about Arena Stage's 2017/18 season, visit arenastage.org/shows-tickets/the-season/.

Arena Stage at the Mead Center for American Theater, under the leadership of Artistic Director Molly Smith and Executive Director Edgar Dobie, is a national center dedicated to American voices and artists. Arena Stage produces plays of all that is passionate, profound, deep and dangerous in the American spirit, and presents diverse and ground-breaking work from some of the best artists around the country. Arena Stage is committed to commissioning and developing new plays, and impacts the lives of over 10,000 students annually through its work in community engagement. Now in its seventh decade, Arena Stage serves a diverse annual audience of more than 300,000. arenastage.org

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