

SHEA'S CALL-BOARD

OCTOBER 2024

Call-board (n.): a bulletin or notice board backstage at a theatre

EDUHAM AT SHEA'S

SHEA'S INAUGURAL EDUHAM RESIDENCIES SUPPORTED BY KEYBANK

In creating the musical HAMILTON, Lin-Manuel Miranda transformed historical documents into powerful art that challenges our understanding of the past and present. EduHam, the HAMILTON Education Program began as a partnership between the Gilder Lehrman Institute of American History, HAMILTON, and the Rockefeller Foundation. The HAMILTON Education Program combines theatrical experiences with rigorous historical study and creative expression. It makes history more engaging and accessible to students while empowering them to explore and interpret history through their own artistic talents.

Shea's EduHam residencies, supported by KeyBank, allowed students to understand how the history is conveyed through the artistic expression of HAMILTON by connecting the primary sources with song lyrics. From learning this process, students selected any Founding Era person, event, or document and told the story through the method of their choosing including song, monologue, and poem, referencing and drawing inspiration from various primary sources.



The residencies culminated in students seeing HAMILTON and having a private talkback with ten HAMILTON company members including; Lauren Mariasosay (Eliza Hamilton), Jimmie "JJ" Jeter (Aaron Burr), A.D. Weaver (George Washington), Justin Matthew Sargent (King George III), and many more! Thank you KeyBank for supporting the program!



UPCOMING EVENTS: SHEA'S BUFFALO

SHEA'S SHOPPING SOIREE
SHEA'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS
NOV 7

THE DIARY OF BLACK MEN
HOW DO YOU LOVE A BLACK WOMAN?
NOV 13

FINAL FANTASY VII REBIRTH
ORCHESTRA WORLD TOUR
NOV 16

& JULIET
2024-25 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON
NOV 19-24

WINTER WONDERLAND
AT SHEA'S BUFFALO
NOV 25

A DRAG QUEEN CHRISTMAS
NOV 26

A NOSTALGIC NIGHT WITH
MACAULAY CULKIN FOLLOWING
A SCREENING OF HOME ALONE
NOV 30

THE NUTCRACKER
NEGLIA BALLET, BPO, & SHEA'S
DEC 6-8

SWAN LAKE
THE STATE BALLET THEATRE OF UKRAINE
DEC 10

STRAIGHT NO CHASER
"TOP SHELF TOUR"
DEC 12

THE POLAR EXPERIENCE
DEC 13

THE ROCK ORCHESTRA
BY CANDLELIGHT
DEC 14

DISNEY'S THE LION KING
2024-25 FIVE STAR BANK BROADWAY
SEASON
DEC 18-JAN 5

SHEA'S 710

GREASE
STARRING BUFFALO
NOV 8-9

LEGALLY BLONDE
NARDIN ACADEMY
NOV 14-16

JOIN US FOR A WINTER WONDERLAND!

STEP INTO A MAGICAL WORLD OF HOLIDAY CHEER

Bring your family for unforgettable memories at Shea's!

On Monday, November 25th from 5:30PM to 7:30PM step into a magical world of holiday cheer, where every intricate detail of Shea's Buffalo Theatre shines brighter with holiday magic. The new Winter Wonderland family event at Shea's will host all kinds of special holiday moments!



WINTER WONDERLAND

AT SHEA'S BUFFALO



MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25
5:30-7:30 PM

Take a Photo with Santa & Kandy Kane the Elf

Holiday Sing Along to the Wurlitzer Organ

Experience Live Music from *The Nutcracker*

Indulge in Our Delicious Hot Chocolate Bar

Enjoy Disney's *Prep & Landing* on the Big Screen at Shea's Buffalo

Plus, More Fun Activities for Kids!

Tickets are \$10 for adults and FREE for children 12 and under. Proceeds benefit Shea's Buffalo Theatre. Capture the Magic! For just \$20 extra, you can have your holiday moments captured by a professional photographer. Space is limited – book when you purchase your admission tickets.

[Buy Tickets Here!](#)

SPONSOR OF THE MONTH – OCTOBER

FIVE STAR BANK

Five Star Bank is a supporter and partner of Shea's and is our 2024-25 Broadway Season sponsor. At Five Star, their company is dedicated to creating measurable impact within the communities they serve.

Their partnership is vital in the work we do. It continues to help restore and maintain Shea's Buffalo Theatre for present and future generations to enjoy as a working historic theatre providing a wide variety of live performing arts experiences for our patrons and innovative and effective educational experiences fostering an appreciation of live theatre by area youth.



**Five Star
Bank**

To learn more about Five Star Bank and the services they provide visit their website.

ON SCHOOL TIME: AND BID HIM SING
PARTNERED WITH UJIMA COMPANY INC.
NOV 19

**CHICKS IN THE OFFICE:
LITTLE FALL GETAWAY TOUR**
NOV 21

**ROCKY MOUNTAIN HIGH
EXPERIENCE®**
**A JOHN DENVER CHRISTMAS
STARRING RICK SCHULER**
NOV 23

A VERY VALLI HOLIDAY TRIBUTE
NOV 30

**O CHRISTMAS TEA:
A BRITISH COMEDY**
DEC 5

ABBA REVISITED
DEC 8

THORGY DOES CHRISTMAS
DEC 11

GIRLS NIGHT! CHRISTMAS
DEC 13

CHRISTMAS WITH C.S. LEWIS
DEC 14

**SISTER'S CHRISTMAS
CATECHISM**
DEC 20

SHEA'S SMITH

**MRS. KASHA DAVIS: THERE'S
ALWAYS TIME FOR A COCKTAIL**
DEC 7

IN THE COMMUNITY

SOMETHING ROTTEN
MusicalFare Theatre
MusicalFare Theatre Mainstage
NOV 6– DEC 8

WITCH
Road Less Traveled Productions
Road Less Traveled Theatre
NOV 6– DEC 8

THE COTTAGE
Alleyway Theatre
Alleyway Theatre
NOV 8–NOV 30

THE FITZGERALDS OF ST. PAUL
Irish Classical Theatre
The Andrews Theatre
NOV 8–24

KING JAMES
D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre
D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre
NOV 8–24

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY
Ujima Theatre Company
Lorna C. Hill Theater
NOV 8–24

SHYLOCK
American Repertory Theatre of WNY
American Repertory Theatre of WNY
NOV 16– DEC 2

A GLIMPSE INTO SHEA'S HISTORY

CONSTRUCTION IN OCTOBER 1925

Shea's Buffalo Theatre opened in January 1926 and was constructed in a year and one day. In October of 1925, months before opening, the Tiffany designed theatre was taking shape but was still missing its iconic ornate features. Take a look at two construction photos:



The Shea's Buffalo balcony taken from the loge section.



The Shea's Buffalo Grand Lobby facing Main Street.

Shea's Buffalo Theatre opened with fanfare across Buffalo, the motion picture and vaudeville industries. As we approach one-hundred years from the ground-breaking construction of this beloved theatre, stay tuned for exciting news!

THE WIZARD OF OZ

Lancaster Oper House
Lancster Opera House
NOV 22–DEC 8

IRVING BERLIN'S WHITE CHRISTMAS

Curtain Up Productiona
Historic Lockport Palace Theatre
DEC 4–8

JUNIE B. IN JINGLE BELLS, BATMAN SMELLS

Theatre of Youth
Theatre of Youth
DEC 7–15

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Alleyway Theatre
Alleyway Theatre
DEC 12–23

A KIDMAN CAROL

Alleyway Theatre
Alleyway Theatre
DEC 19–21

THEATRE NEWS

THE PHANTOM OF THE OPERA
to Launch Multi-Year North American Tour.

THE OUTSIDERS, DEATH BECOMES HER, and More
Will Perform on the Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

Jeremy Jordan Sets Final Performance in THE GREAT GATSBY.

SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE Stage Musical in the Works From Oscar-Winning Composer A.R. Rahman & Tony-Winning Producer Ken Davenport.

Adrianna Hicks Will Return to SIX, Reprising Role of Catherine of Aragon.

National Endowment For the Arts Reveals Data on Arts Engagement and Community Connectedness

New Organization Broadway Producers Alliance is Launched.

BACK TO THE FUTURE THE MUSICAL to Close on Broadway on Jan 5.

The Theatre Development Fund (TDF) and Manhattan Theatre Club Announce Partnership For August Wilson Performance Competition.

Rachel Zegler Releases Jack Antonoff's "Man of the House" From Broadway's ROMEO + JULIET.

WELCOME TO THE WONDER AWARDS!

A DEEP DIVE INTO THE WONDER AWARDS!

This month, preparations for the Shea's Wonder Awards really geared up! Schools and adjudicators participating in the program were chosen, kicking off this exciting new year for high school shows!

All interested schools went through a registration process. At this time, the Wonder Awards can only accommodate 20 schools to participate. We hope, however, that as the program grows, the number of participating schools will be able to grow as well. This year, 24 schools registered for the program, so all 20 participants were chosen using the lottery system to keep the selection completely free of bias and preference.

Participating schools were also required to produce a full length musical production that is recognized for eligibility by the National High School Musical Theatre Awards Program, also known as The Jimmy Awards. "School" or "Teen" editions of the musicals were allowed, but did not include Broadway Junior or TYA (Theatre for Young Audiences) shows. To fall under the Wonder Awards jurisdiction, each school also had to either be a private, public, charter, or parochial school within the counties of Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Genesee, Niagara, or Wyoming county. Each school's casts then had to be made up of at least a 50% majority students in grades 9-12.

Through this process, our Arts Engagement and Education Department have been dedicated to making the program as accessible as possible. Mainly, the Shea's Wonder Awards do not have any fees associated with registration or participation—something that is uncommon for regional awards programs throughout the country.



If you follow us on our Shea's AE&E social media pages, you have been seeing us announce a 2024-25 Shea's Wonder Awards adjudicator each day. This year, we have an unprecedented 35 adjudicators—15 more than the previous year! All people interested in becoming an adjudicator were asked to complete an application which was available on our website and social media.

Our pool of adjudicators are made up of a group of highly experienced professionals in the world of theatre throughout Western New York as well as classroom educators with theatre experience. The perspectives of both of these groups of individuals are vital to providing feedback to growing programs.

Since these adjudicators are so prominent in their respective disciplines, we were also very focused on making sure the program is a more reasonable time commitment. Since there are more people in our adjudicator pool this year, each adjudicator does not have to see as many shows as before. Last year, each adjudicator attended a minimum of 4 productions and this year each adjudicator will attend 2-3 productions.

GET TO KNOW THE MUSICALS & PLAYS ON BROADWAY

TAMMY FAYE *Palace Theatre*

The story of a traveling preacher's wife who beamed into homes with a message of hope... and stole the country's heart.

It's the 1970s. As satellites broadcast brand-new cable programming into American homes, millions fall in love with Tammy Faye Bakker—the charismatic wife of pastor Jim Bakker. Together, they build a nationwide congregation that puts the fun back into faith. But, even as Tammy dazzles on screen, jealous rivals plot behind the scenes, threatened by her determination to lead with love.

Wrapped in a joyful and deliriously fun score that could only come from Elton John, with lyrics by Scissor Sisters' Jake Shears, a book by Olivier Award-winning playwright James Graham, and directed by Olivier Award winner Rupert Goold, TAMMY FAYE shines a sparkling light on the generous, loving, often lonely soul behind the illustrious lashes. Reprising her celebrated West End performance, the divine cast is led by two-time Olivier Award winner Katie Brayben (Tammy Faye), two-time Tony Award winner Christian Borle (Jim Bakker), and two-time Tony Award winner Michael Cerveris (Jerry Falwell).

SUNSET BOULEVARD *St. James Theatre*

NICOLE SCHERZINGER stars as the immortal Norma Desmond in ANDREW LLOYD WEBBER's legendary SUNSET BLVD., reimagined by visionary director JAMIE LLOYD. The New York Times declares, "This bravura new revival belongs to the here and now. Nicole Scherzinger gives a career-defining performance." And The Washington Post hails, "This killer production is theater at its devilish best. It slays you."

Haunted by her memories and dreams, movie star Norma Desmond yearns to return to the big screen. A struggling screenwriter who can't sell his scripts to the

In our goal for greater accessibility and fairness amongst schools, we also updated our adjudicator trainings. All 35 adjudicators were required to attend a 2-hour training session led by the staff of the AE&E department. In this training, our education staff did a full overview of the program. The adjudicators were walked through the official handbook and provided prompts to follow. The training session focused on how to remain objective and fair- including how to score fairly, how to provide positive constructive feedback, how to highlight elements in a production that worked, providing solutions for what didn't, and more!

Most notably, the adjudicators watched a video example of a school production and adjudicated it all together to set the tone of what is fair scoring. The AE&E team helped them come up with feedback for the example that is appropriate, celebratory, constructive, and solution based.

The trainings had a large focus on making sure the score and feedback provided are made with the school's respective struggles and resources in mind. We want the adjudicators to score based on the resources that the schools have and what they were able to accomplish with them, rather than just giving the highest scores to the schools with the largest budgets and most spectacle. Fairness and fostering growth is ultimately the key.

Click [here](#) to learn more about our 2024-25 adjudicators, and stay tuned for more information about the Shea's Wonder Awards!



Hollywood studios may be her only hope, until their dangerous and captivating relationship leads to disaster. Drenched in champagne and cynicism, *SUNSET BLVD.* focuses the lens on the ambitions and frustrations of its characters and puts their intoxicating need for fame and adoration in stark close-up.

MCNEAL **Vivian Beaumont Theater**

Good writers borrow, great writers steal. Jacob McNeal is a great writer, one of our greatest, a perpetual candidate for the Nobel Prize in Literature. But McNeal also has an estranged son, a new novel, old axes to grind and an unhealthy fascination with Artificial Intelligence. Pulitzer Prize-winner Ayad Akhtar's new play is a startling and wickedly smart examination of the inescapable humanity – and increasing inhumanity – of the stories we tell. Directed by Tony Award® winner Bartlett Sher.



This issue of the SHEA'S CALL-BOARD is prepared by members of the Development Department including writing from Julianna Tracey and Cassandra Lippert. Special thanks to Jake Gear for information on the Shea's Wonder Awards, Megan Corbett Rizzuto for information on the Shea's Winter Wonderland, and Alejandro Gomez and the Arts Education and Engagement Department for information on EduHam.

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Shea's website (www.sheas.org) and Ticketmaster.com are the official ticket retailers of tickets to shows at Shea's Performing Arts Center.