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## Tickets for Disney's *The Lion King* On Sale at Shea's Buffalo Theatre on Wednesday, September 4

Performances Begin on Wednesday, December 18 and Play for 3 Weeks Through Sunday, January 5 at Shea's Buffalo Theatre

**Buffalo, NY (Wednesday, August 28, 2024**)- Disney Theatrical Group, Shea's Performing Arts Center and Albert Nocciolino announced today that tickets for the long-awaited return engagement of Disney's The Lion King will go on sale to the public on Wednesday, September 4 at 10am. Buffalo's most eagerly awaited return will once again leap onto the Shea's Buffalo Theatre stage on Wednesday, December 18 for a limited engagement of 3 weeks through Sunday, January 5. The opening night is Thursday, December 19 at 7:30pm.

Beginning Wednesday, September 4, tickets will be available at the Shea's Buffalo Theatre Box Office, and online at <u>sheas.org</u>. Orders for groups of ten (10) or more may be placed by calling (716-829-1153). For a full schedule of **The Lion King** performances, visit <u>https://www.sheas.org/performances/the-lion-king/</u>.

Ticket buyers are reminded that sheas.org & Ticket master.com are the only official retail ticket outlets for all performances at Shea's Buffalo Theatre. Ticket buyers who purchase tickets from a ticket broker or any third party should be aware that Shea's Buffalo Theatre is unable to reprint or replace lost or stolen tickets and is unable to contact patrons with information regarding time changes or other pertinent updates regarding the performance.

**The Lion King** has been touring North America for more than 22 years, and during that time has welcomed over 23 million theatergoers, making it North America's longest-running and mostattended Broadway tour. Having already played more than 10,000 performances in over 90 cities across North America, **The Lion King** now proudly returns to Buffalo at Shea's Buffalo Theatre.

## ABOUT THE LION KING

Celebrating 26 landmark years on Broadway, *The Lion King* continues ascendant as one of the most popular stage musicals in the world. Since its premiere on November 13, 1997, 28 global productions have been seen by over 112 million people. Produced by Disney Theatrical Group, under the direction of **Andrew Flatt**, **Anne Quart**, and **Thomas Schumacher**, *The Lion King* has made theatrical history with three productions worldwide running 20 or more years and two others running 25 or more years.

Performed over its lifetime in nine different languages (English, Japanese, German, Korean, French, Dutch, Spanish, Mandarin and Portuguese), there are currently seven productions of *The Lion King* around the world: Broadway, London, Paris, Hamburg, Madrid, Tokyo, and on tour across North America. *The Lion King* has played in over 100 cities across 28 countries on every continent except Antarctica; its worldwide gross exceeds that of any film, Broadway show or other entertainment title in box office history.

**The Lion King** won six 1998 Tony Awards<sup>®</sup>: Best Musical, Best Scenic Design (**Richard Hudson**), Best Costume Design (**Julie Taymor**), Best Lighting Design (**Donald Holder**), Best Choreography (**Garth Fagan**) and Best Direction of a Musical. **The Lion King** has also earned more than 70 major arts awards including the 1998 NY Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Musical, the 1999 Grammy<sup>®</sup> for Best Musical Show Album, the 1999 Evening Standard Award for Theatrical Event of the Year and the 1999 Laurence Olivier Awards for Best Choreography and Best Costume Design.

Director, costume designer and mask co-designer **Julie Taymor**, the first woman to win a Tony Award for Best Director of a Musical, remains actively involved in the show, launching new productions and maintaining the flagship Broadway production.

The Broadway score features **Elton John** and **Tim Rice**'s songs from the *Lion King* animated film along with three new songs by John and Rice; additional musical material by South African **Lebo M**, **Mark Mancina**, **Jay Rifkin**, **Julie Taymor** and **Hans Zimmer**; and music from "Rhythm of the Pride Lands," an album inspired by the original music in the film, written by Lebo M, Mark Mancina and Hans Zimmer. The resulting sound of *The Lion King* is a fusion of Western popular music and the distinctive sounds and rhythms of Africa, ranging from the Academy Award<sup>®</sup>-winning song "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" to Lebo M's rich choral numbers.

Elton John, Lebo M, and Hans Zimmer all collaborated on the 2019 version of the film, executive produced by Julie Taymor and Thomas Schumacher, which has gone onto extraordinary worldwide success.

The book has been adapted by **Roger Allers**, who co-directed the animated *The Lion King* feature, and **Irene Mecchi**, who co-wrote the film's screenplay. Other members of the creative team include: **Michael Curry**, who designed the masks and puppets with Taymor, **Steve Canyon Kennedy** (sound design), **Michael Ward** (hair and makeup design), **Anthony Lyn** (associate director), **Marey Griffith** (associate choreographer), **Clement Ishmael** (music supervisor), **Lisa** 

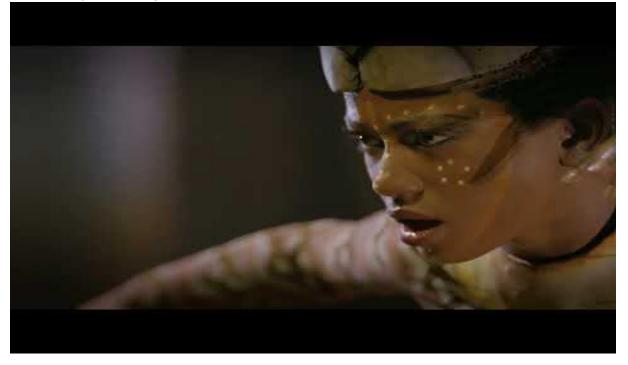
**Dawn Cave** (production supervisor), **Thomas Schlenk** (general manager) and **ARC/Mark Brandon, CSA** (casting). **Anne Quart** serves as executive producer.

For more information worldwide, visit <u>LionKing.com</u>, <u>www.facebook.com/thelionkingusa</u> and <u>www.instagram.com/thelionking</u>.

The Buffalo engagement of **Disney's** *THE LION KING* is presented by arrangement with Shea's Performing Arts Center and Albert Nocciolino and is a subscription offering of the Five Star Bank Broadway Season.

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VIDEO: <a href="https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMMNnZK5o7o">https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZMMNnZK5o7o</a>



## PHOTOS

S1: PHOTO CREDIT: Darian Sanders as Simba. The Lion King North American Tour ©Disney. Photo by Deen van Meer.

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S3: PHOTO CREDIT: Mukelisiwe Goba as Rafiki. The Lion King North American Tour ©Disney. Photo by Matthew Murphy.

S3MukelisiweGoba28Rafiki291C2A9Disney.PhotobyMatthewMurphyRV1.jpg

S6: PHOTO CREDIT: Darian Sanders as Simba and Khalifa White as Nala ©Disney. Photo by Matthew Murphy.

S6-Darian-Sanders-as-Simba-and-Khalifa-White-as-Nala-C2A9Disney.-Photo-by-Matthew-Murphy.jpg