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# Shea's Performing Arts Center Announces On School Time Productions

Program Offers Low-Cost Educational Performances to Students

Shea's Performing Arts Center announced the details of its On School Time series for the 2024-25 school year. The program provides weekday educational performances created for young audiences.

"We are thrilled to join Ujima and El Batey in offering these opportunities for young people to see, learn, and grow from performances that embrace different forms of cultural storytelling," said Brian Higgins, President & CEO of Shea's Performing Arts Center.

The On School Time series, led by Shea's Arts Engagement and Education department, transforms children's books, classic literature, history, and social issues into performances on Shea's stages.

This season's schedule features two productions:

## ***And Bid Him Sing: 10:00 AM - Tuesday, November 19, 2024***

Shea's is partnering with Ujima Company Inc. to bring "And Bid Him Sing" to Shea's 710 Theatre. The production, assembled by Ujima founder, the late-Lorna C. Hill, transforms the poems by Paul Laurence Dunbar, celebrating Black southern life, into short vignettes. This 50-minute performance is followed by a short talkback and targeted to audiences in grades 6 through 12.

Ujima Company Inc. (UCI) is a multi-ethnic and multicultural professional theatre whose primary purpose is the preservation, perpetuation, and performance of African American theatre by providing working opportunities for established artists and training experience for aspiring artists.

## ***Morivivi: 10:00 AM - Tuesday, February 25, 2025***

Shea's is partnering with El Batey Puerto Rican Center to bring their production "Morivivi" to Shea's 710 Theatre. "Morivivi is a story of a small island nation that is defined by the spirit of its people, who like the Morivivi, resiliently come back to life, choosing to rise despite the odds. The 50-minute performance, suitable for all ages, is told through cultural dance and percussion.

El Batey is a non-profit organization committed to creating safe and engaging spaces for our youth. Their services center culture, traditions, family, and education as the cornerstones for a thriving and healthy Puerto Rican community.

A limited number of residencies for each show are offered by Shea's Teaching Artist Alejandro Gómez on a first-come-first-serve basis. Contact Shea's Arts Engagement Coordinator Alicia Rainey at [arainey@sheas.org](mailto:arainey@sheas.org).

Tickets to On School Time performances are just \$8. Schools and educational groups including distant learners, home school classes, and community-based organizations are invited to request tickets through Shea's website at: <https://www.sheas.org/on-school-time-series/>.

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