



For Release: March 18, 2025, at 8:15PM

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Shea's Performing Arts Center and Albert Nocciolino Announce the Five Star Bank 2025-26 Broadway Season at Shea's Buffalo Theatre

**Opening the season with 2024 Tony Award Winner for Best Musical,
*The Outsiders***

Buffalo, NY, March 18, 2025– Shea's Performing Arts Center and Broadway Season Partner Albert Nocciolino are proud to announce the Five Star Bank 2025-26 Broadway Season at Shea's Buffalo Theatre, which includes: **THE OUTSIDERS, THE NOTEBOOK, WICKED, 'Twas the Night Before... BY CIRQUE DU SOLEIL, KIMBERLY AKIMBO, WATER FOR ELEPHANTS, SUFFS**, and the return of **DISNEY'S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST** as a special subscriber add-on, part of the Gallagher Encore Specials.

Season tickets are on sale now. For more information on the Five Star Bank 2025-26 Broadway Season at Shea's Buffalo Theatre, visit www.sheas.org.

"As we unveil the 2025-26 Broadway season and approach Shea's Buffalo Theatre's 100th anniversary, we celebrate not only world-class entertainment but also our deep connection to the Buffalo community," **said Brian Higgins, President and CEO of Shea's Performing Arts Center**. "Shea's has long been the heart of the Theatre District and a vital driver of downtown Buffalo's economy. Our productions bring thousands of visitors to the city each season, supporting local businesses and strengthening our vibrant arts scene. We're honored to carry this legacy forward and excited for what's ahead for Shea's and our community."

"We're thrilled to bring another incredible Broadway season to Buffalo, showcasing the best of Broadway at Shea's Buffalo Theatre," **said Albert Nocciolino, Shea's Broadway partner**. "I would

like to thank our loyal subscribers and overwhelming community support; Buffalo continues to be a top destination for touring Broadway productions.”

"Five Star Bank is thrilled to again sponsor the 2025-26 Broadway Season at Shea's Buffalo Theatre," **said Five Star Bank Chief Marketing Officer Blake Jones**. "This iconic venue has been a cornerstone of Buffalo's arts and culture scene for a century, and we are proud to support Shea's as it continues to inspire, entertain, and enrich our community."

Before their scheduled performances in Buffalo, THE OUTSIDERS will conduct technical rehearsals at Shea's Buffalo Theatre. Arriving three to six weeks in advance, this extended stay provides a significant economic boost to the city, benefiting local hotels, restaurants, parking facilities, and businesses frequented by theatergoers and production staff. Shea's Buffalo Theatre has hosted nine national Broadway tour launches since 2016, thanks to the 25% Empire State Music and Theatrical Production Tax Credit. This credit incentivizes qualified production companies to conduct technical rehearsals, pre-tour activities, and performances at qualified regional theaters across Upstate New York, enhancing the competitiveness of these venues in the Northeast.

Shea's Buffalo Theatre's Broadway season has an economic impact of more than \$50 million in Western New York. Each year, the shows bring over 350,000 people to Downtown Buffalo's Theatre District. Shea's Buffalo Theatre is proud to rank among the top five nationwide for Broadway season ticket holders among similar markets, with an average of 16,500 Broadway season subscribers annually.

FIVE STAR BANK 2025-26 BROADWAY SEASON INCLUDES:

THE OUTSIDERS

September 17-23, 2025

The winner of four 2024 Tony Awards®, including Best Musical, is THE OUTSIDERS. This classic coming-of-age story takes you to Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1967, where Ponyboy Curtis, his best friend Johnny Cade, and their family of Greaser “outsiders” dream about who they want to become in a world that will never accept them. THE OUTSIDERS features Danya Taymor’s Tony Award-winning direction that’s “refreshing, gritty, and endlessly effective.” (*The New York Times*). With “high-octane choreography” (*New York Magazine*), THE OUTSIDERS has been described as “more pulse-pounding than anything else on Broadway!” (*Time Out New York*).

THE NOTEBOOK

October 7-13, 2025

Based on the best-selling novel that inspired the iconic film, THE NOTEBOOK tells the story of Allie and Noah, both from different worlds, who share a lifetime of love despite the forces that threaten to pull them apart. “Full of butterfly-inducing highs and beautiful songs” (*Entertainment Weekly*),

THE NOTEBOOK is a deeply moving portrait of the enduring power of love, and features music by singer-songwriter Ingrid Michaelson and a book by TV's Bekah Brunstetter ("This Is Us").

WICKED

November 12-30, 2025

Welcome to the wonderful Land of Oz...where there is a young woman, born with emerald-green skin—smart, fiery, misunderstood, and possessing an extraordinary talent. When she meets a bubbly blonde who is exceptionally popular, their initial rivalry turns into the unlikelyst of friendships...until the world decides to call one good and the other one wicked. With a thrilling score that includes the hits "Defying Gravity," "Popular" and "For Good," WICKED has been called "A magical Broadway musical with brains, heart and courage" (*Time Magazine*).

'Twas the Night Before... BY CIRQUE DU SOLEIL

Opening December 17, 2025

'Twas the Night Before... is Cirque du Soleil's first holiday show, based on the classic poem "A Visit from Saint Nicolas" by Clement Clarke Moore. Memorable lines from this cherished classic inspired Cirque's story about a jaded young girl who rediscovers the magic of the holidays. A festive flurry of love and cheer created especially for families, 'Twas the Night Before ... features thrilling acrobatics, lovable characters - and a soundtrack including holiday classics re-invented by Cirque du Soleil. The show was conceived and directed by Cirque du Soleil Senior Artistic Director James Hadley, a 25-year veteran of circus productions and live theatre.

KIMBERLY AKIMBO

March 17-22, 2026

KIMBERLY AKIMBO is the winner of five 2023 Tony Awards including BEST MUSICAL! Kimberly is about to turn 16 and recently moved with her family to a new town in suburban New Jersey. In this "howlingly funny heartbreaker of a show" (*The New Yorker*), Kim is forced to navigate family dysfunction, a rare genetic condition, her first crush ... and possible felony charges. Ever the optimist, she is determined to find happiness against all odds and embark on a great adventure.

WATER FOR ELEPHANTS

April 14-19, 2026

The critically acclaimed bestselling novel comes to "thrilling, dazzling" life (*Time Out New York*) in a unique, spectacle-filled new musical! After losing what matters most, a young man jumps a moving train unsure of where the road will take him, and finds a new home with the remarkable crew of a traveling circus, and a life—and love—beyond his wildest dreams. Seen through the eyes of his older self, his adventure becomes a poignant reminder that if you choose the ride, life can begin again at any age. Tony Award-nominated director Jessica Stone's "huge, heart-filling" production (*The New York Times*) features a book by three-time Tony nominee Rick Elice adapted from Sara Gruen's novel, and a soaring score by the acclaimed PigPen Theatre Co.

SUFFS

June 2-7-2026

Direct from Broadway, comes the acclaimed Tony Award-winning musical SUFFS about the brilliant, passionate, and funny American women who fought tirelessly for the right to vote. Created by Shaina Taub, the first woman to ever independently win Tony Awards for Best Book and Best Score in the same season, this “thrilling, inspiring and dazzlingly entertaining” (Variety) new musical boldly explores the triumphs and failures of a struggle for equality that’s far from over. Winner of the Outer Critics’ Circle Award for Best New Musical.

SPECIAL SUBSCRIBER ADD-ON, PART OF THE GALLAGHER ENCORE SPECIALS

(Broadway Season Subscribers will have the opportunity to purchase tickets before the public)

DISNEY’S BEAUTY AND THE BEAST

August 20-24, 2025

Be Our Guest at BEAUTY AND THE BEAST, Disney’s first North American production of the beloved musical in over 25 years. Members of the original creative team have reunited to bring this enchanting and timeless tale to life in a breathtaking musical filled with the romance and spectacle audiences know and love.

The Five Star Bank 2025-26 Broadway Season is presented by Shea’s Performing Arts Center and Albert Nocciolino, and is sponsored locally by Five Star Bank, The Buffalo News, and WKBW-TV.

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Resources:

Full Season Slide: [25-26 Broadway Season.jpg](#)

Video:

[Wicked 2 Minute Trailer 2018.mp4](#)

[Outsiders_Montage_Broadcast_NEW-Mix1_Original_Cast.mp4](#)

[SUFFS Bway montage_HD.mov](#)

[25-26 2Notebook.mp4](#)

Photos:

Beauty & The Beast:

[1_Shubshri_Kandiah_28Belle29_26_Brendan_Xavier_28Beast29_BATB_Alt_DanielBoud.jpg](#)

Kimberly Akimbo:

0076 - Skye Alyssa Friedman, Pierce Wheeler, Darron Hayes and Grace Capeless in the National Tour of KIMBERLY AKIMBO, photo by Joan Marcus.jpg

'Twas the Night Before... by Cirque Du Soleil [TWAS_Hair Suspension_Credit Michael Last](#)

Wicked: [Austen Danielle Bohmer as Glinda and Lauren Samuels as Elphaba in the National Tour of WICKED, photo by Joan Marcus 2024 \(0710r2\)](#)

The Outsiders: [01.-The-Outsiders-The-Greasers-Photo-by-Matthew-Murphy.jpg](#)

The Notebook: [241024_TheNotebook_NewCast2-587_F](#)

Suffs: [1-Jenn-Colella-as-Carrie-Chapman-Catt-and-Suffs-Broadway-Company.jpg](#)