



Festival Guide

fertile ground

A CITY-WIDE
FESTIVAL
OF NEW WORKS

PATA PORTLAND
AREA THEATRE
ALLIANCE

WHAT IS FERTILE GROUND?



Founded by Trisha Mead in 2009, and led by Nicole Lane from 2010-2023, Fertile Ground was launched to provide a platform for local theatre companies and individual artists to showcase their commitment to new work. A program of

the Portland Area Theatre Alliance, Fertile Ground projects can range from fully staged world premieres, to workshops & readings, to ensemble, multidisciplinary & collaboration-driven work, to a variety of dance, comedy, film events and more.

Unlike typical fringe fests, Fertile Ground is unadjudicated, and features new work created by LOCAL artists, performers & companies. This ensures that the artistic and financial benefits of the Festival stay in Portland. The content of each Festival is shaped by community participation, demonstrating that Portland is fertile ground for creativity, innovation & daring acts of performance. The Festival works toward creating an inclusive, platform including underrepresented voices across race, ethnicity, age, gender, sexuality, background, size, & physical or intellectual ability.

FERTILE GROUND STAFF

Tamara Caroll
festival director

Cassie Greer
managing director

Eboni Lovell
marketing director

Venus Edlin
marketing associate

Jack Solomon
graphic designer

Nicole Lane
director emeritus



PATA PORTLAND AREA THEATRE ALLIANCE

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interim president & interim treasurer

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interim vice president

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WELCOME TO FERTILE GROUND 2024

Though you may not have read it here first, I know for sure you're reading it here now: Fertile Ground is back!

After two years of virtual Festivals, followed by a year of "strategic hiatus" (read: existential panic at long-time Festival Director Nicole Lane's departure), we are thrilled to not only be back in person, but in a moment of exhilarating growth.

This year, as the first ever recipients of the Scale Up grant from Prosper Portland (!), and with generous support from Ronni Lacroute, we are learning to dream big...

This year, in partnership with Artists Repertory Theatre, we're piloting the concept of designated Festival Venues: densely programmed spaces that provide extra support to Producers & create a carefully curated program of events for audiences.

This year we're collaborating

with Travel Portland to expand our reach, doubling down on Trisha's founding vision of a west coast new works festival that attracts visitors from all over Oregon, and beyond.

This year we're continuing the work that inspired the GROW Grant program in 2020 — centering access for all. We are overwhelmed and galvanized by what this work could bring to fruition — the richness and variety of creations and collaborations that might emerge, the audiences we might welcome.

Fertile Ground is sometimes called an "uncurated Festival." There is no committee deciding whose work is worth sharing or which artists are deserving of support. I far prefer the expression "community curated." It truly is the stone soup of Festivals. We roll into town with our big empty pot and say, "We're going to make you a delicious



Tamara Caroll, festival director

Festival! Now quick — bring us all the ingredients."

You bring the most important ingredient: an audience. New work can not move forward without one. So thank you for joining us, wherever you're joining us from. Happy viewing, and let's keep helping each other grow.

THANK YOU, FESTIVAL SPONSORS!



PROSPER PORTLAND
Building an Equitable Economy

ADDITIONAL SPONSORS



Krista Garver & Katie Leonard



AUGUSTINA CELLARS



GROWING WITH FERTILE GROUND

2024 GROW Grant Awardees

\$625 – Write.Voice.Play!: A Playwright Showcase, produced by PlayWrite, Inc.

\$550 – Finding BigFoot, produced by Amber Ball

\$500 – Far From Home, produced by Olga Kravtsova & Julia Rahmanzaei

\$500 – Faena, produced by PDX Playwrights & CoHo Theatre

\$300 – Six String Showdown, produced by Rogue Pack Theatre

\$300 – Ten-Minute Tapestry: AAPI Writers' Showcase, produced by Theatre Diaspora




\$225 – WILD/CAUGHT, produced by PATHWAYS (Artists Repertory Theatre & Advance Gender Equity in the Arts)

financial pressure. They also provide additional marketing support to selected projects, boosting Grant recipients visibility in the Festival, and encouraging broader audience reach.

The GROW Grant program was created to reduce barriers to participation for producers from traditionally underrepresented communities and promote diverse representation in the Festival. This year's GROW Grants were made possible through the generous contributions of Krista Garver & Katie Leonard, and Prosper Portland. To become a future GROW Grant sponsor, reach out to our director at fertileground@portlandtheatre.com

GROW Grants are “micro-grants”, or small amounts of funding added to a project's existing resources to reduce

GUIDE KEY

-  Interpreted Performance
-  GROW Grant Awardee
-  One Performance Only

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RESERVE FESTIVAL TICKETS

Tickets for every event can be purchased on Fertile Ground's website. Each individual Producer sets their own ticket price, starting at free!

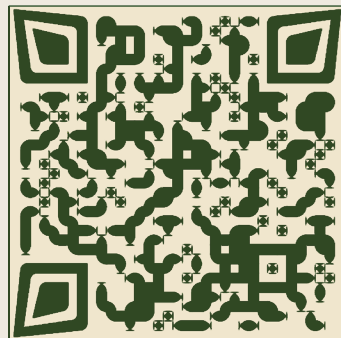
A Festival Pass allows you to reserve tickets to (almost) any show for free*, AND Pass-holders get free rush tickets to any show with open seats 15 minutes before curtain!

Discounts available for students, PATA members, and Oregon Trail cardholders.



*Passholders receive 1/2 off *The Last Lost Canada Goose* and *Hexen*. Individual ticket sales revenue goes directly to individual producers. Pass sale profits are split among all producers.

SCAN FOR MORE INFO



fertilegroundpdx.org

PATA PORTLAND AREA THEATRE ALLIANCE

FERTILE GROUND 2025

The Fertile Ground Festival of New Works is excited to announce its 15th anniversary return!

April 10-20, 2025

We welcome ALL artistic disciplines at ANY stage of development. The only requirement is that acts of creation included in the Festival are locally-based and NEW.

Questions about participating in Fertile Ground? Reach out to fertileground@portlandtheatre.com



April 26th - May 19th, 2024

LEGALLY BLONDE



The Musical™

Directed by Emily Alexander
Choreography by Jeff George
Musical Direction by Adam Young

Music & Lyrics by Laurence O'Keefe & Nell Benjamin
Book by Heather Hochstadt




Portland's Winningstad Theatre
1111 SW Broadway, Portland

TICKETS: 800.915.4698
www.StumptownStages.org



STUMPTOWN STAGES

2024 FESTIVAL SCHEDULE

-  Interpreted Performance
-  GROW Awardee
-  One Performance Only

Friday, April 12

- 12:00 P.M. *Sube y Baja*  
- 6:00 P.M. *SMALL BITES*  
- 7:00 P.M. *Beauregard at Manassas*
- 7:00 P.M. *A Bridge to the Promised Land: 1968*
- 7:30 P.M. *GRINDHOUSE*
- 7:30 P.M. *Hexen*
- 7:30 P.M. *Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 7:30 P.M. *Six String Showdown: A Prelude to Elijah & The Sacred Song* 
- 9:00 P.M. *GRINDHOUSE*

Saturday, April 13

- 12:00 P.M. *Finding BigFoot*  
- 12:00 P.M. *Floating Naked with Piranbas (How I Learned to Love Working at Amazon)*  
- 2:00 P.M. *An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women*
- 2:00 P.M. *Have Yourself a Murder-y Little Christmas*  
- 2:00 P.M. *TheTnTGamer*
- 3:00 P.M. *A Bridge to the Promised Land: 1968*
- 3:00 P.M. *The Mural*
- 3:15 P.M. *Anne Zander is MOTHER*
- 5:00 P.M. *Exhale*
- 7:00 P.M. *Beauregard at Manassas*

- 7:00 P.M. *A Bridge to the Promised Land: 1968*
- 7:00 P.M. *An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women*
- 7:30 P.M. *Hexen*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Last Lost Canada Goose*
- 7:30 P.M. *Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 7:30 P.M. *Six String Showdown: A Prelude to Elijah & The Sacred Song* 
- 9:00 P.M. *GRINDHOUSE*
- 10:30 P.M. *Blue Girl and the Burning Bushes*

Sunday, April 14

- 12:00 P.M. *Finding Wild*  
- 2:00 P.M. *Beauregard at Manassas*
- 2:00 P.M. *A Bridge to the Promised Land: 1968*
- 2:00 P.M. *An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women*
- 2:00 P.M. *The Mall! The Musical!* 
- 2:00 P.M. *TheTnTGamer*
- 3:00 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 3:15 P.M. *Anne Zander is MOTHER*
- 4:00 P.M. *Freedom: The Untold Story of Moses*
- 5:00 P.M. *Write.Voice.Play! A Play/Write Showcase of Original Student One-Acts*  
- 6:30 P.M. *Blue Girl and the Burning Bushes*
- 7:00 P.M. *Sam's 21st* 
- 7:30 P.M. *Exhale*
- 7:30 P.M. *Extraordinary People*
- 7:30 P.M. *GRINDHOUSE*

- 7:30 P.M. *Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton*

Monday, April 15

- 7:00 P.M. *Have fun kids*
- 7:00 P.M. *Young Playwrights Festival* 
- 7:30 P.M. *Life at the Edges AND WILD/CAUGHT*  
- 7:30 P.M. *Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)*
- 8:30 P.M. *Lesbian Pageant*

Tuesday, April 16

- 7:00 P.M. *Geographies of Oppression: Six stories by Mario Benedetti*
- 7:00 P.M. *Lesbian Pageant* 
- 7:30 P.M. *Bread and Roses*  
- 7:30 P.M. *The Last Lost Canada Goose*
- 7:30 P.M. *Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)*
- 7:30 P.M. *Waiting 4, 2 Blow WITH Whose Lion is it Anyway AND Underlings*
- 8:30 P.M. *Have fun kids* 

Wednesday, April 17

- 12:00 P.M. *Penance*  
- 2:00 P.M. *Waiting 4, 2 Blow WITH Whose Lion is it Anyway AND Underlings*
- 5:00 P.M. *PULL*  
- 5:30 P.M. *Far From Home* 
- 7:00 P.M. *The Long Haul*
- 7:00 P.M. *Twista Fate* 
- 7:30 P.M. *Extraordinary People*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Government Agent*
- 7:30 P.M. *Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)*

Thursday, April 18

- 12:00 P.M. *Strange Birds*  
- 5:00 P.M. *An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women*
- 5:30 P.M. *Joan in the Desert* 
- 7:00 P.M. *Beaten Up By A Girl AND maybeland*
- 7:00 P.M. *empty spaces* 
- 7:00 P.M. *The Long Haul*
- 7:30 P.M. *Bone Sorrow: The Elder Tree, Cleave, and A Circle of Stones*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Last Lost Canada Goose*
- 7:30 P.M. *Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 7:30 P.M. *True Life - A Shooter's Story* 

Friday, April 19

- 12:00 P.M. *CESSAIR: How Ireland was Born*  
- 12:30 P.M. *Far From Home* 
- 2:30 P.M. *Faena* 
- 5:00 P.M. *An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women*
- 5:30 P.M. *B&B Industry Mixer* 
- 5:30 P.M. *R UN* 
- 7:00 P.M. *Beaten Up By A Girl AND maybeland*
- 7:00 P.M. *Beauregard at Manassas*
- 7:00 P.M. *Heaven and Hollywood* 
- 7:00 P.M. *un/seen*
- 7:30 P.M. *Bad Ass Japanese Pimp WITH Whose Lion is it Anyway AND Underlings* 
- 7:30 P.M. *An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Last Lost Canada Goose*

- 7:30 P.M. *Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton*
- 7:30 P.M. *Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 7:30 P.M. *Rhythm & Autism* 

Saturday, April 20

- 12:00 P.M. *The Alchemy of Steam*  
- 12:30 P.M. *Epic Shorts: Strange Burdens*
- 2:00 P.M. *Geographies of Oppression: Six stories by Mario Benedetti*
- 2:00 P.M. *The Golden Thread* 
- 2:00 P.M. *Ten-Minute Tapestry: AAPI Writers' Showcase*  
- 2:00 P.M. *TheTnTGamer*
- 2:00 P.M. *un/seen*
- 2:30 P.M. *The Government Agent*
- 3:00 P.M. *Beaten Up By A Girl AND maybeland*
- 3:00 P.M. *The Mural*
- 3:15 P.M. *Anne Zander is MOTHER*
- 4:00 P.M./5:00 P.M. *Portland Eurhythmy presents Earth: This Being Human* 
- 5:00 P.M. *MERRY XMAS & A HAPPY NEW QUEER*  
- 5:00 P.M. *un/seen*
- 5:30 P.M. *Far From Home*
- 7:00 P.M. *Beaten Up By A Girl AND maybeland*
- 7:00 P.M. *Beauregard at Manassas*
- 7:30 P.M. *Epic Shorts: Strange Burdens*
- 7:30 P.M. *The Last Lost Canada Goose*
- 7:30 P.M. *Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton*
- 7:30 P.M. *Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)*

- 7:30 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 7:30 P.M. *SKINSHOW* 
- 8:00 P.M. *Blue Girl and the Burning Bushes*

Sunday, April 21

- 12:00 P.M. *The Masked Villain of Selfwood* 
- 12:30 P.M. *Bone Sorrow: The Elder Tree, Cleave, and A Circle of Stones*
- 1:00 P.M./2:00 P.M. *Portland Eurhythmy presents Earth: This Being Human*
- 2:00 P.M. *Beauregard at Manassas*
- 2:00 P.M. *Starstruck: a musical journey through time with Judy Garland & Frances Farmer*
- 2:00 P.M. *TheTnTGamer*
- 2:30 P.M. *Pack Up your Sins and Go to the Devil - PART I* 
- 3:00 P.M. *The Ballad of Johnny Rose* 
- 3:00 P.M. *Beaten Up By A Girl AND maybeland*
- 3:00 P.M. *The Play About My Father*
- 3:15 P.M. *Anne Zander is MOTHER*
- 4:00 P.M. *Freedom: The Untold Story of Moses*
- 4:00 P.M. *Pack Up your Sins and Go to the Devil - PART II* 
- 5:00 P.M. *REMOTE AND WHITE NOISE*  
- 5:30 P.M. *That Abortion Play WITH Tru Adoration* 
- 6:30 P.M. *Blue Girl and the Burning Bushes*
- 7:00 P.M. *Starstruck: a musical journey through time with Judy Garland & Frances Farmer*
- 7:30 P.M. *Faena* 
- 7:30 P.M. *Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton*



NORTH/NORTHEAST



Amber Ball

Finding BigFoot

Barbie's Village (935 NE 33rd Ave, Portland, OR 97232)

April 13, 12 p.m.

Finding BigFoot is a coming of age story following a band of cuzzins' journey to their traditional homelands in Southern, Oregon. Fueled by joy, intergenerational trauma and energy drinks, this band of cuzzins traverse time, familial wounds... and BigFoot?? Originally ideated within the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde's Indigenous Plackeeping Fellowship,



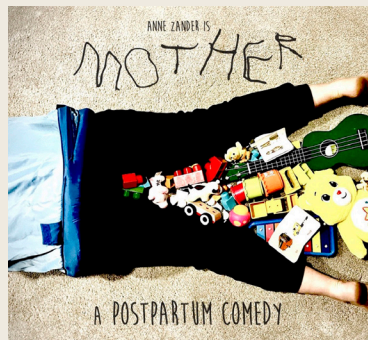
Le Why Not Productions

TheTnTGamer

Curious Comedy Annex (5225 NE MLK Blvd, Portland, OR 97211)

April 13, 14, 20 & 21, 2 p.m.
(Doors at 1:45 p.m.)

Annabelle Wright is: software engineer by day, comedian/clown/circus artist by night, and once upon a time... *TheTnTGamer*! Before she became the fabulous woman she is today, Annabelle was a pre-teen boy with a YouTube channel and a simple dream: to be famous.



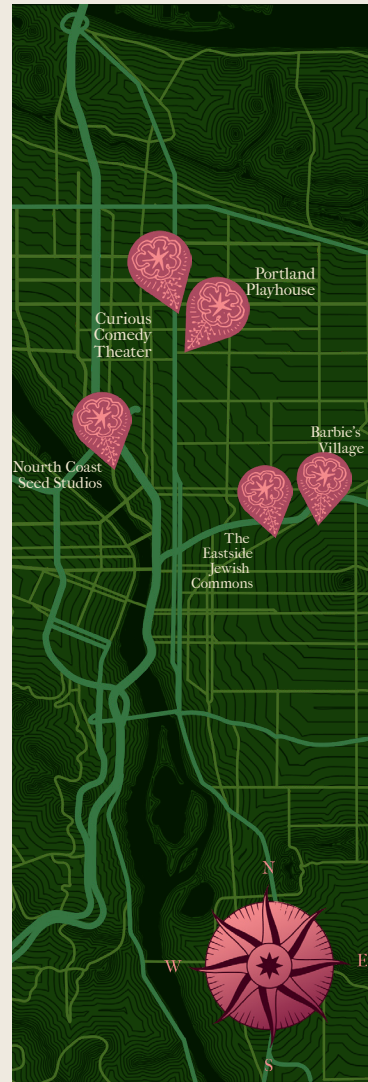
Le Why Not Productions

Anne Zander is MOTHER

Curious Comedy Annex (5225 NE MLK Blvd, Portland, OR 97211)

April 13, 14, 20 & 21, 3:15 p.m. (Doors at 3 p.m.)

Enter the afterbirth at *Anne Zander is MOTHER*, a postpartum comedy! Imbued with Zander's "completely ridiculous... completely vulnerable" comedy (BroadwayWorld), this solo show is clown, character, truth and fantasy, all rolled into one woman, dancing to the beat of her own breast pumps.



Chari Smith

A Concert of Songs from Freedom: The Untold Story of Moses

Eastside Jewish Commons (2420 NE Sandy Blvd, Portland OR 97232)

April 14 & 21, 4 p.m.

This rousing rock musical revitalizes the iconic story of the prophet Moses and illuminates the experiences of those around him — from his mother's heart-wrenching sacrifice to an aspiring Pharaoh's arrogant ambitions. This world-premiere concert performance features a selection of songs that will take you on a journey of love, loss, and liberation.



Portland Action Theater & <Something Calico>

The Last Lost Canada Goose

North Coast Seed Studios (2127 N. Albina Ave, #211, Portland OR 97227)

April 13, 16, 18, 19 & 20, 7:30 p.m.

The Last Lost Canada Goose searches for illumination within the unknown. Come explore the surprisingly essential question, "What happens when you are inspired by the lonely plight of the last lost Canada goose?" Featuring original live music and unexpected spotlights.



Randi Douglas

An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women

Portland Playhouse Studio (602 NE Prescott St, Portland, OR 97211)

April 13, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m. | April 14, 2 p.m.

See p.20 for additional dates and location.

Dive into democracy and journey through the 70-year campaign for women's right to vote. Meet leaders and connect with ideals, arguments, strategies, pitfalls, triumphs, and songs. This documentary script offers lively and experimental opportunities for voluntary audience participation. Created by Randi Douglas using the British system of "Process Drama."



Melissa Marsland

Geographies of Oppression: 6 stories by Mario Benedetti

Portland Playhouse (602 NE Prescott St, Portland, OR 97211)

April 16, 7 p.m. | April 20, 2 p.m.

Geographies of Oppression premieres stories by Mario Benedetti adapted by Melissa Marsland as a staged reading. His stories tackle repression, torture and exile. In 1973, a military dictatorship seized power in Uruguay. Benedetti managed to leave, living in exile until 1985. Benedetti's sense of humor, lively dialogue and surprising angles make his dark subject poignant and gut wrenching.

SELLWOOD, MILWAUKIE, LAKE OSWEGO



Rogue Pack

Six String Showdown: A Prelude to Elijah & The Sacred Song

Moreland Presbyterian Church (1814 SE Bybee Blvd, Portland, OR 97202)

April 12 & 13, 7:30 p.m.

Discover the combined might of metal music, martial arts, and fantasy in an epic rock musical adventure for kids and families.



Portland Eurythmy Presents

Earth: This Being Human

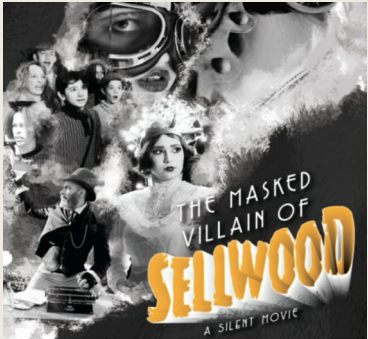
Portland Eurythmy

Earth: This Being Human

Portland Waldorf School (2300 SE Harrison St, Milwaukie, OR 97222)

April 20, 4 p.m. (workshop), 5 p.m. (show) |
April 21, 1 p.m. (workshop), 2 p.m. (show)

Portland Eurythmy creates performances through a gestural language that brings a living expression to sound and tone. *Earth: This Being Human* takes us on a poetic and musical journey that opens up worlds of tenderness, connection, and wonder.



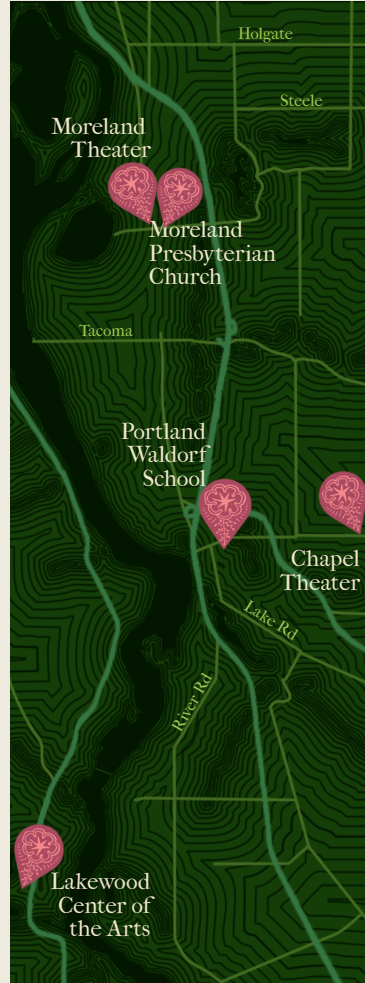
Rogue Pack

The Masked Villain of Sellwood

The Moreland Theatre (6712 SE Milwaukie Ave, Portland, OR 97202)

April 21, 12 p.m. (noon)

Diving into Hollywood nostalgia, Charlie Chaplin-style, *The Masked Villain of Sellwood* is a black and white silent movie about a genius boy whose broken home leads him to search for a mother's affection. Can he be redeemed and discover acceptance and love?



Lakewood Theatre Company presents...

Lakewood Center for the Arts (368 S. State St, Lake Oswego, OR, 97034)

The Mall! The Musical!

Book & Lyrics by Rachael Himself, Music by Lisa Ritchel & Vahan Papakhian

April 14, 2 p.m.

It's 1999 at a totally tubular mall, where tensions are mounting all around. Will smoothies, friendship, pretzels and puppies be enough to bring this mall community together?

Young Playwrights Festival

April 15, 7 p.m.

A collection of one act plays by outstanding high school playwrights.

Twista Fate

April 17, 7 p.m.

Sisterhood, a love triangle, coming of age, and coming home.

Heaven and Hollywood

April 19, 7 p.m.

Noel Coward visits Oscar Wilde in heaven. An Army Intelligence agent, is tasked by the FBI to flesh out Hollywood communists. A spirited Katharine Hepburn fights back.

The Golden Thread

April 20, 2 p.m.

After the events of *The Miracle Worker*, Helen Keller and Annie Sullivan take on the challenge of an Ivy League education.

Starstruck: a musical journey through time with Judy Garland & Frances Farmer

Book, Music, Lyrics by Jeffrey Michael Kauffman

April 21, 2 p.m. & 7 p.m.

A musical based on a real-life meeting of the two stars in Indianapolis in 1967.



APRIL 14 - 21, 2024:

Sponsored by:

City of Lake Oswego
David B. & Jean Avison
Lakewood Center Associates

Single Tickets: \$10 - \$15

The Mall! The Musical!

Sunday, April 14, @2:00 pm

Young Playwrights Festival

Monday, April 15, @7:00 pm

Twista Fate

Wednesday, April 17, @7:00 pm

Heaven and Hollywood

Friday, April 19, @ 7:00 pm

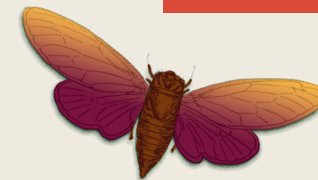
The Golden Thread

Saturday, April 20, @2:00 pm

Starstruck: a musical journey through time with Judy Garland and Frances Farmer

Sunday, April 21, @2:00pm & 7:00 pm

368 S. State Street, Lake Oswego Box Office: 503.635.3901 www.lakewood-center.org



PDX Playwrights Presents: "The Festival Within the Festival"

Chapel Theatre (4107 SE Harrison St, Milwaukie, OR 97222)

Waiting 4 2 Blow WITH Whose Lion is it Anyway? AND Underlings

by Bill Lynch, Brad Bolchunos

April 16, 7:30 p.m. | April 17, 2 p.m.

A tantalizing trio of short works by two adventuresome playwrights. We enter the worlds of a tamer of a teenage circus lion, the holding cell of arch villain trainees confronting their career choices, and a feisty owner of a mountain lodge who refuses to leave his home despite dire volcano warnings.

Far from Home by Olga Kravtsova, Julia Rahmanzaei

April 17, 5:30 p.m. | April 19, 12:30 p.m. | April 20, 5:30 p.m.

Far From Home is an attempt to depict two stories: the story of a young woman who immigrated to the US as she faced a ban on acting in her home country, Iran; and the story of an immigrant man preparing all his life for the American Dream, and ultimately surrendering to destiny, as told by his daughter.

The Government Agent by Adam Harrell

April 17, 7:30 p.m. | April 20, 2:30 p.m.

Ted Wyatt's criminal reign as mayor is thrown into peril when an undercover government agent shows up in his small town of Crystal Canyon, U.S.A. Based on *The Inspector General* by Nikolai Gogol.

Joan in the Desert by Louise Wynn

April 18, 5:30 p.m.

Joan of Arc appears in the Arizona desert, is found by some do-gooders, and gets a job in a bowling alley. But then the mob finds her, and then the medical professionals, and then the long arm of the law.

Bone Sorrow: The Elder Tree, Cleave & A Circle of Stones

A Trio of Surrealist Dramas by Nina Monique Kelly

April 18, 7:30 p.m. | April 21, 12:30 p.m.

Surrealist playwright and ghost whisperer Nina Monique Kelly of "Whisper Skin Theatre" presents her newest raw and original works!

Faena by Dylan Hankins

produced in association with CoHo Theatre

April 19, 2:30 p.m. | April 21, 7:30 p.m.

The story of an arrogant matador and a murderous bull brings into question not only the hotly-debated topic of bullfighting, but also the ethics of veganism, murder, capitalism, activism, fame, and sex.

RUN by Alisha Christiansen

April 19, 5:30 p.m.

A college track star's changing experiences with a new acquaintance ripple into the lives of the people surrounding her.

Content Advisory for this Staged Reading: Scenes of Intimate Partner Violence.

Bad Ass Japanese Pimp WITH Whose Lion is it Anyway? AND Underlings

by Rob Katsuno, Brad Bolchunos

April 19, 7:30 p.m.

Marital tension escalates until an explosive crisis. Can Rob discover the key to navigating stressful situations and getting his life on track? Plus, two offbeat comedies by Brad Bolchunos.

Pack Up Your Sins & Go to the Devil by Timothy Krause

PART I: April 21, 2:30 p.m. | PART II: April 21, 4 p.m.

Heavenly voices lead to hellish choices when Frank, a vaudeville producer, strikes a Faustian deal to save his theater by casting Helen, a fallen angel seeking a comeback, and three aspiring performers, Harry, Jack, and Will. However, Helen's manipulative ways and selfish desires lead the whole gang straight to Hades.

Epic Shorts: Strange Burdens

directed by Alisha Christiansen

April 20, 12:30 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

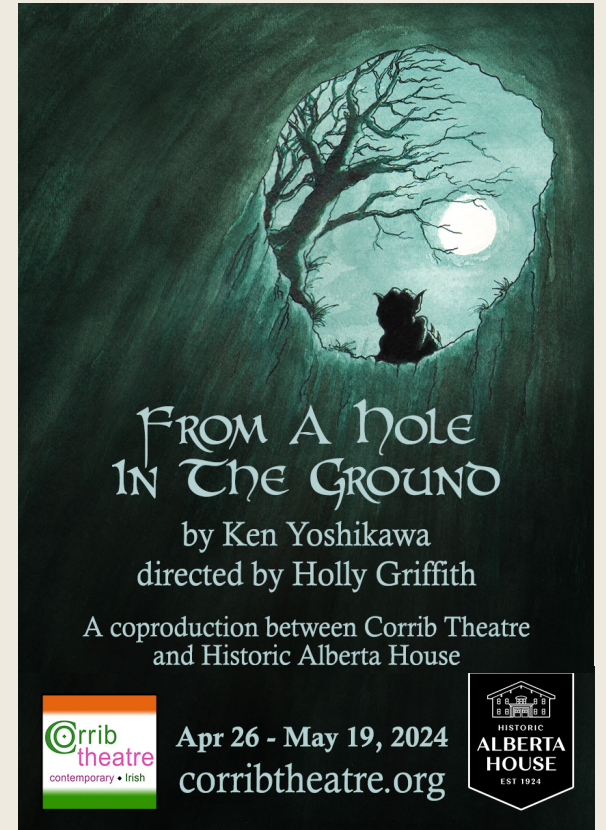
With each play short in time but bound to be epic in creative scope, PDX Playwrights proudly presents one of our most popular annual shows, a full production of 10-minute plays selected in a blinded jury process. We look forward to the magic inspired by this year's theme, "Strange Burdens."

That Abortion Play AND Tru Adoration

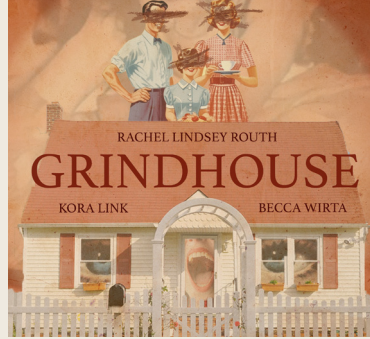
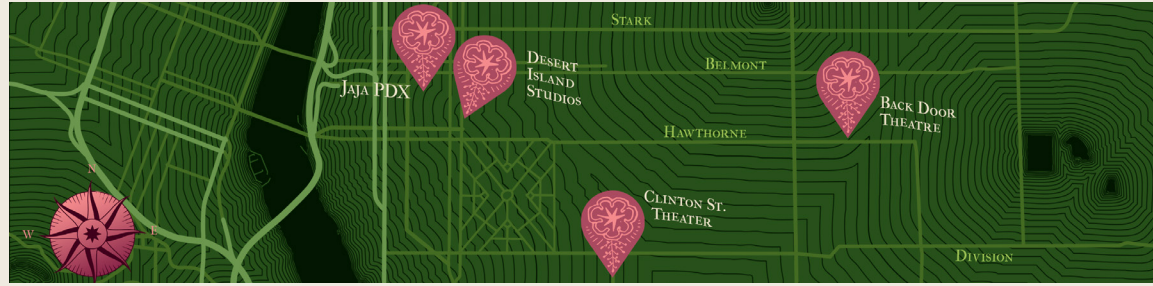
by Tamar Bolkvadze, Katie Bennett

April 21, 5:30 p.m.

A dynamic duet of short works by two provocative playwrights. Volunteers at a local abortion clinic are instructed to not engage with protesters, but Eliana takes a different approach. Young Alexandra Bow and Jerry Cosmo struggle to understand love, dance and physics with the help of their quirky teacher, Tru Adoré.



SOUTHEAST



Basement Stair Collective

GRINDHOUSE

“The Mansion” (address will be shared upon ticket purchase)
April 12, 7:30 p.m., 9 p.m. | April 13, 9 p.m. | April 14, 7:30 p.m.

From the creative minds of Basement Stair Collective (Rachel Lindsey Routh, Kora Link, Becca Wirta, and Claire Elizabeth Aldridge) comes *GRINDHOUSE*, an original site-specific performance. Set in a tucked away mansion, come explore the societal roles we perform and are trapped within through immersive design, heightened repetition, and grotesque movement.



DConstruction Arts & JaJaPDX

Hexen

JaJaPDX Circus (819 SE Taylor St, Portland OR 97214)
April 12 & 13, 7 p.m. (doors), 7:30 p.m. (show)

Told through song, audience interaction and aerial dance, Drea Weber’s solo show, *Hexen*, weaves the narratives of three women representing witch archetypes. Part historical account, ancestral legacy and imaginative fancy, *Hexen* explores the demonization of women, the power of reclaiming ancestry and the celebration of the mystical. Original music by Weber with recordings of Mahler and Dvorak sung by Jenny Trier.



Fuse Theatre Ensemble

The Play About My Father

The Back Door Theatre (4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd. Portland, OR 97215)
April 12, 13, 18, 19 & 20, 7:30 p.m. | April 14 & 21, 3 p.m.

The Play About My Father created and performed by Kate Mura, is a theatrical “thank you” to the New Jersey community who rallied around her family after her father’s freak accident. This tale of (seemingly- too-rare) compassion and kindness features physical storytelling, corporeal mime, improv and a magic skirt!



Alison Wesley

The Mural

The Back Door Theatre (4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97215)
April 13 & 20, 3 p.m.

After her mural is defaced, a struggling restaurant owner is forced to find fierceness in herself by demanding consequences and threatening the vandal to face her, with her community by her side. Written by Alison Wesley, Directed by Jon Garcia.



Eliza Jane Schneider & JaJaPDX

Blue Girl and the Burning Bushes

JaJaPDX Circus (819 SE Taylor St, Portland OR 97214)
April 13, 10:30 p.m. | April 14 & 21, 6:30 p.m. | April 20, 8 p.m.

A staged reading of a science-fiction circus rave opera, delving into themes of the return of the goddess, the climate crisis, and collective transcendence. Bear witness to the beginning of Blue Girl’s journey, celebrating the divine feminine across cultures, manifested in song, story, outsider circus art, and fire dance.

April 14 & 21 performances are all-ages.



Duncan Kass & Niels Truman

Sam's 21st

Clinton Street Theater (2522 SE Clinton St, Portland, OR 97202)
April 14, 7 p.m.

A staged reading of a brand new musical. On the night of her 21st birthday party, Sam is excited by the promised attendance of Sophie, the high school crush that she never got over. But as the party gets going, an unexpected surprise leads her down a path of revenge.



MediaRites & Sandra de Helen

Extraordinary People

The Back Door Theatre (4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97215)
April 14 & 17, 7:30 p.m.

Four sets of conjoined twins reunite at a funeral. One set is dead, two sets are separated, one set remained forever joined. Talk about forced relationships! We will. And we will laugh. Not at disability, but at the fact we are still struggling with self-identity in our golden years.



Convection Productions

Have fun kids

The Back Door Theatre (4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97215)

April 15, 7 p.m. | April 16, 8:30 p.m.

When Laura lost her best friend, Jordan, weeks before the world shut down in January of 2020, she wasn't sure how she would cope. Discovering Jordan left over 700 pages of plays and live arts scripts, she did the only thing she knew, create his last show.



Convection Productions

Lesbian Pageant

The Back Door Theatre (4319 SE Hawthorne Blvd, Portland, OR 97215)

April 15, 8:30 p.m. | April 16, 7 p.m.

Can a pageant you've never seen cancel out the movies you've seen a million times before? Look beyond the stereotypes to the fairy tales, legends, and dreams you didn't know could be yours. And maybe find your own swagger while you're at it. Conceived by Amy Driesler and Virginia Baeta.



Theatre Diaspora

Ten-Minute Tapestry: AAPI Writers' Showcase

Desert Island Studios (1316 Southeast 12th Ave, Portland, OR 97214)

April 20, 2 p.m.

Featuring short plays celebrating diverse identities of Asian American writers. Enhanced by a visual arts tapestry created by local AAPI community members, the project transcends storytelling boundaries, offering a rich tapestry of narratives exploring the depth and diversity of the Asian American experience in less than ten minutes per piece.



Basement Stair Collective

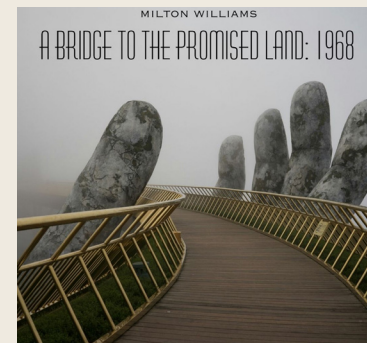
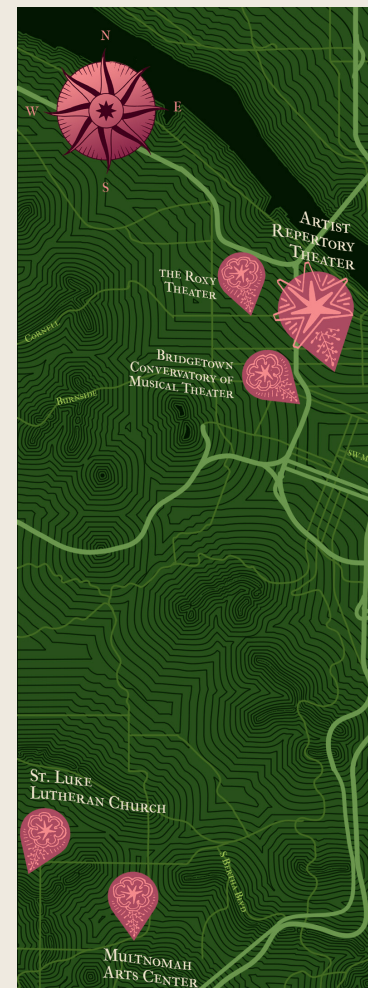
SKINSHOW: Risen from the Grave...Emerging from the Depths...Crawling, Creeping Horrors...Hell Bent on Freedom at Any Cost!

Clinton Street Theater (2522 SE Clinton St, Portland, OR 97202)

April 20, 7:30 p.m.

Who are you when nobody's watching? A normal night of work for two horrific performers spirals into a fever dream of self-scrutiny, self-expression, and sapphic yearning in this unflinching original performance inspired by B-Movie monsters.

NORTHWEST/SOUTHWEST/DOWNTOWN



Douglas Webster

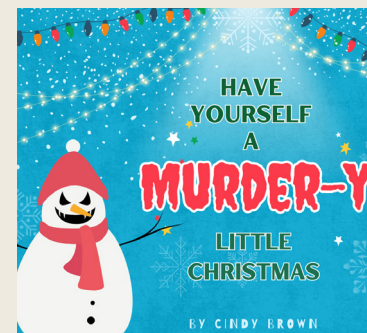
A Bridge to the Promised Land: 1968

Bridgetown Conservatory of Musical Theatre (711 SW 14th Ave, Portland, OR 97205)

April 12, 7 p.m. | April 13, 3 p.m., 7 p.m. | April 14, 2 p.m.

When does one achieve enough to finally stop climbing and 'make a stand'? Does attaining a goal justify

selling your soul? And who do you trust to keep you honest? *A Bridge to the Promised Land: 1968* unites a young music professor with a Black politician and his daughter in grappling with these challenges.



Cindy Brown

Have Yourself a Murder-y Little Christmas

St. Luke Lutheran Church (4595 SW California St, Portland, OR 97219)

April 13, 2 p.m.

The Office meets *Only Murders In the Building* -with Santa! When the small but mightily dysfunctional team at Acme Good Goods Co. throws a murder mystery party for

their annual holiday bash, no one expects a real corpse. Or do they? Performed by the fabulous folks from the Tesla City Stories, this production also includes a Page to Stage program at Garden Home Community Library. (PG-13)



Jerilyn Armstrong

Exhale

Artists Repertory Theatre (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland, OR 97205)

April 13, 5 p.m. | April 14, 7:30 p.m.

A staged reading of the new, semi-autobiographical play *Exhale*. A bold and radical coming of age story about letting go, self-acceptance, and finding hope in a hopeless situation. Written by Jerilyn Armstrong and directed by Hailey Henderson.

OFFICIAL VENUE: ARTISTS REPERTORY THEATRE

Fertile Ground is excited to engage in its first ever Venue Partnership in the 2024 Festival, joining forces with Artists Repertory Theatre. FG and ART collaborated on the schedule of events in the ART lobby space, venue staffing, Festival promotion, and providing increased access through reduced rental rates for Producers. Many thanks to Melory Mirashrafi and the whole ART team for bringing their years-long support of the Festival into this partnership!



LineStorm Playwrights Present

Artists Repertory Theatre (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland, OR 97205)

Sube y Baja by Francisco Garcia 🌸👤

April 12, 12 p.m.

Sube y Baja is inspired by true events, when three pink teeter-totters were placed on the US/Mexican border wall and deals with two children from opposite countries, who come together for a brief moment and share in the joy, excitement, and heartbreak of riding a simple playground toy.

SMALL BITES: 10-Minute Plays 🌸👤

April 12, 6 p.m.

Swing by for a quick bite of five sweet and savory plays by LineStorm Playwrights members Brianna Barrett, Heath Hyun Houghton, Holly Richards, Lolly Ward, and Ken Yoshikawa.

Floating Naked with Piranhas (How I Learned to Love Working at Amazon) by Rich Rubin 🌸👤

April 13, 12 p.m.

Over the course of several months, a recently hired worker at an Amazon warehouse learns more and more about his new employer and its relentless, data-driven culture -- as well as more and more about himself.

Finding Wild by Susan Faust 🌸👤

April 14, 12 p.m.

An aristocratic scientist, a 200-pound wild boar, an adversarial photographer, and a terrorist raven live in a rustic forester's lodge in Poland - who will survive? Inspired by the life of Simona Kossak, this story is about finding one's place in the world.

Bread & Roses by Timothy Krause 🌸👤

April 16, 7:30 p.m.

In 1912 Lawrence, Massachusetts, Ellen, a mill worker, plans to marry Joseph, a manager. When Joseph implements pay cuts, overworked employees strike. Accusations of arson and infidelity arise, leading workers to determine which battles are worth fighting. Winner of Portland Civic Theatre Guild's 2024 New Play Award.

Penance by Matthew Miller 🌸👤

April 17, 12 p.m.

A new play about contrition, confession and absolution.

PULL by Sara Jean Accuardi 🌸👤

April 17, 5 p.m.

In a gun safety training program designed for educators who are considering arming themselves in the classroom, a group of school teachers find themselves grappling with hard questions.

Strange Birds by E.M. Lewis 🌸👤

April 18, 12 p.m.

In a remote mountain cabin, five women reckon with dark forces in this fierce and funny feminist thriller. *Strange Birds* is about women, and wolves, and sisters, and secrets. What do we owe to the systems that oppress us? And how do you escape something that you carry inside you?

Cessair: How Ireland Was Born by Holly Richards & Lolly Ward 🌸👤

April 19, 12 p.m.

When Noah tells his granddaughter that there's no room for her on the ark, Cessair sets sail with 39 women and 1 man, braving the flood to build a new home on the Emerald Isle. Act I of a magical new musical by Holly Richards and Lolly Ward.

The Alchemy of Steam by Josie Seid 🌸👤

April 20, 12 p.m.

When a brilliant young woman plagued by nightmares insists she is a mermaid, she is taken into the care of a psychologist who begins to doubt her own hold on reality as she embraces the possibility of fully trusting her patient.

REMOTE AND WHITE NOISE by Sofia Molimbi, Audrey Block 🌸👤

April 21, 5 p.m.

REMOTE: A remote cabin in the woods, a catastrophic storm, and... YOU ARE STUCK. What's easier to escape, your family or climate change?

WHITE NOISE: On a 35-minute flight over glorious ocean beaches, two travelers discuss the power of faith, plus what you must know to earn a PhD in Demonology.



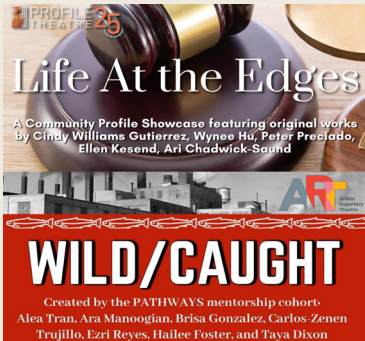
PlayWrite, Inc.

Write.Voice.Play! A PlayWrite Showcase of Original Student One-Acts

Artists Repertory Theatre (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland OR 97205)

April 14, 5 p.m.

When youth at-risk are challenged to write and direct their own short plays, surprising stories of trauma, tenderness, wisdom, and wit erupt onto the stage. An evening of student-created one-acts performed by some of Portland's finest actors.



Profile Theatre & Artists Repertory Theatre

Life at the Edges AND WILD/CAUGHT

Artists Repertory Theatre (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland OR 97205)

April 15, 7:30 p.m.

Community Profile presents "Life at the Edges," a collection of 10-minute plays ranging from the existential to the extra-terrestrial. PATHWAYS presents a first reading of *WILD/CAUGHT*—illuminating how the multi-generational relationships between immigrant women factory workers turn assembly lines into raging currents of revolution.



John Edward Armour & Rick Saddle

The Long Haul

Bridgetown Conservatory of Musical Theatre (The Tiffany Center, 711 SW 14th Ave, Portland OR 97205)

April 17 & 18, 7 p.m.

Staged Reading: A minor car crash hits a 40 year marriage with a bang, exposing bumps old and new. Roger, his wife Della and their friend Eddie try to repair the car and the marriage, but well meaning people can't always solve a problem easily. Sparks fly!



Randi Douglas

An Equal Voice: The Story of Votes for Women

Artists Repertory Theater (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland, OR 97205)

April 18, 5 p.m. | April 19, 5 p.m. & 7:30 p.m.

See p.9 for additional dates and location

Dive into democracy and journey through the 70-year campaign for women's right to vote. Meet leaders and connect with ideals, arguments, strategies, pitfalls, triumphs, and songs. This documentary script offers lively and experimental opportunities for voluntary audience participation. Created by Randi Douglas using the British system of "Process Drama."



Samm Hill

Beaten Up by a Girl AND maybeland

The Roxy Theater (1953 NW Kearney St. Portland, OR 97209)

April 18, 19 & 20, 7 p.m. | April 20 & 21, 3 p.m.

Beaten Up By A Girl: It's the 80's and you're the least popular boy in school but it can only get worse when the least popular girl tells everyone you're going to the Fall Fun Fantasia together.

In *maybeland*, a semi-malevolent Overseer conducts a modern family through their lives but begins to exact punishment on them when they attempt to change the script.



David Fuks

True Life – A Shooter's Story

Artists Repertory Theatre (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland, OR 97205)

April 18, 7:30 p.m.

True Life - A Shooter's Story is inspired by Portland psychologist Dr. Orin Bolstad who created an intervention program for imprisoned young men. Winter, who has suffered abuse, becomes incorrigible and ultimately commits an atrocity. His counselor Rachel helps him face a reckoning. Sarah Lucht directs and plays Rachel. Talkback follows.



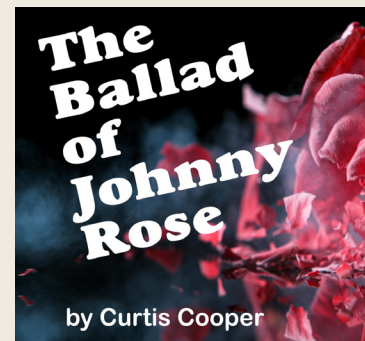
Meg Schenk & Melory Mirashrafi

MERRY XMAS & A HAPPY NEW QUEER

Artists Repertory Theatre (1515 SW Morrison St, Portland, OR 97205)

April 20, 5 p.m.

This staged reading begins with a story we've heard a hundred times—turn on the TV in December and you'll see it again and again thanks to a certain greeting card company. But what happens when a queer couple disrupts that story? Turns out, it's more horror than familiar holiday romcom.



Curtis Cooper

The Ballad of Johnny Rose

Multnomah Arts Center (7688 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland, OR 97219)

April 21, 3 p.m.

The Ballad of Johnny Rose is a spiritual rock opera with a nine-piece band and twelve singers. This tale of transcendence begins with Johnny's return home destitute. Then, as if friends and family aren't enough trouble, when Johnny's world meets the spirit world, all hell breaks loose. Will he find redemption? Will Johnny succumb to peer pressure?



rockcitysea
un/seen

Resound NW (31532 SW Jefferson St, Portland, OR 97201)
April 19, 7 p.m. | April 20, 2 p.m. & 5 p.m.

Told by a single storyteller with a cinematic soundtrack, this innovative piece follows three generations in the wake of a fictional pandemic and weaves invisible threads of kindred spirits that guide us home. Each performance will be a unique experience, inviting the audience to perceive the magic in the everyday.

BEAVERTON/HILLSBORO



Bag&Baggage Productions

Beaugard at Manassas

The Vault Theater (350 E Main St, Hillsboro, OR 97123)
April 12, 13, 19, & 20, 7 p.m. | April 14 & 21, 2 p.m.

After her estranged father's death, Caroline receives his most prized possession in the mail; an important, and potentially valuable, painting of a Civil War-era battle called "Beaugard at Manassas." Soon, everything Caroline believed – about her father, her family, her heritage and American history – is thrown into chaos. Written by Scott Palmer.

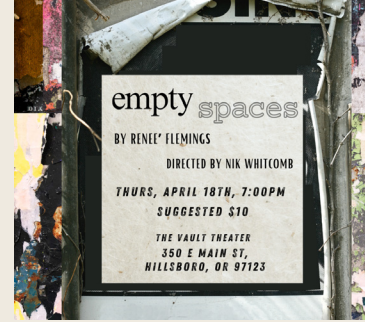


Spark Plug Theatre Collective

Looking for Light: A Collection of Plays by James Van Eaton

Ki Coffee (4655 SW Griffith Dr #160, Beaverton, OR 97005)
April 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 & 21, 7:30 p.m.

Morality. Abandonment. Immortality. Three stories ask the question: When confronted by darkness, will we become consumed by it, or will we reach toward the light? This trio includes *The Hand of God* directed by Stan Yeend, *Vertical Daylight* directed by Amelia Michaels, and *Infamy Inc.* directed by Amanda Clark.



Bag&Baggage Productions

empty spaces

The Vault Theater (350 E Main St, Hillsboro, OR 97123)
April 18, 7 p.m.

Mara's already complicated life gets turned upside down when her teenage daughter Jazmine goes missing. "empty spaces" explores the ways in which society responds, or doesn't, when a Black woman goes missing. Written by Renee' Flemings.



Bag&Baggage Productions

B&B Fertile Ground Industry Mixer

The Vault Theater (350 E Main St, Hillsboro, OR 97123)
April 19, 5:30 p.m.

Bag&Baggage Productions is excited to invite local artists to an exclusive mixer before a performance of *Beaugard in Manassas* by Scott Palmer! Gather at The Vault Theater to celebrate the exciting work happening around the city and mix and mingle with guest playwright Renee' Flemings!



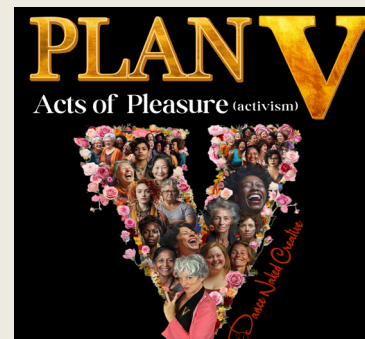
Andee Joyce, Chris Mitchell, & Rachael Himsel/Gutsy Productions

Rhythm & Autism

Walters Cultural Arts Center (527 E. Main St, Hillsboro, OR 97123)
April 19, 7:30 p.m.

Rhythm & Autism is one woman's celebration of difference and an open invitation for everyone to embrace every part of themselves, clapping obsessions included! With this new solo show, singer-songwriter Andee Joyce has created a sensory-friendly, interactive musical that's both a poignant comedy and a rhythmic journey through the past...backwards.

VIRTUAL



Dance Naked Creative

Plan V: Acts of Pleasure (Activism)

Zoom
April 15, 16, 17, 18, 19 & 20, 7:30 p.m.

You are invited to audit a Gathering of Plan V, a 'cult' dedicated to Sacred Yoni Worship. Live on Zoom, hear stories from members (of all genders) about their Pussy Joys (and Pussy Griefs). Help decide which Acts of Pleasure Activism will lead to greater liberation. Welcome to the Vulvalution!



**fertile
ground**

A CITY-WIDE
FESTIVAL
OF NEW WORKS

Save the date for next
year's festival...

**APRIL 10-20,
2025**

Registration for producers
opens this fall

