

JANUARY 30 - FEBRUARY 22, 2025 **SEASON 2025: THRIVE**



THE FUTURE DEMANDS DIFFERENT



THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS



DESTROYING DAVID BY JASON ODELL WILLIAMS

Directed by Evan Michael Woods			
CAST:			
Amanda Nicole Reyes* YOU			

This production runs 80 minutes without an intermission

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Production + Stage Manager	Reagan Fitzgerald*
Scenic + Costume Design	Leah Mazur
Lighting Design	Roma Flowers
Sound Design	Brian Do
Props Design	Rayven Harris
Master Carpenter	Colin Schwartz
Master Electrician	Jamie Milligan

The World Premiere of Destroying David opened on February 1st, 2025 at Circle Theatre in Fort Worth. TX

Executive Director: Tim Long | Artistic Director: Ashley H. White⁺ Directed by Evan Michael Woods, Starring Amanda Nicole Reyes*

^{*}Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors & Stage Managers in the United States (AEA) * Member Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC)

4 ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

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TCC Sign Language Interpretation Program — Trinity River Campus, Theatre Wesleyan, Colin Schwartz, Roald Martinsen, Amphibian Stage, Blackland Distillery

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The Director-Choreographer is a member of the STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY, a national theatrical labor union.



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, represents more than 45,000 actors and stage managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions, providing a wide range of benefits, including health

and pension plans. AEA is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org

Circle Theatre is partially supported by Arts Council of Fort Worth and Tarrant County; The Texas Commission on the Arts, a state agency; and the National Endowment for the Arts, a Federal Agency.









CIRCLE THEATRE

OUR MISSION IS TO CAPTIVATE AND ENGAGE OUR DIVERSE COMMUNITY THROUGH THE ART OF INNOVATIVE LIVE THEATRE.



WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR MISSION

- 1. Tell your friends and family about us and bring them to a show!
- 2. Become a Season Subscriber to Circle Theatre
- 3. Donate at our box office, by calling 817.877.3040 or online at *circletheatre.com*
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FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

To our Patrons, Subscribers, Artists, and Friends,

Welcome to *Destroying David*, the first production of our 2025 season! We're thrilled to present to you this thought-provoking play that explores themes of beauty, resilience, and redemption. It's the perfect start to an exciting year that focuses on Art and its Impacts on Life. Yes, it's official, our **IGNITE** Season has begun!

Looking back on 2024, I am filled with gratitude for our **THRIVE** season. Your support—whether you're a longtime patron or a first-time visitor—has been essential to our success and growth. Thanks to you, we were able to bring bold, innovative work to life in Downtown Fort Worth, and we aren't stopping anytime soon! We wouldn't be able to continue creating such impactful art without the incredible artists and community members like you, and I am thrilled for what is in store in this coming year.

As we look forward to the rest of 2025, we're excited for the season ahead. After *Destroying David*, don't miss *Ain't Misbehavin'* (March 6-22) in our newly renovated Velvet Lounge, followed by *The Hatmaker's Wife* (April 17-May 10), *A Strange Loop* (June 19-July 12), *The Last Five Years* (August 14-September 6), and *Mac Beth* (October 9-November 1). Combine this with amazing plus-up experiences, unique opportunities for engagement, a brand new Artist in Residence, and collaborations with visual artists as we launch our new gallery space... There's no way around it - our 44th season promises to be our biggest yet!

Season tickets are still on sale, and your continued support ensures that we can keep pushing boundaries and delivering fresh, powerful theatre to the vibrant community of Fort Worth. Thank you for being part of this. Together, we are shaping the future of Circle Theatre, and we are deeply grateful for your presence, support, and encouragement—2025 Here We Go!

With heartfelt thanks, Ashley H. White, *Artistic Director*



SEASON 2025 up next...

Welcome to IGNITE: An Examination of How Art Impacts Life, a season in which Circle Theatre delves into the transformative power of creating, and its profound effects on our existence.

Scan for information about each of our 2025 shows!

PECIAL SNGA GEMENT





















SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

Apply the price of your Destroying David ticket to a season ticket package! Visit circletheatre.com



Jason Odell Williams (Playwright) is an Emmy-nominated writer of over a dozen plays, including CHURCH & STATE (Off-Broadway, New World Stages, published by DPS, more than 75 regional productions, Henry Award Winner for Best Play, Off-Broadway Alliance and L.A. Ovation Award Nominee for Best New Play, named one of Huffington Post's Top 10 Theatre Productions of 2016), HANDLE WITH CARE (Off-Broadway, The Westside Theatre, NY Times Critics' Pick, published by DPS, more than 30 regional productions, Theatre Bay Area Award Winner for Best Play), MAKE 'EM LAUGH (more than 20 high school and university productions, published by Uproar Theatrics), ON THE MARKET (JCC CenterStage, Burien Actors Theatre, Williamston Theatre, Theatre Jacksonville, published by Uproar Theatrics), and AMERICA IN ONE ROOM (Florida Studio Theatre, published by TRW Plays).

He's currently developing a new musical called *THE SOUND* (Finalist, Pipeline Arts Foundation; Semi-Finalist, 2025 National Music Theater Conference at the O'Neill Theatre Festival) with his wife and co-book writer, Charlotte Cohn, and composerlyricist Christian Douglas; the musical inspired by true events recently had a 29-hour reading at The Museum of Jewish Heritage's Safra Hall in NYC.

On television, Jason's work as a writer and producer has been seen on Max, Netflix, Nat Geo, the History Channel, and Discovery. Originally from Columbia, Maryland, Jason lives in New York City with his wife and their college-bound daughter – a budding artist, naturally.



Read more about the playwright on our blog!

Destroying David Inspiration + Origin

FROM JASON ODELL WILLIAMS

It was the summer of 2020, still the early days of Covid, and I was feeling – along with a lot of other people – a huge sense of loss, and grief and despair. On top of that, several scheduled productions of my plays had suddenly been canceled around the country and it felt like: *when are people ever going to gather to see a play again?* The idea of theatre felt so frivolous when people were dying and struggling just to survive. And I was thinking, why would I ever write another play, who's going to see it, what's the point of art at all?!

On a totally unrelated track, two years earlier in 2018, I had read an article about how Michelangelo's *David* was in danger of collapsing because of these tiny cracks inside the marble, specifically inside the ankles. And I still had that article on my desk. I had set it aside thinking it was interesting and maybe there was a story there to turn into a play down the line. So while I was feeling this incredible despair and having a sort of existential crisis about being a playwright, I looked at this article again about the 500 year old masterpiece that might be destroyed because of these cracks they can't repair. And I thought... would that be so terrible? Maybe it wasn't meant to last forever anyway. And who cares about art when the world is on fire?

Or maybe... maybe we needed to do everything in our power to protect it and save it because art is not only beautiful, it's vital. **Art is what makes life worth living.** And I sort of went back and forth like that in my head, arguing the pros and cons of David collapsing, and eventually that argument came out in a very short monologue that I wrote.

I asked my wife, Charlotte, to read it out loud for me and tell me if there's anything there. Is this even a play, what is this? She read it. And it remains one of my favorite memories, hearing her read it out loud that first time. It made me realize art is necessary and it helped bring me out of my despair. After she finished reading it she said, yes, there's absolutely something here, keep exploring. The play went through many iterations over the next few months and years. It started as a short twenty-minute monologue, then it became a full-length two person play, then finally a little over 4 years later, the full-length solo play has its world premiere at Circle Theatre!



Evan Michael Woods (**Director**) is a Fort Worth-based multidisciplinary theatre artist. He is thrilled to be back at Circle Theatre after directing *Hundred Days* in their 2024 season. Evan recently directed two world premieres at Amphibian Stage: *Miss Molly* and *The Amazing, Fabulous, and Spectacular Untruths of Juan Garcia.* Last April, Evan received two distinct honors; he was named Fort Worth Magazine's "Fort Worthian," (a monthly editorial that features an influential figure in the city) and received the Bill Garber Young Theatre Artist Award from the Live Theatre League of Tarrant County. His work has been seen at Amphibian Stage, Dallas Theater Center, Stage West Theatre, Trinity Shakespeare Festival, Second Thought Theatre, Undermain Theatre, and more. Evan holds a BFA in Acting from Texas Christian University and is represented by the Kim Dawson Agency. He has been on staff at Amphibian Stage since 2018.



The Director's Note

FROM EVAN MICHAEL WOODS

I don't do well with idle hands-I'm sure my ADHD plays a large part in this facet of my character. I'm generally curious about how things work (technically, mechanically, theoretically, you name it). When presented with a problem, it's hard for me to resist a desire to solve it just out of sheer respect for challenge. I poke around at things (or people) in order to learn more. I'm also a middle child, so any opportunity to please or mend is baked into my very nature.

All this to say, destruction is not in my nature. I'm fairly mild-mannered (probably the middle child thing again) and I tend towards plenty of emotions before I'll move to anger. My nature is to create, not to destroy. Even still, I can't deny that sometimes it feels good to watch something shatter into a million pieces. I can't deny that sometimes inflicting pain feels like the closest thing to retribution. Sometimes destroying feels like taking control.

And when Jason Odell Williams wrestled with these big feelings, he made something about it. He made a play with the help of many generous artists and passionate audience members. And then Circle Theatre found this script and wanted to do something about it.

So. Ashley gave me a call, I talked with Jason, we put an incredible team together, we all wrestled with the sublime nature of humanity, and now we've made something about it. Together. For you. With your presence in that very seat in mind, actually. I hope you feel seen. I hope you laugh. I hope you learn something new! I hope you get retribution.

I'll leave you with two mottos; one I devised in preparation for *Destroying David* rehearsals. The other is attributed to the Stages, a theater company in Houston.

"When your pain asks for destruction in recompense, art offers you something to chisel, tear, burn, or splatter."

"We sit together in the dark to know how to love each other in the light."

"In my work,
I examine
the body as an
object, stripped of
identity. To understand
existence as an embodied
being, we must understand
the fractures of our objects. I am
often consumed with this journey of
understanding."

"consumed", "obsessed", "understanding" — words which speak to the theme of Circle's 2025 season, "Ignite". Viewing shows within the season as an object, Mazur created individual original pieces to be used as publicity. Driven by a desire to understand each narrative driven by creativity, her pieces and lobby mural disassemble each object, examine their fractures, and reform them into a journey of passion- to destroy, remake, question, protest, consume, grieve, celebrate, live—a deep and undying need to light the world on fire.

LEAH MAZUR | *MFA, University of Kansas* | is a multidisciplinary artist whose work engages with conversations surrounding the intersections of trauma, identity, and embodiment. Working primarily in acrylic and graphite, her work explores representations of the feminine form as material, seeking to understand its commodification, and ultimate consumption through expressive large and small-scale studies.

Circle Theatre is so excited to welcome **Leah Mazur** as our 2025 Artist in Residence. Leah is the scenic and costume designer for Destroying David. Additionally, she created the mural in our lobby and created the base art for our 2025 Season Posters. **Imazurfineart.com**

CIRCLE THEATRE | SHOW PAIRINGS Destroying David

31

PLAYWRIGHT TALKBACK Meet the playwright! Jason Odell

Williams will be staying after the show for a Q&A!

after 8:00pm show



FEBRUARY

OPENING NIGHT FESTIVITIES!

- Velvet Lounge Gallery Opening | 6pm
- Happy Hour w/ playwright | 7pm
- Drinks, Desserts & A Dang Good Time after the show!

6:00pm + after 8:00pm show



FEBRUARY

THE ART OF CONVERSATION A Night Cap & Conversation with Public Art Consultant Martha Peters - Free

after 8:00pm show



7

THE ART OF CONVERSATION ASL Night with TCC Student Interpreters

8:00pm



FEBRUARY

THE ART OF PAINTING

Wine Glass Painting with Paint The Town

5:30 - 7:00pm

*advance sign up, admission fee



13

PAL-ENTINE'S DAY

Bring your best pals, Come make friendship bracelets to trade!

7:00pm



FEBRUARY

14

VALENTINES + WHISKEY

To celebrate (or lament), we're having a WHISKEY TASTING featuring Fort Worth's Blackland Whiskey!

*advance sign up, admission fee

6:30 - 7:30pm



HOW ART IMPACTS LIFE | THE ARTISTS SHARE THEIR THOUGHTS & EXPERIENCES WITH PUBLIC ART

PLAYWRIGHT



DIRECTOR



ACTOR



AMANDA NICOLE REYES

HAVE YOU SEEN THE DAVID IN PERSON?







JASON: "Yes! I was 17. I have not seen it in person since, but it feels like yesterday. I can still picture every detail about the statue and the Galleria from that day."

WHAT'S A PIECE OF ART THAT'S MOVED YOU RECENTLY?





A:



AMANDA: "I had the great honor to see the art show 'Reclaiming My World' by artist Armando Sebastian at the FWCAC...There was one piece called 'Deep Ellum Dreaming' that I must have looked at for at least 10 minutes straight..."

IS THERE A PIECE OF ART ETCHED IN YOUR MIND FOREVER?



AMANDA: ""The Two Fridas' by Frida Kahlo. I was lucky enough to catch it in person with my dad when it came to the DMA ... This painting is about conflicting identities and having your heart belong to two different worlds and is one that, as a Mexican American, I have always been drawn to. It has been a work of art that I use as inspiration throughout my life... and will be etched into my mind forever."



EVAN: "Wicked broke my brain for good (sorry) when I first saw the national tour in New Orleans when I was around 12 years old. This is the moment, as Bowen Yang and Matt Rogers of Las Culturistas would say, 'when I knew that culture was for me."



JASON: "There are too many. I love a lot of pieces by Mondrian, Miró, Rothko, and Lichtenstein. But the ones that really stand out (other than the *David!*) are Da Vinci's 'The Last Supper' and a painting at MoMA in NYC that I always spend time basking in when I visit. It's a painting by Barnett Newman from 1951 called 'Vir Heroicus Sublimis' ('Man, Heroic and Sublime'). I think the common theme here is that I'm moved by art that is large and bigger than we are... it somehow puts things in perspective."

Read the full interviews on our blog!



We asked the team behind Destroying David about art that has impacted them in day to day life. Whether that is fine art in a museum, musical performances, to the titular David in Italy - we want to know what pieces have inspired them to keep making art.





AMANDA NICOLE REYES* (YOU) she/her is a Tejana actor and filmmaker based in Fort Worth, Texas. She holds a B.A. in Media Arts from the University of North Texas and an M.F.A. in Directing Narrative Cinema from the Feirstein Graduate School of Cinema in Brooklyn, NY. Amanda has extensive experience in film and television as both an actor and director. Notable acting credits include her role as the title character in the feature film *Marisol*. As a director, her most recent film, *Going Home*, premiered at the Panther City Film Festival and was also featured

at the San Antonio Film Festival. Her work has garnered attention, including an interview with Voyage Dallas Magazine for her acting achievements in Fort Worth theater. Recently signed with Broad Talent Agency in DFW. Her recent theater credits include A Midsummer Night's Dream and Big Love (Hip Pocket Theater), Texas Book of Beats (Arts Fort Worth), and The Visit along with The Amazing, Fabulous, and Spectacular Untruths of Juan Garcia (Amphibian Stage). Amanda is beyond thrilled to make her debut at Circle Theatre and could not be more excited and grateful for the opportunity to portray this absolutely beautiful and resilient role. She would like to thank her parents, brother, husband, and best friend, Tim, for always encouraging her ambitious dreams.







* Member AEA | * Member SDC

18 PRODUCTION TEAM + STAFF

Director + Promo Photographer	Evan Michael Woods
Stage Manager	Reagan Fitzgerald*
Scenic + Costume Designer	Leah Mazur
Lighting Designer	Roma Flowers
Master Electrician	Jamie Milligan
Sound Designer	Brian Do
Props Designer	Rayven Harris
Master Carpenter	Colin Schwartz
Wardrobe	Stella Fitzpatrick
Production Manager	Reagan Fitzgerald*
Scenic Painter	Alicia Blue
Dramaturgy	Dorothy Jolly

REAGAN FITZGERALD* (Stage Manager + Production Manager) Previous work at Circle Theatre includes: The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity (Production Coordinator), Imposter! Hypocrite! Tartuffe! (Production Coordinator), Hundred Days (Asst. Stage Manager), and Water by the Spoonful (Stage Manager Sub). Other Stage Manager credits include: Khan!!! A New Musical (Presented by MusicalWriters.com); Exit, Pursued By A Bear (Texas Wesleyan University); Christmas at the Southern Palace (Six Flags Over Texas with WOW! Entertainment); Orpheus in the Underworld (Oklahoma City University). Other Assistant Stage Manager credits include: Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812 (Theatre Three); High School Musical Theatre Awards (Broadway Dallas); Head Over Heels (Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma). She sends love and thanks to her family, friends, and dog Lemonade!

LEAH MAZUR (Scenic + Costume Design) she/her is a scenographer (scenic/lighting/costume design) and visual artist based in the DFW metroplex. Her research explores the blurring of lines between experiencing and becoming performance, the intersections of interactive installation and performance art, as well as the integration of XR (extended reality) into the performing arts as a means of accessibility and expanded storytelling. Upcoming projects include work with Amphibian Stage, Undermain Theatre, and Dallas Theatre Center. Select national credits include productions at Spinning Tree Theatre, Unicorn Theatre, Kansas Repertory Theatre (Kansas City), Lake Dillon Theatre Company (Colorado), Cape May Stage (New Jersey), Anacostia Playhouse, Scena Theatre (Washington D.C.), Amphibian Stage, Theatre Three, Circle Theatre, & Altar'd Playhouse (DFW). She is currently the head of the Theatre Design & Technology BFA program at the University of Texas at Arlington. www.lmazurdesign.com IG: @lmazur | MFA University of Kansas

ROMA FLOWERS (Lighting Design) is a theatrical lighting and projection designer who has worked with theatre, opera, concert, dance and video productions. She has designed lighting for dance for such diverse performing artists as the Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre, Dark Circles Contemporary Dance, and The Dance Theatre of Harlem among others. Roma is a recipient of the prestigious New York Dance and Performance Award

19 PRODUCTION TEAM + STAFF

(a.k.a. Bessie) for her lighting designs and the KOI-USA Knight of Illumination Projection Design Award for *A Bon Coeur*, an evening-length work, created by dance artist, Helanius J. Wilkins. Roma created the video design for the 2023 premiere of *The Factotum* (Lyric Opera of Chicago). As Lighting Designer, her recent work includes *Thunder Knocking on the Door* (Houston's Stages), *They Do Not Move* and *Love Bomb* (Houston's Catastrophic Theatre). Fort Worth productions include *Poor Clare* and *POTUS* (Stage West) and *hang* (Second Thought Theatre).

JAMIE MILLIGAN (Master Electrician) is a DFW based lighting designer and master electrician. Recently, he was lighting designer for Beauty and the Beast (Texas Ballet Theatre), La Boheme (Fort Worth Opera), Crowns of Power: Henry IV (Junior Players), Natural Shocks (Echo Theatre), Chad Deity, The Mountaintop (Circle Theatre), and In Spite of History: Part I (Artstillery), and Associate Lighting Designer for Mozart + Stravinsky's: Petrouchka (Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra), Much Ado About Nothing and Two Gentlemen of Verona (Shakespeare Dallas), Look Up (KWC Performing Arts), and Paul Mejia's: The Nutcracker (Avant Chamber Ballet). He has been the resident Master Electrician at Undermain Theatre since 2019, and has acted as the Master Electrician at Circle Theatre since 2022. He received his BA in Theatrical Design from the University of North Texas.

BRIAN DO (Sound Design) is an up and coming lighting and sound designer based in DFW. They received their BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from the Baylor University. They were previously sound designer and board op on *Artemesia*, *Water by the Spoonful*, and *Tartuffe* (Circle Theatre). Additionally, Brian recently was board operator for *Jetfuel* (Bishop Arts Theatre Center). They are excited to be back working with Circle! www.briandodesigns.com

RAYVEN HARRIS (Props Design) is a DFW based artist, who is thrilled for the opportunity to return to Circle! Credits include: Stage Manager for Heroes of the Fourth Turning (Second Thought Theatre), East Texas Hot Links (Jubilee Theatre), Ada and The Engine, and Intimate Apparel (MainStage Irving). Sound Designer for Thoughts of A Colored Man (Jubilee Theatre), The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin (Jubilee Theatre), Into the Breeches (Stage West), The Odd Couple (WaterTower Theatre). Sound Designer/ASM for A Gospel Black Nativity (Jubilee Theatre). Assistant Stage Manager for The Play That Goes Wrong, The Importance of Being Earnest, Marjorie Prime, Cruel Intentions: The 90s Musical, and Church & State (Stage West). Properties Designer for Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812 (Theatre Three), The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity (Circle Theatre), Intimate Apparel (MainStage Irving).

COLIN SCHWARTZ (Master Carpenter) is a Fort Worth based carpenter, technical director, and lighting designer. He holds a BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from Texas Wesleyan University. He is currently pursuing his MFA from the University of Idaho. Colin works at Wesleyan as the Technical Director for the Theatre Department. He also works with Jubilee Theatre and is excited to work with Circle as Master Carpenter.

THANK YOU Linda Lee!



Please join us in thanking Linda Lee, our Financial Controller, for her many years of dedicated service. Linda has been an invaluable member of the Circle Theatre team since 2019, and her expertise has been instrumental in our success. She has consistently gone above and beyond, demonstrating incredible diligence and a deep commitment to our organization. We are incredibly grateful for her contributions that extend far beyond the realm of finance. We wish her all the best as she embarks on a new chapter.

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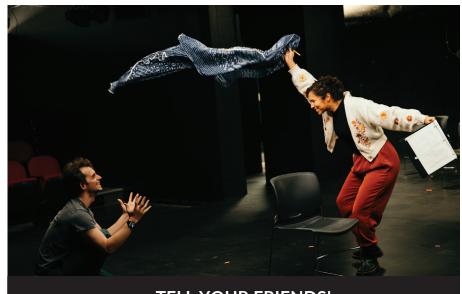
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Lexi Wolf Evan Woods

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Riki Zide



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Please leave some encouraging words to our performers & theater—scan our QR code!

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For sponsoring Circle Theatre's High School Playwriting Project—an educational outreach which serves young artists in the DFW metroplex. Due to their generous support — we are able to offer scholarships to our writers totally more than \$14,000



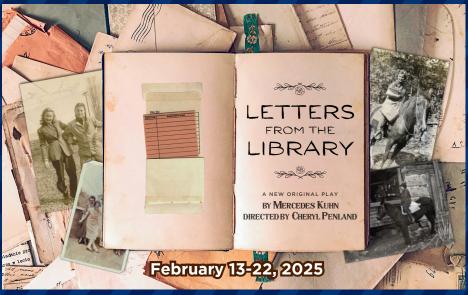


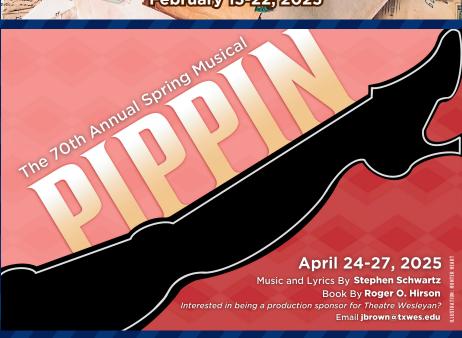
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Performance Schedule and Pricing

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Friday evening	8:00pm	\$40-\$55
Saturday matinee	3:00pm	\$40-\$55
Saturday evening	8:00pm	\$40-\$55

Box Office

When a play is in performance, the box office opens one hour before show time.

HoursT-F | 10:00am - 4:00pm

Ticket Policies

ALL TICKET SALES ARE FINAL AND NON-REFUNDABLE.

Reservations must be paid in advance. Only one discount may be applied to each ticket. Discounts or special offers may NOT be used for opening night performances.

Season ticket-holders receive a \$10 VIP discount when purchasing additional guest tickets.

Student Rush: In addition to Friday Night School Nights, students and staff may also purchase tickets for half price at half-hour before show time, with valid school ID. (Subject to availability)

Seniors (65+) and Military: 10% off all performances.

Groups: Discount varies based on size — check *circletheatre.com* or call our box office.

Parking and Safety Policies

Due to changes in Sundance Square, Circle is no longer able to validate valet parking. **There is a FREE parking garage under the skybridge between Taylor St. and Lamar St.** (The Tower Garage) on weekends and on weekdays after 6pm.

We can still validate up to 2.5 hours of parking in Sundance Square Garage #3 (corner of Taylor St. and 3rd St.), just ask for a validation code from staff. Visit *sundancesquare.com/parking* for further information regarding parking updates. Please note, we encourage all guests to be vaccinated when attending a show. For the run of this show, masks are encouraged but optional. Full safety policies and procedures *circletheatre.com/covidsafety*

ARE YOU ON OUR EMAIL LIST?

Sign up at the box office or go online to CircleTheatre.com to receive information about upcoming shows or events.



TCU's College of Fine Arts prepares the next generation of creative leaders by fostering academic and artistic development through personalized mentorships from leading performers and scholars.

Broadway performer John Devereaux '12 toured the United States in the ensemble of Hamilton: An American Musical.



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