

LA
JOLLA
PLAY
HOUSE

2022/23 SEASON IMPACT REPORT



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Front Cover: Cast members in La Jolla Playhouse's world-premiere musical THE OUTSIDERS; photo by Rich Soublett II.
Inside Cover: Audience at a performance of THE OUTSIDERS; photo by Jenna Selby.



LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE MISSION & VALUES

MISSION STATEMENT

La Jolla Playhouse advances theatre as an art form, telling stories that inspire empathy and create a dialogue toward a more just future. With our intrepid spirit and eclectic, artist-driven approach we will continue to cultivate a local, national and global following with an insatiable appetite for audacious work. We provide unfettered creative opportunities for a community of artists of all backgrounds and abilities. We are committed to being a permanent safe harbor for unsafe and surprising work, offering a glimpse of the new and the next in American theatre.

VALUES STATEMENT

At La Jolla Playhouse, we believe that stories enhance the human experience, instill **empathy** and help us see the world in new ways. We **respect** all races, ethnicities, cultures, physical/cognitive abilities, ages, genders and identities, and endeavor to be an anti-racist and **accessible** organization that removes barriers to engagement. As a community of life-long learners who celebrate the spirit of **play**, we **innovate** and **collaborate** to bring theatre to life.

We practice **empathy** by listening, challenging our assumptions and staying open to all perspectives.

We **respect** and recognize the complexities of all lived experiences, identities and cultural backgrounds. We honor the Kumeyaay Nation, the original caretakers of the land on which our theaters sit. We will fight against anti-blackness, the many forms of racism directed at BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, People of Color) and all types of discrimination and harassment, to be a more inclusive space where everyone feels welcome onstage and off. We work with our community to identify, understand and address ways to make our theatre more equitable and **accessible**.

We infuse the spirit of **play** into everything we do, sparking creativity, fun and life-long learning.

We **innovate** and take risks to propel theatre as an art form and as a pathway toward fostering belonging and enhancing human connection. We **collaborate** by prioritizing inclusive practices from which diverse voices, talents and ideas can strengthen engagement and creative thinking.

We vow to grow and embrace these values. When we falter, we will hold ourselves accountable through transparent communication, measurable outcomes, self-reflection and humility. With great joy and a strong sense of responsibility, we commit to these values in every aspect of our work.

A MESSAGE FROM LEADERSHIP



On behalf of the entire La Jolla Playhouse family, we want to express our sincerest gratitude for your support this season. Your generosity has made it possible for us to continue producing bold, innovative theatre that inspires and challenges our community.

For the 2022/23 season, we were thrilled to present a diverse lineup of productions, including *Lempicka* (going to Broadway March 2024); *Here There Are Blueberries* (going to New York Theatre Workshop April 2024); *Fandango For Butterflies (And Coyotes)*; *Kristina Wong, Sweatshop Overlord*; *As You Like It*; and *The Outsiders* (going to Broadway March 2024). Our annual WOW Festival, held at the open-air Rady Shell at Jacobs Park, showcased the interactive and site-specific work of local, national, and international artists. Additionally, our POP Tour, *Jin vs. the Beach*, reached more than 10,000 students and teachers.

Our Learning & Engagement programs impacted nearly 20,000 students, including youth, interns, K-12 teachers, and adult community learners. Through our Military and Veterans Programs—the MVP Initiative, we were able to provide more than 900 complimentary tickets to local active-duty servicemembers and veterans. We also partnered with Veterans Community Connections and VetArt to enhance the WOW Festival experience for our local military community.

Your support allows us to bring these productions and programs to life and share them with our region. We are grateful for your investment in our work and for your belief in the power of theatre to make a difference.

We are excited to continue producing groundbreaking theatre in the 2023/24 season that speaks to the needs of our time. We are also committed to making our theatre more accessible to ALL San Diegans. With your support, we can continue to make a difference in the lives of our artists, our audiences, our community, our industry, and the world at large.

Thank you again for your generosity. We are truly grateful for your support.

Christopher Ashley
The Rich Family Artistic Director
of La Jolla Playhouse

Debby Buchholz
Managing Director of La Jolla Playhouse



CREATIVE PROGRAMMING

The Playhouse is dedicated to fostering the growth of new artistic works and providing opportunities for the industry's foremost and emerging playwrights, directors, actors, and designers. With a commitment to providing "unfettered creative opportunities for a community of artists of all backgrounds and abilities," each year we develop and showcase captivating stories that inspire meaningful discussions and harness the transformative power of theatre.

SUBSCRIPTION SEASON

Our 2022/2023 Subscription Season was a treasure trove of artistic exploration, featuring six productions: *Lempicka*; *Here There Are Blueberries*; *Fandango For Butterflies (And Coyotes)*; *Kristina Wong*, *Sweatshop Overlord*; *As You Like It*; and *The Outsiders*. These productions celebrated the joy of live theatre after emerging from the darkness and uncertainty of the pandemic.

More than 80,000 tickets were distributed for 2022/23 Subscription Season.

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022/23 ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE

Denise & Lon Bevers, Theodor S. & Audrey S. Geisel Fund, Jeanne Herberger, Joan & Irwin Jacobs, Sheri L. Jamieson, La Atalaya Fund, Rebecca Moores Foundation, Jordan Ressler Charitable Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation

THANK YOU TO OUR 2022/23 SEASON SPONSORS



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WITHOUT WALLS (WOW) FESTIVAL

The mission of the Without Walls (WOW) Festival is to offer site-specific, interactive, and immersive projects that transform the familiar into the extraordinary, sparking imagination and wowing audiences of all ages. These bold experiences ignite cross-disciplinary partnerships that help expand and diversify the field making San Diego a destination for this groundbreaking work.

Our annual free festival and stand-alone projects bring people together to reimagine the traditional relationship between artist and audience. With innovation at its core, WOW celebrates vibrant connections with fearless and fun activations that electrify our creative city.

Since its founding in 2011, Without Walls has become a highly acclaimed and popular performance program in the San Diego region and beyond. Under the WOW umbrella, the Playhouse has produced eight stand-alone WOW projects, six WOW Festivals, and 14 Digital WOW pieces.

The 2023 WOW Festival took place April 27-30 at the Rady Shell at Jacobs Park in partnership with the San Diego Symphony and reached thousands of San Diegans and visitors.

More than 21,800 tickets were provided to more than 3,000 households to experience 24 projects and participate in 4 workshops.

WOW FESTIVAL 2023 PARTNERS



VENUE + PREMIER SPONSORS



SUPER FAN SPONSORS

Cooley **PNC BANK** **Qualcomm** [UC San Diego](#)

Denise and Lon Bevers • Dean Haas • Dwight Hare and Stephanie Bergsma
Gail and Doug Hutcheson • Kathy and Rob Jones • Peggy Ann Wallace

INSIDER SPONSORS

Susan Dubé • Annie and Charles Ellis • Jeffrey and Kimberly Goldman
Robin and Larry Rusinko • Jay and Julie Sarno

MEDIA SPONSORS



UPLIFTING THE NEW AND THE NEXT IN AMERICAN THEATRE INITIATIVE

La Jolla Playhouse invests significant resources to “provide unfettered creative opportunities for artists of all backgrounds and abilities” by commissioning and developing “unsafe and surprising” new work from emerging and established artists. As of the 2022/23 Season the Playhouse has mounted 105 world premieres and commissioned 70 new works, demonstrating our commitment to sharing new voices and contemporary stories. The Playhouse uplifts diverse new works and voices in the following ways:

(1) **We commission new plays and musicals** annually and host readings of works-in-progress to support the development of the material. Currently, there are 29 playwrights (16 BIPOC, 13 female) under commission.

(2) **The DNA New Work Series** provides essential developmental opportunities to artists whose works are in the earliest stages through rehearsal time, space, and dramaturgy. Public readings engage audiences in conversation about the plays and provide vital feedback to artists. Featuring a balance of diverse, emerging and established playwrights, 10 plays from the DNA series have gone on to have full productions at the Playhouse, including *SUMO* in the 2023/24 Season. The production of *Derecho* in the 2024/25 Season will bring the list to 11.





Kenny Ramos; Yolanda Franklin.

(3) **The Artist-in-Residence program** gives artists time to focus on their ongoing body of work while also gaining exposure to multiple aspects of professional theatre. Our 2022/23 Artist-In-Residence was Kenny Ramos, a theatre artist from the Barona Band of Mission Indians/ Kumeyaay Nation and a member of Cornerstone Theatre Company. Additionally, the Playhouse offers residencies to UC San Diego Master of Fine Arts theatre students for professional opportunities as they begin their careers.

(4) **The Theatre-in-Residence program** offers small and/or rising local theatre companies the space and mentorship to develop and produce their own work. Our current Resident Theatre is Common Ground Theatre, one of the nation's oldest Black theatre companies. Under the leadership of Yolanda Franklin, their first female executive director, Common Ground Theatre presented *Still We Rise*, a concert celebrating black music and art, and the contemporary love story *Sense of Love*, during their inaugural year of residency. Building on the success of the first year of residency, the Playhouse offered them a second year of residency and they produced George C. Wolfe's renowned play, *The Colored Museum* in Fall 2023.

(5) For 14 years we have partnered with **Native Voices at the Autry**, the resident theatre company at the Autry Museum of the American West in Los Angeles, to share indigenous stories with our local community. The Playhouse hosts two annual free-of-charge festivals of new works by Native American, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian, and First Nations playwrights. The Short Play Festival consists of professional staged readings of 10-30-minute plays, centered around a particular theme. The Festival of New Plays provides emerging and established Native artists the opportunity to see their full-length works brought to life by renowned directors, dramaturgs, and actors.

(6) In 2022 we began our collaboration with **Voices of Our City Choir** which helps San Diego's unsheltered population reconnect with hope and possibility through the healing power of music, along with other resources. The Playhouse provides free, bi-monthly theatre workshops to Choir members to help them develop their storytelling skills to share their personal stories through song. Playhouse teaching artists led 10 workshops and provided food and transportation for each one. Dozens of choir members participated in each workshop, with many attending multiple times. Estimated individuals reached is 100. Participant Christopher Edmond had this to share: "All of you ladies from La Jolla Playhouse are amazing people and you have provided me with a venue. I belong onstage, and with the right education and right people, my dreams are coming true. I thank you guys so much. Some things in life are still yet priceless."



Voices of Our City Choir Theatre Workshop participant (C) with teaching artist Shairi Engle (R)

LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT

This season, our Learning & Engagement programs impacted nearly 20,000 students, including elementary and middle school students, interns, K-12 teachers, and adult community learners. Program highlights include:

PERFORMANCE OUTREACH PROGRAM (POP) TOUR

For more than three decades, La Jolla Playhouse has commissioned and toured original plays for young audiences, bringing them to schools, libraries, and community centers. These productions offer an unforgettable introduction to theatre for many students, creating a lasting impression and igniting a passion for the arts. To prepare students for the experience, the Playhouse provides educators with expertly crafted lesson plans and the option to invite a Playhouse teaching artist to conduct a pre-show workshop, helping to set the stage for a meaningful and engaging encounter with live performance.

This year's POP Tour, *Jin vs. the Beach*, **reached more than 10,000 students and teachers.** This new musical found fifth-grader Jin headed on a field trip to a local San Diego Beach—something he was not familiar with, and a bit anxious about. He would rather spend his time indoors playing with his favorite game, CUBECRAFTIA. With the support of friends, teachers, and his imagination, Jin learned that everyone has different feelings when it comes to approaching the unknown and that it is important to express those feelings even if they may feel scary.

See more details in our 2022/23 POP Tour Impact Report.

PLAYHOUSE TEEN COUNCIL

Playhouse Teen Council is a dynamic team of passionate young theatre enthusiasts dedicated to promoting, educating, and inspiring others in the realm of creative expression through theatre. Comprised of **25 highly motivated high school students** from across San Diego County, participants collaborate closely with La Jolla Playhouse to cultivate educational experiences and foster the next generation of theatre professionals.

Our Teen Council members engaged in exciting opportunities with La Jolla Playhouse staff, including conversations with Managing Director Debby Buchholz and General Manager Ryan Meisheid, to learn about theatre management. Additionally, students toured the props warehouse with Deb Hatch, Props Supervisor.

OBSERVERSHIPS

The Production Department and Learning & Engagement team co-host one observership day for each Subscription Season production (six per year). Local high school and college students are invited to spend a day at the Playhouse to gain exposure to production-related careers in theatre. Participants observe a technical rehearsal, tour La Jolla Playhouse theatres and work spaces, meet with members of production staff to learn about their work and career paths, and then enjoy dinner and a performance that evening.

This program served 60 children, 20 college students, and 4 teachers this year. Groups came from Del Norte High School, LJP 2022 Conservatory, San Diego School of Creative & Performing Arts, Just in Time for Foster Youth, UC San Diego, and Palomar College.

JUMPSTART THEATRE

The Playhouse proudly serves as a national partner of the esteemed Educational Theatre Association’s JumpStart Theatre program. This remarkable initiative focuses on establishing sustainable musical theatre programs in middle schools that previously lacked such opportunities. Over the course of three years, the program provides comprehensive professional development to new arts educators, empowering them to guide their students in producing an annual musical at their school.

Three teachers from each participating school are taught the techniques and skills to develop and manage a musical theatre program (everything from casting, to rehearsal schedules, to staging/choreography and technical requirements, to cultivating parent/community engagement, to achieving economic sustainability) through a series of three, full-day professional development “bootcamps” each year of the three-year program, plus an ongoing mentoring/coaching relationship with an experienced theatre teaching artist.

This season, JumpStart Theatre served Year 1 Cohort: Challenger Middle School and Marston Middle School; Year 3 Cohort: Innovation Middle School, Los Coches Creek Middle School, and Montgomery Middle School and Year 4 (Graduate) Cohort: De Portola Middle School and Knox Middle School.

Numbers Served	Points of Contact	Hours
Students: 162	Students: 2,540	193.5 Teaching Hours with students
Teachers: 18	Teachers: 282	
Observers: 125	Observers: 125	
TOTAL: 305	TOTAL: 2,947	



EDUCATOR AND STUDENT MATINEES

We were delighted to welcome students and educators to two of our Subscription Season productions, *As You Like It* and *The Outsiders*. Through these free-of-charge matinee performances, we had the pleasure of **reaching 869 students and 46 teachers**. To enhance student engagement, we hosted exclusive educator preview nights for each production. These evenings served as valuable opportunities for teachers

to participate in professional learning sessions and gain insight into the shows, allowing them to better prepare their students for the performances.

SPOTLIGHT ON

This comprehensive series of classes is designed specifically for adults seeking to explore and deepen their understanding of professional theatre techniques. Our diverse class offerings include Musical Theatre Dance Styles, Intro to Improv, Writing the 10 Minute Play, Contemporary Scene Study, Intro to Acting, Scene into Song, Musical Theatre Ensemble, Developing a New Play, and Audition Technique. Each class is thoughtfully designed to cater to different interests and skill levels, ensuring that participants can find the perfect fit for their theatrical journey. Class sizes are intentionally kept small, ranging from 6 to 16 students, to facilitate a personalized and immersive learning experience. **We are proud to have reached and engaged with a total of 109 learners through these classes this year.**

MILITARY AND VETERANS PROGRAMS – THE MVP INITIATIVE

The military community plays an important role in our region and La Jolla Playhouse has created dedicated, free-of-charge programs to enhance the quality of life for veterans, active-duty servicemembers, and their families. Our MVP Initiative connects, inspires, and entertains through programs like the Veterans Playwriting Workshop (VPW), Military Nights Out, Military Families at WOW, arts learning programs targeted to children in military families, and military-themed artistic programming. These experiences allow members of the military community to find meaningful avenues of self-expression and to spend quality time with loved ones through enriching arts activities, without the barriers of cost.

See more details in our 2022/23 MVP Initiative Impact Report.

VETERANS PLAYWRITING WORKSHOP

The Veterans Playwriting Workshop offers a transformative experience for participants, as they collaborate with teaching artists, who are veterans themselves, over several weeks to shape and share their stories, fostering a sense of community and healing throughout the process. The program consists of three distinct levels, Beginner, Intermediate, and Development, and participants are welcome to take these sections as many times as desired.

VPW is an inclusive program, provided free of charge to participants, including veterans, active-duty military personnel, spouses, and national interpreters. Additionally, the readings and performances are free of charge to attendees. We recruit participants through our partnerships with military organizations, Military Nights Out, and local VA referrals. Since the end of the pandemic closure, we have successfully transitioned to a hybrid model, offering the Workshop both in-person and online via Zoom. This approach has granted greater flexibility and accessibility to participants, enabling the involvement of individuals from various locations.

23 individuals participated in Veterans Playwriting Workshop during the 2022/23 season.

MILITARY NIGHTS OUT

With a preshow reception and complimentary tickets for a Playhouse performance, Military Nights Out create magical moments of reconnection for military members and their families. Together, loved ones create new memories, helping to make up for some of the holidays and celebrations they have missed over the years. With in-kind support from the Gary Sinise Foundation, the Playhouse is able to provide enhanced meal options and important resources for attendees.

In a recent collaboration, the Playhouse partnered with Veterans Art Project (VetArt) to host artist booths during the preshow reception of *As You Like It* where veteran artists displayed and sold their art. There was also a booth to write letters to patients in the local VA Hospital.

The Playhouse served 485 military servicemembers, veterans, and family members during Military Nights Out this season.



Love All/ Military Night Out

COMPLIMENTARY TICKETS FOR MILITARY COMMUNITY

Each year, La Jolla Playhouse reaches out to our friends and partners at military- and veteran-serving organizations and institutions to offer complimentary tickets to their members for performances in our Subscription Season. These tickets are in addition to the complimentary tickets offered for Military Nights Out.

The Playhouse provided 931 additional complimentary tickets to military families overall this season.

MILITARY FAMILIES AT WOW

In recognition and appreciation of the San Diego military community, our 2023 Without Walls (WOW) Festival at the Rady Shell at Jacobs Park hosted two Military Appreciation Mixers in collaboration with Veterans' Community Connections. Attendees were able to enjoy snacks and drinks at our Military Appreciation Lounge. These events were attended by a total of 80 servicemembers, veterans, and military family members. The WOW Festival featured family-friendly performances, including our POP Tour production of *Jin vs. the Beach*, dance, large-scale puppets, music, acrobats and clowns, and immersive and interactive playscapes. Additionally, VetArt displayed paintings and sculptures by veterans and hosted a booth where WOW attendees could write letters to and draw pictures for patients at the local VA hospital.

Hundreds of WOW Festival attendees were affiliated with the military and a total of 80 active-duty servicemembers, veterans, and military family members attended the Military Appreciation Mixers.

POP TOUR FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES AND MILITARY FAMILIES

Each year since 1987 the Playhouse makes a dedicated effort to bring the Performance Outreach Program (POP) Tour to military families through performances on military bases, at the WOW Festival (where multiple POP Tour performances take place), and visits to schools that have large populations of military children. The POP Tour play highlights a real-life topic or timely issue for students to discuss. The 2023 POP Tour, *Jin vs. the Beach*, was performed at **multiple schools with 20%+ military families including Dewey Elementary, Saburo Muraoka Elementary, Rio Seco Elementary, Boys & Girls Club Oceanside, Tierrasanta Elementary, Otay Elementary, as well as Hancock Elementary, a school situated within military housing where 98% of the students have active military parents or guardians.** Additionally, public performances took place during the WOW Festival, ensuring that our Military Families at WOW could also enjoy the performance.

COMMITMENT TO BEING AN EQUITABLE INSTITUTION

DEVELOPING THE NEXT GENERATION OF THEATRE PROFESSIONALS INITIATIVE

We believe that sustainable change toward becoming a more equitable and accessible, anti-racist, and inclusive theatre requires pathways for students and emerging professionals to receive training, mentorship, career opportunities, and space for community building with peers. Our target population for this program is current and aspirational theatre professionals who reflect the variety of cultures, backgrounds, and intersectional identities within our communities, particularly underrepresented, Black, Indigenous and People of Color (BIPOC), and socio-economically diverse populations.

To develop the next generation of theatre professionals and create a more inclusive workforce, we have begun executing the strategies and activities outlined below. This spectrum of programs creates opportunities for more candidates to engage with the Playhouse by offering positions and interactions with varying amounts of time commitment and requiring different levels of previous experience in the industry.

See more details in our 2022/23 Developing the Next Generation of Theatre Professionals Impact Report.

PAID INTERNSHIPS

The Playhouse has always strived to attract diverse San Diegans for our internships and employment. We pride ourselves in representing diverse voices onstage, and are improving diversity among our staff, but we needed to revamp the career pathway to provide a more inclusive approach to recruiting and mentoring individuals from different backgrounds and experiences. We learned that many of the people we are most trying to reach do not always have the economic freedom to work unpaid.

Beginning with the 2022 summer cohort, our undergraduate, graduate, and early-career interns are paid minimum wage, and we have refocused our program to be more centered on educational benefits to interns, utilizing a revised curriculum and new learning tools. Interns gain valuable on-the-job experience, learning directly from La Jolla Playhouse staff and leadership. Interns engaged in up to 29 hours per week for up to 15 weeks of practical and theoretical learning opportunities.

We served 18 college students and recent graduates through our paid internship program this year.

BIPOC DIRECTING FELLOWSHIP

In 2022, La Jolla Playhouse created a two-year Fellowship for a BIPOC director to embed in the Artistic Department—working on many and ultimately directing one of our Subscription Season shows. The Directing Fellow receives a salary and healthcare benefits. During the application process we received and reviewed 90 submissions and interviewed 10 finalists.

Kat Yen was selected as our first Directing Fellow and started her fellowship in January 2023.

STAFF DEVELOPMENT

La Jolla Playhouse strives to create a work environment where all employees are valued. We are committed to providing an inclusive, professional work environment free from discrimination and one that supports the next generation of theatre professionals. La Jolla Playhouse's journey as an anti-racist, equitable, diverse, inclusive, and accessible institution is a work in progress, and the work continues. The following staff development initiatives help make that possible.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, AND ACCESSIBILITY (DEIA) TRAINING

The Playhouse works with Cornerstone Consulting HR to lead our staff through intentional trainings, which this year included unconscious bias awareness and gender bias training for *As You Like It*. Cornerstone Consulting HR (CCHR) is a niche consulting firm specializing in accelerating the growth of organizations and their employees via cogent human resources, leadership development, change management, diversity, equity, and inclusion-based strategies.

We are also continuing to use CCHR as consultants on each of our individual productions. The fruits of that labor have been seen throughout our producing practices, including intentional hiring of production crew to create a safe space for our trans, non-binary, and queer company; proactive reimagining of dressing room spaces to reflect company members' different gender identity needs; and creating bathroom spaces that embrace gender diversity. We have heard from many BIPOC, LGBTQ+, and disabled artists that having Cornerstone (as well as intimacy coaches and identity-specific consultants, as needed) has allowed them to center themselves as artists during their time with us and not feel pressured to be the representative and caretaker for their fellow artists.

ACCOUNTABILITY & INCLUSION ALLIANCE LEADERSHIP COLLECTIVE

Established in 2020, the mission of La Jolla Playhouse's Accountability & Inclusion Alliance (AIA) is to equip staff with the tools to discover, address and dismantle systemic inequities within LJP structures, policies and practices, and to create impactful solutions for a safe, equitable and anti-racist community.

The new AIA Leadership Collective, launched in 2023, will work with our People + Culture partners at Cornerstone Consulting HR to examine organizational gaps and opportunities related to equity, inclusion and access and to find avenues for the staff at large to take part in conversations. The AIA Leadership Collective will work to ensure that the efforts and recommendations of the rest of the AIA group are fully recognized and realized within co-constructed timeframes and protocols.

The AIA is comprised of three groups including the Strategy Team, Engagement Team, and Communications Team. Members of the Strategy Team (led by HR Manager Jenn Boaz, Network Systems Specialist Daryl Davis, and Props Supervisor Deb Hatch) will examine organizational practices, discuss and make determinations about organizational dilemmas, and address barriers to inclusion. The Engagement Team (led by Learning & Engagement Manager Hannah Reinert and Associate Director of Ticketing Services Pearl Hang) will focus on creating opportunities for community engagement and planning special events and activities. The focus of the Communications Team (led by Costume Supervisor Jennifer Ables and Senior Coordinator, Special Events Katie Wallace-Coppo) is to spread the AIA story and encourage opportunities for engagement, including special events and activities.

PLAYHOUSE BY THE NUMBERS



TICKETS DISTRIBUTED

80,000

SUBSCRIPTION
SEASON

21,800

WOW FESTIVAL

1,516

MVP INITIATIVE

MANDELL WEISS THEATRE



ONLINE REACH (April 1, 2022 - March 31, 2023)

f 1,031,970 REACH

ig 363,616 REACH

tw 129,400 IMPRESSIONS

in 4,700 VISITORS

yt 663,500 CHANNEL VIEWS

mic 1,169 PODCAST DOWNLOADS

globe 472,000 WEBSITE VISITORS

LEARNING & ENGAGEMENT REACH

14,080

TOTAL CHILDREN

23,226

TOTAL CHILDREN
POINTS OF CONTACT

684

TOTAL TEACHERS

1619.5

TOTAL TEACHER
POINTS OF CONTACT

4,580

TOTAL OBSERVERS

6855.5

TOTAL OBSERVERS
POINTS OF CONTACT

19,344

TOTAL INDIVIDUALS

31701

TOTAL POINTS
OF CONTACT

36

TOTAL # VIDEOS

8048

TOTAL # VIDEO VIEWS

1771

TOTAL # SESSIONS

8723.26

TOTAL # HOURS
INCLUDING INTERNS

GIVING THEIR TIME, TALENT AND RESOURCES

We are fortunate to have the support of so many people in the community, including those who give their time and talent by volunteering with us. We are also grateful to those community members who leave a legacy with the Playhouse.

PLAYHOUSE LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

The Playhouse Leadership Council (PLC) is a cross-cultural partnership of community leaders who work directly in their community to increase awareness of theatre and to help overcome geographic, economic and perceptive barriers to accessing live theatre in San Diego. Working with Playhouse staff, PLC creates a welcoming and inclusive environment, builds and nurtures relationships with new audiences, and has fun!

PLC was excited to host various community events led by PLC members, including a social media takeover, a BIPOC Affinity Writing Workshop and participation in Digital WOW projects. These events and programs, targeted with and for different communities across the county, help the Playhouse better serve the region through the transformative power of theatre. PLC will continue building relationships with various groups across San Diego County.

The Playhouse Leadership Council co-chairs for the 2022/2023 season were Bena Leslie and Mary Coleman.

PLAYHOUSE PARTNERS

For over thirty years, the Playhouse Partners have been offering their time in voluntary service to the Playhouse. They help answer phones, sort mail, distribute hearing devices to patrons at shows and provide a homemade meal for actors at our Tech Dinner on the final Saturday in rehearsal before previews.

The President of the Playhouse Partners for the 2022/2023 season was Susan Gembrowski.



REVELLE LEGACY SOCIETY

La Jolla Playhouse is grateful to Ellen and Roger Revelle for their generous contribution of time, talent, and resources, securing the future of live theatre in La Jolla. Their legacy gift helps ensure sustained support for future generations of theatre makers and audiences, establishing the Playhouse as a leader in the theatre industry.



Members of the Revelle Legacy Society share the Revelles' vision and include the Playhouse in their estate planning through bequests in wills and trusts, beneficiary designations on retirement accounts and life insurance policies, and other estate-planning vehicles.

THANK YOU TO OUR REVELLE LEGACY SOCIETY MEMBERS

Ted & Paula Adams
Christopher Ashley
Scott Aylward
Roberta C. Baade & George F. Yee*
Quaintance Bartlett*
Roger S. Benson*
Cynthia Bolker
Ralph° & Gail Bryan
Pamela B. Burkholz
Esther J. Burnham*
Robert Caplan and Carol Randolph
Leslie J. Cohen*
Ted Cranston°*
Doug Dawson
Armando de Peralta, Sr.*
Jendy Dennis* Endowment Fund
Grace Margaret Duhamel*
Suzanne Figi*
Pauline Foster*
Ewart "Chip"°* & Sherrilyn Goodwin
David and Claire Guggenheim
Mike & Diana Jillie Hill
Joel°* & Rosanne Holliday
Bob Jacobs
Joan & Irwin Jacobs
Charmaine°* & Maury* Kaplan
Olga Khitarishvili
Linda & Bill Kolb
Dr. Gloria C.L. Ma
Valorie McClelland
Dr. Margaret McKerrow

Paul Miller
Stephen Cary Nagler
Teresa A. Nugent*
John O'Dea
Bernard D. Paul
Margaret F. Peninger*
Dr. Julie Prazich & Dr. Sara Rosenthal
Jennette Pyne
Karen Quiñones
Jeffrey°* & Vivien Ressler
Ellen* & Roger* Revelle
Michael S. Rosenberg
Warren Sanborn*
Ruth Shepherd*
Dale & Mark Steele
Mickey Stern*
Steve Strauss° & Lise Wilson
Kathryn Sturch
Willard P.°* & Eileen* VanderLaan
Arthur* & Molli Wagner
Peggy Ann Wallace
Geri Ann Warnke° & Joseph F. Kennedy, MD*
Mandell Weiss*
Dr. Steve & Lynn Wheeler
Gary L. Wollberg° & Dr. Yumi Miyamoto
Liza Zinola

°denotes past Board Chair

*denotes deceased

List as of June 1, 2023

LEADERSHIP AND STAFF

2022/2023 LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Randall Clark, Chair
Sheri L. Jamieson, First Vice-Chair
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Bena Leslie
Lynelle Lynch*
Margret McBride*
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Karen A. Quiñones
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Becky Robbins
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Shane Shelley
Karen Silberman
Delicia Turner Sonnenberg
Suzi Sterner
Andy Thomas
Erin Tenda
Mary Walshok, PhD

* Past Chair of Board

** The UCSD Chancellor remains a Board member for the duration of the chancellorship



LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE STAFF AS OF DECEMBER 2023

SENIOR STAFF

Christopher Ashley, The Rich Family Artistic Director
Debby Buchholz, Managing Director
Eric Keen-Louie, Executive Producer
Becky Biegelsen, Director of Public Relations
Bridget Cavaiola Stone, Director of Learning
Ned Collins, Director of Operations
Becca Duhaime, Production Manager
Mia Fiorella, Director of Experiences and Activations
Julia B. Foster, Director of Philanthropy
Gabriel Greene, Director of Artistic Development
Laura Killmer, Chief Financial Officer
Jacole Kitchen, Director of Arts Engagement and In-House Casting
Ryan Meisheid, General Manager
Benjamin Seibert, Senior Production Manager
Stephanie Zappala, Director of Sales & Marketing

PHILANTHROPY STAFF

Julia B. Foster, Director of Philanthropy
Keely Daximillion, Associate Director of Philanthropy
Rebecca Pierce Goodman, Assistant Director of Philanthropy, Institutional Giving
Tony Dixon, Senior Manager, Philanthropy Operations
Taylor Lehmkuhl, Individual Giving Manager
Nil Noyan, Special Events Manager
Lyla Iannaccone, Senior Coordinator, Institutional Giving
Dominique Kaestner, Senior Coordinator, Stewardship
Katie Wallace-Coppo, Senior Coordinator, Special Events
Sam Dedal, Philanthropy Administrative Assistant



HISTORY OF THE PLAYHOUSE



Founded in 1947 by Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and Mel Ferrer, La Jolla Playhouse thrived as a summer stock retreat for such Hollywood luminaries as Vivian Vance, Groucho Marx and Eve Arden. After over a decade of performances featuring numerous greats from stage and film, the Playhouse went on hiatus from 1959-1982. While shuttered, a handful of dedicated supporters fought to keep the Playhouse alive, eventually working to revive it on the campus of UC San Diego in 1983.

Over the next three decades, La Jolla Playhouse rose to prominence as one of the most celebrated regional theatres in the country. Under the artistic leadership Des McAnuff (1983-1994; 2001-2007), the Playhouse developed dozens of new works, many of which transferred to Broadway, including *Big River*, *The Who's Tommy* and *Jersey Boys*. In 1993, the Playhouse was awarded the Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre.

This period also saw the beginning of the Playhouse's acclaimed Performance Outreach Program (POP) Tour, in which a brand new, Playhouse-commissioned work brings the magic of theatre into San Diego schools. The Playhouse's continued its commitment to developing new plays and musicals with the launch of its Page To Stage New Play Development Program, spawning the Pulitzer Prize-winning *I Am My Own Wife*.

Led for the last decade by 2017 Tony Award winner Christopher Ashley, the Playhouse has solidified its reputation of originating new work, producing a total of 110 world premieres and sending 33 productions to Broadway – including the hit musical *Come From Away*.

Deepening the Playhouse's connection to the San Diego community, Christopher Ashley inaugurated the Resident Theatre Program in 2008, providing a temporary home each year for an up-and-coming theatre company. In 2011, he spearheaded the innovative Without Walls (WOW) series of site-inspired and immersive theatre. The Playhouse hosts an annual WOW Festival featuring local and international artists in vibrant, interactive experiences that amplify the energy of the city.

From its signature play development initiatives to its intriguing and playful WOW programming, La Jolla Playhouse has become the place to see what's next on the American theatre landscape.