

# THE JOAN JACOBS 2025/26 SEASON

**FIVE WORLD PREMIERES AND A BROADWAY HIT** 



# IT'S LIKE YOUR VERY NN VACATION FROM REALITY.

Get ready for six vibrant, surprising and refreshing shows from some of the brightest American creative teams — stories that feel like an escape from your everyday. This season features not one, but two world-premiere musicals directed by our very own Tony Award-winning Artistic Director, Christopher Ashley.

#### WHY SUBSCRIBE?

The best way to save on tickets and support the development of exciting new shows is with a subscription. Choose the option that works best for you.

**6-Play Premium Subscription** per ticket – save over 25%.

**Design-Your-Own Subscription** For the ultimate flexibility, choose three or more shows, the dates that suit you and save up to 15%.

See all six shows in the best seats at the lowest price: from just \$51



## GG

Hot and hilarious... prepare for laughter.

The New York Times

A powerful comedy with a twist... equally affecting as it is hilarious.

Entertainment Weekly

# JAJA'S AFRICAN HAIR BRAIDING

BY JOCELYN BIOH Directed by Whitney White

Direct from Broadway, this dazzling production welcomes you into Jaja's bustling shop in Harlem, where a lively and eclectic group of West African hair braiders create masterpieces on the heads of neighborhood women. During one sweltering summer day, love will blossom, dreams will flourish and friendships will be tested. When their uncertain circumstances boil over, this tight-knit group must confront what it means to be outsiders in the place they call home.

The Guardian called it "rapturous," and The New York Times raved, "full of treasurable moments, when the drama feels tightly woven with the comedy." Featuring humor as entertaining as its characters, this extraordinary play by Ghanaian-American playwright Jocelyn Bioh celebrates courage, community and the indomitable spirit of women. JaJa's is a must-see for San Diego.

Jaja's African Hair Braiding is a co-production with Arena Stage, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and Chicago Shakespeare Theater, in association with Madison Wells Live & LaChanze.

#### POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

**Talkback Tuesday** Jun 3, 7:30pm Jun 10, 7:30pm

**Discovery Sunday** Jun 8, 1pm

ACCESS PERFORMANCE May 31, 2pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

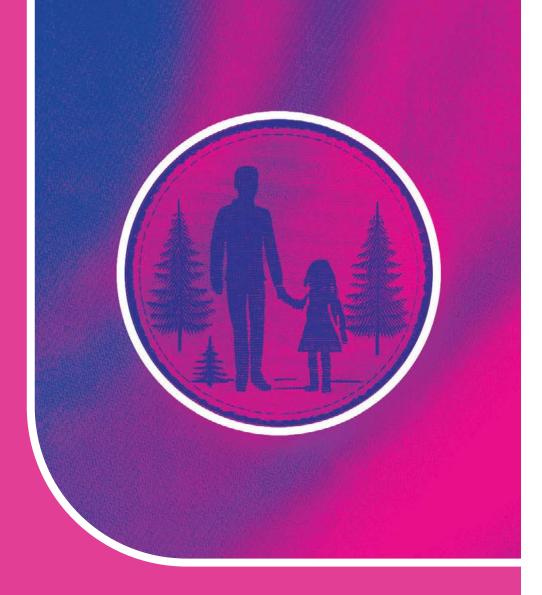
PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

See pricing on pages 17-19.

**MAY 17 - JUN 15** 

MANDELL WEISS THEATRE





When this play was submitted to the Playhouse, everyone who encountered it quickly fell in love with it. At its heart, it's a joyful and comedic celebration of complicated identities, tricky conversations and confusing expressions of love.

Christopher Ashley, Rich Family Artistic Director

## INDIAN PRINCESSES

#### BY ELIANA THEOLOGIDES RODRIGUEZ DIRECTED BY MIRANDA CORNELL

In the summer of 2008, five young girls of color and their white fathers show up at a community center. With emotions ranging from excited to downright suspicious, some are more ready than others to embark on this adventurous – albeit misguided – father-daughter bonding program. Over their time together, the fathers and daughters navigate the joy and confusion of childhood amidst myriad challenges: burgeoning friendships, unfulfilled crushes, intergenerational struggles, grief, financial insecurity and the frustration of not being seen for who you truly are.

Eliana Theologides Rodriguez is an exhilarating new voice whose work centers on young women and the complexities of race, heritage and family. *Indian Princesses* is based on a real-life father-daughter YMCA program she participated in as a child – which still exists today under different names.

Laugh-out-loud funny and delicately tender, this delightful new play illuminates the quirky, messy, and magical moments of growing up. As this patchwork group struggles to push through difficult conversations, they eventually discover the power, connection, and love that is gained when they do.

#### POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Jun 24, 7:30pm Jul 1, 7:30pm

**Discovery Sunday** Jun 29, 1pm

#### **ACCESS PERFORMANCE**

Jun 28, 2pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

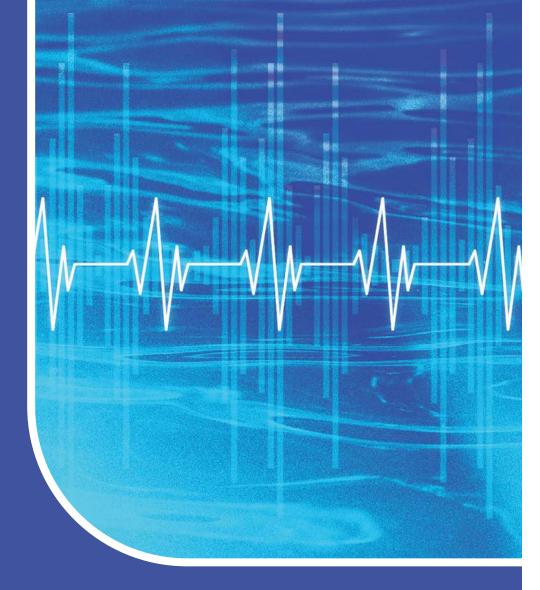
PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

See pricing on pages 17-19.

**JUN 10 - JUL 6** 

MANDELL WEISS FORUM





Our show is swift and packs a punch. It leaves you with snapshots into how we — as human beings — take action to save a life. I hope audiences will be swept up and surprised. As they walk out of the theatre, I hope they will feel their own heart beating, hug their people, and go out into the world a little more connected to the fragility and resilience of our humanity.

Kait Kerrigan, writer

## **THE HEART**

BASED ON "RÉPARER LES VIVANTS" BY MAYLIS DE KERANGAL BOOK AND ADDITIONAL LYRICS BY KAIT KERRIGAN MUSIC AND LYRICS BY ANNE EISENDRATH & IAN EISENDRATH DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY

When a young surfer's life is cut short, it means a second chance for a woman who had been making peace with her terminal illness. Over the course of 24 suspenseful hours in San Diego, we follow one precious heart on its vital, life-saving journey from donor to recipient, and meet the people whose lives are impacted along the way.

With a gripping book by Kait Kerrigan (*The Great Gatsby*) and directed by our own Christopher Ashley, *The Heart* is based on the highly lauded novel by Maylis de Kerangal, *Réparer les Vivants*. Anne Eisendrath and Ian Eisendrath (music supervisor of *Come From Away*) have crafted a unique, surging, epic electronic score that takes inspiration from the world of the high-tech hospital.

This breathtaking new musical is an enlightening, edge-of-your-seat ride on a powerful wave of emotion.

#### POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Sep 2, 7:30pm Sep 9, 7:30pm

**Discovery Sunday** 

Sep 14, 1pm

**ACCESS PERFORMANCE** 

Sep 6, 2pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

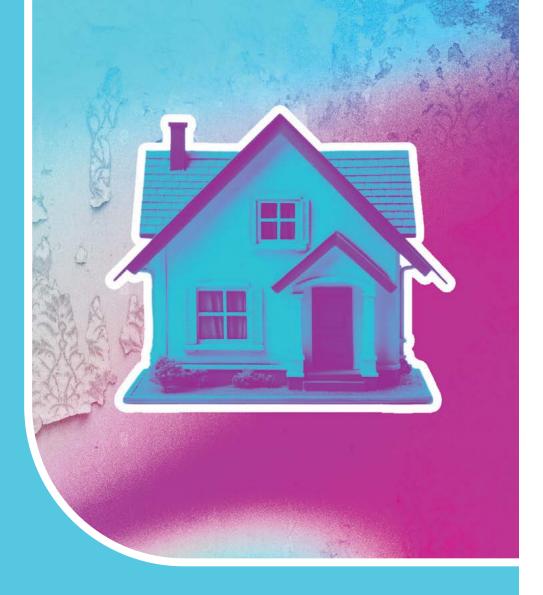
PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

See pricing on pages 17-19.

**AUG 19 - SEP 21** 

SHEILA AND HUGHES POTIKER THEATRE



### 99

This play explores what it means to feel 'at home' - in our families, in our marriages, in our houses, and in our own bodies - and it does so with Noah's customary theatricality, vibrant characters, crackling dialogue and a beating heart.

Christopher Ashley, Rich Family Artistic Director

# ALL THE MEN WHO'VE FRIGHTENED ME

#### BY NOAH DIAZ Directed by Kat yen

Young married couple Ty and Nora are preparing to move into Ty's childhood home to start a family. While they are busy choosing paint colors, lamps and throw pillows, they learn that Nora is unable to carry the child they so desperately want. So Ty, a trans man, makes the impulsive decision to carry the baby himself.

Ty and Nora's preparations for parenthood begin to collapse when three mysterious men from Ty's past inexplicably begin appearing in their new home.

Noah Diaz's rich, multi-layered, magical drama is full of shrewd insights and humor. Helmed by the Playhouse's Directing Fellow Kat Yen, *All the Men Who've Frightened Me* is the 12th play to make the jump from our DNA New Work Series to the main stage. Expect the unexpected in this wildly surprising family story with a huge heart.

#### POST-SHOW Engagement events

Talkback Tuesday Sep 30, 7:30pm Oct 7, 7:30pm

**Discovery Sunday** Oct 5, 1pm

**ACCESS PERFORMANCE** 

Oct 4, 2pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

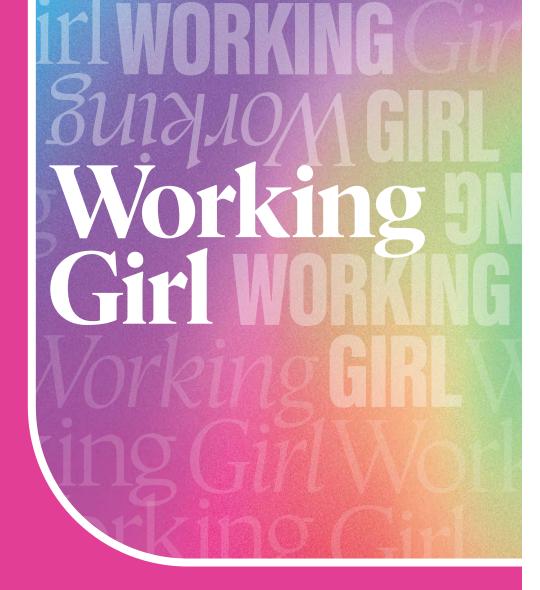
PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

See pricing on pages 17-19.

**SEP 16 - OCT 12** 

MANDELL WEISS FORUM



Working Girl songwriter Cyndi Lauper has achieved pop icon status, thanks to career-making hits like "Time After Time," "True Colors," "Girls Just Want to Have Fun" and her Tony Award-winning score of the Broadway musical Kinky Boots. The Songwriters Hall of Fame declares her an iconoclast who revolutionized the role of women in rock and roll.

## **WORKING GIRL**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY CYNDI LAUPER
BOOK BY THERESA REBECK
BASED ON THE TWENTIETH CENTURY FOX MOTION PICTURE WRITTEN BY KEVIN WADE
DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY

Tess McGill is a Staten Island secretary with big dreams and even bigger ideas, but when her scheming boss Katharine Parker steals one, Tess decides to take matters into her own hands. With Katharine unexpectedly out of town, Tess seizes the chance to prove herself, making a bold business move that could change her life forever. With some help from her savvy friends and a charming businessman, she's got one shot to pull it off — before the boss returns!

This sharp and hilarious adaptation of the iconic 1988 film features an exhilarating original score by the legendary Cyndi Lauper, a smart, fresh book from award-winning playwright Theresa Rebeck, and direction by our own Tony Award-winning Christopher Ashley.

Working Girl is the ultimate corporate Cinderella story that's just as much about the power of friendship as it is about chasing ambition and success. Don't miss it.

#### POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Nov 11, 7:30pm Nov 18, 7:30pm

**Discovery Sunday** 

Nov 23, 1pm

#### **ACCESS PERFORMANCE**

Nov 15, 2pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

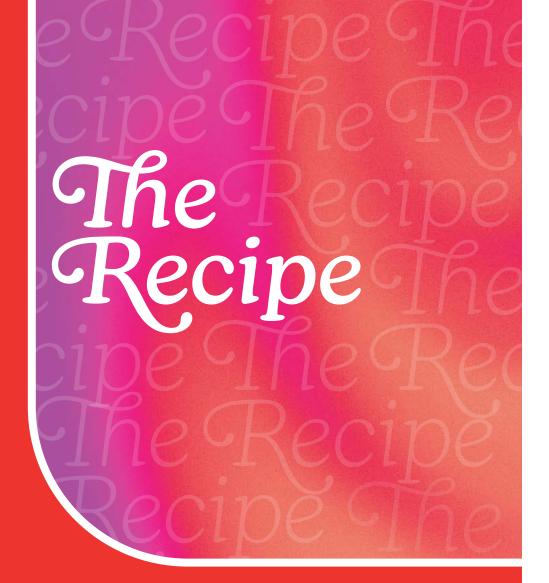
PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

See pricing on pages 17-19.

**OCT 28 - NOV 30** 

MANDELL WEISS THEATRE



## THE RECIPE

BY CLAUDIA SHEAR
BASED ON THE BOOK DEARIE BY BOB SPITZ
DIRECTED BY LISA PETERSON

Before Julia Child became the TV personality that we all know, she was a rambunctious rebel against the privileged but bland Pasadena life expected of her.

Directionless but driven, careening from Pasadena to New York to Washington D.C. to Ceylon and finally to Paris's famed Cordon Bleu cooking school, she battled long odds, too short sleeves, and her own self doubt before finding both her calling and her true love: her husband, Paul Child.

Two-time Tony Award nominee Claudia Shear and two-time Obie Award winner Lisa Peterson return to the Playhouse with a funny, colorful and delicious new play about the early life of an endlessly fascinating character – Julia, a girl from Pasadena – and her path from confusion to discovery, fear to strength, failure to success.

#### POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Feb 24, 7:30pm Mar 3, 7:30pm

**Discovery Sunday** 

Mar 1, 1pm

#### ACCESS PERFORMANCE

Feb 28, 2pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

See pricing on pages 17-19.

GG

It's a pleasure to hear once again Ms. Shear's distinctively tart voice as a writer... She remains a theatrical original.

*The New York Times* on *Restoration* by Claudia Shear, a play that premiered at La Jolla Playhouse

FEB 10 - MAR 8, 2026

SHEILA AND HUGHES POTIKER THEATRE

## HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

#### ONLINE

Subscribe in less than 5 minutes at lajollaplayhouse.org. Simply choose your subscription, add contact and payment details, and tickets for your great seats will be mailed to you.

#### **PHONE**

Call Patron Services at (858) 550-1010, Tuesday – Saturday, 12 – 6pm and our team can assist you to select the best subscription package for your needs.

#### **SATISFACTION GUARANTEE**

If you're not satisfied with your first show, we will refund you the remaining cost of your subscription. Some conditions apply.

#### **GROUPS**

Group subscriptions of 10 or more enjoy big savings, concierge service and a range of other benefits. Contact (858) 550-1010 or groupsales@ljp.org to find out more.

#### **ACCESS**

If you require an Access subscription, please call (858) 550-1010 or email boxoffice@ljp.org so we can work with you to address your needs. On a select Saturday matinee performance of each production, American Sign Language interpretation and live closed captioning is available. Audio Description is offered upon request. The Playhouse works with UCSD to cater to a wide range of access and special requirements. Please do not hesitate to get in touch so we can help ensure your comfort and enjoyment. Find more info at lajollaplayhouse.org/access.

# THE BENEFITS OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

2025/26 Season subscribers enjoy the biggest savings, best seats and perks all year. Choose the subscription that best suits your needs and join your favorite people for some great nights out at the theatre.

	PREMIUM 6-PLAY	DESIGN- Your-own	SINGLE TICKETS
Lowest prices and best value, from just \$51 per show – save over 25%.	✓		
Exclusive early access to the best seats.	✓		
Price increase protection: premium 6-Play prices will not increase as demand and other prices go up.	✓		
Enjoy your same great seats, year after year.	✓		
Free parking guaranteed.	✓		
No handling fees.	✓	✓	
Priority seating selected for you before single tickets go on sale.	✓	✓	
Ultimate flexibility – select the dates and shows that best suit you and your social calendar.		✓	
Secure tickets to the most in-demand shows of the year – many performances sell out!	✓	✓	
Exclusive event invitations, pre-sales and discount offers.	✓	✓	
No charge for lost or forgotten tickets.	✓	✓	✓

\*Some conditions apply, subject to availability.

# PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGES

Save over 25% – see all six premieres from just \$51 per ticket.

The most premium option for theatre-lovers and supporters, and undoubtedly the best deal.

Enjoy the lowest prices and a superior range of perks (see pg 15), including free parking and exchanges, no handling fees, and the same excellent seats, renewable year after year.

You'll be up close and personal in the very best seats for the most breathtaking performances of the year.

Your subscription supports the development and creation of the next generation of extraordinary artists and award-winning works right here in San Diego.

The 6-Play package secures the premium seats to all six shows in our main season, including two world-premiere musicals – *The Heart*, and *Working Girl* with a score by Cyndi Lauper – and *The Recipe*, a new play about the life of Julia Child.

Select the day of the week that best suits you. We will select the very best available seats and mail your tickets to you. 6-Play packages are in high demand and some performances are sold out. We encourage you to book soon!

Gold Circle	Area 1	Area 2
\$369	\$345	\$279
SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
\$369	\$345	\$279
\$412	\$386	\$345
\$470	\$437	\$399
\$470	\$437	\$399
	\$369 SOLD OUT \$369 \$412 \$470	\$369 \$345  SOLD OUT SOLD OUT  \$369 \$345  \$412 \$386  \$470 \$437

Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$12

'First Look' is the first week of the run of each production. A First Look subscription is a lower price and offers the opportunity to experience the show while the creative team is still polishing and making changes.

# DESIGN-YOUR-OWN SUBSCRIPTION

Save up to 15% on three or more shows of your choice.

For ultimate flexibility, mix and match the dates that suit you best and the shows that capture your imagination.

Enjoy specially-selected seats at the most in-demand shows of the year — a smart choice, tickets are already flying and shows will sell out.

Your most unforgettable nights out this year will be at La Jolla Playhouse in the presence of great artists telling thrilling stories.

You get flexibility plus perks, and your subscription supports the Playhouse in our mission to continue creating exciting new works you'll love.

#### **DESIGN-YOUR-OWN PRICE GUIDE**

For ultimate flexibility, select three or more shows and dates to design a subscription that works for you. Subscribe online or call us to secure the best available seats at these prices.

Please note that this pricing guide is accurate at the time of printing. Due to popular demand and limited capacity, prices are subject to change. We encourage you to subscribe ASAP to secure the best seats at the lowest available price.

	TUE - FRI, SUN EVE			SAT MAT, SAT EVE, SUN MAT			
<b>WEEKS 2-4</b>	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	
Jaja's African Hair Braiding	\$76	\$66	\$57	\$81	\$71	\$62	
Indian Princesses		\$56	\$41		\$65	\$53	
The Heart		\$89	\$80		\$99	\$89	
All the Men		\$56	\$41		\$65	\$53	
Working Girl	\$123	\$113	\$94	\$132	\$123	\$113	
The Recipe		\$75	\$61		\$80	\$65	
		Student, Senior, Military Discount <b>Subtract \$2 per show</b>					

	TUES - FRI, SAT EVE, SAT/SUN MAT**			
FIRST LOOK	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	
Jaja's African Hair Braiding	\$71	\$62	\$52	
Indian Princesses		\$51	\$37	
The Heart		\$75	\$65	
All the Men		\$51	\$37	
Working Girl	\$91	\$80	\$70	
The Recipe		\$65	\$51	
	Student, Senior, Military Discount <b>Subtract \$2 per show</b>			

'First Look' is the first week of the run of each production.

A First Look subscription is lower price and offers the opportunity to experience the show while the creative team is still polishing and making changes.

<sup>\*</sup> Gold Circle is in Weiss Theatre only.

<sup>\*\*</sup> First Look weeks have a Sat OR Sun matinee. The day of the week depends on the needs of the show and schedule.

SUBSCRIBE NOW AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG

## ENHANCE YOUR SUBSCRIBER EXPERIENCE

#### FREE ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Get the most out of your subscription by taking part in these events we host to enhance your Playhouse experience and deepen your enjoyment of the stories on stage.

#### **Talkback Tuesday**

Post-show, select Tuesday evenings

Participate in a lively discussion with performers and Playhouse staff members immediately following the performance.

#### **Discovery Sunday**

Post-show, a select Sunday matinee

Hear from guest speakers in a moderated discussion exploring the themes of the show.

#### **PRE-PERFORMANCE EMAILS**

Prior to each show, we send you a reminder email with the latest information and tips to help you enjoy your Playhouse experience (like dining, parking and traffic updates), plus articles that illuminate the world of each show, your free digital program, and the latest health and safety protocols. Ensure you're opted in to receive emails about these important updates.

#### YOUR COMPANION SUBSCRIBERS

Keep your companion subscribers in the loop. Contact Patron Services to ensure they receive important updates and exclusive subscriber offers too.

#### FREE DIGITAL PROGRAM BOOK

We're pleased to let you know that Playhouse programs are also available digitally to help us provide a touchless experience at the theatre and work towards reducing paper waste. Digital programs are screen size-responsive, easy to read on any device. Digital programs are emailed in your preperformance reminders and accessible at the theatre.

#### **PRE-SHOW DINING**

The Playhouse's on-site restaurant, James' Place, is open for dinner service at 5pm Tuesday - Sunday, offering full bar service and a selection of Asian fusion, steak and coastal cuisine. Make your reservation by phone (858) 638-7778 or through OpenTable. Indoor and outdoor seating available. (Please note, not open prior to matinees).

#### **SOCIAL CONNECTIONS**

Join our social media community for peeks into rehearsals, behind-the-scenes moments, live chats with creatives and actors, and more. @lajollaplayhouse #lajollaplayhouse

# YOU MAKE OUR COMMUNITY STRONGER

A high concentration of the arts in a city leads to higher civic engagement, more social cohesion, higher child welfare and lower poverty rates (UPenn). When you give to La Jolla Playhouse, your support extends beyond the art on our stages and serves the greater community.

VOICES OF OUR CITY CHOIR THEATRE WORKSHOPS CONNECT UNHOUSED SAN DIEGANS TO TRAINING AND RESOURCES La Jolla Playhouse's Voices of Our City Choir Theatre Workshops use theatre-based storytelling methods to help San Diego's unsheltered neighbors gain safe spaces, resources, dignity, belonging and work-readiness skills. Together with our partners, we provide free-of-charge, bi-monthly theatre workshops to Choir members to develop skills to share their personal stories and open new career pathways.

PERFORMANCE OUTREACH PROGRAM (POP) TOUR SERVES STUDENTS IN GREATEST NEED

More than 10,000 children benefit annually from our in-school POP Tour programming, including at 35 Title I schools throughout San Diego County. Students engaged in arts learning have higher GPAs, standardized test scores and college-going rates, as well as lower drop-out rates for students across all socio-economic levels (Americans for the Arts). The relevant and timely content of our commissioned plays teaches empathy, tolerance and understanding.

MILITARY AND VETERANS
PROGRAMS (MVP INITIATIVE)
OFFERS COMMUNITY AND
HEALING

"The Veterans Playwriting Workshop saved my life. While I went through a PTSD treatment program at the VA Hospital, I was also attending the writing workshop. It always struck me that the exit sign for the hospital off the I-5 also pointed to La Jolla Playhouse, which is where the real therapy took place." - VPW alumna Shairi Engle

GIFTS OF ANY AMOUNT MAKE A DIFFERENCE. DONOR BENEFITS BEGIN AT GIFTS OF \$250. LEARN MORE AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG/DONATE

# CALENDAR & KEY DATES

#### APR

Single tickets on sale for *Jaja's African Hair Braiding, Indian Princesses* and *The Heart*.

#### APR 24 - 27 WOW FESTIVAL

4 days of art experiences, presented in partnership with UC San Diego. Free and ticketed events.

MAY 17 - JUN 15 Jaja's African Hair Braiding

JUN 10 - JUL 6
INDIAN PRINCESSES

#### JUN 15 - 16 NATIVE VOICES

Young Native Playwrights Festival

#### ΔΠ

Single tickets on sale for All the Men Who've Frightened Me and Working Girl.

AUG 19 - SEP 21
THE HEART

SEP 16 - OCT 12

ALL THE MEN WHO'VE
FRIGHTENED ME

#### OCT

**2026/27 Season Launch** Exclusive renewal window for existing Subscribers.

NOV

Single tickets on sale for *The Recipe*.

NOV 21 - 23

LATINX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

OCT 28 - NOV 30

WORKING GIRL

**DEC 4-14** 

DNA NEW WORK SERIES FEB 10 - MAR 8, 2026 **THE RECIPE** 

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# **YOU'RE INVITED!**

San Diego. Laugh-out-loud at moving, surprising, diverse family stories new play about how Julia Child became an icon, Grab the best seats for a Broadway hit set in Harlem, and an edge-of-your-seat musical set in <u>Save over 25% on tickets to Cyndi Lauper's newest musical, and a </u> some of the USA's brightest creative voices,

Enjoy it all with your favorite people, See you at the theatre,

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San Diego Foundation



SHOW



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