

# 2023/24 SEASON Your Best Nights Out

# FUTURE CLASSICS

A do-not-miss lineup of Broadway stars, breathtaking performances, brilliant playwriting and sensational moments created by some of America's most visionary theatre-makers.

> Subscribe to experience six unique, thrilling world premieres at San Diego's world-renowned, award-winning theatre. We promise you an unforgettable year of future classics.

> > Welcome to La Jolla Playhouse.



LOVERS FIGHTERS DAREDEVILS DISSENTERS **AND THE** PURSUIT **OF THE** AMERICAN DREAM



# **Geven Seen Curtsying for years.** Now it's time to stand up.

Billie Jean in *Love All* 

# LOVE ALL

### BY ANNA DEAVERE SMITH Directed by Marc Bruni

Love All is the triumphant story of the rise of sports icon and social justice pioneer Billie Jean King. The trailblazer for equality faced tough competition on the court and adversity in the world, all against a backdrop of the massive social changes of the 1960s and 70s.

With the support of Billie Jean King herself, this exciting world premiere comes from the pen of award-winning playwright, professor, actor and author Anna Deavere Smith (whose screen roles include *The West Wing* and *Nurse Jackie*). Deavere Smith's artistry is evidenced by the groundbreaking work that she has created for more than four decades, including the Tony Award-nominated *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992*.

Under the skillful hand of director Marc Bruni (director of the Tony, Grammy and Olivier Award-winning *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*), *Love All* evokes the highs and lows of Billie Jean's extraordinary career, and asks not just what it takes to be a champion, but what it takes to change the course of history.

# THE Extraordinary Life of the Champion Billie Jean King

### AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING Subscription Packages:



JUN 3 – JUL 2 MANDELL WEISS THEATRE

PRODUCTION Jay Jeffcoat SPONSORS Denise and Lon Bevers

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Jenn Freeman teaches us how we all might shape our challenges, redefine them as our strengths, and thrive in the process. The stories she tells through her remarkable dances transcend verbal communication and touch the audience in an indelible way.

Dr. Kim Gilbert Ph.D., Therapist and diagnostician

# **IS IT THURSDAY YET?**

CREATED, CHOREOGRAPHED AND PERFORMED BY JENN FREEMAN CREATED, CHOREOGRAPHED AND DIRECTED BY SONYA TAYEH Composed and Performed by Holland Andrews

Dancer and choreographer Jenn Freeman was diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder in 2021 at age 33, and since then she has navigated an endless sea of epiphanies. Inspired by a deep curiosity to examine her childhood memories through this new lens, Jenn found a way to illuminate her story using the language she knows best: Dance.

*Is It Thursday* Yet? invites you into the unique complexities of Jenn's neurodivergent brain through a stunning tapestry of dance, live music and home video footage. Original live music from renowned musician Holland Andrews is woven with audio narrations from Jenn's therapist, vocals, clarinet, drums and electronic music. A vibrant, colorful and tactile scenic design by Tony Award winner Rachel Hauck is inspired by Jenn's sensory sensitivities to texture, color, light and sound. This inventive, engrossing new work is co-created and directed by the electrifying choreographer Sonya Tayeh (Tony Award winner for *Moulin Rouge*).

JUL 11 - AUG 6

MANDELL WEISS FORUM

# A CELEBRATION OF WHAT IT MEANS TO LIVE A LIFE ON THE SPECTRUM.

# AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:





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Walk tall, kick ass, learn to speak Arabic, love music and never forget you come from a long line of truth seekers, lovers and warriors.

Hunter S. Thompson

# THE UNTITLED UNAUTHORIZED HUNTERS. HUNTERS. THOMPSON MUSICAL

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JOE ICONIS Book by Joe Iconis and Gregory S. Moss Directed by Christopher Ashley

Careening from the 1940s to his death in 2005, this gonzo musical blasts into the life of one of America's most influential and destructive icons. In relentless pursuit of the meaning of the American Dream during an era of political and social upheaval, Hunter S. Thompson cultivated a new form of journalism that — for better or worse — injected his subjective view into the heart of the story. Now, in another, even more severe moment of fake news, propaganda and polarization, Hunter's story helps explore how we got here, and how to keep fighting.

Set to Joe Iconis' anarchic and tuneful score, this musical is a rock 'n' roll portrait of an artist seeking greatness and coming to terms with his own legacy. It's a heartfelt trumpet call to the moral idealists, the outraged, the outlaws and the outsiders. There will be peacocks, there will be breakdowns, there will be fireworks.

AUG 29 - OCT 1 SHEILA A POTIKE

SHEILA AND HUGHES Potiker Theatre

# PRODUCTION SPONSOR Ted and Paula Adams

LIVE, BUT THE Crazy Never Die.

SOME MAY NEVER

# AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:





# **SUMO**

BY LISA SANAYE DRING Directed by Ralph B. Peña A Co-production with Ma-yi Theater Company

Entrenched in an elite sumo training facility in Tokyo, six men practice, eat, love, play and ultimately fight.

Akio arrives as an angry, ambitious 18 year old with a lot to learn. Expecting validation, dominance and fame, and desperate to move up the ranks, he slams headlong into his fellow wrestlers, especially Mitsuo, the highest ranked fighter. With sponsorship money at stake, their bodies on the line, and their futures at risk, the wrestlers struggle to carve themselves – and one another – into the men they dream of being.

Lisa Sanaye Dring has painted a vivid world with poetic precision, mixing ancient, divine ritual with the guttural ferocity of competition. *SUMO* was a hit as part of our DNA New Work Series in 2021. Directed by Ralph B. Peña (artistic director of Ma-Yi Theater) and featuring live taiko drumming, we are thrilled to bring this tenderly drawn and unique work to life for San Diego audiences.

**SEP 26 - OCT 22** 

# TRUE VICTORY IS Victory over Oneself.

# AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:



PRODUCTION SPONSOR

Silvija and Brian Devine

MANDELL WEISS FORUM

Welcome to the dohyō. Where the national heroes of Japan are made. These men are not gods, they are sumo. But sumo wrestlers were once gods.

SUMO



Well, something's been off with me all day. It's gonna sound silly, but this morning – well, there were no dry towels in the bathroom.

George F. Babbitt, Babbitt

# BABBITT

### BY JOE DIPIETRO Adapted from the Novel by Sinclair Lewis Directed by Christopher Ashley

Multi-award-winning star of stage and screen Matthew Broderick and Tony Award-winning playwright Joe DiPietro (*Diana, Memphis*) join forces with our own Christopher Ashley for this comedic, unmissable theatrical event.

Babbitt entered the zeitgeist in 1922 as a novel by white-hot satirist Sinclair Lewis, the first American Nobel Laureate. An instant literary classic, *Babbitt* has been a stalwart on 'best ever' lists for over 100 years, and is now adapted for the stage.

George F. Babbitt is a middle-aged real estate broker in the Midwestern city of Zenith. By day, he has a prosperous, respectable middle-class existence. By night, he's plagued by the thought that he has amounted to nothing. Searching for more to life than his top-of-the-line toaster and hickory golf club more meaning — Babbitt leaps with abandon into the most spectacular rebellion of his life — one that could end up costing him everything.

# YOU CAN'T Always get What you want, But you might get what you Need.

# AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:



NOV 7 – DEC 3		MANDELL WEISS THEATRE				
PRODUCTION Sponsors	Laurie Gore and Julie			Mission Valley Community Foundation		



Now underneath a canopy of stars, I call out to the night. Please keep me safe and show me this is right. I'm scared of letting go of everyone I know.

Jesse, *Redwood* 

# REDWOOD

BOOK BY TINA LANDAU MUSIC BY KATE DIAZ Lyrics by kate diaz and tina landau With Additional contributions by Idina Menzel Directed by tina landau

Broadway icon Idina Menzel makes her La Jolla Playhouse debut in the world premiere of *Redwood*, a one-of-a-kind theatrical event about one woman's journey into the precious and precarious world of the redwoods.

Idina plays Jesse, a successful businesswoman, mother and wife. She seems to have it all, but inside, her heart is broken. Finding herself at a turning point, Jesse leaves everyone and everything behind, gets in her car and drives... and drives. Thousands of miles later, she hits the ancient forests of Northern California, where a chance meeting and a leap of faith change her life forever. In the presence of the magnificent, towering redwoods, Jesse finds strange and powerful connections, an unexpected sense of community, and a chance at healing.

Acclaimed writer and director Tina Landau (*Beauty*) brings this immersive and cinematic new work to life with lush visuals and a soaring score from Kate Diaz. You will travel with Jesse into an intoxicating environment of dense greenery, fractured light and dizzying heights — a place where nature can help us heal, if only we don't destroy her first.

An exhilarating new musical featuring one of Broadway's greatest stars, *Redwood* will awaken your sense of adventure and lift you higher than the treetops.

FEB 13 - MAR 17

I HEAR MY GREAT Escape Calling.

# AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:



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 – 6 pm 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 audio description is available. LJP caters for 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

2023/24 Season Subscribers enjoy the best savings, seats and perks all year

**round.** Choose the subscription that best suits your needs and join us for this extraordinary season of six world premieres.

	FIXED DESIGN- SEAT YOUR-OWN	SINGLE TICKETS
Lowest prices, best value - save up to 20%	$\checkmark$	
Exclusive early access to the best seats	$\checkmark$	
Price increase protection: prices for Fixed Seat subscribers will not increase as demand rises and other prices go up	✓	
Enjoy your same great seats, year after year	$\checkmark$	
Free parking guaranteed	$\checkmark$	
Discounted extra tickets all year - great for gifts!*	$\checkmark$	
Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back*	$\checkmark$	
Free exchanges guaranteed (save up to \$15 per ticket)*	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
No handling fees	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
Priority seating selected for you before single tickets go on sale	<ul> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
Ultimate flexibility - select the dates and shows that best suit you and your social calendar	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
Secure tickets to the most in-demand shows of the year - tickets are flying and some shows will sell out	<ul> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
Exclusive event invitations, pre-sales and discount offers	<ul> <li>✓</li> <li>✓</li> </ul>	
No charge for lost or forgotten tickets	<ul> <li>✓</li> </ul>	$\checkmark$

DEGION

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# **FIXED SEAT SUBSCRIPTIONS**

6-PLAY PACKAGE 4-PLAY PACKAGE

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.

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

6-PLAY	WEEKS 2-4	Gold Circle	Area 1	Area 2			
PACKAGE	TUES-THURS, Sat Mat, sun eve	\$365	\$343	\$277			
The 6-Play package includes all six productions, including <i>Babbitt</i> with Matthew Broderick and <i>Redwood</i> with Idina Menzel.	FRI, SUN MAT	\$403	\$381	\$315			
	SAT EVE	SOLD OUT	\$406	\$340			
	FIRST LOOK (WEEK 1)						
	TUES-FRI Sat Mat, sun Mat	\$328	\$306	\$240			
	SAT EVE	\$365	\$343	\$277			
	Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$12						

<b>4-PLAY</b>	WEEKS 2-4	Gold Circle	Area 1	Area 2			
PACKAGE	TUES-THURS, Sat Mat, sun eve	\$233	\$223	\$177			
The 4-Play package includes <i>Love All, Is It Thursday Yet?, The Hunter</i>	FRI, SUN MAT	\$263	\$253	\$207			
S. Thomspon Musical and SUMO.	SAT EVE	SOLD OUT	\$270	\$224			
	FIRST LOOK (WEEK 1)						
	TUES-FRI Sat Mat, sun Mat	\$212	\$202	\$156			
	SAT EVE	\$233	\$223	\$177			
	Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$8						

'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 are still polishing and making changes.

# SUBSCRIBE NOW AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG

# DESIGN-YOUR-OWN SUBSCRIPTION

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.

# SUBSCRIBE NOW AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG

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

Select your plays 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, WED, THU, Sun eve		FRI, SAT MAT Sun Mat			SAT EVE			
WEEKS 2-4	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2
Love All	\$67	\$57	\$48	\$76	\$67	\$57	\$81	\$71	\$62
ls It Thursday Yet?		\$52	\$40		\$60	\$48		\$64	\$52
Hunter S. Thompson		\$80	\$65		\$85	\$70		\$90	\$75
SUMO		\$55	\$43		\$64	\$51		\$68	\$55
Babbitt	\$80	\$70	\$55	\$85	\$75	\$60	\$90	\$80	\$65
Redwood		\$120	\$105		\$130	\$115		\$140	\$125

Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$2 per show

	TUE, WED, THU		FRI, WEEKEND MAT (Sat or sun**)			SAT EVE			
FIRST LOOK	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2
Love All	<mark>\$62</mark>	\$52	\$43	\$62	\$52	\$43	\$67	\$57	\$48
ls It Thursday Yet?		\$48	\$36		\$48	\$36		\$52	\$40
Hunter S. Thompson		\$70	\$55		\$70	\$55		\$80	\$65
SUMO		\$51	\$38		\$51	\$38		\$55	\$43
Babbitt	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$70	\$55	\$45	\$80	\$65	\$55
Redwood		\$105	\$90		\$105	\$90		\$120	\$105

Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$2 per show

'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 are still polishing and making changes.

\* Gold Circle is in Weiss Theatre only. \*\* First Look weeks have a Sat OR Sun matinee. The day of the week depends on the needs of the show and schedule.

# 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

### **Discovery Sunday**

Post-show, select Tuesday evenings

Participate in a lively discussion with performers and Playhouse staff members immediately following the performance. Hear from guest speakers in a moderated discussion exploring the themes of the show.

Post-show, a select Sunday matinee

# SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

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

# **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 pre-performance reminders and accessible at the theatre.

### **PRE-SHOW DINING**

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



# YOUR SUPPORT ENRICHES SAN DIEGO THROUGH THE ARTS

As a non-profit organization, we rely on support from people like you. By adding a donation to your ticket purchase, you not only help ensure high-caliber plays and musicals are presented on Playhouse stages, you make theatre more accessible to thousands of San Diegans.

# JUMPSTART THEATRE BUILDS SUSTAINABLE MUSICAL THEATRE PROGRAMS IN MIDDLE SCHOOLS WHERE NONE PREVIOUSLY EXISTED.

"Having JumpStart at our school has allowed my students to discover new joys. Most of my students hadn't performed before, but now they're using their voices, moving their bodies, and letting out their emotions in new ways. The happiness it brings them is contagious!" *Danny Jones, Knox Middle School* 

# PERFORMANCE OUTREACH PROGRAM (POP) TOUR VISITS MORE THAN 50 SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY CENTERS, SERVING 20,000+ STUDENTS IN GRADES 3-6.

"[POP Tour] always brings up topics that are current and that are important for our kids to continue to dialogue about. Many of our students do not have the opportunity to attend live performances such as these outside of school." *Palomar Elementary School* 

# MILITARY NIGHTS OUT PROVIDE DINNER AND FREE TICKETS TO A PERFORMANCE FOR ACTIVE-DUTY MILITARY PERSONNEL, VETERANS, AND THEIR FAMILIES.

"This was the best event my family has attended! We absolutely loved the show and couldn't feel more appreciative of all the volunteers. Thank you very much." *Liz, US Marine Corps, currently serving* 



# CALENDAR & KEY DATES

<b>APR</b> Single tickets on sale for <i>Love All, Is It Thursday Yet?,</i> <i>The Hunter S. Thompson Musical.</i>	APR 27 - 30 Wow Festival At The Rady Shell	APR 27 - JUN 4 LA LUCHA A world premiere immersive experience at the MCASD, Downtown.
JUN 3 - JUL 2 Love All	JUL 11 – AUG 6 <b>Is it thursday yet?</b>	AUG Single tickets on sale for <i>SUMO</i> and <i>Babbitt.</i>
AUG 29 - OCT 1 The Hunter S. Thompson Musical	SEP 26 - OCT 22 <b>Sumo</b>	OCTOBER 2024/25 Season Launch Exclusive renewal window for existing Subscribers
OCT 27 - 29 Latinx New Play Festival	<b>NOV</b> Single tickets on sale for <i>Redwood.</i>	NOV 7 - DEC 3 <b>BABBITT</b>
NOV 30 - DEC 10 DNA NEW PLAY Festival	FEB 13 - MAR 17 <b>Redwood</b>	

# **EXPERIENCE MORE ACCLAIMED EVENTS COMING UP** THIS YEAR PRESENTED BY LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE AND THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPOBARY ART SAN DIEGO PRESENT A WORLD PREMIERE WITHOUT WALLS EVENT



N ASSOCIATION WITH SAN DIEGO SYMPHONY

WITHOUT WALLS FESTIVAL 2023

# ENTER AN IMMERSIDE WORLD OF MYSTERY, INSPIRED BY LUCHA

Step into the dream-like realm of *La Lucha*, an immersive experience where Lucha Libre wrestlers use high-flying maneuvers to captivate you. As forbidden loves and dangerous secrets are unveiled, this adventure will explode your expectations. Created by Optika Moderna/David Israel Reynoso, writer/designer/director of sold-out WOW Festival hits *Waking La Llorona* and *Las Quinceañeras*.

> TICKETS FROM \$39

> Scan OR code



Museum of Contemporary Art Presented by La Jolla Playhouse since 2013, Without Walls Festival (WOW) is an annual multi-day, family-friendly event that bursts outside traditional theatre spaces, turning unexpected locations into an interactive stage. Discover innovative American and international artists, and experience a dizzying array of "bold and extreme" new works (*Time*).

# A FREE FESTIVAL OF BREATHTAKING ART EXPERIENCES

APR 27 – 30 THE RADY SHELL AT JACOBS PARK

WOWFESTIVAL.ORG

MCASD DOWNTOWN 1100 Kettner Blvd, San Diego APR 27 - JUN 4

CREATED BY OPTIKA MODERNA/DAVID ISRAEL REYNOSO

# **YOU'RE INVITED!**

Save up to 20% and get the best seats to a season of six unmissable world premieres featuring Idina Menzel, Matthew Broderick and more.



# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2023/2024 SEASON SPONSORS











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**Theatre and Arts Foundation** La Jolla Playhouse P.O. Box 12039 La Jolla, CA 92039

