



PHILADELPHIA THEATRE COMPANY

at the

Suzanne Roberts Theatre

Annual Report

2024/25

“Night Side Songs is the most ‘realistic’ play I’ve ever seen. I cried a lot. I laughed a lot. Thank you so much for bringing real facts of life to the stage!” - Joe



Vision & Mission

PTC is a vital civic institution dedicated to the creation of extraordinary theatrical experiences that reflect the essential issues and ideas of our time, and which foster connection, understanding, and transformation.

We engage and strengthen our community through exceptional productions of new and contemporary plays and musicals, inspiring education programs, and mutually beneficial civic partnerships. We develop exciting new work that resonates both locally and nationally, and uphold a deep commitment to be a fully inclusive, welcoming home for the artists, audiences, and people of Philadelphia.



A Letter From **The Board**

On behalf of Philadelphia Theatre Company's Board of Directors, we are thrilled to welcome you back for a profoundly inspiring 51st season! We take pride in being your home for bold new stories and believe deeply that civic-minded theater plays a vital role in strengthening communities.

This season, we are excited to present a selection of inclusive works, carefully chosen by our talented and award-winning Artistic Directors, Taibi Magar and Tyler Dobrowsky. Together with our Managing Director, Margo Moskowitz, who passionately steers our organization with a commitment to financial sustainability, we are already seeing positive results from our hard work last season. We have experienced increased subscription revenue, higher attendance

at community-centered programming and student matinees, and single-ticket sales from first-time PTC attendees that have surpassed our projections.

We thank our dedicated Board for their ongoing support and commitment to a multi-year strategic plan aimed at engaging more diverse communities across Philadelphia by producing meaningful art that is accessible and reflective of the communities we serve.

Here's to the next 50 years of fostering connection and community, extraordinary theater, vital arts education for young people, and civic change. We invite everyone to join us at the Suzanne Roberts Theatre this season, home of Philadelphia Theatre Company.

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VICE CHAIR Vibhat Nair
SECRETARY Dr. Donna-Marie Peters
TREASURER John M. Hanamirian



A Letter From Executive Leadership

To begin, we would like to thank the generous individuals, corporations, foundations, and vital community partners who make our work possible. Our gratitude extends to our Board of Directors for their support, our dedicated volunteers, and our hardworking staff—this season and every season is only possible because of you.

At the Philadelphia Theatre Company, we believe theatre goes beyond mere entertainment; it serves as a platform for storytelling that connects us, invites reflection, and inspires. Cultural organizations like PTC are essential to Philadelphia's well-being, economy, and civic life. Our 2025/26 season focuses on themes of community, relationships, and the essence of what makes a place feel like home highlighted by *Primary Trust*, a Pulitzer Prize-winning play that opened our 51st season.

During our 2024/25 season, we celebrated our 50th anniversary, engaging over 7,300 patrons through our commitment to accessible, civic-minded theatre. Our opener, *La Egoísta*, featured an all-Latino cast and creative team, with

60% of single tickets sold to first-time PTC attendees.

Night Side Songs, a world premiere musical written by the Lazour Brothers and supported by The Pew Center for Arts & Heritage, drew upon real interviews and workshops with medical professionals, patients, and caregivers. We toured several locations across Philadelphia performing for free to reach more audiences and underserved communities. Happily, *Night Side Songs* will be produced at Lincoln Center this winter. *Small Ball* concluded the season with a whimsical tale exploring identity and purpose, inspired by "Gulliver's Travels" meeting our goal to present works that resonate with diverse audiences and foster community engagement.

We enhanced our programming last season with a benefit reading of *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune* starring Oscar-winner Da'Vine Joy Randolph. PTC originally produced this play by Terrence McNally in 1989, marking the first production to feature an entirely Black cast. We continued our collaboration with

the Terrence McNally Foundation with a developmental workshop and staged reading of *Night Science*, the 2024/25 Terrence McNally Award-winning play by MK Tuomanen.

PTC's educational initiatives connected more students to live theatre through student matinees and workshops, impacting more than 15 schools this season. These initiatives invite students and teachers to engage with the power of storytelling through our plays and musicals. We strive to provide impactful relevant programming combining performing arts training with career readiness and professional development.

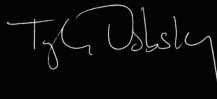
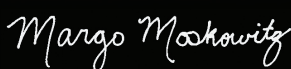
We also expanded audiences through public programming initiatives, including Affinity Nights, Black Theatre Nights, and pre- and post-show offerings like after play discussions.

We look to strengthen our position as a leader in Philadelphia of new

works. We are thrilled to produce the world premiere of James Ijames's *Wilderness Generation* in our 2025/26 season, with support from the William Penn Foundation to work with HBCUs in our region. We will continue our vital collaboration with PlayPenn, creating a space for playwrights to develop their work through workshops and public readings, such as its annual conference and The Foundry mentorship program.

While our 2024/25 season was productive, it was not without challenges. PTC is focused on reducing debt and overhead to ensure financial health for the future. And we are grateful to The Suzanne Roberts Cultural Development Fund for their ongoing support as we address these efforts.

Thank you to our stakeholders for valuing our holistic approach to working with diverse communities. Your support is invaluable.

Taibi Magar, Tyler Dobrowsky, and Margo Moskowitz



Taibi Magar and Tyler Dobrowsky
Photo by Paola Nogueras.

A photograph of three people in conversation. On the left, a man with dark hair in a dark sweater with a red stripe on the sleeve. In the center, a woman with dark hair in a purple puffer jacket and a patterned scarf. On the right, a man with a beard and a red bandana, wearing a green jacket over a purple shirt. They are all looking towards the center woman.

Our Programs

2024/25 Season

A Season of Plays of, by, and for the People of Philadelphia

PTC's 2024/25 Season demonstrated our commitment to engaging the community, positively impacting over **7,300 attendees**. We welcomed theatre patrons, students, and community members across Philadelphia through our core programming.

Theatre Productions:

We create extraordinary theatrical experiences that reflect the essential issues and ideas of our time, fostering connection, understanding, and transformation.

Inspiring Education Programs:

Education and youth engagement are cornerstones of our work at PTC. We are proud to offer student matinees throughout our season, which feature free in-school workshops for students and teachers before and after they attend the performance.

New Play Development:

PTC has always been a home for new work, having produced over 100 world premieres since our founding in 1974. We continue to support the next generation of theatre artists through workshops, readings, and residencies throughout the year.

Mutually Beneficial Civic

Partnerships: For each production, PTC seeks to establish long-term partnerships with individuals, organizations, and businesses to increase awareness and investment in our city, benefiting both the community and the theatre.

Robi Hager, Brooke Ishibashi, and Jordan Dobson in
Night Side Songs. Photo by Johanna Austin.

La Egoísta

A Philadelphia Premiere

Written by **Erlina Ortiz**

Directed by **Tatyana-Marie Carlo**

In association with

Edgewood Entertainment

Oct 4 – Oct 20, 2024



From Our Audience:

"That was a fantastic show!"

"Girl, she was so funny."

FACTS

All-Latino creative team and cast

60% of single-ticket sales from first-time buyers

Pre-show workshop where students write and share their family stories

Post-show discussion with the cast and creative team following the student matinee



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CAST

María Gabriela González
Sasha Merci
Jonathan Tineo
Marisol Rosa-Shapiro

CREATIVE

Choreographer Caitlin Green	Lighting Designer J. Dominic Chacon	Casting Director Stephanie Klapper
Scenic Designer Rodrigo Escalante	Sound Designer Germán Martínez	Stage Manager Nakia Shalice Avila
Costume Designer Haydee Zelideth	Wig Designer Earon Chew Nealey	Dramaturg Ryan Cunningham

Sasha Merci in *La Egoísta*.
Photo by Mark Garvin.

Night Side Songs

A Soulful Philadelphia Story

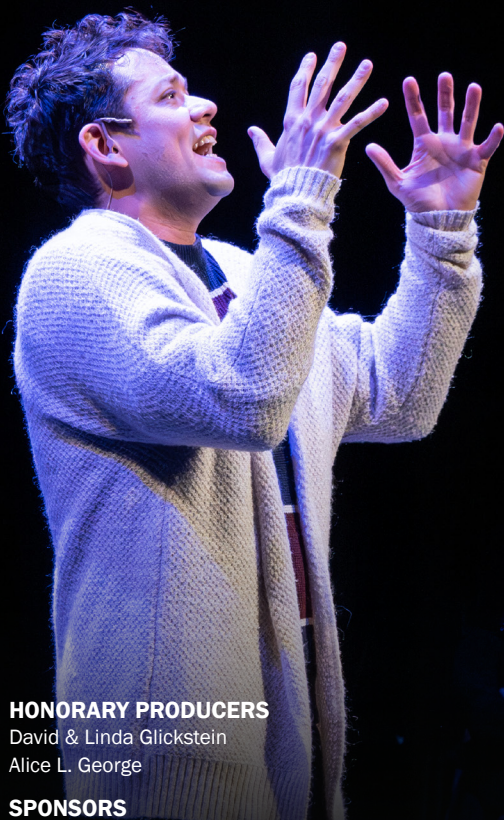
Words and Music by **The Lazours**

Directed by **Taibi Magar**

Produced in association with

American Repertory Theater

Feb 21 – Mar 9, 2025



From Our Audience:

"Amazing! Best theater I have seen in years!"

"I love that we sang with the actors. It was inviting us to share in the experience."

FACTS

A World Premiere

Informed by interviews and workshops with Philadelphia medical professionals from **Penn Medicine** and **Thomas Jefferson University Hospital**.

A co-production with **American Repertory Theater**.

Playing at **Lincoln Center Theater** in March 2026.

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Jonathan Raviv

Mary Elizabeth Scallen

Brooke Ishibashi

Jordan Dobson

Robi Hager

CREATIVE

Scenic Designer

Matt Saunders

Costume Designer

Jason A. Goodwin

Lighting Designer

Amith Chandrashaker

Sound Designer

Justin Stasiw

Music Director

Alex Bechtel

Stage Manager

Elizabeth Emanuel



*"If the purpose of art is to comment on the human experience, it would be difficult to find a more human statement than **Night Side Songs**..."*

The Philadelphia Inquirer

Night Side Songs

Free Community Tour

Feb 4 – Feb 15, 2025

Community Tour Locations

Central Free Library – Montgomery Auditorium | Community College of Philadelphia, Bonnell Building | Curio Theatre Company, Calvary Center for Culture and Community | Eakins Lounge, Jefferson Alumni Hall | The Perelman Center for Advanced Medicine, The Roberts Proton Therapy Center | Pennsylvania Hospital, Historic Surgical Amphitheater

Community Partners

Salt Trails | Chill Choir | Philly Children's Theatre | All In Productions | Gumbo Lab | The Women's Coalition for Empowerment | Threshold Choir | Community College of Philadelphia | School District of Philadelphia | Curio Theatre | Lighthouse 1893 | Calvary Church and Cultural Arts Center | The Free Library of Philadelphia | Jefferson Humanities and Health | Abramson Cancer Center

"The performance is beautiful and healing... The collective singing is uplifting, and the actors are remarkable."

— Aaron Levy, Director of Health and Humanities Initiatives at Penn Medicine

(Above) Jonathan Raviv and Brooke Ishibashi in *Night Side Songs*. Photo by Paola Nogueras.
(Left Page) Robi Hager in *Night Side Songs*. Photo by Mark Garvin.

Small Ball

An Off-beat Musical

Book and Lyrics by **Mickle Maher**

Music by **Merel van Dijk**

& **Anthony Barilla**

Directed by **Taibi Magar & Tyler Dobrowsky**

Commissioned and Co-Produced by

Daryl Morey, Philadelphia 76ers President of Basketball Operations

June 6 - 29, 2025



FACTS

A **new musical** that combines basketball and comedy.

A **story about identity** and finding one's purpose.

Themes and subjects that reflect our community's interests and experiences.

Cast features **Broadway** and **Off-Broadway** actors.

CAST

Jordan Dobson

Rob Tucker

Amy Warren

Josh Titora

Lexi Thammavong

Adam Chanler-Berat

Sarah Gliko

Nadina Hassan

CREATIVE

Lighting Designer

Thom Weaver

Sound Designer

G. Clausen

Music Director

Daniel Espie

Stage Manager

Liz Forrester

Casting

Taylor Williams, CSA

Musicians

Daniel Espie, William Mullen,

Andrew Nelson,

Kevin Blanke, Justin Yoder

Choreographer

Katie Spelman

Scenic Designer

Christopher Ash

Costume Designer

Olivera Gajic

From Our Audience:

"Quirky. Fun."

"I loved the show! It was so creative, fun, and thought-provoking!"



Nadina Hassan and Jordan Dobson in *Small Ball*.
Photo by Mark Garvin.



Community Engagement

PTC works within Philadelphia communities to create long-term mutually beneficial relationships with our partners, uplifting our neighbors while bringing high-quality theatre to a broader audience.

Featured Programming

Black Theatre Night

Childcare Matinee

The Warm-Up

The Wrap-Up

Community Night

From Our Audience:

***"I am a medical student. Night Side Songs absolutely broke me in the best possible way. Thank you."** - Laura*

Thank You to Our Partners

All in Media | Artist Year | Art-Reach | Black Theatre Alliance of Philadelphia | Broad Street Love (formerly Broad Street Ministry) | Calvary Center for Culture and Community | Caring Hospice | Charlie Gilbert | Che Guerrero | Chill Choir | Community College of Philadelphia | Crohn's & Colitis Foundation | Department of Oncology, Jefferson Health | DJ Duiji | Dr. Adenike Webb | Emily Drinker | End of Life Clarity | Free Library of Philadelphia | Green Street Rescue | Jamie-Lynn Josselyn | Jefferson Humanities and Health | Jennifer Mota | Leanne Gadow | Matthew Smith | Naila Francis | Oskar P. Castro | Paola Nogueras | Penn Medicine | Philly Children's Theatre | Power Street Theatre | Rachael Socha | Rumba 106.1 | Salt Trails | School District of Philadelphia | Setoiyo Ekpo | Sug Daniels | Tamanya Garza | Bristol Myers Squibb Foundation | The Lighthouse 1893 | The Women's Coalition for Empowerment | Theatre in the X | Theatre Philadelphia | Threshold Choir | Vinyl Tap 215 | Yawei Song



Education

Dedicated to providing inspiring arts education for the next generation of theatre creators and audiences. PTC has revitalized and expanded educational programming through Student Matinees, workshops, and professional development opportunities.



School Partnerships

- Student Matinee Field Trips
- In-School Workshops
- Backstage Tours around the Suzanne Roberts Theatre
- Professional Development for Teachers



Classes at PTC

- After School Workshops and Master Classes
- Drama Discovery Day for Families
- Single-Day Intensives
- Summer Programming



College and Career Readiness

- Workforce development workshops in partnership with the Bloomberg Arts Internship Program
- Master classes with seasonal artists and PTC staff focused on careers in the arts
- Professional development opportunities via Drexel University and University of Pennsylvania
- Job shadowing opportunities for high school and college students



Lifelong Learning Opportunities

- Pre- and post-show discussion groups of all ages.
- Curated public programming and workshops that explore themes of identity, resilience, and community.
- Professional development for corporations and businesses.
- Curated workshops for community partners, held at libraries, recreation centers, and other neighborhood spaces.
- Artistic mentorship for early-career artists.

Thank You to Our Attendees

Abraham Lincoln High School | The Baldwin School | John Bartram High School | C.C.A. Baldi Middle School | Camden High School | Community Academy High School | The Philadelphia High School for Creative & Performing Arts | Murrell Dobbins CTE High School | Frankford High School | Franklin Learning Center | Abraham Lincoln High School | Olney High School | Philadelphia Military Academy | The Philadelphia School | Sayre High School | Sacred Heart Academy Bryn Mawr | Allen M. Stearne Elementary | Thomas Edison High School | West Philadelphia High School

FACTS

- Attendance at our Student Matinee performances increased by **22%**.
- PTC collaborated with over **15 schools** in the Philadelphia area.
- Classes for over **200 students** covering acting, improvisation, financial literacy, and production roles.

Participating partners included **Opera Philadelphia, Philadelphia Young Playwrights**, and the **School District of Philadelphia**.

Participating groups included: **The Battier Take Charge Foundation, Arts for Learning Maryland, Project HOME**, and **Jobs for American Graduates (JAG)**.



The Education Improvement Tax Credit Program approved PTC as an Educational Improvement Organization in Pennsylvania!

Josh A. Campbell teaching a summer class.
Photo by Haley Potter. **13**

New Play Development

Terrence McNally Award

The jewel in our New Play Development program is the Terrence McNally Award, which annually honors a Philadelphia playwright with a cash prize and a week-long workshop, culminating in a public reading on the Suzanne Roberts Theatre stage. Scripts are accepted for consideration in the spring.

Terrence McNally Recent Winners

2024: MK Tuomanen for *Night Science*

2022: Stephanie Kyung Sun Walters for *Acetone Wishes And Plexiglass Dreams*

2021: Donja R. Love for *What Will Happen To All That Beauty?*

We are investing in stories we believe are relevant to our growing audiences, supporting a more diverse and inclusive organization now and in the years to come.

PlayPenn and PTC Partnership

play
penn

After the successful developmental workshops of Roger Q. Mason's *The Duat* and Ty Defoe's *Trans World*, we continued our partnership with PlayPenn during the 2024/25 season.

The Foundry at PTC program will continue throughout 2026, and will include workshops and readings planned for the spring of 2027.

New Play Festival this summer focused on three emerging writers from Philadelphia:

I'll Eat You Whole by Chaz T. Martin,
Talking To Og by Zahra Patterson,
The Company by Lex Thammavong.

"Both PTC and PlayPenn are committed to uplifting theater makers from historically underrepresented backgrounds. By combining our resources, we aim to increase our impact on LGBTQ+ and BIPOC playwrights, thus expanding the representation of traditionally marginalized voices on regional and national stages."

– Tyler Dobrowsky, PTC Co-Artistic Director



Jessica Johnson during reading of *Night Science* by MK Tuomanen. Photo by Carolina Vargas.



Our Public Commitment

Our Public Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Belonging:

Philadelphia Theatre Company is dedicated to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment regardless of age, race, ability, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion, citizenship, or socioeconomic background. We embrace diversity, ensure fairness, and promote a sense of belonging for artists, audiences, and employees, while striving to remove barriers that may prevent the people of Philadelphia from attending, engaging with, or participating in our programs.

We aim to eliminate obstacles that hinder audiences from attending our theater. Throughout the season, the Philadelphia Theatre Company collaborated with **Art-Reach**, a non-profit organization that connects the disability community with cultural arts, to provide enhanced training and resources for our Front of House staff, Box Office Manager,

and other theater personnel. This initiative was supported by the **National Alliance for Musical Theatre's Impact & Exploration Fund**.

Accessibility Offerings

- Audio Described Performances
- Open Caption Performances
- ASL Interpreted Performances
- Automatic doors providing street-level access to the theatre
- Wheelchair-level ticket windows
- Elevator access between floors
- Unobstructed view spaces for guests using mobility devices and adjacent companion seating in both the Mezzanine and Orchestra
- Assisted listening devices available
- Braille signage throughout the building

ACCESS by
Art-Reach

NAMT
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Da'Vine Joy Randolph and Robert D. DoQui,
Frankie and Johnny reading, November 2024.
Photo by Carolina Vargas.

Thank You for Your Support!

FRANKIE AND JOHNNY IN THE CLAIR DE LUNE November 2024

A reading directed by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright James Ijames featured Academy Award-winning actress and Tony Award nominee Da'Vine Joy Randolph, a native of Philadelphia, alongside career film, television, and theater artist Robert D. DoQui.





Daryl Moorey & Mark Garvin.
Photo by Paola Noguera.



Sally Katz & Sarah Schlossberg.
Photo by Paola Noguera.



Rhonda Ellen Resnick & David
Cohen Photo by Paola Noguera.



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Sarah Schlossberg

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**Celebrating 50 seasons of bold theatre.
An interactive gala where sports, Philly,
food, and fun took center court!**

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Jordan Dobson and Nadina Hassan during the 50th
Anniversary Gala. Photo by Paola Noguera.



Thank You To All Our Supporters

Philadelphia Theatre Company is extremely thankful for the support received from the many generous individuals, corporations, foundations, and government partners who contribute to PTC's mission. This list acknowledges contributions made from September 2024 to August 2025.

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Mark Garvin

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Richardson*
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Susan & Jim Meyer

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Your investment in the arts is essential for strengthening communities and enhancing our local economy, ensuring that creativity and theatre remain accessible to everyone.

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The Suzanne Roberts Cultural Development Fund

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The Pew Center for Arts and Heritage

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REMEMBERING CAROL SALINE
Philadelphia Theatre Company mourns the passing of longtime board member and beloved friend, Carol Saline. Carol was an award-winning journalist, celebrated author, and tireless advocate for community service. A senior writer at Philadelphia Magazine for more than 30 years, she won two National Magazine Awards and co-authored the best-selling books *Sisters, Mothers and Daughters*, and *Best Friends*, which touched millions of readers.





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PHILADELPHIA THEATRE COMPANY

at the

Suzanne Roberts Theatre

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Associate Production & Rentals Manager:

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Sound Supervisor: Olivia Denison

Video Supervisor: Brian Morsberger

Wardrobe Supervisor: Danielle Joh

Props Artisan: Emily Schuman

Assistant Carpenter: Patrick Dougherty

Assistant Lighting Supervisor:

Jeremy Hugo

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Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor:

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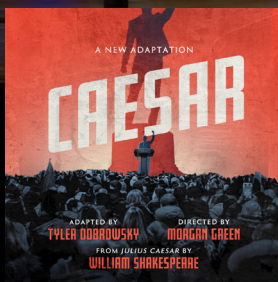
2024
Pulitzer Prize
Winner



Primary Trust

By **Eboni Booth**

Directed by **Amina Robinson**



Caesar

Adapted by **Tyler Dobrowsky**

Directed by **Morgan Green**

From *Julius Caesar* by

William Shakespeare



Wilderness Generation

By **James IJames**

Directed by **Taibi Magar**



Havana Hop

Written, choreographed, and

performed by **Paige Hernandez**

Original music by **Nick "Nick tha 1da"**

Hernandez and Kris Funn

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