

EXPERIENCE THE POWER OF

A FIRST LOOK

THE FORD'S THEATRE LEGACY COMMISSIONS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 16

Springs

AT 7:00 P.M.

Written by Jeanne Sakata
Directed by Jessica Kubzansky

SATURDAY, JANUARY 17

Providence Spring

AT 2:00 P.M.

Written by Richard Hellesen
Directed by Holly Twyford

Young John Lewis: Prodigy of Protest

AT 7:00 P.M.

Book and Lyrics by Psalmayene 24
Music by Kokayi
Directed by Reginald L. Douglas



January 16-17, 2026

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Photo © Maxwell MacKenzie.

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**Large print playbills available.
Please ask an usher.**

Welcome

Welcome to *A First Look* at Ford's Theatre, a festival of new work called “a must-attend event on the D.C. theater scene,” and lauded by theatre critics as the launching pad for *The American Five* by local playwright Chess Jakobs.

Through *A First Look*, Ford's Theatre showcases plays at various stages of development and engages audiences who are passionate about historic drama and supporting the creation of new plays. The work in the festival includes plays from the Ford's Theatre Legacy Commission initiative, which seeks to celebrate stories that have often been neglected or left out of history books and the theatrical canon.

This year, *A First Look* presents the commissioned work *Springs* by Jeanne Sakata. At the heart of this epic story, Sakata explores what it means to belong while keeping faith in a country that has not always kept faith with you. In addition, the festival features new works that explore historically significant events and figures that have contributed to the fabric of America. The spark for Richard Hellesen's *Providence Spring* began when he read a sign on 7th Street that read: “Missing Soldiers Office, 3rd Story, Room 9—Miss Clara Barton.” The festival concludes with *Young John Lewis: Prodigy of Protest* by Psalmayene 24, music by Kokayi. This contemporary and rousing musical reveals the bravery of a mighty historic figure. The musical is part of Mosaic Theatre Company's 2025-26 season.

Stay tuned for Madeline Sayet's *The Knife*—an upcoming commission exploring the story of Mohegan leader Samson Occom, and the new cohort of Legacy Commissions for 2027.

And I hope you join us in the spring as Ford's celebrates the Semiquincentennial of our country with the classic American musical *1776*.

Thank you for supporting the development of new historical plays and for being an integral part of *A First Look*.



Paul R. Tetreault
Director
Ford's Theatre Society

Ford's Theatre Rules of Engagement

We are glad that you are joining us at Ford's Theatre today. This is a welcoming and interactive community. Whether you are here to visit our historic site or to see a show, we invite you to be your authentic self.

At Ford's Theatre:

- We are allowed to be human, in all the ways that make us unique.
- We are allowed to be human together. We encourage you to find moments of respectful connection and engagement with other members of the community.
- We are on common ground. We are all here to enjoy a shared experience and though our reactions and responses may vary, we will remain respectful.
- We are creating a live theatrical experience together; audible reactions and responses are welcome. The actors need you to engage with what you see but not to distract them from their performances.
- We also welcome the use of personal communication devices if they help you to better experience the show, but we encourage you to respect the actors' work and the other audience members around you. **Please note that the taking of photographs, video or sound recordings of the performance is not permitted.**

Let's create something beautiful together.



Become a volunteer usher!

Be part of the team that brings the Ford's Theatre experience to life. Step into history with us and share the magic of live theatre—become a volunteer today!



Visit bit.ly/fordsusher and learn more.

View from the stage of the President's Box at Ford's Theatre. © Maxwell MacKenzie.

Ford's Theatre Underwriters

The Ford's Theatre Legacy Commissions are made possible by generous support from:

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At Boeing, we embrace the opportunity to be a positive catalyst for change in the places we call home. Each year, through Boeing Global Engagement, we invest in the next generation of innovators and explorers, veterans and their families transitioning after service, and local programs that uplift communities. Our commitment to building stronger communities is deeply rooted in the passion and dedication of our employees, who give their time, talent and resources. Our journey is powered by purpose, inspired by innovation, and driven by a steadfast dedication to strengthen and enrich our communities and create lasting impact for generations to come.

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-Michael K. Wirth, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer



INTUIT At **Intuit**, we are driven by our mission of powering prosperity around the world and believe everyone deserves the opportunity to prosper. This includes investing in our communities and supporting programs, such as today's performance that help bring people together, spark creativity, and promote collaboration. We are proud to support Ford's Theatre as a season sponsor.

-Kerry McLean, Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Corporate Secretary



At **Lockheed Martin**, we lead in aerospace and defense technology—pushing innovation and scientific discovery to deliver solutions that keep the U.S. and its allies safe. Whether through transformative technologies or meaningful community partnerships, like the one we have had with Ford's Theatre for many years, we are committed to making a difference in our communities and to supporting our important national institutions.

-James D. Tisch, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

The Plays



Springs

Pictured: Jeanne Sakata

Jeanne Sakata is an award-winning actor and playwright whose versatility spans across theater, television, film and voiceover. Onstage, Jeanne most recently performed in Anna Deavere Smith's *Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992* at Center Theatre Group's Mark Taper Forum, the world premiere of Moisés Kaufman and Amanda Gronich's *Here There Are Blueberries* at La Jolla Playhouse, and Carla Ching's world premiere of *Revenge Porn* at Ammunition Theatre Company. Jeanne's play *Hold These Truths*, inspired by the life of civil rights giant Gordon Hirabayashi and originally commissioned by Center Theatre Group, had its world premiere in 2007 with Los Angeles' East West Players. It has since had over two dozen productions across the country with extended runs at Barrington Stage, Arena Stage, and TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. *Hold These Truths* is on display at the Library of Congress Playwrights Archive in the Asian American Pacific Islander Collection in Washington D.C., where the Jeanne Sakata Collection was established in July 2011. Jeanne authored the 2021 L.A. Theatre Works audio play *For Us All*, commissioned and produced by LA Theatre Works, inspired by the 1980's "coram nobis" court battle of Fred Korematsu. Among numerous honors, Jeanne has received the Los Angeles Ovation Award for Outstanding Lead Actress in Chay Yew's *Red* at East West Players, a Trailblazer Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement & Raising the Visibility of the API Community by East West Players and a Lee Melville Award for Outstanding Contribution to the Los Angeles Theatre Community by Playwrights' Arena. Currently working on an audio play adaptation of Frances Hodgson Burnett's *The Secret Garden* for LA Theatre Works, she is honored and delighted to participate in the Ford's Theatre 2023 Legacy Commissions Initiative.

The Plays (cont.)

Set against the shifting landscapes of the early twentieth century, *Springs* follows Kyusaburo “Harry” Sanada, a young man who leaves Japan in search of a place to build a life shaped by purpose and possibility. From the farms of the West Coast to the fields of an internment camp during WWII, Harry’s knowledge of the land becomes both his livelihood and his lifeline, sustaining his family and the community around him. As he confronts exclusion laws, suspicion and the violence of forced incarceration, Harry holds fast to his belief in what America could be. When he later turns his attention to the Gilroy Hot Springs, he imagines a sanctuary where people might find peace in nature—and in one another. At its heart, *Springs* asks what it means to belong while keeping faith in a country that has not always kept faith with you.

Credits:

Written By Jeanne Sakata
Directed By Jessica Kubzansky
Dramaturg Sydné Mahone
Stage Directions Ayanna Hardy
Stage Manager Julia Singer
Production Assistant Maddie Baylor

Cast:

Harry Kyusaburo Sanada James Yaegashi
Ensemble Dylan Arredondo
Tomiko/Ensemble Sumié Yotsukura
Masuo Kizaki/Ensemble Eymard Cabling

Time: Now and before.

Setting: Many.

**The show may be over, but we welcome
your feedback on the staged readings!**



The Plays (cont.)



Providence Spring

Pictured: Richard Hellesen.

Richard Hellesen is the author of over forty produced plays and musicals for adults and young audiences. He is proud to be an Associate Artist at Ford's Theatre, where his work includes *Necessary Sacrifices*, *Freedom's Song* (co-bookwriter), *One Destiny*, *The Road From Appomattox* and *Investigation: Detective McDevitt*. Additionally, he has written the scripts for the 2015 Lincoln Commemoration *Now He Belongs to the Ages* and four Annual Galas. His most recent play, the solo show *Eisenhower: This Piece of Ground*, starring Tony-winner John Rubinstein, premiered off-Broadway at Theatre at St. Clement's in 2023 and continues to be produced across the country, including regionally at Olney Theatre Center and the Majestic Theatre in Gettysburg. Nationally, his work has been seen at such theatres as South Coast Repertory, the Denver Center Theatre Company, Los Angeles Repertory Company, Barrington Stage, North Coast Repertory, Florida Stage, Geva, Syracuse Stage, Stage West, Gretna Theatre, Sundance Children's Theatre, Imagination Stage, People's Light & Theatre and City Theatre in Miami. Richard has received writing awards from the National Theatre Conference, Philadelphia Festival Theatre for New Plays, Beverly Hills Theatre Guild and PEN USA-West. His two dozen short plays include five finalists for the National Award for Short Playwriting. Twice he was playwright-in-residence at the William Inge Center for the Arts in Kansas. He's a member of the Dramatists Guild and the National Theatre Conference. He's also an avid dramaturg, serving as Production Dramaturg for the 2024 Ford's production of *Mister Lincoln*, starring Scott Bakula, and helping develop new plays annually at the B Street Theatre New Comedies Festival in Sacramento, where he makes his home.

The Plays (cont.)

Set in the years following the Civil War, *Providence Spring* traces Clara Barton's little-known mission to uncover the fate of thousands of missing Union soldiers. What begins in a modest office on Seventh Street becomes a sweeping journey through bureaucratic resistance, personal animosity and the unexpected allies who help shape her purpose. As Barton brings answers to grieving families, she confronts the reality that while the war has ended, the nation's struggle to fulfill its promise of "a new birth of freedom" is only beginning. Grounded in the power of memory—personal and historical—the play explores why preserving truth matters in a country so often asked to forget.

Credits:

Written by.....Richard Hellesen
DirectorHolly Twyford
Dramaturg.....José Carrasquillo
Stage Directions.....Ayanna Hardy
Stage ManagerStefania Giron Zuluaga
Production Assistant.....Jazzy Davis

Cast:

Clara Barton.....Erin Weaver
Libbie/Mrs. HillJustine "Icy" Moral
Dorence AtwaterChris Stinson
Captain James MooreMax Johnson
Colonel Sewell/Edwin Stanton/William Griffin/Horace GreeleyTodd Scofield
Arnold CatoJohn Floyd
DeliaDebora Crabbe

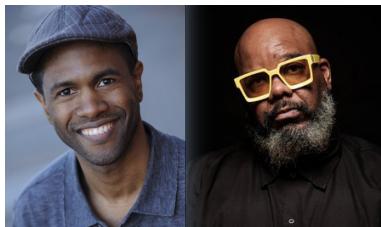
Time: May 1865 - February 1866; and additionally, Fall, 1868.

Setting: Washington, D.C.; Annapolis Maryland; Andersonville, Georgia; and New York City.

**The show may be over, but we welcome
your feedback on the staged readings!**



The Plays (cont.)



Young John Lewis: Prodigy of Protest

Pictured (L-R): Psalmayene 24 and Kokayi.

Psalmayene 24 is an award-winning playwright, director and actor. He is currently the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation Playwright in Residence at Mosaic Theater Company. Playwriting credits include: *Monumental Travesties*, *Dear Mapel* (Charles MacArthur Award Nomination for Outstanding Original New Play or Musical) and *Les Deux Noirs* (Charles MacArthur Award Nomination for Outstanding Original New Play or Musical and Venturous Capital Grant recipient) at Mosaic Theater. *Out of the Vineyard* at Joe's Movement Emporium; *The Blackest Battle* at Theater Alliance; *The Frederick Douglass Project* (co-written with Irish playwright Deirdre Kinahan) at Solas Nua; and *Cinderella: The Remix* at Imagination Stage. His one-person play, *Free Jujube Brown!*, is recognized as a seminal work in Hip-Hop Theatre and is published in the anthology, *Plays from the Boom-Box Galaxy: Theater from the Hip-Hop Generation* (TCG). Directing credits include: *Metamorphoses* (Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Direction of a Play) at Folger Theatre; *Tempestuous Elements* at Arena Stage; *The Colored Museum*, *Good Bones*, *Flow*, and *Pass Over* at Studio Theatre; *Necessary Sacrifices: A Radio Play* at Ford's Theatre; *Native Son* at Mosaic Theater Company; and *Word Becomes Flesh* (Helen Hayes Award, Outstanding Direction of a Play) at Theater Alliance. *Young John Lewis* development: World Premiere at Theatrical Outfit (Suzi Bass Award, Outstanding Production of a Musical). *A First Look* – Ford's Theatre (workshop under *Young John Lewis: Prodigy of Protest*), Mosaic Theatre Company production - 3/26-4/26. Psalm is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and Actors' Equity Association. On Instagram: psalmayene24

Kokayi is a multidisciplinary artist based in D.C. who interprets and crafts narratives using analog and digital technologies. He is a GRAMMY-nominated musician, improvisational vocalist, producer, author and speaker. A Guggenheim Fellow for Music Composition—the first emcee to receive the honor—he is also a Halcyon Arts and Nicholson Arts Fellow, and a TEDxWDC presenter. He appears on over 60 recordings spanning jazz, hip hop, rock and R&B, and is the author of *You Are Ketchup: and Other Fly Music Tales* (Globe Pequot). KOKAYI has taught and facilitated workshops on vocal improvisation and creativity at institutions worldwide, is a longtime collaborator and Board member with OneBeat and has served as a U.S. State Department music emissary. As Chief Ideator and co-curator of *BeatsnBeans*, he explores the intersections of creativity, coffee culture, and reimagined creative spaces. A committed advocate for DC's indigenous music, KOKAYI served in multiple leadership roles within the Recording Academy, including Chapter President and National Trustee, where he helped establish go-go as an official genre within the Regional Roots category.

The Plays (cont.)

Set against the turbulent backdrop of the Civil Rights era, *Young John Lewis: Prodigy of Protest* follows the Congressman's early life and traces how the murder of Emmett Till transformed his understanding of justice and set him on a path of purposeful service. What begins with a young man grappling with the weight of a national tragedy becomes a sweeping journey through grassroots organizing, moral conviction and the mentors who help shape his calling. As he rises to lead the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee and works alongside the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., he discovers that the fight for equality demands both courage and unwavering hope. Grounded in memory and movement, the musical explores why ordinary citizens step into extraordinary roles and illuminates the arc that ultimately led him to nearly two decades of influential service in Congress.

Credits:

Book and Lyrics byPsalmayene 24
Music byKokayi
DirectorReginald L. Douglas
Music Director/KeyboardWalter "Bobby" McCoy
DramaturgChelsea Radigan
Stage DirectionsAyanna Hardy
Stage ManagerShayna O'Neill
Production AssistantJessica Hagy

Cast:

John LewisMichael Bahsil
Emmett Till/EnsembleChristian Emmanuel
Eddie/Medgar Evers/EnsembleVaughn Ryan Midder
Stokely Carmichael/Bayard Rustin/EnsembleJay Frisby
Willie Mae/Ella Baker/EnsembleLatrice Pace
Reverend Doctor/Hosea/EnsembleSolomon Parker III
Diane Nash/Mamie Till/EnsembleNia Savoy-Dock
Bobby Kennedy/EnsembleHunter Ringsmith
Jim Lawson/A. Philip Randolph/EnsembleDerrick D. Truby Jr.
Joan Trumpauer Mulholland/Woolworth's Waitress/EnsembleCandice Shedd-Thompson

Time and Setting: The Civil Rights Era from Troy, Alabama to Washington, D.C.

**The show may be over, but we welcome
your feedback on the staged readings!**



The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.



The technicians at Ford's Theatre are represented by Locals 22, 772 and 798, IATSE, AFL-CIO, the professional union of theatrical technicians.



The directors are members of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, an independent national labor union.

Education and Public Programs

Public Programs

Ford's Theatre offers expansive public programs designed for the historically curious. Our initiatives provide rich opportunities for learning, connecting you to the history of our iconic site and offering deeper insights into our onstage productions. We delve into the intersection of theatre arts, history and civics, fostering a dynamic environment for public discourse.

Meet & Mingle

Saturday, January 17, 2026 at 9:00 p.m.

Frances and Craig Lindner Center for Culture and Leadership
(across the street from Ford's Theatre)

Join us after the lights dim on stage for an intimate post-show gathering after the Saturday evening performance of *Young John Lewis: Prodigy of Protest* by Psalmayene 24. Meet the *A First Look Festival* playwrights, members of the creative team and mingle with fellow theatre enthusiasts. Explore the inspiration, theatre and writing process behind these new works while sharing your thoughts and questions in a casual and engaging setting. There will be complimentary snacks and beverages available to purchase. Don't miss this chance to be part of the artistic conversation! This event is open to *A First Look* ticket holders and will directly follow the post-show discussion.

Written Then, Spoken Now: *Remaking the Republic*

February 6, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

The 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States invites us to reflect on what it means to be an American citizen. Grounded in the promises of the Declaration of Independence, each generation has added new depth to that conversation, expanding and reaffirming the nation's founding ideals. In his book, *Remaking the Republic: Black Politics and the Creation of American Citizenship*, historian **Dr. Christopher Bonner** explores how free African Americans in the nineteenth-century gave powerful meaning to citizenship through advocacy and action.

Ford's Theatre will be in conversation with **Dr. Christopher Bonner**, **Chess Jakobs**, dramaturg and **Dr. Quincy Mills**, Director of the Frederick Douglass Center for Leadership Through the Humanities. Blended with their conversation, we will feature excerpts of the book, historical letters and newspapers read aloud by actors. The program will be followed by a book signing.

Education and Public Programs

SAVE THE DATE:

Legacy in the Making: A Day of Advancing the Unfinished Work

May 17, 2026

In honor of the 250th anniversary of the founding of the United States, this one-day symposium will explore the enduring relevance of the principles articulated in the Declaration of Independence and their continued influence on the American identity, values and civic responsibilities. Drawing inspiration from President Abraham Lincoln's personal conviction in these ideals, this program will engage thought leaders, historians, scholars and public figures to discuss the ways in which Lincoln's vision and the founding principles of the nation, shape the current landscape of American democracy. Session formats may include interactive workshops, panel discussions and presentations. Registration opens in February!

Ford's Education—Serving Teachers Across the Nation

Teacher Professional Development Applications are now open! Our programs are designed to keep pace with the ever-changing classroom landscape. Immerse yourself in innovative, place-based and arts-integrated learning experiences that bring history, social studies and English Language Arts learning to life.

- **Civil War Washington, July 6–11, 2026:** In this institute, connect with peers to illuminate new perspectives and under-told stories, explore historic sites and collect a wealth of resources. Gain tools to help students grapple with histories whose legacies matter today.
- **Set In Stone, July 19–24, 2026:** Our monument landscape is changing. Examine how people have sculpted the narrative of United States history through monuments and memorials in our nation's capital.
- **National Oratory Fellows, July 30–August 2, 2026:** A new cohort of fellows begins the August prior to each school year, becoming part of a national network of supportive and like-minded educators. Drawing on Abraham Lincoln's legacy and example as a powerful orator, you will work closely with our teaching artists and staff to learn the art and science behind compelling and effective public speaking.

Visit the Teacher Professional Development page on www.fords.org or email us at education@fords.org for information on any of our offerings.

Ford's Theatre education and public programs are supported by Bloomberg Philanthropies, BP America, D.C. Commission on the Arts and Humanities, The Hearst Foundations, The Honorable Anita B. and The Honorable Timothy J. McBride, National Park Service, PwC, Southern Company, United Airlines and Visa Inc. with additional support from Cornelia T. Bailey Foundation, Dr. Scholl Foundation and Nancy Peery Marriott Foundation.

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The Abraham Lincoln National Council raises awareness locally, nationally and internationally about the historic, artistic and cultural importance of Ford's Theatre.

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The Board of Governors explores the legacy of President Abraham Lincoln and supports the celebration of the American experience through theatre and education. The Board of Governors comprises corporations and associations who advance the mission of Ford's Theatre through a variety of activities, including production underwriting, education program underwriting and general operating support.

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Visit www.fords.org/join-and-give/impact to see who has helped Ford's Theatre make a lasting impact.

Ford's Theatre Advisory Council

The Ford's Theatre Advisory Council is composed of nationally recognized historians, writers and professionals who share a love of President Abraham Lincoln and the values he exemplified in his life and presidency. These accomplished individuals provide insight, expertise and invaluable suggestions to the leadership of Ford's Theatre as we continually seek to improve the excellence of our programming.

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Audience Services

Historic Site Visits

A visit to Ford's Theatre traces the story of Abraham Lincoln's presidency, assassination and legacy. Whether for a brief visit or for the full experience, Ford's will deepen your appreciation and understanding of America's 16th president. Admission is free; advance tickets have a convenience fee. The Ford's Theatre campus traditionally includes:

- **Museum:** Learn about Lincoln's presidency from his inauguration to his arrival at Ford's Theatre the night of April 14, 1865. See artifacts related to his presidency and assassination.
- **Theatre:** See the recreated historic theatre and learn the key facts of the assassination from National Park Service Rangers.
- **Petersen House:** Explore Lincoln's final moments in the house where Lincoln died.
- **Center for Education and Leadership:** See the Aftermath Exhibits exploring what happened following Lincoln's assassination, the hunt for John Wilkes Booth and the lasting impact of Lincoln's legacy.

Our visitation schedule varies. Parts of the campus may not be available at the time of your visit.

Box Office Hours

- When there is an evening performance: 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- When there is no evening performance: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- When there is a *History on Foot* walking tour: 8:30 a.m. until the tour begins.

Groups

Groups (10 or more people) save on mainstage performance tickets, have priority access to the best seats in the house and have flexible payment options. Contact groups@fords.org or (202) 638-2367.

Accessibility



Accessible seating is offered in both the rear orchestra and the balcony sections.



An audio-enhancement system is available for all performances. Devices are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please check with an usher.

Upcoming Accessibility



Audio-described performances of *1776* are scheduled for April 9, 2026 at 7 p.m. and May 2, 2026 at 1 p.m.



Sign-interpreted performances of *1776* are scheduled for April 16, 2026 at 7 p.m. and May 9, 2026 at 1 p.m.



A sensory-friendly performance of *1776* is scheduled for April 25, 2026 at 1 p.m.

Learn more about accessible performances at bit.ly/fords-accessibility.

Staff

Director	Paul R. Tetreault	COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING
Deputy Director and		Director, Communications
Director of Programming	Kristin Fox-Siegmund	and Marketing Leah Yoon Frelinghuysen
PROGRAMMING		Associate Director of Marketing and Communications Carly Cloud
Director of Artistic Programming	José Carrasquillo	Associate Director of Ticketing & Sales Strategy J.R. Watson
Irani Foundation Director of Education	Tricia Patrick	Digital Content Manager Andrew Buchsbaum
Senior Artistic Advisor	Sheldon Epps	Design Director Gary Erskine
Deputy Director of Education.....	Jake Flack	Social Media and Marketing Manager Gabby Allen
Associate Director of Education and Public Programs.....	Alexandria Wood	Ticket Services Manager Morgan Vaughan
Company Manager	Martita Slayden-Robinson	Assistant Ticket Services Managers Robbie Duncan, Alexus Crockett
Program Operations and Music Manager	Sarah R. Hewitt	Assistant Ticketing Manager, Groups Cat Moreschi
Artistic Programming Manager.....	Erika Scott	Ticket Services Associates Kyle Bailey, Jasmine Brooks, Jan Cameron, Anthony De Souza, Rome Kapen, Audrey Klosterman, Steve Langley, Felicia Mayfield, Charlotte Newton, Mason Oberle, Cynthia Perdue, AJ Sultan
Manager of Arts Education	Axel R. Cruz	PRODUCTION
Interpretive Programs Manager.....	Dayna Malone	Production Supervisor Carey Lawless
Education Programs and Outreach Coordinator.....	Jennifer Cinicola	Head Carpenter Andrew Fox
Teaching Artists	W. Ellington Felton, ChelseaDee Harrison, Tamekia Jackson, Max Johnson, Kiersten Morgan, Mary Myers, Kirsten Noetzel, Victoria Reinsel, Eliseo Valerio	Props Head Tess Wagner
Education Program Artists	Jonathan Atkinson, Michael Glenn, Joe Mallon, Eric M. Messner, Chris Stinson	Head Flyperson Craig Arnold
ADMINISTRATION		Costume Manager/Design Assistant Veronica Stevens
Director of Finance	Joshua Drew	Interim Costume Manager/Design Assistant Andrew Cutler
Director of Accessibility and Engagement	Teela P. Foxworth	Wardrobe Supervisor Constance Harris
Director of Operations	Jason Shadle	Hair and Make-Up Supervisor Danna Rosedahl
Associate Director of Finance	Sheila H. Davis	Head Electrician C.C. Gould
Accounting, Payroll and Office Services Manager	Darnell Swinton	Sound Engineer Brian Keating
Executive Assistant to the Director.....	Rachel Ryan	Assistant Stagehands Dre Jones, Lawrence Rascop, Autumn Smith
Human Resources Manager	Lindsey Madsen	Resident Production Stage Manager Brandon Prendergast
IT Manager	Akinola Ojo	Production Assistant Safiya Muthaliff
IT Support Specialist.....	Kwame Poku	PATRON SERVICES
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DEVELOPMENT		Patron Services Manager, Theatre Operations Jeron Amoroso
Director of Development	Sarah J. Wilber	Patron Services Manager, Museum Operations Marie Althaus
Associate Director, Corporate Relations	Katie Burns-Yocom	Patron Services Associates Sam Austin, Amber Darby, Allison Farrall, Harry Greenberg, Cindy Holl, Renée Jones, Nadia Lee, Ermaline Moye, Elinor Reed, Isaiah Robinson, Alana Stolnitz, Carrie Welter
Associate Director, Foundation and Government Relations.....	Heather Cipu	NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Associate Director, Special Events	Kristen G. Temple	Secretary of the Interior Hon. Doug Burgum
Special Events Manager	Regan R. Lear	Acting Director, National Park Service Jessica Bowron
Corporate Relations Manager	Lainie Richards	Superintendent, National Mall and Memorial Parks Dr. Kevin Giess
Individual Giving and Membership Manager	Matthew Brown	Site Manager Tim Moore
Development Associate.....	Megan Ortman	

Ford's Theatre Society properties are managed by Lincoln Property Company.

Custodial Services by Red Coats, Inc.

Before independence, there was debate.



March 13-May 16, 2026



Music and Lyrics by Sherman Edwards;
Book by Peter Stone; Music Directed by Clay Ostwald;
Directed and Choreographed by Luis Salgado

Lead Sponsor: ConocoPhillips

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This project is supported in part by the
National Endowment for the Arts.

www.fords.org

Tickets: (888) 616-0270

Groups: (800) 899-2367

Members: (202) 434-9545

**GET TICKETS
NOW!**



Artwork created using photos of Jonathan Atkinson, Jake Loewenthal and Derrick D. Tracy Jr. by Scott Suchman