# cleveland **PUBLIC** theatre presents



SATURDAY, JUNE 27, 5-10PM (ET)

A VIRTUAL CELEBRATION OF HOPE

A DIALOGUE FOR CHANGE

with special programming leading up to the festival June 24 through June 26

## STATION HOPE STAFF

**EXECUTIVE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR:** Raymond Bobgan **CO-LINE PRODUCERS:** Beth Wood, India Nicole Burton\*

LIVESTREAM MANAGER: Benjamin Gantose

**EVENT MANAGER:** Lauren Calevich

ARTISTIC ASSOCIATE: Molly Andrews-Hinders

STAGE MANAGERS: Jaytionna Wells,

Colleen McCaughey

**DESIGN, GRAPHICS, & ENGAGEMENT:** Caitlin Lewins, Adrien Brizzolara, Emma Wolpert

\*NNPN Producer in Residence

## STATION HOPE EMCEES

AdeOlomo India Nicole Burton Beth Wood

Cleveland Public Theatre's Station Hope 2020 is presented in partnership with The Episcopal Diocese of Ohio & The Institute at St. John's, Ward 3 Councilman Kerry McCormack, Ohio City Incorporated, & Restore Cleveland Hope, Inc. and the Cozad-Bates House, with over 30 participating arts groups & 150 individual artists from the Northeast Ohio region.

## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

We acknowledge those of the Shawnee, Miami, Erie, Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Haudenosaunee Confederacy whose lands we stand on, and the nearly 28,000 Native American people who live in Northeast Ohio today; your neighbors, coworkers, classmates, and community members, who represent over 100 tribal nations.

 Cynthia Connolly, citizen of the Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians and a member of the Executive Committee of the Lake Erie Native American Council



## STATION HOPE PROGRAMMING JUNE 24-26

#### TWELVE LITERARY ARTS

#### Wednesday, June 24

{readings featuring four past & present Barbara Smith Residency writers, a 3-month residency provided by Twelve Literary Arts}

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Adebe DeRango-Adem, Noor Hindi, Jason Harris, Quartez Harris DIRECTED BY: Daniel Gray-Kontar

#### CHAINZ

#### Wednesday, June 24 Neo Dance

{oppressed by shackles, how does one find the strength to overcome the lynching of another black man?}

DIRECTED BY: Andre Dailey | PERFORMED BY: Nehemiah Spencer | VIDEOGRAPHY BY: Dwayne lones

#### HAVE A COOKIE

#### Wednesday, June 24

{a Zoom interview reveals why mother & son started their immigration rights law practice}

WRITTEN & DIRECTED BY: Les Hunter, CPT Premiere Fellow | VIDEO PRODUCTION BY: Brian Douglas PERFORMED BY: Brian Douglas, Lynna Metrisin, Les Hunter | Based on extensive interviews with Arizona immigration rights lawyer & activist Mo Goldman

#### ACTION IS HOPE: A PANEL DISCUSSION [7:00-8:15 (ET)]

#### Friday, June 26

{local leaders who have changed their community through activism in different ways speak about their process & what called them to activism. a call to action & a sharing of ideas to move us all toward action within our communities}

PANELISTS: MyRon P. Edmonds, DMin — Pastor, Grace Community SDA Church; Siaara Freeman — Teaching artist for Center For Arts-Inspired Learning, Co-founder of Outsiders Queer Midwest Writers Retreat, Founder & Curator of WUSGOOD.BLACK & the Black Hogwarts Poetry Workshop; Dr. Yvonne Pointer — Activist, philanthropist, Humanitarian, speaker, & author | MODERATED BY: Daniel Gray-Kontar — Poet, teacher, youth mentor, rapper, journalist, & education activist, Executive Artistic Director at Twelve Literary Arts (for full biographies, visit <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/yappq325">tinyurl.com/yappq325</a>)

## STATION HOPE ACTIVITY BOOK

{family activity book for all ages with historical & contemporary activities}

CREATED & DESIGNED BY: Inda Blatch-Geib, Dred Geib, Chialla Geib-Fenske | Visit tinyurl.com/y93elry| to download. Packets also available for pick up at St. John's Episcopal Church — 2600 Church Ave., Cleveland, OH 44113 — Saturday, June 27th from 11:00am-2:00pm (ET). While supplies last, packets picked up in person will also include crayons, felt, construction paper, and scissors.

Note: Family-friendly programming until 7:30pm (ET).

After 7:30pm (ET), performances may include adult content.

## OPENING CEREMONY

[5:00PM (ET)]

#### LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT/BLESSING

"We acknowledge those of the Shawnee, Miami, Erie, Ottawa, Potawatomi, and Haudenosaunee Confederacy whose lands we stand on, and the nearly 28,000 Native American people who live in Northeast Ohio today; your neighbors, coworkers, classmates, and community members, who represent over 100 tribal nations."

-Cynthia Connolly, Development Director of Policy Matters Ohio & Raymond Bobgan, Executive Artistic Director of Cleveland Public Theatre

## INSPIRING HOPE [5:10 (ET)]

{local artists stimulate hope & share how it has influenced them during these uncertain times}

CONCEIVED BY: India Nicole Burton, NNPN Producer in Residence | VIDEO DESIGN BY: Benjamin Gantose | PERFORMED BY: Northeast Ohio artists & community members | MUSIC BY: Mariama Whyte, "Hey You It's Me" | PHOTOS BY: Steve Wagner

#### ROOTS OF OUR MUSIC [5:20 (ET)]

{a musical chronology of one family about the role music has played in their racial identity}

WRITTEN BY: Caleb A. Wright | PERFORMED BY: The Wright Family Singers

#### THE GREAT REALISATION [5:40 (ET)]

{a post-pandemic bedtime story of how the virus started & why hindsight is 2020}

WRITTEN BY: Tomfoolery | MUSIC BY: V.K. Raman's Inner Awakening | DIRECTED, CHOREOGRAPHED, & PERFORMED BY: Suiatha Srinivasan | NARRATED BY: Robin Pease

## WOMEN'S RIGHTS... & WRONGS [5:45 (ET)]

#### Women in History

{the history of women's struggle for voting rights & the significant role of Black women in the movement}

WRITTEN BY: Anne McEvoy, Lisa Wiley | DIRECTED BY: Anne McEvoy | VIDEO EDITING BY: Brendan Litten | PERFORMED BY: Amelia, Amina, August, Ava, Azizah, Clara, Clare, Grace, Helen, Isabel, Jesse, Kate, Kelly, Kellyn, Kynnedy, Logan, Meredith, Roja, Ruby, Samone, Sarah, Scarlet, Sophia, Sophie, Zelda | SPECIAL THANKS: Saliha Muttalib

# LOOK AT ME: RECOGNITION & REPRESENTATION IN A NEW PANTHEON OF SUPERHEROES [6:00 (ET)]

#### The Superhero Project

{superheroes created by youth with serious illnesses & special needs, with a powerful statement on representational justice}

SUPERHERO PROJECT FOUNDER: Lisa Kollins | STATEMENT WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Amanda D. King | PRODUCED & DIRECTED BY: Robert Walland

## A CHIPMUNK, A SQUIRREL, & THE GREAT RAIN [6:05 (ET)]

#### Cleveland Treatment Center

{storytelling, music, & puppetry celebrate the radically transformative power of kindness}

WRITTEN BY: Eric Schmiedl, Steven Jones | DIRECTED BY: Eric Schmiedl | SOUND DESIGN BY: Richard B. Ingraham | PUPPETRY ADVISOR: Reay Kaplan Maxwell | VIDEOGRAPHER & EDITOR: Ezekiel Schmiedl | PERFORMED BY: Steven Jones, Eric Schmiedl, Ezekiel Schmiedl, Arthur Schmiedl | SPECIAL THANKS TO: Let It Ride program of the Cleveland Treatment Center, L.C. Collins. executive director

# FROM DIXIE TO CANADA: HOW OL' SOL JONES GOT LEFT [6:15 (ET)]

#### Restore Cleveland Hope & Bodwin Theatre Company

{a dramatic monologue tracing the escape of former slaves from a Virginia plantation through points along the Ohio River, Massillon, & into Cleveland}

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Kevin Cronin, an adaptation of *From Dixie to Canada* by HU Johnson (1984) | DIRECTED BY: Roman Macharoni

## BEAUTY IN STRENGTH [6:25 (ET)]

#### Generation L.Y.G.H.T.

{our strength is our beauty & we are a work of art—a masterpiece] CHOREOGRAPHED, DIRECTED, & PERFORMED BY: Martinique Mims















## SWINGING THE PENDULUM OF CHANGE [6:30 (ET)]

#### Kings & Queens of Art

{change is inevitable & unstoppable, but is it possible to control the way the pendulum swings?}

CREATED & PERFORMED BY: Gwendolyn Garth

## WE CALL YOU GEORGE [6:35 (ET)]

#### Dike School of the Arts

{poems dedicated to George Junius Stinney Jr., a 14-year-old Black boy who was executed in 1944 83 days after sentencing, the youngest person to be executed in the 20<sup>th</sup> century}

WRITTEN BY: India Nicole Burton | DIRECTED BY: India Nicole Burton, in collaboration with the ensemble | MUSIC BY: Andrea Nemeth | PERFORMED BY: Azizah Muhammad-Goodson, Ste-Vee Lang, Brian Currie, Logan Williams | Originally performed & filmed at Station Hope 2019 VIDEOGRAPHY BY: The Cleveland Film Company

### **OUR VOICE [6:50 (ET)]**

#### **Fostering Hope**

{the students of Fostering Hope's Hope in Balance program share their artistic voices with our community}

PARTNERING ORGANIZATION: Fostering Hope | WRITTEN & DESIGNED BY: Students of Fostering Hope | DIRECTED BY: Elaine Hullihen

## BEAUTY FOR ASHES [6:55 (ET)]

{a family's migration from the South to the North echoes the journey of enslaved people on the Underground Railroad—told through folk songs, gospel music, scripture, & significant quotes}

WRITTEN, DIRECTED, & DESIGNED BY: Eugene & Nicole Sumlin | PERFORMED BY: Eugene Sumlin, Nicole Sumlin\*, August Sumlin, Easton Sumlin, Joseph DelRe (Guitar)

## THROUGH MY LENS: SEE ME SEE YOU [7:15 (ET)]

Cleveland Public Theatre's Brick City Theatre - Lakeview Terrace: Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority (CMHA)

{based on their true stories & life experiences, this original performance is inspired by the life & legacy of Gordon Parks}

DIRECTED BY: Faye Hargate | PERFORMED BY: Samantha Gallo, Christopher Grayson, J'Vontae Hall, Iyonna Woods | Originally performed & filmed at Station Hope 2019 | VIDEOGRAPHY BY: The Cleveland Film Company

#### SPEAKERS [7:25 (ET)]

#### Raymond Bobgan

Executive Artistic Director of Cleveland Public Theatre

#### Rev. Noah Sutterisch

Building Steward of St. John's, The Episcopal Diocese of Cleveland

## **INSPIRING HOPE [7:40 (ET)]**

{local artists stimulate hope & share how it has influenced them during these uncertain times}

CONCEIVED BY: India Nicole Burton, NNPN Producer in Residence | VIDEO DESIGN BY: Benjamin Gantose | PERFORMED BY: Northeast Ohio artists & community members | MUSIC BY: Mariama Whyte. "Hey You It's Me" | PHOTOS BY: Steve Wagner

## BEYOND FERGUSON [7:45 (ET)]

#### **Cleveland Classical Guitar Society**

{a musical response to the tragic shooting of Michael Brown combined with video that addresses the murder of George Floyd & today's racial injustices}

MUSIC COMPOSED BY: Thomas Flippin | POETRY WRITTEN BY: Damian Goggans, Noel Pacheco Directed by: Brian Gaudino | PERFORMED BY: Alana Colvin, Camari Dodson-Poindexter, Damian Goggans, Rodrigo Lara Alonso, Chad Siler

#### CHAINZ [7:50 (ET)]

#### Neo Dance

{oppressed by shackles, how does one find the strength to overcome the lynching of another black man?}

DIRECTED BY: Andre Dailey | PERFORMED BY: Nehemiah Spencer | VIDEOGRAPHY BY: Dwayne Jones

### SHRAPNEL MAPS [7:55 (ET)]

{poems that speak to the pain of the Israel-Palestine conflict & the longing for justice & peace}

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Philip Metres

## A MODERN MATRIARCH [8:05 (ET)]

{using song, poetry, & original text, a new matriarch summons her ancestors to help her in this modern world}

CONCEIVED & DIRECTED BY: Sheffia Randall Dooley, CPT Premiere Fellow | MUSICAL DIRECTION BY: Jacob Johnson | VIDEOGRAPHY & EDITING BY: Je'Nine Nickerson | PERFORMED BY: Sheffia Randall Dooley\*, Jacob Johnson, CorLesia Smith | SPECIAL APPEARANCES BY: Elias, Solomon, Ella

### A TINY BLACK MOUNTAIN [8:15 (ET)]

#### 3 Winds Project

{a look at the infant mortality crisis affecting African American families

WRITTEN BY: Michele Rudolph | DIRECTED BY: Michele Rudolph, Noreen Thomas | PERFORMED BY: Michele Rudolph, Lois Graham, Noreen Thomas | VIDEOGRAPHY & EDITING BY: Doug Smith















## AN EXCERPT FROM HOME.LESS [8:30 (ET)]

{an excerpt from a larger piece in development that is a raw, poignant, & intimate look at the eviction crisis}

WRITTEN BY: Marian Fairman | DIRECTED BY: Denise Astorino | PERFORMED BY: Sage St. Cyr DEVELOPMENT PERFORMING ENSEMBLE: Corin B. Self, Doug Kusak, Sage St. Cyr, Jeffery Allen, Kelly Elliott, Margi Herwald Zitelli, Andrea Belser McCormick, Brittany Butler

#### WHO IS AND IS NOT HISTORY [8:45 (ET)]

#### Sound Body Culture & Canada Council for the Arts

{an interpretation of the struggle African Americans faced when they were invited by James Douglas to escape slavery by coming to Canada}

PRODUCTION & MUSIC COMPOSED BY: Obediya Jones-Darrell, CPT Kulas Composer Fellow CHOREOGRAPHY BY: Marisa Gold | LYRICS BY: Wayde Compton | PERFORMED BY: Vince Robinson (Narration), John Edwards (Piano), Shallom Johnson (Painting), Nimiwari (Vocals), Curtis Clark (Vocals), Carolina Borja Marroquín (Cello), Marisa Gold (Contemporary Dance), Loretta A. M. Moreno (Contemporary Dance), David Comrie (Vocals), Leasia Mcknight (Vocals), Juan Chacín (Vocals), Jhoely Triana (Dance), Will Allen Jr. (Trumpet), Carmenza Bambazú (Contemporary Afro Pacific Dance), Catalina Mosquera (Afro Contemporary Dance)

#### **WBLM THE MIX [8:55 (ET)]**

#### Ohio City Theatre Project

{get a behind-the-scenes sneak peek at the popular TV daily—WBLM The Mix. it's about to go viral!}

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Wesley Allen, Jeannine Gaskin, Laprise Johnson, Christopher Walker | DIRECTED BY: Pandora Robertson | MUSIC COMPOSITION & SOUND DESIGN BY: Wesley Allen | VIDEO EDITING BY: Wesley Allen, Pandora Robertson

## PALABRAS OF RAGE [9:05 (ET)]

#### Teatro Público de Cleveland, Cleveland Public Theatre, & Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center

{spoken word sharing a Boricua perspective, honoring Puerto Ricans' cultural history of an African-Taino-Spanish bloodline}

WRITTEN & PERFORMED BY: Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva, Bianca Flores-Sorace | DIRECTED BY: Blanca Iris García Rivera Salva | DOOR MURALIST: Tanya Gonzalez, created through Julia de Burgos Cultural Arts Center's "Doors to my Barrio"

## **VOICES FOR CHANGE [9:10 (ET)]**

{diverse voices from across Cleveland reveal truths & sing for a better world}

DIRECTED BY: Sheela Das, ASCAP Producer & Composer | SONG CREDITS: "Black & Blue" © 2017 & "Get It On Out" © 2020 — Sheela Das (Music & Lyrics); "Peace & Jubiliee" © 2019 — Clay Sukys & Sheela Das (Lyrics), Sheela Das (Music); "I Am You" © 2016 & "S.P.E.A.K." © 2020 — CJ Thompson | IMAGES COURTESY OF: Lynn Ischay, Sheela Das, Allison Woods PERFORMED BY: Students & Staff of Open Doors Academy, Senior Citizens of University Settlement, Sheela Das, CJ Thompson

### HOPE FOR THE WORLD [9:15 (ET)]

#### **Fostering Hope**

{we paint the word HOPE in languages spoken by immigrants & refugees living in Cleveland because the students of Fostering Hope's Hope in Balance program want you to know you are welcome & accepted}

PARTNERING ORGANIZATION: Fostering Hope | WRITTEN BY: Students of Fostering Hope CREATED & PERFORMED BY: Elaine Hullihen

#### DIGI-SLAM! [9:25 (ET)]

{an in-your-face through your screen poetry slam showcase featuring nationally renowned poets}

DIRECTED BY: Andrew Aaron Valdez, CPT Premiere Fellow | PERFORMED BY: Siaara Freeman, Ephraim Nehemiah, Clarity Levine, Damien McClendon, Akeem Rollins

## SOON I WILL BE DONE [9:40 (ET)]

#### Inlet Dance Theatre

{a solo dance that shares how faith & hope can pull us through darkness}

CHOREOGRAPHED BY: Bill Wade | MUSIC BY: Frankie Knuckles | PERFORMED BY: Dominic Moore-Dunson | Originally performed & filmed at Station Hope 2015 | VIDEOGRAPHY BY: The Cleveland Film Company

## ART AS A WEAPON [9:50 (ET)]

#### Djapo Cultural Arts Institute

{as a source of power & strength, we use our art as a conduit to call upon our ancestors to fight & to be a shield against racism, injustice, & social wrongs}

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY: Talise Campbell | MUSICAL DIRECTION BY: Weedie Braimah VIDEOGRAPHY BY: Rudy Duran | PERFORMED BY: Talise Campbell, Inaya Carrington, Dalayah Johnson, Shalonda Davis, Malana Broome, Samantha Davis, Sauriika Lockett, Brooklyn Davis, Layla Siler, Jamiya Gaines, Ayodeji Lockett, Kalia Little, Chinnarra McCants | MUSICIANS: Weedie Braimah, Durotimi Troy, Egunjobi Lockett-Songofunmi, Jubal Harris, Cheikh Ndong GUEST SPEAKERS: Yvetta Eley, Raymond Bobgan | MUSIC CREDITS: Oumou Sangare — "Saa Magni", Nina Simone — "Feeling Good" | PROJECTION DESIGN BY: Najaa Young

\*Actor appears courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.















# cleveland **PUBLIC** theatre

# **OUR MISSION:**

To raise consciousness & nurture compassion through groundbreaking performances & life-changing education programs.

www.cptonline.org 6415 Detroit Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44102 216.631.2727

# NOTE FROM THE EPISCOPAL DIOCESE OF OHIO

God loves you! No exceptions.

This short statement captures much of what the Episcopal Church in the Diocese of Ohio believes about God and one another. God loves each of us, now of course, but also eternally, and gives us to one another in community.

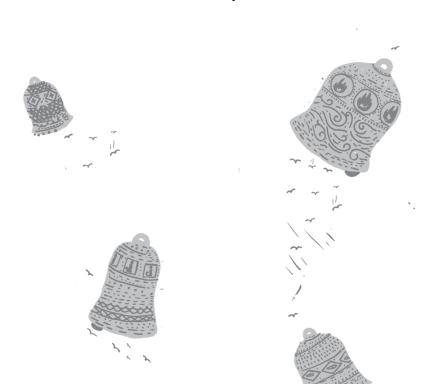
Unfortunately, throughout human history, we've experienced many times when fear, greed, and the desire for power over another creates injustice and oppression. As followers of Jesus, we are called to reject fear and greed and to act boldly for freedom and justice, as both freedom seekers and their helpers did along the Underground Railroad.

We are proud to partner with Cleveland Public Theatre to examine many of our ideas and beliefs about slavery, suffering, liberation, and hope. Black lives matter, and we pray this experience of Station Hope will help that truth become a greater living reality for all.

# **SPECIAL THANKS**

Joan Southgate, Kathryn Puckett, Restore Cleveland Hope, Inc.

Anne McEvov



## **ACTIVATE HOPE: TEXT TO GIVE**

CPT is proud to recognize three Cleveland organizations who have made social justice central to their mission. Restore Cleveland Hope, Inc., ACLU of Ohio, and NAACP Cleveland Branch call us to defend our rights, end discrimination, and know our history. Please consider supporting these organizations with a financial contribution and help our community grow strong into the future.

### RESTORE CLEVELAND HOPE, INC. [5:15 - 6:35 (ET)]

The mission of Restore Cleveland Hope, Inc. is to celebrate Cleveland's historic anti-slavery past through the establishment and operation of an Underground Railroad education and resource center in the historic Cozad-Bates House. Learn more here.

## ACLU OF OHIO [7:05 - 8:30 (ET)]

The mission of the ACLU of Ohio is to aid in maintaining and extending constitutional and other fundamental rights, liberties, privileges, and immunities, and to take all legitimate action in furtherance of that object without political partisanship. Learn more here.

## NAACP CLEVELAND BRANCH [8:35 - 10:00 (ET)]

The mission of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People is to ensure the political, educational, social, and economic equality of rights of all persons and to eliminate racial hatred and racial discrimination. Learn more <a href="here">here</a>.

## CPT SEASON SPONSORS

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