



MEDIA RELEASE

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FULL CASTING ANNOUNCED FOR
MILWAUKEE REPERTORY THEATER'S
ICONIC AMERICAN MUSICAL
WEST SIDE STORY

Including Milwaukee Favorites

James Pickering, Jonathan Wainwright and Bill Watson

July 17, 2019 – (Milwaukee) [Milwaukee Repertory Theater](http://www.MilwaukeeRep.com) kicks off the 2019/20 Season with the iconic American musical **West Side Story** based on a conception of **Jerome Robbins** with book by **Arthur Laurents**, music by **Leonard Bernstein** and lyrics by **Stephen Sondheim** in the Quadracci Powerhouse September 17 – October 27, 2019.

West Side Story is directed by Artistic Director **Mark Clements** who is celebrating his 10th Anniversary with Milwaukee Rep and stars Rep newcomers **Jeffrey Kringer** (*Cruel Intentions* Nat'l Tour) as Tony, **Liesl Collazo** (*On Your Feet*, Gateway Playhouse) as Maria, **Danielle Marie Gonzalez** (*Clueless: The Musical*, Signature Theater) as Anita and **José-Luis Lopez, Jr.** (*On Your Feet*, Broadway) as Bernardo. Milwaukee Rep favorites **James Pickering** (*The Foreigner*, Milwaukee Rep) as Doc, **Jonathan Wainwright** (*A Christmas Carol*, Milwaukee Rep) as Lt. Schrank and **Bill Watson** (*Feast of Crispian*) as Officer Krupke join the cast along with **Jacob Burns** (*Hairspray*, Dallas Theater Center) as Riff, **Rebecca Corrigan** (*Wizard of Oz*, Meadowbrook Theatre) as Graziella, **Hope Endrenyi** (*Hamilton*, Broadway) as Anybodys, **Kellie Hoagland** (*Rock of Ages*, NCL Breakaway) as Velma, **Carlos Jimenez** (*In the Heights*, Carnivals Theatrics) as Chino and **Alex Hayden Miller** (*The Wizard of Oz*, Lyric Theater of Oklahoma) as Action.

The **West Side Story** ensemble features **Mara Cecilia** (*Les Miserables*, Reagle Music Theatre), **Mark Cruz** (*Aida*, The Muny), **Brianna Mercado** (*Jesus Christ Superstar*, The Muny), **Devin Richey** ("Fosse: Recreated" dancer), **Clay Roberts** (*Matilda the Musical*, Royal Shakespeare Co), swings **Dan Castiglione** ("The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel" feature dancer) and **Gina dePool** (*In the Heights*, Speakeasy Stage), with Youth Ensemble members **Isabel Bastardo** (*Everybody*, Milwaukee Rep), **Terynn Erby-Walker** (*Hairspray*, Skylight Music Theatre), **Reese Parish** (*Lost Girl*, Milwaukee Rep) and **Georgina Pink** (*A Christmas Carol*, Milwaukee Rep).

West Side Story creative team includes choreography by **Jon Rua** (Broadway co-choreographer for *The Cher Show* and *Sponge Bob Square Pants*), music direction by Rep Associate Artist **Dan Kazemi** (*In The Heights*, *Ring of Fire* at Milwaukee Rep), set design by **Todd Edward Ivins** (*Junk*, Milwaukee Rep), costume design by **Alexander B. Tecoma** (*Guys and Dolls*, Milwaukee Rep), lighting design by **Yael Lubetzky** (*South Pacific*, Drury Lane), co- sound design by **Danny Erdberg** (*Anything Goes*, Arena Stage) and **Megan B. Henninger** (*In The Heights*, Milwaukee Rep), music supervision by Rep Associate Artist **John Tanner** (*A Christmas Carol*,

Milwaukee Rep), fight direction by **Jamie Cheatham**, Casting by **Frank Honts** and **Dale Brown Casting**, Associate Choreography by **Brianna Mercado** and stage management by **Tara Kelly**.

West Side Story is a passionate adaptation of Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet* filled with some of the most unforgettable songs including "Maria," "Tonight," "I Feel Pretty" and "America" telling the greatest love story ever told in a larger-than-life musical.

West Side Story is presented by **The Plunkett Family Foundation** and sponsored by **BMO** with executive producers **Jo Ann and Richard Beightol**, **Four-Four Foundation, Inc.** and **Gina and Eric Peter** with Associate Producer **Suzy B. Ettinger Foundation**. The Rep is sponsored in part by the **United Performing Arts Fund**.

Get a sneak peek of **West Side Story** with cast performances at the following local festivals this summer:

- Tuesday, July 23, 6pm at **Chill on the Hill** in Humboldt Park (3000 S Howell Ave.)
- Sunday, August 4 at **Puerto Rican Family Festival** in Humboldt Park (3000 S Howell Ave.)
- Tuesday, August 6, 7pm at **Skyline Music Festival** (Selig-Joseph-Folz Amphitheater in Kilbourn – Kadish Park, between North Ave and Reservoir Ave.)
- Thursday, August 8, 7pm at **Colectivo Lakefront** with De La Buena (1701 N. Lincoln Memorial Dr.)
- Wednesday, August 14, 6pm at **Washington Park Wednesdays** (1859 N. 40 St)
- Thursday, August 15, 7pm at **Jazz in the Park** (Cathedral Square, 520 E Wells St)

West Side Story runs September 17 – October 27, 2019 in the Quadracci Powerhouse. Purchase tickets at www.MilwaukeeRep.com, by calling the Ticket Office at **414-224-9490** or in person at **108 E. Wells Street** in downtown Milwaukee

For more information, please visit www.MilwaukeeRep.com.

About Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Milwaukee Rep is the largest performing arts organization in Wisconsin in terms of audiences served and one of the largest professional theaters in the country. Each year, The Rep welcomes up to 275,000 people at nearly 700 performances of 15 productions ranging from compelling dramas, powerful classics, new plays and full-scale musicals in its three unique performance venues – the Quadracci Powerhouse, Stiemke Studio and Stackner Cabaret. For over 65 years, The Rep has gained a national reputation as an incubator of new work, an agent of community change and a forward-thinking provider of vital arts education programs. Under the leadership of **Artistic Director Mark Clements** and **Executive Director Chad Bauman**, Milwaukee Repertory Theater ignites positive change in the cultural, social, and economic vitality of its community by creating world-class theater experiences that entertain, provoke, and inspire meaningful dialogue among an audience representative of Milwaukee's rich diversity.

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