



MEDIA RELEASE

CONTACT:

Tegan Gaetano, PR & Content Director
414-290-5395 or Tgaetano@milwaukeeep.com
www.MilwaukeeRep.com | @MilwRep

MILWAUKEE REPERTORY THEATER
PRESENTS THE ICONIC AMERICAN MUSICAL
WEST SIDE STORY

SEPTEMBER 17 – OCTOBER 27, 2019

With Choreography by Hamilton and In the Heights
Original Cast Member Jon Rua

August 27, 2019 – (Milwaukee) [Milwaukee Repertory Theater](http://www.MilwaukeeRep.com) presents **West Side Story**, the iconic American musical from Broadway visionaries **Jerome Robbins**, **Arthur Laurents**, **Leonard Bernstein** and **Stephen Sondheim**, in the Quadracci Powerhouse, September 17 – October 27, 2019.

A classic retelling of the greatest love story of all time, **West Side Story** will feature **Liesl Collazo** (*On Your Feet!*, Gateway Playhouse) as Maria and **Jeffrey Kringer** (*Cruel Intentions: The 90s Musical*, 1st Nat'l Tour) as Tony as well as **José-Luis Lopez, Jr.** (Broadway's *On Your Feet!*) as Bernardo, **Courtney Arango** (*In the Heights*, Milwaukee Rep) as Anita, **Jacob Burns** (*Hairspray*, Dallas Theater Center) as Riff, **Hope Endrenyi** (Broadway's *Hamilton*) as Anybodys, **Carlos A. Jimenez** (*In the Heights*, Mason Street Warehouse) as Chino, **Alex Hayden Miller** (*42nd Street*, Fulton Theatre) as Action, **Kellie Hoagland** (*Rock of Ages*, NCL Breakaway) as Velma, **Rebecca Corrigan** (*Wizard of Oz*, Meadow Brook Theatre) as Graziella and **Bill Watson** (*Deathtrap*, Milwaukee Chamber Theatre) as Officer Krupke. Rep favorites **Jonathan Wainwright** (*A Christmas Carol*, Milwaukee Rep) as Lt. Schrank and **James Pickering** (*Our Town*, Milwaukee Rep) as Doc. Additionally, the ensemble for **West Side Story** will include the talent of young local performers **Isabel Bastardo**, **Terynn Erby-Walker**, **Reese Parish** and **Georgina Pink**. Ensemble members include: **Dan Castiglione**, **Mara Cecilia**, **Mark Cruz**, **Gina dePool**, **Brianna Mercado**, **Devin Richey** and **Clay Roberts** and members of Milwaukee Rep's 2019/20 Emerging Professional Resident Ensemble **Isabella Abel-Suarez**, **Alex Hatcher**, **Brooke Johnson**, **Sydney Kirkegaard**, **A.J. Morales**, **Nick Parrott**, **Joshua Ponce**, **Gilberto Saenz** and **Austin Winter**.

West Side Story is directed by Rep Artistic Director **Mark Clements**, choreography by original *Hamilton* and *In the Heights* cast member **Jon Rua** and features music direction by Rep Associate Artist **Dan Kazemi** (*In the Heights*, *Ring of Fire: The Music of Johnny Cash*, scenic design by **Todd Edward Ivins** (*Junk*, Milwaukee Rep), costume design by Rep Senior Draper **Alexander B. Tecoma** (*A Christmas Carol*), lighting design by **Yael Lubetzky** (*Cabaret*, Paramount Theatre), 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*, *In the Heights*). With fight choreography by **Chuck Coyl**, NY Casting by **Dale Brown Casting** with additional casting by Rep Director of Artistic Personnel **Frank Honts**. Stage Managed by **Tara Kelly** (*The Secret Garden*, Stages St. Louis).



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Nominated for Six Tony Awards, including Best Musical in 1957, this beloved musical adaptation of Shakespeare’s *Romeo and Juliet* broke Rep on-sale records, besting last season’s record-holder *In the Heights*. “Now 62 plus-years-old, *West Side Story* is a seminal work of American Theater,” said director **Mark Clements**. “So much so that many have some small knowledge of it even if they have never seen it live on stage.” Featuring a soaring score from **Leonard Bernstein**; unforgettable songs including “Maria,” “Tonight,” “I Feel Pretty” and “America;” and a timeless story of love and loss, *West Side Story* is sure to speak to new audiences as well as those familiar with this iconic musical.

West Side Story begins performances September 17 and runs through October 27 in the Quadracci Powerhouse. Opening Night is set for Saturday, September 21 at 8pm. Tickets can be purchased online at www.MilwaukeeRep.com, by calling the Ticket Office at **414-224-9490** or in person at the Ticket Office, **108 E. Wells Street** in downtown Milwaukee.

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**. Additional support is provided by the City of Milwaukee Arts Board. Milwaukee Rep is sponsored in part by the **United Performing Arts Fund**.

West Side Story Public Performance Calendar

Artists, dates and ticket prices are subject to chance

West Side Story						in the Quadracci Powerhouse	
<small>Based on a conception of Jerome Robbins Book by Arthur Laurents Music by Leonard Bernstein Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim Directed by Mark Clements</small>						SEPTEMBER-OCTOBER 2019	
Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun		
9/17	9/18	9/19	9/20	9/21	9/22		
7:30pm •/\$	7:30pm •/\$	7:30pm •	8:00pm	3:30pm 8:00pm Δ	2:00pm 7:00pm		
9/24	9/25	9/26	9/27	9/28	9/29		
6:30pm EB/AD	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm TB	3:30pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm	ROSH HASHANAH	
ROSH HASHANAH 10/1	10/2	10/3	10/4	10/5	10/6		
	1:30pm BUS 7:30pm	7:30pm ASL	8:00pm TB	3:30pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm		
YOM KIPPUR 10/8	YOM KIPPUR 10/9	10/10	10/11	10/12	10/13		
	1:30pm LM 7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm TB	3:30pm 8:00pm	2:00pm CAP 7:00pm		
10/15	10/16	10/17	10/18	10/19	10/20		
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm TB	3:30pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm		
10/22	10/23	10/24	10/25	10/26	10/27		
7:30pm	7:30pm	7:30pm	8:00pm TB	3:30pm 8:00pm	2:00pm 7:00pm ◊		
• Preview \$ Pay What You Can Δ Opening Night BUS Bus Matinee TB TalkBack EB Early Performance AD Audio Described LM Lunch Matinee ASL American Sign Language CAP Closed Captioned ◊ Closing Night							



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::Fact Sheet::

West Side Story

September 17 – October 27, 2019 (Opening Night Saturday, September 21, 8pm) in the Quadracci Powerhouse.

Based on a conception of Jerome Robbins

Book by Arthur Laurents

Music by Leonard Bernstein

Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim

Directed by Mark Clements

Talks and Events

Dance Workshops at Mitchell Street Library

Tuesday, September 3 and Monday, September 9

Introductory dance workshops that will guide participants through the basic elements of the dances that inspired Milwaukee Rep's adaptation of West Side Story. On Tuesday, September 3, from 6:00-7:00pm the focus will be on Salsa with instruction from **Dan Skyler**. Then, on Monday, September 9, from 6:00-7:00pm participants will be exploring Hip Hop. The workshops will be held in the Northwestern Mutual Foundation Studio M makerspace. Partnership with Gathering Art, Stories and Place. Register <https://mpl.evanced.info/signup/eventdetails?eventid=100353&lib=2003>

The Young Lords & Belonging ¡Palante!

Saturday, September 21

West Side Story tells a tale of romance, passion and rival gangs struggling for control of their neighborhood – a story not exclusive to the stage. Join us on Saturday, September 21 from 1:30-5:00pm at Woodland Pattern as we discuss and examine gangs in Milwaukee, belonging and The National Young Lords, a national grassroots movement for self-determination for the Puerto Rican and Latinx communities within the Barrios of the U.S. and celebrate the rich culture of food, music and arts. With talks and performances from **Urayoán Noel**, **Tony Báez** and **Tania Espinoza**. In conjunction with Woodland Pattern's series Unwriting Borders: Latinx Voices in the U.S.

Puerto Rican Identity: The Women from the Diaspora

Thursday, October 17

The characters of Maria and Anita only begin to offer insight into the realities faced by Puerto Rican women living in the diaspora. Join us on Thursday, October 17 from 6:30-7:15pm for a pre-show conversation with local Boricua's where we dig deeper into the complexities, realities and intersectionalities of being a Puerto Rican woman. Panelists include **Dr. Betzaida Gomez**, **Keila Tirado-Leist** and **Coralis el Mar Arroyo**.

TalkBacks

Friday Nights

A discussion with members of the cast and artistic team following performance on the following Fridays: September 27, October 4, October 18 and October 25.



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Access Services

Audio-Described Performance: Tuesday, September 24, at 6:30 pm – the performance will be described for patrons who are blind or have low vision.

ASL Interpreted Performance: Thursday, October 3, at 7:30PM – the performance will be interpreted in American Sign Language.

Captioned Theater Performance: Sunday, October 13, at 2:00pm – the performance features a screen to the side of the stage that displays the actors' lines as they are spoken.

Information

Tickets: www.MilwaukeeRep.com, by phone at 414-224-9490 or at the Ticket Office at 108 E Wells Street, Milwaukee.

Hours: 12noon – 6pm; on performance days the Ticket Office remains open until 15 minutes past curtain.

Student Discounts: Students 18 and under can purchase \$20 tickets for select seating areas.

35 & Under: Select \$20 tickets available for patrons 35 & Under. (Select 35 & Under price at checkout online)

Group Sales: Discounted tickets for parties of 10+. Call 414-290-5340.

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, Milwaukee 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, Milwaukee 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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