

LA
JOLLA
PLAY
HOUSE

2024/25 SEASON

FUTURE

CLASSICS



FAME FORTUNE FRIENDSHIP FAMILY DRAMA AND MONUMENTAL MOMENTS IN HISTORY

Welcome to our 2024/25 Season, featuring six adventurous and bold premieres. This season explores the enduring legacy of Johnny Cash, June Carter... and Ebenezer Scrooge. It dives into the history of Drag... and Abraham Lincoln. From sky-high aspirations of political success and public adoration, to the deepest battles with personal demons, this is the very best in new American theatre.

Enjoy a year of breathtaking performances, exhilarating music and unforgettable moments at San Diego's own world-renowned, award-winning theatre.

Join us for a season of future classics.



“Des McAnuff’s passions are rock-and-roll and working-class politics, yet his theatre work is invariably lucid and beautifully controlled... As a talented stage director, [he is] working on the front lines of contemporary culture... bringing fresh energy and critical insights to the not-for-profit theatre.

American Theatre Magazine

THE BALLAD OF JOHNNY AND JUNE

BOOK BY ROBERT CARY AND DES MCANUFF

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY JOHNNY CASH, JUNE CARTER AND OTHERS

DIRECTED BY DES MCANUFF

Country music royalty Johnny Cash and June Carter remain to this day one of the most famous couples of the 20th century. Created with the support of the family and told through the eyes of their son John Carter Cash, this new musical covers it all: their childhoods, their 1956 meeting at the Grand Ole Opry, the storied on-stage proposal in 1968, and the soaring highs and whiplash lows of fame, life on the road, addiction, arrests, controversies, marriage, family and devotion.

This is a whole-hearted and clear-eyed telling of one of the most iconic love stories in music history, complete with a soundtrack of beloved hits — *I Walk the Line*, *Ring of Fire*, *Hey Porter*, *Jackson*, *I’ve Been Everywhere* and many more.

Tony Award winner Des McAnuff has exhilarated audiences exploring the tumultuous journeys of legendary musicians in shows like *Jersey Boys*, and *SUMMER: The Donna Summer Musical*. With McAnuff’s long-awaited return to the Playhouse, this world premiere musical is sure to be another smash hit.

**BECAUSE YOU’RE
MINE, I WALK THE
LINE.**

POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Jun 4, 7:30pm

Jun 11, 7:30pm

Discovery Sunday

Jun 23, 1pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING
SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

MAY 28 – JUL 7

MANDELL WEISS THEATRE



**DID YOU
KNOW?**

Noelle Viñas was a writer on Peacock's hit series *Mrs. Davis*, and *Derecho* won the 2019 John Gassner Playwriting Award.

DERECHO

BY NOELLE VIÑAS

DIRECTED BY DELICIA TURNER SONNENBERG

A series of intense storms — a “derecho” — is bearing down on an affluent Virginia neighborhood near D.C., where Eugenia Silva is preparing for a crucial meeting. Eugenia is a politician hoping to join the wave of women of color elected to public office. Her sister Mercedes is a struggling musician fighting to find her way on her own terms. As winds rise and thunder cracks — and tensions between the sisters reach a boiling point — Eugenia’s political ambitions crash into Mercedes’s need to reconnect her sister with their roots.

Propulsive and whip-smart, *Derecho* confronts how traditional Latino values conflict with an ever-changing American definition of success. Will the storm wipe out their relationship and derail Eugenia’s campaign, or will the rains provide a fresh start?

This engrossing drama from Uruguayan-American writer Noelle Viñas harnesses the danger of colliding the personal and political to reach your goals. Director Delicia Turner Sonnenberg leads the production, bringing the poetic language and powerful imagery to life. *Derecho* is the 11th show to have its premiere at La Jolla Playhouse after development as part of our DNA New Work Series.

**SOME STORMS
YOU CAN'T
HIDE FROM.**

POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Jul 30, 7:30pm
Aug 6, 7:30pm

Discovery Sunday

Aug 11, 1pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING
SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

JUL 23 – AUG 18

MANDELL WEISS FORUM



VELOUR: A DRAG SPECTACULAR

BY SASHA VELOUR AND MOISÉS KAUFMAN

DIRECTED BY MOISÉS KAUFMAN

A CO-PRODUCTION WITH TECTONIC THEATER PROJECT

A groundbreaking new theatrical experience about the rise and rise of a superstar. Sasha Velour is “a glossy, living piece of art” (*Interview Magazine*) and a true polymath — a gender-fluid drag queen, author, activist, artist and winner of *RuPaul’s Drag Race* who has performed her fantastical shows to sold-out audiences around the world. Moisés Kaufman has created some of the most powerful theatre works of recent times (*The Laramie Project*, *Here There Are Blueberries*).

Their iconic collaboration is part memoir, part manifesto and a modern coming-of-age tale inspired by Sasha’s own origin story and the history of Drag.

Expect dramatic reveals, high camp, sumptuous couture, an irresistible soundtrack and a visually magical pop-art universe.

**FIERCE.
FABULOUS.
FUN.
UNFORGETTABLE.**

POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Aug 20, 7:30pm

Aug 27, 7:30pm

Discovery Sunday

Sep 8, 1pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN



There’s avant-garde, and then there’s Sasha Velour... the bald provocateur with a penchant for pop-art crowns and futuristic drag couture.

Vanity Fair

Velour is a virtuoso of pageantry on the stage.

The New Yorker

Fantastical... life-affirming.

The New York Times

AUG 13 – SEP 8

SHEILA AND HUGHES
POTIKER THEATRE

PRODUCTION SPONSORS

Pam Wager and Hans Tegebo



**Tender, delicately
detailed portrait.**

The New York Times

**Touching and
inventive.**

Broadway World

**Very funny and
piercingly moving.**

The Daily Beast

PRIMARY TRUST

BY EBONI BOOTH

DIRECTED BY KNUD ADAMS

When *Primary Trust* by Eboni Booth premiered in New York in 2023, *The Observer* said, "it will restore your faith in theatre's elemental storytelling powers." *The Daily Beast* said it's "pretty darn near to perfect."

Kenneth, a 36-year-old bookstore worker in a small upstate New York town, spends his evenings sipping mai tais at the local tiki bar with his best friend Bert. When he's suddenly laid off, Kenneth faces challenges he has long avoided — with transformative and heart-warming results.

NY Stage Review — one of many rave reviews — said: "A quiet gem... beautiful writing that expertly blends emotion with humor." Critics and audience agree, *Primary Trust* is an extraordinary new work, a moving tale of new beginnings, old (and new) friends, and finding the courage to see the world for the first time.

Don't miss the West Coast premiere of this award-winning *New York Times* Critic's Pick play that will surprise you, and fill you with hope.

**HAPPY HOUR
IS A STATE OF
MIND.**

POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Oct 1, 7:30pm

Oct 8, 7:30pm

Discovery Sunday

Oct 13, 1pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

SEP 24 – OCT 20

MANDELL WEISS FORUM



DID YOU KNOW?

Anna Ouyang Moench is not just an award-winning playwright. Her work as a screenwriter includes Apple TV's *Severance* and the upcoming season of the multi-award-winning Netflix show, *Beef*.

YOUR LOCAL THEATER PRESENTS:

A CHRISTMAS CAROL, BY CHARLES DICKENS, AGAIN

BY ANNA OUYANG MOENCH

DIRECTED BY LES WATERS

Leave the little ones at home and gather 'round for a very Playhouse take on Christmas. *Your Local Theater Presents: A Christmas Carol, by Charles Dickens, Again* is a laugh-out-loud funny and heartfelt story for theatre lovers and holiday enthusiasts alike.

Eddie is a young actor, fresh out of Juilliard and ready to make his mark on the American Theatre. His dreams are within reach... sort of. First he's just going to do this regional production of *A Christmas Carol*. As the years pass, Eddie finds himself back at the same local theatre, over and over and over again. Much remains the same: the play, the stage manager, the green room — though Eddie finds himself in different costumes as he ages through the male roles over the course of his career.

Anna Ouyang Moench's comedic and moving new play is a love letter to actors, artists and dreamers of all professions who make sacrifices large and small in service of their work... and ultimately wonder whether it was worth it.

CHRISTMAS, BUT NOT AS YOU KNOW IT.

POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Nov 26, 7:30pm

Dec 3, 7:30pm

Discovery Sunday

Dec 8, 1pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

NOV 19 – DEC 15

SHEILA AND HUGHES POTIKER THEATRE

PRODUCTION SPONSORS
Playhouse Partners



Director Christopher Ashley[’s] forte has always been infusing clever theatricality with palpable emotion.

Variety on the Playhouse’s *Come From Away*, for which Christopher won the Tony Award for Best Director.

3 SUMMERS OF LINCOLN

BOOK BY JOE DIPIETRO

LYRICS BY DANIEL J. WATTS & JOE DIPIETRO

MUSIC BY CRYSTAL MONEE HALL

DIRECTED BY CHRISTOPHER ASHLEY

Summer, 1862. The bloody conflict that was supposed to last only 90 days has now been raging for more than a year. President Abraham Lincoln must find a way to end the Civil War. Enter powerful abolitionist Frederick Douglass. If he can meet Lincoln face to face, he can help the president cement a vision of the future that ends slavery along with the war — all while preserving the Union. Just three meetings took place between the two men — pivotal conversations between two fierce and equally brilliant leaders that shaped the course of history.

This gripping new musical marks the sixth Playhouse collaboration between Joe DiPietro and Christopher Ashley (including the hit shows *Babbitt*, *Diana* and *Memphis*) and they’re thrilled to be joined by composer Crystal Monee Hall and lyricist Daniel J. Watts. Their epic score blends gospel, R&B, powerhouse anthems and Broadway to tell the inspirational story of one of the most important friendships in our nation’s history, and that of a brutally divided country coming together.

CHANGE THE CONVERSATION. CHANGE THE WORLD.

POST-SHOW ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Talkback Tuesday

Feb 25, 7:30pm

Mar 4, 7:30pm

Discovery Sunday

Mar 16, 1pm

AVAILABLE IN THE FOLLOWING SUBSCRIPTION PACKAGES:

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGE

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN

FEB 18 - MAR 23

MANDELL WEISS THEATRE

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE

ONLINE

Subscribe in less than 5 minutes at lajollaplayhouse.org. Simply choose your subscription, add contact and payment details, and tickets for your great seats will be mailed to you.

PHONE

Call Patron Services at (858) 550-1010, Tuesday – Saturday, 12 – 6pm and our team can assist you to select the best subscription package for your needs.

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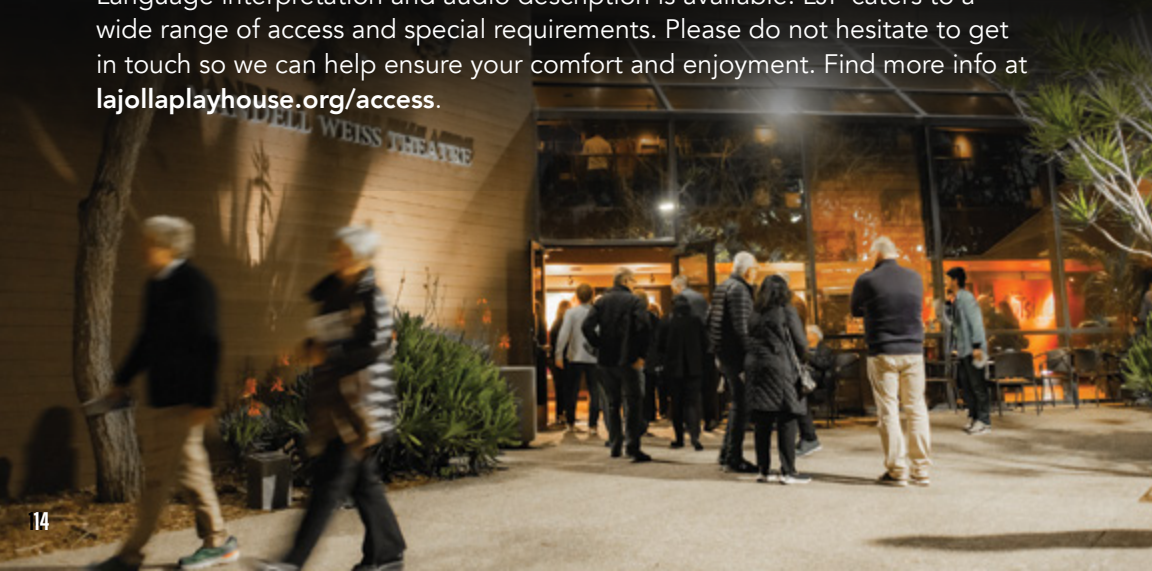
If you're not satisfied with your first show, we will refund you the remaining cost of your subscription. Some conditions apply.

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Group subscriptions of 10 or more enjoy big savings, concierge service and a range of other benefits. Contact (858) 550-1010 or groupsales@ljp.org to find out more.

ACCESS

If you require an Access subscription, please call (858) 550-1010 or email boxoffice@ljp.org so we can work with you to address your needs. On a select Saturday matinee performance of each production, American Sign Language interpretation and audio description is available. LJP caters to a wide range of access and special requirements. Please do not hesitate to get in touch so we can help ensure your comfort and enjoyment. Find more info at lajollaplayhouse.org/access.



THE BENEFITS OF YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

2024/25 Season Subscribers enjoy the best savings, seats and perks all year round. Choose the subscription that best suits your needs and join us for this extraordinary season of six premieres.

	PREMIUM 6-PLAY	DESIGN-YOUR-OWN	SINGLE TICKETS
Lowest prices, best value - save up to 20%	✓		
Exclusive early access to the best seats	✓		
Price increase protection: prices for Premium 6-Play subscribers will not increase as demand rises and other prices go up	✓		
Enjoy your same great seats, year after year	✓		
Free parking guaranteed	✓		
Discounted extra tickets all year - great for gifts!*	✓		
Satisfaction guaranteed or your money back*	✓		
Free exchanges guaranteed (save up to \$15 per ticket)*	✓	✓	
No handling fees	✓	✓	
Priority seating selected for you before single tickets go on sale	✓	✓	
Ultimate flexibility – select the dates and shows that best suit you and your social calendar		✓	
Secure tickets to the most in-demand shows of the year - some shows will sell out	✓	✓	
Exclusive event invitations, pre-sales and discount offers	✓	✓	
No charge for lost or forgotten tickets	✓	✓	✓

*Some conditions apply, subject to availability.

PREMIUM 6-PLAY PACKAGES

The most premium option for theatre-lovers and supporters, and undoubtedly the best deal.

Enjoy the lowest prices and a superior range of perks (see pg 15), including free parking and exchanges, no handling fees, and the same excellent seats, renewable year after year.

You'll be up close and personal in the very best seats for the most breathtaking performances of the year.

Your subscription supports the development and creation of the next generation of extraordinary artists and award-winning works right here in San Diego.

SUBSCRIBE NOW AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG

The 6-Play package includes all six productions, including two world-premiere musicals, *The Ballad of Johnny and June*, directed by Des McAuff, and *3 Summers of Lincoln*, directed by Christopher Ashley.

Select the day of the week that best suits you. We will select the very best available seats and mail your tickets to you. 6-Play packages are in high demand and some performances are sold out. We encourage you to book soon!

WEEKS 2-4	Gold Circle	Area 1	Area 2
TUES - FRI, SUN EVE	\$397	\$371	\$300
SAT MAT, SUN MAT	\$423	\$393	\$321
SAT EVE	\$466	\$428	\$360
FIRST LOOK (WEEK 1)			
TUES - FRI, SAT EVE SAT/SUN MAT	\$365	\$343	\$277
Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$12			

'First Look' is the first week of the run of each production. A First Look subscription is lower price and offers the opportunity to experience the show while the creative team is still polishing and making changes.

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN SUBSCRIPTION

For ultimate flexibility, mix and match the dates that suit you best and the shows that capture your imagination.

Enjoy specially-selected seats at the most in-demand shows of the year — a smart choice, tickets are already flying and shows will sell out.

Your most unforgettable nights out this year will be at La Jolla Playhouse in the presence of great artists telling thrilling stories.

You get flexibility plus perks, and your subscription supports the Playhouse in our mission to continue creating exciting new works you'll love.

SUBSCRIBE NOW AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG

DESIGN-YOUR-OWN PRICE GUIDE

Select your plays and dates to design a subscription that works for you. Subscribe online or call us to secure the best available seats at these prices.

Please note that this pricing guide is accurate at the time of printing. Due to popular demand and limited capacity, prices are subject to change. We encourage you to subscribe ASAP to secure the best seats at the lowest available price.

WEEKS 2-4	TUE - FRI, SUN EVE			SAT / SUN MAT			SAT EVE		
	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2
<i>Johnny and June</i>	\$99	\$85	\$65	\$105	\$90	\$70	\$115	\$95	\$75
<i>Derecho</i>		\$55	\$44		\$60	\$49		\$65	\$54
<i>Velour</i>		\$70	\$54		\$75	\$60		\$79	\$64
<i>Primary Trust</i>		\$70	\$54		\$75	\$60		\$79	\$64
<i>Your Local Theater...</i>		\$70	\$54		\$75	\$60		\$79	\$64
<i>3 Summers of Lincoln</i>	\$99	\$85	\$65	\$105	\$90	\$70	\$115	\$95	\$75
Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$2 per show									

FIRST LOOK	TUES - FRI, SAT EVE, SAT/SUN MAT		
	Gold Circle*	Area 1	Area 2
<i>Johnny and June</i>	\$89	\$75	\$60
<i>Derecho</i>		\$50	\$40
<i>Velour</i>		\$65	\$50
<i>Primary Trust</i>		\$65	\$50
<i>Your Local Theater...</i>		\$65	\$50
<i>3 Summers of Lincoln</i>	\$89	\$75	\$60
Student, Senior, Military Discount Subtract \$2 per show			

'First Look' is the first week of the run of each production. A First Look subscription is lower price and offers the opportunity to experience the show while the creative team is still polishing and making changes.

* Gold Circle is in Weiss Theatre only.

** First Look weeks have a Sat OR Sun matinee. The day of the week depends on the needs of the show and schedule.

ENHANCE YOUR SUBSCRIBER EXPERIENCE

FREE ENGAGEMENT EVENTS

Get the most out of your subscription by taking part in these events we host to enhance your Playhouse experience and deepen your enjoyment of the stories on stage.

Talkback Tuesday

Post-show, select Tuesday evenings

Participate in a lively discussion with performers and Playhouse staff members immediately following the performance.

Discovery Sunday

Post-show, a select Sunday matinee

Hear from guest speakers in a moderated discussion exploring the themes of the show.

SOCIAL CONNECTIONS

Join our social media community for peeks into rehearsals, behind the scenes, live chats with creatives and actors, and more.
@lajollaplayhouse #lajollaplayhouse

PRE-PERFORMANCE EMAILS

Prior to each show, we send you a reminder email with the latest information and tips to help you enjoy your Playhouse experience (like dining, parking and traffic updates), plus articles that illuminate the world of each show, your free digital program, and the latest health and safety protocols. Ensure you're opted in to receive emails about these important updates.

YOUR COMPANION SUBSCRIBERS

Keep your companion subscribers in the loop. Contact Patron Services to ensure they receive important updates and exclusive subscriber offers too.

FREE DIGITAL PROGRAM BOOK

We're pleased to let you know that Playhouse programs are also available digitally to help us provide a touchless experience at the theatre and work towards reducing paper waste. Digital programs are screen size-responsive, easy to read on any device. Digital programs are emailed in your pre-performance reminders and accessible at the theatre.

PRE-SHOW DINING

The Playhouse's on-site restaurant, James' Place, is open for dinner service at 5pm Tue – Sun, offering full bar service and a selection of specialty sushi, Asian fusion, steak and coastal cuisine items. Make your reservation by phone (858) 638-7778 or through OpenTable. Indoor and outdoor seating available. (Please note, not open prior to matinees).

YOU BRING THEATRE TO THE COMMUNITY

When you give to La Jolla Playhouse, your support extends the art beyond our stages and back into our community of students, veterans, and unsheltered neighbors.

VOICES OF OUR CITY CHOIR CONNECTS UNSHELTERED NEIGHBORS TO MORE THAN JUST MUSIC

Voices of our City Choir plays a vital role in helping San Diego's unsheltered population rediscover hope and a sense of possibility through the transformative power of music. La Jolla Playhouse proudly offers bi-monthly theatre workshops to Choir members, which enable them to share their personal experiences through song.

PERFORMANCE OUTREACH PROGRAM (POP) TOUR REACHES THE STUDENTS IN GREATEST NEED

Last year, 67% of the schools we visited were Title I Schools, which received our POP Tour programming at no cost. Over 10,000 children benefitted from our annually commissioned play and accompanying lesson plans.

MILITARY AND VETERANS PROGRAMS (MVP) PROVIDES COMMUNITY AND HEALING

"The Veterans Playwriting Workshop saved my life. While I went through a PTSD treatment program at the VA Hospital, I was also attending the writing workshop. It always struck me that the exit sign for the hospital off the I-5 also pointed to La Jolla Playhouse, which is where the real therapy took place." - VPW alumna Shairi Engle

GIFTS OF ANY AMOUNT MAKE A DIFFERENCE. DONOR BENEFITS BEGIN AT GIFTS OF \$250. LEARN MORE AT LAJOLLAPLAYHOUSE.ORG/DONATE

CALENDAR & KEY DATES

APR

Single tickets on sale for *The Ballad of Johnny and June, Derecho, Velour: A Drag Spectacular.*

APR 4 - 7

WOW FESTIVAL
4 days of art experiences, presented in partnership with UC San Diego. Free to attend.

MAY 28 - JUL 7

THE BALLAD OF JOHNNY AND JUNE

JUN 15 - 16

NATIVE VOICES
Young Native Playwrights Festival

JUL 23 - AUG 18

DERECHO

AUG

Single tickets on sale for *Primary Trust, Your Local Theater Presents...*

AUG 13 - SEP 8

VELOUR: A DRAG SPECTACULAR

SEP 24 - OCT 20

PRIMARY TRUST

OCT 4 - 6

LATINX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

OCT

2025/26 Season Launch
Exclusive renewal window for existing Subscribers

NOV

Single tickets on sale for *3 Summers of Lincoln.*

NOV 19 - DEC 15

YOUR LOCAL THEATER PRESENTS: A CHRISTMAS CAROL, BY CHARLES DICKENS, AGAIN

DEC 5 - 15

DNA NEW WORK SERIES

FEB 18 - MAR 23, 2025

3 SUMMERS OF LINCOLN

LA
JOLLA
PLAY
HOUSE



Les Moutons by Canadian company CORPUS, photo by Gary Mulcahey. Enjoy this strange and hilarious experience at WOW Festival.

WOW FESTIVAL

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH UC San Diego

Four days of exhilarating, surprising and interactive experiences. Discover new works from more than 20 local and international artists at "one of the most innovative cultural happenings in the country." (*San Diego Magazine*)

FREE | APR 4 - 7 | AT UC SAN DIEGO

LEARN MORE AT WOWFESTIVAL.ORG

YOU'RE INVITED!

Save up to 20% and get the best seats to a season of adventurous shows featuring two world-premiere musicals about iconic Americans, and much more.

SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR 2024/2025 SEASON SPONSORS



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