



THE
GOODMAN

WELCOME



Some of us older folk (ouch—did we just age ourselves?) might remember the magic of Scholastic Book Fairs, and those catalogs that seemed to drain every cent of our allowance. Books were our doorway into new worlds, new people and new wonders.

One of our guiding philosophies in theater is just that: **wonder**. Sometimes, we think the secret to life is learning how to find wonder just about anywhere. And if there are two things packed with wonder, they're surely books and circuses.

Our favorite part of *BOOK UP!* has been watching that wonder take shape—on stage, in the audience and in all the spaces in between.

With a series of performances by the La Vuelta company, the idea for this show began in 2023 in celebration of the 150th anniversary of the Chicago Public Library. It was later performed in 2024 during the Chicago Park District's 90th year as a consolidated entity. Now in 2025, it becomes part of The Goodman's Centennial Season celebration.

As we celebrate the joy of reading with the youngest among us, we also honor the spaces nurtured by our city's oldest cultural institutions. In producing Theater for the Very Young, we strive to help create the next generation of theatergoers, book lovers, park explorers and beneficiaries of all Chicago has to offer.

We built this for the tiniest theater lovers—but the magic is **big**. Books, circus and Chicago: what more could you ask for?

—**Tor Campbell and Raquel Torre**
Co-Directors of *BOOK UP!*



Welcome! I'm so glad you're here to join us on this exciting, circus-inspired adventure. *BOOK UP!* is a celebration of the joy of reading and the magic of stories to whisk us away to brand-new worlds.

A big thank you to the Chicago Parks District and the Night Out in the Parks program for welcoming us back for our third summer of Theater for the Very Young in Chicago's beautiful parks and an even bigger thank you to our audiences for joining us.

I still remember when I first fell in love with reading. I was the kid who followed my mom around the grocery store with my nose in a book, bumping into shelves because I just had to find out what happened next. At dinner, I'd prop a book open in front of my plate, reading between bites of spaghetti. Books felt like magic portals, filled with wild adventures, new ideas and characters who felt like old friends. They helped me dream bigger, stay curious and feel more connected to the world around me.

That's the kind of experience we hope *BOOK UP!* brings to every child and grown-up here today. Through our Theater for the Very Young programming, we're planting early seeds of literacy—introducing story-building blocks like plot, character and meaning-making—while encouraging imagination, connection and play. We want every child to know that theater is for them, that reading is an adventure, and that learning can be filled with joy, wonder and fun!

Whether this is your first show or one of many, thank you for spending your time with us. I hope the performance brings big giggles, wide-eyed wonder and maybe even a new favorite story to take home.

—**Jared Bellot**
Clifford Director of
Education and Engagement



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

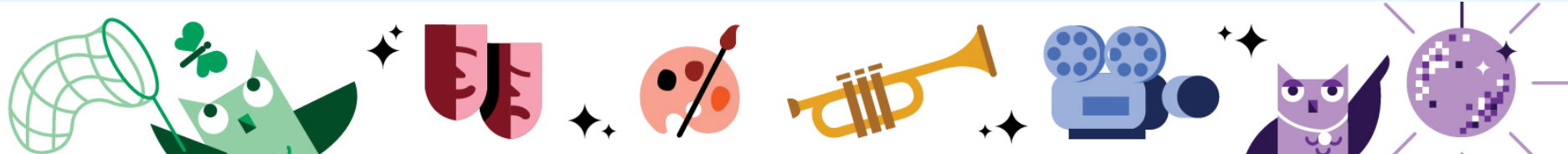


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This program is presented as part of the Chicago Park District's Night Out in the Parks. Arts programming across the city activates parks with robust cultural events – bringing neighbors together to laugh, dance, sing, and engage.

Learn more at: www.nightoutintheparks.com

For more information about your Chicago Park District, visit www.chicagoparkdistrict.com or call 312.742.7529.



THE
GOODMAN

Susan V. Booth
Walter Artistic Director

John Collins
Executive Director

presents

BOOK UP!

Directed by
Tor Campbell and Raquel Torre

Created by
Raquel Torre

Devised by
La Vuelta

Set Design by
Alyssa Mohn

Costume Design by
Ben Argenta Kress

Original Music and Sound Design by
Justin Cavazos

Casting by
Lauren Port, CSA

Presented as a part of the
Chicago Parks District Night Out in the Parks

BOOK UP!

CAST

Kid **Kylie Anderson**
Librarian **Jean Claudio**
Kid **Madie Doppelt**
Kid/US Librarian **Robbie Matthew**

Understudies never substitute for a listed player unless an announcement is made.

ADDITIONAL STAFF

Line Producers: **Jared Bellot**
Raquel Torre
Production Manager: **Claudette Przygoda**
Production Associate: **Jojo Wallenberg**
Production Assistant: **Glenna Broderick**
Scenic Builder: **Luke Lemanski**

For a list of additional staff members, please visit:
Goodmantheatre.org/About/People-at-Goodman/

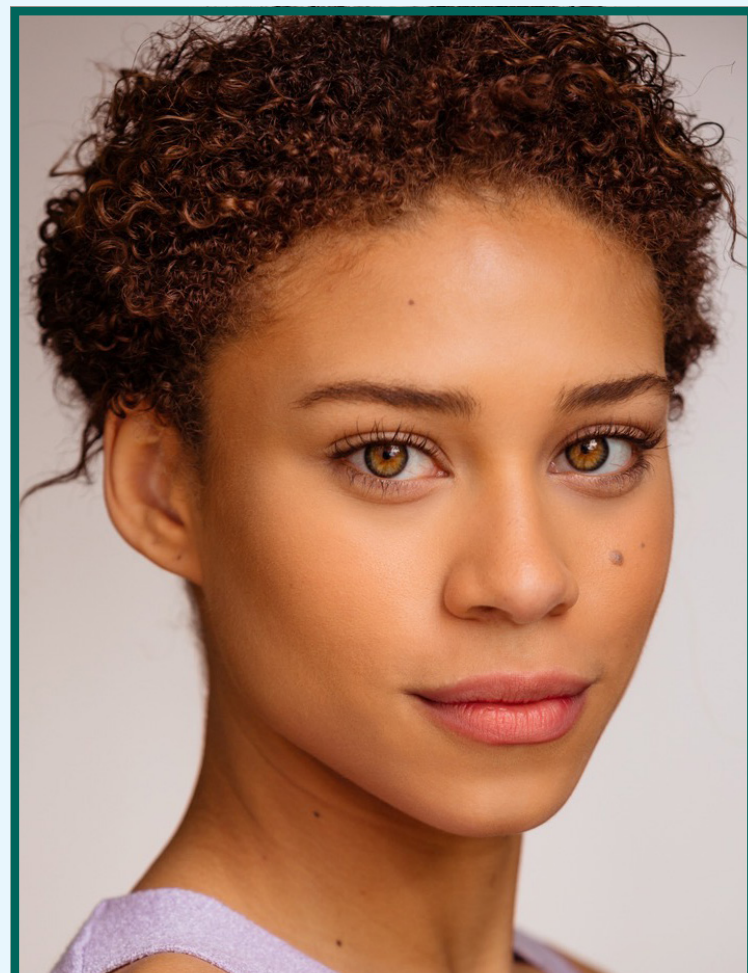
The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever are strictly prohibited.

Goodman productions are made possible in part by the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency and the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

Goodman Theatre is a constituent of the Theatre Communications Group, Inc., the national service organization of nonprofit theaters; the League of Resident Theatres; the Illinois Arts Alliance and the American Arts Alliance; the League of Chicago Theatres; and the Illinois Theatre Association.

Goodman Theatre operates under agreements between the League of Resident Theatres and Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States; the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, Inc., an independent national labor union; the United Scenic Artists of America, Local 829, AFL-CIO and the Chicago Federation of Musicians, Local No. 10-208, American Federation of Musicians. House crew and scene shop employees are represented by the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, Local No. 2.

PROFILES



KYLIE ANDERSON, Ky Rambo, (*Kid*) is excited to make their Goodman Theatre debut. Ky has understudied *20,000 Leagues Under the Seas*, *Lookingglass Alice* and *Villette* (Lookingglass Theatre). They were most recently in *Little Red* (The Actor's Gymnasium: Winter Circus). You can see Ky as Tanya on HBO's *Station 11* (S1E1). They are a company member at Avalanche Theatre and a founding company member at Bramble Theatre Company. Ky is represented by Stewart Talent. Find them on Instagram: @ky_rambo_



JEAN CLAUDIO, he/they/el/elle (*Librarian*) is a multidisciplinary performer from Caguas, Puerto Rico, and thrilled to be back at Goodman Theatre for a fourth time! Credits include: *The Lizard y el Sol*, *Lucha Teotl* (Goodman Theatre); *Memorabilia*, *Dream King* (Teatro Vista); *Go Dog Go! ¡Ve Perro Ve!* (Chicago Children's Theatre); *Corduroy* (Chicago Shakespeare); *Midnight Circus*; *Corduroy* (Emerald City Theatre); *Luna* (Filament Theatre). Touring/Festivals: *La Bestia* (Nouveau Sud Circus Project, NC). He is also a proud member of the Teatro Vista Artistic Collective and the co-founder of La Vuelta. Learn more: @el_clown, claucho.com



MADIE DOPPELT (*Kid*) is thrilled to be making her Goodman Theatre debut! Chicago credits include *Corduroy* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre); *Little Red*, *Circus Quixote* (The Actors Gymnasium); *Fefu and Her Friends*, *Eurydice* (Snails on a Bike). She holds a BFA in Playwriting from The Theatre School at DePaul University and attended The Actors Gymnasium's Circus Arts Professional Training Program with a major in Clowning.



ROBBIE MATTHEW, he/him (*Kid/US Librarian*) makes his Goodman Theatre and Chicago professional debut with *Book Up!* A recent graduate of Northwestern University and The Actors Gymnasium's ProTraining Program, his Northwestern credits include *The Great Sea Serpent*, *Dracula...*, *The Song of Achilles* and *Night Side Songs* (Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts). International credits include *Taming of the Shrew* (Prague Shakespeare Company). Instagram: @robbieman440

ALYSSA MOHN (*Set Designer*) is a Chicago-based scenic designer and educator. Recent design credits include *A Tale of Peter Rabbit* (Northwestern University); *Short Shakespeare! A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *Short Shakespeare! Romeo and Juliet* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *At the Wake of a Dead Drag Queen* (The Story Theatre); *Athena* (Urbanite Theatre); *Slow Food* (Third Avenue Playworks); *Herland and Keely and Du* (Redtwist Theatre); *Pineapple* (Irish Theatre of Chicago); *I Am Going To Die Alone* and *I Am Not Afraid* and *The Clean Up* (Prop Thtr); *Annual Young Playwright's Festival 33 and 36* (Pegasus Theatre Chicago); Seasons '22 and '23 with the National High School Institute Theatre Arts Program. She strives to approach theater through an ecocritical lens and received her MS in Sustainable Management from the University of Wisconsin. Alyssa holds a BFA in Scenic Design from The Theatre School at DePaul University.

BEN ARGENTA KRESS (*Costume Designer*) is a Chicago-based visual artist and costume designer. He is excited to be working with the Goodman Theatre team after assisting designer Linda Roethke on *Betrayal*. Recent select credits include: *Hairspray* at Uptown Music Theatre; *The Audience* at Drury Lane Theatre (co-designer); *The Hero Within* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre; *The Love Object* at The Story Theatre; *The Distrikt of Lake Michigun* at Stage Left Theatre; *The Prom*, *The Tempest* and *Sweat* at Northwestern University. Ben graduated with a BFA in psychology and theater from Kenyon College and an MFA in stage design from Northwestern University.
www.benargentakress.com

JUSTIN CAVAZOS, he/him (*Original Music and Sound Designer*) is a Latino composer, sound designer and songwriter from Harlingen, Texas. He is a co-founder of Chicago-based audio company, Spit It Out! Audio, where he primarily focuses on sound design, music composition and audio programming for theater, podcasts and video games. Recent credits include: *Groundwater* (Thompson Street Opera Company); *A Tale of Peter Rabbit*, *The Wong Kids In The Secret of the Space Chupacabra, Go!*, *The Oregon Trail*, *The Tempest* (Northwestern University Wirtz Center for the Performing Arts). Websites: justin-cavazos.com, spititoutaudio.com

LAUREN PORT, she/her (*Casting*) joined the Goodman as Casting Director in August of 2019 after eleven years casting in NYC, where she worked on many Goodman productions over the years, including *Father Comes Home from the Wars, Parts 1, 2 and 3*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Sign in Sidney Brustein's Window*, *Disgraced* and *Sweet Bird of Youth*. Broadway: *Junk*; *Meteor Shower*; *A Doll's House, Part 2*; *The Front Page*; *It's Only a Play*; *Disgraced*; *Fish in the Dark*; *The Trip to Bountiful*; *Grace*; *Death of a Salesman*; *Seminar*; *Stick Fly*; *Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo*; *Lend Me a Tenor* and *Fences*. Television/Film: *New Amsterdam* (NBC); *American Odyssey* (NBC) and *Steel Magnolias* (Sony for Lifetime). Port is a five-time Artios Award winner, a recipient of the 40th Annual Media Access Awards and a proud member of the Casting Society of America.

TOR CAMPBELL (Co-Director) Goodman Theatre credits include *The Color Purple*, *The Antiquities*, *Fat Ham* and *A Christmas Carol* 2022 and 2024. Chicago: *Hairspray* (Director/Choreographer, Uptown Music Theater); *Peter Rabbit* (Director, Northwestern University); *The Full Monty* (Choreographer, Paramount Theatre); *A Hero Within* (Director/Choreographer, Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *Hot Wing King* (Assistant Director, Writer's Theatre); *Birthday Candles*, *Dial M for Murder* (Assistant Director, Northlight Theatre); *Right to be Forgotten* (Assistant Director, Raven Theatre). Los Angeles: *Dreamgirls*, *Mamma Mia*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Director/Choreographer, Cupcake Theater); *Still Standing* (Director, The Broadwater).

RAQUEL TORRE, she/her/ella (Co-Director) is a theater-maker from Puerto Rico with a background in devised theater, physical performance and community-grounded spectacle. She is the 24/25 Goodman Theatre Michael Maggio Directing Fellow, and since 2013 has co-led the minority-led La Vuelta Ensemble. Select Chicago directing credits include *The Lizard y El Sol* (Goodman); *Book Up!*, *Memorabilia* (La Vuelta Ensemble); *No One Cares* (about you) (Inicios 2024, CLATA); *POTUS*, assistant direction (Steppenwolf Theatre); *Back in the Day* (UrbanTheater Company). She holds a BA from the Universidad de Sagrado Corazón, a certificate from Cabuia Teatro and an MFA from LISPA/Columbia College Chicago. raqueltorre.com

SUSAN V. BOOTH (Goodman Theatre Walter Artistic Director) joined Goodman Theatre in the fall of 2022, having previously served as Artistic Director of Atlanta's Tony Award-winning Alliance Theatre, premiering new work that went on to national, international and commercial life. She has directed at the Goodman, Hartford Stage, Ford's Theatre, La Jolla Playhouse, St. Louis Repertory Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse, New York Stage and Film, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Northlight Theatre, Victory Gardens, Court Theatre and others. She has held teaching positions at Northwestern, DePaul and Emory Universities. She serves on the boards of the Erikson Institute and Denison University, is past president of the Board of Directors for the Theatre Communications Group, the national service organization for the field, and was a 2024 Leadership Greater Chicago Daniel Burnham Fellow.

JOHN COLLINS (Goodman Theatre Executive Director) began his career with a summer internship at the Goodman, where he has since served in various senior leadership positions over the past two decades. During his tenure, Collins has overseen numerous production transfers to Broadway, regional and international venues and tours of Goodman productions, including *The Who's TOMMY*; *Good Night, Oscar*; *War Paint*; *Desire Under the Elms*; and *Chinglish* (Broadway); *The Iceman Cometh* (New York/BAM); *The White Snake* (China); and *Luna Gale* (Los Angeles). He also helped open the Alice Rapoport Center for Education and Engagement—a 10,000 square foot center for expanded programming and activities. Collins is a member of the Economic Club of Chicago, a past chairman and current board member of the League of Chicago Theaters, and a board member of the Chicago Loop Alliance and the League of Resident Theatres (LORT). He is a graduate of Marquette University and resides in Chicago with his wife Melissa and their children, Shea and Evan.

ABOUT THE GOODMAN

Chicago's theater since 1925, Goodman Theatre is a not-for-profit arts and community organization in the heart of the Loop, distinguished by the excellence and scope of its artistic programming and community engagement. Led by Walter Artistic Director Susan V. Booth and Executive Director John Collins, the theater's artistic priorities include new play development (more than 150 world or American premieres), large scale musical theater works and reimagined classics. Artists and productions have earned two Pulitzer Prizes, 22 Tony Awards and more than 160 Jeff Awards, among other accolades.

The Goodman is the first theater in the world to produce all 10 plays in August Wilson's "American Century Cycle." Its longtime annual holiday tradition *A Christmas Carol*, now in its fifth decade, has created a new generation of theatergoers in Chicago. The Goodman also frequently serves as a production and program partner with national and international companies and Chicago's Off-Loop theaters.

Using the tools of theatrical practice, the Goodman's Education and Engagement programs aim to develop generations of citizens who understand and empathize with cultures and stories of diverse voices. The Goodman's Alice Rapoport Center for Education and Engagement is the home of these programs, which are offered for Chicago youth—85% of whom come from underserved communities—schools and life-long learners.

Goodman Theatre was built on the unceded homelands of the Council of the Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi Nations. We recognize that many other Nations consider the area we now call Chicago as their traditional homeland—including the Myaamia, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Sac and Fox, Peoria, Kaskaskia, Wea, Kickapoo and Mascouten and remains home to many Native peoples today. The Goodman is proud to have a relationship with Gichigamiin Indigenous Nations Museum. Located in Evanston, the Museum honors the survival and perseverance of Indigenous communities and promotes a greater understanding of Indigenous peoples: gichigamiin-museum.org.

Goodman Theatre was founded by William O. Goodman and his family in honor of their son Kenneth, an important figure in Chicago's cultural renaissance in the early 1900s. The Goodman family's legacy lives on through the continued work and dedication of Kenneth's family, including Albert Ivar Goodman, who with his late mother, Edith-Marie Appleton, contributed the necessary funds for the creation of the new Goodman center in 2000.

Julie Danis is Chair of Goodman Theatre's Board of Trustees, Lorraine Weiss is Women's Board President and Kelli Garcia is President of the Scenemakers Board for young professionals.

Performances take place
at 9:30 AM and 11:30 AM

BOOK UP!

7/25
Oriole Park

8/9
Portage Park

7/26
Kosciuszko Park

8/2
Haas Park

8/6
Homan Square Park

7/23
Harrison Park

7/30
Hale Park

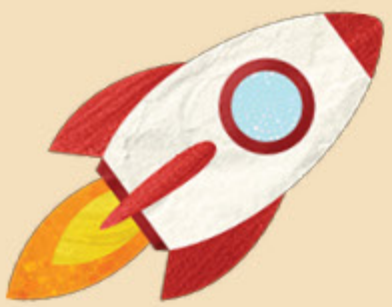
7/24
Bosley Park

7/27
West Lawn Park

8/7
Brighton Park

8/3
Marquette Park

7/31
Hayes Park





THEATER FOR A LIFETIME

SECOND SATURDAYS

At Goodman Theatre, storytelling magic doesn't just happen on the stage—it lives in the voices, hands and imaginations of our community. Second Saturdays is where that magic comes to life—monthly arts programming for children (ages 4-10) and their families, designed to spark creativity, inspire self-expression and bring people together.

On the second Saturday of every month, families, friends and neighbors gather in the Alice for hands-on workshops led by Chicago artists, exploring everything from movement and music to visual arts and storytelling. Each session is a new adventure, offering an open invitation to create, discover and play—no experience necessary.

For young people, Second Saturdays is a space to dream big and build confidence. For adults, it's a chance to embrace creativity and connect with others. And for families, it's a shared experience of joy, curiosity and artistic exploration. At its heart, Second Saturdays is about access—ensuring that art belongs to everyone, no matter their age, background or expertise.

Join us and discover that storytelling isn't just something you watch—it's something you do.

**YOUR STORY
STARTS HERE.
SCAN FOR EVENTS!**



THE
GOOD
MAN

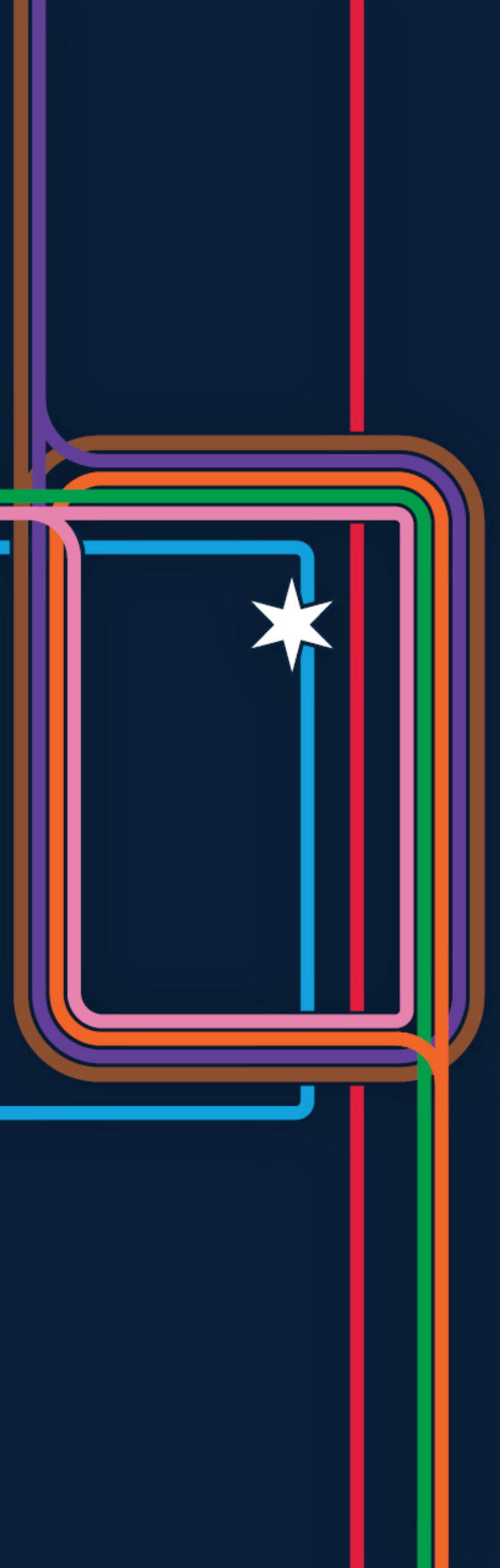
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FREE ACTS OF THEATER

Co-presented by DCASE



An epic citywide year-long event—100 Free Acts of Theater—activates all 50 wards of Chicago.

Designed as a celebration of the artistic fabric of our city during our Centennial Season, The Goodman is proud to partner with local organizations to amplify existing programming and collaborate on new efforts.

From artistic performances to special events to community engagement offerings, these events highlight the richness of Chicago's cultural landscape and honor the communities that have inspired and supported us over the past 100 years.

All 100 acts are offered FREE, with participation open to Chicagoans of all ages and backgrounds.

To learn more, visit GoodmanTheatre.org/FreeActs

100 FREE ACTS OF THEATER SPONSORS



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2024/2025

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