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EPIC Showcase Lifts Up the Voices of Tomorrow



Featuring New Plays by Chicago Public School Students

EPIC Fall 2018 Showcase

A Collection of Staged Readings

Written by Chicago Public School students

Directed by Corey Pond with Tracy Strimple

PERFORMANCES

Saturday, February 9 at 2PM

Sunday, February 10 at 2PM

EPIC Showcase is a compilation of short plays written by middle school and high school students that shed light on the challenges and issues Chicago youth face. The readings are performed by actors from the Silk Road Rising community.



Get Your Tickets TODAY!

EPIC (Empathic Playwriting Intensive Course) is Silk Road Rising's 20-session in-school arts integrated education program. Students develop an understanding of empathy while creating a fully formed short play about a story that is meaningful to them.

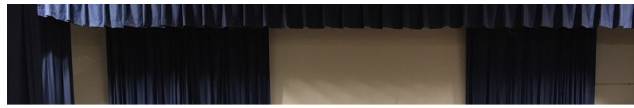
“It’s a beautiful opportunity for students to discover how important their voices are, how important their experiences are, and how these stories should be shared with others,” Janyce Caraballo, an EPIC teaching artist, said when reflecting on this past fall’s EPIC residencies. **“I come from a CPS background. My school didn’t have resources for extracurricular activities. For these students to have EPIC be a part of their**



impressions and not engagement with expression through writing is really important and necessary.”

Over the years, Silk Road Rising has brought EPIC to more than 80 classrooms and taught over 2,000 students, but EPIC Showcase marks the

first time we have opened up this process to the public. The event will show our audience powerful work by young artists and give these artists the opportunity to see their work performed on a professional stage.



“You’ll be impressed,” says Lindsay Hopkins, a teaching artist who has been with EPIC for five years. **“It’s good to be impressed by who’s going to become our future.”**

So get your tickets now! You have just two chances to be in the audience to welcome these voices to Chicago’s artistic community.

As teaching artist Jarrett King says, **“EPIC Showcase is a great way for people to get the**



jump on some young people who could very well go on to be some major voices in our communities. Come be a part of their premiere!”

“It’s a guaranteed good time. If you come and see it for yourself it’ll be a very unique experience that you won’t get anywhere else,” says Janyce.

Tickets for Saturday, February 9th at 2pm

Tickets for Sunday, February 10th at 2pm

EPIC Showcase features the work of students from the following schools: Crown Community Academy, John Hancock College Prep, Kelvyn Park High School, Oscar DePriest Elementary, and Turner-Drew Elementary.

2019 Members: Don’t Forget EPIC Showcase Is Included in Your Membership

If you’re a 2019 Member, make sure you reserve your ticket before the performances sell out.

To reserve your seat, click the button below, log in, and go to the "Ticket Packages" tab, then select a production to reserve your tickets.

You can also reserve your seats by **calling us at 312.857.1234 ext 201** or **emailing us at boxoffice@silkroadrising.org**.

→ **It's Not Too Late to Become a 2019 Member!** ←

Sign Up and Become a Member Today!

Obstacle Course Premieres Next Month



Don't Miss Your Opportunity to Attend a Screening

Obstacle Course
Premiere Screenings
Written by Jamil Khoury
Directed by Dale Heinen



SCREENINGS

Thursday, February 21 @ 7PM
 Friday, February 22 @ 2PM
 Saturday, February 23 @ 2PM
 Sunday, February 24 @ 2PM
 Monday, February 25 @ 2PM
 Tuesday, February 26 @ 7PM
 Wednesday, February 27 @ 7PM

Set in Naperville, Illinois, this 45-minute video play, adapted from Jamil Khoury's stage play *Mosque Alert*, explores reactions to a proposed Islamic community center on the site of a beloved landmark. Allyship, municipal politics, and Islamophobia all intersect in this head-on collision between Not In My Backyard fear mongering, well-intentioned liberalism, and the peaceful practice of faith.

Screenings will take place at Pierce Hall in the historic Chicago Temple and will be followed by a lively discussion on the themes and issues surrounding the video play.

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