

## **Pittsburgh Public Theater Launches Streamland**

### **New Streaming Platform Connects The Public to Educators and Students Nationwide**

*Streamland pairs cinema-quality digital versions of The Public's mainstage productions with curriculum-aligned supplementary content, available for schools and teachers*

**September 21, 2023 • Pittsburgh, PA** — Pittsburgh Public Theater announced today Streamland, a new initiative to bring the magic of live theater into classrooms nationwide by delivering cinema-quality digital versions of The Public's mainstage productions alongside curriculum-based supplementary educational materials on a user-friendly platform.

"We're so excited to launch Streamland, and it's the perfect extension of our Open Stage Student Matinee Program," Pittsburgh Public Theater Director of Education and Engagement Parag S. Gohel said. "With Streamland, students in all schools, regardless of geographic or financial barriers, can experience firsthand the learning power of live art."

Streamland offerings will supplement The Public's world-class theatrical productions with a wealth of curriculum-aligned enriching content to enhance students' and educators' experience, including:

- **Conversations with Playwrights and Directors:** Gain insights into the creative process with exclusive interviews with the brilliant minds behind our productions.
- **Behind-the-Scenes Tours:** Explore the intricacies of set design, costume creation, and the art of bringing a production to life.
- **Dance and Fight Choreography Lessons:** Dive into the world of choreography with engaging lessons that add depth to the viewing experience.

"Streamland is a huge step toward our mission of being a true public theater," Pittsburgh Public Theater Artistic Director Marya Sea Kaminski said. "I'm so excited to bring our work to students far and wide, regardless of geographic or cost barriers."

Streamland builds on the success of Pittsburgh Public Theater's digital PlayTime! programs and hybrid education initiatives developed since 2020, and upholds the legacy of longstanding programs including the Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest and Veterans' Story Night. Streamland amplifies the voices of the artists involved in The Public's productions and multiplies The Public's impact on students.

"As a child, my mother took me to see professional theater, and that experience made me realize theater was what I wanted to do more than anything else," Pittsburgh Creative and Performing Arts School (CAPA) Theater Teacher Chris Laitta said. "By eliminating the prohibitive costs of bringing students to a theater, The Public is opening up a new world of arts education that has long been locked away for so many."

The inaugural Streamland offering is The Public's world premiere jazz bio-musical [Billy Strayhorn: Something To Live For](#), telling the remarkable story of a Pittsburgh jazz legend and prodigy who collaborated for decades with Duke Ellington and history's greatest jazz orchestra.

Streamland supplementary curriculum is meticulously designed by experienced educators to align with Pennsylvania and National Core Learning Standards, and will include up to 30 minutes of interviews, behind-the-scenes, history lessons, and more, tailored to the educational possibilities around each Streamland show. Pittsburgh Public Theater will utilize a sliding scale fee structure, with reduced costs available for underfunded school districts.

"At Pittsburgh Public Theater, we believe that the arts have the power to inspire, educate, and transform lives," Gohel said. "With Streamland, we are bringing this transformative experience directly into classrooms, enriching the lives of students and educators across the nation."

*For more information on Streamland and to learn how to get access for your classroom, email Director of Education and Engagement Parag S. Gohel at [edu@ppt.org](mailto:edu@ppt.org).*

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*Pittsburgh Public Theater strives to serve as a true public theater to the Pittsburgh region, producing more than 120 performances each season and welcoming more than 70,000 guests through the O'Reilly Theater's doors every year. The theater is renowned for its exceptional mix of programming, featuring international classics, fresh new works, and favorite musicals. Its commitment to education and engagement initiatives is a hallmark and includes the signature Shakespeare Monologue & Scene Contest and innovative community partnerships. The organization, under the leadership of Artistic Director Marya Sea Kaminski and Managing Director Shaunda McDill, celebrates its 49th season in 2023.*