BRIDGES STAGE COMPANY

EXPLORING OUR SIMILARITIES & CELEBRATING OUR DIFFERENCES

MISSION STATEMENT

Bridges Stage Company, a multi-ethnic theatre company, is dedicated to building awareness, understanding and acceptance of all people and cultures through programs that explore our similarities and celebrate our differences in the hope of bringing us closer together.

ABOUT THE COMPANY

The Puget Sound region is growing rapidly in population and diversity. With this growth brings not only new opportunities, but also new responsibilities and challenges. And as we've repeatedly witnessed we understand little of each other's cultures, cultural histories or priorities.

What can help us bridge this chasm that exists between us? Part of the solution was suggested by the award-winning television journalist Robert MacNeil when he stated, "In a nation as heterogeneous, as diverse as this, the need may be greater than in the older more homogenous nations of Europe and Asia, to mediate tensions by portraying them and by revealing the common humanity underlying the differences."

Bridges Stage Company's productions will focus on the social and cultural issues that we are all grappling with today. To reflect the rich diversity of the Puget Sound area, we will bring together representatives from numerous cultures to act as trustees, advisors, committee members, staff, and artists.

A theatre company for the 21st Century!

YEARLY DONATION

A trustee's financial responsibility to the company is currently set at $1,500.00 a year.

FUTURE PRODUCTIONS:

To be performed at West of Lenin Theatre,
203 North 36th Street, Seattle, WA 98103

AMERICAN PREMIERE

RETURNING TO HAIFA

by Ghassan Kanafani

adapted for the stage by
Ismail Khalidi & Naomi Wallace

April 15, 2021 to & May 15, 2021

It's 1968, twenty years after the creation of the state of Israel and twenty years after Said and Safiyya, a Palestinian couple living in Israel, fled their home. But the gates to Haifa are once again open and so they go back to visit. Why? This internationally famous work presents a deeply human portrait of two families -- one Palestinian, one Israeli -- forced by history into an intimacy they didn't choose.

OUR LADY OF 121ST STREET

by Stephen Adly Guirgis

This acclaimed comic portrait tells the story of a diverse group of graduates from a Catholic school in Harlem who have reunited for the funeral of their beloved teacher, Sister Rose. Unfortunately, her body has been stolen from the casket, which sets everyone into a tailspin. Pulitzer-Prize winning Stephen Adly Guirgis has been hailed as one of America's most promising playwrights working today.

SEATTLE PREMIERE

36 VIEWS

by Naomi Iizuka

A rugged, American adventurer (and international smuggler) and a beautiful Japanese art historian discover a priceless, potentially history-making, ancient Japanese artifact. But is it real? As they seek to determine its authenticity, their cultural appropriation of this rare treasure becomes an erotic game of greed, love and mental hide-and-seek, trapping these lovers somewhere between pure truth and utter deception.

BOARD & STAFF

Elisha Bell, Board of Advisors, is the Program Financial Investment Partner: Global Health for The Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation. She is a Senior Financial, Strategy, and Business Process Specialist with extensive experience in Non-Profit Industries.

Aaron Clements-Levin, Artistic Director, has been a theatre director for 47 years and has directed for theatres across the U.S. Productions of his have been nominated for the NY Drama Desk Award. He is a graduate of NC School of the Arts, UW and in London he studied under James Dodding and the RSC.

Lois Greenberg, Associate Producer, has designed organizational change programs, created and implemented operational and strategic goals, and created collaborative partnerships for such companies as Starbucks, Citibank, and SafeCo.

Karen Kinch, Associate Artistic Director, was the Founder & Artistic Director of ArtsWest. She studied with the Pulitzer Prize winning playwright Paula Vogel. A member of The Dramatist Guild, she was one of 50 writers selected to be part of the Kennedy Center Playwrights Intensive.

Andrew Konstantaras, Board of Trustees, most recently worked for Intellectual Ventures as Director of Investor Relations & Lead Portfolio Architect, managing the portfolio construction & acquisiton in the Enterprise Software & Data Center industries. He has 25 years of experience in technology, law & policy.

Naghmeh Samini, Ph.D., Board of Trustees, received her degrees in drama from the University of Tehran. She has taught at the Univ. of Tehran, Stanford, Saint Andrews Univ. in Scotland, Univ. of Kyoto, Univ. of Washington, etc. Her plays have been produced in Iran, France, England, India, Canada, and the U.S.

Elaine Shen, Ph.D., M.B.A., Board of Trustees, joined the Allen Institute for Brain Science in 2006 as a Scientific Program Manager. Her project portfolio included the Allen Human Brain Atlas. Dr. Shen is now the managing owner of Seattle Changing Room where her focus is movement education.

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