

CALENDAR 5

BASED ON THE MIRAMAX MOTION PICTURE BY JULIETTE TOWHIDI AND TIM FIRTH

"Calendar Girls" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.



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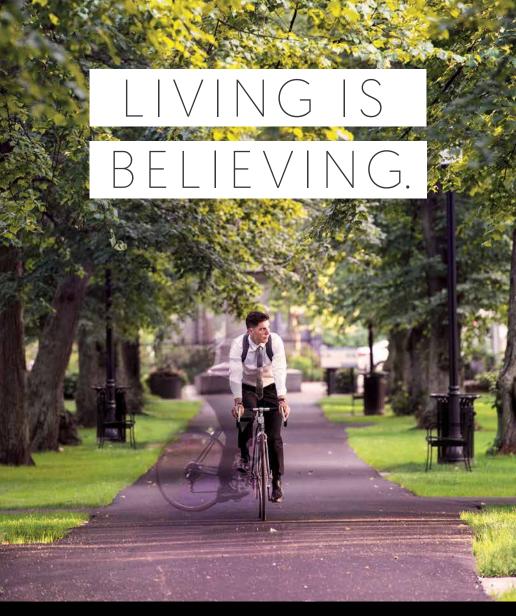


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CALENDAR GIRLS

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The approximate running time for this production is 2 hours and 10 minutes including intermission.

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CALENDAR GIRLS was first presented by David Pugh Ltd. at Chichester Festival Theatre on 5th September 2008.

CALENDAR GIRLS transferred to the Noel Coward Theatre, London on 4th April 2009. Associate Producer: Stoneface Ltd.

Neptune Theatre gratefully acknowledges the support of



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OYSTER PERPETUAL DATEJUST 31



THE COMPANY

CAST

(Alphabetical Order)

Gil Anderson	Elaine/Conference Host
Mauralea Austin	Brenda/Lady Cravenshire
Burgandy Code	
Francine Deschepper	Celia
Zach Faye	Lawrence/Liam
Jim Fowler	
Martha Irving	Chris
Sharleen Kalayil	Ruth
Daniel Lillford	John
Marlane O'Brien	Jessie
Geneviève Steele	Marie
Shelley Thompson	Annie

CREATIVE TEAM

Jeremy Webb	Director
John Dinning	Set and Props Designer
Jennifer Goodman	Costume Designer
Leigh Ann Vardy	Lighting Designer
June Zinck	Sound Designer
Sarah Richardson	Vocal Coach/Arranger/Pianist
Christine Oakey	Stage Manager
Alison Crosby	Assistant Stage Manager
Natasha Strilchuk	Assistant Director (RBC Chrysalis Participant)
Wafaa Latif	Assistant Costume Designer (RBC Chrysalis Participant)
Carmen Lee	Assistant Lighting Designer (RBC Chrysalis Participant)

The action takes place in Knapeley village, Yorkshire, in the church hall and on top of a nearby hill (John's hill), and at the annual WI conference in London.





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What a treat it is to spend these few months directing two shows back to back that are set in my birth country, *Calendar Girls* and then *Billy Elliot*. What a joyful local cast we have gathered

together. It's rare to have a play with so many great roles for women and I am lucky to have such a strong local pool to draw from. This play features a veritable who's who of local talent.

The play is really about the strong bond between these women and the way they protect and help their own in times of trouble. Nothing could have prepared these women for the way their original calendar took off. To date, they have raised over £5 million for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research, the UK's leading blood cancer charity.

As you're reading this, I am getting prepared for *Billy Elliot*, our season-ending musical production. It's a giant show with a gigantic heart. We have recently announced our 2020-21 season with some amazing productions for you. *The Rocky Horror Show* fills our summer and *Dreamgirls* closes us out. Once again we bring you a new family musical comedy at Christmas, with *Alice In Pantoland*. The season has two premieres by Atlantic Canadian playwrights, two incredible pieces of Indigenous theatre, thrills, chills and laughs galore.

Enjoy your time in the hills with the *Calendar Girls*. Thank you for being here.

Jeremy Webb Artistic Director



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#TAKETHELEAP



Hello and welcome to Neptune for our presentation of *Calendar Girls*.

We are happy to have this talented cast of artists with strong ties to Nova Scotia and

Atlantic Canada perform on our stage. This show is a delight and we can't wait for you to share a few laughs with us.

I would like to take the opportunity to tell you about an upcoming fundraiser. On April 17, we're hosting a special red carpet gala on the opening night performance of our season-closing musical, *Billy Elliot*. The evening will include a pre-show reception and an exciting post-show soirée. The funds raised at this black-tie affair will support our education and community programming.

Box office revenues cover just over 50 per cent of Neptune's annual operating expenses. It's through generous donations that the theatre is able to deliver highquality productions and exceptional community and education programs. Your support helps Neptune open more doors to make live theatre more accessible.

For more information about the gala, please visit neptunetheatre.com/billygala. Tickets can be purchased online or at the box office.

Thanks for your continued support.

Paul Laberge Chair, Neptune Theatre Foundation

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GENERAL MANAGER'S MESSAGE



Last month, Neptune announced its 2020-2021 season and we're thrilled about what's coming up. Next year, our stages will feature

plays written by Atlantic Canadian women; works created by Indigenous playwrights; another holiday musical for the whole family, plus an exciting summer lineup of shows.

We have made a couple of changes to our subscription packages, including the introduction of the Big 3 Package. This option provides the convenience of purchasing tickets to our three biggest shows of the season (*The Rocky Horror Show, Alice in Pantoland* and *Dreamgirls*) at the best price. Stage Subscription will take you on an emotional journey through modern and compelling topics. *One Step At A Time, Finding Wolastoq Voice, Scorch* and *Huff* have been programmed to push boundaries and initiate thought-provoking discussions.

There are a number of benefits to becoming a subscriber such as: having the first choice of seats and dates, discounts on additional tickets including bonus features, discounts on dining and services from local business partners and more.

We encourage you to explore our subscription options online or at the box office.

Thank you for supporting Neptune.

Enjoy the show!

Lisa Bugden General Manager



neptunetheatre.com

CALENDAR GIRLS _ 13

PHOTOS OF THE CALENDAR





When the ladies of Rydstone & District WJ drop everything for their traditional crafts, "Jam and Jerusalem" will never be the same again!



November 2000

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The original Alternative WI calendar was dedicated to John Richard Barker, Angela Barker's late husband. During his illness, his friends and family raised money for leukemia and lymphoma research.

John grew sunflowers from the onset of his illness and gave them to friends and family in the hope he would have recovered by the time they flowered. Unfortunately, this was not the case but the sunflower lives on as a reminder of John's life and has now become an unofficial symbol for all fundraising for leukemia and lymphoma research by John's family and friends.



Calendar Girls is based on the real life story of Angela Baker, a woman from Yorkshire, UK whose husband John passed away from non-Hodgkin's lymphoma in the late 1990s. To raise funds for a visitor's sofa at the local hospital, she and a group of friends posed for an "alternative" calendar. Their efforts took off and to date they have raised over £5 million for Leukaemia & Lymphoma Research in the UK.

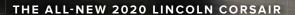
In 2003, the story was made into a comedy starring Dame Helen Mirren and Dame Julie Walters and received critical acclaim. The film was nominated for many awards and won Best Comedy Film at the British Comedy Awards. Five years later, the movie was adapted into a stage play and we are thrilled to present it here at Neptune Theatre.



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THE CAST









GIL ANDERSON

Role: Elaine/Conference Host Neptune: Debut. Other Theatre: The Realistic Joneses (KAZAN CO-OP); This Is Nowhere (Zuppa Theatre Co.); Confession (Mulgrave Road Theatre). Film/TV: Diggstown, Addison, Cavendish (CBC); Splinters (Emotion Pictures); Crash Canyon (Teletoon/MTV); Bakugan (Teletoon/YTV); Lunar Jim (Alliance Atlantis). Other: Dedicated to mum and dad with thanks to cast and crew. Sites: imdb.me/gilanderson, Gilltothegil, www.hellocity.com.

MAURALEA AUSTIN

Role: Brenda/Lady Cravenshire Neptune: To Kill a Mockingbird, Blithe Spirit, Comedy of Errors. Other Theatre: Shoplifters, Dancing on the Elephant, The Ladies Foursome, The Children, Opening Night, Outside Mullingar, Harvest, Estate, Top Girls, Woman and Scarecrow, To Capture Light, Girl in a Goldfish Bow. Other: Three-Time Merritt award winner. Love always to Larkin, Peregrine, Sagey, Ruari.

BURGANDY CODE

Role: Cora Neptune: Barometer Rising, An Inspector Calls. Other Theatre: Midsummer Night's Dream (Theatre Rusticle); Hamlet (Below the Salt); Amadeus (Globe Theatre); Pride and Prejudice (The Grand); Hedda Gabler (GCTC); Pelagie, Rockbound, Nothing Less!, Animal Farm, In This Light (Two Planks). Upcoming: MacBeth by Fire, Schoolhouse, Jeckyll and Hyde by Fire (Two Planks). Other: 13 Merritt nominations, four wins.

FRANCINE DESCHEPPER

Role: Celia Neptune: Little Thing, Big Thing, The Lear Project, Miracle on 34th Street, Marion Bridge, Lungs, Glace Bay Miners' Museum, The Comedy of Errors, Mrs. Parliament's Night Out. Other Theatre: Some Blow Flutes (Home First); Macbeth, Heroine (Willpower); When It Rains (2b theatre company); Kingfisher Days, Outside Mullingar, Criminal Genius (FAST); The Donahue Sisters, Twelfth Night (Luna Sea). Film/TV: This Hour Has 22 Minutes, Diggstown, Little Grey Bubbles, Duck Duck Goose, Hopeless Romantic, Weirdos.



ZACH FAYE

Role: Lawrence/ Liam Neptune: Mother Courage and her Children, Les Misérables (Theatre School). Other Theatre: Chasing Champions (Ship's Company Theatre); TreeGirl (Forerunner Playwrights Theatre). Other: Zach finds work as an actor, theatre collaborator and baker here at home in Nova Scotia/Mi'kma'ki. All the love to this incredible team and to my family.





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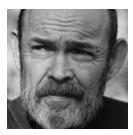
Role: Rod Neptune: Shakespeare in Love, The Government Inspector. Other Theatre: Frankenstein by Fire, In this Light (Two Planks and a Passion); The Melville Boys (Chester Playhouse); Three Penny Opera (Opera Nova Scotia); The Life of Galileo, Blue Angel Kabarett (Irondale); A Midsummer Night's Dream, Hamlet (Shakespeare by the Sea). Film/TV: Mr. D (CBC); The Mist (Magic Rock Productions); Animal Mechanicals (Halifax Film).

MARTHA IRVING

Role: Chris Neptune: 40+ productions including *Cinderella*, and *The (Post) Mistress*. Other Theatre: Death of a Salesman (Drayton); *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Thousand Islands); *The Glace Bay Miners' Museum* (NAC). TV: *The Lizzie Borden Chronicles*. Awards: Merritt Awards: Best Actress (*Ghosts*/LunaSea), Mayor's Award for Lifetime Achievement. Upcoming: Diggstown. Other: Co-founder of LunaSea Theatre. Huge love to Anthony and Madelaine.

SHARLEEN KALAYIL

Role: Ruth Neptune: Half-Cracked: The Legend of Sugar Mary (EFT/ Neptune; Merritt Award nominee). Other Theatre: Miss N Me (Eastern Front Theatre); The Bitterest Time (Lunasea/SarAndipity); Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (Theatre Arts Guild). Film/TV: Escaping the NXIVM Cult (Sony Pictures); Nightblooms (Midnight Blue Pictures); Aliens With Knives (44Cinema Productions); Pure (Two East Production); Diggstown (CBC). Other: For my Dad.



DANIEL LILLFORD

Role: John Neptune: Romeo & Juliet, The Government Inspector. Other Theatre: [Selected productions]: Noises Off, Travesties, Glengarry Glen Ross, Equus, Inherit the Wind, An Enemy of the People [Segal Centre]. Film/TV: Wharf Rats, Trailer Park Boys, Copperhead, All the Wrong Reasons, Bunker 6, Darwin's Darkest Hour, Snow Angels, The Pilot's Wife. Other: Daniel is happy to be back to Neptune. He lives in Nova Scotia with his wife Rachel and their three sons.



MARLANE O'BRIEN

Role: Jessie Neptune: Annie, Romeo and Juliet. Other Theatre: 17 seasons with The Charlottetown Festival including Anne of Green Gables, The Full Monty, Evangeline, A Closer Walk With Patsy Cline; Stories From The Red Dirt Road (playwright); Alice Through The Looking Glass; 'Night, Mother, Grace and Glorie [P.W.Y.C.]; Toronto, Mississippi, Pal Joey (Tarragon). Film/TV: Cloudburst (feature), Haven, MacGyver. Other: Delighted to be back and in this inspiring play.



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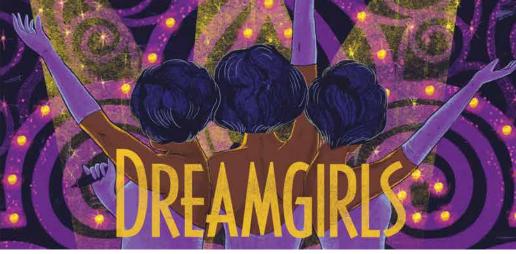
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GENEVIÈVE STEELE

Role: Marie Neptune: Snake in the Grass, Half-Cracked (EFT/ Neptune), Rabbit Hole. Other Theatre: Hamlet (Below the Salt); North Mountain Vanya, Animal Farm, In this Light (Two Planks and a Passion); The Birds and the Bees (Victoria Playhouse); Antony and Cleopatra, Macbeth (Shakespeare by the Sea); Venus in Furs (Festival Antigonish). Film/TV: Diggstown (CBC); Copperhead (Swordspoint). Other: Big love to my family and this wonderful company. Enjoy!



SHELLEY THOMPSON

Role: Annie Neptune: Memory of Water, Closer and more. Other Theatre: Select productions: (ATF) The Tempest (Ariel); Criminal Genius, Glorious (Festival Antigonish); Pygmalion (Shaw Festival); After The Fall (Royal National Theatre, UK); Me and My Girl, Rick's Bar Casablanca (West End). Film/TV: Award-winning performances: Trailer Park Boys, Splinters, The Child Remains. Other: Shelley will direct her first feature film in summer 2020.



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ΗΛLIFΛ Χ

CREATIVE TEAM



JEREMY WEBB

Role: Director Neptune: Peter Pan, Little Thing, Big Thing, Noises Off, Cinderella, Shakespeare in Love, Mamma Mia!, A Christmas Carol. As actor: Beauty and the Beast (2016), Great Expectations, Rexy!, The Comedy of Errors, The Wizard of Oz, Romeo & Juliet, The Producers, Beauty & The Beast (2007), Oliver, Annie, What The Butler Saw, Sylvia, Blood Brothers, Rumors, Sleeping Beauty. Other Theatre: Broadway On Argyle St., Macbeth, Under Milk Wood, Fishing, Shakespeare On Trial, A Christmas Carol (Off The Leash). Other: His BEST productions are his sons, Samuel & Dylan.



JOHN DINNING

Role: Set and Props Designer Neptune: Noises Off, Once, Mending Fences, The Comedy of Errors, Annie, The Sound of Music, Beauty and the Beast, Rexy!, The Producers. Other Theatre: (Select productions) Recent: The Hobbit (The Globe Theatre Regina). Awards: Nominated for Outstanding Set Design for The Metas for Marjorie Prime (Segal Centre). Other: John trained at the National Theatre School and is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada and A.P.A.S.Q. He has taught for five years and designed sets for The Fountain School for the Performing Arts at Dalhousie University.



JENNIFER GOODMAN

Role: Costume Designer Neptune: Stones in his Pockets. Other Theatre: Bang Bang, The Virgin Trial, Generous (GCTC); The Horse and his Boy, The Magician's Nephew, Wilde Tales, 1979 (Shaw); Hamlet (Below the Salt); 6 seasons with Two Planks and a Passion. Awards: Merritt, Outstanding Costume Design (*The Tempest*, Two Planks); MECCA, Best Set Design (*7 Stories*, Tableau d'Hôte). Training: MFA, University of Alberta; BFA, Concordia University. Other: www.jennifergoodman.ca.



LEIGH ANN VARDY

Role: Lighting Designer Neptune: Between Breaths, The Color Purple. Other Theatre: The Neverending Story (Stratford, NAC); Christmas Carol (Citadel); The Third Colour (Prairie Theatre Exchange); Secret Life of a Mother (Theatre Centre, Crow's). Other: Teaches and coaches at National Theatre School of Canada.





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CREATIVE TEAM



JUNE ZINCK

Role: Sound Designer Neptune: Pleasureville, In A World Created By A Drunken God, Cinderella, The Color Purple (Neptune Theatre; Chrysalis participant). Other Theatre: Scoop (Kick At The Dark Theatre); Assassins (Whalesong Theatre); Concord Floral (DMV Theatre); Half-Cracked: Legend of Sugar Mary (Eastern Front Theatre/ Neptune Theatre; Merritt Award for Outstanding Sound Design).



SARAH RICHARDSON

Role: Vocal Coach/Arranger/Pianist Neptune: Controlled Damage, Peter Pan, Frozen Jr., The Color Purple, DivaStation, Shakespeare in Love, Les Misérables: School Edition, My Side of the Country. Other Theatre: Assassins, Heathers: The Musical, Peter & the Starcatcher, The Birthday (Whale Song Theatre); Ruthless: The Stage Mother of All Musicals, Damn Yankees (Chester Playhouse); New Waterford Boy (HEIST); Company, 9 to 5: the Musical (WST/ Dartmouth Players); Rocky Horror Show, Nunsense, Menopositive (Halifax Feast). Awards: Merritt Award Winner for Outstanding Musical Direction - Ruthless: The Stage Mother of All Musicals, Merritt Award Nominee for Outstanding Musical Direction - New Waterford Boy, Training: BFA - Ryerson University, RCM.



CHRISTINE OAKEY

Role: Stage Manager Neptune: (as SM) The Boat, Great Expectations, Miss Caledonia; (as ASM) Peter Pan, Beauty and the Beast, Oliver. Other Theatre: Many credits throughout the Maritimes including 2b Theatre, Eastern Front Theatre, Two Planks and a Passion, Theatre New Brunswick, Charlottetown Festival, Keep Good Theatre, and Mermaid Theatre of NS. Awards: Merritt award for Best Stage Manager (2003, 2014). Training: University of King's College; National Theatre School of Canada.



ALISON CROSBY

Role: Assistant Stage Manager Neptune: Peter Pan, Cinderella (ASM), Lo (or Dear Mr. Wells), The Color Purple (Assist. Lighting Designer, Chrysalis Project). Other Theatre: Hook Line & Sinner, Chasing Champions, The Romeo Initiative (Ship's Company Theatre); Silence, The (curious case of the) Watson Intelligence, Sucker (Highland Arts Theatre); Kingfisher Days, The Hound of the Baskervilles, Stage Kiss (Festival Antigonish). Training: Mount Allison University. Other: Neptune Theatre's INKubator Project.

RBC CHRYSALIS SPOTLIGHT



The RBC Chrysalis Project, supported by Arts Nova Scotia, is an incredible opportunity to be mentored by an industry professional on a large scale production.

When I decided that I wanted to turn my eye to directing, I knew Neptune Theatre and the Chrysalis Project would be a safe place to learn and grow. I was working as an actor on *Mamma Mia!* at Neptune when the Chrysalis Project was first created, and I could already tell that I wanted to be a part of it. You get to have an active role through the rehearsal process which paves the way for emerging artists.

Working on *Calendar Girls* with Jeremy Webb has made the learning experience fun, informative and has created building blocks for me to expand my knowledge in directing after I leave this show. Jeremy made sure to ask what I wanted to get out of my experience here and made sure I achieved my goals, as well as sharing information I may need about his process from pre-production to opening night. I always felt that I had a voice in the room, which is extremely important in developing skills and confidence. I also appreciate Neptune giving opportunities to local and non-local artists, creating a diverse group of participants.

For anyone interested in growing in their respective field, I wholeheartedly recommend the RBC Chrysalis Project.

Natasha Strilchuk Assistant Director, *Calendar Girls*



CREATIVE TEAM



NATASHA STRILCHUK

Role: Assistant Director (RBC Chrysalis Participant) Neptune: Mamma Mia!. Other Theatre: North American premiere of Bend it like Beckham (Bluma Appel Theatre); Chicago (Globe Theatre); Guys & Dolls, Romeo & Juliet (Stratford Festival). Film/TV: Romeo & Juliet (CBC/Stratford HD); Motives and Murder (Cineflex Productions). Training: Randolph College for the Performing Arts. Other: Love to Indy, Josh and my family. Thanks to my agents at DaCosta Talent as well as Jeremy Webb, Neptune Theatre and the Chrysalis Project for this opportunity.



WAFAA LATIF

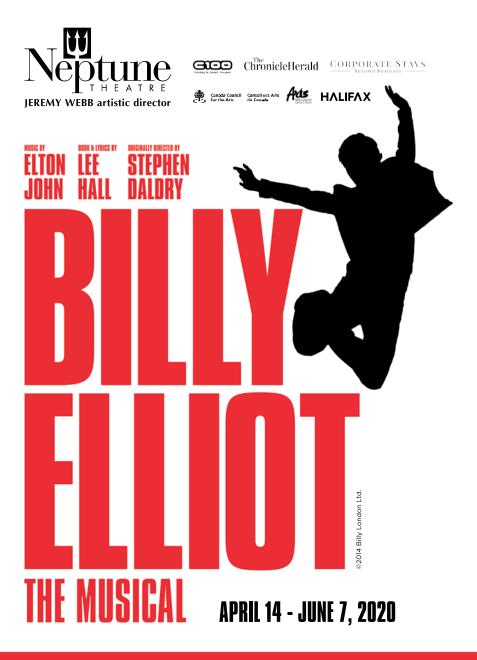
Role: Assistant Costume Designer (RBC Chrysalis Participant) Neptune: Debut. Other Theatre: Costume designer: *Tales of Hoffman* (Halifax Summer Opera Festival). Assistant Costume designer: *2065 B.C* by Adham Hafez. Costume Designer: *Room Filled with smoke* by Mounir Saeed (Falaki Theatre). Film/TV: Costume Designer: I Hear You TV series (Interwoven films); Wardrobe Stylist: Miss Egypt TV Live show (Face to Face). Training: AEC in Costume Design - Collage LaSalle Montreal.



CARMEN LEE

Role: Assistant Lighting Designer (RBC Chrysalis Participant) Neptune: The Last Five Years. Other Theatre: Founded "Theatre du Poulet" with puppetry, mask and physical theatre; The Extinction of Hong Kongers; Settle Elsewhere. Training: First Class Honours in Arts, Events and Stage Management from The Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts. Awards: The Extinction of Hong Kongers – The Theatre Centre Emerging Artist Award in the Toronto Summerworks Festival 2018.





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SUPPORT NEPTUNE IN STYLE April 17, 2020



Join us April 17 for a Red Carpet Gala celebrating the opening night performance of *Billy Elliot the Musical*.

Come support Neptune Theatre's education and community programming.

This black-tie event includes a pre-show champagne reception, an exciting post-show soirée and opening night performance of *Billy Elliot the Musical*—a show that has won more than 80 awards worldwide including the Tony for Best Musical.

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