



KANSAS CITY REPERTORY

# KC Rep announces 'For Colored Girls...'

*KCRep Continues Season with Treasured Work of American Theatre*

**FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE / WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF**

**October 18 – November 10 at Copaken Stage**

**Kansas City, MO** – Kansas City Repertory Theatre continues its season with **FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE / WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF** by Ntozake Shange. Only the second show by an African American woman to be produced on Broadway, **FOR COLORED GIRLS** was nominated for the 1976 Tony Award for Best Play.

In this theater piece, written in a form Shange coined as a 'choreo-poem' and accompanied by music and dance,

seven African American women, each identified solely by a color, traverse class, gender, sexuality, and geography, share highly personal stories of love, empowerment, struggle and loss to create a complex representation of sisterhood. "Remarkable," says *The New York Times*, "a joyous celebration" that weaves word and dance into something genuinely special, something to "be savored and treasured."

"Our bodies are magnificent. They hold our power and our fragility. Ntozake Shange reminds us that they are ours, a

curve that holds a secret, a twerk that celebrates release – all ours to be shared at our will,” says Director Khanisha Foster. “Come sit in the theater with us, and we will climb the walls together. Hang from the rafters. Let abandon set us free.”

The company of **FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE / WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF** features, alphabetically:

**Chioma Anyanwu (Lady in Purple), Celeste M. Cooper (Lady in Red), Ashe Jaafaru (Lady in Brown), Meredith Noël (Lady in Yellow), Amber McKinnon (Lady in Orange) and Teonna Wesley (Lady in Green). Bios and show art may be downloaded as they become available [here](#).**

Ntozake Shange, born Paulette Linda Williams, was an American playwright, poet, and Black feminist. The author of many plays, novels, short stories, children’s books, poems, and essays, Shange is revered as a pioneer in the Black Arts Movement. She died in 2018.

In addition to direction by Khanisha Foster, the creative team consists of lighting design by Akin Ritchie, scenic design by Sheryl Liu, sound design by Miles Polaski, choreography by Brigette Dunn-Korpela, and costume design by Samantha C. Jones. Tenley Pitonzo serves as production stage manager.

**FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE / WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF** previews run Oct. 18 through Oct. 24, opens Friday, Oct. 25 and runs through November 10, at the Copaken Stage (1 H and R Block Way, Kansas City, 64105). Tickets start at just \$35 and may be purchased by visiting <https://kcrep.org/show/for-colored-girls> or by calling the KCREP box office at 816-235-2700. Groups of nine or more receive discounted tickets by calling Andrew Cotlar at 816-235-6122.

This production is sponsored by H&R Block, Inc. KCREP is

underwritten in part by the Missouri Arts Council, a state agency, and an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Founded in 1964 by Dr. Patricia McIlrath, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, the professional theatre in residence at UMKC, is led by Artistic Director, Stuart Carden and Executive Director, Angela Lee Gieras. KCREP is nationally known as an incubator of new plays and producer of innovative musicals and reimagined classics.

Together with an active board of directors, a year-round, part-time, and seasonal staff of 210, and over 300 volunteers, KCREP serves patrons from more than 40 states on their two stages, Spencer Theatre and Copaken Stage in downtown Kansas City. More than 12,000 school students and educators see live theatre productions at KCREP annually, many of whom are experiencing the genre for the first time. The company dedicates itself to producing works which are compelling, passionate, and entertaining. Visit [www.kcrep.org](http://www.kcrep.org).

### **Social and Digital Media**

Receive daily updates by 'Liking' KCREP's Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/KCREP](http://www.facebook.com/KCREP) and follow KCREP on Instagram at @kcreptheatre, Twitter at @KCREP, or on YouTube by visiting <https://www.youtube.com/user/kansascityrep>.

**Please direct all media inquiries to Tammy Cunningham**  
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**For tickets and information, visit our website at**  
[www.kcrep.org](http://www.kcrep.org) or call 816.235.2700

**The 2019/20 season continues at Kansas City Repertory Theatre**

**CAT ON A HOT TIN ROOF**

SEP 6-29, 2019 • SPENCER THEATRE

WRITTEN BY TENNESSEE WILLIAMS

DIRECTED BY LISA ROTHE

**FOR COLORED GIRLS WHO HAVE CONSIDERED SUICIDE/WHEN THE RAINBOW IS ENUF**

OCT 18 – NOV 10, 2019 • COPAKEN STAGE

WRITTEN BY NTOZAKE SHANGE

DIRECTED BY KHANISHA FOSTER

**A CHRISTMAS CAROL (Special Holiday Event)**

NOV 22 – DEC 29, 2019 • SPENCER THEATRE

WRITTEN BY CHARLES DICKENS

ADAPTED By GEOFF ELLIOTT

DIRECTED BY JASON CHANOS

**FUN HOME**

JAN 24 – FEB 16, 2020 • SPENCER THEATRE

BOOK AND LYRICS BY LISA KRON

MUSIC BY JEANINE TESORI

DIRECTED BY LISA ROTHE

BASED ON THE GRAPHIC NOVEL BY ALISON BECHDEL

**ORIGINKC: NEW WORKS FESTIVAL**

MAR 6 – APR 5, 2020 • COPAKEN STAGE

WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTIONS PRESENTED IN ROTATING REPERTORY!  
Free panels and readings during Launch Weekend, March 13-15.

– more –

***FRANKENSTEIN – A WORLD PREMIERE***

WRITTEN BY KYLE HATLEY

DIRECTED BY JOANIE SCHULTZ

BASED ON THE NOVEL BY MARY SHELLEY

***LEGACY LAND***

WRITTEN BY STACEY ROSE

DIRECTED BY LOGAN VAUGHN

***NOISES OFF!***

MAR 27 – APR 19, 2020 • SPENCER THEATRE

WRITTEN BY MICHAEL FRAYN