



KANSAS CITY REPERTORY THEATRE

# Re-tooled Austen classic extends run

**KANSAS CITY REP EXTENDS RUN OF POPULAR REGIONAL PREMIERE**

***Kate Hamill's PRIDE AND PREJUDICE Now Runs Thru April 20; Adds Sensory-Friendly Show***

Kansas City Repertory Theatre artistic staff announced today that they will extend the run of Kate Hamill's **PRIDE AND PREJUDICE**, the multiple award-winning production, directed by KCRep's recently-departed Associate Artistic Director, **Marissa Wolf**. Based on the novel by **Jane Austen**, Hamill's hilarious, gender-bending reimaging of arguably Austen's most beloved book, begins previews on **March 22** and extends its run through **April 20** at Spencer Theatre on the UMKC campus.

Three public performances have been added, along with four student matinees, in an effort to accommodate the robust request for tickets. The public performances are on Friday, April 19 at 8 pm, Saturday, April 20 at 2 pm, and Saturday, April 20 at 8 pm. For information on the student matinees, please contact Melinda McCrary directly at [mccrarium@kcrep.org](mailto:mccrarium@kcrep.org).

The Saturday, April 20 matinee performance at 2 pm will also be a *sensory-friendly* show. The sensory-friendly performance (also known as sensory-relaxed) is designed to create a theatrical experience welcoming to all individuals on the Autism spectrum or with other special needs that create

sensory sensitivities, and the people who love and support them. All audiences are welcome to attend this performance understanding the parameters listed below. Tickets for this performance are \$35 each with general admission seating.

**Special accommodations for sensory-friendly performances include:**

- Lower sound level, especially for startling or loud sounds
- Lights remain on at a low level in the audience during the performance
- A reduction of strobe lighting or bright lighting focused on the audience
- Patrons are free to talk and leave their seats during the performance
- Space throughout the theater for standing and movement
- KCREP staff will be available to accommodate patrons' needs and answer questions they may have

According to Interim Artistic Director Jason Chanos, "Creating theatrical experiences that are welcoming to all people in Kansas City is an important part of our core mission at KCREP. We have a decade's long history of supporting diverse artists, stories, and audiences, and this is just one way we demonstrate that ongoing commitment."

Director Marissa Wolf, who most recently directed *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* and *The CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME* at KCREP, calls Hamill's adaptation, "A fantastic, feminist farce! Hamill writes with an athleticism embedded in the language and physicality of the play, which beautifully embodies Austen's wickedly smart, buoyant spirit."

Finding a husband is hardly Elizabeth Bennet's most urgent priority. But with four sisters, an overzealous mother, and a string of unsuitable suitors, it's a difficult subject to escape. When the independent 'Lizzy' meets the vaguely

handsome but enigmatic Mr. Darcy, all feelings of attraction are muted by *his* pride and *her* prejudice.

The Company for PRIDE AND PREJUDICE features, alphabetically, Walter Coppage as Charlotte/Mr. Bennet; Sam Cordes as Mr. Collins/Wickham/Miss Bingley; Nedra Dixon as Mrs. Bennet; Bree Elrod as Lizzy Bennet; Nicole Marie Green as Lydia/Lady Catherine; Brian Demar Jones as Mr. Darcy; Andy Perkins as Bingley/Mary; and Lauren Spencer as Jane/Mrs. DeBourgh. Rachel M. Dyer serves as the Assistant Stage Manager, and Mary R. Honour is the Stage Manager. Besides director Wolf, the production/design team includes Choreographer Darrell Moultrie, Set Design by Kimie Nishikawa, Costume Design by Melissa Torchia, Masha Tsimring is Lighting Designer and Madeleine Oldham is Sound Designer. Wig Designer Alison Hanks, Dialect Coach Scott Stackhouse, and Assistant Director Amy O'Connor round out the team.

Tickets for PRIDE AND PREJUDICE start at just \$38 and may be purchased by visiting <https://kcrep.org/show/pride-and-prejudice> or by calling the KCREP box office at 816-235-2700. Groups of nine or more receive discounted tickets by calling Andrew at 816-235-6122.

This production is made possible with financial support from the Celebrating our Heritage Fund – Miller and Jeannette Nichols, The Hall Family Foundation (KCREP's 2018/19 Literary Series Sponsor), and the Richard J. Stern Foundation for the Arts. 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 interim artistic director, Jason Chanos and executive director, Angela Lee Gieras. KCREP is nationally known as an incubator of new plays and producer of innovative musicals and reimaged 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, the 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).