

On Stage: Creating a Community Dialogue Around Live Theater

Marie and Rosetta

April 3 – 19, 2026

**Participating Theater:
Yellow Tree Theatre**

Created by: Lucas Erickson

Fiscal Sponsor: Springboard for the Arts

On Stage: Creating a Community Dialogue Around Live Theater

Mission: To make local theater relevant to younger and non-traditional audiences and to lay the groundwork for building future theater audiences

Overview: On Stage raises awareness of the theater offerings in the Twin Cities to academic classes and groups. On Stage brings actors to college classrooms and community settings around the Twin Cities. Local actors and students read scenes from a play in current local production followed by a lively discussion of the themes tying in current events, personal values, and narratives, and stimulating critical thinking. Subsequently attending the full play is encouraged. The purpose of the program is to enhance in-class learning, make local theater relevant to younger and non-traditional audiences, and to lay the groundwork for building future theater attendances. Discussions cover relevant social, political, and cultural topics that come up in Twin Cities plays including gender and racial violence and inequity, LGBTQ+ discrimination, cultural diaspora and alienation and aging.

Since On Stage was launched in the fall of 2016, On Stage has partnered with fifteen theater companies in the Twin Cities, covering forty-two plays. Of the plays that On Stage has promoted/discussed in classrooms, over **11,000** students and community members have been exposed to new theater and new theater venues, and over **23%** of these students and community members paid to see the show that we were promoting/discussing. On Stage continues to focus on partnering with more small/mid-sized theaters that don't have the resources for their own outreach efforts.

On Stage has partnered with the following Theaters: Mixed Blood Theatre, Park Square Theatre, Jungle Theater, Six Points Theater, Pillsbury House Theatre, Frank Theatre, Children's Theatre Company, Yellow Tree Theatre, New Dawn Theatre, Theater Mu, Exposed Brick Theatre, Ten Thousand Things, Open Eye Theatre, History Theatre and Theater Latté Da.

On Stage has facilitated discussions with the following Colleges and Universities: St. Thomas University, University of Minnesota, St. Catherine University, Metro State University, Augsburg College, Macalester College, Concordia University, Hamline University, Bethel University, Minneapolis Community & Technical College, Minneapolis College of Art and Design, Normandale Community College, North Hennepin Community College, Hennepin Technical College, Century College, Inver Hills Community College, Hazelden Graduate School of Addiction Studies.

On Stage has facilitated discussions with the following Departments: Communications, Sociology, Theater, English - Creative Writing, English - Literature, History, Education, Psychology, Music, Family Social Sciences, Leadership, Linguistics, Law, Environmental Science, Political Science, Women and Gender Studies, African American Studies, Addiction Studies, Culinary Arts.

Note: When Covid hit in March 2020, On Stage launched a new education experience for students. This online program, OnStage/OnLine, was a series of discussions based on plays that were 'in the works' to be produced and performed in the Twin Cities in the future, designed to: stimulate an interest in live theater, examine the cultural context of a play, and, of course, to have fun! We have since returned to in-person classes but have been facilitating both in-person and online discussions and we will continue to have both teaching options moving forward.

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Schedule

1. Century College - MUSC 1045: Popular Music in American Society; SOC 2051: Sociology of Race and Ethnicity (CLASS #1) (NOTE: COMBINED CLASS) - White, Colleen; Corey Culver - Monday April 6, 10:45 - 12:00PM. (20 STUDENTS)

* This course surveys the history of American popular music from its roots to the present. The course examines the development of popular music styles, analyzes the evolution of the music industry and technology, and explores the relationship between cultural trends, social issues, and popular music.

2. Century College - SOC 1020: Intro to Sociology (CLASS #2) - Corey Culver - Monday April 6, 3:30 - 4:45PM. (20 STUDENTS)

* This course is a survey of sociology's major theoretical perspectives and research methods. Basic concepts include culture, socialization, groups, organizations, deviance, social institutions, change, and inequalities based on class, race, and gender.

3. MCTC - CMST 1000: Intro to Communication Studies - Kathleen Crawford - Tuesday April 7, 10:30 - 11:30AM. (15 STUDENTS)

* This course explores foundational communication concepts and fosters communication skills in interpersonal communication, group communication and public speaking.

4. Century College - SOC 1020: Intro to Sociology (CLASS #2) - Corey Culver - Tuesday April 7, 12:30 - 1:45PM. (20 STUDENTS)

* This course is a survey of sociology's major theoretical perspectives and research methods. Basic concepts include culture, socialization, groups, organizations, deviance, social institutions, change, and inequalities based on class, race, and gender.

5. Inver Hills Community College - SOC 1100: Intro to Sociology (NOTE: ZOOM DISCUSSION) - Sadie Pendaz-Foster - Tuesday April 7, 6:00 - 7:00PM. (15 STUDENTS)

* Emphasizes methods, basic concepts, terminology, and perspectives used by sociologists in analysis of social relationships. Sociological analysis will focus on American government, family, education, religion, and the economy.

6. MCTC – PSYC 2240: Lifespan Development – Christine Lintvedt – Wednesday April 8, 10:00 – 11:00AM. (25 STUDENTS)

* The course provides a comprehensive view of human development from conception to death. You will explore and analyze important developmental changes (biological, cognitive and socio-emotional) and contemporary issues salient to various developmental stages from scientific and cultural perspectives.

7. Normandale Community College - COMM 1121: Intercultural Communication - Willie Johnson - Wednesday April 8, 12:00 - 1:20PM. (25 STUDENTS)

* Intercultural communication skills are increasingly valuable in today's global society. Develop your own intercultural competence by examining how cultural identity, shaped by historical and societal power dynamics, influences communication across diverse groups.

8. University of St. Thomas - MUSC 297: Musical Theater Performance - Andrea Leap, Shanah Custer - Wednesday April 8, 3:30 - 4:30PM. (7 STUDENTS)

* This course is an introduction to the singing and acting skills needed to perform American Musical Theater. Starting with short solos and monologues, students will practice performing for each other to learn expressive skills, then will learn collaborative skills through working on duets and scenes with each other in a supportive setting.

9. University of Minnesota - ENGL 4232: American Drama by Writers of Color - Jo Lee - Thursday April 9, 2:30 - 3:30PM. (14 STUDENTS)

* Selected works by African American, Latinx, Native American, and Asian American playwrights. How racial/ethnic differences are integral to shaping different visions of American drama.

10. University of St. Thomas - GRSW 608: Field Prac & Sem IV - Neerja Singh - Thursday April 9, 4:40 - 5:40PM. (9 STUDENTS)

* This course provides advanced learning and practice in settings conducive to clinical social work practice under the instruction of an agency-based social work supervisor and campus-based faculty member.

11. Hennepin Technical College - Gateway to College - Charlotte Guild - Monday April 13, 10:00 - 11:20AM. (18 STUDENTS)

* This class explores the systematic study of the relationship between the individual and their society. In the weeks prior to your visit, students will be learning about the discipline of sociology, sociological research, class inequality, and race/ethnicity.

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Schedule Cont.

12. University of St. Thomas - MUSC 115: Understanding Music and Culture Through a Feminine Lens- Sarah Schmalenberger - Monday April 13, 1:35 – 2:35PM. (16 STUDENTS)

* This survey course explores the classics of European and American music in their historical, cultural and social contexts. It will investigate the many ethnic, religious, political, philosophical, economic and scientific influences that have shaped these traditions.

13. University of St. Thomas - HONR 480: Honors Broken Hearted - Patricia Maddox - Monday April 13, 3:25 - 4:25PM. (18 STUDENTS)

* These interdisciplinary seminars are intended to develop integrating insights through an analysis of topics chosen from different disciplines.

14. Century College - SOC 1020: Intro to Sociology (CLASS #4) - Corey Culver - Tuesday April 14, 9:15 - 10:30AM. (12 STUDENTS)

* This course is a survey of sociology's major theoretical perspectives and research methods. Basic concepts include culture, socialization, groups, organizations, deviance, social institutions, change, and inequalities based on class, race, and gender.

15. Century College - GNDR 1061: Introduction to Gender Studies - McWhorter, Rachel - Tuesday April 14, 10:45 - 12:00PM. (14 STUDENTS)

* Introduction to Gender Studies is an interdisciplinary course focused on the ways that sex and gender influence social, cultural, and political systems.

16. University of St. Thomas - MUSC 162: Roots of Blues, Rock and Country - Bruce Gleason - Tuesday April 14, 1:30 - 2:30PM. (18 STUDENTS)

* This course traces the development of American popular music from its roots through multiple genres such as minstrelsy, jazz, big band, swing, crooning, jump blues, gospel, rhythm and blues, country, western, folk/protest, and rock 'n' roll, concluding with the British Invasion.

17. University of St. Thomas - MUSC 230: Music of the United States - Sarah Schmalenberger - Tuesday April 14, 3:30 - 4:30PM. (18 STUDENTS)

* This course focuses on the study of music in the United States within its historical, cultural, and sociological contexts. The course will develop skills in critical listening analysis using appropriate musical terminology, to describe both aural and written traditions of music.

18. University of St. Thomas - THTR 218: Acting for the Camera - Shanan Custer - Wednesday April 15, 10:55 - 12:00PM. (16 STUDENTS)

* Acting for the Camera is an introduction to principles, techniques, and performance methods relevant to acting on camera. Students will learn to apply principles and theory to analyze filmed performances and scripts, and we will apply techniques and methodology by preparing and performing dialogue and scenes with partners in class.

19. University of Minnesota - SOC 3503: Asian American Identities, Families and Communities - Teresa Swartz - Wednesday April 15, 1:00 - 2:15PM. (16 STUDENTS)

* This course provides a sociological overview of Asian American identities, families and communities. To place these experiences within a broader historical, structural, and cultural context the course will begin with a brief introduction to the history of Asians and Asian Americans in the United States and sociological theories about incorporation and racial stratification.

ON STAGE: *Marie and Rosetta* – Numbers/Survey

Total number of students and community members who participated in the discussions: 316

Total number of tickets purchased to see the play after our discussions: 71

1. Have you seen a play before?

YES – 48 (92%) NO – 4

2. Have you seen a YELLOW TREE THEATRE play?

YES – 0 NO – 52 (100%)

3. Do you feel more inclined to see this YELLOW TREE THEATRE play after participating in the discussion?

YES – 48 (92%) NO – 4

4. Do you feel more inclined to see other YELLOW TREE THEATRE plays after participating in this discussion?

YES – 45 (87%) NO – 7

5. Did this discussion add to your fuller understanding to what you have been discussing in class?

YES – 52 (100%) NO – 0

Note: This survey was issued to participants in six in-class discussions.

Note: Total tickets purchased was confirmed by the Yellow Tree Theatre Box Office.

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Agenda/Topics

LUCAS will welcome everyone and say why we are there/what On Stage is. Today we are going to get you moving around and discussing some of the issues raised in the play, and we will give you a short summary of the play, who wrote it, and what **YELLOW TREE THEATRE** is. ASK STUDENTS: **Has anyone seen a play recently? Has anyone seen a concert recently? Where did you see it?**

EDUCATORS will introduce themselves and have students get in a group of 3 or 4 (GO AROUND AND INTRODUCE YOURSELVES) and talk about:

- 1. DO YOU PLAY AN INSTRUMENT? WHAT DO YOU PLAY AND WHEN DID YOU START?**
- 2. WHAT STYLES OF MUSIC DO YOU LISTEN TO?**
- 3. WHAT IS YOUR FIRST MEMORY OF MUSIC/SONGS?**

Hear from each group.

EDUCATORS will have students stay in their group and designate somebody as the WRITER (get paper and pen!), and you have **TWO MINUTES** to come up with **AS MANY SONGS THAT YOU ALL KNOW AS A GROUP**. After two minutes, tell the students to CROSS OUT THE SONGS THAT AREN'T FEMALE PERFORMERS. Go around and hear from each group the songs and who sings the songs. After hearing all the names, **WHO IS THE OLDEST FEMALE SINGER THAT WAS MENTIONED?** Has anyone heard of SISTER ROSETTA THARPE?

LUCAS will play **THREE SONGS** (the first one is gospel/slow - *DOWN BY THE RIVERSIDE* - the last two are different - *CAN'T SIT DOWN, THIS TRAIN*) of Sister Rosetta Tharpe. **EDUCATORS** will ask the class: **WHAT DID YOU HEAR? HOW DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL? WHAT STYLE OF MUSIC IS THIS? HAS ANYONE LISTENED TO GOSPEL MUSIC** (have someone define it)?

EDUCATORS will give some background to Sister Rosetta Tharpe and how she broke away from traditional/church gospel music and blended gospel with electric guitar, and her energetic playing style directly influenced early rock and roll musicians. Her stage presence, characterized by charisma and showmanship, broke barriers for both women and African American artists in the music industry. Despite facing criticism from traditional gospel audiences for her secular influences, Tharpe remained unapologetically true to her artistic vision. BRING UP SINNERS - HAS ANYONE SEEN IT? SAME TIME-PERIOD/PLAYING IN THE SOUTH. THIS LEADS TO THE NEXT EXERCISE ---->

EDUCATORS + LUCAS will ask students “WHEN I SAY THE WORD COURAGE, WHAT DO YOU THINK?” Have someone define it. Are there different levels of courage? Now have students stand up and VOTE WITH YOUR BODY:

1. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU BROKE FROM THE STATUS QUO (i.e. you took a RISK)? Different levels of risk taking (10 is the far wall, 5 is middle and 1 is close wall). *GIVE EXAMPLES OF WHAT A 1, 5 and 10. Hear from some students. ASK STUDENTS: Is it easy or hard for you to do something that others don't agree with (EVEN THOUGH YOU LIKE IT!)? Trusting yourself/being your AUTHENTIC SELF.

EDUCATORS will give a quick summary of the play, who wrote it, and what/where **YELLOW TREE THEATRE** is located.

NOTE: USE THIS AS A REFERENCE - DO NOT READ IT OUT LOUD - DESCRIBE THE PLAY IN YOUR OWN WORDS.

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Agenda/Topics Cont.

By George Brandt. The play explores the challenges of touring in the segregated South, the blending of gospel with blues and early rock 'n' roll, and the personal sacrifices required to achieve musical success. Celebrated for her fierce guitar playing and swinging gospel music, singer Sister Rosetta Tharpe became a veritable legend and influenced rock musicians from Elvis to Jimi Hendrix and Ray Charles. Throughout the 1930s and '40s, Sister Rosetta performed gospel in the morning and swing music at the Cotton Club at night to inevitably become a major influence on rock 'n' roll's earliest icons. The play chronicles her first rehearsal in Mississippi in 1946 with a young protégée, Marie Knight, as they prepare for a tour that would establish them as one of the great duet teams in musical history. Marie and Rosetta's compelling life stories combined with roof-raising, heart-rending gospel songs (including "Down By The Riverside", "Didn't It Rain", "Rock Me", and "I Want a Tall Skinny Papa") set the stage for an inspiring story of friendship, faith and fearless artistry.

EDUCATORS + LUCAS will **ASK 2 BRAVE READERS** to read SCENE #1 from the play (Pg. 28 - 31).

Questions: What's that about? What did you hear? Invisible rules (rules in school, life, the south, certain spaces – churches, etc); Do you like dancing to music and looking weird?; **Two ways to sing a song (Rock Me vs RRRRRRRROCK ME!) - “right” vs wrong” / “church” vs “secular” / “clean” vs “dirty”.** **ANY EXAMPLES OF SINGING A SONG TWO DIFFERENT WAYS? Amazing Grace, The National Anthem, ect.**

EDUCATORS + LUCAS will **ASK 2 BRAVE READERS** to read SCENE #2 from the play (Pg. 52 - 55).

Questions: What's that about? What did you hear? “Is he messing with your music?”; women/gender roles (SISTERHOOD OF WOMEN) – providing for husband/family/sacrifices. **WHAT DID YOU HEAR WITH THESE WOMEN?**

LUCAS will pass around a survey to students, how to see the play for \$15, *and ask educators to plug their work.* (*play music to walk out).

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Feedback

Hi Lucas!

Thank you!! We had a blast! It is always fun to have you and the others join us. It sounds like such a great play! Until next time!

All the best,

Kathleen Crawford – Professor @ MCTC

Lucas, it was so much fun to have you and your crew join us. Please thank them for me and on behalf of the students. I definitely would be interested in your offerings next year.

Take care

Josephine Lee – Professor @ University of Minnesota

Hi Lucas -

I really think this visit went well. They always do, of course, but I especially thought the students seemed to connect with and enjoy it this time, so I appreciate the continued opportunities when it works out.

Sadie Pendaz-Foster – Professor @ Inver Hills Community College

Thanks so much for joining us this week! It was great to have you and your group - I would love to have you join one of my classes again in the future!

Christine Lintvedt – Professor @ MCTC

Good afternoon, Lucas,

Thank you. A great show and a great experience. I'm pleased to point out that along with our students, who found the play to be a moving and engaging experience, so did our bus driver, Sergio. 18-years-old with parents living in Ecuador. He loved the show, and because neither Dr. Schmalenberger nor I are fans of abandoning bus drivers in parking lots, we had purchased a ticket for him ahead of time. He and I visited prior to and following the show and along with being a part of something, he gained new-found knowledge of gospel and rock and roll.

Many thanks,

Bruce Gleason – Professor @ University of St. Thomas

Hi Lucas!

The presentation by you and your Onstage crew in our Intercultural Communication course was another rousing success! The students loved it! You all do great work, and I look forward to what will be in the offering for the Fall 2026 semester! Take care and see you soon!

Willie Johnson – Professor @ Normandale Community College

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Feedback Cont.

Student Comments from Onstage's 4-8-26 NCC Presentation

One of the questions students were required to answer was:

What are some ways that you could possibly apply some of the information learned in this presentation/discussion to your present or future personal life, and to your present or future professional life?

Here are some of their replies:

"In my personal life, I can apply the lesson of "mentorship." I want to be someone who, like Rosetta, helps others find their voice, whether that's with my own family or friends. Professionally, especially as I move into a career that involves caring for others, I can apply the cultural and religious empathy I learned today. The presentation reminded me that every person has a complex background—their religion, their class, and their life struggles all shape who they are. In the future, I will strive to look past the surface and treat everyone with the dignity they deserve, regardless of their background or current situation."

"One way, I could talk about how there are hidden stories about important people who made major impact in certain industries like Sister Rosetta to people who wants to learn about history like watching historic movies or books. Also, I could ask questions to religion leaders like a pastor and a priest who has knowledge about the music expectations across different religions. Lastly, I could ask peers who has different backgrounds from me about family roles and expectations or I could read books on global expectations. Holding the knowledge that women of color have historically had their accomplishments stolen, diminished or disregarded is vital information for me to have going into the professional workforce. I am determined to be loud and speak out, not only for myself, but for any other women of color that I see suffering this kind of injustice. It's your life and if you are not happy with your current circumstances, you have the power to change it. Don't underestimate the creativity and drive somebody has within them."

"I would like to go see more plays myself. I live close enough to places like the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis to experience these myself. I have also talked to my mom about what she knows about Marie and Rosetta, and more about the experience of black people in the south growing up. Even just supporting African-American artists, entrepreneurs, and people in my community on a smaller level can make a huge difference. Black-owned businesses are one of the best ways to do this, I bought this really great shea butter from a black-owned business a few weeks ago, I feel like smaller actions like this can mean the world to someone else."

"I can apply what I learned from this presentation to my personal life by being more aware of how people's identities and experiences shape their choices. I have decided to invest in learning Emotional intelligence, an important aspect that shapes a person's character that society tends to ignore. Together with what I have learned in this presentation about the impact that Sister Rosetta had on rocking and roll and what have been learning in my empowerment journey, I hope to create a more inclusive environment where diverse voices are recognized and valued."

"I can apply what I learned by being more aware of cultural, racial, and social differences in my daily life. Personally, I can be more open-minded and not judge others based on their choices. In my future professional life, especially in healthcare or corporate settings, I can treat people fairly and make sure everyone feels respected and valued no matter their background."

"I can apply what I have learned to my personal life by daring to try new things and not fearing failure. This helps me become more confident and fosters my personal growth. In the future, if I work in a field such as nursing or healthcare, I can apply creativity and an open mindset to provide better care for patients. I have also learned not to shy away from challenges and to constantly strive for improvement."

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Financials

- **Warren Bowles (Facilitator) - \$1230**
 - * 9 discussions (\$900), 2 planning meetings (\$200), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Maria Asp (Facilitator) - \$730**
 - * 4 discussions (\$400), 2 planning meetings (\$200), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Patrick Bailey (Facilitator) - \$930**
 - * 7 discussions (\$700), 1 planning meeting (\$100), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Val Proctor (Facilitator) - \$1430**
 - * 11 discussions (\$1100), 2 planning meetings (\$200), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Samuel Osbourne (Facilitator) - \$830**
 - * 5 discussions (\$500), 2 planning meetings (\$200), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Anna Hashizume (Facilitator) - \$730**
 - * 5 discussions (\$500), 1 planning meeting (\$100), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Ninchai Nok-Chiclana (Facilitator) - \$1230**
 - * 9 discussions (\$900), 2 planning meetings (\$200), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Harry Waters Jr. (Facilitator) - \$1000**
 - * 7 discussions (\$700), 2 planning meetings (\$200), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100).
- **Wendy Knox (Facilitator) - \$930**
 - * 6 discussions (\$600), 2 planning meetings (\$200), facilitator prep-fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$30).
- **Lucas Erickson (Project Manager) - \$670**
 - * Coordination fee (\$500), marketing, printing and copying (\$100), meetings (\$40), and parking stipend (\$30).

TOTAL: \$9,710

Notes: 1 discussion (1 hour in length) is \$100, 1 planning meeting (2 hours in length) is \$100, facilitator prep-fee is \$20 - \$150, the parking stipend is \$20, and the coordination stipend is \$500. These fees are based on a similar program that was used at the Guthrie Theater (Creating Dialogue) and Project SUCCESS (fiscal sponsor pilot program). The program emphasizes education and is not a performance piece. The discussions will take place in-person and online for the foreseeable future.

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Sample Contract

PROJECT CONTRACT

On Stage: Creating a Community Dialogue Around Live Theater

This Agreement is made effective as of **2/9/22** by and between **On Stage**, and the following individual ("Actor")

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE NUMBER: _____

EMAIL: _____

1. **DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES AND PAYMENT.** Actor will receive compensation for providing the following services/expenses including but not limited to: 6 discussions (\$600), 2 two-hour rehearsals (\$200), facilitator prep fee (\$100), and parking stipend (\$20).
2. **TOTAL PAYMENT.** On Stage will pay total compensation for services in the amount of **\$920**. Payment will be sent directly to the Actor from On Stage at the address listed above at a date postmarked on or before **3/9/22**.
3. **TERM/TERMINATION.** This Agreement shall terminate automatically on **3/9/22**.
4. **RELATIONSHIP OF PARTIES.** It is understood by the parties that the Actor is an independent contractor with respect to On Stage, and not an employee or contractor of On Stage.
5. **WORK PRODUCT OWNERSHIP.** Any copyrightable works, ideas, discoveries, inventions, patents, products, or other information (collectively, the "Work Product") developed in whole or in part in connection with the Services Rendered shall be the exclusive property of On Stage.
6. **NAME AND LIKENESS.** Actor agrees to allow On Stage full use of their name, likeness, voice, testimonial, and/or portrayal in whole or in part, severally or in conjunction with other material, for any documentation and marketing purposes at any time including after determination of this agreement.
7. **ENTIRE AGREEMENT.** This Agreement contains the entire agreement of the parties, and there are no other promises or conditions in any other agreement whether oral or written. The actor waves any liability against On Stage.
9. **SEVERABILITY.** If any provision of this Agreement shall be held to be invalid or unenforceable for any reason, the remaining provisions shall continue to be valid and enforceable. If a court finds that any provision of this Agreement is invalid or unenforceable, but that by limiting such provision it would become valid and enforceable, then such provision shall be deemed to be written, construed, and enforced as so limited.
10. **APPLICABLE LAW.** This Agreement shall be governed by the laws of the State of Minnesota.

This Project Contract is executed and agreed to by:

ACTOR

ON STAGE

(Printed Name) _____

(Printed Name) _____ (Project Manager)

(Date Signed) _____

(Date Signed) _____

(Signature) _____

(Signature) _____

ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Social Media

YELLOWTREE THEATRE

SIX STRINGS.
TWO VOICES.
ONE HOLY SOUND.

Marie AND ROSETTA

BY GEORGE BRANT
CO-DIRECTED BY ANSA AKYEA & RICHARD THOMPSON



ON STAGE STUDENTS SCAN THE QR CODE FOR \$15 TICKETS!
USE PROMO CODE: **yttonstage**

APRIL 3-19, 2026


PRODUCED BY NEW DAWN THEATRE | SPONSORED BY THE BELTON FAMILY FOUNDATION

YELLOWTREETHEATRE.COM • 763.493.8733
320 5TH AVE SE, OSSEO, MN 55369

Marie and Rosetta
April 3-19
@ Yellow Tree Theatre

Marie AND ROSETTA

WHERE GOOD STORIES LIVE... WE GO!



Where Theatre Meets the Classroom!

Yellow Tree Theatre is excited to announce our partnership with On Stage for our upcoming production of *Marie and Rosetta*—a collaboration rooted in education, access and community dialogue.

On Stage is a theater outreach program, fiscally sponsored through Springboard for the Arts, designed to enhance in-class learning, make local theatre relevant to younger and non-traditional audiences and help build future theatre attendance. The program brings professional actors and teaching artists into classrooms across the Twin Cities to introduce students to plays currently in local production.

Each visit is a one-hour interactive experience: students are introduced to the play, actors read selected scenes and a facilitated discussion connects the work to current events, personal values and lived experience. No prior knowledge of the play is assumed and students are encouraged to attend the full production following the visit.



This is a partnership we're proud to continue. Yellow Tree has collaborated with On Stage on previous productions and has seen firsthand how the program expands access—particularly for students who may be experiencing live theatre for the first time.

Since launching in 2016, On Stage has partnered with fifteen Twin Cities theatre companies, reaching over 10,000 students and community members. More than 25% have gone on to purchase tickets to the productions discussed, with a continued focus on supporting small and mid-sized theatres and plays that engage social, cultural and political themes.

This April, On Stage teaching artists will lead discussions across eighteen classes at colleges and universities throughout the Twin Cities metro.

BACK TO School

IN-CLASS DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE PLAY **MARIE AND ROSETTA** START NEXT WEEK!


Total number of discussions: 20
Students participating: 350+

MARIE AND ROSETTA ON STAGE DISCUSSIONS

- 1. CENTURY COLLEGE - MUSIC 1045: POPULAR MUSIC IN AMERICAN SOCIETY
- 2. SOC 305: SOCIOLOGY OF RACE AND ETHNICITY (COMBINED CLASS)
- 3. EARLY COLLEGE - SOC 1020: INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY
- 4. CENTURY COLLEGE - SOC 1020: INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY
- 5. EARLY COLLEGE - SOC 1020: INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY
- 6. MJC - PSYC 1240: LIFESPAN DEVELOPMENT
- 7. NORMANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - COMM 1075: INTERCULTURAL COMMUNICATION
- 8. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - MUSIC 393: MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMANCE
- 9. UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - ENGL 225: AMERICAN DRAMA BY WRITERS OF COLOR
- 10. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - GED AND FRED PRAC 1
- 11. NORMANVILLE COMMUNITY COLLEGE - SHOW 294: PLAY AND WRITING
- 12. MINNEAPOLIS TECHNICAL COLLEGE - GATEWAY TO COLLEGE
- 13. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - MUSIC 101: INTRODUCTION TO MUSIC
- 14. CENTURY COLLEGE - SOC 1020: INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY
- 15. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - HOME AND HONORS BROKEN HEARTED
- 16. CENTURY COLLEGE - SOC 1020: INTRO TO SOCIOLOGY
- 17. CENTURY COLLEGE - SHAW 1041: INTRODUCTION TO SENIOR STUDIES
- 18. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - MUSIC 162: ROOTS OF BLUES, ROCK AND COUNTRY
- 19. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - MUSIC 330: MUSIC OF THE UNITED STATES
- 20. UNIVERSITY OF ST. THOMAS - HIST 208: ACTING FOR THE CAMERA
- 21. UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA - SOC 503: ASIAN AMERICAN IDENTITIES, PARENTS AND COMMUNITIES

SHOUT, SISTER, SHOUT!

Marie and Rosetta
April 3-19
@ Yellow Tree Theatre



COMING

"This one tastes best!" says **SISTER THARPE**

COMING
Big 2½-Hour Concert
Friday, 8:30 P.M., Aug. 4th
IN PERSON!
Gospel and Spiritual
Singing-Sensation!
Decca Record Artist

SISTER ROSETTA THARPE
Madam Marie Knight

HARLEM'S HIGH SPOT

APOLLO
122th ST. near 8th AVE. - Tel. University 4-4490

GALA WEEK beg. FRI. MAY 6th
BLUES & SPIRITUALS in the MODERN MANNER

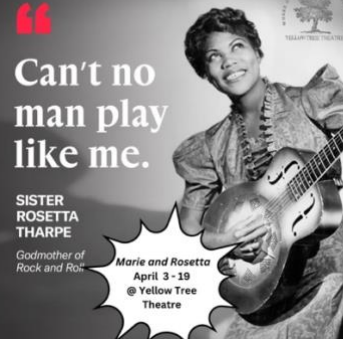
Sister Rosetta THARPE
Plus Another Extraordinary Singer

MARIE KNIGHT

Can't no man play like me.


SISTER ROSETTA THARPE
Godmother of Rock and Roll

Marie and Rosetta
April 3-19
@ Yellow Tree Theatre



Sister Rosetta Tharpe

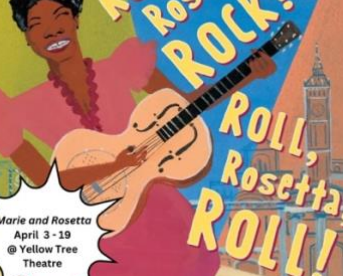
Marie and Rosetta
April 3-19
@ Yellow Tree Theatre



Rock, Rosetta, Rock!

Roll, Rosetta, Roll!

Marie and Rosetta
April 3-19
@ Yellow Tree Theatre



Sister Rosetta THARPE

Marie and Rosetta
April 3-19
@ Yellow Tree Theatre



ON STAGE: Marie and Rosetta – Photos



ON STAGE: Total Outreach

An Octoroon (Mixed Blood Theatre – Fiscal Sponsor: Project SUCCESS)
Total Participants: **196** Total Tickets Purchased: **115**

A Raisin in the Sun (Park Square Theater)
Total Participants: **190** Total Tickets Purchased: **100**

Anna in the Tropics (Jungle Theater)
Total Participants: **143** Total Tickets Purchased: **73**

We are the Levinsons (MN Jewish Theatre Co.)
Total Participants: **128** Total Tickets Purchased: **30**

Pike St. (Pillsbury House Theatre)
Total Participants: **163** Total Tickets Purchased: **25**

Revolt, She said. Revolt again. (Frank Theatre)
Total Participants: **286** Total Tickets Purchased: **100**

Collected Stories (MN Jewish Theatre Co.)
Total Participants: **199** Total Tickets Purchased: **42**

The Lorax (Children's Theatre Co.)
Total Participants: **483** Total Tickets Purchased: **55**

Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill (Jungle Theater)
Total Participants: **155** Total Tickets Purchased: **28**

West of Central (Pillsbury House Theatre)
Total Participants: **299** Total Tickets Purchased: **150**

Marie and Rosetta (Park Square Theatre)
Total Participants: **313** Total Tickets Purchased: **140**

Actually (MN Jewish Theatre Co.)
Total Participants: **264** Total Tickets Purchased: **107**

Hedwig and the Angry Inch (Theater Latté Da)
Total Participants: **173** Total Tickets Purchased: **54**

Small Mouth Sounds (Jungle Theater)
Total Participants: **124** Total Tickets Purchased: **11**

Escaped Alone & Here We Go. (Frank Theatre)
Total Participants: **392** Total Tickets Purchased: **113**

Aubergine (Park Square Theatre)
Total Participants: **371** Total Tickets Purchased: **81**

Skeleton Crew (Yellow Tree Theatre and New Dawn Theatre)
Total Participants: **424** Total Tickets Purchased: **60**

Interstate (Mixed Blood Theatre)
Total Participants: **160** Total Tickets Purchased: **33**

OnStage/OnLine Outreach during Covid:

*The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui (Frank Theatre); The Most Beautiful Home... Maybe (Mixed Blood Theatre);
Nina Simone: Four Women (Pillsbury House Theatre); Animate (Mixed Blood Theatre); the ball-jean stories (Pillsbury House Theatre)*

Man of God (Theater Ma)
Total Participants: **173** Total Tickets Purchased: **35**

Passing Strange (Yellow Tree Theatre and New Dawn Theatre)
Total Participants: **192** Total Tickets Purchased: **20**

Twelve Angry Men (Theater Latté Da)
Total Participants: **95** Total Tickets Purchased: **21**

Freeing Assata and A Love Story in 8 Scenes (Exposed Brick Theatre)
Total Participants: **265** Total Tickets Purchased: **60**

Milma's Tale (Ten Thousand Things)
Total Participants: **246** Total Tickets Purchased: **43**

Diesel Heart (History Theatre)
Total Participants: **374** Total Tickets Purchased: **159**

The Courtroom (Jungle Theatre)
Total Participants: **56** Total Tickets Purchased: **40**

The Chinese Lady (Open Eye Theatre)
Total Participants: **147** Total Tickets Purchased: **24**

Passage (Pillsbury House Theatre & Exposed Brick Theatre)
Total Participants: **251** Total Tickets Purchased: **77**

A Unique Assignment (History Theatre)
Total Participants: **294** Total Tickets Purchased: **24**

The Color Purple (Theater Latté Da)
Total Participants: **313** Total Tickets Purchased: **36**

Behind the Sun (History Theatre)
Total Participants: **541** Total Tickets Purchased: **97**

Behind the Sun (History Theatre)
Total Participants: **541** Total Tickets Purchased: **97**

Sanctuary City (Frank Theatre)
Total Participants: **466** Total Tickets Purchased: **147**

Invisible Fences (Open Eye Theatre)
Total Participants: **319** Total Tickets Purchased: **21**

Burn & Dash + Quinceañera (Exposed Brick Theatre)
Total Participants: **493** Total Tickets Purchased: **95**

Lizjie: The Rock Musical (Open Eye Theatre)
Total Participants: **257** Total Tickets Purchased: **54**

Men on Boats (Ten Thousand Things)
Total Participants: **366** Total Tickets Purchased: **70**

Marie and Rosetta (Yellow Tree Theatre)
Total Participants: **316** Total Tickets Purchased: **71**

TOTAL ON STAGE PARTICIPANTS: 9,531 + 316 = 9,847

(TOTAL ONSTAGE/ONLINE PARTICIPANTS: 1,417)

TOTAL TICKETS PURCHASED: 2,352 + 71 = 2,423

*** 25% OF THE STUDENTS/COMMUNITY MEMBERS WE VISITED IN CLASSES SAW THE PLAY THAT WAS DISCUSSED.**