

On Stage: Creating a Community Dialogue Around Live Theater

Freeing Assata and A Love Story in 8 Scenes

September 9 – 18, 2022

**Participating Theater:
Exposed Brick 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 twelve theater companies in the Twin Cities, covering twenty-six plays. Of these twenty-six plays that On Stage has promoted/discussed in classrooms, over **6000** students have been exposed to new theater and new theater venues, and over **29%** of these students 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, Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company, Pillsbury House Theatre, Frank Theatre, Children's Theatre Company, Yellow Tree Theatre, New Dawn Theatre, Theater Mu, Exposed Brick 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, 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.

When Covid hit in March 2020, On Stage launched a new education experience for students. This online program, OnStage/OnLine, is a series of discussions based on plays that are '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: *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – Schedule

1. Augsburg University - COM 329: Intercultural Communication (CLASS #1) - Jenna McNallie - Wednesday September 7, 9:20 - 10:30AM. (20 STUDENTS)

* This course explores cultural differences and their implications for communication, including differences in values, norms, social interaction, and code systems.

2. Augsburg University - COM 254: Interpersonal Communication (CLASS #2) - Jenna McNallie - Wednesday September 7, 11:10 - 12:20PM. (20 STUDENTS)

* A study of the dynamics of human interaction through verbal and non-verbal messages; emphasis on factors that build relationships and help to overcome communication barriers.

3. St. Catherine University - SOCI 3450: Women's Issues from Global Perspectives (CLASS #1) - Hui Niu Wilcox - Wednesday September 7, 1:30 - 2:30PM. (15 STUDENTS)

* This course examines the construction of gender, gender inequality, women's movement, and cultural representation of gender from a transnational perspective.

4. Hamline University - EDU 3500: Diversity and Education - Maggie Struck - Thursday September 8, 12:50 - 1:50PM. (30 STUDENTS)

* Students will examine how students' culture, religion, race, gender, class and abilities, as well as their interactions with teachers and peers, play important roles in shaping their achievement, adjustment and identity in schools

5. North Hennepin Community College - GWS 1501: Intro to Gender and Women's Studies - Rhonda Italiano (NOTE: ONLINE DISCUSSION) - Thursday September 8, 3:00 - 4:00PM. (3 STUDENTS)

* This course introduces students to the foundations of Gender and Women Studies by examining the diversity of women's experiences throughout history and across cultures, races, ethnic groups and religions.

6. University of St. Thomas - THTR 111: Intro to Theater - Shanan Custer - Monday September 12, 12:15 - 1:20PM. (25 STUDENTS)

* Foundation in theater and drama for the non-major beginning student; orientation to the dramatic tradition through consideration of plays and playwrights from the Greeks to the present.

7. Metro State University - SSCI 100: Intro to Social Science - Diana Dean - Tuesday September 13, 11:00 - 12:00PM. (15 STUDENTS)

* How is society possible? Are human beings free? Can the individual make a difference? This course explores these and other fundamental questions drawn from the social sciences.

8. Normandale Community College - COMM 1131: Intercultural Comm - Willie Johnson - Tuesday September 13, 1:00 - 1:50PM. (25 STUDENTS)

* The primary purposes of this course are to raise awareness of cultural values, beliefs, norms, and biases and address how culture affects communication choices on the interpersonal, group, cross-cultural and global levels.

9. Normandale Community College - ENGC 1101: College Writing (CLASS #1) - Kris Bigalk - Tuesday September 13, 2:00 - 2:50PM. (20 STUDENTS)

* The course focuses on critical thinking and writing skills necessary in college and professional writing through text analyses and argument strategies.

ON STAGE: *Freeing Assata and A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – Schedule

10. St. Paul College - CULINARY ARTS CLASS / FOOD EXPERIENCE! CONCEPT: ONE THEATER. TWO PLAYS. ONE DISH. TWO WAYS! - Jason Ross - Wednesday September 14, 11:00AM - 12:30PM. (12 STUDENTS)

* Students explore various aspects of quantity food production in a fast-paced, high-volume food service setting.

11. Normandale Community College - ENGC 1101: College Writing (CLASS #2) - Kris Bigalk - Wednesday September 14, 1:50 - 2:50PM. (20 STUDENTS)

* The course focuses on critical thinking and writing skills necessary in college and professional writing through text analyses and argument strategies.

12. St. Catherine University - SOCI 1000: Principles and Concepts of Sociology (CLASS #2) - Hui Niu Wilcox - Thursday September 15, 8:40 - 9:40AM. (25 STUDENTS)

* Introduction to the basic ideas used by sociologists to understand societies, groups, relationships and the connection between the individual and the society.

13. Hennepin Technical College - Gateway to College program (High School Students) - Charlotte Guild - Friday September 16, 10:00 - 11:00AM. (20 STUDENTS)

* This class explores the systematic study of the relationship between the individual and their society.

14. MCTC - ENCW 2213: Introduction to Creative Writing (for NEW program in Lino Lakes prison - TREC: Transformation and Re-entry through Education and Community) – Stephen Healey. Friday September 16, 1:00 - 2:45PM. (15 STUDENTS)

* This course covers practice in writing both poetry and fiction, with emphasis on development of individual style and form, as well as an analysis of professional works and devices.

ON STAGE: *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – Numbers/Survey

Total number of students and community members who participated in the discussions: 265

Total number of tickets purchased after our discussions: 60

1. Have you seen a play before?

YES – 117 (88%) NO – 16

2. Have you seen an EXPOSED BRICK THEATRE play?

YES – 0 NO – 133 (100%)

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

YES – 119 (92%) NO – 11

4. Do you feel more inclined to see other EXPOSED BRICK THEATRE productions after participating in this discussion?

YES – 111 (85%) NO – 20

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

YES – 126 (97%) NO – 4

Note: This survey was issued to participants in eight of the fourteen discussions.

Note: Total tickets purchased was confirmed by the Exposed Brick Theatre Box Office.

ON STAGE: Freeing Assata and A Love Story in 8 Scenes – Agenda/Topics

IF ONLINE, Lucas will start with POLL #1. Lucas will welcome everyone and say why we are there/what On Stage is. IF ONLINE, Lucas will then lay down some ground rules (if you have a question, let us know by raising your hand, writing in the chat, or respectfully unmute yourself and ask; please keep your video feed on during this discussion if you are able to; there are closed captions up, so feel free to turn them off; BE OPEN TO TRYING NEW THINGS! We want to engage you and we want to hear from you);

Today we will give you a short summary of the play, who the playwright is, what **EXPOSED BRICK** is, then we will ask some of you to read a scene or two from the play, and discuss it. **DISCLOSURE - Sensitive subject matter, so if you feel uncomfortable at any time, take care of yourself and feel free to not participate and you can always leave the room or sign off of Zoom. EDUCATORS** will introduce themselves.

EDUCATORS will tell students to **VOTE WITH YOUR BODY (IF ONLINE, PUT YOUR FACE CLOSE TO THE CAMERA IF YOU AGREE or use a THUMBS UP emoji, and PUT YOUR FACE AWAY FROM THE CAMERA IF YOU DISAGREE or use a THUMBS DOWN emoji):**

1. **HAVE YOU EVER HAD TO CHANGE SCHOOLS?**
2. **HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN TROUBLE WITH SOME KIND OF AUTHORITY BEFORE (parent, teacher, coach, police)?**
3. **HAVE YOU EVER ACCEPTED SOMETHING AS TRUTH, BUT LATER CHANGED YOUR MIND?** (Easy start with Tooth Fairy, Santa...get to - belief systems religion, gender, have you ever lost a relationship because of a difference in a belief system? STATEMENTS - The Police are always a force of good for society. The Judicial system is fair and works for me. Ask some students to share.
4. **DO YOU KNOW WHO ASSATA SHAKUR IS?** Ask students to say what they know (Tupacs mom!), then **EDUCATORS** say: *“Assata Shakur was a Black Panther activist who was accused of murdering a police officer in 1973. She spent 6 ½ years in a maximum security prison, then escaped and fled to Cuba in 1979 where she lives in exile. She describes herself as a “20th century escaped slave,” and was involved in the Black liberation movement, the student rights movement, the fight to end the war in Vietnam. The Black Panthers became a top target of the FBI’s COINTELPRO program, and J Edgar Hoover (head of the FBI) described the organization as the greatest threat to the internal security of the country,” and Assata has remained on the FBI’s Most Wanted list for years.”*
5. **HAVE YOU EVER BEEN IN LOVE BUT THERE WAS AN OBSTICAL THAT PREVENTED THE RELATIONSHIPS FULL POTENTIAL?**

EDUCATORS will then ask students to **WALK AROUND THE ROOM AND FIND A PARTNER (or group of 3) IF ONLINE, ROCK THE CHAT/GROUP DISCUSSION)** and DISCUSS:

1. **THINK OF A TIME IN YOUR LIFE WHEN YOU FELT POWERFUL.** How did that feel? What was the circumstance? Who has power? Who doesn’t? What does power look like? Feel like? How do you get it? When you feel powerful, do you feel lifted up by your family or your ancestors? **FIND A NEW PARTNER!**
2. **THINK ABOUT A TIME WHEN YOU DIDN’T FEEL POWERFUL.** Talk with a partner.

A GAME! OPTION A: GREAT GAME OF POWER (Boal):

Place a set of four chairs (all the same) in a row, along with a water bottle in front of a seated group. Ask for a volunteer to silently arrange the 4 chairs and a water bottle in such a way that, in their opinion, one chair has more power than all the other chairs. Explain that any of the objects can be moved in any direction or placed on top of each other, but none of the objects can be removed altogether from the space. Once the chairs have been arranged, ask that volunteer to return to their seat and to not reveal his/her thinking behind the arrangement. Next, ask the group to interpret the image made by the chairs and water bottle: *Describe the way the chairs are positioned. What does that position represent or make you think of? Why do you say that? What is another interpretation of this position? Which chair has the most power? Why?* Have another volunteer repeat the activity. *What are some of the different ways we saw power represented in this activity? What makes someone or something powerful? IF ONLINE, draw a map of power you get 6 X’s and one red dot - share whiteboards - one person draws a map then you ask - what do you see? Anyone see something else? Try to get at least 2-3 different drawings*

OPTION B: STATUS GAME: Give students a number (1-10, or 1-5 depending on the size of the class and IF A BIG CLASS, the other students are the audience) - tape it to their back - and have them walk around the room. NOTE: 1 = low status, 10 = high status). They don’t know what number they are and they need to try to figure out what number they represent based on how other students react to you based on your number. Then try to line up in order. **HOW WAS THAT? HOW DID IT MAKE YOU FEEL?**

ON STAGE: – *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – Agenda/Topics

EDUCATORS will give a quick summary of the plays, (**IF ONLINE, Lucas will SHARE HIS SCREEN to see pics of the play**), who the playwrights are (1ST TIME FOR BOTH TO GET THEIR PLAYS PRODUCED!), and info about EXPOSED BRICK. *Exposed Brick Theatre is dedicated to telling untold stories, centering omitted narratives and creating art at the intersection of identities. Founded in 2004 by Amara Siddqui & Suzy Messerole. In 2020, Exposed Brick commissioned eight playwrights to write plays in response to the multiple pandemics impacting MN communities.*

Both of these plays are about characters living in prisons (individual and systematic) and both fighting for something - both plays show how white supremacy is being played out in many facets of life (our society is made for straight white men). The plays are asking us what prison do you live in/what do you struggle with? And what does liberation look like to you? Both plays also show how power can be undercut by MISNAMING and MISGENDERING.

USE THIS JUST FOR REFERENCE BUT NOT TO BE READ: *Freeing Assata* (written by Sterling Miller) is based on the life of Black revolutionary activist Assata Shakur and focuses on the imprisonment/punishment of dissension, along with the huge topic of pregnancy/motherhood, the prison system and the way that prisons break up families. *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* (written by Siddeeqah Shabazz) is a fictional story about Ihsan, a teenage Muslim girl who thinks she's got it all figured out. That is, until Memo, a non-binary teenager, moves in next door and turns Ihsan's world upside down. Gender, sexuality, religion, culture, this beautiful love story dives into all these issues, and asks: when love and religion clash, which one do you choose?

The casting process for the characters in A Love Story. Color blind/gender blind/gender conscious. Does it matter who is cast? SAY: For this class, we want the words on the page read out loud, so we are not looking at age, race or gender when assigning who reads what part. If we were casting the play, that would be different.

ASK TWO BRAVE READERS to read SCENE #1 from FREEING ASSATA (Pg .2 - 3). **EDUCATOR WILL SET UP THE SCENE AND READ OPENING STAGE DIRECTION.** Lucas will **SHARE HIS SCREEN** to see the scene we are reading.

Questions: What's that about? What did you hear? She turns to her mind/ancestors for help/healing during her trauma and they help her escape. **WHY THIS PLAY NOW?**

ASK THREE BRAVE READERS to read SCENE #2 from A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES (Pg.15 - 16). **SET UP THE SCENE AND READ CHARACTER DESCRIPTIONS.** IF ONLINE, Lucas will **SHARE HIS SCREEN** to see the scene we are reading. **AT THE END, LUCAS WILL PLAY THE CHORUS OF "Fake Love" by Drake.**

Questions: What's that about? What did you hear? Do you share songs with friends/partners? "That's our song!" Do you care more about the beats or the lyrics? This connects both plays – music is safe/free/liberating. The journey of self. Feeling loved and accepted. Loving someone for who they are.

LUCAS will play a few short excerpts of songs used in A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES. HOW DO THESE SONGS MAKE YOU FEEL/what images do you get in your mind? **This can be POPCORNED as a BIG GROUP.**

ASK TWO BRAVE READERS to read SCENE #3 from A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES (Pg.18 - 21). **SET UP THE SCENE.** IF ONLINE, Lucas will **SHARE HIS SCREEN** to see the scene we are reading.

Questions: What's that about? What did you hear? "It's like we are in our own world but as soon as anyone steps into it it's like you're embarrassed of me." Am I just an experiment to you? Am I just something to bide your time while you figure shit out or find some dude?" "Look, I can't be black and muslim and queer-" What are we told about love in life? Pressure from parents/friends? Societal pressure? What short stories were you told when you were younger? What love stories were read or told to you? Why were they told to us?

Wrap up! Questions? Lucas will end with **POLL #2.** Lucas will **SHARE HIS SCREEN** to show everyone how to see the play for \$8. ALSO, **ask educators to plug work they are doing.**

ON STAGE: Freeing Assata and A Love Story in 8 Scenes – Feedback

Everything went very well! There were students who spoke up today who have not spoken up previously in the class! I think that it really got everyone thinking. They were still pumped when they came back to work on their other group projects! 50 minutes goes quickly, but you all really jam-packed it in very meaningful ways! As always, I will share the reflections with you. Hopefully some trips to the theatre will be generated. I know a few expressed interest in attending. I really appreciate what you all do and look forward to seeing you again soon! Take care!

Willie Johnson – Professor at Normandale Community College

*It was great to see you and have you in the classroom!
I love the community building effects of these visits. Oftentimes the activities tie in very well with the topics we discuss in class - power dynamics, internalized oppression, race, class, gender, etc.
I'm always learning from the theater artists who take their time to come to my classrooms. Really great work!
Best,*

Hui Wilcox – Professor at St. Catherine University

*Hi Lucas,
I thought it went really well in both classes - thank you so much. I told one of my colleagues about your presentation and now she may be interested in bringing to future classes.
All the best to you and your crew!*

Kris Bigalk – Professor at Normandale Community College

*Thanks for the visit, Lucas. I think it was really powerful. You & Maria did a great job of setting the scenes and giving context, then just letting students step up and be heard. I loved how willing they were to share and participate. I think they really enjoyed it and got a lot from it.
I'm scheduled to teach another creative writing class at Stillwater prison in spring—maybe we can do this again then.*

Stephen Healey - Professor at MCTC

*Hi Lucas,
The class visit was terrific. Sorry for my delay in responding. I love the way that you kept the conversation flowing and also that the students were moving around the room. My favorite was the exercise with the chairs and "who has the power?" The themes worked well with the issues we have been discussing and will be developing throughout the semester. Thank you to all! I am so grateful for the work that you do and for continuing to bring On Stage into my classrooms—virtual and real!
All the best,*

Diana Dean – Professor at Metro State University

*Hi Lucas--
My students LOVED our On Stage day last week. We had a follow-up conversation in class and the comments ranged from "I didn't know what to expect, but it ended up being really fun." Also, "I learned a lot from the exercises! I liked how we got to move around in the class and get to know people." Thanks again to you and all the artists for being there!
Thanks again!*

Shanan Cuter – Professor at University of St. Thomas

ON STAGE: *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – Financials

- **Wendy Knox (Facilitator) - \$1120**
 - * 8 discussions (\$800), 2 planning meetings (\$200), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100), parking stipend (\$20).
- **Maria Asp (Facilitator) - \$920**
 - * 6 discussions (\$600), 2 planning meetings (\$200), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100), parking stipend (\$20).
- **Clay Man Soo (Facilitator) - \$1420**
 - * 11 discussions (\$1100), 2 planning meetings (\$200), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100), parking stipend (\$20).
- **Patrick Bailey (Facilitator) - \$720**
 - * 4 discussions (\$400), 2 planning meetings (\$200), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100), parking stipend (\$20).
- **Jane Froiland (Facilitator) - \$1120**
 - * 8 discussions (\$800), 2 planning meetings (\$200), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100), parking stipend (\$20).
- **Erin Farste (Facilitator) - \$720**
 - * 5 discussions (\$500), 1 planning meeting (\$100), and facilitator prep-fee (\$100), parking stipend (\$20).
- **Lucas Erickson (Project Manager) - \$660**
 - * Coordination fee (\$500), marketing, printing and copying (\$100), and meetings (\$40), parking stipend (\$20).

TOTAL: \$6,680

*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 online for the foreseeable future.*

ON STAGE: *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – 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
(Printed Name) _____
(Date Signed) _____
(Signature) _____

ON STAGE
(Printed Name) _____ (Project Manager)
(Date Signed) _____
(Signature) _____

ON STAGE: *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – Social Media

EXPOSED BRICK THEATRE'S

THROUGH OUR EYES FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 9 - 18, 2022
AT OPEN EYE THEATRE
506 E 24TH ST,
MINNEAPOLIS, MN 55404

FREEING ASSATA
BY STERLING MILLER

A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES
BY SIDDEEQAH SHABAZZ

DIRECTED BY
SIMONE WILLIAMS

Use Promo Code **ONSTAGE** for **\$8 TICKETS** to see ANY PERFORMANCE: *Freeing Assata* & *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* (Sept 9-18, 2022)

ONE THEATER. TWO PLAYS. ONE DISH. TWO WAYS.

Wednesday, September 14th
11 AM - 12:30pm

A meal inspired by FREEING ASSATA & A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES
With On Stage MN
at Saint Paul College's City View Grill

FREEING ASSATA & A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES

ASSATA
AN AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Freeing Assata By Sterling Miller

A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES
By Siddeeqah Shabazz

the bull-jean stories
elaron bridforth

Announcing the THREE PLAYS that On Stage will be discussing in classes this upcoming fall semester:

FREEING ASSATA & A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES ON STAGE DISCUSSIONS

- 1. Augsburg University - COM 529 Interpersonal Communication
- 2. Augsburg University - COM 254 Interpersonal Communication
- 3. St. Catherine University - SOC 3450 Women's Issues from Global Perspectives (CLASS #1)
- 4. Hamline University - EDU 1920 Diversity and Education
- 5. North Hennepin Community College - COM 1300 Intro to Gender and Women's Studies
- 6. Augsburg University - COM 180 Intro to Communication
- 7. University of St. Thomas - THEA 1113 Intro to Theater
- 8. Metro State University - SOC 3500 Intro to Social Science Communication
- 9. Normandale Community College - COMA 1133 Interpersonal Communication
- 10. Normandale Community College - ENGR 1101 College Writing (CLASS #1)
- 11. St. Paul College - CULINARY ARTS CLASS
- 12. Normandale Community College - ENGR 1101 College Writing (CLASS #2)
- 13. St. Catherine University - SOC 1080 Principles and Concepts of Sociology (CLASS #2)
- 14. Normandale Community College - ENGR 1113 Intro to Creative Writing (CLASS #1)
- 15. Hennepin Technical College - Gateway to College Program
- 16. MCTC - FACH 2213 Introduction to Creative Writing @ Lino Lakes Correctional Facility (P/REC Program)

Exposed Brick Theatre

ONE THEATER. TWO PLAYS. ONE DISH. TWO WAYS!

A Meal inspired by Exposed Brick Theatre's TWO SHORT PLAYS: *Freeing Assata* & *A Love Story in 8 Scenes*

WEDNESDAY-SEPT. 14TH
11:00AM - 12:30PM
ST. PAUL COLLEGE
CITY VIEW GRILL

Bring us your favorite dining experience and a theater discussion for the most delicious education for an enjoy meal! Hosted by Courtney and Siddeeqah and a virtual discussion about *Freeing Assata* & *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* - see short plays about race, life and being your authentic self!

BAG OF SCHOOL

IN-CLASS DISCUSSIONS ABOUT THE PLAYS FREEING ASSATA & A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES START NEXT WEEK!

Total number of discussions: 17
Students participating: 300+

EXPOSED BRICK THEATRE

Freeing Assata By Sterling Miller

A Love Story in 8 Scenes By Siddeeqah Shabazz

SEE A NEW OPENING THEATER

EXPOSED BRICK THEATRE'S
THROUGH OUR EYES FESTIVAL

SEPTEMBER 9 - 18, 2022
AT OPEN EYE THEATRE

FREEING ASSATA
BY STERLING MILLER

A LOVE STORY IN 8 SCENES
BY SIDDEEQAH SHABAZZ

DIRECTED BY
SIMONE WILLIAMS

SAINT PAUL COLLEGE
CAMPUS

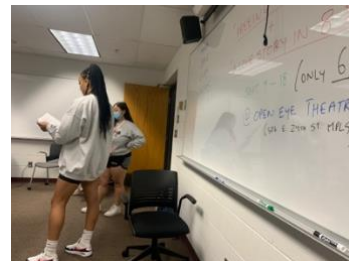
BZZZ

One Theater. Two Plays. One Dish. Two Ways!

Join us for a unique dining and discussion experience led by local theater educators. You will enjoy food created by Culinary Arts students and a related discussion about *Freeing Assata* & *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* - live short plays about love, life, and being your authentic self. This exciting experience will take place at Normandale, September 14 at 11:00 am in the Gallery kitchen (rooms 1170 & 2180).

This event is a collaboration between On Stage MN and SPCC. Campus art is designed to strengthen community support by hosting a meal for non-traditional theater audiences. Students learn on important ethical and civic questions and other themes developed in the chosen works.

ON STAGE: *Freeing Assata* and *A Love Story in 8 Scenes* – 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: **142** 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: **296** 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: **158** Total Tickets Purchased: **28**

West of Central (Pillsbury House Theatre)
Total Participants: **399** 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: **172** 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**

Man of God (Theater Mu)
Total Participants: **177** 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**

TOTAL ON STAGE PARTICIPANTS: 5,300

TOTAL TICKETS PURCHASED: 1,453

*** 28% OF THE STUDENTS/COMMUNITY MEMBERS WE VISITED SAW THE PLAY THAT WAS DISCUSSED**

OnStage/OnLine: Total Outreach

The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui (Frank Theatre)
Total Participants: **208**

The Most Beautiful Home... Maybe (Mixed Blood Theatre)
Total Participants: **314**

Nina Simone: Four Women (Pillsbury House Theatre)
Total Participants: **252**

Animate (Mixed Blood Theatre)
Total Participants: **379**

TOTAL ONSTAGE/ONLINE PARTICIPANTS: 1,153