

The best of
American theatre
to entertain
and inspire you.

THIS IS YOUR PLAYHOUSE

2024-25 SEASON



Season presented by **SCHUELER GROUP** and **THE VONTZ FAMILY**

PLAY IN THE PARK
CINCINNATI **HOUSE**

Choose as few as **THREE SHOWS**
for season tickets.

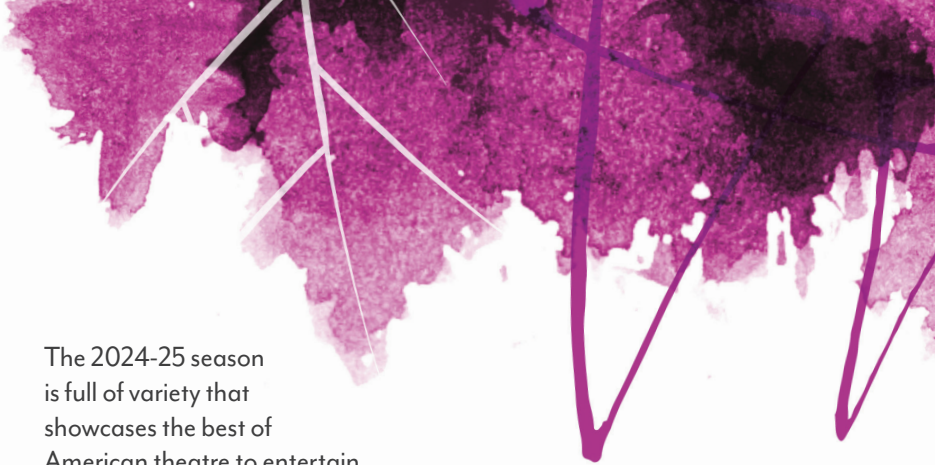
CINCYPLAY.COM



THIS IS YOUR PLAYHOUSE.

The first full season in our new home brought sold out houses to *Ring of Fire*, *Late Nite Catechism*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Dracula* and *Stew*. Don't miss the shows you want to see by joining us as a season ticket holder. With season tickets you'll enjoy exclusive benefits like guaranteed seats, payment installments, free exchanges, discounted parking, first access and discounts to *A Christmas Carol*, and more.

Season ticket packages start with as few as three shows!



The 2024-25 season is full of variety that showcases the best of American theatre to entertain and inspire you. The lineup truly embodies the Playhouse's mission to bring diverse, engaging works of great artistry to our community and to put Cincinnati's artistic excellence in the national spotlight.

HERE'S A PEEK AT WHAT'S IN STORE:

- The world premiere of **RUTKA**, a powerful indie-rock musical that will start its journey to Broadway in Cincinnati as it tells a story about hope, resilience and resistance based on a real diary that 14-year-old Rutka Laskier hid in the war-torn Jewish Ghetto in 1943 Poland.
- Regional premieres of recent Broadway and off-Broadway hits, including two Pulitzer Prize-winning plays — **PRIMARY TRUST** and **ENGLISH** — and the charming **BIRTHDAY CANDLES**.
- A fresh adaptation of the plot-twisting, iconic thriller **DIAL M FOR MURDER**, which features a clever, fast-paced new treatment that will keep you on the edge of your seat until its final moments.
- A humorous and heartfelt solo performance about a struggling actor-turned-urban public school teacher, **MR. PARENT**.
- The return of two comedy favorites: **THE SECOND CITY** celebrates its 65th Anniversary with a lineup of the troupe's most hilarious sketches; and **THE BOOK CLUB PLAY**, a comedy by Karen Zacarias that's become a sold-out hit at theatres across the country since its much-loved Playhouse run in 2013.

MOE AND JACK'S PLACE – THE ROUSE THEATRE SEASON

Presented by SCHUELER GROUP

Season Design Sponsor: KERRY AUTOMOTIVE



DIAL M FOR MURDER

By FREDERICK KNOTT

Adapted by JEFFREY HATCHER

Directed by TATIANA PANDIANI

AUG. 17 – SEP. 15, 2024

Sponsored by U.S. BANK

Murder and malice take center stage! It's midcentury London, and Margot has ended her affair with Maxine and returned to life with her husband, Tony — or so she thinks. Tony, in fact, knows everything, and he spins a web of deception that sets into motion a series of deadly twists. This iconic thriller receives a clever and fast-paced new treatment for the stage.

WORLD PREMIERE!



MC & TOM BRENNAN

LINDA & GARY GREENBERG and

THE LEMMERMAN FAMILY present

RUTKA: A NEW MUSICAL

Based on the diary of RUTKA LASKIER, as published
in *Rutka's Notebook: A Voice from the Holocaust*

Music and Lyrics by JOCELYN MACKENZIE
and JEREMY LLOYD-STYLES

Book by NEENA BEBER

Directed by WENDY C. GOLDBERG

OCT. 13 – NOV. 10, 2024

Sponsored by THE JEWISH FOUNDATION OF CINCINNATI

You'll never forget her name. A powerful indie-rock musical makes its world premiere to launch its path to Broadway. Rutka's world is consumed by usual teen concerns. But the world is far from usual in war-torn 1943 Poland, as Rutka and her friends reach for hope, resilience and resistance in the Jewish Ghetto. This unforgettable musical experience and true story is brought to life by extraordinary young performers and a raw and emotional musical sound.



MOE & JACK ROUSE and
RANDOLPH WADSWORTH present

PRIMARY TRUST

By EBONI BOOTH
Directed by TIMOTHY DOUGLAS

FEB. 1 – 23, 2025

Written with profound affection, this winner of the 2024 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and off-Broadway hit is an achingly beautiful tale that will restore your faith in others. Meet Kenneth, a shy, Black 38-year-old man who sells books by day and drinks mai tais with his best friend Bert by night. But when Kenneth is suddenly laid off, the walls of his life start to crumble until he finds kindness and friendship in unlikely places.



LEADING *Ladies* presents
with Executive Producer  FIFTH THIRD

THE BOOK CLUB PLAY

By KAREN ZACARÍAS
Directed by BLAKE ROBISON

MARCH 22 – APRIL 20, 2025

Sponsored by JOHNSON INVESTMENT COUNSEL
and CLARK SCHAEFER HACKETT

A comedy about books and the people who love them. When the members of a devoted book club become the subjects of a documentary filmmaker and accept a provocative new member, their long-standing group dynamics take a hilarious turn. A sold-out hit at theatres across the country! Sprinkled with wit, joy and novels galore.

ROSENTHAL SHELTERHOUSE THEATRE SEASON

Presented by THE VONTZ FAMILY



MR. PARENT

By MELINDA LOPEZ
with MAURICE EMMANUEL PARENT

Conceived with and directed by
MEGAN SANDBERG-ZAKIAN

SEPT. 7 – OCT. 6, 2024

Sponsored by DIGI AND MIKE SCHUELER

You're never too old to learn a thing or two. A struggling actor turns to teaching in an urban public school, thinking "how hard could it be?" Based on personal stories, writer-performer Maurice Emmanuel Parent takes the stage in a deeply felt, hilarious solo performance about crushingly inequitable systems, the brilliance of every kid and how we might all find the space to be ourselves.



The Second City[®] 65TH ANNIVERSARY SHOW

OCT. 24 – DEC. 22, 2024

Sponsored by SANDY AND DICK MANTEUFFEL

Having sold out with every outing at the Playhouse, The Second City is back! Celebrate 65 years of legendary laughs with some all-time favorite songs, sketches and characters written by some of The Second City's most illustrious alumni. With material handpicked from their iconic comedy archive, see for yourself why The Second City continues to be the world's most influential name in comedy for 65 years and counting.



ELLEN AND RAY van der HORST present

ENGLISH

By SANAZ TOOSSI

Directed by KIMBERLY SENIOR

MARCH 1 – 30, 2025

The 2023 winner of the Pulitzer Prize for Drama takes the Playhouse stage! Four Iranian adults gather to learn English. As they navigate the mechanics of the language through humor, word games and cultural touchstones like Shakira and Coca-Cola, questions about identity seep into their minds and hearts. Both touching and funny, *English* offers a revelatory glimpse into the human desire to belong.



BIRTHDAY CANDLES

By NOAH HAIDLE

Directed by JOANIE SCHULTZ

APRIL 19 – MAY 18, 2025

The ingredients are simple — but look closer and you'll see the essence of life itself. Every year, Ernestine bakes a cake and celebrates with her family on her birthday — a delicious ritual that unfolds onstage through glimpses of her life across 90 birthdays. *Birthday Candles* will warm the soul as it tenderly explores motherhood, family, love, loss and finding your place in the universe.



FIRST™ first financial bank presents

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By CHARLES DICKENS

Adapted and Originally Directed by
BLAKE ROBISON

Directed by BRIDGET LEAK

NOV. 22 – DEC. 29, 2024

The holiday story you love unfolds in spectacular fashion in Moe and Jack's Place – The Rouse Theatre! Charles Dickens' classic tale of the curmudgeon Ebenezer Scrooge combines with dazzling set, costume and lighting designs for a magical holiday experience!



Taha Mandviwala, Andrew May and Ryan Wesley Gilreath in *A Christmas Carol* (2023). Photo by Mikki Schaffner.

Season ticket holders get an exclusive discount on tickets to *A Christmas Carol*. Purchase with your season tickets and include *A Christmas Carol* in your payment plan.

A Christmas Carol is not part of any season ticket package.



WHY SEASON TICKETS?

Members of our season ticket family get exclusive benefits and discounts.

GUARANTEED SEATS IN ADVANCE

Your seats and dates are all set so you'll never miss a sold out show.

THE BEST PRICES Season ticket holders receive the best deals and never experience price increases during the season. Four-show packages start at just \$126 - \$133.

EXCLUSIVE DISCOUNTS AND EARLY ACCESS You'll get early access to single tickets for all shows, including *A Christmas Carol*, until they go on sale to the public and save on single ticket prices all season.

FREE AND EASY TICKET EXCHANGES We know life can be busy. Never worry about schedule changes, and charges only apply if you transfer to a more expensive seat.

DISCOUNTED PARKING Season ticket holders can reserve parking in the Playhouse garage for just \$12 in advance of your show. Parking for single ticket buyers is \$15 in advance, and drive-up parking on the day of the performance is \$20.

EASY PAYMENT PLANS Pay in monthly installments, depending on your package. Payment plans are available when purchased through the Box Office at 513-421-3888.

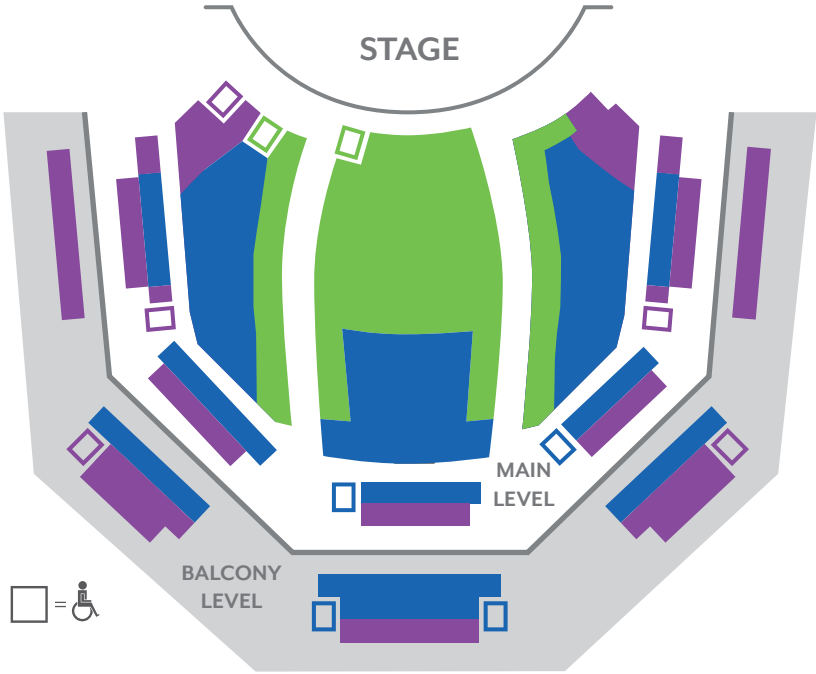
FREE MAGAZINE Receive our exclusive *Prologue* magazine, which previews each show and shares Q&As with the artistic team so you can get a behind-the-scenes look at each of our productions.

AND MORE!

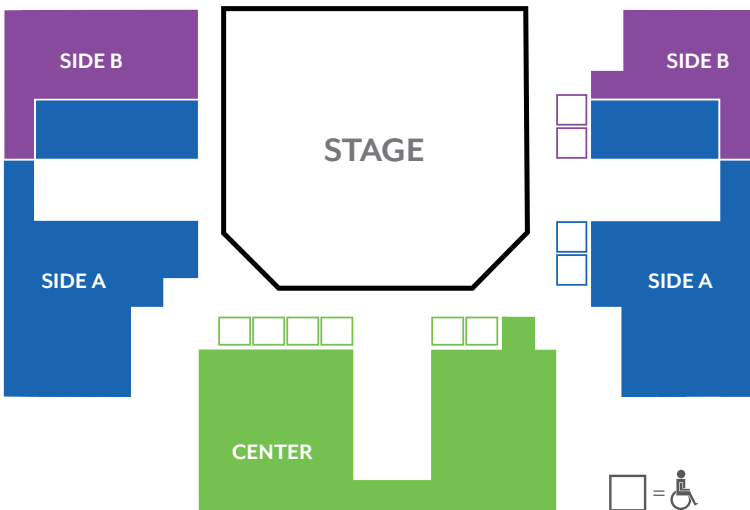
BUY SEASON TICKETS TODAY

2024-25 SEASON TICKET PRICES

MOE AND JACK'S PLACE — THE ROUSE THEATRE



ROSENTHAL SHELTERHOUSE THEATRE



WHAT ARE MY OPTIONS?

People buy season tickets for different reasons, so we offer a variety of packages for every interest and budget.

BEST VALUE!

EIGHT-SHOW SERIES — SEE IT ALL

See all the shows with an eight-show package! You'll get the most variety and our best deal — you'll save up to 22% on single ticket prices and have the same seats for every production.

ROUSE PRICE ZONE	ROSENTHAL SHELTERHOUSE PRICE ZONE	REGULAR PERFORMANCES	PREVIEWS (SELECTED DATES)
ZONE 1	SIDE A*	\$541.50	\$434
ZONE 2	SIDE A	\$452.50	\$371
ZONE 3	SIDE B	\$248	\$230

*Center section SOLD OUT.

FOUR-SHOW SERIES — SECURE YOUR SEATS

Secure the same great seats for every show in the Rouse Theatre or the Rosenthal Shelterhouse. You'll save up to 12% on single ticket prices.

ROUSE THEATRE PRICE ZONE	REGULAR PERFORMANCES	PREVIEWS (SELECTED DATES)	ROSENTHAL SHELTERHOUSE PRICE ZONE	REGULAR PERFORMANCES	PREVIEWS (SELECTED DATES)
ZONE 1	\$368	\$285	CENTER	SOLD OUT	SOLD OUT
ZONE 2	\$296	\$215	SIDE A	\$241	\$204
ZONE 3	\$141	\$133	SIDE B	\$136	\$126

BUILD YOUR OWN SERIES — CHOOSE YOUR SHOWS

Choose three or more shows from either theatre to build the perfect custom season ticket package.* With our Build Your Own Series everything is up to you: from the day you want to come, to the shows you want to experience. Plus, you'll save on single ticket prices.

PRICE PER SEAT, PER SHOW SELECTED	ROUSE THEATRE	ROSENTHAL SHELTERHOUSE
ZONE 1/CENTER	\$94	SOLD OUT**
ZONE 2/SIDE A	\$69	\$66
ZONE 3/SIDE B	\$37	\$35
STUDENT [†]	\$15	\$15

* A *Christmas Carol* is not part of any season ticket package.

** Center section seating available for BYO package on *The Second City* only at \$89 per seat.

† Proof of full-time student status required for each subscription ordered. Student subscriptions are not valid in Price Zone 1 or Center Section seating.

Each season ticket order includes a \$15 handling fee.

PLAY IN THE PARK
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CINCINNATI

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THEATRICAL JOY AWAITS!

SAVE WITH SEASON TICKETS

Photo Credits:

Season illustrations by Kenton Brett. Illustration of Andrew May in *A Christmas Carol* based on a photo by Tony Arrasmith/Arrasmith & Associates.

Page 2 (clockwise from top left): Alex Canty and Allison Ann Kelly in *Ring of Fire*; Andrew May in *A Christmas Carol*; Beth Ward in *Late Nite Catechism*; Mi Kang and Adam Pass in *Dracula*; Sydnie Brown, Michele Shay and Maliyah Gramata-Jones in *Stew*. All photos by Mikki Schaffner.