



CENTERSTAGE.ORG NOV 30 - DEC 22

**Langston Hughes’
BLACK NATIVITY
Arrives at Baltimore Center Stage
Directed by Kevin S. Mcallister
In Association with ArtsCentric**

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Baltimore, MD – Baltimore Center Stage proudly presents **Langston Hughes’ BLACK NATIVITY** in partnership with **ArtsCentric**. Directed by **Kevin S. Mcallister** the show runs for a strictly limited engagement, **November 30 through December 22, 2024. [NOW EXTENDED UNTIL DEC 29, 2024]**

Following last season’s sold-out run of *Cinderella*, ArtsCentric returns to BCS with this warm-hearted, holiday classic! Fusing blues, soul, jazz, spirituals, jubilant dance, and the powerful words of Langston Hughes, **BLACK NATIVITY** is the joyous retelling of how Jesus came into this world, seen through a unique African American kaleidoscope.

Langston Hughes was an American poet, social activist, novelist, playwright, columnist and the leader of the Harlem Renaissance. In 1961, at the height of the civil rights movement, Langston Hughes wrote *BLACK NATIVITY*. It featured an entirely black cast, and it was the first play to incorporate a real gospel choir.

**“There wasn’t a soul in the audience that wasn’t stomping their feet and clapping along.”
-Baltimore Magazine**

This holiday season, gather your family, friends, and loved ones and experience together the show that “spreads joy!”

-The New York Times

“What Langston Hughes has captured on the page is a snapshot of what the African-American experience with the Nativity story has been. Our interest was in how we bring this to Baltimore where we are, to our community, that it feels like us, sounds like us.”

–Cedric D. Lyles, Composer and Music Director of BLACK NATIVITY

The cast includes “Ensemble” members: Kymon Carriker, Jhermaine Drakeford, Ammenah Muhammad, Heinz Adjakwah, Davon Fleming, Ryan Gholson, Darrin Scott, Niaja Diggs, Nasya Nicole, Kayla Jewel, Malshauna Hamm, Jade Madden, Justin Burley, Anaya Green, Candace Foreman, Hezekiah Hawkins and Tracy Hall. Rounding out our talented cast are Harold S. Henry III and Andre Walker as “Teen.”

The creative team includes Kevin S. Mcallister as Director, Cedric D. Lyles as Composer and Music Director, Quincy Vicks as Assistant Music Director, Shalyce Hemby as Choreographer, Danielle Preston as Costume Designer, Deana Cruz-Conner as Assistant Costume Designer, Emily Lotz as Scenic Designer, Jordan Ross as Stage Manager, Cedric Khalil White as Assistant Stage Manager, Max Doolittle as Lighting Designer, Antwan Hawkins Jr. as Props Designer and Jeremiah Davision as Sound Designer.

Ticketing Information

Single tickets can be purchased at centerstage.org or by calling 410.332.0033. Patrons can also visit the box office, located at 700 North Calvert Street.

Reviewing Press

Reviewing press are invited to opening night, 7:30pm on Saturday, December 7 or any performance afterward. For press consideration email RMurphy@centerstage.org.

Community Night

BCS' Community Night for this production is 1pm-2:30pm on Sunday, Dec 1. The afternoon will include local vendors and some extra special holiday surprises! Get your holiday SHOPPING and WRAPPING done in one place!

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About Baltimore Center Stage

Designated the State Theater of Maryland in 1978, Baltimore Center Stage provides the highest quality theater and programming for all members of our communities, including youth and families, under the leadership of Artistic Director Stevie Walker-Webb and Managing Director Adam Frank. Baltimore Center Stage ignites conversations and imaginations by producing an eclectic season of professional productions across two mainstages, through engaging community programs, and with inspiring education programs. Everything we do at Baltimore Center Stage is led by our core values—chief among them being Access For All. Our mission is heavily rooted in providing active and open accessibility for everyone, regardless of any and all barriers, to our Mainstage performances, education initiatives, and community programming.

About ArtsCentric

ArtsCentric, Inc. is an African-American arts organization; a color-conscious performing arts and arts services company committed to reexamining traditional roles in the arts; advancing original stories of specific cultures not represented in mainstream arts; and fostering educational advancement to strengthen the community through the power of theater by primarily serving members of the Black, African-American, and BIPOC (Black Indigenous People of Color) communities. ArtsCentric's color-conscious approach to creating community-oriented and enriched educational and artistic programs in the arts asks every constituent to consider the whole person being presented—honoring and respectfully highlighting a multitude of diverse identifiers with great detail and intentionality.

ArtsCentric's mission and core activities address three problems: 1) racial inequity in the performing arts; 2) a lack of opportunities for low-to-moderate-income artists of all ages to receive professional training for performance, education, and administrative careers in the arts; 3) affordable access to the arts and cultural enrichment activities.