

THEATRE & DANCE at WAYNE

Theatre and Dance at Wayne
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College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts
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Imagery: www.theatreanddanceatwayne.com/pressroom

Enjoy a Digital Kids Mini-Series with “The Great Trickster Championship”

DETROIT – Theatre and Dance at Wayne, the producing arm of the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance at Wayne State University, is thrilled to share our summer Theatre for Young Audience digital series “The Great Trickster Championship” premiering on Saturday, June 19, 2021.

This digital mini-series consists of three episodes, premiering one at a time beginning on June 19th. Episodes will be approximately 15-20 minutes long. Each episode is pre-recorded and contains audience participation with its young audience. This silly series teaches children to appreciate and respect new people and cultures.

About the Show:

There is a great drought and the entire world is very worried. There’s a legend that there is still water on top of Prankster Mountain, but a grumpy god named Shango protects it and will only let the wittiest and cleverest pass. So, six of the world’s greatest tricksters climb Prankster Mountain to bring back water for their villages.

Juan Pusong from the Philippines, Loki from Norway, Eshu from Nigeria, Kuma Lisa from Bulgaria, Nanabozho from Michigamme, and Anansi from Ghana all come to climb prankster mountain but when they run into Shango he whisks them all away to participate in a competition to prove which of them is worthy of his water. Let the Great Trickster Championship commence!

“This show is important for children because it exposes them to some of the rich folklore of the world that they may not be exposed to otherwise. The Great Trickster Championship could be a gateway for kids to learn more about the world and it’s beautiful array of cultures!” says Devon Redmond, the playwright and deviser.

Artistic Director, LaRaisha Dionne says that the show is special because audiences have a chance to “learn about the connected nature of our myths and stories and meet some new interpretations of characters you’ve seen before. This is fun content for the whole family that shares a powerful message of what is possible when we work together.”

Accessibility & Pricing

We are committed to making this TYA experience as accessible as possible. We are providing subtitles and ASL interpretations in each episode. We will also be providing an indicator for when a loud sound will occur to help be more sensory-friendly. We will also be releasing technical viewing necessities and options for individuals without easy internet access.

Tickets are free, only registration is required. To watch, register at <https://theatreanddance.wayne.edu/tyaregister>

About Theatre and Dance at Wayne

Theatre and Dance at Wayne is the producing entity of the Maggie Allesee Department of Theatre and Dance, a department within the College of Fine, Performing, and Communication Arts at Wayne State University. The department offers undergraduate and graduate programs in theatre and dance, including a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre; Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with an emphasis in either Performance, Design and Technology, or Stage Management; Bachelor of Science in Dance; Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance; Master of Fine Arts in Acting, Set Design, Costume Design, Lighting Design, Stage Management, and Theatre Management; Master of Arts in Teaching Artistry; and a Master of Arts in Arts Administration. Minors are available in Africana Theatre and Dance; Theatre Design and Technology, Theatre, Theatre Management, Dance, Community and Studio Dance. Additional information on academic programs can be found at <http://theatreanddance.wayne.edu/>

About the Wayne State University

Wayne State University is one of the nation's preeminent public research universities in an urban setting. Through its multidisciplinary approach to research and education, and its ongoing collaboration with government, industry and other institutions, the university seeks to enhance economic growth and improve the quality of life in the city of Detroit, state of Michigan and throughout the world. For more information about research at Wayne State University, visit <http://research.wayne.edu/>

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Schedule: Episodes premiere on each date, and those registered will be able to watch all episodes.

Day	Date	Time	Feature
Saturday	6/19	On Demand	Virtual Performance
Saturday	6/26	On Demand	Virtual Performance
Saturday	7/3	On Demand	Virtual Performance

Cast

Adam Graber (Juan Pusong), Alexis Primus (Nanabozho), Jessica Annunziata (Kuma Lisa), Morgan Listenbee (Anansi), Ryan Bernier (Loki), Taurean Hogan (Shango), X. Alexander Durden (Eshu)

Creative Team & Production Staff

LaRaisha Dionne (Artistic Director) Devon Redmond (Writer), Morgan Montgomery (Production Manager), Natalie McCabe (Puppet & Mask Designer), Andrew Canaan (Lighting Designer), Cat Foley (Sound Designer), Mike Collins (Scenic Designer), Emily Clark (Marketing), Kymberli Skye (Marketing)