



**PRIME STAGE
THEATRE**

“Where Literature Comes to Life”

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Lawrence McCullough

lmccullough@primestage.com

(732) 306-7859

-
- Prime Stage Theatre presents “**Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott**”
 - Landmark moment in American history highlights PST’s ‘Season of Courage and Discovery’
-

PITTSBURGH — Prime Stage Theatre’s upcoming presentation of *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott* tells the remarkable story of an ordinary American whose simple act of personal bravery changed the history of a nation.

Written by St. Louis playwright **Sue Greenberg** and directed by Pittsburgh theatre educator **Linda Haston**, *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott* is the second offering in Prime Stage Theatre’s “Season of Courage and Discovery” and runs Jan. 19-28, 2024 at New Hazlett Theater.

Rosa Parks will be played by **Chelsea Davis** making her Pittsburgh debut after New York performances in *Rent*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Proof* and *The Exonerated*.

Tickets (student \$14, artist \$19, adult \$24) are available by calling (412) 320-4610 ext. 10 or reserving online at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36406/production/1175925>.

Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott is part of the Prime Stage Sprouts Series geared for youth age 8 and above and their families; sponsors include Pittsburgh Regional Transit and Pittsburgh Trolley Museum.

On the morning of Dec. 1, 1955, 42-year-old Rosa Parks boarded a city bus to her seamstress job at a downtown department store in Montgomery, Alabama. When asked to surrender her seat to a white man and sit in the rear section assigned to African Americans, she politely but insistently refused and was arrested for violating a city ordinance requiring racial segregation of public buses.

Her detention sparked a year-long boycott of Montgomery city buses that stirred the America’s social conscience and brought to international prominence a young Montgomery pastor, Rev. Martin Luther King, Jr., as a powerful spokesperson for the emerging Civil Rights Movement.

“People may know the basic story of Rosa Parks and the bus boycott,” says Prime Stage Theatre artistic director **Dr. Wayne Brinda**, “but seeing these pivotal historical moments portrayed onstage brings new depth and understanding to the people and their time.”

Since its 1996 founding with the mission of “bringing literature to life”, Prime Stage Theatre has produced over 100 plays and is a national leader in educational theatre. The company’s annual enGAGE anti-genocide program with Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh was recently recognized by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.

Prime Stage has also made a special commitment to promoting accessibility for special needs audiences and is the first and only Pittsburgh theatre company to attain Certified Sensory Inclusive status through KultureCity, the nation’s leading nonprofit on sensory accessibility for those with invisible disabilities.

During the weekends of Jan. 20-21 and Jan. 27-28, families attending performances of *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott* can come to Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh MuseumLab, located next to New Hazlett Theater, and see the display curated by Prime Stage’s production team for a behind-the-scenes look at how theatre sets and costumes are designed and made.

“All our productions emphasize the story’s connection with our audience and their personal lives,” notes Wayne Brinda. “Plays like *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott* show how theatre can make a positive impact in our community.”

###

WHAT: Prime Stage Theatre presents *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott*, written by Sue Greenberg, directed by Linda Haston; sponsored by Pittsburgh Regional Transit and Pittsburgh Trolley Museum

WHEN: Jan. 19-28, 2024

- Fri. Jan. 19 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 21 at 2:30 p.m.
- Fri. Jan. 26 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sat. Jan. 27 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sun. Jan. 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Special Performances:

Preview: Fri. Jan.19 at 7:30 p.m. (pay-what-you-can admission)

Opening Night: Sat. Jan. 20 at 7:30 p.m.

Sensory Inclusive: Sat. Jan. 27 at 2:30 p.m. (pay-what-you-can admission; sponsors: Children’s Museum of Pittsburgh, Autism Pittsburgh)

Audio Describe: Sun. Jan. 28 at 2:30 p.m. (sponsor: Downtown Pittsburgh Lions Club)

ASL / Live Caption: Sun. Jan. 28 at 2:30 p.m.

Questions? Call the box office at (412) 320-4610 ext. 10

WHERE: New Hazlett Theater, 6 Allegheny Square East, Pittsburgh PA 15212

TICKETS: Purchase tickets here – <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36406/production/1175925> (Student: \$14, Artist \$19, Adult \$24)

MORE INFO: <https://primestage.com/events/rosa-parks/>

* For more information on *Rosa Parks and the Montgomery Bus Boycott* please contact **Connie Brinda**, Prime Stage Theatre General Manager at cbrinda@primestage.com or at (724) 773-0700