



**PRIME STAGE  
THEATRE**

*“Where Literature Comes to Life”*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Contact: Lawrence McCullough

[lmccullough@primestage.com](mailto:lmccullough@primestage.com)

(732) 306-7859

- 
- **Prime Stage Theatre presents two Holocaust plays of hope and healing**
  - *I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise* run Feb. 28-Mar. 9 marking 80th anniversary of concentration camp liberation
- 

PITTSBURGH — What made the murderous Terezin concentration camp in Nazi-occupied Czechoslovakia uniquely sinister was its propaganda use as a “model” community showcasing Jewish artists, writers, composers and musicians forced to give performances and teach lessons to the thousands of children imprisoned with them.

Prime Stage Theatre tells the story of those children and one of their extraordinary teachers in Celeste Raspanti’s *[I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise](#)* running for seven shows Feb. 28-Mar. 9, 2025 at New Hazlett Theater, 6 Allegheny Square East, on Pittsburgh’s Northside.

Directed by [Prime Stage Theatre](#) artistic director Wayne Brinda, *I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise* is presented in partnership with [Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum](#) and [Holocaust Center of Pittsburgh](#) as part of the annual enGAGE Program using theatre to educate about the history and dangers of genocide.

Tickets for *I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise* (adult \$39, artist/educator \$24, student \$19) can be reserved online at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36406/production/1208645> or by calling (412) 320-4610 x10.

The cast includes Jackson Frazer, Eva Balodimas Friedlander, Molly Frontz, Sadie Karashin, Meredith Kocur, Arjun Kumar, Aaron Little, Holland Taylor and Aftyn Tomaceski.

“This year we are especially pleased to mark the 80th anniversary of the liberation of these camps and recognize the role of the liberators,” says Brinda, a certified Holocaust educator and museum teaching fellow at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum. “The troops who freed the prisoners were instrumental in preserving important historical documents.”

*I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise* portrays the efforts of Austrian artist Friedl Dicker-Brandeis who taught children to make poems and drawings that told the true horrors of the camp.

Before she was taken away to be killed at Auschwitz, Dicker-Brandeis entrusted fellow Terezin tutor Raja Englanderova with two suitcases containing 4,500 poems and drawings. The artwork was saved and is now housed in the [Jewish Museum in Prague](#).

“These plays are truly uplifting,” notes Brinda. “We see Friedl’s passion, the children’s undaunted creativity and the irrepressible power of Art to bring hope and healing into the darkest hours of the Holocaust.”

Since its founding in 1996, Prime Stage Theatre has presented over 100 plays that introduce student and family audiences to classic and contemporary works of world literature.

The theatre’s current season concludes May 2-11 with [Twelve Angry Men](#).

Prime Stage also presents a series of one-night performances titled [Monday Night Specials](#). The May 5 evening will be a staged reading of a new play titled [Freedom House: Giving Life a Second Chance](#) on the birth of America’s first EMS units in 1960s Pittsburgh.

For more information, contact Connie Brinda, Prime Stage Theatre General Manager, at (724) 773-0700 or [cbrinda@primestage.com](mailto:cbrinda@primestage.com).

---

**WHAT:** Prime Stage Theatre presents *I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise*; written by Celeste Raspanti, directed by Wayne Brinda

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

**WHEN:** 7 shows running Feb. 28-Mar. 9, 2025

- Fri. Feb. 28 at 7:30 p.m. (Preview Night, pay-what-you-can admission)
- Sat. Mar. 1 at 7:30 p.m. (Opening Night, special post-show discussion xxx)
- Sun. Mar. 2 at 2:30 p.m.
- Fri. Mar. 7 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sat. Mar. 8 at 2:30 p.m. (Sensory Inclusive with pay-what-you-can admission: sponsored by Autism Pittsburgh)
- Sat. Mar. 8 at 7:30 p.m.
- Sun. Mar. 9 at 2:30 p.m. (Audio Describe and Live Caption, sponsored by Downtown Pittsburgh Lions Club)

**TICKETS:** Adult \$39, artist/educator \$24, student \$19; purchase at <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36406/production/1208645>

**OFFICIAL MEDIA SPONSOR:** [SLB Radio](#)

**MORE INFO:** <https://primestage.com/education/engage-program/>

\* For more information on *I Never Saw Another Butterfly & The Terezin Promise* please contact Connie Brinda, Prime Stage Theatre General Manager at (724) 773-0700 or [cbrinda@primestage.com](mailto:cbrinda@primestage.com)

\* Prime Stage Theatre promotes accessibility for [special needs audiences](#). Prime Stage Theatre audio describer Nathan Ruggles has won a national Achievement Award in Audio Description from the American Council of the Blind.

---

## **UPCOMING at Prime Stage Theatre**

**May 2-11, 2025 – *Twelve Angry Men***

**Adapted by Sherman L. Sergel; directed by Shane Valenzi**

A jury of twelve ordinary men are charged with deciding the fate of a teenager on trial for murdering his father. Can they overcome their own backgrounds and biases as they struggle to render a fair life-or-death verdict? A new take on an American theatre classic, based on the Emmy award-winning 1954 television movie by Reginald Rose. Directed by attorney Shane Valenzi, a post-show discussion looks at our judicial system and its challenges. **TICKETS:** [https://primestage.com/productions/twelve\\_angry\\_men/](https://primestage.com/productions/twelve_angry_men/)

**May 5, 2025 – *Freedom House: Giving Life a Second Chance***. A staged reading of a new play by L.E. McCullough on the birth of America's first EMS units in 1960s Pittsburgh. **TICKETS:** <https://ci.ovationtix.com/36406/performance/11581682>

###