



American Repertory Theater

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ADDITIONAL EVENTS AND PRIZES ANNOUNCED FOR NOVEMBER 30 #GIVINGTUESDAY AT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

**BROADWAY'S ELIZABETH STANLEY AND HEIDI BLICKENSTAFF
TO VISIT *THE LUNCH ROOM* AT 12PM ET**

ZOOM CHAT WITH TONY AWARD WINNER IDINA MENZEL ADDED TO ONLINE AUCTION

[Images for Download](#)

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, under the leadership of Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus, announced today that Tony Award nominee Elizabeth Stanley and Obie Award winner Heidi Blickenstaff will visit ***The Lunch Room*** this November 30 for **#GivingTuesday**, the annual global day of giving.

Blickenstaff reopened ***Jagged Little Pill*** as Mary Jane Healy on Broadway on October 21, while Stanley, who originated the role in A.R.T.'s world-premiere production in May 2018, completed her maternity leave. Stanley returned to Broadway November 18, and now—in a first for Broadway—the two friends are sharing the role as Stanley embraces the role of mom both offstage and on. The friends will discuss this experience and more at 12PM ET on ***The Lunch Room***, A.R.T.'s free virtual talk show featuring curated conversation and interactive Q&A. Advance registration at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/The-Lunch-Room.

All guests who register for ***The Lunch Room*** will be entered in a drawing to win two tickets to the sold-out Opening Night performance of ***WILD: A Musical Becoming*** on Thursday, December 9 at A.R.T. *Registrations must be received by 12PM ET on November 30, 2021.*

After nine years of #GivingTuesdays totaling more than \$500,000, A.R.T. aims to raise \$100,000 on Tuesday, November 30 to support its mission to expand the boundaries of theater. Thanks to the generosity of an anonymous supporter, all new and increased gifts that are made to the A.R.T. on #GivingTuesday will be matched 2-to-1.

Supporters who contribute \$50 or more on **#GivingTuesday** will be invited to attend a December 13 virtual Patron Seminar with A.R.T. Artistic Director Diane Paulus to hear more about A.R.T.'s on- and offstage activities; supporters who contribute \$1,000 or more will be invited to attend a December 13 "Making a Musical" virtual class taught by Paulus and A.R.T. Head of Artistic Programs and Dramaturg Ryan McKittrick.

The complete **#GivingTuesday** schedule includes:

AT 12PM ET:

THE LUNCH ROOM WITH ELIZABETH STANLEY AND HEIDI BLICKENSTAFF

Free with advance registration at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/The-Lunch-Room.

The Lunch Room is A.R.T.'s virtual talk show featuring curated conversations and interactive Q&As with the artists, activists, and civic leaders who are shaping our culture and communities. On November 30, Tony Award nominee and new mother Elizabeth Stanley returns to A.R.T. with her friend and **Jagged Little Pill** castmate Heidi Blickenstaff to chat about their experience sharing the role of onstage mother in the Broadway production.

AT 4PM ET:

THE SHOW MUST GO SEAN

Free with advance registration at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/ShowMustGoSean

Join A.R.T. for **The Show Must Go Sean**, a special theater and Tonys-themed trivia contest hosted by Broadway aficionado and A.R.T.'s Assistant Director of Membership and Donor Relations Sean Cummings. Bring a team of your favorite theater enthusiasts for an interactive afternoon of merriment, multimedia trivia, and the chance to win A.R.T.-themed prizes. Teams of any size and participants of all ages and knowledge levels are welcome!

AT 7:30PM ET:

BEHIND THE SCENES: DRAGON BABY

Free with advance registration at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Behind-the-Scenes

Join "theatremaker to watch" (*American Theatre*) and Elliot Norton Award-winning storyteller Sara Porkalob (**Dragon Lady**, **Dragon Mama**, 1776 upcoming), composer Brian Quijada (*Where Did We Sit on the Bus?*), and director Andrew Russell (**Dragon Lady**, **Dragon Mama**), for a conversation about **Dragon Baby**, the final chapter in Porkalob's autobiographical trilogy about three generations of Filipino Americans descended from gangsters and karaoke singers fighting to survive, thrive, and love. Hear new material and learn about what's changed and what's remained since the collaborators' previous **Behind the Scenes** conversation in November 2020. **Behind the Scenes** is A.R.T.'s multimedia series with the writers, directors, composers, and choreographers who are making new work at A.R.T. Events include the reveals of songs and scenes from developing productions; conversations about process, research, development, and collaboration; and interactive Q&As with the audience.

THROUGHOUT THE DAY:

Online Auction at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/GivingTuesdayAuction open for bidding November 30, 7AM - 10PM ET; preview items now!

A.R.T. fans and theater lovers can bid to win unique experiences and treasured items. Open November 30 from 7AM until 10PM ET. Newly added auction prizes include a Zoom chat with Tony Award winner Idina Menzel (**WILD: A Musical Becoming** upcoming) and accommodation for two on the August 2022 A.R.T. Travels trip to Edinburgh. Additional items include a virtual coffee with A.R.T. Artistic Director Diane Paulus, a **SIX** on Broadway package featuring tickets and an A.R.T.-exclusive tote made from one of the show's Cambridge marquee banners; a **Waitress** playbill signed by Sara Bareilles; props from **Moby-Dick**, and more! Preliminary auction items are available for viewing now, and more will be added prior to November 30.

ABOUT #GIVINGTUESDAY

#GivingTuesday is a global generosity movement unleashing the power of people and organizations to transform their communities and the world. Since its creation in 2012, #GivingTuesday has inspired hundreds of millions to give, collaborate, and celebrate generosity.

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Artistic Director in 2008.

A.R.T. acknowledges that its theaters are situated on the traditional and ancestral homelands of the [Massachusetts Tribe](#).

MISSION

The American Repertory Theater is dedicated to expanding the boundaries of theater, always including the audience as a partner.

VISION

We focus on the research and development of groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. We believe that by engaging our hearts, minds and bodies, theater has the power to heal and imagine collective pathways forward.

We commit to advancing public health in our practice and our programming, recognizing that racism in America is a national public health crisis. Our new home in Allston will be a breathable and healthy building envisioned as a town hall for the twenty-first century. Inspired by the model of a teaching hospital, the building will be a vibrant center for research, experiential pedagogy, and performance.

We build community with our audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. We affirm and celebrate a multitude of perspectives and experiences that reflect the diversity of our country and world. We are dedicated to making a welcoming and accessible space for people of any identity, background, or ability.

VALUES

We hold the institution and each other responsible and accountable for living our shared values. There is no hierarchy to these values; they are all equally important and interrelated. We acknowledge that as an institution we must devote time to implementing and sustaining these values:

We center anti-racism

Habituate anti-racist practices in our policies, structure and culture.

We lead with inquiry

Ask questions in a spirit of brave curiosity in our never-ending journey of learning and growth

We believe in collaboration

Work together with trust and respect to unlock collective creativity

We practice adaptability

Challenge assumptions and create capacity to support "next" practices

We embrace regenerative practice

Promote the health and vitality of our planet, our organization, and each other

HONORS & AWARDS

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for ***All the Way*** (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for ***Pippin*** (2013) and ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*** (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and sixteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards. Additional Broadway productions include ***SIX***; ***Jagged Little Pill***; ***Waitress***; ***Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812***; and ***Finding Neverland***. Since their premieres in Cambridge, A.R.T. productions have also [gone on](#) to reach audiences Off-Broadway, on US National Tour, and at partner theaters across the country, as well as in London's West End, Tokyo, and Sydney. Under Paulus's leadership, A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been recognized annually as a top performance venue in the Boston area, and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. A.R.T. plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate Theater, Dance & Media concentration, teaching courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. A.R.T. staff also mentor students in the Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club working at the Loeb Drama Center and OBERON.

A.R.T. is also engaged in a number of multi-year initiatives with partners at Harvard that explore some of the most pressing issues of our day. Current work includes collaborations with the Harvard University Center for the Environment (to commission and develop a series of new works that address climate change and the environment), the Healthy Buildings Program at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (to develop a [Roadmap for Recovery and Resilience for Theater](#)), and the Initiative for Racial Equity at Harvard Business School (to pilot the Program in Arts and Culture Organization Management).

ENGAGEMENT

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

@AmericanRep

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