



DRURY LANE THEATRE

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For Immediate Release

**Drury Lane Theatre announces casting for
The Color Purple
Book by Marsha Norman
Music and Lyrics by Brenda Russel, Allee Willis, and Stephen Bray
Directed by Lili-Anne Brown**

September 13 – November 3, 2019

Chicago, IL – Drury Lane Theatre announces casting for its production of the 2016 Tony Award-winning ***The Color Purple***, with book by **Marsha Norman** and music and lyrics by **Brenda Russel, Allee Willis, and Stephen Bray**. *The Color Purple* is directed by **Lili-Anne Brown**, choreographed by **Breon Arzell**, and music directed by **Jermaine Hill**. The production runs **September 13 – November 3, 2019**, at Drury Lane Theatre, 100 Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace. **The press opening is scheduled for Thursday, September 19 at 8:00 p.m.**

The Color Purple tells the story of Celie, an African American woman in the American South during the early 1900s, as she navigates her love for her family, the strife of being in an abusive relationship, and her adoration for her beloved children. This heart-wrenching musical is based on Alice Walker's Pulitzer Prize-winning novel and has earned nearly fifteen Tony Award nominations including two wins, one for the Best Revival of a Musical.

The cast of *The Color Purple* features **Eben K. Logan** (*Celie*), **Sydney Charles** (*Shug Avery*), **Nicole Michelle Haskins** (*Sofia*), **Melvin Abston** (*Mister*), **Gilbert Domally** (*Harpo*), and **Kyrie Courter** (*Nettie*). The cast also includes **Jos N. Banks**, **Sean Blake**, **Shantel Cribbs**, **Melanie Loren**, **Andrew Malone**, **Marvin Malone II**, **Gabriel Mudd**, **Adhana Reid**, **Camille Robinson**, **Alexis Roston**, **Lorenzo Rush Jr.**, and **Joey Stone**.

The Color Purple is rated PG-13.

Fact Sheet / *The Color Purple*

Title:	<i>The Color Purple</i>
Book by:	Marsha Norman
Music and Lyrics by:	Brenda Russel, Allee Willis, and Stephen Bray
Directed by:	Lili-Anne Brown
Choreographed by:	Breon Arzell
Music Directed by:	Jermaine Hill

Featuring: Eben K. Logan (*Celie*), Sydney Charles (*Shug Avery*), Nicole Michelle Haskins (*Sofia*), Melvin Abston (*Mister*), Gilbert Domally (*Harpo*), Kyrie Courter (*Nettie*), Jos N. Banks, Sean Blake, Shantel Cribbs, Melanie Loren, Andrew Malone, Marvin Malone II, Gabriel Mudd, Adhana Reid, Camille Robinson, Alexis Roston, Lorenzo Rush Jr., and Joey Stone.

Creative Team: Arnel Sancianco (*Scenic Design*), Samantha C. Jones (*Costume Design*), Cat Wilson (*Lighting Design*), Ray Nardelli (*Sound Design*), and Paul Deziel (*Projection Design*).

Dates: **Previews:** September 13 – 18, 2019
Regular run: September 20 – November 3, 2019
Press Opening: Thursday, September 19 at 8:00 pm

Schedule: **Wednesdays:** 1:30 p.m.
Thursdays: 1:30 p.m. and 8:00 p.m.
Fridays: 8:00 p.m.

Location: Drury Lane Theatre at 100 Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace

Tickets: **Previews:** \$50 – \$65
Single Tickets: \$55 – \$70
Wednesday and Thursday matinees: \$55
Thursday and Sunday evenings: \$65
Friday and Saturday evenings and Sunday matinees: \$70
Senior Citizens start at \$50 for matinees
Student group tickets available
Dining and show packages available

Box Office: 100 Drury Lane in Oakbrook Terrace
630.530.0111, Ticketmaster at 800.745.3000
or visit DruryLaneTheatre.com

2019/2020 Season and Subscription Information

Continuing the 2019/2020 season is Agatha Christie's thrilling, edge-of-your-seat murder mystery ***And Then There Were None*** (July 12 – September 1, 2019). Still to come is the revival of the exhilarating ***The Color Purple*** (September 13 – November 3, 2019), based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel, the magical musical for all ages ***Mary Poppins*** (November 15 – January 19, 2020), and the Regional Premiere of the beautifully captivating Gershwin musical ***An American in Paris*** (January 31 – March 29, 2020).

Three-show subscriptions for the 2019/2020 Season are on sale now, priced from \$108 to \$135 . Subscribers receive priority seating, special offers on dining, flexible ticket exchanges, and early notification for added events and concerts. For more information, visit DruryLaneTheatre.com.

The performance schedule for all productions during the 2019/2020 season is as follows: Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m., Thursdays at 1:30 p.m. and 8 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m., and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 6 p.m. Student group tickets start as low as \$35 and Senior Citizens start at \$45 for matinees. Dining and show packages are also available. For individual ticket on-sale dates and ticket reservations, call the Drury Lane Theatre box office at 630.530.0111 or Ticketmaster at 800.745.3000 or visit DruryLaneTheatre.com.

About Drury Lane Theatre

Under the leadership of President Kyle DeSantis, Drury Lane Theatre is a major force in the Chicagoland theatre scene, presenting world-class productions in collaboration with some of the nation's leading

actors, artists, writers, and directors. Drury Lane has staged more than 2,000 productions and has been nominated for more than 360 Joseph Jefferson Awards. Drury Lane is committed to breathing new life into beloved classics and introducing audiences to exciting new works.

Throughout its 50-year history, Drury Lane has employed more than 7,500 actors and 10,000 musicians, designers, and crew members to entertain upwards of nine million audience members. Originally founded by Anthony DeSantis, Drury Lane Theatre moved to its current Oakbrook Terrace home more than 30 years ago and remains a family-run organization known for producing breathtaking Broadway classics, top-rated musicals, bold new works, hilarious comedies, and unforgettable concert events.

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