2018/19 RISING STAR PROJECT
WEST SIDE STORY

APPLICATION INFORMATION

ARTS ADMINISTRATION
PRODUCING · DEVELOPMENT · MARKETING

THEATER DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY
HAIR & MAKEUP · COSTUMES & WARDROBE · STAGECREW

PERFORMING ARTS
CAST · CREATIVES · ORCHESTRA · STAGE MANAGEMENT

MUSICAL THEATER IN THE HANDS OF TOMORROW'S LEADERS
**PROGRAM OVERVIEW**

**RISING STAR PROJECT** offers students the chance to develop professional skills through the process of producing and performing a show on The 5th Avenue Theatre mainstage. Beyond being entirely student-performed, the 2019 Rising Star Project production of *West Side Story* will be run by a student technical crew and supported by a team of students who have taken on roles in marketing, development, producing, creative, and casting. All participants are trained and mentored by dedicated professionals at The 5th Avenue Theatre.

This application includes descriptions of participant roles, a preliminary calendar of key dates and events, and general information about the program. All prospective participants must submit an application and plan to interview or audition for a specific role.

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**2018/19 APPLICATION DEADLINES + AUDITIONS + INTERVIEW DATES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>OCTOBER 22</td>
<td>APPLICATION DEADLINE for Producing Team &amp; Creative Team roles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NOVEMBER 5 – 9</td>
<td>PRODUCING TEAM &amp; CREATIVE INTERVIEWS (prospective students attend one session)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER 3 – 6</td>
<td>GENERAL AUDITIONS + APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR PERFORMANCE TEAM (prospective cast)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER 10 – 13</td>
<td>CALLBACKS FOR PROSPECTIVE CAST (by invitation)</td>
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<tr>
<td>DECEMBER 17</td>
<td>APPLICATION DEADLINE for Arts Admin, Stage Management, Technical Teams, &amp; Orchestra</td>
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<tr>
<td>JANUARY 28 – 31</td>
<td>ARTS ADMIN + STAGE MANAGEMENT INTERVIEWS (prospective students attend one session)</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY 4 – 13</td>
<td>TECHNICAL TEAM INTERVIEWS (prospective students attend one session)</td>
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**IMPORTANT PROJECT DATES 2018/19**

*Please see pages 11-13 for a detailed calendar of events, job shadowing days, and rehearsal dates*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE</th>
<th>EVENT</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY 23</td>
<td>FULL COMPANY MEETING #1 { 10AM – 4PM }</td>
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<tr>
<td>FEBRUARY 25</td>
<td>PARENT ORIENTATION { 6 – 8PM }</td>
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<tr>
<td>MARCH 9</td>
<td>WEST SIDE STORY YOUTH SUMMIT { 9AM – 5PM }</td>
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<td>MAY 13</td>
<td>PARENT MEETING { 6 – 8PM }</td>
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<tr>
<td>MAY 20</td>
<td>WEST SIDE STORY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION { 4 – 9PM }</td>
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<tr>
<td>JUNE 1</td>
<td>FULL COMPANY “KICK-OFF” PARTY { 6 – 11PM }</td>
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<td>JULY 11 – 12</td>
<td>RSP: WEST SIDE STORY PERFORMANCES</td>
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When West Side Story opened on Broadway on September 26, 1957, it changed the nature of the American musical and challenged the country’s view of itself. The show dealt seriously with violence, adolescent gangs, and racial prejudice—themes rarely included in musicals—and ended with one of the show’s leads dead on stage. The integration of music, dance, and script and the theatricality of the staging were a revelation to audiences. At a time when most musicals were star vehicles, with separate dancing and singing choruses, West Side Story was cast with relative unknowns who acted, sang, and danced in this exceptionally demanding work.

“The musical’s success must be credited primarily to its creators, extraordinary artists who brought out the best in each other. Composer Leonard Bernstein created his most memorable score—complex, passionate, tuneful, shocking, and bursting with rhythmic energy. Jerome Robbins, credited with conceiving the show, doubled as director and choreographer. No previous musical had included so much dance nor used it so dramatically and inventively to reveal character and plot and to further the action. Lyricist Stephen Sondheim, in his first Broadway musical, exhibited the wit, intelligence, and craft that would make him the pre-eminent songwriter of his generation. Arthur Laurents staged William Shakespeare’s Romeo and Juliet in contemporary Manhattan, with a lean, concise libretto, which allowed for the integration of language, music, dance, and movement. All of these elements came together to create a groundbreaking musical.” (The Library of Congress)

WHY DO THE PROJECT?

If you’re passionate about the musical theater – if you’re looking for an opportunity to be immersed in a professional work environment – if you’re eager to collaborate with a group of peers from across our region, you should apply for Rising Star Project. This is your opportunity to begin building skills to help you along the path toward future careers and higher education. Past Rising Star Project students have also fulfilled service learning and community service requirements through participation. And (even though expectations are high and the work is hard) you’ll no doubt have some fun along the way.

“The best part was the overall experience of working on a full scale show like this. I always felt like I was learning, but also treated professionally and not talked down to. I also loved how much I got to do. I didn’t just watch my mentors do it, I actually did it myself which was so cool!”

- Rising Star Project participant (2016)

THINGS TO CONSIDER...

Rising Star Project is a BIG commitment—in terms of both time and energy. Putting on a mainstage show on a professional stage means EVERY person is crucial and EVERY minute is valuable.

Here’s what past participants say:

“The most challenging part of The Rising Star Project was time management—balancing schoolwork with the demands of my position at The 5th.”

“It was hectic and there wasn’t always a lot of sleep. It was a challenge getting there around everything else… It takes work. But I wanted to put the work in…because I loved it.”

“RSP was just challenging all around, a lot is expected of stage managers and I was pushed to be my best constantly. The entire job was a challenge, but I wouldn’t have had it any other way because I grew so much.”
The Rising Star Project uses the resources and professional knowledge that exist at The 5th Avenue Theatre to help young people achieve a fulfilling career, a stronger sense of self, and confidence in their ability to inspire positive change in the world. Within this mission, we endeavor to:

1. take a proactive role in creating a theater community which is inclusive and representative of our region;
2. provide students with direct mentorship from working theater professionals, introducing them to the diversity of viable careers in the theater industry;
3. create a learning environment that is a collaborative and authentic in regard to professional practices and expectations;
4. connect students to American musicals not only as vehicles for self-expression, but also as significant artistic achievements, rich texts, and unique expressions of our nation’s history and heritage; and
5. support classroom learning by providing quality Arts-based education experiences for students—both at The 5th and in residence throughout the community and in areas where opportunities for arts education are limited.

Rising Star Project is an educational program offered tuition-free to Washington State students. Please note that participants are responsible for expenses associated with day-to-day transportation and meals.

Rising Star Project is completely tuition free and made possible by a generous grant from The Sheri and Les Biller Family Foundation with additional support from the following sponsors: The Boeing Company, Schultz Family Foundation, Susie and Phil Stoller, RealNetworks Foundation, National Endowment for the Arts, Washington State Arts Commission, Linda and Kevin Cheung – Start It! Foundation, GM Nameplate, The Jean K. Lafromboise Foundation, Claudia and Bob Nelson, Seattle Rotary Service Foundation, Elizabeth and Gary Sundem, Becca and Bill Wert, Michael Amend and Jeffrey Ashley, Shayna and Andrew Begun, Carol and Tom Fleck, Mark and Kristin Fleischauer, Jon and Judy Runstad, and Joyce Schweickert.

This program is available to all Washington State students ages 14-19. Eligible participants are within this age range for the majority of the project timeline.
**RISING STAR PROJECT** focuses on career exploration and the development of professional skills. Participants are embedded within a working department at The 5th Avenue Theatre and learn to execute tasks that are crucial to the day-to-day operations of a regional theater company. Students have the opportunity to apply for vocational teams in the following areas:

### ARTS ADMINISTRATION

A professional musical would not be possible if not for dedicated teams who are responsible for casting, producing, securing funding for, and marketing the production.

**THE PRODUCING TEAM** is mentored by the Casting Associate, Associate Production Manager, and Company Manager. Projects include facilitating general auditions and casting, producing the Rising Star Project cabaret fundraiser, and attending to the needs of the Rising Star Project cast and company. Strong candidates have a strong interest in the theater industry or business (theatricals, FBLA), are good collaborators, have leadership experience (student government, team athletics), and are comfortable working with deadlines.

**THE DEVELOPMENT TEAM** is mentored by members of The 5th’s development department and is responsible for raising funds for the Rising Star Project production. This team will set a fundraising goal and then create and execute various campaigns to reach their goal. Strong candidates are interested in professional networking and Arts advocacy, are involved in fundraising and service clubs (Key Club, ASB), and are passionate about the Arts and its impact on our community.

**THE MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS TEAM** is mentored by the Senior Marketing Manager and the PR & Communication Manager—with opportunities to shadow graphic designers and production photographers. Projects include writing press releases, designing marketing, and coordinating social media campaigns. Strong candidates are interested in marketing and advertising careers, are involved in marketing clubs (DECA), and are strong writers or have graphic design, photography, and digital video production skills.

Specific roles on this team include: **Production Photographer, Graphic Designer, Public Relations**

### THEATER DESIGN & TECHNOLOGY

Behind the scenes, professional musicals require the technical expertise of dedicated craftspeople and technicians.

**HAIR & MAKEUP TEAM** will learn essential skills and industry best practices for hair, wigs and makeup. In addition, Hair & Makeup students will put wigs and makeup on actors and perform changes during performances.

**COSTUMES & WARDROBE TEAM** will learn how to fit costumes on actors, alter pieces and “rig” them for quick changes as well as have the opportunity to analyze costume designs and learn about the design process. Students will also iron and prep costumes for the show, assist with quick changes, and “run” the wardrobe aspects of the show backstage during performances.

**THE STAGE CREW** will learn industry safety standards and best practices that are needed to run the technical aspects of a professional musical. Specific roles on this team include:

- **Deck Carpenter** – In professional theater, carpenters are responsible for maintaining and moving sets.
- **Props** – Professional shows involve many props which must be tracked, prepped, and maintained.
- **Lighting / Electrics** – Electricians are responsible for running all lighting effects whether high tech (moving lights) or tried and true (spotlights).
- **Automation** – Some carpenters are specifically responsible for moving set elements using electrical, hydraulic, or pneumatic power.
- **Flyrail** – The fly system hoists set components out of the view of the audience. It’s also how we raise the curtain to start a show.
- **Sound** – Sound production for a musical involves prepping and handling microphones and live mixing audio at a master sound board.

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**TEAMS & ROLES CONTINUE ON THE NEXT PAGE ➤**
PERFORMING ARTS

**THE CAST** will be mentored primarily by theater professionals working on the Rising Star Project creative team—with opportunities to work with members of the professional cast of *West Side Story*. General auditions for student performers will take place **December 3-5, 2018**. Strong candidates will demonstrate commitment to the project schedule and a passion for collaboration.

**CAST AUDITION REQUIREMENTS**

All students should prepare and memorize two contrasting musical theater songs AND one monologue no longer than one minute in length.

AUDITIONS SONGS should be about 32 bars each and not longer than one minute each. They should showcase your voice and personality. At least one song should be from the Golden Age of musical theater (such as Adler & Ross, Frank Loesser, Gershwin, Porter, Berlin, Lerner and Loewe—in general, anything written for Broadway before 1960). Bring sheet music in your correct key, an accompanist will be provided. **NO singing a cappella or recorded accompaniment.**

AUDITION MONOLOGUES should be memorized and no longer than one minute in length.

Please also bring a headshot or school photo and a resume listing any performance experience, classes, or private lessons. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about these requirements, especially if this is your first time auditioning for a musical. Please read the AUDITION SHEET on page 9 for more details.

**THE ORCHESTRA** will be mentored by musicians who play for the professional production of *West Side Story*. Students will rehearse and perform the score for the Rising Star Project production. Ideal candidates are interested in professional music careers, have experience playing in advanced ensembles, and have an interest in learning diverse musical styles. Musicians should submit a complete application including a music resume. **Strong candidates will be invited to also submit a video audition or to audition in person.**

*West Side Story* instrumentation will include: piccolo, flute, clarinet, bass clarinet, oboe, all saxophones, bassoon, horn, trumpet, trombone, bass trombone, cello, violin, keyboard, percussion, drum set, bass, and guitar.

*Student pianists interested in rehearsal accompaniment may also apply.*

**THE CREATIVE TEAM** will be mentored by members of the Rising Star Project creative team. Strong candidates will have a specific interest in pursuing a career in their respective field—as well as developed knowledge and expertise, and demonstrated experience in a leadership position. Interested students will apply for one of the following roles: **Choreography, Directing, & Music Directing.**

**THE STAGE MANAGEMENT TEAM** will be mentored by a professional 5th Avenue stage management team and will be responsible for rehearsal preparation, coordinating rehearsals, running technical rehearsals, and overseeing technical aspects of performances. Ideal candidates are passionate about being organized, experienced leaders, detail-oriented, and interested in learning one of the most crucial roles in putting on a musical.
2018/19
RISING STAR PROJECT APPLICATION
WEST SIDE STORY

THIS APPLICATION IS NOW AVAILABLE TO COMPLETE ONLINE: WWW.RISINGSTARPROJECT.ORG/APPLY

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<th>ARTS ADMINISTRATION</th>
<th>PERFORMING ARTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>□ Producing Team</td>
<td>□ Orchestra</td>
<td>□ Costumes + Wardrobe</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Development Team</td>
<td>□ CAST - SEE AUDITION SHEET ON PAGE 9</td>
<td>□ Hair + Makeup</td>
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<tr>
<td>□ Marketing + Communications Team</td>
<td>□ Directing</td>
<td>□ Stage Crew - IF POSSIBLE SELECT INTEREST(S) TO THE RIGHT ▶</td>
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<td>□ Marketing Focus (Optional)</td>
<td>□ Music Direction</td>
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<td>□ Photography</td>
<td>□ Choreography</td>
<td>□ Lighting + Electrics</td>
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<td>□ Graphic Design</td>
<td>□ Stage Management</td>
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<td>□ Sound</td>
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SCHEDULING CONFLICTS  Please review project calendar on pages 11-13 and list all current conflicts below or attach a separate sheet of paper.
Be sure to include any potential scheduling conflicts between November 19, 2018 and July 13, 2019 that are relevant to the team(s) you are applying for. We will do our best to accommodate conflicts—however, some conflicts may make a candidate ineligible for participation. If you are submitting this application early, you will be asked to re-confirm your conflicts in the fall. After acceptance into Rising Star Project, only pre-arranged absences will be permitted.

LIABILITY WAIVER  PLEASE REVIEW THE FOLLOWING WAIVER AND SIGN BELOW.

I, __________________________________________________________________________________, choose to participate in The 5th Avenue Theatre’s RISING STAR PROJECT: West Side Story. By signing this waiver, I am stating that I will not hold The 5th Avenue Theatre responsible for any injury that may occur from participation in this program. Furthermore by signing this waiver, I am also accepting that any photos or video footage taken during the duration of the program are the sole property of The 5th Avenue Theatre and can be used in marketing or publicity without my further consent.

STUDENT SIGNATURE & DATE  PARENT SIGNATURE (IF UNDER 18) & DATE

APPLICATION CONTINUED ON BACK ▶
As part of your letter, please 1) describe how you relate to at least one aspect of the mission using specific examples from your life and experiences and 2) explain why you are interested in being involved in a contemporary production of West Side Story.

□ CURRENT RESUME

□ LETTER OF RECOMMENDATION*
Written by an adult who is not a member of your family (a teacher, employer, or advisor).

□ AUDITION FORM (CAST ONLY, SEE PAGE 9)
Cast applicants may submit their completed application in advance OR bring their completed application to their audition appointment. A completed AUDITION FORM should be submitted at auditions—if you mail in your application in advance, bring a completed copy of your AUDITION FORM to your audition appointment.

QUESTIONS? NEED HELP?
CONTACT US!

We know that submitting applications and auditioning can be intimidating and confusing. Don’t hesitate to contact us if you need help…

(206) 625-1418
risingstarproject@5thavenue.org

ORLANDO MORALES
Director of Education and Engagement
omorales@5thavenue.org

SUBMITTING YOUR APPLICATION

Applications can be submitted by mail, sent electronically (PDF files), or submitted at auditions (cast only). You may also apply via our online from.

➤ APPLY ONLINE:
www.risingstarproject.org/apply

➤ HARD COPIES should be sent to:

THE 5TH AVENUE THEATRE
1326 5TH AVE ~ SUITE 735
SEATTLE, WA 98101
ATTN: RISING STAR PROJECT

➤ PDF FILES of scanned applications and/or letters of recommendation should be e-mailed to:

risingstarproject@5thavenue.org

➤ CAST APPLICANTS may submit applications in advance OR bring completed applications to general auditions.

*LETTERS OF RECOMMENDATION may be submitted by separately.
CAST APPLICATION & AUDITIONS

Students interested in auditioning for the Rising Star Project cast must sign up for an audition appointment.

To schedule an appointment, visit www.risingstarproject.org to access our online audition registration. Appointment scheduling will be open for prospective Dance Corps on July 9, 2018 (auditions July 31-August 1) and November 19, 2018 for General Auditions.

GENERAL AUDITIONS are December 3 – 5, 2018. All students are also required to attend a dance audition whether or not they consider themselves to be dancers.

AUDITION LOCATION will be confirmed when signing up for an audition time.

CALLBACKS will take place December 10-12, 2018.

All audition dates are subject to change.

CAST AUDITION REQUIREMENTS

Students should prepare and memorize two contrasting musical theater songs AND one monologue no longer than one minute in length. You will also be required to attend a dance audition, regardless of whether or not you consider yourself to be a dancer.

AUDITIONS SONGS should be about 32 bars each and not longer than one minute each. They should showcase your voice and personality. At least one song should be from the “Golden Age” of musical theater (such as Adler & Ross, Frank Loesser, Gershwin, Porter, Berlin, Lerner and Loewe—in general, anything written for Broadway before 1960). Bring sheet music in your correct key, an accompanist will be provided. NO a cappella singing and NO recorded accompaniment will be permitted.

AUDITION MONOLOGUES should be memorized and no longer than one minute in length.

Please also bring a HEADSHOT or school photo and a RESUME listing any performance experience, classes, or private lessons. Feel free to contact us if you have any questions about these requirements, especially if this is your first time auditioning for a musical.

BRING A COMPLETED COPY OF THE FOLLOWING FORM TO YOUR AUDITION

5TH AVENUE THEATRE – AUDITION SHEET – CAST APPLICANTS ONLY

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>NAME</th>
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<td>ALT PHONE</td>
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<td>ADDRESS</td>
<td>CITY</td>
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<tr>
<td>PARENT E-MAIL</td>
<td>STUDENT E-MAIL</td>
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HOW MANY MILES AWAY DO YOU LIVE FROM THE THEATER?

VOCAL CATEGORY: SOPRANO - MEZZ - ALTO - TENOR - BARITONE - BASS - NOTSURE VOCAL RANGE DO YOU READ MUSIC? Y N

DO YOU DANCE? Y N YEARS OF DANCE EXPERIENCE: BALLET MODERN JAZZ TAP OTHER

ARE YOU FLUENT IN ANY LANGUAGE OTHER THAN ENGLISH? IF YES, PLEASE DESCRIBE:

LIST ANY SCHEDULING CONFLICTS:

PRODUCER / DIRECTOR NOTES
The calendar included in this application is provided to illustrate the time commitment that will be required of participating students. EXACT DATES AND TIMES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE AND ALL POTENTIAL CONFLICTS MUST BE LISTED ON YOUR APPLICATION.

Other details to note:

- **Arts Administration** teams must be available to meet with their team mentors or work on projects approximately 4-12 hours per week during active periods shown on the calendar.
- **Costume and Wardrobe** team will be required to meet with their mentors approximately 4-12 hours per week June 4 – 28
- **ALL Theater Technology and Design** teams will shadow a mentor for at least once during a professional performance at The 5th Avenue Theatre.
- **Performing Arts** teams will be required to attend evening and weekend rehearsals May 24 through June 12. Students must be available during listed rehearsal times. Within 90 minutes of the end of a rehearsal day, students e-mailed their individual “call time” and specific schedule for the next day’s rehearsal.
- **Orchestra** musicians are required to shadow a mentor at least once during a professional performance at The 5th Avenue Theatre.

"ALL COMPANY" EVENTS

The Rising Star Project production of *West Side Story* Performs July 11 (10:30AM Invited Dress Rehearsal), July 12 (8PM), and July 13 (2PM & 8PM)

The 5th Avenue Theatre strongly believes that musical theater is an art form that is fundamentally collaborative. The events and milestones during Rising Star Project which involve ALL participants are undoubtedly the most profound and the most revealing of what it takes to be successful in the world of professional theater. For this reason, in addition to rehearsals, shadowing and mentorship sessions, we ask that ALL Rising Star Project students also attend the following:

- **COMPANY MEETING #1** February 23 (10AM – 4PM)
- **COMPANY MEETING #2** Kick Off Party and West Side Story Preview, June 1 (6PM – 11PM)
- **RUN-THRU REHEARSAL** June 27 or June 28 (1 – 4PM)
- **SITZPROBE REHEARSAL** July 7 (5:30 – 9:30PM)
- **OPENING NIGHT TOAST** July 12, after the 8PM performance

The 2018/19 Rising Star Project "all company" activities also include two community engagement events:

- **WEST SIDE STORY PROJECT YOUTH SUMMIT** March 9 (9AM – 5PM)
  A day of workshops for local high school students exploring how gang violence, relationships with law enforcement, and immigration shape the world we live in.

- **WEST SIDE STORY COMMUNITY CELEBRATION** May 20 (4 – 9PM)
  An event created in partnership with local cultural organizations celebrating the themes and histories portrayed in West Side Story