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**THE 5TH CELEBRATES THE GREAT AMERICAN MUSICAL  
*RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S OKLAHOMA!*  
WITH A FREE, FUN-FILLED COMMUNITY DAY  
10 AM – 5:30 PM, February 4, 2012**

(Monday, January 30, 2012 – SEATTLE, WA) In celebration of its new production of *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Oklahoma!*, considered by many to be the greatest American musical, The 5th Avenue Theatre is throwing open its doors to Seattle with a fantastic and free **Community Day** from **10 AM – 5:30 PM Saturday, February 4, 2012**. Anyone and everyone in the Greater Seattle Area is welcome to visit The 5th for the day and join in a number of fun, fascinating activities celebrating *Oklahoma!*, The 5th, and our great all-American art form, musical theater. Come to The 5th and experience the magic, perhaps for the first time!

The morning kicks off with a traditional Chinese Lion Dance honoring this Lunar New Year of the Dragon (a creature prominently featured throughout the 5th Avenue Theatre's interior design). Visitors can drop in at any point throughout the day to learn songs from *Oklahoma!* with a professional musical theater vocal director, participate in Show Talk Discussions with local musical theater scholars, or join the ranks of cowboys kicking up their heels in a country line-dancing lesson. The day also includes kid-appropriate events such as "Sing a Story" music games for 1-5 year olds, and creating personalized cowboy bandanas. Highlights will include two spectacular sneak peeks at The 5th Avenue Theatre's Adventure Musical Theatre Touring Company and their all new musical *Klondike*, which will begin an educational tour to grade schools and middle schools around the state in February. Tours of the historic theater will be ongoing throughout the morning.

A detailed schedule of events is copied below. An information table will be located under The 5th Avenue marquee (1308 5th Avenue, Seattle) with staff and volunteers on-hand to direct visitors to their events. Visitors are encouraged to arrive **ten minutes** before each event begins – spaces will fill up quickly. All events are family-friendly, and free and open to the public; see below for age recommendations.

Special thanks to Community Day Co-Host Seattle Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce and Show Talk Sponsor "Macys."

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## **COMMUNITY DAY SCHEDULE OF EVENTS**

### **10:00 AM**

- **Learn a song from *Oklahoma!*** with Chris DiStefano, professional vocal director for The *Oklahoma!* Project. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*
- **Tour the Historic 5th Avenue Theatre.** *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

### **10:30 AM**

- In honor of The 5th Avenue Theatre's Chinese-inspired heritage, come watch the Lions Dance under The 5th Avenue Theatre Marquee! The **Lieu Quan Lion Dance Team** will perform a **Cai Qing** ceremony blessing the theatre, celebrating the Year of the Dragon, a magical creature prominently featured in the theatre's design. *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

### **11:00 AM**

- **Show Talk: "The Downtown Historic Theatre District"** – A panel discussion hosted by our own Managing Director Bernadine Griffin about our Downtown Historic Theater District and the impact of the arts on our community. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 16 and up.*
- At **"Sing-a-Story" with Amber Flame**, kids will get hands-on with music, learning new songs and playing with instruments. *Appropriate for kids ages 1-5.*
- Learn a **Country Line Dance** with our popular Broadway Fit instructor Troy Wageman. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 12 and up.*
- The first sneak peek of an original musical: ***Klondike!***, a story about Gold Rush pioneers presented by our Adventure Music Theatre Touring Company. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*
- **Tour the Historic 5th Avenue Theatre.** *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

### **11:30 AM**

- **Tour the Historic 5th Avenue Theatre.** *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

### **12:00 PM**

- **Show Talk: "The Music of Richard Rodgers"** – A family friendly exploration of the music of Richard Rodgers with our beloved 5th Avenue Theatre Dramaturg Albert Evans. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 11 and up.*
- At **"Sing-a-Story" with Amber Flame**, kids will get hands-on with music, learning new songs and playing with instruments. *Appropriate for kids ages 1-5.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

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**12:45 PM**

- The first sneak peek of an original musical: ***Klondike!***, a story about Gold Rush pioneers presented by our Adventure Music Theatre Touring Company. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*

**1:00 PM**

- **Show Talk: “*Oklahoma! The Ground Breaking Musical*”** with local Richard Rodgers scholar Geoffrey Block, an award-winning history professor from the University of Puget Sound. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 16 and up.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

**1:45 PM**

- Learn a **Country Line Dance** with our popular Broadway Fit instructor Troy Wageman. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 12 and up.*

**2:00 PM**

- **Show Talk: “Students of The *Oklahoma! Project*”** – Hear this fascinating panel discussion featuring the students in The *Oklahoma! Project* – our exciting program that puts Seattle teens directly on The 5th Avenue stage. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

**2:30 PM**

- **Learn a song from *Oklahoma!*** with Chris DiStefano, professional vocal director for The *Oklahoma! Project*. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*

**3:00 PM**

- **Show Talk: “The Music of Richard Rodgers”** – A family friendly exploration of the music of Richard Rodgers with our beloved 5th Avenue Theatre Dramaturg Albert Evans. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 11 and up.*
- Learn a **Country Line Dance** with our popular Broadway Fit instructor Troy Wageman. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 12 and up.*
- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

**3:45 PM**

- **Learn a song from *Oklahoma!*** with Chris DiStefano, professional vocal director for The *Oklahoma! Project*. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 6 and up.*

**4:00 PM**

- **Create your own bandana!** *Appropriate for ALL ages.*

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**4:15 PM**

- Learn a **Country Line Dance** with our popular Broadway Fit instructor Troy Wageman. *Best suited for adults and kids ages 12 and up.*

**5:00 PM**

- **Show Talk: “Our Great Indigenous Art Form: The Musical”** – The 5th Avenue’s Executive Producer and Artistic Director David Armstrong leads a special *Oklahoma!* Panel Discussion with local musical theater experts and authors Larry Starr (University of Washington) and Geoffrey Block (University of Puget Sound), along with all-around musical scholar Albert Evans (The 5th Avenue Theatre Resident Dramaturg). *Best suited for adults and kids ages 11 and up.*

**MORE ABOUT THE 5TH AVENUE’S OKLAHOMA!**

**WHAT:** There’s a bright golden haze in Seattle, and it’s coming from the lights of **The 5th Avenue Theatre!** The famed home of Broadway-quality musicals in the Pacific Northwest is partnering with Tony Award-nominated choreographer **Donald Byrd** and his acclaimed **Spectrum Dance Theater** to bring a glorious reinvention of **Rodgers & Hammerstein’s *Oklahoma!*** to big-hearted, high-kicking life.

**WHEN:** **February 3 – March 4, 2012**  
*Show times vary; please visit the website for details.*

**WHERE:** **The 5th Avenue Theatre** (1308 5th Avenue, Seattle)

**TICKETS:** Single tickets start at \$29.00. For information, please visit [www.5thavenue.org](http://www.5thavenue.org) or call the Box Office at (206) 625-1900. Tickets may also be purchased at (888) 5TH-4TIX.

Special thanks to The 5th Avenue Theatre 2011-12 season co-sponsors Safeco Insurance and US Bank, and media sponsor *The Seattle Times*. Additional thanks to *Oklahoma!* production sponsors The National Endowment for the Arts and KCTS.

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