

2010 - 2011

OUT

REACH

# Urban Stages



**Urban Stages**  
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urbanStages



## Come Take a Peak At Our New Season!

*Over 20 offerings, including 7 new shows.*

### Brochure Contents

- Page 3: Month Recommendation Chart  
We have matched historic/heritage/cultural months with specific shows that will highlight certain themes/issues relevant to events in each month. These are only suggestions, you can book shows in whatever month you need.
- Page 4: Age Recommendations Chart: These recommendations are based on the content and style of each show and workshop.

Pages 5-13: Individual Show Descriptions Each show has a ♦ next to the title and the colors of the ♦ correspond to the colors on our age recommendations chart. We've also included "curriculum connections" to share the themes and content explored in each piece.

### About Urban Stages:

- Urban Stages is an Off-Broadway theatre company that has been producing new plays, many of which are World Premieres for 27 years. Our 18 year old outreach department provides over 200 programs each year to schools and public libraries throughout New York City, reaching 43 out of the 51 council districts. Our shows and workshops strive to be high quality, educational, and interactive, while also building skills and instilling an appreciation for theatre and the arts.

**We look forward to working with you. Please feel free to call 212-421-1380 to discuss shows and bookings and/or email [rsullivan@urbanstages.org](mailto:rsullivan@urbanstages.org).**

Thanks!  
Rachel Sullivan  
Program Director

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- Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust
- Michael Tuch Foundation Inc.
- Individual Donors



<b>Month</b>	<b>Event</b>	<b>Recommendations</b>
<b>October</b>	Cultural Diversity Month National Magic Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Sandwich Swap (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Warriors Don't Cry</li> <li>▪ Abracadabra</li> </ul>
<b>November</b>	Cultural Diversity Pre-K Skill Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Dos Amigos</li> <li>▪ Sandwich Swap (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Warriors Don't Cry</li> <li>▪ Jungle Explorers (<i>New</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>December</b>	Holiday Family Programming Pre-K Skill Building	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abracadabra</li> <li>▪ African Folktales / Dancing</li> <li>▪ Art of Mime</li> <li>▪ Tales with Nzinga</li> <li>▪ Whole World's A Talkin'</li> <li>▪ Jungle Explorers (<i>New</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>January</b>	Holiday Family Programming MLK Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Art of Mime</li> <li>▪ Golem (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Whole World's A Talkin'</li> <li>▪ Gates of Equality</li> </ul>
<b>February</b>	Black History Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Folktales / Dancing</li> <li>▪ Gates of Equality</li> <li>▪ Peanut Prince</li> <li>▪ Sojourner's Truth (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Warriors Don't Cry</li> </ul>
<b>March</b>	Women's History Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rosie</li> <li>▪ Sacagawea (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Sojourner's Truth (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Warriors Don't Cry</li> </ul>
<b>April</b>	National Poetry Month Earth Day / Environmental Awareness Immigration Week	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Blown Away By Poetry (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Spoken Word</li> <li>▪ Trash Tricksters (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Sacagawea (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Sandwich Swap (<i>New</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>May</b>	National Music Week Jewish Heritage Month	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Rhythm and Sound</li> <li>▪ Golem (<i>New</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>June/ July</b>	Kick off summer reading groups / Celebrate Summer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Folktales</li> <li>▪ Tales with Nzinga</li> <li>▪ Whole World's A Talkin'</li> <li>▪ Sandwich Swap (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Jungle Explorers (<i>New</i>)</li> <li>▪ Blown Away By Poetry (<i>New</i>)</li> </ul>
<b>August</b>	Celebrate summer reading groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abracadabra</li> <li>▪ Rhythm and Sound</li> <li>▪ African Dancing</li> <li>▪ Laugh &amp; Learn: Clowning</li> <li>▪ Art of Mime</li> </ul>

AGE	WORKSHOPS	PERFORMANCES
<p><b><u>3-5</u></b> <i>Pre-K</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Dance</li> <li>▪ Counting with Steven</li> <li>▪ Laugh &amp; Learn: Clowning</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abracadabra</li> <li>▪ African Folktales</li> <li>▪ Jungle Explorers</li> <li>▪ Sandwich Swap</li> <li>▪ Tales with Nzinga</li> <li>▪ Whole World's A Talkin'</li> <li>▪</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>5-8</u></b> <i>Family Audiences</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Dance</li> <li>▪ Art of Mime</li> <li>▪ Blown Away by Poetry</li> <li>▪ Laugh &amp; Learn: Clowning</li> <li>▪ Rhythm and Sound</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Abracadabra</li> <li>▪ African Folktales</li> <li>▪ Dos Amigos</li> <li>▪ Golem</li> <li>▪ Peanut Prince</li> <li>▪ Sacagawea</li> <li>▪ Sandwich Swap</li> <li>▪ Sojourner's Truth</li> <li>▪ Tales with Nzinga</li> <li>▪ Trash Tricksters</li> <li>▪ Whole World's A Talkin'</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>8 &amp; up</u></b> <i>After School Groups</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ African Dance</li> <li>▪ Art of Mime</li> <li>▪ Rhythm and Sound</li> <li>▪ Spoken Word</li> <li>▪ Theatre residency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gates of Equality</li> <li>▪ Golem</li> <li>▪ Peanut Prince</li> <li>▪ Rosie</li> <li>▪ Sacagawea</li> <li>▪ Sojourner's Truth</li> <li>▪ Trash Tricksters</li> <li>▪ Warriors (strong language, 10+)</li> </ul>
<p><b><u>Teen /Adult</u></b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Spoken Word</li> <li>▪ Theatre Residency</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Gates Of Equality</li> <li>▪ Sacagawea</li> <li>▪ Sojourner's Truth</li> <li>▪ Warriors Don't Cry</li> </ul>

# PERFORMANCES

## **Abracadabra** ◆◆◆

**Ages 4 -99**

Do you believe in magic? You will after watching children's magician Evan Paquette dazzle you with his slight of hand tricks. Evan's magic has been featured on the Sci-Fi Channel and this show is sure to impress all audiences! He is also an advocate for using magic to promote learning and incorporates many teaching moments into the performance. Plus, at the end of the performance Evan will reveal some of his secrets and teach participants in a hands-on workshop.

*Curriculum Connections: Visualizations, imagination, numbers, concentration, memory*



## **African Folktales** ◆◆

**Ages 4- 10**

Have you ever been to Africa? Master Storyteller Caren Calder's interactive adaptations of African folktales will use dance, movement and live drumming to transport you to another world. Along the journey participants will be encouraged to discuss what modern lessons they are learning from these traditional tales. At the end of the workshop Caren and her drummer will lead participants in a brief African Dance lesson.

*Curriculum Connections: African Folklore, African Dance, Morals, Movement, Song, Rhythm, Imagination*



## **Gates of Equality** ◆

*Written by Stanton Wood*

**For ages 6 and up.**

This dynamic one man chronicles the life of Dr. Martin Luther King from early childhood through his involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. The fictional dialogue is interspersed with real excerpts from Dr. King's press conferences and speeches regarding Civil Rights and the practice of non violent protest.

*Curriculum Connections: Segregation, Civil Rights Act, Montgomery Bus Boycott, non violent protest, NAACP, "I have a dream" speech*

# The Golem

Written by Stanton Wood

**New!!!**

**For ages 7 and up. Family weekend or after school**

Monsters come in all shapes and sizes, but have you ever encountered a monster made of mud? Or a monster that will become your guardian angel? A Golem is such a creature from Jewish Folktales. This contemporary play takes a new spin on an old tale using music and puppetry to explore how a desperate young immigrant child in Brooklyn finds magic in everyday life. (Available beginning Jan.1)

**Curriculum Connections: folklore, imagination, immigration**

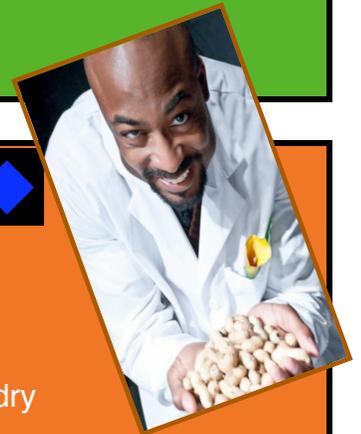
# The Peanut Prince: George Washington Carver

Written by Terrence Archie

**For Ages 6 and up**

How many things can you make with a peanut? George Washington Carver found over 300 uses, including laundry detergent and “peanut orange punch.” Join us to hear how this former slave developed a love of plants, found his name, and persevered to become a world renowned scientist, and of course...an expert on peanuts!

**Curriculum Connections: Slavery/Emancipation, Segregation in the American South, Scientific research,**



# Rosie

Written by Adriana Rogers

**For ages 9 and up**

Who was Rosie the Riveter? What even is a riveter? Why were woman employees important in World War II? Experience the courageous story of how one woman survived in a man's world as she traveled across the country to work in the war factories and support the troops.

**Curriculum Connections: The Great Depression, The Dust Bowl, World War II, discrimination against women, gender roles and women in factory work.**

# Sacagawea



**New!!!**

Written by William S. Yellow Robe Jr.

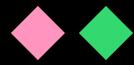
**For ages 5-12**

Sacagawea, best known as the guide on the Lewis and Clark expedition, is one of America's most significant and sublime historical figures. Nationally acclaimed Assiniboine playwright, William S. Yellow Robe Jr. brings Sacagawea's incredible story to life and shares how this young Native American Indian/Mandan woman brought two worlds together. The play also examines how her actions affected future generations and policies. *(Available beginning Jan. 1)*

**Curriculum Connections:** Cultural Diversity, Lewis and Clark Expedition, Exploration



# Sandwich Swap



**New!!!**

by Queen Rania of Jordan Al Abdullah

**For ages 3-8**

A friendship ended over hummus and peanut butter and jelly sandwiches? That's exactly what happened to Lily and Salma when they both made fun of each other's lunch choices. Their attitudes of intolerance spread throughout the school and when a food fight erupts in the cafeteria and the girls get into trouble, they decide it's time to make some changes and find the courage to begin trying things. *(Available beginning Oct. 15)*

: Urban Stages puts a theatrical spin on this NY Times Bestselling Children's Book.

**Curriculum Connections:** Cross Cultural Awareness, Tolerance, and Diversity

# Sojourner's Truth



**New!!!**

By Cesi Davidson

**For ages 4- 10**

"Define yourself and live your truth!" These are the words of Isabella Baumfree (Sojourner Truth), a freed ex-slave turned abolitionist, women's right's activist and preacher. Experience Sojourner's incredible story, of how she overcame tremendous struggles and obstacles, while maintaining her dignity and sense of self. *(available beginning Jan. 1)*

**Curriculum Connections:** Slavery, Abolition, Self-Esteem, Women's Rights

## Tales With Nzinga



**For ages 4-10**

Interested in playing the role of Camel? Of taking a journey across the desert? Nzinga will take you there! Experience master storyteller Willie Teacher's tales that are woven with interactive elements, call and response, as well as opportunities for participants to take on active roles in the stories. Based on folklore from Anansi the Spider, these tales teach the importance of stories and inspire reading and writing amongst the participants. *(This performance has four versions of storytelling and can be booked multiple times for one location)*

**Curriculum Connections :** Role Play, Imagination/visualization, African culture,



## Trash Tricksters



**New!!!**

**Ages 5-10**

The trash tricksters have fooled everyone into following their ways of polluting and littering. Jump on board with the eco team to save their neighborhood by following the three R's of recycling, reusing, and reducing. This interactive show is filled with song, movement, and innovative costumes/props of recycled bottles and trash. *(Available beginning Feb 2011)*

**Curriculum Connections:** Environmental awareness, recycling, reusing, reducing, importance of one's actions, carbon footprint

## Two Friends: Dos Amigos



*By Paul Morse*

**For ages 4-10**

"Why should I have to learn your language?" Two friends experience frustration when language becomes a barrier to communication. Audience members will actively participate and offer suggestions to help these two characters address the problem and save their friendship. Watch the characters improv scenes right before your eyes to finish this one act play about friendship, compromise, and above all, soccer and basketball! *(available beginning Nov. 1)*

**Curriculum Connections:** Teaches awareness of other cultures, communication between friends, and problem solving

## **Warriors Don't Cry** ◆◆

*By Eisa Davis (Pulitzer Prize Finalist)*

**For ages 10 and up. Strong language**

Based on the novel, *Warriors Don't Cry*, this play chronicles the true story of Melba Pattillo Beals, one of the Little Rock Nine. In 1957, with the help of Eisenhower's troops, Beals marched with eight other students through segregationist picket lines to attend Central high School, marking the beginning of American integration.

**Curriculum Connections:** *Little Rock Nine, Segregation in the South, Desegregation of Public Schools, nonviolent protest, taking a stand for one's beliefs.*



## **The Whole World's A Talkin'** ◆◆

**For ages 3-10,**

Three Counties, Three Folktales, Twenty Two Characters, and one show! Travel to India, Korea and Ghana with master storyteller Patrick Richwood and watch as he transforms into multiple characters to bring three folktales to life using innovative props and songs.

**Curriculum Connections:** *Cultural Diversity, Folklore, Geography.*

# WORKSHOPS

## **African Dancing** ◆◆◆

**Ages 4 – 99**

Get up and feel the rhythm! Learn the styles and history of African Dance! Master Storyteller/Dancer Caren Calder, along with a live drummer, will have you out of your seats and shaking a leg. Caren's dynamic style of teaching promises a good time for everyone involved and welcomes all ages and dance levels: no experiences necessary.

**Skills Developed:** Movement/ body awareness, rhythm, counting, spatial awareness, African dance history

## **Art of Mime** ◆◆

**Great for all ages, 4-99!!**

Join Bill Bowers (*Broadway actor and former student of famed mime Marcel Marceau*) as he shows how the world of mime is much larger than being stuck in a box! Mr. Bowers will perform short mime scenes and lead participants in workshops to build their imaginations and mime skills. (Available as a one-time workshop or as a residency series)

**Skills developed:** visualizations, fine motor skills, imagination.



## **Blown Away By Poetry** ◆ **New!!!**

**Ages 6-10**

Wendy Windstorm has accidentally blown all the poetry out of Poetsville! You can help her solve this problem by traveling with Wendy on a quest filled with song and movement. Along the way, poetic puppet creatures will use songs to teach key elements of poetry. A closing writing workshop will encourage children to write poems of their own! (Available beginning Nov. 15)

**Curriculum Connections:** Expressive language, rhythm, rhyme, similes, alliteration, plot, song, movement, problem solving

## Counting With Steven



**For ages 3-6.**

Steven leads a double life as a musical performer and certified public accountant. He is certainly familiar with numbers and aims to help children feel the same. Using songs from his award winning educational CD's (I-Parenting Award and review in School Library Journal) he will help young children build their counting, recall, and musical skills as part of a fun sing-a-long.

**Curriculum Connections: Counting, Singing**



## Jungle Explorers



**New!!!**

**For ages 3-6. Morning and Early afternoons are ideal!**

Gather your hats and become a jungle explorer! Join us as we sing and dance in this interactive session. Participants will travel on a journey through the jungle as they identify colors, letters, and various jungle animals while using music and movement. (Available beginning Oct. 15)

**Curriculum Connections: Participants will develop their coordination, event recall and recognition skills.**



## Laugh & Learn: Clowning



**For ages 4-9.**

Dot Dash is a speed-reading clown who cannot slow down. She needs your help to learn how to take it easy and enjoy her books! Join Dot in her reading quest and along the way learn how to become a clown yourself. After a short comedic performance as Dot Dash, Master Clown Barbara Ann Michaels teaches basic clowning techniques as part of this workshop while stimulating a love of reading.

**Skills developed: Clowning techniques, juggling, fundamentals of comedy**

## ***Rhythm and Sound in Theatre*** ◆◆

***For ages 6 and up. Afterschool and Family audiences***

Do you have what it takes to become a Broadway percussionist? Join veteran Broadway and international percussionist Jon Berger as he shares his love of music and teaches young people how to play various percussion instruments from all over the world. By the end of the workshop participants will learn how to use music to create moods, add humor, and enhance movement on stage.

***Skills developed: geography, musical awareness, fine motor skills,***



## ***Spoken Word*** ◆◆

***For ages 9 and up.***

Do you want to perform Spoken Word poetry? In this workshop, Spoken Word artist Shaun Nesbitt performs his craft, teaches the history of the genre, and leads participants in creating their own spoken word poem.

***Skills developed: self expression: articulating opinions & feelings, poetry & performance techniques***

## **SPECIAL OFFERING**

## ***Theatre Residency/Workshop***

***For age specific groups: 6-10, 11-14, 14-18***

Students will meet with a teaching artist once a week to develop theatre and playwriting skills. They will use their own ideas and stories to craft a final theatrical event that is performed for friends, family and library visitors.

***Skills gained: Theatre/Playwriting techniques, outlets for self-expression, articulation of one's beliefs and opinions, collaborative skills of creating theatre in a group process, communication skills***