



KANSAS CITY REPERTORY THEATRE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Kansas City Repertory Theatre  
A Fearless Fête – KC Rep Rocks  
Friday, May 20 at  
The NEWLY RENOVATED Spencer Theatre**  
*Celebratory spotlight on beautiful renovation of KC Rep’s main stage*

**Kansas City, MO (March 21, 2016)** – Kansas City Repertory Theatre announced today its gala, *A Fearless Fête – KC Rep Rocks*, from 7- 11pm to be held at the newly renovated Spencer Theatre, located in the James C. Olson Performing Arts Center, 4949 Cherry at UMKC. The celebration will shine a spotlight on the beautiful renovation of KC Rep’s main stage and underscore KC Rep’s ability to produce fantastically entertaining and inspiring work in an electrifying salute to rock musicals. Proceeds from *A Fearless Fête* support the art KC Rep creates on stage and the kids in Kansas City KC Rep serves through outreach programs. The Honorary Chairs are David and Geri Frantze.

“KC Rep has a special place in my heart,” stated David Frantze, honorary chair. “I worked there as a college student (always backstage!), and to this day I am convinced that the creative people I came in contact with helped me to become a more creative person. That allowed me to be a better attorney and counselor than others who did not contact creativity like I did. Also, the essence of the theatre technical person is to figure out a way to accomplish the objective, and that became an essential part of how I came to practice law as an attorney. I truly benefited from my involvement with KC Rep, and I was happy to try to give back when we were asked to serve.”

The evening will include:

- A live show featuring songs from some of your favorite rock musicals
- Rock & Roll themed temporary tattoos, make-up station, Guitar Hero, and more!
- Lavish hors d'oeuvres from over a dozen of KC's best restaurants including Grunauer, La Bodega, and Rieger Hotel Grill & Exchange
- Specialty cocktails crafted by Julep
- Silent and live auctions, featuring exclusive items and one-of-a-kind KC Rep experiences
- Attire: Rocker style. No black tie, please. Need some inspiration? Visit our Pinterest page: <https://www.pinterest.com/kcrep/2016-gala-attire/>

### **Gala Leadership**

In addition to the Honorary Chairs David and Geri Frantze, Hospitality Chairs are Ashley Smitka and Jason Thomas. Members of the Auction Committee are:

Auction Committee:

Erica Austin  
Jessica Chanos  
Becky and Brett Gordon  
Tammy Ham  
Rita Hayes  
Carol Logan

Members of the Corporate Sponsorship Committee are:

Irvin V. Belzer	Mike Lochmann
Mark Donovan	Tim Marchesi
Deanna Graves	Tom McDonnell
Leah Huddleston	Brad Sprong
Cliff Illig	Bert Trucksess
Mark Jorgenson	Richard Wetzel

Vanguard Sponsors are David and Geri Frantze and Stinson Leonard Street.

### **Tickets**

For more details or to purchase a sponsorship or tickets please contact Amanda Middaugh at 816-235-1489 or [middaugham@KCRep.org](mailto:middaugham@KCRep.org) or visit us at [www.KCRep.org/a-fearless-fete-2016](http://www.KCRep.org/a-fearless-fete-2016)

### **About Kansas City Repertory Theatre**

Kansas City Repertory Theatre, one of the nation's oldest and most respected regional theaters, is the center of a great theatre town. KC Rep produces theatrical excellence, creating and sharing stories at the center of our nation's creative crossroads. KC Rep's mission is to advance the art form while cultivating passionate audiences, artists, and advocates to invest in our region's creative future. We build community by connecting people through productions and outreach that educate, entertain, challenge and inspire. Lauded by *The Wall Street Journal*, KC Rep Announces *A Fearless Fête – KC Rep Rocks* May 20<sup>th</sup> at Spencer Theatre, UMKC Campus

*TIME* magazine, *Variety* and *The Toronto Sun*, KC Rep produces mainstage plays and special events at Spencer Theatre, where it serves as the professional theatre in residence at the University of Missouri-Kansas City (UMKC), and Copaken Stage located in downtown Kansas City. KC Rep employs more than 250 professional artists, technicians and administrators, and serves more than 100,000 patrons and 12,000 school children annually. Kansas City Repertory Theatre is led by Artistic Director Eric Rosen and Executive Director Angela Lee Gieras.

## **2016-2017 Season At A Glance** **Kansas City Repertory Theatre**

Kansas City Repertory Theatre ticket office 816.235.2700  
Purchase tickets online at [www.kcrep.org](http://www.kcrep.org).

### **Evita**

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber  
Lyrics by Tim Rice  
Directed by Eric Rosen

Spencer Theatre  
September 9 – October 2, 2016

There's no shortage of theatrics in U.S. politics but if you're looking to escape the drama of our election year, come travel back to the times of Argentine political leader Eva Peron. With music by Andrew Lloyd Webber, this rock opera explores the role of women in politics, the power of populism and the romantic rags-to-riches story of Evita's life and charity work. Playful storytelling tempers the serious subject matter, turning this classic show into a celebration of one politician's ability to connect with people and the issues that mattered most.

### **The Invisible Hand**

Kansas City premiere  
Written by Ayad Akhtar  
Directed by Jerry Genochio

Copaken Stage  
October 14 – November 13, 2016

Forget what you know about global terrorism and human nature, and prepare for a new perspective that's equally frightening and enlightening. Like a game of chess, two captors and their American hostage maneuver through life in a holding cell, where the hostage tries to negotiate his way out using stock market secrets. This intense show reveals the complicated truth behind our simple perceptions of good versus evil, as we discover the invisible hand that moves the global market and shifts the power to those you least want to have it.

### **The Fabulous Fitches**

Kansas City premiere  
Book by Robert Cary & Benjamin Feldman

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at Spencer Theatre, UMKC Campus

Music by David Gursky  
Lyrics by Robert Cary  
Directed by Scott Schwartz

Spencer Theatre  
January 27 – February 19, 2017

KC Rep is proud to present the premiere of the largest theatrical production in our history. Laugh your way through this 1930s screwball musical comedy with a modern-day spin. A colorful cast of characters jockeys for position in the wealthy, glamorous but highly eccentric Fitch family, triggering a cavalcade of mishaps and mix-ups that explore gender roles, race, sexuality and relationships of every kind. Kansas City audiences will help shape this new Broadway bound musical and become forever part of its DNA. You are cordially invited to come be among the first to meet THE FABULOUS FITCHES!

**Constellations**

Kansas City premiere  
Written by Nick Payne  
Directed by Eric Rosen  
Copaken Stage  
February 24 – March 26, 2017

If you could hit rewind on a relationship, you might discover the nuances of choice and destiny, and how the two intersect. This spellbinding, heartbreaking love story removes the boundaries of time and space, delving into the infinite possibilities of a couple's relationship to reveal how the slightest change in conversation might send you down an entirely different path. The scene re-sets again and again, in a fascinating look at love and life from one parallel universe to the next.

**A Raisin in the Sun**

Written by Lorraine Hansberry  
Directed by TBD

Spencer Theatre  
March 17 – April 9, 2017

The classic story of the Younger family remains universally relevant and deeply relatable more than 60 years after it first hit Broadway. In pursuit of the American Dream, this dynamic African American family wrestles with the push to assimilate into a white Chicago neighborhood, and the pull of their cultural roots. These opposing forces both unite and divide the family, as each grapples with the social issues that challenge their identity – and the personal choices that will determine their future.

**Origin KC New Works Festival**

Copaken Stage  
April 21 – May 21, 2017

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at Spencer Theatre, UMKC Campus

Curated by Marissa Wolf, Director of New Works

*What Would Crazy Horse Do?*

A World Premiere

Written by Larissa FastHorse

Directed by TBD

KC Rep proudly presents the world premiere of a new play by preeminent Native American writer Larissa FastHorse. Twin siblings, the last members of their tribe, have just lost their grandfather when the KKK comes knocking with hopes of forming an alliance to ensure the continuation of their race. A chilling look at the notion of racial purity, this story reveals the challenges contemporary Native Americans face when fighting extinction in a world that seems to have already forgotten they exist. The siblings attempt to find their voices in the outside world, while preserving the heritage that is now theirs alone to carry forward.

*Man in Love*

A World Premiere

Written by Christina Anderson

Directed by Marissa Wolf

In a segregated Depression-era city, rent parties rage above, while men hungry for work and love roam the streets. A string of murders occurs but no one suspects the killer is the quiet, charming librarian, Paul Pare Jr. Reactions vary across the city, and as we watch the word spread from person to person, we wonder if the killer's violence will extend to those closest to him. Written by Kansas City native Christina Anderson the story examines a world where a criminal and his victims can get lost in the crowd.

***KC REP'S GREAT HOLIDAY CLASSICS RETURN!***

***A Christmas Carol***

Based on the book by Charles Dickens

Adapted by Barbara Fields

Directed by Jerry Genochio

Spencer Theatre

November 18– December 24, 2016

Kansas City's favorite holiday tradition is back for its 36th season, presented in the magnificent new Spencer Theatre! A ripping good telling of the classic story of Ebenezer Scrooge, the curmudgeonly businessman who requires the intervention of a few spectral guides to understand the true meaning of Christmas and life. Complete with lively musical numbers, ornate costumes, and dashing stagecraft, Dickens' classic tale of hope and redemption continues to remind us what's really worth celebrating - at the holidays, or any time!

***The Santaland Diaries***

Written by David Sedaris

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello

Directed by Eric Rosen

Copaken Stage

December 8 - 24, 2016

David Sedaris' hysterical tale of elfin' woe is a hilarious send-up of his brief, misguided career as a Macy's elf. Last year's hit production returns, featuring a hilarious score of twisted holiday favorites against the twisted landscape of Sedaris's unmatched wit. *The Santaland Diaries* skewers our sentimental love of all things Christmas—in a production that has become a beloved part of KC Rep's annual celebration of the darker side of the holidays.

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**For further information, please visit our Web site at [www.kcrep.org](http://www.kcrep.org).**

**For Tickets: 816.235.2700 or [www.kcrep.org](http://www.kcrep.org).**