

# PORTLAND CENTER STAGE AT THE ARMORY

## Education & Community Programs

2021-2022 Report



With additional support from Juan Young Trust and the H. W. Irwin and D. C. H. Irwin Foundation, and other generous donors.

Photo: Espacio Flamenco at JAW. Photo by Alec Lugo.



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# Student Matinees

Our student matinee program aims to greatly increase the number of young people who experience high-quality, professional theater. The program offers deeply subsidized tickets, including free tickets for schools with 50% or more qualifying for free or reduced lunch and nonprofit organizations. Stage Door also provides online resource guides, building tours, post-show Q&A with artists, and in-school student workshops – all for free – to help educators incorporate theater into classroom curricula.

**“Thank you for such a wonderful experience yesterday. The performance of *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* exceeded all our expectations. Our Southridge kids had a great time, and we were super impressed with the attention and enthusiasm of all the other schools present. Most of all we are so grateful for your staff’s generosity and versatility at every step of this two-year-long process. Thank you for making yesterday so special.”**

– Ashley Jetton and Jeff Corso, Southridge High School



# Students Served

**4,998** students attended a play

**3,336** received a free ticket

**501** participated in a workshop

**380** went on a building tour

**168** groups saw a play

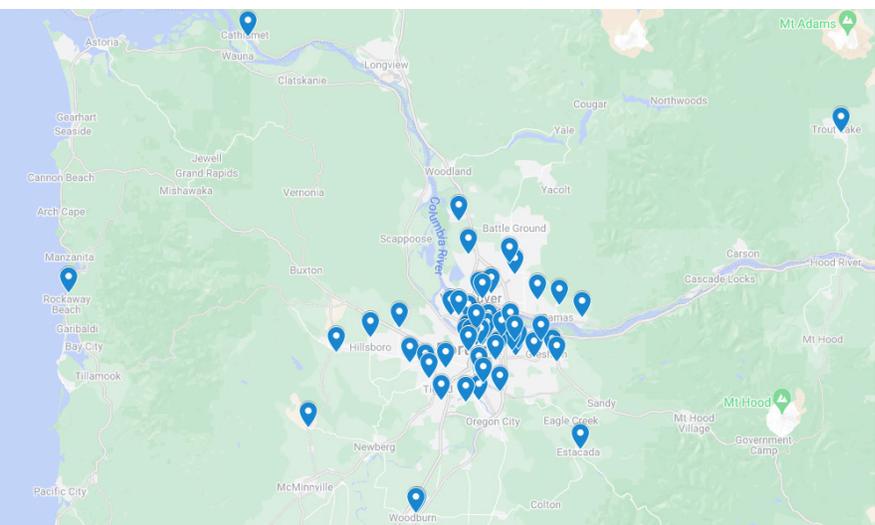
**2,579** Resource Guide downloads\*

On a scale of one to five, 88.9% of youth responded with a 4 or 5 when asked if they were absorbed by and enjoyed the performance.

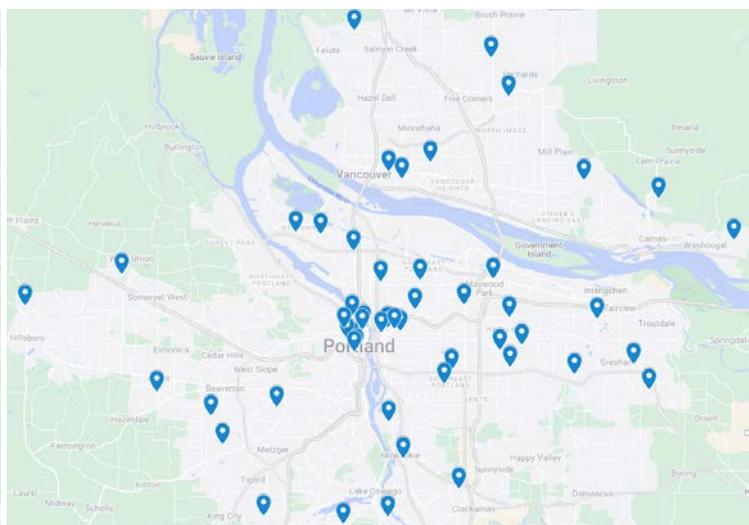
92.6% responded they learned something about other people’s experiences that are different from their own.

\*Our resource guide is available and accessed by patrons of all ages.

Schools/organizations served



Metro region schools/organizations served



# Teen Playwrights

Designed to meet Oregon benchmarks for Arts and English/Language Arts, our Teen Playwrights' residencies address theatrical conventions and dramatic structure, as well as writing and constructive critical response. The playwriting program culminates at the end of the school year with free, public readings of plays selected from all the residency sites, performed by professional actors. In addition, up to six Teen Playwright "graduates" are chosen to participate in PCS's annual JAW New Play Festival, working alongside professionals from across the country as they work on new plays.

**"You have changed kids' lives...I am so grateful and honored to have been able to have our kids be included in this program this year & to have had 3 have their plays shared on a professional level. Those 3 kids are over the moon. Seriously."**

- Dr. Zena, McDaniel H.S.

**"I'm an aspiring writer, so this class was kind of a dream for me... It was super, super fun."**

- Adison, McDaniel H.S.



## High Schools and Number of Students Served

Alliance H.S. at Meek.....	13
McDaniel H.S.....	28
Roosevelt H.S.....	26
Mt. Scott Learning Center.....	15
Glencoe H.S.....	18
Ft. Vancouver H.S.....	23

Photos: JAW Teen Playwrights.  
Photo credits: Clara-Liis Hillier and Kate Szrom





## Teen Council & Teen Academy

Teen Theater Academy builds skills and confidence, while deepening the connection to the inspiring world of theater. Our teaching professionals, drawn from Portland's theater elite, provide pre-professional theater training focused on scene work, monologues, musical theater, devising and more. With many offerings in Summer, Teen Academy also offers classes throughout the school year.

Teen Council is composed of high school students who want a deeper involvement with professional theater and opportunities to take part in advanced theater experiences. Activities involve attending monthly workshops led by PCS professionals and select performances of our productions. Participation is always free and ongoing.

**“Ella told me this has been the best summer camp ever. She does not want it to end. She described the last two weeks as a “breath of fresh air” and she felt completely comfortable sharing exactly who she is with everyone involved in the camp. This has been a very special two weeks for Ella.”** – Teen Academy parent, Crystal Ball

**“The performance yesterday was unlike anything I have ever seen before and the workshop after was fun and informative. I learn something great to take with me every time I step into that space and as a young actor who wants to do theater as a career, I’m so grateful for these opportunities. Every time I see a new person there we have a connection through Theater and I’ve made some amazing friends!”** – Shaelyn Gallagher, Teen Council Member



## Students Served

**78** Teens in seven Teen Academy Sessions

**205** Teens participating in 10 Teen Council Events

**30** Active Core Teen Council Members



## Community Events

Portland Center Stage aims to create transcendent theatrical experiences and community programs that break down the barriers separating people.

Community Programs at PCS seek to elevate local artists, creatives, and experts. Our partnerships center Black, Indigenous, and other Communities of Color while prioritizing accessibility. Inspired by themes found in our productions, community programs explore parallels to what is happening in our community. From post-show discussions and First Thursday celebrations to pre-show performances and movie nights, PCS Community Programs are designed to enhance our audience's experience of the productions, build community, and serve as places of connection and conversation.

**“Theatre Diaspora works specifically to make sure Asian American, Pacific Islander, and Native Hawaiian individuals feel welcome and safe to build connections within our community. The Portland Center Stage team went above and beyond making sure we had what we needed to do so. We are incredibly grateful!”**

- Samson Syharath, Theatre Diaspora

**“Thanks for giving me the opportunity to be on the perspectives panel. It was a magnificent production, filled with emotion, pain, hope and rebirth. It was an honor to work with you and to share the experience with my phenomenal daughter, Lenanne, and the world famous Mel Brown. BRAVO!”** - Norman Sylvester

## Community Served

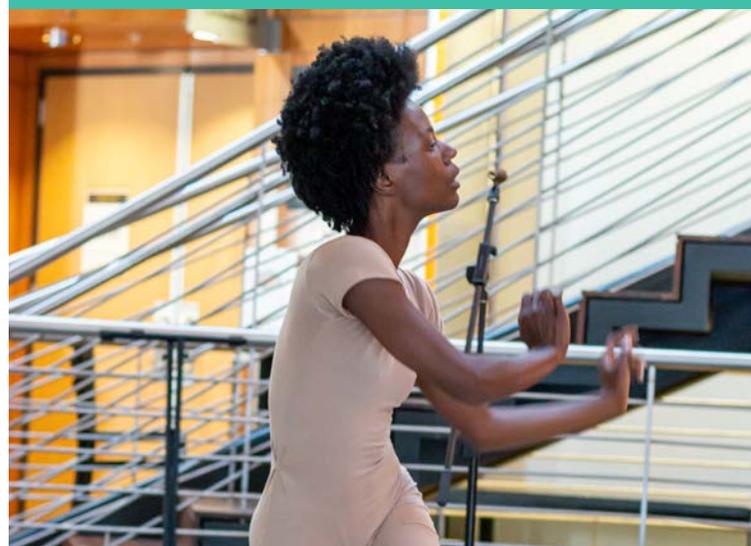
**3,543** attended a community event at Portland Center Stage

**1,509** patrons came early for a pre-show Prologue

Engaged 35 organizations for partnership in programming - 25 were culturally specific or social justice focused.

Hired 45 artists/experts, 98% were people of color

Photos: Steps PDX and Latoya Lovely at JAW





## Adult Classes

Taught by a diverse pool of talented professionals from throughout the region and beyond, our Adult Classes provide recurring opportunities for anyone interested in learning more about the living stage and other storytelling art forms.

**“The many brilliant productions I’ve seen and doing improv and jazz dance in the rehearsal areas and the acting class taught by Vanessa, the actress from *Frida* on the main stage. That was definitely the most engaging and exhilarating class I’ve taken. It has so many variations in the activities we were doing. She was also extremely engaging and connected very well with her students.”**

– Student of Noelle Simone’s Urban Jazz Dance Class



Photos by Kate Szrom and Mikey Mann.

## Adults Served

**369** adults enrolled for a space in one of our 30 classes offered.



## Addendum A: Student Matinee Groups

Academy of International Studies  
 Alliance at Kenton and  
 Reconnection Center  
 Alliance High  
 Alliance High at Kenton  
 Alliance High at Meek  
 Aloha High School  
 Artists Rep Education  
 Benson High School  
 Buckman House  
 Burlingame Creek School  
 Camas High School  
 Chamber Music Northwest  
 Community Alternative  
 Learning Center (CALC)  
 Community Transition Program  
 da Vinci Arts  
 David Douglas Community  
 Transition Program  
 David Douglas High School  
 David Douglas High School  
 IRCO group  
 Dual Credit Program at PSU  
 Estacada Thespian Troupe  
 Fir Ridge Campus  
 Fort Vancouver

Glencoe High School  
 Grant High School  
 Harmony Academy  
 Heritage High School  
 Highland Park Middle School  
 Ilwaco High School  
 Kellogg Drama  
 Kellogg Middle School  
 Lakeridge and Lake Oswego  
 Lincoln High School  
 Lupine Experiential School  
 McDaniel High School  
 Metro Montessori Middle School  
 Metropolitan Learning Center  
 Milwaukie High School  
 Mt. Hood Conference Schools  
 Mt. Scott Learning Center  
 Neah-Kah-Nie  
 Oregon Children's Theater  
 Oregon Episcopal School (no Q&A)  
 Outside the Frame  
 P:ear  
 PACE  
 Parkrose Transition Program  
 PPS Community Transition Program  
 Prairie High School

Reynolds Learning Academy  
 Ridgefield High  
 Rogue Pack  
 Rogue Pack Theatre Collective  
 Roosevelt High School  
 Rosemary Anderson High School  
 Skyview High School  
 Southridge High School  
 Southridge High School  
 (Dual Language program)  
 Springwater Trail High School  
 St Mary's Academy  
 Sunridge Middle School  
 Tigard High School  
 Trout Lake School  
 Union High School  
 Upward Bound at PSU  
 (for high school students)  
 Wahkiakum High School  
 Washington School for the Deaf  
 Washougal High School  
 Woodburn Arts &  
 Communications Academy  
 Woodburn High School  
 Yamhill Carlton High School  
 Youth Progress



## Addendum B: Community Partners

### ARTS GROUPS/ ORGANIZATIONS

Steps PDX  
Jesus Rodales group  
NW Children's Theater  
VNPRT  
North Pole Studio  
Cymaspace  
Phame  
100 Chopsticks  
Ida B. Wells Choir  
300 Watts  
Brown Branch  
Mndsgn  
Love Boys  
The Swing of Thingz  
Noche Libre PDX  
Big Yard Foundation  
Latino Network /  
Unid@s Program  
Push/Fold dance  
World Stage Theatre  
Theater Diaspora  
APANO

Fringe Artist Collective  
The Circus Project  
Laundry PDX  
Rose City Drag

### INDIVIDUALS/ ARTISTS/EXPERTS

Rich Hunter  
Latoya Lovely  
Onry  
Alex Chiu  
Curtis Cook  
Maggie Maye  
Shain Brenden  
Mohanad Elshieky  
Katie Nguyen  
Emilly Prado  
Vanessa Severo  
Linneas Boland-Godbey  
Angela Saenz  
Pablo Rivarola  
Emily Rapp Black  
Akela Jaffi  
David Fimbres

Graciela Teofield  
Arvie Smith  
Tom Lupton  
Dean Wong  
Lo Steele  
Sarah Clarke  
Nicole Wee  
Mac Schonher  
Sami Ma  
Zi Alikhan  
Melory Mirashrafi  
Ash Shirazi  
Logan Ridenour-Starnes  
Carla Rossi  
(Anthony Hudson)  
Pepper Pepper  
Moorea Masa  
Milan Patel  
Shalanda Simms  
AnnaMarie Rose Meyer  
Jermaine  
Tahirha Memory  
Vincent McGee  
Jene Etheridge

Paulina Ramirez  
Paul Susi  
Machado Mijiga  
Decimus Yarbrough  
Barbie Wu  
Tatiana Marina  
Hernández de Hildner

### GOVERNMENT, CIVIC & OTHER COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS

Sisters of the Road  
Oregon Nurses  
Association  
APANO  
Pueblo Unidos  
Latino Network  
Portland  
Chinatown Museum  
Central City Concern  
Oregon Commission  
for the Blind  
Oregon Humanities