

2023/2024
GOODMAN THEATRE ANNUAL REPORT



I want this season—and the ones that follow—to have as many open doors and windows for as many people as possible. I'm interested in deepening our work in theater for very young audiences. It's a practice that has quantifiable effects on literacy levels for early learners, and I think it's work we have a responsibility to provide. I'm also committed to making professional pathways for folks who've been underrepresented in leadership roles in our processes and organizations. And I'm

## **DEEPLY COMMITTED**

to expanding the definition of what constitutes theater—listening to both our current audience and the one we're seeking—as they tell us what moves them."

-SUSAN V. BOOTH IN CS MAGAZINE



















## SUSAN V. BOOTH ON THE PLAYS IN HER INAUGURAL SEASON AS ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

"We need to meet our audience where they are... it becomes incumbent on us, those extending that invitation, to make sure the work we're doing

## FEELS ESSENTIAL."

-CRAIN'S CHICAGO BUSINESS

"I'm not interested in theater where the performance is the endgame. I'm far more interested in theater as an active catalyst in community dialogue and community healing in

## **EDUCATIONAL BETTERMENT**

I believe in the power of this art form to cause things to happen to places and within people."

-CHICAGO READER

"Theaters must reach out to new audiences, Booth says, while believing it's possible to program for the audience you're looking for but not displace the audience you have:

## **'IT'S POSSIBLE TO DO BOTH**

—it's not an either-or scenario. When you have scarcity thinking, you get fearful. And nobody does their best thinking when they're fearful."

-NEW CITY



## THE 2023/2024 SEASON

### IN THE ALBERT

### THE NACIREMA SOCIETY

By Pearl Cleage, Directed by Lili-Anne Brown

### **A CHRISTMAS CAROL**

By Charles Dickens, Adapted by Tom Creamer, Directed by Jessica Thebus

### **HIGHWAY PATROL**

Playwright and Text Curator by Jen Silverman, Based on the Digital Archives of Dana Delany, Created by Dana Delany, Mike Donahue, Dane Laffrey and Jen Silverman, Directed by Mike Donahue

### THE PENELOPIAD

By Margaret Atwood, Directed by Susan V. Booth

### JOE TURNER'S COME AND GONE

By August Wilson, Directed by Chuck Smith

### MIDNIGHT IN THE GARDEN OF GOOD AND EVIL

Book by Taylor Mac, Music and Lyrics By Jason Robert Brown, Choreography By Tanya Birl-Torres, Directed By Rob Ashford, Based on the *New York Times* Best-Selling Book By John Berendt

### IN THE OWEN

### **LUCHA TEOTL**

Written and Directed by Christopher Llewyn Ramirez and Jeff Colangelo

### THE MATCHBOX MAGIC FLUTE

Adapted and Directed by Mary Zimmerman

#### **ENGLISH**

By Sanaz Toossi, Directed by Hamid Dehghani

### SPECIAL EVENTS

### THE LIZARD YEL SOL

Directed by Jamal Howard and Raquel Torre

### **NEW STAGES FESTIVAL**

Featuring works by Zayd Ayers Dohrn, Tom Morello, Stephen Helper, Bobby Rush, Karissa Murrell Myers, Lucy Thurber, Mallory Raven-Ellen Backstrom

### **PEARL CLEAGE FESTIVAL**

Readings directed by Lauren Wells-Mann, Lydia Diamond, Ted Williams III, Ericka Ratcliff, Malkia Stampley, TaRon Patton, Mikael Burke and Daryl D. Brooks

### THE SWEETEST SEASON

Native artist showcase, workshops, panels and performances featuring Native scholars, artists, designers and vendors

### THE MAGIC PARLOUR

Dennis Watkins teamed up with the Goodman and Petterino's for Chicago's longest-running magic show





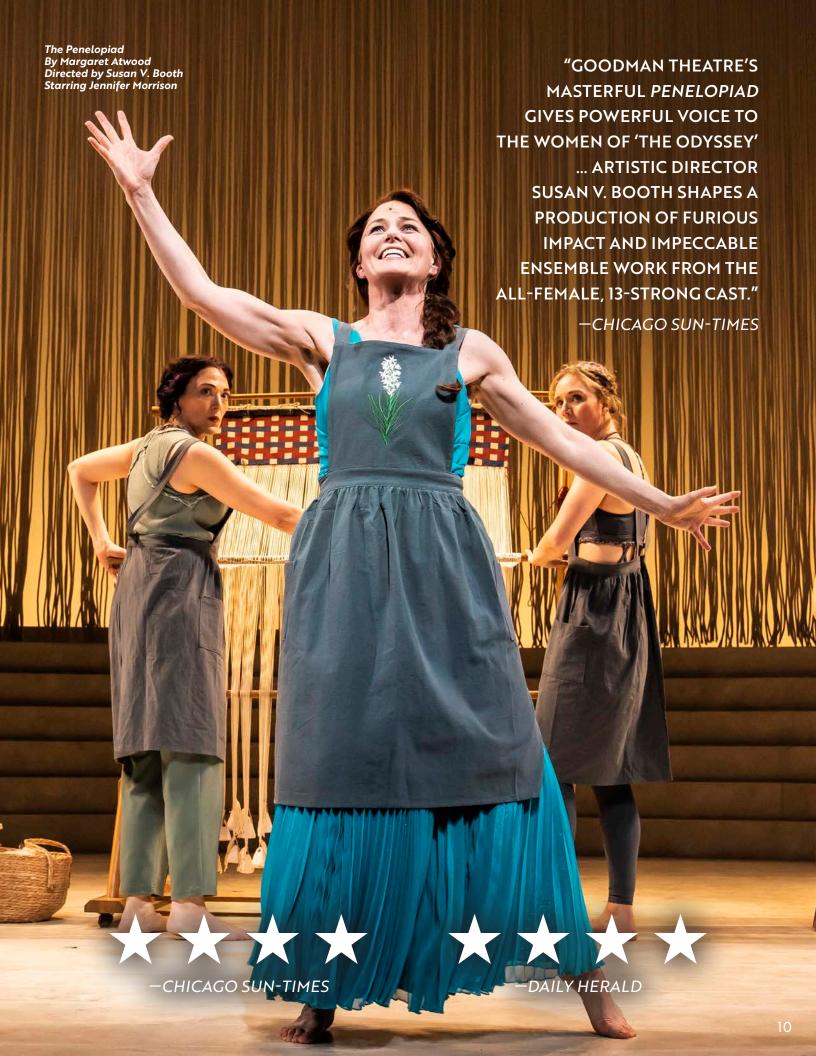
## YEAR AT A GLANCE

- 3 WORLD PREMIERES
- BROADWAY-BOUND NEW MUSICAL
- 9 MAINSTAGE PRODUCTIONS 25 SCHOOLS AND COMMUNITY PARTNERS
  - 230K PATRONS
  - 363 PERFORMANCES
- 6TH ANNUAL PRODUCTION OF A CHRISTMAS CAROL
- 5 PLAYS GOT THEIR FIRST OUTINGS IN FRONT OF LIVE AUDIENCES VIA THE 19TH ANNUAL **NEW STAGES FESTIVAL**













-CHICAGO TRIBUNE

"CHUCK SMITH'S DIRECTION IS
MASTERFUL, THE CAST IS SUPERB AND
THE SHOW ITSELF IS FANTASTIC. SO GLAD
I GOT THE CHANCE TO SEE THIS SHOW!"

-JIM K., GOODMAN PATRON









In 2023/2024, Goodman Theatre welcomed more than **230,000** patrons to **360 PERFORMANCES**, 33 of which were sold out. With these figures, attendance surpassed pre-pandemic levels.

Through the Goodman's Education and Engagement programs, 10,000 YOUNG PEOPLE and lifelong learners participated in over 100 free and low-cost engagements at the Goodman and throughout the city of Chicago.

Residents of **4,400 POSTAL CODES** were touched by Goodman programming, 129 of which were in the City of Chicago.

ARTISTS, ARTISANS, TECHNICIANS AND PROFESSIONALS were employed for their skills and creativity in bringing these projects to life, including four full-time apprentices and fellows who represent the future of the field.

5,063 DONORS made it possible to create this work and offer access at subsidized rates through their support.



## **EDUCATION AND ENGAGEMENT**

Chicago public high schools enrolled in our School Matinee Series, allowing 59 TEACHERS to share our productions with their 5,600 STUDENTS.

community members participated in our inaugural ACTIVATION PROGRAMMING, 24+ hours of free, intergenerational arts programming during the month of May led by celebrated Chicago artists and educators.

## 2,800+

YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR FAMILIES gained early exposure to live theater through The Lizard y El Sol. In summer 2024, *The Lizard y El Sol* brought joy and wonder to families during **24 PERFORMANCES ACROSS 12 PARKS** in Chicago through a vibrant, interactive touring production designed specifically for children aged 0-5 and their families. This enchanting bilingual play continued Goodman Theatre's tradition of bringing accessible, high-quality theater experiences to communities citywide. Building on the successes of previous outdoor productions—such as *Fannie Lou Hamer: Speak on It!, Zulema* and Theater for the Very Young outings including 2023's *In My Granny's Garden*—this summer's programming expanded the Goodman's commitment to engaging thousands of young audience members and their families in playful and imaginative storytelling.







NEARLY 50 YOUNG PEOPLE came to the Goodman in the summer months to collaborate with peers from across the city and develop themselves as artists through the PlayBuild Youth Intensive and the Musical Theater Intensive.

PUBLIC EVENTS gave thousands of patrons an opportunity to diver deeper into the ideas behind the plays on stage, exploring everything from the history of history and cultural significance of Lucha Libre to the pioneering leadership of women arts and culture leaders in the city of Chicago.





-SUSAN V. BOOTH IN CHICAGO TRIBUNE

The **PEARL CLEAGE FESTIVAL** honored the legacy of literary excellence from one of America's most prolific playwrights and launched Susan V. Booth's first season as Artistic Director in a month-long citywide celebration conceived by Ms. Booth and curated by BOLD Artistic Producer Malkia Stampley.

### THE NACIREMA SOCIETY

Directed by Lili-Anne Brown (Goodman Theatre)

### **BLUES FOR AN ALABAMA SKY**

Directed by Mikael Burke (Remy Bumppo Theatre Company)

#### MAD AT MILES

Featuring music by Chicago West Community Music Center, directed by Daryl D. Brooks (Black Ensemble Theater)

### **ANGRY, RAUCOUS AND SHAMELESSLY GORGEOUS**Directed by Ericka Ratcliff (Congo Square Theatre)

### A SONG FOR CORETTA

Directed by Malkia Stampley (Definition Theatre)

### CHAIN A READING AND ART EXHIBIT

Directed by Ted Williams III (eta Creative Arts Foundation)

### **BOURBON AT THE BORDER**

Directed by Lauren Wells-Mann (MPAACT)

#### POINTING AT THE MOON

Directed by Lydia R. Diamond (Goodman Theatre)

### WHAT I LEARNED IN PARIS

Directed by TaRon Patton (Goodman Theatre)

Plus writing workshops and more!





## CONGRATULATIONS

After an unparalleled, decades-long career leading executive operations for one of America's flagship theaters,

Roche Edward Schulfer stepped down as Goodman Theatre's Executive Director/CEO at the completion of the 2023/2024 Season. His retirement followed 50 years of service at the Goodman, beginning in 1973 in the box office and serving in his current position since 1980—during which time Mr. Schulfer helped the 98-year old organization become an independent, not-for-profit resident theater company; oversaw 400+ productions (including two that earned Pulitzer Prizes and, most recently, the most successful musical in Goodman history, *The Who's* 

TOMMY); originated A Christmas Carol in 1978 as a holiday tradition that in 2023/2024 concluded its 46th annual

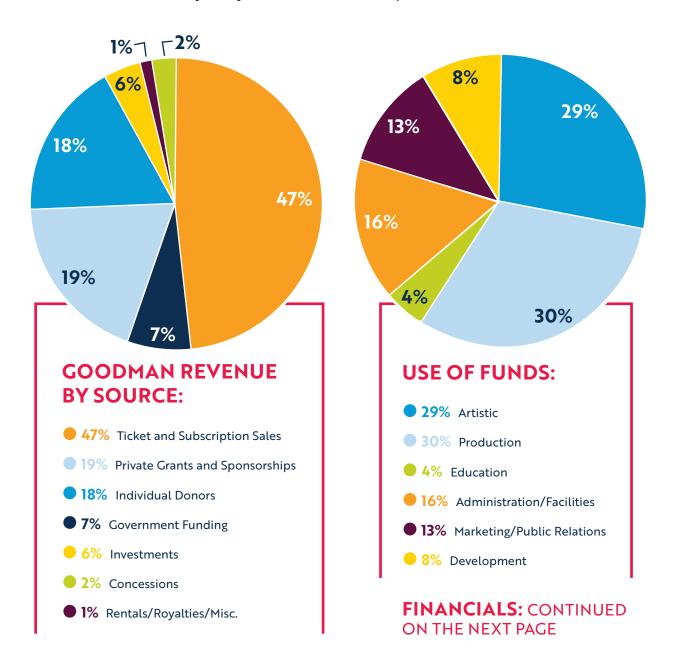
production; and coordinated the Goodman's move to a new facility in the theater district in 2000 and the expansion in 2017 with the Alice B.

Rapoport Center for Education and Engagement.

The Board of Trustees named longtime Managing Director/COO **John Collins** as Goodman Theatre's new Executive Director, beginning September 1, 2024.

# FINANCIALS

Attendance soared in strong audience response to Susan V. Booth's first season as Goodman Theatre Artistic Director. Critical and popular acclaim for the productions and programs drove ticket sales and earned revenue to pre-pandemic levels—in spite of shifting landscapes in areas of public support. Under the leadership of Booth and Executive Director Roche Schulfer, the Goodman introduced three new major creative endeavors: Dennis Watkins' The Magic Parlour, Sweetest Season and Theater for the Very Young while continuing to make a steady investment in artists, artisans, educators and staff and well as in the resources they need to be successful. The Goodman continues to rebound following the COVID-19 pandemic and navigate the realities of inflation and rising interest rates, but is buoyed by the enthusiastic response of its donors and audiences.



### **FY24 ASSETS**

Cash and cash equivalents	\$293,172
Pledges and receivables (net)	\$2,467,457
Prepaid expenses and deposits	\$989,421
Investments	\$23,075,763
Other pledges and receivables	\$3,308,208
Right to use asset	\$721,435
Property and Equipment (net)	\$24,210,079
Total Assets	\$55,065,535

### **FY24 LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS**

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$2,373,236
Contract liabilities	\$3,341,728
Operating lease	\$908,259
Line of credit	\$3,750,000
Notes payable	\$22,763,822
Total Liabilities	\$33,137,045
Net Asset without donor restriction	\$9,895,473
Net Asset with donor restriction	\$12,034,017
Total Net Assets and Liabilities	\$55,065,535

For a more thorough financial accounting, please see the Goodman's FY24 Audit, available at **www.GoodmanTheatre.org/Financials** 

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## 2023/2024 SEASON BOARD ACTIVITIES

### **EDUCATION BENEFIT LEADERSHIP**



Jared Bellot, Jackie Robinson, Joan Clifford, Diane Landgren, Susan V. Booth, Roche Schulfer, Julie Danis and Lorrayne Weiss.



Featured speaker Harry Lennix.

### **GOODMAN GALA LEADERSHIP**



Joan and Robert Clifford.





Kelli Garcia, Julie Danis and Lorrayne Weiss.

## 2023/2024 SEASON SUPPORT

### Institutional Support | Corporate, Foundation and Government Donors

Goodman Theatre is grateful to all of its institutional donors for their generous support. Listed below are contributors at or above the \$1,000 level.

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Goodman Theatre is grateful to all the generous donors who provide support as members of the Premiere Society, or who contribute to the Annual Fund. These individuals generate the core support for outstanding productions and award-winning Education and Engagement programs that reflect and enrich Chicago's diverse cultural community. The list below reflects annual gifts of \$500 and above.

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