Emanuel Synagogue

Bulletin

Emanuel Synagogue Bulletin

December 2025 Kislev-Teves 5786

SERVICE TIMES

Join us on Zoom, using the same link as all services: https://zoom.us/j/6574911810.

Please remember that we still have Evening Minyan Sundays through Thursdays at 8:00 pm, and Morning Minyan every Thursday at 8:30 am.

900 NW 47TH ST.
OKC, OK 73118
Tel: 405-528-2113
https://www.emanuelokc.org/
emanuel_office@coxinet.net

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THIS MONTH'S EVENTS

14-22 Chanukah

ATTENTION PLEASE

In our efforts to organize, starting this month members can begin using the below email addresses. Cox accounts will no longer be available starting May 2025.

Office@emanuelsynagogueokc.org

Finance@emanuelsynagogueokc.org

Rabbi@emanuelsynagogueokc.org

President@emanuelsynagogueokc.org

Membership@emanuelsynagogueokc.org

October 2024

EMANUEL SYNAGOGUE

MONTHLY BULLETIN

Emanuel Synagogue, the Conservative synagogue for the Oklahoma City area, is home to some 200 member families and individuals. Our congregation is close-knit and friendly, like a big family. Most of us have known each other for years (often for generations), but we're thrilled when newcomers ask to join us, and we do everything we can to make them feel welcome and integrate them into our community.

Our synagogue membership is diverse, including people of all ages and a wide range of Jewish backgrounds (Conservative, Orthodox, Reform, and Jews by marriage or by choice). What we all have in common is our commitment to maintaining our Jewish culture and heritage for ourselves and for our children and grandchildren.

As Conservative Jews, we respect Judaic traditions and study Torah while seeking to make them relevant to busy lives in the modern world.

December

2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
30	1	2	3	4	5	6
					4:58 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 5:59 PM Havdalah
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
					4:59 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 6:00 PM Havdalah
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Chanukah 1st Candle					5:02 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 6:03 PM Havdalah Erev Rosh Chodesh
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Rosh Chodesh Tevet Chanukah 8th Candle					5:05 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 6:07 PM Havdalah
28	29	30	31	1	2	3
		Asara B'Teves 6:18 AM - 6:01 PM			5:11 PM Candlelighting	9:30 AM Shabbat Service 6:12 PM Havdalah
31						

JEWISH PROGRAMING AT TINKER AFB

HANNUKAH WEEK

Dec 3rd	Dreidel Drop at Base Holiday Parade

Thank you to the Aleph Institute for their support

Dec 13th	Chanukkiyah will be lit
Dec 15th	Latke and Sufganiot Fry
Dec 16th	Candle lighting and Hanukkah Party

TO VOLUNTEER FOR ANY OF THESE, AND FUTURE EVENTS PLEASE CONTACT MA'AYAN WILLIAMS AT 678-431-4243

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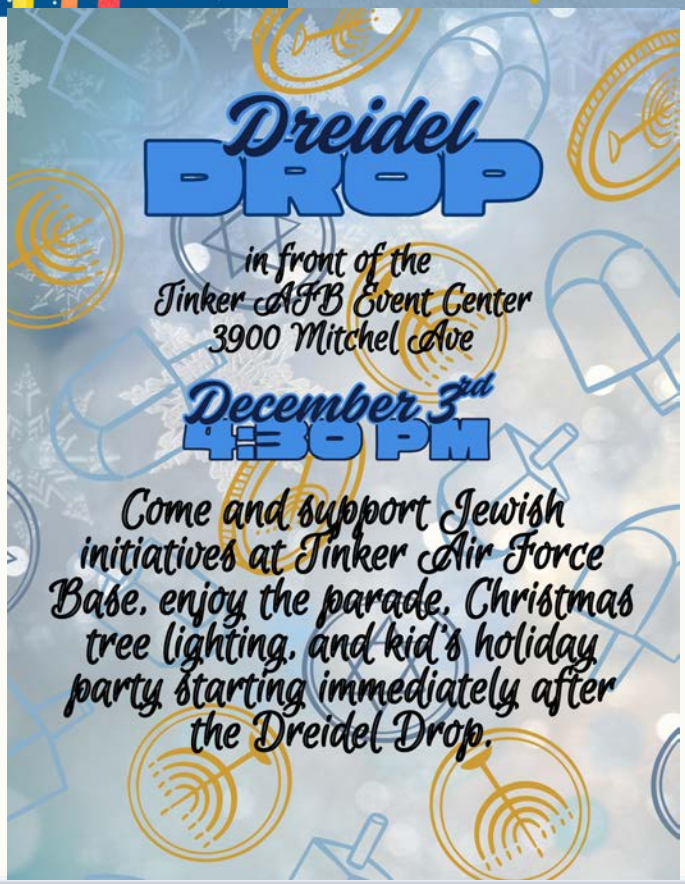
www.emanuelokc.org



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Hanukkah
2025

You're Invited to

BINGO

HANUKKAH GAME NIGHT

We are excited to invite you to our Hanukkah Bingo Night Fundraiser.

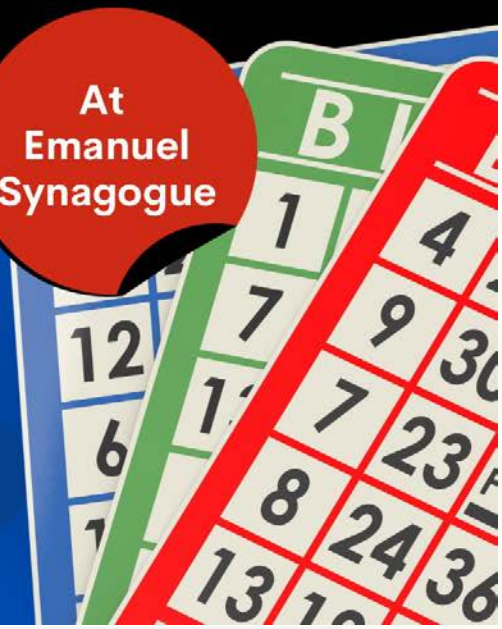
Get ready for a night of fun and excitement and latke dinner!

$3 or 4/$10 Bingo Cards

12.13.25

6:00pm

At Emanuel Synagogue



Purchase your bingo cards to eat and play and for a chance to win prizes.

RSVP 405.528.2113
Or online on the events tab:
www.emanuelokc.org

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MESSAGE FROM RABBI JACOBSON

December 17, 2025
1:00 pm
Emanuel Hebrew Cemetery
(10536 S Western Ave., OKC)

Please join us as our community comes together for the unveilings of four beloved community members: Karin Kruger, Ricardo Ruiz, Linda Silverstein, and Jonathan Sparks.

Karin Kruger: Army veteran, civil servant, cat lover, loving mother, supportive friend, and dedicated Synagogue and Sisterhood volunteer. Karin's children both predeceased her, and she has no living family - please come to honor her memory.

Ricardo Ruiz: Loving husband of Sisterhood President Shirley Meek, loving and hard-working father, and eager Synagogue volunteer. Please come to support Shirley and their children.

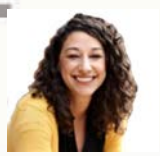
Linda Silverstein: Loving wife, concert-level Classical pianist, and supporter of local children. Linda's husband predeceased her, and she has no living family - please come to honor her memory.

Jonathan Sparks: Navy veteran, teacher, loving father and grandfather, founder of the local Jewish War Veterans post #618, and partner of Sherri Jacobson. Please come to support her.

Drop in for tea and a chat with Rabbi Jacobson!
Office Hours are Mondays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm
Feel free to drop in, or schedule a meeting time that is more convenient for you.
(Hours subject to change to accommodate an emergency in the congregation, and Rabbi Jacobson will not hold office hours on Jewish holidays, federal holidays, or any other time when the Synagogue offices are closed.)

Do you know someone who is sick, or who could use some cheering up? One way to help someone who is sick or feeling down is to let Rabbi Jacobson know to contact him/her/them. Another great way is to add someone to the Misheberach list, for the congregation to pray for their health. However, please remember to ask that person's permission first!
*Please note: We read the names on the Misheberach (sick prayer) list out loud during Shabbat services and Evening Minyan. For the sake of their privacy, we read people's Hebrew names, or if they do not have a Hebrew name, we only read their first name in English. We want to comfort people with our prayers, not to invade their privacy.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



As we settle into the new year and reflect on the beauty of our High Holy Days, we want to extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who has already contributed to this year's Yom Kippur Appeal. Your generosity keeps Emanuel thriving.

Our annual goal is $35,000, and we are currently at $14,000. These funds are essential—they support our custodial, kitchen, and administrative staff; provide for building maintenance and repairs; and ensure that the doors of Emanuel Synagogue remain open and welcoming to all. If you have not yet had the opportunity to make your pledge, we kindly ask you to consider doing so. Every contribution, large or small, helps sustain the heart of our community.

Looking ahead, we are excited to bring in the light and joy of Hanukkah together. Please join us on December 13 for our annual Hanukkah Bingo Night—a beloved Emanuel tradition! Expect warm latkes, lively bingo, wonderful prizes, and of course, the one and only Helene calling the numbers with her signature flair. It's an evening you won't want to miss.

As we prepare to enter 2026, we hope you continue to stay connected and engaged with Emanuel. We have an uplifting year ahead with expanded youth programming, new shul events, and—making its debut in April—our very first Holy Hoedown. Each of these gatherings is designed to bring us closer together, strengthen our bonds, and celebrate the vibrant community we share.

All upcoming programs and events can be found on our website, and we encourage you to check regularly for updates.

Thank you for being a cherished part of Emanuel Synagogue. May the coming year be filled with connection, joy, and community for us all.
L'Shalom,
Paola Klein

—$35,000

—$25,000

—$12,000

HAVE YOU MADE YOUR YOM KIPPUR PLEDGE?

Your generous, tax deductble dontation helps sustain the future of Emanuel Synaogogue.

JOIN US IN REACHING OUR GOAL OF $35,000!

https://gqr.sh/edhe

DONATE TODAY!

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HEBREW SCHOOL

In Memoriam Hali Goss

Whenever we travel to other places and we meet Jews, there is often a pause and a gasping question: "They're Jews in Oklahoma?!" The assumption is that we are such a small community that it does not register in their imagination. Oklahoma is cowboys, oil wells, and Baptists. In such an environment, so different from the Jewish urban centers in the coasts, people believe, being Jewish must be impossible. We, of course, know that this is myopic and ignorant. There have been Jews in Oklahoma for over a century and a half, and our uninterrupted activities have many impressive institutions to show. It also misunderstands that Judaism feeds and grows differently in distinct climes, that the Judaism of New Jersey should not be expected in the great American Prairie.

This message, among many others, was one of the great lessons that I received from our dearly departed friend **Hali Goss z"l**. As a synagogue president, long time head of the education committee, perpetual volunteer, and member of the Bloom Fund committee, Hali was instrumental in setting the tone and purpose of our educational philosophy throughout my tenure. She taught me to focus on the strengths of our small community, and the blessings of difference. Having been born and raised in our state, she understood our unique position, but saw it as a source of possibility instead of a liability. And as such she was able to live a full Jewish life in her home state, raising a thoroughly Jewish committed family, and helping others to have the spaces to live, learn, and thrive as Okie Jews.

However, and in this she was quite adamant, none of this will happen without effort. Our Jewish community is only as strong as those who are willing to show up. Sometimes that showing up manifests in leadership, as it did for Hali. Sometimes showing up means making it possible for others to do so, as Hali did as a volunteer and teacher. But most basically it means being a constant for all those who

enter our doors. As different as our Judaism may be from the Jersey standard, the only way we cultivate it is by coming, by living and by learning.

Hali's presence will be missed in our activities but her legacy endures in her involvement and her leadership. As well as the involvement and the leadership of those who learned from her and in the institutions she tirelessly kept running, especially Jeff, Debra, Alex, and Michelle, who have enriched our Jewish life (and that of many other communities across the globe) as leaders, teachers, examples, and friends.

May her memory be for a blessing, and may her family and community be consoled among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem. Her legacy is for us to honor, cherish, and continue.

Rabbi Juan Mejia

YOUTH

Thank you again to all who joined us for the Meet & Greet! I learned two very important things that night:

1. Our youth have absolutely no fear of slightly over-spicing fajitas, and

2. Apparently I can get kids to eat peppers their parents insist they *never* touch at home. Your compliments truly made my evening — thank you.

For those who joined us for our second Temple LEGO build, an extra thank-you for puzzling through one of my family's favorite activities with us. We got some great input and new ideas!

I also want to invite everyone to stop by the main entrance and take a look at the beautiful Chanukiyot our kids have created. They worked hard to make each one special and meaningful, and their creativity really shines.

We're adding a fun twist to kids' art shows: parents may place a bid on their child's Chanukiyah in our silent auction. Come show your support — and maybe give the parents something to sweat about if you outbid them! If your child hasn't submitted their Chanukiyah yet, there's still time.

We'll be accepting entries until **December 13th at 6pm**, just in time for Bingo Night (don't forget to grab your tickets!). Proceeds from the silent auction will go towards the snacks and fun budget for the Youth Program, no matter contribution size! I will see everyone soon, and if not, I hope that everyone has a happy and restful Hanukkah!

MENORAH Contest Rules

A shamash must be present

Chanukia must have the appropriate number of candles

Menorah must be made or decorated by contestant

Non edible components, contestant may submit a picture

There is no limit on number of entries

The contestant may decide what medium to use

Notes to Contestant's PARENTS

Please allow your child to create their own Menorah

have entries in by November 30th

If you wish to keep the art work please let us know at time of drop off

Please join us after Sunday school at noon on

DEC 13TH

Age of entry is 18 and under

Brought to you by the Youth Program

Make your own

MENORAH

Youth art contest and silent auction

Bring in entries between November 22nd - 30th

and join us for our contest award and auction

DEC 13TH

6 - 8 During Hannukah Bingo!

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December Youth Calendar 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 CHANUKIYA CONTEST DISPLY	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13 SILENT AUCTION AND BINGO
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

Notable Dates

HEBREW SCHOOL
10 - 12

HEBREW LEARNING LAB
4:30 - 6:00

CHANUKIA CONTEST DISPLAY
1ST - 13TH

SILENT AUCTION AND BINGO
5:00 - 7:00

CONTACT THE YOUTH PROGRAM AT
YOUTH@EMANUELSYNAGOGUEOKC.ORG

SISTERHOOD

TWO SUNDAYS TO PLAY...

Sisterhood Gift Shop

Buy your Bar & Bat Mitzvah, Wedding, and Baby Gifts. Plus, Yahrzeit and Shabbos candles, Jewelry, pottery and so much more.

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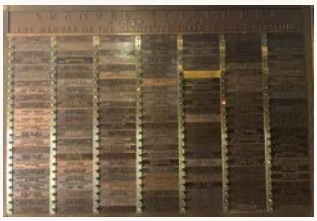
With Affection We Recall...



Monday, December 1,
11 Kislev
Ruth Stein

Tuesday, December 2,
12 Kislev
Celia Hirsh
Julius Josephson
Florence Targoff

Wednesday, December 3,
13 Kislev
Sig Harpman Sr.
Belle Weise
J.J. Zuckerman

Friday, December 5,
15 Kislev
Benjamin Fagin

Saturday, December 6,
16 Kislev
Michael Barlow
Eleanor Rubin Kamber

Sunday, December 7,
17 Kislev
Albert Emmer

Monday, December 8,
18 Kislev
Oscar Green
Richard Israel
Howard Silverman

Tuesday, December 9,
19 Kislev
Morris Turner

Wednesday, December 10,
20 Kislev
Annelis Bendorf

Thursday, December 11,
21 Kislev
Moshe Yekusiel Slutzky

Friday, December 12,
22 Kislev
Norman M. Resman
Joseph Yourman

Saturday, December 13,
23 Kislev
Hannah Elmaleh

Sunday, December 14,
24 Kislev
Rachel Turner

Monday, December 15,
25 Kislev
Albert Cohen
Jean Solvith

Tuesday, December 16,
26 Kislev
Warner Kass

Wednesday, December 17,
27 Kislev
Benjamin Goldberg
Pearl Goss

Thursday, December 18,
28 Kislev
Marvin Solvith

Friday, December 19,
29 Kislev
Henrietta Osherwitz

Saturday, December 20,
30 Kislev
Connie Ryan

Sunday, December 21,
1 Tevet
Carrie Byers
Faye Epstein

Monday, December 22,
2 Tevet
Louis Slutzky

Thursday, December 25,
5 Tevet
Freda Levy

Saturday, December 27,
7 Tevet
David Nash

Sunday, December 28,
8 Tevet
Meyer and Dora Cohen
Millie Melman
Sam Skalovsky

Monday, December 29,
9 Tevet
Susan Robinson
Dr. Harold Rosenbaum

Wednesday, December 31,
11 Tevet
Vera Bateshansky

WE REMEMBER

ARLENE BIALICK
Sharon Cohen

ANNIE BLUM
Phil & Janelle Kopp

ALBERT EMMER
Sharon Cohen

LOYD W. GOLDSBERRY
James Goldsberry

HALI GOSS
Hilary Cohen
Harold & Jan Green
Gail Meltzner
Loren & Julie Plotkin
Elaine Weise

MICHAEL KASWAN
Rietta Miller

LEAH KOWLOFF
Dr. Mark & Debra Wolraich

J. W. LEVIN
Robin Shanker & Joseph Anzelmo

MELVYN MARCUS
Ronald & Julie Arvine

LINDA EMMER MEYER
Sharon Cohen

SUZANNE MUNZESHEIMER
Lou & Laura Barlow

TAWNYA ROZIN
Hilary Cohen
Harold & Jan Green
Gail Meltzner
Loren & Julie Plotkin
Elaine Weise

LILIANA SCHECHTER
Dr. Martin & Laura Levine
Dr. Mark & Debra Wolraich

ESTHER WASSERMAN
Dr. Mark & Debra Wolraich

BELLE WEISE
Shirley Skalovsky

WILLIAM WEISE
Shirley Skalovsky

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

15 Sheldon & Carol Reznik

18 Leonard & Diane Rubin

23 Rick & Rebecca Roby

27 Howard & Dr. Deborah Israel

29 Drs. David & Sherri Durica

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

3 Glenna Tanenbaum
4 Rebecca Roby
5 Solomon Dunn
6 Edwina Lowrey
Fred Poplin
7 James Goldsberry
8 Argo Mejia
10 Ronald Arvine
Stacy Coe
Tiffany Logsdon
12 Frank Landes
15 Howard Israel
16 Evelyn Friedman
Heather Zafarti
17 Sherry Barton
Laura Levine
Shalev Pincu-Seidelman
18 Keith Bell
Dr. Margaret Levin-Philips
John Sorenson
20 Shirley Rich
Helena Sorenson
23 Tom Osherwitz
Shirley Skalovsky
26 Carol Bendorf
Heather Schwartz
30 Linda Kanter

תודה רבה

TODA RABAH

Donation to Rabbi's Discretionary Fund
Sherry Barton
Dr. Robert B. Epstein
Shelley Savage
Dr. Mark & Debra Wolraich

Congregants Assistance Fund Donation
Dr. Yona Rebbetzin Alter & Dr. Rabbi Levi Alter
Bernard Backer
Meredith Willis

Recover of Rabbi Juan Mejia
Dr. Mark & Debra Wolraich

Cemetery Fund Donation
Dr. Robert B. Epstein
Alan & Arlene Sandgarten

General Donation
Bernard Backer
Joan Darrow
Dr. Robert B. Epstein
Rhonda Young

Youth Program Donation
Jan & Jennifer Goldberg

Israel Youth Scholarship Fund
Marc Vegh

In Memory of Amit Zafati father

Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma Announces it's 25/26 Season

We're thrilled to unveil our 2025–2026 Season — a powerful lineup of stories that span generations, continents, and emotions. This year, our productions dive deep into **legacy, love, identity, conflict, and community.**

Whether you're a long-time subscriber or joining us for the very first time, we invite you to share in these unforgettable stories with us.

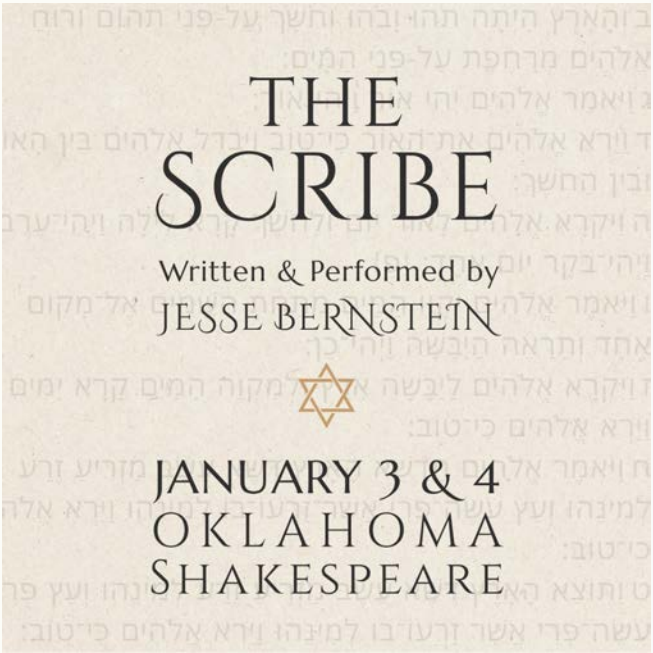
THE 2025–2026 SEASON LINEUP

THE SCRIBE
Written & Performed by Jesse Bernstein

📍 Oklahoma Shakespeare

🗓️ January 3 at 8:00 PM | January 4 at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM

In an exclusive reprise, Jewish Theatre of Oklahoma welcomes back a favorite from our 2021 season! In this one-man show, Jesse Bernstein reveals the untold (and maybe truthful) story of how the Torah was created.



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✨ *Subscriber Exclusive*
This premium event is normally **$50 per ticket** — but included *free* with the top two Premium Subscription packages. A perfect reason to upgrade!

THE APPLE TREE
Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick
Starring Amanda Lee

📍 Oklahoma Shakespeare

🗓️ January 24 at 8:00 PM | January 25 at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM
The classic tale of Adam & Eve with a comedic twist. Through songs and humor, this show asks timeless questions about love, choice, and truth.

ON THE EDGE
by Motti Lerner
Starring Ford Austin and Rob May

📍 Oklahoma Shakespeare

🗓️ March 14 at 8:00 PM | March 15 at 2:00 PM & 7:00 PM A tormented Israeli widower and his estranged son confront the ghosts of the past in a political, psychological thriller set in the shadow of war.

THE CEMETERY CLUB
by Ivan Menchell

📍 Carpenter Square Theatre

🗓️ May 2 at 8:00 PM | May 3 at 2:00 PM
Three widows gather at the cemetery—until new love, old grief, and shifting friendships begin to change everything.

SEASON SUBSCRIPTIONS NOW OPEN
Want to see every show? Subscribers enjoy the **best seats, biggest savings, and special perks.** Our intimate venues fill quickly — don't miss your chance to join us!

We now offer **three tiers of subscription packages**:

$120 Entry-Level Subscription
One ticket to five productions (*The Scribe not included*).

$260 Premium Subscription
Two tickets to all six productions — including *The Scribe* (normally $50 per ticket).
Plus, exclusive perks for the best value.

$1000 Producer's Club
Two tickets to all six productions and recognition in our programs.
A perfect way to support the arts at the highest level.

SUPPORT THIS SEASON
From costumes and props to venues and artists, bringing these stories to life takes tremendous heart — and your generous support.

Every gift, big or small, helps us raise the curtain. Please consider making a tax-deductible donation today

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JFED

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