

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**MEMORIAL HERMANN BROADWAY AT THE HOBBY CENTER'S
2023-2024 SEASON FEATURES FOUR HOUSTON PREMIERES
ALONGSIDE RETURNING FAVORITES**

Houston, TX – Memorial Hermann Broadway at the Hobby Center announced the full 2023-2024 Season lineup featuring four Houston premieres and the return of audience favorites.

The 2023-2024 Memorial Hermann Broadway at the Hobby Center season launches in November with Broadway's most Tony Award®-winning new show of the season **MJ**, the hit new musical sensation that explores the creative mind and collaborative spirit of the legendary artist, Michael Jackson. The series continues with the inspiring journey of a woman who broke barriers and became the Queen of Rock n' Roll, **TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL**; the Broadway smash-hit musical based on Tim Burton's dearly beloved film, **BEETLEJUICE**; the Tony Award®-winning new musical featuring the songs of Bob Dylan, **GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY**; Broadway's beloved Tony Award®-winning musical comedy phenomenon **HAIRSPRAY**; and the bittersweet comedy featuring one of the greatest musical scores of all time, **FUNNY GIRL**. Make it a 7-show package with Cameron Mackintosh's acclaimed production of Alain Boublil and Claude-Michel Schönberg's Tony Award®-winning musical phenomenon **LES MISÉRABLES**. Finally, the Tony Award®-winning Best Musical **Disney's THE LION KING** returns as a 2023-2024 Season Option.

6- or 7-show subscription packages go on sale beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 17. 6-show packages start as low as \$265. New patrons can visit BroadwayAtTheHobbyCenter.com to learn more and subscribe.

"The 2023-2024 Season delivers on the promise to our audiences to bring the very best of Broadway right here to Houston. The Broadway series is as hot as ever with Houstonians filling Sarofim Hall for performance after performance," said Hobby Center President and CEO, Mark Folkes. "We are inspired by the enthusiasm we've experienced from audiences in recent months and look forward to another blockbuster season with eight spectacular diverse productions."

Beginning Tuesday, February 28, current 2022-2023 Subscribers will be automatically renewed risk-free for the 2023-2024 Season. Existing subscribers can log into their account now and view their invoice prior to renewals.

The spectacular Broadway at the Hobby Center 2023-2024 Season features eight amazing productions from November 2023 to August 2024, including:

MJ | November 14–19, 2023

“MJ delivers and thrills!”
The New York Times

The music. The moves. The icon. Now, the unparalleled artistry of the greatest entertainer of all time comes to Houston as MJ, the multi Tony Award®-winning new musical centered around the making of the 1992 Dangerous World Tour, begins a tour of its own. Created by Tony Award®-winning Director/Choreographer Christopher Wheeldon and two-time Pulitzer Prize winner Lynn Nottage, MJ goes beyond the singular moves and signature sound of the star, offering a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit that catapulted Michael Jackson into legendary status. MJ is startin’ somethin’ as it makes its Texas premiere at the Hobby Center in November 2023.

TINA – THE TINA TURNER THE MUSICAL | January 2-7, 2024

“PREPARE TO BE ECSTATICALLY BLOWN AWAY!”
The Daily Beast

THERE IS ONLY ONE.

HER VOICE IS UNDENIABLE. HER FIRE IS UNSTOPPABLE. HER TRIUMPH IS UNLIKE ANY OTHER.

An uplifting comeback story like no other, TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL is the inspiring journey of a woman who broke barriers and became the Queen of Rock n’ Roll. Set to the pulse-pounding soundtrack of her most beloved hits, this electrifying sensation will send you soaring to the rafters.

One of the world’s best-selling artists of all time, Tina Turner has won 12 Grammy Awards and her live shows have been seen by millions, with more concert tickets sold than any other solo performer in music history.

Featuring her much loved songs, TINA – THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL is written by Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Katori Hall and directed by the internationally acclaimed Phyllida Lloyd.

BEETLEJUICE | March 5-10, 2024

“A FEAST FOR THE EYES AND THE SOUL!” – *Entertainment Weekly*

He earned his stripes on Broadway... now the ghost-with-the-most is coming to Houston.

It’s showtime! Based on Tim Burton’s dearly beloved film, this hilarious musical tells the story of Lydia Deetz, a strange and unusual teenager whose whole life changes when she meets a recently deceased couple and a demon with a thing for stripes. With an irreverent book, an astonishing set, and a score that’s out of this Netherworld, BEETLEJUICE is “SCREAMINGLY GOOD FUN!” (*Variety*). And under its uproarious surface (six feet under, to be exact), it’s a remarkably touching show about family, love, and making the most of every Day-O!

GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY | April 30–May 5, 2024

“A ravishing production—as close as mortals come to heaven on earth.”
– *The New York Times*

GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY is the Tony Award-winning new musical that the *Chicago Tribune* declares is “a Broadway revelation!”

Written and directed by celebrated playwright Conor McPherson and featuring Tony Award-winning orchestrations by Simon Hale, GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY reimagines 20 legendary songs of Bob

Dylan as they've never been heard before, including "Forever Young," "All Along The Watchtower," "Hurricane," "Slow Train Coming," and "Like A Rolling Stone."

It's 1934 in Duluth, Minnesota. We meet a group of wayward travelers whose lives intersect in a guesthouse filled with music, life and hope. Experience this 'profoundly beautiful' production (*The New York Times*) brought to vivid life by an extraordinary company of actors and musicians.

HAIRSPRAY | June 4- 9, 2024

"If life were everything it should be, it would be more like *HAIRSPRAY*. It's irresistible!"
– *The New York Times*

You Can't Stop the Beat! *HAIRSPRAY*, Broadway's Tony Award-winning musical comedy phenomenon is back on tour! Join 16-year-old Tracy Turnblad in 1960s Baltimore as she sets out to dance her way onto TV's most popular show. Can a girl with big dreams (and even bigger hair) change the world?

Featuring the beloved score of hit songs including "Welcome to the '60s," "Good Morning Baltimore" and "You Can't Stop the Beat," *HAIRSPRAY* is "fresh, winning, and deliriously tuneful!" (*The New York Times*).

This all-new touring production reunites Broadway's award-winning creative team led by Director Jack O'Brien and Choreographer Jerry Mitchell to bring *HAIRSPRAY* to a new generation of theater audiences. Don't miss this "exhilaratingly funny and warm-hearted musical comedy" (*The New Yorker*).
www.hairspraytour.com

FUNNY GIRL | August 20-25, 2024

WELCOME TO MUSICAL COMEDY HEAVEN!

Featuring one of the most iconic scores of all time by Jule Styne and Bob Merrill, an updated book from Harvey Fierstein based on the original classic by Isobel Lennart, tap choreography by Ayodele Casel, choreography by Ellenore Scott, and direction from Michael Mayer, this love letter to the theatre has the whole shebang!

The sensational Broadway revival dazzles with celebrated classic songs, including "Don't Rain On My Parade," "I'm the Greatest Star," and "People." This bittersweet comedy is the story of the indomitable Fanny Brice, a girl from the Lower East Side who dreamed of a life on the stage. Everyone told her she'd never be a star, but then something funny happened—she became one of the most beloved performers in history, shining brighter than the brightest lights of Broadway.

Make it a 7-Show Package

LES MISÉRABLES | January 23-28, 2024

"LES MIS FOR THE 21ST CENTURY"
The Huffington Post

STILL THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR MUSICAL

Cameron Mackintosh presents the acclaimed production of Boublil and Schönberg's Tony Award-winning musical phenomenon, *LES MISÉRABLES*. This brilliant staging has taken the world by storm and has been hailed as "a reborn dream of a production" (*Daily Telegraph*). Set against the backdrop of 19th century France, *LES MISÉRABLES* tells an enthralling story of broken dreams and unrequited love, passion, sacrifice and redemption – a timeless testament to the survival of the human spirit. The magnificent score of *LES MISÉRABLES* includes the songs "I Dreamed a Dream," "On My Own," "Bring Him Home," "One Day More" and many more.

SEASON OPTION
(Add To Your 6- or 7-Show Season Package)

Disney's THE LION KING | July 11–August 4, 2024

"No matter how many times you see it, the opening number, "Circle of Life," in which the ensemble becomes one with the Serengeti menagerie...is pure enchantment."

-Peter Marks, *Washington Post*

More than 100 million people around the world have experienced the phenomenon of Disney's THE LION KING, and now you can, too, when Houston's best-loved musical returns to the Hobby Center. Winner of six Tony Awards®, including Best Musical, this landmark musical event brings together one of the most imaginative creative teams on Broadway. Tony Award®-winning director Julie Taymor brings to life a story filled with hope and adventure set against an amazing backdrop of stunning visuals. THE LION KING also features some of Broadway's most recognizable music, crafted by Tony Award®-winning artists Elton John and Tim Rice. There is simply nothing else like THE LION KING.

Auto-Renewal for existing subscribers will keep the same subscription seats for the 2023-24 season including **MJ, TINA: THE TINA TURNER MUSICAL, LES MISÉRABLES, BEETLEJUICE, GIRL FROM THE NORTH COUNTRY, HAIRSPRAY,** and **FUNNY GIRL** with access to add **THE LION KING**.

The 6- or 7-show Broadway at the Hobby Center 2023-24 Season subscription packages go on sale beginning at 11:00 a.m. on Friday, February 17; prices start as low as \$265. Season Subscribers may add the return of **LES MISÉRABLES** as a seventh show to complete their package, with **THE LION KING** available as a season option.

- Online at BroadwayAtTheHobbyCenter.com 24 hours a day
- By calling (800) 952-6560; Monday through Friday between the hours of 10:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. CST
- By visiting the Hobby Center Box Office at 800 Bagby Street; 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Monday through Friday and 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday and Sunday
- Prices start at \$265 for a 6-show package

Broadway at the Hobby Center offers an array of subscriber benefits including: best seats at the best prices, priority purchase opportunities, flexible payment plans, exchange privileges, and replacements on lost or stolen tickets. In addition, Season Subscribers can take advantage of special offers plus membership and privileges to Broadway Across America, a national network of 48 North American cities where Broadway is presented.

Buy with confidence. In the event of cancelation, postponement or rescheduling of a performance for any reason, the value of the subscriber's ticket is safe. Learn more at BroadwayAtTheHobbyCenter.org.

GROUPS AND INDIVIDUAL TICKETS: Individual ticket on-sale dates will be announced throughout the year. For more information about groups of 10 or more, call (888) 451-5986, visit <http://Houston.broadway.com/groups> or e-mail houston.groups@broadwayacrossamerica.com.

SOCIAL MEDIA: To stay up-to-date and get the inside scoop on the 2023-2024 season before it opens in Houston, join the Hobby Center for the Performing Arts social community through the following channels:

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facebook.com/BroadwayAcrossAmericaHouston

Twitter twitter.com/HobbyCenter

twitter.com/BAAHouston

Instagram instagram.com/hobbycenterhou

The Hobby Center for the Performing Arts opened in 2002 to expand Houston’s reputation as a world-class cultural center by providing a premier performing arts venue, fostering accessibility to the performing arts and promoting arts education, with an emphasis on musical theatre. The campus houses two theaters including the 2,650-seat Sarofim Hall and the 500-seat Zilkha Hall. Delivering a best-in-class patron experience, the Hobby Center welcomes over 350,000 audience members annually to engage with high-quality arts programming including the Memorial Hermann Broadway at the Hobby Center series. The Hobby Center is also home to a full season of musical theatre produced by Principal Resident Company Theatre Under the Stars, as well as a variety of diverse performances from both Houston-based and touring artists and companies. Education and accessibility initiatives are central to the Hobby Center’s impact in Houston through programs like the Discovery Series that welcomes thousands of students to performances every season. Please visit TheHobbyCenter.org.

Broadway Across America (BAA) is part of the John Gore Organization family of companies, which includes Broadway.com, The Broadway Channel, BroadwayBox.com and Group Sales Box Office. Led by 18-time Tony-winning theater producer John Gore (Owner & CEO), BAA is the foremost presenter of first-class touring productions in North America, operating in 48 markets with over 400,000 subscribers. Presentations include *Disney’s The Lion King*, *Wicked*, *The Book of Mormon* and *Hamilton*. Current and past productions include *Ain’t Too Proud*, *Beautiful*, *Cats*, *Chicago*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, *Mean Girls*, *Moulin Rouge!* and *To Kill A Mockingbird*. For more information, please visit BroadwayAcrossAmerica.com and Broadway.com.

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