



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Houston Theater District Announces Return of Its Signature Open House and New Executive Director

The 2025 ExxonMobil Theater District Open House aims to foster a deeper appreciation for the arts in Downtown Houston through a day of free performances and family-friendly activities

HOUSTON, TX (February 4, 2025) – For the first time since 2019, **Houston Theater District** is welcoming Houston families and arts enthusiasts back for its popular Open House on **March 10, 2025** from **noon-5 p.m.** The [2025 ExxonMobil Theater District Open House](#) is a free, inclusive and educational opportunity for the community to explore Downtown Houston's world class arts organizations and theaters while making learning about the arts fun. Programming will be a multigenerational celebration of the arts which nurture community, creative thinking, artistic expression, communication, empathy and critical thinking.

Participating organizations in the 2025 ExxonMobil Theater District Open House include Alley Theatre, DACAMERA, Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, Houston Ballet, Houston Grand Opera, Houston Symphony, Theatre Under the Stars, Performing Arts Houston and more, along with our partners Houston First and Downtown Houston+. The family-friendly event will feature the district's venues: Alley Theatre, Hobby Center for the Performing Arts, The Wortham Theater Center, Jones Hall for the Performing Arts, Margaret Alkek Williams Center for Dance and Lynn Wyatt Square. These organizations and venues are key contributors to Houston's thriving arts economy, which generates \$1.3 billion annually for the city.

During the Open House, the doors of all the iconic spaces of the Theater District will be open to the public and activated with performances, arts and crafts, an instrument petting zoo, hands on costume dress ups, musical caricatures, onstage

and backstage tours, an opportunity to find your spotlight onstage at Jones Hall, community engagement showcases and more. Food and beverage options will also be available. Performance, activity and workshop highlights include:

- An interactive performance with the award-winning artists of Theatre Under the Stars;
- A high-energy Opera to Go! performance from esteemed singers with the Houston Grand Opera;
- A can't-miss performance by dancers from the Houston Ballet II;
- A family workshop with a cast member of Broadway's popular musical "Hamilton";
- A demonstration from actors with the Alley Theatre of stage combat;
- And, a workshop with YUNGCHRIS, a multitalented performing artist who has shared the stage with artists such as Tobe Nwigwe, Anthony Hamilton, Pitbull, Flo Rida, Kendrick Lamar and Erykah Badu.
- In addition, from 5-6 p.m., there will be a Happy Hour at the Alley Theatre Skyline Bar.
- A full list of activities throughout the day can be found [here](#).

Helming the reinvigorated Open House are Houston Theater District's new **Executive Director, Craig Hauschildt** and **Meg Booth, Chair of the Houston Theater District Board of Directors and President & CEO of Performing Arts Houston**. With more than 20 years of experience as an arts administrator and musician, Hauschildt brings a holistic perspective on the inner workings of arts and culture organizations of various sizes and is dedicated to sharing music with audiences and drawing upon it for the betterment of the community. Hauschildt previously served as the Director of Education and Community Initiatives at DACAMERA, and the Arts Integration Specialist for Houston Independent School District. As a percussionist, Hauschildt performs regularly with arts powerhouses including, but not limited to Houston Grand Opera, Houston Ballet, ROCO and Loop38. He received his Doctor of Musical Arts degree and Master of Music degree from Rice University and his Bachelor of Music degree from the Lawrence University Conservatory of Music.

"Many people may not know that Houston is one of only five cities in the United States that boasts permanent, professional resident companies in all of the major performing arts disciplines. Houston Theater District and its great theaters stand as a testament to Houston's rich cultural heritage. It is an honor to lead this iconic entertainment epicenter and to act as a central connector for the district," said Hauschildt.

“Theater District Open House is an opportunity to witness the breadth of artistic programming on display throughout our Downtown home with our doors open for all. It’s a showcase of the unity between our beloved arts organizations, and it is a testament to Meg’s work as a longtime champion of the theater district that bringing back a collaboration of this scale is possible. I am excited to spotlight all the amazing artistry that is here within our city, and to continue to work closely and effectively with each of our arts partners to ensure that the district thrives for years to come.”

“Houston’s Theater District is stronger than ever, which makes it a perfect time to reintroduce Theater District Open House,” said Booth. “With the generous support of ExxonMobil and the abundance of world class arts from all our partners who call the district home, we can’t wait to throw our doors open and invite spring breakers, families, and workers on lunch break to explore the beautiful theaters Downtown and experience the programs, performances, activities and even ticket discounts we have to offer. We’ve planned a really fun, welcoming, entertaining and culturally enriching day across the entire theater district. This experience will certainly foster long-lasting love and support for the arts in our city.”

For more information about the 2025 ExxonMobil Theater District Open House, please visit www.houstontheaterdistrict.org/tdoh. For media inquiries, please contact tdoh@likemindstalk.com.

PHOTOS

[Click here.](#)

ABOUT HOUSTON THEATER DISTRICT

Houston is one of only five cities in the country with permanent professional resident companies in ballet, opera, symphony and theater productions, representing all major performing arts disciplines. Located in the heart of Downtown, Houston’s Theater District is a vibrant hub encompassing 17 blocks. It proudly houses eight professional performing arts organizations alongside the lively POST Houston entertainment complex, various restaurants, captivating cinemas, inviting plazas and beautiful parks.

Through partnership, advocacy, and strategy, the members of Houston Theater District – a diverse group of arts organizations who perform in the District, businesses, and policy leaders – work collectively to ensure that the Theater District is an active, vibrant, destination for dynamic, world-class cultural experiences.

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