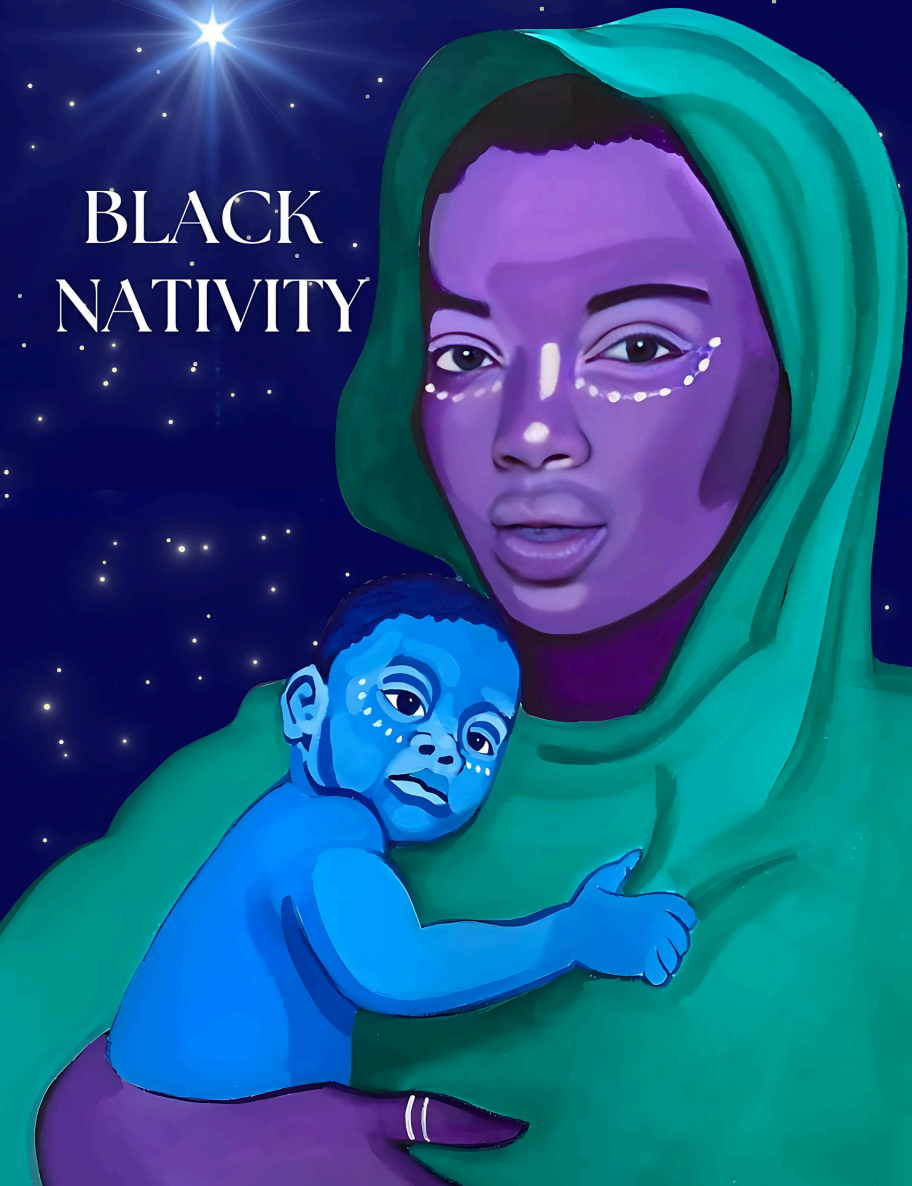




**SANKOFA**

AFRICAN AMERICAN  
THEATRE COMPANY

# BLACK NATIVITY



# EXECUTIVE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Sharia Benn



Welcome to the Sankofa African American Theatre Company's 3rd annual production of Langston Hughes' Black Nativity! We are thrilled to present this year's refreshed version, featuring new songs and a vibrant new cast. As this production becomes a cherished holiday tradition, our goal is to bring joy and foster a strong sense of community, especially during these challenging times.

We warmly welcome you to join in the reverence, awe, joy, and jubilation of Langston Hughes' gospel songbook known as Black Nativity. Hughes' vision for Black Nativity was to create a deeply spiritual musical experience, and we are honored to carry on this tradition, bringing fresh energy and perspectives to our performance. Hughes' reimagining of the Nativity with Black kings, wise men, and the Virgin Mary uplifts the beautiful worthiness of Black culture and people transcending oppressive narrative and celebrating inherent greatness and joy.

I am deeply grateful to the talented cast and crew who have poured their hearts into this production. Their dedication and passion are evident in every performance. I also extend my heartfelt thanks to Sankofa's Board, friends, and family for their unwavering support. And, of course, none of this would be possible without the grace of God and the support of my husband, William Benn.

Thank you for joining us for this special performance. May it bring you joy, inspire empathy, and foster a deeper connection within our community. Enjoy the show!

Peace and Blessings,

Sharia Benn

*Sharia Benn*

# BLACK NATIVITY

## A Gospel Music Celebration by Langston Hughes

### PRODUCTION TEAM

Director.....	Sharia Benn
Music Director & Arranger.....	Brian McGrady
Vocal Director.....	Kalen Myers
Stage Manager.....	Jess Ross
Choreographer.....	Cierra Woods
Assistant Choreographer.....	Rhonda Laing
Costume Designer.....	Sofia Sloan
Light & Sound Designer, Technician.....	Nate Oakley
Set Construction.....	Chris “Gibby” Gibson, Curtis Mittong, Clark Nicholson
Props.....	Amandine Pope
House Manager.....	Cindy Witt
Marketing & Program Designer.....	Lyeneal Griffin
Box Office Assistant.....	Chudney Lewis

### MUSICIANS

Keyboard.....	Brian McGrady
Lead Guitar.....	Curtis Andrews III
Bass Guitar.....	Efraim Fernandez
Drums.....	Thomas Bryant
Harp .....	Zari McCullers

BLACK NATIVITY by Langston Hughes is being produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing Service of Woodstock, IL

# ABOUT BLACK NATIVITY

“Black Nativity” is an adaptation of the nativity story by Langston Hughes, performed by an entirely black cast. Hughes was the author of the book, with the lyrics and music being derived from traditional Christmas carols, sung in gospel style, with a few songs created specifically for the show. The show was first performed on Broadway on December 11, 1961, and was one of the first plays written by an African American to be staged there. The show had a successful tour of Europe in 1962, one of its appearances being at the Spoleto Festival of Two Worlds in Italy. The tour revisited New York for an encore performances at Lincoln Center.

The original name for this play was “Wasn’t It a Mighty Day?” You might find it interesting that original cast members like Alvin Ailey and Carmen de Lavallade quit the production before opening day because they objected to the use of the word “black” in the title. The rationale at the time was that this word might be too divisive for a Broadway production aimed at keeping things harmonious with all audiences. Ultimately, black in the title did not matter. This liberating and energetic musical opened to rave reviews.

In 2004, a documentary film was made about the world premiere performance, production, and creation of the best-selling gospel Christmas album “Black Nativity - In Concert: A Gospel Celebration,” and the cast, under the direction of Aaron Robinson, brought it to life at the Immanuel Baptist Church in Portland, Maine.

A filmed version directed by Kasi Lemmons and starring Forest Whitaker and Angela Bassett was released on November 27, 2013.

You'll find a production of this musical performed in churches, theaters, on college campuses, and more in almost every major U.S. city and other regions. It is a joyful retelling of St. Luke's story of the birth of Christ by way of gospel music, dance, poetry, and narrative.

## ABOUT LANGSTON HUGHES



Langston Hughes' work, which was a significant part of the Harlem Renaissance ran from poetry, social activism, novels, plays, and working as a columnist. His innovative poetry was referred to as "Jazz Poetry."

Visit our online Study Guide for more about Langston Hughes, "Black Nativity", and the Harlem Renaissance.

# MEET OUR DIRECTOR



Sharia Benn is the co-founder, President, and Executive Artistic Director of the Sankofa African American Theatre Company (SAATC) based in Harrisburg, PA. She is a Baltimorean and an “artist,” using the canvas of theater to educate and amplify African American stories, and create healing spaces for theater artists and audiences. Sharia is an award-winning actress, living-history interpreter, playwright, producer, and director.

Since SAATC’s founding and establishment as a 501(c) (3) organization in 2017, more than 15,000 students and adults have experienced thought-provoking theater under Sharia’s artistic direction. In May 2023, the regional arts community recognized SAATC’s transformative work by honoring it with the Distinguished Arts Organization Award.

Beyond her theater work, Sharia has a special passion for increasing representation and amplifying the African American experience through engaging productions. She skillfully combines acting and historical insights to resonate with contemporary audiences, particularly when exploring

local history and the remarkable story of Frances Ellen Watkins Harper, a renowned abolitionist, literary figure, and civil rights champion of the mid-19th century.

In her corporate career, Sharia boasts over thirty-five years in the Property and Casualty insurance sector. She currently serves as the Director of Corporate Planning & Special Projects for Penn National Insurance, where she also leads the company's workplace inclusion group. Sharia holds a BA in Mass Communications from Towson University and has earned the insurance industry's most prestigious designation, the Chartered Casualty Property Underwriter (CPCU).

Her theatre credits include: winner of Broadway World Best Actress Award for her portrayal of Ma Rainey in *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*. Selected credits: *Jackson House* (co-writer, director), *Between Heaven & Eartha* (Co-writer & director), *Black Nativity* by Langston Hughes (director), *Crowns* (director), *Echoes of the Voices of the Eighth* (writer, director), *Pretty Fire* (Charlayne Woodard), *Do You Know Me?* (writer/co-director), *Voices of the Eighth* (writer/director); *Bridge (the gap)* (writer/director), *For Colored Girls who have considered suicide/ when the rainbow is enuf* (director), *Voices of F.E.W.* (writer, director, role of Frances Harper), *Akeelah and the Bee* (co-director), *Death of a Salesman* (Linda Loman), *Red Velvet* (Connie), *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Calpurnia); *A Raisin in the Sun* (Lena), *Fences* (Rose), *A Christmas Memory* (Anna), *Peter Hook and the Darlings* (Tinker Bell), *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* (Bertha), *The Piano Lesson* (Bernice), *Doubt* (Mrs. Muller), *Crowns* (Jeanette).



# MEET OUR MUSIC DIRECTOR



**BRIAN MCGRADY (Musical director)** Brian is from a very musical family, filled with singers and instrumentalists of all types! He showed an avid interest in music at a very young age. He picked up the drums as his first instrument, and soon after, he added the organ and piano.

Berklee College of Music was the school of choice for this passionate, aspiring musician. There he was able to develop his skills and talents while networking with other musicians from around the globe.

Brian has been graced to travel near and far to play in a variety of venues with a variety of artists, such as the Grammy nominated Brian Mcknight. In 2023 he formed BMBLive, a group specializing in live music and studio production. He is currently the Music Director for The Rock Church in Harrisburg, Emanuel COGIC and The Singers Lounge. Brian has made it his life's work to fulfill his God-given purpose to uplift and spread love through music.



**SANKOFA** AFRICAN AMERICAN  
THEATRE COMPANY

# BLACK NATIVITY

BY

LANGSTON HUGHES

Directed by Sharia Benn

Music Arranged and Directed by Brian McGrady

DECEMBER 6, 8, 2024



## BLACK NATIVITY

A Gospel Music Celebration

by Langston Hughes

Directed by Sharia Benn

Vocal Direction by Kalen Myers

Music Directed by Brian McGrady

Choreography by Cierra Woods

Additional Music Arranged By Brian McGrady

### MUSIC

Dance Prelude

Mary's Devotion Solo.....Cierra Woods

Mary's Visitation Duet.....Cierra Woods, Elise Stroud

Joseph's Response Trio..... Simon Thompson, Cierra Woods,

Elise Stroud

### Act I

Anthem of Praise.....Company

My Way's Cloudy.....Latreshia Lilly, Company

No Room.....Latreshia Lilly, Company

Most Done Traveling.....Latreshia Lilly, Company

Oh Jerusalem.....Krystany Evans, Company

Poor Little Jesus.....Micah Simms-Gantt, Company

What You Gonna Name That Baby.....Brooklyn Robertson,

Kenza Noma, Laniyah Ingram- Hamilton

Some Call Him..... Paula Lewis-Roman

Wasn't That a Mighty Day.....Keel Warner,  
 Brooklyn Robertson, Company

Jesus What A Wonderful Child.....Brooklyn Robertson,  
 Kenza Noma, Laniyah Ingram- Hamilton

O Holy Night.....Kalen Myers, Company

Go Tell It On The Mountain.....Ja'Kye Holmes, Company

Rise Up Shepherd And Follow.....Micah Simms-Gantt,  
 Krystany Evans, Company

What Month Was Jesus Born In.....Brooklyn Robertson,  
 Kenza Noma, Laniyah Ingram- Hamilton

Sweet Little Jesus Boy.....Jasmine Graham

Oh Come All Ye Faithful Mary.....Paula Lewis-Roman,  
 Jasmine Graham, Company

### **15 Minute Intermission**

#### **ACT 2**

Glorious.....Company

You Are The Living Word .....Ja'Kye Holmes, Company

Mary Did You Know.....Brooklyn Robertson, Laniyah  
 Ingram-Hamilton

Changed.....Kalen Myers, Company

I Know It Was the Blood.....Leah Payne, Company

Leak in the Building.....Leah Payne,  
 Brooklyn Robertson, Kenza Noma, Laniyah Ingram- Hamilton

A God Like You.....Ja'Kye Holmes, Company

Magnificent & Holy.....Company

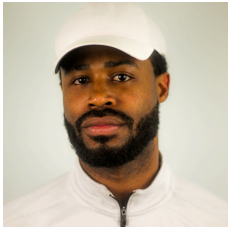
I Feel Like Going On.....Latreshia Lilly

I Said I Wasn't Going Tell Nobody.....Leah Payne

When the Saints Go To Worship.....Kalen Myers, Company

For Thine is The Kingdom/Amen....Krystany Evans, Company

# MEET THE CAST



**MATTHIAS CABELL** (Company) This is Matthias' first musical! He is very excited to be a part of such a talented cast. Matthias has been singing and playing piano for 21 years. He is looking forward to seeing the impact this show will have on all who witness.



**KRYSTANY EVANS** (Company) Krystany is grateful and excited to be a part of this year's Sankofa production of Black Nativity.



**MALIK FOSTER** (Shepherd/Royalty/Company) Malik is 14 and was born in Raleigh, North Carolina. He started acting at age 12 and is receiving his education at Capital Area School of the Arts (CASA) High School in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. He appeared in the Gamut/Ned Smith Theatre production of William Shakespeare's Romeo & Juliet. He was most recently seen in the Stage Door Series production of Hamlet-ish, starring in Rosencrantz and Guildenstern by W.S Gilbert. He has had 5 performances throughout the summer of 2024.



**JA'KYE HOLMES** (Company) Ja'Kye is excited and grateful to be a part of this year's Sankofa production of Black Nativity.



**MICAH SIMMS-GANTT** (Company) Micah Gantt has worked on Sankofa's Board as the Treasurer since June of 2020. She has also worked in the Box Office for various Sankofa productions and was the Stage Manager for Sankofa's production of "Between Hevan and Eartha". This is her second year with Sankofa's performance of Langston Hughes, "Black Nativity".



**JASMINE GRAHAM (Woman/Shepherd/Company)**  
Jasmine is so excited and blessed to be back playing Ted the Shepherdess for a second year of Black Nativity. You may have seen her this year in Ride the Cyclone and Sweeney Todd at Open Stage Theater. She is thrilled to join Sankofa, this wonderful cast and have the opportunity to share her love for Jesus through such a beautiful show.



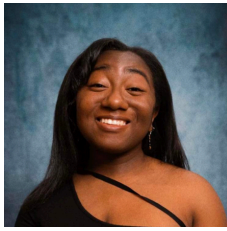
**LANIYAH INGRAM-HAMILTON (Company)**  
Laniyah is a sophomore at CCA. This is her second year performing in the Black Nativity production. She is very passionate about music & dance and is happy that this show allows her to do both. - I'd like to say thank you to my Mom, Aunt, and Uncle for all the love, support, and encouragement.



**RHONDA LAING (Assistant Choreographer)**  
Rhonda began dancing as a student of jazz, tap, and ballet at the Diane Matthews School of Dance Arts in West Chester, PA. She continued dancing at West Chester University. She has performed as an adult with Susquehanna Dance Academy for over 15 years. This is her first Sankofa production. She works at Capital Blue Cross as a DEI Specialist. Rhonda is married to Marvin and they have 2 young adult children, Justin and Kennedy



**LATRESHIA LILLY (Narrator 1/Company)** Latreshia is excited to be in this production as she truly enjoys Sankofa and sharing the good news of Jesus! You may have seen her in The Jackson House in February or Intimate Apparel in June. She spends her day working as a Marriage and Family Therapist and her free time is spent with Jesus, her fiancé, and doing theater! Facebook and Instagram: @latreshialilly Tiktok: @dearlatreshia "We never have to do life alone." Enjoy the show!



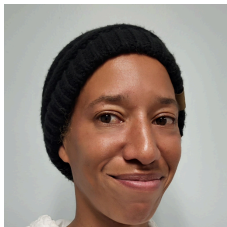
**ZARI McCULLERS (Harpist)** Zari is from Frederick Maryland and is a PhD student in Biomedical Sciences at Penn State College of Medicine. A formally trained percussionist with a Music Performance minor from Towson University, she now plays harp with the Harrisburg Harp Orchestra. Zari debuted in theater in 2023 with *HairStory: Reclaiming Our Crown*. This is her second Black Nativity with Sankofa African American Theatre Company, where she admires the creative team's ability to uplift cast talent.



**KENZA NOMA (Company)** Kenza is a 6th grader at Mechanicsburg Middle School. She discovered her love of theater when she attended a summer camp in 2023. Kenza is excited that this is her third performance with SANKOFA AATC. Her most recent performance was as Julep in *Cinderella* through the Gamut Theater Youth Acting Company. Kenza enjoys playing the clarinet and reading long fantasy books.



**LEAH PAYNE (Elder/Company)** Leah Payne also known as Pastor Payne is a local pastor and community leader. She is honored to be cast in her second Sankofa production, her first being *Intimate Apparel*, June 2024. Leah's greatest passions are ministry and family, as a mother of 4 and grandmother of 13. Leah is the Program Director of Help Ministries and Pastor of In His Presence Ministries. She fulfills her passions with love and with God's grace. Blessings to ya!



**AMANDINE POPE (Shepherd/Royalty/Company)** Amandine Pope is excited to perform with Sankofa, sharing the good news of Jesus Christ! This year, she appeared in *A Pirate's Life* (narrator), *Intimate Apparel* (Mayme), and *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Helen Robinson). A multi-talented French artist, she works as a brick mason by day and performs improv at the Harrisburg Improv Theater at night. Instagram & TikTok: thefrenchpope



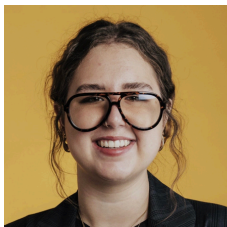
PAULA J LEWIS-ROMAN (Inn Keeper/Narrator 2/ Company) Meet Paula J. Lewis-Roman. As an actress and singer/songwriter, Paula holds a Bachelor Degree of Arts with a concentration in Drama/Theatre from the University of Puerto Rico. You may recognize Paula as Daniela in the Original play "Between Hevan and Eartha" (2023) and Zed/Preacher in "Black Nativity" (2022). Paula feels incredibly grateful to be part of this amazing production and share the stage with such talented people. IG:@paulajeannmusic Tiktok:@paulajea



BROOKLYN ROBERTSON (Company) Brooklyn is an eighth grader at CCA. She's so grateful for the opportunity to participate in this production for the second year in a row. Brooklyn loves being able to showcase her faith through songs based on the African American experiences. -Thank you to my parents for always supporting me and allowing me to be me and thank you, Mrs. Sharia for believing in me.

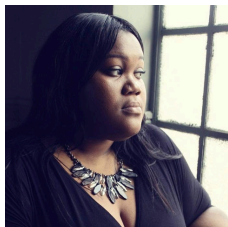


JESS ROSS (Stage Manager) Jess has stage managed many shows at Open Stage and Gamut Theater, including multiple productions with Sankofa! On stage credits include: Potus (Chris), Richard III (Lady Stanley), Midsummer (Hippolyta), Pericles (Dionyza/Thaliard), Murderess (Celia), Forum (Gymnasia), Doubt (Mrs Miller), Charlotte's Web (Goose). Jess graduated from HACC with an AA in Theatre Arts. I want to thank Sharia for including me in this beautiful production and thank you to my family for their constant support! Hi Mom!



SOFIE SLOAT (Costume Designer) Sofie Sloat is a recent graduate of Savannah College of Art and Design with a degree in Fashion. There she worked on many shows, most recently Little Shop of Horrors and Beautiful the Carole King Musical. This is her first show with SANKOFA, and she

would like to thank everyone for opening their space to her, especially Sharia, Micah, and Jess. You can find other samples of her work @sofie.is.sewing on Instagram.



**KALEN MYERS (Vocal Director)** Kalen Myers of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania has an extensive background in gospel music and provides background vocal direction for multiple musical entities. She has sung with/for multiple chart-topping gospel artists such as Jonathan Nelson, Byron Cage, Todd Galberth and LeAndria Johnson to name a few. She was a part of the Multi-Stellar Award Winning Gospel Choir; Ricky Dillard and New G for a number of years. This will be Kalen's first year working with Sankofa AATC. She is excited to be working with this amazing group of actors and actresses who've decided to also showcase their vocal abilities as well! This will be an amazing show!



**SIMON THOMPSON (Joseph/ Dance Ensemble)** Simon Thompson is a passionate worshiper, committed to honoring Christ through the arts, including music, dance, and ministry. Born and raised in Fort Lauderdale, Florida, Simon developed a deep love for movement and artistic expression from a young age, guided by the Holy Spirit. With a heart for excellence, he seeks to lead souls to salvation and edify the body of Christ through his creative endeavors. Simon continues to inspire others by worshiping the Lord "in spirit and in truth.



**KEEL WARNER (Shepherd/Royalty/Company)** This is Keel's first non collaborative performance with Sankofa and he is thrilled to be able to participate in Black Nativity this year. Keel has also performed in Sweeney Todd, Into The Woods, Treasure Island, Anne and Emmett and many other productions with Open Stage HBG.





CIERRA WOODS (Choreographer/Mary/Dance Ensemble) Cierra Woods is a Philadelphia-based dancer and choreographer, originally from Harrisburg, PA. She cultivated her passion for dance at the Capital Area School for the Arts and refined her craft at Temple University, earning a BFA in Dance. Her artistry has been showcased on prominent stages, including the Kennedy Center, the Philadelphia Museum of Art, the Harrisburg Fringe Festival, Judson Memorial Church, and the Brooklyn Museum. Throughout her career, she has collaborated with esteemed figures in the dance field. Currently, Cierra serves as a 2024-25 Mascher Space BIPOC Artist in Residence in Philadelphia. Her mission is to develop sustainable systems that foster nurturing environments for artistic and diasporic communities to thrive. Cierra is overjoyed to return for her third year in Sankofa's Black Nativity. Discover more of her work at [cwoodswork.xyz](http://cwoodswork.xyz)!



The Brian McGrady Band, Brian McGrady (Leader/Keyboardist), Efraim Fernandes (Guitar) Thomas Bryant (Drums), and Curtis Andrews III (Bass). The Band specializes in live music production, and studio production. BMB Live started forming in 2020 at the Rock Church Harrisburg. The Band has been able to work on FACTS Fest with Johntrae Williams and in 2023, they started working as the house band for The Singers Lounge. They are looking to take their individual and collective experience and raise the bar of excellence bringing Energy, Musicianship, and Showmanship to every opportunity.



**SANKOFA**

AFRICAN AMERICAN  
THEATRE COMPANY

Penn State Harrisburg School of Humanities  
and Kulkarni Cultural Series  
in partnership with Sankofa African American Theatre Company  
*presents*

# THE CALL of the CRUSADES

Saturday, January 25, 2025 | 2 p.m.

Kulkarni Theatre (SEC)

777 West Harrisburg Pike, Middletown, PA 17057

This original play written by Sharia Benn (Sankofa African American Theatre Company) with contributions from PSH students and co-directed by Sharia Benn and Maria Enriquez, is a story of 9 Penn State Harrisburg students who discover Dr. Martin Luther King Jr's legacy through the hidden MLK Memorial in the Capital Area Greenbelt in Harrisburg.

What will they uncover about MLK's legacy that will change how they see the world and themselves?  
Join us as we all walk the path of discovery.

Featuring a cast of Penn State  
Harrisburg Students:

*Megan Gallagher, Daniel Garduño  
Lima, Phoebe Gioia, Dori Hougnon,  
Norlian Lambe, Adya Singh,  
Maulin Thakkar, Hitesh Yadlapalli,  
and Abigail Young.*

FREE ADMISSION  
SCAN QR CODE



**SANKOFA**

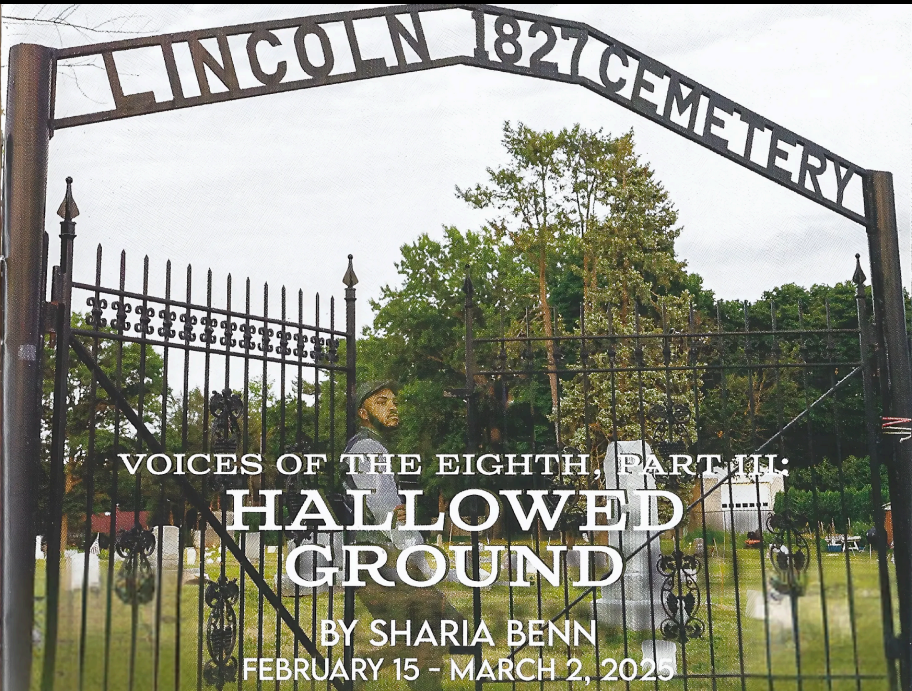
AFRICAN AMERICAN  
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**PennState**  
Harrisburg

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. UBR HBG -

COMING SOON



In Partnership with Gamut Theatre

Sponsored by Dauphin County

February 15 - March 2, 2025

Four years have passed since Kay's last encounter with the spirits of the Eighth Ward, and her life is spiraling out of control once more. Desperate for guidance and a soul-stirring reunion with Della, her kindred spirit from the past, Kay ventures to Harrisburg's Lincoln Cemetery to summon her soul-sister. However, her plans are disrupted when Kayah, the fierce "SOAL" warrior dedicated to preserving the city's crumbling Black cemetery, intervenes. Kayah calls upon the ancestors to help Kay learn from the past so she can reclaim her future. Will Kay find the strength to course-correct before it's too late?

Experience the life-affirming power of connecting with your heritage and history in this gripping sequel to *Voices of the Eighth*.



**SANKOFA**

AFRICAN AMERICAN  
THEATRE COMPANY

## ABOUT SANKOFA AATC

Sankofa is an Akan (Ghana) word that means, "We must go back and reclaim our past so we can move forward;" so that we understand why and how we came to be who we are today, thereby gaining wisdom, power, and hope to make positive progress through the sharing of this knowledge.

## MISSION

Sankofa African American Theatre Company exists to engage and enrich the Harrisburg region around the African American perspective on relevant issues through thought-provoking theatre that reflects artistic excellence.

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Sharia Benn, President

Maurice Norman, Vice President

Micah Simms-Gantt, Treasurer

Carol Howard, Secretary

Anne Alsedek

Donald Alsedek

Rovina Braddy

Clarence Brown

Valerie Gray

Neeka Jones

Christyan Seay

## STAFF

Sharia Benn, Executive Artistic Director

Donald Alsedek, Operations Manager

Cindy Scales, Operations Administrative Assistant

Chudney Lewis, Financial and Development Administrator

Lyeneal Griffin, Marketing



Scan QR Code for Complete Program  
and Study Guide.

# SPECIAL RECOGNITION & THANKS

Sankofa Board & Staff

Sankofa Volunteers & Ushers

Open Stage

Gamut Theatre

Theatre Harrisburg

West Shore Theatre

Keystone Theatrics

Capital Blue Cross

Jada Gantt

Leah Payne

Dustin LeBlanc

**Thank You!**

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS**

**KRISTIN  
SCOFIELD**





## **Sankofa African American Theatre Company**

exists to engage and enrich the Harrisburg region around African American perspective on relevant issues through thought-provoking theatre that reflects artistic excellence.

**"Peace comes when we pick up the pieces and put them back together in a way that makes us stronger."**

**-Sharia Benn**

## **STEP UP and INVEST in TRANSFORMING LIVES**

Your contribution will help provide funding for Sankofa's theatre and educational programs and operational support.

Sankofa African American Theatre Company is an approved 501 (c) (3) nonprofit corporation. Contributions are tax-deductible to the extent permissible by law.

Make your donation to Sankofa today!

### **Three easy ways to donate.**

1. Use the enclosed return envelope
2. Scan the QR code at the right
3. Visit [sankofatheatrehbg.com/get-involved](https://sankofatheatrehbg.com/get-involved)



The official registration and financial information of Sankofa African American Theatre Company may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1-800-732-0999.

# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

**Sankofa Steward** (*Akan/ Ghana “Go back and get it”*)  
\$10,000+

Pennsylvania Council on the Arts

The Arts For All Fund, a charitable fund of the Greater Harrisburg Community Foundation, a regional foundation of The Foundation for Enhancing Communities (TFEC)

Dauphin County

**Baobab Benefactor** (*Tree of Life*)  
\$5,000 - \$9,999

Kristin Scofield

**Kente Keeper** (*Heritage*)  
\$2,500 - \$4,999

Members1st Federal Credit Union  
Sandra Gipe Brandt

**Imani Network** (*Faith*)  
\$1,000 - \$2,499

Rosemary Barrett & Howard Ulan  
Nicholas Hughes & Kristin Scofield  
Marilyn Derr Kauffman  
Maurice Norman  
Penn National Insurance



# THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

## **Kuumba Collective** (*Creativity*)

\$250 - \$999

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Christyan Seay

7group

Micah Gantt

Don Spangler

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## **Harambee Helpers** (*Swahili for "all pull together"*)

Up to \$249

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Gerald Bennett	Eric Mansilla
Howard Bernd	Dr. Craig and Janna Match
Janice R. Black	Laurie McCarthy
Amy & Kevin Bobb	The McCullers Family
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# SEASON 24-25

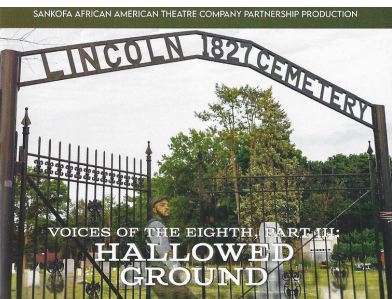


**DATES: DECEMBER 6-8, 2024**

West Shore Theatre  
317 Bridge St., New Cumberland, PA

Written by Langston Hughes, the acclaimed American poet and playwright of the Harlem Renaissance, **BLACK NATIVITY**, a retelling of the Nativity

story, is an expression of the playwright's interest in African American spirituality and the oral traditions of the African American church.

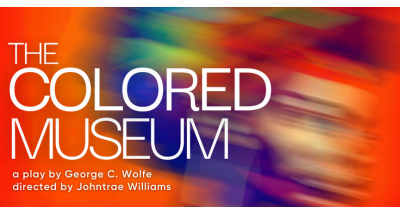


**DATES: FEB. 15 - MAR. 2, 2025**

Gamut Theatre  
15 North 4th Street Harrisburg PA, 17101

Four years have passed since Kay's last encounter with the spirits of the Eighth Ward, and her life is spiraling out of control once more. Desperate for guidance and a soul-stirring reunion

with Della, her kindred spirit from the past, Kay ventures to Harrisburg's Lincoln Cemetery to summon her soul-sister.



**DATES: MAY 31 - JUNE 31, 2025**

Open Stage  
25 N Court Street Harrisburg, PA 17101

Step into "The Colored Museum," where bold satire meets provocative

storytelling. Originally premiering in 1986, this groundbreaking show presents a series of 11 "exhibits" that challenge and redefine Black American culture. Playwright George C. Wolfe describes it as both "an exorcism and a party," electrifying, discomfoting, and delighting audiences of all colors.

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**KRISTIN SCOFIELD**

# SEASON 99

2024 - 2025



THEATRE HARRISBURG PRESENTS

## CABARET

SEPTEMBER 6 - 22, 2024  
KREVSKY CENTER

CABARET  
BY JOE MASTEROFF

THEATRE HARRISBURG PRESENTS

## INTO THE WOODS

NOVEMBER 6-24, 2024  
WHITAKER CENTER

INTO THE WOODS  
BY STEPHEN SODERBERG

THEATRE HARRISBURG PRESENTS

## THE LIGHTNING THIEF

THE PERCY JACKSON MUSICAL  
BY JOE TRANCE

JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 9, 2025  
KREVSKY CENTER

THE LIGHTNING THIEF  
JOE TRANCE AND HENRIK RING  
BOOK BY TRANCE THE TROOP BY HENRIK RING

THEATRE HARRISBURG PRESENTS

ALGHERA CHRISTIE'S

## MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS

APRIL 23 - MAY 11, 2025  
WHITAKER CENTER

MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS  
BY AGATHA CHRISTIE

THEATRE HARRISBURG PRESENTS

## the Da Vinci Code

JUNE 20 - 29, 2025  
KREVSKY CENTER

the Da Vinci Code  
BY RACHEL WAGGONER AND DUNCAN ABEL

THEATRE HARRISBURG PRESENTS

## CATHARSIS

JULY 11-13, 2025  
KREVSKY CENTER

CATHARSIS  
A NEW PLAY BY HOPE SWINNEY



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Much Ado About Nothing  
Voices of the Eighth Part III:  
Hallowed Ground

Frankenstein  
The Wonderful  
Wizard of Oz  
Love's Labor's Lost



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as Cindy Lou Who

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A photograph of a woman and a young girl looking at a pie in a pie iron. The woman is smiling and the girl is leaning over her shoulder. The scene is lit with warm, golden light, suggesting a cozy indoor setting. The pie is on a wooden board and is being cooked in a metal pie iron. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a kitchen or dining area.

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**SANKOFA**

AFRICAN AMERICAN  
THEATRE COMPANY

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