



WACO THEATER CENTER PRESENTS

SOUTH SIDE SYMPHONY

*sounds of the **Black future***

with Conductor Dr. Marcus Norris

2022/23 Artistic Season

BLACK WITH A CAPITAL **B**

January 16

January 20

January 21

January 22

Program Sponsorship

 **givelify**

Kimberly McGhee



Welcome back to WACO Theater Center as we celebrate 5 years supporting the dreams of artists and young people. We are honored by your presence at our presentation of South Side Symphony.

Your support tonight will directly benefit the artists, young people and community members that WACO serves across Los Angeles and beyond.

The arts provide a gateway to the stories and histories of our communities. They allow us to laugh, cry, reflect and heal. We know the power of art and will continue to invest in programs and world class productions.

When it comes to mentorship, we both know what it means to have a strong support system to guide you through life. We are proud to share that our first class of Tina's Angels and Richard's Warriors graduated and we are so excited for what is next in their future.

As we launch our artistic season, *Black with a Capitol B*, we look to deepen our commitment, and expand our footprint to reach more artists and young people who we know will change the world.

Enjoy yourself tonight, and imagine the sounds of the Black future. We look forward to seeing you again at the theater, and invite you to join us, as we celebrate 5 years and our journey into the future.

Together—we are WACO. We are creating a home Where Art Can Occur.

Richard Lawson
Founder & Artistic Director

Tina Knowles Lawson
Founder & Artistic Director

BLACKER FUTURE



Founded in 2017 by Richard and Tina Knowles Lawson, WACO (Where Art Can Occur) Theater Center is located in the burgeoning North Hollywood Arts District of Los Angeles and is one of the few cultural institutions in the country providing contemporary performing and visual arts of the African Diaspora.

Board of Directors

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Mission Statement

WACO Theater Center is a performing and visual arts organization that presents, commissions and develops artistic works dedicated to stories of the African diaspora. WACO provides artists and young people a platform to voice and showcase their creativity, to connect and inspire others.

We believe that art and mentorship are a powerful and transformative tools that should be accessible to all.

Values Statement

WACO's artistic and education programs are driven by four values. We create work that unapologetically:

- **Centers Black art and culture** from a diasporic lens and voice.
- **Incubates and launches new creative ideas** to memorialize the past and envision the future of Black life.
- **Is collaborative and leads with an Ubuntu mindset**, "I am, because we are."
- **Serves the needs of the community** including the social, economic and civic priorities of our neighbors and Black Los Angeles.

BLACK
CULTURE
MATTERS

SOUTH SIDE SYMPHONY

Dr. Marcus Norris

Composer, Conductor & Director of South Side Symphony

featuring

Violin I

*Jordan Busa
Jennifer Floyd
Vainayaki Sivaji*

Violin II

*Jaylon Black
Felix Hernandez-Jones
Shigeru Logan*

Viola

*Troy Everett
Nikki Shorts*

Cello

Quenton Blache

Alto Sax

Joshua Thompson

Tenor Sax

Corey Hogan

Baritone Sax/Flute

Tyler Johnson

Trumpet

Kenneth Brown II

Trumpet Soloist

King Oliver Trumpet

Trombone

Byron Sleugh

French Horn

Madison Dorsett

Bass

Marlon Martinez

Piano

*Kimiko Daniels
Alonso Malik Pirio*

Drums

Devin Pruden

Lead Vocalist

*Adrian Dunn
Keala
Justin Ruff*

Background Vocalist

*Keasha Ealy
Frexinet Johnson
Marty Lamar
Harmony Palmore
Vertrease Sanders
Caleb Smith*

Learn more about South Side Symphony
southsidesymphony.org

BRUNER PUTURS



Staff & Production Team

WACO Theater Center Staff

Richard Lawson, Artistic Director
Tina Knowles Lawson, Artistic Director
Shay Wafer, Executive Director

Alex Kalognomos, Special Events Producer
Ariel Reyes, Director of Finance & HR
Bria Williams, Senior Executive Assistant
Carolyn Gage, Technical Manager
Cornelius Humphries, Special Events Coordinator
Isreal Spencer, Mentor
Jasmine Gipson, Communications & Strategy Fellow
Kasiopia Moore-Watts, Interim Education Director
Kobe Lamaur, Administrative Assistant
Lanae Wilks, House Manager
Malaiye Evans, Executive Assistant & Mentor
Nijeul X, Director of Communications & Strategy
Nia Miranda, Senior Executive Assistant
Steven Foley, Director of Operations & Production
Terrence Terrell, Mentor
Tocarra Cash, Education Coordinator & Mentor

Consultants

Amanda Mason, Legal Counsel
Cicley Gay, Development
Darius Glover, Digital Marketing
Eli Bevins, Designer & Webmaster / EliLu Entertainment
Erica Tucker, Publicist / AMPR Group
Lu Bevins, Designer & Webmaster / EliLu Entertainment
Taylor Desmangles, Social Media / Ninth Flow Creative

South Side Symphony Production Team

Adanna Eziri, Production Assistant
Ben Ferren, Production Assistant
Carolyn Gage, Lighting Designer/ Tech Manager
Clinton Young, III, Production Assistant
Cornelius Humphries, Special Events Coordinator
DaManuel Richardson, Hello Benjamin Films
Daniel Lott, Production Assistant
Friidom, Choreographer
Golub Volodymyr, Audio Engineer
Jo Siri, Scenic Designer
John Freeland Jr., Stage Director & Manager
Juwan Davis, Production Assistant
Kayla Salisbury, Muralist
Kobe Lamaur, Production Coordinator / Box Office
Kyle Dombroski, Audio Engineer
Lanae Wilks, House Manager
Maggie Corona-Goldstein, Hello Benjamin Films
Nijeul X, Producer
Solomon Turner, Hello Benjamin Films
Steven Foley, Producer
Vanessa Hsia, Hello Benjamin Films
Yorel Chavis, Lighting Board Operator

BRIGHTER FUTURE



Pre-Order the Live Album



*Scan the QR Code to pre-order your
copy of tonight's performance.*

Visit ***southsidesymphony.org*** for more info

2022/23 Artistic Season

BLACK WITH A CAPITAL B

NEXT UP AT WACO



BLAQK: THE CULTURE

Conceived and Directed by Freedom Dunn

February 17, 18

reinvigorate our collective Black memory

Freedom is a multidisciplinary movement artist, composer/choreographer, director, and actor; known for pioneering the cinematic-dance genre called "*Epiic*."

Currently living in Los Angeles, his mission is to spread movement philosophy, raw expressive street & stage movement, to create worlds that bridge divides.

Consider this the Willy Wonka of movement.



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Presentation of South Side Symphony

Kimberly McGhee



2022/23 Season Sponsors



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