

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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# *Sister Act*

## **GEVA CONCLUDES 49<sup>TH</sup> SEASON WITH *SISTER ACT***

Uplifting musical based on the hit film runs June 21 to July 24

**Rochester, N.Y.** — Geva Theatre Center will close out its 49<sup>th</sup> Season with *Sister Act* beginning Tuesday, June 21 and running through Sunday, July 24 on the Wilson Stage. The musical based on the hit 1992 film of the same name features music by **Alan Menken**, lyrics by **Glenn Slater**, book by **Bill Steinkellner and Cheri Steinkellner**, and additional material by **Douglas Carter Beane**. Geva's production is directed and choreographed by **Julio Agustin** with musical direction by **Don Kot**.

**Danielle J. Summons** stars as Delores Van Cartier, a disco diva who is forced to take cover in a convent after witnessing a mob hit. Delores, disguised as a nun, finds herself at odds with both the rigid lifestyle and the uptight Mother Superior. When she brings her talent to the convent choir, the public, the press — and the mob — take notice. The feel-good musical comedy was nominated for five Tony Awards, including Best Musical.

Julio Augustin returns to Geva as both director and choreographer of *Sister Act* after choreographing the theatre's 2017 production of *In the Heights*. Augustin is no stranger to *Sister Act*. He directed and choreographed the musical at Post Playhouse (Crawford, Nebraska) in 2019. "*Sister Act* extends beyond pure entertainment by challenging religious, racial, and gender stereotypes," said Augustin. "It exposes and leans into common conventions and archetypes by pitting old against new, convention versus individuality, conservative values against progressive change, all clashing in an uproariously humorous fashion and coming to a heart-warming resolution — a must-see for these times! Pure entertainment, pure joy, pure heart — *Sister Act* will leave you laughing, crying, and feeling joyful at a musical again."

The cast also includes **April Armstrong** (Mother Superior), **Tim Connell** (Monsignor O'Hara), **Alex Gibbs** (Curtis), **Nat Lopez** (Joey), **Quynh-My Luu** (Sister Mary Robert), **Jean McCormick** (Sister Mary Lazarus), **Marcy McGuigan** (Sister Mary Theresa), **Juwon Tyrel Perry** (TJ), **Terance Reddick** (Lt. Eddie Souther), **Khalid Rivera** (Pablo), **Samantha Sayah** (Sister Mary Martin of Tours), **Annie Zigman** (Sister Mary Patrick), and ensemble members **Tristan Altobelli**, **Robbie Beirne**, **Kayla Bush**, **Ava Massaro**, and **Elsa Oates Keefe**.

**Don Kot** (musical director), **Frank J. Oliva** (scenic designer), **Kendra Johnson** (costume designer), **Brian J. Lillienthal** (lighting designer), **Megumi Katayama** (sound designer), **Jenni Werner** (dramaturg), **Katherine Thesing** (stage manager), and **Nolan Todd** (assistant stage manager) complete the creative team with casting by Karie Koppel and Koppel Casting.

Tickets for *Sister Act* can be purchased by calling 585-232-4382 or online at [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org).

Geva's 49th Season is sponsored by ESL Federal Credit Union. Dr. Dawn Lipson serves as honorary season producer. *Sister Act* is presented with support from lead producer Harter Secret & Emery LLP, associate producer St. John's, and media sponsors WHEC-TV and 92.5 WBEE.

The theatre's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season will kick off on Tuesday, September 6, 2022 with Charlotte Brontë's *Jane Eyre* adapted and directed by incoming Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson. Season subscriptions are on sale now.

### **About Geva Theatre Center**

**Geva Theatre Center** is a nonprofit, professional theatre company in downtown Rochester, New York, offering world-class productions and extensive additional programming. Founded in 1972, Geva is the most well-attended regional theatre in New York State with one of the 25 largest subscription bases among regional theatres in the country. Geva serves as many as 160,000 patrons annually, including more than 20,000 students.

Geva's 517-seat Wilson Stage and 180-seat Fielding Stage each offer a wide-ranging collection of drama, comedy and musical theatre, from classics to world premieres. The company also offers a broad slate of educational, outreach and literary programming to enrich audiences, students and artists of all ages and disciplines. Since 1995, Geva has been under the artistic direction of Mark Cuddy.

Geva Theatre Center sits on the ancestral and unceded territory of the Onöndowa'ga, or "the people of the Great Hill." In English, they are known as the Seneca people, "the keeper of the western door." They have stewarded this land through generations, and Geva pays respect and gives thanks to their elders, past and present.

**Find out more about Geva Theatre Center** at [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org) or by connecting with us on social media. Facebook: [facebook.com/gevatheatrecenter](https://facebook.com/gevatheatrecenter), Twitter: [@gevatheatre](https://twitter.com/gevatheatre), Instagram: [@gevatheatre](https://instagram.com/gevatheatre), LinkedIn: [linkedin.com/company/geva-theatre-center](https://linkedin.com/company/geva-theatre-center).

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