

KST PRESENTS

FRESHWORKS

CHRISTINA KENNEY

**LIMB LOSS? THEIR LOSS!:
THE UNTOLD STORIES OF THE LIMB
DIFFERENCE COMMUNITY**

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, MARCH 4 – 5, 2022

7:00PM, INTERACTIVE LOBBY ACTIVITIES

8:00PM, SHOWING

KST PRESENTS: SPRING 2022 WELCOME HOME



**“When I think of home/ I think of a place where there’s love overflowing/
I wish I was home/ I wish I was back there with the things I been
knowing” – “Home,” The Wiz, music lyrics by Charlie Smalls**

Following Dorothy’s (Diana Ross in *The Wiz*) adventures through the Land of Oz, a fantastical NYC, she finally discovers her “world full of love...like home” and is transported back to Harlem with help from Glinda the Good Witch (Lena Horne). This final scene from *The Wiz* reminds me that it takes a “brand new day,” a journey through self discovery to teach us to love and find our home.

What does home mean to you? Is it a place, a feeling, a community? During the pandemic, we all spent a lot of time in our apartments and houses, but that doesn’t necessarily mean we were at home. To me, art and the theater has always provided that journey to home. A place where I can fully, freely express myself and be with others who love and appreciate the authentic me. Over the years, Kelly Strayhorn Theater has had the great privilege of being an artistic home to so many, from internationally acclaimed performers to neighborhood kids taking their first ballet class at KST’s Alloy Studios.

KST has been my home too. I started here as an intern back in 2009 and even after I left Pittsburgh, I always cherished the friends and memories made here. I knew there was just something special about this place. Home has a funny way of calling us back, doesn’t it?

Now as Executive Director, I want KST to continue to be a home for all of us. Whether you feel more at home on the stage or sitting in the audience, this is for you!

This spring, we are excited to introduce our new pricing policy: **Pay What Moves You**, an accessible scale of ticket prices. Over the last few years, we heard feedback from artists and audiences alike—our ticket prices needed to better reflect the value and importance of art, as well as supporting artists to live well and thrive. **Pay What Moves You** encourages audiences to choose an equitable price that best fits their budget, while also still fairly compensating artists. It is also your opportunity to affirm the value of art! Go for the top tier if you can afford to! It helps us keep the first tier affordable for those who need it.

Welcome home to Kelly Strayhorn Theater with a season of beautiful, challenging, and contemporary performances that speak to our current moment. You may cry, you’ll definitely dance, and most importantly, you will feel reconnected to this powerful collective of friends.

**JOSEPH HALL
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



**TO SEE MORE OF THE SPRING SEASON,
VISIT [KELLY-STRAYHORN.ORG/SPRING-2022](https://www.kelly-strayhorn.org/spring-2022)**

ABOUT KELLY STRAYHORN THEATER

Kelly Strayhorn Theater is a home for creative experimentation, community dialogue, and collective action rooted in the liberation of Black and queer people. We welcome our East Liberty home to all who uplift Black, Indigenous, people of color, and queer voices.

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CHRISTINA KENNEY

LIMB LOSS? THEIR LOSS!: THE UNTOLD STORIES OF THE LIMB DIFFERENCE COMMUNITY

ABOUT THE EVENT

Limb Loss? Their Loss!: *The Untold Stories of the Limb Difference Community* is an exhibition and performance that brings awareness to the limb loss community and Black mental health concerns in Pittsburgh; created by Freshworks Spring 2022 artist Christina B. Kenney and producer Johnathan Wright of Picture It Wright Productions. The work acts as a conversation piece and brings insight into the lives of those surviving and thriving with physical differences— especially those who have lost limbs due to trauma, accidents, or injury. *Limb Loss? Their Loss!* will celebrate persons with disabilities and encourage everyone not to think of people who have lost a limb as different.

At 7:00pm, experience a lobby installation of video and objects that provide insight into the daily routine of someone with limb differences. Simultaneously, in our downstairs studio, there'll be a live participatory yoga demonstration of poses adapted for those with limb differences led by fitness instructor Blaire Crumbley--come try them out! The showing, produced by Johnathan Wright of Picture It Wright Productions, begins at 8:00pm. A Q&A with artist Christina Kenney will follow at 8:30pm.

ABOUT FRESHWORKS

Freshworks is KST's creative residency for Pittsburgh based artists and collaborators. The program provides artists with financial resources, studio space, production staff, lighting and sound design, professional development, and encouragement for creative risk taking. through interdisciplinary collaborations in contemporary dance, theater, music, and multimedia. Artists present a 30-minute work in progress showing followed by a Q & A with the audience.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

Christina Kenney has identified as an artist for as long as she can remember. As a child, realizing that she could draw was an amazing feeling; often Christina would choose to stay inside during recess to draw pictures for the stories in class the next day. Christina attended Rogers CAPA 2000-2003 and Pittsburgh CAPA from 2003-2007. While studying Psychology as an undergrad, Christina chose to enjoy art electives over other class selections. In addition to being a visual artist, Christina is also a licensed therapist. Her goal is to incorporate arts into her counseling practice as much as possible.



CHRISTINA WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

- Her parents, Mr. Timothy L. Kenney Sr. & Ms. Stephanie D. Kenney
- Her daughter, Bug
- Chris Steele, Founder, Athletic Trauma Unit, Pittsburgh, PA (ATU)
- Aaron and Justin from Amputee Blade Runners, Nashville, TN (ABR)
- Her Angel/ Trauma Surgeon, Dr. Peter Siska
- Her aunt, Ms. Shelia Nesbitt
- Her producer & best friend of 25 years, Mr. Johnathan N. Wright, Picture It Wright Productions, Pittsburgh, PA
- The Kelly Strayhorn Theater & Alloy Studio Staff & Community

Johnathan Wright is the CEO & the Head of Operations of Picture it Wright Productions. With 4 years of experience in the world of media, this includes corporate events, weddings to branding and more . He works with clients and provides professional insight to achieve their visions and then some. Picture it Wright is a Pittsburgh-based production company that specializes in Photography, Videography and Content Creation for local businesses and individual clients alike. Picture it Wright is the team you call when you need to boost your media presence and or capture the special day.



JOHNATHAN WOULD LIKE TO THANK:

- Li Gonzalez
- Christina Kenney
- Beverly Wright
- His parents

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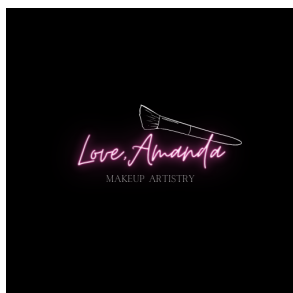
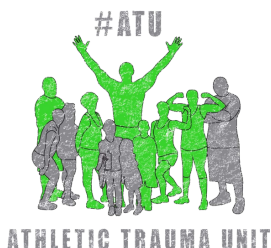
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Ms. Blaire Crumbley / Black Box Balms

Fitness Instructor, The Kingsley Association

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