

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Kelly Strayhorn Theater Announces Winter/Spring 2024 Season

### MEDIA CONTACT

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**EAST LIBERTY, PA—** The Winter/Spring 2024 KST Presents season promises to bring you **simply the best!** From a **Tina Turner tribute concert** to **Abolitionist Expressions**, a visual art exhibition showcasing incarcerated artists, KST continues to celebrate the **Brave Actions** and **Bold Voices** in our community.

The season features exciting offerings from Mutual Aid Residents **Dreams of Hope** and **PearlArts**, a visual art exhibition in the **KST Gallery**, two **Freshworks** performances-in-progress, and two week-long series of **Local and Global Performances** from new and returning faces.

We begin the year with **Youth & Family Programming**. **Justice in Action: A Celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.** gathers performances and family activities centering social justice on MLK Day, followed by the **Let Freedom Sing** concert in the evening. Later in February, **The Alloy School** returns with new recreational classes for all ages.

Our partnerships with Mutual Aid Residents **PearlArts** and **Dreams of Hope** continue throughout the Winter/Spring. We encourage you to partake in PearlArts' **Adult Ballet** and **Adult Jazz/Heels** classes, as well as Dreams of Hope's **theatriQ Creative Sessions** tailored to nurture the creativity of Queer and Trans youth.

Drawn from the **Let's Get Free** permanent collection made by people in prison as well as artists in solidarity from outside of prison, art exhibition **Abolitionist Expressions** at our gallery space explores personal stories that express political yearnings and aspirations for the future.

In March, we have **Simply the Best, A Tina Turner Tribute Concert with Dwayne Fulton**, a highly anticipated concert that brings the explosive energy and unforgettable classics of the legendary artist. We welcome you to wear comfortable shoes for this one – you'll be spending little time in your seat!

Our Winter/Spring **Freshworks Residencies** support new performance in process from three local artists. First, **Caroline Yoo** and **Davine Byon** present **Prophecies & Soy Sauce Shots**, an experiment in storytelling that spans from the past, present to future. They move through three vignettes, using projections, sculpture, music, and the exchange of dreams, to piece together a precious home in the diaspora.

Then, **Anna King Skeels** brings **unstitch**, taking us on a journey through the experiences of a fat queer person. This new performance examines our relationship to our bodies through movement and fiber arts.

The **Local & Global Performance** series welcomes two weeks of programming from multi-disciplinary artists **Edisa Weeks** and **Mita Ghosal**. After a movement workshop, welcome dinner & artist talk, Edisa's April engagement culminates in the Pittsburgh premiere of **3 RITES: Liberty**. Edisa alternates between blackface, whiteface, storytelling, and visceral dance to dig into the pathologizing of African Americans and the foundations of Liberty in America.

**Mita Ghosal's** weeklong May programming brings **Lost on a Loom** to KST's Alloy Studios, examining lost South Asian histories through Indian textiles and movement. Weaving together a Bengali protagonist with the stories of fabric from Bengal, the dance piece draws parallels to the movement of material, the movement(s) of people and economic and social disparities that continue to remain in modern history.

We can't wait to journey through the winter into the spring with you, feeling **warm, inspired, and part of a brave, bold community**.

For full details on Kelly Strayhorn Theater's upcoming Winter/Spring 2024 programming, click [HERE](#).

## EXPLORE THE SEASON

YOUTH & FAMILY | MUSIC | THEATER | DANCE | COMMUNITY

### Justice in Action

**A Celebration of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.**

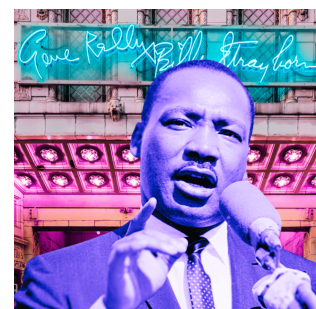
**Monday, January 15**

**12:00pm - 3:00pm**

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$0 – \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



YOUTH & FAMILY | MUSIC | COMMUNITY

## Let Freedom Sing Celebrating Social Justice in Song

Monday, January 15  
7:00pm

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$2 - \$50

[Click here to learn more...](#)



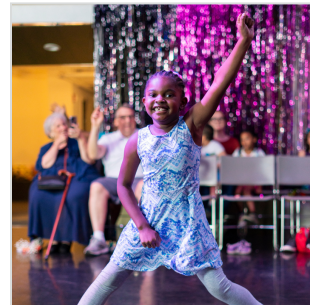
YOUTH & FAMILY | THEATER | DANCE | VISUAL ART | COMMUNITY

## The Alloy School Ten-Week Session

Saturdays, February 3 - April 6  
Times Vary

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$220

[Click here to learn more...](#)



KST GALLERY | VISUAL ART

## Abolitionist Expressions Let's Get Free Permanent Collection

Thursday, February 29 - Saturday, June 8  
Opening Reception: Thursday, February 29, 6:00pm

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$0 - \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



SPECIAL EVENTS | MUSIC

## Simply the Best A Tina Turner Tribute Concert with Dwayne Fulton

Saturday, March 16  
7:30pm - 9:30pm

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$25 - \$65

[Click here to learn more...](#)





FRESHWORKS | THEATER | DANCE

## Caroline Yoo & Davine Byon

Prophecies & Soy Sauce Shots

Friday & Saturday, April 5\* - 6\* | \*with discussion  
7:30pm - 9:00pm (including discussion)

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 - 25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | COMMUNITY

## Welcome Dinner & Artist Talk

with Edisa Weeks

Monday, April 22  
6:00pm - 8:00pm

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave  
Pay What Moves You: \$0 - 25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | WORKSHOP

## Precision & Abandonment

With Edisa Weeks

Co-Presented with PearlArts

Wednesday, April 24  
9:00am - 10:15am

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn A  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 - 25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | THEATER | DANCE

## DELIRIOUS Dances/ Edisa Weeks

3 RITES: Liberty

Friday & Saturday, April 26\* - 27\* | \*with discussion  
7:30pm - 9:00pm (including discussion)

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$15 - \$35

[Click here to learn more...](#)





FRESHWORKS | THEATER | DANCE

## **Anna King Skeels** unstitch

**Friday & Saturday, May 3\* - 4\*** | with discussion  
**7:30pm - 9:00pm** (including discussion)

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 – \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | COMMUNITY

## **Welcome Dinner & Artist Talk** with Mita Ghosal

**Monday, May 13**  
**6:00pm - 8:00pm**

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$0 – \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | WORKSHOP

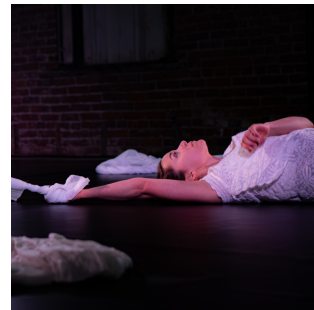
## **Material of A Story** with Mita Ghosal

Co-Presented with PearlArts

**Wednesday, May 15**  
**9:00am - 10:15am**

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$10 – \$25

[Click here to learn more...](#)



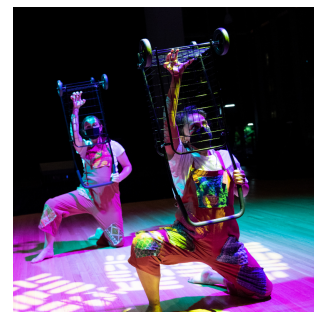
LOCAL & GLOBAL PERFORMANCE | DANCE

## **Mita Ghosal** Lost on A Loom

**Friday & Saturday, May 17\* - 18** | \*with discussion  
**7:30pm - 9:30pm** (including discussion)

Kelly Strayhorn Theater | 5941 Penn Ave.  
Pay What Moves You: \$15 - \$35

[Click here to learn more...](#)



MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | DANCE | COMMUNITY

## Adult Ballet Club

With Andrew Blight

Co-Presented with PearlArts

Tuesdays, January 9 - June 4

6:00pm - 7:00pm

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$190

[Click here to learn more...](#)



MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | DANCE | COMMUNITY

## Adult Jazz / Heels Club

With Arnita Thompson

Co-Presented with PearlArts

Tuesdays, January 9 - June 4

7:30pm - 8:30pm

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$190

[Click here to learn more...](#)



MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | THEATER | COMMUNITY

## theatriQ

Creative Sessions

Co-Presented with Dreams of Hope

Wednesdays, January 17 - May 1

5:30pm - 8:00pm

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

FREE

[Click here to learn more...](#)



MUTUAL AID RESIDENCY | THEATER | COMMUNITY

## theatriQ

Mainstage Production

Co-Presented with Dreams of Hope

Friday & Saturday, May 10 - 12

Times Vary

KST's Alloy Studios | 5530 Penn Ave.

Pay What Moves You: \$10 - \$40

[Click here to learn more...](#)



## ABOUT KELLY STRAYHORN THEATER

Named after 20th century entertainment legends Gene Kelly and Billy Strayhorn, both natives of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Kelly Strayhorn Theater (KST) is a home for creative experimentation, community dialogue, and collective action rooted in the liberation of Black and queer people. We welcome our home to all who uplift Black, Indigenous, people of color, and queer voices.

KST is an institutional arts anchor in Pittsburgh's East End that has served the community for more than two decades. Since launching KST Presents programming in '08, KST has been Black-led, fostering radical imagination for Black and queer arts, culture, and community in Pittsburgh by cultivating BIPOC and/or queer artists, entrepreneurs, and arts administrators, developing their careers, and shifting narratives around Black possibility.

PC: Mingsi Ma, Courtesy Let Freedom Sing, Delaney Greenberg, Mark Loughney, Mingsi Ma, Alenté Giovanni, Mary Weeks, Julie Lemberger, nicki lee, Madi Fisher, Theresa Glenn Photography, Matt Huggins, Kitoko Chargois, Courtesy Dreams of Hope, Courtesy Dreams of Hope, Staycee Pearl, Staycee Pearl, Beth Barbis