

## KST PRESENTS

YOUTH & FAMILY | MUSIC | DANCE | THEATER | COMMUNITY

# JUSTICE IN ACTION

A CELEBRATION OF  
REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

Monday, January 15  
12:00pm - 3:00pm



KST PRESENTS  
WINTER/SPRING 2024

# BRAVE ACTIONS BOLD VOICES

**Give me a lifetime of promises / And a world of dreams / Speak the language of love / Like you know what it means**

**- Tina Turner**

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.

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

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. Then, **Anna King Skeels** brings *unstitch*, a new performance examining our relationship to our bodies.

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**, an excavation into 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.

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

Sincerely,

**Joseph Hall**  
Executive Director

**JOSEPH HALL**  
**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**



# ABOUT KELLY STRAYHORN THEATER

**Kelly Strayhorn Theater** is a non-profit community performing arts center in East Liberty, with two venues running along historic Penn Avenue. KST's Alloy Studios is a cultural hub in the heart of East Liberty, and the historic Kelly Strayhorn Theater is located in the thriving business district. More than 20 years after its founding, KST is a home for creative experimentation, community dialogue, and collective action rooted in the liberation of Black and queer people.

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YOUTH & FAMILY | MUSIC | DANCE | THEATER | COMMUNITY

# JUSTICE IN ACTION

## A CELEBRATION OF REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

### ABOUT THE WORK

KST uplifts the life, legacy, and activism of Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through our annual MLK community event. Join us in our lobby for a day of family-friendly activities from community partners including **True T Pgh, Young Black Motivated Kings & Queens, Repair the World, City of Asylum, Assemble** and **Ksci-Art Initiative**. Then take a seat in the theater for performances hosted by **Jacquea Mae**. Performances by Pittsburgh artists including **Hill Dance Academy Theatre, K-Theatre Dance Complex**, and **Alumni Theater Company** celebrate the civil rights legacy of Dr. King and Pittsburgh activists past and present.

### 12:00PM - 3:00 PM

#### LOBBY ACTIVITIES WITH COMMUNITY PARTNERS

True T Pgh

Repair the World

Young Black Motivated Kings & Queens (YBMKQ)

Ksci-Art Initiative

City of Asylum

Assemble

### 1:00PM - 2:00 PM

#### PERFORMANCES IN THE THEATER

Hosted by Jacquea Mae

Hill Dance Academy Theatre

K-Theatre Dance Complex

Alumni Theater Company

Jacquea Mae & Byron Nash

### ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Jacquea Mae** is an international vocalist, actress & creative artist that has graced the mic at many venues, festivals, open mics & more, throughout the city of Pittsburgh, Switzerland, Ghana & beyond. Ms. Mae continues to rave reviews for her powerful and soulful performances. Jacquea's talents, mixed with her

passion for teaching and working with youth has blessed her to mentor, care and support youth throughout the neighborhoods of Pittsburgh for over fifteen years. Ms. Mae is a dedicated community activist, determined to create what she doesn't see. Jacquea continues teaching youth, advocating for the people & asserting her creativity with a voice and spirit that soars!

@fearlessmae1023\_



**Alumni Theater Company (ATC)** is a year-round program providing talented Black youth in grades 6-12 with high quality performing arts training and a platform to express their ideas. ATC is currently in its 15th season of creating bold theatrical work that gives fresh voice to the experience of young Black artists and highlights their rich contribution to our community. [Alumnitheatercompany.org](http://Alumnitheatercompany.org) @alumnitheatercompany

**K-Theatre Dance Complex (KTDC)**, is a dance academy that provides quality dance instruction in several major areas of dance, which include Ballet, Contemporary, Modern and Hip Hop. Led by Artistic Director Kontara Morphis, and Arts Education Director Rickia Davenport, KTDC curriculum incorporates dance theory, terminology and dance theater. KTDC has largely impacted the physical, academic, creative, and personal development of its students. [facebook.com/ktheatredancecomplex](https://facebook.com/ktheatredancecomplex)

**Hill Dance Academy Theatre (HDAT)**, a Pittsburgh Cultural Treasure is a 501c3 non-profit organization located in the Historic Hill District of Pittsburgh, PA., founded in 2005 by Ayisha Morgan-Lee, Ed.D. to provide children, youth, and teens, ages 3 to 18, access and opportunity to dance. HDAT trains students ages 3 – 18 in various styles of concert dance, fitness and nutrition, and leadership skills. HDAT's mission is to provide professional level training in Black Dance traditions, history, culture, and aesthetics that engages and empowers students to pursue careers in Black dance. [5678hdat.org](http://5678hdat.org)

## **ABOUT THE COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

The mission of **True T** is celebrating queer people of color through creative art, community health, and social activism. Mrs. Tracey Bryant leads True T's Unique Jewelry Workshop at KST's MLK Day! Join us for a hands-on journey, turning raw materials into one-of-a-kind craft jewelry under Mrs. Bryant's expert guidance. Participants will create stunning masterpieces onsite, ensuring a unique and personalized experience. Don't miss this chance to unleash your creativity and take home a bespoke work of art. Join us at KST for a day of craft, community, and celebration this MLK Day with True T's Unique Jewelry Workshop! [truetpgh.com](http://truetpgh.com) @truetpgh

**Young Black Motivated Kings & Queens (YBMKQ)** is a community-based organization made up of dedicated young people in Pittsburgh. In the face of constant discouragement and scrutiny, a group of young men and women have chosen to stand apart and show the community that young black kings and queens are active, motivated, and empowered to be the change. Our primary mission is engaging middle and high-school-aged youth in becoming the leaders of tomorrow while serving the community. In addition to providing enriching opportunities for youth, we plan events for community members to come and build strong connections with the youth, and network. [ybmkg.org](http://ybmkg.org) @ybmkg.412

**Repair the World** mobilizes Jews and their communities to take action to pursue a just world, igniting a lifelong commitment to service. Repair the World Pittsburgh has been connecting neighbors to show up for non-profit partners in Pittsburgh since 2013, strengthening communities and building connections across lines of difference: [rpr.world/volunteerpgh](http://rpr.world/volunteerpgh)

**Ksci-Art Initiative Partnership with East Liberty Ministry Hub** is an after school program dedicated to intentional time with teens in a variety of areas, including STEM, art, cooking, mentoring, sports, games, life skills and intentional conversation.

**City of Asylum** builds a just community by protecting and celebrating freedom of creative expression. We provide sanctuary to endangered writers and artists, so that they can continue to create and their voices are not silenced. We offer a broad range of free literary, arts, and humanities programs in a community setting to build social equity through cultural exchange. And by transforming dilapidated properties into homes for our programs, we anchor neighborhood economic development. Learn more at [cityofasylum.org](http://cityofasylum.org).

**Assemble** envisions a world where learning and creating are transformative experiences and where all people are equipped with the tools to make a difference, together. At Assemble, we use learning as a tool to create a more equitable future for youth and learners in the Pittsburgh region and beyond. We build confidence through making; connect learners, makers, technologists, and artists; and nurture agency in learners. We offer free afterschool, Saturday programs, camps, and more for kids as well as adult programs. Visit us at Assemble 4824 Penn Ave, Pittsburgh, PA 15224 [assemblepgh.org](http://assemblepgh.org) or @assemblepgh on social media.

# THANK YOU!

We want to express our special thanks to Councilman-elect Khari Mosley, State House Representative La'Tasha D. Mayes, and Senator Jay Costa for being part of this historic event!

We extend our gratitude to our MLK Day sponsors Pizza Pronto and Whole Foods Market, as well as community partners East Liberty Ministry Hub and Kingsley Association.

We thank the generous individual donors, corporate sponsors, foundations and agencies that provide vital support for our programs and allow us to thrive in our community. The following list reflects donations and commitments made between July 1, 2022 and April 15, 2023

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