

****FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE****

March 28, 2019

Asolo Rep to Host *SWEAT* IllumiNation Event on Saturday, April 6

WHAT:

Asolo Rep's ***SWEAT*** IllumiNation event will be held on Saturday, April 6. A stimulating series of theatre and conversation exploring the topical and social themes threaded throughout the season, IllumiNation events begin one hour prior to curtain with a ticketed reception on the mezzanine, continue with the performance, and conclude with a free, open-to-the-public conversation.

The ***SWEAT*** IllumiNation post-show event will be in the form of a guided community conversation, providing patrons with the opportunity to openly discuss the themes and issues raised by the play. It will be guided by **L'Tanya Evans**, the Associate Head of School for Academic Affairs at The Out-of-Door Academy and Asolo Rep Board member.

For each IllumiNation performance, a block of seats will be held in the mezzanine and balcony for PAY WHAT YOU CAN (minimum of \$5 per ticket). These tickets can only be reserved on the day of the show starting at 10am by phone or at the box office.

WHEN:

Saturday, April 6
Pre-show reception: 1pm
Performance of ***SWEAT***: 2pm
Discussion to follow the performance

WHERE:

Asolo Repertory Theatre
5555 N. Tamiami Trail
Sarasota, FL 34243
Pre-show reception and a post-show community conversation held on the Mezzanine.
Performance in the Mertz Theatre.

HOW:

For each IllumiNation performance, a block of seats will be held in the mezzanine and balcony for PAY WHAT YOU CAN (minimum of \$5 per ticket - phone fees apply). These tickets can only be reserved on the day of the show starting at 10am. Reservations made by phone (941-351-8000) or at the main box office.

The pre-performance reception is free for series ticket package holders and \$10 for ticket holders to that evening's performance. Asolo Rep subscribers are welcome to change their performance dates to the IllumiNation Series dates and pay the additional \$10 fee for the pre-show reception. Reception availability is limited. Please contact the box office directly at 941.351.8000. The post-performance discussion is free and open to all.

Click [here](#) for tickets and more information or call the box office at 941.351.8000.

The IllumiNation series is made possible, in part, with support from the Koski Family Foundation, Morton's Gourmet Market & Catering, and The Observer.

ABOUT SWEAT

February 6 - April 13

By Lynn Nottage

Directed by Nicole A. Watson

Winner of the 2017 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and nominated for the Tony Award® for Best Play, Lynn Nottage's tremendous and timely play looks at life in the heart of working-class America. It's the year 2000 in the steel town of Reading, Pennsylvania, and all that best friends Tracey and Cynthia need are their steady factory jobs, their favorite bar, and each other. But when layoffs and picket lines begin to chip away at their trust, the friends find themselves pitted against each other in the hard fight to stay afloat. Filled with warm humor and tremendous heart, this stunning new play merges issues of race, class, family and friendship, with the tragic, unintended costs of a community without opportunity.

2018-19 IllumiNation Events

Sweat

Contains strong language and violence

Saturday, April 6

1pm reception

2pm performance

Post-show discussion

The Cake

In the Cook Theatre

Wednesday, April 24

6:30pm reception

7:30pm performance
Post-show discussion

ABOUT ASOLO REP

Now in its 60th season, Asolo Repertory Theatre is recognized as one of the premier professional theatres in America and one of the largest in the Southeastern United States. One of the few select theatres in the nation that performs in true rotating repertory, Asolo Rep's highly skilled acting company and extensive craftsmanship bring to life this unique performance method that gives audiences the opportunity to see multiple productions in the span of a few days. Asolo Rep presents up to 10 productions each season including contemporary and classic works and provocative musical theatre experiences. A theatre district in and of itself, Asolo Rep is committed to expanding its reach into the community, furthering its collaboration with the best theatre artists working in the industry today and cultivating new artists through its affiliation with the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Michael Donald Edwards and Managing Director Linda DiGabriele, Asolo Rep's ambitious theatrical offerings and ground-breaking education and community programming engage audiences and ensure its lasting legacy for future generations.

MEDIA CONTACT:

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