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STAY ENGAGED

Dear Asolo Rep Family,

Thank you for joining us each week to engage with the latest happenings at Asolo Rep. Beginning today, our weekly Stay Engaged Newsletter will come to you **every Thursday at 8am**. Be sure to check your inbox Thursday mornings to catch up on content and connections from the artists and staff at Asolo Rep and get a few things on your radar for the week to come.

Engage On Air:
Michael Donald Edwards & Nate Jacobs

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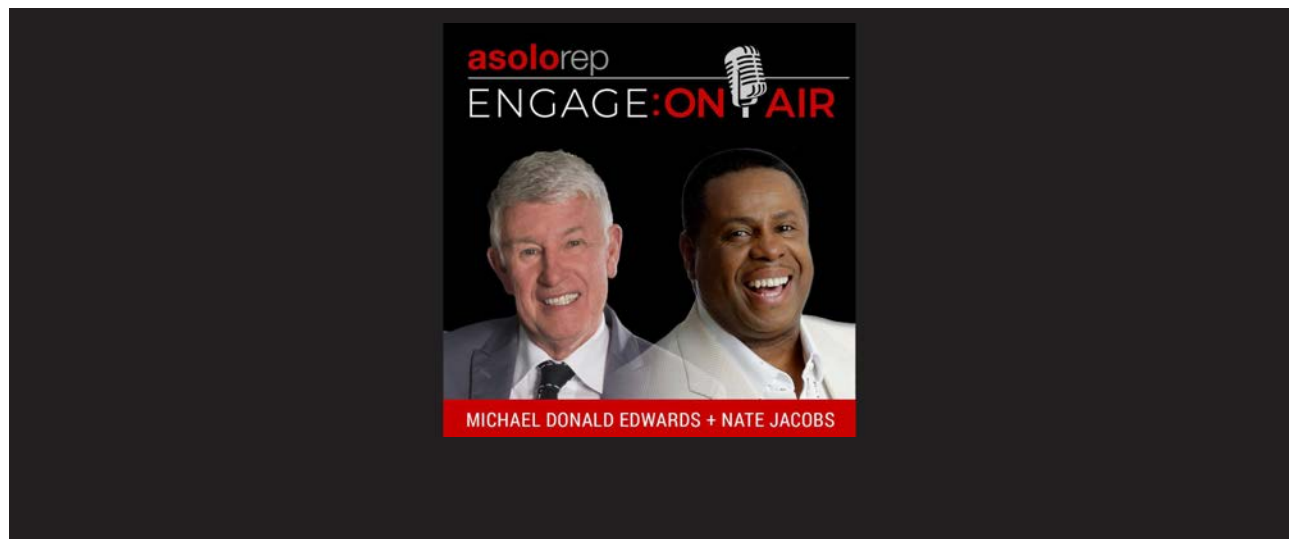


ENGAGE: ON AIR

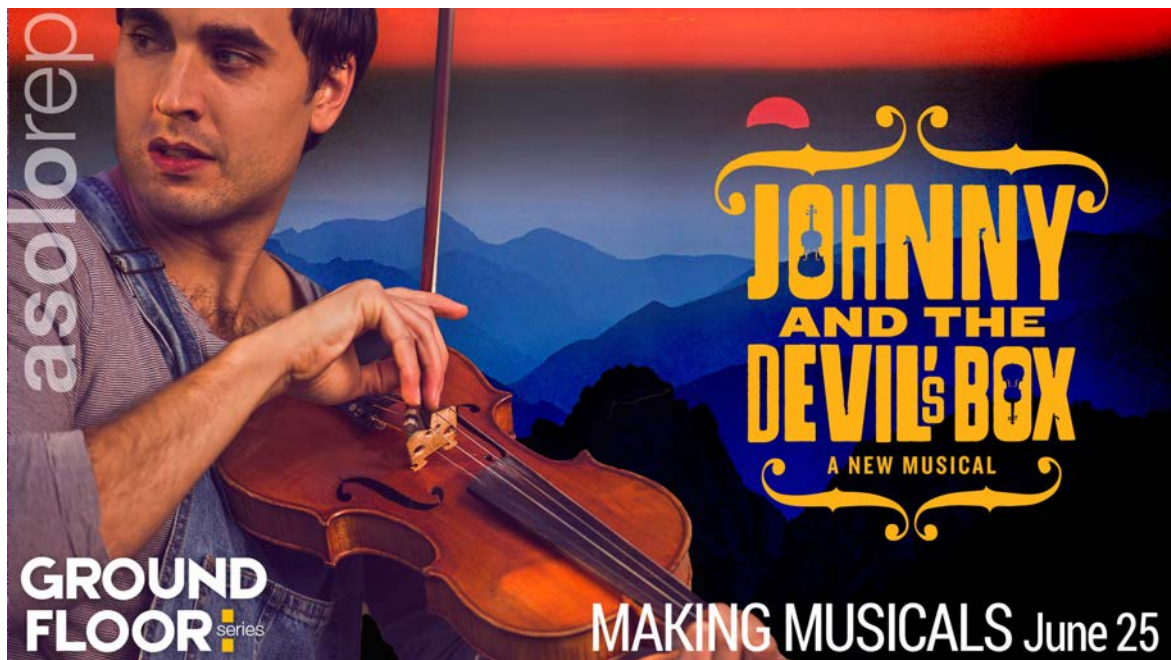
In this week's **Engage On Air**, Michael speaks with Nate Jacobs, Founding Artistic Director of [Westcoast Black Theater Troupe](#), about his experiences in Sarasota as well as launching and leading an arts institution in our current, fraught moment.

"The foundations of this country, everything the American Flag stands for, the land of the free and the brave, is crying out once again."
- Nate Jacobs

If you missed us at 6pm on WSLR, 96.5, head to our [website](#) to listen to Nate and Michael's conversation. You can also see a portion of the conversation [here](#).



Ground Floor Making Musicals:
JOHNNY AND THE DEVIL'S BOX on June 25th



Announcing the second contestant in the four-part **Making Musicals Series:** **JOHNNY AND THE DEVIL'S BOX**, a new bluegrass musical with book, music and lyrics by Douglas Waterbury-Tiemen. In the dark days of the Great Depression, a beacon of hope shines from the depths of the Georgia foothills: Johnny Baker plays the meanest fiddle the world has ever seen. When a mysterious preacher rolls into the small town of Crossings and threatens to destroy what little they have, Johnny teams up with the no-nonsense Abigail to wage the next war in the ultimate battle of Good versus Evil with nothing but his fiddle for a weapon. Infused with American Folk and bluegrass, this gripping tale will have you stomping your feet and clapping your hands in no time.

How does it work? Over the next few weeks, we will preview fifteen minutes of each musical. After all four musicals have aired, we'll ask the audience to vote for their favorite and the winner will be asked to participate in the Ground Floor Series with a complete staged reading next season. For more info and to register to vote, click [here](#).

Online Classes



Let's connect, create, and collaborate! **Asolo Rep Education & Engagement announces new Online Classes in July.** Young artists ages 8-18, can join us on an epic expedition from their living room, create a thrilling radio drama, or learn auditioning from the pros! These classes will spark your young artist's imagination and help to hone their theatrical technique.

Check out [our website](#) to find out more about the exciting opportunities and amazing professional artists who will be leading these classes. **Registration is open NOW!**



Keep connected with what others are doing in our community



Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe

To learn more about Westcoast Black Theatre Troupe, visit [WBTT LIVE!](#), the troupe's home of streaming videos while their stage is dark. The page showcases interviews with WBTT performers and links to online, on-demand shows.



Honoring & Celebrating Juneteenth with The New Victory Theatre

Connect to history through the arts: Our friends at [The New Victory Theatre](#) have designed resources, conversations, and activities about an important day in history to share with young people, parents, and families. Juneteenth commemorates the day when, in 1865, the final emancipation order was read aloud in Texas, two years after President Abraham Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. Explore their week-long curriculum honoring and celebrating Juneteenth [here](#).



Support Asolo Rep Now on AmazonSmile

With so many people visiting Amazon during these stay-at-home times, we wanted to remind you that you can help support Asolo Rep with every Amazon purchase. AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of all eligible purchases on Amazon to the charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](#), then choose Asolo Rep as your charity. The donation will be made at no extra cost to you.

Or consider donating directly to the Asolo COVID-19 Fund:

[Donate to the Asolo COVID-19 Fund](#)

With the cancellation of 109 performances, Asolo Rep could have possibly lost \$1.6 million in ticket revenue. Thanks to ticket donations and contributions from our philanthropic community, the loss will be significantly less.

Asolo Rep is proud to announce the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation will match every dollar donated to Asolo Rep's COVID-19 Assistance Fund up to \$50,000 beginning immediately. This matching challenge will help redress the financial repercussions of Asolo Rep's truncated 2019-20 season. Asolo Rep extends our gratitude to the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation for their vital support and unwavering leadership during this time.

Please consider a generous donation at this time so that we can continue to fulfill our mission of presenting artistic excellence and meaningful education and engagement programs to Southwest Florida. You can donate to our Covid19 fund by visiting AsoloRepCovid19.givesmart.com OR by texting AsoloRepCovid19 to 76278.

Until next week! **Stay well and STAY ENGAGED.**

world class theatre

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made in sarasota



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