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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
Thursday, June 8, 2017

## **Kauffman Center Free Community Event Future Stages Festival Announces Festival Performers and Activities**

*4th Annual Future Stages Festival to feature 700 youth performers*

Kansas City, MO – Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is proud to announce the performers and interactive art partners for the fourth annual Future Stages Festival. This free community event will be held at the Kauffman Center on Sunday, June 25 from 11am - 4pm. Future Stages Festival is designed to celebrate the arts and shine a spotlight on area youth performers. Showcasing diversity in the arts, the festival will include performances on three stages and interactive arts activities for all ages.

This year's festival is presented by Premier Partner, Saint Luke's Health System and will feature **27 community groups from the greater Kansas City region** performing throughout the day in Muriel Kauffman Theatre, Helzberg Hall, and the Saint Luke's Outdoor Stage. Performance groups were selected through an application process, and represent a variety of performing arts disciplines.

Future Stages Festival invites attendees to engage in FREE arts activities hosted on the south lawn at the Kauffman Center and indoors in Brandmeyer Great Hall. Activities will feature a wide range of art forms including kite-making, stage combat training, community drum circles, and dance workshops.

Registration for this free event is encouraged but not required. Event details and updates can be found at [kauffmancenter.org/futurestages](http://kauffmancenter.org/futurestages).

Media images are available [HERE](#) for use.

### **Future Stages Festival Featured Performances by:**

5 Star Jazz Band  
AileyCamp - The Group  
Caruthers Dance Studio Troupe - The Hot Stepperz  
Crescendo Conservatory - Crescendo in Motion  
Grupo Axé Capoeira  
Harmony Project KC  
Heart of America Shakespeare Festival - Team Shakespeare  
House of Dance and BEST NETWORK  
Ice Studios School of Dance  
Kansas City Ballet  
Kansas City Youth Percussion Ensemble  
KC Boys Choir & KC Girls Choir  
KC Institute of Chinese Language and Culture Dance Group

Knox Church Celebration Choir  
Kristi's Academy of Dance LLC  
Lily Zhang Li Taylor Dance Academy  
Louder Than a Bomb KC Poets  
Lyric Opera of Kansas City  
Metropolitan Strings Academy Orchestra  
Music Theatre Kansas City, SunRaise  
Ottawa Suzuki Strings  
Starlight STARS  
Take the Stage Outreach Program  
The Pulse Performing Arts Center Competition & Performance Company  
The Smithville Ringleaders  
Traditional Music Society's Soundz of Africa Youth Ensemble  
United Dance Performers

**Interactive Arts Activities Provided by:**

American Institute of Architects - Kansas City  
Drum Safari  
Great American Kites and Events  
Heart of America Shakespeare Festival  
Kansas City Ballet  
Kansas City Symphony  
Kansas City Zoo  
KC Chalk and Walk  
Keys 4/4 Kids: Pianos on Parade  
Lucia Aerial  
Lyric Opera of Kansas City  
Mattie Rhodes Center  
Museum at PrairieFire  
Saint Luke's Health System  
StoneLion Puppet Theatre  
The Last Carnival  
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art  
UMKC Conservatory of Music and Dance

**IMPORTANT INFORMATION**

- **When:** 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday, June 25, 2017
- **Where:** Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts, 1601 Broadway Blvd., Kansas City, MO 64108
- **Cost:** Future Stages Festival is FREE and open to the public. Attendees are encouraged to register at [www.kauffmancenter.org/futurestages](http://www.kauffmancenter.org/futurestages) or by phone at (816) 994-7222 to receive the latest event updates and schedule for performances and activities.
- **More information:** Registration is optional. No tickets will be issued. Once registered, attendees will automatically qualify for a drawing to win two tickets to an upcoming performance at the Kauffman Center.
- All ages are welcome and programming is suggested as most suitable for families with youth ages 4 - 15.

As an extension of the Kauffman Center's Open Doors *Spotlight on Youth* program, the festival gives youth and community arts organizations the opportunity to perform and celebrate the arts in Kansas City.

## **ABOUT THE OPEN DOORS PROGRAM**

The Kauffman Center Open Doors program connects young people to the arts through three major components:

- The Open Doors [Spotlight on Youth](#) initiative contains several programs that inspire and nurture the next generation of artists, arts patrons, and arts professionals with access to the Kauffman Center's staff, stages, and resources.
- The Open Doors [Community Tickets](#) program offers access to programming at the Kauffman Center for youth and families through reduced price or free tickets.
- The Open Doors [Transportation Fund](#) offers funding to schools in the metropolitan area so that bringing students to the Kauffman Center for school matinee performances is more affordable.

More information is available at [kauffmancenter.org/open-doors](http://kauffmancenter.org/open-doors).

## **ABOUT THE KAUFFMAN CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS**

The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts – a major not-for-profit center for music, opera, theater and dance designed by Moshe Safdie – opened in 2011. Serving as a cultural cornerstone for Kansas City and the region, the Kauffman Center delivers extraordinary and diverse performing arts experiences. Honored as one of the World's 15 Most Beautiful Concert Halls, the Kauffman Center attracts some of the world's most renowned performers and entertainers.

Through educational outreach programs and community enrichment, the Kauffman Center supports Kansas City as a cultural destination. More information on the Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is available at [kauffmancenter.org](http://kauffmancenter.org).

Follow the Kauffman Center on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram to get details about upcoming performances and behind-the-scenes access.



**#kauffmancenter**