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## **KAUFFMAN CENTER ACCEPTING PERFORMANCE APPLICATIONS FOR FIFTH ANNIVERSARY FUTURE STAGES FESTIVAL**

*Annual free performing arts festival will be held at the Kauffman Center in June 2018*

Kansas City, MO – The Kauffman Center for the Performing Arts is excited to announce the tradition of celebrating Kansas City youth and the arts will continue with the fifth anniversary Future Stages Festival on Sunday, June 10, 2018.

This fun and free community event showcases Greater Kansas City's diversity in the performing arts while featuring youth artists from a wide range of performance styles. 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 at the Kauffman Center.

The first four Future Stages Festival events brought more than 2,500 youth artists from 60 community arts organizations to perform on the Kauffman Center's stages. The fifth anniversary Future Stages Festival aims to feature more performance groups and provide new interactive opportunities for festival guests.

This year's festival lineup will include performances in Helzberg Hall, Muriel Kauffman Theatre and the Saint Luke's Outdoor Stage. To celebrate the fifth Future Stages Festival, there will be a new stage featuring community partner activities and small acts with up to 10 performers per group.

[Click here to view images from the fourth annual Future Stages Festival on June 25, 2017.](#)



*Performers from the Lily Zhang Li Dance Academy in the Muriel Kauffman Theater for Future Stages Festival 2017. Photo by Cody Boston.*

## CALL FOR APPLICATIONS FOR YOUTH PERFORMERS

Applications are now open for young performers and local arts groups to be a part of the fifth annual Future Stages Festival. Community arts organizations and school programs are encouraged to apply. Performance groups should primarily consist of youth performers between the ages of 5 – 18.

Strong consideration for the festival mainstages will be given to larger groups (25+). Small acts with fewer than 10 performers are encouraged to apply to perform on a new fourth stage.

For more information or to apply to perform at Future Stages Festival, [click here](#). The deadline for performer applications is March 5, 2018.

*Future Stages Festival is presented by Premier Partner Saint Luke's Health System. Additional funding is provided by the Missouri Arts Council and festival support is provided by Southwest Airlines.*

## 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 offers year-round programs and engagement opportunities that connect young people with the Kauffman Center.
- The Open Doors [Community Tickets](#) program offers free and reduced priced performance tickets to underserved audiences through local social service agencies and schools.
- The Open Doors [Transportation Fund](#) helps schools offer high quality performing arts experiences to students by eliminating or defraying the costs of bus transportation.

More information about Open Doors programs 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.



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