

OCTOBER 2025



# FROM THE WINGS

## RBTL WELCOMES MORE THAN 13,000 PATRONS TO LAUNCH 2025-2026 M&T BANK BROADWAY SEASON

RBTL is extending its thanks to the more than 13,000 patrons who attended performances of "Clue" at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre October 21-26 to launch the 2025-2026 M&T Bank Broadway Season and the show's North American tour. RBTL would also like to thank its patrons for their continued patience throughout the past year as we worked to enhance the theatre-going experience for all.

For many, "Clue" was the first opportunity to see the new improvements to the building. The most recently completed project included the West Herr Performing Arts Center's newly reimagined west entrance and drop-off area and the corridor leading to the lobby. Those who used this entrance over the course of the eight performances of "Clue" also had the opportunity to experience the restored Floreano Room, a new pre-show and post-show entertainment space.

Those who entered the building from East Main Street noticed that the work on the front steps and lawn is nearly complete. One set of stairs on the West Herr Auditorium Theatre side of the building is freshly poured and useable, thanks to the quick work from Pike Construction Services. Their crews are now actively working to complete the stairs leading to the Performing Arts Center lobby. These enhancements are the latest in PROJECT RESTOURATION, meeting the evolving needs of patrons and dramatically improving guest experiences.

"As people see the new spaces for the first time, the most common word we're hearing is it's 'shocking,' and I think that's going to be the emotional



*The freshly poured concrete steps outside the West Herr Auditorium Theatre.*

## UPCOMING EVENTS:

SWAN LAKE

November 2

RPO PRESENTS JAWS IN  
CONCERT

November 7

WBEE'S GUITARS & STARS

November 12

ROCKY HORROR PICTURE SHOW

November 13

LEGENDS OF LAUGHTER

November 15



WEST HERR  
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER  
875 EAST MAIN STREET  
ROCHESTER, NY 14605  
[RBTL.ORG](http://RBTL.ORG)



@RBTLAUD

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response people will continue to have,” said RBTL CEO Arnie Rothschild. “It’s a very intensive project, but it’s going to be a place that Rochesterians are going to brag about, and that’s our goal.”

Back to the new entertainment space, the Floreano Room opens 90 minutes prior to curtain, offering a variety of refreshments – including a revamped menu courtesy of Palmer Foods. In addition to beverages, also available for purchase are sandwiches, charcuterie and desserts, with gluten-free options. The Floreano Room is also open for coffee and desserts following performances.

“The great thing about the Theatre now, is that it’s an all-inclusive experience,” said Palmer Foods Corporate Executive Chef Tom Chamot. “I’m glad we’re elevating it to a point nobody else has done, at least in Rochester.”

“We want to exceed the expectations, we don’t just want to meet them,” added Palmer Foods CEO Kip Palmer. “There are going to be some options that everyone really enjoys, but we’re also going to change it up. We believe audiences will have fun and it’s going to be a night at the theatre.”



*The new bar in the restored Floreano Room, open 90 minutes prior to curtain.*

And it certainly was a night at the Theatre during “Clue’s” engagement! Many patrons took advantage of the Floreano Room’s earlier opening time to grab a drink or a snack, and relax before the start of the show.

“I’m very impressed,” said patron John Ryan. “This is my first time here in ten years, and it’s amazing. The work that they’ve done is really great.”

Longtime RBTL Season ticket holders Jan and Jim Buch added, “We knew something was coming, we just didn’t know what and it’s fabulous. Compared to what it used to be, what they have done here is fabulous. People have to come to see this.”



*The new baguette sandwich (ham or turkey & cheese) now offered in the Floreano Room.*



*Muffins are available during matinees, while assorted pies & cake slices are offered at all performances.*



*A charcuterie cup is now available on the menu.*

For a more in-depth look at the new menu and to hear more about what went into creating it, check out our video on the West Herr Performing Arts Center [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [LinkedIn](#) pages.



# SPOTLIGHT ON: *HAMILTON*

**Engagement Dates:** November 18-30

**Book, Music & Lyrics By:** Lin-Manuel Miranda ("In the Heights" & "Moana")

**Directed By:** Thomas Kail ("In the Heights" & "Sweeney Todd")

**Choreography By:** Andy Blankenbuehler ("In the Heights" & "Annie")

**Orchestrations By:** Alex Lacamoire ("Wicked" & "Sweeney Todd")

**Author of the Book "Alexander Hamilton:"** Ron Chernow

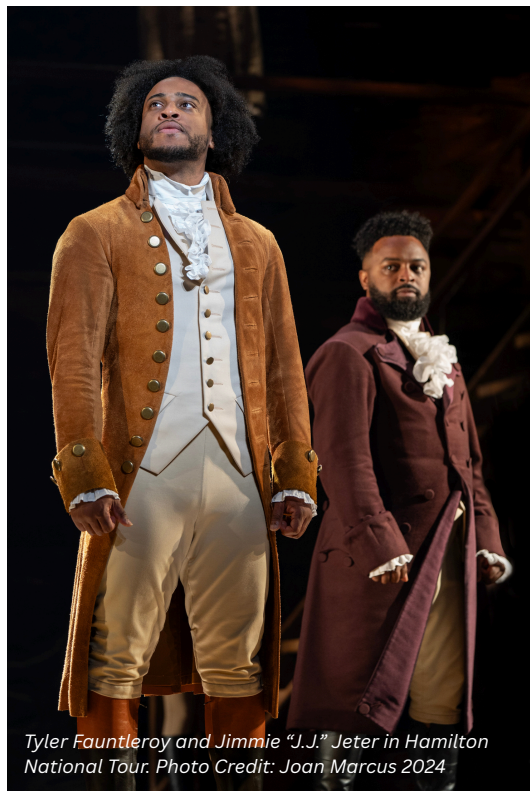
**Age Recommendation:** 10+

**Running Time:** 2 hours & 55 minutes, including an intermission



**Synopsis:** A revolutionary story of passion, unstoppable ambition and the dawn of a new nation. "Hamilton" is the epic saga that follows the rise of Founding Father Alexander Hamilton as he fights for honor, love and a legacy that would shape the course of a nation. Based on Ron Chernow's acclaimed biography and set to a score that blends hip-hop, jazz, R&B and Broadway, "Hamilton" has had a profound impact on culture, politics and education. "Hamilton" features book, music and lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda, direction by Thomas Kail, choreography by Andy Blankenbuehler and musical supervision and orchestrations by Alex Lacamoire. In addition to its 11 Tony Awards, it has won Grammy®, Olivier Awards, the Pulitzer Prize for Drama and an unprecedented special citation from the Kennedy Center Honors.

**Reviews:** The Guardian said "'Hamilton' is the kind of transformative theatrical experience that has only happened a few times in the history of American musicals." While The New York Times called it "a theatrical landmark," with Time Out adding it's "The greatest American musical in decades."



**Additional Information:** When "Hamilton" arrives, this will mark the third time the production has performed on the Auditorium Theatre stage. It was previously in town in 2019 (Rochester debut) and 2022.

This two-week engagement of "Hamilton" is presented as a Season subscription add-on. Due to the second week falling over the Thanksgiving holiday, there will be a Monday night performance on November 24, as well as a 1:00 p.m. matinee on Friday, November 28. Please also note that all evening performances begin at 7:00 p.m. Tickets are available at the Auditorium Box Office or [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com).

# VARIETY OF ENTERTAINMENT COMING TO WEST HERR AUDITORIUM THEATRE THIS NOVEMBER

RBTL strives to offer something for everyone at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre. And this November we are doing exactly that. In addition to the Broadway engagement of "Hamilton," there will be a ballet performance, film screenings, a concert and comedy show. Check out the events below and go to the Auditorium Box Office or [Ticketmaster.com](https://www.ticketmaster.com) to purchase tickets.



Experience the world's most in-demand ballet, "Swan Lake," on November 2<sup>nd</sup> presented by Classical Arts Entertainment. This full-scale production features Tchaikovsky's legendary score and brings the masterful choreography by Marius Petipa and Lev Ivanov to life. You will be spellbound by the iconic variation of Little Swans, Odile's 32 fouettés, and the graceful movements of the talented Ukrainian dancers. With more than 200 custom scenery pieces adding grandeur and beauty, this production promises to be a spectacular visual treat. Join us to celebrate Classical Arts Entertainment's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary with an unforgettable experience!

Just when you thought it was safe to go back in the concert hall... The original summer movie blockbuster, with an Academy Award®-winning score by composer John Williams, "JAWS" is an unforgettable film-with-live-orchestra experience! Directed by Academy Award® winner Steven Spielberg, "JAWS" set the standard for edge-of-your-seat suspense, quickly becoming a cultural phenomenon and forever changing the movie industry. In honor of the film's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, audiences will have the chance to experience the power of the Rochester Philharmonic Orchestra performing the entire score in sync with one of the greatest motion pictures of all time on November 7<sup>th</sup>. In the words of Chief Brody, "You're gonna need a bigger boat!"



WBEE's legendary "Guitars & Stars" concert is back!

Five artists sharing one stage for a night of acoustic music and the stories behind the songs. Featuring LANCO, George Birge, Kameron Marlowe, Redferrin and Greytan James... it all goes down November 12<sup>th</sup>!

"The Rocky Horror Picture Show" is the iconic little movie that conquered Hollywood. Join the original 'Brad Majors' - Barry Bostwick - for a screening of the original unedited movie with a live shadow cast and audience participation on November 13<sup>th</sup>! Plus a memorabilia display with artifacts and an actual costume from the movie, a costume contest, and more! Every ticket purchased includes one bag of "Rocky Horror" props for audience participation throughout the event.



The highly-anticipated "Legends of Laughter" Tour is coming to West Herr Auditorium Theatre on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Featuring a diverse range of comedians, including Sommore (Netflix's "Queen Chandelier"), Lavell Crawford ("Breaking Bad," "Better Call Saul"), Arnez J (BET's "Comic View"), Don DC Curry ("Next Friday") and Junior (BET's "Comic View"), the all-star lineup promises a memorable evening!



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# ANNOUNCING CORNELL/WEINSTEIN FAMILY FOUNDATION SUPPORT OF STARS OF TOMORROW & STARS OF TOMORROW NYC BOUND PROGRAMS

RBTL is grateful to announce the Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation's support of our arts education programs. The Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation is a multi-generation foundation started in 1986. Over four decades, the foundation has contributed to a broad number of critical institutions and programs.

"We have had a long-standing commitment to fostering educational opportunities as well as a commitment to vibrant theater," said Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation Executive Director, Linda Cornell Weinstein. "The Stars of Tomorrow program is an excellent way to blend these values by engaging and encouraging young people in developing their interest, talent and love of theater."

RBTL's Stars of Tomorrow, which has additional support from WROC News 8 and Lake Beverage, recognizes the high school musical in true Tony® Award fashion. The program's main intent is to bring long overdue praise to high school musicals and performing arts students. High schools in Monroe and surrounding counties with fall and spring productions are invited to participate in the program. Trained evaluators, comprised of performing arts educators and professionals, travel to watch each school's production and provide students with feedback in a variety of categories. The program culminates with its annual Celebration Gala in May, where students have the opportunity to perform a number from their musical on the West Herr Auditorium Theatre stage.

This Season, 49 local high schools are participating in Stars of Tomorrow. Those schools include:

- Albion High School
- The Aquinas Institute
- Avon High School
- Batavia High School
- Bishop Kearney High School
- Bloomfield Central School District
- Brighton High School
- Caledonia-Mumford Middle/High School
- Campbell-Savona Central School District
- Canandaigua Academy
- Churchville-Chili Sr. High School
- Dansville High School
- Eastridge High School
- Gananda High School
- Greece Arcadia High School
- Greece Odyssey Academy
- Greece Olympia High School
- The Harley School
- Hilton High School
- Honeoye Falls-Lima High School
- Le Roy Jr./Sr. High School
- Lima Christian School
- Lyndonville Central School
- Lyons Middle/High School
- Marcus Whitman Central School
- Marion High School
- McQuaid Jesuit
- Medina Jr./Sr. High School
- Midlakes Middle/High School
- Mount Morris Central School District
- Mynderse Academy
- Newark High School
- Our Lady of Mercy School for Young Women
- Palmyra-Macedon High School
- Penfield High School
- Penn Yan Academy
- Perry High School
- Pittsford Mendon High School
- Pittsford Sutherland High School
- Rush-Henrietta Sr. High School
- School of the Arts
- Spencerport High School
- Victor High School
- Warsaw Middle/High School
- Wayne Central School District
- Webster Schroeder High School
- Wheatland-Chili Middle/High School
- Williamson High School
- York Central School District

Select recognized performers from the Stars of Tomorrow program will become eligible to participate in Stars of Tomorrow NYC Bound. Nominees compete live for appointed judges until two performers are chosen to represent Rochester in a national competition in New York City in June; the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (NHSMTA), also known as the Jimmy Awards®.

RBTL believes that arts and performance are among the most eloquent means of understanding and appreciating the human spirit and therefore must be an essential part of every child's education. Arts education teaches discipline, inspires creativity and helps young people set and reach goals. RBTL is committed to an education both in and out of the classroom that engages and encourages children and their families to explore, experience, participate in and enjoy the richness of the arts as an essential element of the human experience. RBTL is appreciative that the Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation is helping to further this mission.



# ROCHESTER MAYOR ISSUES PROCLAMATION AS *CLUE* LAUNCHES NORTH AMERICAN TOUR & RBTL'S 2025-2026 M&T BANK BROADWAY SEASON

City of Rochester Mayor Malik D. Evans has issued a proclamation as "Clue" launched both its Second North American tour and RBTL and Albert Nocciolino's M&T Bank Broadway Season at the West Herr Auditorium Theatre and Performing Arts Center. Prior to the Opening Night performance, Mayor Evans took the stage to declare Tuesday, October 21 "Clue Day," presenting the proclamation to "Clue" director, Casey Hushion, and playwright, Sandy Rustin.

"Whether you are a fan of the popular board game or the classic 1985 movie, 'Clue' is a show you won't want to miss," said Rochester Mayor Malik D. Evans. "On behalf of the entire Rochester community, I want to welcome the cast, creative and production teams, and thank them for selecting the beautiful West Herr Performing Arts Center as their home base to rehearse, prepare and kick off both their upcoming North American tour, and the Rochester Broadway Theatre League's 2025-2026 Broadway Season."

This proclamation comes after the company of "Clue" spent nearly two weeks in Rochester ahead of their engagement holding technical rehearsals. During this time, the cast and crew were out in the community utilizing hotels, restaurants and other businesses, boosting the local economy.



Rochester Mayor Malik D. Evans presents Clue director, Casey Hushion, and playwright, Sandy Rustin, with the "Clue Day" proclamation on stage.

"We are ecstatic that another production has chosen Rochester as the launching point for its tour," said long-time RBTL partner and presenter, Albert Nocciolino. "Not only is the company taking advantage of a historical venue to hold technical rehearsals, but they are also immersing themselves in a city that has so much to offer."

"Clue" was the first show of RBTL's 2025-2026 Broadway Season. It will be followed by "& Juliet," "Spamalot," "Wicked," "Kimberly Akimbo," "A Beautiful Noise" and "Suffs."

6-Show Season Ticket Packages are available now for the remaining shows in RBTL's Broadway Season. Patrons can choose the performance they wish to attend (Tuesday-Sunday, including matinees), and preferred seating/pricing. Subscribers also receive exclusive Subscriber Benefits, which include the ability to renew the same great seats year after year! Subscribers also have the opportunity to add tickets for "Hamilton" to their package. More information can be found on RBTL.org.

## BROADWAY SOUNDTRACKS TO LISTEN TO THIS HALLOWEEN

*The Addams Family*

*Beetlejuice*

*Death Becomes Her*

*Ghost*

*Jekyll & Hyde*

*Little Shop of Horrors*

*The Phantom of the Opera*

*The Rocky Horror Picture Show*

*Sweeney Todd*

*Young Frankenstein*