



SOCIETY FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS
Bringing the World's Best to Houston

2017-2018 Season H-E-B Performance Preludes Guidelines

In conjunction with Society for the Performing Arts' main stage season presentations, the Education & Community Engagement Department seeks to showcase talented local companies and ensembles, outstanding school programs, and exceptional young artists through its H-E-B Performance Preludes program.

To ensure that this opportunity is the right fit for you/your group, **please review this document** before submitting your application.

See the "2017-2018 Performance Prelude Application" for instructions on how to apply. **Applications are due no later than 5:00 PM on June 16, 2017. Selected artists will be notified on or before July 7, 2017.**

Artist Benefits

Participating in the H-E-B Performance Preludes program provides myriad benefits to performing groups, including:

- Up to 25 complimentary tickets to the evening's presentation (or an alternate presentation, depending on availability) for artists and chaperones.
- Exposure to arts-engaged audiences (the average H-EB Performance Prelude audience size during the 2016-2017 season was approximately 935 patrons).
- A featured bio on the SPA website prior to the performance.
- A featured bio on usher cards distributed at the venue.
- Listing in the online SPA 2017-2018 season events calendar.
- Display of business cards, fliers, and other marketing materials at the SPA Marketing Table in the main lobby for the duration of the presentation.
- Approximately 15-20 minutes of performance time to showcase the group's talents.

Season Schedule

Performance Prelude opportunities will be offered prior to the following 2015-2016 season presentations:

Presentation	Date	Time	Venue
MOMIX <i>Opus Cactus</i>	September 15, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
ODC/Dance: <i>Velveteen Rabbit</i>	September 22, 2017	7:30 PM	Wortham Center
Van Cliburn Competition Gold Medal Winner	September 27, 2017	7:30 PM	Wortham Center
Penn and Teller	October 13, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
U-Theater: <i>Sword of Wisdom</i>	October 14, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
Alisa Weilerstein and Inon Barnatan	October 21, 2017	7:30 PM	Wortham Center
2CELLOS	November 2, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Tango Buenos Aires	November 3, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
Renée Fleming	November 4, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
A Wynonna & the Big Noise Christmas	December 7, 2017	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Kinky Boots	January 19, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Kinky Boots	January 20, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Piano Battle	February 3, 2018	7:30 PM	Wortham Center*
Nufonia Must Fall	February 9, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
The Illusionists Present: Adam Trent	February 10, 2018	8:00 PM	Jones Hall†
Compañía Nacional de Danza: <i>Carmen</i>	March 10, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater	March 16, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater	March 16, 2018	2:00 PM	Jones Hall†
Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater	March 17, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Bria Skonberg	March 23, 2018	7:30 PM	Wortham Center
TAO: <i>Drum Heart</i>	April 14, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall
Pedrito Martinez	May 5, 2018	7:30 PM	Wortham Center*

Ira Glass	May 12, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
Ballet Hispánico	May 19, 2018	7:30 PM	Wortham Center
The Sound of Music	June 1, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†
The Sound of Music	June 2, 2018	7:30 PM	Jones Hall†

*These presentations run concurrently with Houston Grand Opera or Houston Ballet performances. Preludes will be limited to 15 minutes and can only take place on the Grand Foyer Bridge.

†Tickets to these performances will be limited or are unavailable. If we are unable to distribute tickets, Performance Prelude groups will receive tickets to an alternate performance.

Waitlist

The number of applications we receive each year far exceeds the number of Performance Prelude opportunities available. SPA will offer all artists not selected for 2017-2018 season a spot on the waitlist (in the order in which applications were originally received). Occasionally, additional performances are added and/or H-E-B Performance Prelude artists drop out. In the event that you are selected from the waitlist, you will be contacted by an SPA staff member.

Performance Locations

All Performance Preludes will take place at either The Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts or the Gus S. Wortham Theater Center. More information can be found at houstonfirsttheaters.com and on pages 4 and 5 of this application.

Jesse H. Jones Hall for the Performing Arts

615 Louisiana Street
Houston, Texas 77002

Performance space details:

- Performances take place on the Piano Level or Wine Bar Level
- Floor is carpeted; special flooring such as marley cannot be provided
- Piano Level dimensions are 29 feet wide by 17 feet deep – see *Appendix A*
- Wine Bar Level dimensions are 26 feet wide by 18 feet deep
- Dressing rooms based on show availability

The Gus S. Wortham Theater Center

500 Texas Avenue
Houston, Texas 77002

Performance space details:

- Performances take place in either the Grand Foyer or on the Bridge
- Floor is carpeted; special flooring such as marley cannot be provided
- Grand Foyer dimensions range from 48 feet wide by 20-48 feet deep (depending on the mainstage presentation) – see *Appendix B*
- Bridge dimensions are 25 feet wide by 17 feet deep – see *Appendix B*
- Dressing rooms based on show availability

Equipment and Materials

SPA's Education & Community Engagement Department is able to provide the following upon request:

- Piano with bench (Jones Hall only—no piano is available at the Wortham Center)
- PA system with mixer
- Microphone with stand
- Auxiliary input cable for iPod or laptop connection
- Extension cord
- Power strip
- Tables
- Chairs
- Music stands

Artists are responsible for any items not on this list, such as water or additional audio equipment.

Performance Details

Approximately four to six weeks prior to your scheduled Performance Prelude, an SPA staff member will contact you via email to confirm the details of your performance and to ensure all data on your application is current.

In addition, please note the following:

- Artists and chaperones may arrive no earlier than 1.5 hours prior to the main stage performance start time (when hall doors open). SPA cannot guarantee that a staff member will be available to greet groups that arrive too early.
- Artists are responsible for set-up/tear-down of all equipment and materials.
- Performance Preludes occur approximately 35 minutes prior to the main stage presentation. For example, if the main stage presentation is at 7:30 PM, then the Performance Prelude will begin at 7:10 PM. Some exceptions apply.
- Performances must begin and end on time.
- Artists have 20 minutes of scheduled performance time. SPA expects performances to last between 15 – 20 minutes; however, performances should not exceed 20 minutes.
- Every effort should be made to take all materials and personal items into the hall during the main stage presentation, when possible. However, equipment and materials may be stored in the SPA offices if absolutely necessary. All items must be retrieved promptly at the conclusion of the event.
- While we're happy to display a group's business cards, fliers, and other marketing materials at our SPA Marketing Table in the main lobby, we request that groups do not individually solicit patrons before, during, or after the Performance Prelude with marketing materials of any kind.

Tickets

Every effort will be made to provide complimentary tickets to the main stage presentation of your Performance Prelude for artists and a limited number of chaperones; however, SPA cannot guarantee availability for every show, especially those marked with a † symbol on the Season Schedule (page 1). Should tickets not be available for the main stage presentation, tickets to an alternate SPA presentation will be offered.

If SPA cannot provide tickets (or as many tickets as you would like) to the main stage presentation of your Performance Prelude, you have the option to purchase tickets at the group discount rate. To do so, please contact Lee Strickland, SPA General Manager, at 713-632-8114 or lee@spahouston.org.

Questions?

Contact SPA's Education & Community Engagement Department:

Shannon Crider
Education Programs Manager
713-632-8112
scrider@spahouston.org | education@spahouston.org

Appendix A
Prelude Space: Jones Hall Piano Level



Appendix B

Prelude Space: Wortham Theater Center Grand Foyer



Prelude Space: Wortham Theater Center Bridge

