

# THE 17<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF NEW MUSICALS

## FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

**KICK-OFF PARTY - DOORS OPEN AT 5:00 PM**

Musical Previews - 6:00 PM  
Food provided by Pogacha  
Francis J. Gaudette Theatre Lobby

**NIKOLA TESLA DROPS THE BEAT - 7:00 PM**

Francis J. Gaudette Theatre

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 12

**VO ALL MEMBER BRUNCH - 10:30-NOON**

Includes all members  
Francis J. Gaudette Lobby

**NORTHWEST SONGWRITERS SHOWCASE - 12:30 PM**

First Stage Theatre

**HART ISLAND - 2:00 PM**

Francis J. Gaudette Theatre

**AFTERWORDS - 7:00 PM**

Francis J. Gaudette Theatre

**MEET THE ARTISTS PARTY - 9:30 PM**

Includes VO Circle Level Members  
Executive Producer Robb Hunt's Home

## SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

**HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE - 2:00 PM**

Francis J. Gaudette Theatre

**VO CIRCLE LEVEL DINNER PARTY - 4:30 PM**

By invitation only  
Pogacha of Issaquah

**ZM - 7:00 PM**

Francis J. Gaudette Theatre

**CLOSING NIGHT PARTY - 9:30 PM**

Includes all members  
FINS Bistro and the  
Francis J. Gaudette Theatre Lobby

Village Theatre  
#Village  
originals

### NIKOLA TESLA DROPS THE BEAT

**Book, Music, and Lyrics by Nikko Benson and Benjamin Halstead**

A misunderstood genius. A rivalry for the ages. A dream that would change the world forever. *Nikola Tesla Drops the Beat* is an Electronic Dance Musical that turns the volume up on one of the world's most influential yet overlooked inventors and his struggle to realize his vision of the future. In this anachronistic universe, Tesla is a genius DJ whose sounds push the limits of what his audience can handle. The innovative score translates his electric obsessions into electronic music: alternating current loop-pedal soundscapes, wireless dance-floor frequencies, and mad-scientist dubstep breakdowns. Come feel the beat drop.

### HART ISLAND

**Book, Music, and Lyrics by Danny Larsen and Michelle Elliott**

**\*\*Contains strong adult language and content**

*Hart Island* is the story of two people on the fringe of society—Charles, an incarcerated man, and Marielena, an undocumented young woman. Their lives intersect on Hart Island, New York City's public burial ground. Although Charles and Marielena are marginalized by the rest of the world, they come to appreciate each other's humanity—a powerful action in a world that elevates division and isolation over compassion and respect.

### AFTERWORDS

**Music and Lyrics by Zoe Sarnak, Book by Emily Kaczmarek**

When an accomplished war reporter is killed on assignment, his diaries are left to his protégé, Jo. But their pages provide her with more questions than comfort, chronicling his turbulent midlife love affair and pointing mysteriously toward Kali and Simone, artist sisters mourning the loss of their volatile mother. As entanglements deepen and past collides with present, Kali, Simone, and Jo relay three sides of one story through the show's music, set, and book. *Afterwords* is a new musical about three women bound by notes scribbled down on paper, and the art we make from the love that makes us.

### HOWL'S MOVING CASTLE

**Based on an original book by Diana Wynne Jones, Adapted by Myra Platt, Music and Lyrics by Justin Huertas**

When Sophie unwittingly attracts the ire of the Witch of the Waste, she finds herself transformed into an old woman. To break the enchantment, Sophie must strike a bargain with a fire demon and seek the help of the heartless wizard Howl before facing the Witch head-on. The award-winning novel—post-J.R.R. Tolkien, pre-J.K. Rowling—with music and lyrics by Justin Huertas inspires each of us to find our voice.

### ZM

**Music and Lyrics by Mark Hollmann, Book and Lyrics by Greg Kotis**

*ZM* takes place in a remote American town where a fast-food franchise is test-marketing a new sandwich that, apparently, turns people into zombies. *ZM* follows Barnabas Young and Mercy Rider, two teenage lovers/fast-food workers, who are separated during the outbreak. Barnabas searches for the franchise president to warn him about the sandwich while Mercy stays behind to look after the president's wounded son. The lovers eventually reunite, but not before committing unspeakable acts that change them forever. In the end, the two learn the terrible truth about the source of the plague and the outcome it was designed to create.