

SEASON 77
SETTING A
NEW STAGE



Thank you to our Sponsors

Our sponsors are the cornerstone for absolutely everything this theatre brings to our community. Their early, generous and ongoing support provides stability and the funding necessary to make professional live theatre thrive in downtown San Luis Obispo.

Please join us in thanking the Season Sponsors listed below and all the generous show and program sponsors noted in this booklet and recognized throughout our season.

Vanguard Sponsor



Season Sponsors













"The overture is about to start, You cross your fingers and hold your heart, it's curtain time and away we go, another op'nin of another show!" — COLE PORTER





"To think that we have this quality of theatre in our community is just mind blowing." - SANDI, FACEBOOK

"SLO REP delivers the goods...enthralling, earthy, and entertaining." - CHARLOTTE ALEXANDER, WISETOTHEWORDS.COM

"Brilliant and mesmerizing from beginning to end...Bravo!" - LESTER, INSTAGRAM



SEASON TICKET PACKAGES BEST SEATS & PRICES

Season Tickets offer you the BEST SEATS, at the BEST PRICE and year-round professional live theatre in downtown San Luis Obispo.



Easy to Order

Use the enclosed season ticket order form to specify your preferred dates and seats and return the form to the box office with your payment. Season subscribers receive priority seating for our Mainstage season shows, exclusive discounts for *Beehive -The 60s Musical* and early-bird seating to *A Christmas Story* and ACT productions.

Benefits

- Season ticket holders get first dibs on great seats for all performances and SLO REP staff books your seats for you!
- 2 Easy Exchanges Can't make a show? No problem. Just give us a call and we're happy to exchange your seats.
- 3 Lowest prices Save on season tickets and on BEEHIVE The 60's Musical (when ordered with season subscription).
- 4 Early access and priority seating for all shows (when purchased with subscription).

TICKETS ON SALE DATES

JUNE 9

Season Tickets ON

Priority seating offered to returning season subscribers and donors. No online sales. All seating handled by SLO REP Staff.

JUNE 29

Season ticket packages will be mailed via USPS beginning June 29, 2023.

JULY 6*

ALL SHOWS ON SALE online, by phone, in person

Patrons may choose their own seats for individual shows and/or flex season passes.

2023 | 2024 Season At-A-Glance

5 Mainstage Season Shows Get the best seats and save as a Season Subscriber!	Stones in his Pockets	Aug 11 - 27, 2023
	Nunsense	Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, 2023
	What the Constitution Means to Me	Mar 29 - Apr. 14, 2024
	The Thanksgiving Play	May 3 - 19, 2024
	9 to 5 The Musical	June 7 - 30, 2024
Gala Musical	Beehive - The 60s Musical	Feb 9 - Mar 10, 2024
	Beehive Bash Gala	Feb 16, 2024
Holiday Show	A Christmas Story	Nov. 17 - Dec 23, 2023
ACT Children & Family Shows	Honk Jr!	July 14 - 23, 2023
	Suite Surrender	Jan 12 - 21, 2024
5 Ubu's Other Shoe Staged Readings	Keely and Du	Sept 1 - 2, 2023
	Heroes of the Fourth Turning	Oct 20 - 21, 2023
	The Revolutionists	Jan 26 - 27, 2024
	Constellations	Mar 15 - 16, 2024
	World Premiere TBD	Apr 19 - 20, 2024



Join our Season Subscriber Family and order your tickets today!

SEASON 77 | SETTING A NEW STAGE

Welcome to the 2023-2024 Season!

As we begin our last few years at 888 Morro Street we are thrilled to bring our audiences a season of plays which celebrate the past, examine the present, and look to the future of SLO REP and arts in our community. Plays which will continue to connect people in ways that open the mind, nourish the soul, and illuminate our shared humanity.

This season will bring nearly 200 incredibly gifted performers, directors, technicians, and designers into our theatre and our community. While SLO REP has persevered over the last few tumultuous years, we need your support to make this ambitious season come to life on our stage.

The best way to continue to support San Luis Obispo County's only professional non-profit theatre is to BECOME A SLO REP SEASON SUBSCRIBER.

Being a subscriber ensures that you will get the BEST seats at the BEST price and never hear the words SOLD OUT again.

A NEW STAGE

For 30 fabulous years, 888 Morro Street has been our home for more than 500 wonderful productions. Since 1993, this 97-seat converted library has served us well, but the nearly 70 year old building is really showing its age and we are truly bursting at the seams. **Now is the time for A New Stage**.



In just a few years, SLO REP will be moving into our brand-new, 2-theatre venue in San Luis Obispo's new downtown Cultural Arts District, taking 33 years of memories of 888 Morro Street with us.

Join us as we celebrate our last few seasons in this beloved converted library building and help us to set the stage for the next evolution of SLO REP.

This season has something for absolutely everyone, and we can't wait to get started. Become a season subscriber today!



Kevin HarrisManaging Artistic Director



A New Stage for a vibrant community, for arts education, for professional live theatre on the Central Coast. **A New Stage for the future**.

With your support, this dream will become reality. For more information about our campaign and to find out how you can help, please contact Patty Thayer, Campaign Director. | patty@slorep.org / (805) 781-3889, x 15





A Musical Tale of "The Ugly Duckling"

Music by **George Stiles** Book and Lyrics by **Anthony Drewe**

JUL 14 THROUGH **JUL 23**

Wed-Sat @ 7pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Joan Gellert Sargen Wilda Rosene

Musical Director Sponsors

Sharon & John Dobson Gail Gresham

A musical story to melt your heart!

In this delightful story for audiences of all ages, the animals on the farm are quick to point out that Uqly looks different from his darling duckling brothers and sisters. Ugly embarks on an adventure of self-discovery where he unknowingly outwits a very hungry cat, meets a whole flock of unique characters and finds out that being different is not so bad.

"It's a wonderful musical tale for adults and kids alike with plenty of plucky humor." – MARYLAND THEATRE GUIDE

This professionally-produced production features students participating in our ACT program for young artists. Bring your kids and grandkids to this family-friendly show! Tickets for HONK Jr! can be purchased online or from the Box Office beginning June 9.

STUNES IN PUCKETS

BY MARIE JONES



reality against Hollywood endings.

With just two actors playing over a dozen parts, Stones In His Pockets is a comedic yet tragic take on the effects of the Hollywood dream in a small Irish town. When a Hollywood film crew takes over a rural town in County Kerry, the townspeople are excited to be part of a major film. Charlie Conlan and Jake Quinn, both local extras on the film, tell the story of the impact this movie set has upon the local community.

"An unalloyed source of joy, laughter, tears and delight." - THE DAILY MAIL

AUG 11 THROUGH **AUG 27**

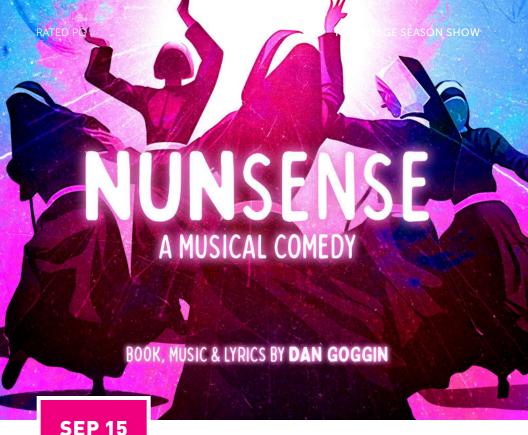
Thur-Sat @ 7 pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Bette Kulp Susan Minker

Show Director Sponsor

Tom Weiss



THROUGH OCT 15

Thur-Sat @ 7 pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Sharynn & Jerry Chirpich

Jeanne & Lawrence Lovelace

Karen S. Kolba, MD

Jerry Boots & Cricket Handler

Musical Director Sponsors

Carol MacCurdy & Tom Nuckols

Choreographer Sponsors

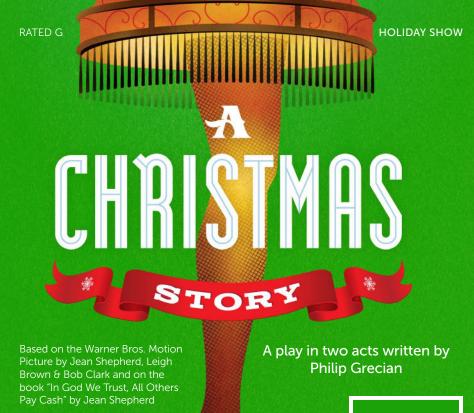
Jayne & Steve Devencenzi

A zany, wholesome, hilarious musical revue – a heavenly delight!

The five nuns from the Little Sisters of Hoboken put on a fundraiser to bury sisters accidently poisoned by the convent cook, Sister Julia, Child of God. Fortunately, the remaining sisters – Mother Superior, Sister Hubert (Mistress of Novices), Sister Mary Leo, Sister Robert Anne and Sister Mary Amnesia – all have hidden talents that bring merriment to this show full of "nun" liners, "nun" puns and "nun" sequiturs.

Winner! Four Outer Critics Circle Awards, including Best Off-Broadway Musical

"Wacky and outrageous with a hysterical 'anything goes' sense of fun!" — NY TIMES



A Central Coast Holiday Tradition!

Jean Shepherd's memoir of growing up in the Midwest in the 1940s follows 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his guest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Ralphie pleads his case before his mother, his teacher and even Santa Claus himself, at Higbee's Department Store. The consistent response: "You'll shoot your eye out!" Bring the whole family to A Christmas Story for a heartwarming, hilarious, nostalgic holiday treat!

"Christmas is upon us, with heart-warming stories to unfold. Take the whole family for a truly wonderful tale, well-told." - CHARLOTTE ALEXANDER, WISETOTHEWORDS.COM **NOV 17** THROUGH **DEC 23**

Wed-Sat @ 7 pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Phyllis Momtazee Snelling

Nicole & Jay Raftery

Show Director Sponsor





Imagination. Expression. Connection.

Register at slorep.org or call (805) 781-3889 x 14

Generous tuition scholarships always available.

SLO REP's Academy of Creative Theatre offers year-round professional theatre arts training and performance opportunities in a lively, supportive, and challenging environment for students of all skill levels ages 3-18. All ACT programs are taught by professional teaching artists, and promote the emotional, physical, educational, and social development of young people.

And this season, we have MORE camps and classes than ever before!

All ACT classes and camps take place at our new headquarters at 3533 Empleo Street in San Luis Obispo.

- * Pre-K drama classes
- * After-school classes for ages 5-18
- * School-break and summer camps
- Two full productions on the SLO REP stage
- * Specialized workshops
- Additional performance opportunities
- * Teen internships
- * And more!

ACT Season Sponsors

Ann Robinson
Catherine &
Richard Luckett

ACT Scholarship Support



ACT Technology Sponsor

Susan Minker



By Michael McKeever

What could go wrong? Everything, in this classic farce!

It's 1942, and two of Hollywood's biggest divas have descended upon the luxurious Palm Beach Royale Hotel - assistants, luggage, and legendary feud with one another in tow. Everything seems to be in order for their wartime performance...that is, until they are somehow assigned to the same suite. Mistaken identities, overblown egos, double entendres, and a lap dog named Mr. Boodles round out this hilarious riot of a love. note to the classic farces of the 30s and 40s.

JAN 12 THROUGH **JAN 21**

Wed - Sat @ 7pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsor

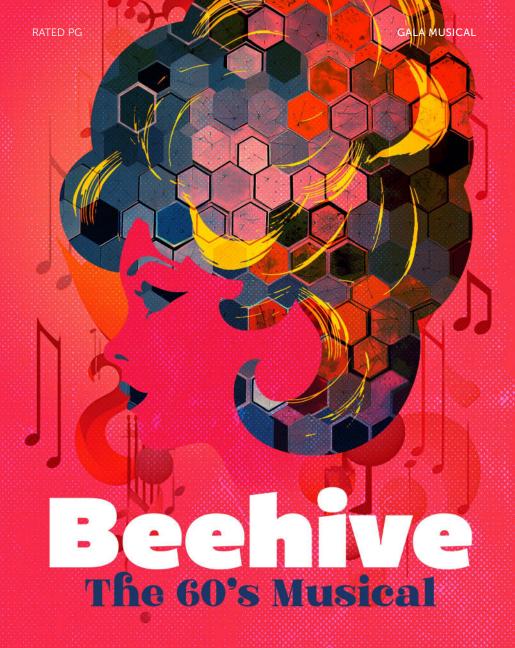
Barbara-Jo Osborne

Show Director Sponsors

Ellie & Jermaine Washington

This professionally-produced production features students participating in our ACT program for young artists. Bring your kids and grandkids to this family-friendly show! Tickets may be purchased online or from the Box Office beginning June 9.

Produced by special arrangement with Playscripts, Inc.(www.playscripts.com)



Created by Larry Gallagher

FEB 9 THROUGH **MAR 10**

Wed-Sat @ 7 pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Wendy & Keith George

Catherine & Richard Luckett

The Bostrom Family

Show Director Sponsor Carol Kiessig

Musical Director Sponsors Jayne & Steve Devencenzi Marcia Scott

Choreographer Sponsors Dianne N. Long Robert DeVries

A toe-tapping salute to the powerful female voices of the 1960s

A loving, rockin' celebration of the 1960s and the powerful female voices whose music stands the test of time - including Diana Ross, Janis Joplin, Carole King, Aretha Franklin, and Tina Turner! With over two dozen timeless hits, including "It's My Party," "Will You Still Love Me Tomorrow?," "Where the Boys Are," and "You Don't Own Me," the show takes you on a song-filled journey told from the perspective of six women coming of age during this unforgettable time, taking us from their first Beehive Dance through a decade of change. BEEHIVE - The '60s Musical will have you dancing in the aisles!

"From all the upbeat music to the slower, powerful songs, along with all the energetic dancing, it is a show packed with lively entertainment." - SAN DIEGO UNION TRIBUNE

Get your Buzz on with Beehive - The 60s Musical!

Beehive Bash

Join us for a one-night-only, all-inclusive evening of entertainment featuring wines, cocktails, delectable pre-show hors d'oeuvres and luscious intermission desserts, capped off by a fabulous performance of BEEHIVE - The 60s Musical

Friday, February 16, 2024

6:00 PM Gala Reception 7:00 PM Performance of BEEHIVE - The 60s Musical

Make your reservations early for this one-night-only gala event!

Gala Reception Sponsors | Brenda Hock | Gina Kirk

HEIDI SCHRECK

MAR 29 THROUGH **APR 14**

Thu-Sat @ 7 pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Michael & Maryellen Simkins

Marty Claus & Chip Visci

Show Director Sponsors

Gary Lawson & Tom Ammon

Breathing new life into our founding document.

Playwright Heidi Schreck's boundary-breaking play breathes new life into our Constitution and imagines how it will shape the next generation of Americans. Fifteenyear-old Heidi earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions across the United States. In this hilarious, hopeful and achingly human play, she resurrects her teenage self in order to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their lives.

"Not just the best play to open on Broadway so far this season, but also the most important." – NY TIMES



VKSFTVTNF

By LARISSA FASTHORSE

A blistering satire that slices through the "story" of Thankgiving.

Good intentions collide with absurd assumptions in this wickedly funny satire, as a troupe of well-meaning, but hilariously misguided teaching artists scramble to create a school pageant that can somehow celebrate both Turkey Day and Native American Heritage Month.

"Very, very funny... this clever satire is something for which to be truly thankful." - HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

"The familiar, whitewashed story of Pilgrims and Native Americans chowing down together gets a delicious roasting from expert farceurs." – THE NEW YORK TIMES

MAY 03 THROUGH **MAY 19**

Thu-Sat @ 7pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsor Ann Robinson



Music and Lyrics by **DOLLY PARTON**

Book by
PATRICIA RESNICK

Based on the 20th Century Fox Picture
Originally produced on Broadway by Robert Greenblatt, April 2009



JUN 07 THROUGH JUN 30

Hey, a girl can scheme, can't she?

Wed-Sat @ 7 pm Sat & Sun @ 2 pm

Show Sponsors

Diane Dekker Clausen

Ermina Karim 8 Erik Justesen

Brendan V. & Kathryn L McAdams

Linda Ozawa Olds & Jeff Olds



Show Director Sponsor Libbie Agran

Musical Director Sponsors

Jeanne & Lawrence Lovelace

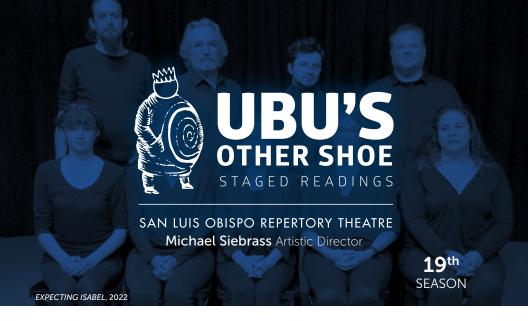
Choreographer Sponsor Dianne N. Long

Set in the late 1970s, this story of friendship and revenge in the Rolodex era is outrageous, thought-provoking and even a little romantic. Pushed to the boiling point, three female coworkers concoct a plan to get even with their egotistical, lying, hypocritical boss. In a turn of events, Violet, Judy and Doralee live out their wildest fantasy – giving their boss the boot! While he remains "otherwise engaged," the women give their workplace a dream makeover, taking control of the company that had always kept them down.

"The first Broadway effort of Dolly Parton...it is funny, true, playful and poignant in just the right

ways." — CHICAGO SUN TIMES





Gina Kirk UBU Season Sponsor Pam & Mitch Nichter Artistic Team Sponsors

About Ubu's Other Shoe & Staged Readings

A staged reading is a form of theatre without sets or complete costumes and props. The actors read from scripts, sometimes using music stands. They may be seated, stand in fixed positions, or incorporate minimal stage movement.

Our staged reading series is named after the infamous trilogy of plays written by Alfred Jarry (Ubu Roi) that were banned from the stage after riots erupted on opening night. Ubu's Other Shoe pays homage to the spirit of Jarry and to all artists who strive to explore the fringes of their art. This exciting series exists to offer actors, directors and audience members an opportunity to experience incredible plays that do not necessarily fit into our regular main stage season.

Thank you for taking this journey with us.



All shows are Friday @ 7 pm / Saturday @ 2 & 7 pm

Friday shows feature an Audience Talk-Back with the Cast and Director



by Jane Martin

September 1-2, 2023

"A connection between two women distanced by all creation is shaped with ineffable grace..." – THE NEW YORK TIMES

Show Sponsors

Carol MacCurdy & Tom Nuckols



By Will Arbery

October 20-21, 2023

This haunting play offers grace and disarming clarity, speaking to the heart of a country at war with itself.

Show Sponsors
Jay & Jenny Beck



By Lauren Gunderson

Jan 26-27, 2024

A brutal comedic quartet about four very real women who lived boldly in France during the French Revolution's Reign of Terror (1793-1794).

Show Sponsors Keith & Wendy George



By Nick Payne

Mar 15-16, 2024

"...it is a play with many worlds inside it..." – THE GUARDIAN

Show Sponsors

Sharon & John Dobson



April 19-20, 2024 (to be announced)

Experience being a part of the creative process as Ubu presents the world premiere of a brand new play.

"A hidden gem - in fact, a jewel box of gems...
a series of plays that are as unusual as the series title."

The Show Must Go On!

Unforgettable Characters. Extraordinary Stories. Since 1947.

Your donations help to bring the lights up on every SLO REP performance, connecting audience and actors in a powerful shared experience, bringing thought-provoking ideas, diverse points of view and high quality entertainment to our beautiful Central Coast.

Supporting great live theatre doesn't have to be complicated! Check out these five great ways to support SLO REP:

- 1 Add a donation to your ticket order. Donate online, by mail, by phone or in person with checks, cash or credit card. You can even set up a monthly recurring donation and watch your gifts multiply over time!
- **Donor-Advised Funds.** Designate a gift from your personal or family fund. You've already enjoyed the tax benefits of your gift, now you can enjoy sharing those funds in support of live theatre.
- **Give More and Owe Less!** If you're 70 ½ or older, a donation to SLO REP can count as your required minimum distribution from your IRA, plus save you money on taxes! (Please consult your tax advisor for details.)
- 4 Host an Actor or Director in your Home. It's a great way to get to know some very interesting artists, AND provide valuable support for the theatre.
- 5 Leave a Legacy. Designate a gift to SLO REP in your will or estate plans to support the future of live theatre in our community for years to come. Consult your financial advisor and call us at (805) 781-3889, ext. 15 for more information.

Donate online at **slorep.org** or call **(805) 781-3889**, **ext. 15** for more information.



Donor Benefits

STAGE MANAGER

\$100+

Your name listed in every playbill

STAR

\$250+

All above benefits

Complimentary drink coupon at SLO REP bar

DIRECTOR

\$500+

All above benefits

Complimentary SLO REP wine tumbler (to be picked up at theatre)

PRODUCER

\$1,000+

All above benefits

An invitation to the Major Donor Reception and to other special events

Concierge ticketing service before sales are open to the public

Four (4) complimentary tickets to any show (by request)

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

\$2.500+

All above benefits

Two (2) additional complimentary tickets to any show (by request)

ANGEL

\$5,000+

All Executive Producer benefits plus special custom benefits designed just for you

*According to IRS regulations, tangible benefits, such as complimentary tickets, will be detailed on your donation receipt. Any part of these benefits may be waived, if desired. If your contribution comes from a

donor-advised fund or IRA, these benefits are not permitted.

San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre is a nonprofit 501(c)3 charitable organization. Donations are tax deductible as allowed by law. Federal Tax ID# 95-2556678











2023 Donor Reception and Season Preview

Sunday, March 17, 2024

Donors of \$1,000 or more will receive an invitation to our donor reception and season preview party. Honored guests will enjoy light refreshments and an exciting "first look" at our next season of shows.

Sponsored by Joan Gellert Sargen





Artist Hospitality

Got a spare room? A granny unit? A condo you're not using at the moment? Do you like meeting interesting people and supporting live theatre in downtown SLO? SLO REP utilizes a long-standing Host Home Program, which matches professional directors and actors with volunteer hosts for the duration of their time working at the theatre. Benefits of hosting a guest artist include complimentary tickets, acknowledgement in our playbill, invitations to special events and the chance to meet new friends and influence people! Won't you join us in welcoming these amazing artists to our community?

For more information about hosting a SLO REP guest artist, please contact Kevin Harris at kevin@slorep.org

We want to thank these Special Sponsors that are crucial to our 2023-24 Season:

Artist Hospitality

Pam & Mitch Nichter Ann Robinson

Playbill Sponsors

Bette Kulp Susan Minker Catherine & Richard Luckett Ann Robinson

Mission

SLO REP strengthens theatre's cultural influence and enriches the Central Coast by producing professional theatre, nurturing artists and providing theatre education for children and adults

Our Belief

Live theatre's powerful storytelling connects people in ways that open the mind, nourish the soul and illuminate our shared humanity.

Vision

To be a nationally recognized regional theatre that:

- Produces professional theatrical productions in a state-of-the-art facility.
- Strengthens the cultural vitality of the Central Coast, entertains audiences, nurtures artists, and cultivates future generations of theatre enthusiasts.

• Creates a strong and sustainable economic impact, attracting

Our Commitment

Theatre plays a critical role in our culture and our community and has a responsibility to enact positive change through its work, practices, educational programs and policies. We at SLO REP are committed to diversity, equity and inclusion in all aspects of our work. To learn more about our commitment to you, our community and to ourselves, visit our website.

Land Acknowledgement

San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre acknowledges with respect that the place we work and gather is located on the traditional land of the Northern Chumash people.



Plan Your Visit

Our Locations

Our theatre is located in Downtown San Luis Obispo at 888 Morro Street, at Morro and Palm Streets. Our administrative and education offices are located at 3533 Empleo, San Luis Obispo.

Parking

The best place to park near the theatre is in one of the two parking structures on Palm Street. The 842 Palm Street Parking Structure is located just across Morro Street from the theatre. The 919 Palm Street Parking Structure is located just across Palm Street from the theatre. Metered parking is also available on the street and the meters are in force until 9 pm every day.

NOTE: Please allow extra time for parking on Thursday and Friday nights due to the Downtown SLO Farmers Market and other special events.

Children

In general, we do not recommend bringing children under age 5 to SLO REP, except to our Academy of Creative Theatre (ACT) performances, where their attendance is absolutely encouraged! Please note that not all programming is appropriate for all ages. Please check each show's webpage for our ratings guide.

Health and Safety

For more information on our practices to help keep all of us safe when attending live performances, please visit our website at slorep.org.

Cameras, smart phones, and other recording devices

The use of cameras, smart phones, and all other video/ audio recording equipment of any kind are strictly prohibited in the theatre. No photos or recordings may be taken inside the theatre.

Food and Drink

The bar is open in the lobby one hour before each performance so you can enjoy a drink while visiting with friends or reading through your program. You are welcome to bring your drinks into the theatre with you. Please do not bring food into the theatre. We appreciate your help in keeping our theatre clean.

Late Seating

Please arrive at the theatre at least 15 minutes early. Our intimate space makes late seating difficult at best, and impossible much of the time; therefore late seating is not guaranteed and is at the complete discretion of the house manager.

Show Schedule

All dates and shows are subject to change. Life is full of surprises.

How To Order Tickets

slorep.org ONLINE

Call the box office (805) 786-2440

PHONE

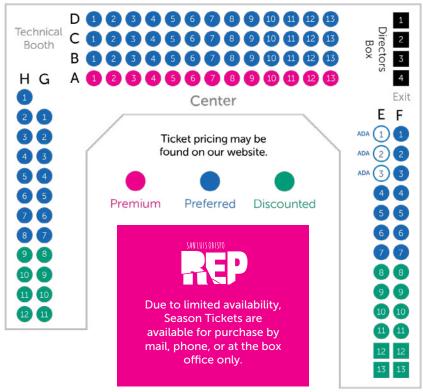
SLO REP 888 Morro Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401

HOURS Wed-Fri 3 – 6 PM Show Saturdays 3 - 5 PM

WALK-IN

SLO REP PO Box 122 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406

MAIL





San Luis Obispo Repertory Theatre PO Box 122 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 slorep.org

BING OF FIRE, 2023

Nonprofit US Postage PAID Santa Barbara, CA Permit No. 800