Hello ADLN Community,

I hope all is well! This is ADLN admin Simon Bonenfant, here to give you all the information you need about the upcoming audio described events throughout the Greater Philadelphia region from May 4th until June 15th. There are 10 events in total. In addition to receiving this as an email, I’ve also included the same information in a word document, for those who would prefer sharing and reading it that way. For those who read last month’s addition, the format will remain the same, so I hope that is helpful! If you have any questions or comments of ways to make the information easier to read, don’t hesitate to reach out by sending me an email at [adlearningnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:adlearningnetwork@gmail.com)

# May 4, 2025 (Sunday)

**Event:** Archduke

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Venue:** Wilma Theater

**Description:** “Three boys – Gavrilo Princip, Trifko Grabež, and Nedeljko Čabrinović – are recruited by a mysterious organization with promises of glory, purpose, and a sandwich. Their depraved Captain sends the boys on a mission he claims will restore order and justice to their struggling nation and avenge the unfairness of their terminal illness. Their assignment? Assassinate the heir to the Austro-Hungarian empire, Archduke Franz Ferdinand, and his wife, Sophie. Beloved playwright Rajiv Joseph (Describe the Night) returns to the Wilma with a play that asks, what happens when a person feels like they have nothing left to lose? What methods are acceptable in the fight against oppression? Led by the Wilma’s visionary Founding Artistic Director Blanka Zizka (Heroes of the Fourth Turning, Kill Move Paradise), and featuring the HotHouse Acting Company, Archduke offers audiences a humanized glimpse into the catalyst of WWI.”

**Website:** <https://tickets.wilmatheater.org/89542/89638>

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Jamie Ray); assistive listening devices; open captioning; accessible seating

**Special Notes:** The performance runs approx. 2 hours, and this performance also includes open captioning. Accessible seating and assisted listening devices are available for all performances as well. Tickets can be purchased [here](https://tickets.wilmatheater.org/89542/89638), or by calling the Box Office at 215-546-7824. They also offer $2 tickets with an Access Card (max 4), and you can purchase them by calling the Box Office and showing your Access Card when you get to the theater. E-mail tickets@wilmatheater.org with any questions.

# May 4, 2025 (Sunday)

**Event:** Don Giovanni

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Venue:** The Academy of Music

**Description:** “New Production Music by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart Libretto by Lorenzo Da Ponte Performed in Italian with English supertitles. A Beloved Opera about a Despicable Man. Mozart’s riveting masterpiece follows the charming predator Don Giovanni, a man who uses people without a care for their hearts, or the consequences of his actions. All the while, the sleazy nobleman’s loyal servant records his master’s misdeeds. When he murders the father of a woman he’s assaulted, Giovanni sets in motion events that could lead to his downfall. Will he get away with his crimes and unrepentant pursuit of selfish desire? Or will there be hell to pay?”

**Website:**[https://tix.operaphila.org/28781/28795?\_gl=1\*12s9u57\*\_gcl\_au\*Nzk5OTE4MzM1LjE3Mzc3MjA4MTQ.\*\_ga\*NzY3MDA2NTM2LjE3Mzc3MjA4MTQ.\*\_ga\_JCLSY2WQC5\*MTc0MzU2ODAxMy40LjEuMTc0MzU2ODc3MC4wLjAuMA..](https://tix.operaphila.org/28781/28795?_gl=1*12s9u57*_gcl_au*Nzk5OTE4MzM1LjE3Mzc3MjA4MTQ.*_ga*NzY3MDA2NTM2LjE3Mzc3MjA4MTQ.*_ga_JCLSY2WQC5*MTc0MzU2ODAxMy40LjEuMTc0MzU2ODc3MC4wLjAuMA..)

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Nicole Sardella)

**Special Notes:** Prior to the performance, guests are also invited to tune into Pre-Show Notes where further details about the plot, translations, and venue will be shared.

For questions regarding Audio description, please contact Guest Services at 215-732-8400 in advance of the performance. Guest Services is open from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on weekdays. You can also send them an email at:

[hello@operaphila.org](mailto:hello@operaphila.org)

# May 4, 2025 (Sunday)

**Event:** Hershey Felder as Monsieur Chopin

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Venue:** People’s Light (Leonard C. Haas Stage)

**Description:** “OUTSIDE, there is Revolution. INSIDE, there is MUSIC. With Chopin's most beautiful music played live Monsieur Chopin features the romantic story and music of the Polish pianist-composer Fryderyk Chopin, set in Chopin’s Parisian salon where he will teach a piano lesson that actually took place in March 1848, just days after the February 1848 revolution. As the piano lesson unfolds, Chopin reveals secrets about the art of the piano and composition, as well as secrets about himself. Hershey Felder delves deep into the music and psyche of the man, considered by his contemporaries, and now by history, as the true “Poet of the Piano”. In Monsieur Chopin, Hershey features some of the pianist-composer’s most beautiful and enduring music while entertaining us in his unique and theatrical style.”

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Olivia DiIorio); ASL Interpretation

**Special Notes:** Note: This is not a relaxed performance.

To purchase tickets, send an email to Olivia DiIorio, Associate Director of Front of House and Accessibility at: [diiorio@peopleslight.org](mailto:diiorio@peopleslight.org). You can also call the box office at: 610-644-3500, or by email at: [tickets@peopleslight.org](mailto:tickets@peopleslight.org). Be sure to mention you will utilize the audio description service, and if you have an Art-Reach access card, as People’s Light staff will seat you accordingly.

# May 9, 2025 (Friday)

**Event:** Disney’s Aladdin Jr.

**Time:** 10:30 am

**Venue:** Walnut Street Theatre

**Description:** “Based on the timeless animated film and hit Broadway show, Disney’s Aladdin JR. is filled with magic and thrills the whole family will enjoy. When street urchin Aladdin falls for the strong-willed Princess Jasmine, he gets help from a fun-loving Genie to outsmart the wicked Jafar and win her hand. Get on your flying carpet and join us on a soaring musical adventure!”

**Website:** <https://www.ticketmaster.com/walnut-street-theatres-aladdin-jr-philadelphia-pennsylvania-05-09-2025/event/020061282AED0EEE>

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Amanda Pasquini)

**Special Notes:** You can also call the box office at: 215-574-3550 to purchase tickets.

# May 15, 2025 (Thursday)

**Event:** Spring Celebration

**Time:** 11:00 am – 3:00 pm

**Venue:** Bartram’s Garden

**Description/Special Notes:** The Blind Social Club is excited to celebrate spring with a free, special audio-described outdoor gathering at Bartram’s Garden. This event will introduce four recorded audio-descriptions that are now available on the Bartram’s Garden website, which will be sent in a confirmation email to all who sign up for this event. We will meet with the audio-description team, Charmaine Parrish and Beth Feldman Brandt, and walk through the tour together using the recorded descriptions. Immediately following the tour, we will then invite you to gather to give them feedback on the tour and then enjoy lunch outside under the Gazebo. Space is limited so you are encouraged to reserve your spot and lunch as soon as possible. Please see the details below.

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Beth Feldman Brandt and Charmaine Parrish)

To reserve your spot, please make payments via CashApp ($SimCoop) or PayPal (simcoop10@gmail.com.

# May 31, 2025 (Saturday)

**Event:** Penelope

**Time:** 2:00 pm

**Venue:** Pennsylvania Shakespeare Festival

**Description:** “No more waiting in the wings—Penelope takes center stage, and she’s got some things to say. With bourbon in hand, she grabs the mic to deliver her side of the story, recounting her twenty-year wait on the small island of Ithaca while her husband, Odysseus, was off playing hero.This witty musical flips the script on the dutiful wife history wants you to believe in—Penelope’s done being a footnote in her husband’s epic; this time, she’s writing her own odyssey. With soulful songs, razor-sharp storytelling, and an onstage band doubling as her modern-day Greek chorus, Penelope transforms the tale you thought you knew into a solo cabaret act like no other. It’s raw, fiery, and fiercely original as she steps out of the shadows to set the record straight, and she’s not holding back.”

**Website:** <https://pashakespeare.org/penelope/>

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Nicole Sardella)

**Special Notes:** You can also call the box office at: 610.282.9455 to reserve your tickets.

# May 31, 2025 (Saturday)

**Event:** Endlings

**Time:** 2:00 pm (Sensory Tour @1:15pm)

**Venue:** Hedgerow Theatre Company

**Description:** “On the Korean island of Man-Jae, three Haenyeo—fascinating sea women—spend their dying days diving into the ocean to harvest seafood. On the island of Manhattan, a Korean-Canadian playwright, wrestles with both the expectation that she write authentic stories and her own inclination to commodify her identity, but who, exactly, is she?”

**Website:** <https://app.arts-people.com/index.php?actions=26&p=1>

**Accessibility Services:** Relaxed, audio-described (Gina Pisasale) & open captioned performance with pre-show sensory tour at 1:15 **PM.**

**Special Notes:** To purchase tickets by phone, call 610.5654211 or email [company@hedgerowtheatre.org](mailto:company@hedgerowtheatre.org).

Hedgerow has free parking available on site. Hedgerow's theatre, lobby, and restroom facilities and parking lot are ADA accessible. Please inquire with any specific questions or needs.

# June 6-7, 2025 (Friday and Saturday)

**Event:** Rent

**Time:** June 6 @7:00 pm; and June 7@2:00 pm

**Venue:** Arden Theatre Company

**Description:** “At the end of the millennium, a group of bohemians in the East Village struggle with love, loss, and gentrification amidst the AIDS crisis. In this exciting new production, Jonathan Larson’s Tony Award™ and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical will transform the Haas Stage and shake the rafters with the iconic chords of “Seasons of Love,” “I’ll Cover You, ” and the thrilling, soaring score that is *RENT*!”

**Website:** [https://ardentheatre.org/production/rent/](https://ardentheatre.org/production/rent/%20)

**Accessibility Services:** Open caption & Audio Description (Nicole Sardella) **;Assistive listening devices; Smart caption glasses; Large print programs; Sensory tools, including show specific narrative.**

**Special Notes:** To purchase tickets by phone, call 215.922.1122 or email boxofficer@ardentheatre.org.

# June 13, 2025 (Friday)

**Event:** The Whiz

**Time:** 7:30 pm

**Venue:** Kimmel Center -Academy of Music

**Description:** “*THE WIZ*returns “home” to stages across America in an all-new Broadway tour, the first one in 40 years.

This groundbreaking twist on *The Wizard of Oz* changed the face of Broadway—from its iconic score packed with soul, gospel, rock, and 70s funk to its stirring tale of Dorothy’s journey to find her place in a contemporary world.

With direction by Schele Williams (*The Notebook,*revival of Disney’s *Aida*), choreography by JaQuel Knight (Beyoncé’s “Single Ladies,” *Black Is King*) and additional material by Tony-nominated and Emmy-nominated writer and TV host Amber Ruffin (*The Amber Ruffin Show, Late Night with Seth Meyers*), this dynamite infusion of ballet, jazz, and modern pop brings a whole new groove to easing on down the road.  Everybody rejoice!”

**Website:** <https://my.ensembleartsphilly.org/syos/performance/55919>

**Accessibility Services:** ASL & Audio Description (Nicole Sardella)

**Special Notes:** To purchase tickets by phone, call 215.893.1999.

# June 15, 2025 (Sunday)

**Event:** The How & The Why

**Time:** 3:00 pm (Sensory Tour @ 1:45 pm

**Venue:** Montgomery Theater

**Description:** “Witness a thrilling meeting of minds as two brilliant female evolutionary biologists—mother and daughter—meet for the first time. Their encounter ignites debates on family, feminism, and radical theories on evolution. From the Golden Globe-winning writer of*The Affair* and *House of Cards*, this thought-provoking play explores the complex choices of modern American women. Don’t miss this powerful exploration of motherhood, science, and female intellect!”

**Website:** <https://www.montgomerytheater.org/shows/how-and-why>

**Accessibility Services:** Audio Description (Nicole Sardella)

**Special Notes:** To purchase tickets by phone, call 215.723.9984 or by email at play@montgomerytheater.org .

I thank you for reading, and I hope you will be able to attend some or all of these events. As always, spread the word and if you have any feedback about your experience, send me an email at [adlearningnetwork@gmail.com](mailto:adlearningnetwork@gmail.com).

I hope everyone has a wonderful May, and I’ll be back in June!

With best regards,

Simon Bonenfant (on behalf of the ADLN team).