

Artistry is the new name for Bloomington Theatre and Art Center, which rebranded on July 1, 2015. Artistry is an independent, nonprofit *organization* based in the city-owned *venue* called the Bloomington Center for the Arts. The Bloomington Center for the Arts is home to seven nonprofit arts organizations and also presents outside acts. Artistry's programming comprises theater productions (formerly produced under the name Bloomington Civic Theatre), visual arts exhibitions, arts education at the Center for the Arts and other locations throughout the Twin Cities, and creative placemaking. The following program/organization names are no longer active and should not be used in reference to our programming: Bloomington Art Center, Bloomington Civic Theatre, Bloomington Theatre and Art Center.

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Artistry brings the multiple Tony Award-winning *Hairspray* to the stage!

(Bloomington, MN) Artistry is excited to announce the upcoming production of *Hairspray* taking place in the Schneider Theater August 14 through September 13, 2015.

A big, bold, family-friendly musical, *Hairspray* tells the story of one young woman's desire to affect social change in 1960s Baltimore. Lovable teen Tracy Turnblad wants nothing more than to dance on the popular Corny Collins Show. When her dream comes true, Tracy is transformed from social outcast to sudden star, winning the affections of the show's heartthrob and integrating the show so that black and white teens can dance together. "*Hairspray* succeeds in recreating the pleasures of the old-fashioned musical comedy without seeming old-fashioned" (*The New York Times*).

Artistry is a regional arts nonprofit serving more than 70,000 people annually through theater, visual arts, arts education, and creative placemaking programs. Artistry is a proud participant in the Twin Cities Ivey Awards and one of seven nonprofit organizations based in the Bloomington Center for the Arts.

Hairspray Fast Facts

Book by: Mark O'Donnell and Thomas Meehan
Music by: Mark Shaiman
Lyrics by: Mark Shaiman and Scott Whitman
Director: Michael Matthew Ferrell
Music Director: Anita Ruth

Cast:

Wilber Turnblad – Alan Holasek
Duane – Alexander Johnson
Brad – Andrew Jacobsen
Amber Von Tussle – Angela Steele
Edna Turnblad – Brandon Caviness
Motormouth Maybelle – Brandon Jackson
Penny Pingleton – Catherine Noble
Fender – Christian LaBissoniere
Sketch – Derek Sveen
Tammy – Elly Stahlke
Judine (Co Dance Captain) – Emily Madigan

~more~

Karnilah – Falcia Cunningham
Tracy Turnblad – Gracie Anderson
Lou Ann – Hailey Starr Sowden
Lorraine – Kayla Jenerson
Little Inez – Kennedy Lucas
Shelley (Co Dance Captain) – Krysti Wiita
IQ – Luke Tourville
Shayna – Marisa B Tejada
Spritzer/Mr. Pinky/Principal/Newscaster – Megan Kedrowski
Gilbert – Michael Terrell Brown
Brenda – Michelle Lemon
Link Larkin – Nicholas Kaspari
Stooie – Nikko Raymo
Seaweed – Peyton Dixon
Prudy Pingleon/Gym Teacher/Matron – Shana Eisenberg
Velma Von Tussle – Wendy Short Hays
Corny Collins – Zachary Schaeffer

Location: Schneider Theater in the Bloomington Center for the Arts
1800 W Old Shakopee Rd
Bloomington, MN 55431

Admission: \$36 for Adults, \$32 for Seniors (age 62+), \$27 for ages 25 and under

For Tickets: Call the Artistry Box Office at 952-563-8575
or online at artistrymn.org.

Publicity Photos: Contact Katie Campbell, 952-563-8564 or kcampbell@artistrymn.org

Hairspray Performance Schedule

Runs Friday, August 14 through Sunday, September 13 with performances on Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings at 7:30pm and Sunday afternoons at 2:00pm.

There will be two Saturday afternoon performances at 2:00pm on August 29 and September 12.

There will not be performances September 5 – 7 due to the Labor Day weekend holiday.

There will be discounted performances on Wednesday, September 2 and Wednesday, September 9 at 7:30pm. Tickets are \$3 off the original price.

Talk Back with cast and crew after the performance on Sunday, August 23 and Sunday, August 30.

Sign Language Interpreted performance on Friday, September 11 at 7:30pm.

Audio Description performance on Sunday, August 30 at 2:00pm