

# ALLEY THEATRE

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## Alley Theatre Announces the Full Cast and Creative Team for August Wilson's *Fences*

HOUSTON, TX - Tony Award-winning Alley Theatre and Artistic Director **Rob Melrose** announce the cast of **August Wilson's *Fences***. Directed by The Ensemble Theatre's Artistic Director **Eileen J. Morris**, this Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning drama examines the realities of life and the pursuit of happiness.

**Melrose** shared, "After over two decades, we are so happy to have the work of August Wilson back on our stage. *Fences* is a beautifully written play and is a part of Wilson's American Century Cycle. He wrote one play for each decade of the 20th century (*Fences* is for the 1950s). Each one of his plays has vibrant characters and brilliant dialogue. I sense that the Alley has more August Wilson in its future."

"When I think of *Fences*, my spirit surges with the energy of August Wilson," shared **Morris**. "Having been mentored by him, I am acutely aware that all of his words are intended to uplift humanity, address the ethos of Pittsburgh's community, and put the vibrant landscape of the Hill District on display. *Fences* is a story of family, embraced by the strength of a Black woman named Rose who epitomizes the true meaning of unconditional love. The beauty of this play is that it could be anyone of our father's story, your story or mine. With all of its beauty, the play's characters are deeply rooted in truth, thus making it a quintessential American story."

The cast includes Alley's Resident Acting Company members **Michelle Elaine** as Rose and **David Rainey** as Troy Maxon. Rounding out the cast are NAACP Theater Award winner **Alex Morris** as Jim Bono, **Kendrick "KayB" Brown** as Lyons, **Timothy Eric** as Gabriel, **Aramie Payton** (Broadway: *The Outsiders*, *MJ the Musical*) as Cory, and Mila Glenn and Paisley R. Richmond as Raynell.

The creative team includes Tony nominee Scenic Designer **Scott Bradley**, Costume Designer **Nicole Jescinth Smith**, Lighting Designer **Alan C. Edwards**, Sound Designer **Kathy Ruvuna**, Fight Director & Intimacy Specialist **Adam Noble**, Voice and Dialogue Coach **Carolyn Johnson**, Assistant Director **Amber D. Gray**, Stage Manager **Trinity A. Nobles**, and Assistant Stage Manager **Ethan Mitchell**.

**SPONSORS:** August Wilson's *Fences* is generously sponsored by Karen and Jonathan Finger, Angela and Craig Jarchow and Cynthia and Anthony Petrello (Associate Producers). Alley Theatre is supported by the 2025-26 Season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of Alley Theatre, and Hampton Inn and Homewood Suites Downtown Houston, the official hotels of Alley Theatre.

**ACCESSIBLE PERFORMANCES:** Captioned Performance on Sunday, April 26 at 2:00 PM, Audio Described Performance on Sunday, April 26 at 7:00 PM, ASL Interpreted Performance is Wednesday, May 6 at 7:30 PM and Simultaneous Spanish Translation Performances are Tuesday, April 21 at 7:30 PM and Saturday, May 2 at 8:00 PM.

# ALLEY THEATRE

**TICKETS:** Performances begin **Friday, April 17 to Sunday, May 10** in the Hubbard Theatre. Tickets are now on sale, starting at \$36. Discounted tickets are available for military, seniors, educators and any student, regardless of age, with a valid ID for designated performances in designated sections. Tickets can be ordered online ([alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org)) or by phone (713.220.5700).

**ADVANCED PHOTOS:** [Michelle Elaine as Rose and David Rainey as Troy. Photos by Tasha Gorel.](#)

**CONNECT WITH US:** @alleytheatre, #AlleyFences

## **ABOUT ALLEY THEATRE:**

Alley Theatre, one of America's leading nonprofit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led by Artistic Director Rob Melrose and Managing Director Jennifer Bielstein. The Alley is committed to developing and producing theatre that is as diverse as the Houston community. The Alley produces up to 11 plays and nearly 400 performances each season, ranging from the best current work and classic plays to new plays by contemporary writers. Home to a full-time resident company of actors and expert artisans in all theatre crafts, the Alley engages theatre artists of every discipline – actors, directors, designers, composers, playwrights – who work on individual productions throughout each season as visiting artists.

Alley Theatre performs at the Meredith J. Long Theatre Center, which is comprised of two state-of-the-art theatres: the 774-seat Hubbard Theatre and the 296-seat Neuhaus Theatre. The Alley reaches over 200,000 people each year through its performance, education, and community engagement programs.

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