



For immediate release
July 10, 2023 (updated from June 12)

Contact: Jeffery Alspaugh
jalspaugh@illusiontheater.org
612-767-9257

[PLEASE NOTE CHANGES:

- **July 19 is now Dane Stauffer and friends “A Midsummer Night’s Dream”**
- **August 8 is South Side Big Band (not West Side Big Band)**
- **August 16 is “Judy, Joan & Joni – The Music of Judy Collins, Joan Baez, and Joni Mitchell”**

]

Illusion Outside. LIVE at Lyndale Gardens.
A Free Summer Series of Joyous Outdoor Performances
at the Amphitheater at Lyndale Gardens
in Richfield, Minnesota (6400 Lyndale Avenue South)

Illusion Theater once again presents **Illusion Outside. Live at Lyndale Gardens. A Free Outdoor Summer Series** on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings in July and August held at the Lyndale Gardens Amphitheater in Richfield Minnesota, 6400 Lyndale Avenue South. This Series is generously sponsored by The Cornerstone Group.

Tree O’Halloran, Illusion Theater Associate Producer says, “Last year at the Amphitheater at Lyndale Gardens, our performances were welcomed by over 1,700 audience members. We are excited to bring some of the Twin Cities most sought after performers to entertain on the shores of the lake in Richfield.

Included in this year's Wednesday nights at **LIVE at Lyndale Gardens** are **T. Mychael Rambo, Aimee K. Bryant, Kevin Kling, Simone Perrin, Dan Chouinard, Bradley Greenwald, Prudence Johnson, Leslie and Allison Vincent** and the return of the exuberant Afro-Caribbean music of **Malamanya**. We are also bring two Illusion mainstage shows – **In This Moment...Now** and **Judy, Joan & Joni**.

This year we are adding performances on Tuesday nights in August. A range of acts including **Ring of Kerry, South Side Big Band, Honeywine, and History on a Schtick**.

Bonnie Morris, Illusion's Producing Director, tells us "Here in Minnesota, we are known for making the most out of our summers. Sitting in the Amphitheater with glorious skies as a backdrop, hearing songs, stories, and music performed live, and then when the great blue herons make their entrance—well, summer doesn't get any better than this!"

Colleen Carey, president of The Cornerstone Group adds, "We built the Amphitheater at Lyndale Gardens purposefully to have a community gathering space. We are thrilled to have Illusion again program this Summer Series in our Lyndale Gardens Amphitheater."

**Illusion Outside
Live at Lyndale Gardens
Season Schedule
July 19 to August 30, 2023
Tuesday & Wednesday evenings**

**Wednesday, July 19 at 7:00pm
A Midsummer Night's Dane**

A signature blend of eclectic songs and humor with Twin Cities favorites **Dane Stauffer** and **Dan Chouinard** and very special musical guests. Dane is known for his work in theater, film, cabaret, improvisation, television, radio and flatbed trucks. Currently he is in the smash musical *Glensheen*. Dan joins Dane as a pianist, he is an accordionist and writer of shows for public radio, concert halls, clubs, and the theater. They welcome **Kris Stauffer** on Bass and **Daryl Boudreaux** on Percussion.

**Judy, Joan & Joni -The music of
Judy Collins, Joan Baez & Joni Mitchell**

We all have soundtracks for moments in our lives, for many of us the music of Judy Collins, Joan Baez, and Joni Mitchell are that soundtrack.

Conceived and created by Roberta Carlson and Michael Robins this evening of songs from three of America's favorite songsters sung by **Molly Sue McDonald, Julia Isabel Diaz, and Falcia Nichole**

Wednesday, July 26 at 7:00pm

Kevin Kling, Simone Perrin & Dan Chouinard

Stories and music to lighten your heart and soul. This makes the third year for Kevin and Simone at Lyndale Gardens. Dan Chouinard joins in this year's story telling and music.

Tuesday, August 1 at 7:00pm

Ring of Kerry

Ring of Kerry is a bursting-with-energy Irish music group that captures the hearts of listeners. The group takes its name from a beautiful craggy drive-in southwestern County Kerry, Ireland. Its Celtic music, however, is played with a heart much closer to its American home.

Wednesday, August 2 at 7:00pm

In this Moment...Now

T. Mychael Rambo, Aimee K. Bryant, and Ryan Bynum celebrate works by Black and African-American artists from the Twin Cities and beyond.

Tuesday, August 8 at 7:00pm

South Side Big Band

South Side Big Band is a traditional big band. Musical selections are based on the classic big band swing of the '30s and '40s, but also include more modern jazz written for big band. SSBB is based in Edina, but its members are from communities across the Twin Cities. SSBB plays concerts and dances for community and private groups throughout the year.

Wednesday, August 9 at 7:00pm

Far Away Places: Bradley Greenwald,

Dan Chouinard, Prudence Johnson, and T. Mychael Rambo

Come wander the world with stories and songs from these musical friends and travelers. **Dan Chouinard** is a pianist, accordionist, writer of shows for public radio, concert halls, clubs, and the theater. **Bradley Greenwald** has performed opera, theater, music-theater, concert, and recital repertoire with several Twin Cities' arts organizations. **Prudence Johnson** is a beloved Twin Cities singer, writer, and teacher who has been on jazz, folk, and musical theatre stages, and several stints on *A Prairie Home Companion* recordings. **T. Mychael Rambo** is an award-winning actor, vocalist, arts educator, community organizer, and a beloved member of our Twin Cities arts community who has performed on every professional theater stage in the Twin Cities.

Wednesday August 16 at 7:00pm

Judy, Joan & Joni - The Music of Judy Collins, Joan Baez, and Joni Mitchell

Developed by **Roberta Carlson** and **Michael Robins** and featuring **Julia Isabel Diaz**, and **Falicia Nichole**, **Molly Sue McDonald** and **Justin D. Cook** on keyboards.

We all have soundtracks for moments in our lives and we all have artists whose songs were part of those moments. The music of Judy Collins, Joan Baez, and Joni Mitchell provided those moments for many of us.

Tuesday August 22 at 7:00pm

History-on-a-Schtick & Honeywine

A show usually only seen at the State Fair, with appearances by Betty Crocker, Paul Bunyan, and The Dough Boy created by the Minnesota Historical Society. The Minnesota History Center and the State Fair Foundation commissioned this musicale in 2015, and it has been entertaining Minnesota State Fairgoers ever since. Written and directed by Illusion Artistic Associate **Beth Gilleland** with musical direction by **Kevin Dutcher** featuring. Bonni Allen, Aimee K. Bryant, Ricky Morisseau, and Jim Robinson. This program is presented by the Minnesota Historical Society. Hear the “*Ten Thousand Lake Polka*,” watch Betty Crocker host a quiz show with MN icons and listen to Paul Bunyan’s sweetheart Lucette sing “It’s All About Paul.”

Honeywine is an all-original Americana band with a strong focus on trio vocals. The three singers — **Dorian Chalmers**, **Becky Schlegel**, and **Dennis Curley** — are Minnesota-based artists with decades of performing experience among them.

Wednesday, August 23 at 7:00pm

Allison and Leslie Vincent

“Our Big Fat Eventual Wedding”

Allison and Leslie Vincent recount the rollercoaster of their engagement and planning a wedding in the time of COVID through music, storytelling, and comedy.

Wednesday, August 30 at 6:30pm (note earlier start)

Malamanya

The return of our favorite Afro-Caribbean Band,
Music for your Dancing Soul

Dates and Performances Subject to Change

Visit the Illusion website for photos and the latest schedule
(<https://www.illusiontheater.org/live-at-lyndale-gardens-2023>)
Please contact Jalspaugh@illusiontheater.org for additional media
content.



All performances take place at the
Amphitheater at Lyndale Gardens
(behind Lakewinds Coop)
6400 Lyndale Avenue South

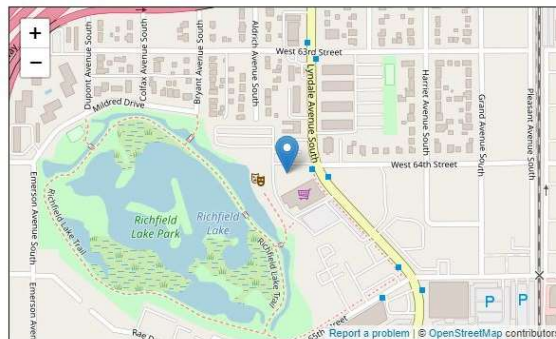
There is onsite and street parking available.

Free Admission. Seating is first come, first served. Bring a chair or sit in the Amphitheater. In the event of severe weather, Wednesday performances will be re-scheduled to the following Thursday night. Updates will be posted on Illusion's Facebook and Instagram.

For information, please contact info@illusiontheater.org

Or call [612-339-4944](tel:612-339-4944)

6400 Lyndale Ave South, Richfield, MN 55423





**ILLUSION
THEATER**

Small Stage. Giant Impact.

Illusion Theater

Illusion Theater was founded in 1974. Since the beginning, Producing Directors Michael Robins

and Bonnie Morris have led Illusion Theater in illuminating the illusions, myths, and realities of our times and in using the power of theater to catalyze personal and social change. Tree O'Halloran joined Illusion in 2022 as Associate Producer. Illusion has generated over 500 plays, developed thousands of artists, and created ground-breaking educational works. Plays developed at Illusion have been produced in theaters throughout the world. Illusion's work has catalyzed conversations in living rooms, kitchens, coffee houses, and boardrooms, and has led to transformations in policy, in organizations, in students, and in individuals. Illusion now produces in its new home, the Center for Performing Arts on 38th and Pleasant in South Minneapolis.



**THE
CORNERSTONE
GROUP**

The Cornerstone Group

The Cornerstone Group is a mission driven, values led real estate company. The Cornerstone Group is committed to creating and cultivating thriving places that contribute to the well-being of people and our planet. The Cornerstone Group began work on the

Lyndale Gardens project over ten years ago. It is a collaboration with the City of Richfield to revitalize the eastern shoreline of Richfield Lake. It includes the Lakewind Coop, Condominiums, Apartments, and Townhomes.