



## FOSTER YOUTH INITIATIVE – COMPLIMENTARY TICKET PROGRAM

<https://raiseachild.org/events/>

Tickets are first come, first served. A limited number of tickets are available. Ticket requests must be received at least 72 hours prior to the event.

To coordinate tickets and/or transportation for groups of 10 or more, please contact the Ford Theatres Foster Youth Initiative coordinator Pat Payne at [Ppayne@ford.lacounty.gov](mailto:Ppayne@ford.lacounty.gov) or call 323-856-5793.

## EVENING PERFORMANCES

June 15      **TAIKOPROJECT** presents *Rhythmic Relations 2019*  
8PM      <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/taiko-project-june-2019>

**TAIKOPROJECT**'s annual *taiko* concert *Rhythmic Relations* returns to the Ford as 50 *taiko* drummers of all ages perform on drums of all different sizes. The evening will include a mix of classic and contemporary *taiko* songs blended musically with *koto* (Japanese harp), vocals, *marimba*, *shinobue* (bamboo flute), and dynamic choreography and dance. Joining **TAIKOPROJECT** in performance are **Bombu Taiko** and youth performing group **Kitsune Taiko**.

June 28      **SAG-AFTRA Foundation – Game Changers: Toy Story**  
8PM      <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/sag-aftra-foundation-toy-story>

In a celebration of the power of film and television to influence cultural understanding and broaden the human experience, the **SAG-AFTRA Foundation** presents *Game Changers*, a four-night outdoor screening series featuring groundbreaking films and television that significantly impacted diversity and representation in media, reimagined traditional narratives, and achieved major advances in storytelling. Before each screening, special guests will participate in a moderated conversation to provide their insights on the cultural impact and artistic influence these innovative projects brought to the world.

### **TOY STORY (1995)**

Set in a world where toys come to life when people aren't around, two rival toys—Woody, a pull-string cowboy sheriff, and Buzz Lightyear, an ace space ranger—must put aside their differences when they get separated from their owner, Andy, and find themselves on an adventure-filled mission where the only way they can survive is to form an uneasy alliance. *Toy Story* was the first feature-length film to be entirely computer animated, the first feature from Pixar Animation Studios and the highest grossing film of 1995. The film was nominated for three Oscars and received a Special Achievement Academy Award.

July 20            **Rennie Harris Funkedified**  
8PM                <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/rennie-harris>

*Rennie Harris Funkedified* is a celebration of funk music and 1970s street dance that is pure joy on stage, courtesy of legendary choreographer **Rennie Harris**. Dancers from **Rennie Harris Puremovement**, **The Hood Lockers**, and LA's own **Versa-Style Dance Company** will perform to a live band playing such funk legends such as James Brown, George Clinton, and Roger Troutman, to name a few.

Aug 11            **[Up] Rising – an Afro-Future Her-Story**  
8PM                <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/the-nonsemble>

**The Nonsemble** presents *[Up]Rising: An Afro-Future Her-Story*. Join our host, **Don Cheadle** and emcee **Garth Trinidad** of KCRW for an evening of post-modern South African music. **Siya Makuzeni** will perform with her trans-Atlantic jazz sextet (and a few very special surprise guests) interspersed with the signature post-punk and blacktronica sounds of her alter-ego "Ippyfuze," all of which is informed by her South African heritage. Joining Makuzeni for our celebration of South Africa's National Women's Day will be singer-songwriter **Thandi Ntuli** with her soulful voice and jazz piano. Other performers are slated to perform, including LA-based **KATALYST [The Collective]**.

Aug 16            **Women Rising: Choreography from the Female Perspective**  
8:30PM            <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/brockus-project-dance>

In celebration of the 99<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup> Amendment granting women the right to vote, **Brockus Project** will present *Women Rising: Choreography from the Female Perspective*. The evening will pay tribute to women pioneers of modern dance as well as celebrating women choreographers working in Los Angeles today who continue to innovate. Ten groups will perform, including **JazzAntiqua**, **LA Contemporary Dance Company**, **Blue13**, **Heidi Duckler Dance**, **Luminario Ballet**, **Rosanna Gamson/World Wide** and more.

Aug 24            **Tales from Mount Sumeru: The Golden Peacock**  
8PM                <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/mantra-siam>

Nearly 10 years after their first performance at the Ford, **Mantra Siam** will return with *Tales from Mount Sumeru: The Golden Peacock*. Dancers from Thailand and Los Angeles will reenact the tale of the reincarnation of Buddha as The Golden Peacock who protects and introduces true happiness to the creatures of the holy and mysterious Himapan Forest. Featuring a fusion of ballet, modern dance and jazz with traditional Thai classical movement, the evening is directed by **Zarot Wayuchot** and produced by **Chotiros Viboonlarp**, founders of Mantra Siam Performing Art.

Aug 30            **Urban Bush Women's Hair & Other Stories**  
8PM                <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/urban-bush-women-2019>

Choreographed by Urban Bush Women Associate Artistic Directors **Chanon Judson** and **Samantha Speis**, in collaboration with the company, *Hair & Other Stories* is a multidisciplinary experience that blends dance-theatre with conversations that challenge existing American values and celebrate our choices around "who we be" and "how we do." Crafted from personal narratives, the piece explores disquieting perceptions of beauty, identity and race, and what constitutes the freedom to rise beyond our ordinary selves in extraordinary times.

Featuring new music compositions by **The Illustrious Blacks (Manchildblack and Monstah Black)** with stage direction by **Raelle Myrick-Hodges**.

For 35 years, choreographer **Jawole Willa Jo Zollar's** company **Urban Bush Women** has given expression to the vitality and boldness of African American women. The company's bold and boundary-pushing storytelling weaves contemporary dance, music, and text with the history, culture, and spiritual traditions of African Americans and the African diaspora.

October 5      **GAME THEORY: Modern Indie Game Music Live**  
8:30PM      <https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/musicians-at-play-2019>

Celebrating indie games and their music, *GAME THEORY* features new symphonic orchestral arrangements from some of today's most beloved indie games, hosted by their composers and performed by **The Hollywood Studio Orchestra**. **Jake Kaufman, Grant Kirkhope, Laura Shighara** and **Lena Raine**, will take the audience on a tour of their music, conducted by composer and music director **Chad Seiter**. Accompanied by video, they will premiere music from many of their titles, such as *Shovel Knight, Yooka-Laylee, Celeste, Plants vs Zombies, Rakuen, Arkhangel* and more. These incredible composers have also created music for many hit AAA titles, such as *007: Goldeneye, Donkey Kong, Star Trek, ReCore, Contra 4, LEGO Jurassic World* and *Guild Wars 2*.

## **BIG WORLD FUN FAMILY SERIES**

Bring your sense of adventure and your curiosity too! One-hour music and dance events that represent the region's diverse communities are presented on Saturday mornings in July and August in the Ford's shaded outdoor amphitheatre. Gates open early for preshow kid-friendly nature activities in partnership with the County of Los Angeles, Department of Parks & Recreation's Nature in Your Backyard program and craft activities in partnership with the community organization Go As If. Perfect for children ages 4 to 12 and their families.

**July 6**  
**Afro-Latin Rhythms with El Santo Golpe**  
<https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/big-world-fun-el-santo-golpe>

Experience the joy of music and dance inspired by the many regions of Latin America. From Riverside, California, **El Santo Golpe** is comprised of close friends and family with a vision to share the music of their past mixed with the music of today. El Santo Golpe's original music is influenced by West-African percussion and dance; Colombian, Son Jarocho, and Garifuna music; and the beautiful folklore from many regions around the world.

**July 13**  
**Samba with Viver Brasil**  
<https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/big-world-fun-viver-brasil-samba>

Let the colorful costumes and exuberant movements of **Viver Brasil** transport you and your family to Brazil. Dressed in vivid costumes, vocalists will become part of the action as musicians take polyrhythms to new heights!

**August 3**

**Bluegrass Music with The Get Down Boys**

<https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/big-world-fun-get-down-boys>

Get ready for some pickin' and a grinnin' with the energetic sounds of **The Get Down Boys**, whose five-string banjo, lonesome harmonies and history of Bluegrass music will leave you and your family with a smile on your face.

**August 10**

**Indian Kathak Dance and Music with Leela Dance Collective**

<https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/big-world-fun-leela-dance-collective>

Be transported to India with **Leela Dance Collective** as they perform *kathak*, classical dance from North India. Leela Dance will seamlessly weave together percussive dance steps, dynamic movement and rich music to tell the story of India – her history, struggles, spiritual discoveries, and evolution.

**JAM SESSIONS**

Sing, dance, play and experience something unexpected! This interactive series invites participants of all skill levels to release their inner artist with hip-hop dance, drumming, Mexican folklorico and more. These FREE events are participatory and centered around movement and music. All ages are welcome. Mondays at 7:00 PM.

**July 8**

**JAM Session: Mexican Folk Dance**

<https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/jam-session-mexican-folk-dance-2019>

Delight in the vibrant music and dance of Veracruz! Step up on the *tarima* (wooden dance platform) with San Fernando's own **Ballet Folklorico Ollin** who will walk you through this rhythmic dance style. The JAM will end with a *fandango* celebrating the entire community.

**July 15**

**JAM Session: Old School Street Dance**

<https://www.fordtheatres.org/search/node/Old%20School%20Street%20Dance>

Party like it's 1990! A member of the **Rennie Harris Puremovement** dance company will show you the moves to social street dances such as the wop, cabbage patch, running man, electric slide, dab and more. Get down and have fun at this old school hip-hop dance party!

**July 29**

**JAM Session: African Dance and Drums**

<https://www.fordtheatres.org/calendar/jam-session-african-dance-drums-2019>

Celebrate the rhythms of West Africa! At this energetic JAM led by **Yeko Ladzekpo-Cole**, you'll explore the drumming, dancing and singing traditions of the Ewe and Dagomba people of Ghana.