



July 25, 2019
Press release #1779

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

For more information contact:
Marita Meinerts Albinson,
612.225.6142

maritaa@guthrietheater.org

Allie McCurnin, 612.225.6196

alliem@guthrietheater.org

**GUTHRIE THEATER AND JUXTAPOSITION ARTS TO UNVEIL *LUMINOUS CURRENT*,
A LIGHT-BASED ART INSTALLATION ON LEVEL NINE,
AND CELEBRATE THEIR COLLABORATION WITH A PUBLIC RECEPTION**

Wednesday, August 14 from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Pohlad Lobby

(Minneapolis/St. Paul) — The Guthrie Theater (Joseph Haj, artistic director) announced it has partnered with **Juxtaposition Arts** — a teen-staffed creative development agency in North Minneapolis — to host a gathering in celebration of the light-based art installation *Luminous Current*, which is now on display on the Guthrie's top floor. The reception, which is free and open to the public, will be held on Wednesday, August 14, from 7 to 9 p.m. in the Pohlad Lobby on Level Nine — home of the Guthrie's Amber Box and Dowling Studio. The evening will include a pop-up boutique of artwork by Juxtaposition Arts, a brief video presentation and a facilitated Q&A session with the artists.

In 2018, the Guthrie received an Arts Access grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board with the intention of fostering relationships between the theater and nonprofit organizations in North Minneapolis. As a result, the Guthrie collaborated with Juxtaposition Arts to produce a work of art that was influenced by the theater's physical location and surroundings — in particular, the waters of the Mississippi River.

Artist apprentices D'Angelo Raymond and Temesgen Besha worked under the guidance of lead designers and architects Niko Kubota and Sam Ero-Phillips and collaborated with others, including Minneapolis-based Solid Metal Arts and Juxtaposition Arts Chief Cultural Producer Roger Cummings. Raymond and Besha were inspired by the Guthrie's unique position between the Mississippi River and downtown Minneapolis and designed the piece to mirror the color and motion of the water and reflect the architecture of the neighborhood.

The Guthrie has previously teamed up with Juxtaposition Arts to design show-related merchandise, host live artist sessions during Guthrie events and provide personalized backstage tours that connect local youth with Guthrie artists. Juxtaposition Arts' 80+ talented youth apprentices and artist staff members have produced a variety of work in public and private spaces throughout the Twin Cities in pursuit of their belief that sustained participation in community-focused creative expression powerfully advances the development of individuals, communities and places.

This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Minnesota State Arts Board, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

JUXTAPOSITION ARTS develops community by engaging and employing young urban artists in hands-on education initiatives that create pathways to self-sufficiency while actualizing creative power. JXTA's work builds North Minneapolis' cultural, financial and social capital by training the local youth workforce in creative industries and investing in the equitable development of North Minneapolis and the West Broadway commercial corridor. JXTA offers free, year-round arts learning programs for youth, community events and jobs for teens in the core program JXTALab. After completing the rigorous 12-week Visual Arts Literacy Training, youth ages 14–21 are eligible to apply for an apprenticeship in one of the JXTALab microbusinesses. www.juxtapositionarts.org

THE GUTHRIE THEATER (Joseph Haj, artistic director) was founded by Sir Tyrone Guthrie in 1963 and is an American center for theater performance, production, education and professional training, dedicated to producing the great works of dramatic literature and cultivating the next generation of theater artists. Under Haj's leadership, the Guthrie is guided by four core values: Artistic Excellence; Community; Equity, Diversity and Inclusion; and Fiscal Responsibility. The Guthrie produces a mix of classic and contemporary plays on three stages and continues to set a national standard for excellence in theatrical production and performance, serving nearly 400,000 patrons annually. In 2006, the Guthrie opened a new home, designed by Pritzker Prize-winning architect Jean Nouvel, located on the banks of the Mississippi River in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Open to the public year-round, it houses three state-of-the-art stages, production facilities, classrooms, full-service restaurants and dramatic public lobbies. guthrietheater.org

###