

UNICORN · COLONIAL · PLAYHOUSE

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**BERKSHIRE**

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**THEATRE GROUP**

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**For Immediate Release, Please March 21, 2024:**

**The Berkshire Eagle and Berkshire Theatre Group Present  
NECCA's Circus Springboard: What to Do If Your Balloon Pops**

An enchanting, family-friendly circus extravaganza that reminds us all that life's greatest challenges can lead to the most meaningful journeys.

**Pittsfield, MA** – The Berkshire Eagle, Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG) and Kate Maguire (Artistic Director, CEO) are proud to announce a NECCA's *Circus Springboard: What to Do If Your Balloon Pops*.

Step right up and witness the touching new piece *Circus Springboard: What To Do If Your Balloon Pops*, a dazzling contemporary circus theater show that unfolds the extraordinary journey of our protagonist, Kato, as she finds herself at a crossroads. Surrounded by a kaleidoscope of characters representing her inner self, Kato meets her enigmatic Guide who leads her through a series of breathtaking performances from these characters, including the Witch of Fear, the Keeper of Fire, the Dream Goddess of Hope and Fred, who all offer Kato their unique wisdom.

Through astonishing aerial and acrobatic acts delivering heartwarming moments, *What To Do If Your Balloon Pops* is a celebration of resilience, self-discovery and the transformative power of the human spirit. Find out "what to do if your balloon pops" in this enchanting, family-friendly

circus extravaganza that reminds us all that life's greatest challenges can lead to the most meaningful journeys.

### **About NECCA**

Since 2007, New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA) has emerged as the premiere circus arts training facility in the nation, blending athleticism and artistry and hosting professional circus artists as performers and coaching staff. The mission of NECCA is to provide high quality circus arts training for students and artists while facilitating greater access and programming to everyone. As a non-profit organization, NECCA ensures financial and inclusive access to serve students of all ages and abilities to learn circus skills, have a wellness practice and experience the joy of play through recreational circus classes, pre-professional and professional programs and workshops. Learn more at [www.circusschool.org](http://www.circusschool.org).

### **About Circus Springboard**

NECCA presents the annual Circus Springboard show, featuring America's next generation of circus artists. Circus Springboard tours New England theaters connecting rural audiences to inspiring aerialists and acrobats through the powerful storytelling of theatrical circus.

The performers are soon-to-be graduates of NECCA's 3-year professional training program and this show is the culmination of their study and development as performers and artists. This show is devised with a guest director and each year reflects the artistic collaboration of the director and performers.

### **At The Colonial Theatre**

**The Berkshire Eagle and Berkshire Theatre Group present:  
NECCA's Circus Springboard: What to Do if Your Balloon Pops**

at The Colonial Theatre  
Friday, May 3, 2024 at 7:30pm

**Tickets:** VIP Adult: \$35  
VIP Child: \$25  
*\*VIP Tickets include preferred seating, a post-show meet and greet/Q&A with cast members.*

Adult: \$25  
Child: \$15

### **Season Discounts & Ticket Information**

#### **EBT Card to Culture Program**

EBT Card to Culture is a collaboration between the Mass Cultural Council and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services' Department of Transitional Assistance. This is available to anyone with EBT, WIC, or ConnectorCare Insurance. This offer includes two tickets to the

majority of BTG's shows at the rate of \$5 each. All additional fees are also waived. These tickets are subject to availability as seating is limited. This offer is available by phone or in person only.

The box office is open Tuesday through Saturday 12pm to 5pm or on any performance day from 12pm until curtain. BTG's Pittsfield Campus is located at 111 South Street, (The Colonial Theatre) Pittsfield, MA.

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### **Safety Protocols**

For safety protocols please visit BTG's COVID-19 information page:

[www.berkshiretheatregroup.org/covid-19-information/](http://www.berkshiretheatregroup.org/covid-19-information/)

### **About Berkshire Theatre Group**

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG). Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Every year, BTG produces and presents performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through our Educational Program, serves over 11,000 Berkshire County school children annually. In July 2020, Berkshire Theatre was the first company in the United States to earn approval from Actors' Equity Association to produce a musical (*Godspell*) in the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic. In 2028, Berkshire Theatre Group will celebrate 100 years of theatre.