



BROOKLYN ACADEMY OF MUSIC PETER JAY SHARP BUILDING 30 LAFAYETTE AVENUE BROOKLYN, NY 11217—1486

BAMkids 2024 Winter/Spring Season for Young Audiences

NEWLY ANNOUNCED! Jacqueline Woodson's Captivating Narratives *The Other Side* and *Show Way The Musical* Set for Stage + Post-Show Talkbacks in March

The season also includes the return of the 26th annual BAMkids Film Festival and a celebration of Dr. King's legacy

January 10, 2024/Brooklyn, NY—BAMkids is thrilled to announce two new captivating live performances added to its 2024 winter/spring season, designed for young audiences and families.

The exciting additions are New York premiere performances, reimagining the beloved literary works of acclaimed author **Jacqueline Woodson**. With original direction by Schele Williams (*The Wiz*, *Motown the Musical*) and current direction by Tavia Riveé Jefferson, Woodson's powerful narrative, ***Show Way The Musical***, will transform into an enthralling theatrical production. Additionally, choreographer Hope Boykin brings Woodson's storytelling to life through the mesmerizing dance piece, ***The Other Side***. These shows empower young minds, offering a fresh perspective on the world of literature and drama. Download media images [here](#).

Woodson, celebrated for her impactful writing across various genres, brings renewed life to her work on stage at BAM. Winner of numerous Newbery Honors, National Book and Coretta Scott King Awards, and the MacArthur "Genius" Grant, Woodson and her award-winning books have connected people, art, and stories for decades. Her works, a testament to resilience and human connection, continue to captivate hearts worldwide.

After select performances, families are invited to join a post-show talkback with the award-winning author. These interactive sessions offer young audiences a unique opportunity to engage with creatives, gain deeper insights into the creative process, and delve into the subtleties of storytelling. It's a window for young audiences to witness theater come alive, giving many their initial behind-the-scenes glimpse.

To better support the needs and enjoyment of neurodiverse audience members, both productions will offer relaxed performances. Modifications will include enhancing multi-sensory elements of the show, eliminating blackouts and sudden theatrical cues, maintaining moderate

house lighting throughout the performance, lowering the overall volume of sound elements, allowing for audience vocalization and movement, and allowing for patron exits and entrances whenever needed.

Completing this vibrant season is the previously announced **BAMkids Celebrates MLK Day: Small Things in Great Ways** program centered around music, movement, and crafts fostering change and unity. Additionally, the beloved **BAMkids Film Festival** returns in February, promising cinematic joy for young film enthusiasts in partnership with the Northwest Film Forum and Melbourne International Animation Festival.

Tickets for BAMkids programming go on sale January 16 for the general public (January 11 for BAM Members). Visit [BAM.org/bamkids24](https://bam.org/bamkids24) for tickets and more details. See detailed program information below.

For press inquiries and additional information, please contact Cynthia Tate at ctate@bam.org or 718.724.8022.

The Other Side

New York Premiere

Adapted from the book by Jacqueline Woodson

Directed and Choreographed by Hope Boykin

Original score by Ali Jackson

Co-commissioned by the Kennedy Center and HopeBoykinDance

Fishman Space, BAM Fisher (321 Ashland Pl.)

Brooklyn, NY

Mar 2 at 11am & 3pm

Mar 3 at 11am & 3pm

Tickets are \$18

Ages 7+

Clover's mom says it isn't safe to cross the fence that segregates their African-American side of town from the white side where Anna lives. But when the two girls strike up a friendship, they'll find a clever way to get around the grown-up rules together. Twenty years after its first publication, MacArthur Genius Grant Winner Jacqueline Woodson's simple yet powerful book *The Other Side* comes to life in an evening-length dance piece from choreographer and dance educator **Hope Boykin**. When literal and figurative fences keep us apart, can we find the courage—and creativity—to knock them down? See press photos [here](#).

Sensory-Friendly Performance: Mar 3 at 3pm

Post-Show Talkback: Mar 2 at 3pm and Mar 3 at 11am

Jacqueline Woodson, a prolific author and recipient of numerous prestigious awards, including the 2023 Guggenheim Fellowship and the 2020 MacArthur Fellowship, is acclaimed for her impactful writing across various genres. Her bestselling memoir, *Brown Girl Dreaming*, won the 2014 National Book Award and garnered multiple honors, including the Coretta Scott King Award and a Newbery Honor. With a rich collection of award-winning books for readers of all ages, Woodson has received many outstanding accolades: she's a four-time Newbery Honor titles, four-time National Book Award finalist, and two-time Coretta Scott King Award winner. Her notable works include *Before the Ever After*, *The Day You Begin*, and *Harbor Me*. Woodson's contributions to young adult literature have earned her the Margaret A. Edwards Award for lifetime achievement and the Jane Addams Children's Book Award twice.

Hope Boykin (Director, Choreographer), a two-time "Bessie Award" winner and former member of Complexions, Philadanco, and Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, has choreographed for numerous esteemed companies worldwide. She's received acclaim for her virtual work and directed off-Broadway and regional theater productions. Boykin is Artistic Advisor for Dance Education at the Kennedy Center, Artistic Lead for the Kennedy Center Dance Lab, and serves as Artist-In-Residence at the USC Gloria Kaufman School of Dance. She continues to evolve her craft as a writer, director, and filmmaker, recently releasing a short film, *Beauty Size & Color*, in which she earned a New York Emmy nomination. She was featured on the October 2023 cover of *Dance Magazine* and premiered her first evening-length work, *States Of Hope* at The Joyce Theater to great acclaim. With a firm belief in boundless creativity, she's dedicated to her roles as an educator, creator, mover, and motivator.

Show Way the Musical

New York Premiere

Kennedy Center Theater for Young Audiences on Tour

By Jacqueline Woodson

Adapted from her book *Show Way*, illustrated by Hudson Talbott

Music and Lyrics by Tyrone L. Robinson

Choreographed by Tiffany Quinn

Music Directed by Tiffany Underwood Holmes

Original Direction by Schele Williams

Directed by Tavia Riveé Jefferson

Fishman Space, BAM Fisher (321 Ashland Pl.)

Brooklyn, NY

Mar 16 at 2pm & 7pm

Mar 17 at 11am & 3pm

Tickets are \$18

Ages 7+

MacArthur "Genius" Grant winner **Jacqueline Woodson's** Newbery Honor-winning book of history, love, and resilience becomes a stage adaptation with original direction by **Schele Williams**, current direction by **Tavia Riveé Jefferson**, and new music by **Tyrone L. Robinson**. This moving, lyrical account based on Woodson's own family pays tribute to women whose

strength and knowledge illuminate their daughters' lives—from slavery to freedom, through segregation, freedom marches, and the fight for literacy.

See press photos [here](#).

Sensory-Friendly Performance: Mar 17 at 3pm

Post-Show Talkback: Mar 16 at 7pm and Mar 17 at 11am

Tyrone L. Robinson (Composer), compositions have been showcased at prestigious venues like New York's Public Theatre and The Vital Theatre, earning him an Off-Broadway Alliance Award nomination. Robinson, an ASCAP Frederick Loewe Award recipient, also showcases his talent in filmmaking and screenwriting, honored by various film festivals and contests. He holds an M.F.A. from NYU Tisch School of the Arts.

Schele Williams (Original Direction), highlighted as "Variety's 2020 Top 10 Broadway to Watch," specializes in fostering new musicals with authentic representation. Currently directing Broadway revivals of *Aida* and *The Wiz*, she's also at the helm of projects like *Hidden Figures* in development at Disney Theatrical Group. Williams, a trailblazer in merging social justice with the arts, co-founded Black Theatre United and authored the acclaimed children's book *Your Legacy: A Bold Reclaiming of Our Enslaved History*.

Tavia Riveé Jefferson (Director), Tavia is a performer, director, and cultural coordinator. She is currently Associate Director on the Disney Theatricals revival of *Aida*, as well as the highly anticipated revival of *The Wiz*, coming to Broadway in spring 2024. After earning her communications degree from Chapman University, Tavia returned to the arts, performing in shows including *All Shook Up*, *Trav'lin*, *Hairspray*, *Beehive*, *HAIR*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Cirque du Soleil's Michael Jackson ONE*, and the National Tour of *Motown the Musical*. During the pandemic, Tavia focused her communication and theatrical skills on building the specialized role of cultural coordination, designed to improve cultural competency in artistic spaces. Tavia is currently the Cultural Coordinator for multiple regional, touring, West End, and Broadway productions, including *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Company*, and *Hairspray*. www.TaviaRivee.com

Previously announced BAMkids programs:

BAMkids Film Festival 2024

In association with Northwest Film Forum and Melbourne International Animation Festival

BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave.)

Brooklyn, NY

Feb 3 & 4 from 9:30am—3pm

Tickets \$10 for children (13 & under), \$14 for adults, and \$9 for BAM members

Ages 3—11

Highlighting the best shorts and features from around the globe, the 26th annual BAMkids Film Festival returns with US and New York premieres at BAM Rose Cinemas. Visit BAM.org/bamkids24 for the full schedule. Download images [here](#).

BAMkids Film Festival Shorts Programs:

Home Sweet Home

In association with Melbourne International Animation Festival

Sat, Feb 3 at 10am & Sun, Feb 4 at 10:20am and 11am Ages 3—5 (60 min)

Heartwarming, animated shorts that follow the adventures of charming characters navigating fun, friendship, and small challenges. These lovely tales encourage sharing, caring, and cherishing the wonders of nature.

Somni (Germany), *Snif and Snüf* (United States), *Kids in Winter* (China), *Peculiar and Strange* (United States), *What's in That Crate* (Belgium), *Cat and Moth* (Canada), *Babies and the Bear: Summer* (Poland), *Yellow Light* (Israel), *The Turnip* (Nagris) (Estonia), *Blueberry* (United States), *Princess Aubergine* (Germany), *Kiri and Lou: Rockaroonie* (New Zealand)

What a Wonderful World

In association with Northwest Film Forum

Sat, Feb 3 at 10:20am and 11:40am & Sun, Feb 4 at 10:00am Ages 3—5 (62 min)

Embark on an enchanting journey with delightful shorts that celebrate the marvels of our world, inspiring young viewers to embrace curiosity, kindness, and the magic found in simple, everyday moments—whether it's helping a friend or marveling at the stars above.

Hello! (Republic of Korea), *Master of Hide and Seek* (Taiwan), *I hear you singing* (United Kingdom), *To Make Something Wonderful* (United States), *Stan and Sven: A Plan to Help Stan* (Australia), *Starlight Soup* (Republic of Korea), *Hug Me* (Republic of Korea), *Weiqi Fantasy* (China), *Dormouse* (Germany), *When it Rains* (Republic of Korea), *Starforger* (France), *Bloom In* (United States), *Cake Ballad* (Germany), *Make it Myself* (United States), *Three Trees* (Canada), *The Sound Collector - Mood Music* (United Kingdom)

Magical Friendships

In association with Melbourne International Animation Festival

Sat, Feb 3 at 11am and 12:40pm & Sun, Feb 4 at 10:40am Ages 6—8 (61 min)

Discover the unexpected bonds formed in the most extraordinary places! These captivating tales take you to a world where friendships bloom amidst dreams, stars, underwater realms, and far-off lands.

Hi! (Netherlands), *Befriend the Wind* (Czech Republic), *Shuffle/ Schoenmaten* (Netherlands), *Pond (Tümpel)*, *Explore your feelings with Art* (United Kingdom) (Switzerland), *Cold Lunch* (United States), *As the Sun Goes Down* (France), *Starcatcher* (France), *Coquille* (France), *Go Away Alfred* (France), *You Are Not Small* (United States), *Furever After* (Australia)

Adventurous Creatures

In association with Northwest Film Forum

Sat, Feb 3 at 12:20pm & Sun, Feb 4 at 11:40am Ages 6—8 (61 min)

Explore the vast landscapes with an array of furry and feathered friends, both big and small! From seaside wonders to cosmic escapades, these tales showcase cuddly creatures' determination, passion, and curiosity as they navigate our world.

Pufferfish (Germany), *The Sound Collector - Loud Music* (United Kingdom), *Feeling the Flow* (France), *Choo-Choo* (Republic of Korea), *What's Up With the Sky?* (Spain), *Upside Down* (Latvia), *Goro Goro* (United States), *HAM* (United States), *Moon Mole* (Portugal), *Swing to the Moon* (France)

All Together Now!

In association with Northwest Film Forum

Sat, Feb 3 & Sun, Feb 4 at 1:20pm Ages 6—8 (63 min)

Heartwarming shorts that exemplify the unique connections we forge with others. These tales highlight the power of togetherness, emphasizing that unity can conquer any challenge.

BATTERY MOMMY (Republic of Korea), *Bouquet* (France), *Himal* (United Kingdom), *Shelter* (France), *Alpha Generation* (Brazil), *Le Château Des Chats* (United Kingdom), *Ouléou?* (France), *Bike Lane Ends* (United States), *Cowboy Kevin* (Denmark), *Flea Finds a Friend?* (United States), *To Be Sisters* (France)

Free To Be Me

In association with Northwest Film Forum

Sat, Feb 3 at 1:40pm & Sun, Feb 4 at 1pm Ages 9+ (95 min)

Unleash the power of authenticity with stories that champion individuality, diversity, and self-expression. These inspiring shorts highlight moments where being true to oneself shines brightly, showcasing unique passions, talents, and backgrounds.

Head in the Clouds (France), *Gaps* (United States), *A Tiny Voyage* (France), *Jojo - A Toad Musical* (United States), *Blèh* (Netherlands), *Joyce's Neighborhood* (United States), *One Week To Go - Emilie* (Netherlands), *The Rainbow Dung Beetle* (United States), *SHARK or HYENA* (Germany), *The Girl with the Red Beret* (Canada), *The Rock Pool Waltz* (Australia)

BAMkids Celebrates MLK Day 2024: Small Things in Great Ways (ages 6—11)

Co-curated by the BAMkids Parent Advisory Circle

The Adam Space (30 Lafayette Ave.)

Brooklyn, NY

Jan 15 at 11:30am-12:45pm; 1:30p-2:45pm; 3pm-4:15pm

FREE (Registration Required)

Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s vision and teachings come to life as BAMkids pays tribute to his legacy through a tapestry of engaging activities that echo Dr. King's message about the importance of small acts in fostering change and unity, from a spoken word performance by visionary young poet **Jada Wilkinson**, to creating a community song and movement under the direction of music teaching artist **Okai Fleurimont**, spoken word artist **Zaven**, and dancer **Robenson Mathurin**. Participants can contribute to a collaborative CommUNITY Banner led by visual artist **Lexy Ho-Tai** and other community craft activities, symbolizing their commitment to making positive community changes. In partnership with City Harvest, families will engage in activities that uplift seniors, aligning with Dr. King's call to serve others. Co-curated by the [BAMkids Parent Advisory Circle](#). Limited Capacity. Registration is required. Visit [BAM.org](#) for more details. Download images [here](#).

Credits

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