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Starlight Cancels *Godspell* Production



*Due to the ever-changing circumstances regarding COVID-19, Starlight leadership made the decision to cancel the all-Kansas City production of *Godspell* scheduled for August 19-25.*

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – For the first time since the historic institution’s inception in 1950, Starlight’s beloved stage will remain empty with no Broadway or concert offerings under the stars in its 2020 summer season. This includes Starlight’s previously announced all-Kansas City production of *Godspell*, August 19-25.

Earlier this spring, producers of national touring productions made difficult decisions to cancel or postpone many shows until 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. In response, Starlight leadership and staff added a self-produced Broadway production of *Godspell* August 19-25, hopeful that social distanced seating and additional safety measures throughout the venue, and extra precaution during rehearsals would allow the show to go on. Unfortunately, after exploring many options, Starlight could not find a financially responsible way of staging the show - especially with the added expense of COVID-19 precautionary measures.

“Starlight has been a part of the Kansas City landscape for nearly 70 years, and we hope to return next summer with a fantastic—and packed—season under the stars,” Rich Baker, Starlight President & CEO, said. “In the meantime, we will need Kansas Citians’ help to do so.”

Without shows this summer, Starlight estimates a loss of more than \$4 million. Ticket holders may turn their ticket money into a donation to Starlight, hold the balance on their account at Starlight for future purchases, or request a refund.

MORE

Ticketholders have been notified as events they have purchased a ticket to have been postponed or cancelled due to the coronavirus pandemic. Starlight leadership and staff continue to work with touring productions and adjust to the ever-changing circumstances regarding COVID-19.

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About Starlight

Opened as a theatre in 1950 and a nonprofit organization in 1951, Starlight is the largest and oldest performing arts institution in Kansas City and provides inspiring, one-of-a-kind experiences to its patrons. Starlight presents and produces Broadway musicals, concerts and Indoors shows in addition to offering extensive community outreach and educational programming, including classes, scholarships and Starlight's Blue Star Awards, one of the largest high school musical theatre award programs in the nation.

Located on 16 acres in Swope Park, Starlight's historic, city-owned venue is the second-largest outdoor producing theatre in the country and includes rehearsal halls, a museum, club area for dining, concessions, gardens, fountains and a 10-story, climate-controlled stage. For more information, visit kcstarlight.com.

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