

#### FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

# Seattle Children's Theatre Announces Extended Run of *The Hula Hoopin' Queen* February 12<sup>th</sup>-March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025

Featuring free special events and entertainment experiences throughout the run of the play, including workshops, book signings and Q&A sessions

(Seattle) – January 09, 2025 – <u>Seattle Children's Theatre</u> (SCT) announced today an exciting update to the spring 2025 season, an extension of <u>The Hula Hoopin' Queen</u> from February 12<sup>th</sup>-March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2025. Based on master playwright Gloria Bond Clunie's spirited adaptation of Thelma Lynne Godin's book, *The Hula Hoopin' Queen*, (illustrated by Vanessa Brantley-Newton), the play centers around three Harlem girls vying for the crown of "The Hula Hoopin' Queen", encouraged and mentored by the community elders. Recommended for ages five and up, this work is a sweet, funny, and energetic slice-of-life reminder of the essential loops that bind our communities.

Additional audience engagement opportunities are available with the extended run of *The Hula Hoopin' Queen*, including post-show talks and book signings with playwright Gloria Bond Clunie and author Thelma Lynne Godin and a workshop collaboration with the Delridge Neighborhood Development Association (see details on community events, below).

As part of SCT's community programs and in partnership with Double Dutch Divas –a local organization supporting health and fitness through the art of double dutch – a hula hoop and double dutch workshop will be held on Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00pm, in advance of the 4:30pm performance. The workshop is free with registration.

The show's themes of healing, joy, and intergenerational connection will offer audiences a meaningful space for gathering, connection, and celebration as audiences embark on the New Year.

#### **Performance Details:**

The Hula Hoopin' Queen

Dates: February 12-March 23, 2025

Run time: Approx. 60 minutes, no intermission

Recommended for ages 5+

Tickets: \$20-\$65

## **Community Events Details:**

# **Book Signing with the Author and Playwright**

Date: Saturday, February 15th, 2025

Time: 2:15pm-3:00pm and 3:30pm-4:30pm

Stop by our book signing station in the lobby to meet Thelma Lynne Godin, author of *The Hula-Hoopin' Queen*, and Gloria Bond Clunie, the playwright who brought this beloved story to the stage! Copies of *The Hula Hoopin' Queen* are available at the Stage Door Store in the lobby! Get your copy signed, chat with the creators, and celebrate this vibrant tale of friendship, determination, and community.

### Post-Show Q&A with the Author and Playwright

Date: Saturday, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025

Time: After the 1:00pm and 4:30pm performances of *The Hula Hoopin' Queen*.

Location: SCT Lobby

Stick around after the performance for an engaging post-show Q&A with Thelma Lynne Godin, author of *The Hula Hoopin' Queen*, and Gloria Bond Clunie, the playwright who adapted this delightful story for the stage. Don't miss this special opportunity to hear about their inspiration, creative process, and what it took to bring this heartwarming tale to audiences!

### **Get Moving! Hula Hoop and Double Dutch Workshop**

Date: Saturday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2025

Time: 3:00pm-4:00pm

Location: East Rehearsal Hall, Seattle Children's Theatre

Tickets: Free with registration

Connect with your inner Hula Hoopin' Queen and learn how to hula hoop and double dutch with Seattle's best! Led by local community organization Double Dutch Divas, this energetic session will teach you the basics of hula hooping and double dutch jump roping in a supportive, upbeat environment.

# **Hula Hoop and Double Dutch Freestyle**

Date: Saturday, March 1st, 2025

Time: 3:45pm-4:15pm Location: SCT Lobby

Before the performance, jump in and show off your skills or try something new. Whether you're a seasoned pro or a first-timer, this playful pre-show activity is the perfect way to warm up, have fun, and set the stage for an exciting performance!

### **Circle of Love Workshop**

Date: Sunday, February 16th, 2025

Time: 1:00pm-2:00pm

Location: Youngstown Cultural Arts Center (4408 Delridge Wy SW, Seattle, WA 98106)

In partnership with the Delridge Neighborhood Development Association, we are thrilled to welcome the author, Thelma Lynne Godin, and playwright, Gloria Bond Clunie, of *The Hula Hoopin'* Queen for a creative experience the whole family can enjoy! Dive into the heartwarming story behind the book and play, exploring themes of neighborhood love and community bonds. Through an interactive creative experience centered around "circle of love" and what makes a neighborhood thrive, participants will celebrate their own community bonds and contribute to a collaborative work of art.

For tickets and more information, visit <u>Seattle Children's Theatre 2024-2025 Productions</u> or contact the Box Office at <u>Tickets@sct.org</u> or (206) 441-3322.

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#### **About Seattle Children's Theatre**

Celebrating its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season, SCT is led by Artistic Director Idris Goodwin and Managing Director Kevin Malgesini. SCT is a leading generator of new works for young people and their communities, and a primary provider of theater education in the Puget Sound, reaching over 130,000 individuals annually. For the 50th Anniversary, SCT celebrates the good humans who create, connect, learn, work, volunteer, donate and believe in the power of theatre for young people. People like you.

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