



# FACT SHEET

## *Sleepova*

<b>CAST</b> (in order of appearance)	
<b>SHAN</b>	JASMINE PROCTOR
<b>ELLE</b>	CIARA HARGROVE
<b>REY</b>	NYKILA NORMAN*
<b>FUNMI</b>	TYMETRIAS L. BOLDEN

<b>UNDERSTUDIES</b> <i>Understudies never appear for a listed player unless a specific announcement is made at the time of the performance.</i>	
<b>FUNMI AND REY</b>	LEILANI CLENDENIN
<b>ELLE AND SHAN</b>	COURTNEY SIMMONS

<b>CREATIVE TEAM</b>	
<b>PLAYWRIGHT</b>	MATILDA FEYİŞAYQ IBINI
<b>DIRECTOR</b>	PAIGE HERNANDEZ
<b>SCENIC DESIGNER</b>	SHARTOYA R. JN. BAPTISTE
<b>LIGHTING DESIGNER</b>	JOHN D. ALEXANDER
<b>COSTUME DESIGNER</b>	DANIELLE PRESTON
<b>SOUND DESIGNER</b>	CRESENT HAYNES
<b>PROJECTIONS DESIGNER</b>	ZAVIER AUGUSTUS LEE TAYLOR
<b>PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER</b>	KELSEY N. JENKINS*
<b>ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER</b>	EBONY GENNES*

\* Member Actors' Equity Association

Previews: **March 26 - 28, 2025**

Invited Press Opening: **Saturday, March 29, 2025**

**Runs through April 27, 2025**

Regular performances are Wednesday - Saturday at 7:30 PM and matinees on Saturday and Sunday at 1:30 PM. There is also a performance on Wednesday, April 2 at 1:30 PM.

There will be a **sign-interpreted performance on Thursday, April 17 at 7:30 PM** and an **audio-described performance for the blind and visually impaired on Wednesday, April 16 at 7:30 PM**. Audience members who wish to use these services should contact Weldon Brown, Director of Sales and Audience Experience ([wbrown@olneytheatre.org](mailto:wbrown@olneytheatre.org)) to confirm.

Tickets are available from \$36 - \$95 and can be purchased at [olneytheatre.org/sleepova](http://olneytheatre.org/sleepova) or 301-924-3400. Discounts available for groups, seniors, military and students.

# COMMUNITY EVENTS

## BLACK IN AMERICA AND BRITAIN: IMMIGRANT NARRATIVES FROM THE AFRICAN DIASPORA

Saturday, March 29 at 5:00 PM  
Location: Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab  
Tickets: \$10 / Free for members

*Sleepova* written by Nigerian British playwright Matilda Feyişayo Ibini centers the story of four British girls originating from different African diaspora. In this thought-provoking panel, we will explore the complexities of identity, belonging, and race through the lens of the Black immigrant experience in both the United States and the United Kingdom. Drawing comparisons between these two countries, the conversation will unpack the distinct challenges faced by African immigrants to the U.S. and Black immigrants to the UK, and how these intersect with the experiences of native-born African Americans and British-born Black people. Join us for a conversation moderated by Suzan Jenkins that not only deepens our understanding of the play's themes but also fosters a greater appreciation for the diversity within the global Black experience.

Moderator: Suzan Jenkins

Speakers: Dean Stephanie Shonekan, Bola Audena, Dr. Rianna Walcott, and Montgomery County Councilmember Will Jawando

## STORY TIME AT OLNEY LIBRARY

Sunday, March 30 at 2:00 PM  
Location: Olney Public Library  
Tickets: Free, no RSVP required

As part of our celebration of *Sleepova*, we're sponsoring a morning of stories at the Olney Public Library. This is a free family event appropriate for all ages, especially toddlers, preschoolers, and young children. Books to be read are chosen with the help of the Olney librarian.

## WEST AFRICAN DANCE WORKSHOP

Saturday, April 5 at 6:00 PM  
Location: Actors Hall  
Tickets: \$10

Join us for an exciting West African Dance Workshop with Lashawnda Iya Ifanike Batts! This event offers a hands-on learning experience about traditional West African dance, music, and rhythms. No matter your skill level, you'll be guided through the basics and feel the joy of movement.

Instructor: Lashawnda Iya Ifanike Batts

## BOOK CLUB: "AMERICANAH"

Tuesday, April 8 at 6:00 PM  
Location: Olney Public Library  
Tickets: Free, with RSVP

Join the Olney Theatre Artistic Department staff to discuss "Americanah" in conjunction with our current production of *Sleepova*.

## PODCAST RECORDING LIVE ON STAGE: MY SISTER'S KEEPER

Saturday, April 26 at 4:00 PM  
Location: Mulitz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab  
Tickets: \$10

Join *The Sleepless Nights* Podcast for a special episode exploring the meaning and importance of sisterhood. Where is it? How do you find it? And what to do if you lose it.

# ABOUT OLNEY THEATRE CENTER

## Mission

Olney Theatre Center for the Arts produces and curates theatrical performance for the diverse audiences in our community, and educates, learns from, supports and inspires a more inclusive generation of theater-makers.

## Vision

We strive to become an arts and culture powerhouse, redefining the American regional theater movement by cultivating and sharing the creativity of our community.

## History

Founded in 1938 as a summer playhouse, Olney Theatre Center (OTC) now produces world and American premieres of plays and musicals, and reimaginations of familiar titles year-round; presents the work of leading companies and artists; tours nationally and locally; teaches students of all ages; and mentors a more inclusive generation of theatremakers. For more than 8 decades, OTC has brought impactful theater performance and education to our community, helping to grow the vibrancy and vitality of our home in the Washington, DC region.

Over the years, some of the biggest names in theater and film have appeared on our stages, including Tallulah Bankhead, Helen Hayes, Jessica Tandy, Hume Cronyn, Bob Fosse, Phillip Bosco, Eve Arden, Eva Gabor, Burl Ives, Jose Ferrer, Carol Channing, Olivia d'Havilland, Tony Randall, Paulette Goddard, Dorothy and Lillian Gish, Jane Seymour, Anne Revere, Frances Sternhagen, Arthur Treacher, James Broderick, Olympia Dukakis, Sir Ian McKellen, Marica Gay Harden, John Colicos, Uzo Aduba, Alan Cumming, Cheyenne Jackson, Robin de Jesus, Wilson Jermaine Heredia, among many, many others.

Olney Theatre is now the cultural anchor of a rapidly changing region and serves one of the most diverse, best educated, and wealthiest counties in the country. Situated on the unceded land of the Piscataway-Conoy people, the Olney area was once a rural farming community with a unique Quaker heritage. Now the area is occupied by every kind of family that makes up 21st Century America, along with major corporations, shopping districts, civic associations, non profit organizations and a diverse collection of houses of worship. Montgomery County's 1 million residents play a dynamic role in the Baltimore-Washington corridor, and are a driving force behind the region's creative economy.

As of September 2021, Olney Theatre Center employed 40 full time staff, 20 part-time positions, 13 early career apprentices, and more than 400 professional artists. The Theatre intends to continue expanding to better meet the needs of our community.

For more information, please visit [olneytheatre.org/history](http://olneytheatre.org/history)

Follow Olney Theatre Center on Twitter, Instagram, and TikTok @olneytheatre and on Facebook at [facebook.com/olneytheatre](https://facebook.com/olneytheatre).

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