

# RENT

By Jonathan Larson

Directed and Choreographed by Anthony Salatino

A co-production with Syracuse University's [Department of Drama](#)

**Jan. 18 - Feb. 13**

Jonathan Larson's Broadway phenomenon ignites the stage with passion and energy. One year—525,600 minutes—in the lives of seven young friends from Alphabet City brings love, loss, tragedy and triumph in a whirl of non-stop music. Larson built the show on the artists and addicts he knew in his neighborhood as they battled poverty, drugs, AIDS and the looming gentrification of their *Vie Bohème*. Urban and gritty, this Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning musical brims with raw emotion and infectious enthusiasm.

Based on Puccini's *La Bohème*, *Rent* opened off-Broadway in January 1996 to wide critical acclaim. It quickly moved to its Broadway home, the Nederlander Theatre, where it ran for 12 years, becoming the eighth longest running Broadway musical in history. *Rent* won the 1996 Pulitzer Prize for drama and was nominated for ten Tony Awards, winning four, including Best Musical and Best Original Score. The rock musical was adapted into a 2005 feature film directed by Chris Columbus starring most of the original cast, including SU Drama alumnus Taye Diggs '93, Idina Menzel, and Adam Pascal. *Rent's* composer, lyricist and scribe Jonathan Larson died suddenly of an aortic aneurism just before previews began off-Broadway, a testament to Larson's message that there is "no day but today."

## **Exhibit Provided by Onondaga Historical Association**

An exhibit provided by the [Onondaga Historical Association](#), mounted in Stage's Coyne Lobby during the run of *Rent*, will trace the origin of the term Bohemianism from the 17th through the 19th centuries. The main portion of the exhibit will highlight the similarities between the late 20th century Bohemian characters depicted in *Rent* and certain complementary segments of our own local population from the same time period. From the struggle for gay rights, through the stigma of HIV and the controversy over needle exchange and rehabilitation programs, to the establishment of artist communities and affordable, appropriate housing, the exhibit covers the local aspects of the principle subjects represented in *Rent*.

## **News & Reviews**

"What makes *Rent* so wonderful is its extraordinary spirit of hopeful defiance and humanity" - *The New York Times*

## Join Us For A Special Event

**Prologue:** One hour before every performance (except the Wednesday matinee) a cast member will offer an insightful and entertaining talk about the play. *Supported by the Grandma Brown Foundation.*

**M&T Bank Pay-What-You-Can Series:** Sunday, January 16 at 7:30 p.m. to watch the final dress rehearsal. \$9 suggested donation, tickets available at the door 1 hour prior to curtain.

**LGBT Pride Series:** Thursday, January 20, one hour before the 7:30 p.m. show. Food, music & friends.

**LIVE in the Sutton Series:** Friday, January 21, live music following the 8:00 p.m. curtain.

**Happy Hour Series:** Thursday, January 27, one hour before the 7:30 performance. Half-price bar drinks and complimentary snacks.

**Welch Allyn Signed Performance Series *In Memory of Susan Thompson*:** Saturday, January 29 at 3:00 p.m.

**Actor Talkback Series:** Sunday, January 30 following the 7:00 p.m. show.

**Wednesday @ 1 Lecture Series:** Wednesday, February 9 at 1 p.m.

**Open Caption Series:** Wednesday, February 9 at 2:00 p.m. and Sunday, February 13 at 2 p.m.

## Artistic Credits

**DIRECTION:** Anthony Salatino (*Director*), Sarah Pickett (*Musical Director*)

**DESIGNERS:** Troy Hourie (*Scenic Designer*), Jess Ford (*Costume Designer*), Dawn Chiang (*Lighting Designer*), Jonathan Herter (*Sound Designer*).

## thank you to our sponsors

