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**For Immediate Release**

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**THE ALL-NEW NORTH AMERICAN TOUR OF THE BROADWAY HIT MUSICAL THE WIZ  
COMES TO FORT WORTH'S BASS PERFORMANCE HALL JULY 15-20  
TICKETS ON SALE FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7**

**FORT WORTH, Texas (February 3, 2025)** – Producers **Kristin Caskey, Mike Isaacson, Brian Anthony Moreland, Ambassador Theatre Group, Kandi Burruss, Todd Tucker, NETworks Presentations** and Performing Arts Fort Worth, the non-profit owner and operator of Bass Performance Hall, are thrilled to announce that tickets for **THE WIZ** will go on sale Friday, February 7 at 10am. The Tony Award®-winning Best Musical that took the world by storm is back and coming to Bass Hall in a limited engagement July 15-20 as part of the **2024-2025 Broadway at the Bass Season presented by PNC Bank**.

Tickets start at \$44 and can be purchased online at [www.basshall.com/wiz](http://www.basshall.com/wiz) or by calling 817-212-4280. The Performing Arts Fort Worth box office hours are Monday-Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm and Saturday 10:00am – 4:00pm. For group sales discounts please visit [www.basshall.com/groups](http://www.basshall.com/groups).

*The Baltimore Sun* raves “Powerhouse performances. Stunning choreography. Visionary sets” and the *Chicago Tribune* proclaims **THE WIZ** is “An eye-popping and high-intensity revival!”

This groundbreaking twist on *The Wizard of Oz* changed the face of Broadway – from its iconic score packed with soul, gospel, rock and 70s funk to its stirring tale of Dorothy’s journey to find her place in a contemporary world.

The principal cast includes **Dana Cimone**, making her national tour debut, as Dorothy, **Alan Mingo Jr.**, returning to the role he originated on the pre-Broadway tour and played on Broadway as The Wiz; also making their national tour debuts, **Sheherazade** as Glinda and **Kyla Jade** as Aunt Em/Evillene, **D. Jerome** (*MJ the Musical, Hamilton*) as the Tinman, **Mykal Kilgore** (*Motown: The Musical, The Book of Mormon* tour) as the Lion and **Elijah Ahmad Lewis** (*Ain't Too Proud, Motown: The Musical*) as the Scarecrow.

The ensemble features **Maati Kheprimeni Angaza, Sai Anthony, Joseph Armon Boyd, Aliyah Caldwell, Lawrence Dandridge, Cyniah Elise, Amitria Fanae’, Kaiyla Gross, Gregory Hamilton, Maya Imani, Jesse Jones, Cal Mitchell, Moriah Perry, Leon Ray, Ephraim Takyi, Josh Walker, Lyn Webber, Kameron Whigham, Mikayla White** and **Chanse Williams**.

Featuring a book by **William F. Brown** and a Tony Award®-winning score by **Charlie Smalls** (and others), director **Schele Williams** (*The Notebook*) award-winning choreographer **JaQuel Knight** (Beyoncé’s “Single Ladies,” *Black is King*), additional material by Tony®-nominated and Emmy®-nominated writer and TV host **Amber Ruffin** (*The Amber Ruffin Show, Late Night With Seth Meyers*), **Joseph Joubert** (music supervision, orchestrations, & music arrangements), **Allen René Louis** (vocal arrangements, music arrangements), and Emmy Award®-winning music director and Grammy Award®-winning writer, **Adam**

**Blackstone and Terence Vaughn** (Dance Music Arrangers), and **Paul Byssainthe Jr.** (Music Director), are conjuring up an Oz unlike anything ever seen before. A dynamite infusion of ballet, jazz, and modern pop will bring a whole new groove to easing on down the road.

**THE WIZ** design team includes scenic design by Academy Award®-winning **Hannah Beachler** (*Black Panther*, *Beyoncé's Black is King* and *Lemonade*), costume design by Emmy Award®-winning and two-time Academy Award®-nominated **Sharen Davis** (*Ray*, *Dreamgirls*), lighting design by Barrymore Award-winning **Ryan J. O'Gara** (*Thoughts of a Colored Man*), sound design by **Jon Weston** (*Parade*), video and projection design by **Daniel Brodie** (*Motown: The Musical*), wig design by **Charles LaPointe** (*MJ the Musical*) and make-up design by **Kirk Cambridge-Del Pesche** (*The Piano Lesson*) and casting by **Tara Rubin Casting**.

This production also includes “Everybody Rejoice” music and lyrics by **Luther Vandross**, as well as the “Emerald City Ballet” with music by **Timothy Graphenreed**.

Based on L. Frank Baum’s children’s book, *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz*, **THE WIZ** takes one of the world’s most enduring (and enduringly white) American fantasies and transforms it into an all-Black musical extravaganza for the ages.

**THE WIZ** premiered on Broadway in 1975 and became an instant sensation, going on to win seven Tony Awards® including Best Musical, Best Original Score, Best Featured Actor in a Musical (Ted Ross), Best Featured Actress in a Musical (Dee Dee Bridgewater), Best Choreography (George Faison), and in a Broadway first, Best Direction of a Musical and Best Costume Design (Geoffrey Holder). “Ease on Down the Road” became the show’s break-out single, and “Home” has since become a bona fide classic. That original production ran for four years (first at The Majestic Theatre and later at The Broadway Theatre) – and 1,672 performances – on Broadway. A 1978 film adaptation starred Diana Ross, Ted Ross, Mabel King, Richard Pryor and Lena Horne, and marked Quincy Jones’ first collaboration with Michael Jackson. The most recent Broadway revival played from March to August 2024 at the Marquis Theater in NYC.

For more information, visit [www.wizmusical.com](http://www.wizmusical.com).

**THE WIZ** comes to Bass Hall as part of the **2024-2025 Broadway at the Bass Season presented by PNC Bank**. Continuing the season is the story of one of the greatest R&B groups of all time, **AIN'T TOO PROUD – THE LIFE AND TIMES OF THE TEMPTATIONS**; the return of the world’s most popular musical, **LES MISÉRABLES**; the uproarious new play based on the ultimate whodunit game, **CLUE**; a rare look at the creative mind and collaborative spirit of Michael Jackson, **MJ**; Baz Luhrmann’s revolutionary musical mashup, remixed for the stage, **MOULIN ROUGE! THE MUSICAL**; and completing the season, the original musical from award-winning country music songwriters Brandy Clark and Mineral Wells native Shane McAnally, **SHUCKED**. Visit [www.basshall.com/batb](http://www.basshall.com/batb) for more information.

### **About Performing Arts Fort Worth**

For over 25 years, the Nancy Lee and Perry R. Bass Performance Hall has been a Fort Worth icon and nationally distinguished performing arts venue. Built entirely with private funds, the Hall’s mission is to serve as a permanent home to the major performing arts organizations of Fort Worth and as a premier venue for other attractions to enhance the range, quality and accessibility of cultural fare available to the public; to promulgate arts education; and to contribute to the cultural life of Fort Worth, Tarrant County, and the region.

Bass Performance Hall is the permanent home to the Fort Worth Symphony Orchestra, Texas Ballet Theater, Fort Worth Opera, the Van Cliburn International Piano Competition and the Cliburn. Each resident company operates independently from Performing Arts Fort Worth and manages its own programming schedule at Bass Hall.

Performing Arts Fort Worth, the nonprofit organization that owns and operates Bass Hall, also presents national touring Broadway productions under the Broadway at the Bass Series presented by PNC Bank,

as well as intimate concerts, holiday specials and family entertainment in the Irwin Steel Popular Entertainment Series.

The 2,042-seat multipurpose Hall is characteristic of the classic European opera house form. An 80-foot diameter Great Dome tops the Founders Concert Theater while two 48-foot-tall angels grace the Grand Facade. Since the Hall opened in May 1998, the angels have become preeminent cultural icons of the Dallas-Fort Worth community.