

# PRESS RELEASE

**STUDIO**  
THEATRE

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ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
DAVID MUSE

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**DATE:** January 28, 2020

**STUDIO THEATRE CELEBRATES LAUDED COMPOSER JEANINE TESORI, HIGHLIGHTS FORTHCOMING MUSICAL *FUN HOME* WITH THE BENEFIT**

Foreshadowing its first Main Series musical since 2008, Studio Theatre will honor one of the creative forces behind Tony Award-winning hit musical *Fun Home* with **The Benefit: A Celebration of Jeanine Tesori on February 10, 2020**. The most prolific and decorated female theatrical composer in history, audiences know Tesori's work from *Violet*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Caroline, or Change*, *Shrek The Musical*, and of course *Fun Home*, which Studio will present this spring in a production directed by David Muse, the Theatre's Artistic Director. The evening will toast Tesori's life and work with performances by cherished members of the DC theatre community **Rachel Zampelli**, **Awa Sal Secka**, **Bobby Smith**, and **Clare Carys O'Connell**, and a conversation with **David Muse** and *Fun Home* Musical Director **Darren Cohen**, preceded by a seated buffet dinner. The event will be held at Studio's complex on 14th Street (1501 14th Street NW).

Proceeds from The Benefit will support Studio's work presenting, advancing, and promoting exemplary contemporary theatre in the nation's capital.

Tickets to the event are available for \$250 per person and can be purchased through [Studio's website](#). Suggested dress is cocktail attire.

Sponsorship packages begin at \$2,000 and include six tickets, preferred seating in the Milton Theatre for the performance, and recognition in the evening's program. For more information, contact [devo@studiotheatre.org](mailto:devo@studiotheatre.org).

Corporate Sponsorship packages are also available. Contact Lillie Butler, Manager of Partnerships and Events, at [lbutler@studiotheatre.org](mailto:lbutler@studiotheatre.org) for details.

**THE BENEFIT SCHEDULE**

5:30pm: Welcome Cocktail  
6:00pm: Dinner  
7:30pm: Performance and Conversation  
8:30pm: Dessert Reception

**STUDIO THEATRE**

Studio Theatre is Washington’s premier venue for contemporary theatre, “where local audiences will find today’s edgiest playwrights” (*Variety*). One of the most respected midsized theatres in the country, Studio produces exceptional contemporary drama in deliberately intimate spaces. Drawing inspiration from great ensembles—where people work together with a spirit of generosity and professional rigor—Studio brings characteristic thoughtfulness and daring to its work onstage and off, through its new work incubator and engagement, education, and workforce training initiatives. Studio serves nearly 75,000 people each year, including more than 1,000 youth and young adults through community engagement initiatives. Founded in 1978, the quality of Studio’s work has been recognized by sustained community support, as well as 70 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in professional theatre.

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