



Festival Program & Social Narrative

The logo for 'big umbrella outdoors' is centered within a white semi-circular frame. The frame is bordered by a rainbow-colored arc. The background of the entire page features large, colorful geometric shapes in blue, green, orange, and magenta. The text 'big' is in purple, 'umbrella' is in blue, and 'outdoors' is in green. A green umbrella handle is positioned below the word 'outdoors'.

**big
umbrella
outdoors**

September 17–19, 2021



Hello everyone,

We are thrilled to welcome you to Big Umbrella Outdoors! This weekend is dedicated to and programmed specifically for audiences with autism and other developmental disabilities. It is a true joy to have you here to participate in this work. We can think of no better way to close our incredible summer of Restart Stages, which helped kickstart the performing arts revival in New York City!

This weekend is an outgrowth of our inaugural Big Umbrella Festival in 2018, and we are delighted to bring this work outdoors for the first time to expand and experiment in exciting new ways. During your time with us, you will share in performances, interactive experiences, artmaking, and one-on-one engagement. Building upon past successes, learnings, and feedback from you, we are keeping audiences intentionally small, lifting up inclusive design and a multi-sensory approach, and increasing representation of artists and leaders with lived experience with disability.

This program can be used to learn more about the works and featured artists. Please use this program to continue to follow their work and revisit your experiences at Lincoln Center.



The most important thing to remember is that this space is yours, and these artists are sharing their work just for you. How you experience it is completely up to you. If you'd like to take a break at any time, we have chill out tents throughout campus. If you would like extra materials, have questions, or need anything at all please let us know.

At Lincoln Center we believe the arts can and should be accessible to all. We look forward to hearing from you about your experiences, and we can't wait to welcome you back soon!

**All the very best,
Rebecca, Miranda
(and the entire Big Umbrella team!)**

**Rebecca M. Podsednik
Assistant Director, Programming**

**Miranda Hoffner
Associate Director, Accessibility**

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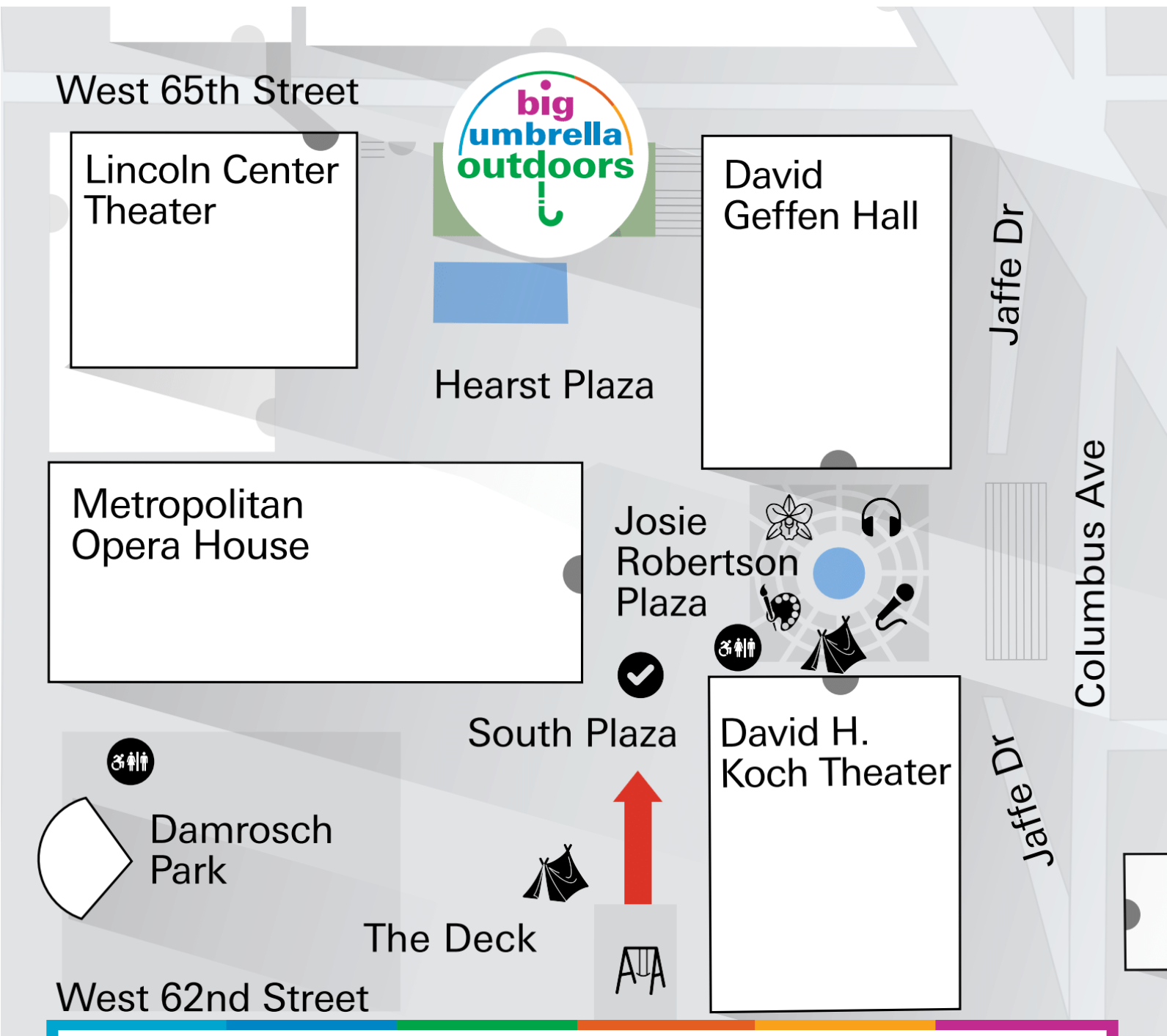
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- 🚻 Restrooms / elevators to restrooms

Campus Map



Key



Check-in



Big Hands for a Big Umbrella



E.P.I.C. Performance



Écoute Pour Voir



OrchidsPlayscape



Art Activities



Swingset Drumkit / Seesaw Pipe Organ



Chill Out Tent



Restrooms / elevators to restrooms

Day of Information



Big Umbrella Outdoors is an outdoor arts festival for young people with autism and other developmental disabilities.

Friday, September 17th from 6:00 pm-9:00 pm is dedicated to teens and young adults.

Saturday, September 19, and Sunday, September 20th is dedicated to families and has two time-blocks each day

11:00 am – 1:00 pm and 2:30 pm – 4:30 pm

This festival takes place on Lincoln Center's campus, entering on 62nd Street between Columbus and Amsterdam Avenues in Manhattan.



What to Bring:

- **eTickets (one ticket for everyone in your group)**
- **Masks for each person**
- **Proof of vaccination or negative COVID test**
- **Favorite fidget or headphones (or you can borrow)**
- **Hat, sunscreen or sunglasses**
- **Standard jack headphones (or you can borrow)**
- **A snack**

Accommodations



Josie Robertson Plaza

Écoute Pour Voir

ASL Interpretation available

OrchidsPlayscape

ASL Interpretation available upon request

Damrosch Park and Hearst Plaza

Squonk Opera and E.P.I.C. Players

All seats are located on accessible routes

ASL Interpretation

Live Captioning

Assistive Listening Devices

The Deck

ASL Interpretation available upon request

**If you require any additional accommodations,
please contact access@lincolncenter.org
or 212 875 5375.**





Songs and Stories from the Spectrum

epicplayersnyc.org

by E.P.I.C. Players

at Hearst Plaza

Cast: Henry, Nick, Conor, Ellie, Shayna, Jared, Nicole, Nada, Ben, Jessy, Katherine, Gerard

Creative team and band: Aubrie Therrien (Executive Artistic Director), Travis Burbee (Associate Artistic Director), Talia Eapen (Director of Operations), Scott Evan Davis (Music Director/Piano), David Andreana (Assistant Music Director/Guitar), Eric Kupy (Drummer), Paul Hemmings (Guitar)

The E.P.I.C. Players are a nonprofit, neuro-diverse theatre company dedicated to creating professional performing arts opportunities and supportive social communities in the arts for individuals with developmental disabilities. Join the company of E.P.I.C. Players as they sing songs and share stories about resiliency, empowerment, and hope for the future.



Inclusive Silent Disco

featuring DJ Kevin Gotkin, wearable technology by Music: Not Impossible, and headphones by Quiet Events

at Josie Robertson Plaza

Kevin Gotkin is an access ecologist, scholar, and nightlife organizer. He is a lead steward of REMOTE ACCESS, a disability-centric party series. From 2016-2019, he was Co-Founder and Co-Director of Disability/Arts/NYC with Simi Linton.

A silent disco made accessible for all due to groundbreaking technology. Music: Not Impossible is an applied Vibrotextile™ technology that allows users to experience the rich nuances of music, using the skin as a canvas. Initially inspired by deaf music fans, the system goes beyond accessibility to create a radically inclusive experience. This tech not only provides a kind of accessibility that has never before been achieved but enhances the musical experience for all.

*Headphones will be provided. If you prefer to bring your own wired headphones, we can provide a limited amount of belt clips to connect to the system.



Swingset Drumkit

Davefordart.com

by Dave Ford

At The Deck at Damrosch Park

Swingset Drumkit is a unique, interactive sonic sculpture encouraging people to build rhythmic sounds through their swinging. Swings are attached to large colorful wheels that trigger multiple drumsticks, striking percussive instruments. The speed and swinging height that you swing is translated into varying rhythms and sounds; make your own music by swinging!



OrchidsPlayscape

Sean Ahlquist's Instagram

At Josie Robertson Plaza

Project Designer: Sean Ahlquist. Architecture: John Hilla, Yi-Chin Lee, Virginia Melnyk, Daniel Ruan, Nishita Vinodrai, Tracey Weisman. Engineering: Evgueni Filipov, Maria Redoutey. Additional funding support from University of Michigan - Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and Autism Action Partnership. Material support from Unifi, Quantum Materials and McMichael Mills.

The term “orchid” in behavioral science refers to a unique ability to thrive when immersed within a desirable environment. Knowing what is a motivating environment at a particular time for someone with autism is near impossible. Therefore, instead of trying to predict a single design solution, the effort is to let the function of the environment play out within the hands of those immersed within it. The OrchidsPlayscape attempts to do this through richly textured, knitted textiles and interaction with multi-sensory components. Born of the artist, Sean Ahlquist, and his architectural research, and driven by the ever-changing experiences with his autistic daughter, Ara, the project hopes to enable those with autism to communicate their creativity for space-making and play.



Big Hands for a Big Umbrella

Squonk.org
by Squonk Opera
at Damrosch Park

Artistic Directors: Jackie Dempsey and Steve O'Hearn

Performance collective Squonk draws from their “Hand to Hand” project to create an immersive, open engagement just for Lincoln Center. This relaxed performance will allow all to express themselves and be comfortable: close or far, touch or not, quiet or loud. Drawing on Squonk’s command of multi-sensory performance and their nationally renowned work in participatory inclusiveness, they offer an intimate experience that invites free expression, where stimming, moving, and vocalizing are all welcome. They hope that everyone will find a way to enjoy the sights and sounds of Squonking together!



Écoute Pour Voir

by Danse Carpe Diem / Emmanuel Jouthe and
Ballet For All Kids

At Josie Robertson Plaza

Dancers: Liam Kay, Cassie Erickson, Katherine Lin, Justine Choueiri, Aradhya Vaid, Rose Beemer and Aveyron Sevillaand, Danse Carpe Diem Artistic Director Emmanuel Jouthe. Ballet for All Kids: Director, Bonnie Schlacte & NYC Director Rebecca Elbogen

Écoute Pour Voir is seven artists, scattered in space and dancing simultaneously. Originally created and choreographed by Emmanuel Jouthe and Danse Carpe Diem, performances will feature dancers from Ballet For All Kids, which teaches classical ballet technique and other dance styles using The Schlachte Method, a certified curriculum developed to accommodate all abilities, body types, and learning styles. Here one dancer and one audience member equipped with a pair of headphones attached to an iPod share a short choreographic exchange. This piece is being performed by dancers of all abilities and there will be audience participation. *Headphones will be provided. If you prefer to bring your own, they must have a traditional headphone jack of 3.5 mm.



Songs from the Spectrum

epicplayersnyc.org

**by E.P.I.C. Players
at Hearst Plaza**

**Cast: Henry, Nick, Conor, Ellie, Shayna, Jared, Nicole, Nada, Ben
Creative team and band: Aubrie Therrien (Executive Artistic Director), Travis Burbee (Associate Artistic Director), Talia Eapen (Director of Operations), Scott Evan Davis (Music Director/Piano), David Andreana (Assistant Music Director/Guitar), Eric Kupy (Drummer), Paul Hemmings (Guitar)**

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Sun Runners **an Intergalactic Audio Adventure**

[Audioplay.me](https://audioplay.me)

by Audioplay & Windmill Theatre Company

Created by Zoe Pepper. Director: Zoe Pepper. Producers: Gemma Pepper & Ross McHenry. Writers: Zoe Pepper and Clare Testoni. Composer: James Peter Brown. Sound Design, Edit & Mix: Xoe Baird. Technical Lead: Arie Wilsher. Audio Recording: Mick Wordley. Additional Recording: Kiah Gossner. Vocal Performers: Elizabeth Hay (Olli), Antoine Jelk (Gamma), Nathan O'Keefe (Freezer Guardian & Security Guard), Anna Steen (Syzygy). Windmill Artistic Director: Rosemary Myers. Windmill Executive Producer: Kaye Weeks. Illustrator: Ivano Granato. Guiding Light: Nathan Nisbet

With a pair of headphones and a mobile device, your kids plunge headfirst into an immersive space adventure, hurtling across the farthest reaches of the galaxy in your own living room. Sun Runners infuses imaginative, physical play with a cinematic score to create a thrilling action-packed experience; it's technology without the screens. *This experience can be accessed at home via mobile device from September 13 at 10:00 am through September 26. Enjoy 6 episodes, ranging from 15–18 mins.

Teaching Artists



Heather Bryce

is a teaching artist, choreographer, artistic director of Bryce Dance Company, and co-founder of Teaching Artists Connect. Bryce has expertise in working with people of all ages including populations often under-represented in the arts such as older adults, students who have disabilities, and people living with dementia. Bryce has over 20 years of experience as an educator.

Ervine Haskins

is a 28 year old dancer who is very energetic and outgoing. He has a moderate intellectual disability, enjoys spending time with family and friends, and is interested in fashion, dance, and volunteer work. With support from the Staff at AHRC NYC, Ervine has been able to facilitate a weekly movement class teaching hip-hop to people with disabilities. Ervine continues to dedicate his work to his mother Shirley who passed away in 2020.





Joselia Hughes

is an Afro-Caribbean writer and artist. She calls Sickle Cell Disease and ADHD home. She has shared video work, lectures and performances at a variety of institutions including Ars Nova, MoMA, M.A.C., The Whitney Museum, Participant Inc., ICA at VCU, Leslie Lohman Museum, Pregones Theater, and the Poetry Project. Her writing has or will appear in Apogee Journal, Leste Magazine, Ocean State Review & Blackflash Magazine.

Damian Quiñones

is a singer/songwriter, musician, and teaching artist. He's written music for television and film and performs regularly with his bands, Damian Quiñones y su Conjunto, and Analog Experimental. He was awarded "best score" by the NYU Short Film Festival 2013 for his soundtrack to the film "Flood" by Katy Scoggin. Quiñones is also currently a teaching artist for Lincoln Center Education.





Salla Saarikangas,

dance educator and choreographer, hails from Helsinki, Finland. She was trained at Balettakademien, Stockholm, and received her MA in Dance Research and Reconstruction from City College of New York. She has choreographed for and danced with professional companies in Finland, Sweden, and the USA, and has taught at Tanssivintti, Helsinki; City College of New York; Connecticut College; Hope College (MI); Queens College; Rutgers University and Hofstra University.

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Lighting Vendor – WorldStage Inc

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IATSE Local 1

Lincoln Center Security

Staff List



ActionPlay is an NYC-based 501(c)(3) programming, outreach, and education organization dedicated to providing children, teens, and adults on the autism spectrum and related conditions equal access to education, arts, and culture. Actionplay is dedicated to improving the lives of individuals on the autism spectrum, their families, and the community at large.

Actionplay helps to develop life skills in a fun-filled and supportive environment where participants thrive. Through our innovative programs, outreach, trainings and professional development, Actionplay strives to build a more inclusive world.



Goodwill Industries empowers individuals with disabilities and other barriers to employment to gain independence through the power of work.

Thanks to Our Supporters!



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