

## **NEWS RELEASE**

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Just Announced!** **SPRING 2019 MILK & COOKIES SERIES** **Music & Storytelling Program for Children**

**New Brunswick, NJ** (January 2, 2019)—State Theatre New Jersey announces the return of the lively, interactive storytelling series, **Milk & Cookies** for Spring 2019.

The popular series returns with three delightful programs for children ages 3-8 and their families. The series kicks off on **February 9**, with musician and storyteller, **TAHIRA**, followed by **New Jersey Tap Dance Ensemble** on **March 2**, and **Sweetbeatz** on **April 6**. Select performances are Autism Friendly; Autism-Friendly Relaxed Performances allow families with children on the autism spectrum or with other sensory sensitivities to enjoy high quality live entertainment in a safe, welcoming, sensory-friendly environment. *Tickets are \$3, which includes the performance, along with milk and a cookie for each child. Space is limited, so families are encouraged to purchase their tickets as early as possible at 732-246-SHOW or [STNJ.org](http://STNJ.org). Please note: Milk & Cookies performances take place on the second floor of State Theatre New Jersey. There is no elevator access to this space.*

“We hope Milk & Cookies will be the spark that kindles a lifelong love affair with live performing arts,” said **Lian Farrer, State Theatre New Jersey’s Vice President of Education & Community Engagement**. “The series introduces a variety of genres and styles; this season’s programs feature everything from African folktales to jazz, tap dance to rock and roll. The shows are interactive, engaging, and fun. But most importantly, live performances are a social, communal experience—something kids can’t get from digital media or video games.”

Milk and Cookies is also a hit with parents, as one patron stated “Our girls have been attending since they were 3 (five years) and it has been fabulous to expose them to live performances—so important in this age of virtual entertainment—and such a variety of art forms, and to offer it to people (like me) who could not afford to take them into New York to experience live theatre.”

### **About the Artists**

#### **TAHIRA**

Saturday, February 9, 2019 at 10am & 12pm

By popular demand, TAHIRA returns to the State Theatre with her entertaining songs and stories. Drawing from the African and African American folklore tradition as well as her own lively imagination, she enthralls and delights audiences of all ages.

### **New Jersey Tap Dance Ensemble**

Saturday, March 2, 2019 at 10am & 12pm\*

Come and meet the tapping feet of New Jersey Tap Dance Ensemble! In this high-energy, highly interactive show, dynamic young dancers demonstrate the fundamentals of tap dance and dazzle the audience with show-stopping talent.

*\*12pm show is an Autism-Friendly Relaxed Performance*

### **Sweetbeatz**

Saturday, April 6, 2019 at 10am & 12pm\*

What's six feet tall, with a million-megawatt smile and golden voice? It's Meredith Wright—aka Sweetbeatz! Come along with Meredith into a playful world where children can't find their boots and everyone has a different kind of hair. Her original songs celebrate the spirit and sassiness of kids, and invite them to discover the music that's all around us.

*\*12pm show is an Autism-Friendly Relaxed Performance*

Milk & Cookies is sponsored by Community Access Initiative Sponsor The Provident Bank Foundation.

**For tickets or more information call State Theatre Guest Services at 732-246-SHOW (7469), or visit us online at [STNJ.org](http://STNJ.org).** State Theatre Guest Services, located at 15 Livingston Ave, New Brunswick NJ, is open Monday through Friday from 10am to 6pm; Saturday from 1pm to 5pm; and at least three hours prior to curtain on performance dates unless otherwise specified. *Additional ticket and transaction fees may apply.*

### **About State Theatre New Jersey**

*The theater exists to enrich people's lives, contribute to a vital urban environment, and build future audiences by presenting the finest performing artists and entertainers and fostering lifetime appreciation for the performing arts through arts education. State Theatre New Jersey's programs are made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts. Grant funding has been provided by the Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders through a grant award from the Middlesex County Cultural and Arts Trust Fund. United is the official airline of the State Theatre.*

### **STATE THEATRE NEW JERSEY**

*Creating Extraordinary Experiences Through the Power of Live Performance*

15 Livingston Ave

New Brunswick, NJ 08901

Guest Services - 732-246-SHOW (7469)

Online - [STNJ.org](http://STNJ.org)

**PHOTOS AND INTERVIEWS FURNISHED UPON REQUEST**

Please contact Kelly Blithe at  
732-247-7200, ext. 542 or by email at [kblithe@stnj.org](mailto:kblithe@stnj.org).  
Information in this release is current as of January 2, 2019.

Up-to-the-minute information on events and State Theatre news,  
online at [STNJ.org](http://STNJ.org).

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