



RICHMOND
PERFORMING
ARTS
ALLIANCE

600 E. Grace Street | Richmond, Virginia | 23219

MEDIA ADVISORY
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Photo courtesy of CAA Speakers

Richmond Performing Arts Alliance Announces
4th Annual Women Take the Stage Event

- Proceeds benefit RPAA's BrightLights Education Initiatives

RPAA's Women's Leadership Council is excited to announce its **4th Annual Women Take the Stage** event to be hosted on March 27, 2023 at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. Critically acclaimed standup comedian, writer, producer, and Maggie Walker Governor's School alum **Sara Schaefer** returns to Richmond for this riveting event where she will be joined by a dynamic lineup of local panelists: with **Dana Fox** (television and film writer, producer, showrunner, and director), **Hollee Freeman, PhD** (educator, author, photographer, and beekeeper), and **Erica D. Porter aka "Jungle Grrrl"** (businesswoman, motivator, fitness expert, and WOW Superhero professional wrestler). **Kelli Lemon** (host, business owner, advocate, and influencer) will serve as moderator.

During this afternoon social, the group will discuss the theme of "Going Up!" – unlocking your potential, defeating your hecklers, and developing a thick skin. The event takes place on the stage of the historic and beautiful Carpenter Theatre at Dominion Energy Center. Proceeds benefit RPAA's BrightLights Education Initiatives, providing accessible arts education to youth throughout the Richmond region.

WHAT: Women Take the Stage

Tickets can be purchased at bit.ly/WTTS2023

WHO: RPAA's Women's Leadership Council whose mission is enriching the lives of women in our community through the performing arts while increasing the visibility of and commitment to RPAA.

Members include: Natalie Garramone (Chair), Sally Bagley, Stephanie Gilliard, Laymetha Guy, Annie C. Larson, Carli M. Nelson, Felicia Perry, Martha Schley Smith, Jackie Stone, Linda Warren, and Tunstall B. Willis.

WHEN: Monday, March 27, 2023 at 4 O'clock

WHERE: Carpenter Theatre Stage at Dominion Energy Center

SPONSORS: Altria; McGuireWoods; City Parking, Inc.; SouthState Bank

Media Sponsors: ABC 8News; Richmond Times-Dispatch

Hotel Sponsor: Quirk Hotel

Sponsors confirmed as of 2/22/23

SOCIAL MEDIA: Follow us @RPAAlliance on Facebook and Instagram for all our latest posts.

MEDIA OPPORTUNITIES: Local panelists (as available) and RPAA board and staff available for interviews with advanced notice.

For inquiries contact Ashley Moore, Marketing & PR Manager:

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804-592-3380

PHOTO/VIDEO OPPORTUNITY: Photos and video can be provided by RPAA.

MORE ABOUT WOMEN TAKE THE STAGE:

In its inaugural year (2019), the SOLD OUT event featured keynote speaker, Amy Robach, then co-anchor of ABC's "20/20" and reporter for "Good Morning America" (GMA) and ABC News. During the pandemic the 2021 virtual event featured keynote speaker Christine Simmons, Chief Operating Officer of the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (Oscars.org) Last year, the hybrid event featured beloved moderator Daphne Maxwell Reid alongside a dynamic lineup of panelists – including Sadeqa Johnson, Maggie Small, and Scottie Thompson.

***Richmond Performing Arts Alliance** is a 501(c)(3) organization whose mission is to advance the performing arts in the Richmond region through programs and resources that SUPPORT the artists of today, NURTURE the artists of tomorrow, and provide spaces for the arts to THRIVE. RPAA venues include Dominion Energy Center, home to the historic Carpenter Theatre, Libby S. Gottwald Playhouse, and Rhythm Hall, as well as Altria Theater – the largest performance venue between New York and Atlanta. Its arts education initiatives operate out of the Genworth BrightLights Education Center and reach students of all ages in the City of Richmond and surrounding counties.*

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