

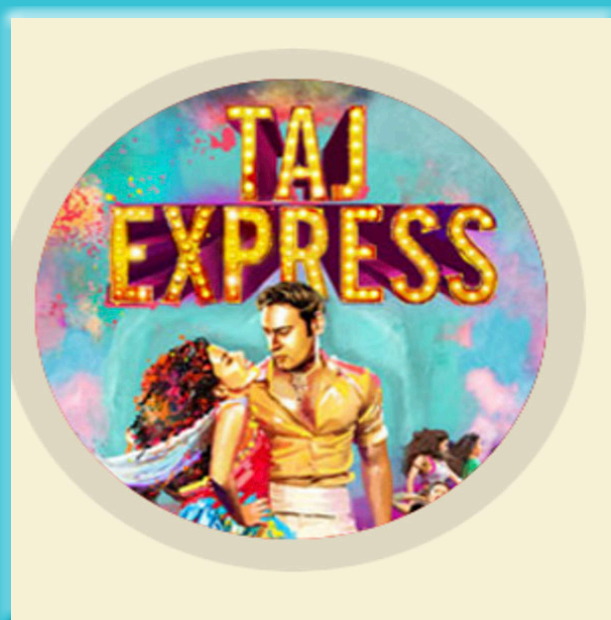
Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs

2019-2020 Season presents

# APPlause!

**K-12 Performing Arts Series**

November 8, 2019



As an integral part of the Performing Arts Series, APPlause! matinées offer a variety of performances at venues across the Appalachian State University campus that feature university-based artists as well as local, regional and world-renowned professional artists. These affordable performances offer access to a wide variety of art disciplines for K-12 students. The series also offers the opportunity for students from the Reich College of Education to view a field trip in action without having to leave campus. Among the 2019-2020 series performers, you will find those who will also be featured in the Performing Arts Series along with professional artists chosen specifically for our student audience as well as performances by campus groups.

## Before the performance...

**Familiarize your students with what it means to be a great audience member by introducing these theatre etiquette basics:**

- Arrive early enough to find your seats and settle in before the show begins (20-30 minutes).
- Remember to turn your electronic devices OFF so they do not disturb the performers or other audience members.
- Remember to sit appropriately and to stay quiet so that the audience members around you can enjoy the show too.

## PLEASE NOTE:

**\*THIS EVENT IS SCHEDULED TO LAST APPROX 60 MINUTES.**

10:00am – 11:00am

- Audience members arriving by car should plan to park in the Rivers Street Parking Deck. There is a small charge for parking. Buses should plan to park along Rivers Street – Please indicate to the Parking and Traffic Officer when you plan to move your bus (i.e. right after the show, or after lunch) so that they can help keep everyone safe.
- Adults meeting a school group at the show will be asked to sign in at the lobby and wait to be escorted to their group by a security guard.



## About the performance:

Taj Express follows the story of one man's passion and another man's genius. Young composer Shankar struggles with his music, and it's only when he begins to follow in the footsteps of his idol, A.R. Rahman that he discovers his path to success. The production reveals the secrets of the world's most prolific film industry, and the people behind the screen who make the magic in India's factory of dreams.

Taj Express rhythmically blends explosive dance with the hits of India's most iconic composers and is brought to life by the stars of Bollywood cinema and its greatest musicians performing live on stage.

It is set to an unforgettable soundtrack featuring the songs of Oscar winner A.R. Rahman.

With a cast of multi-talented performers, Taj Express is an uplifting show full of color, high-energy music and sensational dance scenes choreographed by one of Bollywood's top young choreographers, Vaibhavi Merchant and directed by Shruti Merchant. As director of Taj Express, she aims to immerse the audiences in the heart of contemporary Bollywood in a way that's never been seen before.



## About the cast:

### ***Shankar***

Shankar is a young music director working on his first Bollywood film. His ambition is to write the perfect music score for a film, with one smash hit song that will become known around the world. A.R. Rahman is his guru, his mentor and his idol. In his journey to find the music, the film starts to reveal sides of Shankar that he didn't know existed.

### ***Kareena Kaboom***

Kareena is a Bollywood actress, at the peak of her celebrity, a star of the movie scene, a beautiful heroine, a star dancer she feels imprisoned within her Bollywood world and longs to escape the pressures of celebrity, being constantly in the withering glare of the press.

### ***Arjun***

Arjun is a prince in hiding, an undercover millionaire. ARJUN is teaching dance to street children in an old abandoned Cinema in the streets of Mumbai. In the cinema ARJUN teaches classical dance to give people meaning and value through dance



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## K-12 Performing Arts Series

The performances are part of the APPlause! Series, presented by Appalachian State University's Office of Arts and Cultural Programs. Featuring local, regional and world-renowned professional artists, the mission of the program is to share university arts resources with the public, private and home school network across our region. Study guide materials connect every performance to the classroom curriculum. With the help of the university's College Access Partnership, school groups can enjoy lunch in an on-campus dining facility, take a campus tour, or observe a demonstration by an Appalachian State professor.

For more information, contact:  
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