



**YOUNG
PLAYWRIGHTS'
THEATER**



**EVERYMAN
THEATRE** | GREAT STORIES.
WELL TOLD.

RIOT

**The Beat of Freddie Gray
by Ty'Ree Hope Davis**



Young Playwrights' Theater is an arts education nonprofit inspiring young people to realize the power of their own voices. YPT believes that young people are inherently brilliant and we exist to share that brilliance with the world.

Riot: The Beat of Freddie Gray

by Ty'Ree Hope Davis

*Performed Monday, Feb. 9, 2026
at Everyman Theatre*

About Young Playwrights' Theater

Founded in 1995 by celebrated playwright Karen Zacarías, Young Playwrights' Theater (YPT) inspires young people to realize the power of their own voices. Because everyone deserves high-quality theater education that centers their voices, YPT provides inspiration, tools, and opportunities for young and emerging artists to develop and share their stories. We prioritize young people who are targeted by systems of oppression, and we also collaborate with people of all ages who are invested in the ways that theater can transform lives and communities.

We administer customized, responsive educational programs, playwright-centered, process-focused productions, and other opportunities for youth and adults to develop creatively, personally, and professionally. Across all of our work, we center young people and their agency and adhere to our core organizational values of anti-oppression and antiracism.

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About Everyman Theatre

Everyman Theatre is a professional Equity Theatre company in Baltimore's Bromo Arts District. Founded in 1990 by Vincent M. Lancisi, Everyman centers its storytelling with a Resident Company of artists to carry out its mission of offering transformative, accessible theatre experiences. Led by Lancisi and Managing Director Marissa LaRose, Everyman Theatre, now in its 35th season, invests in its community, believing that theatre is at its best when it's "Built in Baltimore." Each season, the theatre employs more than 150 full- and part-time staff, actors, designers, and teaching artists to bring its programming to the people of Baltimore and the surrounding counties. Everyman Theatre is supported in part by lead corporate sponsor Gallagher, Evelius & Jones, LLP; the Maryland State Arts Council (msac.org); the citizens of Baltimore County; and The Shubert Foundation.



Be the first to know about all of YPT's programs, performances, and events by subscribing to our quarterly newsletter!



About the Ty'Ree Hope Davis



Ty'Ree Hope Davis is a multi-hyphenated artist whose work is grounded in discipline, depth, and collaboration. Known for a relentless work ethic and an unshakable commitment to craft, Ty'Ree approaches each role with emotional precision, physical rigor, and a deep respect for the character's humanity.

A proud graduate of Howard University with a BFA in Acting, Ty'Ree thrives in ensemble-driven environments and believes that storytelling is most powerful when rooted in community. Whether developing original works or stepping into established roles, Ty'Ree prioritizes research, empathy, and bold choices – building characters from the inside out with specificity and care.

His training includes intensive study with the Atlantic Acting School and the British American Drama Academy, alongside real-world experience as a stage manager, producer, and artistic collaborator with organizations like Young Playwrights' Theater, the Howard Players, and more. These multi-faceted experiences inform Ty'Ree's versatility and leadership both on and off the stage. As a Disney Storytellers Scholar, Ty'Ree continues to create space for innovative, purpose-driven art that uplifts collective voices.

Synopsis

Riot: The Beat of Freddie Gray follows the story of Freddie Gray, a young Black man murdered by Baltimore police officers in 2015, and Ty, a middle school student who witnessed Freddie's death. Freddie, unaware that he is dead, attempts to write a hit song, but struggles to recall a specific beat he knows is crucial. This leads Freddie and Ty to delve into the past, piecing together memories and flashbacks leading to Freddie's wrongful arrest, the brutality he endured, and the injustice that ultimately led to his death. The play explores themes of memory, resilience, and the fight for justice, culminating in a powerful realization that Freddie's heartbeat lives on in the collective spirit of those who continue to fight for change.



Cast and Crew

Written and performed by **Ty'Ree Hope Davis**

Directed by **Farah Lawal Harris**

Production Manager **Keta Newborn**

Sound Design **Ty'Ree Hope Davis**

Costumes **Ty'Ree Hope Davis**

Digital Producer **Cody Bahn**

Camera Operators

Brian Stearns

Lei'anna Gladden

In-house photography **Brigitte Winter**

Special Thanks to:

Sarah Blocher

Corey Frier

Joseph Ritsch

Mandy Hall

Kristina Szilagyi

Cat Wallis

Everyman Theatre, their staff, and volunteers

YPT staff, External Affairs team, Board, and volunteers



Be a YPT volunteer!

Help YPT make an impact by joining our team of volunteers. **Scan the QR code** for more information.



KPMG is proud to support the important work of Young Playwrights' Theater



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YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND

The 30th Anniversary Giving Flowers Gala

Join us for a spectacular night honoring
three decades of inspiring youth voices
with Young Playwrights' Theater.

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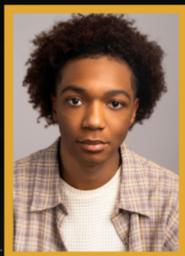


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SILENT AUCTION, CELEBRITY GUESTS,
COCKTAIL ATTIRE

Thursday, May 7th, 6pm
At the Silver Spring Civic Center

Honorees and Special Guests



**Ty'Ree Hope
Davis**
*Rising Voice
Awardee*



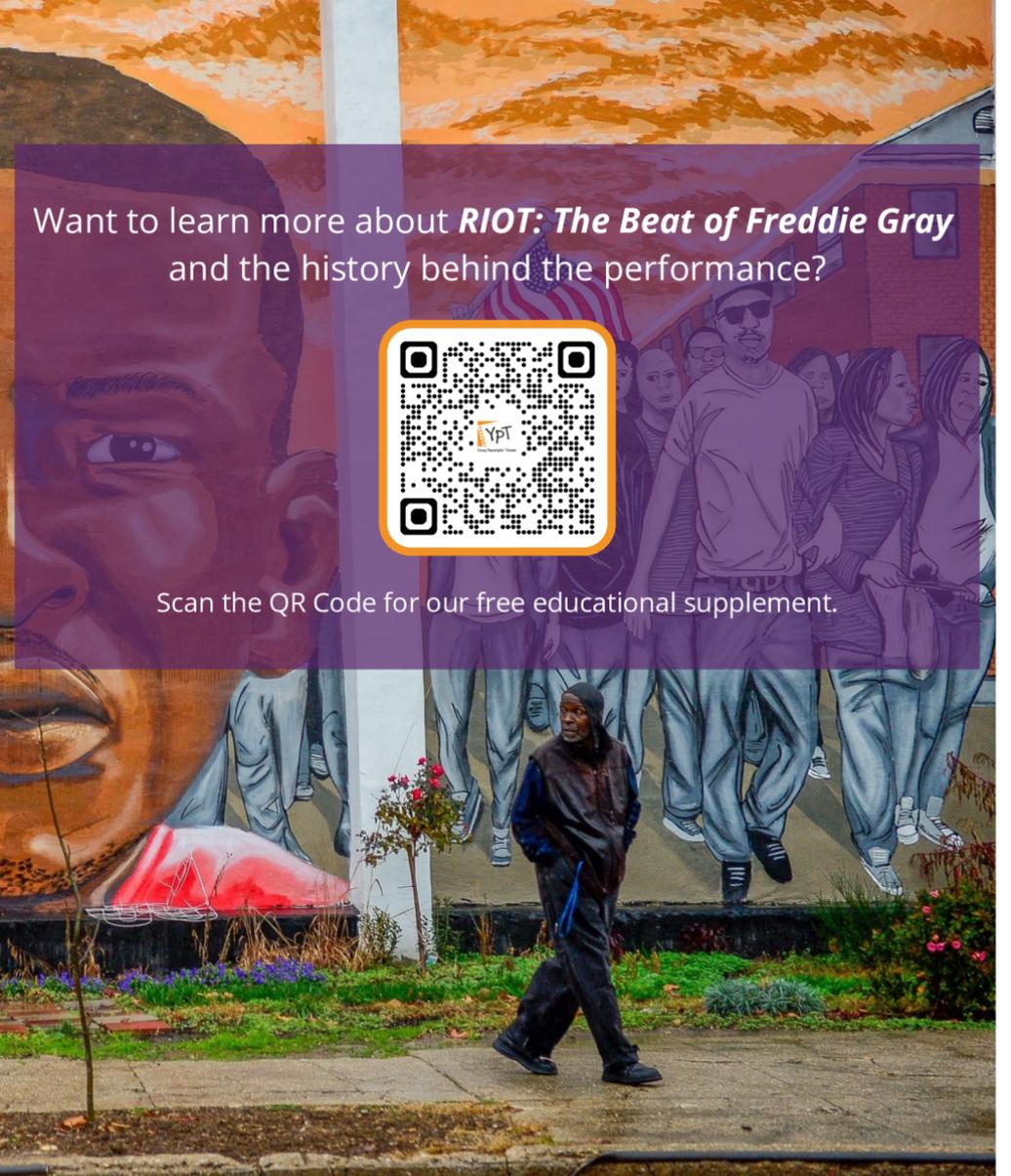
**Karen L.B.
Evans**
*Giving Voice
Awardee*



Want to learn more about *RIOT: The Beat of Freddie Gray* and the history behind the performance?



Scan the QR Code for our free educational supplement.



CPAs & ADVISORS

GRF CPAs & Advisors is pleased to support the important work of Young Playwrights' Theater



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Out now!



Inspired by revisiting our history for YPT's 30th Anniversary and Silence is Violence's (SiV) 10th Anniversary, YPT Artistic Director Farah Lawal Harris and Productions Manager Keta Newborn began looking for new and innovative ways to tell that story. Since its inception, SiV has been YPT's most immediate and direct route of addressing social justice issues affecting Washington, DC area youth through performance and community dialogue. Through a mixture of scripted performances, interviews, poetry readings, and music, Silence is Violence: The Podcast is a four-episode series detailing key moments and performances from Silence is Violence's 10-year history.



Learn more at yptdc.org/podcast

Next episode premieres Thursday, March. 12

This project was supported by a grant from HumanitiesDC as part of the 'Humanities DC Grant Program,' an initiative funded by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities.



Silence is Violence: The Podcast is also sponsored by:

Theater Alliance • Flapjack Theatrics • Solstice Sister Studio • Cody Bahn Photography and Design • Old Takoma Ace Hardware • tabletop • Compass Rose Theater





Generous support for performances and programs at Young Playwrights' Theater is provided by the DC Commission on the Arts and Humanities, GEICO, The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Office of Out of School Time Grants and Youth Outcomes, and the Paul M. Angell Family Foundation.

This performance of **RIOT: The Beat of Freddie Gray** was funded in part by a grant from the Children's Theatre Foundation of America.



Gifts and grants are provided by Capital for Children, Capitol Hill Community Foundation, City of Alexandria, Corina Higginson Trust, Find Your Light Foundation, GRF CPAs and Advisors, Hattie M. Strong Foundation, Herb Block Foundation, John Edward Fowler Memorial Foundation, Kaplan Family Foundation, KPMG, Mayor's Office on Latino Affairs, Morningstar Foundation, Nora Roberts Foundation, Share Fund, Venable Foundation, and Webber Family Foundation. Additional support is provided by the members of YPT's Board of Directors and generous individuals.



CPAs & ADVISORS



find your light



YPT's programs, and our season of productions are made possible through the generosity of donors and community partners who believe in our mission to inspire young people to realize the power of their own voices.

Learn more about YPT and about ways you can support by scanning the QR code, or by visiting yptdc.org

