



American Repertory Theater

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**TONY AND GRAMMY-NOMINATED BROADWAY STAR
SHOSHANA BEAN
TO PERFORM AT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER GALA
MONDAY, MAY 8, 2023
HONORING HARVARD UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT
LAWRENCE S. BACOW & ADELE FLEET BACOW**

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Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University, led by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., announced today that Broadway star and recording artist **Shoshana Bean** (*Waitress*, *Wicked*, and *Mr. Saturday Night*) will perform at its 2023 Gala. The annual event will be held this year on Monday, May 8 at the Bright-Landry Hockey Center on N. Harvard Street in Allston. It will honor departing Harvard University President **Lawrence S. Bacow** and **Adele Fleet Bacow** for their inspiring impact on the arts at Harvard and beyond.

Shoshana Bean was most recently seen starring opposite Billy Crystal on Broadway in *Mr. Saturday Night*. Tony and Grammy nominated for her role as Susan Young, she has previously starred on Broadway as Elphaba in *Wicked* and Jenna in *Waitress*. Her six independent studio albums and EPs have landed her on top of the iTunes and Billboard charts, including the peak position of #1 on the Billboard Jazz Chart. She has sold out concerts around the globe and lent her voice to countless films and television shows, a few of which include *Sing*, *Sing 2*, *Enchanted*, *Jersey Boys*, “Glee”, and “Galavant”. Shoshana made her Broadway debut in the original cast of *Hairspray*, appeared Off-Broadway in the 2000 revival of *Godspell*, and in *Songs for a New World* at City Center Encores. She won an IRNE Award for her performance as Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl* at North Shore Music Theater and earned a Jeff Award nomination for her portrayal of CeeCee Bloom in the pre-Broadway musical production of *Beaches*. She has appeared in “Bloodline” and *Bill and Ted Face the Music*, and recently filmed a solo concert special for PBS.

The annual Gala supports A.R.T.'s artistic productions and educational offerings, which center the theater's mission and vision of expanding the boundaries of theater through programs that engage our hearts, minds, and bodies to imagine collective pathways forward. The 2023 Gala celebrates President Bacow and Adele Fleet Bacow and Adele along with A.R.T.'s commitment to the research and development of groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation.

The A.R.T.'s 2023 Gala Co-chairs are David E. & Stacey L. Goel and Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory. The Gala Committee includes Ed & Sarah Baker, Terrie & Bradley Bloom, Katie & Paul Bittenweiser, Priscilla H. Douglas, Ann & Graham Gund, Barbara & Amos Hostetter, Jeaennie & Jonathan Lavine, Bill & Leslie Lee, Katherine & Joseph J. O'Donnell, Diane & Deval Patrick, and Penny Pritzker & Bryan Traubert.

The gala will begin with a cocktail hour at 6PM, followed by dinner, a live auction, and an artistic program. Additional performers will be announced at a later date.

Half and full table packages starting at \$7,500, individual tickets starting at \$1,500, and opportunities to support the event—including for individuals unable to attend—are available now at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Gala.

For additional information, please contact A.R.T.'s Development team at ART_Events@harvard.edu.

ABOUT SHOSHANA BEAN

Shoshana Bean was most recently seen starring opposite Billy Crystal in Broadway's *Mr. Saturday Night*. Tony and Grammy nominated for her role as Susan Young, she has previously starred on Broadway as Elphaba in *Wicked* and Jenna in *Waitress*. Her six independent studio albums and EPs have landed her on top of the iTunes and Billboard charts, including the peak position of #1 on the Billboard Jazz Chart. She has sold out concerts around the globe and lent her voice to countless films and television shows, a few of which include *Sing*, *Sing 2*, *Enchanted*, *Jersey Boys*, "Glee", and "Galavant". Shoshana made her Broadway debut in the original cast of *Hairspray*, appeared Off-Broadway in the 2000 revival of *Godspell*, and in *Songs for a New World* at City Center Encores. She won an IRNE Award for her performance as Fanny Brice in *Funny Girl* at North Shore Music Theater and earned a Jeff Award nomination for her portrayal of CeeCee Bloom in the pre-Broadway musical production of *Beaches*. She has appeared in "Bloodline" and *Bill and Ted Face the Music*, and recently filmed a solo concert special for PBS.

ABOUT LAWRENCE S. BACOW & ADELE FLEET BACOW

Lawrence S. Bacow is the 29th President of Harvard University.

Widely regarded as one of the nation's pre-eminent higher education leaders, President Bacow has devoted his tenure to advancing Harvard's academic mission and to encouraging interdisciplinary efforts to tackle complex global challenges such as the climate crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic. He is a passionate advocate for the free exchange of ideas, for the interests of international students and scholars, and for the promise of a more equitable, diverse, and inclusive University that considers its future in the context of its past. Under his leadership, the Allston campus has changed and grown in important ways, including steps to bring the American Repertory Theater to the neighborhood.

From 2001 to 2011, President Bacow served as president of Tufts University following 24 years on the faculty of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where he held the Lee and Geraldine Martin Professorship of Environmental Studies and served as Chair of the Faculty (1995-97) and as Chancellor (1998-2001). He received an S.B. in economics from MIT, a J.D. from Harvard Law School, an M.P.P. from the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, and a Ph.D. in public policy from the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences. Prior to his election to the Harvard presidency in February 2018, he served as a member of the Harvard Corporation (2011-18), a Hauser Leader-in-Residence at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government (2014-18), and a President-in-Residence at the Harvard Graduate School of Education (2011-14).

Adele Fleet Bacow is the President and Founder of Community Partners Consultants.

As President of Community Partners Consultants, Adele Fleet Bacow offered extensive expertise in community cultural development, urban planning, economic development, design, and the arts. She brought the public and private sectors together in unlikely collaborations to revitalize communities. Many of these lessons are presented in her book, *Designing the City: A Guide for Advocates and Public Officials*. Previously she was Deputy Director of the Massachusetts Government Land Bank and served as Director of Design and Development at the Massachusetts Council on the Arts and Humanities, receiving a Federal Design Achievement Award for her work.

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. A.R.T. was founded in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director in 2008 and co-leads the theater in partnership with Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., who began his tenure in 2022.

The Loeb Drama Center where the A.R.T. performs is located on the traditional and ancestral land of the Massachusett, the original inhabitants of what is now known as Boston and Cambridge. We pay respect to the people of the [Massachusetts Tribe](#), past and present, and honor the land itself which remains sacred to the Massachusett People.

MISSION

The American Repertory Theater is dedicated to expanding the boundaries of theater, always including the audience as a partner.

VISION

We focus on the research and development of groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. We believe that by engaging our hearts, minds and bodies, theater has the power to heal and imagine collective pathways forward.

We commit to advancing public health in our practice and our programming, recognizing that racism in America is a national public health crisis. Our new home in Allston will be a breathable and healthy building envisioned as a town hall for the twenty-first century. Inspired by the model of a teaching hospital, the building will be a vibrant center for research, experiential pedagogy, and performance.

We build community with our audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. We affirm and celebrate a multitude of perspectives and experiences that reflect the diversity of our country and world. We are dedicated to making a welcoming and accessible space for people of any identity, background, or ability.

VALUES

We hold the institution and each other responsible and accountable for living our shared values. There is no hierarchy to these values; they are all equally important and interrelated. We acknowledge that as an institution we must devote time to implementing and sustaining these values:

We center anti-racism

Habituate anti-racist practices in our policies, structure and culture.

We lead with inquiry

Ask questions in a spirit of brave curiosity in our never-ending journey of learning and growth

We believe in collaboration

Work together with trust and respect to unlock collective creativity

We practice adaptability

Challenge assumptions and create capacity to support "next" practices

We embrace regenerative practice

Promote the health and vitality of our planet, our organization, and each other

HONORS & AWARDS

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for ***All the Way*** (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for ***Pippin*** (2013) and ***The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess*** (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and eighteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards. Additional Broadway productions include ***Life of Pi***; ***1776***; ***SIX***; ***Jagged Little Pill***; ***Waitress***; ***Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812***; and ***Finding Neverland***. Since their premieres in Cambridge, A.R.T. productions have also [gone on](#) to reach audiences Off-Broadway, on US National Tour, and at partner theaters across the country, as well as in London's West End, Tokyo, and Sydney. Under Paulus's leadership, A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, was recognized annually as a top performance venue in the Boston area, and attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

HARVARD UNIVERSITY

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. A.R.T. plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate Theater, Dance & Media concentration, teaching courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. A.R.T. staff also mentor students in the Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club working at the Loeb Drama Center.

A.R.T. is also engaged in a number of multi-year initiatives with partners at Harvard that explore some of the most pressing issues of our day. Recent work includes collaborations with the Harvard University Center for the Environment (to commission and develop a series of new works that address climate change and the environment), the Healthy Buildings Program at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (to develop a *Roadmap for Recovery and Resilience for Theater*), and the Initiative for Racial Equity at Harvard Business School (to pilot the Program in Arts and Culture Organization Management).

ENGAGEMENT

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

@AmericanRep

#ARTGala2023

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