



American Repertory Theater

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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EVENT-RELATED IMAGES FOR DOWNLOAD

AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER ANNOUNCES EVENTS AND ENGAGEMENT ASSOCIATED WITH WORLD-PREMIERE MUSICAL *WONDER*

Community Donation Drives, Movie Screenings, Workshops, Access Performances, and More

Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University announced today programming and audience engagement associated with its upcoming world-premiere musical, *Wonder*. Based on R.J. Palacio's novel and Lionsgate & Mandeville Films' hit feature film, A.R.T.'s world-premiere production begins performances on Tuesday, December 9, 2025, opens officially on Wednesday, December 17, 2025, and continues through Sunday, February 8, 2026, at the Loeb Drama Center in Cambridge, MA.

WONDER-ASSOCIATED EVENTS

- **Annual Fee-Free Spree**
WED, NOV 26 – MON, DEC 1

A.R.T.'s biggest sale of the year returns! Fees on tickets for all *Wonder* performances and *Black Swan* performances 6/16 – 6/27/26 will be waived, and shipping is free on all merchandise through 11/26 – 12/1. Get a great gift for the theater lover in your life or buy tickets for your next unforgettable experience. Tickets at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/shows-events.

- **Cultivating Compassion: Strategies for Bullying Prevention**

THU, DEC, 2PM | Virtual Event with The Studio at Harvard T.H. Chan School for Public Health

Inspired by the world-premiere musical *Wonder*, this panel discussion featuring playwright Sarah Ruhl explores the power of empathy and kindness in the face of bullying. Drawing on the story of Auggie Pullman—a young boy with a facial difference navigating a new school—the conversation will examine the challenges of social belonging and the importance of creating inclusive environments where differences are celebrated. This event will feature a sharing of a new song from the musical composed by Ian Axel and Chad King, the GRAMMY Award-winning duo A Great Big World.

[RSVP](#) for free and to submit questions. An [on-demand video](#) will be posted after the event.

- **Family Matters: Film Screenings with the Brattle Theatre**

FRI, DEC 5, SAT, DEC 6, & SUN, DEC 7 | 40 Brattle St, Cambridge

Co-presented by A.R.T. and The Brattle Theatre, audiences are invited to film screenings that explore the themes presented in *Wonder*: change, identity, and what it means to belong. Tickets on sale soon at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/shows-events.

- *Parenthood* (1989) | FRI, DEC 5 at 3:30PM
- Title TBA | SAT, DEC 6 at 12PM
- *Eighth Grade* (2018) | SUN, DEC 7 at 12PM

- **Choosing Kindness: *Wonder* Screening at the Cambridge Public Library**

SAT, DEC 6 at 1:30PM | CPL Central, 449 Broadway, Cambridge

Join the Cambridge Public Library and the A.R.T. for an afternoon of *Wonder*! In celebration of the new musical adaptation, CPL will screen Lionsgate & Mandeville Films' hit feature film adaptation of R.J. Palacio's bestselling novel. After the free film plays in the library's Lecture Hall, participants are invited to browse a display of related books and enter a drawing for four free tickets to a performance of *Wonder* at the A.R.T.!

More information at AmRep.org/CPLScreening.

- **Wonder Community Workshops**

Thursday, December 11, 6-8PM | Malden Public Library, 36 Salem St, Malden, MA 02148

Saturday, December 13, 12-2PM | Harvard Ed Portal, 224 Western Ave, Boston, MA 02134

Join us for free hands-on workshops to unlock empathy and understanding inspired by A.R.T.'s world-premiere musical **Wonder**. Participants will use theater skills and tools to engage with the story's themes of kindness, empathy, and accepting differences to create collages that visually represent the production's essential question of "**How can we change the way we see?**" For ages 9+. Free and open to the public, RSVPs are encouraged. The same workshop experience will be offered at each location.

Learn more and RSVP at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/shows-events.

AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

- **Essential Question**

How can we change the way we see?

A.R.T.'s engagement team collaborates with each production's creative team to develop an essential question to catalyze conversation amongst our community of artists, audiences, staff, and Lavine Learning Lab students.

- **Community Donation Drives**

"Choose kind" this season by bringing donations of gently used books, nonperishable food, and more to the Loeb Drama Center Tuesdays – Sundays, 9AM – Final Curtain and Mondays, 9AM – 5PM. Learn more and see a list of requested donations at AmRep.org/Wonder.

More Than Words Book Drive

More Than Words is a nonprofit social enterprise that empowers youth through employment and education. **More Than Words** provides paid jobs, job skills, and support to Greater Boston youth ages 16 - 24 who are in the foster care system, court-involved, homeless, out of school, parenting, or involved with the Department of Mental Health to help them stay in school and plan for their future.

Harvard Square Community Fridge and Pantry + HSBA Giving Tree

In partnership with the Harvard Square Business Association, A.R.T. is collecting nonperishable donations to support the most vulnerable members of our neighborhood. The Harvard Square Community Fridge and Pantry is located outside the First Parish in Cambridge (3 Church St.) facing Massachusetts Ave. Neighbors can also collect care packages from the Holiday Giving Tree in Brattle Square.

- **Wonder-Themed Beverages**

Patrons can enjoy **Wonder**-themed non-alcoholic *Pluto's Moons* and alcoholic *Blast Off* beverages created in collaboration with the bar team at [Nook](#). Available in the East and West Lobbies of the Loeb Drama Center pre-show and at intermission, as well as for pre-purchase online using the link provided in the pre-show email.

- **Recommended Reading List**

Enhance your **Wonder** experience by diving into this reading list curated by the booksellers at our partner, Harvard Book Store. From robots to reflections, we've got your next great read covered.

See the list at amrep.org/WonderReading.

ACCESS PERFORMANCES

- **ASL Interpreted**

WED, JAN 14 at 7PM

- **Audio Described**

SAT, JAN 24 at 2PM

- **Open Captioned**

SAT, JAN 24 at 2PM & WED, JAN 28 at 7PM

- **Sensory Inclusive**

SUN, JAN 18 at 2PM

Book Access seats [online](#), by contacting Access@amrep.org, or calling 617.547.8300.

ABOUT WONDER

Loeb Drama Center | December 9, 2025 – February 8, 2026

“We can change the way we see.” Based on R.J. Palacio’s novel and Lionsgate & Mandeville Films’ hit feature film, this uplifting new musical follows the Pullman family as they navigate change, identity, and what it means to belong. Auggie Pullman has been homeschooled his entire life, often retreating to outer space in his imagination. But when his family decides it’s time for him to start going to school, Auggie must take off the space helmet he has used to hide his facial difference. As Auggie navigates a world filled with kindness and cruelty, his parents and sister go on their own journeys of transformation and discovery. Featuring a driving, pop-inspired score, **Wonder** celebrates empathy, resilience, and the power of choosing kindness. **Wonder** is recommended for ages 8+.

Wonder features music and lyrics by the GRAMMY® Award-winning duo **A Great Big World (Ian Axel and Chad King)** (“Say Something,” “This is the New Year”), a book by **Sarah Ruhl** (*Eurydice*; *The Clean House*; *Smile, a memoir*), music supervision by **Nadia DiGiallonardo** (*Real Women Have Curves*, *Waitress*, *Pippin*,

and others at A.R.T. and on Broadway), music direction by **Ryan Cantwell** (*1776* and *Romeo and Juliet* at A.R.T.), choreography by Helen Hayes Award winner **Katie Spelman** (*A.D. 16* at Olney Theatre Center, *The Notebook* on Broadway, *The Hypocrites' Pirates of Penzance* at A.R.T.), and direction by **Taibi Magar** (*Night Side Songs*, *Macbeth In Stride*, *We Live in Cairo*, and others at A.R.T.). **Timothy R. Semon** is the Production Stage Manager. Casting is by C12 Casting.

Palacio's novel is a #1 *New York Times* bestseller and has sold over 16 million copies worldwide. Lionsgate and Mandeville Films' feature adaptation grossed over \$300 million at the worldwide box office and earned an Academy Award® nomination. The [myFace Wonder Project](#) teaching empathy, inclusivity, and being an upstander against bullying has been presented at over 350 schools across the US, reaching more than 100,000 young people to date.

Production support of **Wonder** is provided by **Janet and Irv Plotkin** and **The Linda Hammett Ory & Andrew Ory Charitable Trust**.

Season support is provided by **Harvard University**, **The Barr Foundation**, **The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund**, **The Shubert Foundation**, **National Endowment for the Arts**, **Massachusetts Cultural Council**, **Barton & Guestier**, and **Meyer Sound**.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets from \$43 (including fees) are available at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Wonder. Discounts are available to full-time K-12, college, or university students and anyone under age 25; Blue Star families; SNAP/EBT, WIC, and ConnectorCare cardholders; seniors, Harvard faculty and staff; and others.

A limited number of **Take Five** tickets will be available in January 2026. **Take Five** invites community members who feel attending theater is financially out of reach or want to take a chance on something new to experience the A.R.T. with a **\$5 ticket**.

A limited number of free tickets to **Wonder** are available to book through the Boston, Cambridge, and Malden Public Libraries' museum pass program. Each pass admits 2 people to either a **Friday 7PM** performance or a **Sunday 2PM** performance of **Wonder**. After booking, you will receive an email confirmation with instruction on how to redeem your pass with Ticket Services

More information at AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit.

ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. Led by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus, A.R.T. is a Tony Award-winning creative hub,

launching productions seen on Broadway, across the US, and around the world throughout its 45-year history. As the professional theater on campus, A.R.T. plays a central role at Harvard University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange, and sharing University resources with the broader community. Driven by its value to lead with inquiry, A.R.T. builds community with audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. A.R.T. will relocate from Harvard Square to its new home in Boston, the David E. and Stacey L. Goel Center for Creativity & Performance in late 2026. Currently under construction, this new, inspiring center will include flexible adaptive spaces to rehearse, create, teach, and convene in community, fueling A.R.T.'s vision and creative work for years to come.

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