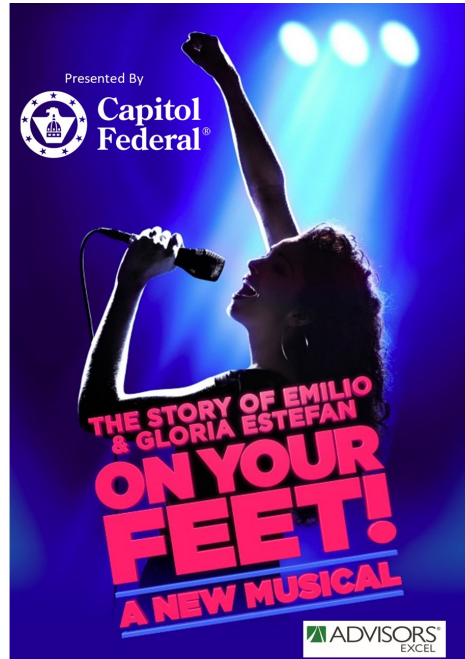


**THE
HOTTEST SHOW of
2023!!**

**One Night Only
Sunday, Jan. 29
6PM**



**Buy Tickets at the TPAC
Box Office or
Scan the QR Code**



Topeka Performing Arts Center
214 SE 8th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66603

Topeka Performing Arts Center

Mission

“To foster the performing arts through excellence in programming by providing for the Advancement, promotion, presentation, and development of the arts to meet the diverse cultural and educational needs of our community.”

Entertaining, Enriching & Educating
through the Arts for over 30 years.

GREAT EVENTS.

LIFETIME EXPERIENCES!

2023 Young Artists Awards

Nominations Now
Open For
Shawnee County
Area High School
Juniors

Submission Deadline is
Monday, March 20, 2023

TOPEKA PERFORMING
ARTS CENTER

www.TopekaPerformingArts.org

The Young Artists Awards program was founded in 1994 to recognize Shawnee County high school juniors who excelled in fine arts and celebrate their contributions to the enrichment of their schools and their community, and to encourage students' continued achievement in the arts. Annually in spring, any Shawnee County area high school junior can be nominated in one of nine awards categories. A panel of judges reviews the nominees' work to choose the best in each category.

SCHOOLTIME THEATER SERIES

January 25th - 10AM and 1PM



MAD RIVER
THEATER WORKS

FREEDOM FLIGHT

Freedom flight tells the true story of the escape of Addison White from slavery in Kentucky, his flight north on the Under-ground Railroad and, his rescue by the citizens of Mechanicsburg, Ohio.



SCAN ME

Register your school, church, community or organization today.

For info call TPAC at 785-234-2787 x 100 or Scan the QR Code.

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 17



Georgia Neese Gray – A Remarkable Life

Actress, businesswoman, entrepreneur, philanthropist, first woman treasurer of the United States...these are but a few descriptions of Georgia Neese Gray – the remarkable woman for whom the performance hall at Topeka Performing Arts Center is named. Naming the hall in her honor focuses on Georgia's first love – theatre arts. Yet her background and career include a variety of notable endeavors which have earned Georgia a prominent place in her community, state and nation.

Georgia was born in Richland, KS in 1898, the second of two daughters of Albert and Ellen (O'Sullivan) Neese.

In order to ensure good schooling for his daughters, Albert Neese moved the family from Richland to Topeka. He purchased a home at 825 Buchanan Street.

The Neese family home is now Topeka's Ronald McDonald House. Georgia attended public school in Topeka. She entered the College of the Sisters of Bethany in 1917, but soon transferred to Washburn University in Topeka, graduating in 1921.

Georgia's interest in the theatre began early. Acting in the theatre had been a childhood dream. In 1917, while attending the College of the Sisters of Bethany, she performed with a music group in many of the Santa Fe Railroad's "reading rooms". After graduating from Washburn, Georgia attended the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in Carnegie Hall in New York City. She had roles in Broadway theatre and performed in many stock companies and touring productions until 1930.

The advent of the Great Depression and her father's illness led her to return to Richland in 1930. She assisted her father in his business working her way up to becoming president of her father's Richland State Bank in 1937 following her father's death.

Georgia had long been interested in politics. She became active in the Democratic party and was elected the Democratic National Committee woman for Kansas in 1936. She had this position until 1964.

In 1949, President Harry Truman nominated Georgia to be the first woman treasurer of the United States and was sworn in on June 21, 1949. She held the job until 1953.

Before leaving Washington in 1953, Georgia married Andrew Gray, a Washington public relations consultant. Richland State Bank was relocated to Topeka, and the name changed to Capital City Bank.

Georgia Neese Gray truly led a remarkable life. She was a pioneer feminist – a woman in a business field dominated by men. Her legacy as a successful role model for women is now matched by the legacy she leaves to the arts. Georgia's childhood dream to be part of the theatre now lives in the Georgia Neese Gray Performance Hall at Topeka Performing Arts Center.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- | | |
|-------------------|---|
| January 7th..... | Dance Factory Company Concert |
| January 15th.... | Radiant Dance Winter Concert |
| January 25th.... | School Time Theater Series,
Freedom Flight |
| January 29th.... | On Your Feet! |
| February 17th.... | Legacy Reunion of
Earth Wind & Fire Alumni |
| April 26th.... | Stephen Fite Children's Concert |
| May 2023.... | Young Artists Awards Ceremony,
Date TBD |
| July 21st.... | Tee-PAC Golf Tournament |

January 2023

Tickets available at the TPAC Box Office Monday - Friday 11AM - 2PM & 4PM - 6PM
or online at www.TopekaPerformingArts.org/events

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3	4 	5	6	7 
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15 	16 TPAC Closed 	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27 	28
29 	30	31	<p>Rental space available for your private events. For info call us! 785-234-2787 x 102</p> 			