



News Release
Virginia Repertory Theatre

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September 29, 2022

Virginia Repertory Theatre Presents
Chicken & Biscuits by Douglas Lyons

Richmond, VA – Virginia Repertory Theatre presents the East Coast Regional Premiere of **Chicken & Biscuits**, hot off its Broadway run, beginning with opening night Friday, September 30 and running through Sunday, October 30. This play tells the story of rival sisters preparing to bury their father, and then confronting a family secret that arrives at the church, throwing the proceedings into comical chaos.

The play was written by Douglas Lyons, an actor, writer, director, composer-lyricist, and playwright. He served as a writer and composer on Apple TV's 2022 series **Fraggle Rock**. Douglas received a GLAAD nomination for his Broadway playwriting debut, **Chicken and Biscuits**. His music and lyrics have been featured on BET Plus, CBS's Sunday Morning Show, Carnegie Hall's Voices of Hope Festival, and Lincoln Center's Broadway Songbook Series. As an actor he's appeared on Broadway in **The Book of Mormon** and **Beautiful** (Original Cast), as well as the tours of **Rent** and **Dreamgirls**. Other theater writing credits include: **Polkadots** (Off-Broadway Alliance Winner Best Family Show, Atlantic Theater Company), **Beau** (Adirondack Theatre Festival), and **Five Points** currently in development with Hamilton's Andy Blankenbuehler. With musical writing partner Ethan D. Pakchar, Douglas is a 2020 Jonathan Larson Grant finalist.

DeMone Seraphin will direct **Chicken & Biscuits**. He is a Helen Hayes Award nominee for his direction of **Topdog/Underdog**. Most recent directing credits include **Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat** for Lubber Run Amphitheater, **How I Learned What I Learned** for Avant Bard Theatre, and **Five Guys Named Moe** at the Fulton Theatre. Other directing credits include the Off-Broadway revivals of **Split Second** and **The Exonerated**, the world premiere musical **Once Upon a Time: A Tale of An American Scheme** at the McCarter Theatre, Off-Broadway premieres of **Yours Truly**, **Ella! A Celebration of The Ella Fitzgerald Songbook** and **The King: The Final Hours an Elvis Presley** musical. International productions include the German premiere of August Wilson's **Jitney**, **Barnum**, and the musical **Runaways**. As an actor DeMone has appeared on Broadway, nationally and internationally in **Miss Saigon**, **Rent**, **Ragtime**, **Jesus Christ Superstar**, **Ain't Misbehavin'**, and **Man of La Mancha**. DeMone was the Founding Artistic Director of The New American Theatre Co. NY for 10 years and is currently a Producing Partner for Avant Bard Theatre in Arlington, VA.

The creative team and cast list is below.

Direction & Design

Direction	DeMone Seraphin
Scenic Design	Chris Raintree
Costume Design	Amanda Jackson
Hair and Wig Design	Kevin S. Foster II
Lighting Design	Aja M. Jackson+
Sound Design	David Lamont Wilson
Stage Management	Hannah Hoffert*
Assistant Stage Manager	Courtney Holmes

Cast

Baneatta Mabry	Cynthia F. Carter*
Reginald Mabry	Dale Heiskill
Kenny Mabry	Brandon Alvi3n*
Logan Leibowitz	Jeffrey Allen Sneed
Beverly Jenkins	C. Kelly Wright*
La'Trice Franklin	Tyandria Jaaber
Simone Mabry	Shelby Marie Edwards
Brianna Jenkins	Desir3e Roots*
Church Soloist	Keisha R. Wallace

*Member of Actors' Equity Association

+Member of USA, United Scenic Artists

Ticket Information

Box Office: 804-282-2620

www.virginiarep.org

Tickets range from \$36 - \$67 (Discounted Group Rates and Rush tickets available.)

Press

The play runs 2 hours including the 15-minute intermission

Press Kits will be available at <http://va-rep.org/press.html>

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About Virginia Repertory Theatre

Virginia Repertory Theatre is a regional professional theater headquartered in downtown Richmond, and is one of the largest performing arts organizations in Central Virginia. Virginia Rep will stage two primary seasons in 2022-2023: the Signature Season at the Sara Belle and Neil November Theatre, and the Barksdale Season at the Hanover Tavern. Virginia Rep also tours children's shows, both virtual and live, and provides educational programming to schools throughout Virginia and to major performing arts centers throughout 32 states. We excitedly anticipate announcing our new home for our Children's Theatre this fall.

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