

DIGITAL PRESS KIT

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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WESTON, Conn. – The New Paradigm Theatre Company presents “Footloose,” the Broadway hit musical, live on stage August 20th and 21st at Black Rock Church in its state-of-the-art theatre. The production will feature Emmy and Oscar winner Paul Bogaev as Reverend Shaw Moore and newcomer, Ramone Nelson, in the featured role of Ren McCormack.

“Footloose is about an outsider moving to a small town that is dealing with oppressive laws. With everything that is happening right now, I’m excited to bring my experience as a Black man in this society to the story,” says Nelson.

“Footloose” is a musical based on the 1984 PG-rated film of the same name. When Ren and his mother move from Chicago to a small farming town, he is prepared for the inevitable adjustment period at his new high school. But he’s not prepared for the rigorous local edicts, including a ban on dancing. The heartfelt story that emerges pins a father longing for the son he lost against a young man aching for the father who walked out on him. To the rockin’ rhythm of its Oscar and Tony-nominated Top Forty score, augmented with dynamic new songs, “Footloose” celebrates the wisdom of listening to young people while guiding them with a warm heart and open mind.

The New Paradigm Theatre Company (NPT) is a nonprofit organization promoting social responsibility and fostering creative problem solvers, leaders, and global citizens through arts education and theatrical productions. NPT offers online and in-person classes, workshops and seminars that build bridges across diverse communities. They produce professional shows that often assist other local nonprofits with strategic partnerships that highlight theatre and the arts as key components of a healthy community.

For their summer production of “Footloose”, NPT is proud to partner with Kids Helping Kids. The mission of Kids Helping Kids is to develop leadership skills among students through youth-led service projects. They empower students to have a proactive attitude toward change by taking their passion and turning it into action to benefit low-income children in the community. Over 132 local schools have been involved with KHK because KHK gives students a voice, the tools, the belief in themselves and a path to make a difference now. “Kids Helping Kids is in perfect alignment with the message provided by Footloose. Our nonprofit has been focused on the power of youth and their voice for the past 10 years,” says executive director, Jennifer Bentley.

NPT often features local “stars” in the community in their productions and this year the role of “Principal Clark” will be played by Superintendent, Dr. Rydell Harrison. He recently gained national attention due to his innovated “Snow Day” videos for his Easton/Redding school district.

“The stewardship of other people’s children is one of the primary drivers in how we have decided to produce specific elements of Footloose. We have given specific attention to staging and content in the hopes of creating a family-friendly and COVID-safe environment.” says director and choreographer, J.Clayton Winters. “While the Broadway musical shares a name and plot with the 1980’s film, there are significant differences. What remains, and I feel is strengthened in the the musical adaptation, is the message of Grace and Forgiveness.”

Performances of “Footloose” are August 20th at 7p.m. and August 21st at 2 p.m or 7 p.m. Tickets are \$18-\$35 for adults and youth, \$30 for seniors and \$50 for VIP, which can be purchased online at <https://www.showtix4u.com/event-details/53896> or by calling (203) 357-5021.

Black Rock Church is located 3685 Black Rock Turnpike, Fairfield, CT 06825.

For more information about The New Paradigm Theatre Company, visit www.nptheatre.org.
For more information about Kids Helping Kids, visit www.kidshelpingkidsct.org.

PRINCIPAL CAST:

REN MCCORMACK - Ramone Nelson

REVEREND SHAW MOORE - Paul Bogaev

ARIEL MOORE - Megan Hasse

WILLARD HEWITT - Raul Calderon

RUSTY - Erika Spondike

CHUCK CRANSTON - Lance Jewett

VI MOORE - Kristin Huffman

ETHEL MCCORMACK - Barbara Distinti

LULU WARNICKER - Marion Howard

WES WARNICKER - Dom Mantuano

PRINCIPAL HARRY - Dr. Rydell Harrison

COACH ROGER DUNBAR - Sean Griffin

ELEANOR DUNBAR - Carolyn Savoia

BETTY BLAST/IRENE - Debra Antari

COWBOY BOB - Steve Musitano

LASS O - Tori Stapleton

COP - CHRIS COOGAN

PRODUCTION TEAM:

Director/Choreographer- J. Clayton Winters

Assistant Choreographer - Elizabeth McQuire

Musical Director - Chris Coogan

Assistant Director - Katherine Griffin

Costume Designer - Elizabeth Saylor

Lighting Designer - Elizabeth James

Set Designer - Scott Cally

Sound Design - In Phase Audio

Media - Mark Holleran (Holleran Media)

Stage Management - Peggy Samuels, Margot Weiss, Shawna Pelletier

Producing Artistic Director - Kristin Huffman

Interview with Ramone Nelson

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Photos

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the new paradigm theatre^{co.}

FAQ Sheet

Q: What is “new” about the New Paradigm Theatre?

A: We approach theatre as a training ground for new leaders, not just actors. We use theatre to collaborate with other nonprofit community and social justice organizations. We provide theatre as a resource for local businesses. We believe theatre can deliver powerful messages.

Q: Who does NPT serve?

A: The majority of the students and families that we serve come from the southwestern corner of Connecticut, including Fairfield and New Haven counties.

Q: How many productions comprise the NPT season?

A: NPT produces and/or co-produces 6 shows per year including:

An annual holiday show (December)

A summer musical production (August)

A co-production with Norwalk Symphony (February)

So Ya Wanna Be A Broadway Star competition event

A new play reading with New York City Children’s Theatre

A reading of a new play or new musical

Q: Does NPT have classes for both youth and adults?

A: Yes! And we are adding more each year. We feature Master Class sessions with industry pros, workshops, seminars and more. We recently added a 6-week acting class for 10 year-olds through high school. We plan on adding more.



Q: Who do you hire as actors for NPT productions?

A: We are a hybrid of small professional theatre and community theatre. Our staff, production crew and casts are comprised of local and national talent. Broadway veterans, AEA professional guest artists, local talent and non-union “up and comers” from all over the US are featured in NPT productions.

Q: What is the NPT Youth Board?

A: All nonprofit theatres have an adult board of directors. We also wanted input from our vibrant youth community with fresh ideas and current perspectives. Interested teens, ages 13-18 years old can visit our info page: <http://npttheatre.org/youthboard/>

This group is an authentic, working youth board of directors (not a club) and it looks great on the resume or college application.

These youth apply for the position of Youth Board of Directors, and run the board exactly like the adult board of directors. They meet every month and discuss policy, fund raising events, and how to manage a nonprofit.

Q: Does NPT actively support diversity and inclusion?

A: Diversity. Inclusion. They’re more than just words for NPT. They are the driving force for our organization and youth board. We believe that theatre is for everyone, and we mean everyone. We endeavor to stand for the principles of inclusivity and equity in our classrooms, on our stages and in the organization at large.



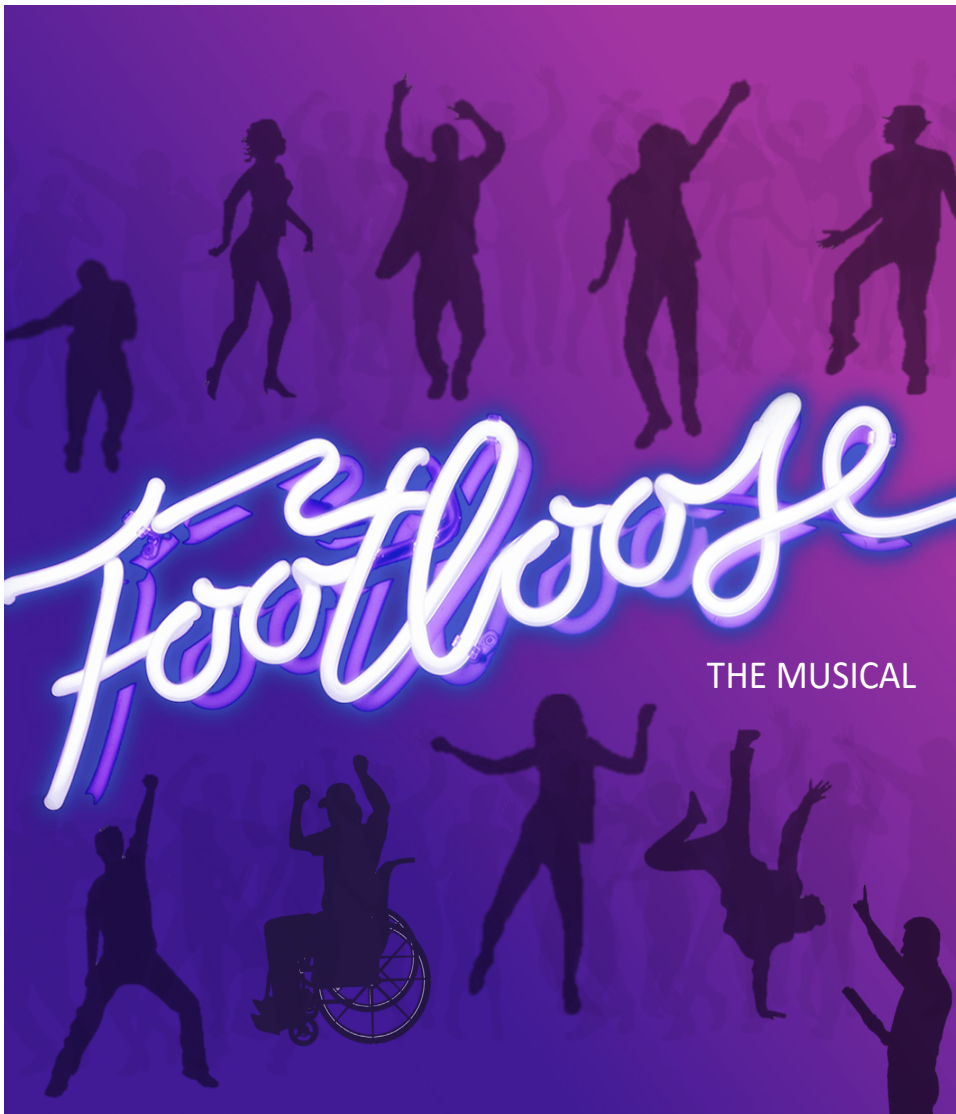
FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT
www.NPTTheatre.org

Press Comps



ARTWORK

8.5x11 Horizontal Flyer
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PERFORMANCES

August 20th @ 7pm
August 21st @ 2pm
August 21st @ 7pm

Black Rock Church
3685 Black Rock Turnpike
Fairfield, CT 06825

Visit
NPTheatre.org
or call (203) 357-5201
for details

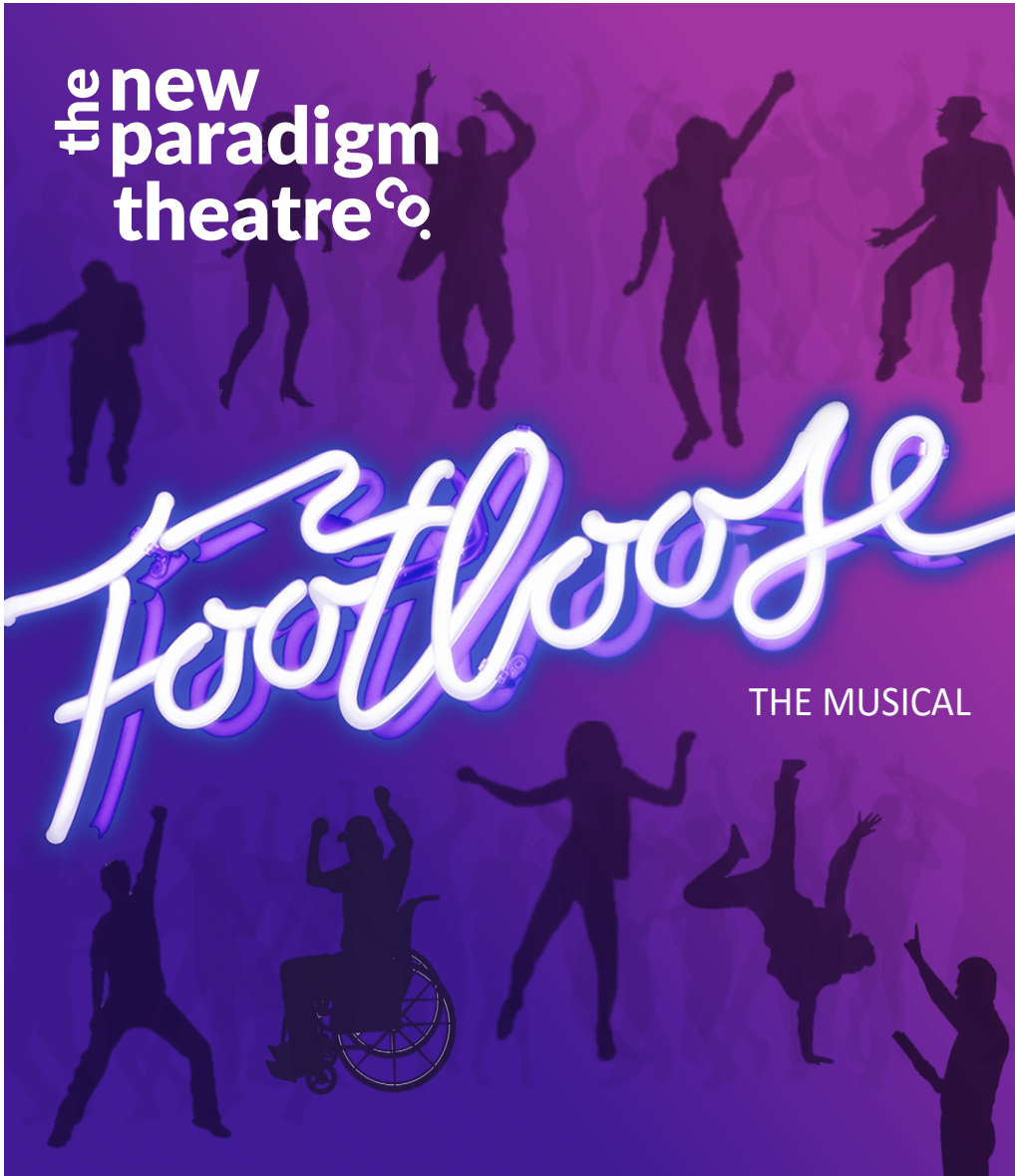
NPT is a 501(c)3 nonprofit theatre company promoting social responsibility and fostering creative problem solvers, leaders, and global citizens through theatre arts education & productions.

Footloose is presented through special arrangement with R&H Theatricals.

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14x22 Vertical Poster

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August 21st @ 2pm
August 21st @ 7pm

Tix: \$18-\$35

VIP Tix: \$50

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Connect with us.



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Ticket QR code for Footloose tickets



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Footloose

THE MUSICAL

August 20th @ 7pm
August 21st @ 2pm & 7pm

Tix: \$18-\$35 | VIP Tix: \$50

Footloose
is presented
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