FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

THE BTMR PROJECT PRESENTS THE

BTMR FESTIVAL

Three Days of Theatre, Film, Music, Art and Black Storytelling in Seattle

SEATTLE, WA - October 2026 - The BTMR Project in association with CD Forum will bring three days of theatre, film, music, visual art, staged readings and storytelling to Seattle this November with the inaugural BTMR Festival, running November 6 – 8, 2026 at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute, 104 17th Avenue South, located in Seattle's historical African American arts and cultural district. This project is supported, in part, by a grant from 4Culture.

The BTMR Festival grows out of *Black To My Roots: African American Tales from the Head and the Heart*, the play by Kathya Alexander and Reneschia Brown. Following its 25th Anniversary production at the Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute in Seattle in November 2024, the BTMR Project expanded its work, including a presentation of *Black To My Roots* at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland in August 2025, where it received strong reviews and a Black Excellence Award.

What began as a play has grown into a broader creative project spanning theatre, music, film, literature and visual art. Across four days, the BTMR Festival will bring that work together through performances of:

- **BLACK TO MY ROOTS: African American Tales of the Head and the Heart** by Kathya Alexander and Reneschia Brown (theatre)
- **HAIR'S BREATH: Music Inspired by BTMR** by Adra Boo and Blake Madden (music)
- **BLACK D*CK MATTERS** by Kathya Alexander (theatre)
- **MWEUSI MPAKA MIZIZI**, Swahili adaptation of BTMR by Muso Simekha (staged reading)
- **DAVID & JONATHAN**, by Kathya Alexander (staged reading)
- **NEGRO PASSSION PLAY** by Kathya Alexander (staged reading)

The BTMR Festival will also include:

- **KATHYA ALEXANDER HONORS** (reception, ceremony, book reading and signing)
- **BTMR and BDM Film Previews**, produced and directed by Muso Simekha
- **BTMR Photo Exhibition**, photography by Justice Beitzel

ABOUT THE BTMR PROJECT

The BTMR Project is a collective of creatives, performers and producers whose work began with *Black To My Roots* and has grown to include theatre, music, film, literature and visual art. The project uses storytelling to explore Black history, identity, culture and lived experience, with a particular focus on Black women's voices. The project is led by Nxt Thrsdy, a Connecticut-based production company founded by Tyrone Brown, in collaboration with Brownbox Theatre, a Seattle-based theatre company founded by Tyrone Brown, Reneschia Brown and Kathya Alexander, and ajusticenetwork, a fiscally sponsored nonprofit using the arts to create social change and connection across communities, founded by Justice Beitzel and Robin Campbell.

"We've spent the last two years creating, producing, traveling and figuring out what this project can become," says Brown. "The festival gives us a chance to bring the BTMR Family together and celebrate what we've created." - Tyrone Brown

TICKETS & BTMR FESTIVAL INFORMATION

November 6–8, 2026 | Langston Hughes Performing Arts Institute,104 17th Avenue South, located in Seattle's historical African American arts and cultural district.

Tickets On Sale via Ticketleap:
https://events.ticketleap.com/tickets/nxt-thrsdy/btmrfestival

- **Full Three-Day Pass** ($60.00)
- **Day One Pass** for Friday ($25.00)
- **Day Two Pass** for Saturday ($25.00)
- **Day Three Pass** for Sunday ($20.00)
- Students, Seniors and Veterans ($15.00)
- Public Benefit, Discount, Children 12 and under (Free)

FULL THREE-DAY SCHEDULE

Friday, November 6th

- **7:00pm - BLACK D*CK MATTERS** by Kathya Alexander
- All Day - BTMR Exhibition

Saturday, November 7th

- **2:00pm - BLACK TO MY TY ROOTS: African American Tales from the Head and Heart** by Kathya Alexander and Reneschia Brown with **MWEUSI MPAKA MIZIZ**, Swahili Translation of BTMR by Muso Simekha
- **7:00pm - HAIR'S BREATH: Music Inspired by BTMR**, featuring original music and lyrics by vocalist Adra Boo and musician Blake Madden
- All Day - BTMR Exhibition

Sunday, November 8th

- **1:00pm - DAVID & JONATHAN** by Kathya Alexander, Staged Reading
- **4:00pm - NEGRO PASSION PLAY** by Kathya Alexander, Community Reading and Recording
- All Day - BTMR Exhibition

CONTENT ADVISORY

Some festival works contain mature themes, adult situations, strong or sexually explicit language, and sensitive subject matter. Some programming is recommended for audiences 18 and older. Content details will be provided with individual event listings. Children 10 and under are welcome at the festival, but some productions may not be suitable for young audiences.

MEDIA CONTACT

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BTMR FESTIVAL QR CODE

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO 4CULTURE and PARTNERSHIPS