



Press Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**December 12, 2019**

**The Kennedy Center**  
announces the

# **Millennium Stage Schedule for February 2020**

**Celebrating the Human Spirit  
with Free Performances of Countless Artistic Styles**

**including**

**A Valentine's Day "Hand Dance" Event**

**Sinclair Emoghene**

**Tom Thakkar**

**Liberated Muse**

**The Levine School**

**Dante Pope**

**Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater Workshop**

(WASHINGTON)—The Kennedy Center announces the February calendar of events for Millennium Stage, its free daily performance series featuring art and artists representing countless artistic styles.

Bring your dancing shoes and a loved one to the REACH Skylight Pavilion this Valentine's Day to learn the popular "**Hand Dance!**" As the Official Dance of the District of Columbia, this improvisational dance craze is a significant part of American culture (Feb 14). In honor of Black History Month, choreographer and WXZY Arts Factory founder **Sinclair Emoghene** will collaborate with Artistic Director **Bre Seals** to premiere a new piece exploring pre-African dance roots (Feb. 6). Comedian **Tom Thakkar** will help bring on the laughs as he takes over the mic on February 16, while **Liberated Muse** will pay a touching musical tribute to acclaimed writer Toni Morrison with a vibrant assortment of blues, spoken word, and soulful a capella ballads (Feb. 15).

Other highlights include **The Levine School**, whose students will shake the Stage with a variety of rock ‘n’ roll classics (Feb. 18); soul musician **Dante Pope**, a former Strathmore Artist-in-Residence (Feb. 12); and **Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater**, who will lead a workshop during their annual engagement at the Kennedy Center (Feb. 17).

Millennium Stage, now celebrating its 23rd season, is a manifestation of the Kennedy Center’s mission and vision to welcome all to celebrate our collective cultural heritage in the most inclusive, accessible way possible. Millennium Stage is the only place in the United States to offer a free performance every day of the year that is streamed live on the internet.

A full schedule of Millennium Stage performances for the month of February 2020 is below. Unless otherwise noted, performances will take place in the Kennedy Center Grand Foyer, and no tickets are required. Performances are open to television and radio news coverage. Media crews must request access at least one full week prior to the performance date.

### Chronological Schedule for February 2020

**Please check the Kennedy Center websites for updates on programming.**

DATE	TIME	PERFORMANCE
Sat., Feb. 1	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Sun., Feb. 2	6 p.m.	<b>Furia Flamenca</b> is an award-winning dance company that brings the ferocity and passion of flamenco to the stage and transports audiences to Southern Spain with technically refined, emotionally explosive, and dynamically choreographed dancing. Their unique style combines the traditional gypsy with the more modern flamenco to create the perfect balance.
Mon., Feb. 3	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Tue., Feb. 4	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Wed., Feb. 5	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Thu., Feb. 6	6 p.m.	<b>Sinclair Emoghene</b> is the founder of WXZY Arts Factory and the choreographer for the acclaimed 2011 Nigerian movie <i>I’ll Take My Chances</i> . He is currently developing a new coding system for understanding movement and dance history in pre-historic Africa. Together with Artistic Director <b>Bre Seals</b> , Emoghene premieres his latest experimental work on the Millennium Stage.

Fri., Feb. 7	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Sat., Feb. 8	6 p.m.	One of America's favorite dance companies, <b>Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater</b> , offers a special workshop teaching choreography from <b>Revelations</b> , their most iconic work.
Sun., Feb. 9	6 p.m.	<b>Figaro Meets Frederick Douglass</b> In a musical tribute celebrating the 125th anniversary of the death of Abolitionist Frederick Douglass and Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart's birthday (January 27th), the Davies Concert Series partners with the Coalition for African Americans in the Performing Arts ( <b>CAAPA</b> ) to present a historic concert connecting two genres; opera arias and Negro Spirituals, performed by Washington National Opera musicians.
Mon., Feb. 10	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Tue., Feb. 11	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Wed., Feb. 12	6 p.m.	Enjoy the magnetic sound of soul as <b>Dante Pope</b> , a multi-instrumentalist and former Artist-in-Residence at Strathmore, communicates his love, passion, and appreciation of life through his music.
Thu., Feb. 13	6 p.m.	From around the world and across the United States, some of the most talented emerging musicians with disabilities—ages 14 to 25—participate in the <b>VSA International Young Soloists Competition.</b>
Fri., Feb. 14 <i>Skylight Pavilion</i>	6 p.m.	This Valentine's Day, come learn and swing to the improvisational dance style called the " <b>Hand Dance!</b> " As the Official Dance of the District of Columbia, the Hand Dance has been recognized as one of America's cultural revolutions.
Sat., Feb. 15	6 p.m.	<b>Liberated Muse</b> pays tribute to American novelist Toni Morrison through the music and culture of the African diaspora. Jazzy blues, spoken word, and soulful a capella ballads speak of both tumultuous times and optimistic reverence for the future.
Sun., Feb. 16	6 p.m.	<b>Tom Thakkar</b> is a comedian living in Brooklyn by way of Indiana and Chicago...or so he says. His alibis include co-hosting Comedy Central/SiriusXM's <i>You Up with Nikki Glaser</i> , creating popular podcast <i>Stand By Your Band</i> , and appearing at festivals like Just for Laughs, Bridgetown, and Clusterfest. You can hear Thakkar and Nikki Glaser together on their Sirius XM Morning radio show or find him standing outside of a Chipotle trying to decide if he's earned it that day.

Mon., Feb. 17	6 p.m.	Join us for an inclusive ballet workshop on the Millennium Stage led by artists from <b>American Ballet Theatre</b> . Designed for families with children age 10 and under, with or without disabilities, the workshop explores music, movement, and themes of a ballet while teaching families simple ballet steps, terms, and choreography.
Tue., Feb. 18	6 p.m.	The <b>Levine Music School</b> presents an evening of brisk, upbeat rock music performed by students of the school's Town Hall Education Arts Recreation Campus ( <b>THEARC</b> ).
Wed., Feb. 19	6 p.m.	<b>Juan Ignacio Lopez Garcia</b> , a violinist at the Symphony Orchestra of the National Congress of Paraguay, performs a variety of works.  <i>Presented in collaboration with the Embassy of Paraguay.</i>
Thu., Feb. 20	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Fri., Feb. 21	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Sat., Feb. 22	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Sun., Feb. 23	6 p.m.	<b>The Domingo-Cafritz Young Artists</b> provide a preview of upcoming works in Washington National Opera's 2019-2020 season. Together with Principal Coach Ken Weiss, they will perform excerpts from two fiery masterpieces, <i>Don Giovanni</i> and <i>Samson and Delilah</i> .
Mon., Feb. 24	12 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Tue., Feb. 25	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Wed., Feb. 26	6 p.m.	<b>People of Earth Project</b> <i>Description to be announced at a later date.</i>
Thu., Feb. 27	6 p.m.	The <b>NSO Youth Fellows</b> present a night of chamber music and solo performances.
Fri., Feb. 28	6 p.m.	<i>Programming to be announced at a later date.</i>
Sat., Feb. 29	6 p.m.	<b>NSO Prelude:</b> Members of the National Symphony Orchestra play chamber works.

**All performers and programs are subject to change without notice.**

#### **ABOUT THE KENNEDY CENTER MILLENNIUM STAGE**

Millennium Stage embodies the Kennedy Center mission and vision, inviting audiences to celebrate our collective cultural heritage in an inclusive, accessible way. Millennium Stage, now in its 23<sup>rd</sup> season, explores countless artistic styles and inspires the community to engage in the performing arts. Welcoming local, national, and international artists, the Kennedy Center's Millennium Stage is the only U.S. institution that presents a free performance, 365 days a year at 6 p.m., streamed live on the internet.

Support Millennium Stage by texting ‘MSTAGE’ to 243-725. Your gift will help the Kennedy Center continue to bring free programming to Washington, D.C.

### **Need a Lift?**

The free Kennedy Center Shuttle, the Center’s link to Metro’s Foggy Bottom/George Washington University/Kennedy Center Metro station (blue/orange/silver lines), departs every 15 minutes from 9:45 a.m. to 11:30 p.m., Monday – Thursday; 10 a.m. to midnight, Friday and Saturday; noon to 11 p.m., Sunday; and 4 p.m. on Federal holidays. Standard parking rates apply when attending free events.

### **FUNDING CREDITS**

*The Centene Charitable Foundation is the Presenting Sponsor of Millennium Stage.*

*The Millennium Stage is brought to you by Target and The J. Willard and Alice S. Marriott Foundation.*

*The Millennium Stage was created and underwritten by James A. Johnson and Maxine Isaacs to make the performing arts accessible to everyone in fulfillment of the Kennedy Center’s mission to its community and the nation.*

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For more information on the Millennium Stage,  
please visit the [Millennium Stage event page](#) or [Millennium Stage Facebook page](#).

Discover the [Kennedy Center](#) on social media:



**#MillenniumStage**

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