



krannert center

YOUTH SERIES

CELEBRATING
35 YEARS

PAIGE HERNANDEZ

HAVANA HOP



I ILLINOIS

College of Fine & Applied Arts

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Paige Hernandez is a multidisciplinary artist who is critically acclaimed as a performer, director, choreographer, and playwright. As an Actors Equity Association actress, Paige has performed on many stages throughout the country. As a playwright, Paige has been commissioned by the National New Play Network, the Smithsonian's Discovery Theatre, The Kennedy Center, and the Glimmerglass Festival. She recently received an Individual Artist Award from the Maryland State Arts Council as well as two Helen Hayes nominations for choreography and performance. Paige has also been named a "Classroom Hero" by *The Huffington Post*, a "Citizen Artist Fellow" with the Kennedy Center, and a "Rising Leader of Color" by TCG. With her company B-FLY ENTERTAINMENT, Paige continues to develop and tour original work internationally. www.paigehernandez.com



ABOUT HAVANA HOP

Young Yelia dreams of being a superstar but her lack of confidence gives her awful stage fright. With advice from her mother and mentors, Yelia begins her journey to find roots, get confidence, and be amazing! Travel with Yelia who visits her grandmother in Cuba to add a salsa flavor to her own hip-hop style! The audience gets to dance along in this dynamic participation play where one actress creates three generations of lively women. Journey with Yelia as she discovers the fun of her multicultural heritage.

This season we invite school communities to explore the performing arts through a selection of topics that reveal the IMPACT of the Arts for Youth.

- INTRODUCTION TO THE ARTS
- MEANING AND CULTURAL CONTEXT
- PRODUCTION
- ART-MAKING AND CREATIVITY
- CAREERS
- TRAINING

A IS FOR ART-MAKING AND CREATIVITY

Where does new art come from?

Paige Hernandez says, "My inspiration as a performer comes from my multicultural background. It's important for me to acknowledge every aspect of my identity and not just one facet. Keeping this in mind, I created *Havana Hop*, a story that takes a young girl's passion and fuses it with culture and family history. I play different characters using props, music, dance, and costumes. I hope that by the end of the performance, the audience will see that the differences that divide us can only make us more well-rounded if we accept them. Anything is possible when you listen to your grandmother and keep an open mind!"

CULTURE QUIZ

In *Havana Hop*, Yelia learns about her family's Cuban culture from her grandmother. The word *culture* refers to the beliefs, arts, and customs of groups of people. Take this quiz to record some parts of your own culture. After you've filled in your answers, pair up with a classmate to learn about each other.

1. What language or languages do people in your family speak?
2. What holidays do you celebrate?
3. Name your favorite kind of music, a favorite song, or a favorite dance:
4. Can you think of a tradition, saying, or story that you've learned from your grandmother or other family member?
5. Do you know of an "old family recipe" or favorite food for a special occasion? What is it?



HIP-HOP VS. SALSA

Hip-hop Dance

- Popularized in 1970s New York, influenced by African-American and Latino culture and the music of James Brown, b-boy and b-girl performers, and beatboxing and rapping musical artists
- Freestyle form based on dance "battles" between competing "crews"
- Originally an upright form that evolved to include low break-dancing moves
- Many dance styles, like breaking, locking, and krumping
- Hip-hop dancing started at block parties and in clubs.

Salsa Dance

- Rooted in Cuban son and mambo, salsa was popularized in 1970s New York, and influenced by Puerto Rican bomba and plena
- Improvised movements based on footwork patterns between dance partners
- An upright form using forward and backward steps to shift weight between feet. The Cuban salsa style also incorporates circular movements between the dancers.
- Salsa dances are held in clubs, ballrooms, restaurants, and outside.

START MOVING! Listen to some hip-hop and salsa music tracks. We suggest these:

Hip hop

A Tribe Called Quest muses on what to eat in *Ham 'n' Eggs*.

In *Tread Water De La Soul* shares a message of perseverance and positive attitude with a crocodile, a squirrel, and other animal allies.

Lupe Fiasco's *Kick Push* gives a push for skateboarding.

Salsa

Buena Vista Social Club: *Candela*

Celia Cruz: *Guantanamera*

Tito Puente: *Oye como va*

What's different about these styles?

Did you hear both of these styles in the *Havana Hop*?

Can you dance some moves you learned in *Havana Hop*?

hello = hola

How are you? = ¿Cómo estás?

grandmother = abuela

ON THE MAP



PAIGE HERNANDEZ IS FROM...

BALTIMORE, MARYLAND

YELIA'S GRANDMOTHER IS FROM...

HAVANA, CUBA



DOWNTOWN BALTIMORE

STREET DANCERS AND STILT-WALKERS IN HAVANA



Havana Hop

Written and performed by

Paige Hernandez-Funn

Directed by Danielle A. Drakes

Lighting by Trad A Burns

Sound by eth nick hernandez

Projections by Ruthmarie Tenorio

Paige Hernandez appears by arrangement with the Shaw Entertainment Group, Simon Shaw, president

Wednesday, February 28, 2018, at 10am and 12:30pm

Tryon Festival Theatre (main floor seating only)

Approximately 40 minutes

Recommended for grades PreK-2

Campaign for Young Audiences

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Illinois Arts Council

This project is supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.



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**National
Endowment
for the Arts**
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Printed by

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MARKETING & PRINTING

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LIBRARY PARTNERSHIPS

Krannert Center has partnered with Champaign Public Library and The Urbana Free Library to help expand your students' Youth Series experience. Our local libraries have placed materials on display that relate to the performances of *Havana Hop*, and librarians are prepared to help your students immerse themselves in the wide-ranging subject areas that are covered by the production. These resources will be available approximately two weeks before through two weeks following the performance.

www.champaign.org | www.urbanafreelibrary.org

We hope that you are able to take advantage of these exciting partnerships with our local libraries!

SPURLOCK MUSEUM OPEN HOUSE, FEBRUARY 28, 2018

Drop in for a self-guided interactive visit before or after the performance. Museum guides in each room will offer hands-on object studies and gallery-based challenges for students, tied to the themes of *Havana Hop* performances. The Spurlock Museum also has a variety of resources for classroom use. Contact Kim Sheahan at ksheahan@illinois or 217.244.3355 for information on available artifacts and lesson plans.

