

December 20, 2024

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FOR PHOTOS OF THE CAST: [www.ChanceTheater.com/boom](http://www.ChanceTheater.com/boom)

**Kick-off Chance's 2025 Season with**  
***Tick, Tick...BOOM!***

**Before Jonathon Larson wrote *RENT*, he had to pay it.**

**Anaheim, CA** — Chance Theater, Anaheim's official resident theater company, is thrilled to announce the highly anticipated production of *Tick, Tick... Boom!*, directed by **H. Adam Harris** (*Boat Show*). This intimate and powerful musical by Jonathan Larson, the creator of *Rent*, brings a semi-autobiographical tale of creativity, ambition, and friendship to the Bette Aitken theater arts Center's Cripe Stage from February 1, 2025, through February 23, 2025, with previews beginning January 24, 2025.

Set in 1990, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* follows Jon, a young composer navigating the challenges of pursuing his dreams in New York City while balancing personal relationships and the ticking clock of his looming 30th birthday. With its poignant themes, electrifying score, and heartfelt storytelling, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* promises a deeply resonant theatrical experience.

Fans of Larson's iconic *Rent* will recognize several Easter eggs in *Tick, Tick... Boom!*, offering glimpses of the themes, music, and ideas Larson would later expand upon in his legendary musical. The show also features the song "Sunday," a playful homage to **Stephen Sondheim's** *Sunday in the Park with George*, showcasing Larson's deep respect for his theatrical influences. In 2021, **Lin-Manuel Miranda** directed a critically acclaimed film adaptation of the musical, starring **Andrew Garfield**, which brought renewed attention to Larson's early work. After Larson's untimely death, playwright **David Auburn** (*Proof*) adapted *Tick, Tick... Boom!* into its current three-actor format, preserving Larson's vision while making the show more intimate.

This year's production features an exceptional cast, with **Luc Clopton** (*Rent*) in the role of Jon, **Lena Ceja** (*Rent*) as Susan, and **Mario Houle** (*Chance Debut*) as Michael.

Director **H. Adam Harris** shares their excitement: "I am excited to work on this musical, which inspires us to combat the darkness of failure, doubt, and fear with the light of creativity, connection, and laughter. It is a prompting we all need, and there is no better place to experience the boom of possibility than in a theater with one another as time ticks away."

The talented creative team includes **Lex Leigh** (*Sweeney Todd*) as Music Director, **Niko Montelibano** (*Chance Debut*) as Choreographer, **Fred Kinney & Mio Okada** (*Sweeney Todd*) as Scenic Designers, **Bruce Goodrich** (\*Jane Austen's *Emma, the Musical*) as Costume Designer, **Jacqueline Malenke** (*Sweeney Todd*) as Lighting Designer, **Hunter Moody** (\*Green Day's *American Idiot*) as Sound Designer, **Jordan Jones** (\*Jane Austen's *Emma, the Musical*) as Stage Manager, **Jane Borderson** (*Chance Debut*) as Dramaturg & Assistant Director, **James Markoski** (*Hedwig and The Angry Inch*) as Sound Engineer, **Aaron Lipp** (*Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*) as Assistant Director, and **Shinshin Yuder Tsai** (*Chance Resident Artist*) as Casting Director.

Critics have praised *Tick, Tick...BOOM!* as a must-see experience:

"Larson's songs thrum with the intense feeling, larky humor, and musical vitality that are the hallmark of enduring theater. Heart-grabbing." — *The New York Times*

"Moving and amusing portrait of a struggling artist" — *The Hollywood Reporter*

"A buoyant, joyous musical. Even in the midst of angst, stress, and pressure, the characters are in love with art and music, making the best of much of what is in their world." — *Forbes*

"Jonathan Larson's story shines in a musical that sings from the heart." — *Variety*

**Special Events:** As a hub for connection, creativity, and compassion, Chance Theater is proud to make a difference in the local community by offering a space for connection, dialogue, and celebration with initiatives like Pride Night, Wine Night, and Community Spotlight. These events enrich the theatergoing experience and help create lasting bonds within our diverse audience.

**Post-Show Discussion:** Join us for post-show discussions after every performance! We invite the audience to engage with the artists and one another, fostering a more connected, compassionate, and creative community.

Share your thoughts, ask questions, and deepen your experience of the production in an open and welcoming environment.

**Design Preview Party** was on December 16, 2024, where members of Chance Theater gained insights from the Director, Designers, and Cast about the artistic vision behind the Show.

**Community Spotlight** is on February 8, 2025, starting at 2:00 PM. This special afternoon is dedicated to celebrating the vibrant community surrounding Chance Theater. Join us for a pre- and post-performance happy hour designed to foster meaningful conversation and connection.

It's a wonderful opportunity to engage with fellow theatergoers and get to know our community partner, [Gay for Good](#), whose mission is to increase LGBTQ+ visibility and representation, cultivate understanding, and build positive relationships between diverse groups of people while helping the environment, animals and people in need through acts of service and kindness.

**Pride Night** is on February 8, 2025, starting at 7:00 PM. where theater lovers who share an identity can come together over refreshments and conversation. Before enjoying the performance, this special event provides a welcoming space to connect with others in the community, celebrate shared experiences, and engage in meaningful dialogue.

**Wine Night** is back by popular demand on February 7, 2025, starting at 7:00 PM. where you can enjoy exclusive wines generously donated by long-time supporters **Judy & David Joss**. The first 50 patrons through the door will receive complimentary access to these special wines, with priority access given to members and their guests. It's the perfect way to kick off the evening before the show begins!

**Pay-What-You-Can Previews** tickets are available for every show we produce for as low as \$10 per ticket. Our goal with 'Pay What You Can' performances is to make live theater accessible to everyone in our community, regardless of financial barriers.

These individuals are proud to support *Tick, Tick...BOOM!* at Chance Theater:

Executive Producers **Susan Bowman & Freddie Greenfield** and **Louise & Steven Koch**

2025 Executive Season Producer, **Bette & Wylie Aitken**, and Associate Season Producer, **The Family of Mary Kay Fyda-Mar**.

We are deeply grateful for their extraordinary generosity and commitment.

Tickets for *Tick, Tick... Boom!* are now on sale and can be purchased online at [www.ChanceTheater.com/boom](http://www.ChanceTheater.com/boom) or by calling the box office at (888) 455-4212. Early booking is recommended due to expected high demand.

***Reviewers and other press are encouraged to attend Opening Night on February 1, 2025, at 8:00 PM.***

For press inquiries, interviews, press comps, or photos, please contact Producing Associate Shinshin Tsai at (949) 346-2374 or [Shinshin@chance theater.com](mailto:Shinshin@chance theater.com).

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## **ABOUT CHANCE THEATER**

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, Chance Theater has received the National Theatre Company grant from American Theatre Wing for “nurturing a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre.” The Chance won 31 OCTG Theatre Awards, including two for Outstanding Production of a Musical (“Next to Normal” and “Fun Home”) and one for Outstanding Production of a Play (“Cry It Out”). Previously, Chance Theater won eight Ovation Awards, including four for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre), and four LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season. The Anaheim City Council named Chance Theater “the Official Resident Theater Company of Anaheim” in 2014, and Arts Orange County has twice named the Chance as “Outstanding Arts Organization.” Known for using bold and personal storytelling to promote dialogue and connection within the Southern California theatrical landscape, the Chance is committed to contributing to a more compassionate, connected, and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, The Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles, and OC Theatre Guild, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

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## **CALENDAR LISTING**

### **WHAT: *Tick, Tick...BOOM!***

Get ready to experience the electrifying mind behind Rent! Before Jonathan Larson revolutionized Broadway, he was a young man struggling to make his mark. This autobiographical musical, set in 1990, is a raw, humorous, and heartfelt journey of a composer on the brink of turning 30—waiting tables and wondering if he’ll ever write that soaring song that will change everything. His girlfriend wants to get married and move out of the city, and his best friend is making big bucks on Madison Avenue. Will he give up his dream and sell out just to keep the lights on? Will he lose the love of his life? Scored by music that redefined a genre, *Tick, Tick... Boom!* takes you on the writer’s journey that led to a Broadway blockbuster. It’s a must-see for anyone who’s ever

chased a dream. If you loved Rent, this show will speak to your soul. Don't miss the chance to experience the genius of Pulitzer Prize and Tony Award-winning composer Jonathan Larson in a whole new way!

**WHEN:**

**Previews:** January 24 - January 31, 2025; Friday 8 p.m., Saturday at 8 p.m. Sunday 7 p.m.

**Opening Night:** Saturday, February 1 at 8 p.m.

**Performances:** January 24 - February 23, 2025

Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 3 p.m. and 8 p.m. & Sundays at 3 p.m.

**RUNNING TIME:** 1 hours, 30 minutes with no intermission

**TICKETS:** \$44-59, with discounts for educators, veterans, seniors, and students. Pay-What-You-Can preview performances are also available to ensure that live theater is accessible to everyone.

**WHERE:** Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center on the Cripe Stage  
5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807

**DRIVING DIRECTIONS:** Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center is located at 5522 E. La Palma Avenue in Anaheim Hills. Going west on La Palma from Imperial Highway, we are on the left in the front of the industrial park just past the In & Out. There is plenty of free convenient parking in front of the theater.

**MORE INFO:** [www.ChanceTheater.com](http://www.ChanceTheater.com) or call (888) 455-4212

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