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TRIBES – A Play That Speaks To Everyone
Tacoma Arts Live's New Regional Theater Production
Tacoma's Theater on the Square For 8 Shows, March 26 – April 11

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TACOMA, WASH.— Tacoma Arts Live's Professional Regional Theater Program proudly presents the award-winning play, *TRIBES* by Nina Raine. The play opens for a preview night on Thursday, March 26 at 7:30 p.m., and then continues for seven performances March 27 to April 11. Tickets start at \$19 and are [on sale now](#).

Winner of "Outstanding Play" by Drama Desk Awards, *TRIBES* is a powerful play about Billy, a deaf person born into a hearing family. Billy has adapted to the family's quirky, politically incorrect world-views and unconventional ways, while they discourage her from using sign language to communicate. Billy gets a new perspective on being truly heard and understood after meeting Sylvia, a woman on the brink of deafness.

TRIBES Director Louis Hobson will be working alongside Associate Director and Deaf/Hard of Hearing Community Liaison Melanie Gladstone. The cast is filled with Pacific Northwest talent:

Michelle Mary Schaefer, *Billy*
Madison Willis, *Sylvia*
Jonathan Swindle, *Daniel*

Isabel Bennett, *Ruth*
Laurie Sifford, *Beth*
Anders Bolang, *Christopher*

Instead of traditional translation of American Sign Language being staged from the wings, interpreters and screens with supertitles will be blended in to the stage production to create an inclusive theater experience.

Tacoma Arts Live's [Professional Regional Theater Program](#) intends to produce a season of great plays with a conscience, engage empathy, challenge complacency, and inspire audiences to live in thoughtful inquiry. Each play is carefully chosen with the support of the [Theater Angels](#) and Theater Cohorts group.

Tacoma Arts Live would like to respectfully acknowledge that we gather on the traditional tribal lands of the Puyallup People. *TRIBES* is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc. The 2019-20 Regional Theater's next play is [Cowboy vs. Samurai](#) by Michael Golamco.

Tickets to *TRIBES* are \$19, \$29, and \$39 and are [on sale now](#). To purchase tickets, call Tacoma Arts Live Box Office at 253.591.5894, toll-free at 1.800.291.7593, or visit in person at 901 Broadway in Tacoma's Theater District or online at www.TacomaArtsLive.org.

More information: [TRIBES](#) | [Regional Theater Productions](#) | [Theater Angels](#)

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The core of Tacoma's Historic Theater District, Tacoma Arts Live's mission is to energize the community through live performance. Founded in 1979, Tacoma Arts Live is a non-profit organization recognized for leadership in presenting world-class performing artists, providing one of the largest arts education programs in Washington State, and preserving Tacoma's historic theaters. Learn more at TacomaArtsLive.org.

The Tacoma Arts Live gratefully acknowledges the following for support of the 2019-20 Season Sponsors: [ArtsFund](#), [Arts WA](#), [Boeing](#), [CHI Franciscan](#), [City of Tacoma](#), [The Forest Foundation](#), [Graduate! Tacoma](#), [KNKX](#), [Mary Bridge Children's - Multicare](#), [The News Tribune](#), [National Endowment for the Arts](#), [Pierce County Arts Commission](#), [Safeco Insurance Foundation](#), [US Bank](#), [The Washington State Arts Commission](#), and [Wells Fargo Foundation](#)