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Junior Players Runway Fashion Show, *Discover Runway Dreams*, Breaks Geographic Barriers

Performance Date: May 4 & 6, 2022

DALLAS, TX, March 29, 2022 - Junior Players is excited to announce that it will be bringing back its popular runway fashion show, *Discover Runway Dreams*. This production will kick off Junior Players Season of Humanity and will have both an in-person and virtual option. The performance on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 7:30 pm CST will be live and in-person at On The Levee (1108 Quaker St, Dallas, TX 75207) while the performance on Friday, May 6, 2022 at 7:30 pm CST will be completely virtual, allowing Junior Players to reach audience members across the country.

Discover Runway Dreams: Reflections is a new take on Junior Players annual runway show that highlights young talent from North Texas, aged 5 through 18, and brings a voice to those who are often underserved, underrepresented, and unheard in our community.

Discover Runway Dreams: Reflections is directed by Kristin Colaneri and focuses on our evolution as a society by taking us on a journey from how social inequities have affected our community in the past, to the opportunities for growth we currently have in the present, to a celebration of our similarities, and differences, that will lead to a brighter future. Three local, BIPOC designers will meet with our participants and design custom eco-friendly and sustainable fashion lines based on their conversations as well as the experiences they have as members of our ever-growing and changing community.

To ensure public safety, the live performance of this production will follow all CDC restrictions and guidelines, including social distancing audience members, requiring the use of a face mask at all times, and utilizing On The Levee's high efficiency, zoned HVAC system with double-digit MERV-rated filters and large garage doors that open, to effectively circulate air in the space. The virtual performance will feature the entire production and includes an exclusive 30 minute talk-back after the performance with the director, fashion designers, and Junior Players participants.

As with all Junior Players programs, there will be no cost for the participants of the production. Ticketing options for the live performance include \$75 for a café table that seats four (4), \$15 general admission individual seating, \$10 Student/Senior individual seating. Tickets for the virtual performance are all \$20. Tickets are available now at juniorplayers.org/tickets. Tickets will only be available for purchase online – no card or cash transactions will be allowed at the door in order to ensure public safety.

By providing this program, Junior Players gives young people a unique opportunity: the chance to make tangible connections between themselves, their peers, and their communities; to express themselves in a safe and supervised, yet flexible forum; and finally, to create this within the exciting, imaginative context of the arts.

Junior Players was founded in 1955 and is the oldest non-profit children's theater organization in Dallas. Over its existence, Junior Players has striven to meet the changing needs of the community. From 1955 to 1989, Junior Players presented traditional children's theater productions performed entirely by children and teenagers. In 1989, the Board of Directors changed the focus of Junior Players activities, deciding that, Junior Players can best serve the youth of Dallas by providing free programming accessible to all the children of North Texas. Junior Players, therefore, exclusively provides free arts education programs in local recreation and cultural centers, housing projects, elementary and middle schools, and through social service agencies serving youth at risk.

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