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AMAL WALKS ACROSS AMERICA

LITTLE AMAL BEGINS HER JOURNEY OF 6,000 MILES ACROSS THE UNITED STATES IN BOSTON

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH ARTSEMERSON, AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER (A.R.T.), COMPANY ONE THEATRE, INSTITUTE OF CONTEMPORARY ART (ICA), LARS JAN, & EXTINCTION REBELLION

LITTLE AMAL'S BOSTON JOURNEY BEGINS THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023 4:00PM ET DEWEY SQUARE, BOSTON

The 12-foot puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee girl will spread her story of hope

[Boston, MA – Wednesday, August 23, 2023] – Produced by The Walk Productions in association with Handspring Puppet Company, *Amal Walks Across America* will bring Little Amal to Boston to kick off her 6,000-mile national journey across the United States. In partnership with the City of Boston – ArtsEmerson, American Repertory Theater and the Harvard University Committee on the Arts, Company One, the ICA, and Extinction Rebellion will host events from September 7 – 9, 2023 to welcome Little Amal, whose name means "hope" in Arabic. Amal is an internationally celebrated 12-foot-tall puppet of a 10-year-old Syrian refugee girl. She has been welcomed by more than 250 uniquely created artistic events across the globe since her initial 5,000-mile trek across Europe in 2021. Amal carries her message of hope for marginalized people everywhere, especially children who have been separated from their families.

For more information on Amal's journey in Boston, please visit <u>WalkWithAmal.org</u> or the City of Boston webpage <u>here</u>.





Little Amal *Photo credit: Respective Collective*

On September 7, 2023 **Little Amal** will begin her journey in Boston to bring a message of compassion, empathy and hope, kicking off the 37+ city tour from Boston to San Diego where 1,000+ artists and arts organizations will create 300+ events to welcome her. Amal's journeys of art and hope celebrate the rich stories of refugees, immigrants and displaced people, and the communities that welcome them.

Everyone is welcome to walk with Amal, all events are free and open to the public.

ALL PRESS MATERIALS ARE AVAILABLE HERE.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 7, 2023

Join ArtsEmerson in Welcoming Little Amal to Boston

Dewey Square, Boston — 4:00PM ET

(Activities begin at 3:30, Amal arrives at 4:00)

Amal takes her first steps in Boston in Dewey Square, home of one of the largest murals in the city, at the southern end of the Rose Kennedy Greenway, just across the street from South Station—the entry point into the city for so many visitors and new residents. All of Boston is invited to welcome Little Amal and celebrate the past and present of the city's immigration story.

Chinatown Gate, Boston — 4:30PM ET

Little Amal travels to the grand gate at the border of Chinatown which was gifted to the city of Boston from Taiwan in 1982. Here, the surrounding neighborhoods were once known as Little Syria from the late 1800s until the 1950s.

For more details about ArtsEmerson Little Amal events, click here.

Join A.R.T., ArtsThursdays, and Little Amal for Finding Friends in Harvard Yard

Harvard Science Center Plaza, 1 Oxford Street, Cambridge - 6:00PM ET

In search of comfort and companionship, Little Amal discovers historic Harvard Yard where she is welcomed by the communities of the University and of Cambridge. Produced in collaboration with **Harvard University Committee on the Arts** as part of **ArtsThursdays**, a university-wide initiative sponsored by **HUCA** that provides free public arts programming during the academic year.

For more details about A.R.T.'s Little Amal events including free summer workshops, click here.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2023

Friday, September 8, 2023 events to be announced soon. Please visit <u>WalkWithAmal.org</u> or the City of Boston webpage <u>here</u> for the most recent information on Little Amal's Boston journey.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2023

Join Company One and Little Amal for When Migrants Meet

Egleston Square BPL to El Parquecito de la Hermandad at Franklin Park – 11:00AM ET Walk with Little Amal from the Egleston Square branch of the Boston Public Library to Franklin Park as she discovers an injured snow goose that's been separated from her family. As Amal attempts to help the goose fly and reunite with her migrating flock, she's welcomed into the fold for a HONKing good time with School of HONK! and more friends from the neighborhood at C1's annual Fall Kick Back community gathering!

For more details about Company One Little Amal events, click here.

Join the ICA and Little Amal at the ICA Watershed

ICA Watershed, East Boston - 1:00PM ET

Join the ICA as we welcome Little Amal to East Boston in a special event at the ICA Watershed, where she will be met by music and dancing by Veronica Robles and young performers from the Veronica Robles Cultural Center. Plus, get a final bonus opportunity to view Guadalupe Maravilla's mesmerizing exhibition at the Watershed, featuring large-scale installations, paintings, and sculptures that retrace and tell the story of the artist's own migration journey.

For more details about ICA Little Amal events, click here.

PARTNER INFORMATION

ArtsEmerson

ArtsEmerson is the professional presenting and producing organization at Emerson College, and its mission is to bring people together to experience powerful performances that delight, provoke, and inspire, celebrating both our differences and common humanity. Founded in 2010 by Robert J. Orchard — the year the U.S. Census confirmed there was no single cultural majority in Boston — ArtsEmerson is committed to building a cultural institution that reflects the diversity of our city. Our imaginative and globe-spanning live and virtual performances, films, and conversations invites each of us to be part of a Boston that is more creative, equitable, and connected. ArtsEmerson is led by Executive Director, David Howse. For more information visit ArtsEmerson.org.

Emerson College

Arts Emerson and HowlRound Theatre Commons both operate from within the Emerson College Office of the Arts. Based in Boston, Massachusetts, opposite the historic Boston Common and in the heart of the city's Theater District, Emerson College educates individuals who will solve problems and change the world through engaged leadership in communication and the arts, a mission informed by liberal learning. The College has 3,700 undergraduates and 1,400 graduate students from across the United States and 50 countries. Supported by state-of-the-art facilities and a renowned faculty, students participate in more than 90 student organizations and performance groups. Emerson is known for its experiential learning programs in Los Angeles, Washington, DC, the Netherlands, London, China, and the Czech Republic as well as its new Global Portals. The College has an active network of 51,000 alumni who hold leadership positions in communication and the arts. For more information, visit Emerson.edu. For media inquiries specific to Emerson College, please contact Michelle Gaseau (E: Michelle_Gaseau@emerson.edu, O: 617-824-3547, C: 617-429-2624).

About American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) At Harvard University

American Repertory Theater at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. Led by Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director Diane Paulus and Executive Director Kelvin Dinkins, Jr., A.R.T. aims to catalyze dialogue and

transformation by expanding the boundaries of theater. As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. Tony Award-winning and nominated productions include Jagged Little Pill; Waitress; Natasha, Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812; All the Way; The Glass Menagerie; Pippin; Once; The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess. International: Waitress, Nice Fish, The Glass Menagerie, Once (West End); Waitress, Pippin (Japan); JLP, Pippin (Australia); Sleep No More (China). Currently: 1776 National Tour (following 2022/23 Broadway run); JLP North American tour; Sleep No More in New York City.

About Harvard University's ArtsThursdays

Every Thursday evening, a Harvard University arts institution or organization opens its doors to the public for free performances, exhibitions, lectures, and other events as part of a presidential initiative that promotes access to the arts at Harvard. ArtsThursdays is a university-wide initiative sponsored by Harvard University Committee on the Arts (HUCA).

About the ICA/Boston

Since its founding in 1936, the ICA has shared the pleasures of reflection, inspiration, imagination, and provocation that contemporary art offers with its audiences. A museum at the intersection of contemporary art and civic life, the ICA has advanced a bold vision for amplifying the artist's voice and expanding the museum's role as educator, incubator, and convener. Its exhibitions, performances, and educational programs provide access to the breadth and diversity of contemporary art, artists, and the creative process, inviting audiences of all ages and backgrounds to participate in the excitement of new art and ideas. The ICA is located at 25 Harbor Shore Drive, Boston, MA, 02210. The Watershed is located at 256 Marginal Street, East Boston, MA 02128. For more information, call 617-478-3100 or visit our website at icaboston.org. Follow the ICA on Facebook, Instagram, and TikTok.

About the Watershed

In 2018, the ICA opened its new ICA Watershed to the public, expanding artistic and educational programming on both sides of Boston Harbor—the Seaport and East Boston. Located in the Boston Harbor Shipyard and Marina, the ICA Watershed transformed a 15,000-square-foot, formerly condemned space into a cultural asset to experience large-scale-art. It has since presented one immersive exhibition each summer, until it was closed to the public in 2020 to support the city and state in their efforts to contain the spread of COVID-19. During the pandemic, it was used as a food distribution site to address a direct need within the East Boston community, which experienced one of the highest rates of COVID-19 in Boston. The cross-harbor connection to the Watershed was designed to deepen the vibrant intersection of contemporary art and civic life in Boston and is central to the ICA's vision of art, civic life, and urban vitality.

About Company One Theatre

Company One Theatre builds community at the intersection of art and social change. Founded in 1998, Company One has situated itself as a home for social justice and artistic excellence by connecting Boston's diverse communities through live performance, the development of new plays and playwrights, arts education, and public engagement programming. By establishing a dedicated space for marginalized and alternative narratives to thrive and working with partners and collaborators across the city, Company One has become a local leader in the ongoing conversations that continue to define the era of social change in contemporary America.

MEDIA CONTACTS

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