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“HAVANA HOP!” RETURNS TO KICK OFF JM FAMILY ENTERPRISES SMART STAGE MATINEE SEASON

Series promotes Science Technology Engineering Arts Math (STEAM)

FORT LAUDERDALE – A new season of JM Family Enterprises Smart Stage Matinees kicks off with **Havana Hop!** in the Amaturio Theater at the Broward Center for the Performing Arts on **Friday, Sept. 28 at 10 a.m.**

Invited to dance for the president, Yelia decides to make it the best dance ever in *Havana Hop!* The audience gets to dance along during this interactive performance as one actor tells the story of three generations of dynamic women. In this show, recommended for grades K–3, Yelia discovers the fun of her multicultural heritage as she introduces the audience to Cuban culture in an engaging and spirited way.

Commissioned and developed by Wolftrap Institute for Early Learning Through the Arts, *Havana Hop!* has original music by Nick tha Ida. The show is written and performed by Paige Hernandez, a multidisciplinary artist known for her effective fusion of theater, hip-hop, dance and education. The Huffington Post named Paige a “classroom hero” in recognition of her outstanding arts integration and work with STEM initiatives. She has collaborated with The Lincoln Center and was commissioned by the National New Play Network, the Kennedy Center and the Glimmerglass festival.

JM Family Enterprises Smart Stage Matinees offer literature-based shows that promote reading skills and S.T.E.A.M. (Science Technology Engineering Arts Math) to make challenging concepts accessible to younger learners.

Tickets are \$7.20 and \$3 lap seats for infants 12 months and under. Ticketmaster is the only official ticketing service of the Broward Center, Parker Playhouse and affiliated venues. Buy tickets online at BrowardCenter.org or Ticketmaster.com; by phone at 954.462.0222 or the Broward Center’s AutoNation Box Office. Know who you are buying from when you purchase tickets.

Groups of 10 may also purchase a post-performance Smart Stage Plus at 11:20 a.m. in which students will explore themes and music from the show in interactive movement and dramatic play. Workshop tickets are an additional \$5 per student and are available through group sales at 954.660.6307.

The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Avenue in Fort Lauderdale.

For more information visit BrowardCenter.org, like us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/BrowardCenter](https://www.facebook.com/BrowardCenter), follow us on Twitter and Instagram [@BrowardCenter](https://twitter.com/BrowardCenter), subscribe to our channel at [Youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter](https://www.youtube.com/user/BrowardCenter) and join the conversation with [#BrowardCenter](https://twitter.com/BrowardCenter).

All dates, times, programs, artists and ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

The Broward Center 2018-2019 season is presented by the Broward Performing Arts Foundation. AutoNation, Bank of America, Brightline, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau, JetBlue, MasterCard, Paramount Refreshment Solutions and *Sun Sentinel* are proud sponsors of the Broward Center. *Sun Sentinel* is a proud sponsor of the Parker Playhouse.

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About The Broward Center for the Performing Arts

One of America's premier performing arts venues, the Broward Center for the Performing Arts presents more than 700 performances each year to more than 700,000 patrons, showcasing a wide range of exciting cultural programming and events. Guest experiences at the Broward Center include the all-inclusive JetBlue Flight Deck on the Club Level, special events in the Huizenga Pavilion, waterfront dining at Marti's New River Bistro and innovative classes and workshops for all ages at the Rose Miniaci Arts Education Center. With one of the largest arts-in-education programs in the United States, the Broward Center serves more than 130,000 students annually. The Broward Performing Arts Foundation, Inc. receives and maintains funds to sustain, develop and secure the future of the Broward Center. The Broward Center for the Performing Arts is located in the Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment District at 201 SW Fifth Ave. in Fort Lauderdale. For more information, visit BrowardCenter.org.

The Riverwalk Arts & Entertainment Consortium is a cultural partnership between the Broward Center for the Performing Arts, Bonnet House Museum & Gardens, NSU Art Museum Fort Lauderdale, Florida Grand Opera, Fort Lauderdale History Center and the Historic Stranahan House Museum. It is supported by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners as recommended by the Broward Cultural Council and the Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau. Programs are sponsored in part by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs, the Florida Council on Arts and Culture.