

From Sondheim to Spamalot: The Tony Award–Winning Musicals Coming to The Phoenix Theatre Company

By Elizabeth Montgomery



The best of Broadway is landing in Phoenix. This season, The Phoenix Theatre Company presents a lineup of Tony Award–winning musicals ready for you to experience live again, or for the first time.

Suffs, *Kimberly Akimbo*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, and *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* are part of the 2026/27 lineup, a season built, as Producing Artistic Director Michael Barnard says, to lift your spirits. Whether you're coming to laugh, a score that melts your heart, or a story that reminds you of the power of theatre, these shows set the tone.

Suffs

Suffs tells the story of the final decade of the American suffrage movement through the women who refused to let it fade. Written, composed, and originally performed by Shaina Taub, the musical centers voices that history often flattens into footnotes: Alice Paul, Ida B. Wells, Carrie Chapman Catt, and others who paved the way to where we are today.

What makes *Suffs* stand out is its honesty. These women don't always agree; they challenge each other. The score moves between protest and introspection, giving each perspective space to exist without easy answers.

At the 2024 Tony Awards, Taub won Best Book and Best Original Score. With Hillary Clinton and Malala Yousafzai as co-producers, the production carried weight beyond the stage, asking questions that still feel unfinished.

Kimberly Akimbo

Kimberly Dettmer is 16 but looks 72. A rare genetic condition causes her body to age four times faster than normal, and she knows exactly what that means for her future. The math of her life is clear. What she does with the time she has is anything but.

Written by David Lindsay-Abaire with music by Jeanine Tesori, the show surrounds Kimberly with a family that feels like it's unraveling in real time. A mother consumed by her own fears, a father who's checked out, and an aunt who arrives with chaos. Somewhere in the middle, Kimberly chooses to live anyway.

Kimberly Akimbo was the biggest winner at the 2023 Tony Awards, taking home five: Best Musical, Best Book, Best Original Score, Best Actress in a Musical (Victoria Clark, whose performance originated the role on Broadway), and Best Featured Actress in a Musical (Bonnie Milligan). It earns those honors by grounding itself in something simple and difficult: choosing joy when the clock won't slow down.

Monty Python's Spamalot

King Arthur is on a quest for the Holy Grail. The Knights are ready, the French are not, and the rabbit is still a problem.

Monty Python's Spamalot leans all the way into absurdity and never looks back. "Lovingly ripped off" from the 1975 film *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, the musical, written by Eric Idle with music by Idle and John Du Prez, knows exactly what it is and commits to it fully.

The show won the Tony for Best Musical in 2005, directed by Mike Nichols, with Sara Ramirez winning Best Featured Actress for her performance as the Lady of the Lake. It was one of the best-reviewed comedies of that Broadway season and remains one of the most reliably entertaining nights in the musical theatre canon.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street

Benjamin Barker was a barber in London until he was sent away. He came back with a new name and a plan.

Sweeney Todd is revenge, obsession, and survival tangled together inside a city that looks the other way. Alongside Mrs. Lovett, whose failing pie shop becomes part of something much darker, the story unfolds with precision and intensity. What follows is Stephen

Sondheim at his most ruthless: a revenge story, a love story, and a pitch-black comedy about what happens when a city ignores the people it destroys.

Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street is widely considered one of the greatest American musicals ever written. The original 1979 Broadway production won eight Tony Awards, including Best Musical, Best Book (Hugh Wheeler), and Best Original Score (Sondheim) and the show has been revived on Broadway multiple times since, each production finding new ways into its darkness. The most recent Broadway revival in 2023 starred Josh Groban and Annaleigh Ashford, earning two additional Tonys for lighting and sound design.

Make it a Season

The best way to see this season is to be in it for all of it. Season subscriptions are on sale now and include access to all eleven productions across TPTC's three stages with priority seating, free date exchanges, and discounts at ArtBar+Bistro.

Options include the Campus Pass for all eleven shows, the Big Six Pass, and flexible packages built around how you want to experience the season.

Single tickets go on sale June 2. Subscribe before then and you'll have your seats locked in before they're available to the general public.

Learn more and subscribe at phoenixtheatre.com, or call the box office at (602) 254-2151.