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17801 Detroit Avenue
Lakewood, OH 44107
beckcenter.org
216.521.2540

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BECK CENTER FOR THE ARTS ANNOUNCES
Opening Production of 2026-2027 YOUTH THEATER SEASON,
Dr. Experimentor and the League of Evil

Lakewood, OH—Beck Center for the Arts, one of the oldest continuously running youth theater programs in the nation, is proud to announce the 78th Youth Theater season opener, a play featuring 82 theater students, *Dr. Experimentor and the League of Evil*.

This hilarious adventure featuring an evil genius and their minions—but not the trademarked kind. This mischievous show will have audiences laughing maniacally from start to finish.

Director Russ Stich shared, “This show puts a twist on the classic story of Good vs. Evil by making the hero and the villain best friends. The cast has been having a great time leaning into the comedic aspects and exploring the cartoonish nature of the script.”

DR. EXPERIMENTOR AND THE LEAGUE OF EVIL was written by Charlotte Nixon and is directed by Russel Stich. Running in the Senney Theater from October 22 through October 25, 2026, this production is produced by special arrangement with Pioneer Drama Service. Student Matinee is Thursday, October 22, 2026, at 10:00 a.m. Friday, October 23, 2026 curtain is at 7:30 p.m. Saturday, October 24, 2026 curtain is at 7:30 p.m., and Sunday, October 25, 2026 curtain is at 3:00 p.m.

Dr. Experimentor, a mastermind supervillain, must fight to maintain their membership in the infamous League of Evil. There’s just one problem... maintaining membership means defeating the superhero Extremo, who happens to be Dr. Experimentor’s best friend! To make matters worse, Dr. Experimentor faces relentless pressure from Agnes and Abigail Anarchy, ambitious upstart villains eager for the Dr.’s downfall. Armed with an arsenal of ingenious inventions, minions, vegetarian zombies, pacifist ninjas, and robot soldiers, Dr. Experimentor faces an impossible choice: defeat Extremo or suffer at

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the hands of the League! Directed by Beck Center's own Russel Stich, this show is sure to engage and delight audiences.

Beck Center Youth Theater alumni include: Michael Chernus (*Orange is the New Black; Manhattan*); Dee Hoty (three time Tony Nominee); Isabela Merced (*The Last of Us, Dora and the Lost City of Gold; Transformers: The Last Night*); Rory O'Malley (*Hamilton*; Tony Nominee, *Book of Mormon*); and Daniel Reichard (Drama Desk Nominee, *Jersey Boys*).

Please contact Kelsey Heichel at kheichel@beckcenter.org for group rates and to reserve seats for a student performance on Thursday, October 22, 2027 at 10:00 a.m. Please call for details at 216-521-2540.

Tickets are \$16 Adult/Senior and \$14 Children/Student (18 & under). Reserve tickets at BeckCenter.org, call 216.521.2540, or simply stop by Beck Center Customer Service, in person.

Read about the entire Youth Theater Season at BeckCenter.org

Students must be enrolled in the same semester that the show performs in to be eligible to participate in the production. You do not have to be enrolled at the time of auditions.

All performances are at theaters inside Beck Center for the Arts located at 17801 Detroit Avenue in Lakewood, just ten minutes west of downtown Cleveland. Free onsite parking is available. For more information visit beckcenter.org.

Beck Center for the Arts also offers arts education for all ages, all skill levels, and all abilities with classes and lessons in music, dance, visual arts, and theater, as well as creative arts therapies. Financial assistance is offered to qualified applicants so that these programs can be enjoyed by all.

Programming at Beck Center for the Arts is made possible through the generous support of First Federal Lakewood, and the Ohio Arts Council. Beck Center gratefully acknowledges the generous funding provided by the citizens of Cuyahoga County through Cuyahoga Arts and Culture.

Beck Center for the Arts is a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization that offers professional theater productions on two stages, arts education programming in dance, music, theater, visual arts, early childhood, and creative arts therapies for individuals with disabilities, free gallery exhibits year-round, and community education programming.

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