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New Stage Unframed Series presents
Tambo & Bones
by Dave Harris

Jackson, Mississippi – The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre presents ***Tambo & Bones*** by Dave Harris on March 13th and 14th at 7:30pm and 15th at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online at newstagetheatre.com for $10 until March 13th at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for $15 starting one hour before each show. The performances are presented at New Stage's Warehouse Theatre, located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. Content warning: this show includes flashing lights, haze, loud noises (including gunshots and sounds of violence), strong language, and racial slurs. Suggested for ages 18+.

Tambo & Bones, directed by Kymbrianna Griggs, follows two characters trapped in a minstrel show. Confronted with this shocking, dehumanizing discovery, they come up with a plan to escape and get even. A rags-to-riches hip-hop journey, this new comedy roasts America's racist past, wrestles America's racist present, and explodes America's post-racial future—where what's at stake, for those deemed less-than-human, is the fate of humanity itself.

Dave Harris' play ***Tambo & Bones*** won the LA Drama Critics Award for Best New Play in 2022 and made Time Out London's list of ten best shows of 2023. Some of his other work includes the plays ***Exception to the Rule*** and ***Everybody Black***. Harris received the Ollie Award (2019) and the Horton Foote Prize (2023), both of which are honors bestowed upon playwrights who approach complex themes with ambition. His work expertly blends comedy, dark comedy, satire, and farce into a medium for complex themes of race, specifically observing and commenting on the black experience in America. ***Tambo & Bones*** inspires conversation and deeper reflection on the realities of race relations today.

“Dave Harris’ ***Tambo and Bones*** is the kind of daring, incisive satire Unframed was created to showcase,” says New Stage Artistic Director Francine Reynolds. “By boldly examining America’s racial history and possible future, the play challenges audiences to rethink identity, humor, and the price of freedom—making it a powerful and timely addition to the Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre.”

The cast of ***Tambo & Bones*** includes Tarvorious House (Tambo), Madison Upendo (Bones), Anna Fanning (X-Bot 1), and Wyatt Wilson (X-Bot 2) - understudied by Willie Toles Jr. and Tyler Russell.

Kymbrianna Griggs, the Director, expressed, “***Tambo & Bones*** is a thrilling ride that examines the intersection of race and capitalism. It pushes the boundaries of the theatrical experience while challenging audiences to question the relevancy of the systems that shape our world.”

Created in 2006, The Unframed at New Stage Theatre series provides a distinctive theatre experience to the community. The focus is on producing new works and contemporary drama as an alternative to the traditional New Stage subscription series. Unframed at New Stage provides artistic opportunities to emerging artists allowing them to get more experience working with a professional theatre company and on fresh, exciting material that’s not typically produced on the main stage. In the past the series has produced works such as ***Fairview***, ***Race***, ***The Pillowman***, ***Stop Kiss***, ***Steal Away!***, and ***The Laramie Project***. New Stage is excited about Season 17 with a program full of intriguing new drama that is equal parts entertaining and thought provoking.

Tambo & Bones opens Friday, March 13th at 7:30pm. Following performances are Saturday, March 14th at 7:30pm, and Sunday, March 15th at 2:00pm. Tickets may be purchased online in advance at newstagetheatre.com for $10 until March 13th at 4:00pm. If there is seating available, tickets may also be purchased for $15 up until one hour before each show. The performances are staged at New Stage’s Warehouse Theatre. The theatre is located at 1000 Monroe Street in the Belhaven Heights neighborhood. Content warning: this show includes flashing lights, haze, loud noises (including gunshots and sounds of violence), strong language, and racial slurs. Suggested for ages 18+. For more information on The Unframed Series at New Stage Theatre, find us on Facebook or Instagram at Unframed at New Stage Theatre or call 601.948.3533 (ex. 223.)

2025-2026 Season

Lost Girl by Kimberly Belflower
January 22, 23, & 24, 2026
Long after returning from Neverland, Wendy decides that she must find Peter in order to reclaim her kiss and move on with her life.
"A new play about standing in the center of your own story instead of the shadow of someone else's."

Tambo & Bones by Dave Harris
March 13, 14, & 15, 2026
Tambo and Bones are two characters trapped in a minstrel show. Their escape plan: get out, get bank, get even.
"Will make you second-guess everything you do in a theater."

Wit by Margaret Edson
May 1, 2, & 3, 2026
Vivian Bearing explores her last days with ovarian cancer by confronting her own morality.
"A genuinely life-enhancing play about death."