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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**Houston Performing Arts Scholars Set to Perform *The Lion King, JR.*  
for 15-Year Anniversary**

*The talented scholars of Rhodes School for the Performing Arts reenact Disney's coming-of-age tale of a young lion's journey from Pride Rock to the jungle & back again during their 15 Year Anniversary Encore Performance of, The Lion King, JR.*

**Houston, TX** – Celebrating its 15-year anniversary, Rhodes School for the Performing Arts proudly presents an encore performance of the captivating adaptation of Disney's fantastical tale, *The Lion King JR.*, on Thursday, May 18, 2023, at the Harris County Cultural Arts Center.

Over a decade ago, Rhodes School for the Performing Arts (RSPA) began showcasing its scholars in what became the Annual Production. Countless hours are spent each year preparing for the "Big Stage" moment when young performers across both campuses demonstrate their mastery and command of each classical fine art genre - dance, voice, musicianship, visual arts, and theater. In 2019, RSPA presented *The Lion King JR.* at its Christmas Production, which fans have continued to rave about to the present day. Returning for an encore performance to celebrate its 15-year anniversary, RSPA is excited to welcome its families and the community back to the theatre for a wonderful masterpiece with beautiful sets and vibrant costumes. Spectators are transported from their seats to the savannah plains of Africa.

Disney's "The Lion King, JR." tells the story of the epic adventures of a curious cub named Simba as he struggles to accept the responsibilities of adulthood and his destiny as king. Along the way, the young lion encounters a colorful cast of characters, including spunky lioness Nala, charismatic meerkat Timon, and loveable warthog Pumbaa. To claim his rightful place on the throne and save his beloved Pridelands, Simba must find his inner strength and confront his wicked Uncle Scar.

The Lion King Jr. features classic songs from the 1994 film, such as "Hakuna Matata" and the Academy Award®-winning "Can You Feel the Love Tonight," as well as additional songs penned for the Broadway production.

RSPA's Spring Production is Thursday, May 18, 2023, at Harris County Cultural Arts Center located at 13334 Wallisville Road, Houston, TX 77049. Doors open at 6:00 PM, and the show begins at 7:00 PM. General Admission tickets are on sale for \$15.00 and \$20.00 at the door. Lap seating for children two and under is available. Tickets can be purchased at [rspalionkingjrencore.eventbrite.com](https://rspalionkingjrencore.eventbrite.com).

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*Rhodes School for the Performing Arts is a Fine Arts Magnet School of Distinction. Established in 2007 by Michelle Bonton, RSPA serves over 400 students in grades Pre-K-8 across two Houston campus locations. RSPA boasts seven Fine Art disciplines and is home to several Fine Art ensembles such as choir, visual arts, and theatre arts. Rhodes School for the Performing Arts is dedicated to providing its students with an exceptional arts-integrated, project-based STEAM education. To learn more about RSPA, visit [RhodesSchool.org](https://RhodesSchool.org).*