

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
April 2019

Contact: Val Brunetto, Communications Manager  
206.428.6319 | [valb@book-it.org](mailto:valb@book-it.org)

## Reaching for the American Dream in *Behold the Dreamers*

[Seattle, Wash., April 17, 2019]—To close out their 29th season, Book-It Repertory Theatre (Book-It) presents **Imbolo Mbue's** *Behold the Dreamers*. Adapted and directed by **Myra Platt**, Mbue masterfully weaves a story of class divide, immigration and marriage in her remarkable debut novel. Jende and Neni Jonga have recently emigrated from Cameroon to America to try to make a new life for themselves and their young son. When the Great Recession starts to upend the economy, the Jongas begin to grasp the fragility of the American dream. *Behold the Dreamers* plays June 6-30, 2019 (**Opening/Press Night on Saturday, June 8**) at **The Center Theatre**.

*Behold the Dreamers* is a *New York Times* bestseller, winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award for Fiction and a pick for Oprah's Book Club.

**Sylvester Foday Kamara** and **Anjelica McMillan** play Jende and Neni Jonga. The ensemble cast includes **Marcel Davis**, **Beth DeVries**, **Bailey Ellis**, **Kamaria Hallums-Harris**, **Ronnie Hill**, **David Quicksall**, **Dillon Stidwell**, **Selena Whitaker-Paquiet** and **Jonas Winburn**.

The design team includes scenic design by **Christopher Mumaw**, costume design by **Danielle Nieves**, lighting design by **Emily Leong**, sound design by **Justin Johnson** and properties design by **Robin Macartney**. **Brandon J. Simmons** is assistant director, **Gin Hammond** is dialect coach and **Minita Gandhi** is the dramaturg.

*Behold the Dreamers* plays June 6-30, 2019 at **The Center Theatre** (305 Harrison St., Seattle, WA 98109). Performance tickets range from \$26 to \$50 with group rates available. \$20 tickets

-more-

will be available to students during the entire run with valid school ID. Purchase at [book-it.org](http://book-it.org) or by calling the box office at 206.216.0833. The box office is open Tues through Fri, 12pm – 5pm, located in the outer lobby of The Center Theatre at the Armory, 305 Harrison St., Seattle.

### **ABOUT BOOK-IT REPERTORY THEATRE**

Book-It Repertory Theatre, a leader in the narrative theatre movement, was founded in 1990. Book-It is a non-profit organization with a dedication to great literature and quality theatre experiences employing simple, sensitive and imaginative production techniques, and inspiring its audiences to read.

### **FOR CALENDAR EDITORS**

**WHAT:** Book-It Repertory Theatre (Book-It) presents **Imbolo Mbue's** *Behold the Dreamers*. Mbue masterfully weaves a story of class divide, immigration and marriage in her remarkable debut novel. Jende and Neni Jonga have recently emigrated from Cameroon to America to try to make a new life for themselves and their young son. When the Great Recession starts to upend the economy, the Jongas begin to grasp the fragility of the American dream.

**WHEN:** Pay-What-You-Will Preview: Wednesday, June 5  
Previews: Thursday, June 6 and Friday, June 7  
Opening Night: Saturday, June 8  
Closing: Sunday, June 30

**TIMES:** Wednesday-Saturday—7:30pm (Matinées on June 12, 22 and 29) and Sundays—2pm

**WHERE:** The Center Theatre (305 Harrison St., Seattle, WA 98109.)

**TICKETS:** Performance tickets range from \$26 to \$50 with group rates available. \$20 tickets will be available to students during the entire run with valid school ID. Purchase at [book-it.org](http://book-it.org) or by calling the box office at 206.216.0833. The box office is open Tues through Fri, 12pm – 5pm, located in the outer lobby of The Center Theatre at the Armory, 305 Harrison St., Seattle.

###