

SAN FRANCISCO PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS
EXUBERANT BROADWAY MUSICAL MEGA-HIT

Hairspray

Music by Marc Shaiman

Lyrics by Scott Wittman & Marc Shaiman

Book by Mark O'Donnell & Thomas Meehan

Directed by **Bill English**, Musical Direction by **Dave Dobrusky**, Choreography by **Phoenix Rose**

July 10 – September 12, 2026 (*opening night: July 17*)

WHAT: **San Francisco Playhouse** will close its 2025-26 season with the mega-hit musical *Hairspray*. Winner of eight Tony Awards including Best Musical, this bold Broadway phenomenon is piled bouffant-high with laughter, romance, and groovy dancing. Set in 1962, *Hairspray* follows Baltimore teen Tracy Turnblad, who dreams of dancing on her favorite TV show. When her wish comes true, she shakes up the system, using her platform to confront racial segregation and to inspire a movement that changes the face of television forever. Featuring **Marc Shaiman** and **Scott Wittman's** upbeat R&B and Motown-infused score including "You Can't Stop the Beat," "Good Morning Baltimore," "Welcome to the 60's," and "I Know Where I've Been" plus **Mark O'Donnell** and **Thomas Meehan's** uplifting book full of humor and heart, *Hairspray* premiered at Seattle's The 5th Avenue Theatre before opening on Broadway, where it swept the Tony Awards and ran for more than eight years. It later opened in the West End where it won four Olivier Awards including Best New Musical. It was adapted into a film starring John Travolta, Michelle Pfeiffer, Queen Latifah, Zac Efron, and Amanda Bynes and received a live TV production by NBC starring Ariana Grande, Kristin Chenoweth, Jennifer Hudson, and Harvey Fierstein. *The New York Times* commended *Hairspray's* "deliriously tuneful songs" and said the musical "succeeds in recreating the pleasures of the old-fashioned musical comedy without seeming old-fashioned." *Variety* lauded it as "effortlessly adorable. Infectious jubilation." *The Mercury News* said the 2004 Broadway tour was "a big-hearted, high-energy bubble gum spectacular" while *San Francisco Chronicle* deemed it "irresistible. A winner. A joyfully syncopated celebration." San Francisco Playhouse Artistic Director **Bill English** will direct the production, **Dave Dobrusky** as musical director, and **Phoenix Rose** as choreographer.

WHEN: Previews: Friday, July 10 – Thursday, July 16, 2026
Opening: Friday, July 17, 2026
Closes: Saturday, September 12, 2026

SHOWS: Tuesdays and Thursdays: 7pm
Wednesdays: 2pm & 7pm
Fridays: 8pm
Saturdays: 3pm & 8pm
Sundays: 2pm

WHERE: San Francisco Playhouse (450 Post Street, San Francisco)

TICKETS: Single tickets (\$52-\$145). Pricing inclusive of fees and subject to change. For tickets and more information, the public may visit <https://sfplayhouse.org/2025-2026-season/hairspray/> or call the box office at 415-677-9596.

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PRESS: Contact Lauren Goldfarb, Carla Befera & Co. lauren@cb-pr.com

PHOTOS: Downloadable high-res photos are available: <http://cbpr.co/press/hairspray>