

Listen: The Musical Brings a Story of Faith, Family, and the Power of Music to St. John's University

Created and directed by Dr. Michael Gayle, Dec. 15–20, 2025, at The Little Theater, Queens, N.Y.

QUEENS, N.Y. (Oct. 16, 2025) — Music, faith and storytelling converge in Listen: The Musical, running Dec. 15–20, 2025, at The Little Theatre at St. John's University is an original full-length production written and directed by Dr. Michael Gayle, a local Elmont, resident.

Blending gospel, jazz, R&B and contemporary musical theater, Listen tells a heartfelt story rooted in family, love and faith. The narrative follows four central characters whose interconnected lives explore romance, generational wisdom, loss and resilience. Set against the backdrop of the holiday season, Listen captures the warmth, reflection and renewal that defines the human spirit while offering a deep look at how people heal, forgive and rediscover purpose through one another.

"This production comes from my heart to yours, woven with original music and a message of faith and hope," said Dr. Gayle, the musical's creator, writer, and director. "Music is a universal language that unites us, carrying love, faith, and emotion in ways words alone cannot express."

What makes this even more meaningful: a portion of the show's proceeds will go toward supporting University arts programs and church-based community initiatives across New York City. It's a heartfelt, feel-good story featuring local talent while using the arts to inspire and give back.

Tickets are available now on Eventbrite at <https://listenthemusical.eventbrite.com>

About Dr. Michael Gayle

Dr. Michael Gayle is a musician, professor, music education and curriculum development consultant, with more than a decade of experience in performance, education and production. He serves as jazz band director and adjunct professor at St. John's University and as director of worship and arts at the Greater Allen A.M.E. Cathedral of New York. Dr. Gayle has facilitated professional development sessions with school across long island including the Sewanhaka Central High School District. A graduate of Columbia University's Teachers College; New York University's Steinhardt School of Music; and Adelphi University, Dr. Gayle is dedicated to using music as a tool for education, empowerment and healing. He also partners with an Alzheimer's-focused nonprofit to bring music to patients and caregivers. A proud husband and father of four, he continues to inspire through the transformative power of the arts.

Event Details

What: Listen: The Musical

When: Dec. 15–20, 2025

Where: The Little Theatre, St. John's University, Queens, N.Y. 8000 Utopia Parkway
Queens, NY 11439

Tickets: listen-themusical.eventbrite.com

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