



THE ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY PRODUCTION OF

**FRANKLINLAND**  
**By Lloyd Suh**

March 12–April 5, 2026  
Lindsay Family Stage at Granville Island  
(Media opening: March 18, 2026)

**IN BRIEF** – The Arts Club Theatre Company production of *Franklinland* runs March 12–April 5, 2026, at the Lindsay Family Stage at Granville Island, 1585 Johnston Street, Vancouver. Directed by Omari Newton, *Franklinland* is a sharp, irreverent comedy by acclaimed playwright Lloyd Suh. Tickets from \$29. More info at [artsclub.com](http://artsclub.com).

**FEBRUARY 27, 2026, VANCOUVER, B.C. / The traditional territories of the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh and səilwətał Nations** – The Arts Club Theatre Company production of *Franklinland* runs March 12–April 5, 2026, at the Lindsay Family Stage at Granville Island. **Omari Newton** directs the Canadian premiere of *Franklinland*, a sharp comedy by acclaimed playwright **Lloyd Suh**.

Written in 2023, *Franklinland* offers a wildly imaginative and thoroughly modern take on the American Revolution—centering not on nation-building, but on the fraught and often absurd relationship between Benjamin Franklin (**Brian Markinson**) and his son, William (**Luc Roderique**). As Franklin plants the philosophical seeds of a new republic, King George III appoints William Royal Governor of New Jersey—setting the stage for a familial and political showdown that is as absurdly funny as it is moving.

With biting wit, contemporary language, and an agile three-person cast, *Franklinland* blends historical satire with emotional depth, exploring ambition, legacy, authority, and the struggle for personal identity. The result is a fast-paced comedy that invites audiences to reconsider the myths we inherit—and their faulty realities. Under the direction of Newton, *Franklinland* promises a dynamic theatrical experience that balances humour, politics, and family drama with a sensibility that resonates with today’s audiences.

Newton said, “For me, directing this play isn’t just about bringing a great script to life; it’s about deconstructing this mythology of both the man Benjamin Franklin and the mythos of the United States of America, especially during the mass upheaval happening right now in the US. The play examines legacy, expectation, and independence in ways that feel both historically grounded and of the moment.”

“I’m beyond excited to have Omari Newton directing this piece,” said **Ashlie Corcoran**, the Arts Club’s Artistic Director. “His passion for this play is infectious, and his ability to balance humour, history, and truth makes him the perfect artist to bring *Franklinland* to life.”

Continued Corcoran, “From the moment I read *Franklinland*, I was struck by how brilliantly funny and emotionally layered Lloyd Suh’s writing is. Beneath the satire is a sharp interrogation of the stories America tells about itself, which is something that feels especially resonant right now. This play invites audiences to question legacy, power, and national identity in a way that is both entertaining and deeply timely.”

*Franklinland* is part of the Arts Club’s ongoing commitment to presenting diverse voices, bold storytelling, and work that reflect the complexity of its audiences—while delivering a thoroughly compelling theatre experience.

**ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT**

Originally from Indianapolis, Indiana, Lloyd Suh’s plays include *The Heart Sellers*, *The Chinese Lady*, *The Far Country* (Pulitzer Prize finalist), *Bina’s Six Apples*, and *American Hwangap*, among others, and they

have been produced throughout the US, the Philippines, and Korea. His awards include the Steinberg Playwright Award, Guggenheim Fellowship, Herb Alpert Award, Horton Foote Prize, and Helen Merrill Award. A resident playwright at New Dramatists and a member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, Suh was elected in 2016 to the Dramatists Guild Council and serves as a Professor of the Practice at Princeton University.

*FRANKLINLAND* is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by TRW PLAYS 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. [www.theatricalrights.com](http://www.theatricalrights.com).

### SPECIAL PERFORMANCES

- Talkback Tuesday Performance: Tue, Mar 31, 7 PM
- VocalEye Performances: Tue, Mar 31, 7 PM; Fri, Apr 3, 7:30 PM

### CAST

**Jakobe Jenkins** (Temple), **Brian Markinson** (Ben), **Luc Roderique** (William)

### CREATIVE

**Omari Newton** (Director), **Kimira Reddy** (Set Designer), **CS Fergusson-Vaux** (Costume Designer), **Jonathan Kim** (Lighting Designer), **Rick Colhoun** (Sound Designer), **Jonathan Hawley Purvis** (Fight Director), **Jakobe Jenkins** (Apprentice Director), **Jenny Kim** (Stage Manager), **Jessica Bournival** (Assistant Stage Manager)

### PRESENTING SPONSOR



### SEASON SPONSORS



### ABOUT THE ARTS CLUB THEATRE COMPANY

The Arts Club Theatre Company is situated on the traditional, ancestral, and unceded territories of the Coast Salish Peoples, in particular the xʷməθkʷəy̓əm, Skwxwú7mesh, and səlilwətał Nations. We invite you to reflect on your relationship to these lands.

The Arts Club is one of the largest not-for-profit theatre organizations in the country and is the principal gathering place for the theatrical arts in British Columbia. Comprising three unique venues across Vancouver, the Arts Club welcomes more than a quarter million guests annually, tours provincially and nationally, and engages students and artists alike through educational and professional programs.

Above all, the Arts Club is dedicated to the advancement of local artists telling stories from around the globe and, in particular, those of our region. From this, we believe that culture expands, an understanding of differences is nurtured, and art bursts forth. The Arts Club was founded in 1964 and is currently led by Artistic Director Ashlie Corcoran and Executive Director Peter Cathie White.

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