

Ins Choi's award-winning *Kim's Convenience* comes to Seattle

"...as stomach-hurtingly funny as it is dramatic and moving." 5/5 stars.
NOW Toronto

SEATTLE, WA – February 19, 2019 – *Kim's Convenience* has made headlines for its portrayal of Asian immigrants with depth. But before it became a beloved Canadian television show, it started as a play at the Toronto Fringe Festival. It's one of those rare occurrences when a play resonates so deeply with audiences it warrants a bigger platform. Playwright **Ins Choi** reminds us that family isn't always convenient, but it might be the best deal out here.

Tickets are available online at taproottheatre.org, by phone 206.781.9707 (Tue-Sat, noon-5:00 PM) or in person at 204 N 85th St. Ticket prices range from \$15-50 with discounts available for students, seniors and active military. Discounts are available for groups of 8 or more by calling 206.781.9708 or by visiting taproottheatre.org/group-sales.

David Hsieh (ReAct Theatre's Founding Artistic Director) and **Scott Nolte** (Taproot Theatre's *Baskerville*) team up for the first time to helm this inconvenient comedy.

The cast includes **Obadiah Freeman** (*Shrill*) as Rich/Mr. Lee/Mike/Alex, **Parker Kennedy** (ReAct's *Perfect Arrangement*) as Jung, **Lia Lee** (ReAct Theatre's *The Last Five Years*) as Janet, **James Yi** (*UnREAL*, *Kim's Convenience*) as Appa and **Annie Yim** (Seattle Children's Theatre's *The Journal of Ben Uchida: Citizen 13559*) as Umma.

Once *Kim's Convenience* closes for business, Steve Martin and Edie Brickell's musical *Bright Star* runs July 10 through August 17.

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE

Post-Play Discussions: TTC staff and cast members will join the audience to discuss the play and its production process. Post-play discussions are held after every Wednesday performance (excluding Preview) and after the Midweek Matinee performances on May 21 and June 12 at 2:00 PM and May 29 at 10:30 AM.

Pay What You Can (PWYC): May 22 at 7:30 PM; a limited number of \$10 tickets are available at noon, tickets may be purchased in person or by phone (card fees may apply). Beginning at 5:00 PM, tickets are name-your-own-price; these tickets may be purchased in person only. Limit 4 tickets per person. Seating for PWYC performances is General Admission, there is no reserved seating. If you have accessible seating needs please call the Box Office directly.

Senior Matinees: May 21 (*post-play discussion*) & June 12 (*post-play discussion*) at 2:00 PM; Our Senior Matinee program provides anyone aged 62 and older with an affordable way to participate in live theatre in convenient daytime performance.

Intergenerational Matinee: May 29 (*guided post-play discussion*) at 10:30 AM; With \$10 student/chaperone tickets, play guides and a guided post-play discussion, our Intergenerational Matinee enhances student education, providing theatre as a tool and springboard for learning, growth and communication.

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KIM'S CONVENIENCE FACT SHEET

WHAT: Taproot Theatre Company presents Ins Choi's *Kim's Convenience*. *Enter Kim's Convenience store and meet the Kims, a loving, if imperfect, Korean family making their way in Toronto. As they face an uncertain future Appa (dad), Umma (mom), their unmarried daughter Janet and disappointing son Jung learn to see each other in a new light. This hilarious and heartwarming story reminds us that family isn't always convenient, but it might be the best deal out there.*

WHEN: May 15 – June 22, 2019 • Wed/Thur, 7:30 PM; Fri/Sat, 8:00 PM; Sat matinee, 2:00 PM

Dates to note:

Previews: May 15 and 16, 7:30 PM

Opening Night: May 17, 8:00 PM

Pay What You Can: May 22, 7:30 PM

Midweek Matinees: May 21 at 2:00 PM (*limited availability, post-play discussion*), May 29 at 10:30 AM (*guided post-play discussion*) and June 12 at 2:00 PM (*post-play discussion*).

Post-Play Discussions: Wednesday nights (excluding Preview) following performances and after all Midweek Matinees.

WHERE: Taproot Theatre Company's Jewell Mainstage Theatre, 204 N 85th St, Seattle, WA 98103

TICKETS: Tickets are available online at taproottheatre.org, by phone 206.781.9707 (Tue-Sat, noon-5:00 PM) or in person at 204 N 85th St. Ticket prices range from \$15-50 with discounts available for students, seniors and active military. Discounts are available for groups of 8 or more by calling 206.781.9708 or by visiting taproottheatre.org/group-sales.

AGE RECOMMENDATION: 14+, some language and innuendo

CAST (*In alphabetical order*)

Obadiah Freeman	<i>Rich, Mr. Lee, Mike, Alex</i>
Parker Kennedy	<i>Jung</i>
Lia Lee	<i>Janet</i>
James Yi*	<i>Appa</i>
Annie Yim	<i>Umma</i>

PRODUCTION

David Hsieh

Co-Director

Scott Nolte	<i>Co-Director</i>
Pete Rush	<i>Costume Design</i>
Amanda Sweger	<i>Lighting Design</i>
Mark Lund	<i>Scenic & Sound Design</i>
Madison Silva*	<i>Stage Manager</i>
Seayoung Yim & Mario Gomez	<i>Dramaturgs</i>
Dimitri Woods	<i>Dialect Coach</i>

**Member of Actor's Equity Association.*

PHOTOS: Press photos are available online at <http://taproottheatre.org/for-the-press/> > Jewell Mainstage Theatre > Kim's Convenience. *(This link is not to be published.)*

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Support for Taproot Theatre Company's 2019 Jewell Mainstage Season is generously provided by 4Culture, ArtsFund, the Seattle Office of Arts & Culture and Verity Credit Union.

Taproot Theatre Company is a professional, non-profit theatre company with a multi-faceted production program. Founded in 1976, Taproot Theatre serves the Pacific Northwest with Jewell Mainstage Productions, Isaac Studio Theatre Productions, Touring Productions and the Acting Studio. Taproot Theatre Company creates theatre experiences to brighten the spirit, engage the mind and deepen the understanding of the world around us while inspiring imagination, conversation and hope. Taproot Theatre Company is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), Theatre Puget Sound (TPS) and Phinney Ridge Neighborhood Association (PNA).

Scott Nolte, *Producing Artistic Director*
Karen Lund, *Associate Artistic Director*
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