

Chicago International Puppet Theater Festival presents

## Little Uprisings:

### *My Night in the Planetarium*

Based on the book by Innosanto Nagara

US/Boston

Free Neighborhood Tour, January 19-22, 2023:

Segundo Ruiz Belvis Cultural Center

Marshall Field Garden Apartments / Art on Sedgwick

Navy Pier

ETA Creative Arts Foundation

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## CREATIVE TEAM

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**Tanya Nixon-Silberg,** *Performer, Lead Writer, Puppeteer*  
**Little Uprisings**

**Innosanto Nagara** *Book Author & Illustrator, Voiceover Narrator*

**Sarah Nolen,** *Production Designer & Lead Builder, Co-Writer,*  
**Puppet Motion** *Technical Director, Sound Editor*

**Roxanna Myhrum** *Stage Director, Dramaturg*

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## ABOUT

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Best-selling children's book author Innosanto Nagara's true story of art and social protest comes to life as a dynamic pop-up puppet show. Created and performed by fellow artist/activist Tanya Nixon-Silberg, the show transports audiences to Jakarta in the 1970s, where 7-year-old Inno learns firsthand how a play has the power to spark a resistance movement. Featuring designs by Sarah Nolen, the story is brought to life with a rich soundscape, visual transformations, and kid-centered lessons about social justice. In keeping with Little Uprising's mission, the show invites frequent and active audience participation.

*Recommended for all ages 5 and up.*

*This production was supported through the Puppet Showplace Theater Incubator Program, the National Endowment for the Arts, the Boston Foundation's Live Arts Boston Program and the Jim Henson Foundation.*

**Tanya Nixon-Silberg** (she/her) is a Black mother, native Bostonian, and the founder of Little Uprisings. Her primary artistic identities lie in puppetry and storytelling through the lens of liberation in childhood, womanhood and motherhood. Tanya's puppetry works include *My Night in the Planetarium* which she developed over 2 years as an Incubator Artist at Puppet Showplace Theater; *Feeling Good = Feeling Black = Feeling Free*, an exploration of joy in Black childhood developed as part of PST's Creative Residency for Black Puppeteers; and recently, "Play for Change," a series of explorations for family audiences developed in partnership with The Gottabees. Tanya befriended Innosanto Nagara after using his book *A is for Activist* to engage young kids in social justice action. *My Night in The Planetarium* emerged from Tanya's desire to bring Inno's book to life through puppetry. You'll mostly find Tanya learning from her 10 year old, going to family circus, and dreaming up joyful ways to engage children in racial justice. You can find out more at [littleuprisings.org](http://littleuprisings.org).

**Sarah Nolen** (she/her) is a puppeteer and filmmaker originally from Austin, Texas. As Puppet Showplace Theater's resident artist, she performs regularly for youth and family audiences across New England and teaches puppetry in camps, workshops, residencies, and evening adult classes. Her three original productions, *Lisa the Wise*, *Judy Saves the Day*, and *The Fairy Tailor* have all toured extensively in the Northeast and beyond. In addition to her own shows, Sarah has done puppet builds for Netflix, Suffolk University, Boston College, and more. Sarah earned her BFA in film from Southern Methodist University, and an MFA in Puppet Arts from the University of Connecticut. You can find out more about Sarah's work at [Puppetmotion.com](http://Puppetmotion.com).

