



# Kimmel Cultural Campus

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Emmy nominated author, podcaster, comedian, beauty guru @JVN brings the laughs, heart, and a killer gymnastics routine to the Miller Theater ON @KimmelCC (Twitter) @KimmelCulturalCampus (Facebook/Instagram) on 10/21! More info @kimmelculturalcampus.org

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## KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS PRESENTS JONATHAN VAN NESS IN HIS SECOND WORLDWIDE COMEDY TOUR *IMAGINARY LIVING ROOM OLYMPIAN* OCTOBER 21, 2022

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** (Philadelphia, PA, September 19, 2022) — The Kimmel Cultural Campus presents Emmy nominated television personality, *The New York Times* best-selling author, podcaster, comedian, activist, and hairstylist to the stars, **Jonathan Van Ness**, on Friday, October 21, 2022, at Miller Theater (formerly the Merriam Theater) at 8:00 p.m. With his newest show, *Imaginary Living Room Olympian*, Van Ness will take you on a journey in a stunning night of comedy, self-expression, discovery, life lessons, and of course, a bedazzling gymnastics routine.

Famed for his role on the Emmy Award-winning Netflix reboot series *Queer Eye*, where he shines as the hair guru and self-care advocate, *Imaginary Living Room Olympian* follows Van Ness' first worldwide comedy tour, the wildly successful *Jonathan Van Ness: Road to Beijing*, which saw him perform to sold-out theatres in 40 cities in the US, Canada, United Kingdom, Australia, and New Zealand.

"A hairstylist by trade turned public personality, writer, comedian, and entertainer, Jonathan Van Ness shares personal experience as a HIV+, nonbinary truth-teller and strives to make this world a better, more equitable, and funnier place," said Frances Egler, Senior Director of Programming and Presentations on the Kimmel Cultural Campus. "It is our pleasure to host him on our Campus for the very first time for a refreshingly new and inclusive stage experience."

Jonathan Van Ness (JVN) is a 2022 Primetime Emmy nominee for Outstanding Host for a Reality or Competition Program along with his *Queer Eye* cast mates for the second year in a row. JVN also starred on the Emmy nominated web series *Gay of Thrones*, a witty social commentary series recapping HBO's *Game of Thrones*. JVN has written a memoir *Over the Top: A Raw Journey to Self-Love* (NYT Best Seller), a children's book *Peanut Goes for the Gold*, and a collection of essays *Love that Story: Observations from a Gorgeously Queer Life*.

He continues to work on his passion project, his podcast *Getting Curious with Jonathan Van Ness*, a weekly exploration of all the things JVN is curious about. Featured guests have ranged from celebrities and pop culture icons to professors, experts, and activists – including Michelle Kwan, Audra McDonald, Gabrielle Union, Sec. Julian Castro, Aly Raisman, Stacey Abrams, and many more. The podcast was named one of the Top Podcasts of 2018 by *Time Magazine*, won the iHeart Radio Award for Best LGBTQ Podcast, and was a 2020 People’s Choice Award nominee for Best Pop Podcast.

Having been very vocal about activism and political beliefs, *Queer Eye* cast JVN, Bobby Berk, Tan France, and Antoni Porowski visited Nancy Pelosi and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez to discuss the Equality Act, a bill that would add sexual orientation and gender identity to the list of classes protected in the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

His new comedy tour, *Imaginary Living Room Olympian* is currently running in the US and abroad. To learn more about Jonathan Van Ness, visit his website at <https://jonathanvanness.com/>.

Other featured upcoming performances on the Kimmel Cultural Campus include **Nick Mason’s Saucerful of Secrets: *The Echoes Tour*** (September 23, 2022, Miller Theater); **Zakir Khan Live** (September 25, 2022, Perelman Theater); ***Wheel of Fortune Live!*** (October 6, 2022, Academy of Music); **Daniel Howell: *We’re All Doomed!*** (October 20, 2022, Miller Theater) and **“Weird AI” Yankovic: *The Unfortunate Return of the Ridiculously Self-Indulgent, Ill-Advised Vanity Tour*** (October 28, 2022, Miller Theater).

#### **Tickets**

Tickets can be purchased by calling 215-893-1999 or online at [www.kimmelculturalcampus.org](http://www.kimmelculturalcampus.org). In-person ticket sales can be conducted daily from 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. at the Academy of Music Box Office, located at 240 S. Broad Street. See [www.kimmelculturalcampus.org](http://www.kimmelculturalcampus.org) for more information.

**Jonathan Van Ness: *Imaginary Living Room Olympian***  
Kimmel Cultural Campus’ Miller Theater  
October 21, 2022, 8:00 p.m.

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#### **KIMMEL CULTURAL CAMPUS**

Located in the heart of Center City, Philadelphia, our mission is to engage the region's diverse communities with art through performance and education. Our Cultural Campus serves more than 1-million guests per year and includes Kimmel Center for the Performing Arts (Verizon Hall, Perelman Theater, and SEI Innovation Studio), the Academy of Music, and the Miller Theater (formerly the Merriam Theater) – representing more than 160 years of rich history for the performing arts along Philadelphia’s Avenue of the Arts. We are home to The Philadelphia Orchestra and seven esteemed Resident Companies: Opera Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Ballet, The Philly POPS, PHILADANCO, The Chamber Orchestra of Philadelphia, The Philadelphia Chamber Music Society, and Curtis Institute of Music. With nearly 9,000 seats per night, we are the region's most impactful performing arts center, and the second largest in the country. Our Cultural Campus serves as a preeminent and inclusive place to enjoy exceptional experiences that reflect the spirit of our region by cultivating a creative and socially responsible environment where our community shares experiences that are delivered with pride, integrity, and respect.

As a 501 c 3 nonprofit organization, we collaborate on, present, and produce a broad range of relevant and meaningful events, we serve as an active gathering space for social and community events, we educate the region's young people through access to quality arts experiences, and we provide support to artists in the creation of new work. Read Kimmel Cultural Campus' vision statement, world view, and mission statement [here](#). Learn more about our commitment to diversity, equity, and inclusion and how it encompasses our mission, co-workers, and programs [here](#).

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For photography, please visit <https://kcccpres.smugmug.com>