



I'm Ready
PRODUCTIONS

PRESENTS:

"Cheaper to Keep Her"

JE'CARYOUS JOHNSON'S
Cheaper To KEEP HER



Prepared For Our Faith Partners



I'm Ready
PRODUCTIONS
LETTER FROM THE PRODUCERS

Greetings!

I'm Ready Productions, Inc. has a mission to revolutionize the film industry through thought-provoking, entertaining and inspirational plays and films. In each production, we seek to effectively inject biblically based messages in a way that reaches the heart of people and preserves the integrity of biblical text, messages and the Body of Christ. We ask for your partnership and support in bringing uplifting entertainment to your parishioners and the Body of Christ across the nation.

When you change what an individual looks at, you change the individual. I'm Ready productions are based on the power in relational unity and the biblical principles of love, respect, family bonds, and treating others as you would like to be treated.

With your partnership, we can close the gap between the secular entertainment world and the Christian faith. Our goal is to become dominant Christian producers in the entertainment industry.

We ask that you support the production of positive portrayals of urban characters as they tackle the life issues of trust, faith and love. This fall, please invite your parishioners to see the two productions we will nationally tour simultaneously, *Cheaper to Keep Her* and *Marriage Material*. Tour dates and additional details are on the pages that follow.

We are happy to arrange for special reserved seating for your church, recognize you in our collateral and from the stage, and discuss any additional thoughts you may have on bringing Christian entertainment to men, women and children across the nation and, eventually, the globe.

Sincerely,

Je'Caryous Johnson
CEO and Executive Producer

Gary Guidry
Executive Producer and President



Dear Pastors,

From pastor to pastor, this production will complement your emphasis on the value of love and family. Cheaper to Keep Her is inspiring, hilarious and thought-provoking.

It is not every day that we come across entertainment that is worthy of support and I do not lend my name lightly. However, I'm Ready Productions has 15 years of experience in producing fine works, one after the other. Je'Caryous Johnson and Gary Guidry have not wavered in their message. From the heart, they believe in the power of relationships.

At a time when our children see many negative images of in the African American community, it is refreshing to experience an intelligent, uplifting play that is masterfully written, produced and acted.

I'm am available to you should you have any questions in this regard.

Sincerely,

Bishop Bady
Harvest Time Church
Jacqui Goudeau
Church Administrator
281.877.8888



Greetings Friends,

I thoroughly enjoyed Je'Caryous Johnson's Cheaper to Keep Her.

I'm Ready Productions has a proven track record of producing quality work worthy of support. I found the messages to be solid and uplifting, not to mention, entertaining and extremely funny.

Cheers to Je'Caryous and Gary. May God continue to bless you in your endeavors!

Sincerely,

Bishop James Dixon
The Community Of Faith
Crystal Jackson
Church Administrator
713.688.2900



Greetings Pastor or Christian Friend,

Please allow this letter to serve as a commendation to the producers and recommendation to you, in support of Je'Caryous Johnson's new play, "**Cheaper To Keep Her.**" I've never publicly endorsed a play, but I enjoyed the play immensely, and feel you will too.

In this age of morally corrupt television, movies and stage presentations, I found **Cheaper To Keep Her**, to be a sincere breath of fresh air in a vacuum of family entertainment needs.

I therefore wholeheartedly encourage you to see the play for yourself, and bring others of your church and personal families to enjoy it as well.

Kudos to Je'Caryous, Gary and the entire I'm Ready family, for a job well done!

May God continue to bless you and your ministry.

Sincerely,

Dr. Gregg J. Patrick, Pastor
The Bridge
Southwest Community Christian Center
Cathy Mason
Church Administrator
281-983-LOVE

FAN TESTIMONIALS

"I thoroughly enjoyed it. I will be sharing it with my friends. Keep the faith, but keep God in it. Honor our Lord and Savior and you will go far."

"My husband and I attended this play (celebrating 25th wedding anniversary this year). This was the first time we had seen any of Je'Caryous Johnson's plays, and it will not be our last. I thought the plot was great, the play was well written, the entire cast was beautiful, phenomenal and funny, but the message was strong about the power of love."

"Excellent production. I see that the anointing, operating in your gifts and favor on one's life, can make anything look easy. I truly enjoyed myself and thank you for sharing your gifts".

"It is my family tradition to take the young ones out on dates. I've done this for over twenty years. I always start out with dinner at a great place and finish with a good play. My objective is to expose them to cultural activities, show them how they are to be treated, give them a memorable experience, and make them smile. I always manage to see that they meet part of the cast. This makes their day. On Sat. March 20, 2010, I took my girls to the Warner Theater in Wash., DC to see Cheaper To Keep Her. This is indeed a quality production. It has a spiritual message, is extremely funny, and very well acted."

"I purchased 10 tickets and took my grandmother, mother, aunts, and friends on a "Girls Night Out" excursion. The play was worth the money. The cast was GREAT!"

"The play was wonderful! It is worth your time and effort to go to enjoy and support. Yes, the play is a must see! The acting and the singing were superb. It's one of the better plays I have attended. I would not hesitate to go again."

"We went to see the show and I just have to say it was fantastic. I'm Ready Productions always comes with its A-Game giving us a funny, uplifting, show."

"Big thanks to Je'Caryous and Gary for bringing my family and friends so much joy and laughter! They will never forget that night and I will always be a loyal supporter."



I'm Ready
PRODUCTIONS
FANS SPEAK





PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

MEDIA CONTACT:

Margo Williams Handy, MWH Public Relations
281.213.9554, 832.492.2407 or margo@mwhpublicrelations.com

I'm Ready Productions and Foxy Brown Productions in Association with L. Richardson Entertainment Present Je'Caryous Johnson's "Cheaper to Keep Her" National Tour

HOUSTON (April 19, 2010) – The hit comedy stage play *Je'Caryous Johnson's Cheaper to Keep Her* is coming to a city near you. Executive Producers Je'Caryous Johnson and Gary Guidry, founders of I'm Ready Productions, Inc., and Foxy Brown Productions in Association with L. Richardson Entertainment announced today the 2010 national tour dates.

"Je'Caryous and I are honored to work again with Vivica A. Fox and Lita Richardson on a production," said Gary Guidry, executive producer and president of I'm Ready Productions. "As co-producers, Vivica and Lita bring great ideas and creative innovation to the project."

Cheaper to Keep Her is the twelfth play in a series of box office breaking, critically acclaimed stage plays from NAACP Award-winning writer and director Je'Caryous Johnson. *Cheaper to Keep Her* stars R&B sensation Brian McKnight and multi-faceted actress Vivica A. Fox. *Cheaper to Keep Her* also stars the debonair heartthrob Christian Keyes (lead actor - Tyler Perry's *Madea Goes to Jail*), comedian Jonathan Slocumb, and comedian Gary "G-Thang" Johnson.

R&B crooner Brian McKnight is not only receiving rave reviews for his acting, but his performance of classic hits and new songs is thrilling crowds.

"We are very thankful to the fans and to everyone who came out to see *Cheaper to Keep Her* in the debut cities," said Je'Caryous Johnson, CEO and chairman of I'm Ready Productions. "The positive feedback was overwhelming. So much so, we have listened and are bringing the play to multiple cities across the nation. I hope everyone continues to enjoy the play and are blessed by the message."

Cheaper to Keep Her is the story of a seemingly perfect marriage in the midst of collapse. In *Cheaper to Keep Her*, Raymond Mays (Brian McKnight) splits with his wife Morgan Mays (Vivica A. Fox). When Raymond hires his best friend Joey to be his lawyer, and Morgan hires her catty cousin Koren as counsel, a legal boxing match explodes over their divorce. When Morgan walks away with everything, Raymond and Joey scheme to stop paying alimony by getting Morgan hitched again. But did Raymond ever stop loving Morgan? Can he stand to see her with someone else? As ex-husband and ex-love face off with each other, broken hearts will get revenge, karma could kill, and infidelity can become infectious as hearts and marital matrimony collide only to discover whether it's cheaper to keep her.

Play-goers have expressed appreciation for the play's entertainment value and message:

"I saw Cheaper to Keep Her here in Washington, DC on its opening night. Last night was the first time I laughed from the soul and honestly enjoyed myself!"

"The play was off the hook! One of the best plays I have seen this year!"

(more)

Je'Caryous Johnson Presents: Cheaper to Keep Her
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"That was absolutely the best play I've ever seen, hands down."

"This play was AWESOME. My boyfriend and I really enjoyed this one. Overall the show was really good and it helped my boyfriend and I appreciate what we have and reflect on what is really important."

"My husband and I are having serious marriage problems. After seeing the play, we had a heart-to-heart talk and are now no longer considering divorce. Thanks for literally saving my marriage!"

About I'm Ready Productions, Inc.

Founded in 1995, I'm Ready Productions ("I'm Ready") is a national, minority owned, theatre, television, feature film and music production company based in Houston. Owned by 2007 NAACP Trailblazer award winners Je'Caryous Johnson and Gary Guidry, I'm Ready is known for its soul-stirring plays. Breaking box office records, more than two million people in over 50 cities have turned out for I'm Ready plays. From turning bestselling African-American novels into plays, to approaching Hollywood's hottest stars for its productions, I'm Ready's approach is fearless and outside-of-the-box, changing the face of American touring theatre. Visit www.imreadyproductions.com for more information.

#

ION ONLY

Play opening draws the stars

THE stars were out Thursday at the Founders Room at the Hobby Center for a private reception celebrating the opening of the play *It's Cheaper to Keep Her*, by Houston playwright **Je'Caryous Johnson**.

The play's stars, including actresses **Vivica Robinson**, comedian **Jonathan Slocumb** and R&B crooner **Brian McKnight**, mingled with about 50 invited guests.

They sampled tasty appetizers prepared by chef **Mark Hawkins**. On the menu: boudin balls, cinnamon

A. Actress **Wendy Raquel Robinson** and comedian **Jonathan Slocumb**

B. Singer **Brian McKnight** and playwright **Je'Caryous Johnson**

C. **Kym and Willard Jackson**

D. **Percy Creuzot** and actress **Vivica Fox**

E. Actress **Vivica Fox** and **Vicky Pink**

pork lettuce spoons, smoked chicken canapés and cheesecake brownies. The play, which began its run in Charlotte, N.C., earlier this month, closes in Dallas in May.

Also in the crowd: Former NFL player **Santana Dodson**, **Kym** and **Willard Jackson**, sisters **Lindsey** and **Ashley Vignaud**, **Elwyn Lee** and



TONY GAINES PHOTOS



daughter **Erica Lee**, **Gerald Womack**, **Duni Hebron**, **Ty Houston**, **Cheryl** and **Percy Creuzot**, **Bishop**

Shelton Bady, **Willie Miles Jr.** and the **Rev. Reginald DeVaughn Sr.**

— LLOYD GITE



I'm Ready Productions, Inc. ("I'm Ready") is a company on the move. With eight blockbuster plays, and a host of critically acclaimed productions to its credit, the Houston-based minority-owned theater and music production company is quickly proving it's a force to be reckoned with in the entertainment industry.

Founded in 1995 by 2007 NAACP Trailblazer winners, Je'Caryous Johnson and Gary Guidry, I'm Ready is known for its blockbuster, soul-stirring plays and to date, I'm Ready fields daily requests from promoters anxious to bring an I'm Ready production to their city.

What makes I'm Ready so successful? A no-fear, outside-the-box, approach to bringing the best of entertainment to the stage. Founders Johnson and Guidry boldly go where no one had dared go before. From turning bestselling African-American novels into plays, to approaching box-office superstars (Denzel Washington was the first actor the duo ever approached about starring in one of their plays), I'm Ready Productions seeks to tackle the seemingly insurmountable. And in doing so, have changed the face of American touring theater.

"For a long time, there was a negative connotation associated with black theater," said Guidry. "So when we came into the marketplace with a new approach, something fresh and clean that didn't come with the stereotype of gospel/chitlin circuit or gospel/low production, it brought a sense of legitimacy to the entire genre."

After I'm Ready successfully transformed books from authors Eric Jerome Dickey and Michael Baisden into best-selling stage plays, America started to take notice.

"Not only were the fans turning out in record-breaking numbers, but the media started to recognize the difference between gospel low-budget theatre and the things that I'm Ready was doing. So we started the trend of urban theatre," Johnson said.

With each I'm Ready production, the demographics of attendees began to change.

"We had book clubs coming out, people with Master's degrees, and more middle class and upper class people coming out and actually enjoying the shows as well as those who became regular theater go-ers," Johnson added. "I just think that the overall reaction to it was a breath of fresh air. It was something different and it just re-energized the market. When gospel theatre was starting to take a downward turn it really re-energized the market place."

Among I'm Ready's successful national tours: Men Cry in the Dark, The Maintenance Man, Friends and Lovers, Cheaters, Confessions, Men, Money & Gold Diggers, Whatever She Wants, Three Ways to Get a Husband and Cheaper to Keep Her.

While I'm Ready continues to produce blockbuster plays, they're branching out into other forms of entertainment. The DVDs of their shows were already a popular staple among fans attending the shows, but now, the company has secured an unprecedented DVD distribution deals with Image Entertainment and Universal Music Group. All of their DVDs are now available in retail outlets nationwide and at video rental stores like Wal-Mart and Blockbuster. They are currently working on several television and feature film projects. And as Johnson and Guidry have proven time and time again, the sky's the beginning when it comes to where they go from here.

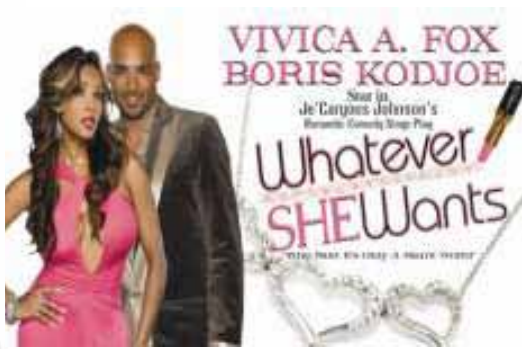


I'm Ready PRODUCTIONS COMPANY HIGHLIGHTS

More than 2,000,000 patrons
have attended I'm Ready
Productions stage plays!

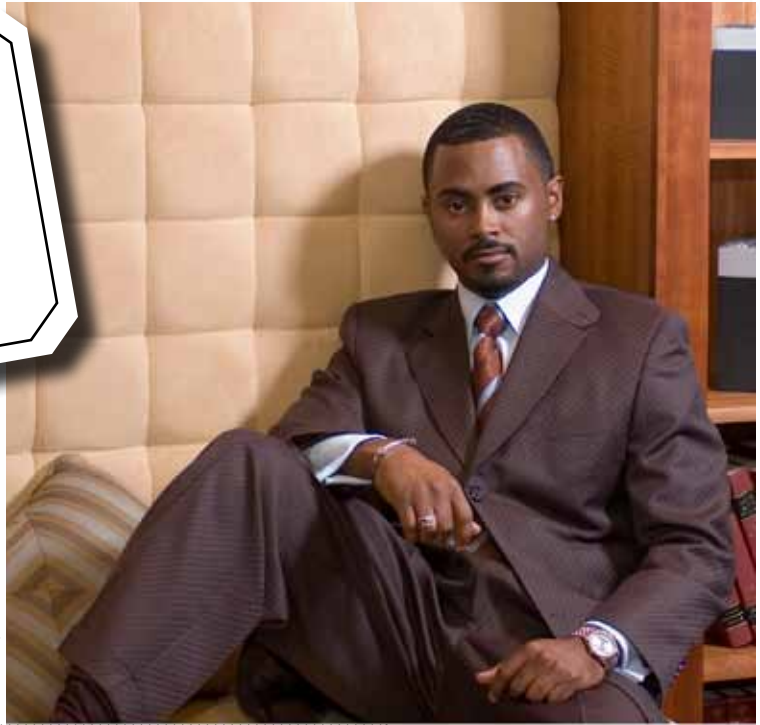
COMING THIS FALL

- Recipient – NAACP 2007 Trailblazer Award
- Friends & Lovers nominated for three NAACP Theater awards
- One of the highest grossing urban touring and production companies
- First touring company to adapt an African-American romance novel for the stage
- Produced nine national bestselling plays
- Four-time national championship playwrights
- Youngest production company to garner national media
- First company to produce a novel and a play at the same time
- First company to tour 2 plays simultaneously
- Secured unprecedented DVD distribution deal with Image Entertainment
- Received personal request from the estate of Sammy Davis Jr. to collaborate with Quincy Jones on the Broadway musical, The Life and Music of Sammy Davis Jr.



I'm Ready
PRODUCTIONS
JE'CARYOUS JOHNSON

CEO EXECUTIVE PRODUCER



Je'Caryous Johnson is executive producer and CEO of I'm Ready Productions, a national, minority owned, theatre, television, feature film and music production company based in Houston. I'm Ready is known for its soul-stirring plays. Breaking box office records, more than two million people in over 50 cities have turned out for I'm Ready plays. Johnson is making his mark in the entertainment arena, becoming one of the most sought-after playwrights in the industry. His entertaining, thought-provoking scripts have attracted some of the biggest names in the business.

Johnson also is the founder of the Je'Caryous Johnson Foundation, a nonprofit organization. The Foundation encompasses the Je'Caryous Johnson Acting Studio, a place for education, entertainment, and entrepreneurship. It brings Hollywood to Houston so that Houston's youth and arts community can experience the magic of theatre, television, and film firsthand and have the skill set and business acumen necessary to better pursue their artistic dreams.

A Houston native, Johnson rose above negative childhood labels to receive many adult accolades and accomplishments, which are indicative of his determined nature. The four-time national championship playwright received the NAACP 2007 Trailblazer Award and is the youngest producer/playwright to garner national media attention. He was the first person to adapt an African-American romance novel into a stage play. He was also the first person to write and produce a novel and a play, simultaneously.

Thirty-two-year-old Johnson was chosen by the estate of Sammy Davis Jr. to write "Sammy Davis Jr. – The World's Greatest Entertainer" (Las Vegas 2007). The distinction gives him another first – the youngest creator of a Vegas show. He will also make history again, with his upcoming collaboration with Brian McKnight to produce a soundtrack, play, and novel.

Johnson has over 14 years of experience in the performing arts, training with such theater masters as Edward Albee, Jose Quintero, and Sir Peter Hall. He has directed some high-profile actors, including Billy Dee Williams, Richard Roundtree and Vivica A. Fox.

Johnson's multimedia empire continues to expand its reach. Up next for Johnson is the release of more books including his nonfiction debut, "I'm a Good Man, You're a Good Woman ... Why Can't We Find Each Other?" "Good Man," published March 2010. "30 Days to Greatness. My Personal Journey," is a personal journaling guide with Johnson's inspirational quotes and daily guides to greatness. True to his never-quit spirit, Johnson is gearing up to shoot I'm Ready's first movie, "The Marrying Kind."



I'm Ready
PRODUCTIONS
GARY GUIDRY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER AND PRESIDENT

Business is in his blood. That's why making the transition from accountant to President and COO of I'm Ready Productions was easy for Gary Guidry. The 36-year-old currently directs the business side of I'm Ready and oversees its musical operations.

Guidry, who was a child music prodigy, decided to forgo his love of music for his love of business and enrolled in Texas Southern University in Houston. He went on to receive a Business Administration degree, with a concentration in Accounting. After graduating, Gary spent four years as an accountant for a safety supply company and went on to become a manager for a major oil and gas company.

But, even though he was busy dazzling the business world, that passion for music never left him. He continued to play drums all over the country, and dabbled in other music ventures.

Although he was known to throw a few parties during his college days and put on numerous events, he didn't envision making a living with such productions, until Je'Caryous – his nephew – called with the idea to form I'm Ready Productions.

In addition to his academic training and experience, Guidry has written, arranged, produced, and scored music for multiple theatrical productions, including Heaven's Child, Ain't Misbehavin', Men Cry in the Dark, The Maintenance Man, and Friends and Lovers. As president and COO of I'm Ready Productions, he also directs the music production operations. He has worked with some of the music industry's most successful talents, such as Grammy Award winner Regina Belle, Gerald Levert, Syleena Johnson, Christopher Williams, Brian McKnight, Monifa, Rhona Bennet, Tank, Ginuwine and Avant.



CHEAPER TO KEEP HER SYNOPSIS

When a married couple is ready to call it quits, they always want different things. Raymond Mays (Brian McKnight) wants a divorce and Morgan Mays (Vivica A. Fox) wants alimony. When the fed-up judge bangs her gavel, she decides Morgan doesn't deserve half... she deserves it all. Morgan gets everything—the house, Raymond's retirement, and some would say even his self-esteem, leaving him with nothing but the thought; it would have been cheaper to keep her. Raymond has two options to prevent him from paying alimony: kill Morgan or get her married off to someone else. As ex-husband and ex-love face off with each other, broken hearts will get revenge and hearts and marital matrimony will collide only to discover if it's easier to love her as his wife.



JE'CARYOUS JOHNSON'S
Cheaper To KEEP HER



CHEAPER TO KEEP HER TOUR 2010

Las Vegas NV	Planet Hollywood	September 18
Phoenix, AZ	Dodge Theater	September 19
Bakersfield, CA	Rabobank Theater	September 21
Fresno, CA	Saroyan Theatre	September 22
Oakland, CA	Paramount Theatre	September 23-25
Sacramento, CA	Memorial Auditorium	September 26
Los Angeles CA	The Wiltern	Sept 30 - Oct 2
San Diego, CA	Spreckles Theatre	October 3
Roanoke, VA	Roanoke Civic Center	October 6
Raleigh, NC	Memorial Auditorium	October 7
Greensboro, NC	War Memorial Auditorium	October 8
Portsmouth, VA	Willett Hall	October 9-10
Detroit, MI	Music Hall Center	October 12-17
Omaha, NE	Omaha Music Hal	October 19
Wichita, KS	Century II PAC	October 20
Kansas City MO	Music	October 21-22
St. Louis, MO	Chaifetz Arena	October 23
Nashville, TN	Tennessee PAC	October 24
Toronto, Canada	Massey Hal	October 26
Albany, NY	Palace Theater	October 27
Harrisburg,PA	The Forum	October 27
New Haven, CT	Shubert Theater	October 29 – 30
Boston, MA,	Wang Theater	October 31
Greenville, SC	Peace Center	November 2
Macon, GA	Macon Centreplex	November 3
Atlanta, GA	Atlanta Civic Center	November 4-6
Augusta, GA	Bell Auditorium	November 7
Philadelphia, PA	Merriam Theater	November 9-14
Youngstown.OH	Powers Auditorium	November 16
Toledo,OH	Stranahan Theater	November 17
Chicago, IL	Arie Crown Theatre	November 18-20
Baltimore, MD	Murphy Fines Arts Center at Morgan State	January 27-30, 2011

SPRING TOUR 2011

Little Rock, Memphis, Huntsville, Albany GA, Montgomery, Birmingham, Mobile, Jackson, Louisville, Shreveport, New Orleans, Baton Rouge, Jacksonville, Charleston, Cleveland, Youngstown, Columbus, Newark, New York, Albany NY, Boston, Tampa, Orlando, Miami



I'm Ready
PRODUCTIONS
HEADLINING CAST

I'm Ready's celebrity cast list represents a range of talent and experience.

Brian McKnight Vivica A. Fox Wendy Raquel Robinson
Richard Roundtree Robin Givens Boris Kodjoe Leon
Terri J. Vaughn Miguel Nunez Tank Essence Atkins
Shirley Murdock Lenny Williams Gerald Levert
Allen Payne James Avery Mari Marrow Kelly Price
Tommy Ford Chico Benymon Michael Jai White
Tichina Arnold Karen Malina White