



POWERFUL STORIES. BOLDLY TOLD. 40 YEARS STRONG.

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For Immediate Release
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KICK OFF THE HOLIDAY SEASON WITH AMERICAN STAGE!

**GIVING TUESDAY. HOLIDAY. IMPROV. COMEDY. CABARET.
+ SPOTLIGHT SERIES**

**In addition to their current Mainstage production,
MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING running through Dec.10th, they present the following
programming:**

St. Petersburg, FL – Beyond their Mainstage, American Stage offers additional, dynamic programming for audience enjoyment throughout November and December. Featuring live music, creative storytelling, improv comedy, and post-show conversation in our lobby café. And they are proud to announce the return of their Holiday Series, **IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY** presented on their Mainstage for a limited run of 11 shows. These programs bring together local performers and guests to celebrate and unite the Tampa Bay community. **In addition, American Stage will have a special announcement on Giving Tuesday on November 28th.**

GIVING TUESDAY

Join us on November 28 at 5PM for a very special Happy Hour.

At 6PM, Producing Artistic Director, Stephanie Gularte will announce an unprecedented and bold new initiative that powers the future of American Stage and our commitment to giving back to the community. Stay for a special behind-the-scenes tour and stick around for our Community Conversations at 7PM!

COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS | 7PM

SPECIAL GUEST: Dr. Jessica Keith, PhD, Clinical Psychology. Specializes in female veterans' affairs.
FREE and open to the public.

Join us for a Community Conversation about female independence. American Stage's production of **MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING** is set in the 1940s when gender roles were shifting as men returned home from WWII.

ON MAINSTAGE

MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING running through December 10th.

Added "PAY WHAT YOU CAN" performance Tuesday November 21st at 7pm.

HOLIDAY SERIES ON THE MAINSTAGE

IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY

Limited run! December 16th-December 24th

Adapted by Joe Landry

Directed by Stephanie Gularte

Featuring: Jim Sorensen, Colleen Cherry, Alison Burns, Dean Wick, Richard B. Watson, and Kody Hopkins.

This beloved American holiday classic comes to captivating life as a live 1940's radio broadcast. With the help of an ensemble that brings dozens of characters to the stage, and live, on-stage sound effects, the story of idealistic George Bailey unfolds as he considers a world in which he'd never been born one fateful Christmas Eve.

Pricing: \$30 single tickets / FAMILY 4-PACK: \$100 (SAVE \$20)

Sunday, November 26th @ 7PM – ONE NIGHT ONLY

SHAKESPEARE'S LOVERS (STORYTELLING/CABARET/COMEDY)

Featuring performances by: Colleen Cherry, Roxanne Fay, Stephanie Gularte, Benjamin T. Ismail, Jeremy Douglass, Becca McCoy, Michael Raver, Jim Sorensen, Katrina Stevenson, Brock Vickers, Richard B. Watson and more!

A one-night only special event in celebration of love! 'If music be the food of love, play on.' Spend an evening with some of Shakespeare's most memorable lovers through story and song. Enjoy a glass of wine with your sweetheart in the American Stage lobby cabaret while taking in performances of Shakespeare's most romantic sonnets and scenes from MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING and TAMING OF THE SHREW and other Bard favorite.

Pricing: \$15 advance / \$20 door

Sunday, November 19th @ 7PM

HOUSE TEAMS LIVE! (IMPROV/COMEDY)

Second and third Sundays of every month

Featuring: Mixed Emojis, Possible Side Effects, and T.B.D.

American Stage Improv House Teams present a night of outrageous improvised comedy. Laugh out loud with four house teams with their Upright Citizens Brigade style improv! Plus rotating guest teams from across Tampa Bay! Plus one indie/community team will open for each House Teams Live! show on a rotating basis.

Pricing: \$10 advance / \$12 door

Sunday, December 3rd @ 7PM

HAWK & WAYNE: KARAOKE-PROV (IMPROV/COMEDY)

First Sunday of every month

Now in their 9th season, this hilarious "Best of the Bay" duo takes unscripted comedy to a whole new level! This season join in with KARAOKE-PROV, the ridiculous and totally made-up stories behind the music.

Pricing: \$10 advance / \$12 door

Sunday, December 10th @ 7PM

HOUSE TEAMS LIVE! (IMPROV/COMEDY)

Second and third Sundays of every month

Featuring: Troupe X, As Per Usual (now in their 2nd season with us) and The Wet Bandits

American Stage Improv House Teams present a night of outrageous improvised comedy. Laugh out loud with four house teams with their Upright Citizens Brigade style improv! Plus one indie/community team will open for each House Teams Live! show on a rotating basis.

Pricing: \$10 advance / \$12 door

Friday, December 15th @ 8PM

A VERY SWELL NOEL (HOLIDAY/CABARET)

Featuring: Michael Raabe and Sara DelBeato

"Hark the Herald Angels Swing" as American Stage brings you some "hep" holiday cheer. Crooner/jazz pianist Michael Raabe and chanteuse Sara DelBeato will shake and stir up some retro-tastic Christmas tunes that are guaranteed to make you 'merry and bright.'

Pricing: \$20 advance

Tickets & Information for above events at americanstage.org/beyond

TALKS & EVENTS

Visit americanstage.org/MUCHADO and click the **TALKS & EVENTS** tab for a full listing of events.

SPOTLIGHT SERIES in NOVEMBER

Our SPOTLIGHT series creates opportunities to take a deeper dive into the themes, artists and production elements of our mainstage plays. These events are held throughout the run of each production and encourage audience members to learn, connect, and engage with our powerful stories.

Sunday November 19th & 26th (Post-Performance)

Spotlight Series: CHATBACK – MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Stick around immediately following select performances to talk with the cast and other audience members while the experience of the play is fresh! Ask questions about the play, the characters, and the process, plus respond to the story and ideas aroused by the production. Free for ticket holders to the performance.

Tuesday November 28th at 7pm

Spotlight Series: COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS – MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

Great theatre inspires contemplation and challenges our assumptions while inviting us to come together for conversation and a deeper connection. From social and political hot-button issues to ethical dilemmas, American Stage's COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS dig deeper into the intriguing and sometimes provocative topics explored by our mainstage productions. Join us for a lively discussion with questions about the relevancy of the subject matter explored in the play.

Pricing: Free to the open public

COMING IN JANUARY

MAINSTAGE

January 24th through February 18th

American Legacy Series: A RAISIN IN THE SUN

Lorraine Hansberry's groundbreaking family drama is the first play in our American Legacy series. Dedicated to modern classics that lend historical perspective to stories from our past, this series seeks to draw a connection between our culture's history and the events of today.

Friday January 5th @ 8pm

AL DOWNING TAMPA BAY JAZZ presents Synia Carroll and Whitney James with La Lucha

January 11th through 14th

21ST CENTURY VOICES NEW PLAY FESTIVAL

A New Play Festival featuring live professionally staged readings of five new plays from five exceptional up-and-coming playwrights selected as a part of a national submission process to American Stage.

Sunday, January 7th @ 7PM

HAWK & WAYNE: KARAOKE-PROV (IMPROV/COMEDY)

Sunday January 14th @ 1pm

Spotlight Series: BEHIND THE SCENES on RAISIN IN THE SUN

Sunday, January 14th @ 7PM

HOUSE TEAMS LIVE! (IMPROV/COMEDY) at THE IBERIAN ROOSTER

Featuring: Early Bird Special, As Per Usual, and The Wet Bandits

January 19th-21st

AMERICAN SONGBOOK SERIES: FEATURING PAUL WILBORN & BLUE ROSES

I GET A KICK: A SINATRA CELEBRATION

Sunday, January 21st @ 7PM

HOUSE TEAMS LIVE! (IMPROV/COMEDY) at THE IBERIAN ROOSTER

Featuring: *Escape Aristans, Possible Side Effects, and TBD*

Sunday, January 28th @ 7PM

AMERICAN STORIES: BLOOD IS THICKER THAN WATER (STORYTELLING/CABARET/COMEDY)



EAT/DRINK/ENGAGE

This season come together for a drink, a bite, and good conversation in our lobby cafe.

PRE-SHOW

Arrive 45 minutes before any mainstage production and enjoy some refreshments from American Stage's lobby cafe and listen to a live PROLOGUE presentation providing insight into the show you are about to see.

POST-SHOW

Hang out in American Stage's lobby cafe & bar after mainstage performances, grab a cup of coffee or a glass of wine and chat about the show. Often, actors or members of the creative team will join in to take part in these non-structured 'cafe conversations.' *Enjoy Happy Hour drink specials after the show every Thursday, Friday and Saturday nights.*

AMERICAN STAGE | AS/40

American Stage celebrates **40 Years Strong** this season. Since 1977, American Stage, has contributed to the vitality of Tampa Bay as a regional professional theatre. American Stage's mission is to reinforce the power of live theatre with high quality productions that excite and challenge a diverse audience. Our year-round programming seeks to realize this through our Mainstage season, Spotlight Series, 21st Century Voices: New Play Festival, American Stage in the Park and Improv. American Stage Education's offerings include award-winning Teaching Artist Outreach focused on bringing theatrical arts experiences to under-served populations, helping them to excel onstage & beyond.

We believe that through the telling of dynamic stories, live theatre has the power to unite us in our shared experiences and to deepen our connection to one another through the illumination of diverse perspectives. American Stage artists and stakeholders are responsible for helping a small theatre touring company blossom into a thriving world-class professional theatre providing nearly 70,000 Tampa Bay residents and tourists with accessible, relevant art and arts education annually.

Powerful Stories. Boldly Told.

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