



# 2020/2021 SEASON REIMAGINE

**“Our 2020-2021 Season: REIMAGINE embraces this time of transition and change in our world and within our art form,” said CEO/Producing Artistic Director Stephanie Gularte, “It was essential that we craft a season that allows us to remain connected to our community at a time when we all deeply need the meaningful human connection that powerful storytelling can provide, while at the same time preparing for ongoing flexibility in an evolving public health landscape.”**

**Join the American Stage Membership Community today at  
[AMERICANSTAGE.ORG](https://www.americanstage.org)**



# AMERICAN STAGE 2020-2021 SEASON REIMAGINE

## 20-21 Season Selections: More Powerful Stories Than Ever Before.

### DIGITAL THEATRE SERIES

Three plays in three months, created for digital theatre accessible to anyone, anywhere.

**October/November 2020**

#### LETTERS TO KAMALA

**An American Stage commissioned work by Rachel Lynett**

"How do you mend a country with a broken heart?" Charlotta Bass, the first Black woman candidate for vice president, Charlene Mitchell, the first Black woman to run for president and Patsy Matsu Takemoto Mink, the first woman of color to be elected to the House of Representatives, first Asian-American woman to run in Congress and the first Asian-American to run for president, deliver wisdom, perspective and wry humor as they address Kamala Harris, and the cultural significance and psychological weight of her Vice-Presidential nomination.

**November 2020**

#### KATE - THE UNEXAMINED LIFE OF KATHARINE HEPBURN by Rick Foster

Unconventional, independent and formidable, Katharine Hepburn was raised by her parents to speak out, sharpen her mind and engage the world fully. In this digital theatre adaptation, Janis Stevens plays the iconic American actress at the age of 92 on New Year's Eve 1999. As Kate reflects on her life, her loves and her Hollywood memories, she reveals uncharted emotional waters, exposing a side of Ms. Hepburn audiences have never seen.

**December 2020**

#### NOSOTROS LA GENTE (WE THE PEOPLE)

**An American Stage commissioned work by Jerry Montoya**

As the country is on the verge of a World War, a pair of brothers toil planting date palms in the fertile soil of the California desert. Salvador dreams of owning land of his own, while Santiago dreams of seeing the world beyond the valley. When Santiago decides to enlist, Salvador vows to care for his brother's love, Sophie. Heartbroken and alone, the two must find a way to care for the land, for themselves and for each other. This is a story of a family that has tilled the fields of this country and fought its wars. It's a story of faith, hope and love. This is a story of America.

### FAMILY SERIES

Our Family Series begins with an accessible digital production, reimagining fairytales and delivering them virtually to families at home and students in classrooms. The series continues with a favorite family holiday classic presented as a 1940's radio play.

**October/November 2020**

#### FAIRYTALES REIMAGINED: STORIES FOR A NEW WORLD

**Adapted from Grimm's Fairytales by Sadie Lockhart, Patrick A. Jackson and Tiffany Ford**

The power has gone out at the family's household. Two siblings and their grandmother must find a way to be brave, despite the never-ending storm outside. They learn that our imaginations make us stronger, innovative, and more resilient. Listen to your inner voice...and listen to your grandmother.

**December 2020**

#### IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE: A LIVE RADIO PLAY adapted by Joe Landry

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, and live 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.



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## 20-21 Season Selections: More Powerful Stories Than Ever Before.

### HYBRID THEATRE SERIES

A hybrid production performed with live streaming on our Virtual Stage and an intended return to live onsite performances on our Mainstage.

*“When it is safe for us to return to onsite performances, we will be ready.” said Gularte, “This season programming allows us to remain nimble as we innovate ways to deliver more powerful stories than ever before.”*

#### January 2021

##### **THE PEOPLE DOWNSTAIRS** by local playwright Natalie Symons - World Premiere

This production, and all of American Stage’s in-person programming were halted on March 13, hours before the opening night of our world premiere Mainstage production. American Stage looks forward to bringing back this production for audiences to celebrate its world premiere and complete run.

In Buffalo, NY, aging funeral home custodian Miles lives with his middle-aged daughter Mabel, who spends her days writing letters to prison inmates. When a court-appointed guardian threatens to take away their home, Miles sets out to set Mabel up with Todd, an inept mortician. It is a father’s fierce determination not to accept his daughter’s fate that ignites an endearing human comedy about love, loss, loneliness and the healing power of laughter.

#### February/March 2021

##### **SATCHMO AT THE WALDORF** by Terry Teachout

A one-man, three-character play in which the same actor portrays Louis Armstrong, the greatest of all jazz trumpeters; Joe Glaser, his white manager; and Miles Davis, who admired Armstrong’s playing but disliked his onstage manner. It takes place in 1971 in a dressing room backstage at the Empire Room of New York’s Waldorf-Astoria Hotel, where Armstrong performed in public for the last time four months before his death. Reminiscing into a tape recorder about his life and work, Armstrong seeks to come to terms with his long standing relationship with Glaser, whom he once loved like a father but now believes to have betrayed him.

#### May/June 2021

##### **SCHOOL GIRLS; OR, THE AFRICAN MEAN GIRLS PLAY** by Jocelyn Bioh

At the start of the 1986 school year, Paulina, reigning queen bee of the Aburi Boarding School, has her sights set on winning the Miss Ghana Pageant and ultimately, the Miss Global Universe Pageant. Paulina prides herself on successfully shaming her friends over their weight, hair and status. When American transfer student Erica arrives and begins to threaten Paulina’s position atop her hive-minded friends, the power struggle begins. Colorism, classism, body shaming and more play a role in the skirmishes that ensue.

#### July/August 2021

##### **ROMEO & JULIET IN AMERICA (THE ONE WITH THE HAPPY ENDING)**

by William Shakespeare and adapted by American Stage

This bold and modern retelling of Shakespeare’s most romantic tragedy imagines how two young lovers, caught in the middle of their feuding families, might meet a different fate. Through party crashing, street fights and clandestine encounters, the plot twists and turns toward a stunning new conclusion where love may just conquer all.





# 2020-2021 SEASON

## REIMAGINE

### 20-21 Season Selections: **More Powerful Stories Than Ever Before.**

#### **FESTIVALS**

Celebrating emerging new plays & voices from across the globe and featuring local talent creating professional improv performances.

##### **January 2021**

#### **5TH ANNUAL 21ST CENTURY VOICES: EMERGING PLAYS – NEW PLAY FESTIVAL**

A hybrid festival featuring inspiring new plays exploring themes of mental illness, wellness and resilience, performed with live streaming on American Stage's Virtual Stage and intended live onsite performances. American Stage's 21st Century Voices is dedicated to developing and presenting new works, while bringing a diversity of voices from up-and-coming playwrights to the stage. Selected works will feature staged readings, workshops and panel discussions.

##### **Summer 2021**

#### **AS IF! IMPROV FESTIVAL**

AS IF! The American Stage Improv Festival returns! Laugh out loud as renown local, regional and musical comedy improv teams take the stage. Celebrate the art of creating in-the-moment characters and stories and find joy and connection through laughter.

#### **AMERICAN STAGE IN THE PARK**

**PRESENTED BY BANK OF AMERICA**

##### **April/May 2021**

#### **FOOTLOOSE - THE MUSICAL**

The much anticipated return of American Stage in the Park is planned for the Spring of 2021. After postponing this Tampa Bay tradition 2020, American Stage has rescheduled the high-energy pop musical FOOTLOOSE to bring our community back together under the stars at Demens Landing.

#### **ALL SEASON PROGRAMMING**

**SEASON ARTIST SHORTS:** Featured artist mini-performances each month throughout the season. Free for the American Stage membership community.

**CREATIVE COLLABORATORS:** Linking creative arms across the country! Providing American Stage membership access to dynamic performances and programs from participating theatres.

**“Our 2020-2021 Season: REIMAGINE embraces this time of transition and change in our world and within our art form,”** said CEO/Producing Artistic Director Stephanie Gularte, **“It was essential that we craft a season that allows us to remain connected to our community at a time when we all deeply need the meaningful human connection that powerful storytelling can provide, while at the same time preparing for ongoing flexibility in an evolving public health landscape.”**

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# 2020-2021 SEASON REIMAGINE

## Presenting the American Stage Membership Community All-access. All-season. More Powerful Stories Than Ever Before.

This season, American Stage subscribers, donors and sponsors come together, in support of our beloved professional theatre and to welcome new audiences, as one community: **The American Stage Membership Community.**

### The American Stage Membership Community

Creating sustainable professional theatre, with Innovation, Inspiration & Inclusion for all.

### How do I join? *It's as easy as 1.2.3.*

1. Choose from 3 memberships: Loyalty, Premiere or Sustaining
2. Select your membership payment plan: all at once or by installments
3. Order online or contact our team to activate your all-access, all-season membership

#### LOYALTY MEMBERSHIP

Enjoy the full season of REIMAGINE's productions, with all-access to all-streaming productions performed live on our Virtual Stage. Receive members-only benefits including dynamic performances featuring new artists each month throughout the season.

**\$250** or select installment plan: **Monthly \$25, Quarterly \$62.50**

#### PREMIERE MEMBERSHIP

Dreaming of opening nights and want to experience even more theatre? Your all-access membership ALSO includes 'Premiere members-only' opening performances with special artist experiences for each streaming production, and even more access to special shows, events and classes all season long.

**\$350** or select installment plan: **Monthly \$35, Quarterly \$87.50**

#### SUSTAINING MEMBERSHIP

Your membership sustains American Stage as a world-class professional theatre and helps theatrical arts and education thrive in our community. There are 2 ways to activate your Sustaining Membership:

- You may add a recurring donation amount (for as low as \$10 per month) to your REIMAGINE season membership.
- If you prefer, you may also add a one-time gift of \$100 or above to your REIMAGINE season membership.

Starting at: **\$450** or select installment plan: **Monthly \$45, Quarterly \$112.50**

Sustaining memberships including gifts over \$2,000 are eligible to select a Sustaining member sponsorship that include tickets to our onsite hybrid theatre productions in 2021.

**Members will enjoy the full season of REIMAGINE's productions, with all-access to all streaming productions performed live on our Virtual Stage. Memberships can be purchased individually or two memberships will include everyone in an entire household.**

**Join the American Stage Membership Community today at  
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# 2020-2021 SEASON REIMAGINE

## Presenting the American Stage Membership Community

**All-access. All-season.**

**More Powerful Stories Than Ever Before.**

**Memberships include all-access to the full season of REIMAGINE's Virtual Stage streaming performances to enjoy from the comfort of your home including:**

### **DIGITAL THEATRE SERIES**

Three plays in three months, created for digital theatre accessible to anyone, anywhere.

### **FAMILY SERIES**

Our Family Series begins with an accessible digital production, reimagining fairytales and delivering them virtually to families at home and students in classrooms. The series continues with a favorite family holiday classic presented as a 1940's radio play.

### **HYBRID THEATRE SERIES**

A hybrid production performed with live streaming on our Virtual Stage and an intended return to live onsite performances on our Mainstage.

### **FESTIVALS**

Celebrating emerging new plays & voices from across the globe and featuring local talent creating professional improv performances.

## **AMERICAN STAGE REIMAGINE SEASON MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS**

### **Season Artist Shorts**

**Enjoy new artists** each month throughout the season with featured artist mini-performances.

### **Encore! Streaming**

**Watch & re-watch** all Virtual Stage productions with extended viewing.

### **First-Watch**

**Join us backstage** and be first to see behind the scenes, as well as listen to podcasts and enjoy pre-release videos.

### **Ticket Discounts**

**Get the best deal** with Member price discounts & pre-sale access for any "in the theatre" or "outdoor in-person" performances of REIMAGINE season productions, as well as discounts to our creative collaborators' dynamic performances.

### **Pre-Sale Access**

**Be first in-the-know** and **in-the-line** to purchase onsite live performance tickets. Members enjoy the best choice of seats available.

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AMERICAN  
STAGE

# 2020-2021 SEASON

## REIMAGINE

	LOYALTY MEMBERSHIP	PREMIERE MEMBERSHIP	SUSTAINER MEMBERSHIP
	\$250 or select installment plan: Monthly \$25 Quarterly \$62.50	\$350 or select installment plan: Monthly \$35 Quarterly \$87.50	Starting at: \$450 or select installment plan: Monthly \$45 Quarterly \$112.50
<b>REIMAGINE's full season of productions</b>			
<b>All-Access to Virtual Stage Live Streaming Performances</b>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Premiere Opening Performance for each production</b>		✓	✓
<b>Additional Member Benefits:</b>			
<b>Season Artist Shorts</b> <i>Enjoy new artists each month throughout the season</i>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Encore Streaming Performances</b> - extended viewing access to watch & re-watch Virtual Stage productions.	✓	✓	✓
<b>First Watch Access!</b> <i>Join us backstage and be first to enjoy our videos and podcasts</i>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Ticket Discounts:</b> <i>Get the best deal with Member pricing for any "In the theatre" or "outdoor in-person" performances.</i>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Pre-Release Access</b> <i>Be first in-the-know to purchase member discount tickets. Best choice of seats available.</i>	✓	✓	✓
<b>Special Event Invitations</b> <i>- Engage with the artists and team at American Stage</i>		✓	✓



## AS Sustaining Member Sponsorship Levels

Sustaining Member Sponsorships help create sustainable professional theatre, with innovation, inspiration & inclusion for all.

Sustaining sponsors provide support for American Stage artists, educators & arts administrators who create & deliver world-class professional theatre, arts education and outreach all season long. Sustaining sponsors also fund the essential technologies needed to realize our new virtual productions, PPE for safety protocols and digital inclusion and access for artists, students and audiences.

### Season Sponsorships

In support of American Stage's full season of programming

**\$50,000** Title Sponsorship

**\$25,000** Season Sustainer

### Series Sponsorships

**\$20,000** In support of **Hybrid Theatre Series** (4 plays)

**\$15,000** In support of our **Digital Theatre Series** (3 plays) or **American Stage in the Park**

**\$10,000** In support of **21st Century Voices: Emerging Plays - New Play Festival** or **Family Series** (2 plays)

### Production Sponsorships

**\$10,000 – \$5,000 – \$3,500** Levels in support of your selected production from the 20-21 REIMAGINE season. Each sponsorship helps realize a professional theatrical production by helping fund the artists, creative teams, technicians and arts administrators who are creating and connecting our community with accessible, enriching professional theatrical productions.

### Innovation & Inspiration Sponsors

**\$7,500** In support of the new technologies for our Virtual Stage and Virtual Academy programming

**\$5,000** In support of the artists, creative teams, educators and artistic leaders connecting our community

**\$2,000** In support of digital inclusion & access for our artists, students and audiences for our Virtual Stage and Virtual Academy programming

We have all been reminded how very precious each day is and now more than ever, your contribution makes a difference every day at American Stage. Thank you for your support of the American Stage 2020-2021 Membership Community, helping to create sustainable professional theatre, with Innovation, Inspiration & Inclusion for all.

**Become an AS Sustaining Member today at**  
**AMERICANSTAGE.ORG**