

SCHULICH CHILDREN'S PLAYS

A WRINKLE IN TIME

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A WRINKLE IN TIME

By **Madeleine L'Engle**

Adapted for the stage by **Thomas Morgan Jones**

Directed by **Thomas Morgan Jones**

GRADE RECOMMENDATION

2+

CONTENT ADVISORY

Please see the show page for a detailed audience advisory.

SYNOPSIS

Will humanity ever conquer the vast distances of deep space? Why is love such a powerful force in our lives? Can a 13-year-old math-lover find her missing father, discover her true self, and save the universe from a sinister plot? Since its publication in 1962, Madeleine L'Engle's *A Wrinkle in Time* has delighted readers with its heartfelt reckoning with these and other cosmic riddles.

One dark and stormy night, 13-year-old Meg Murry, her genius kid brother Charles Wallace and their mother are interrupted during a midnight refrigerator raid by their eccentric neighbour, Mrs. Whatsit. During the visit, Mrs. Whatsit delivers a tantalizing clue about the whereabouts of Meg and Charles' father, a secret government scientist who disappeared while researching "wrinkles in time" that could enable intergalactic travel. Soon Mrs. Whatsit draws Meg, Charles Wallace and their friend Calvin O'Keefe into a cosmic battle as they embark on a multidimensional journey to find the siblings' lost father.

In this bold theatrical adaptation by director and adaptor Thomas Morgan Jones, enjoying its world première at Stratford, L'Engle's cast of loveable eccentrics is brought to life for a new generation of readers (and old fans of the novel). Central to that cast is the eminently relatable Meg Murry. Try as she might, Meg does not fit in at her school and clashes with her teachers. Her brother Charles Wallace hides his staggering intellectual gifts from the world to avoid unwanted attention. Calvin O'Keefe is athletic, confident and popular, everything that Meg and Charles are not, but the Murry children have something that Calvin craves: a family where he feels he belongs and matters. Their voyage into the universe will teach them to rely on their own strengths while accepting the help and support of their family and friends.

Jones's adaptation explores these and other key themes while placing L'Engle's timeless message centre stage: only love can overcome the challenges that life throws at us.



Khadijah Roberts-Abdullah. Photography by Ted Belton.

CURRICULUM CONNECTIONS

- Global Competencies:
 - Collaboration, Communication, Critical Thinking, Creativity, Metacognition, Self-Awareness
- Grade 2-8
 - The Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts)
 - Language
 - Science and Technology, Mathematics (STEM)
- Grade 9-12
 - The Arts (Dance, Drama, Music, Visual Arts)
 - English
 - Science and Mathematics (STEM)
- Grade 11-12
 - Social Sciences and Humanities

THEMES

- Acceptance
- The Concept of Time
- Courage and Togetherness
- Deceptive Appearances
- Faith and Trust
- Faults, Strengths and Finding Purpose
- Grief, Loss and Abandonment
- Hope and Love Over Fear
- The Intelligence of Young People
- Language and Communication
- Navigating the Unknown
- Resisting Conformity
- The Strength of Diversity, Individuality and Uniqueness
- Wisdom and Knowledge

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION QUESTIONS

- What interests you about other times and places in the universe? What questions do you have about life in other times or on other planets?
- What does hope mean to you? What can young people teach the world about hope?
- What makes you feel brave when you're afraid?
- "We don't plan for the terrible things. We just try to love through them." Why is love such a powerful force in the play and in our lives?
- Do you believe love is stronger than fear? Why or why not?

STUDY GUIDES

2023 Shorts and Study Guides and those from previous seasons are available free of charge online at <https://www.stratfordfestival.ca/Learn/Teachers/ResourcesPD>

BOOKING INFORMATION: TICKETS, WORKSHOPS & CHATS

STUDENT MATINÉES

You may book any available date, but selected student matinée performances for this show are at either 12:30 or 2 p.m. on the following dates.

Please note that the 12:30 p.m. performances include a post-show chat immediately following the show at no additional cost.

12:30 p.m.

- Thursday, May 25th
- Friday, June 9th
- Wednesday, September 13th
- Thursday, September 21st
- Wednesday, September 27th
- Thursday, October 5th
- Friday, October 13th
- Thursday, October 19th
- Wednesday, October 25th

2 p.m

- Thursday, May 18th
- Tuesday, May 23rd
- Monday, May 29th
- Thursday, June 1st
- Wednesday, June 14th
- Thursday, June 15th
- Wednesday, June 21st
- Wednesday, June 28th
- Thursday, September 7th
- Tuesday, September 12th
- Friday, September 22nd
- Wednesday, October 11th
- Tuesday, October 17th
- Friday, October 27th

WORKSHOPS & CHATS

Pre or Post-Show Workshops and Post-Show Chats (virtual, onsite or at your school/centre) can be booked by calling the Box Office at 1.800.567.1600.



Nestor Lozano Jr. Photography by Ted Belton.

SOCIAL MEDIA



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Tools for Teachers includes Prologues, Study Guides and Stratford Shorts.

PROUD SEASON PARTNERS



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