



Transforming Lives Through Theater

Office address: 325 W. Walnut Street • Milwaukee, WI 53212
Tickets: (414) 273-7206 • Fax: (414) 267-2930 • www.FirstStage.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**First Stage presents:
A WRINKLE IN TIME**

Based on the book by Madeleine L'Engle
Adapted by John Gore

Directed by Mark Metcalf

**January 27 through February 19, 2012
Todd Wehr Theater, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts**

This play is for everyone ages 8 and up.

Milwaukee, WI – First Stage continues its 25th season with the classic story A WRINKLE IN TIME at the Todd Wehr Theater, 929 N. Water Street, downtown Milwaukee, from January 27 – February 19, 2012. Directed by Mark Metcalf, this imaginative adaptation based on the popular children's book by Madeleine L'Engle was adapted by John Gore. Tickets can be purchased in person at the Marcus Center box office at 929 N. Water Street, by phone at (414) 273-7206 or online at www.firststage.org.

Before there was Harry Potter or Percy Jackson, there was Meg Murry – the original sci-fi/fantasy hero. She is an outcast at school. Her father is missing. The town thinks her brother is some sort of freak. Meg Murry is angry at a world that makes no sense to her. But when a strange visitor arrives at her family's home on a dark and stormy night, she embarks on a wild journey through space and time to rescue her father from the evil forces that hold him prisoner on another planet. Don't miss this production sure to propel your imagination on the journey of a lifetime. For everyone ages 8 and up.

Director Mark Metcalf No stranger to First Stage, Mark previously appeared as an actor in GOSSAMER, A CHRISTMAS STORY, MIDNIGHT CRY, HOLES, THE GIVER and others. Mark has appeared in films including *Animal House* and on television including *Seinfeld* and

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First Stage presents A WRINKLE IN TIME/add one

Buffy the Vampire Slayer, as well as more than one hundred plays in the course of 40 years as a professional actor. In fact, his first fully paid professional acting job was on the Todd Wehr stage with the REP in 1971 as Tony Kirby in *YOU CAN'T TAKE IT WITH YOU*.

The adult actor cast of *A WRINKLE IN TIME* includes **Aaron Christensen** (Member of Actor's Equity Association) as Father/Mrs. Which/Ensemble; **Matt Daniels** (Member of Actor's Equity Association) as Mrs. Whatsit/Man with Red Eyes/Ensemble; **Erica Elam** (Member of Actor's Equity Association) as Mother/Mrs. Who/Camazotz Woman/Ensemble; and **Marcella Kearns** as Foley Artist/Aunt Beast/Ensemble.

Young performer roles are double-cast. Young performers in the Space Cast are **Erin Stapleton** (as Meg) and **James Mullooly** (as Charles Wallace) from Wauwatosa; **Nathan Kluge** (as Calvin) from Oconomowoc; **Spencer Tomich** (as Camazotz 1) from Pewaukee; **Abby Hanna** (as Camazotz 2) from Greenfield; **Meguire Hennes** (as Camazotz 3) from Hubertus; and **Ella Frank** (as Camazotz 4) from Milwaukee.

The young performers in the Time Cast are **Katherine Pollnow** (as Meg) from Kewaskum; **John Fernandez** (as Charles Wallace), **Lizzie Borg** (as Camazotz 2) and **Emily Harris** (as Camazotz 3) from Milwaukee; **Maxwell Mainwood** (as Calvin) and **Meghan Schaefer** (as Camazotz 4) from New Berlin; and **Luke Czerwinski** (as Camazotz 1) from St. Francis.

The Artistic Staff for *A WRINKLE IN TIME* includes: **Sarah Hunt-Frank** (Scenic Designer); **Holly Payne** (Costume Designer); **Kelly Anderson** (Choreographer); **Charlie Cooper** USAA (Lighting Designer); **Charles Sommers** and **Seth Warren-Crow** (Sound Designers); **Melissa Wanke** Member of Actor's Equity Association (Stage Manager), and **Christine Czerwinski** (Assistant Stage Manager).

Tickets for A WRINKLE IN TIME start at \$13. Tickets may be purchased at www.firststage.org or through the Marcus Center box office, in person at 929 N. Water Street in downtown Milwaukee or by phone (414) 273-7206 or toll free at (888) 612-3500. The number for TDD (for deaf and hard of hearing patrons) is (414) 273-3080.

Performance dates: *A WRINKLE IN TIME* opens Friday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. Other performances are held: Saturday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.; Sunday, January 29 at 1:00 & 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 4 at 3:30 p.m.; Saturday, February 11 at 1:00 & 3:30 p.m.; Sunday,

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First Stage presents A WRINKLE IN TIME/add two

February 12 at 1:00 & 3:30 p.m.; Sunday, February 19 at 1:00 & 3:30 p.m.

Special events for A WRINKLE IN TIME

Opening Night Reception

Friday, January 27

Following the opening night performance First Stage invites all patrons to attend the Opening Night Reception at the Milwaukee Youth Arts Center, 325 W. Walnut Street, located one mile from the Marcus Center. Patrons will have the opportunity to meet and mingle with the cast and crew of **A WRINKLE IN TIME** while enjoying refreshments, courtesy of First Stage.

Opening weekend: Friday, January 27 through Sunday, January 29

A drawing for a \$20 gift certificate to Rainbow Booksellers will be held immediately following each performance. Gift certificates may be redeemed for a book purchase at the First Stage merchandise counter in the lobby or at Rainbow Booksellers, located at 5704 W. Vliet Street, Milwaukee. One winner will be selected at each performance.

FACT SHEET

Location: Todd Wehr Theater, Marcus Center for the Performing Arts, 929 N. Water Street, downtown Milwaukee

Dates: January 27 – February 19, 2012

Description: Before there was Harry Potter or Percy Jackson, there was Meg Murry – the original sci-fi/fantasy hero. She is an outcast at school. Her father is missing. The town thinks her brother is some sort of freak. Meg Murry is angry at a world that makes no sense to her. But when a strange visitor arrives at her family’s home on a dark and stormy night, she embarks on a wild journey through space and time to rescue her father from the evil forces that hold him prisoner on another planet. Don’t miss this production sure to propel your imagination on the journey of a lifetime. For everyone ages 8 and up.

Performances:

- Friday, January 27 at 7:00 p.m. (OPENING NIGHT)
- Saturday, January 28 at 7:00 p.m.
- Sunday, January 29 at 1:00 and 3:30 p.m.
- Saturday, February 4 at 3:30 p.m.
- Saturday, February 11 at 1:00 and 3:30 p.m.
- Sunday, February 12 at 1:00 and 3:30 p.m.

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First Stage presents A WRINKLE IN TIME/add three

- Sunday, February 19 at 1:00 and *3:30 p.m. (*ASL interpreted performance)

Ticket prices: Start at \$13

Tickets and information: Call (414) 273-7206 or online at www.firststage.org

About First Stage

Celebrating its 25th anniversary in the 2011-12 season, First Stage touches hearts, engages minds, and transforms lives by creating extraordinary theater experiences for young people and families through professional theater productions that inspire, enlighten, and entertain; unparalleled Theater Academy training that fosters life skills through stage skills; and dynamic Theater in Education programs that promote active learning in our schools and community. First Stage is a member of TYA/USA, the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, the Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education and Americans for the Arts, as well as Theatre Wisconsin and Milwaukee Arts Partners, and is a cornerstone member of the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF).

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