2025/2026 SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT

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TIFRRA DEL SOL

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"I simply cannot believe it has been ten years since we cut the ribbon at The Studio Theatre Tierra del Sol. In those ten years we have produced roughly 45 productions, and some of you have been there with us during every single one. Thank you! Your support means the world to our team and me. To celebrate this momentous occasion, we have put together a season that honors our past and examines our present, all while keeping a keen eye on our future. We will open the season looking at our past with a reimagining of our hit premiere production: Next to Normal by Tom Kitt & Brian Yorkey. Ten years ago, many folks missed it as it was the surprise hit of the area. Tickets were very hard to come by! So now you can either enjoy this Pulitzer Prize Winner again or see it afresh. Next up, we asked for you to vote for which show you'd like to see us examine again in a new light. You overwhelmingly selected Ada and the Engine by Lauren Gunderson. This beautiful story of love and invention set in the Victorian era was first presented on The Sharon stage during the pandemic. We are all very excited to stage it in the intimate setting it so easily inhabits. Third in the season is the hilariously funny and heartwarming play by Ins Choi: Kim's Convenience. This immigrant story of love and legacy will have your heart nice and toasty and your belly laughing. Then, finally, we will look to our future with a brand-new premiere from Florida playwright Paris Crayton III: Only Some of God's Children or Mississippi Magnolias. While this beautiful story is a brand-new script, it reads like a modern American classic, and we are thrilled to share it with all of you. It is a story of love, land, legacy, and secrets in the heart of the Jim Crow south. This season is sure to be a momentous one. Thank you to all who have supported our journey. I am so excited to share yet another season with you. Welcome to Season 10 at The Studio: "Echoes of the Past, Visions of the future." - Whitney Morse, Artistic Director

ANNOUNCING SEASON TEN:





ADA & THE ENGINE

NEXT TO NORMAL | Side effects may include... dysfunction.

Music by Tom Kitt, Book & Lyrics by Brian Yorkey Dan is an architect; Diana rushes to pack lunches and pour cereal; their children are bright, wise-cracking teens. They may seem like a typical American family, but their lives are anything but normal – Diana has been battling bipolar disorder for 16 years. Containing a thrilling contemporary score by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey, *Next to Normal* is an emotional powerhouse of a musical about a family trying to take care of themselves and each other. Join Significant Productions as we celebrate our 10th season with this reimagining of our debut production. Whitney Morse is reprising her critically acclaimed role as Diana, who Chicago critics hailed as "rueful but free of self-pity, funny without

resorting to stereotype, and all-around engaging." – Kelly Kleiman. Don't miss the show, The New York Times called "Much more than a feel-good musical; it is a feel-everything musical."

DATES: Preview: Sept 23-25, 2025 | Opening: 9-26-25 | Closing: 11-1-25

Tickets: \$35 for previews | \$45 for performances

ADA & THE ENGINE | Love letters in numbers

By Lauren Gunderson

Set in the Victorian era among the houses of intellectual elites, we find Ada, a young female mathematician whose invention of binary code shapes our modern world today. Ada and the Engine, written by America's most produced living playwright, Lauren Gunderson, composes the story of Ada Byron Lovelace, poet Lord Byron's daughter. This lyrical play details the life of Ada as she struggles between the traditional demands of her mother and the pull of her mathematical ambition. Ada sees the creative potential in "The Engine" created by her mentor, the scholar Charles Babbage. As pressures mount and feelings grow, these two form a partnership that will change the course of the future. Jane Austen meets Steve Jobs in this poignant pre-tech romance heralding the computer age. In celebration of our 10th season, come along with us as we recalculate this music-laced story of love and friendship, the patrons' pick: *Ada & The Engine*. *DATES*: Preview: Nov 25-26, 2025 | Opening: 11-28-25 | Closing: 12-20-25

Tickets: \$30 for previews | \$40 for performances

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KIM'S CONVENIENCE | Humor and heart on every aisle

By Ins Choi

Mr. Kim, a first-generation Korean immigrant, dispenses fatherly wisdom, history lessons, and potato chips from behind his convenience store counter in the up-and-coming Regent Park neighborhood of Toronto. With new luxury buildings popping up around the convenience store and a Walmart preparing to move in, Mr. Kim receives an unexpected offer for his property. He now has a difficult decision to make: keep the cash or keep Kim's. But *Kim's Convenience* is more than just his livelihood — it is his legacy. Follow Mr. Kim as he tries desperately, and hilariously, to convince his daughter Janet, a budding photographer, to take over the store. Wholly original, hysterically funny, and deeply moving, Kim's Convenience tells the story of one Korean family struggling to face the future amidst the bitter memories of their past. But no matter what, humor and heart find their way onto every aisle in this award-winning play that is now a hit series on Netflix.

DATES: Preview: Jan 27-29, 2026 | Opening: 1-30-26 | Closing: 3-14-26 Tickets: \$30 for previews | \$40 for performances



ONLY SOME OF GOD'S CHILDREN OR MISSISSIPPI MAGNOLIAS | Will roots grow on Promised Land? By Paris Crayton III

Best friends, John Curtis and William "Cochise" Brown, return home to Plantersville, Mississippi after taking part in the 1963 March on Washington. Inspired by the words of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. and other civil rights leaders, the two men contemplate if they want to spend the rest of their lives in the south. Betty, John's wife, is anxious to leave Mississippi after their son Ezekiel is attacked at a sit-in protest. Meanwhile Cochise's wife, Hattie Mae, a local juke joint singer, is excited at the prospects of singing in northern nightclubs. She willingly leaves the decision to Cochise, but Cochise only looks to John. The hope of owning the Promised Land, worked on by generations of John's family, further complicates the decision of whether to leave Mississippi. Where will these two close families choose to grow their roots: in new northern lands, or the fertile southern soil they know so well? *Only Some of God's Children or Mississipi Magnolias* is a beautiful, yet terribly honest story of five different flowers just waiting to bloom. *DATES:* Preview: April 7-9, 2026 | Opening: 4-10-26 | Closing: 5-9-26 Tickets: \$30 for previews | \$40 for performances

ABOUT THE STUDIO THEATRETM:

The Studio Theatre is an extension of The Sharon® L. Morse Performing Arts Center, located in The Spanish Springs Town Square®, in The Villages® community. This venue is open to all and is operated by Significant Productions, Inc. The Studio Theatre is led by Producer, Jason Goedken; Artistic Director, Whitney Morse; Associate Artistic Director, Angel Creeks; Director of Operations, Jon Cronin; Director of People, Projects and Culture, Leslie Becker; Development Director, Yasmeen Stogden; Marketing Director, Monica Berdecio; Production Manager, Mark Kirschenbaum; Technical Director, Clayton Becker; Assistant Technical Director, Alison Madison; Lighting Supervisor, Collin Hall; Sound Supervisor, Kimber King; Company Manager, Ryan Loeckel; Resident Production Stage Manager, Madison Youngblood; Resident Stage Manager, Zach Mlekush; House Manager, Alec Speers; Assistant House Manager, Tina Carroll; Costume Shop Supervisor, Cory H. Garrett; Literary and Casting Associate, Jordan Gregson; Lighting Technician, Dio Raquel Jr.; Carpenter, Antonio Campagna; Carpenter, Verna McIntyre; Marketing & Media Coordinator/Video Content Designer, Jessica Nix; Marketing Account Manager, Erika Kathryn; Graphic Designer, Krissi Kugler; Analyst, Sales, and Customer Support, Kristin Fortuna.

ADDITIONAL DETAILS:

For each performance, doors open thirty minutes before curtain. *All dates and plays are subject to change*. More information about The Studio Theatre's tenth season is available online: <u>www.TheSharonStudio.com</u>. **All shows this season will have 1:00pm matinees ***All shows are produced by Significant Productions, Inc: <u>www.SignificantProductions.org</u>.

FOR SEASON TEN TICKETS:

- March 19 Inaugural Subscription renewals: \$89.50
- March 19 Subscription renewals begin \$140 | Summer Add-On (Subscriber): \$70
- April 23 New Season Subscriptions will go on sale: \$140
- April 23 Individual Show Tickets go on sale (prices listed above)
- April 23 2025 Summer Add-on (*Non-Subscriber*): \$75
- April 23 2026 Summer Add-on: \$35

The Studio Theatre's Mission is to inspire the residents of Central Florida to examine relevant issues by elevating them through innovative and intimate storytelling. *Think outside the box, inside the box.*

Media Contacts for The Studio Theatre are:

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