

SEASON 35

HARLEQUIN 2026



"HOME/LAND"

Season 2026: “Home/Land”

It's becoming more difficult to be an artist in America.

You probably think I'm talking about funding cuts. Or politics. I'm not. Artists tell stories, and in order to tell stories, we need two things: a voice, and a listener. I have had the privilege of making art in many of our 50 states, but I am increasingly asking myself: how do I connect when every place feels more and more like a battleground?

We've lost something in America. In our swipe-left, swipe-right mania, we attempt to bucket every issue, experience, and interaction into “with” or “against” categories. And we find that it's more difficult to “like” or “dislike” things in the 3-D world without actually having to engage with them. So we judge. And we disengage.

We fight. We wake up fighting. We go to sleep fighting. We fight with friends, with family, with strangers. We fight over what America means, and who gets to define it. We fight over whose version of American “values” is real. We fight over who belongs and who doesn't. We fight over history, and which stories we tell, and which we erase. We fight over the future, and what we will leave our children, and the responsibility we will take for it. We fight over basic facts. We fight over reality.

These constant skirmishes are all about ownership. We've turned our shared space, our land, into territory. Every place, every idea, is now something to be claimed, defended, conquered, and owned. But home isn't territory. Home is where you belong, where you're accepted as you are.

The question I'm asking of all of us for 2026: how do we transform this land into a home big enough for everyone? How do we listen to voices that challenge our assumptions and find that our capacity to hold complexity - to sit with disagreement - is actually our greatest strength? How can we find pride in where we live? How can we be proud of who we are?

For this season of plays, we're exploring many stories from across the American experience. We'll hear stories from those who knew this land first. We'll explore how economic forces displace working-class people. And we'll explore how race exacerbates that divide. We'll introduce the idea of environmental legacy, and we'll question the generational responsibility for the land we leave behind. We'll see how being underestimated can become the ultimate advantage. We'll look at what it means to be an outsider, and how quickly that can change. We'll celebrate the beauty of ordinary life.

And we will have so much fun! We'll take our shoes off and romp through Central Park, exploring one of the most famous comedies in the theatrical canon, by one of the most celebrated American playwrights. We'll travel to Sun Studios in Memphis in 1956 to view one of the most iconic recording sessions in American history. We'll journey to the breathtaking landscapes of Alaska through the eyes of a master storyteller. We'll explore one of the most iconic dramas in the American canon, and we'll ask the question: what does this teach us about who we choose to include? And who we choose to erase? We'll give you a thriller that will make you scream, and a farce that will make you ache with laughter.

For thirty-five years, we've been gathering in this space, finding common ground through shared stories. In a world that feels increasingly divided, that tradition feels more important than ever. Come home with us.

I can't wait to see you in the theatre.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. Lamb', with a stylized flourish extending from the bottom.

Aaron Lamb, Producing Artistic Director

SEASON 35

HARLEQUIN 2026

Wait Until Dark

January 23 - February 8

The Foreigner

March 6 - 29

Where The Summit Meets The Stars

May 1 - 17

Million Dollar Quartet

June 19 - July 19

Barefoot In The Park

August 21 - September 6

Our Town

October 2 - November 1

In Repertory with:

Sanctuary City

October 9 - 25

Holiday 2026

November 27 - December 24

THE BOLD VOICES SERIES

The Children April 18 - 19

Sweat August 8 - 9

Harlequin Miscast! November 14 - 15



Mainstage · January 23 - February 8

Film Noir, Classic Thriller

WAIT UNTIL DARK

By Frederick Knott

Adapted by Jeffrey Hatcher

Directed by Aaron Lamb

She can't see them—but she knows they're there. In this white-knuckle thriller, Susan Hendrix, newly blind, seems an easy mark when three ruthless criminals invade her Greenwich Village apartment. Forty-seven years after its 1966 premiere, Jeffrey Hatcher has adapted Frederick Knott's (*Dial 'M' for Murder*) original script with crackling, claustrophobic, and calculated efficiency. When the lights go out, survival comes down to nerve, instinct, and the element of surprise. As the climax builds, Susan discovers that her blindness just might be the key to her escape, but she and her tormentors must wait until dark to play out this classic thriller's chilling conclusion.

"A first-rate shocker... the suspense drama we've long awaited eagerly."

— The New York Post

"An edge-of-your-seat thriller"

— D.C. Metro Arts

IF YOU LIKED: *Deathtrap* (2023),
Murder on the Orient Express
(2025), *The Woman in Black*
(2005)



Mainstage · March 6 - 29

Comedy, Farce

THE FOREIGNER

By Larry Shue

Directed by Aaron Lamb

When a painfully shy Englishman lands at a rustic Georgia lodge, his fear of small talk inspires a harmless fib: he doesn't speak English! But as locals pour out secrets, Charlie becomes the perfect confidant—and whispers of a secret society stir old resentments beneath the lodge's pastoral calm. As laughter turns to high stakes, Charlie must summon unexpected courage—and maybe foil a sinister plot.

Larry Shue's *The Foreigner* proves how easily secrets and prejudices can tip a friendly gathering into something far more dangerous.

When overheard asides set off chaos, Charlie's accidental silence becomes a mirror: what might we learn if we actually listened? In the spirit of screwball mayhem meets rustic intrigue, each new confession detonates laugh-out-loud chaos. Quiet no more—Charlie's about to speak volumes.

"I laughed start to finish at one comic surprise after another."

— The New Yorker

"...a constant invitation to relax and laugh at the foolishness of life..."

— Village Voice

IF YOU LIKED: *The 39 Steps*
(2015), *Noises Off* (2020),
Baskerville (2023)



THE BOLD VOICES SERIES

Newer, edgier works, performed as staged readings

Reading Series · April 18 - 19

Drama

THE CHILDREN

By Lucy Kirkwood

Retired nuclear physicists Robin and Hazel attempt to maintain normalcy as the world outside teeters in the aftermath of a disaster. When a former colleague arrives with an unsettling proposal, they are forced to confront the legacy of their work, their responsibility to the future, and the moral weight of sacrifice. Lucy Kirkwood's *The Children* is a taut, unsettling exploration of aging, legacy, and environmental responsibility — a surprisingly funny, yet razor-sharp thriller. A gripping drama about how small personal choices echo across generations.



Mainstage · May 1-17

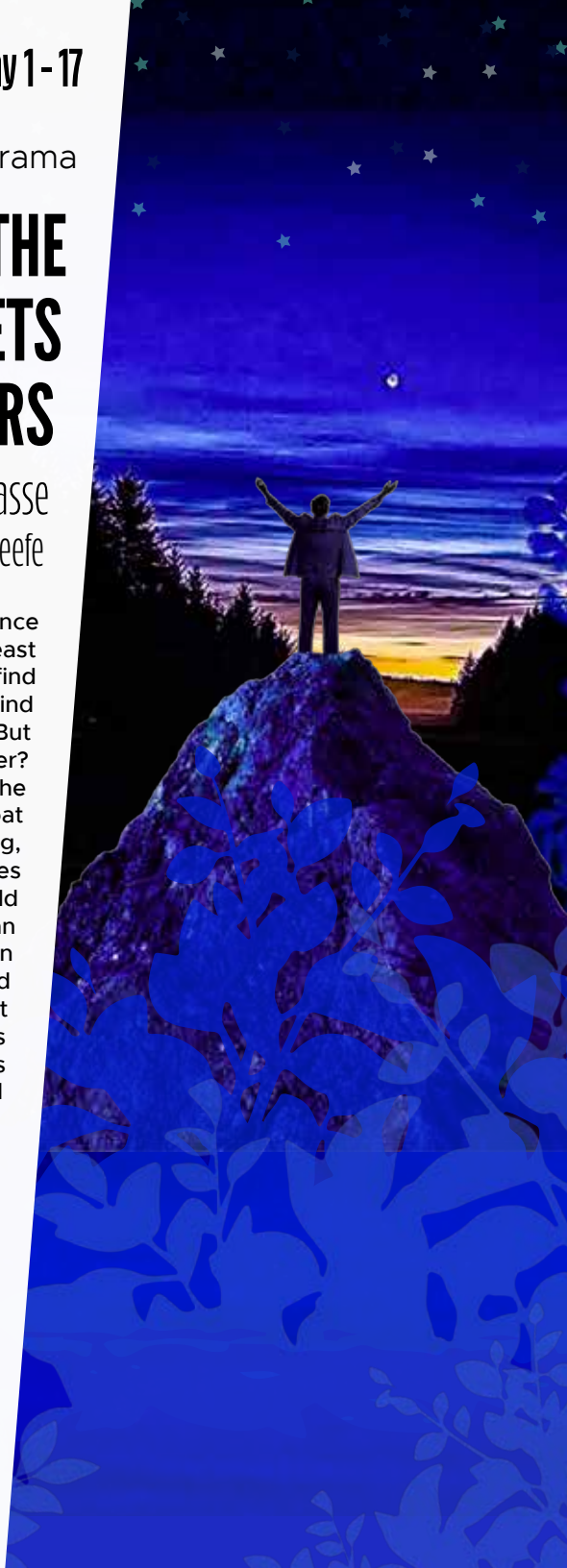
Drama

WHERE THE SUMMIT MEETS THE STARS

By Frank Henry Kaash Katasse
Directed by Josephine Keefe

When a near-death experience derails her flight through Southeast Alaska, Rose awakens to find herself in the care of the kind man who pulled her to safety. But who is this mysterious stranger? And how is it possible that she survived? As they journey by boat through the darkness and fog, Rose untangles the mysteries of her past, questions the world around her, and comes to an inescapable crossroads. Driven by Tlingit song, dance, and ancestral wisdom, this heartfelt drama honors Indigenous voices and stories that echo across time. Some journeys don't end at the summit—they reach all the way to the stars.

IF YOU LIKED: *Every Brilliant Thing* (2023), *Sovereignty* (2021)



Mainstage · June 19 - July 19

Rock Musical

MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET

Book by Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux

Inspired by Elvis Presley,
Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis,
and Carl Perkins

December 4, 1956. Sun Records. One legendary night. When a twist of fate brings Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins into the same Memphis recording studio, music history is made. Inspired by the true story of that once-in-a-lifetime jam session, *Million Dollar Quartet* is a high-octane rock 'n' roll musical packed with heart, history, and hit after iconic hit. From "Blue Suede Shoes" to "Great Balls of Fire," this electrifying celebration of talent, fame, and raw sound takes you inside the night that changed music forever.

Featuring more than 20 Rock 'n Roll hits including: *Blue Suede Shoes*, *Matchbox*, *Who Do You Love?*, *Folsom Prison Blues*, *That's All Right*, *Sixteen Tons*, *Hound Dog*, *Down By the Riverside*, *Peace in the Valley*, *I Walk the Line*, *Great Balls of Fire*, and *See You Later Alligator*.

IF YOU LIKED: *Sixties Chicks* (2009), *Sixties Kicks!* (2010), *Summer in the Sixties* (2011), *A Rock N' Roll Twelfth Night* (2014), *Sixties Chicks Too* (2015)





THE BOLD VOICES SERIES

Newer, edgier works, performed as staged readings

Reading Series · August 8 - 9

Drama

SWEAT

By Lynn Nottage

In the heart of America's rust belt, factory jobs are more than a paycheck — they're identity, pride, and community. But when layoffs hit and the promise of stability begins to vanish, the true cost of the American Dream is laid bare. Lynn Nottage's *Sweat* brings us into a neighborhood bar where friendships begin to splinter, long-held tensions erupt, and a town already stretched thin is pushed to the brink. Winner of the Pulitzer Prize, this powerful, provocative drama lays bare the intersection of race, class, and resilience in a country struggling to hold itself together.

"Keenly observed and often surprisingly funny—but ultimately heartbreaking—the work traces the roots of a tragedy with both forensic psychological detail and embracing compassion. Ms. Nottage...is writing at the peak of her powers..."

— The New York Times

"Sharp and threatening as a box cutter blade...ferociously engrossing...Sweat never feels less than authentic—and crucial"

— The New York Times



Mainstage · August 21 - September 6

Classic Comedy

BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

By Neil Simon

Directed by Karen Lund

Associate Directed by Aaron Lamb

A Co-Production with Taproot Theatre Company

Paul and Corie Bratter are newlyweds in every sense of the word: he's a straight-laced lawyer; she's a free spirit chasing her next thrill. Their sixth-floor Manhattan walk-up is riddled with leaks, bad plumbing, and a paint job long overdue. After a six-day honeymoon, Corie's eccentric mother crashes the party, and their quirky attic neighbor, Velasco, drops in—literally—turning domestic bliss into comic mayhem. As Paul's pragmatism clashes with Corie's spontaneity, only a barefoot sprint through Washington Square can save their marriage.

Smart, snappy, and full of heart, Tony Award-winning *Barefoot in the Park* opened on Broadway in 1963 and ran for 1,530 performances, becoming Neil Simon's first smash hit and one of the ten longest-running plays in Broadway history. Today, Simon's landmark comedy remains an American stage treasure, its sparkling wit and heartfelt charm as irresistible as ever.

IF YOU LIKED: *Laughter on the 23rd Floor* (2015), *Present Laughter* (2017), *I Ought To Be in Pictures* (2019), *Building Madness* (2023)



Mainstage · **October 2 - November 1**

Performed in repertory with *Sanctuary City*

Classic Drama

OUR TOWN

By Thornton Wilder

Directed by Aaron Lamb

Winner of the 1938 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, Thornton Wilder's masterpiece has stood as a timeless pillar of the American stage. Poetic, poignant, and profoundly human, this groundbreaking play invites us to slow down, look closer, and cherish the fleeting beauty of life.

Through the simple rhythms of daily routine - from dawn's first light to the hush of twilight - the ordinary town of Grover's Corners reveals a world both intimate and boundless. A quiet revolution in storytelling, *Our Town* reminds us to notice life as we're living it - because someday, even the ordinary will feel miraculous. Join the generations who have discovered that even in the smallest moments, we can find the greatest truths.

"No American play describes more powerfully how we imagine ourselves."

—The New York Times

"It is probably the finest play ever written by an American"

—Edward Albee

IF YOU LIKED: *To Kill a Mockingbird* (2015), *August: Osage County* (2017)



Mainstage · October 9 - 25
Performed in repertory with *Our Town*

New Play, Drama

SANCTUARY CITY

By Martyna Majok

Unfolding beneath the glow of porch lights and the promise of close-knit streets, two teenagers cling to each other for safety, for love, for hope. Childhood friends B and G — undocumented and unseen — watch that promise fray when one earns a path to citizenship and the other is left untethered and exposed. What begins as a pact of loyalty slowly fractures under the weight of adult consequences.

Pulitzer Prize winner Martyna Majok's *Sanctuary City* asks the question:

In a nation built on the promise of opportunity, how do we determine who benefits? Where once belonging was measured by front-porch waves and neighborhood gatherings, today it hinges on paperwork and the threat of separation — or possibly far worse.

Visceral, poetic, and unflinching, this award-winning play asks: who gets to belong, and what does it cost to try? A story of borders — visible and invisible — that divide us all.

"I have rarely seen a play that so effectively embodies the way external forces, in this case, immigration policies in the United States—distort the inner lives of actual humans. What love is, and can ever mean, is lost in the muddle between the heart and the law."

—Jesse Green,
The New York Times

IF YOU LIKED: *Until the Flood* (2021), *This Flat Earth* (2022),
Is This A Room (2025)



THE BOLD VOICES SERIES

Newer, edgier works, performed as staged readings

Reading Series · November 14 - 15

HARLEQUIN MISCAST!

It's the chance of a lifetime for an actor: perform any song from the musical theater canon, even (in fact, especially) if the piece is one you would never ordinarily be able to sing. Watch leading men belt out ingenue ballads, comedic actors tackle dramatic arias, and performers of every type step boldly outside their usual casting boxes. Inspired by MCC Theater's beloved annual tradition, *Harlequin Miscast!* celebrates the joy of theatrical surprises and the magic that happens when artists play against type.



Mainstage · November 27 - December 24

Holiday

HOLIDAY 2026

Ring in the Yuletide season with a heart-warming holiday show at Harlequin! We don't yet know exactly what we'll put on the boards, but you can count on a joyful celebration filled with good cheer, voices raised in song, and plenty of laughter and light. Whether it's a beloved tradition or a delightful new surprise, our holiday offering will bring family and friends together for a festive night at the theater—and a perfect way to close out the season.

IF YOU LIKED: Harlequin's holiday shows, from the *Stardust* series to *A Christmas Carol*



ONE NIGHT ONLY SPECIAL EVENTS



HOW MUCH THE HEART CAN HOLD

Directed by Kathy Dorgan

Back by Cupid's demand! Kathy Dorgan directs an all-star cast in this romantic evening curated by Bryan Willis. Appropriate for all ages. Bring your sweetheart. Better yet, bring them a love poem and we'll read it at the top of Act III!

February 14, 2026



THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S BRUNCH

Your opportunity to meet, greet, and speak to some of Harlequin's artists about their process while enjoying a fabulous Champagne brunch. This year, we're hosting a panel featuring the incredibly talented designers for *Million Dollar Quartet*.

April 12, 2026



ANNUAL GALA & 2027 SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT

The event of the summer! Our Season Announcement Gala gets bigger and better every year, and 2027 will be no exception. Expect delicious food and drink, live entertainment, engaging auction offerings, and of course, an immersive onstage presentation revealing Season 36.

August 1, 2026

HALLOWEEN AT HARLEQUIN

Two of our best in one spooky evening! Jim Lynch ("The Highest Tide") premieres a chilling new short story, followed by the immortal Edgar Allan Poe (Bradford Farwell) in a play by Bryan Willis, directed by Megan Brewer. Not to be missed.

October 31, 2026



SUBSCRIPTION FORM

2026 Subscriber Information

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Street _____ City _____

State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____

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Renewing Subscribers

RENEWING subscribers, your priority deadline is September 27th, 2025.

- ☐ I would like the same subscription seats as last season.
- ☐ Please change my subscription type/day/week/seats as indicated.

Choose Your Subscription Week

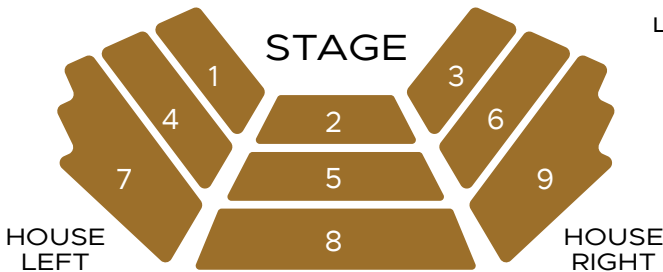
☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3

Choose Your Performance Day

☐ Thurs.7:30* ☐ Fri.7:30 ☐ Sat.7:30 ☐ Sun.2:00

*Weeks 2, 3 only

Seating Preference



List section preference by number:

- _____ 1st Choice
- _____ 2nd Choice
- _____ 3rd Choice
- _____ 4th Choice

- ☐ No front row please ☐ Prefer aisle seats
- ☐ I prefer to sit with/next to: _____
- ☐ Special seating needs: _____

CHOOSE YOUR SUBSCRIPTION

Subscription Choices

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(40% Savings) \$448 \$248 + \$15 Processing Fee = \$263 x _____ = \$ _____

4-Show Flex Subscription

(20% Savings) \$164 + \$15 Processing Fee = \$179 x _____ = \$ _____

Bold Voices Add-on ☐ Saturday evening ☐ Sunday matinee \$60 x _____ = \$ _____
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SUBSCRIPTION SUBTOTAL = \$ _____

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SUBSCRIPTION TOTAL = \$

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SUBSCRIBER & DONOR BENEFITS

Season Subscription

See all 8 shows, get the best seats, and **save 40%** off single-ticket prices. Renewing subscribers are guaranteed the same seats.* Other benefits include free exchanges and reprints, half-price repeat tickets, and priority advance seating.

* Shows with reserved seating only: seating layouts subject to change.

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	Partner \$10/mo. or \$100/yr	Investor \$25/mo. or \$300/yr	Benefactor \$1,000	Artists' Circle \$2,500	Producers' Circle \$5,000
25% discount at concessions	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Name in program and on website	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Invite for two to a technical dress rehearsal		✓	✓	✓	✓
Invite for two to attend an artistic director's brunch			✓	✓	✓
Complimentary tickets to the 2027 Gala				✓	✓
Invite for two to a behind-the-scenes Production Tour					✓

Artistic Director's Circle (\$10,000+): Benefits are highly personalized; if interested in giving at this level, please contact Brennan Tucker at brennan@harlequinproductions.org.

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HARLEQUIN 2026

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