



Childsplay's  
360° Theatre Resources for Schools

# A Wrinkle in Time

By John Glore

Adapted from the book by  
Madeleine L'Engle



Directed by Dwayne Hartford

Scenic Design by Aaron Jackson

Costume Design by Rebecca Akins

Lighting Design by Mike Eddy

Sound Design by Christopher Neumeyer

Stage Manager: Samantha Monson

## The Cast

Meg. . . . . Rebecca Duckworth  
Charles Wallace. . . . . Cullen Law  
Mother. . . . . Yolanda London  
Whatsit. . . . . Debra K. Stevens  
Calvin. . . . . Will Hightower  
Father. . . . . Kyle Sorrell

April 21-May 26, 2013  
Tempe Center for the Arts, Theatre  
Recommended for ages 8 and up

This production is sponsored in part by:



## Themes/Curricular Ties:

page to stage, family, friendship, science fiction, being true to yourself, physics, fantasy, space and time travel, power of love, humanity, technology, astronomy, coming of age, different ways of being smart, good vs. evil, peer pressure, self sacrifice, heroism, self confidence

About *A Wrinkle in Time*  
and Your Theatre Experience

BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
**U-S AIRWAYS**  
WHERE EDUCATION AND IMAGINATION  
TAKE FLIGHT

## The Story:

It is a dark and stormy night. Meg Murry huddles against the cold in her attic bedroom, mulling over her missing father, brooding over problems at school and worrying over the whereabouts of her little brother, Charles Wallace. Charles Wallace is different from other children his age and always seems to be able to read Meg's mind about whatever she needs. Mrs. Whatsit, a mysterious friend to Charles Wallace, arrives in their kitchen and explains to the children and their mother that there *is* such a thing as a "tesseract," and then, she quickly departs. The children are puzzled by this and notice how much the new found information upsets their mother. They set out to find Mrs. Whatsit and get some answers. They run into Calvin, an older boy whom Meg believes to be a stupid jock. Calvin has felt an inexplicable compulsion to go to the same place in which Meg and her brother are headed and Meg soon begins to think that Calvin may be a better guy than she judged him to be. Together, the three arrive at the old haunted house of Mrs. Whatsit and meet her equally bizarre friends Mrs. Who and Mrs. Which. The three eccentric ladies tell the children that they have been chosen for a mission - a mission they must accomplish by themselves with only minimal advisement. The children must travel to the planet Camazotz by way of the "tesseract" - a wrinkle in time - where they will rescue Meg and Charles Wallace's father. Before they know it, the kids are whisked off on an adventure across time and space. First they arrive on the planet Uriel, where they are made aware of The Black Thing - a force of dark and evil energy. Next they arrive on Camazotz where Mr. Murry is being held prisoner by the mind-controlling IT. The children are mystified when they notice that all of the planet's inhabitants move about in perfect sync and they begin to realize that the population is controlled by the power of IT. The trio soon finds Mr. Murry and learns that he was captured and imprisoned on Camazotz during a time travel experiment. He has been trying to fight the control of IT ever since. In an attempt to learn more about the powers of IT, Charles Wallace allows the Man with Red Eyes to hypnotize him, which turns him into a robot-like being similar to the rest of the population of Camazotz. Meg, Calvin and Mr. Murry are unable to help Charles Wallace and narrowly escape IT by "tessering" to the planet Ixchel. Along the journey, Meg is injured by The Black Thing. Aunt Beast, a strange inhabitant of Ixchel, nurses Meg back to health and teaches her about love. When Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who and Mrs. Which return, they inform Meg that they do not have the power to help Charles Wallace. Meg, who sees herself as the most imperfect and incompetent person in the group, is the only one who can return to Camazotz and save her brother. By fighting IT with her love for Charles Wallace, Meg discovers the power to save him and reunite her family back on Earth.



### About Childsplay:

Childsplay is a professional non-profit theatre company of adult actors, performing for young audiences and families.

**Our Mission** is to create theatre so strikingly original in form, content or both, that it instills in young people an enduring awe, love and respect for the medium, thus preserving imagination and wonder, those hallmarks of childhood that are the keys to the future.

### What We Do:

In addition to our weekend public performances, we also offer three theatre experiences for our school audiences: Field Trips, School Tours and Artist in Residence Programs. Field trip performances, where students come to the theater and see a production, can be booked by contacting Beth Olson at 480-921-5757. School Tour Performances, where we come to your school or other location and perform, can be booked by contacting Jaime Fox at 480-921-5751. Artist in Residence Programs, where students do theatre activities in the classroom, can be individually designed to meet the needs of your school or can be based on one of our many existing formats (page to stage, creating original work, use of drama to teach curriculum, professional development for teachers), can be booked by contacting Korbi Adams at 480-921-5745.



### Our Home:

The Sybil B. Harrington Campus of Imagination and Wonder at Mitchell Park (formerly Mitchell School) is where you'll find our administrative offices, costume shop, prop shop, rehearsal spaces, and Academy classrooms. We love to hear from our audiences. Send your letters and reviews to:

**Address:** 900 S. Mitchell, Tempe, AZ 85281

**Phone:** 480-921-5700

**Email:** [info@childsplayaz.org](mailto:info@childsplayaz.org) **Web:** [www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/childsplayaz](http://www.facebook.com/childsplayaz)

To help enrich and extend your theatre experience, check out the  
360° Theatre Resource Center on our website!

**We perform at the Tempe Center for the Arts**  
700 W. Rio Salado Parkway  
Tempe, AZ 85281

### Theater Etiquette:

It's helpful to review the rules of theater etiquette before seeing a show, especially since this may be the first live theater experience for some of your students. Please take a moment to discuss the following pointers prior to seeing the performance:

- Use the restroom before seeing the show as we do not have intermission during our school performances.
- Stay seated during the performance.
- Be respectful to the performers and other people in the audience by not talking during the performance. Remember, the actors can see and hear the audience just like the audience can see and hear them.
- Appropriate responses such as applause or laughter are always welcome.
- Food, candy, gum and beverages will not be allowed in the theater/during the performance.
- Use of cell phones (including text messaging), cameras or any other recording device is not allowed in the theatre/during the performance at any time.
- Following the performance (time permitting) there will be a brief question/answer session where audience members will have an opportunity to ask the actors questions about the production.





Author Bio from her website  
Madeleine L'Engle,  
<http://www.madeleinelengle.com>

Madeleine was born on November 29th, 1918, and spent her formative years in New York City. Instead of her school work, she found that she would much rather be writing stories, poems and journals for herself, which was reflected in her grades (not the best). However, she was not discouraged.



At age 12, she moved to the French Alps with her parents and went to an English boarding school where, thankfully, her passion for writing continued to grow. She flourished during her high school years back in the United States at Ashley Hall in Charleston, South Carolina, vacationing with her mother in a rambling old beach cottage on a beautiful stretch of Florida Beach. She went to Smith College and studied English with some wonderful teachers as she read the classics and continued her own creative writing. She graduated with honors and moved into a Greenwich Village apartment in New York. She worked in the theater, where Equity union pay and a flexible schedule afforded her the time to write! She published her first two novels during these years—*A Small Rain* and *Ilsa*—before meeting Hugh Franklin, her future husband, when she was an understudy in Anton Chekov's *The Cherry Orchard*. They married during *The Joyous Season*. She had a baby girl and kept on writing, eventually moving to Connecticut to raise the family away from the city in a small dairy farm village with more cows than people. They bought a dead general store, and brought it to life for 9 years. They moved back to the city with three children, and Hugh revitalized his professional acting career.

As the years passed and the children grew, Madeleine continued to write and Hugh to act, and they to enjoy each other and life. Madeleine began her association with the Cathedral Church of St. John the Divine, where she was the librarian and maintained an office for more than thirty years. After Hugh's death in 1986, it was her writing and lecturing that kept her going. She lived through the 20th century and into the 21st and wrote over 60 books. She enjoyed being with her friends, her children, her grandchildren, and her great grandchildren.

## Set Construction and Sustainability

When a theatre company - any company, not just Childsplay -- builds a set for a play, it has an average life span of about nine weeks. Often, very little of the scenery can be re-used and the majority of what you see on stage goes into a landfill. In 2010, Childsplay was awarded a grant from the MetLife foundation through Theatre Communications Group that allowed us to examine our workflow as it relates to producing the scenery that you see on stage.

Over the past three years, we have been making small changes in how we create our scenery. Rather than using imported lumber of questionable origin (much of the lumber available today is illegally harvested from old-growth forests in Southeast Asia), all of the lumber that is used on our stage now comes from Forestry Stewardship Council certified forests in the United States. And rather than just dispose the scenery we cannot reuse into a landfill, we now deconstruct our scenery at the end of its useful life.

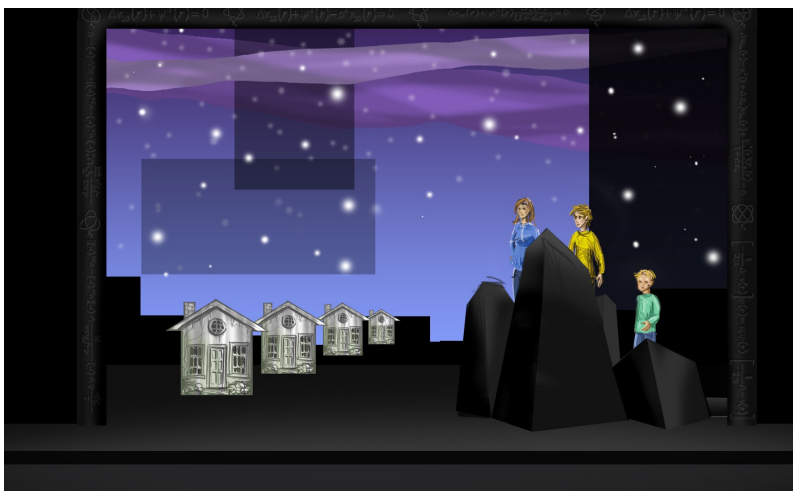
For example, the set that is used for *A Wrinkle in Time* was designed and constructed specifically by Childsplay for this production. At the end of the five weeks that the play is on stage in the theatre, we will disassemble the scenery into parts. Some hardware, such as castors and hinges will be used again in other sets; the fabric pieces will go into our storage to be used again in another production in a different way (perhaps even cut up and used in costumes), and the wood will be separated from the metal framing in order to allow us to recycle the steel.

With each show that we produce, Childsplay is making sustainability an important part of the design process.



\*Separating steel from wood for recycling

Preliminary costume design renderings  
by Rebecca Akins



Preliminary scenic design renderings by  
Aaron Jackson  
Left: Camazotz  
Right: Central Intelligence







## A sneak peek at Childsplay's production of:

# A Wrinkle in Time

By John Glore

Adapted from the book by  
Madeleine L'Engle



April 21-May 26, 2013  
Tempe Center for the Arts, Theatre  
AGE 8 AND UP

### The Story:

On a dark and stormy night, a mysterious stranger appears at Meg Murray's house. Suddenly Meg, her precocious younger brother Charles Wallace and their friend Calvin find themselves in the middle of a fantastic adventure, traveling through space and time to save her father and - quite possibly - the world. Celebrating the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the beloved book by Madeleine L'Engle, the play introduces a whole new generation to this unforgettable story.

### Themes/Curricular Ties:

page to stage, family, friendship, science fiction, being true to yourself, physics, fantasy, space and time travel, power of love, humanity, technology, astronomy, coming of age, different ways of being smart, good vs. evil, peer pressure, self sacrifice, heroism, self confidence

### Questions to ask before seeing the production:

- 1) Family is an important aspect of *A Wrinkle in Time*. Who are the members of your family? How do you help members of your family? In what ways do they help you?
- 2) If you had the opportunity to travel through time, would you do it? Where would you want to go - the past or the future? What time period of the past would you most like to visit and why?
- 3) What is your definition of courage? Based on your definition, give examples of courageous people in the world today.

### Questions to ask after seeing the production:

- 1) Camazotz is a society where everyone is the same and all thoughts and feelings are controlled for you. What are the pros and cons of living in a society like Camazotz?
- 2) What phrase does Meg repeat over and over again to defeat IT? What do you think the play is trying to say about love?
- 3) Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who and Mrs. Which are three similar, yet distinct, characters? How are they distinguished from one another in the play? Think about costuming, lighting, sound, hair and makeup designs.

### Interesting Internet Links:

<http://www.madeleinelengle.com>

-Madeleine L'Engle's website with loads of information and links

<http://www.andersoninstitute.com/wormholes.html>

-all about wormholes

### Books to Check Out:

*Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox* by Eoin Colfer

*Larklight* by Philip Reeve

*Jake and Lily* by Jerry Spinelli

*The Year of the Book* by Andrea Cheng

*Kindred Souls* by Patricia MacLachlan

*The Mighty Miss Malone* by Christopher Paul Curtis

### \*Classroom Activities Connected to Arizona Common Core Standards\*

**5**

#### Minute Activity

Use the sentence "It was a dark and stormy night..." as the beginning for a 5 minute (timed) mind flow story writing assignment. Encourage students to just write what comes to their mind. Writing (4.W.4): Write narrative to develop real or imagined events

**15**

#### Minute Activity

Sequence Dance - the teacher asks the students to identify no more than 5 major moments from the play. Starting with the first chosen moment and working in sequential order, the students, guided by the teacher create a series of movements that end up becoming the sequence dance that reviews the play's plot. To create these movements the teacher first asks all students to individually create the first action, all working at the same time. The teacher chooses one action (without identifying whose it is) and asks everyone to do that specific action for moment number one. They can use a four count to help unify everyone's actions and upon which to build more actions. The class works their way through chosen moments until they have a complete sequence dance. Dance (S1.C4.PO202): Create dance phrases that communicate meaning.

**30**

#### Minute Activity

Create an inter-galactic travel brochure that describes one of Meg, Charles Wallace and Calvin's destinations in the play. Remember: travel brochures are used to entice people to come to a destination. Point out the positive features of the destination. Include photos or drawings/illustrations as well as testimonials from previous customers. Writing (4.W.1): Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

\*For more extensive resources go to [www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)\*



**Childsplay's 360° Theatre Resources: *A Wrinkle in Time***  
**Booklist and Websites**  
**2012-2013 Season**  
**[www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)**

\*Prepared with the help of  
Tim Wadham,  
author and librarian

**The Time Quintet by Madeleine L'Engle**

*A Wrinkle in Time*  
*A Swiftly Tilting Planet*  
*A Wind in the Door*  
*Many Waters*  
*An Acceptable Time*

**Austin Family books by Madeleine L'Engle**

*Meet the Austins*  
*The Moon By Night*  
*The Young Unicorns*  
*A Ring of Endless Light*

**O'Keefe Family books by Madeleine L'Engle**

*The Arm of the Starfish*  
*Dragons in the Waters*  
*A House Like a Lotus*

**Science Fiction**

*A Confusion of Princes* by Garth Nix  
*The Norumbegan Quartet* (series) by M. T. Anderson  
*The Tripods Trilogy* (series) by John Christopher  
*The Eye of the Storm* by Kate Messner  
*The True Meaning of Smekday* by Adam Rex

**Family**

*Surviving the Applewhites* by Stephanie S. Tolan  
*Applewhites at Wits End* by Stephanie S. Tolan  
*Kindred Souls* by Patricia MacLachlan  
*The Mighty Miss Malone* by Christopher Paul Curtis  
*Half Magic* by Edward Eager

**Friendship**

*Bink and Gollie: Two for One* by Kate DiCamillo  
*Caddy's World* by Hilary McKay  
*Jake and Lily* by Jerry Spinelli  
*The Year of the Book* by Andrea Cheng

**Astronomy**

*Scholastic Atlas of Space* by Scholastic Reference  
*Jepp, Who Defied the Stars* by Katherine Marsh  
*May: Daughters of the Sea* by Katherine Lasky

**Fantasy**

*The Dark is Rising Sequence* (series) by Susan Cooper  
*The Chronicles of Prydain* (series) by Lloyd Alexander  
*The False Prince* by Jennifer Nielson  
*Inkheart* by Cornelia Funke  
*The Goose Girl* by Shannon Hale

**Physics**

*Simon Bloom: The Octopus Effect* by Michael Reisman  
*Science Fair Projects for the Evil Genius* by Robert L. Bonnet  
*Fizzing Physics* by Steve Parker  
*Physics* by Dan Green  
*The Explosionist* by Jenny Davidson

**Technology**

*Above World* by Jenn Reese  
*Technology* by Clive Gifford (Scholastic Discover More series)  
*The New Way Things Work* by David Macaulay  
*Leviathan* by Scott Westerfeld  
*Remembering Green* by Lesley Beake  
*The Dark Deeps* by Arthur Slade

**Space and Time Travel**

*Pathfinder* by Orson Scott Card  
*When You Reach Me* by Rebecca Stead  
*The Doom Machine* by Mark Teague  
*Artemis Fowl: The Time Paradox* by Eoin Colfer  
*Larklight* by Philip Reeve  
*Crow Country* by Kate Constable  
*The Missing* (Series) by Margaret Peterson Haddix

**Interesting Internet Links**

<http://www.madeleinelengle.com>  
-Madeleine L'Engle's website with loads of information and links  
<http://www.andersoninstitute.com/wormholes.html>  
-all about wormholes  
<http://www.roundhousetheatre.org/2010/11/11/john-glore-part-one/>  
<http://www.roundhousetheatre.org/2010/11/24/john-glore-part-two/>  
<http://www.ocreger.com/articles/book-233434-glore-register.html>  
<http://articles.latimes.com/2010/feb/18/entertainment/la-et-wrinkle-in-time18-2010feb18>  
-articles about the playwright and original production





## Try it yourself...

### It Was A Dark and Stormy Night

The opening line of *A Wrinkle in Time* has become a famous (and sometimes overused) entrée into all kinds of fiction. Gather your family and friends in a circle...maybe even at night, with flashlights or a fire. Start with the line “It was a dark and stormy night” and ask the person to your right to add one sentence to the story, then the next person and the next. Keep passing the story around the circle until it comes back to you or it ends. Then, have the person next to you start “It was a dark and stormy night” and pass it on to the person on their right, starting a totally new story. See how many different stories your group can create!

### The 4<sup>th</sup> Dimension

Learn more about the fourth dimension! Follow this link to a retro, very cool YouTube video of famous astronomer and author Carl Sagan explaining the 4<sup>th</sup> dimension (or just Google Carl Sagan, 4<sup>th</sup> dimension): <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UnUREICzGc0>

### Be a Designer

The costumes in Childsplay’s production of *A Wrinkle in Time* are based around a 1960s sci-fi look. If you were designing a costume for *A Wrinkle in Time*, what style would you choose? Pick a character from the play and draw your own costume.

**For more activities based on  
*A Wrinkle in Time***

**visit the 360° Educational Resources website:**

<http://www.childsplayaz.org/index.php/explore/educational-resources>



## *A Wrinkle in Time*

## For the Tesser Home...



How do Meg, Calvin, and Charles Wallace try to hide parts of themselves to appear “normal?” Does it work? What happens if you really want to be yourself, but you also want to fit in with the norm?



When Mrs. Who gives Meg her glasses, she starts describing their incredible physical properties, then says “Oh, for heaven’s sake, they’re magic.” Are you someone who really wants to know how things work, or do you prefer to enjoy the mystery? Why?



In *A Wrinkle in Time*, every member of the Murray family has a special gift. Think about the members of your own family...what do each of them contribute to make your family, well...your family?



Think about the way design elements (sound, lights, staging, etc.) were used to tesser the characters from one world to the next. If you were directing or designing the play, what other ideas would you incorporate to accomplish “tessering?”



When Charles Wallace is under the control of IT, he says “Differences make problems...Why do you think your planet has wars? Why do you think people get confused and unhappy? Because no one trusts anyone who is different.” Do you agree or disagree? What is the value of difference?



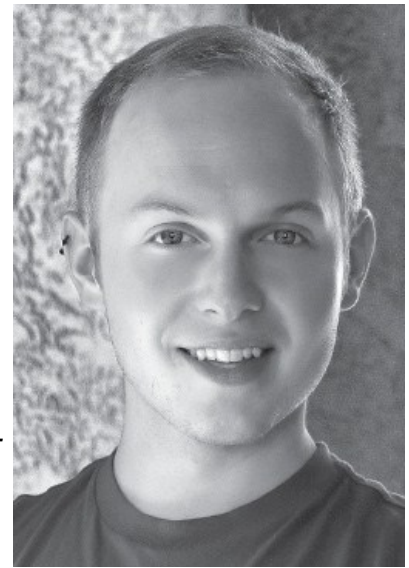
**Childsplay's 360° Theatre Resources: *A Wrinkle in Time***  
**Meet the Cast**  
**2012-2013 Season**  
**[www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)**

**Who's Who in *A Wrinkle in Time*:**



**Rebecca Duckworth (Meg)** Rebecca is so thrilled to be tessering onto the Childsplay stage to tell one of her absolute favorite stories! Credits include: *If You Give a Mouse a Cookie* (Mouse), *Peacemaker* (Simp), *If You Give a Pig a Party* (Girl) with Cookie Company, *Romeo and Juliet* (Juliet), *Last Five Years* (Cathy), *Make Believe* (Lena), *Footloose* (Ariel), *Godspell* (Robin), *Caucasian Chalk Circle* (Yura), *Carousel*, and *South Pacific*. She is also proud to be a member of Phoenix Theatre's Partners That Heal, a program that seeks to improve the quality of life for children at Phoenix Children's Hospital and other long-term care facilities through the use of improvisation, music, and puppetry.

**Cullen Law (Actor 1, Charles Wallace)** is so excited to be back with Childsplay! He graduated from ASU with a bachelors degree in Music Theatre Performance, where he made his directorial debut with the musical *Cabaret*. He recently provided the voice of "Iggy" in Rob Gardner's animated movie *12 Princesses*, which is becoming a major motion picture with Amazon Studios! He also teamed with Rob Gardner in his new musical *Lamb of God (False Witness)*, which played at Gammage Auditorium. He can be heard on the cast album of *Lamb of God* with the London Symphony Orchestra. He was most recently seen on stage as Tommy in *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Arizona Broadway Theatre). Next, he will be seen in *Into the Woods* at Arizona Broadway Theatre. Credits: *Annie* (Arizona Broadway Theatre), *The Giver* (Childsplay), *Charlotte's Webb* (Phoenix Theatre's Cookie Company and Arizona Broadway Theatre) *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (Arizona Broadway Theatre).



**Will Hightower (Actor 4, Calvin)** is pleased to make his Childsplay debut in this amazing production! He was last seen in Class 6 Theatre's *Comedy of Errors* (Antipholus), Actors Theatre's *Body Awareness* (Jared), Arizona Jewish Theatre's *Dreyfus in Rehearsal* (Michael), and Stray Cat Theatre's *The Sparrow* (Coach). Will is a graduate from the acting programs of both Phoenix College and Arizona State University and is currently a teaching artist for Childsplay and Valley Youth Theatre.



**Yolanda London** (*Actor 2, Mrs. Who*) is thrilled to be back onstage for her tenth season with Childsplay. Recent roles include Cow 1 in Childsplay's production of *Click, Clack Moo: Cow's That Type*, Amy in Childsplay's production of *Rock the Presidents*, Lilly in Childsplay's production of *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and in the Black Theatre Troupe's production of *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*. Some of her favorite roles with Childsplay: Turtle in *A Year With Frog and Toad*, Cochina in *Ferdinand The Bull*, Bird Girl/Mrs. Mayor in *Seussical*, and Petite in *Petite Rouge*. She has also been seen onstage with the Actors Company of PA, the Smithsonian Institute's Discovery Theatre, and locally, with Actor's Theatre, Phoenix Theatre and the Phoenix Metropolitan Opera Company.



**Kyle Sorrell** (*Actor 5, Father*) is elated to be back onstage with Childsplay after appearing in past productions of *Eric and Elliot*, *Cyrano*, *The Yellow Boat*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, and *BFG*. Kyle spent the last few seasons in San Diego where he appeared as Prior Walter in *Angels in America* (Ion Theatre - San Diego Critic's Circle Award Nomination), Phillip in *The Lion in Winter* (Northcoast Repertory Theatre), Padraic in *The Lieutenant of Inishmore* (Ion Theatre), and Ivan in *The Break Up Break Down* (Circle Circle Dot Dot). Other favorite Phoenix productions include *Trainspotting* (Stray Cat Theatre - Phoenix Best Actor Award), *Amadeus* (Phoenix Theatre) and *Richard III* (Shakespeare Sedona.) Additionally, he has appeared with Arizona Theatre Company (*Twelfth Night*, *It's a Wonderful Life*), Southwest Shakespeare Company (*King Lear*, *The Tempest*, *Romeo and Juliet*), and Arizona Jewish Theatre Company (*Awake and Sing*). Kyle will be performing this summer in Phoenix Theatre's production of the rock musical *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*.

**Debra K. Stevens** (*Actor 3, Mrs. Whatsit*) is an Associate Artist who has been with Childsplay since 1982, and was last seen on the TCA stage as Hen in *Click Clack Moo: Cows That Type*. Favorite Childsplay roles include: Mabel in *The Color of Stars*, Homily in *The Borrowers*, Lucy Wainwright in *Getting Near to Baby*, Defarge in *A Tale of Two Cities*, Charlotte in *Charlotte's Web*, Nurse and other roles in *Romeo and Juliet*, Annabelle in *Still Life With Iris*, Joy in *The Yellow Boat*, Helen Keller in *The Miracle Worker*, and Emily Dickinson in *The Belle of Amherst*. Other roles for theatres outside of Childsplay include Essie in *You Can't Take It With You* for Phoenix Theatre. For Actors Theatre she portrayed Arlene in *Next Fall*, Nat in *Rabbit Hole*, Sister Woman in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Maya in *The Archbishop's Ceiling*, and Karen in *Dinner with Friends*. Over the past few seasons, she directed *The Crucible* and a new adaptation of *Wiley and the Hairy Man* for Mesa Community College. She also works extensively in classrooms around the state as an Artist-in-Education. Debra received a BA in Speech and Theatre from Western Kentucky University and a Master's in Theatre from ASU.



**We asked the cast of *A Wrinkle In Time*: “If you had the opportunity to travel through time, where would you want to go - the past or the future? What time period would you most like to visit and why?”**

**Rebecca Duckworth (*Meg*):** If I had the opportunity to travel through time, I would want to go to Egypt in the time of the pyramids. There are so many mysteries surrounding their construction and the extensive knowledge of the Egyptian culture, I would love to go back to have my questions answered! To see the grandeur of Pharaoh’s palace, their elaborate garments, the massive building projects in progress, the extensive mummification and burial process, and, since I’d be back in the right region and the right approximate era, I’d love to see the exodus of the Israelites and the parting of the Red Sea!



**Will Hightower (*Actor 4, Calvin*):** If I could travel through time, I would go into the future! I would travel to the time period that would normally be the end of my life. I would be able to see what the world is like after I’m gone and what kind of impact I had on others. If life is a book, it would be like I jumped to the end and read the last few pages. Knowing how the book, or life, ends would give me a sense of peace and confidence that it will all work out. When I travel back to my normal time, I have a new perspective on life and I wouldn’t ever “sweat the small stuff” because I saw, with my own time-traveling eyes, that it is truly all small stuff.



**Cullen Law (*Actor 1, Charles Wallace*):** I would travel to the end of the 1700’s to witness one of Mozart’s last concerts. After his death, Mozart was placed in an unmarked, ‘mass grave’, so I would also change history to make sure he received a proper burial.

**Yolanda London (*Actor 2, Mother*):** I would travel to the 1600’s, to the beginning of the North American Slave Trade. I have no knowledge of my ancestors and I would love to know where I’m from.



**Kyle Sorrell (*Actor 5, Father*):** I would go back in time to the beginning of the 20<sup>th</sup> Century, to meet all the great artists, playwrights and musicians who emerged, transformed their various crafts, and inspired future generations - Picasso, Dali, Louis Armstrong, Ibsen here I come!



**Debra K. Stevens (*Actor 3, Mrs. Whatsit*):** I would wish to travel back to Ancient Greece—a lifelong fascination. I would love to have been an audience member at one of the amphitheaters even though I know that as a woman, they wouldn’t let me anywhere near the marble disk at center stage.



Childsplay's 360° Theatre Resources for Schools  
Pre and Post Show Discussion Questions for *A Wrinkle in Time*  
2012-2013 Season  
[www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)

**Questions to Ask Before Seeing the Production:**

- 1) Define fantasy and science fiction. What are the differences between the two genres? Similarities? List popular movies and TV shows that fit into these genres. Discuss which they consider fantasy, science fiction or a combination of the two.
- 2) Since *A Wrinkle in Time* was published as a novel, many groups have suggested that it should be banned. What are some reasons that people would want to ban a story from being told or a book from being read? Is it ever acceptable to ban a book, TV show, film or other work of art?
- 3) The opening line for the novel *A Wrinkle in Time* is: "It was a dark and stormy night." What kind of mood does this sentence immediately evoke? How do you think this mood will be accomplished on stage? Describe how you think the stage will look. What will the lighting be like? What sounds will you hear?
- 4) Family is an important aspect of *A Wrinkle in Time*. Who are the members of your family? How do you help members of your family? In what ways do they help you?
- 5) If you had the opportunity to travel through time, would you do it? Where would you want to go - the past or the future? What time period of the past would you most like to visit and why?
- 6) A major theme in *A Wrinkle in Time* is good vs. evil. Why do you think this theme occurs so often in stories? What are examples of good vs. evil from the world around you?
- 7) In *A Wrinkle in Time*, one of the characters says, "Differences make problems...Why do you think your planet has wars? Why do you think people get confused and unhappy? Because no one trusts anyone who is different." The character is trying to pressure the others to conform. Have you ever been confronted by peer pressure? What did you do?
- 8) What is your definition of courage? Based on your definition, give examples of courageous people in the world today.

**Questions to Ask After Seeing the Production:**

- 1) Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who and Mrs. Which are three similar, yet distinct, characters? How are they distinguished from one another in the play? Think about costuming, lighting, sound, hair and makeup designs.
- 2) After Meg, Charles Wallace and Calvin are shown the Black Thing, Mrs. Whatsit warns them that it wants to overcome the Earth. She mentions several humans in history who have fought against the Black Thing. Who were they? Give some other examples of people who fight against evil in our world today.
- 3) How did the play demonstrate the act of "tessering"? Describe the way design elements (sound, lights, video, choreography, etc.) were used to accomplish it. If you were directing or designing the play, what other ideas would you incorporate to accomplish "tessering"?
- 4) Camazotz is a society where everyone is the same and all thoughts and feelings are controlled for you. What are the pros and cons of living in a society like Camazotz?
- 5) Is Charles Wallace different than kids his own age? In what ways? How is he similar and/or different than Meg? Than Calvin?
- 6) What characters in the play represent good? What characters represent evil? Are these characters always, 100% good or evil?
- 7) Who do you believe is the most courageous character in the play? Why?
- 8) What phrase does Meg repeat over and over again to defeat IT? What do you think the play is trying to say about love?
- 9) What do you think happens after *A Wrinkle in Time* is over? What direction do the main characters take in their lives? How are they better for having gone through the story?





## 5 Minute Activities:

1) Use the sentence "It was a dark and stormy night..." as the beginning for a 5 minute (timed) mind flow story writing assignment. Encourage students to just write what comes to their mind. If you have more time, have students read some aloud. Writing (4.W.4): Write narrative to develop real or imagined events

2) Meg has low self esteem. If you were her friend, what would you say to her to help her gain confidence? In 5 minutes, write Meg a letter of encouragement and include at least 3 positive things about her and state why she should be proud of them. Writing (4.W.1) Write opinion pieces, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

3) Popcorn Discussion: This is a quick activity that can launch a more in-depth discussion or can be used alone. Invite students to "pop" words or short phrases that come to mind when thinking of the play (images, lines, moments, feelings, sounds, etc.). Think of each thought as a piece of popcorn popping. Speaking & Listening (4.SL.2) Paraphrase portions of a text presented in diverse media and formats.

## 15 Minute Activities:

1) Try the Sequence Dance. Ask the students to identify no more than 5 major moments from the play. Starting with the first chosen moment and working in sequential order, the students, guided by the teacher create a series of movements that end up becoming the sequence dance that reviews the play's plot. To create these movements the teacher first asks all students to individually create the first action, all working at the same time. The teacher chooses one action (without identifying whose it is) and asks everyone to do that specific action for moment number one. They can use a four count to help unify everyone's actions and upon which to build more actions. The class works their way through chosen moments until they have a complete sequence dance. Dance (S1.C4.PO202): Create dance phrases that communicate meaning.

2) One of the complications with time travel is an idea known as the grandfather paradox. Stated simply: if you traveled to the past and accidentally killed your grandfather before your parents are born, there would be no way for you to exist. Therefore, you could not travel back in time in the first place. So how could you have killed your grandfather? Write a scene or short story where you go back in time and change something in the past. Make a list of ways you think your change might affect the future. Writing (5.W.3) Write narratives to develop real or imagined experiences or events using effective technique, descriptive details, and clear event sequences.

## 30 Minute Activities:

1) How long is a minute? Well, that may depend on who you ask. Try this activity and see if a minute means the same to everyone:  
-Get a stopwatch.  
-Choose people of different ages and genders and ask them to tell you when a minute is up after you start the stopwatch.  
-Record each person's name, age, and gender and how long each person thought a minute was.  
-Once you have recorded all your data, look for any patterns that might explain why some people think a minute is more or less than an actual minute. (3. MD. 3) Draw a scaled picture graph and a scaled bar graph to represent a data set with several categories. Look for and make use of pattern.

2) Create an inter-galactic travel brochure that describes one of Meg, Charles Wallace and Calvin's destinations in the play. Remember: travel brochures are used to entice people to come to a destination. Point out the positive features of the destination. Include photos or illustrations and testimonials from previous customers. 4.W.1 Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons and information.

3) When designing costumes for a show, a costume designer uses the characteristics about each character to influence what their costume will look like. Then the designer provides drawings to the director to show what he/she imagines the character's costumes will look like. These drawings are called costume renderings and often will have swatches of cloth attached to show the kind of materials from which the costumes will be made. Choose a character from the play and draw your own costume rendering for *A Wrinkle in Time*. Writing (4.W.9a) Describe in depth a character, setting, or event in a story or drama, drawing on specific details in the text.



Childsplay's  
360° Theatre Resources  
Printables for Kids

# A Wrinkle in Time

By John Glore

Adapted from the book by  
Madeleine L'Engle



Directed by Dwayne Hartford

Scenic Design by Aaron Jackson

Costume Design by Rebecca Akins

Lighting Design by Mike Eddy

Sound Design by Christopher Neumeyer

Stage Manager: Samantha Monson

## The Cast

Meg. . . . . Rebecca Duckworth  
Charles Wallace. . . . . Cullen Law  
Mother. . . . . Yolanda London  
Whatsit. . . . . Debra K. Stevens  
Calvin. . . . . Will Hightower  
Father. . . . . Kyle Sorrell

April 21-May 26, 2013

Tempe Center for the Arts, Theatre  
Recommended for ages 8 and up

This production is sponsored in part by:



Here are some things to think about  
and some activities to do now that  
you've seen *A Wrinkle in Time*,  
performed by Childsplay:

- Which character did you identify with mostly and why? If you could play any of the characters in the play, which one would you want to play? Why? What was your favorite part of the play?
- Think about the costumes, scenery, props, music and sound effects that were used in the production. What was something about the scenery that you liked? If you were a scenic or costume designer, what would you have done differently? How did the music and sound effects contribute to the production?
- What was the big problem in the play? How was the problem solved?
- How was the play different from the book? Which parts of the book weren't included in the play? If those parts were to be added to the play, how would you envision the staging of the scenes?



We love to hear from our  
audiences. Send your com-  
ments, questions and/or reviews  
to:

Childsplay  
900 S. Mitchell  
Tempe, AZ 85281

Or you can email us: [info@childsplayaz.org](mailto:info@childsplayaz.org)

For more information about Childsplay includ-  
ing information on our Academy classes for  
students, go to our website:

[www.childsplayaz.org](http://www.childsplayaz.org)

## Word Search

Find the hidden words in the puzzle. Words can be backwards, diagonal, across, up or down. Cross the words out as you find them.

P	R	C	V	L	Y	L	W	A	N	U	T	V	L	S
J	I	V	A	G	N	R	B	B	X	B	C	U	Y	S
O	M	H	T	M	I	I	L	U	K	C	A	W	L	F
G	F	N	S	N	A	R	V	B	L	G	R	H	I	L
O	K	N	K	D	T	Z	A	L	F	X	E	A	M	O
N	I	L	W	K	N	W	O	X	A	M	S	T	A	V
U	E	L	M	G	M	E	P	T	R	C	S	S	F	E
Y	S	A	T	N	A	F	I	O	Z	L	E	I	C	V
G	S	A	R	B	N	I	T	R	O	F	T	T	U	N
H	T	W	W	L	B	A	I	O	F	M	U	R	R	Y
N	X	W	E	N	V	Z	S	H	W	X	I	N	B	W
C	O	I	H	I	A	S	T	R	O	N	O	M	Y	W
D	R	I	N	I	Y	R	Z	C	P	R	E	F	H	Q
U	C	M	X	O	C	J	U	G	J	N	W	O	U	O
P	O	S	H	M	A	H	F	R	T	B	O	K	Q	K

ASTRONOMY  
FAMILY  
CALVIN  
CAMAZOTZ  
FANTASY  
FORTINBRAS  
FRIENDSHIP  
LOVE  
MURRY  
OMNIVATOR  
TESSERACT  
URIEL  
WHATSIT  
WHICH  
WHO  
WRINKLE

Use these questions as prompts for writing in your journal:

◇You're going on a journey through time and space. Where would you go? What would you bring with you and why?

◇Meg has low self esteem. If you were her friend, what would you tell her to help her feel better about herself? What are positive things about Meg?

◇What are the pros and cons of living in Camazotz? Would you want to live there? Why or why not?

## Character Traits:

Think about the many words you could use to describe Meg, Charles Wallace and Calvin. Choose three adjectives that describe each of these characters. Challenge yourself by not repeating any of the adjectives.

Meg

Charles Wallace

Calvin

1)

2)

3)