

LA JOLLA PLAYHOUSE TO HOST LATINX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL NOVEMBER 21 – 23, 2025

**Festival to Be Co-Produced with TuYo Theatre,
Curated by TuYo Co-Artistic Director Dr. Maria Patrice Amon**

La Jolla, CA – La Jolla Playhouse announces the eighth Latinx New Play Festival, running November 21 – 23, co-produced with TuYo Theatre and curated by TuYo Co-Artistic Director Dr. Maria Patrice Amon.

The Latinx New Play Festival is a celebration of new theatrical work by Latinx playwrights from across the country. Originally launched in 2016 at San Diego Repertory Theatre, the festival expands the presence of Latinx stories and artists on the American stage and spotlights the broad range of today's Latinx experience. More than 150 play submissions were received this year, from which these four scripts were selected to be rehearsed and developed at the Playhouse, culminating in a live public reading at the festival in November.

The 2025 Latinx New Play Festival projects include ***Ama. Egg. Oyá.***, by Lori Felipe-Barkin; ***NOVIOS***, by Arturo Luíz Soria; ***Our Lady of the San Diego Convention Center***, by Mario Vega; and ***Tempt Me***, by Andrew Rincón.

"This year's Latinx New Play Festival once again showcases a terrific lineup of new plays by an incredibly talented group of playwrights. TuYo is thrilled to partner with the Playhouse to develop these new works and collaborate with artists from across the country to bring their scripts to life," said Amon.

The Latinx New Play Festival is free to attend and will include a robust schedule of readings, panel discussions and other events. For more information, please visit lajollaplayhouse.org.

La Jolla Playhouse is a place where artists and audiences come together to create what's new and next in the American theatre, from Tony Award-winning productions, to imaginative programs for young audiences, to interactive experiences outside our theatre walls. Founded in 1947 by Gregory Peck, Dorothy McGuire and Mel Ferrer, the Playhouse is currently led by Tony Award winner Christopher Ashley, the Rich Family Artistic Director of La Jolla Playhouse, and Managing Director Debby Buchholz. The Playhouse is internationally renowned for the development of new plays and musicals, including mounting 120 world premieres, commissioning 70 new works, and sending 37 productions to Broadway, garnering a total of 42 Tony Awards, as well as the 1993 Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre.

TuYo Theatre is a professional Latinx Theatre committed to creating and producing theatre in the San Diego area that tells stories from and by diverse Latinx perspectives. TuYo is committed to professional artistic rigor, forging authentic connections, developing community artists, and furthering the discourses that affect our community.

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LATINX NEW PLAY FESTIVAL PROJECTS***NOVIOS***

By Arturo Luíz Soria
Friday, November 21 at 7pm

A motley crew of cooks hurls insults, grab ass, and compete to be the most macho en el calor of a gringo's failing kitchen, all under the thumb of Chef Gallo. When a flamboyant new dishwasher sparks an affair with Luiz, Gallo's ward, the cooks' banter turns deadly. Gallo must wrangle the men to keep the restaurant open while wrestling with her own demons that threaten to push Luiz away forever.

Tempt Me

By Andrew Rincón
Saturday, November 22 at 3pm

God starts the world with light. But then the Devil (call him Lucy) suddenly appears on stage. He speaks into a microphone and asks the audience to imagine the stage as a familiar Garden. But things seem strange in Paradise. There's a lonely lisping Animal, inventing Dance. Eve is overworked and facing a crisis. Adam's a hot idiot. And when a mysterious woman sneaks her way into the Garden, Lucy finds himself taking the audience on a metatheatrical journey that twists narratives of good and evil.

Ama. Egg. Oyá

By Lori Felipe-Barkin
Saturday, November 22 at 7pm

A papaya falls from between Ama's legs and breaks into pieces...Shit! She's miscarrying again. Ama. Egg. Oyá. is about Ama, a woman from Hialeah, Florida, hell-bent on having a child. It's no wonder she feels an affinity towards Oyá, a barren African Orisha. As told through a series of fables, this bilingual play blends modern-day Miami and Cuban beats with Santería to examine infertility, motherhood, and maternal ambivalence.

Our Lady of the San Diego Convention Center

By Mario Vega
Sunday, November 23 at 2pm

Lulu and Milli are hired to work as youth care workers at the San Diego Convention Center, which is being used as a shelter for young migrant girls. As time passes, Lulu and Milli are tested by the changing rules and restrictions at their job. This new play is written by San Diego local, Mario Vega, a graduate of San Diego State University, and the playwright and book writer for *Pásale Pásale* featured at La Jolla Playhouse's 2024 WOW Festival.

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ARTIST BIOGRAPHIES

Dr. Maria Patrice Amon is a director, producer, scholar and leader. Directing credits include: *Pásale Pásale* (La Jolla Playhouse 2024 WOW Festival), *Hoops* (Milwaukee Chamber Theatre), *A Skeptic and a Bruja* (Urbanite Theatre), *Group! The Musical* (Passage Theatre), *Hoopla!* (La Jolla Playhouse POP Tour), *Azul* (Diversions Theatre), *Mojada* (UC San Diego), *A Zoom of One's Own* (CSUSM), *Ich Bin Ein Berliner* (Theatre Lab), *DREAM HOUSE* (CSUSM/TuYo Theatre), *Fade* and *The Madres* (Moxie Theatre), *Lydia* (Brown Bag Theatre Company). Dramaturg: *Manifest Destinitis* and *Beachtown* (San Diego Rep). Patrice was a 2020 National Directing Fellow and an Associate Artistic Director at San Diego Repertory Theatre. She is also a co-founder and co-Artistic Director of TuYo Theatre, a professional Latinx Theatre Company in San Diego, with whom the Playhouse collaborated for *On Her Shoulders We Stand* at the 2022 WOW Festival. Currently a Latinx Theatre Commons Steering Committee member and a board member for NNPN, Patrice is an assistant professor at CSUSM. JD: California Western School of Law. Ph.D.: UC Irvine. mariapatriceamon.com

Lori Felipe-Barkin is an English-Spanish playwright, performer and voice-over artist based out of Miami and NYC. Most recently, her short play, *The Peepholeman*, premiered at BAM as part of the 2024 Weasel Festival. Her three-act play, *Flor Underwater*, was selected for the 2020 Play Penn New Play Conference, received an Honorable Mention for the 2021 Terrence McNally Award, and was a finalist for the 2023 Risk Theatre Award, the 2023 Austin Film Festival Playwriting Competition, and the 2024 Royer Award. She has had play readings at Playwrights Horizons, INTAR Theatre, and lati Theater. She holds an MFA in playwriting from Brooklyn College.

Andrew Rincón (he/she/they) is a Queer Colombian-American playwright, screenwriter, and world builder. Their work blends fantasy, modern Latine mythology and Queer fabulation. Their plays have been developed with The Latinx Playwrights Circle, The Austin Latino New Play Festival, The Amoralists Theatre Company, Pork Filled Productions (Seattle), Out Front Productions (Atlanta). Andrew was a member of INKtank Lab for Playwrights of Color (2017) and 2017 Fornés Playwriting Workshop (Chicago). He is the winner of the 2018 Chesley/Bumbalo Grant for writers of Gay and Lesbian Theatre and New Light Theatre Project's New Light New Voices Award (2019). Dramatist Guild Foundation Fellow (19-20), MacDowell Fellow (Winter 2020). Skidmore College's Visiting Playwright in Residence (21-22). Finalist in LGBTQ Drama for the 36th Lambda Literary Awards 2024.

Mario Vega is a playwright/lyricist/digital artist from Southern California. He is a graduate of San Diego State University and is currently obtaining his MFA in playwriting at UCLA. He has written the book and lyrics to four full-length musicals, in addition to multiple plays. His work explores Latine identity and the borderlands through the lenses of satire and fantasy.

Arturo Luíz Soria is an Obie Award-winning actor and playwright. His one-(wo)man show, *Ni Mi Madre*, premiered at Rattlestick Theater in the summer of 2021. It was a *NY Times* Critic's Pick and was nominated for a Drama Desk Award, Outer Circle Critics Award, a Drama League Award, and won an Obie Award for Best Performance. It recently had its European premiere at the 2024 Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He currently has three projects in the works: a new solo show, *Sin Padre*, commissioned by Rattlestick Theatre; a screen adaptation of the novel *Bodega Dreams* for Black Bar Mitzvah Productions and Votiv Films, slated to be directed by Ángel Manuel Soto; and a new play, *La Kasa Mita'echo*, commissioned by the Lucille Lortel Theatre's Alcove New Play Development Program. Arturo holds an MFA from Yale School of Drama, a BFA from The Theatre School at DePaul University, and was part of the inaugural class at Lena Waithe's Hillman Grad TV Writing Mentorship Program.

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