

Reading

A Wrinkle In Time Theater Review – A Stunning And Endearing Experience

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Jennifer Lunz · Chicago On-Stage · September 22, 2026 · 2 min read



Lifeline Theatre's A Wrinkle in Time (Photos: Josh Bernaski)

By Jennifer Lunz and Weston Gleffe

Chicago's Lifeline Theater (6912 N Glenwood Ave) is off to an amazing start with its new season, showcasing a new stage adaptation of Madeleine L'Engle's classic science fiction/fantasy novel, *A Wrinkle in Time*. The beautifully designed adaptation was created by ensemble member James Sie, and directed by ensemble member Heather Currie.

Ever since her father vanished under mysterious circumstances, Meg Murray's life has been spiraling out of control. But one dark and stormy night, Mrs. Whatsit, Mrs. Who, and Mrs. Which, appear with a promise to help rescue him from the monstrous darkness that threatens the universe. Join Meg, her brother Charles Wallace, their pal Calvin, and a host of extraterrestrial friends and foes, as they journey into the heart of a terrible evil in the hope of reuniting a fragmented family.

A Wrinkle in Time is one of the best plays my husband and I have seen in quite a long time. Lifeline Theater has the rare gift of successfully telling a huge, impactful story in a very intimate setting, while also utilizing minimalist, yet effective props, costumes, clever puppetry set design, and sound effects, all bringing the tale to life on stage.

The play also stands out due to the talented cast. The acting is wonderful and very heartfelt. Some actors performed multiple roles, yet seamlessly made all of them believable. The best performances in my personal opinion are by Rohan Link Francisco, who portrays young, brilliant and precocious Charles Wallace, and Manali Sunkara, as his sister, Meg Murray, who deals with many things outside her control.

The rest of the ensemble was also phenomenal including Sam Hook as Meg's friend, Calvin, Amanda Link (Mrs. Whatsit), Cami Stuckert (Who), Jordan Gleaves (Which), Victoria Cruz (Mother) and Brian Tochterman (Father).

Referring to the creative use of the small space with impressive set design, props and costumes, Saskia Bakker's imaginative puppetry was also a standout feature of this play. Whether it was a dog head and tail for the Murray's dog, Fortinbras, or the conformity brainwashed children of Camazotz, everything was brought to life in a simple, highly effective way.

Other production highlights include Jazmin Aurora Medina's out of this world costume design, entertaining lighting techniques by Sarah Riffle, and so much more!

A Wrinkle in Time is a story that is dense and consists of concepts that could be hard to grasp. However, Lifeline has captured the book's endearing core elements of love, self acceptance and the celebration of individuality (which is more relevant today than ever). In an age where so many performances feel profit driven, and artificially hyped, this one feels like a genuine artistic production for the sake of the art of story telling and theater, and that touched us both as audience members.

If you want to be entertained by a play that touches your heart, brain and entire being, this is a production not to be missed.

Photos: Josh Bernaski

For more information or to purchase tickets, please visit the Lifeline Theater [website](#), or call (773) 761-4477.

Production runs September 20-October 18, 2026.

*Recommned for children 7 and older.

