

OLLI & WIRTZ THEATER IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE

Northwestern | WIRTZ CENTER

MAN OF LA MANCHA



Go behind the scenes at Northwestern University's Wirtz Center to learn from and interact with artists producing the upcoming production of MAN OF LA MANCHA.

Friday, April 4, 1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.: Background and context on Wirtz's version of THE MAN OF LA MANCHA with guests from the cast and artistic teams. Q&A and discussion.

Friday, April 11, 1:15 p.m. – 3:15 p.m.: Backstage tour and presentation from design and creatives.

Friday, April 25, 7:30 p.m.: Opening night performance and post-show talkback.

Cost: \$40. Includes one ticket to the opening night performance, OLLI exclusive talk-back, tour, presentations, and discussion group sessions.

- Free parking on opening night.

Location: Ethel M. Barber Theater, 30 Arts Circle Drive, Evanston

Man of La Mancha is one of the world's most popular musicals; the original 1965 production won five Tony Awards, including Best Musical. Inspired by Miguel de Cervantes' 17th-century masterwork *Don Quixote*, *Man of La Mancha* was originally set during the Spanish Inquisition when Cervantes is in prison awaiting trial. This re-imagined version, directed by theatre department chair and Goodman Theatre Resident Director Henry Godinez, is set in a detention center on the US-Mexico border, where a growing group of migrants from across the world, being held and readied for deportation, are looking for safety and opportunity. Cervantes and his fellow prisoners perform a play-within-a-play, telling the story of the elderly Alonso Quijana, who renames himself Don Quixote and goes on a quest to right all wrongs in the world. The rousing score includes the classic numbers "The Impossible Dream," "I, Don Quixote," "Dulcinea," "I Really Like Him" and "Little Bird."

During this three-session study group, members will learn about the play's themes, preview, and interact with the production's scenic, costume, and lighting designs, tour the Wirtz Center, and attend opening night (April 25th) including a post-show talkback. For returning OLLI members, you will see familiar faces and spaces, but new creations are always in process at Wirtz!

Open to all spring OLLI members. Register and pay through your OLLI online registration account (Augusoft) beginning 9 a.m. Monday, February 3, 2025.