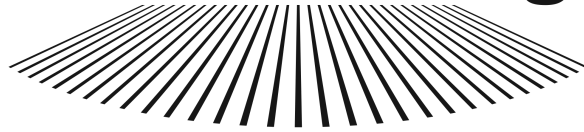


TheWesternStage



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Written by Kathy Cusson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

An Enemy of the Pueblo

(A modern adaption of *An Enemy of the People*)

by Josefina López

A woman's quest for truth sets her community ablaze. A riveting tale of courage in the face of corruption and the steep cost of integrity!

THE STORY:

An Enemy of the Pueblo is a compelling drama by acclaimed playwright Josefina López. Set in the close-knit community of Milagros, the play follows the Del Rio family as they navigate complex social pressures and personal convictions. When the Del Rio family uncovers a secret that threatens their town's future, loyalties are tested, ghosts emerge from the past, and the line between hero and traitor becomes dangerously blurred.

With López's powerful dialogue and magical realism, *An Enemy of the Pueblo* is a thought-provoking, cultural exploration of how the fear of being ostracized can either silence the truth or inspire extraordinary courage. Full of complex characters and emotional depth, this riveting play examines how both personal ghosts and community pressure can influence our most crucial decisions, and ultimately asks what price we're willing to pay for standing up for what's right. Don't miss this gripping drama of courage, corruption, and the price of speaking truth to power!

BACKGROUND OF AN ENEMY OF THE PUEBLO:

An Enemy of the Pueblo draws inspiration from Josefina López's deep understanding of Mexican American & Indigenous communities, and the complex social dynamics that can arise within tight-knit cultural groups. The play is a contemporary reimagining of Henrik Ibsen's classic 1882 play "An Enemy of the People," which tells the story of a doctor who discovers contamination in his town's water supply only to be ostracized when economic interests clash with public health concerns.

***** MORE *****

Like Ibsen's original work, López's adaptation explores the conflict between personal integrity and societal norms, examining what happens when an individual stands against majority opinion for the sake of truth. The play examines themes of truth, justice, family loyalty, and moral courage while reflecting López's perspective on how personal identity intersects with community expectations in Latin American contexts.

THE AUTHOR:

Josefina López is an acclaimed playwright, screenwriter, and theatre producer known for works that explore the Latinx experience in America. Born in Mexico and raised in Los Angeles, López is perhaps best known for writing "Real Women Have Curves," which was adapted into the award-winning film of the same name. Her work frequently addresses themes of cultural identity, gender, immigration, and social justice. López founded CASA 0101 Theater in Boyle Heights, Los Angeles, which is dedicated to providing opportunities for Latinx writers, directors, and actors. Her plays have been produced throughout the United States and internationally, establishing her as an important voice in contemporary American theater.

ARTISTIC TEAM:

Directed by: Estrella Esparza-Johnson

Assistant Director: Jeffrey T. Heyer

Music Director: Jeremiah Martinez

Stage Manager: Mireya Pamatz

Scenic Designer: Dani Maupin

Costume Designer: Jess Moreno Caycho

Lighting Designer: John Englehorn

Sound Designer: Daniel Garcia

Hair & Makeup Designer: Reina Cruz Vazquez

Props Designer: Thomas Verdos

CAST:

Magdalena (Magda) Del Rio: Jovita Molina

Pedro Del Rio: Carlos Cortez

Petra Del Rio: Kiara Plaza

Eugenio/Señor Reyes : Leonard Maestas

Man in Black: Deanalís Arocho Resto*

**Member of Artists Equity Association, the professional union of actors & stage managers in the United States*

O'Connor: Ethan Stocks

Juan Jose/Arturo/El Sapo: Bryan Torrez

Luis/Laura's Husband: Quentin Gutierrez

Laura: Misha Martinez

Padre Lazaro: Ricardo Ibarra

Doña Campeche: Leti Contreras

Elvia: Margarita Covarrubias

Featured Singer: Yarelle Ruelas

Ensemble/ Pedro understudy: Aleah Aguilar

Clarita Del Rio: Milly De La Vera

Woman of the Pueblo: Monica Romero

WHEN:

September 27, 28, October 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, 18, and 19, 2025
Fridays & Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

WHERE:

The Studio Theatre on the Hartnell College Main Campus, 411 Central Avenue, Salinas, CA.

TICKETING INFORMATION:

Adult \$28; Seniors/Military/Teachers \$24; Hartnell Students FREE; Other Students \$16; Hartnell Faculty/Staff \$15; Student Rush \$5; Youths (5-15) \$12 ** Because of this play's content, parents are advised to read the [Content Advisory](#) before bringing youths to a performance.

Group tickets available by contacting the TWS Box Office.

Online tickets and more information: westernstage.com/tickets or call (831) 755-6816.

TWS Box Office is open Wednesday-Saturday 5:00-8:00pm. and Sundays with performances 12-3pm. Leave VM to get callback within 24 hours.

ACCESSIBILITY:

This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals requiring other accommodations should contact the ticket office at least one week prior to the event.

CURRENT COVID-19 INFORMATION

Masking is not required at this time, but Ticket holders are asked to not attend if they have temperature or other symptoms, or have had a close encounter with COVID-19, or have recently tested positive for COVID-19. This policy is subject to change based increase infection rates and or Hartnell College policy updates.

ABOUT THE WESTERN STAGE – ESTABLISHED 1974:

The Western Stage (TWS) is a professionally managed, community-based theatre company and educational program that provides opportunities for high-level artistic experiences. Led by its educational mission and believing that strong arts experiences are important for building innovative, creative, and resilient communities, TWS offers a robust variety of programs designed for personal growth and skill development in a safe space where students and theatre enthusiasts may engage in theatre production while working side-by-side with theatre professionals. Through its annual production season, TWS provides strong pathways for artists throughout the continuum of a career in theatre and its related performing arts. TWS presents new works that speak to the history and culture of the Salinas Valley and provides educational opportunities for students of all skill levels to explore and develop their unique talent. www.westernstage.com

ABOUT HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT – ESTABLISHED 1920

Located in the heart of Salinas Valley, Hartnell Community College District is a leading institution serving over 12,000 students annually across our main campus in Salinas, the Alisal Campus, and education centers in King City, Castroville, and Soledad. HCCD is a Seal of Excelencia Certified institution and a recognized Hispanic-serving institution since 2000. We offer associate and bachelor's degrees and certificate programs to prepare students for successful transfer to four-year universities or immediate entry into the workforce. [Learn more](#) about our programs and initiatives.

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