



OpenStage Theatre & Company  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**OpenStage Kicks Off 52nd Season With A World Premiere by Local Playwright**  
UNC Graduate Miguel Muñoz's Original Work Will Play at The OBC Wine Project

**FORT COLLINS** – Written and directed by Miguel Muñoz, *October Surprise*, is set to open OpenStage's 2024-2025 Season this month. Miguel Muñoz is a local actor and playwright, and a graduate of The University of Northern Colorado. Muñoz was last seen playing Oscar in OpenStage's *SWEAT* last season. A world premiere play, *October Surprise* will hold true to OpenStage's etcetera show style by performing at the nontraditional venue, The OBC Wine Project.

Playwright and Director Miguel Muñoz is looking forward to the production, "We're so incredibly excited to put this show on at such a crucial time for our country. I'm delighted that OpenStage is committed to producing bold work - this time choosing my play *October Surprise*. I can't wait for audiences to experience the creatively contemporary and powerful theatre experience we've crafted."

In the midst of a high-tension Texas senate race, a political crisis at the border, and a sibling rivalry, Maria, a passionate, strong-willed immigration lawyer and activist is running against her brother Antonio, the new charismatic face of conservatism. When Maria uncovers a secret that could decimate her brother's campaign and his life, she must decide if her family ties mean more than her ideals. *October Surprise* is a heart-wrenching look at the disparity between family loyalty and personal convictions in America.

*October Surprise* plays from September 28 through October 12. All performances start at 7:30pm. Visit [openstage.com/october-surprise](https://openstage.com/october-surprise) for a complete list of performances, including a free student/educator performance (September 26) and a pay-what-you-can performance (October 3).

CONTENT WARNING: Mature language, Mature subject matter.

Tickets for *October Surprise* are \$15-\$27. Tickets are available online at [openstage.com/october-surprise](http://openstage.com/october-surprise) or by calling The Lincoln Center Box Office at 970.221.6730. The box office is open 12 pm–6 pm Tuesday–Saturday.

OpenStage's Red Carpet Sponsors are KRFC 88.9 FM and Warren & Zoann Little Dusenbury Charitable Trust. Season Sponsors are Avogadro's Number, John & Anne Blair, FoCo Food Trucks, Mike & Marsha Marberry, Odell Brewing Co, Organic Alternatives, and Ken & Carol Severson. Grant support is provided by Downtown Development Authority, City of Fort Collins Fort Fund, Art Works, Colorado Creative Industries, OTTERCARES Dollars for Doers Grant Recipient, and AWE Fund.

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### **Performance Dates**

Thursday @ 7:30 pm: September 26 (Student/Educator), October 3 (Pay What You Can), October 10

Friday @ 7:30 pm: October 4, October 11

Saturday @ 7:30 pm: September 28 (Opening Night), October 5, October 12 (Closing Night)

Sunday @ 7:30 pm: October 6

### **Performance Location**

Playing at The OBC Wine Project (824 E. Linden Street, Fort Collins 80524)

### **Cast**

Maria

Antonio

Cindy

Dolores

Lake Roberts/The Principal

Ricky/Ensemble

Ensemble

Jordan Hull

Davie Gonzalez

Jessica MacMaster

Susan Conceicao

Stephen Gillespie

Kimber Freestone-Hoven

Jolie Beth Boudreaux

### **Creative and Production Team**

Playwright/Director

Assistant Director/Stage Manager/Sound Designer

Lighting Designer

Costume Designer/Head Seamstress

Properties Designer

Set Construction/Master Carpenter

Light and Sound Board Operator

Stage Violence Coordinator

Production Manager/Intimacy Coordinator

Miguel Muñoz

Victoria Villalobos

David Grinnell

Alicia Muñoz

Kate Austin-Gröen

Kimber Freestone-Hoven

TBA

James Burns

Kate Austin-Gröen