**AUDITION NOTICE**

Echo Theatre is a professional, non-profit theater dedicated to producing works by female- identifying playwrights. For Echo’s 22nd Season, Echo is casting two [mainstage productions](https://www.echotheatre.org/high-dive) and six staged readings as part of [Echo Reads](https://www.echotheatre.org/readings). There are no Equity contracts available for the 2020 Season, but we strongly encourage AEA members to submit their headshot and resume to mail@echotheatre.org for future seasons. Producers from One-Thirty Productions will also be sitting in at the auditions. One-Thirty presents plays at the Bath House weekdays and weekends at 1:30pm for active seniors and the general public.

**AUDITION DATES & LOCATION**

Friday, Jan 24th - 6:30-10:30pm

Saturday, Jan 25th - 12 - 6pm

Bath House Cultural Center / Theater

521 E Lawther Dr, Dallas, TX 75218

**Please bring 2 sets of your headshot/resume for Echo and One-Thirty Productions.**

Echo 2020 presents two regional premiers:

**THE OTHER FELIX by Reina Hardy,** a noir inspired thriller, marrying film noir and theater to create a tale of obsessive love. March/April 2020.

**IT'S MY PARTY! by Ann Timons,** to commemorate this year’s 100th anniversary of the 19th Amendment, this play reveals and explores the power struggle within the Suffragist Parties as they fight for the right to vote. August/September 2020.

**Plus twelve staged readings of six plays:**

Echo Reads is a staged reading series that aims to make theatre accessible to all. Every Echo reads offers Free Admission and this season, Echo is partnering with community organizations all across Dallas to bring theatre into artistically-underserved areas. This year, Echo Reads will run from January to June with two presentations of a new play every month. Each play will have **two four-hour rehearsals prior to the first performance followed by two public readings**. Rehearsals are typically scheduled in the week prior to the performance. Performance dates are non-negotiable. Each actor will receive an artistic stipend of $75.

Sign up for an audition appointment below using [the link here](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050D49A4AF2DA6F85-echo). Make sure to include your name, contact information, and which play(s)/role(s) you are interested in.

Play descriptions, character breakdowns, and key dates are available below:

**CHURCH by Young Jean Lee**

**directed by Caroline Hamilton**

**\*CHURCH has been cast. Please come out and experience a reading.\***

Korean-American Playwright Young Jean Lee transforms her life-long struggle with Christianity into an exuberant church service that tests the expectations of religious and non-religious alike, blurring the line between the stage and the pulpit. Never content with simple parody, Lee aims to give her audience a true religious experience.

**Tuesday, January 21 / 7:30pm**

**Arts Mission Oak Cliff**

410 Windomere Ave Dallas TX 75208

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**Wednesday, January 22 / 7:30pm**

**Lochwood Library Black Box Theater**

11221 Lochwood Blvd Dallas TX 75218

***I AND YOU* by Lauren Gunderson**

**Directed by Eric Berg**

Caroline hates poetry. Home-bound from a life-threatening illness, she has decided isolation is the safest way to spend her few-remaining days. But Anthony, a devoted Walt Whitman enthusiast, has other plans. A play about how a mundane school project on *Leaves of Grass* can grow into life-altering event. An examination of youth, human connection, and what it means to die young.

*American Theatre Critics Association New Play Award* (2014)

*Susan Smith Blackburn Prize*, Finalist (2014)

 **CAROLINE - \*this role has been cast\***

**ANTHONY – high school aged, African American.** Intelligent, persistent. He has always succeeded in life.

**Key Dates:**Rehearsals – Feb 13th & 14th, 6 -10pm
Performances – Feb 15th, 7:30pm & Feb 16th, 2:30pm

**Saturday, February 15 / 7:30pm**  **Half-Price Books Flagship Store**

5803 E Northwest Hwy Dallas TX 75231

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**Sunday, February 16 / 2:30pm** **Lochwood Library Black Box Theater**

11221 Lochwood Blvd Dallas TX 75218

***DO NO HARM*****by Anyika McMillan-Herod**

**Directed by vickie washington**

Co-production with Soul Rep Theatre Company

  **\*DO NO HARM has been cast. Please come out and experience a reading.\***

In the mid-1800s, Dr. John Simms—the “father of modern gynecology”—conducted a series of gruesome medical experiments on three enslaved women: Betsey, Anarcha, and Lucy. *Do No Harm* attempts to imagine what their lives would have been like during those experiments, giving a voice to unheard women of the past. A harrowing tale of faith, found family, and a dark reminder of who we sacrificed in the name of science.

**Tuesday, March 17 / 7:30pm**

**Lochwood Library Black Box Theater**

11221 Lochwood Blvd Dallas TX 75218

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**Wednesday, March 18 / 7:30pm**

**African American Museum - Fair Park**

3536 Grand Ave Dallas TX 75210

**THE OTHER FELIX by Reina Hardy**

**Directed by Kateri Cale**

**The Story:**

Meet Felix Bettleman, small-time card shark waiting on that lucky streak that sets him up for life. But life has other plans; including a bad case of identity theft and Detective Marlow Sharpe, a dame with a keen mind, kind heart, and a disinclination to reveal either.  Unravel the secret of the other Felix to reveal how a mystery woman named Lily fits into the picture. A comic Scene  Noir  about the power of obsessive love. This play will utilize video of the actors with live action.

**Roles:**

**FELIX BETTLEMAN / THE OTHER FELIX** – Felix Bettleman is a small-time gambler. Nervous, desperate, snide and distrustful, he needs no friends and senses he has enemies. He states that he’s Jewish. The Other Felix is poetic, obviously and madly in love with Lily Arkidner and carries in every bone of his body the promise of wild romance and adventure. Otherwise, the two look precisely alike. As the play progresses, the audience will be able to recognize The Other Felix as Felix, but then again, not Felix.

**MARLOWE SHARPE / LILY ARKIDNER** – Marlowe Sharpe is a confident, female private eye. She speaks in the lingo of the old film noir heroines. She’s cocky and smart but can also be shocking and base, depending on the situation. She loves to “play the game” of cat and mouse. Lily Arkidner, although played by the actress that plays Marlow, is obviously not Marlow. The clothes are different- a dress, not a suit. She seems younger. The unnatural flair is gone, replaced by what can only be described as a constant, low level fear. She may be low-key crazy. Life scares her. She loves Felix Bettleman.

**Key Dates:**

**Rehearsals start:** March 2, 2020

**Run:** April 9-25, 2020 at The Black Box Theater at Lochwood Library

***THE GREAT LONELY ROAMER & THE NIGHT THAT CHANGED EVERYTHING***

**by Christina Quintana**

**Directed by Jane Farris**

There are only two polar bears left on the planet. On New Year’s Eve, one bear searches suburban Texas for a new, air-conditioned home, while his sister attempts to track him down in New York City. A gun-toting trucker tries to race his pregnant wife to the hospital. A first date laced with supercharged marijuana takes a turn at a police stop. A wild night ensues—a night that will affect the future of an entire species…

**CASSANDRA – 20s, black**.Supremely smart; big personality and not afraid to use it.

**OWEN – 20s, white.** Awkward in a charming way; wishes he were more of a lion.

**POLAR BEAR** – **Any age/race**. Erudite, well-spoken, even tempered; a mature bear.

**POLAR BEAR SISTER – Any age/race.** Brutally honest; she is quite refined in her youth, but punky as hell in her old age.

**DANIELLE – 20s – 50s, black.** Bit of a control freak; in adulthood, the successful Zoological Officer at Ice World; Owen’s sister.

**COURTNEY (doubles as ISAAC) –** **20s, non-white.** Baby-queer new to the LGBT world and really excited about sexuality and anything issue-oriented; Danielle’s best friend from high school.

**ISAAC –** Cassandra and Owen’s bright-eyed 10 year old son.

**DIRT (doubles as REBO) – 20s-30s, Latino or white.** The beautiful epitome of South Texas blue collar with delusions of grandeur; Raideen’s husband.

**REBO –**An ambitious scientist working for Ice World, Texas; into Danielle; Dirt and Raideen’s grown son.

**RAIDEEN – 20s to 30s, Latina or white.** Loud and brash, but surprisingly sharp; she loves the hell out of Dirt.

**OFFICER SNOW/BURNS (doubles as MR. WIGGIN**) **– 20s, white.** A baby police officer, new to the force and overcompensating hard.

**MR WIGGIN–** a Maine lawyer.

**Key Dates:
Rehearsals –** TBA (April 12th-20th)
**Performances –** April 21st & 22nd, 7:30pm

**Tuesday, April 21 / 7:30pm**

**Lochwood Library Black Box Theater**

11221 Lochwood Blvd Dallas TX 75218

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**Wednesday, April 22 / 7:30pm**

**Owenwood Farm & Neighbor Space**

1451 John West Road Dallas TX 75228

***SAMSARA* by Lauren Yee**

**Directed by TBA**

Katie and Craig are having a baby…with a surrogate…who lives in India. Craig reluctantly travels to the subcontinent, where he meets Suraiya—their less-than-thrilled surrogate who dreams of med school. As all three “parents” anxiously wait for the baby to be born, the “mothers” are haunted by phantoms from their imaginations, in the form of a provocative Frenchman and an inquisitive fetus. An absurd and epic take on modern day colonialism and what to expect when you’re expecting someone else’s child.

 *Bay Area Playwrights Festival*, Winner(2012)

**KATIE – 30s-40s, white.** Yearning for a different life, but terrified of flying. Struggling to conceive; desperately wants to be a mother.

**CRAIG – 30s-40s, white.** Crossing the street is a big deal to him. Tries to be helpful. Katie’s husband.

**SURAIYA – teens-20s, Indian.** Running from her past. Dreaming of becoming a doctor. Has never been pregnant before; does not want to be a mother.

**FRENCHMAN – any age, white.** Ridiculous, but enticing. The kind of guy you date even though you know you shouldn’t. Katie’s fantasy.

**AMIT – a fetus, non-white.** Precocious, persistent. New to the world and taking it by storm. Suraiya’s imagined child.

**READER** – reads crucial stage directions.

**Key Dates:**Rehearsals – TBA (May 10th - 18th)
Performances – May 19th & 20th, 7:30pm

**Tuesday, May 19 / 7:30pm**

**Lochwood Library Black Box Theater**

11221 Lochwood Blvd Dallas TX 75218

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**Wednesday, May 20 / 7:30pm**

**Bath House Cultural Center**

521 E Lawther Dr, Dallas, TX 75218

***THERE IS EVIL IN THIS HOUSE* by Natalie Nicole Dressel**

**Directed by David Fisher**

This coming of age story follows a trans-woman as she unwinds the many twisted threads of her life: her mother is manic, her new step-dad is a con-man, and the ghost of her dead father won’t stop rearranging the furniture. This auto-biographic play weaves therapy, horror, Hamlet, and late-night talk shows together into a meta-theatrical examination of Penny’s continually evolving relationship with her mother and how the past can—quite literally—haunt you.

*Eugene O'Neill National Playwright Conference*, finalist (2019)

**PENNY—20s-30s.** Narrator. Pop-culture-obsessed trans-woman.

**BEN—10 to 12.** A bit chubby. Misplaced. A dreamer. An intense force of goodness and joy who is failing, desperate and scared. PENNY’s younger self.

**EM—Late 20’s-30s**. Strong and deeply kind. Protective and fierce, but experienced and used. Closed. Nostalgic.

**EMILY—8 to10.** A precocious girl. Fierce, yet innocent. Sweet and protective. Open. Hopeful. EM’s younger self.

**MOM—30s-50s.** Caretaker. Matron. Playful, a child at heart. Wants everyone to be happy. Scared. Desperate. A victim always.

**DAN—30s-50s.** Gregarious, charismatic, confident. Spins quite a yarn. Rough. Manipulative, threatening. Authoritative. Cruel.

**OMAR—Ageless, Genderless.** Watchful. Destiny. Fate. Death.

**KATE (Doubles as Omar)**—A kindly voice. A therapist.

**Key Dates:**Rehearsals – TBA (June 7th -13th)

**Tuesday, June 16 / 7:30pm**

**Lochwood Library Black Box Theater**

11221 Lochwood Blvd Dallas TX 75218

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**Wednesday, June 17 / 7:30pm**

**Cathedral of Hope**

5910 Cedar Springs Rd Dallas TX 75235

***IT’S MY PARTY* by Ann Timons (ECHO MAINSTAGE)**

**Dir. TBA**

**We will not be reading sides from this script but want to let you know about the project. We will hold auditions held later this year.**

**National Woman’s Party - The upstart suffragists:
ALICE PAUL** (late 20s-early 30s) Quaker women's rights activist who learned guerrilla tactics in London. She returns to America to get things done! Forms a new political party, The National Woman’s Party (NWP), to exert maximum pressure on Congress and President Wilson.

**LUCY BURNS** (early-mid 30s) Bonded with Alice Paul in “the trenches” in London. Radical foil to Alice. Very contemporary, energetic, she loves public protest and throws herself into this fight. Saw more jail time than any other suffragist.

**DORA LEWIS** (early-mid 50s) Executive member of NWP. Good friend and chief lieutenant of Alice. She is one of few married women with children (three, grown, in Philadelphia). A caretaker of the group, she is on the picket line almost as much as Lucy Burns.

**National American Women’s Suffrage Association - The establishment suffragists:
CARRIE CHAPMAN CATT** (mid-late 50s) Twice elected President of National American Women's Suffrage Association (NAWSA). Brilliant political strategist who instituted grass roots organizing still used today. She is “establishment” suffragist and knows her way is best. At first, she welcomes Alice’s fresh perspective and new strategy, then she fears it.

**DR. ANNA HOWARD SHAW** (mid-late 60s) An ordained Methodist minister a medical doctor, she is a force to be reckoned with. At the play's open, she is President of NAWSA, at the top of her professional and personal trajectory. Definitely Old School.

**MAUD WOOD PARK**  (early 40s) Joined NAWSA in college and was often the youngest delegate at their conventions. Now she is chief lobbyist for NAWSA in D.C. Exerts traditional passive female power, trading on her femininity.

**Journalists and friends:
WINIFRED MALLON** (early 30s) Reporter for Chicago Tribune, covering Capitol Hill, especially the 19th Amendment story. Friend of NWP.

**IDA B. WELLS-BARNETT**(early 50s) African-American civil rights and women’s rights activist and journalist. Initially a member of mainstream white suffrage groups, she forms the influential Alpha Suffrage Club for black suffragists in Chicago.

**Casting notes:** All characters are to be played by women or female presenting actors. Racially neutral and color-blind casting will be considered.

**Key Dates:
REHEARSALS START:** AUGUST 2020
**RUN:** SEPTEMBER 2020 at the Bath House