

14 Add More Drama to Your Life.

The Windy City takes center stage in 2019 as it celebrates the "Year of Chicago Theatre."



Windy City Playhouse's production of *Southern Gothic*.

Home to 250-plus venues ranging from storefront black boxes to renowned theater companies fronted by the likes of Laurie Metcalf and Michael Shannon, Chicago "is a special ecosystem," says Deb Clapp, executive director of the League of Chicago Theatres. "It's home to the boldest and bravest theater happening in this country." Case in point: Chi-Town's year-long focus on all forms of the performing arts in 2019 - the first initiative of its kind in the U.S. Look for special events and trip-worthy shows throughout the city, starting with these three plays, which are sure to earn a standing ovation.

- The award-winning thriller ***An Inspector Calls***, at Chicago Shakespeare's new Yard theater on Navy Pier (February 19 to March 10).
- ***Small World*'s** premiere at The Den Theatre (March 27 to May 5), where cast members get trapped in Disney World's "It's a Small World" ride.
- At the new Windy City Playhouse South, the open-run ***Southern Gothic***, in which audience members wander the set while the play, set at a 1961 cocktail party, unfolds.