
THE DALTONIAN

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Fall Broadway Roundup 2026

SEPTEMBER 18, 2026 BY MIKA HIGGINS-WOO

From a star-studded revival about a dysfunctional family to a brand-new glitzy take on a classic, this upcoming Broadway season will be jam-packed with unique new performances for audiences to enjoy. This fall, a total of 11 new productions will open on Broadway with a split of 8 plays and 3 musicals. This article will cover 7 of those 11. Whether you want to know which Broadway legend is starring in which show, or are simply looking for a plot summary of a show that looks intriguing, read on to find out everything you need to know about Broadway's new season!

New Musicals



A NEW MUSICAL

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Galileo

Coming to the Shubert Theatre (*Hell's Kitchen*, *Matilda*) on December 6th is *Galileo*. *Galileo* is a new musical centering the scientist Galileo Galilei, who is famous for his pioneering efforts in astronomy and physics. Specifically, the plot revolves around Galileo's work with the telescope. "Though this story unfolds more than 400 years ago, its themes resonate with striking clarity today. We're telling a story that captures the enduring tension between truth and power—and the courage required to stand by what you know is right, even when doing so comes at great cost," remarks the artistic team for this musical. Directing this production is Michael Mayer, who is famous for his work with *Spring Awakening* and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*. *Galileo* notably stars Joy Woods (*The Notebook*, *SIX*), Jeremy Kushnier (*Jersey Boys*, *Footloose*), and Raúl Esparza (*Law and Order*).



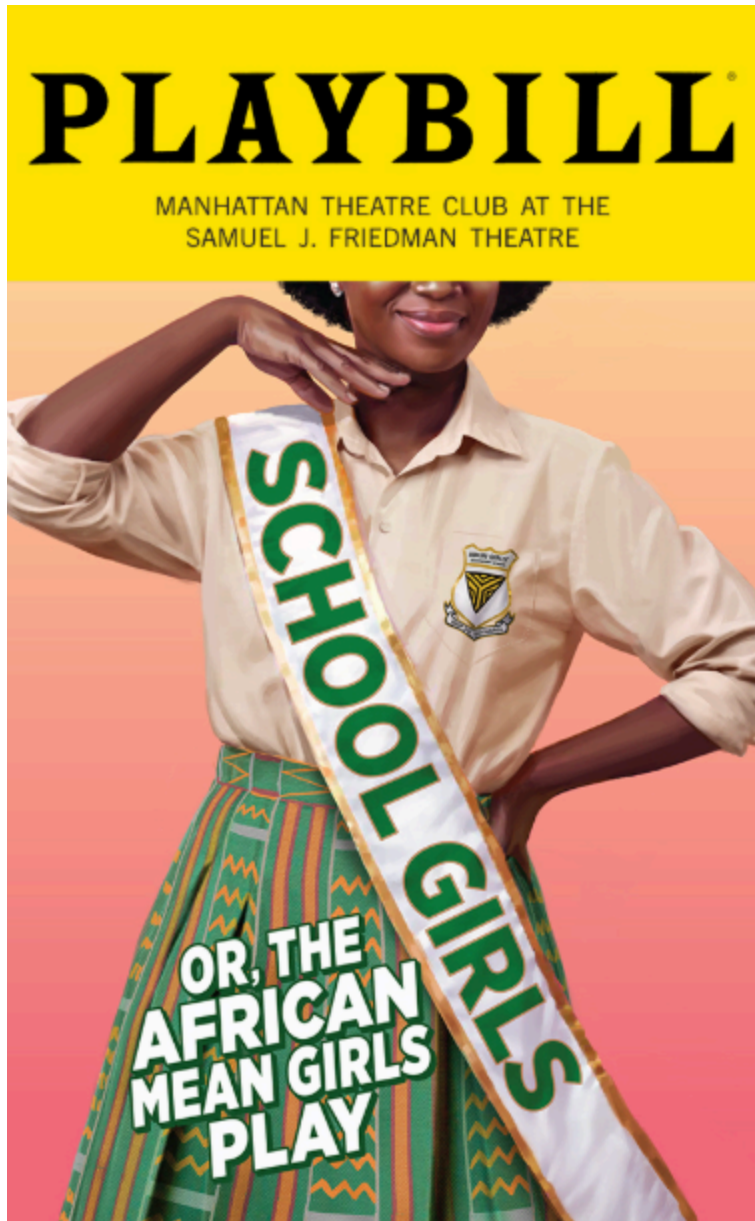
% Shubert Organization

Wanted

Wanted is opening on November 8th at the James Earl Jones Theatre (*Liberation, Gutenberg! The Musical!*). This production will star musical theater veterans such as Solea Pfeiffer (*Hamilton, Hadestown*) and Liisi LaFontaine (*Moulin Rouge, Dreamgirls*), as well as R&B singers like Luke James ("I Want You") and Ledisi ("Anything For You"). *Wanted* is a new musical inspired by a true story. It follows the journeys of Mary and Martha Clarke, African-American twin sisters who set out to settle their mother's sharecropper debt in 1893 Texas. This production previously played at the Papermill Playhouse and the Signature Theatre to

great reviews. *Wanted* is directed by Tony-Award-nominated Stevie Walker-Webb and written by Ross Baum and Angelica Chéri.

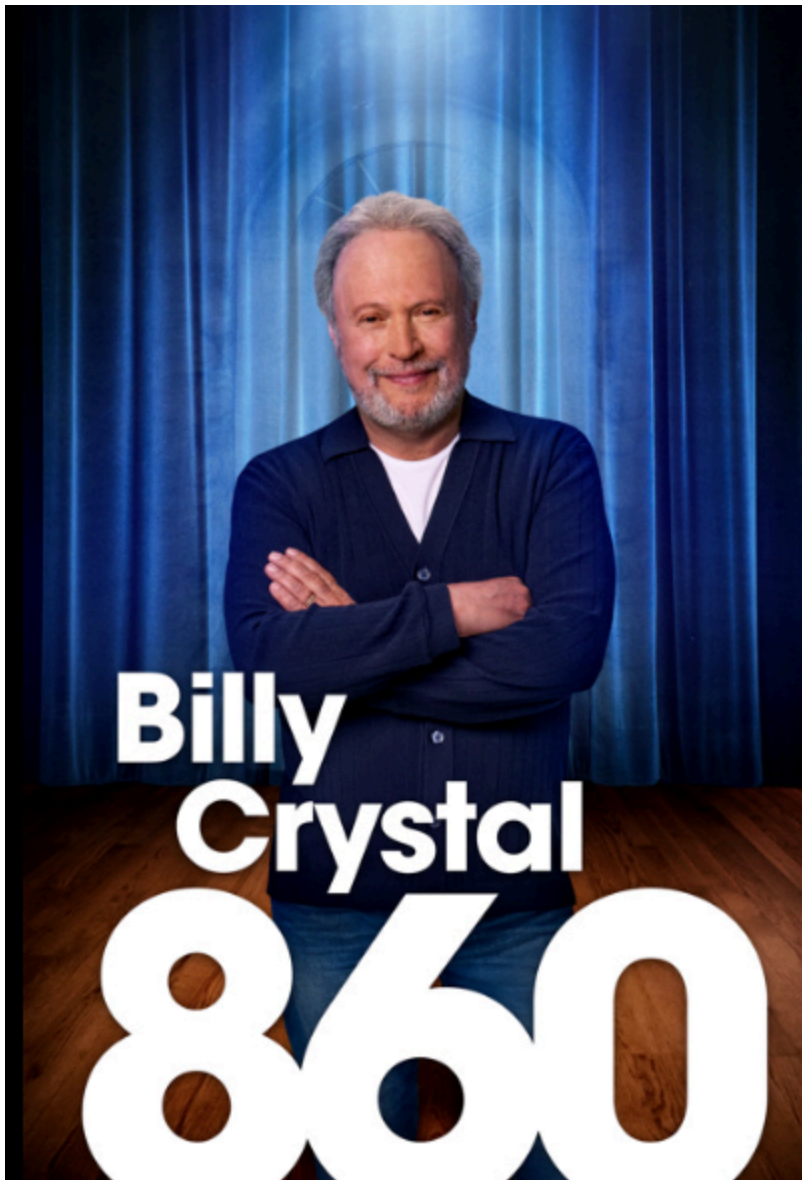
New Plays



% Playbill

School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play

Coming to the Samuel J. Friedman Theatre (*Bug, The Balusters*) on September 28th is *School Girls; or, The African Mean Girls Play*. This play is a comedic tale of Ghanaian schoolgirls competing in a beauty contest in 1988. Jocelyn Bioh and Whitney White wrote and directed this piece, respectively, and are working together for the second time since their award-winning work with *Jaja's African Hair Braiding* in 2023. Notably, this production features many stars. Among them are Denée Benton (*Great Comet, The Gilded Age*), Patina Miller (*Into the Woods, Pippin*), Erin Morton (*Heathers*), Jasmine Amy Rogers (*Boop, Spelling Bee*) and Heather Alicia Simms (*Ma Rainey's Black Bottom, A Raisin in the Sun*).

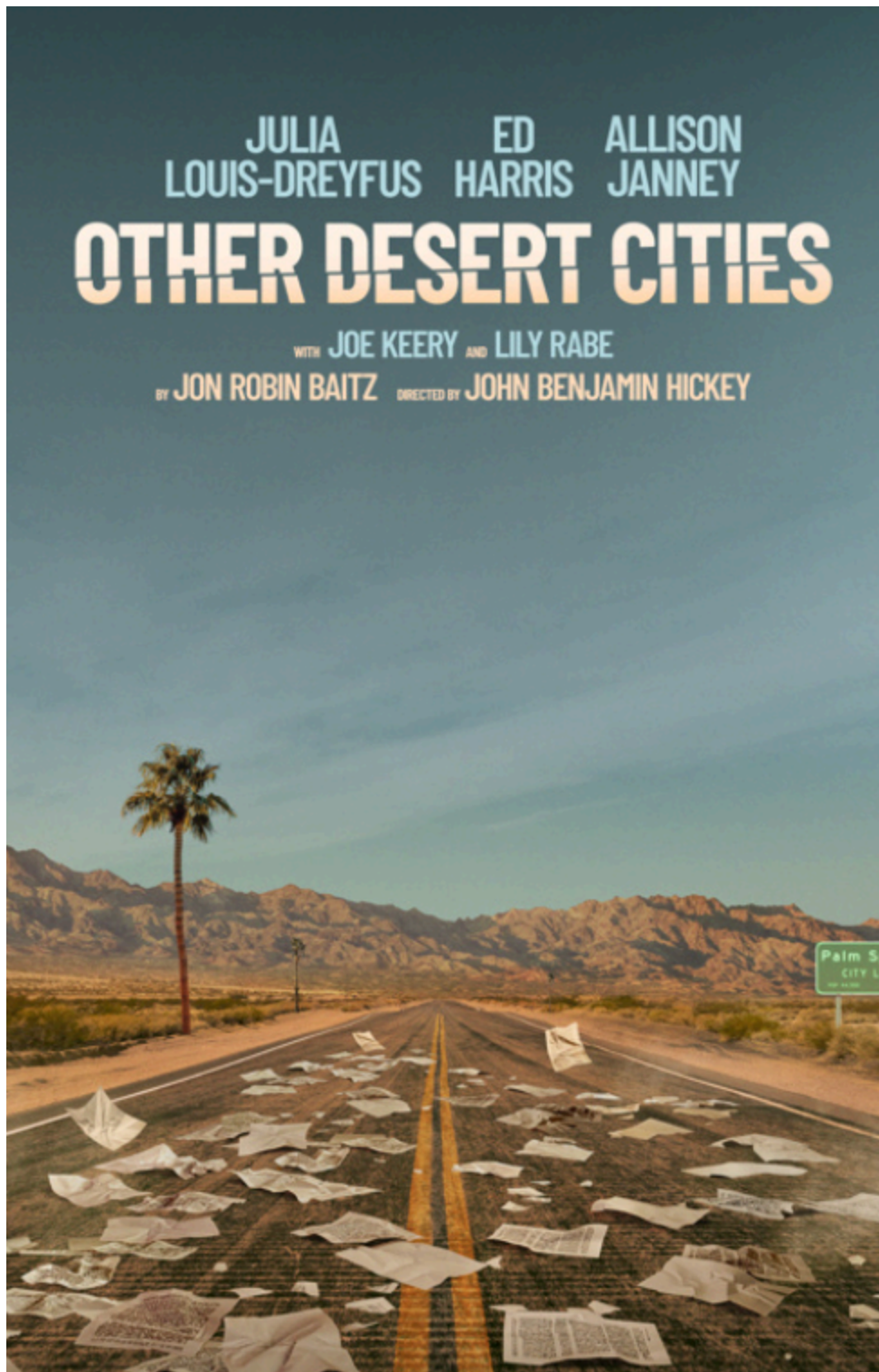


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860

On October 21st, *860* will open at the Imperial Theatre (*Chess, Smash*). *860* is a "one-man" show written and performed by comedic actor Billy Crystal (*When Harry Met Sally, Monsters Inc.*) Crystal is not new to this solo form of theater; in 2004, he performed in a one-man show entitled *700 Sundays* about his relationship with his father. It won him a Tony Award and has since been revived at City Center. Like *700 Sundays*, *860* is also autobiographical, centering on Crystal's Pacific Palisades home that was lost in the California wildfires in 2025. The play uses this loss as a jumping-off point to reflect upon and remember the 46 years prior to this event. Tony Award-winning Scott Ellis (*1776, She Loves Me*) directed this production.

Revivals



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Other Desert Cities

Coming to the Hudson Theatre (*Every Brilliant Thing*, *Waiting for Godot*) on October 18th is *Other Desert Cities*. Starring Joe Keery (*Stranger Things*), Allison Janney (*The West Wing*),

Julia Louis-Dreyfus (*Seinfeld*, *SNL*), Ed Harris (*The Truman Show*), and Lily Rabe (*Merchant of Venice*), this production is much anticipated by the public. *Other Desert Cities* is about a politically prominent Republican family whose secrets are about to be revealed to the public through a memoir telling the life story of Brooke, one of the daughters in the family. A revival, this show last played on Broadway in 2012 at the Booth Theatre. This show was written by two-time Pulitzer Prize finalist Jon Robin Baitz, and it was directed by John Benjamin Hickey (*The Normal Heart*).



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A Few Good Men

A Few Good Men is coming to the Vivian Beaumont Theatre at Lincoln Center (*Ragtime*, *Floyd Collins*) on October 29th. This production is directed by Tony Award-winning Michael Arden (*Maybe Happy Ending*, *Parade*) and was written by Aaron Sorkin (*West Wing*, *Camelot*). *A Few Good Men* is a drama centering on corruption within the U.S. military. More specifically, it follows two Marines who are accused of murdering a fellow soldier and the chaos that ensues after Daniel Kaffee, their appointed lawyer, digs up secrets about these men and their secret mission work in the military. This play was originally written in 1989 and ran on Broadway from that year until 1991. It was also made into a movie in 1992, which was directed by Rob Reiner and starred Jack Nicholson, Tom Cruise, and Demi Moore. This production will star Bradley Whitford (*The West Wing*) and Tom Blyth (*The Hunger Games*, *The People We Meet on Vacation*).



% Playbill

The Fantasticks

Coming to the Hayes Theatre (*Marjorie Prime, Purpose*) on November 16th is *The Fantasticks*. This production will breathe new life into an old classic. *The Fantasticks* ran off-Broadway for 42 years and is the world's longest-running musical. It is about two neighboring families, the schemes they hatch in order to get their children to fall in love, and the eventual rude awakening that life brings the lovers once they mature into young adults. The aforementioned off-Broadway run began in 1960, but this year marks this show's Broadway debut. Director Christopher Gattelli (*SpongeBob, Newsies*) is infusing this old tale with new ideas, however.

The 2026 production of *The Fantasticks* has been revised as a gay love story, “gender-bending” Matt and Louisa to become Matt and Lewis. This brings a whole new layer to “soul mates” and “forbidden love,” two themes explored heavily throughout the show.

Whether you’re up for a dramatic story exploring the morals of the military, or you’re a fan of *The West Wing* (two separate opportunities for you this season!), there is truly something for everyone this fall.

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