

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



**CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM ANNOUNCED FOR
RIVETING NEW PLAY BY CELEBRATED SEATTLE
PLAYWRIGHT ANDREW LEE CREECH**

GOLDEN

*ACT's 49th World Premiere is directed by Tyrone Phillips and plays
April 26 – May 11; tickets on sale now at acttheatre.org.*



SEATTLE, WA (April 2, 2025) — **ACT Contemporary Theatre** announced today the cast and creative team of the world premiere play ***Golden***, written by award-winning Seattle playwright **Andrew Lee Creech**. Directed by **Tyrone Phillips**, *Golden* begins April 26 in ACT's Falls Theatre and plays through May 11.

Commissioned by ACT Theatre, and first seen as a staged reading at ACT's inaugural New Works Northwest Festival in 2023, *Golden* is set after The Great Recession of 2008. Morris Golden, fighting to save his laundromat, finds an unexpected source of hope in a broken change machine with mysterious powers. From the mind of celebrated Seattle writer Andrew Lee Creech (*Last Drive to Dodge*; *Riverwood*), this riveting world premiere peels back the layers of lives and relationships to reveal the profound impact of choice and the enduring power of human connection.

Golden is part of Creech's nine-play cycle, *The Legacy Plays Project*, that examines pivotal moments in the lives of Black Americans throughout U.S. history.

"Every once in a while, you come across a play that feels like it already lives in your soul - in your memory, as part of a timeless thread of storytelling magic - and yet, it is also fresh and leads you into the unexpected and the unknown," said ACT's Interim Producing Artistic Director **Elisabeth Farwell-Moreland**. "Andrew Lee Creech's *Golden* takes us on that journey on both a heartbreaking and a deeply hopeful path forward."

ACT's 49th world premiere, *Golden* plays in the Falls Theatre April 26 – May 11, 2025, with an opening night celebration on Thursday, May 1. A full list of events can be found below and at ACTtheatre.org.

Golden was commissioned by ACT Contemporary Theatre, Seattle WA, AND Trial and Error Production, Seattle, WA John Langs - Artistic Director, ACT; Anita Shah - Managing Director, ACT AND Lauren Dudley - Principal, Trial and Error.

World Premiere produced by ACT Contemporary Theatre.

MEET THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM

The cast of *Golden* features:

Mesgana Alemshowa as Zora Harris (understudied by **Evangeline OpongParry**)

Kaughlin Caver (Underground Theatre: *Brown Bodies*) as Quikk

Elena Flory-Barnes (Book-It: *Little Bee*) as Jazmine Harris

Tracy Michelle Hughes (ACT: *Sweat*) as Rheeda Golden

Arlando Smith (ACT: *Choir Boy*) as Earl

Ty Willis (Seattle Rep: *Shout Sister Shout!*) as Morris Golden

The creative team includes **Tyrone Phillips** (Director); **Parmida Ziaei** (Scenic Designer); **Ricky German** (Costume Designer); **Robert J. Aguilar** (Lighting Designer); **Casey Price** (Assistant Lighting Designer); **Erin Bednarz** (Sound Designer); **Martine Kei Green-Rogers** (Dramaturg); **Jasmine Lomax** (Intimacy Director); **Alyssa Kay** (Fight & Movement Coach); **Quetzle Taborga** (Casting Director); **Dedra Woods** (Additional Casting); **Shay Trusty** (Stage Manager); **Tiana Ross** (Production Assistant); and **Myles Wright** (Youth Supervisor).

ABOUT ANDREW LEE CREECH (Playwright)



Andrew Lee Creech is a playwright, content creator, and performer. He's the creator of The Legacy Plays Project—a nine-play, multi-century-spanning meditation on the journey of Black Americans through pivotal moments in American History. Select Awards/Accolades: 2025 Semifinalist—Page 73 Productions Fellowship; 2024 Finalist—Ojai Playwrights Conference, 2024

Finalist—NNPN National Showcase of New Plays, 2023 Finalist—Seven Devils Playwrights Conference (*Golden*); 2022 Semifinalist—Blue Ink Award , 2021 Winner (*Last Drive to Dodge*); and 2020 Finalist Ashland New Plays Festival (*Riverwood*). His plays have been produced with companies including: Taproot Theatre Company and Seattle Public Theater, and have been developed/presented with ACT Contemporary Theatre, Playwrights' Center, and more.

ABOUT TYRONE PHILLIPS (Director)



Tyrone Phillips is the founding Artistic Director of Chicago's Definition Theatre. Named one of Newcity's Players—the 50 leaders of Chicago's theatre, dance, opera, and comedy culture of 2022, he is a graduate of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and has studied abroad at Shakespeare's Globe. As a first generation Jamaican-American, Tyrone is passionate about equity and inclusion in the fine arts and has completed advanced anti-racism training to

lead change in our community. Select theater credits on and off stage include: Definition Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare, Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, Writers Theatre, Old Globe, Berkeley Rep, Milwaukee Rep, and Stage 42 (Off-Broadway). Tyrone is currently adjunct faculty at DePaul University and the University of Illinois - Chicago, while also serving on the Board of Directors for the League of Chicago Theaters. Most recently he received the Arts Midwest Inaugural Peter Capell Award for Midwestern Creativity and Entrepreneurship and is a proud member of NAACP, SAG-AFTRA, and SDC.

FOR EDITORS/PRODUCERS:

WHAT:

Golden

By Andrew Lee Creech

Directed by Tyrone Phillips

World Premiere

Morris Golden, fighting to save his laundromat after The Great Recession of 2008, finds an unexpected source of hope in a broken change machine with mysterious powers. From the mind of celebrated Seattle writer Andrew Lee Creech, and first seen at ACT's inaugural New Works Northwest festival, comes a riveting world premiere that peels back the layers of lives and relationships to reveal the profound impact of choice and the enduring power of human connection. *Golden* is part of Creech's nine-play cycle, The Legacy Plays Project, which examines pivotal moments in the lives of Black Americans throughout U.S. history.

[Show Details >>](#)

[Ticket info >>](#)

WHEN:

April 26 – May 11, 2025

Evening performance times are at 7:00 p.m (Tues, Wed, Sun), 7:30 p.m. (Thurs, Fri, Sat) and matinees are at 2 p.m. A full performance schedule can be [found here](#).

Key Dates:

- **First Preview:** Saturday, April 26 at 7:30 p.m. [Tickets>>](#)
- **Industry Night:** Tuesday, April 29 at 7:00 p.m.
 - Theatre industry professionals receive \$25 tickets. [Get Industry tickets here>>](#)
- **Opening Night:** Thursday, May 1 at 7:30 p.m.
 - Join us before the show at 6:30 for our Opening Night celebration featuring music by [Swing 3PO](#) in collaboration with [Northwest Folklife](#), photos, and fun. [Get Opening Night tickets here >>](#)
- **Engage the Stage | Student Matinee:** Tuesday, May 6 at 11:00 a.m.
 - Students will meet the artists and get an inside look at the production of this world premiere play! This 90-minute program features a conversation and Q&A with the actors, and includes a fully-produced selection from the show. Tickets are \$12 and recommended for 6-12th grade and college classrooms. [Tickets >>](#)
- **ASL (American Sign Language) Interpreted & Audio-Described Performance:** Saturday, May 3 at 2:00 p.m.
 - Special seating is reserved for patrons requesting live ASL interpretation of the spoken English performance. Seats are held for patrons during select performances to guarantee optimal viewing of both the interpreters and the stage. [Get ASL tickets here >>](#)
 - Complimentary audio description is available for patrons who are blind, who have low vision, or who may benefit from having the unspoken action of a play narrated for any reason. See any front-of-house team member before the performance to receive your headset. [Get audio-described tickets here >>](#)
- **Community Day:** Sunday, May 4
 - In partnership with: **Acts on Stage, Arts Corps, Seattle Urban Book Exchange, and Speak with Purpose.** [Learn more here >>](#)
 - Schedule:
 - 1:00 p.m.: Meet the Playwright! Pre-play discussion and snacks with playwright Andrew Lee Creech for young people ages 14-25.
 - 2:00 p.m.: [Golden matinee](#)

- 4:00 p.m.: Celebrating Black Artistic Excellence with young scholar inspirational speeches, a panel discussion honoring local legends and legacies of Black Pacific Northwest arts, a visual art exhibition, and performances from up-and-coming powerhouse artists. Food provided, social hour to follow.
- 7:00 p.m.: [Golden evening performance](#)

WHERE:

ACT Contemporary Theatre's Falls Theatre, located at 700 Union Street in Downtown Seattle.

TICKETS:

Tickets start with Pay What You Choose starting at \$5 to all performances. We are proud to offer a range of ticket prices and discounts for all our plays in our goal to make theatre affordable for everyone. [See all of our discount offerings here.](#)

To purchase tickets, visit <https://acttheatre.org>

PRESS ROOM:

Pre-production images will be available in the coming weeks. For available artwork and headshots, [please visit our Press Room online >>](#)

CONNECT ON SOCIAL:

acttheatre.org

Facebook - [/ACTtheatreSeattle](#)

Instagram - [@ACTtheatre](#)

TikTok - [@acttheatreseattle](#)

LinkedIn - [/act-theatre](#)

Theatre & show tags: #ACTTheatre #ACTTheatreSeattle #GoldenACT #GoldenSeattle

ABOUT ACT CONTEMPORARY THEATRE

Steadfast in its dedication to producing work that sparks an authentic curiosity about the human condition, ACT produces bold, audacious works of contemporary theatre from its home in Seattle. Over the last 58 years, ACT remains the voice of contemporary theatre in the Pacific Northwest, presenting necessary and relevant works on current themes and producing more than 300 plays and musicals, including 49 world premieres. Currently led by Interim Producing Artistic Director [Elisabeth Farwell-Moreland](#), ACT nurtures theatre-makers of the next generation, with a mission to be a contemporary theatre where artistic ambition and civic engagement unite.

ACT Contemporary Theatre and Seattle Shakespeare Company recently announced their historic merger effective July 1, 2025.

ACT is here to challenge how stories are told. For more information on ACT Contemporary Theatre please visit acttheatre.org.

Thank you to ACT Contemporary Theatre's Season and Theatre Sponsors: 4Culture, ArtsFund, Seattle Office of Arts & Culture, The Shubert Foundation, Nesholm Family Foundation, ArtsWA, Bowery Valuation, The Grousemont Foundation, NBBJ, and Katharyn Alvord Gerlich.

#

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Shane Regan, Michelle Sanders Communications
253-241-4407
shane@michellesanderspr.com