

For Immediate Release

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Pulitzer Prize-winning NEXT TO NORMAL
Performances begin April 26
Final show of the 2018-19 Off-Mirvish Series

“A brave, breathtaking musical.” – The New York Times

Rock is alive & rolling like thunder in Next To Normal. An emotional powerhouse.– Rolling Stone

Winner of three Tony Awards and the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, in short order **NEXT TO NORMAL** has become recognized as a milestone in musical theatre history. It now receives a major new production. **David Mirvish presents The Musical Stage Company production of NEXT TO NORMAL**, playing from [April 26](#) to [May 19](#), 2019 at the CAA Theatre. Media night is [May 1](#) at 8PM.

NEXT TO NORMAL is about the Goodman family — mother Diana, father Dan, son Gabe and daughter Natalie. They are the perfect nuclear family, living the perfect suburban life. Or so it seems. **NEXT TO NORMAL** is a raw depiction of a family in crisis.

Composer **Tom Kitt** and book and lyric writer **Brian Yorkey** won Tony Awards and the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama for their gripping story and surging contemporary score.

The musical has been praised for “expanding the scope of subject matter for musicals” (Pulitzer Prize Committee), been called “brave and breaking” (New York Times) and “an impressive achievement, a heartfelt entertainment” (Associated Press).

Dora Award-winner **Philip Akin** directs this exhilarating new production featuring a powerhouse ensemble of Canada’s top performers.

Troy Adams plays Dan Goodman. Acclaimed as both a dramatic and musical theatre actor, Troy has played Shakespeare (the title character in *Othello*) and contemporary dramas such as *Adventures of a Black Girl in Search of God* and *Angels in America*. He has starred in musicals across Canada such as *Dreamgirls* and *Shrek The Musical*.

Brandon Antonio is a graduate of Sheridan’s Music Theatre Performance program, and recently made his professional stage debut at the Globe Theatre in the role of Sky in *Mamma Mia!* He is the 2018-2019 recipient of The Musical Stage Company’s prestigious Banks Prize for Emerging Musical Theatre Artists.

Nathan Carroll stars as Henry. Among his many theatre credits are the original Canadian production of *Once* at the Ed Mirvish Theatre, *Hook Up* (Tapestry/Theatre Passe Muraille), *Marathon of Hope* (Drayton) and *The Wizard of Oz* (YPT).

Ma-Anne Dionisio stars as Diana Goodman. Ma-Anne is an internationally acclaimed actress who was discovered at age 17 to lead the Canadian premiere of *Miss Saigon* in 1993 and has since gone on to perform around the world in leading roles in such musicals as *Les Misérables*, *Martin Guerre* and *West Side Story*.

Louise Pitre stars as Doctor Madden. One of Canada’s most acclaimed actors, Louise has performed around the world. She originated the role of Donna in the North American premiere of *Mamma Mia!* in Toronto (for which she won the Dora Award) and then opened the Broadway production in the same role (for which she was nominated for a Tony Award). She originated the role of Fantine in the Canadian premiere production of *Les Misérables* and reprised the role in Montreal and Paris. She has also starred in shows on the world’s largest stages including *Jacques Brel is Alive and Well* and *Living in Paris*, *The*

World Goes 'Round, Blood Brothers, Tartuffe, Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?, Applause, and Rock 'n' Roll, among others.

Stephanie Sy stars Natalie Goodman. Sy is an actor, dancer and choreographer. She has starred at Winnipeg's legendary Rainbow Stage in leading roles in musicals such as *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* and *South Pacific*, as well as appearing at many other theatres across the country.

Featuring music direction by **Lily Ling**, choreography by **Nicola Pantin**, set & lighting design by **Steve Lucas**, sound design by **Michael Laird**, and costume design by **Alex Amini**.

About The Musical Stage Company

The Musical Stage Company is the largest and leading charitable musical theatre company in Canada. Established in 2004, we strive to make Canada a leader in musical theatre. We believe it's better with music.

We are inspired by music's unique ability to viscerally affect people and are committed to cultivating experiences – onstage and off – that transform lives, build empathy and create community through musical theatre.

We incubate new Canadian musicals from development to production, investing in Canadian musical theatre writers and building national and international partnerships. Our musical productions – including award-winning contemporary musicals, world premieres and concerts – are seen live by 30,000 people over the 80+ nights that we are onstage annually in venues both traditional and surprising. To date, our work has been recognized with 82 Dora Award nominations, 18 Dora Awards and 16 Toronto Theatre Critics' Awards.

Our robust education programs develop the artists and audiences of [tomorrow](#), offering musical theatre training that boosts self-confidence and self-expression for over 200 young people each year without cost to the participants. We also curate innovative musical programs in partnership with diverse organizations, maximizing the resonance of our work across disciplines and communities. For more information visit: www.musicalstagecompany.com

CAA THEATRE – 651 Yonge Street
April 26 - May 19, 2019
Tues – Sat 8:00 PM, Sat & Sun 2:00 PM
Tickets \$60 to \$110 • Students & Artswokers \$25 with valid ID

Available exclusively through mirvish.com
By Phone through TicketKing [416-872-1212](tel:416-872-1212) or [1-800-461-3333](tel:1-800-461-3333)

Please note mirvish.com and TicketKing are the official and only sources of tickets to all shows playing at any of the Mirvish theatres. Beware of websites that pretend to have tickets to our shows. These are re-sellers attempting to trick unsuspecting theatregoers using search engines to find tickets to a show into purchasing tickets that may very well be fraudulent.

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