



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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An original work by Milta Ortiz,  
Milagro presents the National Touring World Premiere of  
**JUDGE TORRES**

An Immigrant. A Dreamer. A Survivor. A True Story.



**WHO:** Milagro  
**WHAT:** [JUDGE TORRES](#)  
By Milta Ortiz  
Directed by Mandana Khoshnevisan  
**WHEN:** January 10 – 19, 2019  
Preview Performance: Thursday, Jan. 10 at 7:30 PM – Complimentary wine tasting, courtesy of Coopers Hall  
**Opening Night: Friday, Jan. 11 at 7:30 PM – Post-Show Reception to follow, catered by Tamale Boy.**  
Thursday – Saturday at 7:30 PM, Sunday at 2 PM  
Closing Performance: Saturday, Jan. 19 at 7:30 PM  
**WHERE:** Milagro Theatre, 525 SE Stark Street, Portland  
**TICKETS:** Adult tickets are \$27 in advance, \$32 at the door.  
Senior tickets are \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door.  
Student/ Veteran tickets are \$20 in Advance, \$25 at the door.  
Special Pricing: Preview tickets are \$18 in advance, \$22 at the door  
Opening night pricing: \$40 for all general admission tickets  
Additional discounts for groups 15+, and welcomes [Arts for All](#) pricing.  
Buy tickets: 503-236-7253 or [milagro.org](http://milagro.org) or  
<https://milagro.org/event/judge-torres-mainstage/>

**NOTE:** *Judge Torres* is a bilingual production

**SHOW IMAGE ATTACHED:** Photo credit: [Russell J. Young](#)

**ADDITIONAL HIGH RES PHOTOS:** [Available on Flickr](#)

**PRODUCTION PHOTOS AVAILABLE:** January 10, 2019

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE. Portland, Oregon | December 18, 2018.** Starting January 10, Milagro presents the National Touring World Premiere of Milta Ortiz' *Judge Torres*, directed by Mandana Khoshnevisan. *Judge Torres* runs from January 10 to the 19th, 2019 in the Milagro Theatre.

## ABOUT THE PLAY

A triumphant tale of overcoming obstacles with determination and grit, [Judge Torres](#) is a modern day fairy tale rooted in Salvadoran folklore. This play tells the story of Xiomara Torres — an immigrant, a dreamer, and #MeToo survivor who crossed the Tijuana River for a chance at a better life.

From undocumented immigrant to esteemed Multnomah County judge, Torres brings diversity to the bench (and the stage) not often seen in Oregon or across the nation — as a Latina, but also as a child abuse victim and product of the foster care system. This story follows her journey, highlighting the strength of the human spirit and overcoming adversity, no matter the odds.

Woven with magical realism and Mayan folktales from her home country of El Salvador and through their journey across Mexico, Salvadorian playwright Milta Ortiz will create this new work inspired by her own immigrant experiences.

## ABOUT THE PLAYWRIGHT

**Milta Ortiz** left El Salvador at an early age and grew up in the Bay Area. Currently she lives in Tucson, AZ, where she is the Associate Artistic Director at Borderlands Theater. As an [National New Play Network \(NNPN\)](#) playwright, she wrote and developed *Más*, which premiered at Borderlands Theater and was then nominated for an American Theatre Critics/Steinberg New Play Award and Citations, and a Tucson Mac award for best drama. Her other works include: *Sanctuary*, *A Tucson Pastorella*; *Disengaged*; *You, Me and Tuno*; and *Lilac Roses*.

## ABOUT THE DIRECTOR

**Mandana Khoshnevisan (Mandy)** has long been a multifaceted artist. She studied literature, theatre, and history at Stanford University, earning a B.A. and M.A. in English. Most often an actor, improviser, singer, and director, she's also been a musician, costumer, lighting designer, choreographer, puppeteer and more. In San Francisco, she spent 10 years with The Un-Scripted Theater Company (SF) and seven years as Master Electrician for the SF Playhouse. In Portland, she teaches with Northwest Children's Theatre and School (NWCTS) and performs and directs at the Funhouse Lounge; she's also an Associate Artist at Bag&Baggage, recently appearing in *Romeo & Juliet/Layla & Majnun* (Lady Capulet) and *Death and the Maiden* (Paulina).

## JUDGE TORRES

By [Milta Ortiz](#)

Directed by [Mandana Khoshnevisan](#)

## ENSEMBLE

[Eduardo Vazquez Juarez](#) | Ensemble

[Ajai Terrazas Tripathi](#) | Ensemble

[Marissa Sanchez](#) | Ensemble

[Cindy Angel](#) | Ensemble

## CREATIVE TEAM

Playwright | [Milta Ortiz](#)

Director | [Mandana Khoshnevisan](#)

Asst. Director/Choreographer | Gabriela Portuguese

Mural Designer | Tomás Rivero

Lighting Designer | [Katelan Braymer](#)

Costume Designer | [Carrie Anne Huneycutt](#)

Resident Sound Designer | [Lawrence Siulagi](#)

Props Master | [Sarah Andrews](#)

*Stage Manager* | Erin Kirkpatrick

## **MEDIA CONTACTS | MEDIA PASSES | ARTIST INTERVIEWS**

Contact Laurel Daniel, Marketing & Communications Director at [laurel@milagro.org](mailto:laurel@milagro.org), 503-236-7253 x117

## **MORE INFORMATION**

[milagro.org](http://milagro.org) | <https://milagro.org/event/judge-torres-mainstage/>

## **ABOUT MILAGRO**

As the premiere Latino arts and culture center of the Pacific Northwest since 1985, [Milagro](http://milagro.org) provides extraordinary Latino theatre, culture, and arts education for the enrichment of all communities. Milagro MainStage produces a full season of regional or world premieres, including one Spanish language play each year, as well as our long-running Día de Muertos signature production. [Teatro Milagro](#), Milagro's touring and arts education program, presents its original bilingual plays and educational residencies to diverse and underserved communities across the nation. Milagro provides a home for Latino arts and culture at El Centro Milagro, where it enriches the local community with a variety of community engagement projects and educational programs designed to share the diversity of Latino culture. We entertain our audiences; we give them pause to think, feel and imagine; and, through the cultural lens of Latinidad, we reflect the full spectrum of humanity.

Milagro's 2018/19 season can be found [here](#).

**EDUCATION**—[Teatro Milagro's](#) Touring & Arts Education Programs for schools embraces a cradle to career approach in arts education. As members of the [Coalition of Communities of Color](#), the [OYE Sexual Health Coalition](#) and an [Oregon Arts Commission](#) model of best practices, Milagro's educational bilingual plays and workshops address a broad range of themes that include socioeconomic disparities, racism, environmental and health related inequity and loss of culture. Through workshops and residencies, Milagro engages students from elementary through college to foster self-determination, wellness and cultural pride.

**TEATRO MILAGRO** designs workshops and residencies for both schools and community collaborations. Milagro's UNIDAD workshops use theatre to address bullying, harassment, and student isolation by focusing on themes of identity, stereotypes, and community support. Inclusive workshops can be designed from one to three hours and sequential learning residencies can be two or three days. Actors work in multiple classrooms at the same time, reaching hundreds of students in just one day. Additionally Milagro's workshop programs include community collaborations, leadership diversity trainings and a culminating public performance.

**ADVOCACY**—Inspired by the work of Xiomara Torres, Teatro Milagro has chosen to join the community of active advocates. Following touring productions of [Judge Torres](#), Teatro Milagro is offering interactive workshops, touching upon the themes of sexual health, abuse prevention, and healthy relationships. The play and following workshops seek to demonstrate how theatre can create positive change,

furthering Latino participation in the arts and building communities that have a greater tolerance and appreciation for cultural difference. Teatro Milagro is also coordinating with local organizations that serve at-risk homeless youth or youth in foster care systems, hoping to create lasting change in the lives of those who need it most.

## **SEASON 35 SPONSORS**

The Collins Foundation, James F & Marion L Miller Foundation, M J Murdock Charitable Trust, Meyer Memorial Trust, Ronni Lacroute, The Shubert Foundation, The Kinsman Foundation, Regional Arts & Culture Council, Work For Art, Juan Young Trust, US Bank, EC Brown Foundation, The Jackson Foundation, First Interstate Bank, The Oregonian, El Centinela, A to Z Wineworks, Portland Roasting Company, Poster Garden.

[milagro.org](http://milagro.org)

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