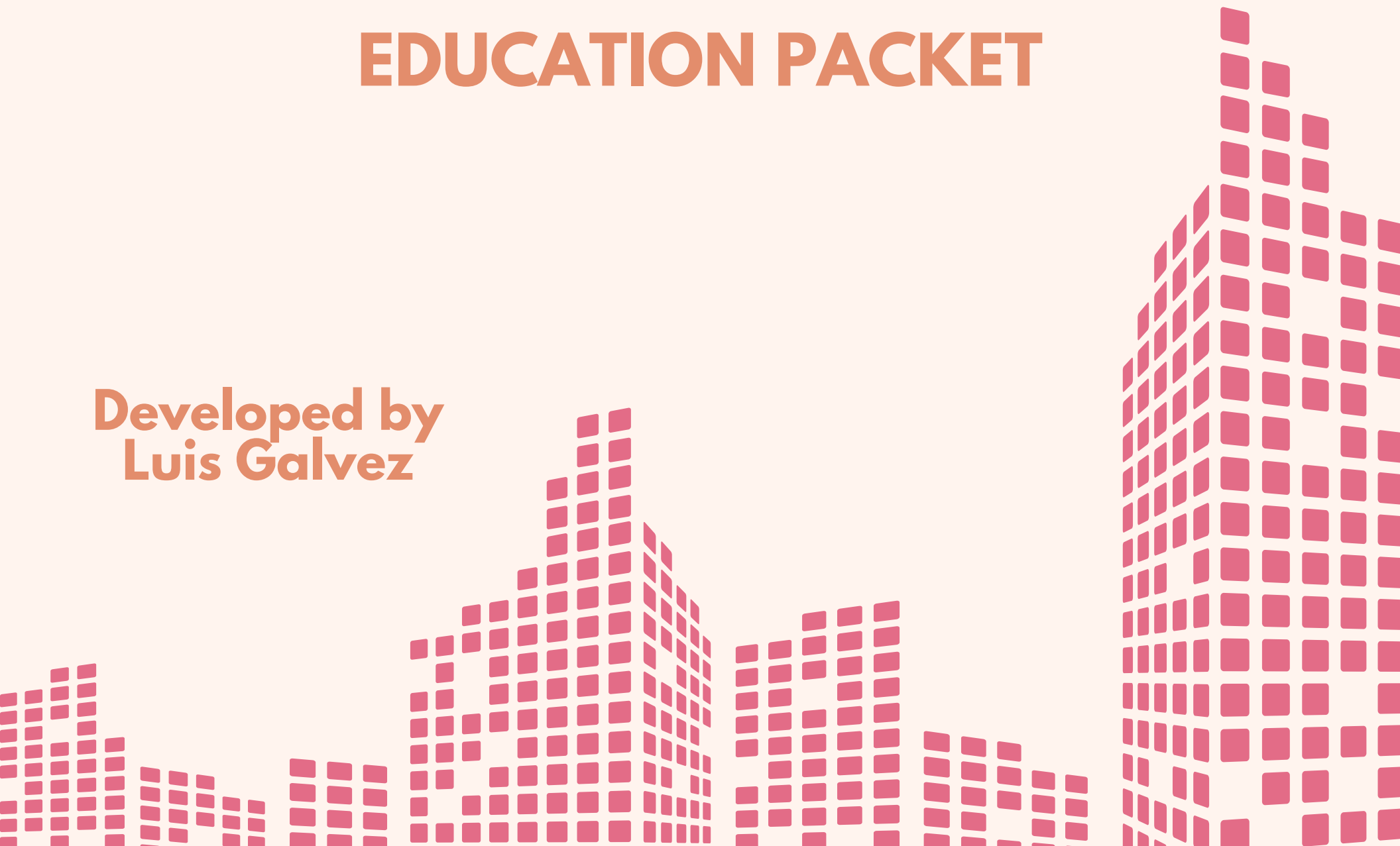


# SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN

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EDUCATION PACKET

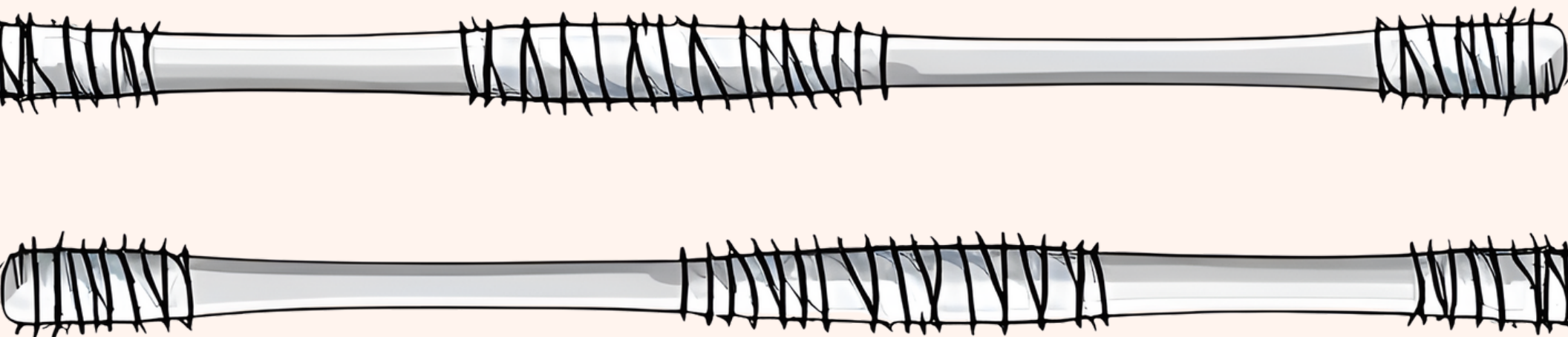
Developed by  
Luis Galvez



# ABOUT THE PLAY

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“A group of middle-aged men’s lives are changed when a stranger crashes their Thursday night support group. As they clumsily grapple with gender identities, cultural appropriation, and the loneliness of aging, their ideas of what it means to be a man are completely upended. Set in the months following the 2016 U.S. presidential election, Ellen Fairey’s play explores the confusion, comedy, and vulnerability of trying to understand one’s place in the world when the world has been forever changed.”



# ABOUT THE PLAY

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## Major Themes

- Loneliness
- Community
- Gender roles
- Friendship
- Identity and Self-Discovery
- Masculinity
- Generational Differences
- Aging

### CONTENT WARNING:

This play contains adult language portrayals of drug and alcohol use.



# SETTING

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## Setting

A Chicago apartment near the border of Wrigleyville and Boystown. June 2017/ October 2017

## Wrigleyville

Wrigleyville is a neighborhood in Chicago centered around the iconic Wrigley Field, the home of the Chicago Cubs. The neighborhood is known for its energetic atmosphere, especially on game days, and offers a mix of sports culture, nightlife, dining, and history.



## Boystown

Boystown, now more commonly known as Northalsted, is a vibrant and historic neighborhood in Chicago recognized as one of the most prominent LGBTQ+ communities in the United States. It is also known for its lively atmosphere, nightlife, and community events.



# CHICAGO LANDMARKS

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**WICKER PARK**



**CLOUD GATE**  
"The Bean"



**OAK PARK**



**LINCOLN PARK**

# CHICAGO LANDMARKS

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**WRIGLEY FIELD**  
Home of the Cubs



**WINNETKA**



**MILLENNIUM PARK**  
Home of Cloud Gate



**HANCOCK TOWER**



**WILLIS TOWER**



**SOLDIER FIELD**

# WHAT IS...

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## ... A Talking Circle?

A Talking Circle is a technique that was originally used by Indigenous Peoples (Navajo, Lakota, Cherokee, among others) to create support and healing within a group. During this activity, an object such as a talking stick is passed around a circle of people, and only the person holding the object is allowed to speak to make sure nobody is interrupted. The Talking Circle is designed to be a non-judgmental, safe space where each participant can openly share their experiences and desires in order to support one another.



# WHAT IS...

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## ... A Support Group?

In a support group, members are able to share personal experiences with one another and provide support for each other in various ways. In many cases, the participants in these groups have gone through similar experiences, whether that be a shared medical condition, addiction, or bereavement (having lost a loved one). Groups, such as the one in *Support Group for Men*, often meet weekly or biweekly and typically last about two hours.

## ... The #MeToo Movement?

The #MeToo movement is a social movement against sexual harassment and assault. The phrase “Me Too” was first used by activist Tarana Burke on MySpace in 2006, but the movement gained traction globally in 2017 when survivors began using #MeToo on social media to share their experiences and expose their assailants. The movement has led to increased awareness, support for survivors, and demands for changes to address sexual misconduct and gender-based violence.



# DURING THE SHOW

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- There is no photography or recording of any kind allowed during the performance. Silence your phone and refrain from texting, as it can be distracting to those around you or on stage.
- No outside food or drink is allowed in the theater. However, any purchases made at our concession stand can be enjoyed in the theater during the show. Remain seated throughout the duration of the play.
- There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts, which would be a great time to check your phone, go to the bathroom, grab some snacks, or talk about the play.

# OTHER REMINDERS

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## Timeliness is KEY

- It is important to arrive before the show's start time (7:30 pm for preview and evening shows, 2:00 pm for Sunday matinees).
- Consider arriving earlier to beat the lines and snag good parking.
- Doors open thirty minutes before curtain.

## Parking

- Do not park between our building and the red brick building on the east side of Reno Little Theater. (You will be towed)
- Street parking is available but limited.



# ABOUT THE PRODUCTION

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*Support Group for Men* is being produced by Reno Little Theater at 147 E. Pueblo St. Reno, NV.

*Support Group for Men* will be running in rep (alternating weekends) with POTUS: Or, Behind Every Great Dumbass are Seven Women Trying to Keep Him Alive.

SEPTEMBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13 POTUS	14 POTUS
15 POTUS	16	17	18	19	20 Support Group	21 Support Group
22 Support Group	23	24	25	26 POTUS	27 POTUS	28 POTUS
29 POTUS	30					

OCTOBER 2024						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
		1	2	3 Support Group	4 Support Group	5 Support Group
6 Support Group	7	8	9	10 POTUS	11 POTUS	12 POTUS
13 POTUS	14	15	16	17 Support Group	18 Support Group	19 Support Group
20 Support Group	21	22	23	24	25	26

For more information about the production and Reno Little Theater, visit [renolittletheater.org](http://renolittletheater.org)

