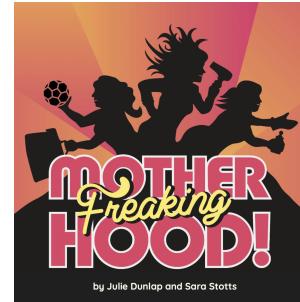


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MotherFreakingHood! The Musical Returns to Kansas City September 2022

“Clever, irreverent, inventive” musical returns to Kansas City for developmental run at The Black Box September 7 - 16.

KANSAS CITY, MO (August 8, 2022) - Grab your friends, hire a sitter and get ready to laugh your abs off... *MotherFreakingHood! The Musical*, the uproarious musical comedy celebrating the world's second-oldest profession, returns to Kansas City, running at The Black Box for ten performances September 7 - 16. Purchase tickets at <https://mfhkc.eventbrite.com>. For high-res photos, etc, please email ellen@mershonandmcdonald.com.

After debuting in Kansas City at the Goppert Theatre in 2015, *MotherFreakingHood!* enjoyed a limited off-Broadway run at the 2017 New York Musical Festival in New York City, receiving rave reviews and continuing its development in Chicago and Kansas City. Fishtank Theatre's production of *MotherFreakingHood!* at The Black Box run marks its first public presentation since COVID-19 closed theaters nationwide.

“This is more than a show; it is a full experience that gives mothers a place to laugh at the absurdities of child-rearing and reminds them they are not alone,” says co-playwright Julie Dunlap, Lawrence, KS. “We are so excited to bring this labor of love back to Kansas City.”

The irreverent yet sentimental musical comedy follows first-time mom Rachel, second-time mom Angie and fourth-time mom Marcia as they sing and dance their way from their pregnancy tests to empty nests. The uncensored trio take on the world with unmotherly charm, discovering that this inconceivably hilarious adventure is best shared with friends.

Produced by Fishtank Theatre, a stalwart in Kansas City's performing arts community, and directed by Heidi Van with all-original live music under the musical direction of Julie Danielson, *MotherFreakingHood!* will feature local stars Teri Adams, Andrea Bosewell-Burns, Celia Thompson, and Meredith Wolfe.

“We are so appreciative of the enthusiasm of our Kansas City fans and the extraordinary talent Heidi (Van) and her cast and creative team deliver,” says co-playwright Sara Stotts, Chicago.

Tickets for *MotherFreakingHood!* at The Black Box can be purchased by calling the Box Office at 816.533.5565 or by visiting <https://mfhkc.eventbrite.com>. For more information, visit <http://www.motherfreakinghood.com/>

About the Playwrights

Playwrights Dunlap and Stotts know the power of friendship well. The former roommates met at the University of Kansas and quickly bonded while co-writing for the campus variety show, Rock Chalk Revue. While their careers led them to different cities, they maintained their friendship and shared love of music and writing, teaming up to write *MotherFreakingHood!* while coping with raising their own kids, a move they claim was cheaper than therapy. Three decades after first meeting, Dunlap and Stotts - both mothers themselves, with seven children between them ages twelve to twenty-five - are excited to bring their labor of love back to the city where it all began.

Julie Dunlap and Sara Stotts met as college students at the University of Kansas while writing a short musical for the university's variety show, "Rock Chalk Revue." They quickly formed a lifelong friendship built on a shared love of musical theatre, quarter draws and a special crush on Air Supply.

Julie, a Kansas City native, spent the next two decades with her husband, Dave, using her Human Biology degree to make four humans. After blogging her adventures in motherhood, she was picked up by the Lawrence Journal-World to write a weekly humor column. Within three years, though, she no longer felt 500 words each week fully expressed the stories that made up her days as a mom.

Sara grew up in Ponca City, Oklahoma (an actual place on the map). After graduating from KU, Sara earned her Master's Degree in Physical Therapy from Northwestern University. While in Chicago, she studied improvisation at both the Annoyance Theater and The Second City. There she seasoned her funny bone and honed her music writing skills as the former front woman of the funk-blues band, Chubby Nothin' and the Bone.

After 20 years of friendship, several bottles of wine and an appreciation for the uncensored realities of motherhood, the two teamed up to write *MotherFreakingHood!* With the primary goal of celebrating unsung heroes with unsung songs, the musical comedy became a labor of love; they found that writing a musical, like motherhood itself, is an adventure best shared with friends.

Julie resides in Lawrence, KS with her husband and their four kids (except for the one in college) where she fits an unbearable amount of laundry in between freelance writing gigs and co-hosting her monthly television talk show, Living Local.

Sara resides in Wilmette, IL (a bigger place on the map) with her husband and their two kids -- who now believe every mommy sings lullabies at night just like Mary Freaking Poppins. She owns and practices physical therapy at Millennium Wellness Group in downtown Chicago.

COVID Protocols

The Black Box is ready to welcome patrons safely back to the theatre and will continue to follow local, national and union(s) COVID-19 guidelines. There will be more information on safety protocol closer to performance dates. Please visit <https://www.blackboxkc.com/covid> for the latest information.

About The Black Box

The Black Box is an ever-evolving stage and performance venue located in the industrial West Bottoms. It acts as a spotlight in the work of theatre shining a light on (bold and provocative) productions and experiences. For more information, please visit <https://www.blackboxkc.com/>.

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