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to Mr. Blankenbuehler, and presented by GALA Theater, Theater in the Heights premiered in the US in 1997. While Spanish-language versions of the show have been produced in Latin America, this production is distinctive for several reasons: It is the first Spanish version of the show in the United States, it is the first Spanish translation sanctioned and approved by Lin-Manuel Miranda, and it is the first musical choreographed by Luis Salgado, Assistant Latin Choreographer on the original Broadway production of *In the Heights*.^[41] The production included lyrics and scenes in Spanish, with elements from the original English, as well as an English anchor through the character of Benny. The production offered English and Spanish subtitles. The production combined a varied Spanish speaking cast from countries including the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Spain, Colombia, Peru, Mexico, Puerto Rico, Switzerland and the USA. It starred Juan Luis Espinal (Usnavi), Vernica Iwarz Robles (Vanessa), Laura Lebrn (Nina), Vaughn Midder (Benny), Scheherazade Quiroga (Daniela), Shadia Fairuz (Camila), Rafael Beato (Sonny), Michelle Ros (Abuela Claudia), Jos Fernando Capelln (Kevin), Gabriela Prez (Carla), Myriam Gadri (Graffity Pete) and Felix Marchany (Piragua Guy). The ensemble included: Ximena Salgado, Melinette Pallares, Natalia Raigosa, Amaya Perea, Aaron Cobos, Jos Ozuna and Hector Flores. The production garnered 18 nominations to the 2018 Helen Hayes Awards (the DC equivalent to the Tony Awards), more than any other DC production in the season,^[42] including Best Musical, Best Ensemble, Best Director, Best Choreography, Best Actor, Best Actress, Best Supporting Actress and Best Supporting Actor among others.^[43]The first ever Nordic performance took place in January and February 2018 at Bastionen theatre in Nyborg, Denmark. It was an amateur production by the Musical Talent School of Nyborg. It was translated into Danish and directed by Jesper Nielsen.^[44]The musical premiered in May 2019, in Teatro Fernando Soler. It was a semi-professional production in Spanish directed by Saul Martnez and produced by Cuarta Pared Teatro.^[45]Produced by the Jefferson Performing Arts Society, directed and choreographed by Michelle Pietri with Assistant Choreographer AJ Hernandez, *In The Heights* had its Regional Premiere in The Jefferson Performing Arts Center on October 7, 2022. Maestro Dennis Assaf conducted The Jefferson Performing Arts Society Pit Orchestra.The Scenic Designer was Eric Porter, the Lighting Designer was Jonathan Michael Gonzales and the Sound Designer was Kage Laney. The Wigs and Makeup Designer was Amanda Bravender, the Costume Designer was Arturo Hernandez Jr., and the Props Designer was Olivia Winter. Mona Naswari was the Stage Manager. The production combined a varied Spanish speaking cast from countries including the Dominican Republic, Venezuela, Colombia, Peru, Mexico, Puerto Rico, and Cuba. It starred Alce Jones (Usnavi), Gia Martinez (Vanessa), Kelly Laines (Nina), Neal Eli (Benny), Skylar Broussard (Daniela), Elizabeth Lowry (Camila), Claudio Venancio (Sonny), Elana Polin (Abuela Claudia), Paul Bello (Kevin), Rachel Carter (Carla), Clarence Smith (Graffity Pete) and Adriel Aviles (Piragua Guy). The ensemble included: Gabriela Vazquez Harlamert (Dance Captain), Aubry Snipez, Graciela Gonzales, Aaliyah Thompson, Alejandra Dollis, Shiquita Brooks, Yorkel Ballesteros, David Hidalgo, Cal Desmith, Fransheska Pea, Joshua "Juice" Hernandez, AJ Hernandez, Aleyla Ybarra, Sophia Christilles and Stefan Armando Hernandez-San Martin.The first ever Polish performance directed by Kacper Wojcieszek took place on 24 September 2022 in Koszalin's Musical Theater "Adria" (Teatr Muzyczny Adria).^[46]YearAward CeremonyCategoryNomineeResult2007Drama Desk AwardOutstanding MusicalNominatedOutstanding Ensemble PerformanceWonOutstanding Director of a MusicalThomas KailNominatedOutstanding ChoreographyAndy BlankenbuehlerWonOutstanding MusicLin-Manuel MirandaNominatedOutstanding LyricsNominatedOutstanding OrchestrationsAlex Lacamoire and Bill ShermanNominatedOutstanding Set DesignAnna LouizosNominatedOutstanding Sound DesignAcme Sound PartnersNominatedClarence Derwent AwardMost Promising Male PerformerLin-Manuel MirandaWonYearAward CeremonyCategoryNomineeResult2008Tony AwardBest MusicalWonBest Book of a MusicalQuiara Alegria HudesNominatedBest Original ScoreLin-Manuel MirandaWonBest Actor in a MusicalRobin de JessNominatedBest Featured Actress in a MusicalOlga MeredizNominatedBest Direction of a MusicalThomas KailNominatedBest ChoreographyAndy BlankenbuehlerWonBest OrchestrationsAlex Lacamoire and Bill ShermanWonBest Scenic DesignAnna LouizosNominatedBest Costume DesignPaul TazewellNominatedBest Lighting DesignHowell BinkleyNominatedBest Sound DesignAcme Sound PartnersNominatedGrammy AwardBest MusicalShow AlbumWon2009Pulitzer Prize for DramaFinalistYearAward CeremonyCategoryNomineeResult2016Laurence Olivier AwardsBest New MusicalNominatedBest Actor in a Supporting Role in a MusicalDavid BedellaWonBest Theatre ChoreographerDrew McOnieWonOutstanding Achievement in MusicLin-Manuel MirandaWon2016WhatsOnStage AwardsBest New MusicalNominatedBest Actor in a MusicalSam MackayNominatedBest Actress in a MusicalLily FrazerNominatedBest Supporting Actor in a MusicalDavid BedellaWonBest Supporting Actress in a MusicalVictoria Hamilton-BarrittNominatedBest DirectionLuke SheppardNominatedBest ChoreographyDrew McOnieNominatedBest Set DesignTakisNominatedBest Lighting DesignHoward HudsonNominatedThe reviews for the show were positive to mixed (the median grade of 9 major reviews was "B+").^[47] Charles Isherwood's review in *The New York Times* said that "when this musical erupts in one of its expressions of collective joy, the energy it gives off could light up the George Washington Bridge for a year or two."^[48] Heather Bing of *The Cleveland Plain Dealer* wrote, "Although I was sometimes struggling to keep up with the hip-hop and Spanish-infused lyrics, the exciting set and choreography paired with excellent acting held my interest in the storyline."^[49] David Rooney's *Variety* review said, "That depth of feeling, together with the wit of Miranda's lyrics, the playful dexterity of his rhymes, his dynamic score and a bunch of truly winning performances, make the show an uncalculated charmer."^[50]Hudes' book received mixed reviews. Charles McNulty's *The Los Angeles Times* review mentioned that "the downside to *In the Heights* is the book...which is overstuffed and oversimplified."^[51]The *New York Post*'s Clive Barnes also gave negative comments about the book, saying that "Hudes' work is droopily sentimental and untruthful."^[52] Joe Dziemianowicz of the *NY Daily News* also disliked the book, but added that "what it lacks in story and believability it makes up for in a vibrant rap- and salsa-flavored score, spirited dances, and great-looking design."^[53]On May 27, 2009, PBS' *Great Performances* aired an episode entitled *In the Heights: Chasing Broadway Dreams*. It documents the journey taken by the cast and crew to bring the show to Broadway and to later win the Tony Award for Best Musical.^[54] Producer Andrew Fried and director Paul Bozymowski captured footage of the cast and creative team for over two years, from the off-Broadway production to their Tony Award wins. The special premiered at the Paley Center for Media in New York on May 4, 2009.^[55]Main article: *In the Heights* (film)In November 2008, Universal Pictures announced that they had acquired the rights to adapt the musical as a feature film for release in 2011.^[56]^[57] Kenny Ortega was set to direct it, and Quiara Alegria Hudes would write the screenplay.^[58]^[59] However, Universal opted not to develop the film, and the project was canceled.^[60]In January 2012, Lin-Manuel Miranda said the adaptation was back under discussion.^[61]In May 2016, it was announced that The Weinstein Company would distribute the film.^[62]The following month, it was reported that Jon M. Chu was in talks to direct.^[63]In September 2016, Chu was confirmed as director, with production potentially beginning in spring 2017. Lin-Manuel Miranda said he would not return as Usnavi, the role he originated, but could return in another role.^[64]In October 2017, Hudes revealed that she had asked The Weinstein Company to permit her to take the production elsewhere, in light of the Harvey Weinstein sexual abuse allegations.^[65]In April 2018, the film rights reverted to Miranda and Hudes.^[66]In May 2018, Warner Bros. Pictures acquired the film rights in a \$50million deal after a bidding war with several other studios.^[67] Warner Bros. originally set a release date of June 26, 2020.^[68] In October 2018, Anthony Ramos was cast as Usnavi.^[69] In January 2019, Corey Hawkins was cast as Benny.^[70] In April 2019, Jimmy Smits was cast as Kevin.^[71] Leslie Grace as Nina, Melissa Barrera as Vanessa,^[72] Stephanie Beatriz as Carla, Olga Merediz as Abuela Claudia (reprising her Tony nominated role from the original Broadway cast), Gregory Diaz IV as Sonny, Daphne Rubin-Vega (who did one of the radio voices in the original Broadway production) as Daniela, Lin-Manuel Miranda as Piragua Guy, and Dascha Polanco as Cuca.Filming began on June 3, 2019, in New York.^[73]^[74] A teaser trailer was released on December 11, 2019, followed by a full trailer the next day.^[75]^[76] The film was scheduled to be released on June 26, 2020, in the United States, and on August 7, 2020, in the United Kingdom.^[77] However, it was delayed to June 10, 2021, due to the COVID-19 pandemic.^[78] The film had an opening weekend box office of \$11.5 million worldwide.^[79]Dominican AmericansNuyoricanPuerto Ricans in New York City^ Rubin, Rebecca (June 11, 2021). 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Retrieved June 11, 2021.^ "In the Heights". *IMDb*.In the Heights at the Internet Broadway DatabaseIn the Heights at the Internet Off-Broadway Database (archived) The American Theatre Wing's Tony Awards Meet the Nominees In the HeightsBroadwayWorld.com Show Preview In the HeightsPortals: Music TheatreRetrieved from " I've always been a fan of classic movie musicals like *Singing in the Rain* and *The Sound of Music*. Seeing the actors sing and dance on top of their usual emoting reveals incredible extra layers of talent that leave me in awe. These days, there are only a couple of big musicals each year, if that, so when I heard that the smash-hit, Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *In the Heights* was coming to life on the big screen, I knew I had to see it opening night since I'd never had the chance to catch it on stage.Not only was I floored by its sense of spectacle, but I was thrilled to find that it offered some really profound messages to consider as well. For one, the lead characters are driven by a sense of spiritual purpose that sets *In The Heights* apart from other blockbusters, outside of a few faith-based films that often take a heavy-handed approach to cinematic evangelization. It tells the story of a diverse, tight-knit immigrant community in Washington Heights whose dramatic life decisions are inspired by a simple motto learned from a wise old woman in their neighborhood: *paciencia y fe*, meaning patience and faith.Based on the 2008 smash hit Broadway musical written by Lin-Manuel Miranda, who also created the all-time blockbuster *Hamilton*, *In the Heights* follows the lives of four young immigrants, Usnavi, Vanessa, Sonny and Nina. Each of these dynamic and ambitious characters believes they're called to leave their working-class neighborhood of Washington Heights for brighter futures in better places.RELATED: Spiritual Streaming: 5 Catholic-Themed Films for Your Next Movie NighTheir ambitions transcend their ethnic backgrounds, and are shared by people of all backgrounds who feel their dreams require them to relocate and leave the life of their childhoods behind. But Heights powerfully shows the impact of realizing the beauty found in your present, everyday circumstances and the inherent value of the people and experiences that shape you.For me, it sparked thoughts of how I never thought in my life that I would work at Wal-Mart, for a myriad of reasons. But when I lost a job I loved at a newspaper after 17 years and couldn't find other media work, I applied and found that I love it more than I ever enjoyed being an editor.Being a cashier and joking with customers eight hours a day sparked my creative side and has helped me become a better comedian (another career path of mine). It also led to my doing funny store-closing announcements over the PA system every night, which I film and put on TikTok (@thatfunnywalmartguy). I wound up getting over 60,000 views in my first month alone.Now, I've been invited to submit my proposals for a humorous new national ad campaign and the company is also likely to sponsor a new radio show I'm launching in July. So, the last job I ever thought I'd have is now possibly the best job I've ever had: the kind of attitude the movie spotlights.My journey took the same kind of patience and faith the movie sings about. The values are a recurring theme throughout the story, as sung by the wise abuela (grandmother in Spanish) who is loved by everyone, including those unrelated to her. She repeatedly cites those virtues as the keys to happiness in life. Those key words *paciencia y fe* appear throughout the story: from dialogue exchanges to a powerful song she sings, to a painted mural that brings the film to a touching conclusion. I loved the message of those words because I realized that patience and faith were qualities I've been experiencing a lot in my major career transition.RELATED: Praying for Patience: What I Learned From *Gods Time Vs. My Own* I have never set foot in Washington Heights, yet I found in the Heights to be such a bracing experience that I saw it twice in its first week and loved it even more the second time.The films vibrant, emotional portrayals of the immigrant experience deeply affected me because I myself am the son of a Polish immigrant who pursued his own American Dream to become a Veterans Affairs doctor. In showing the challenges these characters face on a daily basis, the movie moved me to have a more open heart towards immigration issues than I normally harbored as a political conservative.I could see myself in the four lead characters. Growing up in Little Rock, Arkansas, I was driven by a love of comedy and couldn't wait for my eventual moves to Chicago and Los Angeles to pursue a career as a standup comedian and writer. But when I was laid off from my job at the weekly newspaper in 2019, I moved back home and was surprised to find that I now appreciated myriad things about life in a smaller city and surrounded by family.LISTEN: Mark Wahlberg on Faith and FilmI also was inspired by the fact that these young people are all immigrants or the children of immigrants, just like I am. Watching one father in the movie give up everything so that his daughter could achieve a dream education at a top university made me appreciate how my parents managed to put me and my three siblings through college even after my dad started in America with nothing.Its refreshing in a time when so much of media can be cynical, to find a movie that finds beauty and value in family and faith. In coming home myself, I thought I had to leave all my dreams of performing behind yet instead, I've managed to find some amazing new opportunities here in this small city that I grew up thinking had none to offer. God had a plan for me right where I was if I paid close enough attention.In the Heights has the magic ability to make any viewer appreciate the life and family they have, while calling them to find their own higher purpose. Thats a pretty impressive feat any time of year, and hopefully one that will leave all theatergoers as inspired as the film left me. Each year in the spring, I go back to my Midwestern roots and shake off the dust of winter with a good spring cleaning. More read more The smell of fresh basil and tomato vines still brings me back to my grandmothers garden, where I learned my first lessons about faith. It read more

What is the message of in the heights. In the heights hear me out.