

Visual Story for

SHIFT



August 27 - 7:45pm

August 28 - 8pm

September 1 - 7:45pm

September 2 - 10:00pm

September 4 - 3:30pm

Download the venue visual story [on our website](#)



About SHIFT

Performance time

- The performance will aim to start at:

7:45pm on August 27th

8pm on August 28th

7:45pm on September 1st

10pm on September 2nd

3:30pm on September 4th
- The performance is approximately 45 minutes long.
- It will finish around:

8:30pm on August 27th

8:45pm on August 28th

8:30pm on September 1st

10:45pm on September 2nd

4:15pm on September 4th

What to expect

- The lights above you will be dark
- It is ok to move
- It is ok to make noise
- It is ok to react
- It is not ok to take pictures or make phone calls
- A pre-recorded voice will make an announcement when the show is about to start
- If you want to leave the Theatre at any time, you can go to the lobby. You may be reseated during a blackout

Here are some people who work behind the scenes

NOTE: These people work behind the scenes, so you might not see them.

There will be a venue technician who operates the lights and sound.



Zoey Collins
Assistant Production Manager

The Set and the Performers

Here is a picture of the set
(with all the performers)



- The stage will be bare at the top of the show.
- Only four performers will be entering and exiting during the show.
- Cardboard boxes are the only set piece and will be accumulating on the stage throughout the show.
- There will be cardboard props such as computers, phones, scrabble board, and paper items

Here are pictures of all the performers



Ella Daly plays Alex



Sammy Forest plays Aaron



Danica Charlie plays Riley



Emily Duke plays Charlie

About the Story

Riley, Charlie, Alex, and Aaron have seven days before they graduate college and begin the next stage of their lives. This play is made up of short scenes and takes place in a non-linear timeline over the course of this single week. Throughout the week, the characters explore their identity, come face to face with change, and confront their fears. *SHIFT* is a queer coming of age story celebrating moving, friendship, and sexuality. An intimate, strange, and heartfelt patchwork of moments that compel us to examine the joy and fear of the unknown.

- In one scene in a club like environment there will be flashing lights and yelling.
- The characters argue halfway through the show and may raise their voices.

Please refer to pages 8 and 9 for a full breakdown of the story line.

Loud Sounds and Bright Lights

- There will be no fireworks
- There will be flashing lights
- There will be loud music and abrupt sound cues
- There will be raised voices

These are the times that you may find intense:

- Part way through the show, an argument will occur. The characters may raise their voices.
- All of the characters are dealing with stressful situations and may appear to be anxious or panicked.
- In the second half of the show during a Game Show there will be louder music cues, and brighter lights changing throughout the scene.

SHIFT Visual Story

SPOILER ALERT :

The visual story tells you everything that happens in the show.

The show starts with a blank stage. 4 friends appear - Alex, Charlie, Riley, and Aaron. They all enter carrying in boxes then sit on them and begin to talk directly to the audience. It is Day 8.

Back to Day 1 - 1 week until graduation. 1 week until the 4 friends move out of the apartment they have shared since second year. Alex, Charlie, Riley, and Aaron sit down for dinner. They begin to play a game of scrabble. Each of the 4 friends are described during this game of scrabble. Eventually the friends transition to throwing a hat, and then dancing to music. While this is happening, the explanation of each character and their family continues.

During the first half of the play Alex, Charlie, Riley, and Aaron are each dealing with a problem.

Alex is uptight and obsessive, she is dealing with crippling anxiety about always getting things right and perfect. Alone in her room, Alex attempts to study for her last exam but feels too overwhelmed. The scene shifts to a club setting where Alex is standing idly among the partygoers, petrified by how anxious she is. As the people at the club chat about graduating, Alex admits how she feels to nobody in particular, because of the volume in the club.

Charlie is dealing with the discovery of her sexual identity. She wishes that she had the same 'gay awakening' as her friends did when they were younger, and we see these in flashbacks and the group's narration.

Riley is feeling uninspired and doubtful about her talents in writing as she tries to write an essay for an important scholarship at a coffee shop. She is scared about going into the real world and afraid of failing, especially having a strained relationship with her family and no backup finances.

Aaron is realizing the world around him is changing quickly and he's not sure how to navigate it. A voicemail from his mother sends him into a spiral about how he has no plans after graduation. Three imaginary children tease Aaron and add to the general noise of people prodding him with questions he has no answers to.

These 4 scenes introducing each individual problem take place in a non-linear format.

On Day 4, in the middle of the play, the friends argue as a result of these individual problems they are all dealing with. A small comment is made by Charlie about her family that is interpreted in the wrong way by Riley. The conversation goes sideways and tempers flare. Finally the group realizes that they need to make a change. They don't want to spend the last week living together fighting.

In the second half of the play, 4 more scenes occur in a non-linear form.

Aaron listens to a voicemail from his mom and finally admits that he is struggling about his career path and wants to explore himself first. He creates a bucket list with the imaginary children of things he wants to do to figure out who he is.

Charlie comes to terms with her identity and accepts herself within a satirical game show scene where she confronts the parts of her that represent her queerness.

Riley sits down again to write her essay for the scholarship, hesitating on whether to write about her childhood, and she breaks the long silence she has created between her and her father by sending the essay to him. He replies (we see the email projected on the backdrop), reconnecting them. She finds the courage to submit the essay.

Alex falls asleep and has a dream where she isn't in control. She finally realizes that things are okay when they don't go as planned he discovers a peace of mind in not knowing or planning what she does next.

Day 7 - We return to the club and finally the 4 friends are happy and carefree. They are ready to celebrate the joy of the unknown instead of running from it.

Day 8 - We return to the first scene where the characters address the audience directly about how they feel towards this pivotal week.

At the end of the show, we watch as the friends graduate - their names are called and they accept their graduation certificates during the actor's curtain call, and the show is over.