DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

• How was this show similar or different to the original *The Wizard of Oz*?

• Among Dorothy, Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion, who do you relate to the most? Why?

• Why do you think Dorothy fears taking on more responsibility around Aunt Em’s house?

• Why are the munchkins significant?

• Why do you think Addaperle didn’t tell Dorothy how to get home when they first met?

• Scarecrow, Tinman, and Lion all want things that they don’t realize they already possess. Does this kind of mindset exist in our society today?

• What is significant about the things The Wiz gives to Scarecrow, Tinman and Lion?

• Why is getting home so important to Dorothy? What is your definition of home?

• How do the characters change after The Wiz gives them what they want?
• Why do you think Dorothy chooses to help her new friends get what they want rather than just focusing on her goal to get home?

• What do Dorothy’s new friends help her realize about herself?

• The Wiz believes the simple things in life are power, prestige and money. What does this tell the audience about what kind of person he is?

• Oz is a magical world with all kinds of creatures. Why do you think the Oz citizens are so amazed by the balloon and green glasses the Wiz brought with him to Oz?

• What does the poppy field symbolize?

• The Winged Monkeys are not loyal to anyone in the play. Why do you think the playwright chose to depict them this way?

• Power struggles run all through this play. What are some examples you see of that?

• Oppression is also a major theme in the play. What is an example from the play that is used to convey this theme? What is an example of oppression currently faced in our society today that is similar to the example you gave from the play?

• The Wiz is what many believe to be a depiction of Afrofuturism. What comes to mind when you hear the word Afrofuturism? Why do you think The Wiz would fall under this category?

• In 1975, The Wiz was a huge hit on Broadway and won seven tony awards. Why do you think productions like The Wiz and Black Panther are so successful?

• The Wiz is an adaptation of L. Frank Baum’s 1900 novel, The Wonderful Wizard of Oz. How do you think this adaptation altered the themes that were in the original book?