



Going to The Rose Guide



Welcome to The Rose!

It's almost time for our next production, *A CHRISTMAS STORY*, the musical adaptation of the 1980s holiday classic. We've assembled some special information to help you get ready for the upcoming performance. Before you go to the show, you might want to take a few moments to review this "Know Before You Go" Guide so everyone will know what to expect from the performance!



The Story You Will See



Music and Lyrics by Benj Pasek & Justin Paul.

Book by Joseph Robinette.

Based on the motion picture A Christmas Story.

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRAMATIC PUBLISHING, WOODSTOCK, ILLINOIS

Join Ralphie Parker on his quest for the Holy Grail of Christmas gifts – a Red Ryder air rifle. This musical adaptation of the beloved movie brings all the classic laughs of Flick getting his tongue stuck to a flagpole, Dad getting his special award, a disastrous visit to Santa and many more to life onstage. Bring your family together this winter to experience the universal triumphs of childhood as seen through the eyes of a very special nine-year old.

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December 6 - 22, 2024 | 135 minutes with a 15-minute intermission

Know Before You Go

Here are some things your family might like to “Know Before You Go:”

- There are moments in this story where the main character, Ralphie, is very scared of people around him. This is expressed through large emotions, fighting, and reasoning through challenging situations.
- There are moments in this story where Ralphie feels ignored by his friends and parents – if this is something your young person feels connection to, let them know about it!
- There are moments in this story that contain consistent reference to a BB gun – that the main character wants as a gift. While the gun will not be shown onstage, if this is something your young person feels anxiety or big feelings about, let them know about it!
- There are moments in this story with lights briefly flash and theatrical haze is used.
- There are moments in this story where it seems like characters are physically fighting (or using “Stage Combat”) in cartoony ways– similar to old 1920s films where someone is “tied to the railroad tracks”– it would benefit young people to let them know that the fighting is pretend, and part of playing a character onstage.
- **There is some harsh language in this show, similar in vein to the source material of the 1980s film– there is some light swearing and reference to “the f-word” (said aloud as “fudge”).**





Some of The Characters You'll Meet

- **Ralphie Parker:** A young boy obsessed with getting a Red Ryder BB gun for Christmas.
- **Jean Shepherd:** The adult version of Ralphie, who narrates the story.
- **Randy Parker:** Ralphie's sibling, with whom he shares a love/hate relationship.
- **Ralphie's Mother (Mrs. Parker):** A loving but no-nonsense woman who cares deeply for her family.
- **The Old Man (Mr. Parker):** Ralphie's father, often referred to as "The Old Man" in the story. He's a gruff, good-hearted man who is obsessed with winning the "Major Award"—a leg lamp—during the Christmas season.
- **Schwartz:** Ralphie's best friend and a fellow troublemaker.
- **Flick:** Another one of Ralphie's friends. Flick is known for getting his tongue stuck to a flagpole in a classic moment from the story.
- **Miss Shields:** Ralphie's teacher. She is kind but stern.
- **Santa Claus:** The Santa at Higbee's Department Store. He's a bit gruff and not quite as magical as Ralphie imagined.
- **Scut and Grover:** Two bullies at Ralphie's school.

From Story to Stage

Pasek and Paul, the composers, have also written music for *The Greatest Showman*, *Dear Evan Hansen*, and even worked on Disney's *Trolls*!

Pasek and Paul became EGOT winners in September of this year, meaning they have won an Emmy, Grammy, Oscar, and Tony throughout their career.

The original movie was based off of a book by Jean Shepard.

In the movie *Ralphie* mentions wanting a gun a whopping 28 times!

Joseph Robinette, the playwright has also adapted other works, like *Charlotte's Web* and *Jungle Book*, into plays.

Joseph Robinette won the Children's Theatre Foundation of America medallion for his career in creating shows for family audiences.

The Rose Theater has done this show before, once in 2014.



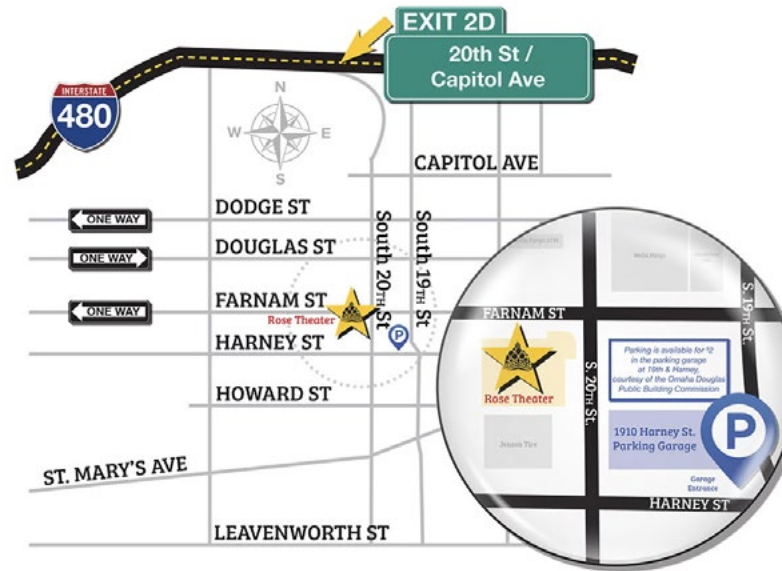
Location

Theater Location

The Rose is located in downtown Omaha at 2001 Farnam Street on the southwest corner of 20th & Farnam Streets.

Directions

From west Omaha, take I-80 East to 1-480 North and exit onto 20th Street. The Rose is located on Farnam Street, approximately three blocks south of the 20th Street exit



Parking

Parking is available for \$2 in the garage at 19th & Harney, courtesy of the Omaha Douglas Public Building Commission (1910 Harney St., Omaha, NE 68102).

CHANGES TO OMAHA PARKING METERS! [Please check the Park Omaha website for the latest information.](#) Currently, parking meters surrounding the theater are active from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Saturday, with free parking available on Sundays and holidays.

A variety of parking lots are available around the theater, as well, ranging in cost from \$2-\$5.



While at The Rose

Join Our Post-Performance Q&A Session!

A few minutes after the performance, our actors will conduct a Question & Answer session from the stage. It's a wonderful opportunity to learn more about the scenery, costumes, special effects, and other aspects of the production.

Meet the Cast & Get an Autograph!

Some actors will be available after the show to say hello, pose in pictures, and sign their autographs for you. You can meet them on the mezzanine level right outside the entrance to our balcony level seats.

Take Home a Souvenir!

The Rose Guild presents a souvenir stand before and after each performance offering a variety of fun and inexpensive show-related mementos. The proceeds help to support the great education programs at The Rose Theater!

Check out our Classes!

If you like what you saw on the stage and think you'd like to be a part of it, try taking a theater class here at The Rose Theater. We offer a wide range of arts classes for every interest and experience level. Check out the Rose Website or scan a QR code at the box office for more information.

Awesome Aftershow Activities!

Ralphie's Christmas Wish

Write a letter to Santa just like Ralphie did! What would you ask for if you could have any Christmas gift in the world? Describe it in detail— why do you want it, and what would you do with it?

The Leg Lamp

Draw a picture of the leg lamp in all its glory. Make it as big and colorful as you can! What other unusual decorations would you add to the scene? Maybe there's a snowman, or a Christmas elf peeking from behind the lamp?

The Bunny Suit

Imagine yourself in the same bunny suit Ralphie wears. Draw a funny picture of yourself (or a character of your choice) wearing the suit. Are you hiding in embarrassment, or are you proudly showing it off?



Dinner Time Discussion

One of the best ways to enjoy a play is to talk about the story and the characters with family and friends who saw the show. Here are some topics you can discuss before and after you see visit The Rose Theater to see the production.

Before the Show

- What do you already know about A Christmas Story?
- What do you think a leg lamp looks like?
- How do you think Ralphie's family will celebrate Christmas? What does your family do to celebrate holidays?

After the Show

- What did you think of Ralphie's journey to get his Christmas wish? Did it turn out the way you expected?
- The musical shows a lot of holiday traditions. Do you have any family traditions that are similar or different?
- Why do you think Ralphie was so determined to get that BB gun, even when everyone told him it was a bad idea?



Thank You and Enjoy the Show!



Support Our Mission

For more than 75 years, The Rose Theater has inspired creativity, developed imagination and helps children grow into confident young adults.

With your help, we can continue this work for another 75 years. Your donation amplifies the impact of theater education on youth, giving young people the opportunity to reach for the stars and discover the possibilities that lie within.

Your contribution to The Rose Theater makes a life-changing difference to children, their families, our community and beyond.

[Make a Gift By Clicking Here!](#)