



A CHRISTMAS STORY

The Musical

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

Show Sponsored By:



www.rosetheater.org



The arts are the language of the soul.

- Robert Henri

Like painter Robert Henri, we understand that art transcends words. Whether it's a voice on the stage or a brush on the canvas, the arts allow us to share our humanity with the world.

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Welcome to The Rose

Thank you from each one of us at The Rose for sharing your family's time with us. Theaters across the country are struggling to navigate these years after the pandemic. We feel so incredibly lucky to have you here with us, particularly at this moment.

The artists whose work you are here to see are professionals, even if they are student artists. The vast majority of them are also from this community. They make their lives as your neighbors. The same

is true of the dedicated staff responsible for everything from maintaining this historic building to designing this program, to teaching wonderful classes in design, acting, singing, and dance.

As your only professional theater for young audiences, we are also proud to bring you some of the best working artists from around the country. Though they are guests in our community, these folks care deeply about helping children see themselves reflected onstage.

We hope our work uplifts you and your young people, that it contributes to your sense of connection to this place, and to the people around you. We need your presence to complete the act of making theater, so the gift of you being here is deeply appreciated by all of us who call The Rose our home.

Matt Gutschick
Artistic Director



2024-25 Mainstage Season

Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Musical

Sept. 6 - 22, 2024

Coraline

Oct. 11 - 27, 2024

A Christmas Story: The Musical

Dec. 6 - 22, 2024

WORLD PREMIERE

Secret Kindness Agents

Jan. 17 - Feb. 2, 2025

Cat Kid Comic Club: The Musical

Feb. 14 - Mar. 2, 2025

WORLD PREMIERE

Milo Imagines the World

Mar. 21 - Apr. 6, 2025

Pete the Cat: The Musical

Apr. 18 - May 4, 2025

Disney Pixar's Finding Nemo

June 6 - 29, 2025



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25 SEASON

DIARY
of a
Wimpy Kid
THE MUSICAL

Sept. 6-22, 2024

Coraline

Oct. 11-27, 2024

A
CHRIS MAS
STORY
The Musical

Dec. 6-22, 2024

SECRET
KINDNESS
AGENTS

Jan. 17 - Feb. 2, 2025

CATKID
COMIC CLUB
The Musical

Feb. 14 - Mar. 2, 2025

MILO
Imagines the World

Mar. 21 - Apr. 6, 2025

Pete the Cat
THE MUSICAL

Apr. 18 - May 4, 2025

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June 6-29, 2025

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The Rose Guild

The Rose Theater Guild is a group of dedicated volunteers who are passionate about making performing arts education accessible to every child in our community by raising funds and awareness for The Rose's programming.

Rockin' Rosie is The Rose Theater Guild's largest annual fundraiser supporting arts education programs. Each year, the event rocks a different theme and provides an opportunity for the community to make a lasting

impact on the performing arts for the youth in our community.

The Rose Theater Boutique, sponsored by Oriental Trading Company, is located in the lobby and accompanies main stage productions. The Boutique is maintained by The Rose Theater Guild and staffed by The Guild as well as other Rose staff and volunteers.

The Guild also supports the Rosebuds program which is a unique opportunity for elementary and middle school-aged children to support the fundraising efforts of The Rose Theater Guild with a \$20 donation. Rosebuds are recognized in The Rose's performance programs, receive a special gift from the Boutique and are invited to two exclusive behind the scenes events each season.

Guild Exec Board: Molly Junge Hoskins, Michelle Pernicek, Elizabeth Thielen, Kayla Raimondo, Erin Moran, Steph Drewnowski, Sarah Vetter, Megan Horn

Rockin' Rosie Chairs: Tanin Arkfeld, Bess Lehmann, Michelle Pernicek

Guild Members: Laura Bosh, Erin Cucinotta, Jenna Ketchen, Ashley Kunes, Shannon Sharkey, Rachel Skradski Luhrs

Become a
Rosebud

Rosebuds are kids 18 and under who support The Rose Theater! Membership is \$20 and includes invitations to special events, a gift from our Boutique, recognition in each program and much more.

Charlie Bosch	Emily Lee	Hattie Mimick	Hunter Scherlie
Claire Bosch	Xzavier Lee	Armani Moore	Knox Scherlie
Keira Cucinotta	Hendrix Lee	Natalie Nicholas	Elenor Senft
Millie Drewnowski	Adalyn Lee	Spencer Nicholas	Howie Senft
Lorelei Drewnowski	Willa Lehmann	James Pernicek	Ezra Stapleton
Presley Fritch	Ellis Lehmann	Lily Pernicek	Gianluca Stevens
Crew Hale	Evyr Lloyd	Preston Rich	Gianna Stevens
Walter Hoskins	Olivia McCormick	Fordham Rich	Aria Stroup
Elizabeth Horn	Emmett McFadden	Elise Risicato	Wyatt Stroup
Fletcher Horn	James Merwald	Maren Scallon	Joslyn Thompson
Graecyn Hunter	Frank Merwald	Hattie Scallon	
Charlotte Iske	Finley Mimick	Berkley Scherlie	



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The Bob & Evelyn Veach Foundation

Special thanks to the Veach Foundation for providing free memberships to more than 250 families!



The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this program through its matching grants program funded by the Nebraska Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

Visit www.nebraskaartscouncil.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization, or how you can support the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.



In 1989, through LB262, the Nebraska Legislature authorized Douglas County to establish a "County Visitors Improvement Fund" to promote tourism through funds derived from a special hotel tax. The Rose is pleased to acknowledge this grant to support programs that promote tourism. It represents tangible recognition of the importance of arts in the Omaha area.

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Director
Kathy Tyree

Music Director
Jerry Brabec

Choreographer
Sue Gillespie Walker

Stage Manager
Meghan Boucher

Assistant Stage Manager
Erin McNeley-Phelps

Scenic Designer
Seth Howard

Original Costume Designer
Sherri Geerdes

Props Designer
Devon Denn-Young

Lighting Designer
Matt Benes

Costume Coordinator;
Hair & Makeup Designer
Zach Kloppenborg

Sound Designer/Engineer
Christy Hernandez

Sponsors:



Costume Sponsor: Opening Night Sponsor:

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Special thanks to our fun sponsor Oriental Trading Company
for its donation to the Guild Boutique!

The Nebraska Arts Council, a state agency, has supported this program through its matching grants program funded by the Nebraska Legislature, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Nebraska Cultural Endowment. Visit www.nebraskaartscouncil.org for information on how the Nebraska Arts Council can assist your organization, or how you can support the Nebraska Cultural Endowment.

NOTE TO AUDIENCES: *The videotaping or audio and/or visual recording of this production is a violation of United States Copyright Law and an actionable federal offense.*

Cast

Jean	JJ Davis
Ralphie	Landon Backhaus
The Old Man	Brendan Brown
Mother	Lauren Krupski
Randy	Addie Olsen
Miss Shields	Michelle Bester
Mrs. Schwartz / Ensemble	Rachel Smart
Santa / Ensemble	Jus.B
Flick / Ensemble	CJ Jackson
Schwartz / Ensemble	Colin Kortright
Esther Jane / Ensemble	Jayde Dorsey
Mary Beth / Ensemble	Lucy Beutler
Scut Farkus	Sam Rhodes
Grover Dill	Houston Fleck
Kid / Ensemble	River Klein
Kid / Ensemble	Silas Krebsbs
Elf / Ensemble	Abby Sokol
Elf / Ensemble	Aaron Q.T. Butler
Waiter / Ensemble	Erin O'Hara
Delivery Person / Ensemble	Jesse Wohlman
Ensemble	CynFranecia Brooks
Ensemble	Biannah Peji-Palm
Ensemble	Sydney DeLong
Ensemble	Clare Lyons

Rose Production Team

Artistic Director	Matt Gutschick
Director of Production	Sarah Buck
Director of Strategy & Community Impact	Kathy Tyree
Technical Director	Jackson Curtright
Resident Props Manager	Devon Denn-Young
Scenic Charge Artist	Trent Grooms
Production Technician	Ren Walther
Resident Lighting Designer & Lead Electrician	Matt Benes
Resident Sound Designer & Audio Engineer	Christy Hernandez
Resident Production Stage Manager	Meghan Boucher
Costume & Makeup Director	Zach Kloppenborg
Costume Shop Manager	Katie Greve
Electrics & Audio Apprentice	Mike Coopridner
Stage Management Apprentice	Erin McNeley-Phelps
Swing Tech	Aiden Carman, Abby Mutum
Stitchers	Ransom Buda
Draper	Katie Greve
Run Crew	Bella Loftus, Monica Moran, Ron Preston
Wardrobe	Ransom Buda
Spot Op	Seth Lindsey
A2	Mike Coopridner

Orchestra

Conductor	Jerry Brabec
Trumpet 1	Curtis Pelster
Trumpet 2	Joel Edwards
Trombone	Paul Niedbalski
Reed 1	Andrea Smith
Reed 2	Michael Prucha
Reed 3	Stanton Harper
Reed 4	Mark Benson
Reed 5	Zach Stewart
Guitar	Ben Eisenberg
Bass	Tom Miller
Keyboard I	Amy Nunamaker
Keyboard II	Todd Brooks
Keyboard III	Jerry Brabec
Drums	Michael Pollock
Percussion	Nick Swoboda

ROCKIN' ROSIE 2025

The Diamond Season

Saturday, February 8th, 2025

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Brandon Menke, MD & Dr. Kristen Menke

Peter Simone, MD & Laura Simone

Join us for a dazzling evening at The Rose!

TICKETS NOW AVAILABLE!



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Presented by: The Rose Theater Guild

Musical Numbers

ACT 1

It All Comes Down to Christmas (Part 1)	Ralphie, The Parkers
It All Comes Down to Christmas (Part 2)	The Parkers, Kids, Ensemble
Higbee's Window.....	Ralphie, Kids, Ensemble
Red Ryder Carbine-Action BB Gun	Ralphie, Jean
It All Comes Down to Christmas (Reprise).....	Ralphie, Ensemble Kids, Mother
The Genius on Cleveland Street.....	The Old Man, Mother
An Opening!	Ensemble, Ralphie
When You're a Wimp	Ralphie, Randy, Kids
Ralphie to the Rescue!.....	Ralphie, Miss Shields, Kids, Ensemble
What a Mother Does	Mother
A Major Award.....	The Old Man, Mother, Ensemble
Parker Family Sing-along	The Parkers
Act One Finale	Ralphie, Ensemble, The Old Man, Mother, Randy

ACT 2

Sticky Situation.....	Ralphie, Flick, Kids, Ensemble
The Nightclub	Farkus, Dill, Kids
You'll Shoot Your Eye Out	Miss Shields
The Fight	Kids
Just Like That.....	Mother
Red Ryder (Reprise) & At Higbee's.....	Ralphie, Elves
Up on Santa's Lap	Santa, Elves, Ralphie, Randy, Kids
Before The Old Man Comes Home	The Parkers
Somewhere Hovering Over Indiana.....	Ralphie, Randy, Kids
Christmas Morning	Ralphie, Randy
Ralphie to the Rescue! (Reprise)	Ralphie, Ensemble
A Christmas Story	The Parkers, Full Company

Did you enjoy the music tonight?

Listen to the Studio Cast Recording for *A Christmas Story* on Spotify so you can feel the holiday vibes on the way home!



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OF PURPOSE
36

ART BY KRISTIN PLUHACEK



DRACULA:
THE JOURNAL OF JONATHAN HARKER
ADAPTED BY JIM HELSINGER
OCTOBER 3 – OCTOBER 27, 2024

SILENT NIGHT OF THE LAMBS
BY RYAN LANDRY
NOVEMBER 29 – DECEMBER 22, 2024

APPROPRIATE TONY AWARD FOR BEST REVIVAL 2024
BY BRANDEN JACOBS-JENKINS
FEBRUARY 6 – MARCH 2, 2025

THE NIGHT LARRY KRAMER KISSED ME
BY DAVID DRAKE & BASED IN '80S AMERICA
MARCH 27 – APRIL 19, 2025

THE WILD PARTY
BOOK, MUSIC, AND LYRICS BY ANDREW LIPPA
MAY 22 – JUNE 22, 2025

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*A Christmas Carol

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*Girls Like Us

A Little Naughty, Mostly Nice!

Dec. 6 - Dec. 22, 2024

Waitress

Jan. 24 - Feb. 16, 2025

Dot

Feb. 21 - March 23, 2025

The Old Man and The Old Moon

March 7 - 30, 2025

Jimmy Buffett's

Escape to Margaritaville

April 18 - May 11, 2025

American Mariachi

May 2 - June 1, 2025

Titanic The Musical

May 30 - June 29, 2025

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This list reflects gifts received April 1, 2023 - November 15, 2024. Gifts received after November 15 will be acknowledged in the next show program. Thanks to these generous corporate sponsors, foundations, government agencies and individual donors, The Rose Theater is able to enrich the lives of children and families through live theater and arts education.

☞ Denotes donation in memory of Tracy Iwersen



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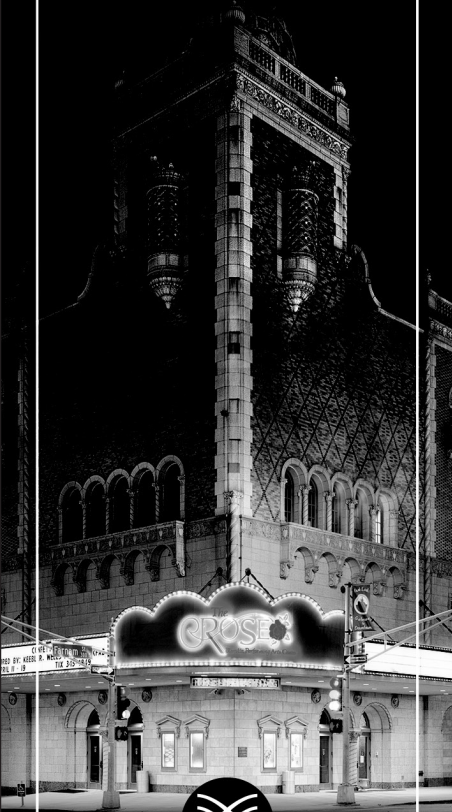
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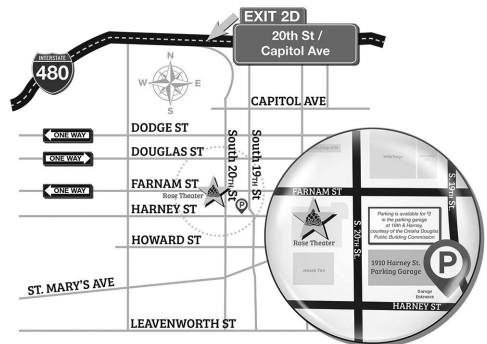
NebraskaCulturalEndowment.org

Parking is no predicament at The Rose

Imagine if every time you came to The Rose, there was a parking spot waiting for you at one of the closest and most convenient spots in the area. This dream is now a reality!

Thanks to the Omaha Douglas Public Building Commission, Rose audience members can now park for just \$2 in the parking garage at 1910 Harney Street (the corner of 19th & Harney) on weekend show days. This convenient location across the street from The Rose allows families quick and easy access to the theater at an affordable price.

“This is a wonderful benefit to our visitors,” says Rose managing director Julie Walker. “The families visiting The Rose now have access to the closest parking facility -- literally just across the street to the southeast -- at a rate less than they would pay at other uncovered lots or at a parking meter. We are so grateful to the Omaha Douglas Public Building Commission for the use of the garage.”



Rose Theater Staff

Artistic Director

Matthew Gutschick

Managing Director

Julie Walker

Production Staff

Director of Production – Sarah Buck

Resident Production Stage Manager – Meghan Boucher

Costume & Makeup Director – Zach Kloppenborg

Costume Shop Manager – Katie Greve

Technical Director – Jackson Curtright

Resident Props Manager – Devon Denn-Young

Scenic Charge Artist – Trent Grooms

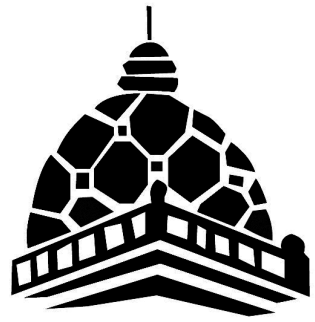
Production Technician – Ren Walther

Resident Lighting Designer & Lead Electrician – Matt Benes

Resident Sound Designer & Audio Engineer – Christy Hernandez

Electrics & Audio Apprentice – Mike Coopridr *Stage Management Apprentice* – Erin McNeley-Phelps

Swing Technician – Aiden Carman



Company Artists – Donovaughn Daniels, Brian Guehring, Jay Hayden, Stephanie Jacobson, Jackie

Kappes, Biannah Peji-Palm, Isaiah Ruiz, Zoella Sneed, Kathy Tyree

Playwright in Residence & Literary Manager – Brian Guehring

Education Director – Jackie Kappes

Early Childhood Education Director – Stephanie Jacobson

Accessibility Coordinator/Associate Director of Early Childhood – Chloe Hug

Teen Theater Coordinator – Jay Hayden

Education Engagement Coordinator – Zoella Sneed

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Rose Dance Project Director – Mimi Lawry

Rose Studios Manager – Zachary Pachol

Year Long Musical Theater, Dance & Voice Teachers - Kenna Antaya, Peyton Banks, Jacina Bennett,

Jerry Brabec, Stephanie Darr, Wendy Eaton, Ellyssia Finch, Claire Foley, Robin Franco, Angie Frey,

Jude Glaser, Candace Gould, Cayenne Johnson, Lucy Kupka, Mimi Lawry, Jocey Logue, Nikki McMullen,

Kiley Melean, Michael Montez, Moses Nebalasca, Elizabeth Peller, Benji Pettiford, Kaitlan Scates-Pettiford,

Litsa Shoemaker, Tyra Smith, Laurelin Sterns, Stephanie Tepox, Sue Valker, Sammy Wahl,

Monica Weber, Charity Williams

Rose Studios for Youth Artists Desk Attendants – Katelyn Biggs, Jessica Bittner, Aedan Leahy,

Jocey Logue, Jules Logue, Grace Luis, AJ Mattingly

CommUNITY Connections Coordinator – Doriette Jordan

CommUNITY Connections Intern – Aimee Correa

Finance/HR Director – Janelle Kupka

Finance/HR Specialist – Biannah Peji-Palm

Director of Strategy & Community Impact – Kathy Tyree

Facilities Director – Scott Kupka *Facilities Staff* – Hubert Clark, DJ Tyree

Audience Services Director – Mandy Aleksiak *Education Administrator* – Lindy Glenn

Audience Services Manager & Field Trip Coordinator – CiCi Gruber

Box Office Assistants – Ransom Buda, Julian Bowman, Grace Luis, Jey Nelson,

Maria Thompson

Marketing Director – Erin Petersen *Marketing Specialist* – Audrey Wardian

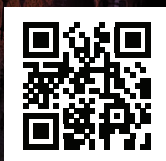
Development Consultant – Vic Gutman *Development Specialist* – Lisa Winton

Grants Manager – Mary Hubl

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