



NEW VILLAGE ARTS

MEDIA ALERT

**New Village Arts presents World Premiere of New
Holiday Musical, *1222 OCEANFRONT: A BLACK FAMILY
CHRISTMAS*, November 19–December 26, 2021**

***Written by Dea Hurston, devised by Frankie Alicea-Ford, Kevin
"Blax" Burroughs, Milena (Sellers) Phillips, and Dea Hurston***

For immediate release: October 19, 2021

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Carlsbad, CA—**[New Village Arts \(NVA\)](#), North County's cultural hub, launches its 20th Anniversary Season with a world premiere: 1222 OCEANFRONT: A BLACK FAMILY CHRISTMAS, a new holiday musical written by San Diego playwright Dea Hurston and devised by Frankie Alicea-Ford, Kevin "Blax" Burroughs, Milena (Sellers) Phillips, and Dea Hurston, centering on the family holiday experience in a humorous and touching way.**

1222 OCEANFRONT: A BLACK FAMILY CHRISTMAS will be performed at New Village Arts, 2787 State Street in Carlsbad Village. Directed by Delicia Turner Sonnenberg with original music by Milena (Sellers) Phillips, it features music adaptation and direction by John-Mark McGaha. Previews are November 19–26, with performances November 27–December 26.

Dorothy Black invites you to join her and her adult children for Christmas Eve dinner at 1222 Oceanfront. The festive evening features all of the Black family traditions including Italian food, dancing, singing and skits. The evening may also include a bit of drama, because, well it's family. But seriously, how much drama can there be on Christmas Eve?

1222 OCEANFRONT: A BLACK FAMILY CHRISTMAS features a joyous mix of original holiday songs with traditional carols re-imagined.

"I feel the entire play is a reimagined Christmas Eve where 'Silent Night' is a love song, 'What Child is This' a protest song, and the choreography for 'Go Tell It On the Mountain' stops just short of offending Jesus," says playwright Dea Hurston. "It's been an act of joy to bring Dorothy Black, her family and her home to life in this adult holiday musical and I'm thrilled to share 1222 OCEANFRONT with San Diego."

"New Village Arts is incredibly proud and honored to bring this world premiere experience to North County San Diego. While looking for shows to produce over the holidays, New Village Arts realized that most holiday offerings are told from one perspective, so we decided to commission a new musical and expand the theatrical canon of holiday shows," says Executive Artistic Director Kristianne Kurner. "In February of 2020, we commissioned four exemplary artists: Dea Hurston, Frankie Alicea-Ford, Kevin 'Blax' Burroughs, and Milena (Sellers) Phillips, to devise and write a musical based on their own experiences of the holidays. The team met weekly over Zoom throughout the pandemic and brought 1222 OCEANFRONT: A BLACK FAMILY CHRISTMAS to life. As we moved forward in the process, we were thrilled to bring on Joy Yvonne Jones to produce, Delicia Turner Sonnenberg to direct, and John-Mark McGaha to adapt the music and music-direct the premiere. When you add this amazing cast of actors as well, we have a true dream team of people telling this story."

"I'm thrilled to be a part of developing a new Christmas story to add to the American theatre canon," says Delicia Turner Sonnenberg, director. "I'm sincerely grateful that NVA is not only giving voice to the fictional Black family in the play, but also lifting the real-life voices of the Black and Latino artists who created this fun Christmas world."

Cast

Frankie Alicea-Ford (Javier)

Deja Fields (Aadya)

Portia Gregory (Lizzie)
Victor Morris* (James Sr./Victor)
Durwood Murray (Brian/others)
Milena (Sellers) Phillips* (Dorothy)
Kory LaQuess Pullam (James Jr.)

*Members of Actors' Equity Association

Sponsors

Creative Process Sponsor: Peace Thru Arts Foundation
Production Sponsor: Denise and Lon Bevers
Media Sponsor: Michael Taylor and Theatre Corner
Rehearsal Sponsor: The City of Carlsbad's Cultural Arts Office
Actor Housing Sponsors: Katie Keller, Jay and Julie Sarno, Carlsbad Inn

New Village Arts 20th Anniversary Season 2021–22

DESERT ROCK GARDEN

WORLD PREMIERE PLAY

January 29–February 20, 2022

Oceanside Theatre Company, Sunshine Brooks Theater, 217 N. Coast Highway, Oceanside

Written by Roy Sekigahama

Directed by Albert Park

INTO THE WOODS

STEPHEN SONDHEIM'S TWISTED FAIRY TALES

Co-production with Oceanside Theatre Company

March 26–May 1, 2022

Oceanside Theatre Company at the Sunshine Brooks Theatre, 217 N. Coast Highway, Oceanside

Written by Stephen Sondheim & James Lapine

Directed by Kristianne Kurner

SINGIN' IN THE RAIN

CLASSIC MUSICAL THEATRE

May 6–July 10, 2022

New Village Arts, 2787 State Street, Carlsbad Village

Screenplay by Betty Comden and Adolph Green

Songs by Nacio Herb Brown and Arthur Freed

Directed by AJ Knox

Performance Days and Times

New this season! Wednesday matinees at 2:00 p.m.

Thursdays: 7:30 p.m.

Fridays: 8:00 p.m.

Saturdays: 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.

Sundays: 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Tickets and Subscriptions

Single tickets for the 2021–22 season are \$30–\$59, or \$27 for previews.

Discounts are available for seniors, military, and students, and for groups of ten or more.

Season Passes for all four shows are \$175.

Details, season passes, and tickets: www.newvillagearts.org.

COVID Safety Protocols

Audience safety is our primary concern. All NVA staff, performers, ushers, crew, and volunteers are fully vaccinated.

Throughout this season all guests need to have a photo ID and either their physical CDC vaccination card, a picture of their vaccination card, or a digital vaccination record, until further notice. There must be at least 14 days elapsed from the date of the second dose for Pfizer or Moderna vaccines.

Any unvaccinated person must present a negative COVID-19 PCR test result taken within 72 hours of the performance date. Masks are required for everyone, regardless of vaccination status, for all indoor performances, events and activities.

About New Village Arts

Celebrating 20 years of award-winning professional theatre, thrilling and unique visual arts, and thriving education and outreach programs, New Village Arts (NVA) has truly become the cultural hub of North County San Diego.

NVA attracts more than 20,000 patrons each year to experience professional theatre, currently presented in the heart of Carlsbad Village. In addition to full seasons of plays and musicals featuring some of the best artistic talent in Southern California, NVA hosts talkback discussions and other supplementary events designed to create conversation and cultivate community. NVA offers robust theatre programs in partnership with local schools and strongly believes that theatre and arts experiences should be accessible to ALL people, becoming a recognized leader in equity, diversity, and inclusion in San Diego. NVA has been fortunate to receive support from the City of Carlsbad and other local businesses, who recognize the importance of a resident professional theatre company as a crucial component of an inclusive and creative community. In turn NVA prioritizes serving its community by presenting works that respect its diversity, engaging every citizen with relevant and inspiring stories.

New Village Arts is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization listed under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS.

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