



NEW VILLAGE ARTS

MEDIA ALERT

New Village Arts Announces

MIRACLE ON 34TH STREET:

A Live Musical Radio Play

Adapted by Lance Arthur Smith

Original Songs & Arrangements by Jon Lorenz

Directed by Faith Carrion & Kay Marian McNellen

Musical Direction by E.Y. Washington

Choreography by Luke H. Jacobs

Previews November 22nd-29th, 2024

Running November 22nd-December 24th, 2024

Opening Night Saturday, November 30, 2024

For immediate release: October 23rd, 2024

Contact Olivia Pence, Manager of Marketing & Communications: olivia@newvillagearts.org

Carlsbad, CA – New Village Arts (NVA), North County’s cultural hub, is thrilled to announce our 2024 holiday musical **MIRACLE ON 34th STREET: A LIVE MUSICAL RADIO PLAY** to be performed on the Ray Charles Stage in the Conrad Prebys Theatre at the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center. **MIRACLE ON 34th STREET: A LIVE MUSICAL RADIO PLAY** was adapted by Lance Arthur Smith with original songs and arrangements by Jon Lorenz, both residents of San Diego. Faith Carrion and Kay Marian McNellen will co-direct, with musical direction by E.Y. Washington and



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choreography by Luke H. Jacobs. MIRACLE ON 34th STREET: A LIVE MUSICAL RADIO PLAY will run November 22nd through December 24th with a special Christmas Eve closing performance on Tuesday, December 24th. Previews take place November 22nd-29th with an Opening Night Reception on November 30th, 2024.

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET is a reimagining of the beloved holiday classic movie, told in the style of a 1940s radio play, with live Foley effects and a score of original holiday carols. This beloved musical will melt even the most cynical of hearts. Two exciting, emerging directors, Faith Carrion and Kay Marian McNellen, will co-direct this heartwarming show in which Doris Walker (NVA favorite Olivia Pence), a no-nonsense Macy's executive desperately searches for a new store Santa Claus. She hires Kris Kringle (another NVA favorite Durwood Murray) who insists that he's the real thing. But he has many skeptics including Doris and her six-year-old daughter Susan (star of NVA's FUN HOME and Jez Butterworth's THE FERRYMAN Lena Palke). Susan's belief makes all the difference in this 'miracle' of the holiday season.

"Kay and I are so excited to be working with NVA on this joyful production of 'Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play.' With Kay's previous award winning directorial Fringe debut and my years of directing experience in Los Angeles, we look forward to putting our creative minds together to create something that brings joy to this holiday season. This show is truly about the magic of Christmas and having faith in the face of doubt. We could all use a little sparkle right now, and what better place than the theater?" says co-director, Faith Carrion.

Directing team Carrion and McNellen have put together an impressive creative team for this show, featuring some of San Diego's best creatives. E.Y. Washington will musical direct the production alongside Luke H. Jacob's choreography. E.Y.'s work as musical director was recently seen in NVA's production of 8-TRACK: THE SOUNDS OF THE '70S. Scenic design will be created by Michael Wogulis with lighting design by Annelise Salazar, and Evan Eason will sound design. Wogulis, Salazar, and Eason all worked together for our most recent production of THE THANKSGIVING PLAY. Nathan Waits will stage manage the production with Madison Mercado as assistant stage manager and props designer. Janet Pitcher, Craig Noel Award Recipient who recently costume designed our incredibly successful production of THE COLOR PURPLE, returns to NVA. 2024 Dea Hurston College Fellow Liberty-Belle Garza-Omae will act as Janet's assistant costume designer.



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The cast of *MIRACLE ON 34th STREET: A LIVE MUSICAL RADIO PLAY* includes a few NVA veteran performers and many new faces to the Ray Charles Stage. Durwood Murray (over ten years of performances with NVA including *SERVANT OF TWO MASTERS* and *1222 OCEANFRONT: A BLACK FAMILY CHRISTMAS*) will lead the cast as the radio star Kristofer Van Lisberg, who portrays Kris Kringle in the radio play. NVA's Manager of Marketing & Communications, Olivia Pence, returns to the stage as Cordelia Ragsdale/Doris Walker. Pence was recently seen on the NVA stage in *SINGIN' IN THE RAIN*, *INTO THE WOODS*, and *AROUND THE WORLD IN 80 DAYS*. Lena Palke (*FUN HOME*, Jez Butterworth's *THE FERRYMAN*) returns to the NVA stage as Gracie Demarco/Susan Walker. Making their debuts with NVA are Tyler C. Jiles (Grady Williams/Fred Gailey), Jaxon Smith (Announcer/Foley Artist), Sophia LaRosh (Ensemble) and Dan Mason (Ensemble). Marisa Taylor Vargas and Connor Boyd will act as swings for the production.

This heartwarming adaptation of the classic holiday movie will transport audiences back to the golden age of radio, complete with live sound effects, original music, and a story that embodies the spirit of the season. And, if you believe, a good dose of holiday magic. We hope to see you this holiday season at the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center.

MIRACLE ON 34th STREET: A LIVE MUSICAL RADIO PLAY is graciously sponsored by the Barter Family. Our Season sponsors include Prebys Foundation, Jazzercise, Peace Thru Arts, US Bank, County of San Diego, City of Carlsbad Cultural Arts Office, and Visit Carlsbad. Sponsorship opportunities are available upon request.

CAST of *Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play*

Tyler C. Jiles	Grady Williams as Fred Gailey
Sophia LaRosh	Olivia Glatt as Female Character Actor
Dan Mason	Wallace Ainsley as Male Character Actor
Durwood Murray	Kristofer Van Lisberg as Kris Kringle
Lena Palke	Gracie Demarco as Susan Walker
Olivia Pence	Cordelia Ragsdale as Doris Walker
Jaxon Smith	Alex Mialso as Announcer, Foley Artist and Judge
Marisa Taylor Vargas	Female Swing
Connor Boyd	Male Swing



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CREATIVES of *Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play*

Faith Carrion	Co-Director
Kay Marian McNellen	Co-Director
E.Y. Washington	Musical Director
Luke H. Jacobs	Choreographer
Nathan Waits	Stage Manager
Michael Wogulis	Scenic Designer
Janet Pitcher	Costume Designer
Annelise Salazar	Lighting Designer
Evan Eason	Sound Designer
Madison Mercado	Assistant Stage Manager & Props Designer
Liberty-Belle Garza-Omae[^]	Assistant Costume Designer
Marcus Rico	Audio Operator
Teri Carpentier	Rehearsal Accompanist
MaryKate Reeves-Hoche	Costume Assistant

[^]Dea Hurston College Fellow

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Previews: November 22-29, 2024

Opening Night: November 30, 2024

November 22 - December 24, 2024



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New Village Arts 23rd Season 2024-2025

8-TRACK: THE SOUNDS OF THE '70S

Created by Rick Seeber

Directed by Gerilyn Brault

Music Direction by EY Washington

Choreography by Joy Newbegin

Previews: August 16-23, 2024

Opening Night: August 24, 2024

August 16 - September 15, 2024

SAN DIEGO PREMIERE

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY

Written by Larissa FastHorse

Directed by Daniel Jáquez

Featuring Samantha Ginn as Logan

Previews: October 4-11, 2024

Opening Night: October 12, 2024

October 4 - November 3, 2024

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Opening Night: November 30, 2024

November 22 - December 24, 2024



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THE HALF LIFE OF MARIE CURIE

Written by Lauren Gunderson

Directed by Kym Pappas

Previews: January 24-31, 2025

Opening Night: February 1, 2025

January 24 - February 23, 2025

SAN DIEGO PREMIERE

Sandra Delgado's LA HAVANA MADRID

Written by Sandra Delgado

Directed by Juliana Frey-Méndez

Previews: March 21-28, 2025

Opening Night: March 29, 2025

March 21 - April 27, 2025

SAN DIEGO PREMIERE

Performance Days and Times

Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday Matinees at 2:00pm

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Evenings at 7:30pm

Tickets and Subscriptions

Subscriptions for the season range from \$135 to \$297.

Single Tickets are on sale now.

Single tickets range from \$35 to \$60 for plays and \$40 to \$70 for musicals.

About New Village Arts

Celebrating 23 years of award-winning professional theatre 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 30,000 patrons each year to experience professional theatre, music and art events 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. New this year, the White Family Next Stage in the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center presents a



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series of music, comedy, and spoken word events throughout the year. 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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