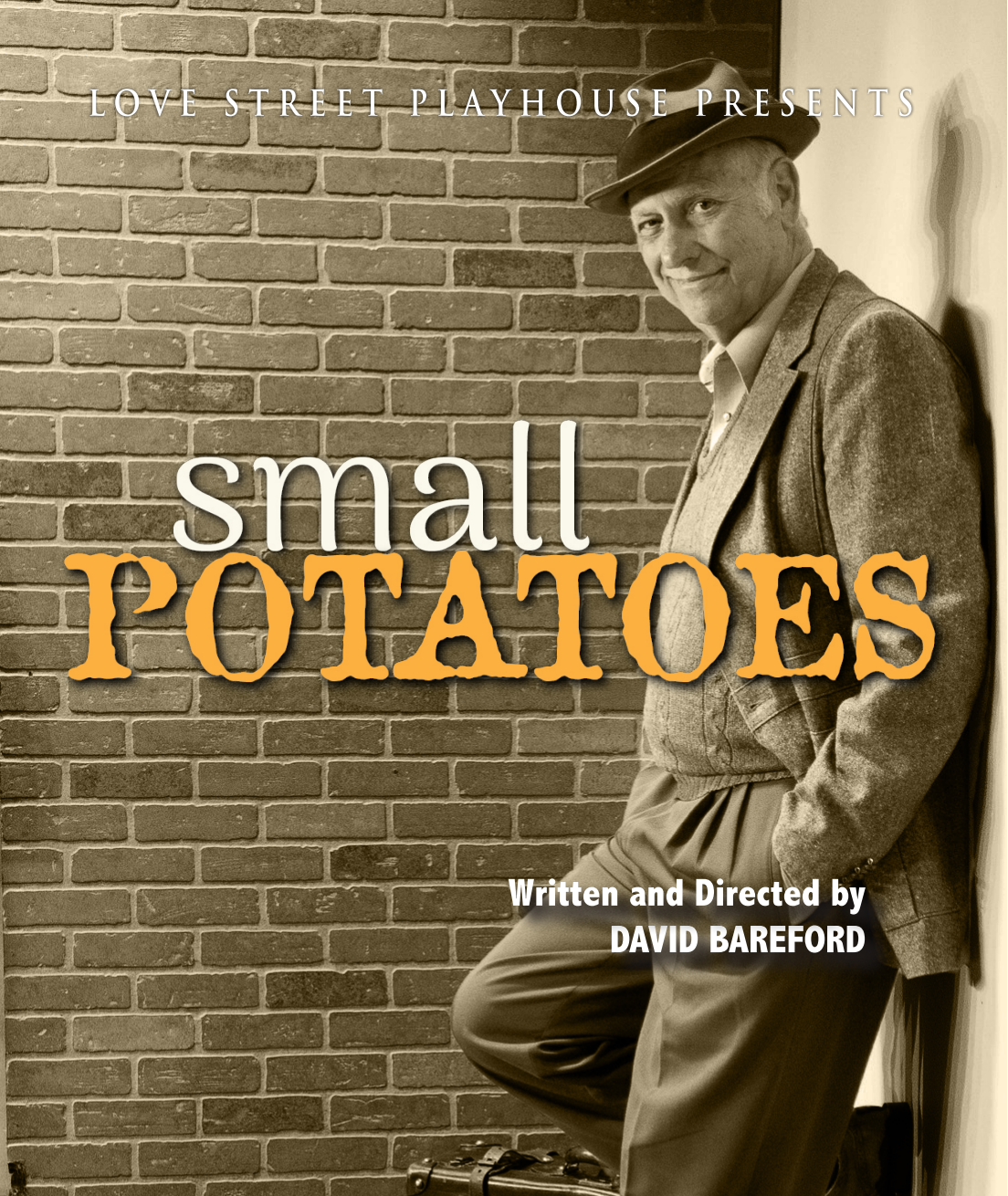


LOVE STREET PLAYHOUSE PRESENTS

A black and white photograph of a man with a friendly expression, wearing a fedora-style hat, a light-colored shirt, a dark tie, a textured blazer, and pleated trousers. He is leaning against a brick wall with his left hand in his pocket and his right leg crossed over his left. A small, vintage-style suitcase sits on the ground near his feet. The background is a textured brick wall.

small POTATOES

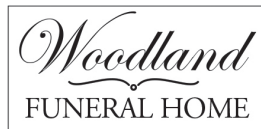
Written and Directed by
DAVID BAREFORD

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 15, 2026

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2026 Business Sponsors

Love Street Playhouse gratefully acknowledges and thanks the following businesses and individuals whose contributions through our Business Sponsorship & Advertising Program have helped ensure that great theatre is available to Woodland and the surrounding areas.



small POTATOES

Written and Directed by David Bareford

THE CAST

Cosmo	LOU PALLOTTA
Teresa	OLIVIA JOHNSON
Valentina	SHARON MANN
Gianni	KYLE JOHNSON
Lucia.....	KATIE MCKENZIE

SETTING

Late November, 1932 East Harlem, New York

PRODUCTION TEAM

Artistic Director/Producer	MELINDA PALLOTTA
Managing Director/Producer	LOU PALLOTTA
Set Design.....	DAVID BAREFORD
Costume Design	LORRAINE LITTLE
Lighting Design	MIKAIL NORDQUIST
Sound Design.....	FAWZY SIMON
Properties Design.....	MICHELE GLOVER
Hair and Makeup Design.....	MELINDA PALLOTTA
Stage Manager.....	JAYCELANE FORTIN
Photographer/Videographer	BOBBY PALLOTTA
Sound Board Operator	BECKY ROGERS
Light Board Operator.....	NICOLE HARWOOD
Wig Technician.....	BRENDA MCGINNIS
Set Construction.....	LOU PALLOTTA, JACK HOLTZ, DAVID BAREFORD, ... GEORGE CHUNN, & JON VANDERBOUT
Set Painting.....	MELINDA PALLOTTA, KATYA LEUTHOLD, & HENRY DAVIS
House Managers.....	TRACY REECE, BRENDA MCGINNIS & KATYA LEUTHOLD
Playbill Design, Artwork, Publicity and Virtual Box Office	MELINDA PALLOTTA

From the Playwright, David Bareford



Our society lionizes dreamers who succeed against all odds—the Edisons, the Lincolns, the self-made millionaires who never gave up. We're told as children that we can accomplish anything if we just persevere long enough. But when do lofty dreams become delusion? When do they become irresponsible to those who depend on us?

This play challenges our perspective on dreams. Can a "simple" life be worthy of living? Is it always a failure to give up the grand dreams of our youth? I don't pretend to have answers, but I hope the Russo family's story makes us think about the dreamers in our own lives—and the "small potatoes" we may have overlooked in pursuit of something grander.

As always, I am eternally grateful to Melinda and Lou Pallotta for providing ongoing opportunities to present my plays to audiences. Such a nurturing and collaborative venue for unknown new works is almost unheard of at the community theater level, and is only made possible by patrons like you. Thank you from the bottom of my heart for your unflagging support of me and Love Street Playhouse.

WHO'S WHO



LOU PALLOTTA

(Cosmo Langtry)

Lou is both thrilled and honored to be performing in another David Bareford original production. Thrilled

because he gets to play a juicy role(s) and honored to have been the inspiration for the character(s) that David created. "I love performing and when you get to embrace characters that are as powerfully written as these, as an actor, you can't ask for more." Lou pluralized the words "roles and characters" here for a reason. Even though Cosimo Langhetti and Cosmo Langtry are the same person, the challenge for Lou as an actor is to separate and identify in performance that duality that lives in all of us. The draw to family and the urge to be successful. I hope you enjoy the struggle and the robust energy that drives this show. "I've done a lot of theatre in my life and am thrilled to be working with this richly talented cast and crew and performing at my favorite place, Love Street Playhouse. And for you, our friends, family and patrons who help our theatre thrive. To my wife, Melinda, I dedicate this performance. Family is everything to me. Thank you David!"



OLIVIA JOHNSON

(Teresa Russo)

Olivia is excited to be playing at Love Street with her husband in such a special piece! Previous local roles

were Frankie Dubberly in CHRISTMAS BELLES and 2 performances as Princess Dragomiroff in MURDER ON THE ORIENT EXPRESS at Magenta Theater. Favorite roles from her time in Southern California include Suzette in DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER for which she won a local acting award, Lt. Ann Girard in MR. ROBERTS, Shelby Eatenton-Latcherie

in STEEL MAGNOLIAS, Norma Gordon in FLOWERS FOR ALGERNON, and Tzeitel in FIDDLER ON THE ROOF.



SHARON MANN

(Valentina Langhetti)

Sharon is thrilled to have been given the opportunity to be a part of this beautiful and touching play, and to work with

such an amazing director and fellow actors. Sharon was most recently seen reprising her role as Concetta, in WAS HE BETTER OFF DEAD?, at the Cedars Public House. Other favorite productions with Love Street include: WHO STOLE MY DEAD HUSBAND; MOON OVER BUFFALO; THE SUNSHINE BOYS; LEND ME A TENOR; A NICE FAMILY GATHERING; THE EXPLORATORS CLUB; BEAU JEST; and OVER THE RIVER AND THROUGH THE WOODS. Some of Sharon's Portland credits include: THIS GIRL LAUGHS, THIS GIRL CRIES, THIS GIRL SAYS NOTHING and THE SWEATER MAKERS at CoHo Productions; I WANT TO DESTROY YOU - Vertigo Theatre; PERSUASION and TOM BOY SAWYER with Quintessence Theatre; ONCE IN A LIFETIME - Lakewood Theatre; TOUGH TITTY - PassinArt Theatre; LARAMIE PROJECT - Artists Repertory Theatre; DIARY OF ANNE FRANK - NW Children's Theatre; THE LION, THE WITCH, AND THE WARDROBE - Oregon Children's Theatre; THE SECRET GARDEN - with STAGED! WONDER BROADS - Broad Arts Theatre.

Sharon also performed for 7 years as voice talent, on the radio show The Sudden Radio Project at Portland's KBOO Radio. A few other favorite shows of Sharon's include: DIVISION STREET - The Group Theatre, Seattle, WA; BIG MAGGIE - Center Stage Theatre, Federal Way, WA; VANITIES - SOSC/OSF, Ashland, OR; CRY HAVOC - Park Plaza Theatre, Los Angeles, CA. Aside from acting, Sharon has directed and choreographed many productions in the Pacific Northwest, a couple of her favorites being,

WHO'S WHO

SOUTHERN COMFORTS, at Love Street Theatre, and TENDERLY, THE ROSEMARY CLOONEY MUSICAL in Portland Oregon. Sharon sends out a huge thank you for all the love and support from Jon and her three boys. And a giant thank you to David for giving her the opportunity to bring Valentina to life.



KYLE JOHNSON

(Gianni Russo)

This is Kyle's second show at Love Street Playhouse, the first was playing Mike in WAIT UNTIL DARK. Between the

two, he played George in DON'T DRESS FOR DINNER and Pierre Marceau in MURDERED TO DEATH, both at Magenta Theater. He began community theater 18 years ago, but most of that time was in southern California. He is excited to be in a Bareford original and get to play opposite his wife. In addition to acting, he also serves as the director of Magenta Improv Theater.



KATIE MCKENZIE

(Lucia Balducci)

This is Katie's first production with Love Street Playhouse, but she is no stranger to the stage. At just 18, she has already performed in a number of shows. If you have attended any Journey Theater productions then you may have seen her as Marlin in FINDING NEMO, JR. or as Ms. Darbus in HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL ON STAGE! and most recently as Mrs. Beaver in NARNIA. "I love fashion, fencing, and improv! I thank my friends and family for supporting me and I hope you enjoy the show!"



DAVID BAREFORD

(Playwright & Director)

David Bareford loves directing, but his favorite role is acting as the resident

playwright of Love Street Playhouse. SMALL POTATOES marks his fifth original play that has premiered here, following THERE'S STILL SNOW ON SILVER STAR, LIVE IN 3,2,1..., SEEKING MISTER HYDE and 2018's ROBIN HOOD. David's other plays include DON QUIXOTE DE LA CENTER (seen at Magenta Theater of Vancouver in August, 2022), THE LAST OF THE DRAGONS (a musical for kids), and AL CAPONE DOES MY SHIRTS (the official adaptation of the young adult novel). David owes so much to his wife Melissa Vickery-Bareford for her dramatic insights, her patience reading multiple drafts, and her long-sufferance during the protracted obsession required to bring a script to completion and then a play to the stage. He is also supremely grateful to Melinda and Lou for their unwavering support and wonderful artistic collaboration.



LORRAINE LITTLE

(Costume Designer)

Lorraine has been costuming for theater for over 20 years. She has had the pleasure of

costuming seven shows at Love Street Playhouse that include LEADING LADIES, SHADOWLANDS, BEAU JEST, LEND ME A TENOR, MOON OVER BUFFALO with Tracey Hugo, WAS HE BETTER OFF DEAD? and now SMALL POTATOES. In addition to costuming, Lorraine has been seen on stage at Love Street Playhouse in NUNSENSE as Sister Mary Hubert, CHAPS A JINGLE JANGLE CHRISTMAS as Mable Carter, SHADOWLANDS as a Nurse/Clerk/Patron, THE GAME'S AFOOT as Inspector Goring, ROBIN HOOD as the Prioress, THE FARNDAL AVENUE HOUSING ESTATE TOWNSWOMEN'S GUILD DRAMATIC SOCIETY'S PRODUCTION OF "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" as Mercedes and THE

WHO'S WHO

TALISMAN'S RING as Mr. Gregg, Lucy & Mrs. Nye. Theater is Lorraine's favorite hobby whether she is on stage or behind the scenes doing costumes. Sit back and enjoy this show!



MIKAIL NORDQUIST

(Lighting Designer)

Mikail Nordquist. A name so iconic, so splendid that you might recall his previous works done here

at the incredible Love Street Playhouse just by reading it. Mikail has been working in the industry as a Lighting Designer and Technician for over 10 years and has found a home at Love Street Playhouse, working on almost every show since 2017 and making magic for all who enter its doors. This magic however doesn't just happen on its own, with this incredible show SMALL POTATOES being built and formed by the hard work and dedication of volunteers, staff and the fantastic actors on the stage. Mikail would like to give a hearty thank you to everyone who has pitched in for this production! He would also like to note it is because of you, yes YOU, that this theatre is able to create art like this. Thank you for supporting live theatre, Love Street Playhouse and fueling his artistic endeavors. So please sit back, relax, and enjoy SMALL POTATOES!



FAWZY SIMON

(Sound Designer)

This is Fawzy's fourth show with Love Street as Sound Designer (still without ever having set

foot anywhere near Woodland) and at least his 16th show with playwright/director David Bareford, going back as far as 1987. His previous sound design work took him to In The Heart of the Beast Puppet and Mask Workshop,

InitialStage, Theatre in the Round, and The Refreshment Committee, all in Minneapolis/St. Paul. You can hear Fawzy in David's audio drama BORROWED LIVES, on a podcast app near you. Fawzy lives and practices criminal defense law near the Lake of the Ozarks in Missouri with his wife, Penny, and their spoiled cat.



MICHELE GLOVER

(Properties Designer)

Michele has been doing props and set decoration locally for almost 20 years and also has the

occasional bit of fun onstage (if the script calls for an old woman with a bun in her hair!). Her real passion, though, is working on a production team to create an environment for the story and its characters. Period pieces like this are the most fun, and it doesn't hurt that director David Bareford has come up with another wacky prop to build! Michele also thanks Melinda and Lou Pallotta for their unending generosity and caring.



JAYCELANE FORTIN

(Stage Manager)

Jaycelane is honored to Stage Manage this David Bareford original! Jayce holds a Bachelors in Theatre from

Eastern Washington University and an AFA in Drama from Spokane Falls. An actor first, it's been a fun opportunity! Her favorite tech credits include Flight Supervisor/ Assistant Stage Manager for THE WIZARD OF OZ (Spokane Civic Theatre) and Director for THE MUSIC MAN (Spokane Children's Theatre). You might have last seen her onstage here at Love Street as Percy in the musical THE SPITFIRE GRILL or as Hetty in PISTOLS FOR TWO. Thanks for supporting live theatre!
@dear_jaycelane / jaycelane.com

Playwright's Note

Small Potatoes follows the dream of one man and one family, but it also speaks to a larger aspiration: the American Dream. The story of the Langhetti/Russo family reflects the journey of millions of Italian immigrants who arrived in America between 1880 and 1924, seeking opportunity in a new land that didn't always welcome them with open arms. For immigrant parents, America represented possibility: their children would have better lives, more opportunities, the chance to become fully American.

These urban Italian families typically crowded into tenement apartments—small, poorly ventilated walk-ups where multiple generations might share a single set of rooms. Such lives were marked by poverty, overcrowding, and the constant struggle to make rent. Yet despite this



discomfort, neighborhoods like East Harlem and Little Italy became vibrant Italian enclaves where the language, food, and customs of the old country provided comfort against the hostility of the wider world.

When the stock market crashed in 1929 and launched the Great Depression, Italian immigrant families—many already living paycheck to paycheck—were

devastated. Unemployment soared. Men who had worked construction, paved streets, or run small shops found themselves with nothing. Savings vanished. The modest gains of a generation evaporated overnight. Families doubled up in apartments, took in boarders or—like the Langhettis in our story—lost the houses their hard work had won. Many of the immigrant neighborhoods began to lose their ethnic cohesion. As one character recalls: they returned to their Little Italy apartment to find someone else living in it. Not even Italian. The nerve.

That moment of losing your home to strangers with ethnic displacement as an added insult captures the particular vulnerability of immigrant communities during the Depression. There was no social safety net. You weren't just poor; you were expendable.

The Depression forced cruel questions on countless families: What happens when the American Dream becomes unattainable? When survival requires abandoning ambition? When putting food on the table means your children's potential goes unrealized?

The Russos grapple with these questions, and in so doing represent countless families who had to choose between holding onto hope and accepting their limitations—between reaching for something grander and being grateful for what little they had. Their story asks us to reconsider what we mean by success, and whether a "small potatoes" life might be worthy after all.

SPECIAL INFORMATION

There will be a 15-minute intermission for stretching your legs, using the restroom, or purchasing beer, wine and concessions.

As a courtesy to all guests and the actors, please TURN OFF all cellular phones, watches and alarms before the performance begins.

PLEASE NO FLASH PHOTOGRAPHY OR FILMING

PLEASE DO NOT PARK IN POST OFFICE LOT. YOU WILL BE TOWED.

WANT TO VOLUNTEER? WE ALWAYS NEED HELP

Help build the next set, paint, sew costumes, put up publicity posters, work backstage, help clean, mow the lawn, style wigs, run errands, or usher! Just send us an email if you want to offer your time, skills and talents. Email us at melinda@lovestreetplayhouse.com

GET UP-TO-DATE INFORMATION

Go to our website www.lovestreetplayhouse.com and click on E-NEWS to receive our emails about tickets, upcoming events, auditions and special announcements.

We want to offer our gratitude and heartfelt thanks to these individuals who gave without condition to this production:

Jim and Michele O'Malley
Katya Leuthold and Henry Davis
Nicole Harwood
Brenda & Bob McGinnis
Stephanie Roberts and Tim Klein
Alisa Brossia
Alex Hugo
Jarrand Bean

Thank You

Woodland Presbyterian Church

for graciously allowing us the use of their parking lot during our performances.

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Lou Pallotta's Story

David Bareford's story hits close to home for me. I am second generation Italian American living a privileged life. But that privilege came at a cost, not to me of course but my parents and even more, their parents. We lived with my grandparents for a number of years, until my early teens before they passed away. They were the ones standing on the deck of that big ship heading into New York harbor. Their last name was short and easy to pronounce, so when they stepped off the boat and on to Ellis Island's processing center, they started their assimilation with the last name intact. I have always had a fascination with people who say they are of Italian descent, but their last names don't express it. Most have told me the same story, their grandparents changed it at the processing center either by choice, to assimilate faster or because the name was too hard to pronounce. So Martinelli became Martin, Di Benedetto became Bennett, Salvatore to Sal and Giuseppe to Joe. Fitting in, assimilating, becoming American, was something Italians worked hard at. They had to fight to have their Dream. My father was a dreamer, an offset printer by trade and a passionate, fearless entertainer after hours. My mother a seamstress, the homemaker, Matriarch. The glue. They kept to themselves and found comfort living with other Italians in New York tenements, working hard at mostly meaningless jobs, hard labor, hands that bled but they were proud and provided us with food, shelter, clothes-made-by-hand and most importantly, Love. So today, we offer that Love to you all.

As owners of Love Street, we feel that it is important to tell stories that land with our audiences. Sometimes a landing can have a few bumps, so we suggest that you strap in. Today we are telling you a story about immigrants and the immense struggle it is to come to a foreign land and fit in. It is a real struggle that at times reaches out for a helping hand and when those hands meet, and, when the promise of a better tomorrow is actually achieved, it forges a bond that creates a better world for us all. We hope you enjoy the show. We love having you here with us. Let us never forget where we came from and how hard it was to get here.

Immigration is the talk of the day, and we'd like to take a moment to express our most sincere condolences to the Dobbe Family – Woodland's very own Holland America Flowers – at the loss of their beloved father Benno. He was a long-time sponsor and supporter of our theatre and helped keep the doors open even during Covid. He lost his beloved wife Klazina just 5 years ago to the day that he himself passed. They were immigrants and dreamers as well. They were patriotic and fierce supporters of community as are we. We pray that their journey continues in Peace.



Coming Up in 2026



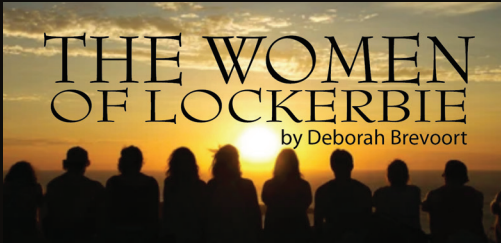
APRIL 17 - MAY 10

Directed by Katie Norcross

Tickets available to Season Pass Holders March 3

Tickets Available to the Public March 10

This hilarious tax-dodging comedy follows a pair of bumbling tax cheats, Jon and Leslie, who try to save money by filing their taxes as husband and wife, but the I.R.S. sends an agent to investigate. Leslie must pretend to be Jon's wife, but the plan unravels as Jon's mother comes to meet her son's fiancée and the landlord doesn't approve of unwed couples under the same roof. This wild play is like a '70s style cross between "I Love Lucy" and "Some Like it Hot."



OCTOBER 2-25

Directed by Melissa Bareford

Tickets available to Season Pass Holders August 18

Tickets Available to the Public August 25

A mother from New Jersey roams the hills of Lockerbie, Scotland, looking for her son's remains that were lost in the crash of Pan Am 103. She meets the women of Lockerbie, who are determined to convert an act of hatred into an act of love, by washing the clothes of the dead and returning them to the victim's families. It is a poetic drama about the triumph of love over hate.



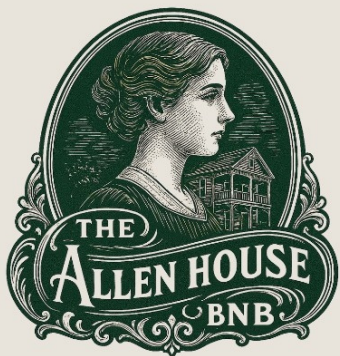
NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 20

Directed by Shanae Tullis

Tickets available to Season Pass Holders October 13

Tickets Available to the Public October 20

When Santa turns up missing, the Wonderettes use their talent and creative ingenuity to save the holiday party! Featuring great '60s versions of holiday classics such as "Santa Claus Is Comin' to Town," "Jingle Bell Rock," "Run, Rudolph, Run," and "Winter Wonderland," the result is, of course, marvelous! This energetic and glittering holiday package is guaranteed to delight audiences of all ages.



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