

WELCOME TO WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE'S PRODUCTION OF A CHRISTMAS CAROL!

We are pleased you have joined us for our stage adaptation of the holiday classic A *Christmas Carol* and hope you enjoy watching a live play again after many of months of not being able to see live theatre from WVPT.

It has been a challenging 22 months for all of us in so many ways. We are proud to note that WVPT has survived the pandemic due to partial support from state government to arts organizations. Your support and the dedication of our staff and the Board of Trustees of WVPT is surely part of that survival as well. We are so excited to be producing live staged theatre again, and with an audience!

This holiday season, in addition to this production of *A Christmas Carol*, we also produced a musical holiday review at the Oglebay Resort in Wheeling entitled Jingle This! It was a production that included everyone's favorite Christmas carols with theatrical scenes from favorite holiday shows you have seen over the years. At crucial times, audience participation was welcomed and fun was had by all. If you were not able to see the production this year, we hope to produce another similar version at Oglebay Resort next year. Keep your eyes open for this opportunity which is fun for the whole family.

For 35 years, West Virginia Public Theatre (WVPT) has worked to offer locally produced PROFESSIONAL shows to enhance our region, economically and culturally, and to help young people experience the power of live theatre. WVPT is proud to have performed to over a million people, many of whom were students seeing live theatre for the very first time. We are proud to welcome schools and their students and faculty back to our production this year giving the children a taste of live theatre.

This summer, we plan to produce three productions. Two productions are slated for the Gladys Davis Theatre in the Creative Arts Center and one will be presented at the Metropolitan Theatre. Plans are moving forward, and we trust the pandemic does not worsen and we can produce *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, I Do! I Do!* and *Thurgood.* We hope you will be able to join us for all three shows and for what are ensured to be moving theatrical experiences.

Additionally in "New Works" news, this January and during the spring semester, we will collaborate with the WVU School of Theatre and Dance and WVU alumnus Sean Cercone (CEO/President of Broadway Licensing) to produce a staged reading of *The Ghost Brothers of Darkland County* and two new student works entitled *Sugar Girl* and *The Writing Room.* Stay tuned for the details on those events after the holiday season and before the summer season.

There is a lot happening at WVPT in 2022! We are so very grateful to our donors and sponsors for their support over the years which enables WVPT to continue its mission. Your investments have allowed us to remain West Virginia's premiere professional theatre company. We encourage your continued support of our mission to provide professional theatrical experiences for all. Thank you also to our Board of Trustees, staff and cast for your dedication to making this holiday season a success.

Thank you again for your continued support. Enjoy the show!

Paul K. Kreider, President Board of Trustees West Virginia Public Theatre

Business Office Information

PO Box 6082 Morgantown, WV 25606 304-381-2382 wvpublictheatre.org See the latest with #WVPT



West Virginia Public Theatre

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Emergencies

In the unlikely event of an emergency, you will be directed by the house management to the best method of exiting the theatre and building. Please notice the illuminated exit signs in the theatre. For your safety and the safety of others, please exit as calmly as possible.

Refunds and Exchanges

All sales are final. Exchanges can be made by requesting a refund through Eventbrite. The cost of your ticket will be refunded, and you are welcome to then buy new tickets to the performance of your choosing. Eventbrite fees are nonrefundable.

Food and Drink

Please, no food or drink in the theatre.

Late Seating

All performances begin promptly at the show time. House staff will seat latecomers at an appropriate interval during the show. Patrons who must leave during the performance are kindly asked to do so between scenes.

Photography and Recording

No photography or video recording is permitted.

Electronics

Please be courteous to all cast, crew, musicians and fellow patrons by not utilizing electronic devices during the performances.



West Virginia Department of ARTS, CULTURE AND HISTORY

SUPPORT WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE

I cannot believe it has been two years since we last performed for the public. The pandemic has taken its toll on all of us, and I hope that this production can help reconnect us to the values and celebrations that remind us of our humanity. I am excited to direct this new adaptation that adheres faithfully to Dickens' original story.

If we have learned anything these past two years it is that we have a responsibility to the community and that we are all in this together, or as Scrooge's nephew Fred puts it: "I have always thought of Christmas time, when it has come round as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time: the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys." Those words have never rung truer. We hope West Virginia Public Theatre creates such a place where "men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely." After all, isn't that what theatre is at its very essence?

We have not been idle in our downtime; we have lots of exciting theatre on the horizon with a full slate of live performances this coming summer and lots of exciting projects along the way. Thank you for patiently waiting for our return and thank you for allowing us to do our part for our community.

Jerry McGonigle Artistic Director

FREE STAGED READING FROM THE MINDS OF STEPHEN KING AND JON MELLENCAMP

January 10 @ 7:30 PM

Gladys G. Davis Theatre Canady Creative Arts Center



OUR 2021 SUPPORTERS

The Board of Trustees and Staff at the West Virginia Public Theatre offer heartfelt thanks and acknowledgment to the organizations and individuals who have provided generous financial support. Your kind contributions are met with the warmest gratitude.

\$10,000 AND ABOVE

Neil & Connie Bucklew The Shubert Foundation Small Business Administration The State of West Virginia WVU College of Creative Arts Your Community Foundation

\$1,000-\$9,999

Deborah & Gregory Dunaway Joan Gorham Kirk and Charlotte Haas National Endowment for the Arts Paul & Rebecca Kreider Pratt & Whitney Engine Services The Arts Council of Greater Morgantown The Charles R. Nailler Memorial Foundation WV Department of Arts, Culture & History

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Ruby De La Mata Ed & Suzanne Devine Herb Faulkenberry Kroger Steve LaCagnin Ashley Martucci Kathryn Moffatt-Bradford Donald & Mary Morrison Kelly Nix Robert & Mary Helen Spear

SPECIAL THANKS

Pittsburgh City Theatre Zaccagnini's Morgantown Florist



Serving Harrison, Marion, Monongalia, Preston and Taylor Counties





ADAPTED FROM THE CHARLES DICKENS NOVEL BY ANDREW LYONS

SCENIC DESIGN TAMMY HONESTY COSTUME DESIGN MARY MCCLUNG

LIGHTING DESIGN ALAN MCEWEN

MUSIC DIRECTOR SPENCER HANSEN SOUND DESIGN LEX ALLENBAUGH

STAGE MANAGER/ASSISTANT PRODUCTION MANAGER PRESLEY LYNN WEIMANN

DIRECTOR JERRY MCGONIGLE

CAST OF CHARACTERS (In order of appearance)

I.

Ebenezer Scrooge	Andrew Lyons
Bob Cratchit	
Fred	Charles Meeks
Welfare I	Justin Borak
Welfare II	Shelby Garrett
Melancholy Waiter	Jacob Masters
Ghost of Jacob Marley	James Froemel
Ghost of Christmas Past	Erika Kuhn
Young Scrooge	Anthony Grabo
Fan	Harper Matheny
Young Scrooge II	Eryk Bluto
Belle	Megan Wright
Ghost of Christmas Present	Anthon Mondesir
Mrs. Cratchit	Josey Miller
Belinda Cratchit	Avery Garvin
Martha Cratchit	
Peter Cratchit	
Tiny Tim Cratchit	
Fred's Wife	
Fred's Guests	-
	Jacob Masters, Eryk Bluto, Megan Wright
Ignorance	
Want	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
Ghost of Christmas Future	•
Business I	
Business II	,
Business III	
Old Joe	
Charwoman	
Laundress	5 5
Poor Wife	
Poor Husband	
Turkey Lads	Harper Matheny, Anthony Grabo



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WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE

BOARD MEMBERS

resident Paul Kreider	Presid	
/ice-President Herb Faulkenberry	Vice-	
ecretary Debbie Dunaway	Secre	
reasurerKirk Haas		
Members at Large: Meg Baughman, Marlette Carter, Heidi Dunkle, Caryn Gresham, Ron		
ustice, April Kaull, Bobby Nicholas, Ray Prendergast, Tim Rhodes, Renee Saggio,	Justic	
rankie Tack, Jack Thompson, Ryan Umina, Lindsay Williams, Keith Jackson <i>ex officio,</i> erry McGonigle ex <i>officio</i>		

ARTISTIC STAFF

Artistic Director Jerry I	McGonigle
Assistant to the Artistic Director	osey Miller

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Director of Operations	Charlotte Haas
Director of Marketing	Micah Beachy
Company Manager/Administrative Assistant	
Marketing Assistant	
Bookkeeper	

FOR WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE

Rehearsal Space	Canady Creative Arts Center
CAC Facilities Manager	Jamie Whoolery
Ushers	Metropolitan Theatre Ushers

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager	Aubrey Sirtautas
Technical Directors	Steven Neuenschwander, Chris Sheriff
	Brianne Taylor
Movement Coach/Assistant Director	Daniel Stevens
Prop Supervisor	Seret Cole
Prop Assistants	Allison Cartmill, Leigh Osborne
Assistant Stage Managers	Natalie Tirendi, Sunny Rawlinson
Production Assistants	Rebecca Maupin, Joseph Solmor
Scenic Charge Artists	Emma Hisrich, Abigail Wagner
	Chaz Broadbent, Hayley Chamberlain
Scenic Artists	Sonda Cheesebrough, Kat Neely
	Bourne, Darcus Crawford, Tiffany Dellagatti
Carpenters Charle	es Di Giorgio, Coby Greene, Jacob Goedecke,
	Brock Jones, Kayla O'Connor, Byron Utley
Welder	Grant Prodan
	Colleen Doherty, Maren Taylor
	Joseph Solmor, Holly McMullen, Luke Howell
	Levi Main
	Savannah Mateyka
Wardrobe Supervisor	Amy Ursiny
	Luke Howell, Holly McMullen
	Maguire Glass, Erin Kopit, Katie Smitch
	Brandon Russi
	Brock Jones
Child Wrangler	Meredith Kilmartin
Box Office	Sarah Stacy, Jacob Masters, Caleb McClung

DESIGNERS AND DIRECTORS



Jerry McGonigle (Director) is Artistic Director of West Virginia Public Theatre. Jerry came to WVU in 1990 from Orange County, CA, where he designed, founded and ran the Professional Actors Conservatory at Rancho Santiago College. Jerry has both acted and directed nationally and internationally at such theatres as E.T.A. Hoffman Theatre, 100 Monkeys Productions, Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Pac Theatre Co., Missouri Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, and the Missouri Shakespeare Festival. He holds a BA from the University of Dallas and an MFA in Acting from The American Conservatory Theatre of San Francisco.



Tamara L. Honesty (Scenic Designer), a proud WVU MFA alumnae, is delighted to design A Christmas Carol. Her awardwinning designs have been on stages from New York City to the Midwest as far south as Florida and globally exhibited in the World Stage Design and Prague Quadrennial. Tammy is a member of USITT as the VP of Education & Training and a member of USA 829. She co-authored *The Fake Food Cookbook*. Currently, she's an Associate Professor of Scenic Design at Kent State University. Check out her website at www.tammyhonesty.com



Mary McClung (Costume Designer) is an award-winning designer who has created costumes, puppets, and sets for theatre, video, and television. Companies include Disney, Children's Television Workshop, Universal Studios, Dallas Children's Theatre, The Idaho Repertory Theatre, and the Colorado Shakespeare Festival. Designs while at WVU: Guys and Dolls, Jekyll and Hyde, Caucasian Chalk Circle, Dracula, Another Part of the Forest, Hamlet, The World Goes Round, and 4 dance concerts. McClung has also taught at the University of Dallas (Dallas, Texas) and Whitman College (Walla Walla, Washington) where she also worked as a guest designer.



Alan McEwen (Lighting Designer) joined the School of Theatre & Dance in 2008. Previous work experience includes Whitman College, Idaho Repertory Theatre, Mountain State Theatre, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Wyoming Summer Stock Theatre, and The Columbine Players. Alan has taught in higher education for 20 years, focusing on lighting, sound, stagecraft, and contemporary theatre. Lighting and sound credits include musicals, opera, theatre, dance, and performance art in addition to system consulting, design, and installation. Alan received his MFA in lighting from the University of Oregon and is member of USITT.



Spencer Hansen (Music Director) This is Spencer's debut production at WVPT and he is thrilled to be part of this creative holiday adventure. He has performed as a pianist and music Director all over the world, on cruise ships, on national tours, at regional theaters, and off-Broadway in New York City. He is thrilled to be joining WVPT this holiday season, and he can't wait for more projects in the future. Thank you for coming. Happy Holidays!





Aubrey Sirtautas (Production Manager) holds a BA in Computer Science from Rice University and an MFA in Stage & Production Management from Carnegie Mellon University. She has worked for the Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Weston Playhouse Theatre, Broadway Project, and Broadway Workshop. She was the resident stage manager at Geva Theatre Center, and has worked in non-traditional theatrical environments including Cirque du Soleil, Billboard Music Awards, The Academy of Country Music Awards, and opera productions of *Cendrillon* and *Rinaldo*. She is a member of Actors' Equity Association and focuses her academic research on equity, diversity, and inclusion.

Presley Lynn Weimann (Production Stage Manager & Assistant Production Manager) is a senior BFA Design and Technology student emphasizing in Stage Management. Recent credits at WVU include 1st Assistant Director on the film *King Lear* in partnership with WV Public Broadcasting and Stage Manager on multiple other shows since 2019. Professional credits include ASM on 39 Steps and *Charlie Brown Christmas* and PA on the workshop *Elvis the Musical* with Broadway Licensing and WVPT. She would like to thank her ASMs Natalie & Sunny for their dedication, her professors for providing wonderful opportunities, and her family for believing in her.



Lex Allenbaugh (Sound Designer) is a Senior Design/Tech BFA Theatre student at West Virginia University focusing in sound design. Her previous audio engineer work includes A Christmas Carol: Live Radio Show, Rent, King Lear, and The Phantom Tollbooth. She also sound designed Insect Play.

HOLIDAY COMPANY



Eryk Bluto (Ensemble) is a senior Musical Theatre major at West Virginia University. He has been involved in The New World Ensemble as well as music directing student cabarets. His previous WVU credits include *35MM* (Actor 1), *RENT* (Benny), *Dorian: A New Musical* (Dorian Gray), and his regional credits include Mamma Mia (Ens./Harry US), and *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert* (Ens./Bob US) at Clear Space Theatre Company. He hopes everyone has a happy and healthy holiday season.



Justin Borak (Ensemble) is currently an MFA Acting student at WVU. He has recently performed in *Insect Play* as The Traveller and has spent the last four years working in the Chicago comedy scene, writing and performing for *The Second City, Cards Against Humanity*, and the *ImprovOlympic*. Other than performing, Justin received a playwriting grant from Broadway Licensing, Concord Theatricals, and WVPT. His play, *A Writer's Room*, will be premiering in a staged workshop through WVPT in April of 2022.



Christian Clausnitzer (Peter Cratchit) is a sophomore studying musical theatre at WVU. He's happy to be making his WVPT debut in *A Christmas Carol*. Christian has been seen in WVU's main stage seasons playing Mark in *Rent* and Actor 2 in *35 MM*. Christian would like to thank Jerry McGonigle and the cast and crew of *A Christmas Carol* for this opportunity, as well as his family and friends for their endless support.



Erica Cottrill (Martha Cratchit) hails from Quiet Dell, West Virginia. She is a WVU junior dual-degree student in Acting and English. Most recently, she appeared as the Commander of the Yellow Ants in WVU's production of *The Insect Play*. This is her WVPT debut.



James Froemel (Marley) is a graduate of the BFA Acting program at WVU. He has performed at the Williamstown Theatre Festival in their acting apprentice program as well as the Greenbrier Valley Theatre. James is an accomplished storyteller and 3x winner of the West Virginia Liar's Contest. He has performed across the state with his *History Alive!* presentation of Charles Schulz. He is delighted to be working with West Virginia Public Theatre, and would like to thank his wonderful wife Katie, and their sons Jack and Noah for all their support.



Matt Frye (Bob Cratchit) is a first year MFA Acting student at West Virginia University. Regional credits include: *Big Fish*, *Dogfight* (BoHo Theater Chicago); *The Full Monty, Bridges of Madison County* (Theo Ubique Chicago); *Man of La Mancha, A Christmas Carol* (Milwaukee Repertory Theater); *Red, Candide* (Third Avenue Playhouse); *Zombies From The Beyond* (Skylight Music Theater Milwaukee); *NOW. HERE. THIS.* (Brown Paper Box Chicago); *The View* (Circle Theater Chicago); *Henry V* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater). Love to Mom and Dad. Go Lions, JoeUpstairsIIe!



Avery Garvin (Belinda Cratchit) is a sixth-grade student at South Middle School. Avery has previously played Zuzu in WVPT's production of *It's a Wonderful Life* and has been a part of the ensemble for various productions with the Morgantown Theatre Company. Avery would like to thank the cast and crew of *A Christmas Carol* for welcoming her into the theater family.



Shelby Garrett (Ensemble) is thrilled to be spending the holidays at WVPT! Shelby is a first-year MFA graduate student at West Virginia University. National Tour: *Girl's Night: The Musical*. Chicago credits: *Love, Loss and What I Wore* (Oil Lamp Theatre), *The Basement Company* (Death & Pretzels), *Andrew Jackson, American Maniac* (Robert Frosty Co.), *Colorado* (Vanguard Arts Collective), *Holy Sh*T* (The Second City), *The Feast* (Red Theatre), *The Hamlet Project* (the collective), *Play* (Glass Apple Theatre), *Twelfth Night* (Frameworks Theatre), *A Christmas Carol* (Metropolis PAC). TV/Film credits: *Chicago PD, Swan Song* (Magnolia Pictures).



Anthony James Grabo (Ensemble) is 9 years old and a 4th grader at St. Francis de Sales Catholic School. He has been a part of Morgantown Theatre Company since Kindergarten. He has enjoyed being a part of the ensemble in *Wizard of Oz* and *Matilda*. Most recently, he was Luke in *The Witches* and will be Winthrop Paroo in the upcoming *Music Man*. This is Anthony's first West Virginia Public Theatre performance and he is thankful for the opportunity and for everyone who helped him on his path to this day.



Erika Kuhn (she/her) (Christmas Past) grew up in Waterloo, Iowa before laying roots in St. Paul, MN where she has most recently collaborated with New Arab American Theatre Works and Full Circle Theatre Company at The Guthrie Dowling Studio, and toured the one-woman show *Map of My Kingdom*. Locally, Erika debuted at WVU with *Airness*. She holds a BA in Theatre Performance from the University of Northern Iowa and is currently pursuing an MFA in Acting at West Virginia University. Her loved ones continue to be her greatest inspiration as an artist.



Andrew H. Lyons (Scrooge) is an actor, director, and writer who has recently relocated from Brooklyn, NY to the tranquil North Hills of Pittsburgh, PA. A 2005 graduate of the WVU MFA Acting program, Andrew is always thrilled to return to Morgantown to perform with friends and colleagues old and new. Andrew sends a special season's greeting to his indefatigable partner, April Uzarski, who loves bowling.



Jacob Masters (Ensemble) is a theatre artist and recent graduate of West Virginia University. He currently works as a teaching artist at Greenbrier Valley Theatre, the State Professional Theatre of West Virginia. His recent credits include Furry Tails: With a Twist, Jesus Christ Superstar, and Into the Woods (Greenbrier Valley Theatre); King Lear, Naga Mandala, and The Phantom Tollbooth (West Virginia University); as well as the short films "Everybody Dies" and "The Reunion" soon to be shown on HBO Max.



Harper Matheny (Ensemble) is a fifth-grader at Suncrest Elementary School, and this is her first production with WVPT. She has previously appeared in *Matilda* (Matilda), *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin), and *The Lion King Jr.* (Buzzard) with Morgantown Theater Company, and will be playing the role of Gracie Shinn in *The Music Man* with MTC in February. Harper loves to act, sing, and dance. She would like to thank everyone who helped her throughout this production.



Charlie Meeks (Fred) is delighted to work with WVPT this Christmas. He has worked at professional theatres such as Tecumseh Outdoor Drama, Barter Theatre, and Emerald Coast Theatre Company. He intends to pursue a life-long career in acting in hopes of inspiring audiences throughout the world. Charlie owes everything he has, and will ever be, to his beautiful, hardworking and sassy family, friends, and mentors. Thank you all for coming and enjoy the show. Happy and Merry Holidays to all.



Josey Miller (Mrs. Cratchit) is overjoyed to be making her WVPT debut. Selected previous productions include Mamma Mia, Oklahoma!, Side Show, The Marvelous Wonderettes, A Christmas Story, Tokens of Affection, The Addams Family, Pump Boys and Dinettes, Ring of Fire, I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change, National Tour of Twas the Night as well as the World Premieres of both Seasonal Allergies and the Pittsburgh CLO's Game On! Special thanks to family, friends, and John for the undying love and support. WVU MFA '24 @joseymariemiller



Anthon Mondesir (Christmas Present/Old Joe) is an actor/director/writer, with a BFA in Acting from Adelphi University, and an MFA in Acting from the City University of New York, Brooklyn College. He has worked on numerous film, stage, and internet projects including: *The Wayward Daughter of Judah the Prince*, (Plotinus & Kyril); *Greenwood Rising Barbershop Tulsa Exhibit*, (TC Morris); *Uncle Vanya*, (Serebryakov); *Christmas is Comin Uptown*, (The Ghost of Jacob Marley); *The Boys Next Door*, (Lucien P. Smith); *The Rose Hill Diaries Podcast*, (Samuel); *Dark Valley Podcast*, (Wyatt), and *Othello*, (Othello). Anthon is excited to be part of this wonderful collaboration. anthonmondesir.com



Rachel Amelia Moore (Ensemble) is thrilled to be back at WVPT! She has just returned from Colorado where she enjoyed such roles as Thomasina in *Arcadia* and Gretel in *Hansel and Gretel*. Other favorite roles include Cassandra in *The Trojan Women* and Prentiss in *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Rachel is a proud Morgantown native and has her BFA in Acting from WVU. She would like to thank Jerry and everyone involved with this team for giving her such a warm welcome as she makes her move back east!

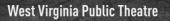


Louie Slimak (Tiny Tim) wants to say hi to everyone! His favorite sport is soccer and he has been playing for 5 years. His favorite holiday is Christmas and look at him now! He's in a Christmas play! He likes challenges that help him learn, Pokemon, video games, his pet tortoise, and of course, drama. He has played Mr. Fox in *Fantastic Mr. Fox* and The Conductor in *Music Man.* He wouldn't be here without Heath Kale at MTC, his first director. He has weird taste in clothes and loves expressing himself while performing on stage.



Megan Wright (Ensemble) was born & raised in Charleston, WV. Megan graduated summa cum laude from WVU in 2020 with a BFA in Acting. In college, she served as the President of WVU's improv troupe. Megan is currently the Assistant Director for WV Summer Arts Camp in Charleston. Favorite roles include Patty in *Charlie Brown Christmas* (WVPT), Haemon in *Antigone* (WV Shakespeare Festival), and Spelling Bee in *Phantom Tollbooth* (WVU), as well as several productions with the Charleston Light Opera Guild. Megan is the co-host of her own podcast, the Disney Channel Unoriginal Podcast.





PRESENTS.

OF



Staged Reading JANUARY 10, 2021 7:30 PM

For tickets and info, please visit wvpublictheatre.org

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JOIN US FOR OUR SUMMER 2022 SEASON!

I DO! I DO! MUSIC: HARVEY SCHMIDT LYRICS & BOOK: TOM JONES

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME SIMON STEPHENS

THURGOOD GEORGE STEVENS JR.

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