

# THE SOFIA HOME OF B<sup>ST.</sup>





Photo by Lily Guslistova

# YOUR PREMIER LIVE ENTERTAINMENT DESTINATION

HOME OF B STREET THEATRE

2700

**"If you haven't been to the Sofia at 2700 Capitol Ave., it's an architectural marvel, with a simultaneous intimacy and grandeur. Its auditorium doesn't have a bad seat in it and there's a no-host bar in the lobby, making this venue Sacramento's liveliest home for the liveliest of arts." – Ed Goldman, ArtBeat**

SOPIA

Front Cover: (Left to Right) Tara Sissom, Stephanie Altholz, Jason Kuykendall and Dave Pierini  
(THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG by Henry Lewis, Henry Shields and Jonathan Sayer) – Rudy Meyers Photography



(Left to Right) Melvin Abston and Brooklynn Solomon  
(BROKE-OLLOGY by Nathan Louis Jackson)

# B<sup>ST.</sup> MAINSTAGE SUBSCRIBER!

B Street Theatre is where audiences turn to see the most entertaining and relevant plays of our time. Hilarious, heartfelt and provocative, B Street offers works for all audiences that delight, engage and inspire.



- SAVE UP TO 70% OFF TICKETS
- FLEXIBLE DATE CHANGES
- PRIORITY SEATING
- COMP TICKETS TO SELECT LIVE CONCERTS
- INVITES TO SPECIAL EVENTS

Rudy Meyers Photography

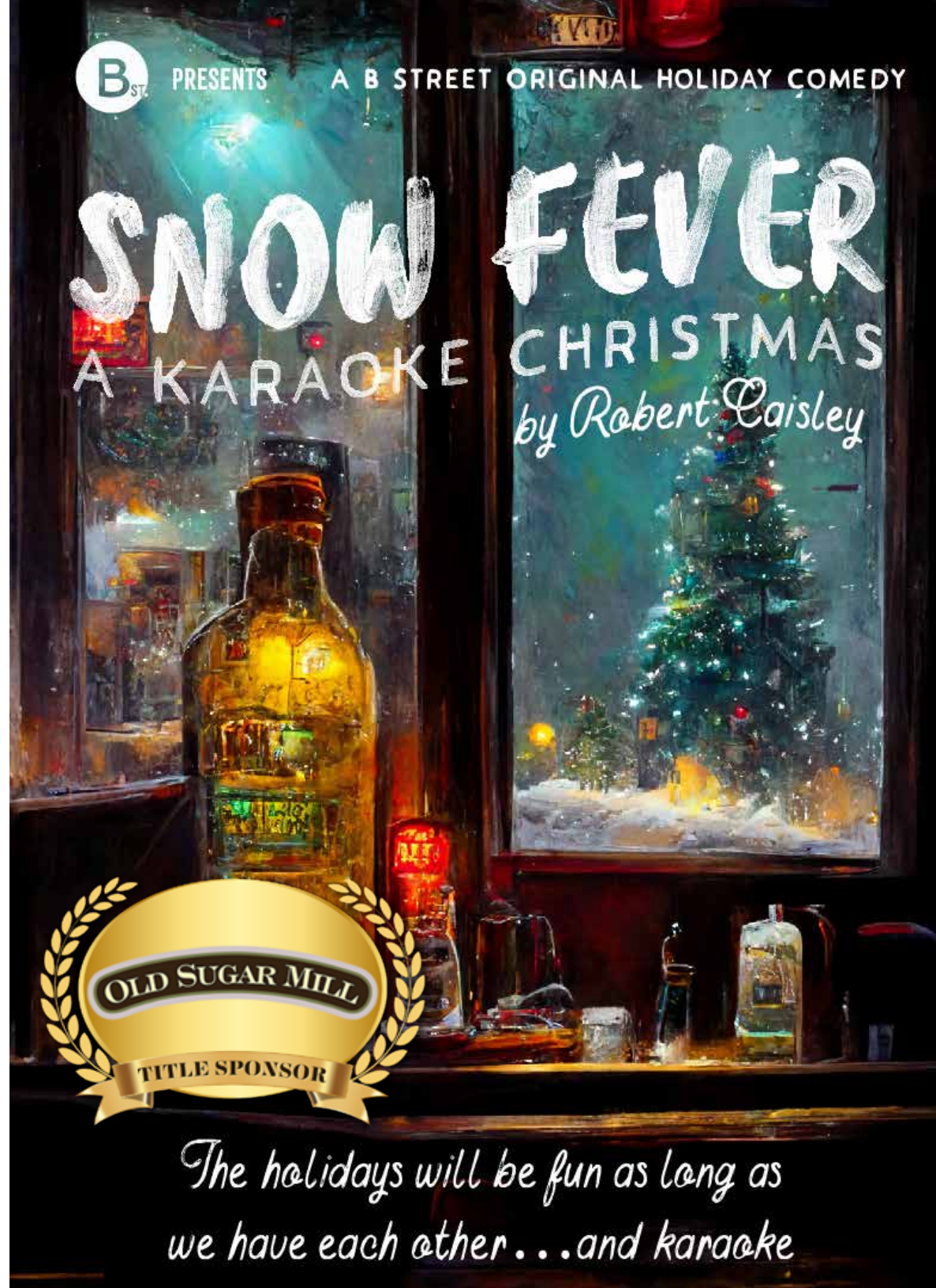




# NOV-DEC, 2023

They're running low on food, the toilet's busted, and the jukebox is on the fritz. But come hell or high snowfall, a small band of co-workers and malcontents are determined to make this Christmas at The Wet Whistle (a backwater Montana bar) nothing like the last. Will everything work out? Will everything fall apart? Only determination and karaoke can save this holiday party!

Starring B Street Company Members:  
John Lamb, Dana Brooke,  
Jason Kuykendall, Elisabeth  
Nunziato, Stephanie Altholz  
and Greg Alexander





# JAN-FEB, 2024

Two lone plane crash survivors find themselves battling the elements and each other as they try to navigate the open ocean. With some hope, some ingenuity and maybe a little divine intervention...they might just make it out of this disaster alive. This world premiere production was a Finalist at the 2022 B Street New Comedies Festival!

Starring B Street Company Members:  
Peter Story, Tara Sissom and  
Dave Pierini



# RESCUE ME

BY PETER STORY & TARA SISSOM-PITTARO

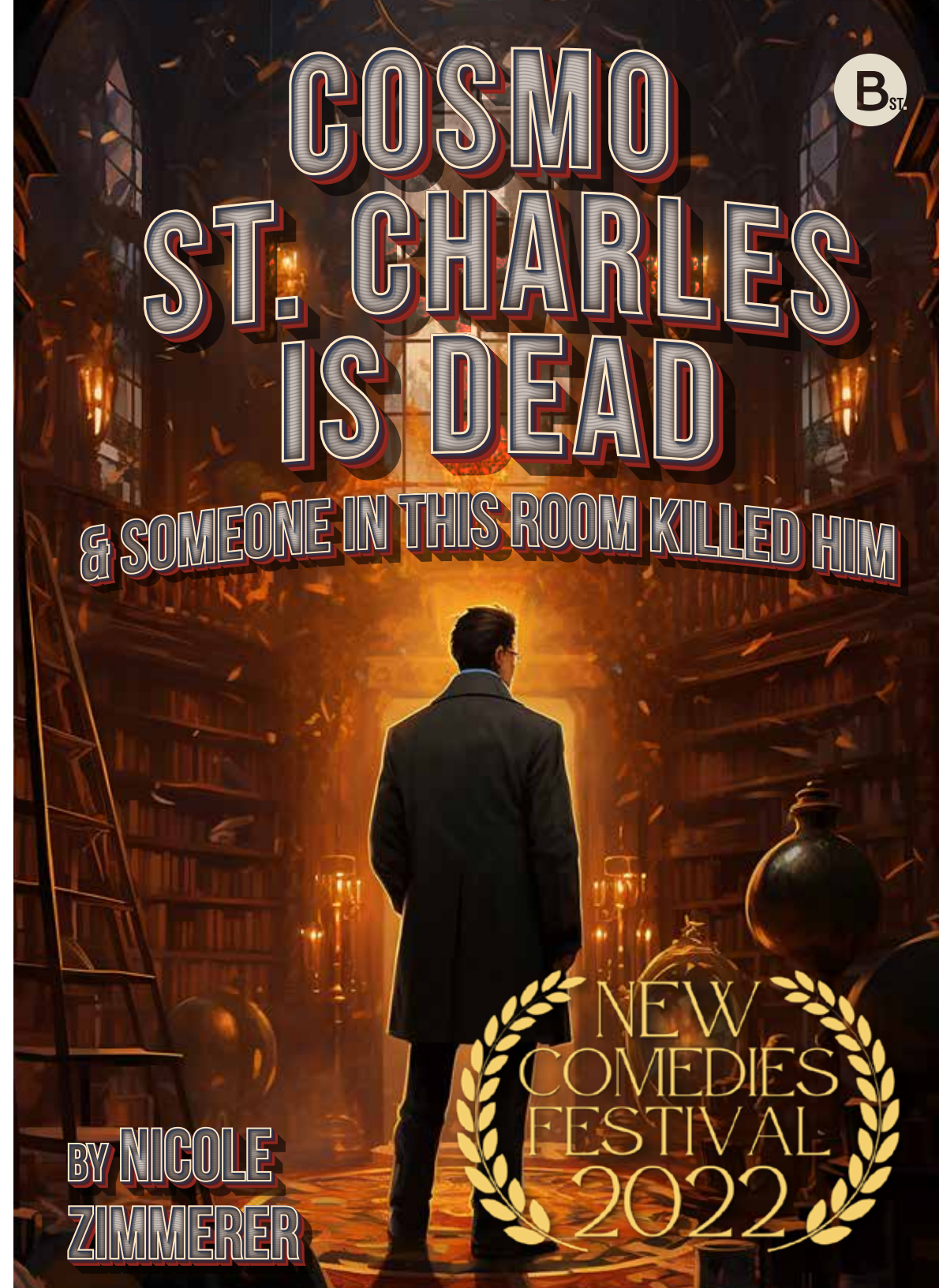


TWO COMPLETE STRANGERS. LOST AT SEA.



# MAR-APR, 2024

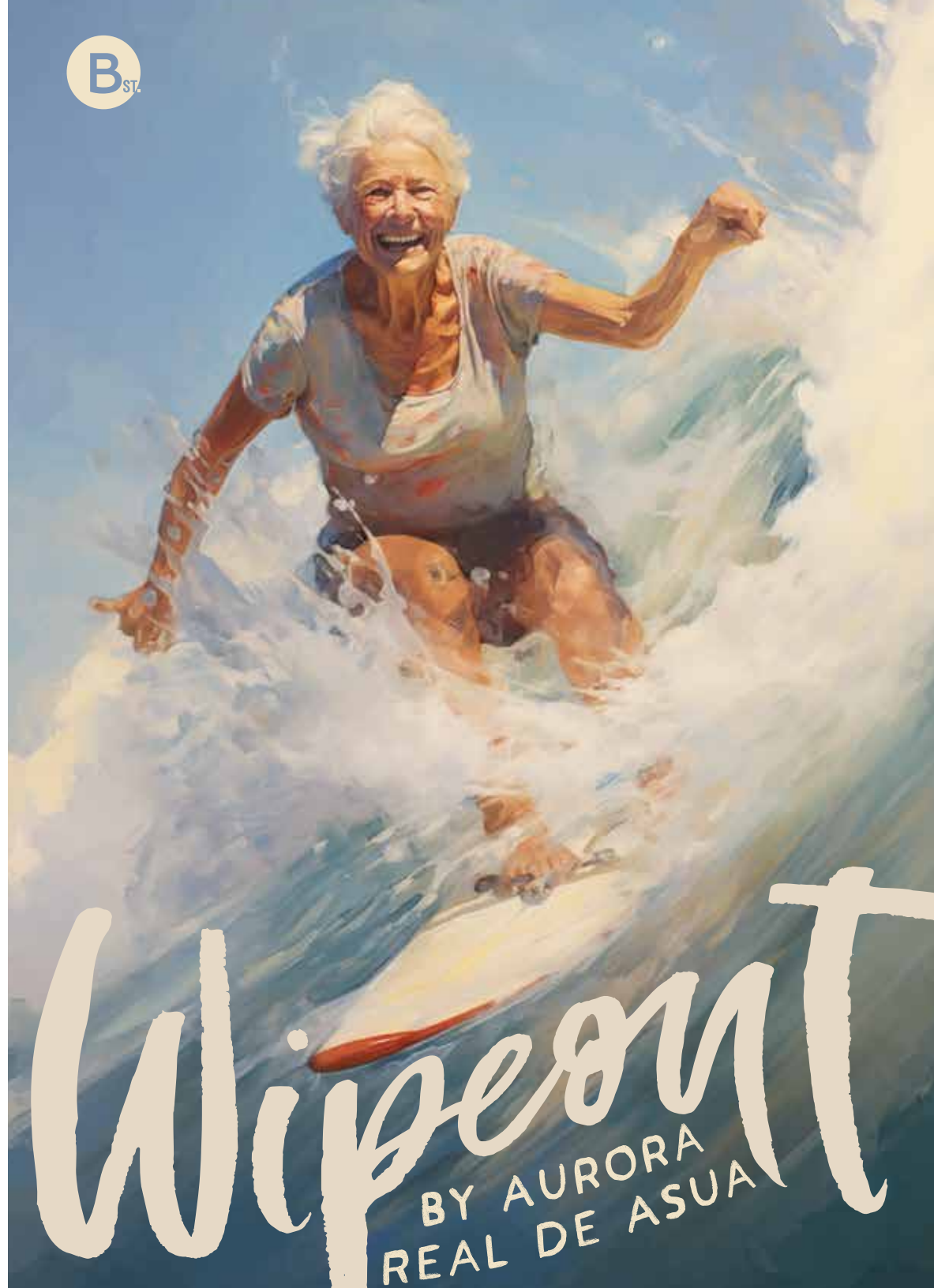
Everyone loves a murder mystery and this season B Street presents a new take on the popular genre! When world-renowned archaeologist Cosmo St. Charles dies of unknown causes while hosting a dinner party for his friends and family, it's up to gritty private eye Mac Marlowe to uncover the truth and catch the killer. This world premiere production was a Finalist at the 2022 B Street New Comedies Festival!





# APR-MAY, 2024

Taking place on surfboards in Santa Cruz, WIPEOUT is a septuagenarian surf comedy about what it takes to hang ten. For her seventy-seventh birthday, Margaret decides to go surfing. She's never tried it before and her friends Wynn and Claudia are a bit unsure of this new hobby. But with the help of a teenage surf instructor, Margaret's ready to conquer the unknown.



# Wipeout

BY AURORA  
REAL DE ASUA



# JUNE-JULY, 2024

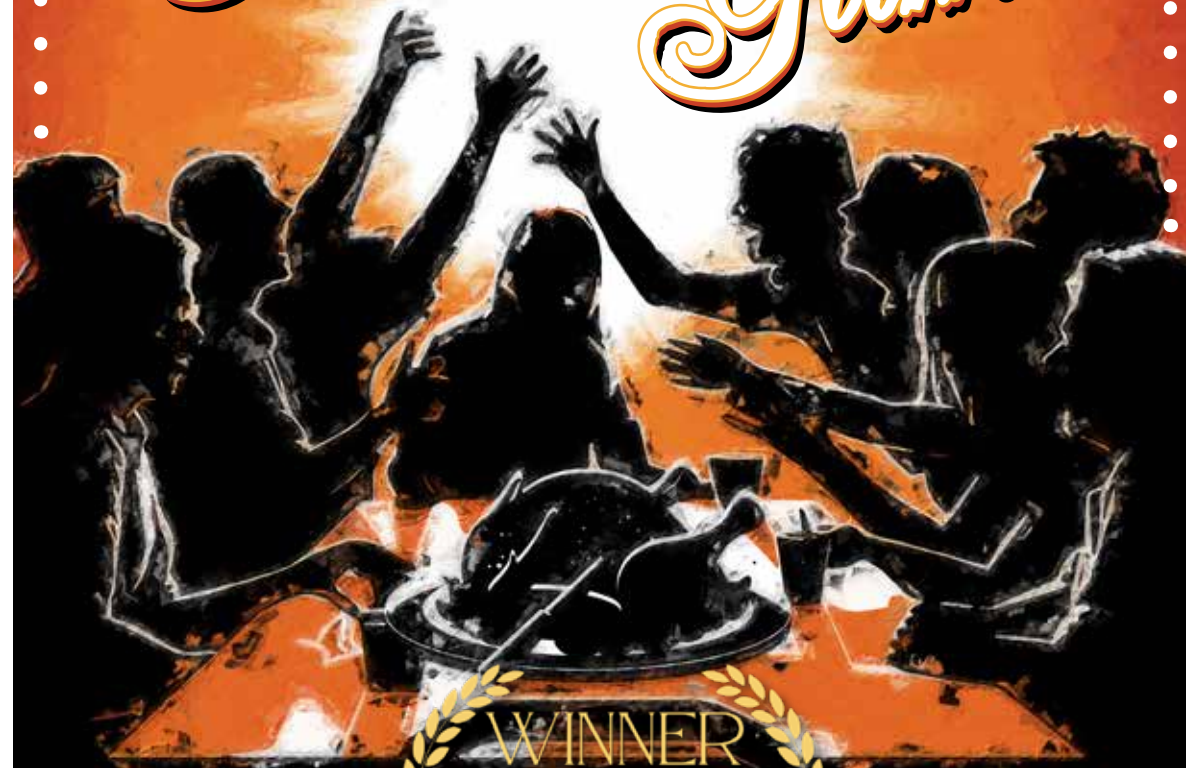
When a young couple host their traditional families for Thanksgiving, they accidentally drop the bomb that they are engaged. Their parents do everything to prove that they're not ready, creating a clash of cultures that begs the question: how do you create a future with someone from an entirely different past? This world premiere production was the winner of the 2023 B Street New Comedies Festival!



*Love. Laughter. Leftovers.*

B<sup>ST.</sup>

## *The Newlywed Game*



*by Alyssa Naddad-Chin*



# JULY-AUG, 2024

In 2023, B Street brought BLOOD OF THE LAMB to Alaska for the Valdez Theatre Conference in anticipation of its premiere at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. While in Scotland, the play garnered 5 stars from The Telegraph and 4 stars from The Guardian. After so much international success, we decided to bring this important play back to B Street for a special engagement!

A woman fights for her life and a lawyer tries to do her job in a Kafka-esque drama about bureaucratic chaos in a post-Roe America. This hot-off-a-workshop-script dives unflinchingly into the heart of forced-birth issues. With a sometimes surreal style, BLOOD OF THE LAMB is a heartfelt (and heartbreaking) look at two women navigating the vagaries of a law that requires a dead fetus to be carried to term as an unborn "citizen of the state of Texas." Certainly a play of our current moment, as we find these women at opposite sides of the table amidst legal precedents, administrative madness, and moral obligation to humanity.



SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT

# BLOOD *of the* LAMB

BY ARLENE HUTTON

JULY-AUG 2024



OFFICIAL  
SELECTION:



- THE TELEGRAPH

- THE GUARDIAN



# AUG-SEP, 2024

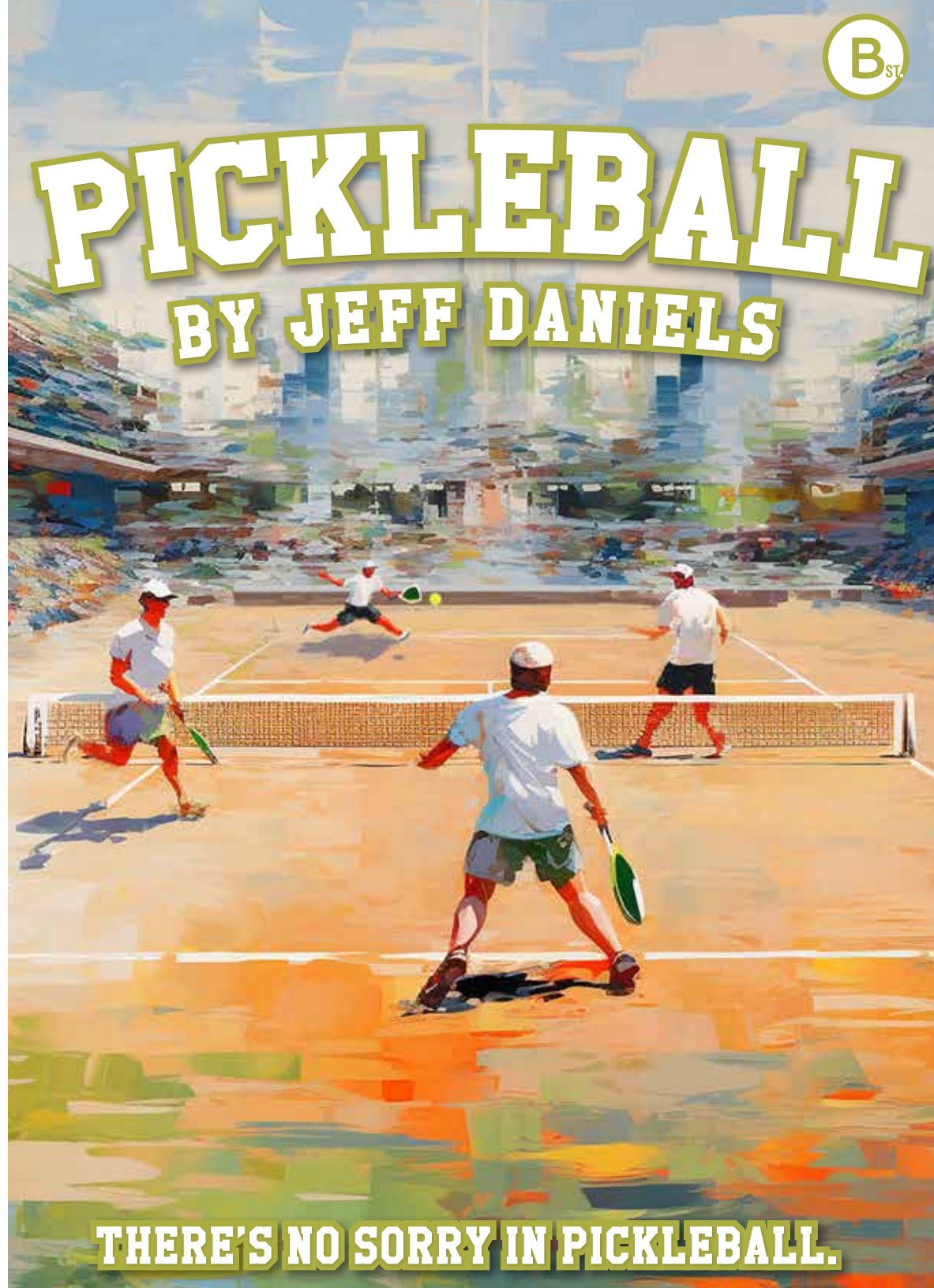
Written by Jeff Daniels, the author of the B Street hit *ESCANABA IN DA MOONLIGHT*, *PICKLEBALL* shows us all the possibilities of middle-aged athleticism and the human spirit.

In America's fastest growing game, there are no apologies, there are no excuses, and there is no room for weakness. When four below-average players have an opportunity to compete in a local tournament, they must learn to overcome their limitations and find greatness in a game that has nothing to do with pickles.



# PICKLEBALL

BY JEFF DANIELS



**THERE'S NO SORRY IN PICKLEBALL.**



# SEP-NOV, 2024

Considered a modern classic, **WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME** navigates our modern American landscape through reflection, narrative, and civil debate.

Fifteen-year-old Heidi earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions across the U.S. Later in her life, she reflects on those competitions and the impact they had on her as an American citizen. In this hilarious new play, she resurrects her teenage self in order to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their lives.



THE ACCLAIMED  
GROUND-BREAKING COMEDY



## WHAT THE *Constitution*

MEANS TO ME

BY HEIDI SCHRECK



# NOV-DEC, 2024

The greatest Christmas story of all time comes back to B Street Theatre. This time with only three actors and an impossible task: give Ebenezer Scrooge a truly remarkable redemption story. Written by stand-up comic Sam Kebede (last seen at B Street in **IRONBOUND** and **THE WIZARD OF OZ**), this fresh adaptation of the Christmas classic promises to be a hoot and a half!



# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

B<sup>ST.</sup>



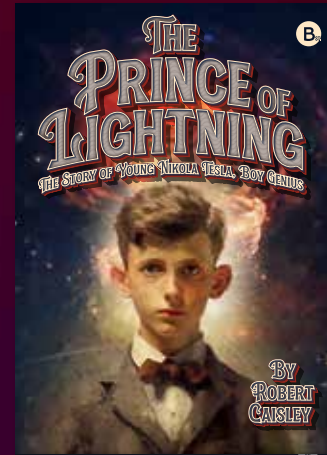
ADAPTED BY  
**SAMUEL KEBEDE**

THREE HEARTS, ONE DICKENSIAN TALE: A CAROL UNPLUGGED



# B<sup>ST.</sup> BECOME A FAMILY SERIES SUBSCRIBER!

The B Street Theatre's Family Series is Northern California's only fully professional, resident theatre for children. This beloved and highly acclaimed series brings the joy of live theatre to children through exciting, original plays, and lively adaptations of classic novels, stories and tales. Since its premiere season in 2003, the Family Series has presented over 50 professional plays for approximately 300,000 children and families in the Sacramento region.

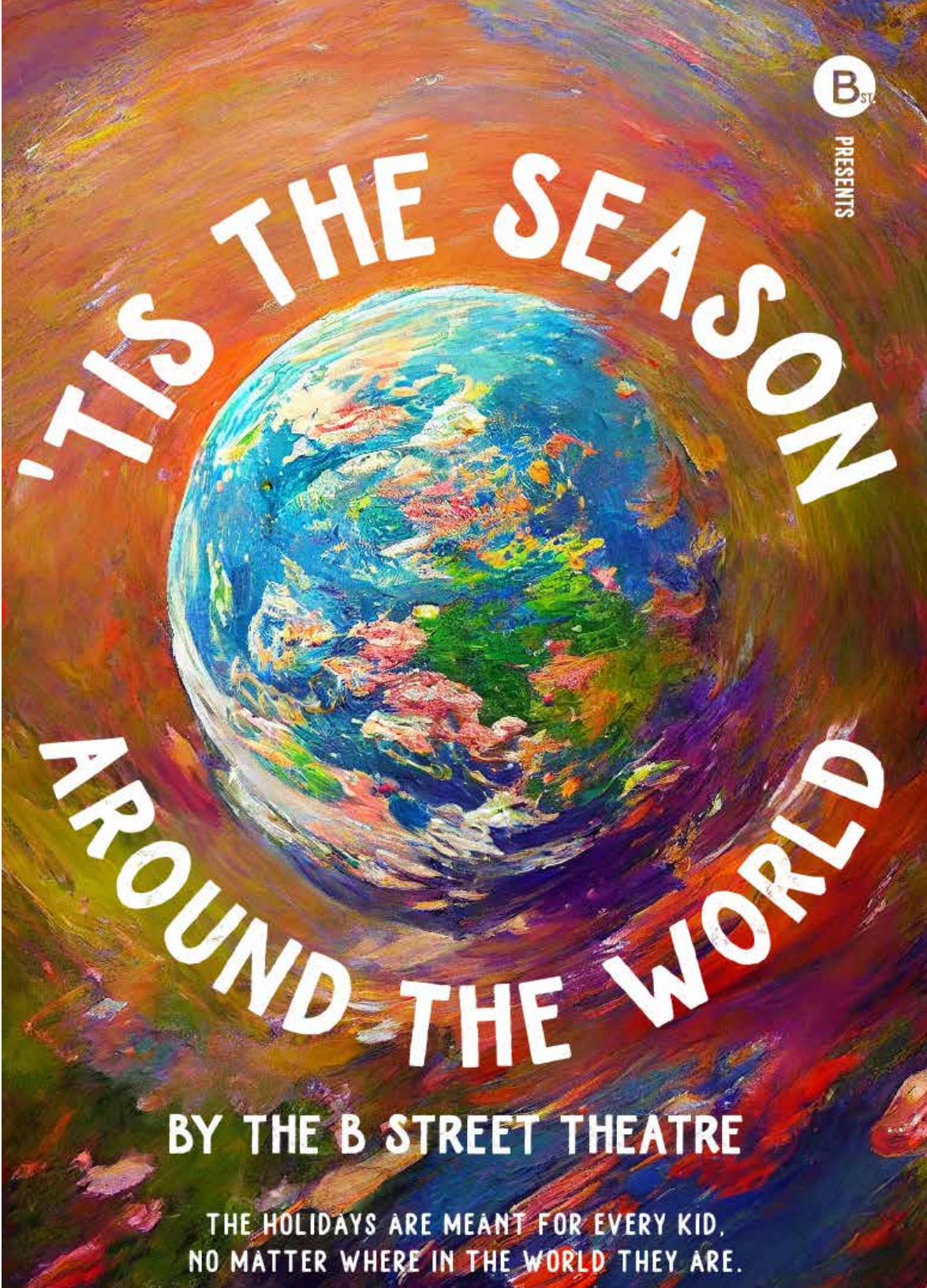


Camila Roza (PAPI, ME AND CESAR CHAVEZ by Anthony J. Garcia, Daniel Valdez, and Activists of the Chicano Movement)



# DEC, 2023

B Street Theatre is back with 'TIS THE SEASON, this time focusing on kids from around the world and the different holiday traditions that they take part in. Based on the very first B Street Theatre Holiday comedy, join the fun and learn all about how different people enjoy the holidays in different parts of the world!





# FEB-MAR, 2024

One of the greatest scientific minds the world has ever seen, Nikola Tesla was born in 1856 during an electrical storm in a remote Croatian mountain village. Spending much of his childhood outdoors, he was mesmerized by the forces of nature. Enthralled by the weather around him, the stars above, and the powerful currents of nearby mountain streams, young Niko began to envision ways in which the energy found in nature could be harnessed and controlled.



# THE PRINCE OF LIGHTNING

THE STORY OF YOUNG NIKOLA TESLA, BOY GENIUS

B<sup>ST.</sup>



BY  
ROBERT  
CAISLEY

# APR-MAY, 2024

The legend returns in this all-new adaptation of the classic “rob from the rich and give to the poor” adventure that includes time travel and a modern aesthetic woven throughout the production. Written by the same playwright as *THE FLYING MACHINE: THE STORY OF THE WRIGHT BROTHERS*, this new take on the Robin Hood tale will certainly be as informative as it is entertaining!



THE LEGEND CONTINUES...



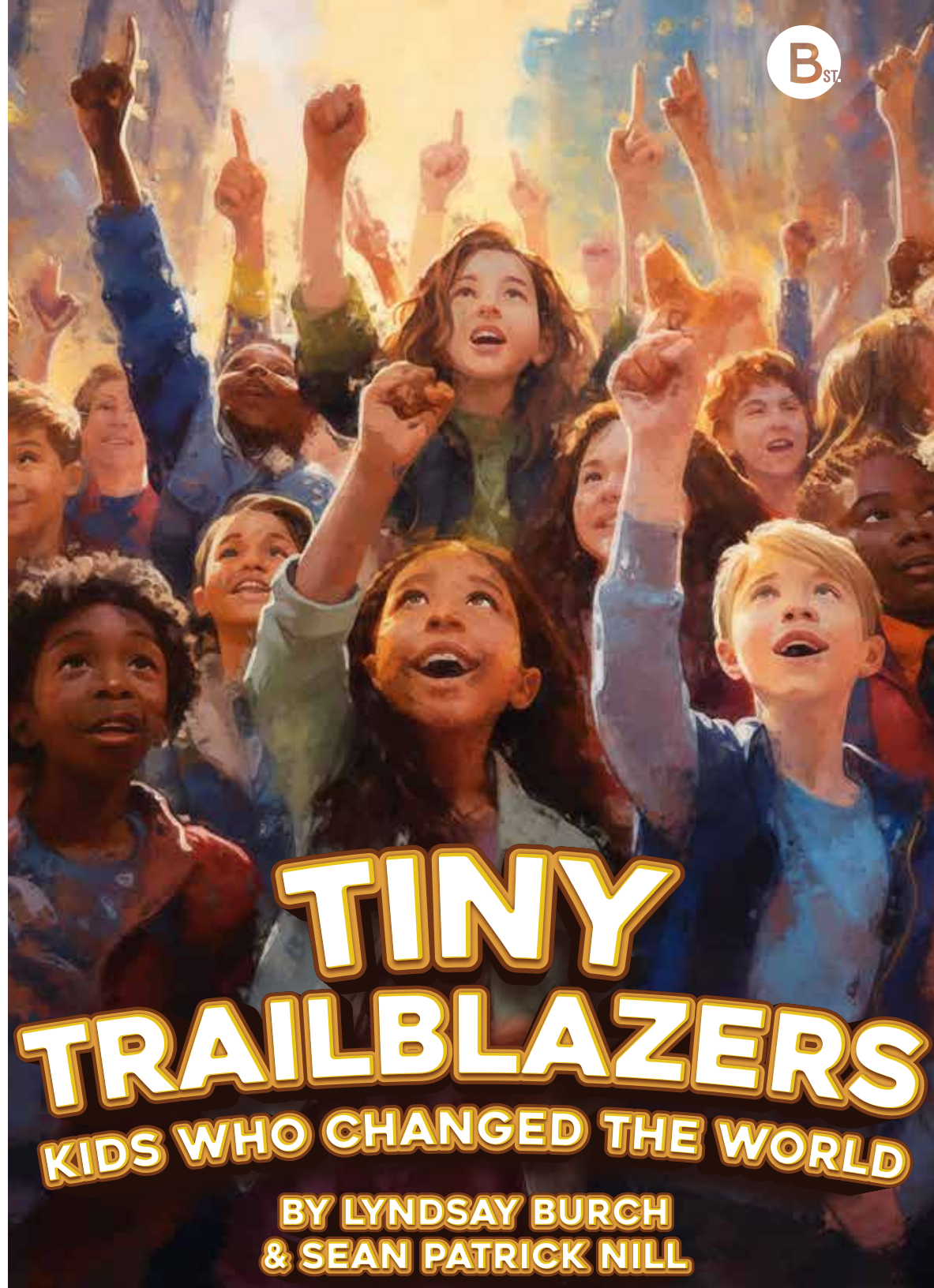
# ROBIN HOOD

BY JERRY MONTOYA



# OCT-NOV, 2024

Since the beginning of time, children have been instrumental in propelling human ingenuity to new heights. From noticing scientific phenomena and fighting for social justice to bringing much needed fun to bleak situations, the youngest among us have always been one step ahead without getting much of the credit...until now. This collection of stories will highlight the kids who have made the biggest difference!





# DEC, 2024

For the past three years, B Street Theatre has changed the way kids celebrate the holidays with our 'TIS THE SEASON story collections! This time, we're going back in time to visit the fables and folklore from the many traditions around the world. Join us for what is rapidly becoming a Sacramento holiday tradition!





# SEE MORE, SAVE MORE!

**GIFT  
CERTS**

Please contact our box office to purchase a gift certificate for any amount!

**SOFIA  
SAVINGS  
ACCOUNT**

**Always receive 20% off your tickets!**

Think of the Sofia Savings Account as a gift card. Load your account with increments of \$100 and use your account to see any show at The Sofia! Minimum purchase of \$100. Maximum purchase of \$500.

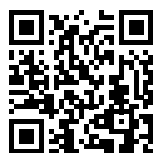
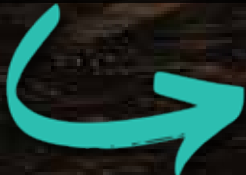
**How does it work?**

You pre-load your account with funds to be used to any show at The Sofia. When booking shows with your pre-paid account, you will always receive 20% off the ticket price! Add more money at any time to your account. Ask the Box Office today!

**NEW DEAL  
COMING  
SPRING 2024!**

**The Sofia has an exciting new deal launching in Spring 2024!**

If you're interested in learning more (and receiving an additional discount if you're one of the first 100 to sign up!), please scan the QR code below. We will add you to a mailing list and you'll be the first to hear about a brand new way to save at The Sofia!



**MAINSTAGE  
SUBSCRIPTIONS**

see page 3



**FAMILY SERIES  
SUBSCRIPTIONS**

see page 13

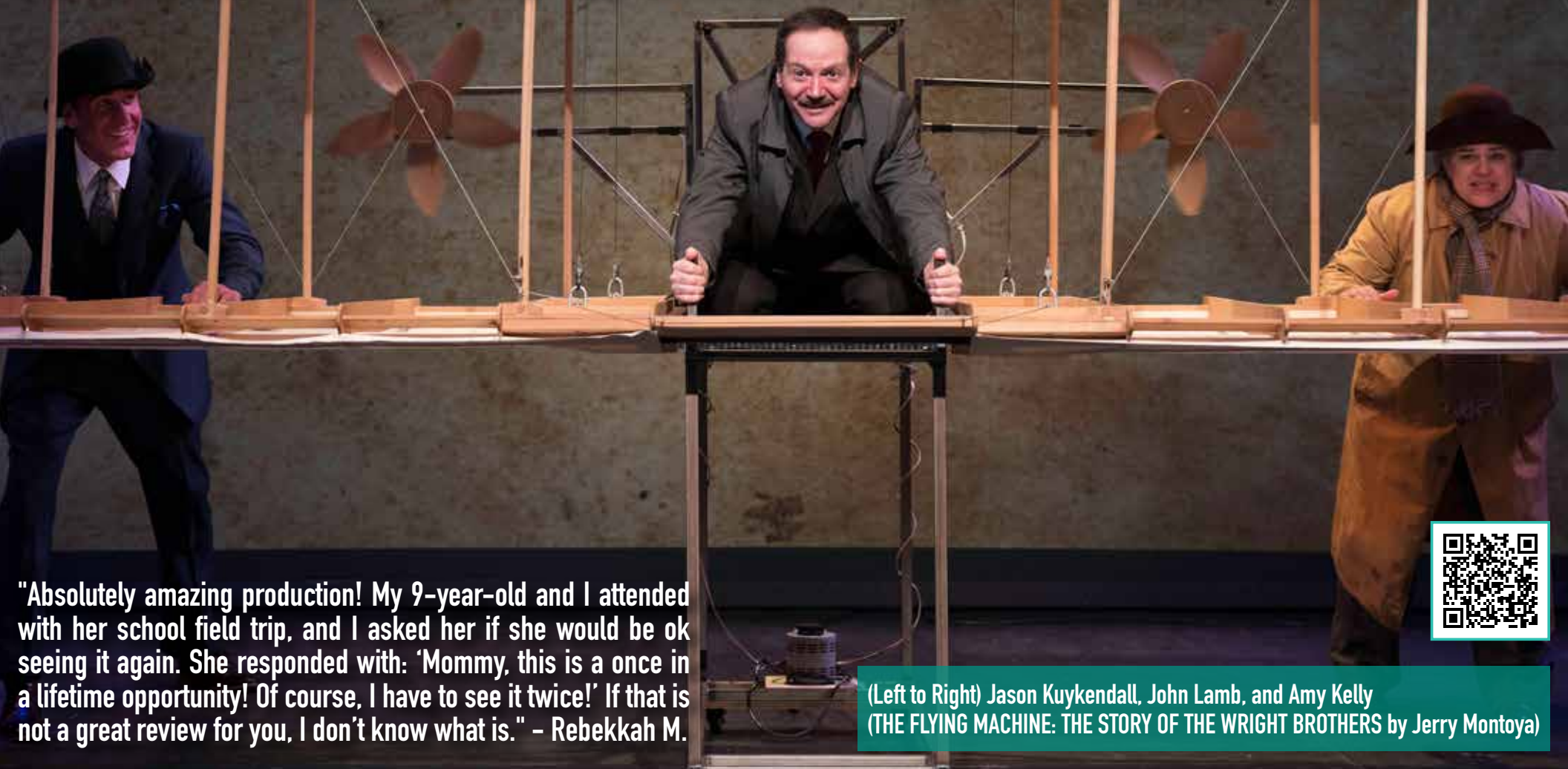


(Left to Right) Melinda Parrett and Meher Mistry  
(MS. HOLMES & MS. WATSON: APT 2B by Kate Hamill)



# Attention Teachers: BOOK YOUR FIELD TRIPS TODAY!

"Thank you for a FABULOUS performance and experience! I heard a student say: 'That was the most inspiring play I've ever seen!' immediately after the play ended. It made all the hard work of prepping 100% worth it. All the students enjoyed their time at the B St. Theatre very much!"  
- Sofiya A (3rd grade teacher, Ridgpoint School)



"Absolutely amazing production! My 9-year-old and I attended with her school field trip, and I asked her if she would be ok seeing it again. She responded with: 'Mommy, this is a once in a lifetime opportunity! Of course, I have to see it twice!' If that is not a great review for you, I don't know what is." - Rebekkah M.

(Left to Right) Jason Kuykendall, John Lamb, and Amy Kelly  
(THE FLYING MACHINE: THE STORY OF THE WRIGHT BROTHERS by Jerry Montoya)



# FAQ: STUDENT MATINEES

(Left to Right) Anthony Person and Robert Karma Robinson  
(A YEAR WITH FROG AND TOAD based on the book by Arnold Lobel,  
book and lyrics by Willie Reale, music by Robert Reale)

## Q. How much do tickets cost?

Field trip tickets are \$15 for students and chaperones. Teachers are free!

## Q. What times are field trip performances?

We offer both early and late morning performances that are usually at 9:30am or 11:30am (times are flexible depending on the play and the needs of your group).

## Q. What days are field trip performances?

Tuesday – Friday with select Mondays available.

## Q. How long are the performances?

Each play is approximately an hour and a half, including a 10-minute intermission. An educational talk-back with the actors will occur immediately following the performance.

## Q. What about parking?


Buses can drop off and pick up students in front of The Sofia. For those coming by car, there is a parking garage next to the theatre and some street parking. Light Rail is 6 blocks away.

## Q. Are there still dates available?

Yes! Book early to reserve the date and time you prefer. We can also pencil in your date of choice while you and your school finalize the details.

For booking information, please email Tara Sissom Pittaro at: [StudentMatinees@BStreetTheatre.org](mailto:StudentMatinees@BStreetTheatre.org) or call 916-442-5635 ext. 114

FREE STUDY GUIDE to help your students meet Common Core State Standards available for every show!



"We couldn't quit talking about how much we enjoyed the performance. The children were so engaged, and I loved looking down the row and seeing the looks on their faces. A live, professional production was a novelty to both the kids and their parents, and everyone was delighted. It was a wonderful field trip.

- Virginia E. (1st grade teacher, Archoe School)





DANCE!



Shine On!



IMPROV!



STAGE COMBAT!



Dream Big.



ACTING!





# STUDIO FOR YOUNG ACTORS

Our Studio for Young Actors offers students a fun, exciting, and creative environment with professional instructors in the fields of theatre, improvisation, and acting. Each program is led by a team of B Street Acting Company Members & teaching artists. Young performers learn the fundamental tools needed to develop their physical, vocal, and emotional range in a way that is both fun and playful. Concepts are presented through a series of acting exercises, theatre games, improvisation, rehearsal process, and performance.



Hunter Hoffman leads dance practice.

## PROGRAMS FOR EVERY AGE GROUP

### Juniors (6–8yrs)

Performance with Greg Alexander (9–10:30am)

In this fast-paced and engaging class, Junior actors learn simple theatre games and exercises. We'll also do some singing, dancing, and arts & crafts!

### Youth (9–12yrs)

Acting & Theatre Games with Vernon Lewis (11–12:30pm)

Young performers study acting, voice, and character development, with lots of fun theatre games thrown into the mix!

### Teens (13–17yrs)

Acting & Theatre Games with Vernon Lewis, Hunter Hoffman & Guest Artists! (1–2:30pm)

Teen actors hone their performance and character development skills, while learning the basics of how to confidently present a scene.

## WINTER 2024

Saturdays, January 20 to March 9, 2024

## SPRING 2024

Saturdays, March 30 to May 18, 2024

## SUMMER CAMPS 2024

### JUNIORS (6–8yrs)

Session 1: July 8–13  
Mon–Sat

Session 2: July 22–27  
Mon–Sat

### YOUTH (9–12yrs)

June 17–29  
Week 1: Mon–Fri  
Week 2: Mon–Sat

### TEENS (13–17yrs)

July 29 – Aug 10  
Week 1: Mon–Fri  
Week 2: Mon–Sat

## FALL 2024

Saturdays, September 21 to November 2, 2024



# LIVE CONCERTS & OTHER ENTERTAINMENT

The Sofia is honored to present top-tier, professional musical artists from around the world to celebrate the diversity of musical genres and share talent with our audiences they may otherwise not get to experience. In addition, we regularly partner with local cultural and non-profit organizations such as the Sacramento Ballet, Sacramento LGBTQ Center, Mexican Cultural Center of Northern California, Sacramento Contemporary Dance Theatre, Sacramento Asian Pacific Film Festival, and many more!

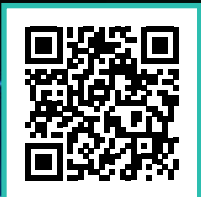
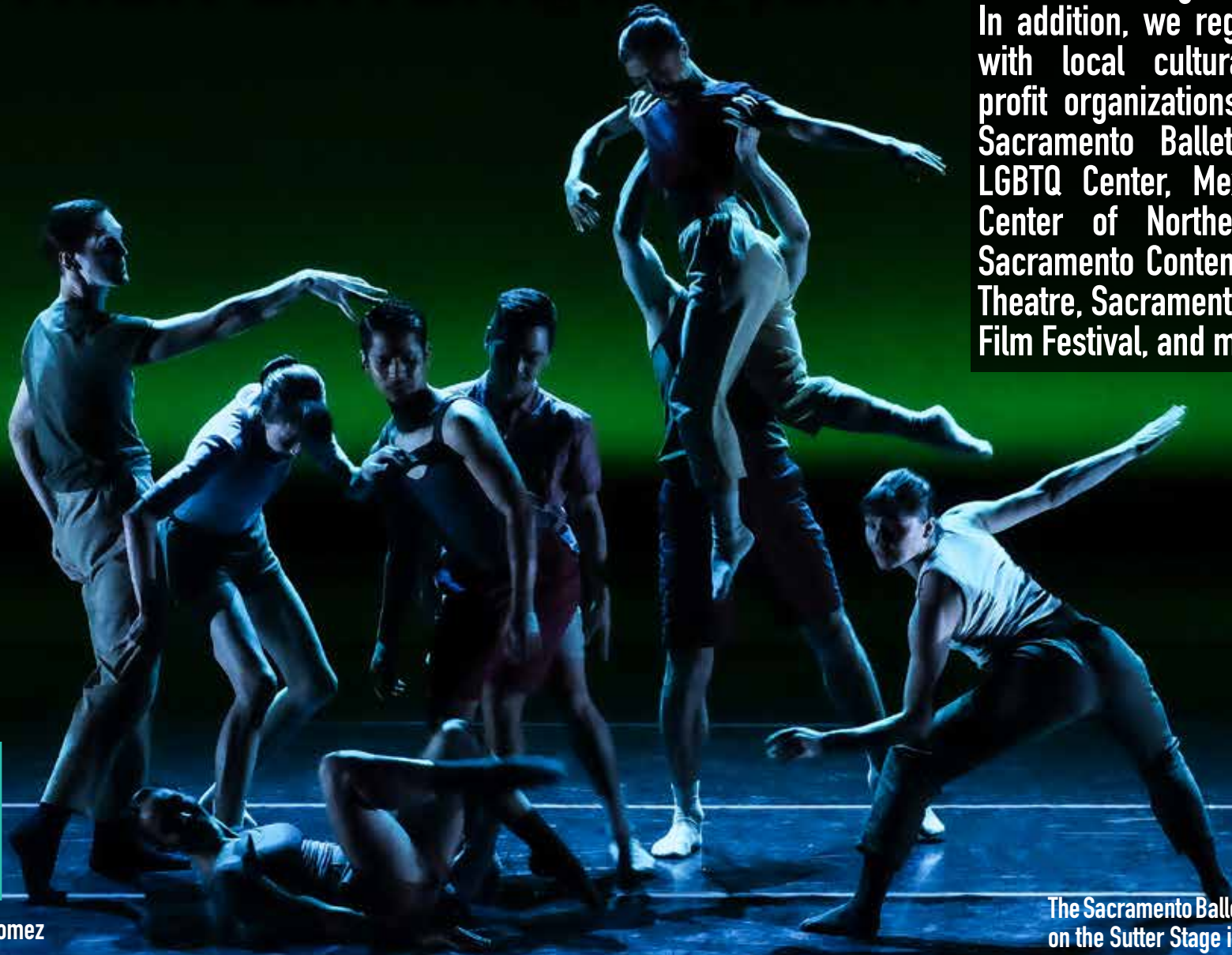


Photo by Kevin Gomez

The Sacramento Ballet performs EMERGENCE on the Sutter Stage in May 2023.



# 2024 HIGHLIGHTS!

Photo by Kevin Gomez

- JAN 5:** John McCutcheon
- JAN 14:** Welcome to Night Vale with  
Special Guest Danny Schmidt
- JAN 18:** Jake Blount Band,  
with Special Guest Hannah Mayree
- JAN 28:** Alash Ensemble
- FEB 2:** Henhouse Prowlers
- FEB 3:** David Wilcox with  
Special Guest Jean Rohe
- FEB 22:** Ottmar Liebert & Luna Negra
- MAR 8:** Altan
- MAR 16:** Kevin Burke, Nuala Kennedy  
and Eamon O'Leary
- MAR 22-24:** Sacramento Ballet: VISIONS
- APR 5:** Breabach
- APR 27:** Royal Wood
- MAY 11:** Dirty Cello
- MAY 17-19:** Sacramento Ballet: INNOVATIONS
- MAY 23:** Pierre Bensusan



Royal Wood performs at Upstairs @ the B in April 2023.



# UPSTAIRS @ THE B

Photo by Sean Patrick Nill

JOIN US IN OUR INTIMATE UPSTAIRS SPACE FOR COMEDY, MUSIC AND MORE!



## MAXIMUM OCCUPANCY

B Street Acting Company Members Stephanie Altholz, Jason Kuykendall, Tara Sissom and (sometimes) Dave Pierini perform classic long-form improvisation for the late-night audience. Based off an audience suggestion, performers will create a one-night-only improvised play, so every performance will be unique! As an exciting caveat, if we do achieve "maximum occupancy" (aka, a sold-out show), we buy everyone pizza!

## SEEKERS OF THE STRANGE

Seekers of the Strange is a fictional, paranormal investigation team that embarks on a perilous and sanity-sapping foray into the unknown each month. Based on the model of tabletop role-playing games like Dungeons and Dragons, B Street Acting Company Member John Lamb and other familiar faces bring live role playing to the stage. Part game, part improvisational storytelling, and all strange, the Seekers invite the audience to help them navigate a supernatural mystery.

## NEW PLAY BRUNCH (Returning in 2024!)

Join us for pastries, mimosas and professional readings from brand new plays! As a Core Member of the National New Play Network, B Street is committed to fostering new play development and these special brunch performances are an integral part of that process.



Three members of the Maximum Occupancy improv team:  
Stephanie Altholz, Jason Kuykendall, and Tara Sissom





Kenneth & Kristi  
Pawlowski

FESTIVAL SPONSOR

July 17-21, 2024

# The 5th Annual NEW COMEDIES FESTIVAL!

Rudy Meyers Photography



B Street Theatre's New Comedies Festival is back for the fifth time! Every year, we ask playwrights from across the country to submit their best brand new, unproduced comedies. After hundreds of submissions and several rounds of review by dozens of script readers, we then choose the top four to receive live staged readings. Previously held in our Upstairs @ the B space, the festival has grown over the years to find its new home on the Mike and Bobbie Voris Mainstage where at least one of these new comedies will be chosen to receive a full B Street Theatre Mainstage production for the upcoming season!

Previous winners include: *THE FOREVER QUESTION* (Jim Christy Jr.), *PROCLIVITY FOR KITING* (Jacob T. Zack), *INSERTION* (Sarah Groustra), and this year's upcoming *THE NEWLYWED GAME* (Alyssa Haddad-Chin). Even the finalists have the chance to make the leap to the Mainstage, such as *RESCUE ME* (Peter Story & Tara Sissom-Pittaro) and *COSMO ST. CHARLES IS DEAD AND SOMEONE IN THIS ROOM KILLED HIM* (Nicole Zimmerer).

Want to help us choose another winner? Attend a reading of all four plays and you can vote for your favorites to help the B Street Artistic Staff decide who will get that coveted 2025 Mainstage Season slot.

WINNER  
NEW COMEDIES  
FESTIVAL  
2022

Hunter Hoffman and Brittni Barger  
(*INSERTION* by Sarah Groustra)



WINNER  
NEW COMEDIES  
FESTIVAL  
2023

Matthew Hanjoong and Fatemah Mehraban  
(*THE NEWLYWED GAME* by Alyssa Haddad-Chin)





Photos by Tara Sissom Pittaro

# *Introducing:* **THE NANCY & HANK FISHER ROOF DECK PATIO**

Through the generosity of the Nancy and Hank Fisher Family Fund, the Sofia opened the brand-new Roof Deck Patio in October 2023! Located adjacent to our Gallery A rehearsal and gathering space and above the T Bar cafe, the Roof Deck Patio features stunning views of the Sacramento foliage and the Sofia courtyard below.

For rental inquiries, contact: [rentals@BStreetTheatre.Org](mailto:rentals@BStreetTheatre.Org)



Nancy Fisher gives a speech honoring her late husband Hank during the opening of the Roof Deck Patio.



Executive Director & CEO Lyndsay Burch and Director of Development & Community Partnerships Jacob Gutiérrez-Montoya enjoy the opening of the Roof Deck Patio.



# RENT THE SOFIA

The Sofia is a state-of-the-art entertainment venue that offers comfortable seating and an inviting setting in our 385-seat Sutter Theatre, an intimate 85-seat Cabaret space, as well as so much more.

Excellent acoustics and sight lines, high production values, excellent amenities, helpful staff and affordable rental rates make the theatre an ideal venue for live performances and large assemblies.

The theatre is ideally suited to accommodate dance, ballet, live music, plays, comedy, meetings, lectures...virtually any popular entertainment event. It has showcased the performances of world-renowned talents, as well as local community groups, bands, dance companies, choral groups, graduations and so much more. Parking is easily accessible in the adjacent parking structure.

To schedule a tour or for more information, please contact:  
[Rentals@BStreetTheatre.org](mailto:Rentals@BStreetTheatre.org)



Photos by  
Eleakis & Elder Photography





# THANK YOU TO OUR GENEROUS SPONSORS & PARTNERS!



NUT & GIFT SHOP





# SUPPORT US

B Street has consistently been recognized as one of the region's top professional theatres and is Northern California's only fully professional resident theatre for children. Each season our dedicated team of artists produce 7 contemporary plays for our Mainstage series (often regional, national or world premieres) that are enjoyed by our 7,000 subscribers and other members of the community.

In addition to the Mainstage, we produce four educational plays for our Family Series. Each play offers up to 8 student field trip matinee performances per week and up to 12 public performances for families. With a seating capacity of 380, the Family Series has the potential to reach over 64,000 people each year! B Street is a LORT Theatre and a Core Member of the National New Play Network.

In addition to our theatre programming, B Street's professional Teaching Artists lead a variety of skill-building theatre workshops, which are regularly offered onsite at the Sofia, in schools, in hospital settings and for adults on probation. These workshops are core to our mission statement, which is to promote education and literacy, social interaction and cultural enrichment.

As a non-profit organization, we are dedicated to this mission but also dependent on the support of our community. We are so grateful to the many local businesses and individuals who have helped us over the past 30 years with donations both monetary and in-kind. If you're interested in helping us continue to produce the highest quality programming, consider becoming a B Street Sponsor or Donor! You can scan the QR code below to see our available sponsorship opportunities or reach out to our Director of Development and Community Partnerships, Jacob Gutiérrez-Montoya: JGM@BStreetTheatre.Org

This Page: (Left to Right) Marjorie Gast and Stephanie Altholz  
(THE LAST WIDE OPEN by Audrey Cefaly and music by Matthew Nielson)

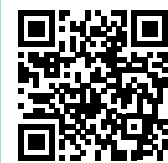
Back Cover: (Left to Right) Gabriela Llarena, Nestor Campos Jr., Eduardo Enríquez, Suzanna Guzmán, Camila Roza  
(PAPI, ME AND CESAR CHAVEZ by Anthony J. Garcia, Daniel Valdez, and Activists of the Chicano Movement) - Rudy Meyers Photography



**SPONSORSHIP  
OPPORTUNITIES**



**DONATION  
INFORMATION**



**OUR VENMO:**  
The easy way to toss  
us a few bucks!





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