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***It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* Comes Home to STAGEStheatre for the Holidays**

**November 29th-December 22nd.**

Fullerton CA—There aren’t many things that signal the beginning of the holiday season quite like watching It’s a Wonderful Life. STAGEStheatre is proud to kick off the holiday season with the adaptation of this heartwarming classic. In Joe Landry’s adaptation, ***It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** it’s December 24, 1946 in Studio A at WSTG Radio and a cast of actors are preparing to present ***It’s a Wonderful Life*** live to their listening audience. With the help of a pianist and a sound effects artist, the ensemble recreates the story of George Bailey, a young man whose dreams of traveling the world are thwarted by his sense of responsibility to the family business. Down on his luck, George Bailey, a compassionate yet disheartened businessman, is at the end of his rope, questioning his purpose in life. Just when he comes to believe that life is not worth the effort, some divine intervention allows him to see the way that his life has affected all those he loves, and he learns what his life is really worth.

This 2019 production marks STAGEStheatre’s 11th time producing this timeless classic. Director Amanda DeMaio is delighted to once again take the helm and bring this heartwarming story to life. “It’s rare that we’re given the opportunity to work on a show that really resonates with so many people on so many levels, and each year we’re reminded of the timeless messages and lessons woven into the framework of this powerful piece: Your life truly does have purpose, stand up for what is right, it’s the small things that make someone heroic, appreciate life before it’s too late, and a great toast makes the party,” says DeMaio.

The American Film Institute (AFI) selected ***It’s a Wonderful Life*** as its “Most Inspiring Movie of All Time” in a 2006 “100 Years—100 Cheers” retrospective, and Landry’s radio play adaptation has received equally-admiring reviews in many cities across the country. The classic tale of family, friendship and the power of community in the face of financial hard times is a must-see this holiday season.

Starring in ***It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** are: Judy Mina-Ballard, Calvin Ballard, Steven Biggs, Loralee Barlow-Boyes, Tucker Boyes, Paul Burt, Wendi de Barros, John S Francis, Jon Gaw, Rich Good, John Hatherill, Darri Kristin, Jeffrey Larson, Rick Lawhorn, Jared Boyd Miller, Cameron Murray,, Jennifer Siglin, Kathleen Switzer, Kyle Slayton, Frank Tryon, Frank Valdez, Rick Werblin, and Brian Yager .

Tickets for ***It’s a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** are $24.00, $22.00 for students and seniors. Performances are November 29th- December 22nd, Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m. With additional shows on December 14th and 21st at 4:30 p.m. and December 15th at 5 p.m. For reservations please visit our website at [www.stagesoc.org](http://www.stagesoc.org)

About STAGEStheatre: Celebrating its 27th year in business, STAGEStheatre is one of Orange County’s most innovative community theaters. It produces nearly 15 productions annually, showcasing local playwriting, acting and directing talent. STAGEStheatre is, and will continue to be, dedicated to the development of the artist. It is located at 400 E. Commonwealth in Downtown Fullerton (between Lemon and Balcom).

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