



Milwaukee Rep's Season begins in the Stackner Cabaret with Festive and Heartwarming *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*

September 8, 2025 [Milwaukee] – Milwaukee Repertory Theater kicks off its 2025/26 Inaugural Season in the Associated Bank Theater Center in the Stackner Cabaret with ***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** running October 31 – December 21, 2025. Adapted by Joe Landry and based on the story "The Greatest Gift" by Philip Van Doren Stern, this heartwarming, hilarious and delightfully retro production transports audiences back to the 1940s, the Golden Age of radio, as they rediscover the magic of the holiday season.

The cast of ***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** includes **Daniel Arana** ("FBI: Most Wanted," CBS) as Jake Laurents, **Wade Elkins** (*Wonderful Town*, Goodman Theatre) as Harry "Jazzbo" Heywood, **David Flores** (*Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer*, First Stage) as Freddie Fillmore, **Eva Nimmer** (*Lumberjacks in Love*, Milwaukee Rep) as Sally Applewhite, and **Melinda Parrett** (*Annie*, Nat'l Tour) as Lana Sherwood.

The creative team for ***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** is directed by Milwaukee Rep's Artistic Producer Jonathan Hetler with set design by Caroline Dischell, lighting design by Bentley Heydt, costume design by Bobby Sharon, sound design by Zack Berinstein and stage managed by Jade Bruno.

It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play is an uplifting holiday classic that comes to life as a high-energy radio play, blending 1940s retro charm with hilarious theatrical hijinks, as five multi-talented actors portray dozens of characters with vintage sound effects, favorite songs and lovable Christmas spirit, right in front of your eyes (and ears). A mix of humor, heart and hope, this enchanting show has captivated audiences across the country and delivers a nostalgic treat that's gift wrapped for you and your loved ones of all ages.

It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play will be performed October 31 – December 21, 2025, in the Stackner Cabaret as part of the David Kundert Stackner Season with Associate Producers Caryl and Frank Briscoe and Kristine Krause and Scott Patulski.

To purchase tickets to ***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** go to www.MilwaukeeRep.com, call the Ticket Office at 414-224-9490 or visit in-person at 108 E Wells Street in downtown Milwaukee.

For more information, please visit www.MilwaukeeRep.com

About Milwaukee Repertory Theater

Milwaukee Repertory Theater is one of the nation's first regional theaters and Wisconsin's largest performing arts organization, presenting a variety of world-class theater experiences that entertain, provoke, and engage audiences. Led by Ellen & Joe Checota Executive Director Chad Bauman and Artistic Director Mark

Clements, Milwaukee Rep is an anchoring civic, economic and cultural institution in the downtown Milwaukee Theater District. Through staging new plays, beloved classics, compelling dramas, and full-scale musicals from emerging and established voices; its John (Jack) D. Lewis New Play Development Program that incubates new work from a wide spectrum of innovative voices; education initiatives that eliminate barriers to the arts; and community engagement programs that bring people together to explore new perspectives, Milwaukee Rep inspires meaningful dialogue and enacts positive change within the Milwaukee community. With the opening of its new home in the Associated Bank Theater Center in Fall 2025, Milwaukee Rep will deepen and expand its reach with three state-of-the-art, fully accessible theaters, a dedicated education and engagement center, and a variety of welcoming community spaces. For more information, please visit www.MilwaukeeRep.com.

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