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MOVIE WONDERTHON

By Don Zolidis

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OLD TOWN PLAYHOUSE



CHRISTMAS

MOVIE WONDERTHON

By Don Zolidis

CAST

Narrator 1 – **Paul Fico**
Narrator 2 – **Allison Heeren**
Holly – **Cathy Louis**
Brett – **Tyler Clark**
Joy – **Stephanie Young**
Paul – **Trevor Vanassche**
Carol – **Brighton Shea**
Jackson – **Devin Dunlap**
Merry – **Ashley Patti**
Blake – **Patrick Kemmerling**
Kris – **Riley Dent**
Noelle – **Rachel Levine**
Sven – **Hayden Northrup**
Rita – **Nicole Pence-Smith**
Bridgette – **Jill Beauchamp**
Jimmy/Laertes – **Eldon Horner**

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Aria Davis – Director

Delaney Leach – Assistant Director

Rick Porter – Stage Manager

Rio Lopez-Wild – Assistant Stage Manager

Bernadette Groppuso – Properties

Betsy Willis – Costumes

Heather Lockwood – Set Dressing

Katie Clark – Set Dressing

Kerr Anderson – Set Design

Colleen Hill-Rakunas – Light Design

Gary Bolton – Sound Design

Wes Curry – Artistic Director

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FROM THE DIRECTOR

DIRECTOR

Aria Davis *Director * (she/her)

Occupation: Volunteer Coordinator at the
Cherryland Humane Society

At OTP: *The Laramie Project*;

At Young Company: *Midsummer's Night Dream*,
School House Rock Live Jr., *Ride the Cyclone*

Aria is a U of M Grad with degrees in Film and
Drama. She moved to Traverse City three years

ago and has loved finding her artistic home at OTP. She loves to direct plays that either make you laugh or make you sob. (Guess which one she picked this time). She would like to give special thanks to Delaney Leach for being the best assistant director both in plays and in life. She would also like to thank her cast and crew who fully embraced Hopewood Falls and never objected to doing something silly just because she asked. She is so grateful for their work and dedication. Finally, she'd like to thank the Spirit of Christmas, for possessing her during the course of the show.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE

The first thing I told my cast when we started this production was that I don't have guilty pleasures — I refuse to feel guilty about things that give me pleasure. This show is silly, make no mistake. Hallmark Christmas movies are silly. But silliness has never been synonymous with unimportant. So come get silly with us, I dare you.

Drink hot cocoa that's a little too sweet, wear your ugliest Christmas sweater, and leave any guilt or cynicism at the door. Join us in Hopewood Falls, where it's always just before Christmas, it's always snowing, and there's always love around the corner, as long as you're really attractive and don't mind uprooting your life for a person you just met.

Wishing you a Merry Christmas!

-Aria Davis, Director
The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon



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BIOGRAPHIES

CAST



Jill Beauchamp *Bridgette* (she/her)

Occupation: Retired

At OTP: *Marian* or *The True Tale of Robin Hood* (actor),
Chicago, *Godspell*, *Calendar Girls*

"After years of being an English, Speech and Theatre Educator, plus a few other types of jobs, I am retired. That means I can do more at OTP, and spend more time with my biggest fan, my husband Dave."



Tyler Clark *Brett*

Occupation: Software Engineering Manager

At OTP: First show at OTP

Tyler Clark has been involved in theater since grade school, including *Grease* (Danny), *Little Shop of Horrors* (The Dentist), *Angels in America* (Joe) and *Company* (Bobby). In addition to acting, he's music-directed over 100 performances of shows including *Cabaret*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *A Little Night Music* and *West Side Story*. Tyler is thrilled to be making his OTP debut, just two years after returning to the area to make a home. After graduating from Interlochen Arts Academy, he moved around between Ohio, Virginia, Arizona and Texas. But northern Michigan has always been his heart and, now, his home on Bronson Lake alongside the girl he took to prom here 30 years ago.



Riley Dent *Kris*

Occupation: Freelance Artist/Designer

At OTP: *The Spongebob Musical*, *Beauty and the Beast*

Riley Dent is a 23 year-old Traverse City native who has a passion for the creative arts. This is his third show at OTP, the first non-musical stage production he has been a part of. When he's not on stage, he spends his free time drawing and painting, in hopes of one day getting published in the comics industry. Riley is incredibly grateful to be part of such an amazing show and cast, and would like to thank all of his family and friends for supporting him in his endeavors.



Devin Dunlap *Jackson* (he/him)

Occupation: NMC Student

At OTP: *Marian*, *The True Tale of Robin Hood*,
Radium Girls

Devin has been performing theater for four years, starting in his senior year of high school. His resume includes eight shows, three of which have been comedies. "I really enjoy doing theater and this show has been a wonderful experience."

BIOGRAPHIES



Paul Fico *Narrator 1*

Occupation: Director of Marketing and Sales/Hotel front desk
At OTP: *Cinderella, A Christmas Carol, Once on This Island*
"I was born in Traverse city and live in Interlochen. I am an acting and voice major, currently working in marketing and sales. I've played the guitar since I was 10 years old and this is my first time returning to the stage in a few years. I feel very blessed to be part of this show, thanks to everyone."



Allison Heeren *Narrator 2* (she/her)

Occupation: Retired mental health therapist
At OTP: *Calendar Girls, A Christmas Carol, Savannah Sipping Society, The Laramie Project*
"I have been volunteering with OTP for the past 7 years, both on and off stage. It has definitely been my "happy place!" Special thanks to Aria Davis and the entire cast and production crew!"



Eldon Horner *Laertes/Jimmy*

Occupation: Retired
At OTP: *Escanaba in da Moonlight, A Christmas Carol, Peter and the Starcatcher, An Adult Evening of Shel Silverstein*
Eldon is delighted to be back on stage, if only briefly, and working with a wonderful cast of players. Now that he is fully retired after twenty years with Oryana he hopes to fill up some of his newfound time having fun at the playhouse.



Patrick Kemmerling *Blake* (he/him)

Occupation: Sales Manager at Courtyard Traverse City
At OTP: First show at OTP
A recent graduate from the School of Theatre and Dance at Central Michigan University, Patrick is thrilled to get to know a new artistic community here in Traverse City. Endless thanks to his parents and friends for their love and support.



Rachel Levine *Noelle* (she/her)

Occupation: Museum Guest Services
At OTP: *Radium Girls, The Play That Goes Wrong, Chicago, Stage of Fools*
Rachel is excited to be back on stage after a long hiatus. Like a really long time. Like, during a Bush administration long time. You can guess which one. During that break, she lived in Boston for over a decade, moved back to Traverse City, and worked at various non-profits. When neither at work nor at OTP, she enjoys spending time with her cats and bingeing horror movies.



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BIOGRAPHIES



Cathy Louis *Holly* (she/her)

Occupation: Retired Boutique Manager

At OTP: *Waitress, Radium Girls, Christmas Schooner, Something Rotten, Murder on the Orient Express*

Cathy loves being a part of OTP! Since retiring to Traverse City from Tampa, Florida in 2017, and having NO theatre experience for 50 years, she has been THRILLED to appear onstage 6 times (a big THANK YOU to our amazing directors) and be part of the backstage crew on at least 4 other WONDERFUL shows!



Hayden Northrup *Sven*

Occupation: Tech guy

At OTP: *The Wedding Singer, Something Rotten, Chicago, Elf*

Hayden has lived in TC for about 15 years. Once in middle school, two other boys were kicking and scuffing a chalk drawing. I almost got into a fight about it with them but the school resource officer pulled me away. I'm not sure if they allowed officers to write up students, but he gave me a stern talking to that made me think I was going to be in more trouble than ever before. So, I gave my first and very best performance, professing that I didn't know any of the school rules because I had just recently transferred. However, I have not lied to an officer since, I promise.



Ashley Patti *Merry* (she/her)

Occupation: Part-time Reporter The Houghton Lake Resorter

At OTP: This is my first show at OTP

Having previously acted in film, Ashley is making her stage debut at OTP in this parody of a very specific kind of film, and is excited to be exploring a different type of acting. When she isn't onstage or in front of a camera, she can be found watching movies, writing, or looking at rocks. She has a degree in geology that she isn't currently using but would like to. Her favorite rock is malachite and her favorite movie is *Jurassic Park*.



Brighton Shea *Carol* (she/her)

Occupation: Full-time student at ASU & Host at Blue Tractor BBQ

At OTP: This is my first show!

Brighton is so excited to be making her debut in such a wonderful production! Brighton is currently studying Organizational Leadership and Product Management, however her heart has always lived on the stage. Some of her previous performances include: the musical *Sunday in the Park with George* (Louise), a short play titled *Stuck with Lemons* (Jill), and an original work called *The Pröcess (self)*. She is very grateful for the cheerful OTP community and for the opportunity to bring this role to life. She hopes you enjoy yourselves during *The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon*!

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BIOGRAPHIES



Nicole Smith *Rita*

Occupation: Hospitality/Broadcasting

At OTP: *Radium Girls*

Nicole has worked in broadcasting for 13 years as a radio DJ. This experience equipped her with a keen understanding of audience engagement, content creation, and the intricacies of communication. In addition to her broadcasting career, Nicole also works in hospitality, where she honed her skills in customer service and interpersonal communication. Hailing from the west coast of California, she is a mom of 3 boys, 3 dogs and two cats. She has lived in Michigan for 16 years now. Nicole took a thrilling leap into the world of acting, marking a new chapter in her artistic journey when she made her debut at the Old Town Playhouse, in the thought-provoking play *Radium Girls* and now in *The Holiday Channel Christmas Movie Wonderthon*.



Trevor Van Assche *Paul*

Occupation: Musician

At OTP: *SpongeBob: The Musical*, *Murder On The Orient Express*, *Cry It Out*, *Cinderella*

Trevor is a Singer, Songwriter, Sailor and Lover of The Journey



Stephanie Young *Joy* (she/her)

Occupation: Office Manager

At OTP: *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*, *Anatomy of a Murder*, *Clue: The Musical*, *As Is*

Originally from the Metro Detroit area, Stephanie has lived in Traverse City for over 20 years, and has a beautiful 9 year old daughter named Violet. She has been performing, in some capacity, for her entire life. She is a founding member of local improv troupe Good on Paper, performing with them now in their 14th season. When she's not on stage, Stephanie stays busy as an office manager, and spending time with her favorite kid.

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OF MY VOICE**

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TONY DANZA

FRI, OCT 11, 2024 7:30 PM

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THU, OCT 17, 2024 7:00 PM

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SAT, NOV 2, 2024 8:00 PM

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FRI, NOV 8, 2024 7:00 PM

BUCKETS N BOARDS

FRI, NOV 15, 2024 7:30 PM

GOOD LOVELIES

SUN, DEC 8, 2024 7:00 PM

**ALL IS CALM:
THE CHRISTMAS TRUCE OF 1914**

SAT, DEC 14, 2024 7:00 PM

HOLLYWOOD REVISITED

SUN, FEB 2, 2025 4:00 PM

TIM KUBART & THE SPACE CADETS

FEB, 8 2025

**INTERLOCHEN IN TOWN:
SINGER SONGWRITER**

THU, FEB 6, 2025 7:00 PM

TOTAL ECLIPSE OF THE HARP

SAT, MAR 8, 2025 7:00 PM

THE MOANIN' FROGS

SAT, MAR 15, 2025 7:30 PM

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TUE, APR 8, 2025 7:00 PM

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THEY WRITE THE SONGS**

FRI, APR 25, 2025 7:30 PM



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