The Velveteen Rabbit

By Philip Grecian



Directed by
Jeremy Pyle

based on the beloved children's book
by
Margery Williams

December 6th-29th

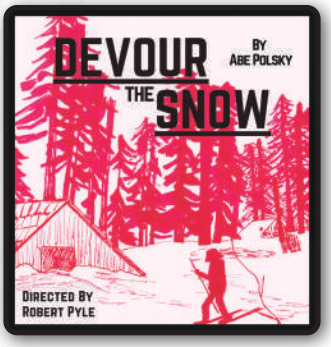
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Sundays 2 pm

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Upcoming Shows

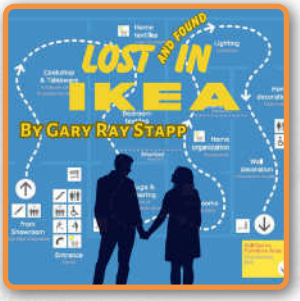


Devour the Snow

Written by Abe Polsky • Directed by Robert Pyle

Show Dates **January 31st - February 16th, 2025**

Auditions

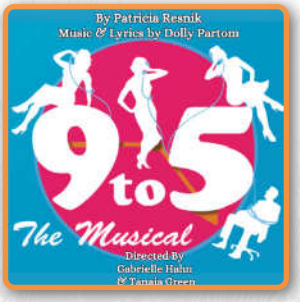


Lost *(and found)* in IKEA

Written by Gary Ray Stapp
Directed by Jill Glover

Show Dates
March 21st - April 6th

Audition Dates
January 7th & 8th 6:30-8:30pm
GP Vitality Center



9 to 5 the Musical

Written by Patricia Resnick & Dolly Parton
Directed by Gabrielle Hahn & Tanaia Green

Show Dates
May 23rd - June 15th

Audition Dates
February 25th & 26th 6:30-8:30pm
GP Vitality Center

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Featured Artist



Eva "Creature" Shaw was raised in the heart of the redwood forests of California where the power and beauty of nature left a profound impression. Inspired by her two elder artistically inclined sisters, she began drawing at an early age. In 2020, encouraged by the response she received from her paintings and with the support of her family, she began a full-time art career and never looked back.

With three children, nature-centered spirituality, and a strong desire to advocate for wildlife and the environment, her artwork seeks to remind us that we are a part of nature not apart from it. Her visionary, whimsical style invites viewers to delve into a world of imagination and introspection, stirring feelings of wonder and admiration for the natural world and the realms unseen.

Gaining a passionate following of collectors across the country and abroad she continues to develop her artistic style and advance her career, working out of her home studio in Grants Pass, Oregon.

www.EvaCreature.com

artbyevacreature@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/EvaCreature

Instagram @eva_creature

A Note from the Director



Last year, when Barnstormers asked me to direct **The Velveteen Rabbit**, I was both surprised and thrilled. I hadn't anticipated directing so soon, but the script's heartwarming theme of love's enduring power captivated me.

During my pitch, I couldn't contain my excitement, I came with sketches in hand and a model of the set I envisioned. Robert, my father, and a seasoned actor and director at Barnstormers, and Sharif, a veteran of all aspects of theater with 20+ years of experience, have been invaluable to this production. They shared my vision for the show and their enthusiasm confirmed that we were on the right track.

Some might think directing a play with so many young actors would be challenging, but I've found the opposite to be true. These talented kids are quick learners, disciplined, and most importantly, passionate about performing. Their joy is infectious, and I'm confident it will shine through on stage.

We've poured our hearts into this production, and we can't wait to share it with you!

- Jeremy Pyle

Crew

Director	**Jeremy Pyle**
Assistant Director	**Robert Pyle**
Stage Manager	**Sharif Abdulrahman**
Kid Wrangler/Greenroom Mom	**Sarah Gaylor**
Set Design	**Jeremy Pyle**
Set Construction	**Sharif Abdulrahman, Robert Pyle**
Set Painting	**Cast, Dee Kennedy, Jeremy & Robert Pyle**
Set Dressing	**Jeremy Pyle**
Scenic Design	**Jeremy Pyle**
Props Master	**Jeremy Pyle**
Light Designer	**Clyde Highbarger**
Light Board Operator	**Stepphy Dodge**
Spotlight Operator	**Zach Dodge**
Sound Designer	**Lasky**
Sound Board Operator	**Lasky**
Costume Design	**Janeen Mcginnis, Toni O'Malley, Michelle Spohn and Jeremy Pyle**
Photography	**Zach and Stepphy Dodge**
Poster Design	**Jeremy Pyle, Niki Richards**
Playbill Design	**Jaren Hobson**
Poster Printing	**Karen Zimmer at Evergreen Federal Bank**
Executive Director	**Niki Richards**
Production Coordinator	**Lisa Miller**
Board of Directors	**Gabrielle Hahn, Dawn Allen, Jamie Banister, Sharif Abdulrahman, Jill Glover, Steven Corelis, Tanaia Green, Judie Erickson, Sharon Giddings, Evie Benson, Robert Pyle, Denise Baker**

Scene & Setting

A cozy, well-loved nursery, filled with toys and childhood magic.

The nursery gives way to a vibrant outdoor world. With greenery, towering trees, and hidden pathways to create a sense of wonder and adventure.

The set was designed and painted to bring the pages of a storybook to life, the stage is transformed into a living illustration.

Thank You's

Julian Eubanks for making the toy boxes and bed

Toni O'Malley, Janeen McGinnis, and Michele Spohn for jumping in last minute to construct and sew seven costumes!

Katheryn Burke for feeding the crew delicious tamales

Sarah Gaylor for kid wrangling and just being an all around awesome theatre mom!

Staci Wytcherley for the most beautiful cast cake

Zach and Stepphy Dodge for the cast and crew photos

Cast



KAI CARMIENCKE *(Alex)*

Kai is excited to return for his third year of holiday shows with Barnstormers. His perfect day would include theater, ballet, and then more theater. He also enjoys binge-reading, drawing and small domesticated cuddly animals.



EDEN HORST *(Velveteen Rabbit)*

Eden has been involved with Barnstormers for a couple years. She has attended two of the Summer Camps, and most recently, was in **The Crucible**. She has learned a lot from her experiences here and has made some good friends along the way. She really hopes you enjoy the show.



CHRIS CARMIENCKE *(Skin Horse)*

When not chasing his children around the greater Grants Pass area, Chris likes to dabble in theater, cooking, outdoor recreation and being an administrator at a local charter school. This is his second Barnstormers performance and second Christmas season production. He would like to thank his wife Krista for supporting this endeavor, and his three boys for inspiration.



ANNA NELSON *(Nana)*

This is Anna Nelson's first performance in local theatre, as she got coaxed into it by her lovely 13 year old daughter Veira, who plays mouse so beautifully. She loves working with all of these amazing talented kids, and is so excited for this heartwarming holiday show. When she's not at Barnstormers she is wrangling four crazy kids at home with her hubs and practicing to be on the world's best **The Office** trivia team. (*Thank you to Ben for doing the brunt of the bedtime routines these last three months, love you.*) Enjoy the show!

Cast



PAISLEY FARRAR *(Timothy the Lion)*

Outside of theater she loves to do art, and choir. She has done **Matilda the Musical**, and **Frozen Jr.** She hopes you'll enjoy the show!



VEIRA KOUZNETSOV-DOLE *(Mouse)*

Veira has been doing theater for the past three years now and has been loving it! Barnstormers has been such a great community to her and supported her through all her roles, from an evil fly (in **Ashgirl**) to a child in a chaotic catholic school (**Nuncrackers**) All in all, she is glad she's here



SOFIA HERRERA *(Bulka)*

Sofia is thrilled to be back at Barnstormers as Bulka! This is her third time on stage, and she is a major **Harry Potter** nerd. Well, guess that's it... Enjoy the show!



PERSEUS HOLMES *(The Toy Fairy)*

"I never feel more like myself, than when I am pretending to be someone else." If one were to ask Perseus why she acts, this sentence is always her answer. She could be living paycheck to paycheck, and still be on stage any chance she gets. It doesn't matter if the role has fifty lines, or five, she'll take it. She's had many roles over the years, including Mrs. Bucket in **Wonka**, and Faith in **Tumbleweeds**. For Perseus, acting is not just a hobby, it's a factor that changes her outlook on life from completely depressing, to survivable.

Cast



STELLA WILLIAMS *(Rabbit #1)*

This is Stella's fourth year Barnstormers theater. It feels like a second home to her, where the cast is like family. she is so excited to be in this production and would like to thank her family for supporting her in her love for acting! She has most recently been in the production of **The Crucible** by Arther Miller directed by Tricia Drevets as the role of Mercy Lewis.



BE BRETKO *(Rabbit #2)*

Be loves theater, choir & aerial silks. This is her first performance with Barnstomers & she is very happy to be here. Enjoy the show!



HEIDI ELISE *(The Doctor)*

Heidi Elise has been performing with Barnstormers for over fifteen years. She enjoys Bollywood dance class, and taking trips with her Grannie & pets to the hot springs and exploring our grand, green nature.



TAVIYA STAR *(Toy Fairy Understudy)*

Taviya is new to theater but not to performing. She's always enjoyed being on stage, dancing, doing runways, and hosting events. Exploring new creative outlets is always something she will put energy into with the goal of trying everything at least once! Taviya has dabbled in improv and has watched many plays. She feels acting might be the next hobby she picks up.



MELODY MILLER *(Understudy Wind up Mouse)*

Melody is a 13-year-old seventh-grader who attends North Middle School. Outside of theatre she finds peace in drawing and listening to music. She has never been in any shows nor done any acting... until now, playing the understudy of the Mouse in **The Velveteen Rabbit**! She is excited to do so and hopes you enjoy!

Production Team



JEREMY PYLE *Director*

This is Jeremy's 13th show with Barnstormers, starting off backstage for **The Outsiders** in 2016. He has been seen on stage and behind the scenes throughout the past three years but this is his first crack at directing. It's been a lot of fun coming up with ideas for all the costumes and set, making all the toys to really add that sense of childlike wonder into every drop.



ROBERT PYLE *Assistant Director*

Back again and still going strong. Robert has been on both sides of the Barnstormers stage for over 25 years. His directing started with **The Christmas Angel** a few years ago, followed by the big summer hit **Treasure Island** in 2022. He loves Barnstormers and is so pleased to be working alongside his son Jeremy for his directorial debut. He is incredibly proud of his boy. He took on a huge challenge with **Velveteen Rabbit**, and he is so excited to see what's to come for him.



SHARIF ABDULRAHMAN *Stage Manager*

Sharif is excited to offer different perspectives and to help expose new generations to the wonders of theatre. Building on 72+ years here at Barnstormers is a humbling task, one entered into with safety, efficiency, love, and artistry being key focus. Having spent years as a Production Manager, Technical Director, Stage Manager, and Performer in and around Southern California; he was pleased to have an opportunity to not only stage manage this show, but also join the Board of Directors at this longstanding institute of the community. Graciously offering over 20 years of craftsmanship and dedication to his new home and new friends.



SARAH GAYLOR *Kid Wrangler/Greenroom Mom*

Sarah loves the magic of theatre. Although, she has not been seen on stage, she has helped out "behind the scenes" with a few shows, here at Barnstormers. She really enjoys watching a show come together, and admires all of the talented individuals that work hard to make the "magic" happen. She hopes you enjoy the show.



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