

NewsCAST

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MIRACLE — ON — 34th STREET

OPENS NOVEMBER 26

CAST's holiday production will help you start the Yule season with gladness and hope, and without worrying how to shop for everyone. Granted, November 26 is the biggest shopping day of the year, but there's another way of celebrating the season. When you see *Miracle on 34th Street* at McClellan Theatre it will be like receiving a present yourself. So, come, bring your friends, your family, and Thanksgiving house guests to this Christmas classic and give everyone a treat!

The play opens November 26, the day after Thanksgiving, and ends December 5. There are 35 people in the cast. The action of the play takes place at various locations throughout New York City between Thanksgiving and Christmas in 1947. *Miracle*, a play from the novel by Valentine Davies, is directed



by Kim Dobbs. It was adapted from the novel by Patricia Di Benedetto Snyder, Will Severin and John Vreeke. Valentine Davies (August 25, 1905 - July 23, 1961) was an American film and television writer, producer, and director. His credits included *Miracle on 34th Street* (1947), *Chicken Every Sunday* (1949), *The Bridges at Toko-Ri* (1954), and *The Benny Goodman Story* (1955). He was nominated for the 1954 Academy Award for Best Original Screenplay for *The Glenn Miller Story*.

Davies was born in New York City, served in the Coast Guard, and graduated from the University of Michigan. He wrote a number of Broadway plays and was president of the Screen Writers Guild and general chairman of the Academy Awards program.

Davies' 1947 novel *Miracle on 34th Street* was adapted for the screen the same year, earning the author the Academy Award for Best Story.

Tickets are \$15 for adults and \$8 for students. There will be both a matinee and evening production on the two Saturdays and a matinee on the two Sunday afternoons. The matinees are at 2:30 p.m. and the evening performances are at 8 p.m. Remember to make reservations by calling 256-820-CAST. Our website is castalabama.com. Group rates are available.

Tickets may be purchased at: Farmers & Merchants Bank, Anniston, Golden Springs Pharmacy, NobleBank, Anniston and Oxford, Crow Drug in Jacksonville, Cheaha Bank, Oxford and Jacksonville, JC Morgan Art Gallery in the Quintard Mall

Letter from the Editor

Dear Patrons,

Christmas is all the more exciting if you believe, really believe, in Santa Claus. In our play, a little girl's belief is rekindled after meeting a miracle-like department store Santa who is convinced he's the real thing. And of all the gifts up for purchase on 34th Street, a major shopping corridor in Manhattan, Susan, the little girl, played by Chloe Cater receives the most cherished present of all: something to believe in.

Yes, Christmas is a state of mind. And it takes a character like Kris Kringle (portrayed by Chris Colvard) to maintain the jolly spirit of good will in a commercial world. Kris is a blessing to everyone, whether it's at Macy's Department Store where he is the store Santa, or for anyone else he meets. He

knows he's the real Santa, regardless of what Susan, a serious five-year old and her skeptical mother, (Marian Kim Sanderson) believe. If Kris is the real Santa, however, he should be able to grant Susan's top wish for a Christmas gift. But what if her wish is *a house*?

This inspirational story about spirit is laced with comedy and drama; it entertains young and old alike. Add to this some magical events and music, and you have a theater event worth seeing, more than once. For instance, Kris Kringle has a few magic tricks up his sleeve, and they bring about good. Kris just happens to wander into the staging area of the Macy's Thanksgiving parade as the store employees have to fire a drunken Santa. Then, the employees realize that Kris looks the part of the traditional Santa to a "T". He accepts the job, and brings happiness to both children and parents. And, in the store, this Santa is able to talk and sing with a lonely girl from an orphanage in Holland — in her own language. A coincidence? Hardly. A miracle? For sure. Just two of several

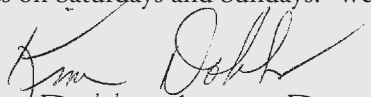
LETTER FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

November 2010



As I continue my seventh season with CAST, it is my pleasure to direct the classic holiday favorite *Miracle on 34th Street*. I have assembled a cast of over 35 performers to take us to New York City during the holiday season of 1947. This is the story of the revival of the true spirit of Christmas, brought to us by Kris Kringle (Chris Colvard), as he wins the heart of Susan Walker (Chloe Cater), a kid who is ruled by common sense. She has her doubts about the possibility of Santa Claus being alive and well, but the magic of the spirit of giving dominates and wins her over. Other cast members include newcomers Marian Kim Sanderson, Hayley Long, Chris McIntyre and Pierre Gillete, veterans Jim Athon, Jake Mathews, Howard Johnson, Scott Whitney, Marty Davis, Allison Brown and George Whitesel who join an array of kid actors to create an ensemble dedicated to entertaining you with a tale of inspirational joy. Let us glide you into the Holiday Season beginning the day after Thanksgiving through December 5. Remember we have matinees on Saturdays and Sundays. We continue to ask for your support in order to continue to present good theatre.

Thank you for supporting live theatre in our community.


Kim Dobbs, Artistic Director



CAST Kidz, a vocal, drama and dance group, is recruiting new members, according to Sherry French. Kim Dobbs is Artistic Director and Sherry French is the Administrative Director. Ages in CAST KIDZ are four to nineteen years. The meetings at this time are at 4:30 p.m. on Thursdays at First Presbyterian Church in Anniston. CAST Kidz is always on the lookout for a volunteer musical director and a volunteer choreographer. Anyone interested is asked to call Sherry French at 256 820-1529.

Props Needed

- Santa Claus costumes (w/ beard and wig)
- Wooden walking cane (with crook neck)
- Magic dog leash
- 1940's newspaper bag
- 1940's postal mail bags
- 1940's style men's suits (w/ double breasted jacket and pleated pants)
- 1940's men's and women's hats and winter coats
- Judge's gavel
- Doctor's stethoscope
- Brown paper and/or canvas shopping bags
- 2 Santa bells
(Like the Salvation Army uses)

Letter from the Editor continued

miracles in fact, on 34th Street.

In this play, Chris Colvard enjoys taking on the persona of Kris Kringle. Chris loves theater and is equally happy being in the spotlight or working backstage. This role seems perfect for him, for in *The Music Man* program, he is quoted as saying, "As long as I am able to make at least one person smile, I'm a happy man." Audiences will remember Chris as one of the Salesmen in *The Music Man*.

Come, enjoy the play. And by the way, sign up as a CAST volunteer in the theater lobby, if you can give CAST some time.

See you at the theater,


Hervey Folsom

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