



and the

VIRGINIA

— proudly present —

Mothers and

Sons

by Terrence McNally

October 18 to November 9 2019

Directed by Jo Dodge

Mothers and Sons is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, New York.



MOTHERS AND SONS

CAST

Katharine Gerard	Pamela Abernethy
Cal Porter	Clyde Berry
Will Ogden	Taylor Husk
Bud Oaden-Porter	Simon Watson

TIME & PLACE

Present day.

A apartment on Manhattan's Central Park West.

90 minutes with no intermission.



"Mothers and Sons" is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.

Il Re Pastore, K/ 208, Act Ii: "L'amero, Saro Costante," by Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart. Performed by Kiri Te Kanawa. Used with permission.

PRODUCTION STAFF

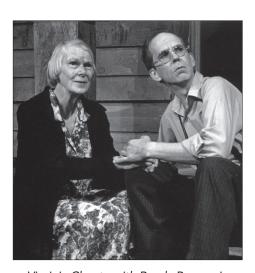
Director	Jo Dodge
Assistant Directors	Jennifer Gimzewski and Nancy Gorrell
Technical Director	Chris Benham
Set Design and Decora	tion Chris Benham
Set Construction	Pamela Abernethy, Quinn Connolly,
	Chris Fletcher, Rose Fletcher,
	Jennifer Gimzewski, Nancy Gorrell, Rob Sim
Lighting Design	Chris Benham
Light Hang	Quinn Connolly, Nancy Gorrell
Sound Designer	Lizabeth Rogers
Light & Sound Board O	perator Nancy Gorrell
Strike	Quinn Connolly, Beth Cummings,
	Antonio Schoaps, Rob Sim, Becky Tei
Costumes	Cast and Crew
	Doug A. Gray
_	Erich and Loriann Schmidt
Board Liaison	Chris Fletcher
Poster Design	Bill Helwig
Program Design	Carlee Wright
Photography	Lonnie and Kim Thurston
Opening Night Caterer	'S Black Sheep Catering

Special Thanks: ♦ Amanda and Jeffrey Watson ♦

VIRGINIA CHOATE



Virginia Choate with Annie Kaiser in Grace and Glorie, 2000.



Virginia Choate with Randy Bowser in Trip to Bountiful, 1993.

Like many in the Pentacle community, my first introduction to the talents of Virginia Choate came as an audience member. I can still remember watching her remarkable work as Miss Mackay in the 1985 production of The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie. The fact that her performance is still indelibly imprinted on my mind after 30 years is testimony to the amazing gifts of this fine actress. I must admit that at the time I made the somewhat common error that the woman I watched so intently had to be similar in character to the role she was playing on the stage. To some extent, there were some similarities—a strong and fiercely determined spirit was certainly a quality that the actress and character shared. This impression was further reinforced about a year later by her performance as Mother Miriam Ruth in Agnes of God.

It wasn't until 1988, when I was given the gift of directing Virginia in The Gin Game, that I had the opportunity to get to know her well as a person. The show was singularly challenging; in addition to being a two-person show, the plot involved a long and complex series of hands of the card game gin, requiring both Virginia and her co-star, the equally awesome Bob Putnam, to memorize one of the most challenging scripts I can imagine learning. Through the rehearsal process, Virginia demonstrated not only an admirable tenacity and patience, but a wickedly sharp sense of humor and willingness to explore the vulnerabilities of her character.

VIRGINIA CHOATE ENDOWMENT FUND

Each year a Pentacle Theatre production is entirely underwritten by the Virginia Choate Endowment Fund, left to the theater by Virginia Choate when she passed away in 2004. The plays in the series are in keeping with Virginia's interest in socially conscious art and progressive causes. *Mothers and Sons* is the twelfth Virginia Choate Series play.



Virginia Choate with Bob Putnam in The Gin Game, 1988.

She was the actress of my fondest dreams.

It has been 15 years now since Virginia's passing, but for me, the images she created are still fresh in my mind and I still sense her presence at Pentacle Theatre. Thanks to her generosity, Pentacle audiences not only have the legacy of her work as part of our collective memory, but also a series of shows have been performed that reflect much about what she was like as a person: impressively strong, infused with formidable talent and ultimately unforgettable.

— Ken Hermens

Make your legacy last a lifetime at Pentacle Theatre

Gifts such as Virginia's bequest have enabled Pentacle Theatre to thrive for more than 65 years. If you would like to create your own legacy at Pentacle Theatre, please contact Lisa Joyce, executive director, at lisa@pentacletheatre.org or 503-485-4300.



and the cast and crew of Mothers and Sons wish to thank

Benny and Robin Bower

for their generous sponsorship of this production.



pentacle theatre

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Jo Dodge Director



Jo has acted, directed and taught theater in New York, Los Angeles and Honolulu. She has been with Pentacle for 40 years and has directed 46 productions. Most recently, she directed The Elephant Man,

Beauty and the Beast, The Rainmaker, The Trip to Bountiful, To Kill a Mockingbird, Dr. Dolittle, The Desperate Hours, Willy Wonka, The Lion in Winter, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Stop Kiss, Gypsy, Inherit The Wind, Proof and Man of La Mancha. Other directing credits include The Music Man, Equus, Cabaret, A View From the Bridge, Of Mice and Men and The Dresser. Jo's numerous Pentacle stage credits include Over the River and Through the Woods, Doubt, Wings, Brighton Beach Memoirs, and The Glass Menagerie. Jo lives in Salem, teaches an acting class at Pentacle Theatre and is retired from the Oregon Department of Justice.

Jennifer Gimzewski

Assistant Director



Jennifer has worked backstage and in the booth. In addition to acting in numerous plays at Pentacle, she was assistant director on The Rainmaker and Emma's Child and directed The Women of Lockerbie and Leading Ladies. From

2010 to 2012, she served on the Pentacle Board. Jennifer is a gallery coordinator at Salem Art Association, in Bush's Pasture Park. Originally from Scotland, she lived in Zurich, Switzerland, for 22 years, teaching at international schools. She has three wonderful grown-up children of whom she is very proud, and lives in Aumsville with Mrs. Pickles and Mufasa, her two cats. Jennifer joined Pentacle in 2005, when she had the good fortune to participate in Jo Dodge's acting class, which she has taken multiple times. A painter of pictures, she likes to read and listen to classical music.

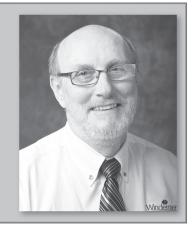
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REHEARSAL SHOTS











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Location: Pentacle Theatre lobby Information: 503-485-4300 or pentacletheatre.org

Nancy Gorrell Assistant Director



Nancy started with Pentacle working behind the scenes for *Strange Snow* in 1990. She has worked on many shows doing all kinds of tech, as well as artwork such as the paintings for *Beauty and the Beast* and also playing

original music on her flute for The Glass Menagerie in 1992 and The Elephant Man last year. She has been seen on stage at Pentacle in Cabaret (1992), South Pacific (1993), Dracula (1995) and Equus (2002).

Nancy caught the theater bug at an early age at the Albany Civic Theater, where she was in several plays during high school. She loved landing the role of Lucy in You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown at school. She returned to ACT to be in Season's Greetings in 1996 and The Captain's Paradise in 1998. She has also been seen in Lend Me A Tenor and A Flea In Her Ear at Gallery Theater in McMinnville. Nancy owns Wildcat Studio, an art studio and custom frame shop in her home. Her son Keegan is her theater buddy and they love to go to shows together.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS

Oct. 26 Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express

Dec. 7 The Cake

More info at 503-485-4300 or online at pentacletheatre.org

Pamela Abernethy

Katharine Gerard



Pamela has been an actress and director for more than 30 years. She has appeared in, or directed, more than 25 productions, most recently playing Mrs. Kendall in the 2018 Pentacle production of *The Elephant Man*

and Joan Didion in The Year of Magical Thinking, a one-woman show at The Verona Studio. Other Pentacle favorites include Sally in Terrence McNally's Lips Together, Teeth Apart, Eleanor of Aquitaine in The Lion in Winter, Polly Wyeth in Other Desert Cities, Martha in The Children's Hour, Annie Sullivan in The Miracle Worker and Dr. Livingstone in Agnes of God.

Pamela is a retired Marion County Circuit Court judge who now works as a mediator. She is delighted for this opportunity to perform in another play by the acclaimed playwright Terrence McNally. She is also grateful for the opportunity to be directed by her longtime acting teacher, Jo Dodge, and share the stage with this talented cast. She thanks her wife Chris and daughter Rose for their support. She dedicates her performance to the memory of her only sister, Janet Elizabeth, whom she still misses every day.

Pentacle Theatre thanks



for their support of our Community Service Night



Pentacle Theatre is Salem's premier community theater, offering quality live theater in an intimate setting. The directors, cast and crew delight in presenting audiences with entertaining and innovative seasons of top-quality productions in an all-embracing range of theatrical styles.

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Season Kickoff Annual Fundraiser

Cinderella A January 3, 4 and 5

Music by Richard Rodgers; Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II; New Book by Douglas Carter Beane; Original Book by Oscar Hammerstein II; Orchestrations by Danny Troob; Music Adaptation & Arrangements by David Chase. Directed by Karen McCarty. Performed at the Elsinore Theatre.

Sponsored in part by Paul C. and Robin E. Bower Family Trust.

Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express

January 17 to February 8

Adapted for Stage by Ken Ludwig. Directed by Isaac Joyce-Shaw. Sponsored by Glantz Law Group.

The Cake FEBRUARY 28 TO MARCH 21 Written by Bekah Brunstetter. Directed by Jennifer Gimzewski.

Rabbit Hole APRIL 10 TO MAY 2
Written by David Linsday-Abaire. Directed by Jo Dodge.
Sponsored by Paul C. and Robin E. Bower Family Trust.

Music and Lyrics by Stephen Sondheim; Book by George Furth. Directed by Chris Fletcher. Sponsored by The Compton Family Foundation.

Written by Qui Nguyen. Directed by MaryKate Lindbeck. Sponsored by Erich Paetsch, Saalfeld Griggs, PC.

The Fantasticks A September 4 to 26

Music by Harvey Schmidt; Book and Lyrics by Tom Jones. Directed by Deborah Johansen. Sponsored by Duchess & The Munchkin.

Ripcord 🖄 October 16 to November 7

Written by David Lindsay-Abaire. Directed by Karen McCarty. Sponsored by Rich Ford, Windermere Real Estate.

Shrek the Musical A November 27 to December 19

Music by Jeanine Tesori; Book and Lyrics by David Lindsay-Abaire. Directed by Robert Salberg. Sponsored by Erik and Laura Davis.

Clyde Berry Cal Porter



To those of us left ... and those of us left behind. For Sean, Pedro, Michael B, Ryan, Mathew, Robert, Jordon, Farrokh, Steve, Howard, Cody, Arthur, Keith, Danny, Greg, Andy, Alvin, Merritt, Richard, Michael J, Jimmy,

Sylvester, Randy, Derek, William, Karl, Barbara, Harvey, Sam, Jaime, Audre, Bayard, Edith, Aaron, Marsha, Leonard, Laverne, Oscar, Gavin, Alan, Isaac, Andy, Matt, Cleve, Larry, Michael C, Ron, Paul and Ray.

SUPPORT LOCAL THEATER!

To learn about sponsoring a Pentacle production, call 503-485-4300.

Taylor Husk Will Ogden



Taylor last appeared as John Merrick in The Elephant Man, Marius in Les Miserables and Prince/Wolf/Meat Cleaver in Beauty and the Beast. He has appeared at Corban University in shows such as Twelfth Night, State Fair, Cinderella,

Macbeth, Exit the Body and The Odyssey. He also worked at Enchanted Forest performing children's comedy theater.

Simon WatsonBud Ogden-Porter



Simon is excited to be back at Pentacle Theatre after playing Tiny Tim/Young Scrooge in 2017's A Christmas Carol. As a real-life 8-yearold, he has years of experience being dramatic. Offstage he enjoys playing with

Lego bricks, building with his siblings in Minecraft and making elaborate plans for themed parties. He is also happy to answer any questions you may have about his pets.

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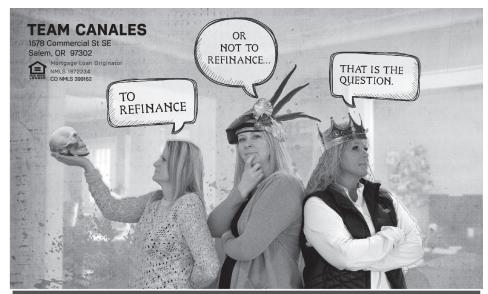
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SALEM OFFICE: 1313 MILL ST. SE SUITE 203 SALEM, OR 97301 (503) 779-1927 In the fall of 1981, the U.S. Center for Disease Control and Prevention identified the first 100 cases of AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) in the U.S. By 1992, 250,000 Americans had developed AIDS - and 200,000 of them died from it. By 1993, AIDS had become the leading cause of death among persons 25 to 44 years old. For many in this time, a diagnosis of AIDS was akin to a death sentence.

AIDS starts out as an infection of HIV — Human Immunodeficiency Virus — and can have few or no initial symptoms. Gradually, it interferes more and more with the patient's immune system, causing infections, tumors and often drastic weight loss. These later stages are referred to as AIDS. HIV is spread by unprotected sex,

contaminated blood transfusions, shared hypodermic needles, and from mother to child during pregnancy, delivery, or breastfeeding. Saliva and tears do not transmit HIV

Because gay and bisexual men account for two-thirds of the cases, this disease was sometimes called "the gay plague," "Gay-Related Immune Deficiency," and "the gay cancer." However, the epidemic hit the whole population. By 1994, for example, it was third overall among causes of death for women 25 to 44 years of age, and first among African American women. Nevertheless, AIDS became an excuse for some to heap even more discrimination, abuse, and stigmatization on an already marginalized gay population.







AIDS in America

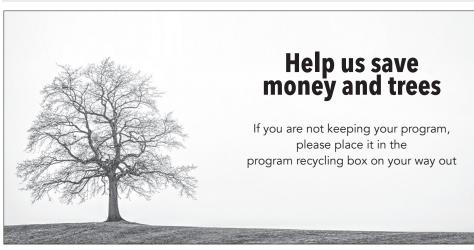
In the United States, the AIDS crisis peaked in the mid-1990s, when multidrug treatments (antiretroviral therapy) were successfully introduced to treat HIV. Today, a 20-year-old with HIV who begins treatment early can expect to live to his early 70s. However, the disease is still considered a pandemic, and each year thousands of men and women in the U.S. are newly diagnosed with HIV.

The tragic cultural, emotional, economic and social impact of AIDS in our communities has been and continues to be explored throughout the arts, but perhaps nowhere more than the theater. Playwright Terrence McNally has looked

at gay relationships and AIDS in many of his plays, including Mothers and Sons (an expansion of his earlier Emmywinning show Andre's Mother, written in the first years of the epidemic); Lips Together, Teeth Apart (produced by Pentacle Theatre in 1995), Love! Valor! Compassion!; Corpus Christi; and Some Men.

Mr. McNally has enjoyed great success throughout the dramatic arts. He has written librettos for musical theater (Kiss of the Spider Woman, Ragtime, The Full Monty) and opera (Dead Man Walking, Three Decembers, Great Scott), scripts for TV and film (The Ritz, Andre's Mother,





Frankie and Johnny), and many dramatic and comedic works for the stage. Here's a small sample:

- Bringing It All Back Home (1969)
- Next (1969)
- Where Has Tommy Flowers Gone? (1971)
- Bad Habits (1974)
- Whiskey (1973)
- Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune (1982)
- The Lisbon Traviata (1989)
- Hidden Agendas (1994)
- By the Sea, By the Sea, By the Beautiful Sea (1995)
- Master Class (1995)
- Deuce (2007)
- It's Only a Play (2014)

— Tom Wrosch

TO LEARN MORE

Online:

AIDS

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HIV/AIDS

History of AIDS in US

www.healthline.com/health/hiv-aids/history

Guide to HIV/AIDS

www.cdc.gov/hiv/basics/whatishiv.html

Guide to HIV/AIDS

www.hiv.gov

Books:

And the Band Played On, Randy Shilts Angels in America, Tony Kushner Push, Sapphire The Chimp and the River, David Quammen

Borrowed Time: An AIDS Memoir, Paul

Monette



SALEM THEATRE NETWORK

is an alliance of local theatre organizations with the mission of supporting, promoting, and uniting theatre communities in and around Salem, Oregon

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The **NAMES** Project Foundation

Display made possible by a grant from the James F. and Marion L. Miller Foundation.

In June of 1987, a small group of strangers gathered in a San Francisco storefront to document the lives they feared history would neglect. Their goal was to create a memorial for those who had died of AIDS, and to thereby help people understand the devastating impact of the disease. This meeting of devoted friends and lovers served as the foundation of the NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt.

The Quilt was conceived in November of 1985 by long-time San Francisco gay rights activist Cleve Jones, who helped organize the annual candlelight march honoring Harvey Milk and Mayor George Moscone. At the end of the 1985 march, Jones and others stood on ladders taping placards bearing the names of friends and loved ones who had died of AIDS to the walls of the San Francisco Federal Building. The wall of names looked like a patchwork quilt.

On October 11, 1987, The Quilt included 1,920 panels and was displayed for the first time on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. during the National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights. The Quilt returned to Washington, D.C. in October of 1988, when 8,288 panels were displayed on the Ellipse in front of the White House. The entire Quilt was again displayed on the National Mall in 1992 and 1996, when it contained approximately 37,440 individual panels.

The Quilt was nominated for a Nobel Peace Prize in 1989, and is today the largest community art project in the world. The Quilt has been the subject of countless books, films, scholarly papers, articles, and theatrical, artistic and musical performances, "Common Threads: Stories From The Quilt" won the Academy Award as the best feature-length documentary film of 1989.

Number of 12x12 sections of The Quilt: 5,956

Names on The Quilt: More than 96,000

Honoring the generous individuals who make a provision in their estate plans for Pentacle Theatre:

> Anonymous **Eden Rose Brown Cherie & Craig Cline** Susan Elliott Pamela Abernethy & Chris Fletcher Linda Gilbert **Ed Kramer**

BRIGHT LIGHTS

Louise Larsen Jackie B. Miller Jeanne M. Miller Laurelyn R. Schellin

> In Memoriam: Virginia Choate Carol Farber **Larry Roach**

If you have included Pentacle Theatre in your estate plans, we'd like to know and honor you here. Please contact Executive Director Lisa Joyce at 503-485-4300 or lisa@pentacletheatre.org

PENTACLE THEATRE LIFETIME MEMBE

Every five years the Pentacle Theatre Governing Board honors as Lifetime Members five people who have been active in Pentacle Theatre for at least 20 years. We also remember fondly those Lifetime Members who are no longer with us. Members whose names are in bold were inducted at our 65th anniversary on July 13.

LIFETIME MEMBERS

Pamela Abernethy Dick Bond Benny Bower Robin Bower David Cristobal Maggie Dayton

Jo Dodge

Ken Hermens Robert Herzoa Lois Hanson Deborah Johansen

Cec Koontz Louise Larsen

Chris Fletcher

Dave Leonard Katie Lindbeck Pauli Long Marian Milligan Nancy Moen Debbie Neel

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Barbara Sullivan Tom Ulmer Clavtene Vick Madison Vick Stephen Warnock Rollie Zajic



As I write this President's corner, the weather changes from sunny to rainy, to sunny again — I heard a term for this weather called "false fall," and it seems fitting! The seasons are indeed changing, and all too soon we will see ghouls and goblins trick or treating house to house. Then, sooner than we know, we will gather together with our families to celebrate Thanksgiving.

As I have said time and time again, we have so much to be thankful for! Our theater is thriving, and we have you to thank. I am excited to let you know that we received just over \$65,000 in our 65th year from 165 generous donors to upgrade our sound system to state-of-the-art! Those 165 donors made sure that our "matching gift" goals were met and we couldn't be more appreciative.

Not only are we thankful to our donors (including foundations), but to our sponsors, patrons, and volunteers as well. Show sponsors are an important part of making sure our shows are a success. Without patrons, we would have little reason to create and perform. And without our amazing league of volunteers, we couldn't put together the quality productions that we are so proud to bring to our community like our current production of *Mothers and Sons*. This show will surely touch your heart.

Our next production *Dashing Through the Snow* will bring our season to a close with light-hearted fun. We hope that you will join us to ring in the holiday season with a laughter and good cheer! Bring the family.

The seasons may be changing, but my desire to take every opportunity to thank you — our patrons, our donors, our sponsors, our foundation funders and our volunteers — stays the same. I wish you blessings and peace in this season of thankfulness!

With gratitude!

Jodi Deming

Governing Board President







Mission Statement

Pentacle Theatre provides community members a collaborative opportunity to create and experience theater in an atmosphere of respect, support and enjoyment.

TICKET INFORMATION

Tickets for upcoming productions are available at Pentacle Theatre's ticket office, 145 Liberty St. NE, Suite 102, Salem, OR 97301 or by calling 503-485-4300. Open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m. Prices range from \$23.50 to \$34, depending on date and type of production. In partnership with Salem For All, Pentacle Theatre offers half-price tickets to individuals who have an Oregon Trail card. Handling fees may apply. Tickets are sold at the theater box office 45 minutes before each performance. Tickets are also available at pentacletheatre.org.

LATECOMERS POLICY

Pentacle Theatre productions will begin on time. If you do arrive late, you will be directed to the lobby where you can watch the show on a monitor. At intermission you will be ushered to an available seat. If you leave your seat during the performance, you will not be reseated until intermission. Sorry, no refunds for latecomers.

BEVERAGES AND SMOKING

Beverages are available for purchase in the lobby. Only bottled water and beverages in cups with lids and straws are allowed in the auditorium. No cans, glass bottles or food is permitted at any time. Smoking is allowed only in designated areas on the lower deck.

PENTACLE THEATRE COURTESY

Cameras (with or without flash) and recording devices are strictly prohibited. Please turn off beepers and cell phones during the performance.

Mothers and Sons in rehearsal.

Photos by Lonnie and Kim Thurston.

ADVERTISING

Advertise in Pentacle Theatre programs! All proceeds benefit Pentacle Theatre. Call the business office for more information: 503-485-4300, or stop by our business office at 145 Liberty St. NE in historic downtown Salem.

HOW TO REACH US

Pentacle Theatre tickets and business office: 145 Liberty St. NE, Suite 102, Salem, OR 97301; 503-485-4300; Mon.–Fri. 10 a.m.–4:30 p.m.

Pentacle Theatre lobby: 324 52nd Ave. NW, Salem, OR 97304; 503-364-7200.

Online: pentacletheatre.org.

MANY, MANY THANKS...

To our volunteer house managers, box office personnel, bartenders, concession attendants, and ushers. Pentacle Theatre could not be successful without the continued and dedicated help of our community.

PENTACLE THEATRE GOVERNING BOARD

Pentacle Theatre is an established not-forprofit theater company, providing an eightplay season. A nine-member governing board assisted by committee chairpersons and countless other volunteers run the theater. Membership is open to all.





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Box Office Management Assistant	Julia Sargent

YOU MAKE THE DIFFERENCE!

Ticket sales alone do not cover the cost of our productions. Your membership and donation help make this theater possible. Thank you!

Please note our program giving year is August 1 through July 30.

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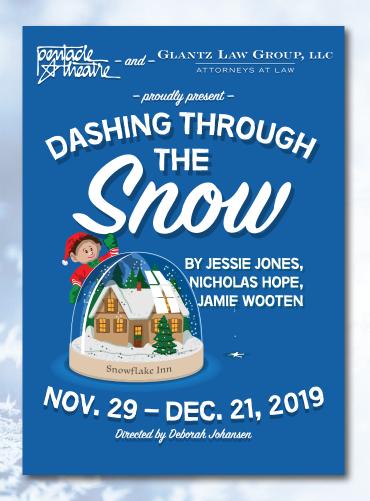
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It's four days before Christmas in the tiny town of Tinsel, Texas, at the Snowflake Inn. Trina, the harried yet upbeat innkeeper of this B&B, has more than she can handle coping with her eccentric, nuttier-than-a-fruitcake guests who include Mrs. Claus and one of Santa's elves, a troupe of pompous B-level actors, a feuding family and a wacky wedding party. A fun-filled way to ring in the Christmas season.

By Jessie Jones, Nicholas Hope, Jamie Wooten. Directed by Deborah Johansen, *Dashing Through the Snow*, opens Friday, Nov. 29, and runs through Saturday, Dec. 21. Tickets are available at the Pentacle Theatre ticket office at 145 Liberty St. NE in downtown Salem or at pentacletheatre.org. For more information, contact 503-485-4300.

Dashing Through the Snow is graciously sponsored by Glantz Law Group, LLC.