

PATIOBILL



NOVEMBER 14-23

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patio
playhouse
community & youth theater

Patio Playhouse Presents:

*The Best
Christmas Pageant
Ever*

THE MUSICAL

Directed by: Christy Terrill Reid

Produced By: Scott Heidemann

Book and Lyrics by Jahnna Beecham

Music and Lyrics by Malcolm Hillgartner

Based on the Play by Barbara Robinson

Orchestrations and Vocal Arrangements by Deborah Wicks La Puma

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever is presented through special
arrangement with Broadway Licensing Global, LLC.**

www.broadwaylicensing.com

**Royalties for this production were paid in part by
The Richard Gant Royalty Endowment.**

**This production was supported in large part by a grant from
Janecek Family Charitable Fund.**

Any video or audio recording of this production is prohibited.

**Patio Playhouse acknowledges that this production is being performed on the traditional
lands of the Kumeyaay-Ipai Peoples and wishes to pay our respects to Elders both past and
present.**

Thank you!

This production was made in part by the generous support of Janecek Family Charitable Fund. Their commitment to the arts and community has played a vital role in bringing our performances to life. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for their contribution, which helps us continue to enrich and entertain our audience.



~ Welcome ~

Welcome, friends, to Patio Playhouse's production of **The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: The Musical!**

There's no better way to kick off the holiday season than with a story filled with laughter, heart, and a reminder of what Christmas is truly about—hope, grace, and the joy of welcoming everyone to the celebration. This show bursts with Christmas spirit from start to finish, and we are so thrilled to share it with you.

This production also marks a very special milestone: the directorial debut of Christy Reid! Her creativity, warmth, and enthusiasm have brought fresh energy to our stage and have helped weave together this hilarious and heartwarming tale. We're also delighted to welcome many new faces to our Patio family alongside our cherished returning performers—proof that the spirit of community theater continues to shine bright.

Thank you for spending this evening (or afternoon!) with us and supporting local live theater. Your presence truly keeps our stage lights glowing and our hearts full.

And if you'd like to keep the Christmas cheer going, don't miss our next holiday spectacular—Mrs. Claus's Holiday Hullaba-Two: Holly Jollywood, running December 4–14! It's a glitzy, glittering adventure straight from the North Pole to Hollywood, packed with music, laughter, and plenty of sparkle.

With gratitude and Christmas joy,
Jennifer Guttieri
Artistic Manager, Patio Playhouse

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~ Director's Note ~

"The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" is a story that has resonated with me since childhood. I remember reading it and watching the original movie, and when my book club revisited it a few years ago, the discussions we had about understanding and loving those around us were truly enriching. This story holds a special place in my heart because, as a teenager, my dad and brothers experienced homelessness. While I stayed in a difficult situation to help them, I eventually moved into a small one-bedroom apartment with them at just 15. Our family didn't fit the typical mold; we were not the traditional church-going family, but we were good people. Though we faced challenges in being accepted, some kind souls opened their arms and hearts to us.

When Jennifer Guttieri first approached me about directing, I hesitated. However, when she suggested this particular show, I knew I couldn't turn it down. Here are some key themes I believe this story illuminates:

1. **Embracing Imperfection:** The Herdman children's chaotic involvement demonstrates that authenticity matters more than perfection in creating meaningful experiences.
2. **Understanding and Acceptance:** The narrative encourages us to see beyond stereotypes, promoting compassion and acceptance.
3. **True Meaning of Christmas:** Through the Herdmans' unique perspective, we are reminded of the love, generosity, and hope central to the holiday.
4. **Community and Togetherness:** The pageant fosters unity, emphasizing collaboration and support.
5. **Growth and Transformation:** The characters undergo significant development, illustrating the potential for change and redemption.

Overall, the story encourages us to appreciate diversity and embrace the deeper spirit of Christmas beyond superficial traditions.

I want to extend my heartfelt gratitude to my producer, Scott Heidemann, for his unwavering support, and to Jennifer Guttieri for her encouragement. A huge thank you to the amazing creative team who brought this production to life with their talents, and to the cast, who are truly remarkable people. Finally, thank you to all the families who supported us in various ways, making this production possible.

I hope you leave feeling joy—and perhaps treat yourself to a nice cold Coca-Cola for those moments in life when you really need it!

Christy Reid, Director



Act One

Scene 1:
Church

Scene 2:
The Bradley Home
The Hospital

Scene 3:
Lunchroom

Scene 4:
Helen's Hospital Room

Scene 5:
Church Auditions
Rehearsal Room

Scene 6:
Phone Tree

Scene 7:
Church
Helen's Hospital Room

Scene 8:
Church -
First Rehearsal

Scene 9:
The Bradley Home

Scene 10:
Church - Second Rehearsal

15-minute Intermission



Act Two

Scene 11:
Street on Poor Side of Town

Scene 12:
The Herdman Garage

Scene 13:
Church

Scene 14:
The Pageant





~ Cast List ~



Star Cast	Character	Angel Cast
Caitlyn Buckwalter	Grace Bradley	Caitlyn Buckwalter
Josh Hansen	Bob Bradley	Josh Hansen
Charlotte Packard	Beth Bradley	Ruby Reid
Stone Jobe	Charlie Bradley	Parker Bienz
Declan Reid	Little Bro/ Sis Bradley	Lillian Buckwalter
Benjamin Jacob	Reverend Hopkins	Benjamin Jacob
Clark Reid	Elmer Hopkins	Ezra Mass
Michelle Holdaway	Helen Armstrong	Michelle Holdaway
Aubrie Moore	Betty	Aubrie Moore
Stefanie Everton-Lovell	Connie	Stefanie Everton-Lovell
Wendy Pendergrass	LuAnne	Wendy Pendergrass
Gwen Gunn	Alice Wendleken	Lizzie Cartwright
Sunny Thompson	Ivy Reed	Sunny Thompson
Grace Bourus	Teddy Shoemaker	Alexandra Monge
Pablo Monge	Ralph Herdman	Pablo Monge
Meadow Jobe	Imogene Herdman	Ashlynn Mass
Levi Reid	Leroy Herdman	Finnegan Springfield
Knox Kelly	Claude Herdman	Archer Pappas



~ Cast List (cont.) ~



Star Cast	Character	Angel Cast
Aaron Pendergrass	Ollie Herdman	Elijah Perkins
Rylan McCartney	Gladys Herdman	Katerina Monge
Indiana Hansen	Boy Ensemble	Indiana Hansen
Marriner Hansen	Boy Ensemble	Marriner Hansen
Celeste Solis	Girl Ensemble	Celeste Solis
Scarlett Bourus	Girl Ensemble	Katherine Ciberay
Gigi Solis	Girl Ensemble	Gigi Solis
Elliott Knight	Girl Ensemble	Karter-Anne Bienz
Becky Golden-Harrell	Parent Ensemble/ Trio Understudy	Becky Golden-Harrell
Rosie Pappas	Parent Ensemble/ Reverend Understudy	Rosie Pappas
Stephanie Bienz	Parent Ensemble/ Grace Understudy	Stephanie Bienz
Christian Santos	Bob Bradley Understudy	Christian Santos

~ Production Crew ~

Director: Christy Terrill Reid
Assistant Director: Nicole Byers
Producer: Scott Heidemann
Music Director: Erika Gunn
Choreographer: Justin and Erin Ly
Volunteer Coordinator: Brianne Cartwright
Stage Manager: Keira Cardinal
Costumes: Miki Robinson and Felicia Broschart
Set Designer: Christy Terrill Reid
Scenic Design: Christy Terrill Reid
Set Builders: Todd Clopine, Christy Terrill Reid,
Tyler Reid, Scott Heidemann
Lighting Design: Deb Zimmer
Lighting Operator: Sara Mass and Scott Heidemann
Sound Design: Benjamin Jacob
Sound Operator: Nicole Byers
Spotlight Operator: River Smith
Program: Becky Golden-Harrell and Courtney Hilborn
Cover Art: Brandy Baesel
Photography: Jesse Williamson



Special Thanks To:

Christy Buckner
Greg Oberle
Tami O'Connor
Lilly Roebuck
Daniel Solis
Center Stage Productions

~ Actor Profiles ~



Karter-Anne Bienz (Girl Ensemble, Angel Cast) is in fifth grade and is thrilled to be part of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* She is full of energy, loves to sing, and recently began learning piano. When she isn't making music, Karter-Anne enjoys playing soccer, exploring the outdoors, and having fun with her friends. She is excited to share the stage with her family and can't wait to help bring this story to life.



Parker Bienz (Charlie Bradley, Angel Cast) is a seventh grader making his stage debut in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever!* He has always had a love for music, playing both piano and saxophone, and now he is excited to add singing and acting to the mix. Outside of music, Parker enjoys golfing, hanging out with friends, and spending time with his family. He is grateful for this opportunity to try something new and is looking forward to being part of such a fun production.



Stephanie Bienz (Parent Ensemble/Grace Understudy, Both Casts) has always loved musicals—though this is her first time performing on stage! She previously played first chair flute and piccolo in the pit orchestra for *Jesus Christ Superstar* and was involved in show choir and band throughout high school. Today, she enjoys singing at church and, most of all, sharing her love of music with her children.



Grace Bourus (Teddy Shoemaker, Star Cast) is an 11-year-old girl who loves music, animals, and plays. Fairly new to the stage, this is Grace's second performance. Patio Playhouse has been her first theater to perform with for *Winnie the Pooh* and she says it's the funnest thing she's ever done! She wants to thank everyone for coming to support the show and Mrs. Christy for casting her as Teddy.



Scarlett Bourus (Girl Ensemble/Ivy Reed Understudy, Star Cast) is a 12-year-old girl who loves art, nature, and hanging out with friends. This is her second-ever play. In the early summer, she was part of the ensemble with Patio Playhouse's *Winnie the Pooh* and thought the experience was great! She thanks Mrs. Christy for allowing her to be a part of this production and looks forward to more in the future!



Caitlyn Buckwalter (Grace Bradley, Both Casts) is so pleased to be in her first Patio Playhouse production. Her most recent credits include directing *A Little Princess* and *Great Expectations*. Favorite roles include Edith Frank in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Dariah Chase in *The Games Afoot*, herself in *The Complete Works of Shakespeare Abridged*, Gwendolen Fairfax in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Millie Dillmount in *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, Laurie in *Oklahoma*, and Lucy in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*. Caitlyn thanks the production team for their time and talents and her family and friends for their support.



~ Actor Profiles ~



Lillian Buckwalter (Little Sister Bradley, Angel Cast) is excited to be in her first musical production. She is a second grader who loves reading, hanging out with friends, and California rolls. She is an Irish dancer with almost two years of experience performing in recitals and a musical review as a featured dancer. Her favorite part of this show has been dancing with new friends. Lilly would like to thank the production team for all of their hard work and her family and friends for their support.



Lizzie Cartwright (Alice Wendleken, Angel Cast) is an 11-year-old who loves singing, dancing, and all things creative. Her previous roles include a snail in *Frog and Toad*, Tad in *Finding Nemo*, Carlos in *Descendants: The Musical*, and the Pink Narrator in *Winnie the Pooh Kids*. She is thrilled to be playing Alice Wendleken in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* with Patio Playhouse. Lizzie would like to thank her friends and family for their endless love and support!



Katherine Ciberay (Angel Cast) is in sixth grade and is loving this opportunity to be in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. She enjoys singing and dancing as part of the ensemble. She plays the piano and has a few years of musical theatre classes that have prepared her for this experience.



Stefanie Everton-Lovell (Connie, Both Casts) is beyond thrilled to take the stage for the first time as Connie! Her background in dance and love of singing have fueled her excitement for this role. She is deeply grateful to the cast, crew, and everyone who has worked so hard to bring this musical to life.



Gwen Gunn (Alice Wendleken, Star Cast) I'm so excited to be in my tenth show and my first ever with Patio Playhouse! My favorite roles so far have been Bloat in *Finding Nemo* and ensemble in *Frozen*, both with Moonlight Youth Theater. I'm so happy to be in this beautiful production, to bring the character of Alice to life, and especially grateful to be able to work with such an amazing cast. I can't wait to see where this role takes me!



~ Actor Profiles ~



Indiana Hansen (Boy Ensemble, Both Casts) is a local 12 year old. He's incredibly inquisitive and loves to take things apart to figure out how they work and then invent ways to put them back together. Indiana relishes his role as big brother, loves family time and his church youth group. He's excited for his first show with Patio Playhouse.



Josh Hansen (Bob Bradley, Both Casts) is a real estate broker, local to the area since the mid-90s. Back in the day, you could find him on stage as the singer for a heavy metal band. Josh loves his family, serving in his church, cooking/baking/pizza making, and adventuring in the great outdoors.



Marriner Hansen (Boy Ensemble, Both Casts) is a local 12 year old. He loves to read, draw, and create things from cardboard, old building materials, and anything else he can get his hands on. Marriner enjoys going on adventures with his family, friends, or church youth group. He's very much looking forward to his first show with Patio Playhouse.



Michelle Holdaway (Helen Armstrong, Both Casts) grew up in Tustin, CA, where theater/musical theater became her passion in high school (*Mame*, *The Sound of Music*, *Barnum!*). Michelle studied theater and voice at BYU (*The Crucible*, *Carmen*, *My Fair Lady*), and since then has participated in some local theater (*Scrooge*, *Lamb of God*). She is the Director of Carlsbad Singers Company, which is the best job she didn't know she needed—teaching music and dance programs to Pre-K through elementary school girls! Michelle is grateful to her husband, mother, and children for taking care of things at home so she could break a leg on stage, and backseat drive the small town's Christmas Pageant!



Benjamin Jacob (Reverend Hopkins, Both Casts) is an entertainer at heart; a singer, musician, and actor who has spent a great deal of his life on a stage. He returns to Patio Playhouse following a lead role as Brandon in the rom-com *Getting Sara Married* in summer 2024 to play the part of Reverend Hopkins in this heartwarming and fun musical. Ben is excited to perform with an amazing cast of actors once again!



~ Actor Profiles ~



Meadow Jobe (Imogene Herdman, Star Cast) is 14 years old and in eighth grade. This is her eleventh production overall, including roles in *The Wizard of Oz* (Cowardly Lion), *Anne of Green Gables* (Josie Pye), *Shrek Jr* (Gingy/Sugar Plum Fairy), *A Little Princess* (Lavinia/Nora), and *Wonka* (Margot Bucket). Outside of the theater, Meadow enjoys singing karaoke, dancing, cooking, painting, hanging out with her friends, and making jewelry. This past year, Meadow has participated in The Children's Entrepreneur Markets where she sold her handmade jewelry and has started her own side business, which she is really passionate about! This is her fourth production with Patio Playhouse, and she is excited to be a part of this wonderful cast. She would like to thank God, her family, the directors, cast/crew and all of the parent volunteers. She's proud to be part of this cast and hopes you enjoy the BEST show ever!



Stone Jobe (Charley Bradley, Star Cast) is 11 years old and in the sixth grade. This is his third production overall, including his recent role as Mike Teavee in *Wonka* and Anchor in *Finding Nemo Jr*. When he's not being annoyed by the Horrible Herdmans, he enjoys spending time with family and friends, going to the movies, writing scripts, making movies, singing karaoke, and playing soccer and pickleball. This is Stone's second production with Patio Playhouse, and he is very proud to be a part of the BEST cast ever! He would like to thank God, his family, the directors, cast/crew, and all of the parent volunteers.



Knox Kelly (Claude Herdman, Star Cast) is a fifth grader and is a true Renaissance Man! His most recent skill includes solving his rubix cube in 45 seconds! This is Knox's fourth theater production and second with Patio Playhouse. Knox also plays Lacrosse and loves going to the beach!



Elliot Knight (Girl Ensemble, Star Cast) is an 11-year-old Escondido native. She has had a passion for dance and theater since the young age of three. She loves the stage and has performed in a variety of dance recitals for ballet, tap, jazz, musical theater and most recently took up the art of gymnastics and aerial silks. This is her debut performance with Patio Playhouse Community Theater but certainly not her last.



Ashlynn Mass (Imogene Herdman, Angel Cast) is a seventh grader in her fourth year doing musical theatre productions. Most recently she enjoyed her role as the Southern gum-chewer, Violet Beauregarde, in Patio Playhouse's summer production of *Willy Wonka*. She wants to thank Ms. Christy for seeing the Imogene in her and giving her the opportunity to grow in this fun role. She also wants to thank her family, including aunts and grandparents from out-of-state, for their love of the show and their support in traveling in to see her perform.



~ Actor Profiles ~



Ezra Mass (Elmer Hopkins, Angel Cast) is a third grader and is very excited to be playing Elmer in this fun show. He loves to put on a good performance and is very proud that he took first place in his age group at Patio's talent show this fall, for his rendition of *Space Oddity* by his favorite singer, David Bowie. When not on stage, he enjoys riding his motorcycle and listening to music from the 1900s.



Rylan McCartney (Gladys Herdman, Star Cast) is extremely proud to be joining the cast of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Rylan is in fourth grade, is nine years old, and has been participating in musical theater for almost three years! When she isn't on stage, she enjoys singing at the top of her lungs, reading books, and writing her own scripts. She would like to thank Miss Christy and the entire cast for such a wonderful experience!



Alexandra Monge (Teddy Shoemaker, Angel Cast), age 8, is so excited to have her first speaking and solo role in this production. She has been dancing since she was 2 and performing since she was 4 (but her first show she stuck her tongue out at the audience the entire dance). These days, she's a dancing and singing pro (smiling the whole time!). She's performed with Patio in *Winnie the Pooh* as a Woodland Mouse, and is excited to be cast as the Ocean Chorus in *Moana* with Classical Academy this February. When she's not acting, singing, or dancing (or helping to assist with younger dance classes), Aly also writes and directs her own plays for her sister and friends. She is constantly cracking her family up with jokes and gags. She loves playing with her siblings or her pet cats and rabbits, enjoys Girl Scouts, and jumping on the trampoline. She's so excited to be acting with her older brother and sister in this show as her family has been reading the book every year for as long as she can remember. Born on Christmas Eve, the holiday is extra special to Aly and she hopes this show will help get you into the Christmas spirit!



~ Actor Profiles ~



Pablo Monge (Ralph Herdman, Both Casts), age 16, is excited to be part of both casts as Ralph. After years of reading the book every year at Christmastime, bringing the story to life on the stage with his real-life siblings is especially exciting. This is Pablo's eighth show acting and second with Patio. Previously, he was The Wizard/Professor Marvel in the *Wizard of Oz*, the Sultan in *Aladdin*, and Gaston in Patio's production of *Princess Whatshername*. Pablo is often behind the scenes running sound, mics, and spotlights if he's not on the stage. He also has been dancing on and off with Blessed Feet Studios in San Marcos since he was eight. A High School Sophomore, Pablo most often is found working on his AP Bio or History homework, studying up for the Academic League team or coding for the Robotic Team as well as leading the Chess Club at lunch. When he's not doing that, he likes watching and discussing movies and shows with his parents and older brother or playing video games with his friends. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Katerina Monge (Gladys Herdman, Angel Cast), age 11, is thankful to be portraying Gladys in the Angel Cast. Her family reads or listens to the book every Christmastime, so she's excited to portray this complicated character. Kat has been performing since she was three years old when she had her first recital with Blessed Feet Dance in San Marcos. In addition to yearly dance recital and dance team performances, Kat has performed in *Winnie the Pooh* (Roo), *Hullabaloo and a Half* (Freckles the Elf), and *Princess Whatshername* (Forest Fairy) with Patio; and Best of Broadway, *Annie* (an orphan) and *Finding Nemo* (The Mask, Jellyfish, and Eel) with Classical Academy. When she's not performing or working on school, she can be found playing with her siblings and pets (cats and rabbits), assisting in dance classes at the studio, stunting with her sister on the beach, and enjoying her Girl Scout troop activities. Kat hopes the show helps you enjoy this Christmas season!



Aubrie Moore (Betty, Both Casts) is a San Marcos resident who loves to spend time with her three kids at the beach and SeaWorld. She also loves going out with her husband on dinner dates. She has been singing in various choirs and shows since she was a kid. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is her first show at Patio Playhouse. As a stay-at-home mom, Aubrie is excited to perform as Betty where she can try something fun and new. She thanks her friend Christy for the opportunity and her husband Kyle for his support. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!



~ Actor Profiles ~



Charlotte Packard is 13 years old and thrilled to be performing in her first Patio Playhouse production! She has previously appeared as Junie B. Jones in *Junie B. Jones Jr.* with Students on Stage and as part of the ensemble in *We Are Monsters* with Meridian Academy. When she's not on stage, Charlotte enjoys gymnastics, playing soccer, creating art, and spending time with her friends and family. She is excited to share this experience with the cast and crew of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and is grateful for the love and support of her family and friends!



Rosie Pappas (Parent Ensemble, Reverend Understudy, Both Casts) is delighted to return to the stage as part of the ensemble! She's previously shadow casted in *The Rocky Horror Picture Show* (as Janet, Brad, and Rocky), *The South Park Movie* (Stan's Mom), *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *The Holy Grail*. Rosie also performs improv and sings in a band. Offstage, she's a marriage and family therapist, watercolor artist, scuba diver, crafter, and proud mom to Archer (also in the cast!) and Lydia.



Archer Pappas (Claude Herdman, Angel Cast) is excited to cause a little chaos as a Herdman! Past roles include *Hello, Dolly!* (Ensemble) and *Winnie the Pooh* (Narrator). He's a metal-loving bassist who enjoys video games, camping, and rocking out whenever he can.



Elijah Perkins (Ollie Herdman, Angel Cast) is super excited for his debut at Patio Playhouse. He has been in a number of productions from *Les Miserable* (Gavorche's Gang), *Beauty and the Beast* (Chip), *Lion King* (Simba), *Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin Mayor) throughout Temecula but he's stoked to branch out and build his theatre family in Escondido. When he's not on stage, he can be found at his other home away from home (Checkmat Temecula Jiu Jitsu) or at home reading, drawing, or playing either Pokémon or Legos with his brother Solomon. Elijah would like to thank the awesome staff at Patio Playhouse for their support, encouragement, and willingness to take a chance on a new face.



~ Actor Profiles ~



Clark Reid (Elmer Hopkins, Star Cast) is a performer at heart. He is a hardworking boy who loves entertaining others. When not on the stage, Clark enjoys improv, baseball, and football. This is Clark's sixth show and he is excited to be in a show with all of his siblings, though they're not all in the same cast.



Declan Reid (Bradley Little Brother, Star Cast) is the youngest in this show and has felt it strongly. What a wonderful group of helpful kids! This is Declan's third show and he sure enjoys the theater. Thank you to everyone who helped make this show a success!



Levi Reid (Leroy Herdman, Star Cast) is new to the stage and is happy to be sharing the stage with his family. Levi has been in film in the past but hadn't gotten the chance to be on the stage until now. When not acting, Levi spends his time fencing and playing guitar.



Ruby Reid (Beth Bradley, Angel Cast) has a pure love of the stage. She started doing theater when she was 7 years old and this is her 16th show. Her favorite roles have been Diana Barry in *Anne of Green Gables* and Lottie in *A Little Princess*. Ruby wants to thank everyone who have made the time to come and watch her in this musical!



Christian Santos (Bob Bradley Understudy) is a San Diego native who most recently had the opportunity to perform as the Sailor Ancestor in Patio Playhouse's production of *The Addams Family*. Though he's gotten to work both onstage and with production, he enjoys being onstage and has worked with various theatre groups around San Diego including Patio Playhouse, Innovation Family Community Theatre, and Star Theatre in Oceanside. He's also been involved with the Summer Shakespeare Festival at Southwestern College and Stage 06 Productions that performed at The Old Globe Theatre as part of the 360 Project. He hopes to get a role as the airheaded character in a sitcom, and the title character from Shakespeare's *Hamlet* on stage. He loves karaoke, participating in trivia, or playing board games. He hopes you enjoy the show! You can find him on social media: @combotheresol. "Let all your things be done decently and in order" 1 Corinthians 16:14.



~ Actor Profiles ~



Celeste Solis (Girl Ensemble, Both Casts) is a delightful eight-year-old that loves shining bright on stage. Celeste has previously performed as a red parrot in *The Island of Anyplace*, Snowflake in *Holiday Hullabaloo*, young Josie Pye in *Anne of Green Gables*, and Pooh's Tummy in *Winnie the Pooh the Musical*. When she's not on stage, Celeste loves playing with friends and riding horses. She would like to thank her family, Ms. Christy, and her teachers.



Gigi Solis (Girl Ensemble, Both Casts) is thrilled to take the stage in this heartwarming production. Gigi loves being dramatic and feels at home on the stage! Past roles include President Phoebe in *Zombies*, Gumdrop the Elf in *Holiday Hullabaloo*, a seagull in *Finding Nemo*, Becky in *The Little Princess*, and young Anne in *Anne of Green Gables*. She would like to thank her friends, family, Ms. Christy, and her supportive teachers.



Becky Golden-Harrell/Solis (Parent Ensemble, Both Casts) recently decided, if you can't beat 'em, join 'em and decided to step on stage with her two theater-loving daughters. This is Becky's first theatrical production, and she is enjoying learning more about the process and sharing the stage with her children. When she's not chasing the Herdman's out of town, Becky enjoys her job as an editor and her many volunteer roles. Becky would like to thank her family and friends for their support and Ms. Christy for this opportunity. Much gratitude especially to Daniel Solis for holding down the fort and feeding the dog.



Finnegan Springfield (Leroy Herdman, Angel Cast). *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* marks 12-year-old Finnegan Springfield's debut in a full-length theater production. He is excited to be playing a character from a favorite family book! Along with acting, his other interests include baseball, drawing, playing the drums, 3D printing, and gaga ball. He would like to thank his family for their undying love and support, as well as his Uncle Ryan, who introduced him to acting.



Sunny Thompson (Ivy Reed, Angel Cast) is 12 years old and loves to perform on stage. *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* is her third show with Patio Playhouse. When Sunny is not on stage, she loves to read, make videos, hoverboard, and hang out with friends. She's excited for the opportunity to perform as Ivy. She thanks Christy, her family, and all the others who are helping her achieve her acting goals. Enjoy the show!



~ Creative Team ~



Christy Reid (Director) feels so blessed to have directed this kind, caring, and hardworking group of people in this musical. This is her first time directing a full-length show and she feels so lucky to have been blessed by this cast. Thank you to the wonderful people who all worked together to make this musical come to life. Christy has a real love for this story, she has read the book a half dozen times and had pulled the script to do with her church last year, but didn't think she had the right group to pull it off. Patio Playhouse has been a wonderful place to bring this story to life. Christy hopes you are all as touched by this story of acceptance and hope you leave with your hearts warm and full. Merry Christmas to you all!



Nicole Byers (Assistant Director) is a senior at Escondido High School and thrilled to be back at Patio as an Assistant Director! She has trained in acting, dance, and stagecraft, performing in theatre since eighth grade. Her previous production roles include Supertitle Operator (*Something Rotten*), Stage Manager (*Oceans and Jungles*), Sound technician (*The Prom*). Previous performing roles include Gretchen (*Mean Girls*) Charlotte (*R+H Cinderella*), LeFou (*Beauty and the Beast*) A special thank you to the production team and especially to Christy! Also a thank you to her mom and her voice teacher Brandon for their endless support. A huge congratulations to the cast on making this show amazing! She hopes you enjoy *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*!



Scott Heidemann (Producer) is truly convinced that this indeed is the BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER! and is honored to have been even a small part of it. He hopes this has been a positive experience for everyone involved as we continue to grow our Patio Playhouse program. The Herdmans are always welcome at Patio Playhouse.



Erika Gunn (Music Director). This is Erika's first time serving as Music Director at Patio Playhouse, and it has been a wonderful new adventure! Having spent more time performing on stage than working behind the scenes, she was excited to take on this new challenge and share her love of music in a different way. She has especially enjoyed working with the amazing group of kids in this production and watching their talent and confidence grow. Erika has a BFA in Musical Theatre from BYU and is grateful to the cast, crew, and production team for their hard work, enthusiasm, and support in bringing this show to life.



~ Creative Team ~



Erin Ly (Choreographer) is delighted to join the creative team at Patio Playhouse as dance choreographer alongside her husband Justin. Most recently, she was the Dance Captain for a production of *Addams Family*. Erin was also a member of the dance core in *Pippin* as well as *Too Darn Hot* at the Old Globe. Other favorite theater credits include *Girls of the Garden Club*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Annie*, and *The Little Princess*. Her love of theater began as a competitor and choreographer for Theater on Ice and holds many titles in Couples dance with her husband. Offstage, she enjoys her role as an instructor and mentor for dance fitness. Erin is grateful to be working with such a talented cast and crew!



Justin Ly (Choreographer) Justin and co-choreographer and wife Erin have extensive competitive experience in ballroom, country dance, ice dancing, and showskating. Justin has choreographed numerous National Showcase winning solo/duet figure skating routines and has co-choreographed several World Championship winning line dance solo medleys. He is an active actor in the community and some of his favorite recent credits include *Addams Family*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Pippin*, *A Little Princess*, *Annie*, *Our Town*, and *Too Darn Hot* at the Globe. Justin wants to thank Christy and the rest of the Artistic Team for the opportunity to choreograph for this talented cast. Happy Holidays and enjoy the show! justinlyactorskaterdancer.com



Patio Playhouse Board of Directors

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