

Weather | Traffic | Contact Us
Delivery/Newsstand FAQs



Access the print edition of your
Gazette online FREE!

Click here for this week's paper

Montgomery | Prince George's | Sports | Special Publications | Entertainment | Opinions | JOBS | CARS | Subscribe | e-Edition

Classifieds Obituaries Celebrations Calendars Contests Best Of Find a paper



COMMENTS (0)

Tuesday, December 02, 2014



A Christmas story within a story at BlackRock

Radio play version of "It's a Wonderful Life" offers new twists

by Samantha Schmieder

Staff Writer

Immediate Theatre Project of Asheville, N.C., has put its own unique twist on a holiday classic with "Live From WVLR Radio Theatre: It's A Wonderful Life," which will be performed Saturday at BlackRock Center for the Arts in Germantown. .

While there are several live radio play versions of "It's a Wonderful Life," the producing artistic director of Immediate Theatre Project, Willie V.R. Repoley, penned his adaptation back in 2009 because he wanted to come up with an idea to "legitimize why it's set in a radio station."

In his adaptation, Repoley sets the tale at a struggling radio station which has a cast to voice "It's a Wonderful Life" for the holidays, but then something goes wrong.

"We dovetailed [with 'It's a Wonderful Life'], having it set in a struggling radio station literally moments before they go on air, the cast is stuck in a winter storm and can't get back to the station," Repoley said.

The station workers who were able to make it to work must decide what to do about the broadcast.

"The skeleton crew that's there can either shut down and cancel it or make the story happen with who is there. The radio actors are working to save their station by performing the story about George [Bailey] working to save his town," Repoley said. "Having two teams to root for really helps."



Photo provided by Immediate Theatre Project
Actors performing "Live From WVLR Radio Theatre: It's A Wonderful Life," with Tony Larkin playing the character of George Bailey in the front and Chase McNeil, Maria Buchanan and Blythe Coons making sound effects in the background.

More News

- Longview graduates two
- Animal shelter contracts under review in Derwood
- School organization provides food security
- Decades of informing, inspiring change
- WeddingWire broadens into same-sex industry

Ladies NIGHT OUT
Laugh, Shop & Mingle!
JUNE 19, 2015 • 4-8 PM
For tickets [CLICK HERE](#) or call 301-670-7100

ADVERTISEMENT

"The real audience ends up getting cast in the studio as the radio studio audience," Repoley said explaining that the audience members must pay attention to cues telling them to laugh or clap. "It makes it really fun."

As for the sound effects, many radio broadcasts used them in the past and use electronically made ones to this day. However, because this is a live radio play, the audience can see the sound effects being made.

ADVERTISEMENT

Need a car?
Find lots of local cars for sale.
Click here.



ADVERTISEMENT

THINGS TO DO
Find fun things to do in
Montgomery County!

Click here.



ADVERTISEMENT

GazetteBuyandSell.Com
Find what you are looking
for...shop GBS...New items
listed daily.



RECENTLY POSTED JOBS

[See all >](#)

Security Guards
GUARDSMARK - Fairfax

JEWELRY SALES
Company Confidential - Avenue

Service Cashier
Academy Ford - Laurel

FEATURED JOBS

[See all >](#)

COOKS & SERVERS
CAPTAIN JOHNS - Cobb Island

LEAD CARPENTER
Company Confidential - Waldorf

COUNTER HELP
TWIN BEACH CAR CARE - Owings

"We love making sounds that don't look like what they sound like," Repoley said.

Repoley explained that one day one of the actresses brought in an egg beater and started turning the egg beater on the edge of a bowl making a sound that he described as "just like a telephone ringing."

At noon on Saturday, prior to the show, a free sound effects workshop will be offered for anyone who signs up on BlackRock's website.

"We are going to have something new we worked into our program for this tour about what goes into the thought process for how we chose the sound effects and why," Repoley said.

Repoley explained that this is the first year Immediate Theatre Project is doing to workshop and BlackRock Center was the venue that actually requested it in the first place.

During the workshop, the cast will explain how the company came up with many of the sounds and let participants make some sound effects of their own. Repoley explained that while many ideas for sound effects came from looking up what people did historically, there was also a lot of going through houses, hardware stores and grocery stores to see what sounded right.

"That's why we carry an eggplant on stage," Repoley said.

sschmieder@gazette.net

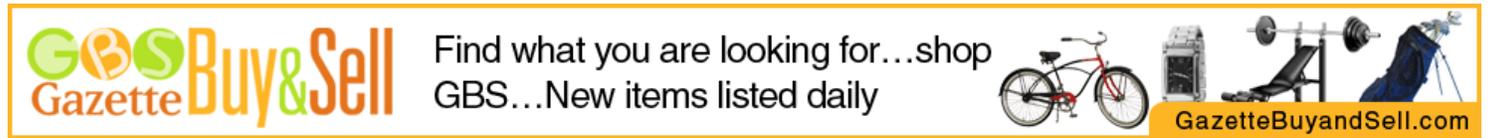
Post a Comment

[Terms of Service](#)

You must **LOG IN** before you can post comments.

Number of Comments: 0

[Click to Show or Hide Comments](#)
Be the first to comment.



GBS Buy & Sell Find what you are looking for...shop
 Gazette GBS...New items listed daily GazetteBuyandSell.com

Copyright © 2015 Post Community Media, LLC/Gazette.Net
 Contact Us | About Us | Privacy Policy | FAQ | E-Letters | Place Classified Ad |
 The Gazette | 9030 Comprint Court | Gaithersburg, MD 20877 | main number: 301-948-3120, classifieds: 301-670-2500