

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Written by Harvey Landa

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THE WIZARD OF OZ

by L. Frank Baum with Music and Lyrics by Harold Arlen and
E.Y. Harburg; Background Music by Herbert Stothart

NO PLACE LIKE HOME

The time-honored story of *The Wizard of Oz*, as presented live on stage at The Western Stage, is a unique event for all ages. It is perfect family entertainment and an awesome live musical theater experience filled with some of the most memorable songs ever written, such as: ***“Somewhere, Over the Rainbow,” “Follow the Yellow Brick Road,” “We’re Off to See the Wizard,” “Ding-Dong! The Witch Is Dead,”*** and ***“If I Only Had a Brain.”*** Expect to sing your way home.

In the beloved story by L. Frank Baum, a tornado whisks Dorothy and her dog, Toto, away from her Kansas farm, and drops them into the fantastical Land of Oz. There Dorothy unknowingly comes to possess a pair of magical slippers and becomes the enemy of the Wicked Witch of the West in the process. Dorothy really only wants to find her way home. Told by the Munchkins that only the great Wizard who lives in the Emerald City can help her, Dorothy decides to commence the perilous journey on the Yellow Brick Road in search of him. On her travels she befriends the Scarecrow, who needs a brain, the Cowardly Lion, who wants courage and the Tin Man, who seeks a heart, and together they begin their magical expedition with hope and confidence. Alas, the Wicked Witch is intent on blocking their way using whatever she can conjure: flying monkeys to harass them, dangerous poppies to lure them into a deadly sleep, and an army of Winkies to separate them.

Will Dorothy and her friends ever get to the Emerald City of Oz? Will they find the Great Wizard and will he help Dorothy find her way home? Come and see.

“The Wizard of Oz” will bring you back to your childhood, and for those still in their childhood, it will create memories of love, friendship, family and home.

The production is directed by **Ellen Brooks**; Music Direction by **Don Dally**; Choreography by **Jen Meeds Brooks**; Costume design by **Maegan Roux**; Hair and makeup design by **Meagan Roux & Rebecca Gessert**; Lighting design by **Derek Duarte**; Scenic design by **Theodore M. Dolas**; Sound design by **Jeff Mockus**; Property design by **Nicole Bryant Stephens**; Stage Management by **Zalissa Ré Johnson**

Cast information online: <https://www.westernstage.com/thewizardofoz>

MORE

DETAILS

WHAT: The Western Stage presents **The Wizard of Oz**

WHEN: September 24 through October 10. Fridays and Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. Sundays at 2:00 p.m. With a special matinee on Saturday October 2 at 2:00 p.m.

WHERE: In the Mainstage Theater in the Hartnell College Performing Arts Center, Building K, 411 Central Avenue, Salinas, California 93901.

TICKETS AND INFORMATION:

\$26 General Admission; Senior and Military \$24; Children (5-15) \$12; Hartnell Students are free w/Hartnell I.D. Other Students w/school I.D. only \$20.

For more information go to westernstage.com or call (831) 755-6816. The Ticket Office is open 5-8 p.m., Wednesday through Saturday and one hour before curtain time at matinees.

SPECIAL ACCOMODATIONS

This event is wheelchair accessible. Individuals requiring other accommodations should contact the ticket office at least one week prior to the event.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Audiences are masked & distanced, and must present vaccination card or negative Covid-19 test result to enter the building. In compliance with Actor's Equity Association requirements, all patrons seated in the Main Stage must be fully vaccinated. All other guests will be seated in the Recital Hall, Room K-125 for the Live Stream.

PRESS: Contact Heather Osteraa (831) 755-6984 or email: hosteraa@hartnell.edu.

ABOUT THE WESTERN STAGE – ESTABLISHED 1974

The Western Stage (TWS) is a professionally managed, community-based theatre company and educational program that nurtures and develops our students' and community's passion for the creative process and desire for high-level artistic experiences. Led by its educational mission and believing that strong Arts experiences are important for building innovative, creative, and resilient communities, TWS offers a robust variety of programs designed for personal growth and skill development and that address the need for a safe space where students and theatre enthusiasts engage in Theatre production while working side-by-side with Theatre Professionals. Through its annual production season, TWS endeavors to provide strong pathways and development for artists throughout the continuum of a career in Theatre and its related Performing Arts. TWS develops new works that speak to the history and culture of the Salinas Valley and p educational opportunities for students of all skill levels to explore and develop their unique talent. www.westernstage.com.

HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT – ESTABLISHED 1920

The Hartnell CCD serves over 17,000 students annually through its main campus in Salinas, the Alisal Campus in East Salinas, the King City Education Center and various education centers throughout the Salinas Valley.

Hartnell College, a Hispanic Serving Institution provides Associate Degrees and certificate programs, workforce training courses in basic skills and prepares students to transfer to four year colleges and universities. Hartnell College is recognized for its innovative public and private partnerships that support world class education for STEM, career technical education, fine and performing arts, humanities/social sciences, nursing/healthcare and athletics. We are proud to be winners of the 2015 Innovation Award for CSin3 –a Computer Science bachelor’s degree in three years. **We are growing leaders through opportunity, engagement and achievement.** For more about Hartnell CCD, visit

www.hartnell.edu.

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