

PRESS RELEASE

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The Great American Trailer Park Musical

Book by Betsy Kelso | Music and Lyrics by David Nehls

A raucous, sequin-drenched musical comedy set in Florida's Armadillo Acres Trailer Park — big hair, bigger secrets, and the best neighbors you never asked for, where one stranger's arrival sends love, jealousy, and one very fragile marriage into gloriously unhinged chaos.

THE STORY:

Welcome to Armadillo Acres, the finest trailer park in Starke, Florida — population: complicated. Norbert and Jeannie have been happily married for years, but Jeannie hasn't left the trailer since a tragic incident derailed her life and left her agoraphobic. When the mysterious and provocative Pippi — a stripper on the run — blows into the park and sets her sights on Norbert, the trailer park's three resident Greek chorus neighbors (Lin, Pickles, and Betty) narrate the chaos with wicked glee. Packed with hilarious songs, outrageous characters, and more sequins than a Vegas showroom, *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* is the perfect finale to a spectacular season.

BACKGROUND:

The Great American Trailer Park Musical was first performed at the inaugural New York Musical Theatre Festival in 2004, earning immediate acclaim for its big-hearted humor

and country-infused score. It opened off-Broadway at Dodger Stages on September 22, 2005, running for 121 performances and quickly becoming a cult favorite. It has since become one of the most widely produced small-cast musicals in community and regional theater across the country and around the world, beloved for its raucous surface and genuine warmth underneath.

THE AUTHORS:

Betsy Kelso (Book) is a playwright, director, and television writer whose credits span theater and screen. In addition to her work in theater, she has written and produced for WWE's TV shows and pay-per-view events, and developed television series for Warner Bros., ABC Family, MTV, Disney Channel, and Universal Music Group. She also directed the original off-Broadway production of The Great American Trailer Park Musical, which remains her most celebrated theatrical work.

David Nehls (Music and Lyrics) is a composer and lyricist whose score for The Great American Trailer Park Musical deftly mixes country twang, power ballads, and comic pastiche to create a uniquely American sound. Nehls and Kelso subsequently collaborated on *The Great American Trailer Park Christmas Musical*.

ARTISTIC TEAM:

Directed by: Dennis Beasley
Music Direction: Don Dally
Choreography: Camrin Eve Dannelly
Stage Management: Lupita "Pita" Marisol Rodriguez
Scenic Design: Irena Hadzi-Dordevic
Costume Design/Hair & Makeup Design: Amanda Alvarez
Lighting Design: Derek Duarte
Sound Design: Dante Carballo
Props: Thomas Verdos

CAST:

Jeannie: Crissy Brooks
Norbert: John G. Bridges
Pippi: Niki Moon
Duke: Lucas Bennett
Lin: Jacqueline Aguilar Madrigal
Betty: Reina Vazquez
Pickles: Nanni Westgate

WHEN:

October 24, 25, 31, November 1, 7, 8, 14, 15, 2026
Saturdays at 7:30 p.m. and Sundays at 2:00 p.m.

WHERE:
The Mainstage Theater on the Hartnell College Main Campus, 411 Central Avenue, Salinas, CA.

TICKETING INFORMATION:
Adult $30; Seniors/Military/Teachers $24; Hartnell Students FREE; Other Students $16; Youths (5-15) $12; Hartnell Faculty/Staff $15; Day-Of/Seat Available Student Rush $5; Group tickets available by contacting the TWS Box Office.

Online tickets and more information: westernstage.com/tickets or call (831) 755-6816.
TWS Box Office is open Wednesday - Saturday 5:00-8:00 p.m. and Performance Sundays from 12:00-3:00 p.m. Leave voicemail to get a callback within 24 hours.

ACCOMMODATIONS:
This event is wheelchair accessible. Contact the ticket office to purchase accessible seats. For additional accommodations, contact the ticket office at least five business days prior to the performance date.

CURRENT HEALTH INFORMATION
Ticket holders are asked to not attend if they are sneezing, coughing, have temperature or other symptoms, or have been recently exposed to the flu or COVID-19. This policy is subject to change based on increase infection rates and or Hartnell College policy updates.

ABOUT THE WESTERN STAGE – ESTABLISHED 1974:
The Western Stage (TWS) is a professionally managed, community-based theatre company and educational program that provides opportunities for high-level artistic experiences. Led by its educational mission and a belief that strong arts experiences are important for building innovative, creative, and resilient communities, TWS provides opportunities for personal growth and skill development in a safe space where students and theatre enthusiasts engage in theatre production while working alongside theatre professionals. Through its annual production season, TWS provides strong pathways for artists throughout the continuum of a career in theatre and its related performing arts. TWS presents new works that speak to the history and culture of the Salinas Valley and provides educational opportunities for students of all skill levels to explore and develop their unique talent. www.westernstage.com

ABOUT HARTNELL COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT – ESTABLISHED 1920
Located in the heart of Salinas Valley, Hartnell Community College District is a leading institution serving over 12,000 students annually across our main campus in Salinas, the Alisal Campus, and education centers in King City, Castroville, and Soledad. HCCD is a Seal of Excelencia Certified institution and a recognized Hispanic-serving institution since 2000. We offer associate and bachelor's degrees and certificate programs to prepare students for successful transfer to four-year universities or immediate entry into the workforce. Learn more about our programs and initiatives.

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