

PRESS RELEASE FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 5, 2018

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MONTEREY, CA – Monterey Peninsula College Theatre Department to open:

## ***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play***

by Joe Landry

Directed by Justin Matthew Gordon  
November 15 – December 8, 2018

MPC Studio Theatre  
Monterey Peninsula College Campus  
980 Fremont St. • Monterey CA

***Tickets available from the MPC Theatre Box Office (831-646-4213) or online at [www.mpctheatre.com](http://www.mpctheatre.com)***

### **About the Play**

Adapted from the 1946 Frank Capra film *It's a Wonderful Life* starring actors Donna Reed and James Stewart, ***It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** transposes this cinematic and holiday classic to the theater, by staging it as a live radio broadcast in front of a studio audience. During the Golden Age of Radio, movies were frequently adapted for on-air broadcast. James Stewart and Donna Reed, in fact, recreated their roles of George and Mary Bailey several times for the LUX Radio Theatre and Screen Guild Theatre radio productions of *It's A Wonderful Life*. Now, an ensemble of actors recreates the excitement of Old Time Radio, when audiences came to the studio to watch performers enacting the program on stage, microphones, scripts, sound-effects and all! Dozens of characters come to life, as idealistic family Banker George Bailey faces off against greedy land baron, Henry F. Potter. When all seems lost, George thinks the world would be better off without him and attempts suicide on Christmas Eve. Fortunately, the affable angel Clarence arrives just in time, and shows George what life really would have been like had he never been born. In the end, Clarence earns his wings, teaches George "no man is a failure who has friends" and shows him just how wonderful life truly is!

### **About the Director**

**Justin Gordon** is a professional actor, director, and fight choreographer based in Monterey, CA, who teaches Screenwriting and Acting for the MPC Department of Theatre. He has trained at Shakespeare's Globe in

London, (where he also studied at the British Academy of Stage Combat), and is a graduate of the Professional Theatre Training M.F.A. program at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. Justin has worked at PacRep for multiple seasons, (both as an actor and fight director), San Jose Stage Company, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Rogue Music Theatre, Cornerstone Theater Company, LA Theatre Ensemble, REDCAT, The Krannert Center, freeFall Theatre Company, MPC Theatre Company, and The Complex Theatre, Los Angeles. Film and television credits include *We Were Soldiers*, *What's Bugging Seth*, *Absentia*, *The Unbreakable Sword*, *Oculus*, *Before I Wake*, *Gehenna*, and the British series, *Age of the Living Dead*. Justin is a proud member of AEA, SAG-AFTRA, SAFD, and SDCS.

**About the MPC Theatre Charitable Trust**

**The Monterey Peninsula Community Theatre Company Charitable Trust** is an independent 501(c)(3) supporting the MPC theatre program by funding expenses not covered in the State educational budget.

***It's A Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*** previews Thursday, November 15 at 7:30 PM and opens Friday, November 16 at 7:30 PM. Regular performances run Thursday, Friday, and Saturday at 7:30 PM and Sunday at 2:00 PM through Saturday December 8.

**Please Note:**

**There is No performance on Thanksgiving, Thursday November 22; however, *there is an ADDED 7:30 pm performance Wednesday, November 21 (Thanksgiving Eve).***

**There is NO Sunday matinée on Sun December 9 - Saturday December 8 is the final performance.**

***It's A Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*** is staged in our 40 seat MPC Studio Theatre. Seating is limited and reservations are highly recommended

Tickets are \$20.00 for Adults and Seniors; \$15 for Active Military and Children (12 and under.)

***It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*** full schedule...

Thursday	November 15	7:30 PM	Preview/Discount Thursday
Friday	November 16	7:30 PM	
Saturday	November 17	7:30 PM	
Sunday	November 18	2:00 PM	Matinée



THEATRE COMPANY  
MONTEREY PENINSULA COLLEGE

Wednesday	November 21	7:30 PM	<i>Added bonus Performance!</i>
Thursday	November 22	N/A	<i>No Show - Thanksgiving</i>
Friday	November 23	7:30 PM	
Saturday	November 24	7:30 PM	
Sunday	November 25	2:00 PM	Matinée

Thursday	November 29	7:30 PM	
Friday	November 30	7:30 PM	
Saturday	December 01	7:30 PM	
Sunday	December 02	2:00 PM	Matinée

Thursday	December 06	7:30 PM	
Friday	December 07	7:30 PM	
Saturday	December 08	7:30 PM	Final performance

\*Please note: There is NO performance on Sunday, December 9\*

***Please Note: Campus Parking is required for Thursday evening performances and is \$3.00***

Tickets are available from the MPC Box Office on the Monterey Peninsula College Campus at 980 Fremont Street, Monterey. The MPC Box Office (831-646-4213) is open Wednesdays, Thursdays & Fridays from 3:00 PM – 7:00 PM, and two hours prior to performances. Tickets are also available online at [www.mpctheatre.com](http://www.mpctheatre.com)  
For more information email the Box Office at [mpcboxoffice@mpc.edu](mailto:mpcboxoffice@mpc.edu)

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