

THIEF RIVER FALLS A.C.T. PRESENTS

An Evening of
**SHORT
COMEDIES**

November 13-15, 2025
Eagles Club, TRF



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through grants from the Northwest Minnesota Arts Council and the Minnesota State Arts Board thanks to a legislative appropriation from the arts and cultural heritage fund.

THE ART OF THE 10-MINUTE PLAY

Welcome to the world of high-velocity theatre! Forget long acts and scene changes! A 10-Minute Play is a theatrical rollercoaster where you'll get a full, hilarious story in a single, intense, and wildly entertaining burst. It's a true challenge for the playwright, who must craft a compelling plot, define characters, and deliver a surprising punchline in roughly 600 seconds. For you, this means non-stop variety! Just when you get comfortable with one scenario, the lights will shift, and you'll find yourself instantly immersed in a brand-new comedic world. Get ready for 11 concentrated doses of comedy—all in one unforgettable evening.

~~~~~ TONIGHT'S LINEUP ~~~~~

What a Tangled Web We Weave by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Michele Christensen

In a twist on the predator-prey relationship, a witty and verbose Fly caught in a web stalls the first-time predator Spider by engaging in conversation about eating habits and bucket lists.

Fly: Leah Wattenphul

Spider: Michele Christensen

1-800 by Joseph Sorrentino

Directed by Brianna Geer

A simple phone call to an automated banking system turns into a battle of wits between a computer-generated voice and a frustrated customer.

Customer: **Brianna Geer

Voice off Stage: Diane Krause

**Due to illness, the role of the customer was performed by Brianna Geer for the entire run. We send our sincere gratitude to Jeffrey Willis for his commitment in preparing the role.

My Date with an Alien by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Megan Maloney

Denise, an Alien on a research mission, goes on a date with human Barry, in a disastrous series of cross-cultural misunderstandings about everything from jobs and idioms to using the restroom.

Denise (Alien): Shelby Pahlen

Barry: Alex Evans

Gretel's Field Hockey Fury by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Brianna Geer

When Gretel hits the field with a stick in her hand, the line between competitive drive and outright fury dissolves.

Gretel: Brianna Geer

Popular with the Tourists by Christopher Morse

Directed by Pat Brickson

Jim is disappointed with his trip to New York City. To fix this, he hires a special agency that caters to thrill-seeking tourists.

Jim: Pat Brickson

Rocko: Laura Brickson

Harold's Dilemma by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Brianna Geer

Puberty hasn't been kind to Harold. When a spontaneous Hawaiian getaway threatens to expose his secret, he is forced to take drastic measures.

Harold: Brianna Geer

~~~~~ 10-MINUTE INTERMISSION ~~~~~

Macbeth Mixed Up by Wade Bradford

Directed by Anna Barth

When two of the witches from Macbeth discover that Witch #3 has fallen into the cauldron, they call Rent-A-Witch and must quickly train before Macbeth arrives!

Hagatha: Stephanie White

Gwenda: Anna Barth

Izzy: Amy Beckius-Johnson

Macbeth: Pat Brickson

The Wheels on the Bus by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Scott Pream

Wally uses the tedious job of transporting students to share his cautionary tale about the dangers of things ending up on their permanent record, all while dealing with the chaotic kids in the rearview mirror.

Wally: Scott Pream

Curiosity Killed the Cat by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Kristal Philipp

The arrogant alpha cat, Miss Piddles, is furious when she discovers her minion, Lady Meows A Lot, can talk.

Miss Piddles: Laura Brickson

Lady Meows-A-Lot: Kristal Philipp

The Lunch Lady Cometh by Bryan Starchman

Directed by Scott Pream

The cynical Lunch Lady delivers a cautionary monologue revealing the unsanitary conditions and unappetizing contents of the school cafeteria's food while advising students to pack their own lunch to ensure their survival.

Lunch Lady: Scott Pream

The Reaper by Raegan Payne

Four nursing home residents face death in all its terrifying fluffiness as they try to fend off The Reaper—the nursing home's resident feline.

Molly: Heidi Thompson

Harold: Carl Dahlberg

James: Wade Benson

Agnes: Bailey Beggs

Meet the CAST & CREW



Leah Wattenphul
Actor



Jeffrey Willis
Actor



Michele Christensen
Actor/Director



Brianna Geer
Actor/Director



Pat Brickson
Actor/Director



Diane Krause
Actor



Shelby Pahlen
Actor



Alex Evans
Actor



Anna Barth
Actor/Director



Scott Pream
Actor/Director



Kristal Philipp
Actor/Director



Laura Brickson
Actor



Wade Benson
Actor



Stephanie White
Actor



Carl Dahlberg
Actor/Lights



Megan Maloney
Director, Props & Set



Jane Anderson
Costumes



Amy Beckius-Johnson
Actor



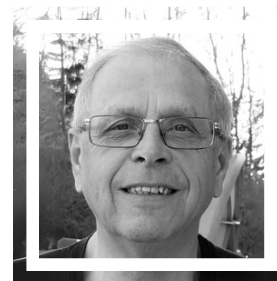
Heidi Thompson
Actor



Bailey Beggs
Actor



Ben Wattenphul
Sound Operator



Bruce Elseth
Sound Tech

WE'D LIKE TO THANK OUR DONORS FOR THEIR GENEROUS SUPPORT!

Super Star \$5,000+ <i>(receive 12 tickets, reserved seating, and recognition on TRFACT banner)</i>		
Star \$2,000+ <i>(receive 12 tickets and reserved seating)</i> DigiKey Electronics John Yoon, DDS	Producer \$1,000+ <i>(receive 12 tickets)</i> Northern State Bank Hugo's Northwest Beverage - Shawn Newland	
Director \$500+ <i>(receive 6 tickets)</i> Dr. Tyrone Birkeland Brady Martz & Associates Gordon & Jan Peterson Marcy & Craig Mickeson Dave & Becky Doherty In memory of George & Marvel VanRooy (Jim & Penny Haugen) Old Bostwicks - Jill Stenborg Kari & Randy Lindemoen The Gordon & Janet Peterson Fund Shari Olson Thrivent	Cast \$250+ <i>(receive 3 tickets)</i> Barry & Susan Froiland TRF Rotary Wade & Marisa Benson Ana & Richard Laager Connie Mehrkens In honor of all cast people (Sharon Hamre) Reid Froiland Arlene & Gary Novak Ruth Ostby Sally Erickson Valley Animal Hospital - Dr. Susan Burnett	
Crew \$100+ <i>(receive 2 tickets)</i> Yvonne Pederson In memory Roger Tunberg (Ardy Tunberg) Brad & Doris Weinrich Michael & Bette Jorgenson Red Lake Elec Coop In memory Barb Geer (Alice Hofstad) Barb Hahn Altra Care Sherry Knott Sally Wolff State Farm Ev & Delores Ault Mark & Becky Yuska Carol DeLap Jim & Jan Strandlie In memory Elling & Joyce Iverson (Karen Jenson) True North Equipment	Patron \$50 <i>(receive 1 ticket)</i> Cathy & Jeff Loe In honor Robin Dobson (Patti Malberg, Saetre Schol) In memory Edith Thoele (Donna Thoele) Ernesto & Marcia Padilla Kiwanis Club of TRF Colleen Omdahl	
\$25+ John & Dee Wollenzien In honor Pr. Kristin Ostercamp (Glenice Johnson) Esther Johnson	In memory JoAnn Thibert (Andrea Thibert) Paulette Moyer In memory Gary Hamness (Carolyn Hamness)	Karen Pearson Carmen Gustafson Art & Joan Heinze Thrifty White Pharmacy

ACT Production History

2025	Little Shop of Horrors Seussical Kids Talking With... The Addams Family	2012	Love Letters Some Enchanted Evening Lend Me a Tenor
2024	Quilters Finding Nemo Kids The Outsider Newsies An Evening of Short Comedies	2011	Blame it on the Walleye The Producers The Foreigner
2023	Fiddler on the Roof 101 Dalmatians Legally Blonde An Evening of Short Comedies	2010	Talking With... Kiss Me, Kate Leaving Iowa
2022	Plaza Suite Nunsensations! Annie Jr. Beauty and the Beast, Jr. An Evening of Theatrical Mishaps	2009	Shirley Valentine Annie Get Your Gun House of Blue Leaves
2021	Anything Goes Peter Pan	2008	Anything Goes The Odd Couple
2020	Last of the Red Hot Lovers 18 Community Concerts	2007	Mame Quilters
2019	Barefoot in the Park Death of a Salesman Cabaret The Jungle Book Kids The Music Man	2006	The Sound of Music Free to be...You and Me
2018	Love, Loss and What I Wore I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change Willy Wonka Kids Grease	2005	Beauty and the Beast
2017	Sylvia The Looney Lutherans The Drowsy Chaperone The Boys Next Door The Lion King Kids The Sound of Music	2004	Gypsy Bye Bye Birdie!
2016	Hometown Talent Show 2 Into the Woods Over the River and Through the Woods How to Eat Like a Child Bye Bye Birdie!	2003	My Fair Lady A Christmas Carol
2015	Hometown Talent Show Hello Dolly! The Nerd Seussical Jr.	2002	Oklahoma! Noises Off Cinderella
2014	Forever Plaid The Fantasticks Steel Magnolias	2001	Annie Clowns Social Security You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown
2013	The Looney Lutherans Annie Almost, Maine	2000	Greater Tuna On Golden Pond The Wizard of Oz Madrigal Dinners
		1999	Arsenic and Old Lace The Glass Menagerie The King and I A Christmas Carol
		1998	Charlotte's Web The Music Man
		1997	Song of Mark The Sound of Music
		1996	Saving the Old Homestead Madrigal Dinners

TRFACT IS EXCITED TO PRESENT OUR

2026 SUMMER SEASON LINEUP!



SPECIAL THANKS TO THE EAGLES CLUB FOR HOSTING US!
TONIGHT'S SHOW IS SPONSORED IN PART BY THE
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