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THE MOST FAMOUS REINDEER OF ALL RETURNS TO FIRST STAGE IN ITS 2024-2025 SEASON

The longest-running holiday TV special of all time, brought to life 12 years ago at First Stage, makes a triumphant return as Rudolph and friends celebrate their 60th Anniversary.

MILWAUKEE — [First Stage](#) — one of the nation's leading theaters for young people and families — invites you home for the holidays with its production of [RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER™: THE MUSICAL](#). Join Rudolph and friends as they come to life in an adventure that reminds us what makes you different can be what makes you special!

RUDOLPH THE RED-NOSED REINDEER™: THE MUSICAL runs Nov. 29 through Dec. 29, 2024, at the Marcus Performing Arts Center's Todd Wehr Theater. **Tickets are available now on [FirstStage.org](#).**

"Sixty years ago, Rudolph flew onto TV screens across the nation and into our hearts forever," said Jeff Frank, Artistic Director at First Stage. "We are honored to bring Rudolph and friends back to our stage this holiday season as they remind the world that no one should have to worry about covering up who they are to seek acceptance."

In regards to First Stage, Frank shared the organization is "proud to be part of Rudolph's legacy, having brought this holiday classic to life with our world premiere production in 2012. Since then, our show has inspired productions nationwide — but it all began right here in Milwaukee, where the magic first took the stage. Welcome home, Rudolph, Hermey, and the rest of the gang!"

From the unforgettable music of Johnny Marks to thrilling encounters with the Bumble, from the lovable Island of Misfit Toys to the laughter sparked by Yukon Cornelius — this heartwarming production brings everyone's favorite holiday characters to life. Gather your loved ones and make this season unforgettable by coming home for the holidays with First Stage!

Acclaimed as "...packed full of holiday magic and family fun" by the Shepherd Express, this wonderful holiday tradition speaks to the misfit in all of us!

The show runs approximately 75 minutes, including a brief intermission. Recommended for families with young people ages 3-12 and theater lovers of all ages. The [Pay What You Choose Performance](#) is Friday, Dec. 6, at 7 p.m., and the [Sign Language Interpreted Performance](#) is Sunday, Dec. 22, at 3:30 p.m.



Creative Team

Director ... Jeff Frank
Music Director ... Tim Rebers
Choreographer ... Ami Majeskie
Scenic / Costume / Puppet Designer ... Brandon Kirkham
Lighting Designer ... Jason Fassl, USA
Assistant Lighting Designer ... Jessica Baker
Sound Designer ... Matt Whitmore
Production Stage Manager ... Kelly L. Schwartz*
Assistant Stage Manager ... Aminah Rockett
Second Assistant Stage Manager ... Vivian Madson

Adult Performers

Coach Comet/Yukon ... Zach Woods*
Boss Elf / Charlie in the Box / Snoken ... J.T. Backes*
Sam the Snowman ... James Carrington*
Santa Claus / Ensemble ... David Flores
Mrs. Claus / Snoken ... Karen Estrada*
Mrs. Donner / Snoken ... Jamie Mercado
Donner / Snoken ... Tim Rebers
Lead Snoken / Bumble / Moonracer ... Tim Linn
Understudy: Coach Comet / Yukon ... Logan Milway
Understudy: Boss Elf Track ... Morgan Gates
Understudy: Santa/Donner Track ... Aidan Black
Understudy: Mrs. Donner / Mrs. Claus Track ... Caitlyn Nettesheim
Understudy: Lead Snoken / Bumble / Moonracer ... Roc Bauman
Understudy: Sam the Snowman ... Chris Orth

Young Performers

Silver Cast

Rudolph ... Gwen Madson, Milwaukee
Hermey ... Penny Whitmore, Milwaukee
Clarice ... Kara DeGroot, Menomonee Falls
Fireball / Snoken 7 ... Blue Madson, Milwaukee
Elf 1 ... Arkadius Yanovskiy, Milwaukee
Elf 2 / Aviator Elf ... Alice Nguyen, Milwaukee
Elf 3 ... Will Perkins, Shorewood

Elf 4 ... Harlowe Cook, Waukesha
Elf 5 ... Charlotte Townsend, Mequon
Elf 6 ... Violet Marty, Jefferson
Elf 7 ... Dayeliz Richarson, Milwaukee
Tall Elf / Ostrich Cowboy / Snoken ... Kian Sheldon, Muskego
Dolly / Snoken 1 ... Evie Maassen, Elm Grove
Spotted Elephant / Snoken 3 ... Izzabella Yanovskiy, Milwaukee
Birdfish / Snoken 4 ... Robin Nordstrom, Menomonee Falls
Train / Snoken 5 ... Marlow Kuhn-Grooms, Shorewood
Plane / Snoken 2 ... Sofia Kubacki, Milwaukee
Young Doe / Snoken 6 ... Estelle Brown, Wauwatosa
Young Buck 1 / Snoken 7 ... Jetziel Soler, Milwaukee
Young Buck 2 / Snoken 8 ... Cece Golbuff, Whitefish Bay

Young Performers

Gold Cast

Rudolph ... Silvia Stoeger, Milwaukee
Hermey ... Maryn Davis, New Berlin
Clarice ... Amelia Sajdak, Wauwatosa
Fireball / Snoken 7 ... Collin Wiese, Wauwatosa
Elf 1 ... Liam Owens Meyer, Wauwatosa
Elf 2 / Aviator Elf ... Valentina Vega, Milwaukee
Elf 3 ... Bennett Schoonover, Muskego
Elf 4 ... Elise Fischer, Whitefish Bay
Elf 5 ... Viviana Vega, Milwaukee
Elf 6 ... Quinn Gersch, Whitefish Bay
Elf 7 ... Brianna Donahue, Whitefish Bay
Tall Elf / Ostrich Cowboy / Snoken ... Grant Schoonover, Muskego
Dolly / Snoken 1 ... Abbie Cashman, Shorewood
Spotted Elephant / Snoken 3 ... Mia Raines, Whitefish Bay
Birdfish / Snoken 4 ... Harper Smith, Muskego
Train / Snoken 5 ... Indy Elliott, Franklin
Plane / Snoken 2 ... Elena Rana, Grafton
Young Doe / Snoken 6 ... Cecily Tobiczky, Fox Point
Young Buck 1 / Snoken 7 ... Mason Litzsey, Milwaukee
Young Buck 2 / Snoken 8 ... Harlow Tobiczky, Fox Point

**Appearing through an Agreement between First Stage and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States*

Don't miss out on the rest of the season productions coming soon! Find tickets and additional information at www.firststage.org/2024-2025-Season.

- **Dec. 6 - 25** THE TEMPEST
- **Jan. 18 - Feb. 16** THE DINOSAUR PLAY
- **Jan. 31 - Feb. 16** EMILY SONG AND THE QUEEN OF THE NIGHT
- **March 8 - April 6** DISNEY & PIXAR'S FINDING NEMO
- **March 28 - April 13** RIDE THE CYCLONE: HIGH SCHOOL EDITION
- **May 2 - 18** ESPERANZA RISING

For additional information about the 2024-2025 season and to order tickets, please go to firststage.org or call (414) 267-2961.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCE: [Download media assets and additional production information](#)

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About First Stage

Founded in 1987, First Stage is one of the nation's leading theaters for young people and families, and a driving force behind the creation of the best and most innovative plays for family audiences, theater training programs for young people, and education initiatives for its schools and community. First Stage ensures that all programming is not only accessible to its community but that it is reflective of the community it serves.

First Stage produces plays that honor the young person's point of view, include diverse and traditionally underrepresented voices, and inspire meaningful conversations. First Stage has presented more than 70 world premiere productions that address important subject matters relevant to today's youth. The Theater Academy is one of the nation's largest high-impact theater training programs for young people (3-18 years old). Through a challenging curriculum taught by professional teaching artists, the Academy nurtures life skills through stage skills and includes the Next Steps Program that tailors Theater Academy classes to the needs of young people on the autism spectrum and with other developmental disabilities. As Wisconsin's leader in arts-integrated education in schools, First Stage's dynamic Theater in Education Programs cleverly blend theater activities with standard curriculum—allowing more than 10,000 students annually to learn traditional academic subjects through creativity and self expression.

First Stage is a member of TYA/USA, the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, the Wisconsin Alliance for Arts Education, Milwaukee Arts Partners and is a cornerstone member of the United Performing Arts Fund (UPAF). For more information, visit firststage.org.