

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever, a delightful family story about the true meaning of Christmas, will open at the Lakewood Theatre Company on Friday, December 13 at 7:30 PM. Performances continue on December 14, 15, and 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 at 7:30 PM. There will also be matinee performances at 2:00 PM on Sunday Dec. 15, Saturday Dec. 21 and Sunday Dec. 22. After the opening night performance on Dec. 13, there will be a hot cocoa and cookie reception.

About the Play: The Herdmans were absolutely the worst kids in the history of the world. They lied and stole and talked rough and hit little kids and talked back to their teachers. So it surprised just about everybody when they decided to take part in the town's Christmas Pageant. They had never heard of the Christmas story, but the way they interpreted it, you'd think the story of Jesus came right out of the F.B.I. files. (They called the Wise Men a bunch of dirty spies). It was a Christmas pageant to remember. An American classic ... one of the best Christmas stories ever told.

Featured performers include Kristen Paige as Grace Bradley, Troy Sawyer as Bob Bradley, Allison Jaffe as Beth Bradley and Rylan Andrews as Charlie Bradley. The Herdman children are played by Jack Gordon, Kalia Rechenberg, Gabriel Wyant, Violet Adams, Sophie Isensee and Hazel Bateman

Others in the cast include Ania Leonardo as Alice, McKenna Adams as Maxine, Jason Nuesa as Elmer/Shepherd, Stephanie Crowley as Mrs. McCarthy, Sarah Wang as Mrs. Clausing, Jade Tate as Mrs. Slocum, Olivia Noelle as Mrs. Clark, Jincy Pace as Helen Armstrong, and Jeff Brosy as Reverend Hopkins.

The ensemble also includes Josiah Moothart as Hobie/Shepherd, Miriam Kelly as Roberta/Angel Choir, Emma Tamburro as Davina/Angel Choir, Aidan Pace as Naomi/Angel Choir, and Z'ev Singer as Henry/Shepherd. The Angel Choir is composed of Rosalie Johnson, Maya Ye, Maggie Morrissey, Lily Pechacek, and Julia Parish.

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever is directed by Sara Kennedy Adams. Set and light design is by Kurt Herman, costumes are by Jessica Carr Miller, the accompanist is Adam Roper, the stage manager is Emma Stewart, the props designer is Grady Penna and the producer is Steve Knox.

