



By Arrangement With  
playscripts, inc.

*By*

*Michael Carleton*

*James Fitzgerald*

*John K. Alvarez*

~~X~~ **EVERY**

**Christmas**

~~Carol~~

**STORY EVER TOLD**  
**(AND THEN SOME!)**

*"Warning: If you see Every Christmas Story Ever Told, you'll never be able to watch Dickens' A Christmas Carol without laughing out loud."*

*David Jacobson, Life Newspapers (Sacramento)*

*Starring*

*Anthony David Lawson*

*Randy Davis*

*Steve Vernon*

**In The Ruth & Bucky Stein Studio Theatre**

**December 7 - December 17**

**Thursday-Saturday - 7:30pm | Sunday Matinee - 3pm**

**See Our Full Season**

**BigDawgProductions.org**

**Tickets: \$28**

**ThalianHall.org**

**Big Dawg Productions**  
is proud to present  
**EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY EVER TOLD  
(AND THEN SOME)**

By Michael Carleton, James Fitzgerald, and John K. Alvarez  
Produced with kind permission by Playscripts

Director - David Lee Kent  
Stage Manager - Terri Hsu  
Light Design - Jeff Loy  
Video Design - Chad Hsu  
Light, Sound and Video Operators - Terri and Chad Hsu  
Set Design - Donna Troy  
Supplemental Poetic Material - Anthony David Lawson  
Sound Design - Steve Vernon  
Costumes Design - Naomi Nason

Time - Right Now  
Setting - Right Here

Starring:  
Anthony - Anthony David Lawson  
Randy - Randy Davis  
Steve - Steve Vernon

**David Lee Kent (Director)** is a full time Theater Instructor and Dramaturg at the Sanford Meisner Correctional Facility for Pre-School Aged Children in Reykjavik, Iceland. This is David's 417th production of **Every Christmas Story Ever Told (and then some)**, having played the role of "David" 23 times, served as stunt coordinator 11 times, script supervisor 117 times, understudy for the role of "The Other David" six times, Production Goat Milker and Yak Stylist eight times (each) and Director for the remaining 244 times. He would like to thank his doctors at the North Pole for helping him heal from the injuries he received while serving on the front lines of the War Against the War Against Christmas. He would also like a pony for his birthday.

**Anthony David Lawson (Anthony)** Born on February 15, 1820 in Adams, Massachusetts Anthony David Lawson was a Champion of temperance, abolition, the rights of labor, and equal pay for equal work, and became one of the most visible leaders of the women's suffrage movement. Along with Elizabeth Cady Stanton, she traveled around the country delivering speeches in favor of women's suffrage. Wait....that's Susan B. Anthony... Anthony David Lawson has done some shows and co-founded the theatre company, Panache, with his good friend Holli Saperstein. If you don't see Anthony after the show it's because he ran home to spend as much time as possible with his golden retriever, Jameson.

**Randy Davis (Randy, Marley, Frosty, Della, Linus, Who, Alms Collector, Christmas Present, Clarence, etc, etc, etc)** is thrilled to be back on the Big Dawg stage after an almost 6 week break since last appearing in **Waiting for Godot**. He found the transition from that show to this one to be extremely easy as they are basically the same play with different titles. Special shout out to Vanessa (his wife and sometimes scene-stealing poodle) and his two boys, Griffin and Rowan, for letting him get involved in yet another play at the last minute.

**Steve Vernon (Steve)** appreciates the opportunity to be involved with such a weighty play, and hopes to bring the appropriate amount of gravitas to the role of “Steve”. This will be Steve’s 5th time performing in **Every Christmas Story Ever Told**. Only ten more and he will have completed his court mandated community service hours. He is the Artistic Director of Big Dawg Productions, and has acted in and directed more plays than he can remember. Steve is also a professional radio mime. Steve hopes you have as much fun watching this show as we have performing it!

**Terri Hsu (Mayhem Manager)** This is Terri’s second attempt to manage the chaos that is this show, as she has tried previously with Big Dawg in 2021. It beats the Dickens out of us as to why she would try to tradit this tradition again. She must be some kind of a fruitcake, or maybe she just likes holiday puns... But seriously, folks, Terri is honored to work with each of these cast members again as they sleigh these roles in this madcap adventure of a holiday show. Wishing you and yours a joyous and peaceful winter holiday season!

**Chad Hsu (Video Design, Board Op)** is elated to have the opportunity to share gnomes, goats, holly, and all other miscellaneous items with the cast of whatever show is currently playing. Skills include, but are not limited to, wrapping, sleighing, glowing, general jollyng, and some other whatitzing. Chad hopes that you enjoy this production and have a joyous holiday season!

Special Thanks to the staff and volunteers at the Thalian Hall Center for the Performing Arts, Holli Saperstein, Lee Lowrimore and Dorothy Rankin, Jen Ingulli, Chris Jarman, Bryan Jacobs and Lula’s (A Pub), Bradford Brown and the Thalian Association, Jon Wallin, and You (yes, YOU).



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More Information



## A BIG THANKS TO OUR GENEROUS DONORS

Big Dawg Productions extends its sincere thanks to all those who donated to us in the last year. Big Dawg Productions is a 501c3 non-profit organization, every dollar supports local theatre, local actors and crews, and allows us to continue bringing unique and thought provoking (or at least funny) theatre to the stage and expand our community impact with new programs.

Gala Sponsor - The Wilson Center at Cape Fear Community College  
Media Sponsor - WHQR Public Media

### *Director's Circle (\$500 and above)*

Beth Bell, Griffin & Rowan Davis, Paula Davis, Dawg Lovers - a group of dedicated followers, Mary Anne Deaton, Lorraine O. Hiester, Michael Lauricella & Andy McVey, Dan Levine, Lee Lowrimore & Dorothy Rankin, Nancy Nail, Steve Rassin, Richard Trubia, Katherine Vernon, Blanche Williamson

### *Benefactor (\$250-\$499)*

Jon Fycyk & Zach Peschl, Bobby & Mitch Katzman, Judi Mack, Jeff Loy, Kathleen & Captain Rick Morrison

### *Patron (\$100-\$249)*

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### *Friend (\$50-\$99)*

Susan Auten, Allison Callahan, Anabela Freeland, Michelle & Clark Wheeler

AND A HEARTFELT THANK YOU to the various government and non-governmental agencies for their grants and loans that helped sustain us through the pandemic.

## First Stop, Wilmington

The Off-Broadway Express **B I G**  
**D A W G**

Thanks to a successful partnership with MarMaxMedia, Big Dawg Productions is now an Off-Broadway Producer, investing in new shows to bring straight to Wilmington.

Our first two Off-Broadway plays are by New York Times bestselling author, Tawni O'Dell, entitled **Windows** and **Pay the Writer**. **Windows** will open Off-Broadway and in Wilmington in February 2024.

**Pay the Writer** has completed it's Off-Broadway debut and is currently being adapted in preperation for it's Broadway premier in the fall of 2024.

We look forward to bringing these shows and more from Off-Broadway to Wilmington in the years to come.

**THALIAN ASSOCIATION COMMUNITY THEATRE** 2023-24 SEASON MAIN STAGE

# Must See Theatre

**A Chorus Line**  
SEPT 29 - OCT 8

**Elf The Musical**  
DEC 7-17  
ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES  
DEC 14/7:30 PM DEC 16/2:00 PM

**Steel Magnolias**  
FEB 9-18

**Disney's Beauty & The Beast**  
APR 5-14  
ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCE APR 13/2:00 PM

**The SpongeBob Musical**  
MAY 17-26  
A WILMINGTON PREMIERE  
FRI-SAT 7:30 PM SUN 2:00 PM | THALIAN HALL  
TICKETS \$34  
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BRADFORD BROWN/ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
SUSAN HABAS/EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



# **BIG DAWG PRODUCTIONS PROUDLY PRESENTS OUR 2024 SEASON!**

All productions will take place here, in The Ruth & Bucky Stein Studio Theatre, at Historic Thalian Hall. All plays and dates subject to change.

## ***Closing the Distance***

by Tawni O'Dell

Feb 8-11, 15-18

A series of monologues and short scenes that explore the experiences of people from all walks of life during the initial shutdowns caused by the COVID pandemic in 2020. At times heartbreaking, humorous, thought provoking and hopeful, this play manages to capture the best in each of us during a time of uncertainty and isolation. A triumphant stage experience!

\****Closing the Distance*** is being presented by special arrangement with the play's author, Ms. Tawni O'Dell. Such arrangement is due to Big Dawg's support of the play as it embarks on its debut in NYC in February of 2024. ***Closing the Distance*** will be premiering at the Lincoln Center in February under the title ***Windows***.

It should be noted that no other production of this play has been licensed to any venue anywhere, or with the expectation that such license will happen in the immediate future. We are most grateful to Ms. O'Dell for her reciprocating our support of her work and allowing Big Dawg to deliver a first look to our audience.

## ***Dearly Departed***

by David Bottrell and Jessie Jones

April 18-21, 25-28

In the Baptist backwoods of the Bible Belt, the beleaguered Turpin family proves that living and dying in the South are seldom tidy and sometimes hilarious. Despite their earnest efforts to pull themselves together for their father's funeral, the Turpins' other problems keep overshadowing the solemn occasion: Firstborn Ray-Bud drinks himself silly as the funeral bills mount; Junior, the younger son, is juggling financial ruin, a pack of no-neck monster kids, and a wife who suspects him of infidelity in the family car; their sister, Delightful, copes with death as she does life, by devouring junk food; and all the neighbors add more than two cents.

"If you were amused by the kind of bucolic mayhem of... GREATER TUNA, this more ambitious trip down a rustic main street could be just your dish of cola." —New York Post.

"DEARLY DEPARTED is drop dead funny." —New York Daily News.

## **2024 Big Dawg Youth Playwright Festival-Puppy Tales**

May 23-26, May 30-June 2

With support from The Landfall Foundation, Big Dawg is proud to bring back this event that focuses on original works written by local youth between the ages of 12 and 18. Works will focus on relationships with pets, and the event will feature partnerships with local animal rescue groups!

## **What the Constitution Means to Me**

by Heidi Schrek

July 18-21, 25-28

Playwright Heidi Schreck's boundary-breaking play breathes new life into our Constitution and imagines how it will shape the next generation of Americans. Fifteen-year-old Heidi earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions across the United States. In this hilarious, hopeful and achingly human play, she resurrects her teenage self in order to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their lives.

Finalist! 2019 Pulitzer Prize

Winner! 2019 Obie Award, Best New American Play

Winner! 2019 New York Drama Critics' Circle Award, Best American Play

Nominee: Two 2019 Tony Awards, including Best Play

## **Pay the Writer**

by Tawni O'Dell

Aug. 29-Sept 1, 5-8

**Pay the Writer** is a new comedy-drama from New York Times Best Selling Author Tawni O'Dell. Focusing on the complicated relationship between a legendary literary agent and his best friend-turned-most-successful client, this dynamic and socially intuitive play explores how an artist's life is controlled by their calling and talent. Fresh off of the acclaimed Off Broadway debut from 2023!

**\*Pay the Writer** is being presented by special arrangement with the author, Tawni O'Dell, due to Big Dawg's support and participation in the NY debut of this play. Presently, Ms. O'Dell is preparing a rewrite of the material you will be seeing in preparation for the play's move to Broadway in the Fall of 2024.

## **Night of the Living Dead**

by George Romero, adapted by Chase Harrison

Oct. 17-20, 24-27

The film that started it all, adapted for the stage! The story follows seven people trapped in a farmhouse in rural Pennsylvania, under assault by reanimated corpses. Multiple critics have voted **Night of the Living Dead** as the most influential and groundbreaking pieces of horror of all time!

Dec. 12-15, 19-22 TBA

**Meet Our New Poster Dog For The 2024 Season!**  
**Say Hello To Mayzie!**



Special thanks to Mayzie's human, Blanche Williamson, for her generous ~~bribe~~ support of our First Stop Series, a series dedicated to bringing new plays to Off-Broadway and Wilmington stages, and her continuing support of Big Dawg Productions and all of our weirdness.

## ***Big Dawg's Mission***

To produce entertaining, thought-provoking, and socially responsible theater, with an emphasis on involving youth and the community in the performing arts.

### ***Board Of Directors***

Jeff Loy - President  
Zach Peschl - Vice President  
Randy Davis - Treasurer  
La'Tuan Dannels - Interim Secretary  
Dan Levine, Rob Mann

Steve Vernon - Artistic Director  
Donna Troy - Technical Director

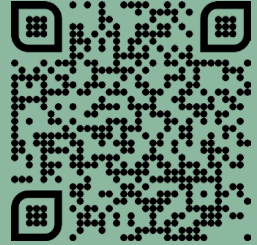
### **Get Involved**

If you are interested in becoming a board member of Big Dawg Productions send a message to [BigDawgPro@gmail.com](mailto:BigDawgPro@gmail.com)

## ***Advertise With Big Dawg!***

Become an underwriter of Big Dawg Productions, get the word out about your business, and support local theatre.  
For more information, scan the QR code

Or contact: Zach Peschl, Marketing Director, at [Zach@Peschl.us](mailto:Zach@Peschl.us)



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