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THE HOBBIT

ADAPTED BY EDWARD MAST

JANUARY 16 - 18, 2026

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A NOTE FROM THE PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to Civic Theatre's 2025–2026 Season: **Elevate**.

Each season, we aim to tell stories that move, inspire, and reflect the world around us; and this year, we are reaching even higher. With *Elevate*, we explore what it means to lift each other up through powerful storytelling, shared laughter, meaningful connection, and the transformative magic of live theatre.

This season is about more than just entertainment, it's about hope, growth, and imagination. Our lineup is filled with plays and musicals that challenge us to rise above, lean in, dream bigger, and believe in something greater. Some shows will take you to new heights emotionally; others will make your spirit soar with joy and laughter. In a time when it's easy to feel overwhelmed or disconnected, theatre reminds us of our shared humanity.

Behind every production is a passionate team of artists, volunteers, educators, and supporters who make this work possible. We are so proud of the many ways Civic Theatre brings people together on stage, behind the scenes, and in the audience and gives us space to feel, think, and grow. Whether you're joining us for your first performance or your hundredth, your presence helps elevate our mission and fuels everything we do.

Thank you for believing in the power of local theatre. Thank you for showing up for the artists, for the community, and for yourself. We can't wait to share this season with you and continue to elevate your theatre experience!

Raquel Lopez
Producing Artistic Director

Coming Up

see yourself here



Steel Magnolias
Sept 4-13, 2025



Beetlejuice, Jr.
October 10-12, 2025



**Young Frankenstein,
The Musical**
Nov 13-22, 2025



**A Christmas Carol
The Live Radio Play**
Dec 11-14, 2025



The Hobbit
Jan 16-18, 2026



The Revolutionists
Feb 12-21, 2026



**Disney The Jungle Book
KIDS**
March 13-15, 2026



Birthday Candles
April 9-18, 2026



FUN HOME
May 14-23, 2026



**www.lafayettecivic.org
for tickets**

2025-2026 General Information:

The Bob Sauers Box Office: Opens one-hour prior to every performance in our theater lobby. Tickets are always available online at www.lafayettecivic.org

MainStage Single Ticket Prices:

- Adults (19-64) \$24 plays/\$26 musicals
- Seniors (65 & over) \$21 plays/\$23 musicals
- Active Military/Veterans (with valid id) \$21 plays/\$23 musicals
- Youth (18 & under) \$15 plays/\$17 musicals
- College Student Rush \$12 plays/\$14 musicals (with valid college id; 15 mins prior to curtain; pending availability)

Civic Youth Theatre Single Ticket Prices:

- \$14 plays/\$16 musicals (2 yrs and up/under 2 yrs must be on lap)

Patrons with Physical Limitations or Disabilities: Accommodations are available for patrons with restricted mobility, wheelchairs, or with hearing limitations. Personal hearing assistance is available upon request at the box office counter.

Late Seating Policy: Civic Theatre does not allow late seating. Performances begin promptly at scheduled times. Please be in your seat prior to curtain. Latecomers will not be allowed in the theater until intermission (when applicable). Viewing will be available via tv monitor in our lobby. NO EXCEPTIONS.

Lobby Bar & Concessions: Lobby Bar opens one-hour prior to curtain for every performance. Food and drink purchased at our lobby bar are allowed in the theater. No outside food or drink allowed. Please dispose of trash in our convenient lobby receptacles.

Smoking: Smoking or vaping is strictly prohibited inside the Monon Depot Theatre and within 8 feet of outside entrances.

Right to Refuse Service: Civic Staff and House Management have the right to refuse service to audience members for any reason without issuing refunds.

Electronic & Communication Devices: Absolutely no cell phone activity during performances. Photographs and recordings are strictly prohibited. Turn off all sound making devices prior to curtain. Violators of this policy will be asked to leave and will not be refunded.

Parking: Civic Theatre offers complimentary parking behind our theater. Handicapped parking is clearly marked, and violators will be towed at the owner's expense. Additional parking is available off-street. Civic Theatre is not responsible for any lost or stolen property from vehicles while parked on our premises.

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Steel Magnolias

Sept 4, 2025

THE OUTPOST



The Hobbit

Jan 16, 2026

**HOLIDAY INN
LAFAYETTE-CITY
CENTRE
CATERING**



FUN HOME

May 14, 2026

**HOLIDAY INN-
LAFAYETTE-CITY
CENTRE CATERING**



Beetlejuice Jr.

Oct 10, 2025

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The Revolutionists

Feb 12, 2026

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SWEET REVOLUTION**



Young Frankenstein

The Musical

Nov 13, 2025

**ROGER STEWART
HOLIDAY INN LAFAYETTE-CITY
CENTRE CATERING**



Disney Jungle Book KIDS

March 13, 2026

**HOLIDAY INN-LAFAYETTE -CITY CENTRE
CATERING**



A Christmas Carol

The Live Radio Play

Dec 11, 2025

**THE OUTPOST
THE VEGAN CHEESE LADY**



Birthday Candles

April 9, 2026

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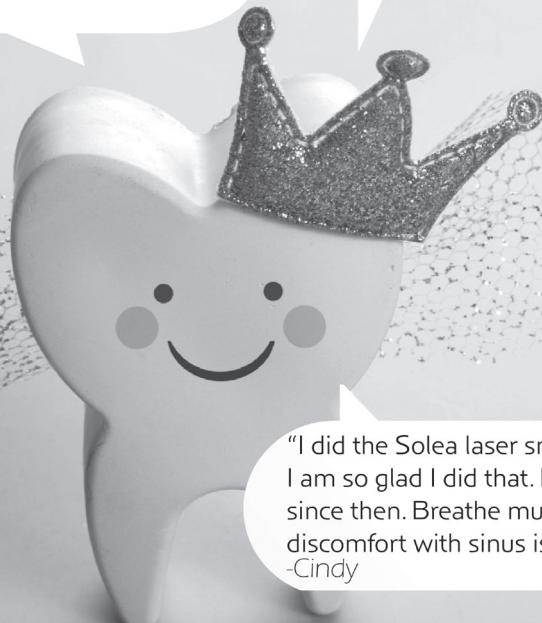


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Introducing The Lisa Tally Musicians Fund

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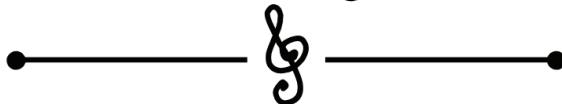


It is with heavy hearts that we remember the life and legacy of Lisa Tally- a radiant soul, a gifted musician, and a tireless champion of creativity and compassion.

In the Spirit of all she gave, Civic Theatre is honored to announce The Lisa Tally Musicians Fund - a lasting tribute to her generosity and many talents.

For the first time, Civic Theatre will be able to support its musicians financially.

Donations can be made at
www.lafayettecivic.org



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Donations made to this fund go directly to pay our musicians

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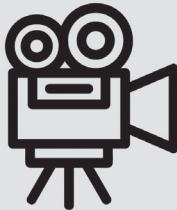
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Lafayette Master Chorale and guests
7:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 11 | Jefferson High School

Imagine Singing with the Animals
Lafayette Children's Choir
4 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 8 | Grace United Methodist Church

Carols of Christmas
Lafayette Master Chorale
3 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14 | First Baptist Church

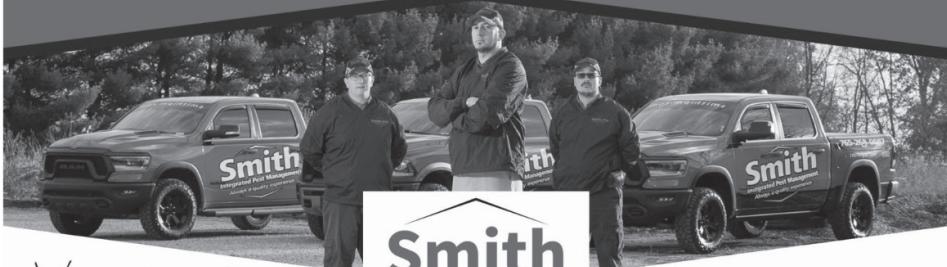
Imagine Changing the World
Lafayette Children's Choir
4 p.m. Saturday, April 18 | Congress Street United Methodist Church

E Pluribus Unum: Out of Many, One Song
Lafayette Master Chorale
7:30 p.m. Saturday, May 2 | St. Mary Cathedral

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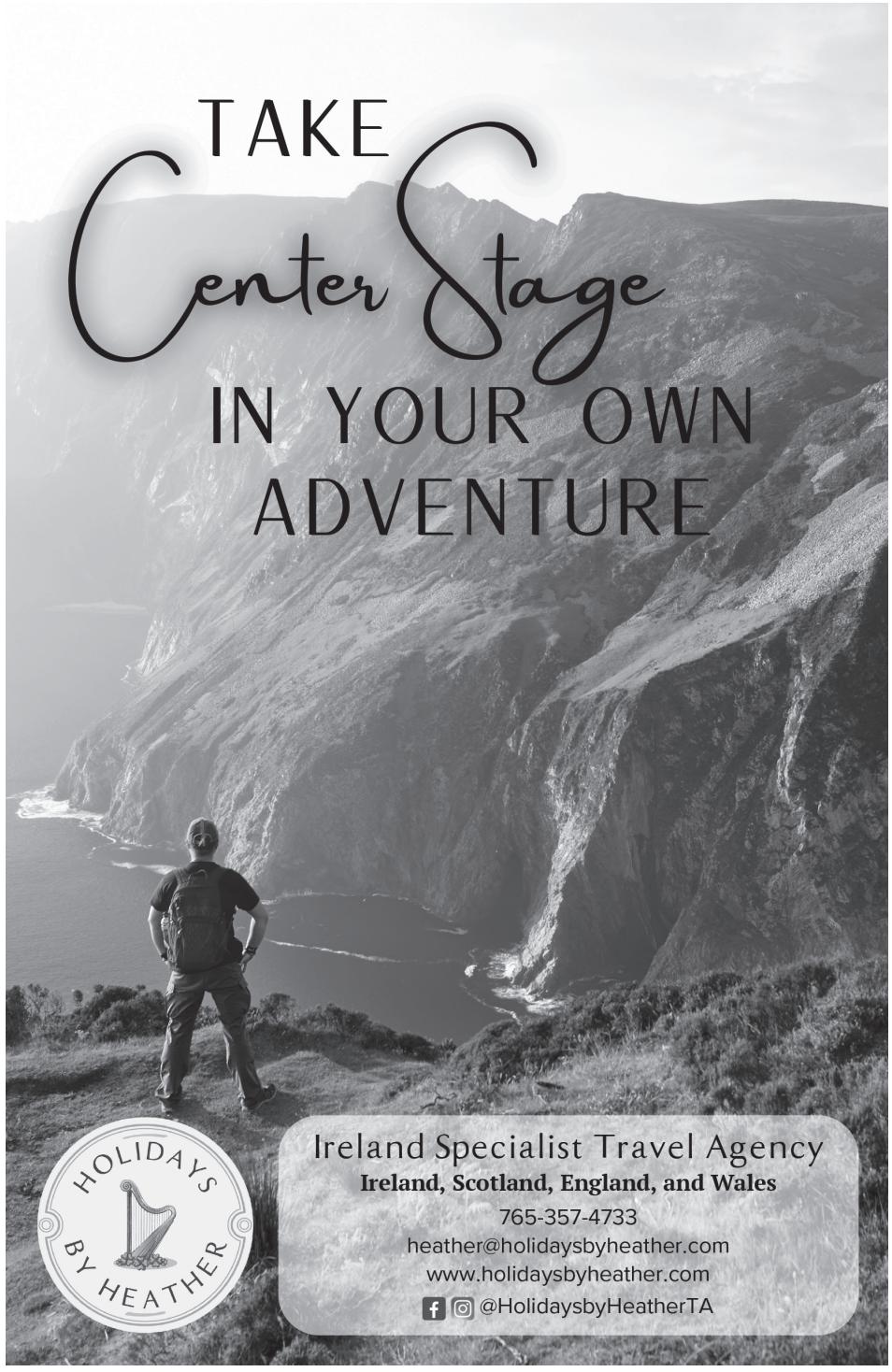
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Civic Youth Theatre of Greater Lafayette proudly presents

J.R.R. TOLKIEN'S
THE HOBBIT

**Adapted by
Edward Mast**

**BROUGHT TO YOU BY
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Director – Neil Radtke

Assistant Director & Lightboard Operator – Jasmine Salazar

Stage Manager – Clem Kollman

Set Construction – Craig Campbell & Rick Hensley

Light Design – Jordan Gooch

Sound Design – John O'Malley

Set Painting & Soundboard Operator – Caleb Immel

Costumes – Ally Shinkan

Props – Heather Hensley & Christy Carr

Makeup – Micah Davis

Backstage Crew – Cedar Wallace & Kat J. Bayley

The Hobbit featured artwork by Sarah Ruh, Artist-in-Residence

**Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC
PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois**

CAST

BILBO BAGGINS	Nolan Gorski
GANDALF/SMAUG	Gunnar Berger
THORIN OAKENSHIELD	Molly Sands
GOLLUM	Ellie Bosgor
DOOF	Elias Krieger
DORK	Nate Titlow
BARD/GOBLIN KING/TALL GOBLIN	David Fisher
MAXWELL	Carter Cash
VOICE	David Cappelleri
BALIN/BIFUR/ORI	Logan Hensley
DWALIN/BOFUR/NORI	Maurice Rivera
OIN/BOMBUR/FILI	Amelie Deery
GLOIN/DORI/KILI	Fiona Slack

TIME

The Third Age

SETTING

Middle Earth

THERE WILL BE NO INTERMISSION

NOTE TO AUDIENCE: The videotaping and/or audio visual recording of this production is a violation of the United States Copyright Law and an actionable federal offense.

A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR

The Hobbit is often remembered as a grand fantasy, with dragons, riddles, trolls, and epic journeys, but at its heart, it is a deeply human story about discomfort, courage, and quiet transformation.

Bilbo Baggins does not set out to be a hero. He is content, cautious, and firmly rooted in routine. And yet, when the world knocks on his door, loudly, unexpectedly, and with thirteen dwarves, he discovers something surprising: bravery does not always roar. Sometimes it clears its throat, takes a deep breath, and steps forward anyway.

That idea has guided this production. Rather than presenting *The Hobbit* as a spectacle-driven adventure, we focused on the storytelling itself, on imagination, ensemble, and the shared act of bringing Middle Earth to life. This is a tale meant to be passed from voice to voice, from character to audience, and we invite you to meet us halfway. What you don't see onstage is just as important as what you do.

For young performers especially, *The Hobbit* offers a rare gift: the chance to play characters who are brave and flawed, funny and fearful, heroic and human, all at once. Growth is not instantaneous in this story; it is earned, often awkwardly, and sometimes reluctantly. That felt important to honor.

In a world that often celebrates only the boldest voices and biggest gestures, *The Hobbit* reminds us that courage can be quiet, that kindness matters, and that even the smallest person can change the course of events, sometimes simply by choosing to take the next step.

Thank you for joining us on the road. Let the journey begin.

Neil Radtke, Director

Who's Who in the CAST!



NOLAN GORSKI (Bilbo Baggins) is ready for an adventure and honored to be part of this adaptation of *The Hobbit*! Last season, you may have seen Nolan in *School of Rock* as Zack Mooneyham. Previously Nolan has played Flick in *A Christmas Story*, Charlie Brown in *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, and William Spiver in *Flora & Ulysses*. He loves Civic and all the people he's met through his experiences! He'd like to thank Neil, Clem, and all the cast and crew for the opportunity to be in another fantastic show! He'd also like to thank his family for always supporting him.



GUNNAR BERGER (Gandalf/Smaug) is excited to return to Civic for the first time in 3 years! Gunnar is a junior at Harrison High School, where you might've seen him in *Something Rotten!* (Lord Clapham) or *A Christmas Carol* (Christmas Present). Outside of theater, he enjoys playing trumpet and piano in Harrison's Concert, Marching, Jazz, and Pep Bands. He has no free time. He would like to thank his family for putting up with him, as well as his friends and castmates for supporting him. And to his friend Cameron: may both sides of your pillow always be warm.



MOLLY SANDS (Thorin Oakenshield) is absolutely gung-ho to play the role of Thorin here at Civic! A couple of other Civic shows she has been a part of include *Beetlejuice Jr.*, playing Lydia Deetz, and as a soloist in *Godspell Jr.* She would like to thank this show's director, Mr. Radtke, for giving her this chance to be back on the stage and continue to do what she loves most. She hopes you enjoy the show!



ELLIE BOSZOR (Gollum) is very excited to be in her 4th production at Civic Theatre! She has previously been in *Beetlejuice Jr.* (Ensemble), *Seussical Jr.* (Jojo), and *Mac Beth* (Witch 1). Outside of acting, Ellie sings, plays the clarinet, and plays soccer. Ellie wants to thank her director, cast, and crew for making the show possible and her family and friends for their support. Enjoy the show, my preciouss!



ELIAS KRIEGER (Doof) is very excited to be a part of *The Hobbit* at Civic, this is his second Civic show after *Beetlejuice Jr.* He goes to Harrison High School, and loves to promenade about areas geographically near oceans.



NATE TITLOW (Dork) is excited to be in *The Hobbit!* Nate has been an active Harrison Drama member and has been in productions like *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Charlie B.), *The Music Man* (Charlie C.), and *A Christmas Carol* (Charlie A.). When Nate isn't playing Charlie he enjoys long ambulations along the distant shorelines, spending time with his dog Doogan, and playing DND with his friends.



DAVID FISHER (Bard, Goblin King, and Tall Goblin) is ecstatic to bring to life *The Hobbit* at Civic Theatre this year. He has previously been a part of many McCutcheon High School performances including *The Nitwits*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He is currently a Senior at McCutcheon High School and plans on studying Engineering out of high school. When he's not performing he partakes in high school choir, golf and tennis. He wants to thank his amazing high school directors for pushing him to act outside of school shows.



CARTER CASH (Maxwell) is extremely excited to play the character Maxwell in *The Hobbit*. This is his very first performance in both acting and theater. He is dedicating this role to his late grandmother, Doobie, as theater was one of her greatest passions. Carter hopes to continue her legacy and become a great actor one day, sharing her love for the arts. Outside of acting, he is passionate about wrestling and has loved singing since he was very young. He is deeply thankful for this experience and for everyone supporting him.



DAVID CAPELLERI (Voice) is excited to be a part of *The Hobbit* at Civic Theatre. Previous shows include *Moana* (Gate Monster), *Beauty and the Beast* (Bookseller), *Charlie Brown Christmas* (Ensemble), *Mamma Mia* (Ensemble) and *Chicago* (Ensemble). Off stage, David enjoys writing, drawing, and playing video games. He would like to thank the director, cast and crew for this fun opportunity! He'd also like to thank his family and friends for their support!



LOGAN HENSLEY (Balin/Bifur/Ori) is very excited to be a part of *The Hobbit* at Civic Theatre. He has previously taken several classes with Civic, but this is his first production. He loves reading, Legos, and learning obscure Disney history. Logan would like to thank his Mom for helping him to be brave, his little brother Liam for encouraging him, Neil for believing in him, and everyone in *The Hobbit* cast and crew. In addition, he wants to remind people that true adventure is found in books and in the arts, and to never stop believing that anything is possible.



MAURICE RIVERA (Dwalin/Bofur/Nori) is so honored to have *The Hobbit* be his first Civic Theatre production! Previous shows of his include *Beauty & the Beast* (Lefou), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Charlie Brown), and *Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Asher). He is now partaking in his school's production of *The Music Man* (Jacey Squires)! Off-stage, Maurice enjoys being with his friends, singing good music, and photography. He would like to thank his castmates, directors, and friends who supported him and helped him get to where he is today.



AMELIE DEERY (Oin, Fili, and Bombur) is thrilled to be a part of *The Hobbit*. She loves theater and has previously played ensemble roles in both *Percy Jackson* and *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown* with Acorn, as well as playing the part of Nourishing in Civic's production of *The Amazing Maurice and His Educated Rodents*. Amelie is a freshman at Harrison High School and enjoys creative writing and art. She would like to thank her fellow cast members and directors for making this a safe and fun environment to be in.



FIONA SLACK (Gloin, Kili, Dori) is incredibly excited to be in *The Hobbit* which is her first auditioned Civic show! You might have seen her before in *Living Legacy: a documentary theater project for Lafayette's Bicentennial*, or as a performer at the Feast of the Hunter's Moon. In her free time, she loves doing anything with animals, music, or theater. She would like to thank her cats and dog (obviously), and all the people who put so much work into this play. Not all those who wander are lost; enjoy the show!

Who's Who in the CREW!

NEIL RADTKE (Director) is an educator and theatre artist based in West Lafayette. He has worked extensively in community theatre as an actor, director, and playwright, with a particular love for ensemble-driven storytelling and work that invites audiences into the imagination. Neil teaches middle school U.S. History and believes strongly in theatre's power to build empathy, confidence, and joy. He is thankful to Civic Theatre of Greater Lafayette for the chance to bring *The Hobbit* to the stage.

JASMINE SALAZER (Assistant Director)

CLEM KOLLMAN (Stage Manager) is enthused to have been brought along for the lucky number on this journey of *The Hobbit*, and he is grateful to Neil Radtke and the Civic Theatre staff for this opportunity. Clem has been a frequent actor on Civic's stage and, most recently, assistant stage manager for Civic's *Young Frankenstein, The Musical*. Clem would like to thank TJ for all of the training and setting him up for success in this production. Lastly, Clem would like to thank his friends and family for their support, and his sister Sassi for taking the Hobbits to Isengard.

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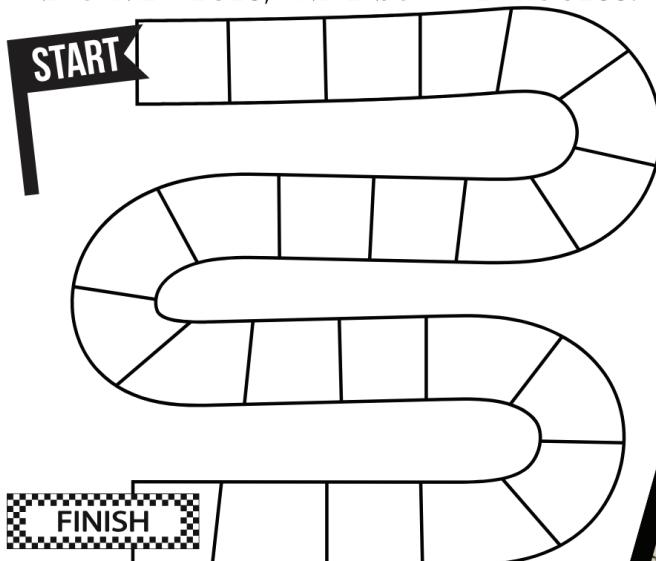
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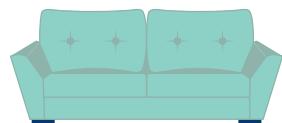
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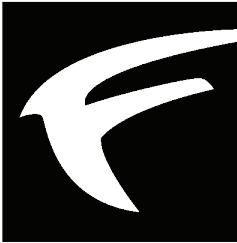
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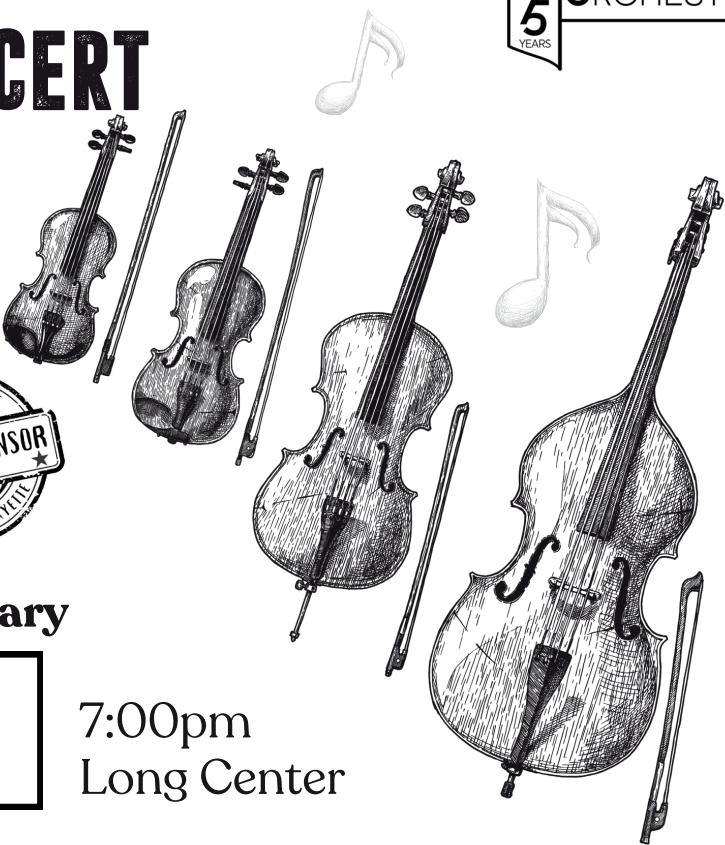
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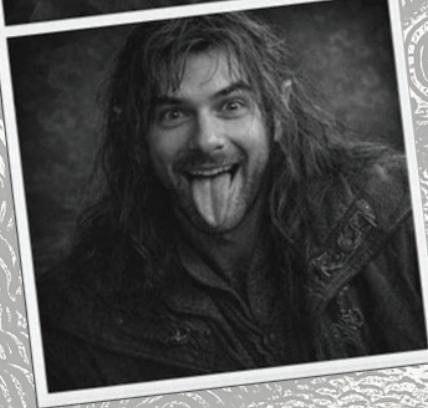
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