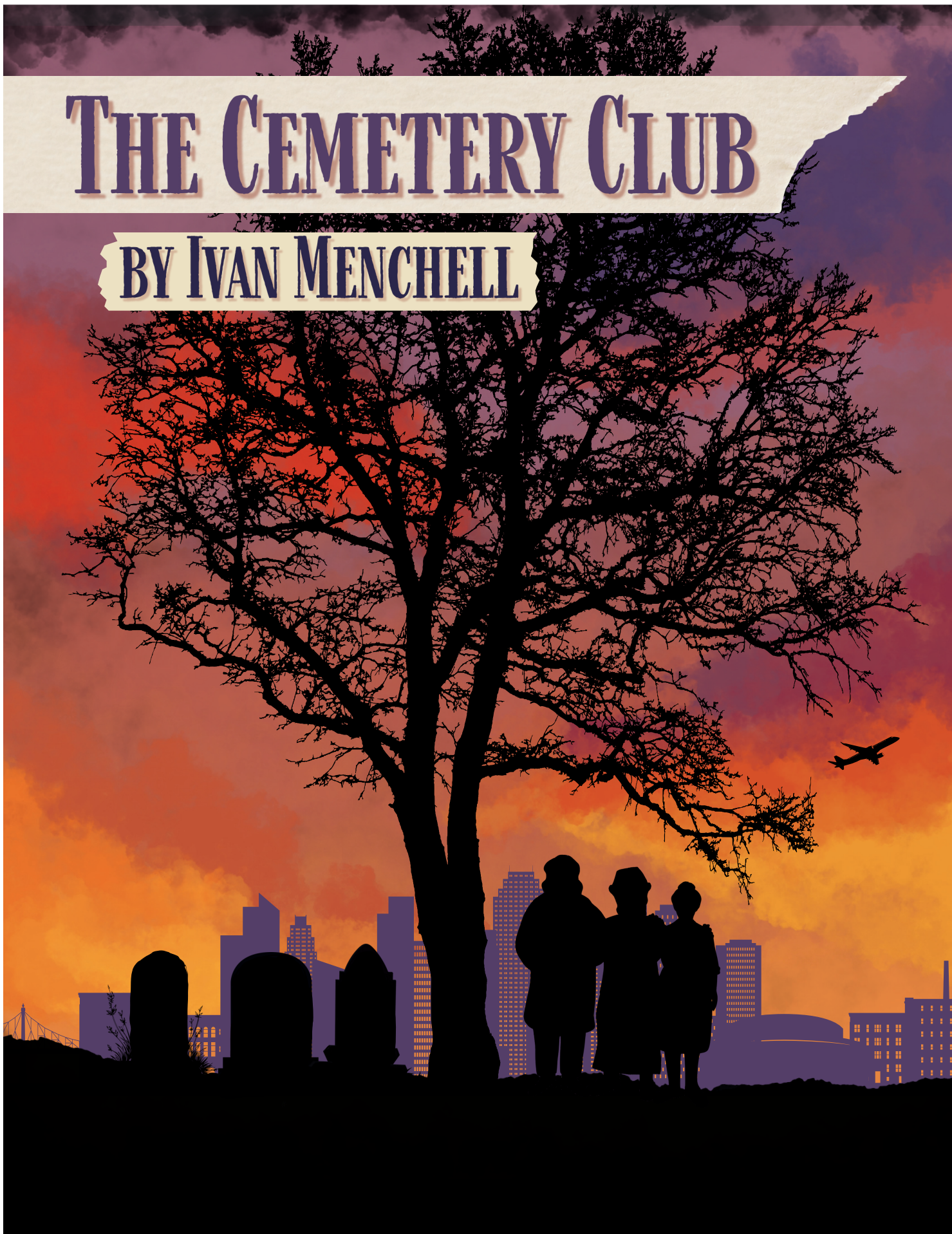


THE CEMETERY CLUB

BY IVAN MENCHELL



“The Cemetery Club” is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

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NOTES FROM THE DIRECTORS



Thank you for coming to the show! I'm so glad you're here. I hadn't heard of The Cemetery Club until I read it for Gillette Community Theatre. It soon became one of my favorites, and I wouldn't be surprised if it became one of your favorites, too. The wit and depth of feeling these characters evoke are rarely experienced, and these actors were meant to perform them.

Although I have acted for many years, this is my first time directing a play. It felt like it was my play to direct from the moment I read the last word. However, I hesitated to volunteer due to working and starting an online undergraduate degree this fall. I had great friends, also active with GCT, offer to help, and with that, I said I'd do it.

And I'm so glad I did!

It has been a great privilege to direct the experienced actors in this show. They are so fun to work with and are a wealth of knowledge this newbie director took full advantage of. I hope this is not the last time I will get to work with them.

My co-director has been my rock and my saving grace. I couldn't have done this without her. Johanna Cryer kept me on track, reminded me of things I'd forget, and brought joy to everything we did. Almost every day, my husband would say, "I'm so glad you have Johanna to help you."

Many thanks to Lindee Strandgard, my production manager. She's the power behind all the logistics, financials, and marketing necessary for this show to work. Her beautifully creative mind designed the poster, program, and cemetery background. And she made the background, too! She and assistant production manager Johanna took so much off my plate. Thank you! I also want to thank the many others who've helped behind the scenes with painting, hauling, stage setting, and breakdown.

Finally, I am beyond grateful to my husband, Robert, for his unwavering support. He has never missed a performance and helped with production builds for this show. I love you!

If you've made it this far, I congratulate you and thank you! Please, enjoy the show!

Salena Loveland

Hello and welcome to Gillette Community Theatre's production of The Cemetery Club!

This play is filled with laughter and heartfelt moments. It will make you both laugh and cry!

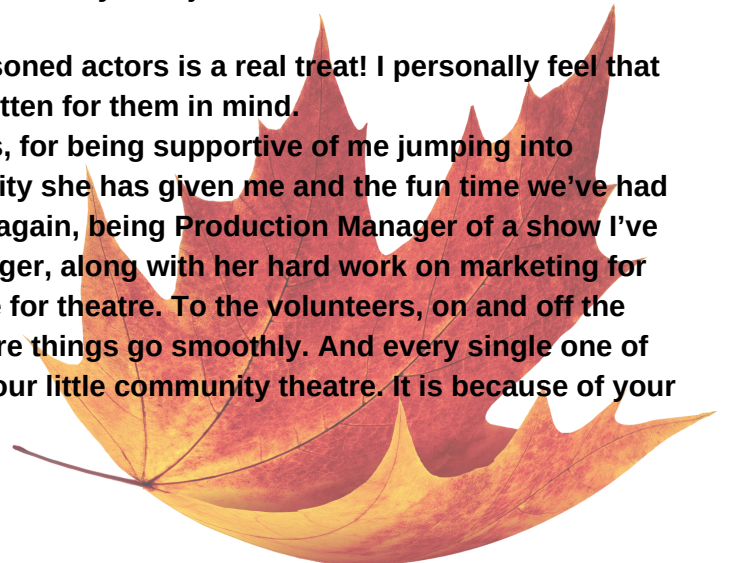
I've been working beside Salena Loveland and it has been such a fun experience! Originally I was to be the assistant production manager of the show when Salena asked me if I would like to help her with directing. I'll admit, I got teary eyed at the offer—I mean, it just feels like a huge honor that someone wants to work with me, you know? Salena is creative and inventive in ways I'm just not and it was a fun balance. I'll say we worked pretty darn well together!

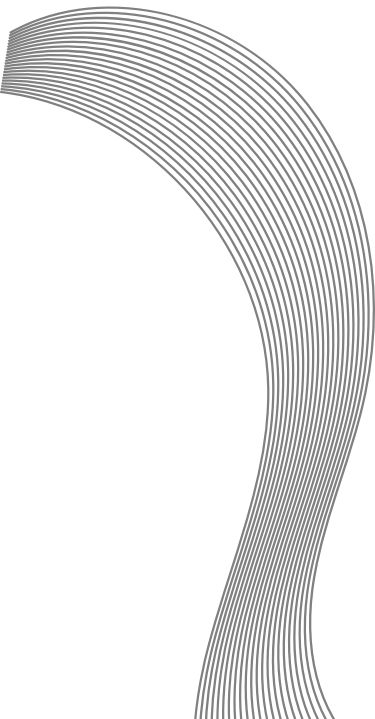
The cast has been great to work with. Working with seasoned actors is a real treat! I personally feel that they embody the characters so well, as if the script was written for them in mind.

I want to thank a couple of people. My husband, Thomas, for being supportive of me jumping into another show this year. Salena, for the wonderful opportunity she has given me and the fun time we've had while planning and directing. Lindee Strandgard, for, once again, being Production Manager of a show I've directed and for teaching me the ropes of production manager, along with her hard work on marketing for this play! The cast, for their time and the passion they have for theatre. To the volunteers, on and off the stage, who have dedicated time and energy into making sure things go smoothly. And every single one of you who has come to the show! Thank you for supporting our little community theatre. It is because of your love and support that we are able to do these shows!

Enjoy the show!

Johanna Cryer





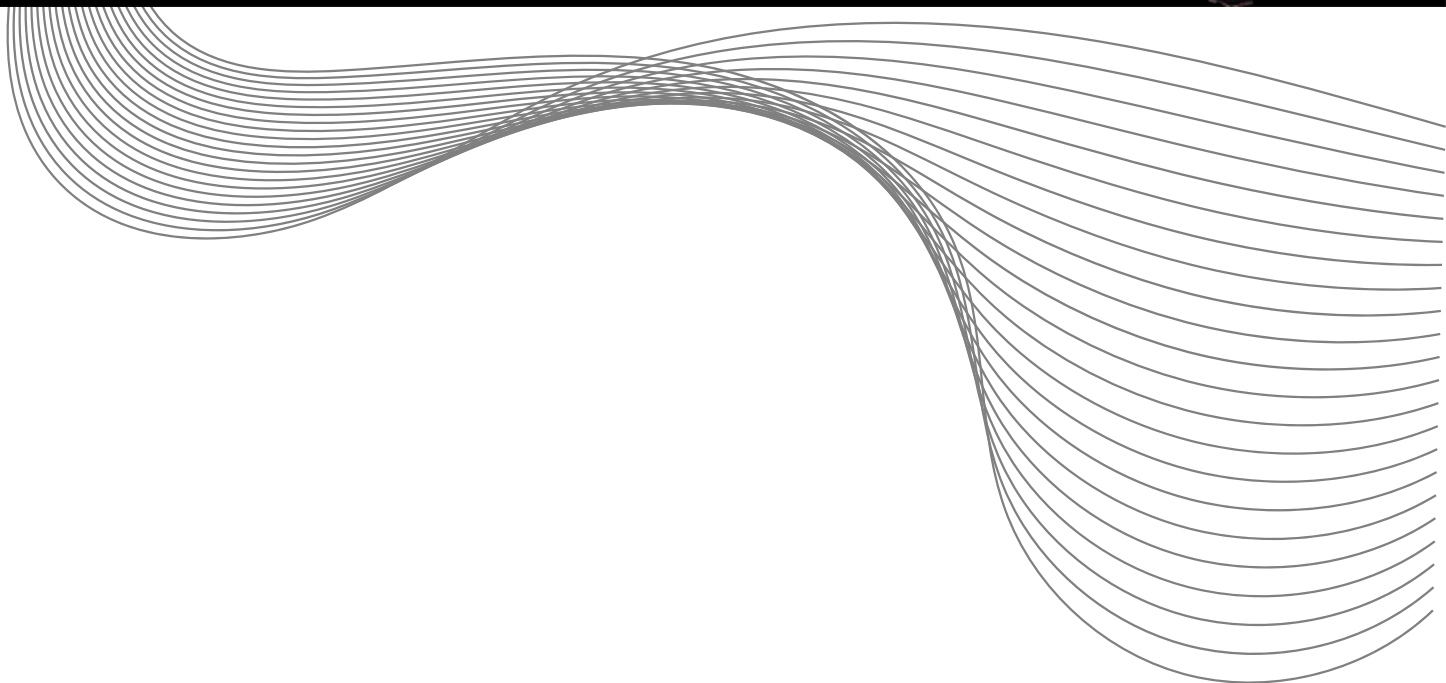
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THE CEMETERY CLUB

IT IS AUTUMN, IN QUEENS, NEW YORK, IN THE
PRESENT DAY

Act I

Scene I: Ida's Living Room

Scene II: Forest Hills Cemetery

Scene III: Ida's Living Room

Scene IV: The Cemetery

Intermission

Act II

Scene I: Ida's Living Room

Scene II: Ida's Living Room

Scene III: Ida's Living Room

Scene IV: The Cemetery



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Charla Carlson

Charla and her family have been involved in every aspect of community theater from directing to cleaning the toilets since 1980. She has been with Gillette Community Theatre since she moved to Gillette 23 years ago. Charla received a B.A. in Theater and Dance, majoring in performance, from the University of Wyoming. You last saw her in GCT's production of "Arsenic and Old Lace". Charla has enjoyed the fun rehearsals with the cast and crew of "Cemetery Club"



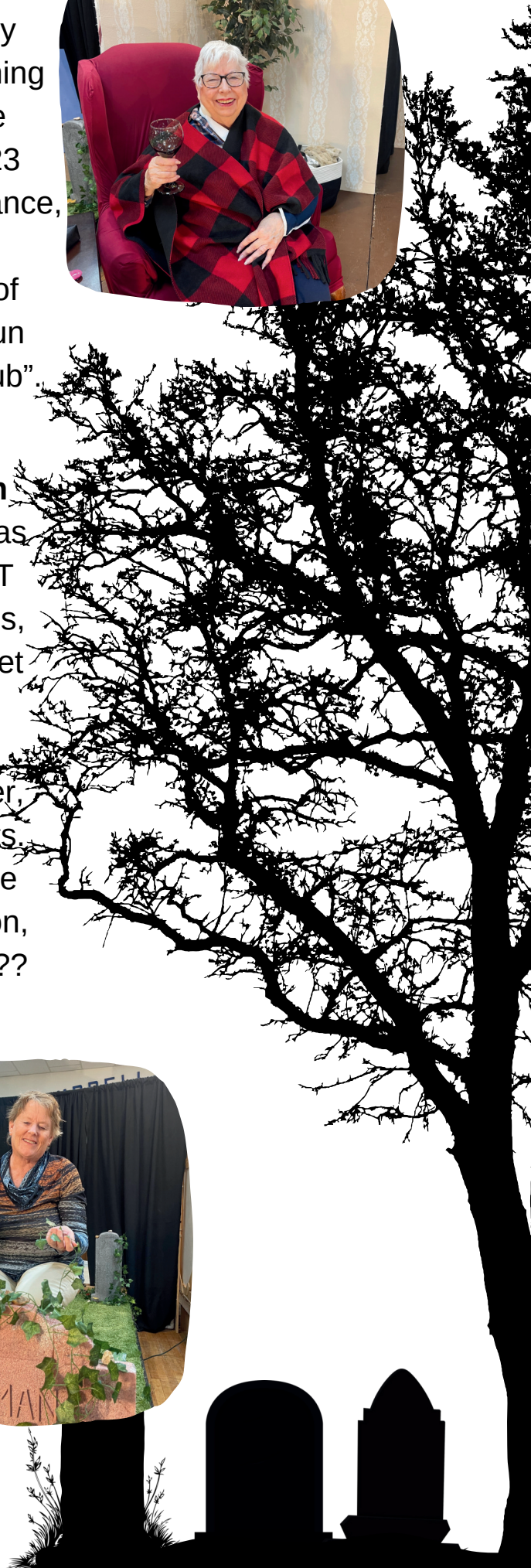
Dale Bentley-Stillman

Dale Bentley-Stillman has been involved with GCT since 1993 as an actress, director, set designer, set builder, costume seamstress, stage manager, board member, and advocate for the arts. She is a true lover of the theatre! In this production, she is a true lover of ????



AnDee Steiner

There have been so many times that Gillette Community Theater has allowed AnDee Steiner to be a different person on stage. Most recently she was seen in Arsenic and Old Lace. Being Doris has really been a great experience with great friends.





Frank Carlson

I started performing in community theatre almost a half-century ago with the objective of overcoming shyness and stage fright. Sam's character is hesitant at times with lots of "uhs" and pauses in his speech pattern; but if some of those pauses seem to be longer than usual, you can probably correctly surmise that I never quite realized my objective even after dozens of performances over the years. This is most likely my swan song for my acting avocation. The patience of the directors has been greatly appreciated.



Sherry Pierson

Sherry Pierson is a local Optician. This is her third performance in a production with Gillette Community Theater. She enjoys spending time with her son, Finn, her two cats, Neko and Ash and her two best friends, Jesse and Kyle. She also enjoys singing karaoke at the American Legion on the first and third Fridays of every month, when she gets the chance.



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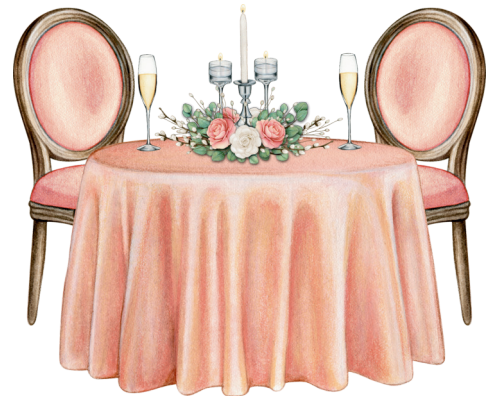
Brandi Dixon

Cammie Mills

Niki Blakeman

Cree Merchen

Claudette Geiser



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Levi Strandgard
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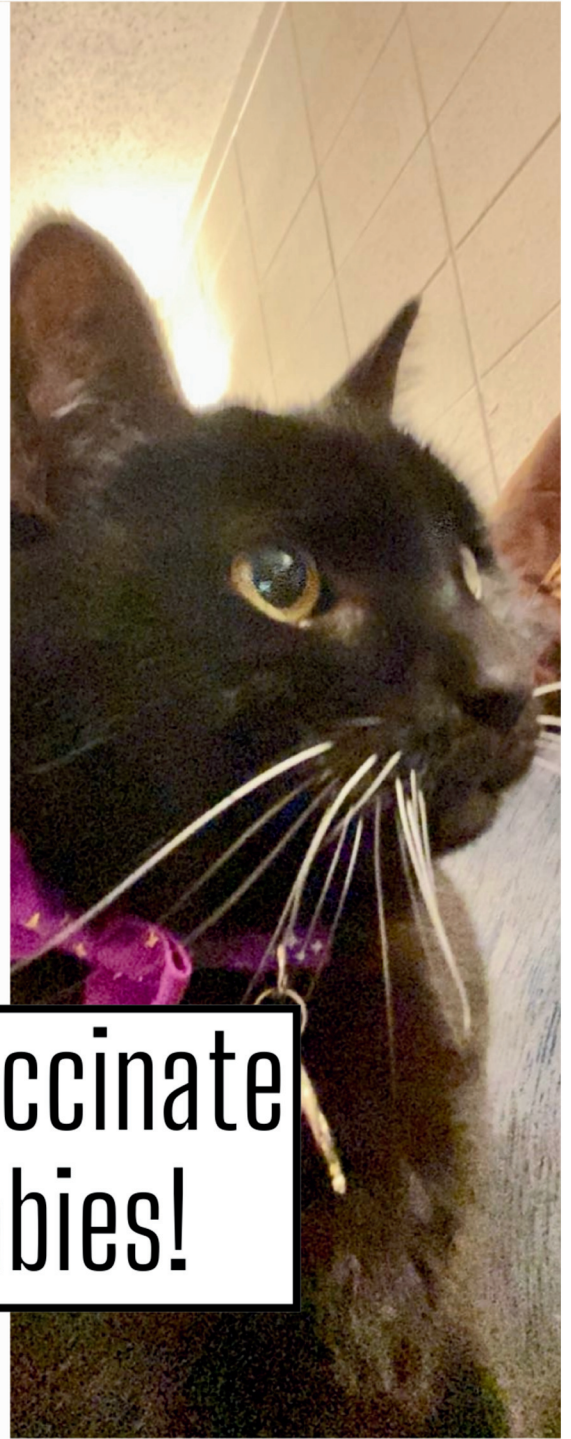
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We invite you to support us in our mission to entertain, engage, and educate people from all walks of life through theatrical performances and involvement with the community by acting, helping backstage, joining a committee, attending our shows, or donating.

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