

**Dec 1 - 31, 2023**

# **NICHOLAS**

**The Origin of Father Christmas**

**PLAY BY  
Jeremy Stanbary**



[openwindowtheatre.org](http://openwindowtheatre.org)

# NICHOLAS

## THE ORIGIN OF FATHER CHRISTMAS

Playwright/Director

**JEREMY STANBARY**

Associate Director

**JOE HENDREN**

Stage Manager

**JOE COLDWELL**

Set Designer/Props Designer

**NATE FARLEY**

Costume Designer

**MARYBETH SCHMID**

Sound & Projections Designer

**JEREMY STANBARY**

Lighting Designer

**JOE COLDWELL**

### **SPECIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

*Many thanks to the following individuals and organizations for their assistance:*

BOX OFFICE: *Jill Mraz.*

HOUSE MANAGERS: *Nate Farley, Lauren Volkart, Stephanie Mogren*

WEBSITE & BOX OFFICE IT: *Jeremy Darling*

*University of Northwestern Department of Music and Theatre  
Bucket Brigade Theater Company for use of their Turkish lanterns*

MUSIC ACKNOWLEDGMENTS: *Ancient Path Christmas album, Ancient Path, 2011  
Ancient Noels album, Ensemble Galilei & Maggie Sansone, 1993*

VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR: *Lauren Volkart*

PRODUCTION VOLUNTEERS: *Doug Schmid, David May, Nestor Arguello, Brendan Koop*

CHRISTMAS DECORATING: *Nate Farley, Lauren Volkart, Jeremy Stanbary,  
Jill Mraz, Molly Koop & Family, Laurie Walsh, Bob Graff, Allan Barta, Kaylea  
Nelson, Joe Boeltl, Jacq Frascone, Joey Nilan, Karina Hipp*

CHRISTMAS DISPLAY DONORS: *Thank you to the following donors who contributed  
to our Christmas displays: Carol Smidt, Lee Ann Nelson, JoAnn Johnson, Sandy &  
Gary Perkerwicz, Amy Trksak, Linda Schluender, Nate Farley, MaryBeth Schmid*

**ENJOY THE SHOW?** Help advance our redemptive mission in the arts! 40% of our budget comes from donations. Scan the QR code to donate now:

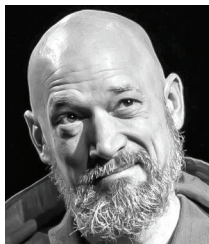


---

---

# “NICHOLAS”

## CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM



**Jeremy Stanbary**  
Playwright/Director/  
Sound/Projections/  
Nicholas



**Annie Birkholz**  
Sophie/Young Zoe



**Rico Heisler**  
Seller/Erasmus



**Carter Monahan**  
Kyros/Cyrus



**Sarah Stanbary**  
Teen Zoe/Older Zoe



**Augustine Stanbary**  
Young Nicholas



**Joe Hendren**  
Associate Director



**Joe Coldwell**  
Stage Manager/  
Lighting Design



**Nate Farley**  
Set/Props



**MaryBeth Schmid**  
Costume Designer

---

### **JEREMY STANBARY:**

Jeremy holds a degree in Fine & Performing Arts with 20-years of experience producing and performing theater professionally while advancing his uniquely redemptive vision for the arts. In 2003, Jeremy began touring full-time with his original one-man and small-cast dramas. For the next 8-years, he performed for tens of thousands of people both nationally and

internationally, reaching countless others via cable television. In 2011, Jeremy & Sarah founded Open Window Theatre, and the rest is history. NICHOLAS marks his 13th original fulllength play, and 4th conventional stage play for OWT, not counting his recent adaption of Dante's INFERNO to kickoff Season 10.

---

**ANNIE BIRKHOZ:**

Annie is incredibly grateful for the opportunity to be back onstage at OWT. A performer, singer and songwriter from Elko, MN; Annie has had the honor to appear in many Generations Theatre Company productions as well as be onstage at the Guthrie Theatre in Mpls. She enjoys music of all genres, dance, baking and reading a good book. Annie looks forward to sharing her passion and gifts with a live audience each night.

**JOE HENDREN:**

Joe Hendren has been directing, acting, designing, and writing for local theatre for more than 20 years and he is delighted to be back at Open Window after an extended absence. He previously was seen in OWT productions of Shadowlands, The Jeweler's Shop, and directed A Man for all Seasons. In the time since, he's directed shows for Lakeshore Players, Theatre Uncorked, Chameleon Theatre, Landmark Center, Hamline University, The Phipps, TheatreX, and Minneapolis Musical Theatre - for which he also served as Artistic Director for the last five years.

**MARYBETH SCHMID:**

MaryBeth has retired from her first career as a homeschooling mom and is now pursuing a second career as a costume designer. This is the eighth show that MaryBeth has designed at OWT, and she is excited to again be designing the costumes for Nicholas!

**SARAH STANBARY:**

Sarah is the co-founder of Open Window Theatre and a graduate of the University of Wisconsin-Green Bay with a dual degree in Theatre Performance and Arts Management. Prior to Open Window, Sarah toured both nationally & internationally with husband Jeremy from 2007-2011. When she's not moonlighting as an actress, Sarah is caring for and educating seven kiddos at home, running her Norwex business, and teaching ballroom dance to both children and adults.

**NATE FARLEY:**

Nate has been with OWT since Season 2 and feels blessed to be a part of this creative venture. Nate is a Librarian by day - freelance designer/actor by night. He also works with a variety of other theater and film companies in the area: Bucket Brigade, Spark Theater & Dance, Sidewinder Productions, and the University of Northwestern -St. Paul.

**CARTER MONAHAN:**

Carter is excited to be making his Open Window Theatre debut! Carter has enjoyed different on camera acting roles and performing in productions throughout the Twin Cities. Some of his favorite past roles include Ralphe in A Christmas Story at Lakeshore Players Theatre, Young Shrek in Shrek! The Musical at Artistry, and Young Scrooge in A Christmas Carol at the Guthrie Theater. Carter would like to thank his family for their endless support.

**RICO HEISLER:**

Rico has performed at such venues as the Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Bloomington Civic Theater, The Ordway, the Jungle Theater, Valleyfair, and The Zephyr Theatre. Together with his wife, Kari, Rico has spent the last 20 years directing and choreographing high school shows as well as raising seven wonderful kids. Rico graduated from the University of Northwestern with a degree in Biblical Studies. While not currently practicing, Rico is also a William Mitchell College of Law alumni and licensed attorney.

**AUGUSTINE STANBARY:**

Augustine is the oldest son of founders Jeremy and Sarah Stanbary and has previously appeared on the OWT stage in last season's production of Thornton Wilder's Our Town as well as the premiere of NICHOLAS: The Origin of Father Christmas last December. Other theater credits include Open Window's youth productions of Seussical, You're a Good Man Charlie Brown, and Willy Wonka, in addition to the independent stage production of His Name is Michael. Augustine is excited to be carrying on the Stanbary family tradition on the stage!

**JOE COLDWELL:**

Having recently traded the quiet charm of Wisconsin for the vibrant energy of the Twin Cities, Joseph brings with him a 13-year stint in secondary educational theater where he contributed his expertise as a Technical Director, Lighting Designer, and Set Designer for various school districts and community theaters. His dedication to fostering creativity and innovation in the educational setting has left an indelible mark on the countless productions he has been a part of. Joseph is delighted to be a part of the mission of Open Window Theatre and this wonderful production. He would like to dedicate his part in it to his grandfather, affectionately called "Bopi", who passed away Thanksgiving weekend.

# FREE COR PATRON EXCLUSIVE EVENT

JANUARY 19-21, 2024

Not yet a COR Patron?  
Learn More or Sign-Up Using the QR Code Below!



A 2-Person Comedy by George Bernard Shaw

Featuring Anna Barry Leverett and Ben Shaw | Directed by Damian Leverett



---

---

# THANK YOU, SEASON SPONSORS!

Interested in becoming a season sponsor? Contact us: [freshair@openwindowtheatre.org](mailto:freshair@openwindowtheatre.org)//612-615-1515

---



## BOWEN DESIGN

ESTABLISHED ★ 1995

### Bowen Design

Your Friendly Neighborhood  
Graphic Design Studio.

651.216.9958

[KevinBowenDesign.com](http://KevinBowenDesign.com)



## ADVANCED DENTAL CARE

**Dr. Jeffrey Kohler**

Integrity, quality and compassion.

Call or Text 952-232-4185

[LakevilleAdvancedDentalCare.com](http://LakevilleAdvancedDentalCare.com)

---

# Mazanec, Bauer & Associates, P.L.C.

Certified Public Accountants

Your trusted CPA advisor every step of the way.

[mazanecbauer.com](http://mazanecbauer.com)

---



We are the South Metro's experts in outside and inside renovation!

[crestexteriors.net](http://crestexteriors.net)

---



Putting a choice for life within reach.  
**abria.org**



Helping you tell a story.  
**Up North Creative**

---

# ECKLAND & BLANDO LLP

· THE · BUSINESS · OF · JUSTICE ·

Providing experienced, aggressive, and responsive legal services to businesses across the country.  
**ecklandblando.com**



**Commercial and Residential Painters**  
Your Home. Your Business. Your Family. Your Life.  
**jmjpainters.com**



Be transformed by the renewal of your mind. Undergrad and grad programs. Scholarships available.  
**Catholic Studies at the University of St. Thomas**



A member-owned, not-for-profit financial cooperative building lifelong relationships that enhance financial lives of its members.  
**catholicunitedcu.org**

Experience the Joy  
of being a

---

# COR Patron

---

Season Tickets // Free Swag // VIP Offers & Events

Scan the QR Code to Learn More  
or Ask a Box Office Associate for Details

