THE PREMIERE PLAYHOUSE

PRESENTS



February 3-13, 2022

at The Orpheum Theatre www.thepremiereplayhouse.com

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ICON



Presents

LOMBARDI

By Eric Simonson

Based on the book *When Pride Still Mattered - A Life of Vince Lombardi* written by David Maraniss

Director Jesse Jensen Calling Stage Manager **Luke Salerno**

Production Stage Manager Jazlynne Williams

Scenic Designer

Jill Clark

Lighting Designer Micki Noves

Sound Designer

Malia Lukomski

Costume Designer Kendra Dexter

SYNOPSIS

Lombardi tells the story of legendary Green Bay Packers coach Vince Lombardi and his wife Marie. The play takes place in 1958, 1959, 1964 and 1965, but is mostly set in November of 1965 when a young journalist from New York City, Michael McCormick, comes to live with the Lombardi family in order to write a newspaper article about the man.

SHOW INFORMATION

The original Broadway production of LOMBARDI was produced by Fran Kirmser and Tony Ponturo in association with The National Football League.

WARNINGS

Please be aware that this production contains the use of strong language.

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Donor's Spotlight





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We'd like to thank Mr. T. Denny Sanford for his \$100,000 matched funding donation to benefit our education department's commitment to The Penguin Project. The Premiere Playhouse has partnered with Lifescape on this initiative, which focuses on providing an opportunity for children with disabilities to partake in a Premiere Playhouse production of a Broadway musical. Can you sponsor a pair of "penguins" for \$500 and in so doing help these children create something truly special, thereby making Sioux Falls an even more amazing place in which to live? Our penguins may not be able to fly, but that does not prevent their spirits from soaring. For more information on how to help, and to donate to this wonderful project, please visit:

https://thepremiereplayhouse.com/the-penguin-project/

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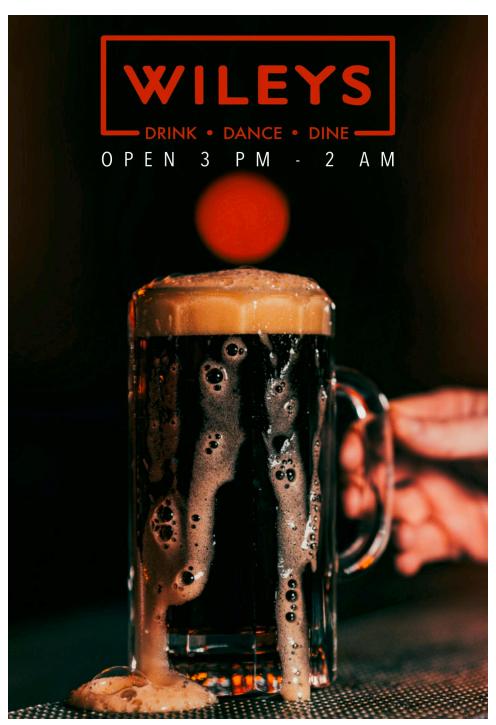
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Executive & Artistic Director's Note



Welcome to the third show of Season 19, Lombardi.

I grew up in England where any mention of Football automatically refers to the game played with a round ball and the other game with the egg-shaped ball is Rugby. What Americans call football we grew up calling American Football always preceding the word Football with the adjective American.

Back then I couldn't have told you the name of any American footballer. I might even have struggled to name any American football teams such was the obscurity of the sport outside of the USA. By the seventies however I had heard of The Superbowl and as someone who enjoys all kinds of sport this American Football thing started to peak my interest. I remember being at a Pub Quiz in England and being the only member of my team to know that the trophy awarded at The Superbowl is The Vince Lombardi trophy. I didn't really know however who he was or the impact that he had on the game until I actually came to live in the USA.

Having now lived in the USA for 20 years or so I think It's safe to say that I enjoy football season. I particularly enjoy Monday nights in the bar watching the game (any game) with my buddies who regularly have to explain certain rules and decisions to me.

I think our Director, Cast and Crew have done an outstanding job of not just bringing Vince Lombardi's story to the stage but from an artistic point of view they have captured the era, the look and the feel of the 60's, the expectations of a generation hungry for change.

In 1961 after Green Bay beat the New York Giants, 37-0, Vince was feted at a testimonial. He stood up for his acceptance speech where he stated that the strongest force in man is gentleness, love. "If you play together as a team, you've got to care for one another, you've got to love each other, then you know you've got a team." (Be men for others and serve others). Lombardi stated in triumph on national television, "We don't like one another, we love each other," referring to his team concept.

I like this concept. We are a team at The Premiere Playhouse. With every production that we do I witness first-hand the selflessness of our team, the giving to each other, the respect for others and the love that goes into each and every one of our productions.

Enjoy the show!

Robin Byrne

Executive & Artistic Director

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Director's Note



It was at Piven Theatre Workshop in Chicago where I learned how my love for sports and the stage intersect; their mission states that theatre is a collective endeavor of individual voices who maintain a commitment to the ensemble – the team. Vince Lombardi once said that a team is an "Individual commitment to a group effort – that is what makes a team work, a company work, a society work, a civilization work."

Thank you to my team of actors, volunteers, staff, designers and crew. My ensemble. You are my champions.

Jesse Jensen

Director



Cast

Vince Lombardi Chris Andrews

Michael McCormick Joshua Allen

Marie Lombardi Nancy Tapken

Dave Robinson Clinton Store

Paul Hornung Erin Edward Sharp

Jim Taylor Ezra Hunter

U/S Marie Lombardi Emily Pipal Glatt

U/S Paul Hornung Jackson Heiberger

Broadcaster Voices Danny V.

Jeff Thurn Scott Smith





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Production

Assistant Director Sean Mueller

Assistant Stage Manager Sadie Mickelson

Asst. Costume Designer Janet Liesinger

Paint Charge Alexondrea Thong Vanh

Master Carpenter Tad Lacey

Technical Coordinator Shawn Shannon II

Props Master Luke Salerno

Hair Consultant Bekki Kniep



Crew

Light Board Operator Mercedes Arnett

Sound Board Operator Jackson Heiberger

Run Crew Joe Fette

Nicole Fette Sophia Fette

Dresser Lyn Mock



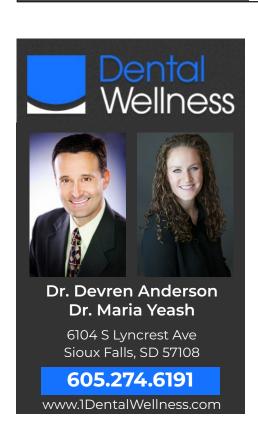
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Meet The Cast



Chris Andrews / Vince Lombardi

Chris is honored to join this talented cast. He has a strong connection to Wisconsin and the Packers: he met his wife while living in Oshkosh, and the two are Packers stock owners. His favorite creative outlet is performing improv for Improv Falls. Notable previous scripted roles include *The 39 Steps* (Clown 1) – Mighty Corson Art Players, *No Exit* (Garcin) and *Oleana* (John) – Monstrous Little Theatre Company, *Rock of Ages* (Dennis Dupree) and *Mary Poppins* (George Banks) – The Premiere Playhouse, and *The Album* (Ensemble) – Fishmongers Actors Theatre at the Minnesota Fringe Festival. Chris is a Project Manager for Premier Bankcard, volunteers with cats at the Sioux Falls Area Humane Society, and is a mentor for Lutheran Social Services. He is grateful for the love and support of his amazing wife, Sara (the REAL football fan), and for the sacrifices his awesome kids. Evan and Max. made while dad rehearsed.



Clinton Store | Dave Robinson

Clinton is excited to return to the Sioux Falls stage with the Premiere Playhouse for this production of *Lombardi*! His most recent credits include: *Stop Kiss* (Detective Cole), *Murder on the Orient Express* (Monsieur Buoc), and *Footloose* (Coach Dunbar). He's performed with Premiere Playhouse, The Good Night Theatre Collective, The Mighty Corson Art Players, The Dinner Detective Sioux Falls, and appeared in several independent films and regional commercials. Clinton and the cast are looking forward to performing this story for the community.



Emily Pipal Glatt / U/S Marie Lombardi

Emily is pleased to be a part of the Premiere Playhouse's production, *Lombardi*. This is a wonderful show highlighting the life of the famous football coach that brought the Green Bay Packers to the world stage. Truly, Vincent Lombardi was an inspiring man, however his story would not be complete without the voice of his wife Marie. Ever at his side, his devoted wife Marie is a complex and entertaining character. Marie was accomplished and powerful in her own way. She was ahead of her time, and she was the woman behind the man. Emily has enjoyed the opportunity to work with such a talented cast and has learned an incredible amount about being on stage and community theater.



Erin Edward Sharp I Paul Hornung

Erin is excited to be back on the Premiere Playhouse stage. Lombardi is his 28 th show over 5 theatres in the span of the last 11 years. He was seen previously on our stage in No Sex Please, We're British (Arnold Needham), Noises Off (Garry Lejeune), Arsenic and Old Lace (Teddy Brewster), The Great Gatsby (Meyer Wolfsheim), and Lend Me a Tenor (Henry Saunders). Other favorites include Insane With Power (Speed Freak) at Olde Towne Dinner Theatre and Charlie Cox Runs With Scissors (Charlie Cox) at The Mighty Corson Art Players. He recently got engaged to "the neighbor girl" (Emily Dykstra) and would like to thank her for her love, support, and help with lines! They met on stage back in show number one and she has been along for the ride ever since.

Meet The Cast



Ezra Hunter / Jim Taylor

At a young age Ezra found a calling to tell stories. He was born in Sioux Falls, SD, but he didn't remain in the city as he and his family moved frequently. He moved to Canistota, SD where he lived for about three years. His second town, Chester, SD, became his home during high school where he found a passion for acting and oral interpretation which lead him to the University of Sioux Falls. Ezra graduated from the University of Sioux Falls with a degree in Communication Studies and Theatre in May of 2021. Notable work done during these years was *Into the Woods*, *Life is a Dream*, *She Loves Me*, *Loving Arms*, and his own original work: *FLIGHT*. Ezra enjoys reading and writing on his own time, and he hopes to spread the love of creating art in the Sioux Falls area.



Jackson Heiberger I U/S Paul Hornung

Jackson returns for his fourth consecutive show for the Premiere Playhouse. His previous appearances include *A Christmas Carol* (Donald), *Blood Brothers* (Sammy), and *Footloose* (Lyle). Jackson works full time overnights at the Glory House, and in his free time can be found reading, playing video games, and generally not watching football. Regardless, he's always willing to rise to the occasion and do what he loves most, performing!



Joshua Allen / Michael McCormick

Joshua is extremely excited for his third consecutive show with the Premiere Playhouse! He was most recently in *A Christmas Carol* (David and Mistletoe Seller) and prior to that *Blood Brothers* (Ensemble). Josh is so thankful to all his friends who have supported him before joining the theatre community and all the wonderful friends he has made since. In his free time Josh enjoys going to the gym, traveling (state of the world permitting), and playing board games with his friends. Josh hopes you will be captivated by the fantastic talent that has come together to bring you *Lombardi*. Enjoy the show!



Nancy Tapken / Marie Lombardi

Nancy first appeared on the Playhouse stage forty years ago as *Alice in Wonderland*. She is beyond thrilled to appear in Lombardi with this stellar cast. After receiving a BFA from USD, she spent six years living and studying acting in NYC. She has performed locally with Mighty Corson Art Players (where she also served on the board), Olde Towne Dinner Theatre and enjoyed a one-night collab with Good Night Theatre Collective. Nancy co-founded Broad Cast Theatre in 2019 and co-wrote BCT's current show, *Broadly Speaking...and other B.S.* will perform at the History Club on February 19, 2022. BCT won the Sioux Falls Stage Award for Best Comedy in 2020. Her SECT credits include *God of Carnage* and *Calendar Girls*. She has been waiting 8 years (!) for a role of this caliber. Thank you to Jesse for the opportunity and THANK YOU to her family for their back-up on the homefront.



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Meet The Crew



Jazlynne Williams / Production Stage Manager

Jazlynne has thoroughly enjoyed working on this phenomenal "dramedy"! She fully indulges in football when she isn't doing theatre so this show was a wonderful balance of both! She is excited to take on the Production Stage Manager role for this show and see her boyfriend, Luke, step up and be the Calling Stage Manager - who will flawlessly call the cues and change the lights and sound you'll see tonight! Jazlynne is honored to be a part of making the magic you see on stage happen. She works full time as the Stage Manager for the Premiere Playhouse, and proudly holds a BFA in Stage Management from the University of Central Florida in Orlando. Thank you for coming and GO BRONCOS! (www.jazlynnewilliams.com)

Jesse Jensen *I Director, Community Engagement & Development Coordinator*

Jesse made his Premiere Playhouse acting debut in the 2018 production of Peter and the Starcatcher (Black Stache) after previously directing Beauty & the Beast Jr., God of Carnage, and Of Mice and Men. Jesse brings years of experience in both professional theatre and children's productions having worked with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Raven Theatre Company, and Piven Theatre Workshop in Chicago, IL; and City Circle in Iowa City. His wife, Melissa, is a physician at Sanford Children's Hospital in Sioux Falls and the two have three children - Prentice, Maddux, and Camden. Jesse graduated with a BFA in Acting from the University of South Dakota.

Kendra Dexter / Costume Designer

is the owner of Designs By Dexter, and has made everything from wedding gowns to Irish dance costumes. Her recent achievements include work on a short film project and an American College Theater Festival Award for her design work on Much Ado About Nothing (Fall 2016) at the University of Sioux Falls. Kendra runs her business and is the Costume Director for the University of Sioux Falls and O'Gorman High School. Kendra has costumed more than 75 shows in South Dakota, several of which were right here at The Premiere Playhouse. A new recipient of her Master's in Theater from Regent University, Kendra Dexter is thrilled to bring new skills to the Premiere Playhouse during A Christmas Carol.



Luke Salerno / Calling Stage Manager, Props Master

Luke is thrilled to be in the back of the house and calling his first show! Luke graduated from the University of Central Florida in 2019 with a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Theatre Studies and Minor in Event Management. Luke's previous roles backstage and onstage include A Christmas Carol (ASM/Props Master), Blood Brothers (Ensemble), Footloose (ASM/Props Master), Beauty and The Beast (ASM/Props Master), A Gentlemen's Guide to Love and Murder (Production Props), Titanic (Production Props) and Oklahoma! (Run Crew). Luke would like to thank his family and his fellow cast and crew members for their continued support. He would also like to send a special thank you to his girlfriend, Jazlynne for helping to prepare him in this new role!

Meet The Crew



Malia Lukomski / Sound Designer

Malia is the Premiere Playhouse's Sound Designer for the 2021 - 2022 season. They made their design debut with *Footloose* and have worked with the Playhouse ever since. They are a graduate of Augustana University with degrees in Theatre and Media Studies (2020) and a graduate of the SALT Institute for Documentary Studies with a Graduate Certificate in Radio and Podcast Production. Currently, they are working as a field producer for iHeartMedia. For more information on their current and future endeavors, you can go to www.malialukomski.com

Micki Noyes / Lighting Designer

Micki is a Sioux Falls native and was bit by the theatre bug way back in high school. Micki enjoys all aspects of theatre, but lighting is where she really shines...and she's not too bad at puns either. Cue audience groans. Micki would like to thank Corey Shelsta for imparting his knowledge to her, especially of the life cycle of a sponge which he so expertly shared through interpretive dance, and for introducing her to the lovely folks involved in this production. Micki would also like to give a shout out to her husband, Jason, and son, Langston for being the amazing human beings they are. Lastly, thanks go out to the audience for your participation -- break a leg and have a great show!

Sadie Mickelson / Assistant Stage Manager

Sadie is thrilled to be involved in another production with the Premiere Playhouse. Her previous productions include *Footloose*, *Blood Brothers* and *A Christmas Carol*. When not backstage she can be found playing with her cat or hanging out with her friends. She wants to thank her family and friends for their continuous support.



Sean Mueller / Assistant Director

Sean is thrilled to be assisting Jesse Jensen with this amazing telling of Lombardi. Sean returned to theater as Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast*, Wes Warnicker in *Footloose* and recently as Mr. Bear in *A Christmas Carol*. Sean's growth and talents continue and he remains humble and blessed to get to work with the Premiere Playhouse as Assistant Director. Sean wants to thank everyone for supporting local theater and The Playhouse for seeing his attributes and believing in what he has to contribute to community theater.



Meet Our Staff

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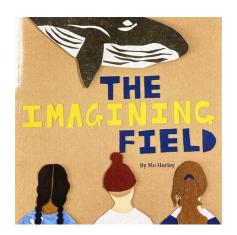
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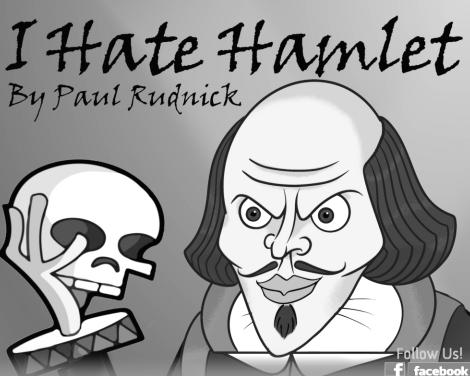
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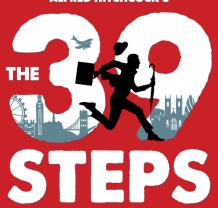




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