

TBTA

The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts

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Seussical™

MUSIC BY **Stephen Flaherty** LYRICS BY **Lynn Ahrens**

BOOK BY **Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty**

CO-CONCEIVED BY **Lynn Ahrens, Stephen Flaherty & Eric Idle**

BASED ON THE WORKS OF **Dr. Seuss**

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY **Michael Burnett**

PRODUCED BY **Lori Mele & Stephanie Skrok**

MUSICAL DIRECTOR **Joanne F. Archibald**

PERFORMANCE DATES

July 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 22, 26, 27, 28

Curtain time is 8:00 p.m. ◉ Sun., July 22nd is a 2:00 p.m. matinee

All performances at the Playhouse, Rte. 25 behind the Brookfield Library

ALL SEATS General Admission **\$20⁰⁰**

RESERVATIONS: **203-775-0023**

Please visit our website: www.brookfieldplayhouse.org

Seussical is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. Tel.: (212) 541-4684 Fax: (212) 397-4684 www.MTIShows.com

The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

July 2007

Dear Patron of the Arts,

It is forward of me to impose the title of patron so generically, but you are here this evening, and with that you must know you are the life force of this community theatre. Thus, a patron you are and the title you must embrace.

Typically my letters are filled with the universal "you're in for a real treat" or "what a show we have in store for you this evening." Though true, the harsher reality is this may not continue to be the case if our patrons do not recognize how important their role is to the lifeblood of the theatre and the arts in this community.

Last season an audience member told me they were offended by "the pitch for money" we make before each performance. They said it took away from their artistic experience that evening. Of course this person never gave us a penny, so I guess our theatre and board should really be the ones offended. I share this because we **MUST** ask you for your financial support. There is no other way around it if this theatre is to continue for another 50 years.

To be perfectly frank it is more difficult to run the theatre. Everything costs more and box office receipts do not cover the basic costs of business. The theatre must generate over \$30,000 a year just to keep the lights on, pay the heat, have the garbage removed; that does not include any production costs (which are even more exorbitant). If we sold every seat for every show we would make approximately \$76,000 a year; sounds perfect, however we rarely sell out, except for musical shows that are well known. So, if you are here tonight, as a patron, one thing you can do right away is begin coming to every single show we produce, and tell your friends to do the same.

We need you take this letter seriously and to contribute as a donor. There is just no other way to keep the theatre alive other than by you giving to it. If you work for a company that has matching funds, ask them to match your donation, or ask your family and friends to match. This is not just an appeal to have some cushion funds; this is a plea to help us be here this next year, and the next, and the next. The theatre cannot survive on \$20.00 dollar seats anymore; we need to rely on our patron's donations.

So, I implore you to please do your part this evening: take the donor card from the back of this program and make a contribution. Help us keep the theatre alive. If this has offended anyone—I cannot and will not apologize for doing what is right for the theatre! I and many others have worked, as volunteers, the last 50 years to provide this community with quality performances and artistic creation, it is time for the community to step up, take responsibility and give, it is that simple.

My sincerest & deepest thanks to you all,

David

David J. Tuttle
TBTA President

The Brookfield Theatre For The Arts, Inc.

July 2007

Dear friends of the theatre,

It is a pleasure to address you as Artistic Director in this our golden anniversary season. For fifty years, TBTA has been providing our community with quality arts programming. This is no easy task and everyone who has contributed to this success, from cast and crews, to founders and boards, to patrons and donors, should stand and take a bow.

In our time, little seems to survive fifty years, especially a not-for-profit theatre company staffed by volunteers. Our theatre company has always been clear about who and what we are. Regardless of our name; Country Players, Brookfield Playhouse or TBTA, our mission has remained consistent in providing a space for performers to practice their craft. For fifty years we have remained respected as one of the finest community theatres in the state.

Artistically, I am proud of our past and believe we are headed in the right direction for the future. From our early days, I believe we have succeeded in presenting season after season of well-rounded theatre and performance for our audiences. Under my direction, I have strived to present seasons that entice local performers, entertain audiences, challenge our minds, and occasionally push the envelope. Additionally, I feel it is my responsibility to insure that our young people know and appreciate the early plays and musicals that led us to now. I remind them that without Rogers and Hammerstein, there would be no Sondheim.

This place has a way of making you want to stay...I had the privilege as a young teen to work with co-founders Tillie Ciccala and Dot French in *The Diary of Anne Frank*. I have worked extensively with Wendell MacNeal, both on- and off-stage. One of our early directors has been known to review a show now and again. Larry Stewart, Barbara Locke and Bill Possidento remain actively involved; the longevity of our members speaks volumes. The stories are amazing, from a young unknown Edward Albee having his *Zoo Story* read at TBTA, to Tommy the ghost, to the many people who have gone on to have careers in stage, film and dance. People come and go, but TBTA remains a safe place to let down our inner walls, expand creatively, take chances, and perhaps even be a star.

Our golden anniversary has something for everyone. Dramas that make us think, musicals that make us ooh and aah and comedies that make us laugh. Each show of this season is about believing, whether in miracles or underdogs, cats in hats, or in ourselves. Dreams do come true...just look around.

Happy 50th Anniversary and hats off to TBTA! May we continue to work together to provide a magic place for our children and their children. See you at the 100th!

Bart Geissinger
Artistic Director

Production Staff

<i>Director</i>	Michael Burnett
<i>Musical Director.</i>	Joanne F. Archibald
<i>Set Design</i>	Ellen Diker
<i>Co-Producers</i>	Lori Mele, Stephanie Skrok
<i>Stage Manager</i>	Sammy Panzarino
<i>Choreographer</i>	Michael Burnett
<i>Set Design</i>	Ellen Diker
<i>Master Carpenter.</i>	Adrian Price-Whelan
<i>Set Construction.</i>	Dave Hubertus, Sean Mullins, Katharine Siranko
<i>Costume Designer</i>	Hannah Merrill
<i>Sound Design</i>	Brian Casella
<i>Sound Execution</i>	Molly Olena
<i>Lighting Design</i>	Adrian Price-Whelan
<i>Lighting Execution.</i>	Rob Onorato, Katharine Siranko
<i>Box Office Manager.</i>	Carol Hoose
<i>Poster Design.</i>	Arkettype
<i>Opening Night Party.</i>	The Dempster Family

Band

Joanne Archibald, *Piano*
name, *Keyboard*
name, *Bass*
name, *Percussion*
name, *Woodwinds*

Special Thanks

to Jill Hancock and Jillian MacKenzie

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CAST

listed in order of appearance

Boy / JoJo	Zach Jackson
The Cat In The Hat	Elkin Taverns
Horton The Elephant	D.J. Debohen
Mayor Of Whoville.	Nicholas Kier
Mrs. Mayor	Lori Mele
Gertrude McFuzz	Jamie LaPine
Mayzie LaBird	Angela Tiffany Scott
Sour Kangaroo.	Colleen Gallagher
Young Kangaroo.	Monica Gallagher
General Genghis Kahn Schmitz	Michael Steinmetz
Bird Girls	Maya Close, Samantha Mitchell, Kira E. Wallace
Wickersham Brothers	Peter Mele, Jr., Ben Panzarino, Billy Shields
Citizens of the Jungle of Nool	Samantha Morrill, Caitlin Dawn Nolan, Leila Noone
Citizens of Whoville.	Brandon Castelino, Emily Gallagher, Meghan Gallagher, Samantha K. Gronwoldt, Travis Moore, Nicholas Paul Panzarino, Sammy Panzarino, Thomas Russell
The Grinch	Thomas Russell
Cadets	Brandon Castelino, Travis Moore, Nicholas Paul Panzarino, Sammy Panzarino, Thomas Russell, Michael Zschoche
Fish	Maya Close, Samantha Morrill, Caitlin Dawn Nolan, Leila Noone
Vlad Vladikoff	Caitlin Dawn Nolan
Judge Yertle The Turtle	Nicholas Paul Panzarino



Musical Numbers

ACT 1

<i>Oh The Thinks You Can Think</i>	Cat, Horton, Mr. & Mrs. Mayor, Gertrude, Mayzie, Sour Kangaroo, Schmitz, Ensemble
<i>Horton Hears A Who</i>	Horton, Bird Girls, Citizens of the Jungle
<i>Biggest Blame Fool</i>	Sour Kangaroo, Young Kangaroo, Horton, Wickersham Bro's, Bird Girls, Cat, Gertrude, Mayzie, Citizens of the Jungle, Boy
<i>Here on Who</i>	Mr. & Mrs. Mayor, Citizens of Whoville, Grinch, Horton
<i>Oh, The Thinks You Can Think (Reprise)</i>	Cat, JoJo
<i>It's Possible</i>	JoJo, Cat, Fish, Ensemble
<i>How To Raise A Child</i>	Mr. & Mrs. Mayor
<i>The Military</i>	Schmitz, Cadets, Cat
<i>Alone In The Universe</i>	Horton, JoJo
<i>The One Feather Tail of Miss Gertrude McFuzz</i>	Gertrude
<i>Amazing Mayzie</i>	Mayzie, Gertrude, Bird Girls
<i>Amazing Gertrude</i>	Gertrude, Bird Girls, Cat
<i>Monkey Around</i>	Wickersham Brothers
<i>Chasing The Whos</i>	Sour Kangaroo, Wickersham Brothers, Bird Girls, Vlad Vladikoff, Cat, Horton, Whos, Citizens of the Jungle
<i>How Lucky You Are</i>	Cat
<i>Notice Me, Horton</i>	Gertrude, Horton
<i>How Lucky You Are (Reprise)</i>	Mayzie, Cat
<i>Act 1 Finale</i>	Horton, Gertrude, Cat, JoJo, Whos, Bird Girls, Ensemble

Musical Numbers, continued

ACT 2

<i>Egg, Nest & Tree</i>	Sour Kangaroo, Bird Girls, Wickersham Brothers, Ensemble
<i>The Circus McGurkus</i>	Cat, Ensemble
<i>The Circus On Tour / How Lucky You Are (Reprise)</i>	Horton, Cat, Ensemble
<i>Mayzie In Palm Beach</i>	Mayzie, Cat
<i>Amazing Horton</i>	Mayzie, Horton
<i>Alone In The Universe (Reprise)</i>	Horton
<i>Solla Sollew</i>	Horton, JoJo, Mr. & Mrs. Mayor, Ensemble
<i>Green Eggs & Ham</i>	Cadets, Schmitz, JoJo
<i>Into The Whos' Christmas Pageant</i>	Whos, Grinch
<i>A Message From The Front/Solla Sollew (Reprise)</i>	Cadets, Schmitz, Mr. & Mrs. Mayor
<i>JoJo Alone In The Universe</i>	JoJo
<i>Havin' A Hunch</i>	Cat, JoJo, Ensemble
<i>All For You</i>	Gertrude, Cat, Bird Girls, Horton
<i>The People Versus Horton The Elephant</i>	Cat, Yertle, Horton, Sour Kangaroo, Bird Girls, Wickersham Brothers, Mr. & Mrs. Mayor, Whos, Young Kangaroo, JoJo, Ensemble
<i>Yopp! / Alone In The Universe (Reprise)</i>	Gertrude, Horton
<i>Oh, The Thinks You Can Think/Finale Act 2</i>	Company
<i>Green Eggs & Ham/Bows</i>	Company

For the safety of the performers and the courtesy of fellow patrons the use of flash photography is strictly forbidden.
Copyright laws prohibit the recording of sound and video.
Please turn off all phones, pagers, computer games, and other distractions. Please unwrap candies before the show begins and respect each other. This is live theatre.

Biographies

Joanne F. Archibald (MUSIC DIRECTOR, PIANO) Joanne is delighted to be working at TBTA again. Joanne has been involved at TBTA since the late '70s and is most recently credited with being Musical Director and accompanist of *Assassins* and *Carnival*. In the past, Joanne has accompanied for Musicals at Richter, Sherman Theater, Immanuel Lutheran Players, Crime and Merriment Mystery Dinner Theater, Ridgefield Theater, Brewster High School, Danbury High School, Opera at WCSU and the NATS and NYSSMA vocal competitions. Joanne received her BS in Music Education from WCSU and is currently attending a graduate class at Yale School of Sacred Music. She teaches piano, organ and keyboard in Danbury and is the Organist/Music Director at St. James' Episcopal Church in Danbury. Joanne is grateful to God for the many blessings in her life, especially her son, Daniel and her daughter, Heather.

Michael Burnett (DIRECTOR, CHOREOGRAPHER) Michael holds a degree in Theatre and Deaf Studies from Skidmore College and a Masters in acupuncture from Tri-State College. He has been seen on stage in professional productions of *Mame*, *42nd Street*, *Singin' in the Rain*, and *Sugar Babies*. He has also been involved in theatre for the Deaf both in NYC and at Gallaudet University. He has taught various forms of dance at several New York and Connecticut studios for the past seventeen years. Michael has served as Choreographer and Assistant Director for Danbury High School productions for the last ten years. Most recently he opened Windhorse Acupuncture, Center for Eastern Healing Arts specializing in Japanese acupuncture and Thai massage. Michael is thrilled to be working with such a talented cast and crew here at TBTA.

Brandon Castelino (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE, CADET) Previous credits include: *Bye Bye Birdie* at TBTA.

Maya Close (BIRD GIRL, FISH) Previous credits include: *Be Aggressive* (Judy), *Cindy Ella's Going to the Ball*, *Baby!* (Cindy Ella), and *The Wiz* (Yellow Brick Road) and *Seussical the Musical* (Bird Girl) at Danbury High School. Maya is a junior at Connecticut College pursuing a major in Human Development and a certification in Elementary Education and Special Education. She would like to thank her mother for being her best friend and the cast of *Seussical* for being just as crazy and fun as the characters in the play.

D.J. Deboen (HORTON THE ELEPHANT) D.J. is excited to be reprising the role of Horton, which he played previously in the Danbury High School production of *Seussical*.

Colleen Gallagher (SOOR KANGAROO) Previous credits include: *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Rosa Bud), *Little Jokes and Happy Endings - A Checkhov Project*, *The Wiz* (Scarecrow) at Danbury High School, and *Titanic* (Kate Mullins) at Musicals at Richter. Colleen is entering her senior year as a Musical Theatre major at Manhattanville College....Special thanks to Mom, Dad and the sisters, and to her friends at both homes, here and at school.

Biographies, cont'd.

Emily Gallagher (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE) Previous credits include: *The Vagina Monologues* (Hair), *Fairy Tales* (Ursula), and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Sylvia) and *The Merchant of Venice* (Portia) at RADA in London. Emily is a recent graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts....Thanks to Mom and Dad for their constant love and support.

Meghan Gallagher (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE) Previous credits include: *Grease* and *The Music Man* at Danbury High School. Meghan is going to be a junior at Danbury High School, loves musicals, and enjoys playing soccer. She would like to thank her sisters and her parents for all of their support.

Monica Gallagher (YOUNG KANGAROO) Previous credits include: *The Wiz* and *Harvey* (Myrtle Mae Simmons) at Danbury High School, *The Disappearance of the Three Little Pigs* (Twinkle Star), and *Titanic* (Stewardess Robinson) at Musicals at Richter. Monica will be attending UConn in the fall....Thanks to Mom, Dad, sisters and God!

Samantha K. Gronwoldt (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE) Previous credits include: *The Disappearance of the Three Little Pigs* (Mrs. Pig), and *The Wiz, Honk!*, and *The Emperor's New Clothes* (Patches) at Danbury High School. Samantha is a student at WCSU majoring in Theatre. She would like to thank her family and friends.

Zach Jackson (BOY/JOJO) Previous credits include: *Seussical the Musical* (Jojo) and *The Music Man* (Winthrop) at Danbury High School, *Nine* (Little Guido) at WCSU, and *The King and I* (Royal Child) at Musicals at Richter. Zach is thirteen years old and will enter the eighth grade at RPMS this fall. He would like to thank his family, teachers, coaches and other cast members for all of their love, support and encouragement.

Meg Jones (FEATURED ARTIST) Meg began painting seven years ago, after taking a class with New Milford's Adult Education program. She studied with her teacher and mentor, Ann DeLorian von Hoorn, and now teaches the watercolor class. Meg's choice of subject matter comes from her love of nature and the ocean. She often paints scenes from Maine, Martha's Vineyard and Candlewood Lake, and aspires to one day write and illustrate a children's book. She studied Early Childhood Education at Boston University and received a Master's Degree in Child Development from WCSU. Raised in Bethel, Meg is now an elementary school teacher by day and lives in New Milford with her two lovely daughters and John.

Nicholas Kier (MAYOR OF WHOVILLE) Previous credits include: *Frankenstein* (Henry Clerval), *Assassins* (Zangara) and *Bye Bye Birdie* (Albert Peterson) at TBTA, and *Ghost of a Chance* (Frederick Penyworth) at Theatreworks. Nicholas is enjoying his fifth year as Assistant to the Regional Manager at Dunder Mifflin. He would like to thank Michael, the Shields family, the Steinmetz family, and the Tuttle/Geissinger household for making this summer possible.

Biographies, cont'd.

Jamie LaPine (GERTRUDE McFUZZ) Previous credits include: *Grease* (Jan), *The Music Man* (Pick-A-Little Lady), and *Puss in Boots* (The Great Ogre) at Danbury High School. Jamie will be attending Berklee College of Music in the fall where she will study Music Education with a concentration in Contemporary Voice. Jamie would like to thank her parents and grandparents for all of their support and help, and Niz and Michael for their guidance and for always believing in her.

Lori Mele (MRS. MAYOR) Previous credits include: *Carnival* (Rosalie), *Assassins* (Sarah Jane Moore), *Master Class* (Sharon Graham) and *Bye Bye Birdie* at TBTA. Lori is a Spanish teacher at Westover School in Middlebury, CT. She is very excited to be sharing the stage with her brother for the first time in six years, and would like to thank him and her parents for their undying support of her theatrical endeavors.

Peter Mele, Jr. (WICKERSHAM BROTHER) Previous credits include: *The Secret Garden* (Dickon), and *Beauty and the Beast* (Lumiere), *Snoopy* (Snoopy), and *Into the Woods* (The Baker) at Main Street Theater Company. Peter is a rising junior at Gettysburg College pursuing a double major in Japanese Studies and Musical Theater.... A huge thanks to this phenomenal cast and crew for making Peter's first show at TBTA so unforgettable.

Samantha Mitchell (*Bird Girl*) Sam will be a freshman at the Hartt School of Music in the fall. Much love to the cast and crew and a big thanks to her family.

Travis Moore (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE, CADET) Previous credits include: *Bye Bye Birdie* (Randolph) at TBTA, and *The Full Monty* and *Romeo and Juliet: a Rock and Roll Love Story* at WCSU. Travis would like to thank his family, friends, and girlfriend, Andrea.

Samantha Morrill (CITIZEN OF THE JUNGLE OF NOOL, FISH) Previous credits include: *The Music Man* and *Grease* at Danbury High School, and *Nutcracker on Broadway* (Rat, ensemble). Samantha is a junior at Danbury High School with a passion for dance. She has danced at the Academy of Dance Arts for fourteen years.

Caitlin Dawn Nolan (CITIZEN OF THE JUNGLE OF NOOL, FISH, VLAD VLADIKOFF) Previous Credits include: *The Rocky Horror Show* (Magenta), *The Wiz* (Yellow Brick Road) at Danbury High School, *The Disappearance of the Three Little Pigs* (Missy Muffet), and *Footloose* (lead dancer) at the Sherman Playhouse. Caitlin is the teacher of ten fabulous two-year-olds at The Sandbox Daycare....Thanks to Mom, Dad, B & S, Gigi, and all her "Bests."

Leila Noone (CITIZEN OF THE JUNGLE OF NOOL) Previous credits include: *Seussical the Musical* at Danbury High School. Leila is a Journalism major at Fordham University. She would like to thank her mom, her brother, God.

Biographies, cont'd.

Ben Panzarino (WICKERSHAM BROTHER) Previous credits include: *Grease* (Danny Zuko) at Danbury High School, *Assassins* at TBTA, *Damn Yankees* at Musicals at Richter, and *The Wizard of Oz* (The Cowardly Lion) at the Portuguese Cultural Center. Ben is going to be a freshman at WCSU next year. He would like to thank his washer, for keeping his dance clothes clean so that they didn't smell as badly during rehearsals as they do during the day.

Nicholas Paul Panzarino (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE, CADET, JUDGE YERTLE THE TURTLE) Previous credits include: *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *Footloose*, *The Wiz* and *The Music Man* (Quartet) at Danbury High School. Nick goes to WCSU where he is pursuing a degree in Secondary Education....Thanks to everyone for their much-needed support during recent events.

Sammy Panzarino (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE, CADET) Previous credits include: *Grease* (Eugene) at Danbury High School, *The King and I* (Prince Chululongkorn) at Musicals at Richter, and *Assassins* and *I think I Can* at TBTA. Sammy is a sophomore at Danbury High School and is thrilled to be back at TBTA. He would like to thank Michael, Stephanie, Lori, Bart, and all of the cast and crew of *Seussical*.

Thomas Russell (THE GRINCH, CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE, CADET) Previous credits include: *Grease* (Kenickie) and *The Music Man* at Danbury High School. Thomas will be attending Lynchburg College this fall and currently works at WCSU helping young children aged 6-13 with acting. He would like to thank his parents for supporting him in all of his acting projects and Michael for including him in this production.

Angela Tiffany Scott (MAYZIE LABIRD) Previous credits include: *Footloose* (Ethel), *Honk!* (Narrator), and *The Wiz* (Evilene) at Danbury High School, and *The Disappearance of the Three Little Pigs* (Mrs. Sprat). Angela is a senior, Human Resources major at the University of Delaware. She would like to thank Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, her parents and friends.

Billy Shields (WICKERSHAM BROTHER) Previous credits include: *Hello, Dolly!* (Cornelius Hackl) and *Exit the Body* (Philip Smith) at Brookfield High School, and *Carnival* (Roustabout) and *Bye Bye Birdie* at TBTA. This is Billy's third season at TBTA and he looks forward to many more in the future. He will be attending Merrymount Manhattan College in the fall. Billy would like to thank a great cast and crew for putting together such a swell show.

Michael Steinmetz (GENERAL GENGUS KHAN SCHMITZ) Previous credits include: *Cindy Ella's Going to the Ball, Baby!* (Buddy), *The Music Man* (Marcellus Washburn) and *Harvey* (Edward P. Dowd) at Danbury High School, and *The Disappearance of the Three Little Pigs* (Big Bad Wolf). Mike is a current student at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He would like to thank all his supporters through his crazy adventures in life.

Biographies, cont'd.

Elkin Taverns (THE CAT IN THE HAT) Previous credits include: *The Wiz* (Tinman), *Seussical the Musical* (Cat in the Hat), and *The Music Man* (Harold Hill) at Danbury High School. Elkin is an Education major at UConn. He would like to thank his family for supporting him throughout the years in theater.

Kira E. Wallace (BIRD GIRL) Previous credits include: *The Music Man* (Marian Paroo) and *Seussical the Musical* at Danbury High School, *Into the Woods* (Lucinda) at Musicals at Richter, and *Cindy Ella's Going to the Ball, Baby!* (Bluebell). Kira attends George Mason University and proudly works for Gap, Inc. She would like to thank TBTA, the cast of *Seussical*, and Michael Burnett for such a magical experience.

Michael Zschoche (CITIZEN OF WHOVILLE, CADET) Previous credits include: *The Music Man* (Ewert/Quartet), *Seussical the Musical* (Wickersham Brother), *The Wiz* (Munchkin, Monkey), and *Honk!* all at Danbury High School. Mike is currently a student at UConn where he studies Ecology and Evolutionary Biology.

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TBTA Members 2007

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of The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts!**

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The Brookfield Theatre for the Arts, Inc.

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