



1209 Hay St/P.O Box 53723  
Fayetteville, NC 28305  
Box Office Phone: 910.323.4233  
Business Phone: 910.323.4234  
[www.CFRT.org](http://www.CFRT.org)

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Please Contact: Ashley Owen | 910.323.4234 ext. 222 | [aowen@cfrt.org](mailto:aowen@cfrt.org)

**CAPE FEAR REGIONAL THEATRE ANNOUNCES 30<sup>th</sup> ANNIVERSARY  
PRODUCTION OF “THE BEST CHRISTMAS PAGEANT EVER”**

Fayetteville, NC— Cape Fear Regional Theatre is thrilled to announce the 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Production of one of Fayetteville’s longest running holiday traditions, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. “BCPE” has been delighting generations of audiences for 30 years and was last on the CFRT stage in 2019. Almost two years, a pandemic, and a renovation later, CFRT is finally opening its doors for audiences with *BCPE* which runs December 4 through December 19.

*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* follows the Bradley family as Mrs. Bradley is tasked with directing the highly coveted church Christmas pageant. When the Herdman kids, aka “the worst kids in the history of the world,” find their way into the production, chaos (and fun!) ensues. This year, BCPE features four different casts of local children. The Ginger cast, Cinnamon cast, Clove cast, and Nutmeg cast will rotate performances with each cast performing five times. CFRT Education Director Marc de la Concha is directing the production for the second time. Amber Dawn French (CFRT’s *Annie*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Shrek*) is returning to play Mrs. Bradley for the third time, and Matthew Jackson (CFRT’s *The Santaland Diaries*) will make his BCPE debut as Mr. Bradley. The rest of the roles will be played by children in this year’s spin on the beloved show.

“For 30 years, BCPE has been a show that brings the community together to celebrate the joy, laughter, and magic of the holiday season.” said CFRT’s Artistic Director Mary Catherine Burke. “We’re so proud to be re-opening our renovated theatre with this beloved, community classic and we can’t wait to welcome audiences back to CFRT this winter.”

“This year’s production is really special,” said Director Marc de la Concha. “We have kids filling out some of the roles normally played by adults, which is really giving this incredibly talented group of young performers even more opportunity to shine this holiday season.”

CFRT continues to operate in line with the most current guidance from the CDC and Artistic Unions and currently requires that all audience members wear masks during performances.

***The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* runs December 4-19 at Cape Fear Regional Theatre. Tickets are \$16 for adults and \$11 for children (18 and under). As a Blue Star Theater, CFRT offers Military Discounts for all performances and hosts Military Appreciation Nights (December 7, 8, 9, 10.) For tickets and information visit: [cfrt.org](http://cfrt.org) or call the box office at 910.323.4233.**

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Cape Fear Regional Theatre believes in the power of storytelling and the visceral impact of live theatre. We strive for the highest standards of excellence in our artistic work, educational offerings, and outreach efforts. We provide the region a place to come together to laugh harder, think deeper, share our experiences and grow as a community.