



177 State Street, Bridgeport, CT 06604

Tickets: 866-811-4111 • Information: (203) 333-3666 • www.playhouseonthegreen.org

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PRESS RELEASE

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**THE HOLIDAYS ARE HILARIOUS WITH
THE SANTALAND DIARIES and
SEASON'S GREETINGS
TWO ONE-ACT COMEDIES BY NPR HUMORIST DAVID SEDARIS
AT PLAYHOUSE ON THE GREEN DECEMBER 5-21, 2008**

**Wicked director Joe Mantello's stage versions of Sedaris' wacky holiday tales
come to Bridgeport.**

Bridgeport, CT— Forget visions of sugarplums and carols sung fireside, Playhouse on the Green has an alternative way to keep things jolly this holiday season – irreverent comedy! The 54-year-old Bridgeport theater company continues its 08-09 season with the hilarious play *The Santaland Diaries* - a sardonic “one-elf show” – and *Season's Greetings*, a one-act monologue that describes a “typical” housewife's holiday season gone terribly wrong! Both plays are by award-winning American humorist David Sedaris. *The Santaland Diaries* and *Season's Greetings* are seen on the Playhouse stage **December 5-21, 2008.**

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello, director of *Nine to Five*, *Wicked*, *The Ritz*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, and other Broadway shows, *The Santaland Diaries* is based on National Public Radio commentator Sedaris' 1992 essay recounting his bizarre experiences working as a Macy's “Elf” during the holiday season. Playhouse on the Green's production stars Scott R. Brill of Shelton as Crumpet the Elf, the long-suffering victim of vicious children, nasty parents, and manipulative co-workers. Packed with witty, dry insights into crass commercialism, *The Santaland Diaries* is welcome antidote to the schmaltz of the season.

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Season's Greetings is Sedaris' biting satire of a Martha Stewart-like housewife whose annual holiday letter reveals some very disturbing details. This dark-humored one-act stars **Kim McGrath** of Woodbridge.

Parental discretion is advised for dark humor and some edgy subject matter.

David Sedaris has become one of America's pre-eminent humor writers. David Sedaris is the author of the bestsellers *Barrel Fever* and *Holidays on Ice*, as well as collections of personal essays, *Naked*, *Me Talk Pretty One Day*, and *Dress Your Family in Corduroy and Denim*, each of which became immediate bestsellers. Sedaris and his sister, Amy Sedaris, have collaborated under the name "The Talent Family" and have written several plays which have been produced at La Mama, Lincoln Center, and The Drama Department in New York City. Sedaris' original radio pieces can often be heard on *This American Life* on NPR. In 2001, David Sedaris became the third recipient of the Thurber Prize for American Humor and he was named by *Time* magazine as "Humorist of the Year". David Sedaris was nominated for two Grammy Awards.

Matt Schicker, Producing Artistic Director for Playhouse on the Green, directs. Devon Spaght is Lighting Designer; Jessica Barron is Costume Designer; Jim DeVivo is Sound Designer; Jennifer Samath is Production Stage Manager; Donald Rowe is Light Board Operator. Marketing by graygraham.

Adult single tickets are \$27. Senior Citizens tickets (65 and older) are \$25. Student tickets (21 years and younger) are \$15. **Tickets can be purchased 24/7 on-line at www.playhouseonthegreen.org or by calling TheaterMania at (866) 811-4111 (phone hours 9-9 weekdays, 10-6 weekends).**

Playhouse on the Green is located at 177 State Street between Main Street and Markle Court in downtown Bridgeport. Free, secure parking one block from the theater is available. For more information visit www.playhouseonthegreen.org or call 203-333-3666.

The **2008-2009 season continues** with: *Twelve Angry Jurors* by Reginald Rose, which runs February 6-22, 2009; the Connecticut Premiere of *Dedication or The Stuff of Dreams* by Terrence McNally, which runs March 13-29, 2009; and *The Wiz* by Charlie Smalls and William F. Brown, which runs April 24-May 10, 2009. Complete schedule of all performances, exact dates and times, can be viewed at www.playhouseonthegreen.org.

MORE



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The Santaland Diaries and Season's Greetings

By David Sedaris

Adapted for the stage by Joe Mantello

Performances Schedule:

Friday, December 5 at 8PM – Opening Night

Saturday, December 6 at 8PM

Sunday, December 7 at 3PM

Friday, December 12 at 8PM

Saturday, December 13 at 8PM

Sunday, December 14 at 3PM

Thursday, December 18 at 8PM

Friday, December 19 at 8PM

Saturday, December 20 at 8PM

Sunday, December 21 at 3PM

Playhouse on the Green is a 54-year-old 501(c)(3) not-for-profit theater company in residence at a beautiful 228-seat jewel-box theater in the heart of downtown Bridgeport, Connecticut. The Playhouse originated in 1954 as the Polka Dot Playhouse, located in Stratford's Redman's Hall. The company had several homes before moving to Pleasure Beach in 1967. With support of People's Bank and the State of Connecticut, the Playhouse relocated in 1999 to a renovated downtown bank building conveniently located on McLevy Green, changing its name to Playhouse on the Green shortly after. Playhouse on the Green's mission is to enrich Bridgeport's cultural life by providing an eclectic variety of live stage entertainment and arts education programs at an affordable cost, as well as providing opportunities for area artists. Among these programs are its mainstage season of plays and musicals; "Playhouse Greenhouse" and "Project Broadway", its arts education programs for kids and teens; a Sunday evening series of music and comedy; and the "Page to Stage New Play Reading Series", which brings the new work of Connecticut playwrights to the stage.

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