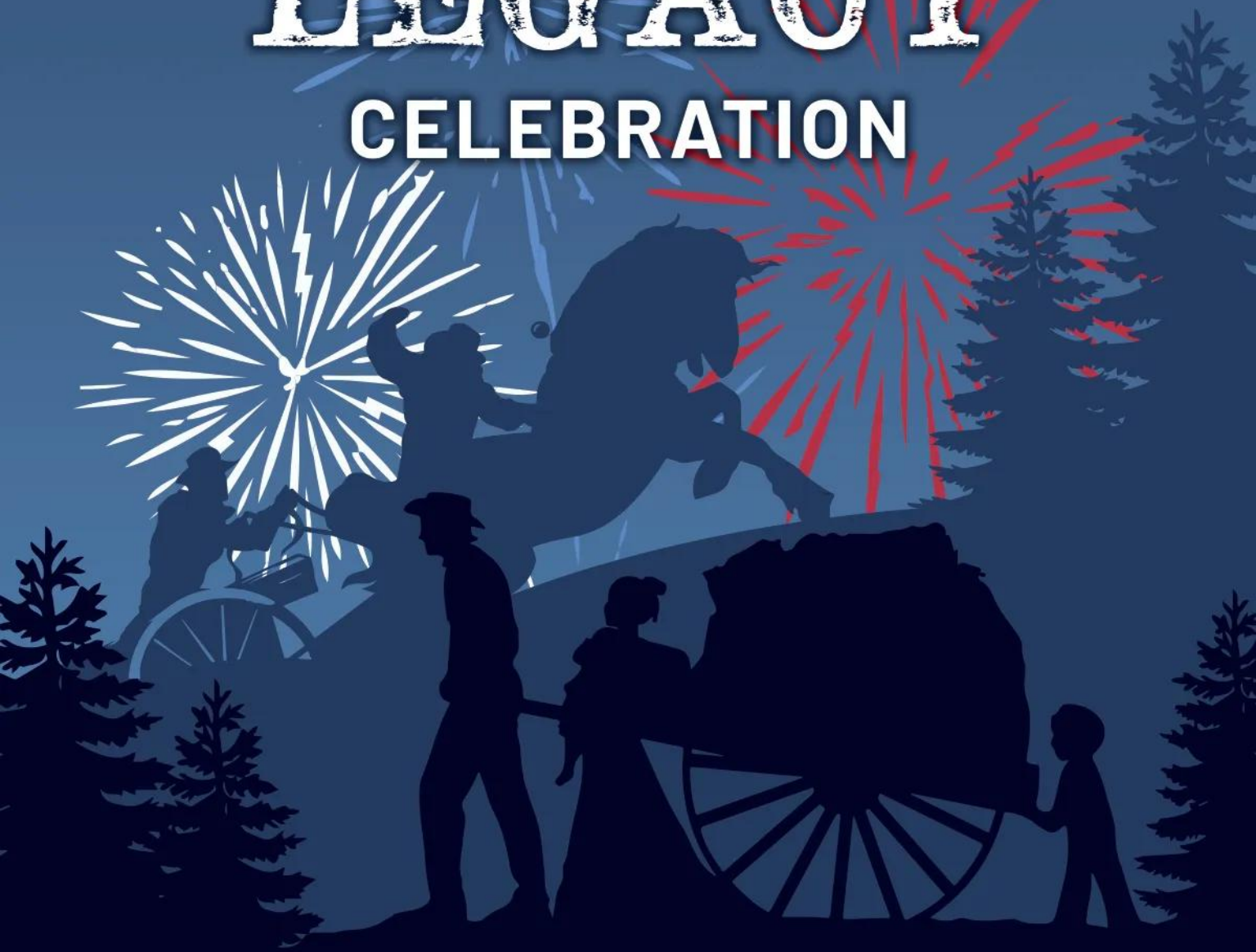




DIXIE & ANNE LEAVITT
Family Foundation
PRESENTS



THE PIONEER LEGACY CELEBRATION



UTAH'S LARGEST PIONEER CELEBRATION



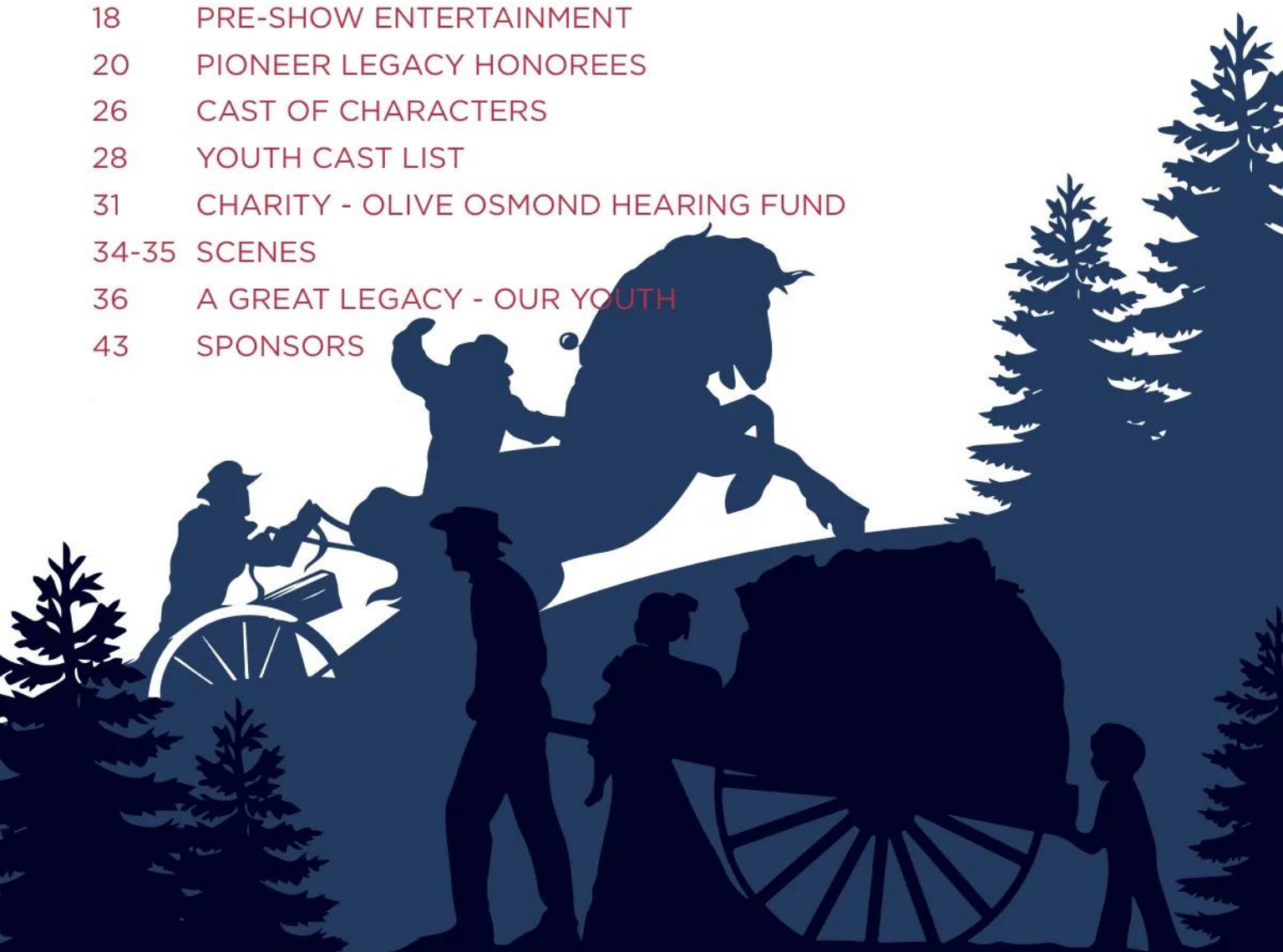
Honoring the Past, Pioneering the Future

The Larry H. & Gail Miller Family Foundation is proud to support the Pioneer Legacy Celebration and honor the enduring spirit, service and community values that continue to shape Utah.

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If you are interested in participating in The Pioneer Legacy Celebration next year, please contact: info@hearingfund.org.

A MESSAGE FROM MERRILL OSMOND

It has long been my hope that this production would do more than simply tell the story of our pioneer ancestors—it would help us feel it.

This production is my humble tribute to the courageous men, women, and children who sacrificed so future generations could enjoy the blessings of faith, family, and freedom. Their unwavering faith and courage continue to bless our lives today.



From the beginning, we felt this production should be centered on our youth. They are not only the future of our communities and our faith, but also the future keepers of these sacred stories. My prayer is that as they portray these pioneers, they will come to know them, love them, and one day pass their legacy on to future generations.

No dream like this becomes a reality alone. I am deeply grateful to Sam Cardon, Cliff Maag, Dale Gunderson, Sam Payne, Tim Johnson, and Gaynor Brunson for their remarkable creativity, musical talents, and vision. My sincere thanks also go to Paul Winkelman, Mike Wuergler, and Becky Scott for helping preserve the accuracy, spirit, and heart of the pioneer journey.

A special thank you goes to my incredible production family—especially Karen Carter and her daughters, Camie, Misty, and Chareese—for their faithful dedication from the very beginning. I also thank Holden Jones and the entire team at City Center Sound & Stage for their outstanding professionalism and tireless efforts.

To our remarkable volunteers, gifted youth cast, generous sponsors, and everyone who has shared their time and talents—thank you. You have helped preserve this sacred legacy.

To my beloved wife, Mary, thank you for more than fifty years of love, encouragement, and unwavering belief in me. You have always inspired me to follow the promptings of my heart.

To my son, Justin, thank you for carrying this dream with me. Your countless hours, sacrifice, and devotion have helped make this vision a reality. Sharing this journey with you has been one of the greatest blessings of my life.

Above all, I thank my Heavenly Father. Every note of music, every page of this story, and every moment of inspiration has come through His guiding hand. My prayer is that this production will strengthen faith, deepen gratitude, and remind us that the legacy of the pioneers is not just our history—it is our inheritance.

With profound love and appreciation, I dedicate this production to our beloved pioneers. May their faith continue to inspire us, their sacrifices never be forgotten, and their light continue to guide generations yet to come.

Merrill Davis Osmond
Founder, Pioneer Legacy Production

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Welcome to Cedar City and the Pioneer Day Legacy Celebration!

On behalf of Cedar City, I am pleased to welcome residents and visitors alike to this special event honoring the heritage, faith, sacrifice, and determination of Utah's pioneers. We are especially grateful to the Osmond Family for their vision and commitment in creating an event that celebrates our shared history and has the potential to become the premier Pioneer Day tradition in this region of the State.

Cedar City is a remarkable place to live, work, and raise a family. The pioneer spirit that first brought settlers to this valley continues to define our community today. It is reflected in the hard work of our citizens, the strength of our families, our willingness to serve one another, and our commitment to building a brighter future while honoring the past.

My hope is that this celebration helps us remember the legacy of those who came before us and inspires us to carry forward the values they exemplified.

I extend my sincere appreciation to Southern Utah University, our generous sponsors and donors, the talented actors and musicians, and the many volunteers whose efforts have made this evening possible.

Thank you for joining us. Enjoy the celebration and the show!

Sincerely,

Steve Nelson
Mayor, Cedar City



City Council Members
David Harris
Shawn Stoor
Jacob Miner
Kimberlee Trower
Debra Ley



Jim Rushton – Mayor
Ryan Robinson – City Manager
Jackson Ames – Chief of Police
Lindsay Hildebrand – City Recorder
Ashley Horton – City Treasurer
Lynn Nielson – Building Inspector
Hayden White – Public Works Director

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Welcome to the Pioneer Day Legacy Celebration! It is a pleasure to join with all of you in honoring the courage, sacrifice, and determination of the pioneer men and women who helped shape the communities and values we cherish today.

Enoch is a city rooted in history. From the enduring legacy of Johnson Fort, built in 1855 by our pioneer ancestors, to the close-knit neighborhoods and strong values that define us today, the spirit of those early settlers lives on in everything we do. They came to this rugged, beautiful valley with little more than faith and determination and they built something extraordinary. We are the living beneficiaries of their sacrifice.

Thank you to all the volunteers, organizers, performers, and families who make this celebration possible. Events like this strengthen our communities and provide an opportunity to honor the remarkable heritage we share.

I would also like to extend sincere appreciation to the Osmond family for organizing and hosting this special event. Their efforts in preserving and celebrating our pioneer heritage help bring communities together and remind us of the enduring legacy left by those who came before us.

I hope you enjoy the festivities and have a wonderful Pioneer Day celebration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jim Rushton".

Jim Rushton
Mayor, Enoch City



900 East Midvalley Road, Enoch, Utah
84721

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JOHNSON FORT

Built in 1855, Johnson Fort stands as one of Southern Utah's most meaningful historic landmarks and a reminder of the pioneer families who helped shape Enoch's story.

Enoch is proud to preserve its heritage while looking ahead. We invite you to learn more about our history, our community, and the people who call Enoch home.

To learn more about Enoch City, visit enochcityut.gov



ENOCH
CITY

HISTORIC PAROWAN

★ THE MOTHER TOWN OF SOUTHERN UTAH

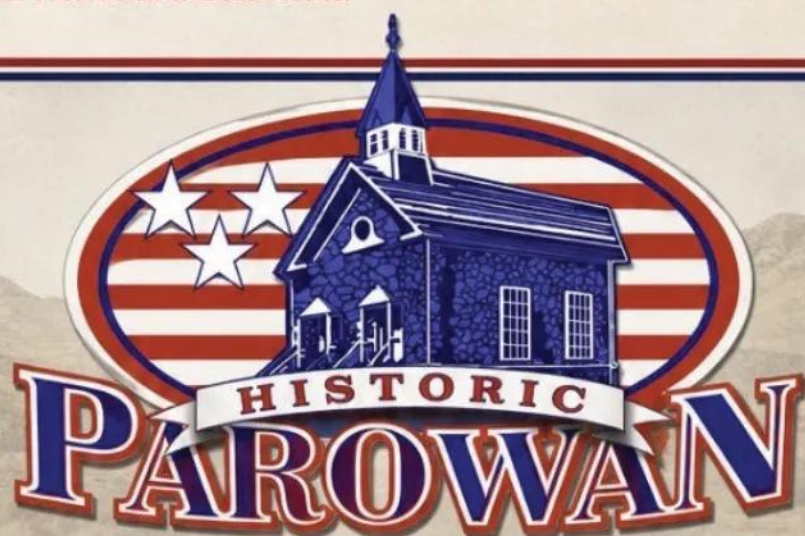
Parowan was the first settlement in southern Utah and known as the "Mother Town" as many of the original settlers were called to colonized other areas including Johnson Fort, now known as Enoch, and Coal Creek, which became Cedar City as well as settlements in Colorado, Nevada, Arizona, California, Oregon & Wyoming.

LOCAL SITES OF INTEREST INCLUDE:

- ★ Historic Old Rock Church
- ★ Cedar Breaks National Monument
- ★ Heritage Park & the Veterans Memorial
- ★ Parowan Historic Cemetery
- ★ Parowan Gap and Petroglyphs
- ★ Valentine Peak & Hidden Haven Trails

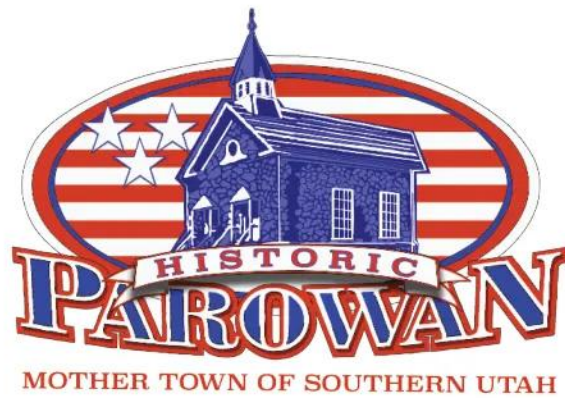
As you explore Parowan's fascinating natural landscape and rich history, you'll observe that the residents hold tight to their pioneer roots of faith, family, and love of country.

Visit Parowan.gov to find out more about our pioneer heritage, outdoor recreation & local events.



MOTHER TOWN OF SOUTHERN UTAH





Welcome to Cedar City and the campus of Southern Utah University for this year's Pioneer Legacy Celebration. As we mark the historic America250 milestone, our hearts swell with patriotism and deep gratitude for our free country, the early pioneers, and all who came before us to ensure our freedom, our liberty and an unmatched quality of life here in Iron County. On behalf of Parowan, the Mother Town of Southern Utah, we are thrilled to extend the warmest welcome to this wonderful event as we celebrate the history of this great land with music, song, dancing and FIREWORKS!

Thank you to SUU and President Mindy Benson for graciously hosting this wonderful production and opening our communities and hearts to our neighbors and visitors. Our deepest appreciation goes to Justin and Merrill Osmond, along with every actor, dancer, singer, and behind the scenes worker for their dedication to making this event a reality for the second time in Cedar City UT. We also honor the Olive Osmond Hearing Fund for its profound impact in sharing the gift of hearing with children! Enjoy the celebration as we celebrate our history, ancestry and love for this land and country that we are SO PROUD to call home.

Sincerely,

Mayor Mollie Halterman





Office of the President
351 West University Blvd.
Cedar City UT 84720
Office (435) 865-8118
president@suu.edu

Dear Friends,

Welcome to Southern Utah University and the 2026 Pioneer Legacy Celebration and Firework Spectacular. We are honored to gather tonight in celebration of the people whose sacrifice and vision helped shape our community and university.

More than 125 years ago, Iron County settlers rallied behind the belief that education could transform lives and strengthen their community. In 1896, with only months to secure the future of the school, local families, miners, ranchers, and farmers came together in an extraordinary effort remembered as "Back Up the Mountain." Their determination and considerable sacrifice laid the foundation for the SUU and Cedar City we know and love today.

That same spirit of resilience and community continues to define SUU. It lives on in our students, faculty, alumni, and supporters who work every day to create opportunities for learning, service, and connection. We are proud to honor the legacy of those who came before as we continue to build a brighter future together.

As we enjoy tonight's celebration, I hope we also take a moment to reflect on the courage and commitment of our pioneers and the enduring impact of their example.

Heartfelt thanks to the modern-day pioneers whose ingenuity and hard work continue to strengthen Southern Utah. We are especially grateful to the Osmond family for the vision and generosity that helped bring this evening to life, and to each of you for being part of this meaningful tradition.

Enjoy the celebration!

Mindy Benson

Mindy Benson
President



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SPENCER J. COX
GOVERNOR

Dear friends,

I am pleased to welcome you to the Pioneer Day Legacy Celebration. This event is not only a wonderful family activity but a time to remember and pay tribute to our Utah pioneer heritage.

During this event, I encourage you to ponder the persistence and resolve of the founders of our state. I hope you will enjoy the festivities and appreciate the pioneer stories depicted through dance and music throughout the show. I applaud the great work and dedication of all those involved in this production, and I extend my best wishes for all those showcasing their talents today.

As you enjoy this inspirational production, I encourage you to think of those who came before, who sacrificed everything to create a new future out West. We owe them a debt of gratitude for the future and prosperity they provided us. Enjoy the festivities!

Sincerely,

Spencer J. Cox
Governor



Pioneer Legacy Executive Committee

Vance Smith
Joe Callister
Merrill Osmond
Justin Osmond

Kenten Pope
Brandon Burke
Mike Evans



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Credits

Merrill Osmond: *Founder*

Justin Osmond: *Exec Producer*

Shane Osmond: *Associate Producer*

Gaynor Brunson: *Producer*

Tim Johnson: *Producer*

Karen Carter: *Youth Production Exec Director*

Camie Mitchell: *Youth Production Director; Choreographer; Tech Director & Stage Manager*

Misty Peterson: *Assistant Director; Choreographer*

Chareese Petro-Viellard: *Assistant Director; Choreographer; Backstage Manager*

Holden Jones: *Construction & Crew Director*

Jewly Krause, Bruce & Wendy Anderson, Korina Wood, Mande Adams: *Cast Directors*

Aspen & Andelyn Osmond: *Backstage Managers*

City Center Sound & Stage: *Lighting, Audio, Staging & Videography*

Kenten Pope: *SUU Events Director & Marketing Artwork Director*

Darrin Fraser: *Photography & Drone Footage*

Karen Carter & the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers: *Costumes*

Leon Gubler, Gaylen Matheson

& the Sons of the Utah Pioneers: *Wagons & Handcarts*

Special thanks to our Pioneer Legacy Supporters

With Hearts Full of Gratitude

To our friends and neighbors at Southern Utah University, Cedar City, Enoch City, Parowan City, Iron County Tourism, and the incredible communities throughout Iron County—thank you for opening your hearts and giving this production a home. Your generosity, partnership, and unwavering support have made this dream possible.

To our Executive Committee, thank you for the countless hours spent planning, organizing, and faithfully guiding every detail behind the scenes. Your vision and leadership have laid the foundation for everything our audiences will experience.

To our sponsors, donors, volunteers, ushers, cast members, cast parent volunteers, production crew, and every individual who has given their time and talents—thank you. This production is built upon your sacrifice, dedication, enthusiasm, and servant hearts. Long before the curtain rises and long after the final bow, your quiet acts of service make this celebration possible.

A special thank you to the Cedar City Children's Musical Theater for sharing so many gifted young performers whose talent, joy, and passion help bring these stories to life.

Finally, to the families, spouses, and loved ones who have supported those involved in this production, thank you for your patience, encouragement, and countless sacrifices. Your love has been an unseen but essential part of this journey.

Together, you have done far more than produce a show. You have helped preserve and share the inspiring legacy of Utah's pioneers—their faith, courage, perseverance, and hope—for another generation.

From the bottom of our hearts... thank you. Your kindness and generosity ensure that these stories—and the values they represent—will continue to inspire generations to come.



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Emcee: Fred West

Fred Walker and his wife, Dianne, have been living in the St George area for twenty years. The past ten years he has been employed by InfoWest, the Internet People in Commercial Sales and Marketing.



Fred is continually involved in five Southern and Central Chamber of Commerce organizations in Washington, Iron, and Sevier Counties. He is also an affiliate member of the Southern Utah Home Builders Association and enjoys making business connections.

During his free time, Fred loves to take RZR rides with his wife up in the mountains and visits from their kids and three grandkids.

Invocation: Elder Vance K. Smith | Utah Area Seventy

Color Guard: American Legion Post 74
Cedar City Department of Utah

Post Commander: Jason Potter

Post Adjutant/Sgt At Arms: Scotty Harville

Honor Guard Commander: Larry Bell

National Anthem: Jonny Harline

Jonny Harline grew up in Orem, Utah, where he developed a passion for both athletics and music. Following high school, he served a Spanish-speaking mission for The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in New York City. He later attended Brigham Young University, where he played tight end for the BYU football team, leading the nation at his position in receiving yards and touchdowns and earning All-American honors.



Throughout his athletic career, music remained an important part of Jonny's life. He has performed in several bands over the years and continues to share his love of music with audiences throughout Utah. Jonny is honored to perform the National Anthem as part of Utah's Pioneer Day celebration.

Pioneer Legacy Award: Dixie & Anne Leavitt

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HONORING DIXIE & ANNE LEAVITT



Like the pioneers before them, Dixie and Anne Leavitt have built a legacy founded on faith, hard work, family, and service. Through vision and perseverance, Dixie helped build a successful business that has blessed countless lives, while Anne stood beside him as a trusted partner, mother, leader, and community builder.

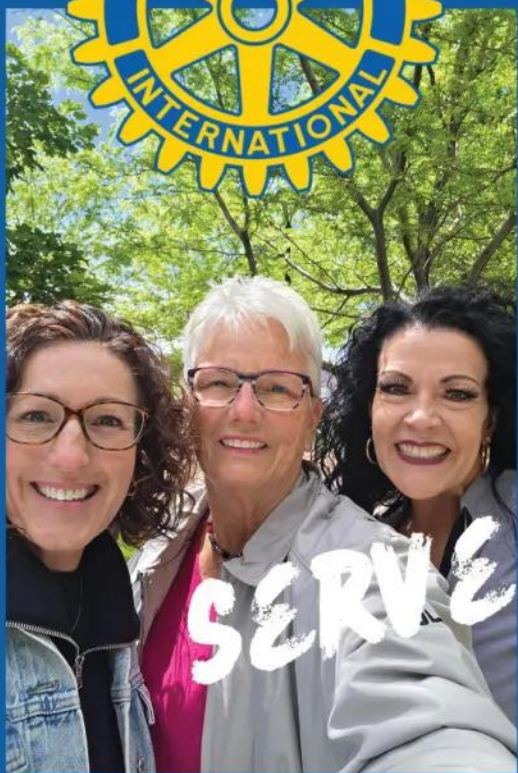
Their dedication to faith and service has touched generations through church leadership, community involvement, education, scholarships, and their love for Southern Utah. Their lives reflect the same values that guided the pioneers—integrity, compassion, courage, and a desire to lift others.

Tonight, we honor Dixie and Anne Leavitt for carrying forward a legacy of service and making a lasting difference in the lives of others.





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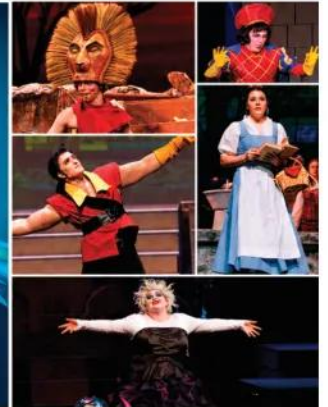
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CAST OF CHARACTERS

PIONEER WOMEN (MOB): Jhoryan Eggett

GOVERNOR BOGGS: Kayson Wood

BRIGHAM YOUNG: Aiden Anderson

LITTLE SCOTTY: Daxton Gardner

PIONEER MAN: Sean Cannon

PIONEER GIRL #1: Rhemadee Axelson

PIONEER EMILY: Kinley Adams

PIONEER BOY #1: Luke Lamoureaux

PIONEER WOMEN # 1: Emma Adams

BRITISH PIONEER: Rylan Anderson

NATIVE AMERICANS: Resilient Rez

PIONEER BOY #2: Evan Oyler

MOTHER PLIGHT SINGER: Kallie Wood

PIONEER GIRL #2: Adalynn Adams

PIONEER WOMEN #2: Paislee Barlow

PIONEER WOMEN #3: Kensie Wood

ELLEN WHITTAKER: Sadie Hailstone

AMY WEBSTER: Rose Lamoureaux

ALEXANDER GORDON MATHESON: Daxstin DeMille

NELLIE PUCCELL: Kimberly Wood

YOUNGER SINGER: Lily Lamoureaux

MALE OLDER SINGER: Jaxon Anderson



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Youth Pioneer Production Cast List

Adalynn Adams	Alayna Genck	Emma Osmond
Cooper Adams	Brinlee Goldthorpe	Evie Osmond
Emma Adams	Nathan Goldthorpe	Emmitt Osmond
Kinley Adams	Rayelle Goldthorpe	Lexi Osmond
McKenna Adams	Adalynn Gonzales	Parker Osmond
Noah Allred	Jenna Graf	Evan Oyler
Aiden Anderson	Lucas Graf	Molly Penrod
Jaxon Anderson	Norah Graf	Jade Pryor
Rylan Anderson	Sarah Graf	Emmy Reynolds
Killian Andres	Ezekiel Gramlich	Reagyn Reynolds
Rhemadee Axelson	Emily Hailstone	Taytum Reynolds
Kylie Baird	Sadie Hailstone	Jaye Ricks
Lilah Baird	Aiyanna Hernaez	Camille Roberts
Maisie Baird	Austin Hernaez	Gracie Roberts
Amada Banks	Kaison Hernaez	Makayla Roberts
Sandra Banks	Kristoff Hernaez	Summer Roberts
Paislee Barlow	Alexis Hudson	Ember Seright
Grayson Bergeson	Daxton Hudson,	Aurelia Stephens
Scarlett Bergeson	Logan Hudson,	Nephi Stephens
Meilani Caldwell	Katherine Janes	Drew Thomas
Sean Cannon	Lily Lamoureux	Jolie Thomas
Gunner Comp	Luke Lamoureux	Brooke Walser
Brynlee Cospers	Rose Lamoureux,	Ariana Walsh-Campbell
Jaylee Cospers	Emma Laub	Kallie Wood
Daisy DeMille	Alayna Lee	Kayson Wood
Daxstin DeMille	Jacen Lee	Kensie Wood
Dresden DeMille	Jezzikiah LeFevre	Kimberly Wood
Delaney Deutschlander	Kiah LeFevre	Avery Woods
Gage Dotson	Lyla Morgan	Ellie Woods
Jhoryan Eggett	Quaid Morgan	Lizzy Woods
Daxton Gardner	Destiny Munford	Riley Woods
Joyceanna Gardner	Elizabeth Niles	Zowie Woods
Lovina Gardner	Emma Niles	



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Merrill Osmond, *American Musician*



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SCENE 1 - OVERTURE & OPENING TRIBUTE

The youth of today honor the pioneers who sacrificed everything to build homes, communities, and a legacy of faith. Through narration, music, fountains, and imagery, the audience is introduced to the story of an extraordinary people and their remarkable journey.

SCENE 2 - THE GATHERING

The story begins in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Missouri as converts gather to the restored gospel under the leadership of Joseph Smith. Families work together while building new lives and hoping for religious freedom.



SCENE 3 - MOB VIOLENCE

Peace is shattered as persecution erupts. Angry mobs attack homes and families throughout Missouri. Governor Boggs' Extermination Order is proclaimed, leading to violence, destruction, and suffering.

SCENE 4 - MARTYRDOM & BRIGHAM YOUNG

Following the martyrdom of Joseph Smith, Brigham Young comforts the Saints and inspires them to look forward with faith. Through the powerful song "We'll Make It Through," he invites the people to trust God and prepare for a new beginning.

SCENE 5 - WORKING TOGETHER

The pioneers unite to build wagons, handcarts, and supplies for their westward journey. Working side by side, they discover strength, hope, and joy through cooperation and shared purpose.

SCENE 6 - A BRIGHT NEW DAY

With wagons assembled and preparations complete, the pioneers celebrate their departure west with music, dancing, prayer, and joyful anticipation of the Promised Land.

SCENE 7 - PIONEER TESTIMONIALS

Children, women, men, and converts from Britain share humorous and heartfelt personal stories about the sacrifices, hardships, and hopes experienced during the long journey west.

SCENE 8 - NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE

The story pauses to honor the Native peoples who had lived upon this land for generations. Through dance and music, they express their culture, traditions, and deep connection to the land.

SCENE 9 - FOLLOWING THE TRAIL

Narration honors the mountain men, explorers, and missionaries who blazed the western trails. The pioneers continue forward with faith, organization, and determination toward their new Zion.

SCENE 10 – MOTHER’S PLIGHT

One of the journey’s most tender moments unfolds as a grieving mother buries her infant beside the trail. With heartbreaking faith, she entrusts her child to God and continues the journey west.

SCENE 11 – BATTLE OF THE BANDS

After initial tensions, pioneers and Native Americans gradually discover common ground through music. What begins as separate traditions becomes a joyful celebration of friendship, unity, and mutual respect.

SCENE 12 – THIS IS THE PLACE

Brigham Young arrives in the Salt Lake Valley and declares, “This is the place.” Inspired by vision and faith, the pioneers begin building homes, farms, schools, temples, and a future for generations to come.

SCENE 13 – HOEDOWN CELEBRATION

Having finally reached their destination, the pioneers rejoice with an energetic hoedown celebrating faith, survival, family, and the blessings of a new beginning.

SCENE 14 – THE CRICKET PLAGUE & MIRACLE OF THE SEAGULLS

Just as hope begins to flourish, black crickets threaten to destroy the settlers’ crops. In answer to earnest prayers, seagulls miraculously arrive to devour the insects, reminding the pioneers that Heaven continues to watch over them.

SCENE 15 – SOUTHERN UTAH PIONEER STORIES

Real pioneers from Iron County share remarkable stories of courage, sacrifice, and miracles—including Ellen Whittaker, Amy Webster, Alexander Gordon Matheson, and the legendary horse Old Sorrel whose determination helped save the lumber used to build what would become Southern Utah University.

SCENE 16 – OLD MAIN FIRE & COMMUNITY RESILIENCE

The story moves forward to 1948 when Old Main at Southern Utah University is consumed by fire. Inspired by the same pioneer spirit that built it, the community immediately begins rebuilding, proving that resilience lives on in every generation.

SCENE 17 – WE’VE COME SO FAR

Nellie Pucell’s inspiring testimony leads into the emotional duet “We’ve Come So Far,” celebrating the hardships overcome, the miracles experienced, and the enduring strength found through faith, family, and perseverance.

SCENE 18 – A NATION OF PIONEERS

The celebration expands beyond the original settlers to honor the many peoples who helped build Utah and America—including Spanish missionaries, Native Americans, British, Scandinavians, Germans, Italians, Chinese, Jewish immigrants, Pacific Islanders, Latinos, and countless others whose contributions enriched the land.

SCENE 19 – GRAND FINALE & FIREWORKS

The full cast joins together in a powerful musical tribute celebrating every pioneer—past and present. Brigham Young reminds us that the pioneer spirit lives on whenever people choose faith, sacrifice, unity, and service. The evening concludes with a spectacular fireworks celebration honoring the enduring Pioneer Legacy.

A Great Legacy - Our Youth

We believe the pioneers who crossed this nation and helped settle Southern Utah left us far more than homes and communities—they left a legacy of faith, courage, sacrifice, and hope. Their story is not merely one of hardship, but of choosing faith over fear, service over self, and perseverance over despair. Those timeless values are just as needed today as they were more than 175 years ago.

Merrill Osmond envisioned sharing that legacy through music, dance, and storytelling—with one important difference: he believed the story should be told by children and youth. Their sincerity, joy, and testimony have a unique power to touch hearts and bring these pioneer stories to life.



Every performer you will see tonight is a child or youth. They are more than talented singers, dancers, and actors. They represent a generation filled with faith, compassion, courage, creativity, and light. By dedicating their summer to preserving history and honoring their pioneer heritage, they are helping ensure these sacred stories will never be forgotten.

As you watch this production, we hope you will see more than a musical. We hope you will see the bright future these young people represent and feel that the legacy of the pioneers is alive—not only in the stories they tell, but in the lives they live.

It is our prayer that this production will strengthen families, inspire faith, and fulfill the promise that “the hearts of the children shall turn to their fathers.” May the example of these remarkable youth inspire each of us to carry forward the pioneers’ legacy of faith, hope, and service for generations to come.

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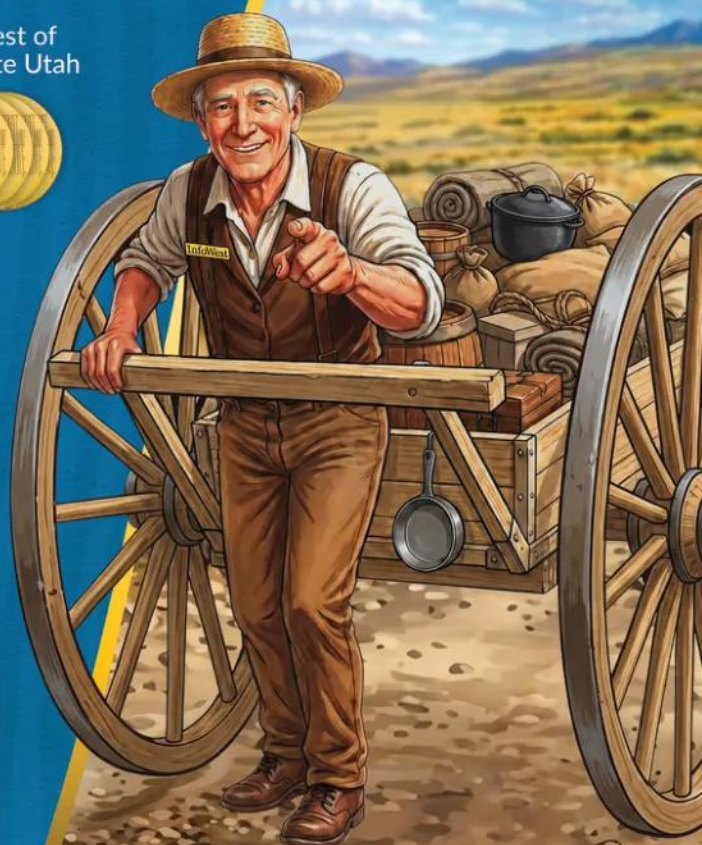
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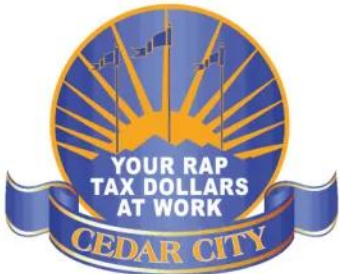
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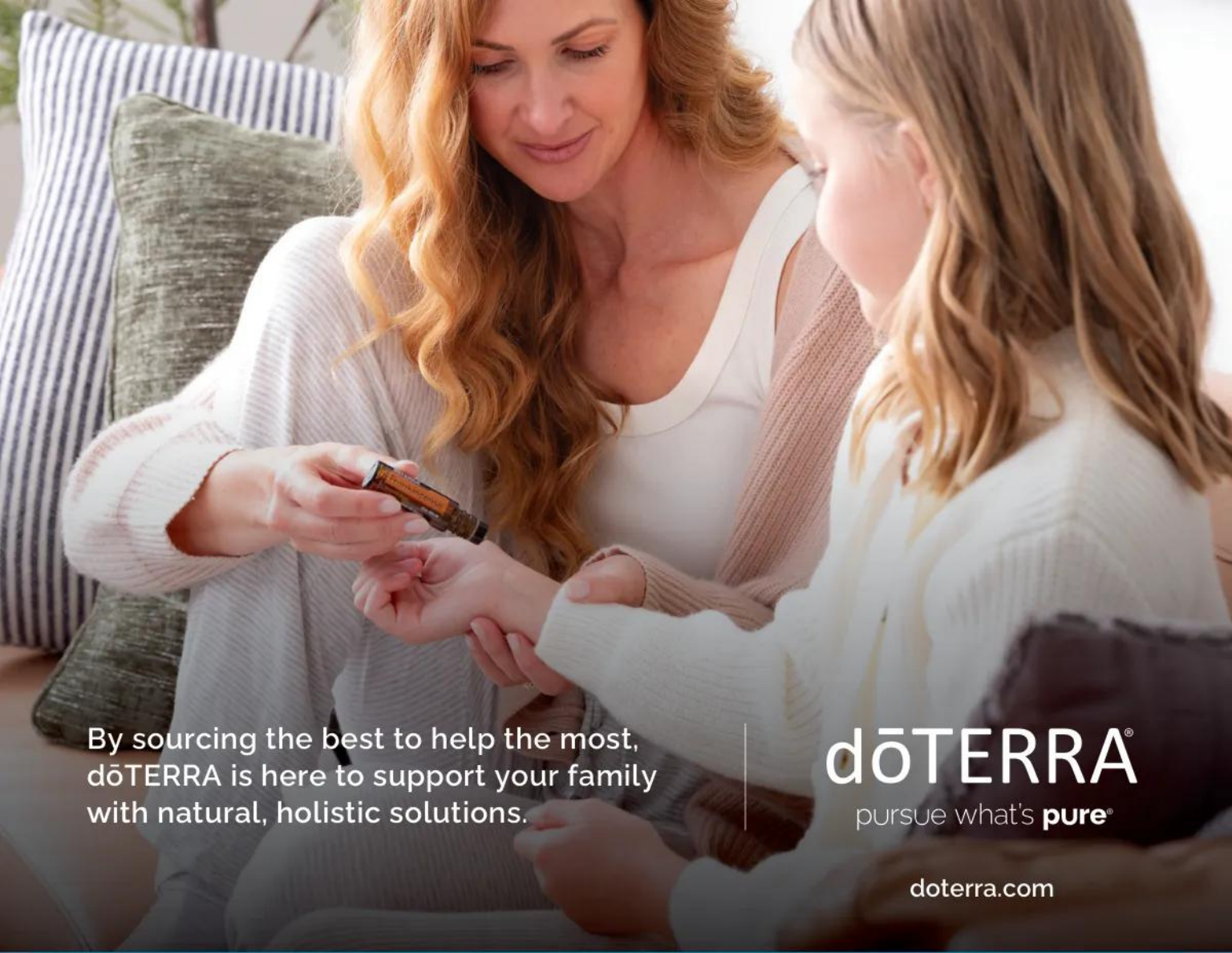
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