

HARLEQUIN

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One Night. Four Legends. *Million Dollar Quartet* Electrifies the State Theater

Olympia, WA – May 26, 2026 – Harlequin Productions presents *Million Dollar Quartet* by Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux at the State Theater in downtown Olympia. Emily A. Rollie will direct.

December 4, 1956. Sun Records. One legendary night. When a twist of fate brings Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, Jerry Lee Lewis, and Carl Perkins into the same Memphis recording studio, music history is made. Inspired by the true story of that once-in-a-lifetime jam session, Million Dollar Quartet is a Tony Award-nominated high-octane rock 'n' roll musical packed with heart, history, and hit after iconic hit. From "Blue Suede Shoes" to "Great Balls of Fire," this electrifying celebration of talent, fame, and raw sound takes you inside the night that changed music forever.

Seen through the eyes of Sun Records' founder and producer Sam Phillips, *Million Dollar Quartet* captures one of the most singular days in music history: that December afternoon in 1956 when Elvis Presley, Jerry Lee Lewis, Johnny Cash, and Carl Perkins converged in his Memphis recording studio. As Director Emily A. Rollie describes it, the show invites audiences to be a "fly on the wall" to witness these rock and roll icons in an impromptu jam session, offering a glimpse of their conversations as each looked toward new developments and next steps in their individual careers. "This musical feels a bit like lightning in a bottle to me," Rollie writes, "with an almost electrifying energy, as it captures an actual and singular moment in history and gives us an opportunity to witness four hugely talented American musical icons playing together and finding a sense of camaraderie." *Million Dollar Quartet* is a natural fit for Harlequin's Home/Land Season, which asks audiences to consider what home means, where we find in, and who has laid its foundation. For Rollie, this production offers a compelling opportunity to explore the cultural artifacts and histories that inform our sense of home, and music, especially rock 'n' roll, is central to that conversation.

Because *Million Dollar Quartet* is based on a real event featuring real people, Director Rollie's research process has been rich with discovery. She was particularly struck by the wealth of lore surrounding the original jam session and its recordings, finding it "fun to see what stories surround the actual event." Equally fascinating was the physical space of Sun Records itself, an ordinary recording studio that had previously been a car radiator repair shop, and the creative challenge of bringing that storied, humble place to life on stage in ways that evoke both historical authenticity and theatrical celebration. Rollie also dove deep into the show's supporting characters, including Dyanne, a powerful feminine voice in the story who is likely inspired by Marilyn Evans, a performer in her own right who briefly dated Elvis and serves as an amalgamation of women in rock and roll. As for why audiences should make time for this production? Rollie puts it simply: "This musical is and will be a party, AND even more importantly, it features incredibly and uniquely talented actors. With this amount of talent and energy in the room, it is most certainly a show not to be missed!"

For those who want to go beyond the performance, Harlequin is also offering an exclusive Backstage Pass VIP Upgrade (\$99) that includes pre-show backstage entry, a private stage tour of the MDQ set, exclusive access to the pre-show sound check with the cast, and a tote bag packed with goodies,

including a show poster signed by the entire cast. It's a once-in-a-lifetime chance to step inside the world of the show before the curtain rises.

Click here for publicity photos for the production: <https://harlequinproductions.org/quartet-publicity-photos/>

Click here for a link to the show page: <https://harlequinproductions.org/show/million-dollar-quartet/>

Production Information

WHAT: Harlequin Productions presents *Million Dollar Quartet* by Colin Escott and Floyd Mutrux. Directed by Emily A. Rollie.

WHEN: June 19 – July 19, 2026

WHERE: State Theater, 202 4th Ave East, Olympia, WA 98501

TICKETS: Available online at harlequinproductions.org, by phone at 360-786-0151, or in person 12–5:30 pm, Tuesday–Saturday at the State Theater Box Office.

General admission: \$55

Senior 60+/Military: \$51

Student/Youths Under 25: \$39

Rush Tickets (2 hours prior to showtime): General \$27.50; Under 20 \$5

Backstage Pass VIP Upgrade: \$99

Pre-show backstage entry to the State Theater, including a VIP pass

Private stage tour of the MDQ set

Exclusive access to pre-show sound checks with the cast

Tote bag full of extra goodies, including a cast-signed show poster

Early Bird Discount: Save 25% on General tickets through May 31 with code **25Million**.

SPECIAL DATES FOR THE AUDIENCE:

Opening Night: Friday, June 19 at 7:30 pm

Pay-What-You-Choose: 4 performances TBA prior to Opening

Community Talkback: Sunday, June 21

Closed Captioning: Sunday, June 28

Audio Described Performance: Saturday, July 11

CATEGORY: Rock Musical

AGE RECOMMENDATION: 12 and older with guidance for mature themes and language

CAST:

Jerry Lee Lewis.....Wyatt Brownell

Carl Perkins.....Maverick McCarl

Johnny Cash.....Nathan Roberts

Elvis Presley.....Ben Bailey

Sam Phillips.....Casey Raiha

Dyanne.....Becca Bailey

Brother Jay.....Nick Rawson

Fluke.....Will Madison

Harlequin Productions is a professional not-for-profit theater company in Olympia, WA. We seek to invigorate, educate, and empower our community and all people to feel more, think more, play more, and judge less through the mirror of real live theatre.
