

Seasons Greetings

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By: Matt Windman

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The Paisley Sisters' Christmas Special, a musical send-up of 1960s holiday television specials that debuted in Boston eight years ago, will receive its New York City premiere at the New York Musical Theatre Festival, Sept. 19-26 at the Sage Theatre, 711 Seventh Ave.

It's 1964. The Paisley Sisters (Connie, Bonnie, Lonnie, and Ronnie) are airing a brand-new color-television holiday extravaganza that they hope will put them back in the Top 40. But all is not well. Hours before the broadcast is scheduled to begin, Ronnie is stricken with a mysterious malady, leaving her precocious daughter, 16-year-old Abigail, to fill her shoes on live TV. Young Abigail must make it through the show while unraveling a mystery involving backstage drama, evil corporate sponsors, secret telephone calls, assumed identities, and general mayhem.

The cast includes Valerie Fagan (Connie), Janine Mercandetti (Bonnie), Abby Duke Pollard (Abigail), Mary Jayne Raleigh (Lonnie), and Doug Shapiro (Bernard Fortrell).

The creative team includes Bret Silverman (Music, Book, Lyrics), Jim Ansart (Book and Lyrics), Joel W. Benjamin (Book and Lyrics), Steve Silverman (Book), Sheila Stasack (Director), Robert Bianca (Choreographer), David J. Miller (Set Designer) and Jay Moscovitz (Lighting Designer).