

When Momma Prayed

Synopsis:

When Momma Prayed is a story about a small black family living in the Deep South. They lack material wealth, but are rich in love for one another.

When the father (bread winner) unexpectedly passes away, the family's food and money quickly vanishes. Their situation becomes desperate. Momma prays and God answers her pray in a miraculous way.

The play is a creative blend of soulful singing, gospel, and blues music. It's an inspiring and emotionally stirring story of one family's triumph over the odds.

Playwright & Director:

Darryl Harrell is a playwright, director, songwriter, filmmaker, actor, and producer. He has been in motion pictures such as *The Prodigal*, *Joe Somebody*, featuring Tim Allen, and *Taillights*. Darryl has hosted shows for Grammy Award winners CeCe Winans and Phil Driscoll. Over his 20-year acting career, he has done dozens of commercials, industrial films, theatrical performances, print work, and voiceovers.



Actors:

Greta Oglesby is an Ivey award-winning actress who is consistently praised by critics for her stellar performances when she's on stage. Greta has performed at New York's Lincoln Theatre, the Goodman Theatre in Chicago, the Guthrie Theatre in Minneapolis, and many more.



Ansa Akyea was voted Best Actor in the Twin Cities in 2006. He's also been in movies such as *Memorial Day*, *Abandon Me*, and *Gilded Six Bits*. Ansa is a recipient of the Minnesota Playwright Center's McKnight Award for Acting. He has performed at the Guthrie Theatre, Penumbra Theatre, Chicago Theatre Company and many more.



Sherman Starr

Jackson Hurst is an actor, songwriter, and musician. He had the opportunity to perform live with the legendary Smokey Robinson, and national recording arties James Grear & Company. He has also performed at the Guthrie and Penumbra Theatre.

Ida Pittman is a long-time member of the national recording group James Grear & Company. She's performed on the Platinum selling soundtrack for the movie *Fighting Temptation*, featuring Beyonce and Angie Stone, Platinum selling soundtrack *Price of Egypt* featuring Boys II Men, and *Emperor's New Groove*, featuring Sting.



Jamel S. Anderson is an actor and singer. He's done film, commercials, television, theater, print work and voiceovers.



Jamel Anderson

Kelechi Jaavaid (comedian) has performed at Detroit Comedy Festival with Lewis Black, World Series Comedy Tour in Las Vegas, Laughing Skulls Comedy Festival in Denver, and American Comedy of Institute in New York's Gotham Comedy Club. Kelechi is also a trained improviser and sketch comedy writer with the Brave New Workshop.



Music:

Co-wrote by Darryl Harrell and Matt fink. Produced by Greg Stevens. Engineered and mixed by Matt Fink.

Matt Fink was a member of Prince's band (Prince and the Revolution) for 12 years. During that time, he won a Grammy Award, and co-write several songs with Prince. Matt continues to produce music at his StarVu Studio.



Supporting artist:

Timotha Lanae is an award-winning actress. She's also a singer, dancer, and playwright that has performed internationally and nationally. Timotha has also been featured on-camera in TV and film for ABC Family: The Nine Lives of Chloe King, Rosie, Soul Survivors, American Idol, and more.



Billy Steele is a co-recipient of three Grammys, a world-renowned singer, songwriter, keyboardist, and producer. His voice has been heard on soundtracks with Rod Stewart, Luther, Vandross and on a collaboration with a Disney soundtrack, narrated by James Earl Jones.



Tonia Hughes is a recording artist and actress. She has garnered critical acclaim for her leading roles in musical and theatrical productions such as Encounters, Southern Theater; Black Nativity, Penumbra Theater; Caroline or Change, Guthrie Theater, and Cinderella, The Ordway Theater.



Cameron Wright

Sara Renner is an award-winning singer, songwriter, and recording artist.



Nesey Davis

Darlene Miller

Darrin Thomas

David Grams

Ron Grams

Dancer:

Alanna Morris–Van Tassel grew up dancing in Brooklyn New York. Today she dances with the national known TU Dance Company, and is married to Brian Van Tassel, one of the best Pan–African drummers of our time.

Performances:

Aug 8, 9, 13, 14, 15, 16, 21, 22, 23, 28, 29, 30

All performances will be at 7 pm, except Saturday matinee, which will be at 2 pm.

Produced by:



In association with

