

Pat Hazell's *The Wonder Bread Years*

May 14 / Cobb Great Hall

Sweetwood Productions, Producers
Pat Hazell, Writer and Performer
Lanny Fuller, Tour Production Manager
Gary Stockdale, Original Music
Kevin James, Special Consultant

The performance will run approximately 90 minutes, with no intermission.

Media Partner: Michigan Public

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In these days of healthy fanaticism, saying you eat Wonder Bread is sort of like admitting to watching three or four hours of game shows and soap operas every day. In fact, the phrase “white bread” has become a fashionable put-down, meaning that someone or something is bland or uninteresting.

These people are too snobby and too jaded to see Wonder as the simple showcase of flavors that it is. Peanut butter and jelly on rye or whole wheat, for instance, is simply a war of flavors, whereas peanut butter and jelly on Wonder are perfect harmony.

-Excerpt from Carolyn Wyman's
I'm A Spam Fan: America's Best Loved Foods

Slice-of-life humor requires the same delicate recipe to achieve the proper harmony between comedy and nostalgia. We, as a community, share more in common than we have differences. Tonight, we salute our common denominators. It is my hope that I am not sharing my life story, but our life story as we spend this evening together.

—Pat Hazell

ABOUT THE ARTIST

Showtime declared Pat Hazell, "One of the Five Funniest People in America." His kids don't disagree with that statement, but then again, he drives them places and pays for their food.

Hazell made his first appearance on *The Tonight Show with Johnny Carson* in 1989, just days before his ten-year high school reunion. So, he had something to talk about besides his hair loss and his weight gain. Hazell has since made six more appearances with Jay Leno.

Hazell served as Jerry Seinfeld's opening act and became one of the original four writers for the NBC series, *Seinfeld*. As a playwright, his first endeavor, *Bunk Bed Brothers*, enjoyed success in Dayton at the Victoria Theatre, co-written with Matt Goldman. The show was critically acclaimed and eventually filmed as the sitcom, *American Pie*, for NBC Studios.

Hazell's latest stage work, *The Wonder Bread Years*, a one-man show and tell, is currently touring the country and airing on PBS as a one-hour television special. The show's strong sense of American pop culture earned it an invitation to represent the U.S. at the Vancouver International Comedy Festival

As the Chief Creative Officer of Sweetwood Productions, Pat is currently writing and directing *A Kodachrome Christmas* that is running concurrently at The Long Center in Austin, TX, and at the Debartolo Performing Arts Center on the Notre Dame campus. He is also adapting his play *Grounded For Life* into a musical with New York composer Lawrence Goldberg.

Pat lives in Austin, TX, where he hosts the popular podcast *Creativity in Captivity* that drops a new episode every Thursday.

“Wisdom begins in wonder.” —Socrates

Exclusive Tour Direction:
Sweetwood Productions
(985) 373-5157
www.sweetwoodiscreative.com
www.wonderbreadyears.com

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