An illustration of a theater stage. The stage is framed by dark red curtains on both sides. In the foreground, there are several rows of red seats. A blue stage floor is visible. Several spotlights are positioned on the stage floor, casting beams of light onto the seats. The background is dark with some light spots, suggesting a stage set or lighting effects.

THE GREATER LANSING

Theatre Guide

CREATED BY THE ARTS COUNCIL OF GREATER LANSING

Intro

Welcome to the Greater Lansing Theatre Guide

A fast-growing arts and culture hub, the Greater Lansing region is home to nearly 20 theatres and countless numbers of theatre professionals ranging from actors and directors, to writers, stage crews, costume and set designers. Combined, these theatre companies and venues produce and present hundreds of shows each year, attracting visitors to our region from all across Michigan and beyond.

From intimate black box venues to grand auditoriums, Greater Lansing theatres represent a broad range of entertainment. They produce everything from musicals, plays, drama and fringe theatre; they present comedy, concerts, symphonies, poetry slams and more. Together they create a diverse and rich assemblage for audiences of all ages.

If you haven't checked out the Greater Lansing theatre scene, this guide delivers a comprehensive list that includes descriptions, websites and contact information to guide you on your theatre journey.

Venues

Albert A. White Performing Arts Theater at the Hannah Community Center

📍 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing

The Albert A. White Performing Arts Theater features velvet chairs, a large stage and traditional arts and crafts style design. State-of-the-art acoustics and updated sound and lighting create a classic, unforgettable theatrical space with seating for 483. The theatre is home to multiple theatre companies and is also available for events.

📞 (517) 333-2580

Charlotte Performing Arts Center

📍 378 State St., Charlotte

The Charlotte Performing Arts Center is a 775-seat auditorium and the primary performance space for Charlotte Public Schools' vocal music, instrumental music and drama programs as well as the production of the Premiere Artists Series of events, including music acts, comedy, theatre and family entertainment. The center is the host site for local dance studios, Lansing Concert Band, Charlotte Community Band, Andromeda Community Theatre and corporate rentals.

📞 (517) 541-5690 charlotteperformingartscenter.com

Dart Auditorium

📍 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing

Located on the beautiful Lansing Community College Campus, the Dart Auditorium was built in 1980. The 480-seat auditorium has a state-of-the-art computerized lighting system and is the stage for numerous performing arts events, guest speakers and civic activities throughout the year.

📞 (517) 483-1957 (ext. 0)

Grand Ledge Opera House

📍 121 S. Bridge St., Grand Ledge

The historic and elegant Grand Ledge Opera House is located close to Lansing and the State Capitol, but is set on spacious and serene grounds along the Grand River in Grand Ledge. The Opera House serves as a venue for weddings, business events and concerts. The Grand Hall is home to the Opera House's annual concert series and has hosted local, national and international performances. It is also home to the 1928 Barton Theater Organ with four annual concerts, including silent movies. Evening and weekend tours can be arranged by special appointment.

📞 (517) 627-1443 gloperahouse.com

LCC Black Box Theatre

📍 1422 Gannon Building | 411 N. Grand Ave., Lansing

Lansing Community College's Black Box Theatre is an active theatre classroom and performance space, hosting ticketed productions in the fall and spring and studio class productions at the end of each semester. Seating varies from 60-90 depending on the stage configuration.

📞 (517) 483-1546 lcc.edu/cma/events

LCC Outdoor Amphitheatre

📍 N. Washington Mall, Lansing

Centrally located between Dart Auditorium and the Gannon Building, Lansing Community College's Amphitheatre is home to the annual Summer Stage Under the Stars festival and used for other campus events during late spring, summer and early fall. Flexible open seating is available for 150-200 people on grassy tiers facing the outdoor stage.

📞 (517) 483-1546 lcc.edu/cma/events

Ledges Playhouse

📍 137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge

Nestled in the towering forest of Grand Ledge's Fitzgerald Park, this 110-year-old theater is a unique 348-seat theatrical venue. The all-wood interior provides comfortable and forgiving acoustics, adding a nice warm tone to music performances and stage vocals. The seating is comfortably spaced and nicely raked, providing a good view from any seat in the house.

📞 (517) 318-0579 overtheledge.org

MSU Auditorium / Fairchild Theater / Arena Theater / Studio 60

📍 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing

The Michigan State University Auditorium is located on Auditorium Road on the MSU Campus. The facility is home to multiple theatres, including the 518-seat Fairchild Theater, the 3,600-seat Concert Auditorium, the 188-seat Black Box Arena Theater and the 100-seat Studio 60. These facilities offer a wide variety of performance options and theatre experiences for students and mid-Michigan audiences alike.

📞 (517) 353-1982 theatre.msu.edu

Riverwalk Theatre

📍 228 Museum Dr., Lansing

This downtown Lansing theatre opened in 1989 and has upwards of 200 seats. Riverwalk is home to the Community Circle Players and offers both main stage and black box shows. The facility provides a forum for local actors and entertainment for Lansing residents, visitors and conventioners. It also serves as a performing space that is used by other groups for both artistic and educational presentations.

📞 (517) 482-5700 riverwalktheatre.com

The Robin Theatre

📍 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing

Founded in 2015, The Robin Theatre is a 90-seat eclectic listening room and event space located in a 100-year-old storefront in REO Town. It is home to local and international music (ranging from folk to hip-hop), sketch comedy, poetry, plays and more.

📞 (989) 878-1810 therobintheatre.com

Summer Circle Theatre

📍 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing

The Summer Circle Theatre provides a professional venue for Michigan State University theatre students to perform free productions in front of mid-Michigan audiences. The facility is located in a courtyard between the Kresge Art Center and the Michigan State Auditorium Building and features three tiers of built-in seating for 400 people, surrounding a circular sub-stage. Beyond theatrical productions, the Summer Circle Theatre is committed to offering free programming — including a Kids Camp and special activities — to create a summer destination for arts, education, and entertainment.

📄 theatre.msu.edu/productions/summer-circle-theatre/

Wharton Center for Performing Arts

Cobb Great Hall

Pasant Theatre

📍 750 E. Shaw Ln., East Lansing

Wharton Center is Michigan's largest performing arts venue with two unique stages: the Cobb Great Hall — which seats 2,420, and the more intimate Pasant Theatre — which seats 585. Wharton Center is proud to bring the best Broadway shows, the finest classical musicians, unrivaled dance companies and an A-list of high profile performers to mid-Michigan. Wharton Center is also recognized internationally for world premier commissions. The Center is fortunate to hire artists to create new works in jazz, dance, and classical music that make a world debut at Wharton Center.

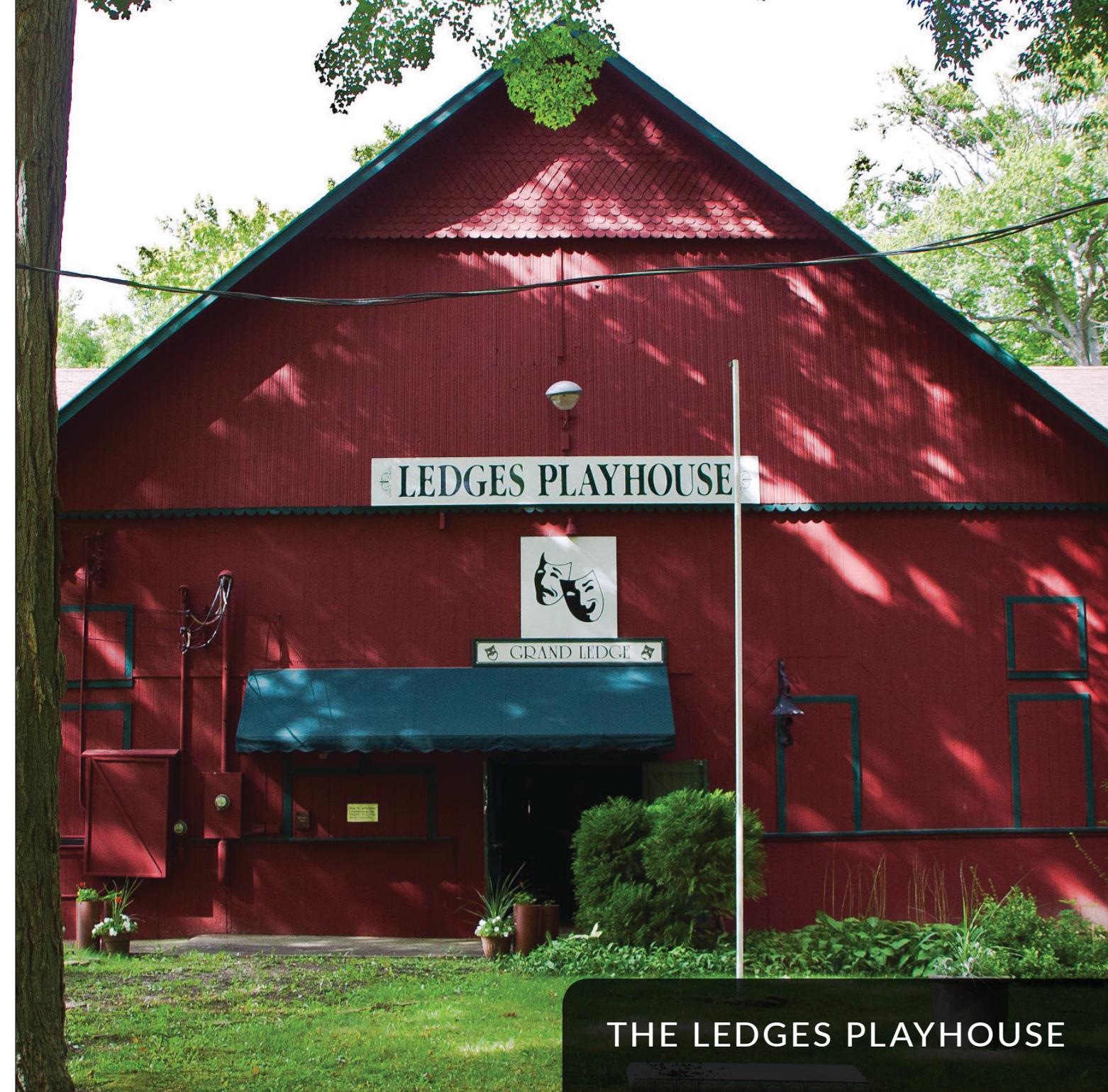
📄 (517) 432-2000 📄 whartoncenter.com

Wilson Center Auditorium

📍 101 W. Cass St., St Johns

Built in 1928, the historic Wilson Center Auditorium is a unique live venue that supports the fine arts in mid-Michigan. It has hosted multiple events, including rock concerts, theatre productions, school band performances, professional meetings and gatherings and other artistic and commercial mediums. The newly-renovated space boasts excellent acoustics and sightlines and provides an excellent theatre experience. The Auditorium teams with Homegrown Productions, St. Johns High School, and the Wilson Collective, to bring art and entertainment to St. Johns and the mid-Michigan area.

📄 (517) 712-7341 📄 wilsoncenterauditorium.org



THE LEDGES PLAYHOUSE

Theatre Companies

All-of-us Express Children's Theatre

📍 **Hannah Center | 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing**

All-of-us Express Children's Theatre is theatre for children, by children. This means youth are involved in all parts of the production, from the acting, to the promotion, to the planning, to the creation of the sets, props and costumes, the application of makeup and running of lights and sound. Theatre is not just about being on stage, it's about building confidence, responsibility, patience and teamwork. At All-of-us Express, youth learn skills they can take into the world.

📞 (517) 319-6957 🌐 allofusexpress.org

Andromeda Community Theatre

📍 **Various venues throughout Charlotte**

The mission of Andromeda Community Theatre is to enrich the Charlotte community through theatrical performance and education in the dramatic arts; to provide theatrical opportunities for performers of all degrees of competency; and to promote social and cultural growth through participation in the performance and production of live theatre.

📞 (269) 262-1943 🌐 andromedaplayers.org

Blue Light Players

📍 **Hannah Center | 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing**

Established in 2005, the Blue Light Players is a musical theatre group dedicated to raising funds for the families of police officers who have died or been critically injured in the line of duty. Performances are held at the Albert A. White Auditorium in the Hannah Community Center.

📞 (517) 490-4567 🌐 bluelightplayers.com

Community Circle Players

📍 **Riverwalk Theatre | 228 Museum Dr., Lansing**

The Community Circle Players were formed in 1958. The company is an all-volunteer theatrical organization that produces and presents a broad spectrum of more than a dozen full-scale productions a year. They produce both main stage and black box performances that feature a diverse representation of dramas, musicals, comedy, original works and children's shows. Their season runs year-round and is characterized by taking chances on new, off-beat or controversial works.

📞 (517) 482-5700 🌐 riverwalktheatre.com

Downeaster Theatre

📍 **1120 N. Pennsylvania Ave., Lansing**

Established in 2017, the Downeaster Theatre is a youth theatre group that creates shows for both adult and youth audiences. The community theatre produces 7-10 plays each season, including drama and musicals and covers topics from serious to whimsical.

📞 (517) 763-8045 🌐 thedowneastertheatre.com

East Lansing Community Theatre

📍 **Hannah Center | 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing**

The East Lansing Community Theatre produces two shows each year and is open to adults of all ages (18+). Auditions, rehearsals and shows are hosted at the Hannah Community Center in East Lansing. Volunteers are always welcome, and anyone wishing to assist with productions in areas such as costumes, set construction, lighting, sound, props and stage management is encouraged to apply.

🌐 cityofeastlansing.com/1819/East-Lansing-Community-Theatre

Homegrown Productions

📍 **Wilson Center Auditorium | 101 W. Cass St., St. Johns**

Homegrown Productions was founded in 2008 as a community theatre group that supports the performing arts in Clinton County. Their aim is to produce one play, one musical and one variety show each year. They welcome anyone who is interested in participating in the production of live theatre to audition, perform, lend technical skills or attend their shows. The company operates under the umbrella of the Clinton County Arts Council and performs in the Wilson Center Auditorium in St. Johns.

📞 (517) 221-3796

Ixion: A Theatre Ensemble

📍 **The Robin Theater | 1105 S. Washington Ave., Lansing**

Founded in 2013 by artistic director Jeff Croff, Ixion's mission is to build and strengthen their community through storytelling and to provide a setting for artists and audiences to explore and celebrate the human experience. The ensemble is committed to the magical collaboration that is live theatre, and to bringing diverse and unique productions to the stage. Hosted at the Robin Theater in Downtown Lansing, their performances explore new works with an emphasis on memorable stories and strong acting.

📞 (517) 775-4246 🌐 ixiontheatre.com

LCC Performing Arts

📍 **Dart Auditorium | 500 N. Capitol Ave., Lansing**
📍 **Gannon Building | 411 Grand Ave., Room 168, Lansing**

Lansing Community College's Performing Arts Program presents over 40 music, theatre and dance productions each year. Most productions are free of charge and are primarily held on campus in Dart Auditorium or in the Black Box Theatre in the Gannon Building. Their free Summer Stage Under the Stars series runs during June and July is presented at the LCC outdoor amphitheatre. Productions feature a diverse mix of students and guest artists from throughout the community, along with partners such as the Lansing Concert Band. The Performing Arts Program offers a wide variety of classes both for majors and for those wishing to enhance their performance skills personally or professionally.

📞 (517) 483-1122 🌐 lcc.edu/showinfo

MSU Department of Theatre

 **452 Auditorium Rd., Room #113, East Lansing**

The Michigan State University Department of Theatre is committed to teaching and producing cutting-edge theatre experiences while preserving and perpetuating theatrical traditions. The department seeks to provoke and sustain interest in the theatre as a source of truth and insight into the human condition and to present plays that reflect the present condition of society. Students and faculty present a series of main stage and student productions annually, ranging from classic shows to contemporary productions including musicals and repertory dance. Affordable ticket prices and exciting new talent of student actors, dancers, designers and technicians make this a must-see attraction.

 (517) 355-6690  theatre.msu.edu

MSU Opera Theatre

 **Fairchild Theater | 542 Auditorium Rd., East Lansing**

Each season, the Michigan State University Opera Theatre presents two fully-staged and costumed productions with the Michigan State University Symphony Orchestra, who performs in the pit. Preview lectures are held 45 minutes before each performance. Opera performances are held in the historic Fairchild Theatre, a beautifully renovated space bringing technically advanced acoustics to a small-venue setting. With no bad seat in the house, opera-goers enjoy perfect sound and close proximity all within air-conditioned comfort.

 (517) 353-9126

 music.msu.edu/areas-studios/vocal-arts/msu-opera-theatre

MSU Roial Players

 **RCAH Theatre, Snyder Phillips Hall | 362 Bogue St., East Lansing**

The Michigan State University Roial Players are a student-led group based out of Snyder-Phillips Hall on MSU's campus. The players perform four full-length productions and a one-act compilation throughout the school year and utilize student directors, student crews and student costume and makeup designers. The group is truly proud that they are able to foster a love of theatre throughout adulthood and are happy to provide entertainment to the Lansing community.

 roialplayers.org

Mid Michigan Family Theatre

 **Big Red Barn | 3448 Hagadorn Rd., Okemos**

Mid Michigan Family Theatre presents several plays each year, involving youth and adults of all ages. Its aim is to provide opportunities for families, children, teens, and adults to have fun and learn about acting and theatre.

 (517) 339-2145  freewebs.com/midmichfamilytheatre

Midway Theater Company

 **Hannah Center | 819 Abbot Rd., East Lansing**

Midway Theater Company was formed to encourage people of all walks of life to use their talents by providing opportunities to perform in an encouraging, loving environment. They produce quality theatre while building up their performers and crew to help everyone experience the magic of live theatre, whether it's on stage, in the orchestra pit or in the audience.

 (517) 316-5272  midwaytheatercompany.org

Over the Ledge Theatre Company

 **137 Fitzgerald Park Dr., Grand Ledge**

Formed by Joseph Dickson in 2011, Over the Ledge Theatre Company performs in the Ledges Playhouse, located in Grand Ledge. Over the Ledge was started to ensure that the Playhouse remained an active space for people to discover and enjoy. The company produces a four-show summer season each year that includes dramas, comedies and musicals.

 (517) 318-0579  overtheledge.org

Peppermint Creek Theatre Company

 **Location to be determined**

The critically acclaimed Peppermint Creek Theatre Company strives to produce contemporary and classic theatre that addresses vital issues in society, raises awareness and encourages dialogue while entertaining. Peppermint Creek is home to the most current and exciting theatre in mid-Michigan, offering many state and Midwest premieres. Its performances boast some of the finest actors from Lansing, Chicago, New York and beyond.

 (517) 927-3016  peppermintcreek.org

Ruhala Performing Arts Center

 **1846 Haslett Rd., East Lansing**

Established in 2004, the Ruhala Performing Arts Center is a Broadway Theatre training center and producing theatre organization. The Center offers full career-training programs and workshops that focus on holistic education in the performing arts, including improvisation, acting, dancing and singing. A small number of performances are produced annually and are held in the intimate studio setting at the Center.

 (517) 337-0464  ruhalacenter.com

Starlight Dinner Theatre

 **3131 W. Michigan Ave., Lansing**

Starlight Dinner Theatre was founded with the intention of producing high-quality theatre in the Waverly area. Its goal is to provide an outstanding evening of family theatre complete with a pleasant dining experience — to entertain its audience from the moment they walk through the door.

 (517) 599-2779  starlightdinnertheatre.com

Williamston Theatre

 **122 S. Putnam St., Williamston**

The Williamston Theatre is mid-Michigan's only professional, resident theatre company and operates under an agreement with the Actor's Equity Association — the union of professional actors and stage managers. The Williamston Theatre operates year-round, mounts six main-stage productions each season and creates over 50 job opportunities each year for Michigan artists. They focus on contemporary plays that represent life in the 21st Century and resonate with Midwestern audiences.

 (517) 655-7469  williamstontheatre.org

Vineyard Youth Theatre

 **113-B W. Higham St., St. Johns**

Established in 2009, Vineyard Youth Theatre provides new youth programs every 6-8 weeks, for students ages 3-17. Located in St. Johns, the 45-seat studio theatre produces both musicals and dramas. The company writes and produces 90% of their productions, with students participating in the entire creative process through the studio's Creative Experiences program.

 (517) 803-7807





About.

Arts Council of Greater Lansing

Since 1965, the Arts Council of Greater Lansing has played a key role in upholding the Capital region's vitality with a mission to support, strengthen and promote arts, culture and creativity.

Our region's identity, spirit and continued economic growth are defined by our arts and culture sector, which includes our cultural organizations, artists and creative entrepreneurs. As a membership and service organization, the Arts Council advocates to keep the arts in schools, helps artists strengthen their businesses and seeks to empower artists and organizations whose diverse cultural activities make a difference in the lives of those who live, work and visit here. Our area theatres are a strong component of our organization and a cornerstone of the arts in Greater Lansing.

Follow the Arts Council on social media





ARTS COUNCIL

greater lansing

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