The Charleston Alley Theatre announces the opening production of their 25th season, James Goldman’s *The Lion in Winter*. In conjunction with the Mattoon Arts Council, the play will be presented in the Mattoon Train Depot March 21-March 23, and from March 27 through March 30 in Charleston at the Charleston Alley Theatre both venues are handicapped accessible. Show times for all performances are at 7:30 pm on Fridays, Saturdays, and Mondays, and at 2pm on Sundays. Reservations can be made by calling 217-345-2287. This telephone number is at the Charleston Alley Theatre and may go to an answering machine. Please leave your name, how many tickets you want to reserve for which performance and a contact number so we can return your call and confirm your reservation. Tickets will be available at the door. Tickets are $10.

The play is a liberal, amusing interpretation of the intra-family conflicts between Henry II of England, his wife Eleanor of Aquitaine, and their sons. Christmas in the House of Plantagenet is a rowdy mix of power struggles, shifting alliances, and is all about the three-card-Monty of Who Wins the Kingdom. Mattoon native Deborah Murphy Kerr will direct the play. Cast members are: Duke and Linda Bagger as Henry II and Eleanor, Jeffrey Augenstein as Richard the Lion Hearted, Thomas MacMullen as Geoffery, and new to our stage Alexander Yeck-Petty as John. Rachael Anderson is Alais and Kent Wolf is her brother Phillip, King of France.

You can visit the theatre at <http://www.charlestonalleytheatre.com> or on Facebook. This production is being done by special arrangement with Samuel French, Inc.