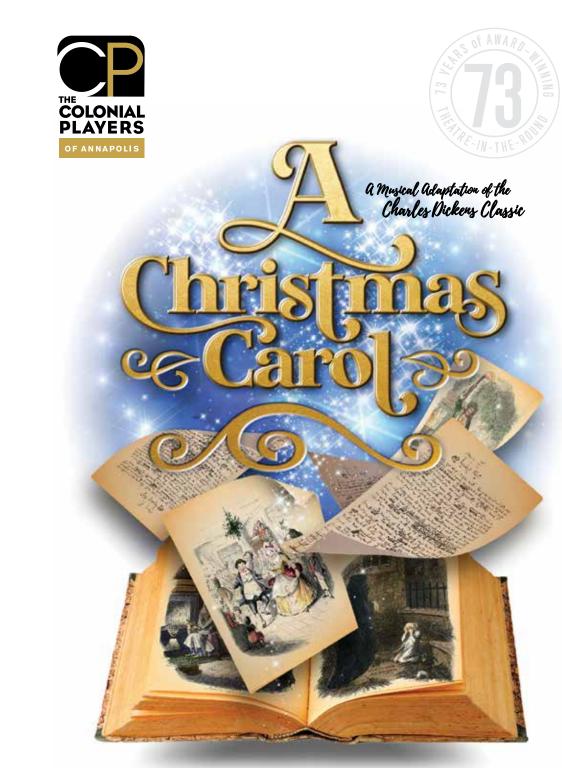
PRODUCTION STAFF_

DirectorSarah Wa	ade
Music DirectorTrevor Greenfi	eld
ChoreographerLindsay Zetter Lu	cas
ProducerTim Bro	wn
Stage ManagerErnie Mor	ton
Costume DesignerBeth Terran	ova
Lighting DesignerDianne Trickey-Rokenb	rod
Sound DesignerWes Bedswo	rth
Properties DesignerSusan Ba	um
Stage CrewMelanie Ca	ter
Costume AssistantsBarbara Bartos, Kaelynn Bedswo	orth
Lighting AssistantsAlan Barnett, Mary S	uib
Booth TechnicianWes Bedswc	orth
Properties AssistantMelanie Ca	ter
Set DesignerKrisztina Va	inyi
Lead CarpenterTed Yablor	ıski
CarpenterJim Robin	son
Set PaintingTim Brown, Melanie Carter, Dianne-Trickey Rokenbrod, Krisztina Va	inyi
Sound Engineers	olls
Projections DesignerAmy Atha-Nich	olls
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Program Editor	key
Program AssistantNancy Lo	ong
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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS_

Noah Dion • Richard Atha-Nicholls *Audition and Rehearsal Pianists* Emiliy Sergo • Ron Gidding *Recording Orchestra* Emily Sergo • Billy Georg • Reid Bowman





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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

So Much to be Grateful for....

As I write this Thanksgiving is fast approaching, and as you read this Hanukkah is going on or just finished, and Christmas and Kwanzaa are right around the corner. The one thing all of these holidays have in common is that family traditions are an integral part of their observance. We gather with family and friends and do the things we always do because of the way they connect us to the past and each other. Traditions help us to feel rooted and a part of something that is bigger than ourselves.

And so, we are overjoyed to be able to return to our tradition of presenting the Wade/Gessner version of A Christmas Carol. We've made some adjustments to accommodate the reality of performing what is usually a large-scale production during a pandemic. but the music, lyrics, and story we all love are back at home. Perhaps there are some new traditions forming in the crucible of this presentation. We'll have to see. This production also marks some significant milestones in CP's history with the show. It is hard to believe that this is the 40th anniversary of it's first presentation (December, 1981) and we are incredibly humbled that the show has become part of so many families' holiday celebrations. We also remember it's composer, Dick Gessner, who passed away in 2019. This is our first production since Dick's passing, and though he is no longer physically with us, his joyous spirit and amazing talent are still present in every note played and sung.

One tradition that is definitely continuing is the idea that this production is a gift to the Annapolis community. Proceeds from our annual holiday productions are donated to a local charity and we have a canned food drive set-up in the lobby this year - helping to ensure that the holiday spirit continues to have real-world impacts beyond the season.

I also want to take the opportunity on behalf of the Board of Directors to wish all of you the happiest of holiday seasons. While we have all dealt with so much over the last nearly two years, we have much to be grateful for and cherish. May the coming year be filled with health, joy, love, and a renewed commitment to our fellow human beings.

Merry Christmas, Chag Urim Sameach, Habari Gani, As-salamu Alaikum

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Thank you for your support. Your generous gifts help us to continue to provide educational and training programs, encouragement and entertainment to all who are interested in dramatic arts.

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The Colonial Players gratefully acknowledges the generous bequest from Roland Riley, a longtime patron whose gift helps ensure the future economic viability of our theater.

The Colonial Players gratefully acknowledges the recent gift from the Donald M. Reed Living Trust that made possible the critical upgrade of our stage lighting control system.

The Colonial Players wishes to express heartfelt gratitude to all supporters who donated the value of their tickets when Season 71 came to an abrupt end. Your contributions allowed the theater to continue paying utility bills, award the annual scholarship, and still help us continue to face the unknowns brought on by COVID-19.

come Thank you. come

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THE STAFF (continued)



(Stage Manager)

Ernie has been stage manager or lighting designer for 15 shows at The Colonial Players and Annapolis Summer Garden Theatre.



BETH TERRANOVA

(Costume Designer) Beth has been designing costumes for community theatres for over 25 years. On the The Colonial Players stage her previous

costume designs were seen in Maytag Virgin, A Christmas Carol (2018), Nine (WATCH nomination), A Few Good Men, These Shining Lives, Coyote on a Fence, Going to St. Ives (WATCH nomination), Cinderella Waltz (WATCH nomination), Lettice and Lovage, The Diviners, The Lion in Winter, The Philadelphia Story, Hauptmann, and Moon Over Buffalo. In Maryland she has also designed costumes for 2nd Star (Gypsy), Compass Rose (The *Diarv of Anne Frank* and *Elegnore*), and Bay Theatre Company (Beyond Therapy). Other costume design credits from years of theater in Florida include The Importance of Being Ernest, Beau Jest, The Last Night of Ballyhoo, Call Me Madam, and Gypsy (yes, she has had the "joy" of costuming this show twice!). Beth was most recently on stage at The Colonial Players as Williamina Fleming in Silent Sky. Work behind the scenes includes director, producer, set designer, play consultant, and tech crew. Happily retired, these days you might catch Beth in colonial garb leading historic and ghost tours around Annapolis...when she isn't doing "things" for the theatre.

DIANNE TRICKEY-ROKENBROD (Lighting Designer)

Dianne is a recent "transplant" to the area, moving with her husband Bill from Western New York. Her love of community

theatre moved with her, and she is thrilled to join the Annapolis theatre community. Bringing varied experience in acting, directing, and lighting, Dianne was encouraged to jump in with both feet on this classic Christmas show! In true Colonial Players fashion, there were plenty of people to mentor and support her as she learned the ropes at CP. She would like to extend special thanks to John Purnell. Wes Bedsworth. Bill Reinhardt, and Tim Brown for all their help. And no bio for Dianne is complete without recognition of her family, truly the "wind beneath her wings."

KRISZTINA VANYI (Set Designer)



You can take the woman out of Annapolis but vou cannot take The Colonial Players (love of theatre) out of her. Despite living

almost an hour away Krisztina is always happy to come back to CP as she still considers it her second - artistic - home. Starting with the 2014 Summer One Act Festival (lead set painter) she has been hooked on paint fumes and has contributed to the production of shows such as Dead Man's Cell Phone and A Few Good Men (lighting assistant). The Liar (set designer), Shiloh Rules (painter/prop builder), It's a Wonderful Life (Lead set painter/designer). Krisztina also has been working on sets for the Victorian Lyric Opera, Rockville Little Theatre, and Rockville Musical Theatre. When not behind the scenes, she enjoys taking comedic and musical improv classes at WIT DC, Graphic Design, Interior Design, and Architectural/Visual Communication classes at AACC just for fun. She works as a principal data scientist to support her theatre habit.

ABOUT THE DIRECTOR _____



SARAH WADE is thrilled to be back directing A Christmas Carol for her second year. She was just seen onstage as Gloria Mitchell in By the Way, Meet Vera Stark. Prior CP credits include Elaine Harper

in Arsenic and Old Lace; Honey in Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf? (WATCH award winner for Best Supporting Actress); Gabriella in *Boeing-Boeing*; Cecily Cardew in *Ernest in Love*; twins Sabine and Isabelle in The Liar; multiple roles in A Christmas

DIRECTOR'S NOTES ____

How time flies. When I look back on my first year directing this show in 2018, it's astounding to me now what I felt like I achieved then and how much I perhaps took for granted. The world looks so very different now. This show, in fact, looks so very different now. Yet. I remain astounded by what my vibrant cast and amazing team have been able to achieve - this year. I won't be taking that for granted. To be honest, I didn't know what this show was going to look like. You'd think I'd have had a better idea, given that I got an extra year to think about it, but it was truthfully challenging to re-envision a show that I knew only in one form. I'm so, so proud of my cast and am humbled and grateful for all the gifts my design team have given me - their support being first and foremost.

Carol; Catherine in These Shining Lives; the Starto-be in Annie; Jessica in Communicating Doors; and Kitty in Taking Steps. She directed the 2019 production of A Christmas Carol, and is pleased to direct it again this year. She has also been behind the scenes as a sound designer for Love, Loss, and What I Wore; Sex with Strangers; Calendar Girls; Watch on the Rhine; and Side Man. "Thanks to everyone for understanding that I can't, I have rehearsal. Love always to Eric."

What does A Christmas Carol say to us in 2021? What message can we take away? Of course, Dickens couldn't envision a world full of divisive discourse, a pandemic, a rapidly changing world. Or could he? London was no stranger to the hardships of disease. England's political discourse and role on the world's stage were a divisive topic, and the world was changing rapidly during the 19th century. An enduring message, the one at the heart of Dickens' story, remains - think upon how you treat your fellow humans and how that might weigh upon your soul. Strive to live with a joyous and optimistic spirit. Live well. "If every human mind could look on human-kind, as a very special bounty which can't be bought or sold ... "

- SARAH WADE

ABOUT THE CHOREOGRAPHER _____



No stranger to The Colonial Players, LINDSAY ZETTER LUCAS returns to choreograph her third production of *A Christmas* Carol. She was classically trained in ballet from age three and

received a degree in arts management from Indiana University. She is currently Dance Director at The Key School and Associate Artistic Director

of Academy Ballet School, where she has staged and choreographed ballets since 2011. Other productions include Ernest in Love, Once Upon a Mattress, Cats, Grease, The Addams Family, Chicago, Lucky Stiff, Mamma Mia, as well as working with Annapolis Opera on Faust and *Carmen*. She is thrilled to be working with Sarah and her wonderful cast!

ABOUT THE MUSIC DIRECTOR _____



TREVOR GREENFIELD is excited to return to The Colonial Players this Christmas season! A local performer and music director since 2015, Trevor's recent credits include lead role Joe Gillis

in Moonlight Troupers' Sunset Boulevard, and

the director for Children's Theatre of Annapolis' production of The Hobbit. Trevor teaches K-5 general music for AACPS as well as private piano lessons. He would like to thank his wife and son, Katrina and Jackson, for their love and support and the entire CP team for their talent, dedication, and hard work to pull this off. "Merry Christmas to all!"

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ABOUT THE ADAPTER/LYRICIST___

RICHARD (RICK) WADE has been a member of The Colonial Players for more than 50 years, directing more than two dozen productions, occasionally acting, and serving as the theater's president and many years on its board. He has directed for numerous other professional, college, community, and dinner theaters in the Baltimore-Washington area. He has written a dozen other plays and musicals and is a member of the Dramatists

ABOUT THE COMPOSER

DICK GESSNER collaborated with Rick Wade to write the music for A Christmas Carol and also wrote the music for Wade's adaptations of children's musicals Pinocchio, Puss 'n Boots, Rumpelstiltskin, and Treasure Island. He served as musical director for many productions in Maryland, including Carousel; Fiddler on the Roof; and My Fair Lady at Annapolis

Guild. His adaptation and lyrics for A Christmas Carol with music composed by Dick Gessner, was written expressly for CP in 1981 and has been performed more than 600 times on the East Street stage. Rick and his wife, Jennifer, live in Arnold. They are particularly proud of their daughter, Sarah, and her husband, Eric Hufford, who perform and direct at Colonial Players and their son. Andrew. wife Molly, and new grandson, Henry.

Summer Garden Theatre, and Little Mary Sunshine; The Apple Tree; You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown; The Contrast; and Carnival at The Colonial Players. Gessner died August 30, 2019, at the age of 90, but his spirit lives on in the wonderful music he wrote for A Christmas Carol.

MUSIC SYNOPSIS

Overture	Orchestra
Christmas Eve in London	The Carolers, Londoners
That Most Marvelous Time of the Year	Fred, Bob Cratchit
Mind Your Own Business	Scrooge, Londoners
As If It Were Yesterday	Scrooge
Hilli-Ho! Chirrup!	Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig, Guests
In Your World	Belle
Cornucopia	Ghost of Christmas Present, Londoners
Bless Us All	Cratchit Family
One Fine Funeral	Jndertaker's Man, Laundress, Charwoman
Keeping Christmas	Scrooge
Finale	Scrooge, Company





TIM BROWN (Producer) Tim was involved in the last two productions of A Christmas Carol

- as stage manager in 2016 and as co-producer in 2018. He also has

produced and participated as lighting assistant in several other shows. He is delighted to be involved once again in such a heart-warming production that is so much a part of The Colonial Players and Annapolis. He sends thanks to all the wonderful people at this, his favorite theatre, who are so welcoming and fun to work with.

THE STAFF



SUSAN BAUM (Properties Designer)

This is the second show at The Colonial Players for Susan and she is thrilled to be part of the team for A Christmas Carol. She assisted

with the props for The Revolutionists. Susan has been actively involved with theatre in Annapolis for many years, having previously worked with Children's Theatre of Annapolis and Compass Rose Theater. Enjoy the show!

WES BEDSWORTH

(Sound Designer / Recording Enaineer)

Wes has been volunteering with The Players since early 2007 when he was a sound technician for

Moon Over Buffalo. He's gone on to sound design many other shows, light design one, program lights for a bunch, create an Arduino-controlled illuminated grand piano for another, and provide technical consultation on more shows than he can count. Wes currently serves as Operations Director on the Board, where his responsibilities vary from plumber to electrician to network administrator to HVAC technician to locksmith to general handyman, depending on what broke this time. He also serves as Technical Director on the Production Team, and is excited to be part of the "Stream Team" -- the trio of volunteers who have worked closely (while bickering like brothers) to develop live stream capability for The Players. By day, Wes works for Cardinal Engineering, proudly supporting the United States Navy's COLUMBIA Class submarine program, where he was recently recognized as employee of the year. Wes sends his love to his wife, Kaelynn; his parents; sister Susan; and brother-in-law, Jon. Abby - always in my heart.

ABOUT OUR NEXT PLAY

The Colonial Players will welcome the new year with The Lost Boy, a heartwarming fictionalized account of author James Barrie, his life, and the creation of the story of Peter Pan and the fascinating characters who inhabited Neverland. Despite finding success and fame as a writer, Barrie is dissatisfied with his work and his life. He returns to his hometown in Scotland to visit his mother, who still blames him for the long-ago death of his older brother in a skating pond. Haunted by the tragic accident and his mother's harsh words, James slowly begins to confront his family's tragic past with the help of an unexpected friendship and his own gift for storytelling. This fictionalized account of the birth of Peter Pan will warm the hearts of audiences everywhere who remember the magic and mystery of The Boy Who Wouldn't Grow Up.

The Lost Boy, written by Ron Paolilo, opens January 14 and closes February 5. Tickets available at the colonial players.org.



THE CAST (continued)

room. She thanks God for blessing her with this community that has been so warm and welcoming. She hopes you have a very Merry Christmas and eniov the show!



ZACH PRIDDY

(Peter Cratchit / Dick Wilkins / Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come) Zach is delighted to be making his theatre debut in The Colonial Players rendition of A Christmas

Carol. He is very excited to begin his theatre career with this wonderful show and hopes to do many more shows in the future. When he is not acting he can be seen singing and playing his guitar, writing, spending time with his friends and family, and playing in three bands at the Priddy Music Academy. Catch him at one of his upcoming gigs! Zach would like to thank Sarah Wade for her support and kindness, the hard working crew who make the magic happen, and his fellow castmates for friendships that will last a lifetime. He would also like to give a huge shout out to his parents, who took time out of their very busy schedules to take him to rehearsals and support him every step of the way. Zach had so much fun being a part of this and hopes you "Keep Christmas in your heart every DAY."



MATTHEW RIGBY

(Fred / Young Scrooge) This is Matt's first production with The Colonial Players, and he is very excited to bring Christmas cheer to Annapolis! Matt performed

in several musicals in high school and college, including Anything Goes and Guys and Dolls. He has loved working with the cast and crew and can't wait for future shows with CP. Matt would like to thank his friends and family for their support. He's just getting started!



MIA RINEHART

(Martha Cratchit / Fred's Party Guest) Mia is a 15-year-old tenth grader in the IB Program at Annapolis High School. She is thrilled to make her debut on the The Colonial

Players stage after performing last spring as Elsa in the Children's Theatre of Annapolis production of Frozen Jr. When not performing, Mia can be found

participating in many clubs at school, traveling to see live music, or listening to Phoebe Bridgers. Mia is honored to have the opportunity to be a part of this iconic show and thanks this incredible cast and creative staff for the amazing experience. Mia thanks her family, specifically her mother, for keeping theatre a priority in her life. She also sends her thanks to her vocal coach, Alyssa Cox, for her amazing support and encouragement. Enjoy the show!

REED SIGMON

(Bob Cratchit)

Colonial Players stage and honored to be part of this long-standing Annapolis tradition! He most

Reed is thankful to return to The

recently appeared with CP as Harry Witherspoon in the 2018 production of Lucky Stiff (WATCH Nomination. Lead Actor in a Musical / Outstanding Musical nomination). He could also be seen as Snoopy in 2nd Star Productions' 2020 showing of You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown. Since 2018, Reed has performed professionally with the Maryland Renaissance Festival's Company of the Rose, closing their 2021 season as Master Thomas Sevmour (brother to eventual Queen, Jane Seymour). In his free time, Reed runs a website dedicated to collecting vintage children's books - you can follow his work at wereedbooks.com. He thanks his loved ones for their unwavering support and especially thanks his wife for putting up with his constant singing of Christmas songs over the last month and a half. As 2021 comes to a close, Reed would like to wish everyone the happiest of holidays and a joyful 2022!

GENE VALENDO

(Ebenezer Scrooge)

Gene is delighted to return to The Colonial Players stage where he previously appeared in 1776 (2013) and in Lucky Stiff (2018). His most

recent stage appearances were prior to the pandemic in Moonlight and Magnolias (Ben Hecht, Laurel Mill Playhouse, early 2020) and in the Menken/Ahrens version of A Christmas Carol: The Musical (Ebenezer Scrooge, 2nd Star Productions, 2019). Other than Scrooge (of course), his favorite roles include Juror #8 (Twelve Angry Men), Sir Joseph Porter (HMS Pinafore), and Alexander Molokov (Chess). He wishes to thank Sarah for giving him the opportunity to be part of this wonderful Annapolis tradition.





KAELYNN BEDSWORTH

THE CAST

(Belle / Mrs. Cratchit / Charwoman)

Kaelynn is happy to be treading the boards once more in one of her favorite shows of all time. You

may have seen her as Mrs. Cratchit or Belle/Fred's Wife in past productions of A Christmas Carol. A few additional favorite CP stage credits include The Secret Garden (Alice), Annie (Grace Farrell), 1776 (Martha Jefferson), Little Women (Meg), and Moonlight and Magnolias (Miss Poppenghul). Behind the scenes, she has produced, costume designed, sound designed, scene painted, and seam sewed for many a CP show Kaelynn sends love to her husband and family, especially her nieces Adeline and Hannah, and would like to dedicate this performance to the memory of her dear friend and colleague Carrie, who always reminded her every day that "we're as blessed as anyone alive."



IAN BROWN (Tim Cratchit / Turkey Boy / Scrooge as a Boy)

Ian is a 6th grader at Bates Middle School in the Performance and Visual Arts Program (Creative

Writing and Drama). He is 12 years old and enjoys baseball, go-karting, and hanging out with his neighborhood friends. This is his third performance at The Colonial Players. He played the role of young Ethan in the *City of Conversation* in 2017 and Ollie Herdman in the 2019 performance of *The Best* Christmas Pageant Ever. Ian is very excited to be a part of this wonderful cast and would like to thank his family, his fellow performers, and the crew for inspiration and support.



DIANNE HOOD (Ghost of Christmas Past)

Dianne first walked in the doors of this theater and onto the stage in 1976 as Jane Hopcroft in Absurd Person Singular. Since then, she

has performed in more than 20 Colonial Players productions. Her most recent roles here include Arronetta Gibbs in *Morning's at Seven*, Miss Prism in Ernest in Love. Charlotte Hav in Moon over Buffalo, and Edith in Jake's Women. In addition. she has appeared on several stages in Baltimore and on the Maryland Eastern Shore.



DUNCAN HOOD

(Ghost of Jacob Marley / Mr. Fezziwiq / Undertaker's Man) "It's good to be back at The Colonial Players." Duncan was last seen as Dr. Chausible in

Ernest in Love at CP. Over the past 20 years, he has performed roles here as Carl in Morning's at Seven, George in Moon over Buffalo, Scrooge in A Christmas Carol, The Playwright in Enter the Guardsman, VanSweiten in Amadeus, Jethro Crouch in Sly Fox, Michael in Dancing at Lughnasa, The Narrator in Blood Brothers, Inspector Rough in Angel Street, and Psuedolus in A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum. Duncan has been an international sailing instructor trainer for the American Sailing Association for 36 years and holds a 100 ton USCG Master's license. He is dedicating these performances to his grandkids: Joan, Graham, and Cameron.

ERIC HUFFORD

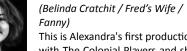


(Ghost of Christmas Present / Gentleman) Eric is happy to reprise his role

of Ghost of Christmas Present in A Christmas Carol at The

Colonial Players. It's been a while since he was last on stage as he has taken mostly to backstage technical support for many productions. Favorite roles include Jerry in The Full Monty and Thomas Jefferson in 1776. Eric would like to dedicate this performance to the amazingly talented and ever humble Benjamin Carr. On a completely unrelated note. don't make bets in Fantasy Football.

ALEXANDRA KUEBLER



This is Alexandra's first production with The Colonial Players and she is ecstatic about the opportunity

to spread some Christmas cheer! Recently, Alex has had the pleasure to perform as Luisa in The Fantasticks, Jo in Little Women, and Katherine in Taming of the Shrew. Outside the theatre, Alex enjoys reading John Steinbeck, Rick Riordan, and most things in between. She is very grateful to her mom and dad for constantly supporting her in her acting endeavors and her sisters for loving her despite the non-stop singing coming from Alex's 73rd Season • 384th Season Production

THE COLONIAL PLAYERS, INC.

presents



Adapter / Lyricist

Music by DICK GESSNER

Directed by SARAH WADE Choreographer LINDSAY ZETTER LUCAS Music Director TREVOR GREENFIELD

TIME AND PLACE

The play takes place in the streets of Victorian London and in the counting house and bedchamber of Ebenezer Scrooge. In the revelations of the ghosts and in Scrooge's memory, we are transported to times and places of Scrooge's past, present and future.

THE CAST (in order of appearance)

Ebenezer Scrooge	Gene Valendo
Bob Cratchit	Reed Sigmon
Fred	Matthew Rigby
Solicitors	Eric Hufford, Sarah Wade
Mistletoe Man	Zach Priddy
Ghost of Jacob Marley	Duncan Hood
Ghost of Christmas Past	Dianne Hood
Scrooge as a Boy	Ian Brown
Fanny	Alexandra Kuebler
Dick Wilkins	Zach Priddy
Young Scrooge	Matthew Rigby
Mr. Fezziwig	Duncan Hood
Mrs. Fezziwig	Sarah Wade
Belle	Kaelynn Bedsworth
Ghost of Christmas Present	Eric Hufford
Mrs. Cratchit	Kaelynn Bedsworth
Belinda Cratchit	Alexandra Kuebler
Peter Cratchit	Zach Priddy
Martha Cratchit	Mia Rinehart
Tim Cratchit	Ian Brown
Fred's Wife	Alexandra Kuebler
Party Guests	Mia Rinehart, Sarah Wade
Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come	Zach Priddy
Undertaker's Man	Duncan Hood
Laundress	Sarah Wade
Charwoman	Kaelynn Bedsworth
Turkey Boy	Ian Brown



This production is dedicated in loving memory of Dick Gessner. Thank you Dick for the gift of your indelible music for *A Christmas Carol*.

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