THE PREMIERE PLAYHOUSE

# PRESENTS

# Christmas Carol

BY CRISPIN WHITTELL

OOGE T RLEY



December 15 - 23, 2023

It felt like three nights rolled into one...

2003

ORPHEUM
THEATER CENTER

www.thepremiereplayhouse.com

# Season's Greetings

As we move through the winter and holiday seasons, we wish you joy, peace, and inspiration now and into the new year.







100 South Phillips Avenue



(605) 335-5200



fnbsf.com



Presents

### A CHRISTMAS CAROL

By Crispin Whittell

Stage Director **Lary B. Etten**  Assoc. Stage Director

Jesse Jensen

Composer/Music Director

Matthew Walicke

Stage Manager **Kevin Wintering** 

Choreographer **Tiffany Koppes** 

Scenic Designer Victor E. Shonk

Lighting Designer Corey Shelsta

Sound Designer **Malia Lukomski** 

Hair & Makeup Designer,
Costume Coordinator
Brittney Lewis

Inaugural Costume Designer **Kendra Dexter**  Inaugural Scenic Build Heartland Scenic Studio Inc.

### **RIGHTS**

This Play was originally commissioned and produced by the Guthrie Theater Joe Dowling, Artistic Director

Permission granted by A3 ARTISTS AGENCY 350 Fifth Avenue / 38th Floor, New York, NY 10118 All inquires concerning rights to the Play shall be addressed to the above.

### WARNINGS

Please be aware that this production contains the use of fog, snow, smoke, and other special effects.

### **DIGITAL COPY OF PROGRAM**





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# THE PREMIERE PLAYHOUSE

would like to take this opportunity to express our extreme gratitude to





&



for sponsoring our production of



# Managing Artistic Director's Note



Welcome to the enchanting Orpheum Theater, a place steeped in history, nestled in the vibrant city of Sioux Falls! During this magical season, The Premiere Playhouse proudly presents Crispin Whittell's *A Christmas Carol*, a production that promises to fill your heart with warmth and kindle the spirit of creating cherished traditions with your loved ones. Our rendition of A Christmas Carol is a tapestry woven with enchanting moments, infectious laughter, heartfelt stories, and an overall atmosphere of festive delight.

The magic of *A Christmas Carol* wouldn't be possible without the unwavering support of our devoted sponsors – companies that share our vision and are committed to helping us achieve our community-driven objectives. A heartfelt thank you goes out to these steadfast advocates for their invaluable contributions to both our organization and the success of this production: Culver's, Davenport, Evans, Hurwitz & Smith, LLP, First National Bank, and our esteemed season sponsor, First Premier Bank. Your dedication to our community is truly appreciated.

I extend a special note of gratitude to the resilient TPP staff, Board of Directors, the dedicated production team, crew, and talented actors. Your collective dedication is the driving force behind making *A Christmas Carol* a triumph. At The Premiere Playhouse, we strive to offer our community a creative haven that sparks inspiration in each individual, and I am confident that this production will do just that for you. So, settle in and immerse yourself in the spectacle of *A Christmas Carol* – then join us for an annual rendezvous at the Orpheum, making each holiday season truly special. Rest assured, it only gets grander with each passing year!

Happy Holidays,

**Oliver Mayes** 

Managing Artistic Director



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# **120 CLUB**

### \$10/mo or \$120/yr

By joining the 120 Club, your monthly contribution helps provide complimentary tickets to area non-profits and allows us to share the magic of live community based theatre in Sioux Falls!

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- -Listed as "Friend of The Premiere Playhouse" for an entire season
- -1/4 page ad in program for an entire season
- + More!

# **PRODUCER**

### \$5000+

- -25 vouchers for show tickets
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- -1/2 page ad in program for an entire season
- -Private backstage tours and talkbacks with the cast
- + More!

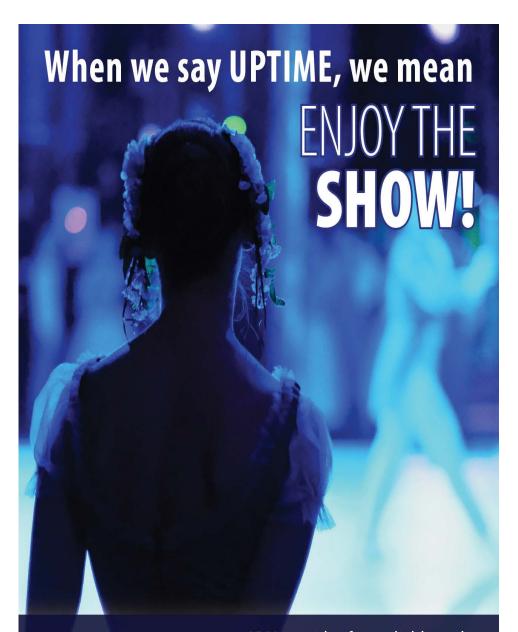
# **EXECUTIVE PRODUCER**

### \$10.000+

- -50 vouchers for show tickets
- -Listed as "Friend of The Premiere Playhouse" for an entire season
- -Full page ad in program for an entire season
- -Private backstage tours and talkbacks with the cast
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- + More!

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# Director's Note



Welcome all to our third production of A Christmas Carol. I'm sure you have a favorite memory of this story, whether it's the Alistair Sim film, a radio play version, or even the Muppet's take on this fabulous Christmas perennial. Our sincere hope is that this newer version originated at the Guthrie Theater – already has or will become one of your favorites.

When I first read it three years ago the sense of humor mixed with compassion for this troubled man truly stood out. There were also plot and character elements that I had never seen before, all of which enticed me into directing it. Even with the daunting weight of overseeing a show with almost fifty cast members, combined with a staff and technical support team of over twenty, I was gratified when The Premiere Playhouse asked me back to direct for one final time.

Lucky for me (and hopefully for you as well) this production succeeds on the shoulders of a phenomenal group of people (designers, builders, volunteers, returning veteran actors as well as "newbies", and parents) who have dedicated much of their lives over the last three months to the goal of making this the best return to A Christmas Carol possible. If we have succeeded, we hope to see you back here next year to celebrate this new family holiday tradition with us.

Merry Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all.

And as Tiny Tim would say... well, I'm sure you know what he would say!

Lary B. Etten

Stage Director



# About The Show

### **SYNOPSIS**

A Christmas Carol recounts the story of Ebenezer Scrooge, an elderly miser who is visited by the ghost of his former business partner Jacob Marley and the spirits of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come. After their visits, Scrooge is transformed into a kinder, gentler man.

### **COURTESY POLICY**

- THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED, A VIOLATION OF THE AUTHOR(S)'S RIGHTS AND ACTIONABLE UNDER UNITED STATES COPYRIGHT LAW. FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: https://concordtheatricals.com/resources/protecting-artists
- Please turn off or silence all electronic devices.
- Please make sure that when you parked your car, you paid attention to all posted warnings. If you do not adhere to the posted warnings, your car may be towed at your own expense.
- Enjoy the show and please help spread the news about this production. Share with others on Facebook and Instagram and be sure to tag @thepremiereplayhouse!

There will be a 15 minute intermission.

### **MERCHANDISE**

We have limited edition *Christmas Carol* and Premiere Playhouse merchandise available in the lobby! Please stop by our tables for special deals. All items will also be available on our website after the production has ended.

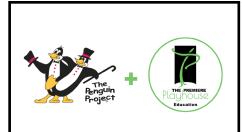
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# TPP Education Lineup







May - Aug, 2024

**Details Soon!** 



# TPP Theatre Classes

**Tips For Beginning Taps** *January 27, 2024* 

Improving Our Improv 3/4/24 - 4/15/24 **Moving Through Dance** *April 6, 2024* 

Playing With Playwriting
June 1, 2024

www.thepremiereplayhouse.com/education



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# Cast

Abby Kustak Kitty Scrooge

Belle's Daughter, Ignorance, Alivia Dice

Mistletoe Seller

Belle Amanda McMillan

Ashley "Annie" Laird-Blau Mrs. Cratchit

Martha Cratchit Avianna Steen

> **Bob Cratchit** Bart Workman

Mrs. Dilber Beth Olsen

Vicar Polkinghorne Bill Kubat

Peter Cratchit, Party Guest Christian Heiberger

> Mr. Fezziwig, Mr. Bear Dave Baumeister

> > Emily Piper Dora Fezziwig

Mrs. Polkinghorne Etta McKinley

Belinda Cratchit Hanalei Barrett

Mrs. Wimple, Jane India Johnson

Young Ebenezer Scrooge, Topper Jackson Heiberger

> Donald, Lamplighter Jamie Bowden

> > Beggar Boy Jaxson Boen

Dick Wilkins Jim Mcl ain

Fred Scrooge Joshua Hunter

Daniel, Priest Joshua Maldonado

Ghost of Christmas Future Joshua Sauer

# Cast



Mrs. Fezziwig, Bumble Kjerstin Smith

Belle's Son Leif Moritz

Mabel, Party Guest Malia Buchanan

Wimple Child, Want Marley Boen

**Bunty, Party Guest** Morgan Moritz

Youngest Ebeneezer Scrooge Perrin Boraas-Getman

Mr. Sykes, Mr. Bull Phil Kappen

Young Fanny, Daisy Fezziwig Rachel Row

**Ghost of Jacob Marley** Rod Pierce

**Old Joe, Party Guest** Rodney Bergeson

**Deirdre Fezziwig, Sally** Rosita Contreras

**Merriweather** Terry Zerfas

**Ghost of Christmas Past** Tiffany Clanton

George, Ghost of Christmas Tom Chleborad
Present

**Ebenezer Scrooge** Tom Roberts

**Mr. Wimple** Thomas Andrew Simmons

**David, Turkey Deliverer** Torrance Serck

Tiny Tim Wyatt Cooper

Belle's Daughter Zoey Weber



# Cast

# **Carol Singers**

Amanda McMillan, Bill Kubat, Etta McKinley, Jim McLain, Malia Buchanan, Phil Kappen

# **Ladies & Gentlemen of London**

Abby Kustak, Christian Heiberger, Emily Piper, India Johnson, Jackson Heiberger

# Students, Urchins, Children of London

**Students:** Alivia Dice, Gryphon Boraas-Simmons, Leif Moritz, Marley Boen, Zoey Weber **Urchins:** Gryphon Boraas-Simmons, Leif Moritz, Zoey Weber **Children of London:** Alivia Dice, Marley Boen, Zoey Weber

## **Understudies**

Mrs. Cratchit: Amanda McMillan Young Fanny: Avianna Steen Ghost of Christmas Past: Bekki Kniep Merriweather: Beth Olsen Mr. Fezziwig: Bill Kubat Sykes: Christian Heiberger Young Scrooge: Christian Heiberger Ghost of Christmas

Present: Clinton Store Kitty Scrooge: Emily Piper Bumble:

Emily Piper Mrs. Fezziwig: Etta McKinley Topper: Jamie Bowden Ghost of Jacob Marley: Jesse Jensen Bob Cratchit:

Jim McLain **Fred Scrooge:** Jon Buchanan **Tiny Tim:** Leif Moritz **Belle:** Malia Buchanan **Martha Cratchit:** Marisa

Moser **Ebenezer Scrooge:** Thomas Andrew Simmons **Peter** 

Cratchit: Torrance Serck Belinda Cratchit: Zoey Weber

# YOUR AD HERE!

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May 10, 11, 12 & 17, 18, 19 - 2024

\*EXTRAS at A.C.T. might include Johnny Cash Tribute, Branson Ozark Jubilee & Tonic Sol Fa's Shaun Johnson Big Band Experience along with BHP Dakota Players, Parks & Rec and ACT's Youth Theater



# Production Team

**Production Manager** Alex Newcomb Weiland

**Animations Designer** Brent Plooster

Hair & Makeup Designer. Brittney Lewis **Costume Coordinator. Costume Shop Manager** 

**Lighting Designer** Corey Shelsta

**Assistant Stage Manager** Elizabeth Winterina

**Technical Coordinator** Jacee Casarella

**Properties Artisan** Jake Cox

**Associate Stage Director** Jesse Jensen

**Assistant Scenic Designer** Jill Clark

> Kevin Wintering Stage Manager

Stage Director Lary B. Etten

**Music Director/Composer** Matthew Walicke

> Malia Lukomski **Sound Designer**

**Producer & Casting Director** Oliver Mayes

> Technical Director Pierce Humke

> > Dialect Coach Terry Zerfas

Choreographer Tiffany Koppes

Victor F. Shonk Scenic Designer



# THE FOX ON THE FAIRWAY

September 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 28, 29, 30 October 1, 5, 6, 7, 8



# EVERY CHRISTMAS STORY

EVER TOLD (and then some!)
November 30 December 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17, 28, 29, 30, 31 January 4, 5, 6, 7



# DEATHTRAP

February 16, 17, 18, 22, 23, 24, 25, 29 March 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, 16, 17



### LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS

May 3, 4, 5, 9, 10, 11, 12, 16, 17, 18, 19, 23, 24, 25, 26, 30, 31 June 1, 2



### 2023-2024 SEASON

Thursday & Friday 6:30 - Saturday & Sunday 5:30 tickets@oldetownetheatre.org (605) 372 - 4653 P.O. Box 214, 121 S. Main St. Worthing, SD 57077



# Crew

**Build & Assembly Crew** Adam Carpenter, Jason Bruggeman

Brooke Hamilton-Nichols, Caleb Nichols Lainey Libengood, Anny Libengood

Brenda Miller

Costume, Hair, & Makeup Rex Williams, Riham Hussien, Penny Kustak

Fly Rail Operators Adam Carpenter, Casey Kustak

Mic Wrangler Bob Nelson

Sound Board Operator Ellie Roskamp

**Light Board Operator** Allegra Sekely

**Tech Swings** Alli Goeller, Leigh Spencer, Beckett Kustak

Audio Engineers Jacob Moeller, Aiden Boone

Youth Supervisors Carrie Moritz, Mateja Barrett





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# Meet The Cast



## **Abby Kustak** / Kitty Scrooge, Lady of London

Abby is ecstatic to be returning to *A Christmas Carol* but this time on stage. You may have seen Abby in past productions like *The Little Mermaid* and *Cinderella*. Abby enjoys doing theater with her husband and two children. Abby is the education assistant for TPP and loves working with kids to help grow their theater passion.



# **Alivia Dice** / Student, Child of London, Belle's Daughter, Ignorance, Mistletoe Seller

Alivia is so excited to return to the stage again in *A Christmas Carol*. Her favorite part about being in the show is spending time with the friends she has made. Alivia is a 5th grader at Adventure Elementary. When not on stage she enjoys Legos, dance, band, soccer and volleyball. She'd like to thank the cast and crew for being so kind and welcoming to her!



# **Amanda McMillan** / Carol Singer, Belle, Mrs. Cratchit U/S

Amanda is honored to return for the third year of *A Christmas Carol*, sharing the stage with a talented cast that feels like family. She has previously performed as the Enchantress in *Beauty and the Beast*, as well as various other acting venues. In her spare time she enjoys reading, running, cooking, skiing, paddle boarding, and playing with her cats. You can also find her working as a Credit Risk Analyst for Vervent.



## Ashley "Annie" Laird-Blau / Mrs. Cratchit

Ashley (Annie) is honored to return to the stage for the third time as Mrs. Cratchit. Her previous shows include *Beauty and the Beast* and *Cinderella*. She spends her free time reading, writing, creating, and going on as many adventures with her kids as they will allow her.



### Avianna Steen / Martha Cratchit, Young Fanny U/S

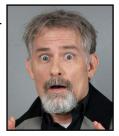
Avianna is very excited to be returning as Martha Cratchit and as an understudy for Young Fanny in *A Christmas Carol*. Throughout her nine years of theater experience, Avianna has valued sharing the joy and magic of theater with everyone around her. She would like to give a special thanks to her voice teachers Adam Ross Glickman and Amy Morrison, directors, family, friends, cast and crew for their support and encouragement.

# Meet The Cast



### **Bart Workman** / Bob Cratchit

Bart returns to the stage for the third year as "father" to the Cratchit family. The affection he has for this family is real. Bart has been a veteran of local theatre productions for over three decades. He fell in love with A Christmas Carol when he played Scrooge in 1989 at the old Washington High School. Bart has been blessed to be married to his beloved bride Barbara for over 27 years. They are empty nesters and are incredibly proud of their adult "kids". Bart is an IT leader at Citibank where he has worked for over 33 years. Bart dedicates this performance to his acting mentor, Dale Reed Hart who taught him to "Act well your part; there all the honor lies".



# Beth Olsen / Mrs. Dilber, Merrieweather U/S

Beth first stepped back into theater 10 years ago after a long break. Since then she has performed with SECT, The Premiere Playhouse, Mighty Corson Art Players, Monstrous Little Theatre Company and Broad Cast Theatre, of which she was also a cofounder. She would like to thank her husband Greg for taking care of the dogs so she could participate!



# **Bill Kubat** / Carol Singer, Vicar Polkinghorne, Mr. Fezziwig U/S

Bill is grateful to be returning for a second appearance as a Caroler and the Vicar. Years ago, Bill did a lot of community theatre (favorite roles: Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey* and Oscar in *The Odd Couple*) and retirement allowed him the opportunity to participate in this wonderful theatrical/holiday indulgence. Working with this cast, this staff and Director Lary has been an absolute joy. May you enjoy and be blessed by this performance.



### **Christian Heiberger** / Peter Cratchit, London Gentleman, Party Guest, Sykes U/S, Young Scrooge U/S

Make way for the Goosel Christian is back on stage for his 15th show since joining the theatre community in 2019. When not performing, he works at the Glory House. Outside of his love for performing, he enjoys D&D with friends, free running/climbing, baking, and appearing as various characters for Simply Ever After Entertainment. Special thanks to his brother Jackson for coming along for the ride for those first auditions.



### Dave Baumeister / Mr. Fezziwig, Mr. Bear

This month marks the 59th year from Dave's first on-stage role as a Tin Soldier in the *The Nutcracker* at St. Mary's School. Between then and now, he has acted in 53 other shows and has been a part of the directing/running/technical crews for over 30 more. During that time, Dave has worked with some amazing people. This show has brought several of them back together on the stage which means so much.







# Before we practiced **LAW** we practiced **MUSIC**



Before Davenport Evans lawyer **Mike Srstka** practiced business law, he toured with the U.S. Air Force Heartland of America Band.

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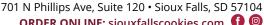


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MON-THUR: 10AM - 8PM FRI-SAT: 10AM - 9PM **SUN:** 11AM - 6PM





# Meet The Cast



**Emily Piper** / Dora Fezziwig, Lady of London, Kitty Scrooge U/S, Bumble U/S

Emily is PUMPED to be on the cast list for *A Christmas Carol* this year! She was a part of the show's tech in both 2021 and 2022. This is her first full TPP show, although she has been involved with a few DAPA performances along with the 2 week *Snow White Jr.* camp a few years back. P.S. Thank you to my loving parents, and especially my amazing friends! I love you all. <3



**Etta McKinley** / Carol Singer, Mrs. Polkinghorne, Mrs. Fezziwig U/S

Etta (she/her) is thrilled to be returning to the premiere stage for her second show this season. You may have seen her as a certain crustacean in *The Little Mermaid* but now she's coming out from under the sea to help spread some Christmas Cheer this holiday season! She is very excited to be apart of such an amazing cast and would like to thank TPP for this opportunity.



# Gryphon Boraas-Simmons / Urchin, Student

Gryphon makes his Premiere Playhouse debut as Urchin and School Child! He was previously seen as Scaredy Cat in *Pajama Party* with DAPA. Gryphon would like to thank his family for their loving support!



### Hanalei Barrett / Belinda Cratchit

Hanalei (age 10) is delighted to return as Belinda Cratchit. Her other TPP productions include The Little Mermaid, Cinderella and Beauty & the Beast. When she isn't playing jokes on her beloved stage parents she is conspiring with her siblings (Ardiana, Hosea and Selah) at home. Her passion alongside theater is music. She aspires to be a composer. Currently she plays her violin in Harmony and cello in South Dakota Symphony Youth Orchestra.



### **India Johnson** / Mrs. Wimple, Jane, Lady of London

India is back at it again playing the role of Jane in The Premiere Playhouses production of *A Christmas Carol*. India and her Boyfriend Jackson recently moved downtown to get closer to theatre, but she likes to play Mario Party, mix drinks, and sing karaoke with her friends. She's so happy to have her friends by her side to cheer her on with every production she does, and wants to give a shout out to her dad for exploring theatre with her and growing their relationship. She can't wait to be apart of future productions!

# Meet The Cast



# **Jackson Heiberger** / Young Ebenezer Scrooge, Topper, London Gentleman

Jackson (he/him) is thrilled to be back for his third run of *A Christmas Carol*! You may remember seeing him recently in a number of other Premiere Playhouse shows, including *Grease*, *Cinderella*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Cabaret*, *Footloose*, and *Blood Brothers*. When he's not acting, Jackson can be found working overnights at the Glory House, and playing piano, video games, and reading in his free time. Jackson would like to thank his brother Christian and his girlfriend India for all their support over the years. I love you guys!



## Jamie Bowden / Donald, Lamplighter, Topper U/S

This holiday season will certainly be merry and bright for Jamie as he takes on the roles of Donald/LampLighter in TPP's telling of a Christmas classic, A Christmas Carol! Jamie's theater involvement began as a crew member for TPP's production of Grease and made his stage debut in The Little Mermaid as part of the ensemble. With an interest in theater/film, in his free time, Jamie enjoys screenwriting and developing new stage/screen ideas. He dedicates this performance in honor of his late grandfather, Donald A. Bowden.



### Jaxson Boen / Beggar Boy

Jaxson (Jax) is excited to play the Beggar Boy for the third time! Jax has previously performed in several plays through the Orpheum and DAPA such as Shrek Jr, A Christmas Carol, Beauty and the Beast Jr, Frozen Jr, and the Journey of the Noble Gnarble! Jax also joins the stage once again with his sister, Marley Boen. When he's not busy practicing for performances, Jax takes piano and guitar lessons and also plays the clarinet through school. Jax also loves to play video games and hang with his friends in his free time!



# **Jim McLain** / Carol Singer, Dick Wilkins, Bob Cratchit U/S

Jimis thrilled to be a part of his second TPP production. He was in the ensemble in *The Little Mermaid* and recently played Brad Majors in the Rocky Horror shadow cast. He has experience in Pierre Players and Riggs High School shows. Jim was a competitive swimmer from age 7 through college and is a proud Pierre Swim Team and SDSU Swim & Dive alum. Shoutout to the under the sea family and the offstage family for the inspiration!



# **Joshua Hunter** / Fred Scrooge

Since moving from Indiana, Josh has fallen in love with South Dakota. He works full-time at Ballard Spahr as a closing coordinator and part-time at Legends on Lake Lorraine as a life enrichment assistant. In this, his first performance with The Premiere Playhouse, he is honored to storytell alongside such kind and wonderful people. It is his joy to "wish you a Merry Christmas."





# **CELEBRATING OUR 92ND SEASON**

### IRELAND'S GREATEST SHOWMAN STARRING DAVID SHANNON | FRIDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2023

Often referred to as Ireland's Greatest Showman, David Shannon has been singing professionally for more than 25 years and is renowned for his engaging performance style and charming personality. Along with David's powerful vocals, he also incorporates the violin, Irish bodhran and multi-media into his concerts. His repertoire is an exciting mix of classic Irish songs and selections from his starring roles on Broadway and London's West End.



# THE SUITS FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2023

Suits are comprised of four dynamic gentlemen performing four genres of hit music across four decades. The group fuses smooth choreography and tight harmonies with exciting showmanship and fun audience interaction, and takes audiences on a journey from the 50s through the 80s. Their repertoire features recognizable hits like "Oh What A Night," "My Girl," Signed, Sealed, Delivered," and more!



# THE STARLETS MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024

The Starlets take you on a musical journey through the 50s & 60s. This powerhouse female vocal trio performs the sounds of pop, doo wop, R&B, and Motown, and dazzles audiences with their fabulous costumes, sizzling choreography, and audience engagement. Their repertoire includes familiar hits like "My Boyfriend's Back," "These Boots Are Made For Walking," and "Stop! In The Name Of Love."



### SOUNDS OF SILENCE TRIBUTE SATURDAY, MARCH 9, 2024

The Sounds of Silence Tribute journeys back in time to the 1970s Greenwich Folk Village Scene, to a timeless era of music when lyrics and melody meant something more. Award winning musicians Steven Delopoulos and Johnny Phillips are known for their unique sound, energetic live shows, and introspective lyrics underscored by their remarkable musicianship. Their concert features the music of Simon & Garfunkel, Bob Dylan, John Denver, Cat Stevens, Don McLean, and more.



### BENNIE & THE JETS THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2024

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# Meet The Cast



### Joshua Maldonado / Daniel, Priest

Joshua, a passionate performer from Washington High School, eagerly joins Premiere Playhouse's third production of *A Christmas Carol*. Despite having minor roles, his love for theater and ambitions fuel his performance. Having performed in *Oliver!* previously, he's excited to continue his theatrical journey. he sends his thanks to the drama department at WHS for encouraging his love for theater.



### **Joshua Sauer** / Ghost of Christmas Future

Joshua is excited to be back as The Ghost of Christmas Yet To Come, in the third annual production of *A Christmas Carol*! He says there is still more to discover while playing the ethereal specter, and hopes that the shadow of the future is as haunting to audiences as it was during the first run of performances! Or perhaps even more so...



# Kjerstin Smith / Mrs. Fezziwig, Bumble

Kjerstin is thrilled to be among so many talented people in this production of A Christmas Carol! This is her fourth production with The Premiere Playhouse. Past credits include Mamma Mia! (Donna), It's A Wonderful Life Radio Play (foley artist/various characters), The Odd Couple Female Version (Florence Unger), Stop, Kiss (Mrs. Winsley/The Nurse), The Premiere Premieres Broadly Speaking (cast member). You can see her in The Premiere Playhouse's next production, The Glass Menagerie, where she will play the part of Amanda. Get your tickets for this production now at thepremiereplayhouse.com as seating is VERY limited. Love and thanks to my ever-supportive family.



# Leif Moritz / Student, Urchin, Belle's Son, Tiny Tim U/S

Leif is thrilled to be back on stage for his third year as Street Urchin/Schoolboy and as an understudy for Tiny Tim. He is a fifth grader at Garretson Elementary, and his favorite activities include making and playing with friends and playing video games. He likes A Christmas Carol because he gets to hang out with friends during rehearsals, and gets bonding time with sister Morgan during practice.



### **Malia Buchanan** / Carol Singer, Mabel, Party Guest, Belle U/S

Malia is excited to be in *A Christmas Carol* for the third year in a row! She's changed roles quite a bit over the years, from Young Fan to Dora Fezziwig and now a Carol Singer! She loves theater and has been involved in several productions with The Premeire Playhouse, as well as DAPA. Offstage, Malia enjoys marching band, English, and anything music. She would like to thank her parents for being so supportive and her friends for accepting her despite teasing her mercilessly for being a theater kid. Enjoy the show!

# Meet The Cast



# **Marley Boen** / Wimple Child, Student, Child of London, Want

Marley is excited to play a School Child, Wimple Child, and Want once again! Marley has previously performed in several plays through the Orpheum and DAPA such as *A Christmas Carol, Frozen Jr.*, and *Freddie the Frog and the Jungle Jazz!* Marley is joining the stage once again with her brother, Jaxson Boen. When Marley's not busy practicing for plays, she enjoys reading, drawing and playing video games!



# Morgan Moritz / Bunty, Party Guest

Morgan (she/her) is incredibly ecstatic to be returning to her third year of *A Christmas Carol*. This time as Bunty, counterpart to Bumble. An Augustana University student, Morgan is currently pursuing Theatrical Design and Educational Studies. Prior Credits include Augustana Theatre department's *All in the Timing* co-costume designer, Augustana's student-led Theatre (ACTS) *Murder on the Orient Express* understudy and assist. Hair/makeup, The Premiere Playhouse's *A Christmas Carol* (I & II), and many more.



### Perrin Boraas-Getman / Youngest Ebenezer Scrooge

Perrin is ecstatic (and surprised) to reprise his part as Youngest Scrooge for the third year in a row! Previous roles include: Patch in 101 Dalmatians Jr., Pinocchio in Shrek Jr., Big Mike in The Tale of Snow White, Robertson Ay in Mary Poppins Jr., Security Guard in SpongeBob the Musical, and Ensemble in Newsies Jr., and The Claw. He would like to thank his family for sparking his interest in theatre.



### Phil Kappen / Carol Singer, Mr. Sykes, Mr. Bull

Phil is excited to return for his third year in *A Christmas Carol*. He has long been a familiar face in the Sioux Falls theater community, first appearing on the Orpheum stage in 1978. Some of his favorite roles include the Emcee in *Caberet*, Seymour Krelborn in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Michael Wells in *Two Rooms*, and, of course Mr. Sykes in *A Christmas Carol*. He and his wonderful wife, Diana, live in Sioux Falls.



# Rachel Row / Young Fanny, Daisy Fezziwig

Rachel is ecstatic for her TPP main stage debut. Some of her previous credits include *Mystery on 13th St.* (Gloria), *Shrek Jr.* (Guard), and *Honk Jr.* (Dot). She goes to Tea Area Middle School and participates in choir, band (f horn, trumpet, and colorguard), cross country, track, and quiz bowl. Rachel would like to thank everybody involved, but would like to give an extra big thanks to her wonderful mom for giving so much time up.



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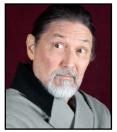


# Meet The Cast



#### Rod Pierce / Ghost of Jacob Marley

Rod is a founding member of The Premiere Playhouse (formerly SECT). He has worked professionally with Chanhassen Dinner Theaters, Old Log, Illusion Theater, and Minnesota Opera, among others. Favorite roles include Billy Flynn (*Chicago*), Starbuck (*The Rainmaker*), Pat (*State Fair*), and Jesus (*Jesus Christ Superstar*). Rod is a charter member of the St. Joseph Cathedral Men's Schola, and sings in the bluegrass band The Crabgrass Crew.



#### Rodney Bergeson / Old Joe, Party Guest

Rodney's acting debut was 30 years ago embracing the role of "Jimmy" in Neil Simon's *The Gingerbread Lady*. Two actors had dropped out. The desperate director, called and asked "Have you ever done any acting?" "No, but I'm a character." Critics felt "Jimmy" should keep his day job. Fast forward, Rodney has quit his day job and received another call from a director. Thrilled to be part of this beautifully diverse cast, Rodney hopes "Old Joe" will be Epic!

\* Rodney is a Filmmaker with After Hours Pictures



#### Rosita Contreras / Deirdre Fezziwig, Sally

Rosita (Rosie) is delighted to be back on the historic Orpheum stage pursuing her passion for music and the performing arts! When not performing, Rosie works in cancer genomics research at the Avera Cancer Institute, advocates for the Latinx community in healthcare by co-organizing health related events like Avera's 'Fería de Salud', and works towards improving Hispanic/Latinx representation in clinical trials and research. She would like to thank her loving parents, fiancée, and friends for their endless support.



#### **Terry Zerfas** / Merriweather

Terry has been on the theater scene spanning three decades, enjoying many roles, as well as working backstage. Favorite roles include *Driving Miss Daisy*, *The Dining Room* and most recently, *Steel Magnolias*. Community theater is where we gather to tell stories and where everyone is joyfully included. She is especially grateful for her husband Dan, who has been a loyal backstage volunteer for every show she has appeared in, for over 30 years.



#### **Tiffany Clanton** / Ghost of Christmas Past

Tiffany is excited to join the cast of *A Christmas Carol*. She is a veteran of the stage, having acted on the Corson, Worthing, and our beloved Orpheum stages. At Renaissance Faires—she's Renaissance MotherEarth—representing our world in garb. She's recently discovered a love for sewing.

Strengths: "Well, I think I'm funny!"

Weaknesses: .....she thinks she's funny.

Thank you to her supportive husband George. Mostly for his patience.

# Meet The Cast



#### **Tom Chleborad** / George, Ghost of Christmas Present

Tom joining the cast of *A Christmas Carol* after a bit of an absence from the stage. When active, he was in shows for Sioux Falls Community Playhouse, SECT, Mighty Corson Art Players, Worthing Dinner Theatre and various other local theaters. Tom has two boys who he dragged to numerous rehearsals and 2 and 3/4 cats that really only miss him when they can see the bottoms of their food dishes. He's a Senior Loan Collections Specialist with First PREMIER Bank for the last 29 years. Thanks to all my family, friends and co-workers for their support



#### Tom Roberts / Ebenezer Scrooge

Actor/author/storyteller, Tom Roberts has written 8 Christmas books over the past twenty years as a vehicle to raise awareness and funds to benefit kids and families served by Children's Home Society of SD (see ad in this program). He enjoys visiting schools, churches, and community groups to present his book/program on mental health awareness called, A NEW NORM. His association with theater in Sioux Falls spans 40 years.



# **Thomas Andrew Simmons** / Mr. Wimple, Ebenezer Scrooge U/S

Thomas Andrew Simmons is Wimple and Scrooge understudy. Favorite Orpheum roles include Fagin in *Oliver!*, Alan in *God of Carnage*, Starbuck in *The Rainmaker*, Stone in *City of Angels*, John/Judas in *Godspell*, Elyot in *Private Lives*, and Danny in *Grease*. He was Peter in *Jesus Christ Superstar* at First Avenue in Minneapolis, which was filmed for PBS, and in the movie Crisscross with Goldie Hawn. Thomas would like to thank his fiancée and family.



# **Torrance Serck** / David, Turkey Deliverer, Peter Cratchit U/S

Torrance (Torry) is excited to participate in this year's production of *A Christmas Carol*. Torry is 16 years old and a sophomore in high school. He is passionate about music and Theater. He is active in his school choir and has participated in school plays and musicals. He has also been a part of multiple theatre camps over the past several years. He also was part of TPP's recent production of *The Little Mermaid*. His favorite role he has played so far was at the Olde Town Dinner Theater In worthing as Scar in *The Lion King Jr*. Torry's dream role is Lumiere in *Beauty and the Beast*.



#### Wyatt Cooper / Tiny Tim

Wyatt is excited to take the stage for the third time as Cratchit family member, Tiny Tim! Previously he has graced the Orpheum Theater stage in TPP productions of *Oliver!*, *Mary Poppins*, and *Beauty and The Beast*. Wyatt is an 8th grader at Ben Reifel Middle School. He is grateful to his mom, dad, and sister Ainsley for their love and support.





# Meet The Cast



#### **Zoey Weber** / Belle's Daughter

Zoey is excited to return to A Christmas Carol for her second year. Zoey is a 5th grader at Rosa Parks where she is active in student council and chess club. Zoey most recently performed as part of the ensemble for DAPA's Beauty and the Beast Jr and Frozen Jr. She enjoys performing on stage because "it just feels right".



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## Production Team



#### **Alex Newcomb Weiland** / Production Manager

Alex (She/Her) works as the Production Specialist & Education Coordinator at The Premiere Playhouse. She graduated from The University of South Dakota with a BFA in Musical Theatre/Dance Minor. Alex has worked with companies such as Bare Bodkins, Good Night Theatre Collective and The Black Hills Playhouse. She directed *Footloose* in Season 18 & *Cinderella* in Season 20 at The Premiere Playhouse as well as *Stop Kiss* with Monstrous Little Theatre Company. She wants to thank her partner, Nathan, her friends, family, TPP staff, production team & cast for their continued love & support. This is truly a community of giving! Enjoy the show!

# **Brittney Lewis** / Hair & Makeup Designer, Costume Coordinator, Costume Shop Manager

Brittney graduated from the University of South Dakota in May 2022 with a degree in Costume Design and Construction. Her most recent credits are directing the world premiere of *The Theater at Night* and costume designing *The Little Mermaid, Grease* and The Penguin Project's *Seussical Jr.* 

#### Elizabeth Wintering / Assistant Stage Manager

Elizabeth is proud to have come from doing odd jobs backstage at last year's ACC production to being ASM just a year later. Christmas is her second favorite holiday, just behind Christmas Eve; there's just something about the expectation of joyful times to come. Still, there's no time like the present, and no present like time well spent. She would like to thank her husband. Time with you is always well spent, my dearest.

#### Jake Cox / Properties Artisan

The only thing more haunting than the grim specter of Scrooge's future is Jacob "Jake" Cox, the mysterious Properties Artisan. You'll often find him lurking backstage and muttering, "Is that your prop?" at unwary passersby.

Want to get hitched for Christmas? Visit Jake online at SiouxFallsWeddingOfficiant.com Searching for the perfect Christmas present? Jake's novel isn't it, but it's better than socks! Buy Mr. Smith Isn't Afraid of the Dark at tinyurl.com/MrSmithNovel

#### Jesse Jensen / Associate Stage Director

Jesse's local directing work has been produced at The University of Sioux Falls (Love's Labour's Lost) and The Premiere Playhouse (Lombardi, Young Frankenstein, Beauty & the Beast Jr., God of Carnage, Of Mice and Men). Jesse brings years of experience in both professional theatre and children's productions having worked with Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Raven Theatre Company, and Piven Theatre Workshop in Chicago, IL; and City Circle in Iowa City.

#### Kendra Dexter / Inaugural Costume Designer

Owner of Designs By Dexter, Kendra designs many things from wedding gowns to pro wrestling costumes. Kendra's love of theater has helped her to work professionally in the industry for 20 plus years, designing and building beautiful show costumes which rent all over the Midwest. Kendra holds a Master's degree in Theatre, teaches and designs for the University of Sioux Falls where she received a Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival commendation for the design work on Much Ado About Nothing. She has costumed for a short film, (Hutterite 2017), done work for the South Dakota Symphony Orchestra, (Tis the Season 2018), and has recently directed for O'Gorman High School (Play On! 2022). She cannot wait for you to experience what is sure to be a masterpiece for the Premier Playhouse, this beautiful production of A Christmas Carol.



# Production Team

#### **Kevin Wintering** / Stage Manager

ACC '22 was Kevin's first TPP production. So he is ecstatic to be back for his second year working on this phenomenal Holiday Tradition! Due to excitement, Kevin's Christmas Tree was up the week after Halloween; due to forgetfulness, it will probably be up until Valentine's day. All Kevin wants for Christmas is for his cat Dodger to not knock over said tree again. Thank you, my Darling Wife for making everyday Merry and Bright.

#### Lary B. Etten / Stage Director

As founder and Artistic Director of SECT (now The Premiere Playhouse), Lary B. Etten directed and designed over twenty productions, including *Chicago, I Hate Hamlet, The Sound of Music, The Miracle Worker, Sweeney Todd* and *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof.* Since then, he has directed many local productions such as *The Fantasticks, Waiting for the Parade,* and *La Boheme and Candide* (with the SD Symphony Orchestra), as well as TPP's *Tuesdays with Morrie.* Lary is honored to be back for his third and final *A Christmas Carol,* and enjoys the amazing support of his wonderful wife Sue.

#### Matthew Walicke / Music Director/Composer

Matthew Walicke is thrilled to be in his third year as music director, music producer, and arranger for this production of *A Christmas Carol*. He is an active conductor, composer, singer, voice teacher, and organist / pianist, in his 14th year as Director of Music and Worship Arts at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church. Matt has served as music director for many recent productions at The Premiere Playhouse including *The Little Mermaid, Grease, Young Frankenstein, Annie Jr.*, and *Cabaret*. He enjoys cooking, hiking, and traveling with his wife Tasondra, their kids, Paul, Evan and Abi, and their two dogs, Arya and Rocko. Matt and Tasondra are also excitedly awaiting the birth of their next son this December.

#### Oliver Mayes / Producer & Casting Director

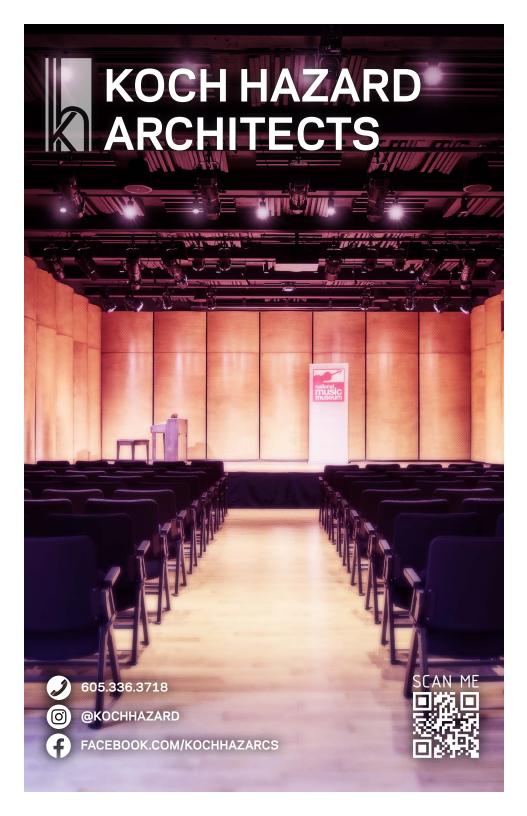
Oliver is a theatre & media artist whose work has been showcased in several states throughout the U.S. including Arkansas, California, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Oregon, South Dakota, and Virginia. With a background in acting, directing, producing, movement choreography, writing, and teaching, his credits span various mediums and genres. He is the recipient of several honors, including the Kennedy Center's 2020 Stage Directors & Choreographers Society Fellowship. Oliver is a scholarship alumnus of the Kennedy Center Directing Intensive and an associate member of the Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, the national union for professional stage directors and choreographers. He holds an MFA in Theatre Directing from University of South Dakota and a BFA in Music Theatre from AMDA College of the Performing Arts.

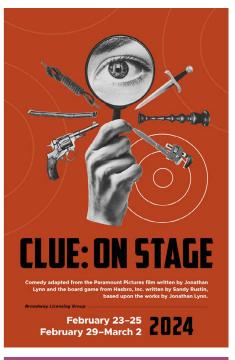
#### Pierce Humke / Technical Director

Pierce is pumped for round two (second season) with TPP and is super excited to be building both theatrical sets and community relationships. Most of his time is spent behind the curtains of a production to ensure a spectacular delivery. "There is truly something for everyone in this organization, and I will love to help you realize that. I encourage you to get involved, even just to observe or ask questions. You're invited!"

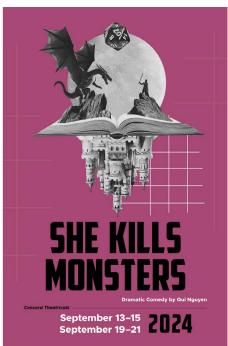
#### **Tiffany Koppes** / Choreographer

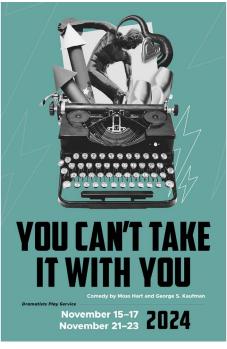
Tiffany is excited to return again this year to help bring dance to A Christmas Carol. She has choreographed for past shows such as Cinderella, Newsies, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Oliver!, and Jesus Christ Superstar. She hopes you enjoy the show and have a very Merry Christmas!















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Also by Tom Roberts

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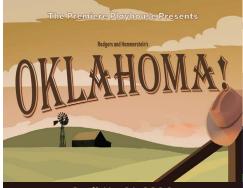
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