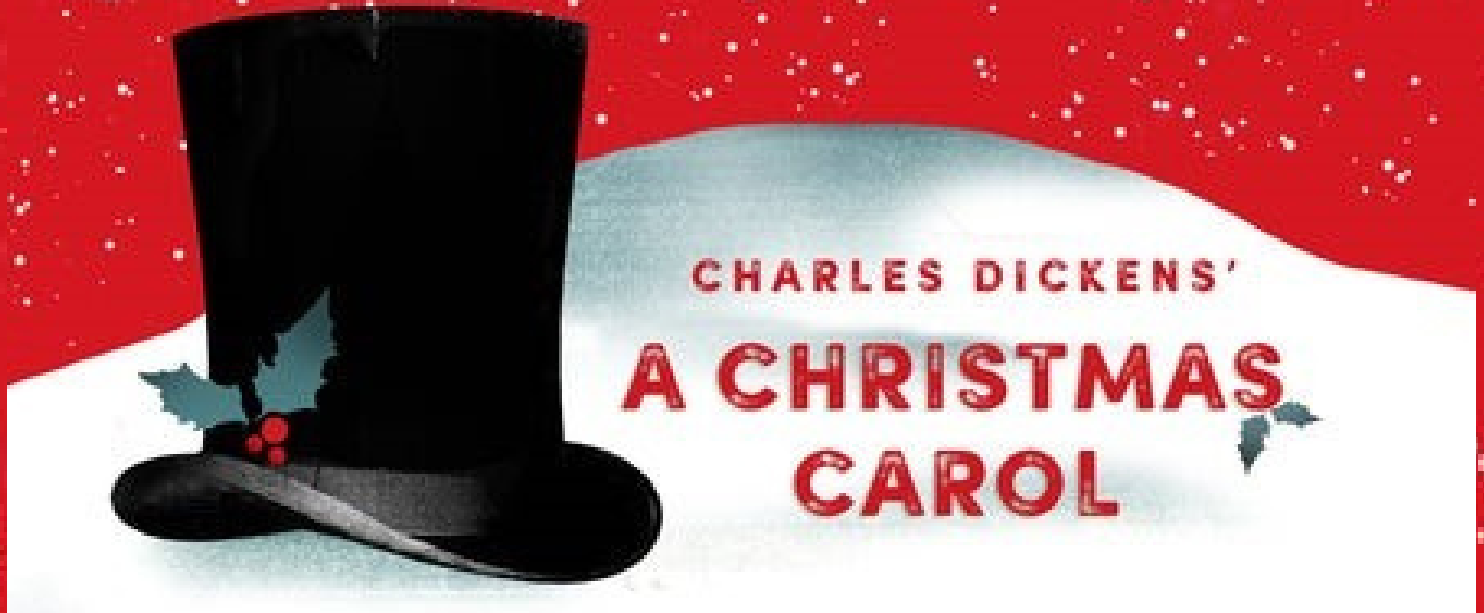


University of Wisconsin -La Crosse
Department of Theatre and Dance



Adapted for the stage by Barbara Field

Director	Mary Leonard
Assistant Director	Anna Kral*
Stage Manager	Carson Kreger*
Costume & Makeup Designer	Joe Anderson
Technical Director	Megan Morey
Scenic/Props Designer	Mandy Kolbe
Lighting Designer	Brodyn Byington*
Special Effects/Rigging	Dana Leis*
Sound Designer	Ben Golden
Original Sound Design by Jason Knox & Justin Schmitz	
Sound Engineer	Laura Felde*

*Indicates student designer/manager

December 2-4 & 8-11, 2022

Toland Theatre, Center for the Arts

Produced by special arrangement with Plays for New Audiences

Cast

Dickens.....	Erik Berg
Mrs. Dickens.....	Linnea Lerwick
Dickens Child.....	Lucas Kolbe
Dickens Child/Want.....	Matilda Parmeter
Dickens Child/Fezzi Boy #1.....	Cooper Koepke
Dickens Child/Fezzi Girl/Ignorance.....	Rosie Manson
Scrooge.....	Mason Laney
Bob Cratchit.....	Adam Bloom
Mrs. Cratchit.....	Anna Kral
Peter Cratchit/Simon.....	Will Nysse
Martha Cratchit.....	Danielle Hoffman
Belinda Cratchit.....	Kira Hirsch
Tiny Tim.....	Eamon Moran
Fred.....	Louden Ferguson
Fred's Wife, Lily.....	Ellie Augustine
Round/Cook.....	Julia Maynard
Lean/Fezzi Guest.....	Caroline Thompson
Beggar.....	Paige Huling
Marley.....	Cameron Cavaiuolo
Christmas Past.....	Kenadi Tossing
Boy Ebenezer/Fezzi Guest.....	Ben Parmeter
Fan/Fezzi Girl.....	Maeve Moran
Mr. Fezziwig.....	Ryan Hustedt
Mrs. Fezziwig.....	Caitlin Elenteny
Belle.....	Taylor Rammer
Young Man Ebenezer.....	Josh Kaiser
Safronella Fezziwig.....	Bella Kral
Mr. Albert Hall.....	Jake Gesteland
Clovia Fezziwig.....	Ellie Hemming

Cast Continued...

Dick Wilkins.....Gavin Muller
 John Dickens.....Noah Mastaglio
 Fezzi Guest.....Bao Xiong
 Fezzi Guest/Topper/Quartet.....Harley Pippenger
 Laundress.....Talia Mentjes
 Christmas Present.....Tracie Hodgdon
 Cecil.....Abby Muma
 Hazel/Quartet.....Alyssa Meissner
 Florella/Quartet.....Anna Montgomery
 Char Woman.....Val Fish
 Pound Notes.....Anna Halvorsen
 Snuff Box/Quartet.....Paige Verbsky
 Undertaker.....Eddie Doerr
 Joe the Beetler.....Nicholas Bilyeu
 Chestnut Peddler.....Kaelee Coonen
 Flower Peddler.....Dzhamilia Ismailova
 Baker Woman.....Scarlett Miller
 Soup Peddler.....Emma Kohl
 Ghost of Christmas Future.....?????????






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 University of Wisconsin – La Crosse Theatre Department

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 UW-L Theatre Productions

FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM:
 @uwltheatre

Biographies

Joe Anderson (Costume/Makeup Designer)-Joe has been at UWL since 1991 and has served as the Costume/Makeup Designer and department chair (2011-2022). At UWL, Joe has designed costumes and makeup for over 150 productions as well as for Shawn McConneloug and Her Orchestra and the American University in Cairo, Egypt. He's proud to say that his students have gone off to do great things within the world of theatre and within the world in general.

Ellie Augustine (Fred's wife, Lily)-Ellie has been performing since 5th grade, when she did her very first musical *The Jungle Book* and fell in love with the performing arts. She recently appeared as Marie Antoinette in UWL's *The Revolutionists*, a four-person show last year. She is thrilled to be doing a Christmas show this year and hopes you all have a wonderful holiday season and enjoy the show!

Erik Berg (Dickens)-Erik is a senior Musical Theatre major and is excited to be a part of a show that embodies the holiday season! Previous shows and roles on the UWL stage include *Severe Clear: 9/11 From Memory to History*, *She Loves Me*, and *Murder on the Orient Express*. Erik would like to thank his lovely friends and family for the immense support along the way!

Nicholas Bilyeu (Joe the Beetler)-Nick is so excited to be back on the Toland stage! You may have last seen him in UWL's original production *Severe Clear* as the Narrator. He'd like to thank his family, friends, and Alé for all their love and support.

Adam Bloom (Bob Cratchit)-Adam is ecstatic to be on the Toland stage again to bring you *A Christmas Carol*! Last seen in *Murder on the Orient Express*, Adam is a senior Musical Theatre major and Stage Management minor who is thankful and joyous to be able to bring this holiday story to life!

Brodyn Byington (Lighting Design)-Brodyn is excited for the opportunity to work on *A Christmas Carol*! Previous sound and/or lighting credits include *Murder on the Orient Express* and *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (UWL), as well as *The Laramie Project* and *Avenue Q* (La Crosse Community Theatre). He would like to thank his family and friends for their support.

Cameron Cavaiuolo (Marley)-Cameron is a junior Music Performance major with a Theatre Performance minor. This is his first theatre production at UWL. Cameron is a big man with a big heart. He's also extremely sarcastic but don't worry about that.

Michelle Collyar (Costume Shop Supervisor)-With an MFA in design, Michelle manages the costume shop and teaches costume technology. Having designed/constructed costumes and dancewear for regional and academic theatres, This past summer, Michelle worked at Glimmerglass Opera in the costume department. Michelle has also worked on two Canadian television series: *Let's Get Physical* starring Jane Seymour and *This Hour Has 22 Minutes*, a Canadian mock news series.

Kaelee Coonen (Chestnut Peddler)-

Kaelee is very excited to be performing in her first show at UW-La Crosse as the Chestnut Peddler in *A Christmas Carol*. She is glad to be cast and would love to thank the cast, crew, and director for putting on such an amazing show and being so welcoming!

Eddie Doerr (Undertaker)-

Eddie is a junior Musical Theatre major. This is his first show at UWL, but his 10th show overall. He is excited to be a part of this amazing cast. In his free time, Eddie enjoys working, drinking coffee, writing, and walking in the fall breeze.

Caitlin Elenteny (Mrs. Fezziwig)-

Caitlin is thrilled to be playing Mrs. Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol*! She is a junior majoring in Theatre Performance and minoring in Arts Administration. She was last seen in *The Revolutionists* as Charlotte Corday. She hopes you enjoy the show and happy holidays!

Laura Felde (Sound Engineer)-

Laura is in her 5th year as a double major in Business Management and Stage Management. She was the stage manager for *Murder on the Orient Express* and stage manager/sound designer for *Spotlight*. She would like to thank her friends and family for their continued support! Enjoy the show!

Louden Ferguson (Fred)-

Louden is excited to return for a second show this semester. Recently coming off playing Samuel Ratchett in *Murder on the Orient Express*, they are excited to play Fred in this production of *A Christmas Carol*. Thank you to friends and family for your support!

Val Fish (Char Woman)-

Val is overjoyed to be onstage in one of her favorite Christmas stories! She is a sophomore Theatre Performance major recently seen in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* and dramaturging for *Murder on the Orient Express*. She would like to thank family and friends for the constant support. In loving memory of Maureen McCouloff.

Jake Gesteland (Mr. Albert Hall)-

Jake is 3rd year Musical Theatre major with a minor in Psychology. Jake is very excited to be in his 5th production here at UWL and in his 2nd show this semester. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their love and support.

Ben Golden (Sound Designer)-

Ben is the Lighting and Sound Supervisor for the Theatre Arts Department. His work has been seen at theatres across the Midwest, including: Great River Shakespeare Festival, Children's Theatre of Madison, Madison Opera, Music Theatre of Madison, Des Moines Metropolitan Opera, Viterbo University and Cardinal Stritch University among others. He holds a BA from St. Olaf College and an MFA from UW Madison.

Anna Halvorsen (Pound Notes)-

Anna's a junior majoring in Performance and minoring in Stage Management. She was seen in the cast of *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* and *Severe Clear* last year and as an assistant stage manager for *Murder on the Orient Express*. She thanks her friends and family for their continued motivation and encouragement and the cast and crew for being such a wonderful community!

Ellie Hemming (Clovia Fezziwig)-Ellie is thrilled for *A Christmas Carol* to be her UWL debut. She would like to thank her family and friends for their support, and she hopes you enjoy the show!

Kira Hirsch (Belinda Cratchit)-Kira is ecstatic that she gets to be in *A Christmas Carol* for her first college production! Some of her previous shows include *Almost, Maine* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. She wishes you happy holidays and hopes you enjoy the show.

Tracie Hodgdon (Christmas Present)-Tracie is thrilled to have the opportunity to play such a fun role and to work with Mary and this amazing cast and crew! She was last seen as Princess Dragomiroff in *Murder on the Orient Express* and played Pellegrina in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* for which she was nominated for an Irene Ryan scholarship. Tracie began her UWL journey in 1988 and is excited to finally graduate next spring! Love to her kids, Chazz (Charu) and Dutch, for their love and support.

Danielle Hoffman (Martha Cratchit)-Danielle is a senior at UWL with a Middle Child/Early Adolescence Education major and minoring in German and Theatre Performance. She was last seen in the student production of *Spotlight*.

Paige Huling (Beggar)-Paige is so excited to be in her second production at UWL! She is a freshmen Theatre Performance major. Some of her most recent roles have been Michel in *Murder on the Orient Express* (UWL) and *The Lion in The Wizard of Oz* (CCT). Enjoy the show!

Ryan Hustedt (Mr. Fezziwig)-Ryan is double majoring in English Education and Music Theatre. He is happy to announce this is his 30th theatre production!!! Seen in other UWL shows, such as *Songs for a New World* and *She Loves Me*, Ryan is thrilled to be here, and he hopes you enjoy the show!

Dzhamilia Ismailova (Flower Peddler)-Dzhamilia is a freshman in UWL, majoring in Theatre Performance. She is an international student from Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia, and this is her first theatre production at UWL.

Josh Kaiser (Young Man Ebenezer)-Josh is ecstatic to be back on stage at UWL. You may have seen him previously in *She Loves Me* (Ensemble) or *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane* (Edward Tulane). He was also in LCT's production of *The Laramie Project*. He would like to thank mom, dad, and Greg.

Cooper Koepke (Dickens Child/Fezzi Boy)-Cooper is excited to be part of this production again with such talented university students and staff. Cooper played Tiny Tim in the 2017 production. He is a student at Lincoln Middle School. In his spare time Cooper enjoys art, singing and socializing. Cooper would like to thank Mary for the opportunity to be in this show again!

Emma Kohl (Soup Peddler)-Emma is a third-year student majoring in Interpersonal Communication and minoring in Theatre Performance. This is Emma's first performance since high school, and she is thrilled to be in the production of *A Christmas Carol*.

Lucas Kolbe (Dickens Child)-Lucas is excited to be in his first role onstage ever! Lucas likes the color blue, and he enjoys playing hide and seek. The craziest thing he has ever done in Minecraft is jump off his own house and then put chickens inside. Lucas says he wants to send love to everyone in the whole world.

Mandy Kolbe (Scenic/Props Designer)-Mandy earned her MFA in scenic and lighting design from Ohio State University. She has designed over 50 shows at UWL including *A Christmas Carol*, *Eleemosynary*, *26 Pebbles*, *Hair*, *Twelfth Night*, *Urinetown*, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, and many more. She has also designed for the Ashland Theatre, Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre, The Brick, and the Hudson Guild.

Anna Kral (Mrs. Cratchit/Assistant Director)-Anna is a senior Performance major at UWL. You may have recently seen her in *Murder on the Orient Express*. Anna is very excited to bring to life Mrs. Cratchit as well as making her directorial debut as assistant director to the lovely Mary Leonard. Hope you enjoy the show, and Happy Holidays!

Bella Krall (Safonella Fezziwig)-Bella is a freshman at UW-La Crosse this year and is so excited to be playing the part of Safonella Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol*. Bella participated in many productions throughout high school and is so excited to be continuing her love of theater at UW-La Crosse.

Carson Kreger (Stage Manager)-Carson is so excited to be back stage managing in the Toland Theatre. *A Christmas Carol* is Carson's 7th show at UWL. They are so happy to be in a show with their closest friends. Carson would like to thank their family, friends, Ronny, and Buddy the cat for all their love and support! Happy Holidays and enjoy the show!

Katie Krueger (Assistant Stage Manager)-Katie is excited to be a part of the stage management team for this production. She is a junior double majoring in Marketing and Finance, with a minor in Stage Management. Katie would like to thank her family and friends for the support and hopes you all enjoy the show!

Mason Laney (Scrooge)-Mason is a fourth-year Performance major at UW-La Crosse. He was previously in *She Loves Me* and *Love/Sick*. He is very grateful to his family for their support, and to his roommates who are all involved in the show. Please enjoy the show and happy holidays!

Dana Leis (Special Effects/Rigging)-Dana is a senior graduating this fall and has loved joining the Theatre Department and working in the light shop. She was the Master Electrician for *She Loves Me* and for *Murder on the Orient Express*. She would like to thank everyone who has liked and subscribed to her life.



Mary Leonard (Director)-Mary is thrilled to be directing this very special show. This will mark her 69th show at UWL. As she looks towards her retirement in July, she is extremely grateful for her colleagues. It has been an honor to work alongside such talented and creative people. She is truly humbled. At the core of her work is her students. She wishes a heartfelt thank you to ALL of her students both past and present - for making a difference in her life. Lastly, she would like to thank Lily and Izzy for their never-ending love and support (and for being a part of the *Christmas Carol* cast when they were younger!) And Joe, for believing in this over sensitive, color coordinated, nonsense song creator from St. Paul with big dreams and a heart filled with hope!

Linnea Lerwick (Mrs. Dickens)-Linnea is a senior Psychology major and Theatre Performance minor. She is excited to be in such an uplifting show with such a wonderful cast of people! She was last seen on the UWL stage as Abilene in *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, and is so grateful to be performing once again.

Rosie Manson (Dickens Child/Fezzi Girl/ Ignorance)-Rosie is a 4th grader who dreams of becoming a "triple threat" when she grows up. Her first role was Lulu in the national tour of *Waitress*, and she recently played Flounder in *The Little Mermaid* at Aquinas High School. She'd like to thank her family and her cat, Luna Lovegood.

Noah Mastaglio (John Dickens)-Noah will be graduating in December with a degree in Theatre Performance and Media Studies. He most recently was the assistant director for the UWL Theatre's production of *Murder on the Orient Express*.

Julia Maynard (Round/Cook)-Julia is a junior majoring in Theatre Performance with a minor in Environmental Studies. She is very excited to be a part of her first production at UW-La Crosse! Recent productions include costuming work on *Alice in Wonderland* (UMD) and portraying Miss Honey in *Matilda the Musical* (RASA Community Theatre).

Alyssa Meissner (Hazel/Quartet)-Alyssa is a sophomore at UWL. She is incredibly excited to be performing in *A Christmas Carol*. She was most recently in UWL's *She Loves Me*. She would like to thank all the people who have worked so hard on this show, and her friends and family for their support. She hopes you enjoy this heartwarming show!

Talia Mentjes (Laundress)-Talia Mentjes is currently completing their Senior year as a double major in Theatre Design and the Visual Arts. After they have recently gotten the opportunity to work on the UWL shows, *Love/Sick* and *Murder on the Orient Express* as a designer, they are thrilled to finally hit the stage as an actor in their first UWL production.

Scarlett Miller (Baker Woman)-Born in Great Falls, Montana, raised in Florida, Montana, and Wisconsin, Scarlett has met a lot of people and made a few friends along the way. Scarlett is a big fan of superheroes, drawing, gaming, and media production. Scarlett graduates in December with a degree in Theatre Design/Technology.

Julia Milne (Assistant Stage Manager)- Julia is a Junior majoring in Stage Management and double minoring in Arts Administration and Theatre Design/Tech. Previous UWL productions she has worked on include, *Songs for A New World*, *Severe Clear*, *The Revolutionists*, and *Murder on the Orient Express*. She would like to thank her friends, family, and UWL faculty for their continued love and support.

Anna Montgomery (Florella/Quartet)- Anna is so excited to start her college performance career with this wonderful show! She has been in many productions including *Anything Goes* and *Cinderella* and is beyond happy to be onstage with such amazing performers. Anna thanks her family and friends and wish everyone a happy holiday!

Eamon Moran (Tiny Tim)-Eamon is in second grade at Emerson Elementary School. He likes to play soccer and the piano. This is his first theatrical production and is excited to play with his friends at UW-L. Special thanks to Mary and my buddy Adam for making this a great experience.

Maeve Moran (Fan/Fezzi Girl)-Maeve is in fifth grade at Emerson Elementary School. She loves to write, read, draw, dance, and play the piano and violin. Maeve is excited to be in her second production of *A Christmas Carol* at UWL. Many thanks to Mary and Anna for making this one extra special.

Ryan Morstatter (Assistant Stage Manager)-Ryan has worked as an ASM on *She Loves Me* last spring, and on *Last Train To Nibroc* as an assistant lighting designer. Both are cherished memories in his heart. He is graduating after this production and is thankful for everyone he's had the pleasure of working with at UWL.

Gavin Muller (Dick Wilkins)-Gavin is a freshman Theatre Performance major from Port Washington, Wisconsin. He has been involved in theatre since he was 9 and has loved it ever since. He is looking forward to making a career out of acting, and he is very excited to make a ton of friends.

Abby Muma (Cecil/Poulterer)-Abby is a freshman, happy to be back for one of their favorite holiday tales, fresh off the stage from *Murder on the Orient Express* here at UWL! They hope everyone enjoys the show and they want to wish everyone happy holidays!

Will Nysse (Peter Cratchit/Simon)-This is Will's second year in the UWL Theatre program, and he is excited to bring to you the roles of Peter Cratchit and Simon. Enjoy the show!

Ben Parmeter (Boy Ebenezer/Fezzi Guest)-Ben is a 7th grader. He enjoys theatre and just finished a role as the Big Bad Wolf. When he is not on stage he enjoys *Star Wars*, *Harry Potter*, soccer, and golf. This is his second *Christmas Carol* at UWL. Ben would like to thank Mary for the opportunity as Young Ebenezer and for her kind encouragement.

Matilda Parmeter (Dickens Child/Want)- Matilda is a second grader who loves to dance, play soccer and is trying out hockey. She loves to read, write and do math at school. This is her first *Christmas Carol* and she is very excited to be on stage with so many talented students and friends. She would like to thank Mary for being a wonderful director. She is truly one of a kind.

Harley Pippenger (Fezzi Guest/Topper/Quartet)-Harley is a first year Theatre Performance major at UWL and is absolutely loving it! Harley has been doing theater and musical theater for about 6 years. He loves singing and dancing. Enjoy the show.

Taylor Rammer (Belle)-Taylor is thrilled to be making her UWL debut in *A Christmas Carol*! Taylor is a second year student majoring in Musical Theatre and English. She is incredibly grateful to her friends and family for supporting her in all of her endeavors! She hopes you enjoy the show!

Caroline Thompson (Lean/Fezzi Girl)-Caroline, a freshman at UWL, is excited to be part of *A Christmas Carol*. Although this is her first show here, she has been in multiple other theater productions, playing Ronnette in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Katherine in *Newsies*, and Julia in *The Wedding Singer*, to name a few.

Kenadi Tossing (Christmas Past)-Kenadi is overjoyed to be a part of this year's production of *A Christmas Carol*! She has been seen recently at UWL in *She Loves Me* and *Severe Clear*, and in *The Laramie Project* at the La Crosse Community Theatre. As always, she would like to thank her wonderful family and friends for their support, guidance, love, and laughs. Merry Christmas and enjoy the show!

Paige Verbsky (Snuff Box/Quartet)-Paige is a sophomore Arts Administration student. *A Christmas Carol* is her second production at UWL! She has enjoyed every second of the rehearsals and can't wait to share some light-hearted Christmas joy with everyone! Enjoy!

Bao Xiong (Fezzi Guest)-Bao is a junior pursuing a double major in Theatre Performance and English-Writing & Rhetoric. She is passionate about storytelling, dark genre stories, and family. She enjoys cooking, a thrilling book or film, and daydreaming. In the near future, Bao hopes to pursue careers in literature and film.

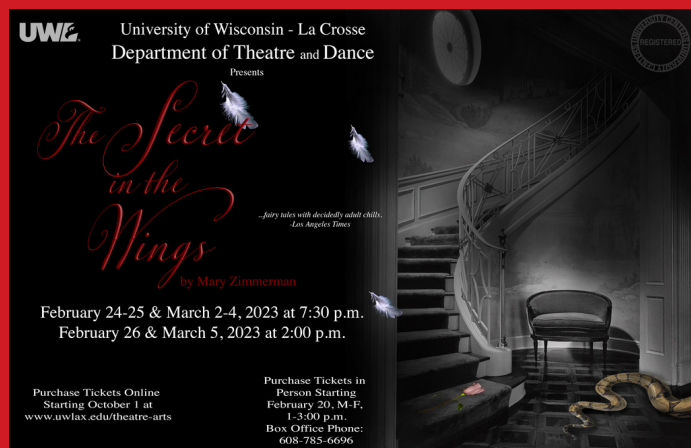
Special Thanks

To the parents of our dear Christmas Carol Kids:

Thank you for saying "yes" to this major commitment.

To the "College Buddies":
We couldn't have done this without you!

Nic Barilar
Ashley Dobrogosz
Viterbo Theatre & Musical Theatre
Department
Emily Babcock
Sage Goetsch



Production Team

Asst. Stage Managers.....Katie Krueger,
Julia Milne, Ryan Morstatter

Asst. Props Designer.....Val Fish,
August Jennings

Asst. Technical Directors.....Brodyn Byington,
Sage Goetsch, August Jennings, Tracy Joe,
Sam Kallis, Brevin Kruse, Scarlett Miller,
Ryan Morstatter

Dialect Coach.....Nic Barilar

Choreographer.....Ashley Dobrogosz

Master Electrician.....Ben Golden

Production Manager.....Laurie Kinckman

Costume Shop Manager.....Michelle Collyar

Scene Shop Supervisor.....Megan Morey

Light Board Operator.....Mason Reuvers

Sound Board Operator.....Amanda Visger

Follow Spot Operators.....Thomas Hall,
Jackson Sharp

Run Crew.....Hailey Kluck, Katie Last,
Amber Meyers, River Podjasek, Avery Weston

Costume Run Crew.....Alexa Boardman,
Brooklyn Lewis, Lily Post, Emily Riley,
Elin Voegeli (Head)

Light/Sound Shop Staff.....Brodyn Byington,
Tracy Joe, Dana Leis, Linnea Lerwick

Light Hang/Focus Crew.....Marty Bond,
Leo Chavolla, Calix Denny, Madison Ehler,
Garrett Fisher, Tanor Gehrke, Kaj Jensen,
Mason Maren, Katelyn Myers, Sydney Nguyen,
Mason Reuvers, Brayden Rosenow,
Alivia Seibel, Bridget Torud, Gabby Zinnel

Publicity Crew.....Allison Fladhammer,
Jack Hehli, Kamryn Schueller

Props/Paint Staff.....Laura Felde,
August Jennings, Carson Kreger,
Talia Mentjes, Jess Miller

Props/Paint Crew.....Kaj Jensen, Katriana Wolf

Costume Shop Staff.....Jake Gesteland,
Sage Goetsch, Tracie Hodgdon,
Linnea Lerwick, Irene Swain, Elin Voegeli

Costume Shop Crew.....Andi Brockman,
Sophie Denure, Olivia Gscheidmeier,
Amber Meyers, Grace Repinski, Kylie Stockton

Poster Design/Cast Photos.....Joe Anderson

House Manager.....Angela Stadler

Box Office.....Caitlin Elenteny, Chloe Hart,
Paige Verbsky

Front of House.....Max Byington, Katelyn Graf,
Madeline Grethel, Genevieve Payne,
Iversin Polbitski, Elizabeth Scheerer, Haley Schwind

Lobby Display.....Krista Shulka

Scene Shop Staff.....Adam Bloom,
Brodyn Byington, August Jennings, Sam Kallis

Scene Shop Crew.....Chloe Beckman,
Aiden Benbrooks, Jenna Brockman,
Trevor Daffinson, Deng Deng, Isaac Djuamcjamd,,
Ethan Edberg, Jessica Ehlers, Grant Freeman,
Juan Garcia, Hannah Gehrke, Spencer Hiatt,
Julia Haas, Eli Haufle, Sam Kasten,
Vihaan Kochard, Macey Kraisinger,
Sara Lesniewski, Murelle Lund, Mason Maren,
Jovinnelle Miguel, Jack Morrison, Francis O'Connor,
Eduardo Palacio, Ellie Pankratz,
Cameron Seebruch, Jared Smit,
Josephine Stanlick, Magdalena Stauffer,
Charles Steck, Anna Strand, Brigid Straub,
Bryce Thomaschefskey, Connor Wheeler

Food Drive

Drop off non-perishable food items in the lobby of Center for the Arts during regular business hours or during performances. Donations go to support the UWL Campus Food Pantry.



Director's Notes

The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF)

It is with great joy that we present *A Christmas Carol* for the 6th time! This play never fails to remind me of the profound messages of renewal and hope.

At the very core of *A Christmas Carol*, are the images of a harsh world...yet there is a profound sense of hope for the possibilities of personal and social change.

As the holiday season approaches, many of us, like Dickens, are searching for a renewal of spirit. It's the time of year when our daily lives are overflowing with hectic schedules and the world appears in desperate need of hope and kindness. The days are shorter, darker, and colder. This is the time we need that important reminder to look within our own hearts to discover the gifts of gratitude and forgiveness.

We proudly share this story with you in the hopes that it touches your hearts and fills you with a renewed spirit.

Ebenezer Scrooge learned about the power of giving back to the world in the spirit of decency and kindness. May we all do the same!

This play is lovingly dedicated to all of the children in the cast: Ben, Maeve, Cooper, Eamon, Matilda, Lucas and Rosie. Your presence is a gift!

Started in 1969 by Roger L. Stevens, the Kennedy Center's founding chairman, the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF) is a national theater program involving 18,000 students from colleges and universities nationwide which has served as a catalyst in improving the quality of college theater in the United States. The KCACTF has grown into a network of more than 600 academic institutions throughout the country, where theater departments and student artists showcase their work and receive outside assessment by KCACTF respondents.

The goals of the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival are: to encourage, recognize, and celebrate the finest and most diverse work produced in university and college theater programs; to provide opportunities for participants to develop their theater skills and insight; and achieve professionalism; to improve the quality of college and university theater in America; to encourage colleges and universities to give distinguished productions of new plays, especially those written by students; the classics, revitalized or newly conceived; and experimental works.

Through state, regional, and national festivals, KCACTF participants celebrate the creative process, see one another's work, and share experiences and insights within the community of theater artists. The KCACTF honors excellence of overall production and offers student artists individual recognition through awards and scholarships in playwriting, acting, criticism, directing, and design.

The KCACTF is a year-round program in eight geographic regions in the United States. Regional activities are coordinated through eight KCACTF regional chairs and eight KCACTF playwriting awards chairs. With funding and administrative support from the Kennedy Center, the regional chair coordinates with the Co-Managers of KCACTF all aspects of the adjudication of productions on the local and regional level and supervises regional-level KCACTF award competitions. The playwriting chair works with schools that have entered new and student-written plays by providing expertise in the development of new scripts--assessment specifically designed for a developing play--and by providing information on the numerous playwriting awards offered.

In January and February of each year, regional festivals showcase the finest of each region's entered productions and offer a variety of activities, including workshops, symposia, and regional-level award programs. Regional festival productions are judged by a panel of three judges selected by the Kennedy Center and the KCACTF national committee. These judges in consultation with the Artistic Director select four to six of the best and most diverse regional festival productions to be showcased in the spring at the annual noncompetitive national festival at the Kennedy Center, all expenses paid.

Since its inception, KCACTF has given more than 400,000 college theater students the opportunity to have their work critiqued, improve their dramatic skills and receive national recognition for excellence. More than 16 million theatergoers have attended approximately 10,000 festival productions nationwide.