

2017



2018



For Immediate Release:

***“A Christmas Carol” Tradition Returns
to the Clarence Brown Theatre Mainstage
Kids Ages 5-12 for just \$10***

Stunning costumes, beautiful carols, an adaptation guaranteed to enrich your holiday season, PLUS \$10 tickets for children 5 to 12, “A Christmas Carol,” returns to the Clarence Brown mainstage November 22 through December 17. At each performance, patrons can enhance the experience by enjoying holiday treats at the concession stand and taking pictures with “Scrooge and Tiny Tim” in a specially designed photo experience which will be stationed in the main lobby. The \$10 children’s tickets can only be purchased by calling or stopping by the Box Office at 865-974-5161.

A Pay What You Wish Preview performance, where patrons can name their own price, will be held Wednesday, November 22 from 4 pm to 7 pm at the theatre. A Talk Back with the actors will take place Sunday, December 3 following the matinee. Deaf Night @ the Theatre, where all patron interactions including the performance is interpreted in American Sign Language, will take place Tuesday, December 5 at 7:30 pm. On Wednesday, December 6 at the CBT Family Feast, families can attend dinner at 6:00 pm and then see the show for only \$10. The Open Captioned performance is Sunday, December 10 at 2:00 pm.

The production is sponsored by Schaad Companies, Pilot Flying J, Prosperity Partners Wealth Management, and UT Federal Credit Union. Media sponsors are WBIR, WUOT, WUTK, B97.5, the Daily Beacon, and the Knoxville News Sentinel. Free and convenient parking is available in the McClung Tower Garage on Volunteer Boulevard.

In “A Christmas Carol,” miserly boss, Ebenezer Scrooge is forced to face the true cost of his behavior in a series of supernatural visits from ghosts of Christmases Past, Present and Future.

(quote from director)

Kathleen F. Conlin (Director) has enjoyed a multi-faceted career as professional stage director, casting director, associate artistic director, university administrator and award-winning professor. She served for twenty-two seasons as Associate Artistic Director and Casting Director for Utah Shakespeare Festival. She has guest directed at Kent State University, Illinois Opera in productions at the Krannert Center, Definition Theatre, a multi-ethnic professional theatre in Chicago, Colony Theatre in LA, Peterborough Players Michigan Repertory, Theatre South Carolina, and others. At the University of Illinois, she served as both Dean of the College of Fine and Applied Arts and the Barnard Hewitt Professor of Theatre/Director in Residence. A native of Ohio, she also has served as Director of Theatre at Ohio University and Chair

of Theatre at Ohio State University. She is currently the Frank B. Weeks Visiting Professor and Department Chair at Wesleyan University in Connecticut.

Melony Dodson (Music Director), originally from North Carolina, graduated magna cum laude from the University of Tennessee in 2008 with a master's degree in Collaborative Piano, concentrating on vocal coaching and musical direction. Currently, she is the host and producer of WUOT's Morning Concert on 91.9FM and is a staff accompanist at the University of Tennessee. Previous CBT music-directing credits include "Rodgers and Hammerstein's South Pacific," "The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee," and a staged reading of Jason Robert Brown's "Parade."

Returning to perform the role of Scrooge is **Jed Diamond**, head of the MFA Acting program at UT. CBT credits: "Of Mice and Men," "A Shayna Maidel," "Noises Off," "On the Razzle," "A Christmas Carol," "Woyzeck," "Oedipus the King," "A Streetcar Named Desire," "Life of Galileo," "Born Yesterday," and "All the Way Home." He has acted regionally at the Roundabout Theatre, Signature Theatre, NY Shakespeare Festival, the Joseph Papp Public Theatre, Arena Stage, with the Acting Company, and Syracuse Stage Company. Prior to UT, he was based in New York, where he worked as an actor, teacher, and director for 18 years. He was founding faculty of the Actors Center and the Shakespeare Lab at the New York Shakespeare Festival. He taught at NYU, Stella Adler Studio, Playwrights Horizons Theatre School, Fordham University, and privately.

UT faculty, visiting guests and community actors include: **David Brian Alley** (Marley); **Peter Kevoian** (Ensemble/Fezziwig/Christmas Present/Quartet); **Brian Gligor** (Fred/Fezziwig Guest/Businessman); **Madelyn Payne** (Fan/Ensemble); **Connor Hess** (Businessman2/Young Scrooge/Topper); **Levi Payne** (Tiny Tim); **Natalya MacDonald-Risner** (Tiny Tim); **Brooklyn Halter** (Mary Cratchit); **Ryan Cross** (Peter Cratchit/Dick Wilkins/Miner 3); **Annika Kallstrom** (Alice Cratchit); **Irelyn Easterling** (Ensemble/Remembrance/Ignorance); **Winter Easterling** (Belinda Cratchit); **Joshua Cross** (Smudge); **Ethan Graham Roeder** (Ensemble/Quartet/Oatway/Sailor 2); **Sofia Silvan** (Ensemble/Forgiveness/Want); and, **Laura Beth Wells** (Mrs. Dilber/Mrs. Fezziwig).

Graduate and undergraduate students include: Edgar Eguia (Reverend/Fezziwig Guest/Ensemble); **Miguel A. Faña** (Scadger); **Emily Kicklighter** (Mrs. Cratchit); **Charlotte Munson** (Catherine); **Aaron Orlov** (Mudd/Barnaby/Ensemble); **Lauren Pennline** (Belle/Lucy/Ensemble); **Carlène Pochette** (Past/Madeline/Ensemble); **Brenda Orellana** (Martha Cratchit/Fezziwig Guest); **Aleah Vassell** (Ensemble/Lisa/Miner 4/Quartet); **Jude Carl Vincent** (Grimgrind); **Trevor Goble** (Twyce); and **Ben Terpstra** (Future).

The creative team for this production includes: **Bill Black** (Costume Designer); **John Horner** (Lighting Designer); **Joe Payne** (Projection Designer); **Mike Ponder** (Sound Designer); and **Kevin Depinet** (Scenic Designer). Also contributing to the production are **Casey Sams** (Choreographer), **Abigail Langham** (Voice Coach), and **Patrick Lanczki** (Stage Manager).

The Preview for "A Christmas Carol" is Wednesday, November 22 followed by Opening Night Friday, November 24. The production runs through December 17. UT faculty/staff, senior citizens, children and students receive discounts. The Clarence Brown Theatre only sells tickets online through Knoxville Tickets. For tickets, call the Clarence Brown Theatre Box Office at 865-974-5161, or order online 24/7 at www.clarencebrowntheatre.com

With a dual mission to train the next generation of theatre artists and to provide top quality professional theatre, the Clarence Brown Theatre at the University of Tennessee Knoxville is one of only 12 academic LORT (League of Resident Theatre) institutions in the nation. Under the leadership of Producing Artistic Director Calvin MacLean and Interim Managing Director Thomas Cervone, the CBT season runs from August through May and features eight productions ranging from musicals to drama.

The CBT provides a cultural resource for both the university and the larger East Tennessee community and affirms diversity and inclusivity in all their forms.

For more information or tickets, call the CBT Box Office at 865-974-5161 or visit us online at <http://clarencbrowntheatre.com/>. Stay connected to the Clarence Brown Theatre on Facebook (Clarence Brown Theatre), follow us on Twitter (@ClarenceBrown) and view Clarence Brown videos on YouTube (Clarence Bro).

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