

CLARENCE BROWN THEATRE

AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TENNESSEE

INFO SHEET – Young Performers, Fall '24-Winter '25

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| HOW TO DEFEND YOURSELF by Liliana Padilla | Charles Dickens' A CHRISTMAS CAROL Adapted by Edward Morgan & Joseph Hanreddy | INHERIT THE WIND by Jerome Lawrence & Robert E. Lee |
| Lab Theatre | Clarence Brown Theatre | Clarence Brown Theatre |
| <i>Directed by Jayne Morgan</i> | <i>Directed by Patrick Lanczki</i> | <i>Directed by Katie Lupica</i> |
| Rehearsals Sep 16-Oct 15 <i>Limited for young performer</i> | Rehearsals Oct 9-Nov 11 | Rehearsals Jan 7-Feb 2 |
| Tech Oct 16-22 <i>Limited for young performer</i> | Tech Nov 12-20 | Tech Feb 4-11 |
| Performances Oct 23-Nov 10 <i>(no perf. on Halloween)</i> | Performances Nov 21-Dec 21 <i>(including AM perf. 11/26 and 12/4, 12, 13, 17, 18, 19)</i> | Performances Feb 12-Mar 2 |

HELLO PARENTS!

Thank you so much for your and your child's interest in working with Clarence Brown Theatre. We are excited to have roles for young performers in three upcoming shows this season!

Whether this is your child's very first audition or they've already been in several shows, we are committed to making the experience fun, friendly, and accessible for all. Please review the information on this sheet carefully and do not hesitate to get in touch with Associate Artistic Director Katie Lupica (klupica@utk.edu) with any questions.

TO REQUEST AN AUDITION APPOINTMENT

- Follow all instructions on casting notice on CBT website (where you found this document!)

BREAKDOWNS & SCRIPT INFORMATION

- Continue reading this document to review the **Casting Breakdowns** for roles available to young performers in this round of auditions.
- We have also included **content advisories** for each production. **We will also provide a link with your appointment confirmation so that auditioners and parents can read the whole script for greater context.** We highly recommend doing so before the audition.

DIALECT

- Some characters in *A Christmas Carol* and *Inherit the Wind* speak in dialects. Do not worry about preparing a specific dialect before your audition – we want to hear your everyday speaking voice. For *A Christmas Carol*, we may ask you to say some British dialect phrases, but all you will need to do is listen and repeat!

FOR THE FIRST ROUND OF AUDITIONS

- Prepare 1 of the available **sides** (short scenes) from *A Christmas Carol* OR *Inherit the Wind*. We will use these sides for auditioners to be considered for ALL THREE SHOWS. Options will be provided by email when you sign up for an audition time.
 - You will act with another actor (auditioner) or “reader” (depending on when your appointment is). A **reader** is someone seated near the audition table who will be your scene partner in all ways except physical interaction.
 - Be familiar enough with the language that you can comfortably look up and connect with your scene partner.
 - CBT will provide e-readers for auditioners’ use. **If you would like a hard copy for accessibility, please let us know.**
- For *Christmas Carol* ONLY: Please also prepare **30-60 seconds of a preferred song**. If you don’t have a song prepared, you can sing a Christmas carol of your choice – It can be acapella, but there will be an accompanist.

FOR CALLBACKS

- **Make sure you or a guardian read the play by this point. Wear comfortable clothing/shoes to all callback sessions.**
- You will be assigned a role or roles for individual sessions and given sides to prepare to read with other actors. (Or with a reader). The director will likely work with you on your side, and you will read it more than once. For *How to Defend Yourself*, we will ask you some questions and play an improvisation game.
- Cast lists will be posted the Friday after auditions. **Students will receive an email from Emily Pope. Non-students will receive an email from Vickie Carter or Katie Lupica.**

CASTING BREAKDOWN

HOW TO DEFEND YOURSELF – AVAILABLE ROLES FOR YOUNG PERFORMERS

SUS: Female, 6. A young girl of color who makes a wish. In final scene only. Has a birthday party every night.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL – AVAILABLE ROLES FOR YOUNG PERFORMERS

BOY SCROOGE: Male, 9-12. The youngest version of Scrooge that he revisits with Christmas Past. A lonely boy at a boarding school. Also plays ensemble roles.

TINY TIM / REMEMBRANCE / IGNORANCE: Male, 6-10. Tiny Tim is youngest Cratchit child. Frail from childhood illness but exuberant for all things related to family and Christmas. Remembrance and Ignorance are spirits that help Christmas Past and Present instruct Scrooge. Also plays ensemble roles.

MARY CRATCHIT: Female, 12-15. A middle Cratchit daughter. Also plays ensemble roles.

BELINDA CRATCHIT / FORGIVENESS / WANT: Female, 7-9. Belinda is the youngest Cratchit daughter. Forgiveness and Want are spirits that help Christmas Past and Present instruct Scrooge. Also plays ensemble roles.

ALICE CRATCHIT: Female, 9-12. A middle Cratchit daughter. Also plays ensemble roles.

SMUDGE: Male or Female, 9-12. A child who must beg on the street but maintains a sense of humor and is eager to be helpful. Helps Scrooge buy a turkey. Also plays ensemble roles.

INHERIT THE WIND – AVAILABLE ROLES FOR YOUNG PERFORMERS

HOWARD BLAIR: Male, 12-16. Student of Bertram Cates. Thrills in the carnival-like atmosphere of his transformed town. Testifies in court about Cates' classroom teaching.

MELINDA LOOMIS: Female, 9-12. A tenacious child, caught between curiosity and convention. Delights in the influx of activity and excitement to the town.

TIMMY (ensemble): Male or Female, 9-12. Local child. Breathlessly alerts the town about Brady's arrival. Absorbs as much as he can from trial and surrounding events. Also plays **hawker**, selling Eskimo Pies at the sentencing.

CONTENT ADVISORIES

HOW TO DEFEND YOURSELF

How to Defend Yourself is recommended for mature audiences and contains adult language, substance use, profanity, and themes of sexuality and sexual violence. The characters navigate trauma, sex, and sexual assault.

The character of SUS (child role) does NOT appear in any scenes that involve mature language or themes. Additionally, due to the brevity of this character's appearance, the young performer in the role will only be asked to attend rehearsals on a limited basis.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

A Christmas Carol includes moments of characters in peril.

INHERIT THE WIND

Inherit the Wind includes themes of science and religion (related to the teaching of evolution) and a very brief discussion of sex.