

FOOTLIGHTERS THEATER PRESENTS



Based on the story by Charles Dickens

DIRECTED BY HUGH ABBOTT JR.

Performances December 9 - 18

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The Musical

Music by
ALAN MENKEN

Lyrics by
LYNN AHRENS

Book by
MIKE OCKRENT &
LYNN AHRENS

Based on the story by Charles Dickens

Original Choreography by
Susan Stroman

Originally directed by Mike Ockrent

Originally Presented by Radio City Entertainment
At the Theater at Madison Square Garden

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Is presented through special arrangement with
Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
www.mtishows.com

SPECIAL THANKS

Stephanie Tanner

Amanda Whitehead

Steel River Playhouse

Cast and crew of *A Christmas Carol*

CAST

Ebenezer Scrooge	ROBERT HOFFMAN
Bob Cratchit	KEVIN ALTMAN
Mrs. Cratchit/Ensemble	REBECCA BEGNAUD
Tiny Tim	LAWRENCE N. RHODES
Fred	DOMINIC HUNTZINGER
Ghost of Christmas Present	CASSIDY ELSE
Ghost of Christmas Past/Lamplighter	SARAH RODGERS
Ghost of Christmas Future/Blind Old Hag	CLAIRE TANNER
Jacob Marley	JOSEPH BILLETТА
Emily	JULIE KREMM
Mrs. Fezziwig	LISA MCBREARTY
Mr. Fezziwig	TROY GARTNER
Beadle	ELEANOR MURPHY
Mr. Smythe/Featured Ensemble	KEITH BEECHAM
Mrs. Mopps/Ensemble	LINDA POLITO
Young Ebenezer	RYAN POLITO
Martha Cratchit/Ensemble	ELIZABETH ABBOTT
Scrooge at 12/Ensemble	TREY ABBOTT
Nicolas, Johnathan, Scrooge at 8, Boy Worker, Fred's Kid	BILLY MURPHY
Grace Smythe	ALYSSA WHITEHEAD
Sally Anderson	NICOLE INFANZON
Young Fan	MACKENZIE WRY
Ensemble	GRACE ALBERT, ASHLIN FRECHEM, HOPE HARBESON, EVELYN HAUSER, AJ KING, CHRISTOPHER MORAN, NINY RAO, KONG UNG, DAVID WELSH

PRODUCTION STAFF

Producer	SUE SCOTT
Director	HUGH ABBOTT JR.
Music Director	NATHAN KENDRICK
Assistant Director	JOSEPH BILLETТА
Choreographer	KAREN DIXON
Technical Director	HUGH ABBOTT JR.
Scenic Design	HUGH ABBOTT JR.
Costume Design	JANET ABBOTT
Sound Design	HUGH ABBOTT JR.
Lighting Design	HUGH ABBOTT JR.
Props	JANET ABBOTT
Production Assistant	JANET ABBOTT
Front of House	BILL GILBERTSON, SUE SCOTT
Box Office	SUE SCOTT
Publicity	MELISSA LESPERANCE
Playbill	CARA GLATFELTER
Webmaster	HUGH ABBOTT JR.
Set Construction	HUGH ABBOTT JR., CAST AND CREW OF A CHRISTMAS CAROL

MUSICAL NUMBERS

"The Years Are Passing By"	Grave Digger
"Jolly, Rich and Fat"	Three Charity Men, Smythe Family, Businessmen, Wives and Children
"Scrooge and Cratchit Street Song (Nothing To Do With Me)"	People of London, Scrooge, Fred, Johnathan, Sandwich Board Man, Lampighter, Blind Hag and Jack Smythe
"Link By Link"	Marley's Ghost, Scrooge and Ghosts
"The Lights of Long Ago"	Ghost of Christmas Past
"God Bless Us, Everyone"	Scrooge's Mother, Fan at 6 and Scrooge at 8
"A Place Called Home"	Scrooge at 12, Fan at 10 and Scrooge
"Mr. Fezziwig's Annual Christmas Ball"	Fezziwig, Mrs. Fezziwig and Guests
"A Place Called Home (Reprise)"	Emily, Scrooge at 18 and Scrooge
"The Lights of Long Ago (Part II)"	Scrooge at 18, Young Marley, Emily and People from Scrooge's Past
"Abundance and Charity"	Ghost of Christmas Present, Scrooge and The Christmas Gifts
"Christmas Together"	Tiny Tim, The Cratchit's Fred, Sally, Scrooge and People of London
"Dancing On Your Grave"	Grave Diggers, Ghost of Christmas Future, Monks, Businessmen, Mrs. Mops, Undertakers, Old Joe, Mr. Smythe and Cratchit
"Yesterday, Tomorrow and Today"	Scrooge, Angels and Children of London
"The Years Are Passing By (Reprise)"	Johnathan
"Nothing To Do With Me (Reprise)"	Scrooge
"Christmas Together (Reprise)"	The People of London
"God Bless Us, Everyone (Finale)"	Featured Ensemble

**Footlighters is currently
running a fundraising
campaign to make our
entrance handicap**



Any donation toward that goal is greatly appreciated.

In the interim, should you or a member of your party require assistance with theater stairs, please speak to a member of our team. We are happy to assist.

Donations can be made via cash or check at the box office,
via Venmo @FootlightersTheater,
or at [FootlightersTheater.com](https://www.FootlightersTheater.com).

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

ELIZABETH ABBOTT (Martha Cratchit/Ensemble) is thrilled to be back on the Footlighters stage after appearing in *Monster* (Young Samantha) last season. This is Elizabeth's 7th appearance in a community theater production; her favorites were *Annie* (ensemble) and *Seussical* (ensemble). She is in her 7th year of ballet and absolutely loves to be and dance on stage.

TREY ABBOTT (Scrooge at 12/Ensemble) is happy to be making his stage debut at Footlighters after shadowing his technical director dad and running light and sound for three shows. Trey has been in six other musicals. His favorites are *Seussical* (ensemble) and *Newsies* (ensemble). Trey is student producer of his 6th grade drama club and truly enjoys being behind the scenes, but is having fun on stage!

GRACE ALBERT (Ensemble) is excited to make her Footlighters debut! She recently played Peggy Evans in Neil Simon's *Come Blow Your Horn* at Yardley Players, Mable Applebottom in *The Sinister Vines Of Dr. Thorn and Murphy in Suite Surrender* at Village Players of Hatboro, Sarah Benjamin in *God's Favorite*, and Dr. Ehrin in *Freaky Friday The Musical* at Playcrafters of Skippack.

KEVIN ALTMAN (Bob Cratchit) is elated to be joining Footlighters Theater as Bob Cratchit (Dickens's homage to overworked, under waged millennials). Fresh from his original off-off-off Broadway smash-flop *Burr* about disregarded founding father and actual American hero, Aaron Burr, Kevin has also appeared in several other roles in various Broadway productions such as *Phantom of the Opera* (Chandelier), *In The Heights* (Evil Real-Estate Developer), and *Miss Saigon* (Helicopter Pilot #2). Inspired by the recent Yiddish version of *Fiddler on the Roof*, Kevin is excited to bring a new production of *Cats* to the stage next season sung entirely in the language of actual cats. Enjoy the show!

KEITH BEECHAM (Mr. Smythe/Featured Ensemble) is pleased to be making his Footlighters debut. Past roles include Father in *Children of Eden*, Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Judge Turpin in *Sweeney Todd*. He would like to thank his wife Darlene for her support and patience, and his daughter Caitlin for getting him back into theater.

REBECCA BEGNAUD (Mrs. Cratchit/Ensemble) is excited to make a joyful return to Footlighters in *A Christmas Carol*! She was previously on the Footlighters stage as Consuela in *West Side Story* last spring. Other roles include Sabine in Ken Ludwig's *Three Musketeers* (Colonial Playhouse), Gargoyle/Ensemble in *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Barn Playhouse), Ensemble in *Big Fish* (MCT), Dance Captain/Ensemble in *Wizard of Oz* (Tiferet Bet Israel), and Fabian in

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Twelfth Night (Montgomery County CC). Much Love and Christmas Cheer to friends, family, and the cast of *A Christmas Carol*.

JOSEPH BILLETTA (Assistant Director/Jacob Marley)

is absolutely ecstatic to return to Footlighters; this time taking on multiple roles both on and off stage. Joe first debuted at Footlighters in 2019 in *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (Asher/The Baker). Favorite roles include Javert in *Les Misérables* (SALT), LeFou in *Beauty and the Beast* (Steel River), and Sebastian in *The Little Mermaid* (Cue and Curtain Players). Joe has been a haunt actor at Pennhurst Asylum since 2020, and won an award for his performance this past 2022 season. Joe sends special thanks to thank the production staff, the cast, his family, friends, and voice teacher Kim Russell for their constant support!

CASSIDY ELSE (Ghost of Christmas Present) is so excited to be returning to Footlighters for her third production! Her previous Footlighters credits include Natalie in *Next to Normal* and Logainne in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. Other favorite roles include Eponine in *Les Misérables*, Donna in *Mamma Mia!*, and Veronica in *Heathers*. Cassidy is thrilled to be working at Footlighters again and would like to thank her friends and family for always supporting her, especially through her pursuit of acting in college at Temple University! She invites you to sit back, relax, and enjoy the merry show put on for you tonight!

ASHLIN FRECHEM (Ensemble) is delighted to join Footlighters Theater for the production of *A Christmas Carol*. This is Ashlin's first show! She had the chance of sharing this amazing experience with her sister, Nicole. Merry Christmas!

TROY GARTNER (Mr. Fezziwig) is thrilled to be back at Footlighters for their production of *A Christmas Carol*. Previous roles include A-Rab in *West Side Story*, Zebulun in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and Moonface Martin in *Anything Goes*. As a sophomore at Conestoga High School, Troy commenced his tutelage with the Kim Russell Voice Studio, a privilege he continues to this day. Upon graduation from Conestoga, Troy matriculated at Millersville University, located in Millersville, Pennsylvania, as a double major in Music Education and Voice Performance. Troy completed this nine-semester program in 2020, culminating in his graduation with two bachelor's degrees.

HOPE HARBESON (Ensemble) is thrilled to be returning to Footlighters for *A Christmas Carol*. Hope is an 8th grader at Valley Forge Middle School and has been performing since she was 7 years old. Her favorite roles include Lavender (*Matilda*) at Upper Main Line YMCA Theater and Marty (*Grease*) and Mal (*Addams Family*)

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

at SALT's Stagelight University. Hope would like to thank her parents and everyone involved in *A Christmas Carol* for this opportunity!

EVELYN HAUSER (Ensemble) is so excited to be a part of this amazing production! Thank you to everyone who made it a success! Her past credits include UMLY's productions of *Annie*, *Mary Poppins*, and *A Christmas Story*, as well as Flotsam in Community Through Song's production of *Little Mermaid, Jr.* She also studies dance at UMLY and voice at Betsey Daly School of Performing Arts.

ROBERT HOFFMAN (Ebenezer Scrooge) is a preschool teacher living in South Philly. This is his first appearance at Footlighters and, in fact, his first acting role since moving to the area in 2017. He would like to thank his friends and family, his students, the good people of Footlighters Theater, and various time traveling ghosts for helping him find his way back to the stage.

DOMINIC HUNTZINGER (FRED) is rather proud to be making their Footlighters debut. This will be their first time back on stage since high school nearly four decades ago. One of their favorite highlights include being the director, student director, cast, stage manager, pit, lights, sound, and audience in *Noises Off*. Most importantly, they do not speak a word of English and will not be taking autograph requests till after their standing ovation. Please enjoy the show!

NICOLE INFANZON (Sally Anderson) is pleased to return to Footlighters Theater for the production of *A Christmas Carol*. Nicole began community theatre this year and played the role of Maria in *West Side Story* and Choir in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. She loves Christmas and has had a great time celebrating it since October when rehearsals started! She has also enjoyed sharing this experience with her sister, Ashlin. Enjoy the show and Merry Christmas!

AJ KING (Ensemble) is excited to be in *A Christmas Carol*. After much badgering from the assistant director to join the show, AJ finally gave into peer pressure and came in happier than ever. AJ is happy to make everyone get lost in the story of *A Christmas Carol* and have fun escaping from reality for a little bit as you get ready for the holiday season. He wants to give a shout out to his wonderful Mother for inspiring him to stay in theater and his beautiful girlfriend Marisa who supports him in everything. (Love to both to bits!) Enjoy the show and have yourself a Merry Little Christmas!

JULIE KREMM (Emily) is easily recognizable for her petite frame and larger-than life quirky personality on and off stage. Focused primarily on opera, she is a lyric coloratura soprano and earned her Master's degree in Music (Voice Performance) from West Virginia

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

University. She now studies privately with renowned mezzo-soprano Mignon Dunn in NYC. Favorite roles performed include Clorinda (*La Cenerentola*), Adele (*Die Fledermaus*), Susanna (*Le nozze di Figaro*), Just Jeanette (*Too Many Sopranos*), Gretel (*Hansel and Gretel*), and the infamous Queen of the Night (*Die Zauberflöte*). This is her second show here, having performed last year in Broadway in Berwyn.

LISA MCBREARTY (Mrs. Fezziwig) is thrilled to be back for another show at Footlighters. Previous roles include Gypsy Dancer in *Hunchback of Notre Dame* (The Barn), Enid in *Legally Blonde* (The Barn), Graziella in *West Side Story* (Footlighters), Ensemble in *If/Then* (Players Club of Swarthmore), and Ensemble in *Mamma Mia!* (The Barn). Lisa would like to thank the whole cast and crew of *A Christmas Carol* for making this show such an amazing experience. She would also like to thank her family and friends for all their support and encouragement.

CHRISTOPHER MORAN (Ensemble) is a longtime member of Footlighters and veteran of the theatre. He last appeared on our stage as Glad Hands in *West Side Story*. As a longtime member of SAG, he has appeared in well over 50 films as an extra. He is delighted to work once again with a great cast and crew.

BILLY MURPHY (Nicolas, Johnathan, Scrooge at 8, Boy Worker, Fred's Kid) is proud to make his debut at Footlighters Theater. His favorite shows are *The Wizard of Oz* and *Oliver*.

ELEANOR MURPHY (Beadle) has been in many shows at other places, and is proud to be making her debut at Footlighters Theater. Her favorite shows that she has taken part in are *Newsies* and *Mary Poppins* because of their intense tap numbers.

LINDA POLITO (Mrs. Mopps/Ensemble) is so excited to be performing in her first theatre production. She spent many years backstage helping with costumes and props for many youth shows. She would like to thank her sons Tyler and Ryan (Young Scrooge) and her husband Steve for all of their support and encouragement. Big Thank you to Hugh Abbott for giving this STUPID woman the opportunity to work with this talented cast.

RYAN POLITO (Young Ebenezer) is excited to return to Footlighters for his second production. He is also excited to share the stage with his mom for her first onstage performance ever! His favorite past roles include Davey (*Newsies*), Mr. Wormwood (*Matilda*), Doody (*Grease*), and Jehan (*Hunchback of Notre Dame*). He would like to thank the cast and crew for giving him a place to call home in this amazing show and to spend Christmas together! He hopes you all have a jolly good time seeing this show.

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NINY RAO (ENSEMBLE) is thrilled to make her stage debut at the Footlighters. Special thanks to Gary Northeimer, Susan Dash, and Bill Gilbertson. She would also like to thank all her friends and family for their support.

LAWRENCE N. RHODES (Tiny Tim) is excited to be making his premier at Footlighters. He loves musicals and has been part of ensemble casts in *Matilda*, *Annie*, and *Mary Poppins*. He recently played Randy Parker in *A Christmas Story: The Musical*. He loves playing Just Dance and going to escape rooms with his Mom, Dad, and friends.

SARAH RODGERS (Ghost of Christmas Past/Lamplighter) is ecstatic to be making her debut at the Footlighters Theater this season! She was last seen as Serena in the Barn Playhouse's production of *Legally Blonde* this summer. Sarah is also known for her roles as Louise/Gypsy Rose Lee (*Gypsy*), Beth (*Little Women*), Liesl (*Sound of Music*), and Dream Laurey (*Oklahoma!*). She has had many featured dancing roles in other productions, such as *Beauty and the Beast* and *Pippin*, as well as lead and principle roles in local films. Sarah would like to thank her loving and supportive fiancé for encouraging her to continue to pursue her deepest passion!

CLAIRE TANNER (Ghost of Christmas Future/Blind Old Hag) is thrilled to be performing in her first Footlighters Theater production! Claire is 14 years old and attends Valley Forge Middle School. Claire has most recently been seen in *Frozen Jr.* (Housekeeper, Ensemble) and *Big Fish* (Ensemble) at Methacton Community Theater, and *Mary Poppins* (Neleus) and *Annie* (Annie U/S, Pepper) at UMLY Performing Arts. When not on stage, Claire loves playing the piano, learning to play the ukulele, and tap dancing. Claire would like to thank her family, friends, directors, choreographers, voice teacher, and fellow cast mates for all their love and support.

KONG UNG (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making his Footlighters debut in *A Christmas Carol*. Thanks to the entire production team for their support, encouragement, and trust throughout this process. A native of West Chester, this is his second production after *Chess* with Bravo Theatre Company. Kong is a vocal student of Susan Dash in Devon. Kong's success was made possible by the support of family and friends.

DAVID WELSH (Ensemble) was last seen on the Footlighters stage in 2010 in (ironically) a dramatic version of *A Christmas Carol*; the other three Footlighters productions he worked on were *Music Man*, *Crazy For You*, and *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel* (also directed by Hugh). David wants to thank Hugh for bringing him back to

WHO'S WHO IN THE CAST

Footlighters. David's employed as a lab technician at Saint Joseph's University. "Hugh, this show is a blast, coming back to Footlighters has been a blast, thanks for bringing me back to Footlighters and thanks for casting me in this show! Let's rock!"

ALYSSA WHITEHEAD (Grace Smythe) is thrilled to be a part of her first production at Footlighters. Recent credits include *Mary Poppins* (Jane Banks) and *Annie* (Duffy) at UMLY Performing Arts and *Frozen Jr.* (Ensemble) at SALT Performing Arts. Alyssa attends Valley Forge Middle School where enjoys playing softball and volleyball and working in the tv studio. Alyssa would like to thank Hugh, Karen, Joe, and the rest of the Footlighters team for helping her grow as a performer.

MACKENZIE WRY (Young Fan) is 11 years old and a sixth grader at TE Middle School. She loves theatre and dance. Prior roles include Molly in *Annie*, Nipper in *Newsies*, and various ensemble roles at UMLY Theatre. Mackenzie is also an accomplished ballerina and contemporary dancer with UMLY Dance School. Besides theatre and dance, Mackenzie loves spending time with her friends, family, and cats. She is looking forward to dancing, acting and singing with her friends at Footlighters Theater. Mackenzie would like to thank her vocal coach, Nick Harmantzis, for his support and encouragement.

WHO'S WHO IN THE CREW

HUGH M. ABBOTT JR. (Director) graduated from Temple University with a degree in Theater & Communications. He has been seen in several musicals including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Chorus Line*, *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, and most recently, *Assassins*. He has also been seen in such dramas as *Stop Kiss*, *Imaginary Invalid*, and *Rabbit Hole*. He currently serves as 2nd Vice President on the Board of Directors and as Technical Director at Footlighters.

JANET ABBOTT (Production Assistant, Costume Design) has been part of casts and production teams at Footlighters Theater since 2003. Favorite theater credits include musicals *Seussical* (Mrs. Mayor), *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Lucy), and dramas, including *Rabbit Hole* (Becca) and *Steel Magnolias* (M'Lynn). Janet is the organizer of relaxed/sensory friendly performances at Footlighters Theater.

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NATHAN M. KENDRICK (Music Director) is making his third appearance this season at Footlighters, this time as part of the production team. You may have seen them as Leon Czolgosz in Sondheim's *Assassins* or as Loud Stone in Sarah Ruhl's *Eurydice* previously this season. Kendrick holds a BM in Voice Performance from Susquehanna University, is a proud brother of Phi Mu Alpha Sinfonia, and also studied at the American Institute of Musical Studies in Graz, Austria. Nathan currently serves as organist and music director of Paoli UMC and sings with local professional ensembles such as The Brandywine Singers and Ama Deus Ensemble.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

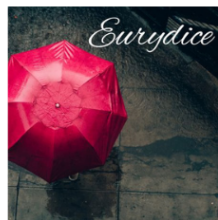
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2022-2023 SEASON



ASSASSINS

September 9-18, 2022



EURYDICE

October 28 - November 6, 2022



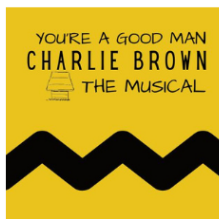
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

December 9-18, 2022



THE LAST FLAPPER

February 10-12, 2023



YOU'RE A GOOD MAN, CHARLIE BROWN

March 24 - April 2, 2023



DISASTER!

May 12-21, 2023

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