



# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

**Music by  
ALAN MENKEN**

**Lyrics by  
LYNN AHRENS**

**Book by  
MIKE OCKRENT  
& LYNN AHRENS**

**Based on the story by Charles Dickens**

**December 6 - December 22**

***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](http://www.mtishows.com)*

**Connecticut Theatre Company**  
*Presents*  
**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**

**December 6 - December 22**

**The Repertory Theatre**  
**23 Norden Street**  
**New Britain, CT 06051**  
**(860) 223-3147**

**[www.ConnecticutTheatreCompany.org](http://www.ConnecticutTheatreCompany.org)**

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***The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this  
production is strictly prohibited.***

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Welcome back to Connecticut Theatre Company! We are so grateful for your continued support and patronage.

We are so happy to finish up our 2024 season with this production of A Christmas Carol. We look forward to a wonderful 2025 with a fantastic new season of shows. We'll kick off with Steel Magnolias, followed by The Producers, The Wedding Singer, Escape to Margaritaville, and a 5th show that will be announced shortly! There's truly something for everyone and I hope you enjoy the variety of shows!

Flex passes are always available and are a great way to get a discount when coming to multiple performances! See our box office staff for more information.

Duane Campbell,  
Executive Director of Connecticut Theatre Company

## DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Dear Audience Member,

There are many versions and takes of A Christmas Carol, from Mickey Mouse and The Muppets, to more traditional takes or even comedies like Bill Murray's, Scrooged. We all have our favorite versions and A Christmas Carol has endured through the decades because it is a perennial reminder that if we are willing to confront our past, present, and what the future may hold, we have everything inside us already to live a life toward the betterment of mankind. It is often easier to turn inward rather than examine how we fit into each other's life story. There is no better time than Christmas to reflect on how we can treat others with dignity, kindness, and generosity.

Alan Menken (orchestration), Lynn Ahrens (lyrics), Mike Ockrent and Lynn Ahrens (book) have created this wonderful musical version of this classic Dickens story. And for those Disney fans out there, if you listen closely to the orchestration, you will definitely hear "Easter eggs" to Menken's classics

Both of us were heavily involved in our 2022 production of this show and it has been a joy and privilege to be able to bring it back this year. The cast is the living embodiment of Christmas spirit and we cannot wait for audiences to share in this experience and hopefully leave the theatre feeling lighter and more joyous than when they came in. This show is a celebration of the season and we invite you to sit back, relax and celebrate with us.

Ben Silberman and Becky Stanford  
Co-Directors

## MUSICAL NUMBERS

### ACT 1

HEAR THE BELLS  
JOLLY GOOD TIME  
CHARITY MEN  
NOTHING TO DO WITH ME  
LINK BY LINK  
THE LIGHTS OF LONG AGO  
FEZZIWIG'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BALL  
A PLACE CALLED HOME  
MONEY MACHINE MONTAGE

### 15 MINUTE INTERMISSION

### ACT 2

ABUNDANCE AND CHARITY  
CHRISTMAS TOGETHER  
DANCING ON YOUR GRAVE  
YESTERDAY, TOMORROW, AND TODAY  
FINAL SCENE  
GOD BLESS US EVERYONE

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

EBENEZER SCROOGE.....MIKE ZIZKA  
BOB CRATCHIT.....EVAN CHARETTE  
TINY TIM/GRACE SMYTHE/ FAN.....MADDIE SWIDER  
MARLEY.....RICHARD WILLIAMS  
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT.....DUANE CAMPBELL  
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST.....DAVID NUNNER  
GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE.....KRYSTINA DIAZ  
MRS. CRATCHIT.....EMILY MARSH-GAULIN  
MR. FEZZIWIG.....HENRY TOBELMAN  
MRS. FEZZIWIG/SCROOGE'S MOTHER.....MARYANN MURRAY  
EMILY.....EIZEL MAGNO  
MR. SMYTHE.....JAMES CALABRESI  
JONATHAN.....GRAEME KENNEDY  
YOUNG SCROOGE.....MAX DITTMAR  
YOUNGEST SCROOGE.....MATTHEW PAOLINO  
MARTHA CRATCHIT.....CHRISTIANA WILLIAMS  
MRS. MOPS.....LYNN PRIEST  
SALLY.....LEILA BRADLEY  
FRED.....JONATHEN WHITFORD  
SCROOGE'S FATHER.....STEPHEN WILLIAMS  
BABY CRATCHIT.....PHILIP GAULIN

### ENSEMBLE

ERIN FRECHETTE, CHRISTINE RODRIGUE, ZENN LANGLEY, CLAUDIA LYNCH,  
GINAMARIE GARABEDIAN

## CAST BIOS

**LEILA BRADLEY (SALLY):** Leila began her involvement in theater working backstage on numerous productions at New Britain Rep when she was in high school. On stage she has performed "The Sorcerer", various productions of "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat", and a particular favorite "Meet Me in St. Louis". She feels so fortunate that they made one of her favorite Christmas stories into a musical and is thrilled to be a part of this stage production. She wants to thank her family for being so supportive during this delightful endeavor.

**JAMES CALABRESI (MR. SMYTHE):** James loves roles of all kinds, silly characters, indignant characters, small roles and roles that take up the whole stage. James chooses to fight fascism offstage.

**DUANE CAMPBELL (GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT):** Duane is excited to be back on stage at CTC in this wonderful holiday musical. Previous favorite stage credits include: Edna in "Hairspray", The Baker in "Into the Woods", Cogsworth in "Beauty and the Beast", and Horton in "Seussical". Thanks to the cast and crew for making this such a fun experience. Thanks to Erin for her support and love.

**EVAN CHARETTE (BOB CRATCHIT):** This is Evan's 1st production with CTC, and he is so excited to share this classic Christmas story with you! Evan attended Eastern Connecticut State University for Theater and Vocal Performance. Evan would like to thank all of his friends and family for their continued support!

**KRYSTINA DIAZ (GHOST OF CHRISTMAS FUTURE):** Krystina is thrilled to be in CTC's latest production of "A Christmas Carol". They feel grateful to be surrounded by so many wonderful performers and human beings during such a sentimental time of year. Krystina was previously seen as Nicola in OHP's production of "Kinky Boots", Joanne in WRT's production of "Rent", and Martha in CTC's production of "Spring Awakening". Krystina applauds all efforts of the production team for their vision with this show, and for working so incredibly hard on making it come together into what you see now onstage! May all those in attendance have a joyous holiday and a wonderful new year!

**MAX DITTMAR (YOUNG SCROOGE):** Max is thrilled to portray Young Ebenezer in CTC's production of "A Christmas Carol". Previously appearing in "Cabaret" and "Spring Awakening", he loves the community here at CTC, and looks forward every week to spending time with some wonderfully talented individuals! Max hopes you enjoy the show (and get into the holiday spirit) as you watch the timeless tale of Scrooge unfold onstage.

**GINAMARIE GARABEDIAN (ENSEMBLE):** This is Ginamarie's third show with CTC and she is thrilled to be on stage with this amazing cast! Previous CTC shows include "The Drowsy Chaperone" and "Nine". Most recently she was in "Seussical" at West Hartford Community Theater. Thanks to friends and family for their love and support. She dedicates her performance to Duane Campbell.

## CAST BIOS

**PHILIP GAULIN (BABY CRATCHIT):** Philip is making his stage debut with CTC at just two years old! He'd like to thank the directors for limiting his blocking to "be held by mom" and giving him the creative freedom to write all his own dialogue. He'd also like to thank his dad for putting Bluey on the iPad in the green room while mom is on stage. Philip's parents are grateful to the cast and crew for welcoming him so kindly and playing with him backstage.

**GRAEME KENNEDY (JONATHAN):** Graeme Kennedy is a sixth grade student at Betsy Ross Arts Magnet School in New Haven, CT. He has been performing with theater companies across Connecticut since he was four years old. Favorite roles include Jason in "Falsettos" and Little Guido in CTC's 2024 production of "Nine". When he's not acting you'll find him skiing, dancing and singing his way through life. He'd like to thank his voice and dance teachers, the CTC family and his mom, dad and sister Maggie.

**ZENN LANGLEY (ENSEMBLE):** This is Zenn's first time on stage at CTC and he has never done a show before! He's excited to experience this from the opposite end of things and hopes that it is a fun time for everyone!

**CLAUDIA LYNCH (ENSEMBLE):** Claudia is excited to be returning for her second show at CTC. She appeared in "Nine" as Our Lady of the Spa this past spring. In her spare time she likes hiking, crafting and cuddles with her cats. She sends her thanks to Jels and all the cast and crew of the show!

**EIZEL MAGNO (EMILY):** Eizel Magno is a graduate of University of Santo Tomas with a degree of Bachelor of Music in Musical Theatre. She is thrilled to be doing her first production outside the Philippines with Connecticut Theatre Company! When Eizel isn't on stage, she is a voice teacher and is proud to be able to inspire young people to nourish their love for singing. She's grateful for her family and friends but she's most especially grateful to Pat for the never-ending love and support!

**EMILY MARSH-GAULIN (MRS. CRATCHIT):** Emily is thrilled to have joined this tremendously talented cast, and she is particularly pleased to get to work with her son, Philip, on stage. This is her second time on stage in over fifteen years, having previously been part of the ensemble in Theater Guild of Berlin's "Brigadoon" this summer and in "Wizard of Oz" in 2009 in Coppell, TX. She would like to thank the cast, crew, and production team for their kindness and creativity, and she must thank her husband, Sean, the most, as she wouldn't be able to do this without him.

## CAST BIOS

**MARYANN MURRAY (MRS. FEZZIWIG/SCROOGE'S MOTHER):** Maryann Murray, originally from Boston, is a live vocalist and recording artist with a rich performance history, regularly performing at The Rockwell Theatre and The Middle East Music Lounge as an R&B singer. She is thrilled and proud to return to the theater world and to be part of this production of "A Christmas Carol". Maryann extends her heartfelt gratitude to the Connecticut Theatre Company for their dedication and thanks the cast, directors, and crew for their hard work in bringing this magical show to life. She is confident that audiences will thoroughly enjoy this enchanting holiday experience!

**DAVID NUNNER (GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST):** David is excited to return to his CTC home, this time on stage as part of this amazing show. He has enjoyed working with the crew and cast to bring the show to life. On stage, David has been seen many times throughout Connecticut. Previous CTC credits include: Bernadette in "Priscilla Queen of the Desert", Tobias in "Sweeney Todd", Dr. Einstein in "Arsenic and Old Lace", and Igor in "Young Frankenstein". David serves as the President of CTC on the Board of Directors.

**MATTHEW PAOLINO (YOUNGEST SCROOGE):** Matthew is an eleven-year-old actor making his debut with Connecticut Theater Company in "A Christmas Carol". Recently, he starred as Nigel in "Matilda Jr." and Prince Eric in "The Little Mermaid Jr." at his elementary school. A passionate performer, Matthew loves the world of summer theater and is excited to continue exploring new roles on stage. Outside of theater, he enjoys swimming, playing football, and spending time with friends. Matthew is grateful for the unwavering support of his family and friends and looks forward to bringing many more characters to life in the future.

**LYNN PRIEST (MRS. MOPS):** Lynn is thrilled to be making her debut at CTC. Theater credits: "The Addams Family Musical" (Marie Antoinette), "An Inspector Calls" (Mrs Birling), "The Crucible" (Ann Putnam), "As You Like It" (Audry) Film credits: "And Just Like That", "Founders day", "Candlewood", "Summerhouse". Lynn has a degree in music and is a self-employed fitness specialist. She holds a pageant title of Lady Petite World, enjoys running and tennis and has a 3rd degree Black Belt in Tae-Kwon-Do.

**CHRISTINE DUBEY RODRIGUE (ENSEMBLE):** Christine is 66 years old with 4 amazing grown sons and three adorable grandchildren with one more on the way. She's still in college getting a degree in acting. She already has her BS in Human Services. She's had her own TV show since 2008 at Nutmeg TV. Her proudest moment was interviewing Senator Richard Blumenthal. She's acted with the Thomaston Opera House, Plainville Choral Society, and the Golden Senior Theater group. She's an advocate for domestic violence, mental health, & homelessness. She loves the creative arts, acting, singing, networking & dancing.



## CAST BIOS

**MADISON SWIDER (TINY TIM, GRACE SMYTHE, FAN):** Eleven-year-old Madison Swider is thrilled to be reprising her role as Tiny Tim in "A Christmas Carol" with Connecticut Theater Company. With a passion for the performing arts, Madison started her journey in theater at the age of nine and has since graced numerous stages, showcasing her incredible versatility and stage presence. This talented young performer has had a busy time this year on stage, capturing hearts as Matilda in "Matilda Jr." with Square Foot Theater Co. in Wallingford and bringing magic to life as Ariel in "The Little Mermaid Jr." for her community in Southington. When she's not performing, she enjoys singing, dancing, and spending time with her friends and family. Madison is grateful for all the support from teachers, friends, and her family and hopes you enjoy the show!

**HENRY TOBELMAN (MR. FEZZIWIG):** For as long as he can remember, Henry has loved being on stage, performing for nearly 20 years. Between live theatre and live music, he is always working toward a show of some sort. He has worked with CTC once before in "RENT" in 2013 and is ecstatic to be returning to their stage after such a long hiatus. Such a boisterous role as Mr Fezzwig is quite different from the roles Henry has had the chance to portray in the past so he leapt at the opportunity. Food and Friendship, Wine and Song, here's to Christmas Together all over the Earth!!

**JONATHEN WHITFORD (FRED):** Jonathen is thrilled to take on the role of Fred, Scrooge's kind-hearted and jovial nephew, in this year's production of "A Christmas Carol". A passionate performer, Jonathen enjoys bringing characters to life on stage and is particularly drawn to Fred's unwavering optimism and warmth. Outside of theater, Jonathen enjoys software engineering, music, and gaming, always finding creative outlets to fuel his curiosity and imagination. Past roles include Max/Herman in "Cabaret", where he brought both humor and charm to the stage. Jonathen is grateful for the support of his friends and family and wishes everyone a joyous and heartwarming holiday season!

**RICHARD WILLIAMS (MARLEY):** This musical version of "A Christmas Carol" is a fantastic show for this merry season, and Rich is excited to be a part of it with talented fellow cast members! Some of Rich's other favorite past roles include Captain Hastings (Agatha Christie's "Black Coffee"), Captain von Trapp (The Sound of Music), Mr. Beaver (The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe), Colonel Pickering (My Fair Lady), C. S. Lewis (Shadowlands), and Mr. Collins (Pride and Prejudice). Happy Christmas to everyone, especially my lovely wife Nancy and our children including Stephen and Christiana (also in this cast!) along with Angela, Julia, and Joseph. God bless us, everyone!

**STEPHEN WILLIAMS (SCROOGE'S FATHER):** This is Stephen's first production at Connecticut Theater Company. He's very excited to be performing here. He would like to thank Ben and Becky for being great directors, and Nick for helping us with the music. He also wants to thank the rest of the cast for being so supportive, despite his lack of experience. He hopes to do more shows here in the future.

## CAST BIOS

**CHRISTIANA WILLIAMS (MARTHA CRATCHIT):** Christiana is a 14 year old girl who loves anime, horror, art, music, and fantasy. She's been in 5 musicals, including: "The Boyfriend", "Mary Poppins Jr.", "Meet Me in St. Louis", "The Lion King", and "A Christmas Carol". However, "A Christmas Carol" has definitely been her top favorite musical that she's ever been in so far! This musical has been very fun! There is so much to do when dancing, singing, and acting! She's extremely grateful to be participating in this musical with many other talented people, like actors, musicians, and directors! She really enjoyed being in this show and she's glad she auditioned for it.

**MIKE ZIZKA (EBENEZER SCROOGE):** Mike has been involved in Connecticut theater productions for more than 40 years, having directed or acted in over 100 shows. His last role on the CTC stage was George in 2019's "Moon Over Buffalo". Mike's favorite roles include John Adams in "1776", Hercule Poirot in "Murder on the Orient Express", King Arthur in "Camelot", Salieri in "Amadeus", King Henry in "The Lion in Winter", George in "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf", and Jack in "The Boys Next Door". His directing credits include "Clybourne Park", "Almost, Maine", and fully staged readings of "Angels in America", Parts 1 and 2. Mike has been an on-air fundraiser for Connecticut Public Television and Radio for 30 years. Mike's wife Cathy is also a theater nut and a heckuva good stage manager.

## PRODUCTION TEAM

CO-DIRECTOR.....BEN SILBERMAN  
CO-DIRECTOR.....BECKY STANFORD  
MUSIC DIRECTOR.....NICK STANFORD  
CHOREOGRAPHER.....ERIN FRECHETTE  
COSTUME COORDINATOR.....BECKY STANFORD  
PROPS MASTER.....ERIN FRECHETTE  
SET TEAM.....BEN SILBERMAN, BECKY STANFORD, NICK STANFORD  
LIGHTING OPERATOR.....JOHN KENNEDY  
SOUND OPERATOR.....BEN SILBERMAN

## PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

**BEN SILBERMAN (CO-DIRECTOR):** Ben is very excited to have worked on this production of "A Christmas Carol" with his wonderful Co-Director Becky. Ben has directed and stage managed many productions at CTC, and also serves as the sound operator for many productions in the venue. Ben has helped in many capacities around the theatre, both as part of the former Repertory Theatre, and CTC in which he currently serves as Treasurer. He thanks the entire cast and crew for all their hard work and commitment to this wonderful production.

**BECKY STANFORD (CO-DIRECTOR, EMILY U/S):** Becky hopes audiences enjoy this production of A Christmas Carol as much as she has enjoyed working on it. Huge thanks to Ben, Erin and Nick for making the impossible possible! Becky returned to theatre in 2021 after a decades long hiatus and has been going full throttle since then! This marks her ninth show with CTC and she also serves on the CTC Board as Secretary. Her favorite thing about shows with CTC is meeting her husband, Nick Stanford, and getting to work with him on productions! They celebrated their wedding this summer and look forward to what lies ahead! Thank you to the cast of this show for being such a pleasure to work with! Thank you Mom for getting me involved with theater at an early age and cultivating this lifelong passion.

**ERIN FRECHETTE (CHOREOGRAPHER):** Erin is excited to return to CTC for her 12 production. She is one of the Resident Choreographers for CTC. This is her 5th production as a solo choreographer for CTC. Previously, her choreography was seen in "The Drowsy Chaperone ", "Zanna Don't", "Holiday Inn" and "9 to 5". She co-choreographed "The Full Monty" and "My Fair Lady". She also danced across the stage in "White Christmas", "Thoroughly Modern Millie", "Memphis", "Priscilla Queen of the Desert" and "A Christmas Carol". Erin's choreography also appeared in productions for Granby Arts Project and Monson Arts Council. She has danced at the Majestic Theater and professionally with the "Cher Extravaganza". She performed with and has been on the production team for the OM Show. She appeared in Simsbury Theater Guild's production of "Honeymoon in Vegas". She trained and competed nationally with the Hackworth School of Performing Arts. Erin thanks her husband, Wally, for his love and support. She also thanks all of her parents for always being "the wind beneath her wings".

**NICK STANFORD (MUSIC DIRECTOR):** Nick is a frequent figure in community musical theater across Connecticut. This is his 12th show with Connecticut Theatre Company, and he also regularly appears with GetUp Stage Company and White Rabbit Theatre. He is the pianist for Shoreline Unitarian Universalist Society in Madison. Profession credits include playing Keyboard 2 for The Sound of Music at The Ivoryton Playhouse as well as subbing at Playhouse on Park and Seven Angels Theatre. Favorite MD credits include Spring Awakening, Rent, Beauty and the Beast, and The Producers. Nick received his BA in Music from UConn studying piano under Irma Vallecillo and took graduate coursework at Indiana University. Getting to do theater with his wife Becky is one of his greatest joys. Thank you to my mom for always supporting me.

## PRODUCTION TEAM BIOS

**JOHN KENNEDY (LIGHTING OPERATOR):** John is excited to contribute to this wonderful holiday show. This is his first time serving as lighting operator for CTC, though he has volunteered in many capacities in the past. John's especially happy to share this experience with his son Graeme. Thanks to the cast and crew for creating such a welcoming environment!

## A CHRISTMAS CAROL ORCHESTRA

CONDUCTOR/KEYBOARD 1.....NICK STANFORD  
KEYBOARD 2.....NATALIE VON ACHEN  
VIOLIN 1.....JAKE DZIUBEK  
VIOLIN 2.....KELLY GEMBARA  
REED 1.....SILVIA GOPALAKRISHNAN/PHIL PLOTT  
REED 2.....KRISTEN LAURIA/SAM MOFFETT  
TRUMPET.....JOE HAHN  
TROMBONE.....JIM LENDVAY  
BASS.....BAKER WAINSCOT/MARK GEHRET  
DRUMS.....ANTHONY SOSCIA/SARAH DIMICELI

## SPECIAL THANKS

Connecticut Theatre Company would like to thank the many volunteers and team members that have worked to help make this production possible, including:

Eileen Blair  
Erin Frechette  
John Kennedy  
Mooneyan Field  
Joyce Goldberg  
Sean Spina  
Liz Saylor  
Chuck Kunze

Becky Stanford  
Nick Stanford  
Brendon Rogers  
Kathryn Lewis  
Zenn Langley  
Max Dittmar  
Mark Mazarella  
Ben Silberman

Duane Campbell  
Erin Campbell  
Emily Marsh-Gaulin  
Ginamarie Garabedian  
Jay Calabresi  
Krystina Diaz  
Henry Tobelman  
Claudia Lynch