

UNICORN • COLONIAL • PLAYHOUSE

BERKSHIRE

THEATRE GROUP

Amy Moorby

Director of Communications

(413) 448-8084 x15

amy@berkshiretheatre.org

Becky Brighenti

Director of Marketing & Public Relations

(413) 448-8084 x11

becky@berkshiretheatre.org

For Immediate Release, Please:

**Berkshire Theatre Group Announces Casting for
*A Christmas Carol***

Returning to The Unicorn Theatre

Journey back to Victorian England and experience the classic story
filled with holiday carols and the wonderment of the season.

Pittsfield, MA – Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG) and Kate Maguire (Artistic Director, CEO) are thrilled to announce the return of its cherished tradition, ***A Christmas Carol*** by Charles Dickens, adapted by Eric Hill and directed by Eric Hill and David Adkins. This heartwarming production, which last graced The Unicorn Theatre in 2010, is set to captivate audiences once again at its original home from December 7 through December 23 featuring more than 25 local community members.

Experience the magic of the holiday season with the timeless tale of Ebenezer Scrooge, the infamous miser who embarks on a transformative journey guided by four spirits. This enchanting story, set against the backdrop of Victorian England, is brimming with terrific twists and infused with the joyous spirit of Christmas.

Gather your loved ones and immerse yourself in the magic of the holiday season. BTG invites you to experience the joy and redemptive power of Christmas in this enchanting production of *A Christmas Carol*. Don't miss your chance to witness this heartwarming tale of transformation and rediscover the true meaning of the season.

Kim's Christmas Cottage: A Holiday Pop-Up Shop

Welcome to Kim's Christmas Cottage! Nestled within the enchanting confines of BTG's

Stockbridge campus, this exclusive pop-up holiday shop awaits ticket holders of *A Christmas Carol* and/or Winterlights at Naumkeag one hour before showtime and during intermission. In addition to an array of hot beverages, seasonal snacks, wine and beer, Kim's Christmas Cottage offers a treasure trove of holiday items. You'll find exquisite Gentlewater Jewelry, cozy handmade scarves and blankets perfect for the season, Shire Fire's holiday candles casting a warm glow, vintage crystal glassware adding a touch of elegance, and an assortment of Christmas items to enchant your home. Discover locally sourced delights like honey and maple syrup from nearby farms, and explore exclusive BTG swag, allowing you to carry the magic of the season home with you. Prepare to step into a world where holiday wonders await at every turn.

Experience the magic of the season with a touch of Victorian charm! Before each performance, delight in the harmonious melodies of Victorian Christmas carolers performing on the Unicorn patio. But that's just the beginning! Dive deeper into the festive spirit with a lineup of special events on select nights. Don't miss "Jingle & Click," a merry photo shoot featuring Santa, Mrs. Claus and their Merry Elf on Wednesday, December 13 from 6pm to 7pm. And for those with a creative streak, join "Yuletide Creations" on Saturday, December 16 for a joyful crafting session led by BTG's Director of Education, Allison Rachele Bayles, from 1pm to 2pm and 6pm to 7pm.

Kim's Christmas Cottage is your haven for joy and celebration, where cherished memories are crafted and the holiday spirit comes to life. Don't miss the opportunity to make this holiday season truly magical!

Not Available for Review

As with past community productions, *A Christmas Carol* is not appropriate for review as it is part of BTG's training, education and outreach programs.

Season Discounts & Ticket Information

BTGY (Young Adult)

Young adults between the ages of 18 and 30 can purchase one ticket to any BTG produced show for \$30 (fees included). This offer is available by phone or in person only. Additionally, one BTG presented show ticket may be purchased for 10% off the single ticket price (rental events not included).

EBT Card to Culture Program

EBT Card to Culture is a collaboration between the Mass Cultural Council and the Executive Office of Health and Human Services' Department of Transitional Assistance. This is available to anyone with EBT, WIC, or ConnectorCare Insurance. This offer includes two tickets to the majority of BTG's shows at the rate of \$5 each. All additional fees are also waived. These tickets are subject to availability as seating is limited. This offer is available by phone or in person only.

Berkshire Resident

Full-time Berkshire residents receive a 25% discount on show tickets to any BTG produced show. Limit two tickets per patron per performance. Exclusions include previews, openings, special events and Saturday evening performances. Tickets must be purchased by phone or in

person at our box office. A valid Berkshire County driver's license is required when picking up tickets.

Massachusetts Teachers Association

Massachusetts Teachers Association (MTA) members are eligible for a discount of 20% off orders to any BTG show. Education is a core value of BTG, and we appreciate those who are doing the work in our community. To redeem this discount, mention it while ordering over the phone at 413-997-4444, or in person at our box office.

AAA

AAA members are eligible for 10% off on orders to any BTG show. To redeem this discount, mention it while ordering over the phone at 413-997-4444, or in person at our box office.

Tickets for this production are on sale now. All plays, schedules, casting and prices are subject to change. To purchase tickets, visit www.BerkshireTheatreGroup.org or contact our box office by calling 413-997-4444.

The box office is open Tuesday through Saturday 12pm to 5pm or on any performance day from 12pm until curtain.

BTG's Pittsfield Campus is located at 111 South Street, (The Colonial Theatre) Pittsfield, MA.
BTG's Stockbridge Campus is located at 6 East Street, (The Unicorn Theatre) Stockbridge, MA.



At The Unicorn Theatre

A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens

adapted by Eric Hill

on The Larry Vaber Stage
at The Unicorn Theatre

Preview: Thursday, December 7 at 7pm

Opening: Friday, December 8 at 7pm

Sensory Friendly: Wednesday, December 20 at 6pm

Closing: Saturday, December 23 at 2pm

Tickets: Adult \$56; Child (Ages 16 and under) \$30

Tickets: Sensory Friendly \$15

A Christmas Carol returns to its original stage at The Unicorn Theatre!

CAST:

Ghost of Christmas Past: **Alex Boyd**

Chorus: **Isabella Brown**

Tiny Tim: **Aria Cardwell**

Mrs. Cratchit: **Fiona Cardwell**

Chorus: **Lotus Cohen**

Belle: **Lillian Colvin**

Belle's Husband, Topper: **Ian Depson**

Mrs. Fred: **Morgan Depson**

Laundress, Party Guest: **Liz Erwin**

Bob Cratchit: **Myles Evans**

Youngest Scrooge: **Ben Glockner**

Mrs. Fezziwig, Charwoman: **Kathy Jo Grover**

Fred: **Shayne Haley**

Dick Wilkins, Newspaper: **Julian Houghtling**

Fan: **Kaitlyn Houghtling**

Vocalist: **Leah Kammeyer**

Peter Cratchit: **Noah Minkoff**

Martha Cratchit: **Lyla Rose Nagata**

Student, Turkey Boy, Caroler: **Jaxson Pemble**

Dorit Cratchit, Spirit of Christmas Present–Ignorance: **Betsy Russo**

Narrator: **Julianna Salinovici**

Ebenezer Scrooge: **E. Gray Simons III**

Belle's Daughter, Spirit of Christmas Present–Want: **Kylie Tinker**

Ghost of Christmas Yet-to-Come, Young Scrooge: **Logan Weibrecht**

Fezziwig, Watch: **Straford Wild-Rocheleau**

Young Solicitor, Party Guest: **Athena Wingo**

Ghost of Christmas Present, Solicitor, Snuff Box, Undertaker: **Dan Woods**

THE CREATIVE TEAM:

This production is directed by **Eric Hill** and **David Adkins**, and the creative team consists of movement and choreography by **Isadora Wolfe**, scenic design by **Randall Parsons**, costume design by **Amy Avila**, lighting design by **Matthew E. Adelson**, sound and projections design by **Adam Lewis**, vocal coaching by **Kathy Jo Grover**, dialect coaching by **Jennifer Scapetis-Tycker** and stage management by **Alyssa Edwards**.

Eric Hill (Adaptor, Director) directed Berkshire Theatre Group's productions of *Copenhagen*; *Edward Albee's Seascape*; *Shirley Valentine*; *Holiday Memories*; *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?*; *Naked*; *At Home at the Zoo (The Zoo Story)*; *The Homecoming*; *Thoreau or, Return to Walden*; *Poe*; *Benefactors*; *A Christmas Carol*; *Oklahoma!*; *A Chorus Line*; *The Who's Tommy* as well as *Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs* at the Neil Ellenoff Stage at The Mount. Additional BTG directing credits include: *Macbeth*, *Endgame*, *Faith Healer*, *The Einstein Project*, *Amadeus*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, and *The Caretaker*. Previous acting credits include: *Deathtrap*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *Dimetos*, *The Father*, and Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol* (2006-2019).

David Adkins (Director) has performed in numerous productions at Berkshire Theatre Group over the last thirty years and is excited to join Eric Hill and the BTG *Christmas Carol* family! As Artistic Director of Education and Training, David has taught, coached and directed numerous productions and projects. He appeared this season in *Copenhagen*, also directed by Eric Hill, and *Photograph 51*, directed by David Auburn. He has worked On and Off Broadway, in major resident theatres across the country, and guest starred extensively on television, most recently for NBC on *New Amsterdam*. Others include: *Madam Secretary*, *Evil*, *Homeland*, *Blacklist*, *The Good Wife*, *Elementary*, *The Americans* (two seasons), *Happy-ish*, *Without a Trace*, *Law and Order*, *Law and Order SVU*, *Black Jax*: a pilot directed by Forest Whitaker, and the *Ben Franklin* mini-series on PBS.

Randall Parsons (Scenic Designer) Past seasons at BTG: *Songs For A New World*, dir: Gerry McIntyre; *Footloose*, dir: Kathy Jo Grover; *Godspell*, dir: Alan Filderman; *What the Jews Believe*, dir: Mark Harelik; *What We May Be*, *Coming Back Like a Song!*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and *White Christmas*, dir: Gregg Edelman; *Tarzan* and *Shrek The Musical*, dir: Travis Daly; *Copenhagen*, *Edward Albee's Seascape*, *Shirley Valentine*, *Holiday Memories*, *The Goat, Or Who Is Sylvia?*, *Naked* and *At Home at the Zoo*, dir: Eric Hill; *Lost Lake*, dir: Daisy Walker; *Finnian's Rainbow*, *A Thousand Clowns* and *Same Time, Next Year*, dir: Kyle Fabel; *The Mystery of Irma Vep* and *Deathtrap*, dir: Aaron Mark. Other recent designs include: *Pride and Prejudice*, dir: Jason O'Connell, *Playhouse on Park*; *Tinker to Evers to Chance* and *Home of the Brave*, dir: Sean Daniels, Merrimack Repertory Theatre; *A Little Night Music*, dir: Clayton Phillips, The Barnstormers Theatre; *The Bridges of Madison County*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Nine*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Big River* and *Saturday Night Fever*, dir: Jeffrey Sanzel, Theatre Three (as resident designer). Art Direction: *Tim Gunn's Guide to Style* (Bravo), *The Late Show with David Letterman* (CBS) and Mike Birbiglia's *Thank God for Jokes* (Netflix). MFA: NYU Tisch. Proud member of United Scenic Artists Local 829, IATSE.

Amy Avila (Costume Designer) is the Costume Coordinator for Berkshire Theatre Group and has costume designed various shows while working here, including *Disney's Moana JR.*, *The Secret Garden: Spring Version*, *Footloose* and four shows from *The Magic Treehouse* series. Other previous design credits include: *The Addams Family*, *How I Became a Pirate* and *Almost, Maine*. Other organizations worked for include: Sarasota Opera, Gulfshore Playhouse, and Nebraska Repertory Theatre. She received an MFA in Costume Design from Florida State University.

Matthew E. Adelson (Lighting Designer) Previously for BTG: *Copenhagen*, *Edward Albee's Seascape*, *Once*, *White Christmas*, *Shirley Valentine*, *Nina Simone: Four Women*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Holiday Memories*, *Godspell*, *A Christmas Carol* (2006 to 2019), *Shrek The Musical*, *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?*, *Naked*, *Tarzan*, *The Music Man*, *Fiorello!* (Stockbridge and New York), *Thoreau*, *Poe*, *Tommy*, *Babes in Arms*, *Red Remembers*, *The Einstein Project*, *Broadway By The Year*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *Caretaker*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Amadeus*, *Rat in the Skull*, *The Misanthrope*, *Floyd Collins*, *Talley's Folly*, *A Saint She Ain't* (Stockbridge and Westport), *Miss Julie*, *Dream Play*, *Love's Fire*, *Secret Lives of the Sexists* and *Life's A Dream*. He has also designed extensively throughout the Berkshires, for Great Barrington Public Theater (including *The Stones* and *Just Another Day* this season), Barrington Stage Company, Chester Theatre, Shakespeare & Company, Berkshire Playwrights Lab, Berkshire Opera, Jacob's Pillow and Williams College, among others. Previously this fall: *Savage/Love & Tongues* (Bardavon at the Woodstock Playhouse). Matthew is the Production Manager for Five College Dance, in the Pioneer Valley (Amherst, Hampshire, Mount Holyoke, Smith colleges and UMass Amherst) and was the Director of Production for the Mahaiwe Performing Arts Center from 2005 to 2014. MFA: Yale Drama School.

Adam Lewis (Sound & Projections Designer) is the Audio and Projections Supervisor here at BTG and is thrilled to be a part of this production. Other BTG Design credits include: *The Secret Garden: Spring Version*, *Footloose*, *Disney's Moana JR.*, and *Magic Tree House* touring shows. Other selected works include: *Every Brilliant Thing* (RITU Festival, Belgium), Purdue Theatre: *Nell Gwynn*, *Water By The Spoonful*, *In The Blood*. BA Purdue University. He would like to thank his family, friends, loved ones and wonderful colleagues at BTG for their support. He/Him.

Kathy Jo Grover (Vocal Coach) has worked with Berkshire Theatre Group for 17 years. She began her BTG career as an actor and part-time teacher. She has performed in a number of Berkshire Theatre Group's community and professional productions over the years. Kathy Jo began choreographing community and touring productions 10 (or so) years ago, as well as teaching in-school and after-school classes. Having spent 6 years as the Front of House Manager, she became Artistic Associate, Education in the summer of 2020. Since taking on that role, she has directed and choreographed the Elementary Touring shows and productions of *Footloose* and *Disney's Moana JR.*. She spent many years performing with her husband David and is honored to continue his legacy of sharing music, theatre and dance with young performers now and in the future. She/Her.

Jennifer Scapetis-Tyler (Resident Dialect Coach) Jennifer's coaching credits for Berkshire Theatre Group include: *Photograph 51*, *On Cedar Street*, *Dracula*, *Once*, *Shirley Valentine*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Holiday Memories*, *What the Jews Believe*, *Outside Mullingar*, *Church & State* and *A Christmas Carol*. Other coaching credits include work for Goodspeed Musicals, Hartford Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Bated Breath Theatre at 59E59 NYC, Bay Street Theater, Playhouse on Park West Hartford, Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, The Know Theatre of Cincinnati, Saratoga Shakespeare Company, Dirty Pretty Theatre at 45 Downstairs (Melbourne, Australia), The Rose Theatre Bankside (London), Oval Theatre (London) and the short film: *Crime Wave*. Jennifer teaches on the MFA and BFA Acting programs at University of Connecticut and coaches for the Connecticut Repertory Theatre. She holds an MFA in Voice Studies from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London and trained as an Actor at ArtsEd, London. Jennifer has performed in theatre, film, TV and audio drama/narration.

Alyssa Edwards (Stage Manager) Alyssa is so grateful to have worked on this wonderfully festive show. She has previously worked as a Stage Manager on *The Secret Garden: Spring Version* and as a Production Assistant on *Copenhagen*, *On Cedar Street* and *Photograph 51* at Berkshire Theatre Group. Additional credits include *Antigonick (Antigone)* and *Urinetown* at Pace University and *Heathers: The Musical* at Arizona Theatre Company.

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Safety Protocols

For safety protocols please visit BTG's COVID-19 information page:
www.berkshiretheatregroup.org/covid-19-information/

About Berkshire Theatre Group

The Colonial Theatre, founded in 1903, and Berkshire Theatre Festival, founded in 1928, are two of the oldest cultural organizations in the Berkshires. In 2010, under the leadership of Artistic Director and CEO Kate Maguire, the two organizations merged to form Berkshire Theatre Group (BTG). Berkshire Theatre Group's mission is to support wide ranging artistic exploration and acclaimed performances in theatre, dance, music and entertainment. Every year, BTG produces and presents performances to over 68,000 attendees and, through its Educational Program, serves over 10,000 Berkshire County school children annually. In July 2020, Berkshire Theatre was the first company in the United States to earn approval from Actors' Equity Association to produce a musical (*Godspell*) in the wake of the COVID-19 Pandemic.