



A Christmas Carol

By Charles Dickens

Adapted by Geoffrey Simon Brown

Directed by Stafford Arima & Jane MacFarlane

YOUNG COMPANY AUDITION NOTICE

Charles Dickens' famous tale of a miserly old man named Ebenezer Scrooge. On Christmas Eve, he is visited by three spirits who give him a new perspective on his life by silently witnessing important events of his past, present, and potential future.

CALGARY CONTRACT DATES:

1st Day of Rehearsal: Tuesday November 4, 2025

Opening: Friday November 28, 2025

Closing: Wednesday Dec. 31, 2025

*Rehearsals are Tuesday through Sunday. Monday is the day off

** All Young Company members must be 15 years old or younger on the first day of rehearsal

AUDITION INFORMATION

AUDITIONS IN CALGARY: May 25, 2025, from 11:00 am – 4:00 pm at Theatre Calgary Rehearsal Hall

SUBMISSION PROCEDURE FOR CALGARY AUDITIONS:

- We are currently only considering submissions from Calgary-based actors between the ages of 7 and 15.
- All submissions should include ONE PDF FILE with both a Headshot and a Resume (in that order). Please label the file LAST NAME_FIRST NAME.
- Email submission to auditions@theatrecalgary.com. Write "Carol: Young Company" in the subject line and indicate the role you are interested in reading for in the body of the email. We accept online submissions only.
- Audition materials will be made available to selected Artists.
- While we thank all those who submit, only those selected to audition will be contacted.
- Submission deadline is Friday May 9th, 2025, at 6:00 pm (MT)

CHARACTER BREAKDOWN

The pronouns and ages listed are descriptions of the characters. Actors are welcome to express interest for any roles, regardless of gender or age. Dancing is an asset for all members of the Young Company. All characters have British accents.

ROLES (6)

Martha Cratchit / As Cast (She/Her, looks 13 – 15, any ethnicity) – MARTHA is the oldest of the Cratchit children, steady and dependable, a great support to her mother.

Peter Cratchit / As Cast (He/Him, looks 12 – 14, any ethnicity) – PETER is the oldest boy of the Cratchit children, he is ready to be an adult and pull his weight for the family.

Belinda Cratchit / As Cast (She/Her, looks 10- 12, any ethnicity) – BELINDA is mother's little helper at home.

Ben Cratchit / As Cast (He/Him, looks 8 - 10, any ethnicity) – BEN is the always hungry Cratchit child.

Margret Cratchit / As Cast (She/Her, looks 8 - 10, any ethnicity) – MARGRET is Ben's twin and attached at his hip.

Tim Cratchit* / As Cast (small boy or girl, looks under 8, any ethnicity) – TIM is the youngest of the Cratchit children, he suffers from an illness that has caused great concern for his parents, he is much loved by his older siblings.

* We are looking for a young actor with lived experience of disability and/or chronic illness for this role. Hoping to cast two children to share the load of this role.

ADDITIONAL ROLES (2)

Fan (Scrooge's sister) (She/Her, looks 9 – 11, any ethnicity) and Boy Scrooge (He/Him, looks 10 – 13, any ethnicity) will be chosen from the Cratchit group auditions.

EQUITY, DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION COMMITMENTS

Theatre Calgary is committed to equity, diversity, and inclusion, and is actively seeking to dismantle inequity in the theatre sector. We encourage applications from our diverse community which includes gender non-conforming people, people of colour, indigenous peoples, people with disabilities, people who are neurodiverse, people of all sexual orientations, and all others who face systematic marginalization. For more on Theatre Calgary's Equity, Inclusivity, and Diversity commitments, please visit: <https://www.theatrecalgary.com/artists-and-education/3550-initiative/>.

In the spirit of reconciliation, Theatre Calgary acknowledges that we live, work, and create on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Îyâxe Nakoda Nations, and the Métis Nation of Alberta (Districts 5 & 6). They were the original occupants of this land and continue to be here to this day. Theatre Calgary is grateful to have the opportunity to present in this territory.

Accessibility: All Theatre Calgary facilities are accessible. Including rehearsal halls, performance spaces, and administrative offices. Our building is equipped with elevators and numerous accessible washrooms. The Max Bell Theatre stage and backstage are accessible to artists that have mobility access needs; the backstage area includes elevator access, accessible washrooms (including roll in showers), and an accessible dressing room.

To All Potential Young Company Members (and Parents):

Being a member of the Young Company of “*A Christmas Carol*” can be a wonderful experience but it is important that you know what expectations there are of you and especially understand the time commitment involved.

Theatre Calgary is a professional theatre company, and we will treat you professionally. It is important that you are ready to go when you are called for rehearsal as the chaperone will determine a call time for the Young Company a few minutes before they are needed. You also must attend every rehearsal for which you are called. This may mean that you will miss some fun activities in your regular life but that is part of the commitment. We rehearse Tuesday through Sunday and Monday is our only day off. We try to rehearse with the Young Company later in the day on school days (except the first day when we would like everyone the whole day). Sometimes it does not work out, but we try. We do this to help limit the time that you need to miss school as later in the process it cannot be avoided.

We start rehearsals on Tuesday, Nov. 4th, 10 am – 6 pm, and the play runs until Wednesday Dec 31. Tuesday thru Sunday we will rehearse 11:00 am – 7:00 pm on weekdays and 10:00 am – 6:00 pm on weekends while we are in the rehearsal hall. Once we move rehearsals to the stage, around Nov 18 until the show opens on Nov. 28, you will miss a substantial amount of school. We also work until late at night while we work through the technical elements of the show which makes getting up for school in the morning difficult and possibly not advisable. After Opening, there are up to 4 student matinees that require you to miss school. Because of all of this, it is crucial that you have the support of your teacher and your school. There will be time to do homework and your chaperone will encourage that, but the process can be quite tiring. The adult company gets to have time off, but you will still have school and homework, so your job is actually more difficult – but don’t tell them.

That being said, it is a great experience! You work with professionals throughout our company. We do our best to include you and treat you as equals while remembering that you have different needs (such as you need to do your homework even if you don’t feel like it). The Young Company for “*A Christmas Carol*” is a group of 8 who can become quite close over the course of the show. You have your own chaperone who is responsible for you while you are at the theatre and helps to make sure that you are where you need to be.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to ask me as I have worked with young performers in many shows. I will also be around during the process to look after concerns. And play your mother, literally, as Mrs. Cratchit.

Thank you and have fun,

Anna Cummer

Associate Artistic Director / Mrs. Cratchit

Audition Scene – A Christmas Carol

*Note: please memorize all of the roles except Alice.

(At the Cratchit home. Preparing for Christmas dinner.)

BEN: Mum! Mum!

MARGRET: It smells so good, mum!

ALICE: Oh. Oh, careful. Slow down.

BEN: Mum! Mum! Did you hear me?

ALICE: Yes. Yes. Hullo, sweetheart.

BEN: Hi

ALICE: Here. Come here, both of you. Set the table. *(Ben and Margret start to set the table then get distracted)*

(Peter enters)

ALICE: Oh, my goodness, look how handsome.

PETER: Really?

(Belinda enters with the potatoes)

BELINDA: Mum!

PETER: Maybe I should go down to Hyde Park and promenade!

ALICE: That sounds lovely, Peter. Will you set the table first?

PETER: Yes, mum.

BELINDA: Mum. Where's Martha?

MARGRET: She said she would braid our hair.

PETER: I'll braid your hair.

MARGRET: No, you won't.

BEN: Mum.

PETER: Yes, I will.

BEN: Mum.

MARGRET: You don't know how to do it right.

PETER: Yes, I do.

BEN: Can I have a potato?

ALICE: Not yet, darling. Belinda, would you set up the chairs?

BELINDA: Yes, mum.

PETER: Braiding hair is like this right? *(He tries to tickle Margret and she runs away)*

ALICE: Coming through with the gravy!

BEN: Can I have some gravy?

(Martha comes home)

MARTHA: Oh, it smells delicious in here!

MARGRET: Martha! Martha!

BEN: Martha! There's such a goose, Martha!

MARGRET: Martha! Did you smell the goose, Martha?

MARTHA: Hullo, little ones!

BEN: Did you smell the goose?

MARTHA: I didn't smell the goose yet.

ALICE: Why, bless your heart alive!

MARTHA: Hi, mum.

ALICE: How late you are! Oh, you're frozen!

MARTHA: We'd a great deal of work to finish up last night and had to clear away this morning.

ALICE: Sit down before the fire, love.

MARTHA: No, no, I'm fine, mum. Who on earth set this table?

PETER: I resent that!

BELINDA: Father's coming! Father's coming!

MARGRET: Hide, Martha, hide!

MARTHA: Why?

PETER: Go under the table!

(Martha hides under the table. Bob and Tiny Tim arrive.)

ALICE: Merry Christmas, Tim. Did you have a good time at church?

TIM: Yes. And father stopped to let me watch the children play.

ALICE: You'll be out there with them soon enough when your energy's back!

TIM: And I'm gonna build the biggest snowman in the world.

BEN: Yeah!

ALICE: Where would you put him?

TIM: In here.

(End scene)

Song Selection:

Silent Night

Father Joseph Mohr (1818)

Silent night, holy night.
All is calm, all is bright.
Round yon Virgin, Mother and Child.
Holy infant so tender and mild,
Sleep in heavenly peace,
Sleep in heavenly peace.

Resume Example:

Lucy McNaught

Parents: Rick and Joanne McNaught

403-555-5555 (home)

mymomsaddress@email.com (Joanne)

Age: 10 (July 17, 2015)

Height: 4'-6"

Hair: Blonde

Address: 220 9th Avenue SE, Calgary, AB, T2G 5C4

School: Ethel M Johnson Elementary

Experience

- Has taken 2 years of ballet and one year of jazz dance which included a final performance at the Jack Singer Concert Hall.
- Sings in the Children's Choir at Southwood United Church.
- Speaking roles in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" and "Three Wise Men and a Baby" at Southwood United Church (Christmas show).
- Had a speaking role in her school's spring concert (narrator)
- Went to Quest Theatre Summer Camp last year and will go again this summer.
- Takes piano lessons (3 years).

Interests

- Gymnastics
- Reading
- Making crafts
- Camping
- Girl Guides
- Seeing plays – Lucy has seen a lot of plays in lots of theatres and enjoys how they are different. Lucy has also seen ballets and operas.