

*theatre:*  
**CALGARY**

WRITTEN BY

**CHARLES DICKENS**



**CHRISTMAS**

**CAROL**



ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY

**GEOFFREY SIMON BROWN**

**NOVEMBER 28 — DECEMBER 31, 2025**

This production is made possible by the generous support of The Cal Wenzel Family Foundation

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# WELCOME

Each November, Theatre Calgary's *A Christmas Carol* reminds us why this timeless story continues to shine. Charles Dickens' tale of redemption, compassion, and hope feels as alive and essential today as it did over a century ago—perhaps even more so in a world that yearns for generosity and connection.

Year after year, we gather to watch Scrooge's transformation and are reminded that change is possible, that kindness matters, and that even the coldest heart can find warmth again.

This annual tradition has become part of Calgary's heartbeat—a shared experience that bridges generations, faiths, and backgrounds. Theatre, at its best, reflects who we are and who we can become. It offers us a space to dream together, to imagine a better tomorrow, and to leave the theatre a little more open-hearted than when we arrived.

We are endlessly proud to call Calgary home—a city of resilience, creativity, and generosity. The support of this community allows Theatre Calgary to continue creating experiences that bring people together and ignite conversation, joy, and empathy. As the snow falls and the lights of the season glow, may we be reminded of how vital the arts are to our collective well-being. As we celebrate this season together, may *A Christmas Carol* inspire us to carry its message of kindness and transformation into the year ahead.

From all of us at Theatre Calgary, thank you for keeping the flame of community and creativity burning bright. Here's to a healthy, joy-filled, and hope-lit 2026. Happy Holidays!

- **STAFFORD ARIMA**  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

- **STEPHEN SCHROEDER**  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

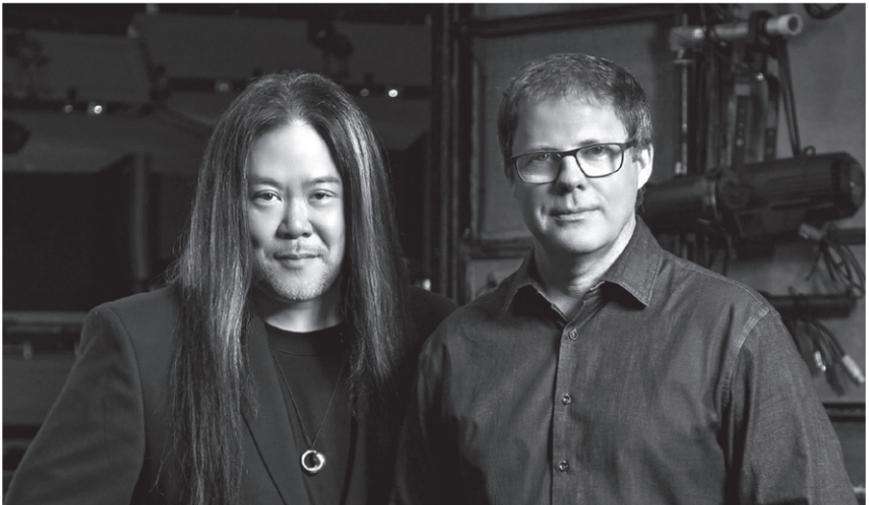


Photo by Trudie Lee



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## GENERAL INFORMATION

- **Cameras and audio/visual recording devices are not permitted in the theatre.**
- **Video and audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.**
- We ask that you please refrain from using your cell phone, smart watch, or any other digital device, in any capacity, during the performance.
- Good theatre etiquette benefits everyone. Please do not talk or unwrap candies during the performance, remain in your seat until the curtain call is finished and the house lights have been turned on.
- Babies are not permitted in the theatre.
- We also offer relaxed performances. For more information, visit our website.
- Assisted listening devices for the hard of hearing are available at the coat check.
- For first aid assistance, see the house manager, or nearest usher.

## SAFETY AND COMFORT

- At Theatre Calgary, we recognize our responsibility to have practical guidelines in place to ensure our performances are safe and enjoyable for everyone. To learn more about our current Safety and Comfort protocols go to [theatre Calgary.com/comfort-and-safety](https://theatre Calgary.com/comfort-and-safety) or scan here:



# PLAYWRIGHT'S NOTES



The first time I read the original novella of *A Christmas Carol* I was struck by how timely it felt. Even though he was writing so specifically about the time he was living in – almost 200 years ago – it feels like Dickens tapped into something that we all seem to forget and need to be reminded of again and again: to pay attention to those around us; that we all belong to the same world.

When I first adapted *A Christmas Carol* for Theatre Calgary back in 2019, I spent a lot of time thinking about how, in an increasingly individualized world, with

technology driven isolation and polarized politics dividing friends and family, it feels so vital that we can come together around a story to remind us of our shared humanity. Of course, over the past five years – living through a pandemic, through the eruption of devastating global conflicts, through cost of living spiking at an alarming rate – those things have been put into hyperdrive. We have spent years separated from family, separated from friends, from community, and have come out the other side somehow more divided than before. I know so many people who have been left feeling scared, feeling angry, and those feelings can make it that much harder to feel connected to the larger world in which we live.

And so, in this time of uncertainty, I feel extraordinarily grateful to be able to gather together once more alongside such a large and inspiring band of Calgary artists and to share this production with our city again. So, regardless of whether this play is a yearly tradition for you, or you are experiencing it for the first time, I hope you can find comfort and reflection in this story about redemption, resiliency, and change.

Thank you to Theatre Calgary for this tremendous opportunity and thank you for coming.

Merry Christmas and enjoy the show.

- **GEOFFREY SIMON BROWN**  
PLAYWRIGHT

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## LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

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, the Métis Nation of Alberta, Districts 5 & 6, and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta. 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.

theatre:  
CALGARY

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MUSIC BY

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BASED ON THE NOVEL

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Max Bell Theatre at Werklund Centre  
November 28 - December 31, 2025



presents

# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

BY **CHARLES DICKENS**

ADAPTED FOR THE STAGE BY **GEOFFREY SIMON BROWN**

Director	<b>STAFFORD ARIMA</b>
Associate Director, Voice & Dialect Coach	<b>JANE MACFARLANE</b>
Choreographer	<b>JESSE ROBB</b>
Associate Choreographer, Dance Captain	<b>GREG PEMBER</b>
Set & Video Design	<b>SCOTT REID</b>
Costume Design	<b>DEITRA KALYN*</b>
Lighting Design	<b>KEVIN LAMOTTE*</b>
Associate Lighting Design	<b>ANTON DEGROOT</b>
Composer & Music Director	<b>ALLISON LYNCH</b>
Associate Sound Design & Music Director	<b>DARREN YOUNG</b>
Assistant Voice & Dialect Coach	<b>JESSICA ECKSTADT</b>
Additional Orchestrations	<b>JEREMY SPENCER</b>
Dramaturg	<b>JENNA TURK</b>
Additional Dramaturgy	<b>JENNA RODGERS</b>
Stage Manager	<b>KENNEDY GREENE</b>
Assistant Stage Managers	<b>MICHELLE HARRISON, CHANDLER ONTKEAN</b>
Apprentice Stage Manager	<b>NICOLE OSCAR</b>

*The video or audio recording of this performance by any means is strictly prohibited.*

\*Indicated designers on this production are represented by the  
Associated Designers of Canada, IATSE Local ADC659.

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Theatre Calgary is a member of the Professional Association of Canadian Theatres and operates within the jurisdiction of the Canadian Theatre Agreement. Theatre Calgary employs technicians under a collective agreement with the I.A.T.S.E. Theatre Calgary is a resident company of Werklund Centre, operating out of Werklund Centre's Max Bell Theatre.



*theatre:*  
**CALGARY** **CREATIVE LEARNING**



**PD DAYS**

*Musical Theatre*  
November 28, 2025  
& February 27, 2026

**SPRING BREAK**

*Drama Camp*  
March 23-27, 2026

**SUMMER PROGRAMS**

*Theatre Games & Acting Intensive*  
July 13-17, 2026  
*Musical Theatre & Play Creation*  
July 20-31, 2026



Photos by Ben Laird



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*theatre:*  
**CALGARY**

**50/50**



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**AGLC: RAFFLE # 752200**

# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

## CAST (in alphabetical order)

Jacob Marley, Mr. Fezziwig, Old Joe	<b>MARK BELLAMY</b>
Tiny Tim	<b>MAX CHRISTENSEN</b>
Alice Cratchit, Bethel	<b>ANNA CUMMER</b>
Fan, Want	<b>CECILIA CURRIE</b>
Emily, Caroline	<b>EMILY DALLAS</b>
Belinda Cratchit, Pickle	<b>EMILY DEL ROSARIO</b>
Dick Wilkins, Topper, Simon, Koch	<b>CHRISTOPHER DUTHIE</b>
Boy Scrooge, Thomas, Ignorance	<b>DEACON EDWARD</b>
Fred, Walton	<b>DANIEL FONG</b>
Gertie Fezziwig, Ethel, Mrs. Charnock	<b>KAREN JOHNSON-DIAMOND</b>
Fiddler	<b>ALLISON LYNCH</b>
Ebenezer Scrooge	<b>DOUG MCKEAG</b>
Martha Cratchit, Jane	<b>NICOLE PHENIX</b>
Ben Cratchit	<b>ANEEQA RAJABALI</b>
Margret Cratchit, Molly, Jill	<b>ESHIQA RAJABALI</b>
Ensemble, Ebenezer Scrooge Understudy	<b>LUIGI RISCALDINO</b>
Peter Cratchit, Steerforth	<b>MAXWELL SABĂU</b>
Young Scrooge, Sam, Arnault	<b>CONNOR SUART</b>
Bob Cratchit, Mr. Creakle	<b>MIKE TAN</b>
Christmas Past, Rose	<b>JAMIE TOGNAZZINI</b>
Belle, Penny, Mrs. Dilber	<b>KELSEY VERZOTTI</b>
Christmas Present	<b>MARSHALL VIELLE</b>
Swing	<b>BRETT DAHL</b>
Swing	<b>JESSICA ECKSTADT</b>
Swing	<b>KAITLYN OLFERT</b>
Swing	<b>GREGORY PEMBER</b>

## SETTING

1843, London, England.

*A Christmas Carol* has one 20-minute intermission.

Head of Sound	<b>BRONWYN BOWLBY</b>
Head of Lighting	<b>CATHARINE CRUMB</b>
Head Stage Carpenter	<b>TESS COWIE</b>
Head Dressers	<b>JULI ELKIW, REBECCA TOON</b>
Head of Video	<b>DEREK MILLER</b>
Head of Wigs	<b>CHRISTA HOEFLING</b>
Assistant Head of Sound	<b>MICHAEL GESY</b>
Assistant Head Dresser	<b>CHELSEA BREWER</b>
Stage Hands	<b>LAUREN ACHESON, JACKSON BUCHANAN, BEN MOORE, JOSHUA SEMOS</b>
Sound Technicians	<b>AARIC INNES, TARA KIELEY, TRAVIS MCKINNON</b>
Dressers	<b>KATIE ROUNTREE, KIERRA VOLK</b>
Wardrobe Maintenance	<b>BEN TONER</b>
Wig Runners	<b>ERIN HAYES, MELISSA SAVINKOFF</b>
Young Company Supervisor	<b>CONRAD BELAU</b>

# TOONIES FOR TURKEYS

Once again this year, at the conclusion of the performance we will be accepting donations in our lobby for our annual Toonies for Turkeys campaign to support local families in need. 100% of all donations collected go directly to the Calgary Food Bank to help fight hunger in Calgary.

You can also donate online at:  
[theatrecalgary.com/toonies](http://theatrecalgary.com/toonies)

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Our thanks to The Cal Wenzel Family Foundation for supporting our production of *A Christmas Carol* and to Shane Homes for their donation to the Toonies for Turkeys initiative.

# CAST



## MARK BELLAMY

### Jacob Marley, Mr. Fezziwig, Old Joe

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Director – *Noises Off*; Assistant Director/Choreographer – *Rough Crossing*; Actor – *A Christmas Carol* (6 productions), *Camelot*, *Anne of Green Gables* (1994), *Evita* (1993), *Pal Joey*. Recent Directing credits: *Clue* (New West); *Doris & Ivy*, *Becoming Dr. Ruth* (TNW); *Deathtrap*, *Priscilla Queen of the Desert* (Stage West). Mark is a Calgary based actor/director who has worked extensively across Canada,

as well as the US and Britain, and is the proud recipient of several Betty Mitchell Awards, the Harry & Martha Cohen Award, The Greg Bond Award, as well as the Queen Elizabeth II Diamond Jubilee Medal. He is thrilled to be back onstage with the company of *A Christmas Carol* celebrating the festive season with friends old and new. Onwards and Upwards, and Happy Shenanigans to all!



## MAX CHRISTENSEN

### Tiny Tim

For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2024). Max is thrilled to return for his second year as Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol*! A passionate young performer, he began acting at an early age, appearing in the film *It Stains the Sands Red* (2016), as well as *ScaredyCats*, an online horror web series. Earlier this year, he starred in the horror film *Night of the Reaper*, now streaming on Shudder. Max is grateful for the opportunity to bring joy to audiences, and share his love of storytelling on stage once again!



## ANNA CUMMER

### Alice Cratchit, Bethel

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *Dial M for Murder* (Assistant Director), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (adaptation); Actor – *Admissions*, *A Christmas Carol* (2018-19, 2023-24), *Noises Off*, *Twelfth Night* (2018), *The Shoplifters*, *Pride & Prejudice*; Currently Theatre Calgary's Associate Artistic Director. An actor and playwright, Anna's plays have been produced at ATP, Shakespeare Company, Vertigo Theatre, and the Richmond

Gateway (BC). She also works in voice-over, and film & television as an actor and puppeteer (*Fraggle Rock: Back to the Rock*). Anna has been nominated for numerous acting awards with a few trophies making their way to her mantle. She is thrilled to be back on stage helping to tell one of her favourite stories. Thank you to her family for all the support. This would not be possible without their love.

# CAST



## **CECILIA CURRIE**

### **Fan, Want**

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: Fan, Ben, Want in *A Christmas Carol* (2024), Little Bertie in *Beaches the Musical*. Elsewhere: Summer Hathaway in *School of Rock*, Jemima Potts in *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (Storybook Theatre). Film/TV: Phoebe in *Street Pilot* (Numera Films). As a grade six student, Cecilia is thrilled to be rejoining the *Christmas Carol* cast once again. A ballet student from the age of four, theatre has been an exciting next step in

her artistic journey. When not on stage you can find her singing, dancing, reading, studying all things dragons, and building Lego. She sends thanks to the team for their tremendous support and love to her family. Enjoy the show!



## **EMILY DALLAS**

### **Emily, Caroline**

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *Dial M for Murder*, *A Christmas Carol* (2024), *Beaches the Musical*, *As You Like It* (Shakespeare by the Bow). Elsewhere: *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Persephone); *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Arts Club); *A Midsummer Nights Dream* (Bard on the Beach); *As You Like It* (Citadel/ MTC); *Once* (Citadel); *Home for the Holidays* (Lunchbox); *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Stage

West). Emily is also a passionate teaching artist, and has taught with companies such as Theatre Calgary, Bard on the Beach, and the Youth Singers of Calgary. She has trained with the Fiasco Theatre Conservatory, and holds a Theatre Performance Diploma (MRU), BFA Musical Theatre (PACE University), and MFA Creative Writing (UBC). Love to her family and friends for making all things possible.



## **EMILY DEL ROSARIO**

### **Belinda Cratchit, Pickle**

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: *Once on This Island*, *The Music Man*, *Singers @ Snowfall*, and *Annie the Musical* (StoryBook Theatre); *The Sound of Music* (Painted Fish Theatre).

Outside of theatre, Emily is an aspiring fashion designer who also enjoys jiu-jitsu, basketball and volunteering. She extends her thanks to her family and close friends for their love and support. Lastly, Emily wants to thank her younger brother for being her audience during her living room performances.

# CAST



## CHRISTOPHER DUTHIE

### Dick Wilkins, Topper, Simon

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *Dial M for Murder*, *Blithe Spirit* (u/s), *A Christmas Carol* (2007-09, 2019, 2023-24), *As You Like It* (Swing), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (2022, Betty Mitchell nom). Select Credits: *Struck*, *Reverie* (Ghost River Theatre); *Hamlet Frequency*, *Henry VI Part III* (Shakespeare Company); *The Thin Man*, *n00b* (Vertigo Theatre); *52 Pick-Up* (Lunchbox Theatre); *Smash Cut Freeze*, *Radioheaded II* (One Yellow Rabbit);

*The Goat* (ATP). Select Film & TV: *Unspeakable: The Murder of JonBenét Ramsey* (JB Paramount), *The Abandons* (Netflix), *Under the Banner of Heaven* (FX), *The Ties That Bind* (RoadWest Pictures/Reckseidler Films). Christopher is also a playwright (*A Dinner Party*, *n00b*), film director (*Self-Tape*), screenwriter (*Bladder Shy*) and arts educator with a number of local organizations. He is eternally grateful for his wife, Alexandra, and their son, Harrison.



## DEACON EDWARD

### Boy Scrooge, Thomas, Ignorance

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2024). Deacon is thrilled to be returning to reprise the role of Boy Scrooge. He sends all his thanks and adoration to the amazing cast and crew of *A Christmas Carol* and is so excited to perform with them again this year. He is a long-term member of the Calgary Boys Choir and is looking forward to touring internationally with them in 2026. When not performing, Deacon plays hockey in

the winter, soccer in the summer, and recently started playing the trumpet. He would like to thank his family and friends for all their support and wishes everyone the joy and peace this holiday season!



## DANIEL FONG

### Fred, Walton

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Actor - *Legally Blonde*, *A Christmas Carol* (2018, 2023-24), *Forgiveness*; Assistant Director - *The Play That Goes Wrong* (TC/Citadel/RMTC). Daniel is a mixed-race actor, singer and voice-over performer born and raised in Calgary. He is proud to be a guest of the long tradition of storytelling in the Treaty 7 region of Alberta. Daniel was the recipient of the 2020 Stephen Hair Emerging Artist Award.

Elsewhere: *The Three Musketeers* (Citadel); *The Brothers Paranormal*, *Jekyll & Hyde* (Vertigo); *Romeo & Juliet* (Bard on the Beach); *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat*, *The Skin of Our Teeth* (Rosebud); *US* (The Globe); *Alberta Kitchen Party*, *The Lion The Witch And The Wardrobe*, *Fortune Falls*, *The Circle* (ATP). Thanks to his family and his beautiful wife, Nadia and beautiful baby J.

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We're proud to support  
Theatre Calgary and  
this year's performance  
of *A Christmas Carol*.

Happy Holidays from everyone at McCarthy Tétrault LLP.



# CAST



## KAREN JOHNSON-DIAMOND

### Gertie Fezziwig, Ethel, Mrs. Charnock

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2019, 2021, 2023-24), *The Crucible*, *Jake and the Kid*. Karen is a Calgary based actor, director, and improviser and recently performed with her son Griffin Cork in Rosebud Theatre's *For the Pleasure of Seeing Her Again*, and New West Theatre's *Clue!*. Karen's mom doesn't like biographies that are just 'lists' so here's your yearly Neil Diamond facts: A) His birthday is January 24th, how many

shopping days are left? B) He's written other songs besides *Sweet Caroline*. They are also really good. Next up, Karen heads to Kamloops to perform in *Casey and Diana* and then to Rosebud to direct a student production of *Damien*. Love to Kevin, Griffin, Hailey and Neil Diamond. Thank you for supporting live theatre.



## ALLISON LYNCH

### Fiddler; Composer & Music Director

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary (selected): *A Christmas Carol* (2011-21, 2023-24). Allison is thrilled to perform in her 15th season of *A Christmas Carol!* She has appeared on stages across Canada and internationally including The Stratford Festival, NAC, The Grand, The Drayton Festival, Arts Club, Vertigo, Persephone, Rainbow Stage, Catalyst, OYR, Chemainus, The Mayfield, Lunchbox, Theatre Junction, Shakespeare Company, ATP, Ground Zero, Chemainus,

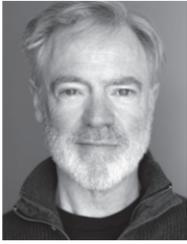
Forté, and with the Calgary and Malaysian Philharmonic. As composer/sound designer: 30+ productions including the Stratford Festival, the 2022 SOCAN Awards, and the Calgary Stampede SAM Centre. Awards: Five Betty Mitchell Awards, The Richard March Award (Stratford), Avenue Magazine 2024 Top 40 Under 40, Calgary Critics/Betty/Jessie/AMPIA nominations, Next Generation Indie Film Award nomination. Download *Little Flames*, written for *A Christmas Carol*, on all streaming platforms, and see Allison onstage in 2026 at the Stratford Festival. [www.allisonlynchmusic.com](http://www.allisonlynchmusic.com)

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Theatre Calgary gratefully acknowledges the support provided by the City of Calgary through Calgary Arts Development, the Government of Alberta through the Alberta Foundation for the Arts, the Government of Canada through the Canada Council, Canadian Heritage, and all corporate and private contributors.



# CAST



## **DOUG MCKEAG**

### **Ebenezer Scrooge**

For Theatre Calgary: Over 30 productions, including: *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Berlin to Broadway with Kurt Weill*, *God of Carnage*, *Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville*, *Enron*, *Evita*, *Cabaret*, *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, *Into the Woods*, *Twelfth Night* and many *A Christmas Carols*. Elsewhere: *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*, *Toad of Toad Hall*, *Amadeus*, *Candide* (ATP); *Little Mercy's First Murder*, *Lord Arthur Savile's Crime*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Vertigo); *X-Ray*, *The Alan Parkinson's Project*, *DOOM 2012* (Ghost River); *Carmen*, *Die Fledermaus* (Calgary Opera); *Chimerica* (RMTC/Canstage); *Late Company*, *The Cottage*, *The New Canadian Curling Club* (RMTC); *Austentatious* (Forte); and dozens of performances with the Calgary Philharmonic and other orchestras worldwide, from Singapore to the Hollywood Bowl. Doug is the proud owner of "BonnyBoom", Calgary's new arts playground in Bonnybrook, and home to the Old Trout Puppet Workshop. Doug dedicates this year's performance to the memory of the radiant Kathi Kerbes, who played Mrs. Fezziwig from 2006-09.



## **NICOLE PHENIX**

### **Martha Cratchit, Jane**

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2024). Elsewhere: *Once on This Island*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Elf the Musical* (Storybook Theatre). Film and TV: various small and background roles. Aside from acting, Nicole is an avid musician who enjoys piano, guitar, singing and writing her own music.



## **ANEEQA RAJABALI**

### **Ben Cratchit**

Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: *School of Rock*, *Miscast*, *Singers @ Snowfall*, *Beauty and the Beast* (Storybook Theatre); *Beauty Pageant* (Cannonball Festival - CYPT). Aneeqa would like to thank her parents for bringing her to rehearsal every single day, and for all the support they have given, as this would not be possible without them. She would also like to thank Storybook Theatre for helping her find her passion for theatre, for believing in her, and showing her a place of belonging. And last, but not least, thank you to Theatre Calgary for this amazing opportunity.

# CAST



## **ESHIQA RAJABALI**

### **Margret Cratchit, Molly, Jill**

Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: *School of Rock*, *Once on This Island*, *Singers @ Snowfall*, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* (Storybook Theatre). Eshiq is thankful for all the opportunities Storybook Theatre has given her so far, as well as the opportunity to be in this amazing production at Theatre Calgary. She also thanks her parents, who drive her to all her rehearsals and shows!



## **LUIGI RISCALDINO**

### **Ensemble, Ebenezer Scrooge Understudy**

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2024), *The Light in the Piazza* (Italian coach). Elsewhere: *The Dark Lady* (Lunchbox Theatre & Shakespeare Company); *Sleuth, Murder on the Orient Express* (Vertigo); *Wolf on the Ringstrasse*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Of Mice and Men* (Spirit Fire Theatre); *King Lear*, *Titus Andronicus*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Shakespeare Company). Film/TV: *Billy the Kid* (MGM+); *Lumi; Foul; Fortunate Son* (CBC); *In Plainview*, *Tin Star* (Prime); *Wynonna Earp* (Syfy); *Hell on Wheels* (AMC). Luigi is excited to be back with this Carol cast and crew for another magical trip through Christmas past, present, and future! Love to my family!



## **MAXWELL SABĂU**

### **Peter Cratchit, Steerforth**

(he/him) Theatre Calgary debut. Maxwell was most recently in the Calgary Stampede's iconic Grandstand Show, singing and dancing with The Young Canadians. He wants to thank his teachers from the Young Canadians School of Performing Arts for their guidance and inspiration. Youth theatre roles include: *The Wizard of Oz*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *The Sound of Music* (The Painted Fish Theatre); *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, and *The Music Man* (Storybook Theatre); *Magician's Nephew* (Imagine Performing Arts). Deepest gratitude to all the wonderful magic makers of *A Christmas Carol* for this incredible opportunity. A Dream Come True!

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# CAST



## CONNOR SUART

### Young Scrooge, Sam, Arnault

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Big Davey in *Billy Elliot The Musical*. Elsewhere: Jesus Christ in *Badlands Passion Play* (Badlands Amphitheatre); Richmond/Ensemble in *Richard III* (Shakespeare Company). Film/TV: Nate Champion in *Kevin Costner's The West* (History Channel); Brody in *Murder Runs in The Family* (Lifetime); and many local commercials including Original Joe's, Bow Valley College and Lux Windows! A graduate of University

of Alberta's BFA Acting program, Connor is delighted to be joining this tremendous cast and crew this season. He would like to thank his family, friends, his two cats Georgia and Theodore, and most of all his partner Robyn, whose humour, passion and kindness inspires him everyday. Next up: *Wildwoman* at Alberta Theatre Projects this Spring. And thank you for joining us for this tremendous tradition! Insta: @csuart



## MIKE TAN

### Bob Cratchit, Mr. Creakle

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *The Mousetrap*, *A Christmas Carol* (2017-18, 2021, 2023). Mike is a Treaty 7-based theatre artist and photographer. He has worked as a co-creator in devised theatre creation ensembles with Downstage, Theatre Junction, Major Matt Mason Collective, and Ghost River Theatre; an acting ensemble member at the Banff Centre Playwrights Lab workshoping new plays from around the world; and as an actor at Vertigo Theatre,

Alberta Theatre Projects, Lunchbox Theatre, and Theatre Calgary. Mike also works as a documentary photographer for arts and culture organizations, events, and independent artists. He lives with his loves, Di, Aiden; and their cat babies, Frankie and Prismo.



## JAMIE TOGNAZZINI

### Christmas Past, Rose

(they/them/she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2019-21, 2023-24). Elsewhere: *Indians and Cowboys* (Making Treaty 7/ High Performance Rodeo); *Blackhorse* (Caravan Farm Theatre); *Wyrd AKA Hags! Hags! Hags!* (Atomic Vaudeville/Larrikin); *Peter and the Wolf* (Old Trout Puppet Workshop); *Naughty but Nice 9 Live!* (Forte Musical Theatre); *Gold Rush Redux & ModernTimes Redux* (The Grand YYC); *GIANT* (Ghost River Theatre); *Catalyst*

*Theatre's Fortune Falls* (ATP/Citadel); *The Drowning Girls* (Vertigo Theatre); *Evil Dead: the Musical* (Ground Zero/Hit&Myth); *Moon, Moon No Moon*, and *Calgary, I Love You but You're Killing Me* (One Yellow Rabbit). Jamie T's an award winning transdisciplinary artist, especially enthusiastic about music/voice, clown/eccentric performance, and making puppets/costumes. An Incubator artist for Calgary's Festival of Animated Objects, Jamie will debut a solo show in 2026.

# CAST



## **KELSEY VERZOTTI**

### **Belle, Penny, Mrs. Dilber**

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *Legally Blonde*, *A Christmas Carol* (2024), *Mary and Max A New Musical*. Kelsey is a Betty Award-winning performer who, since graduating from Sheridan College's Music Theatre Performance Program, has appeared on stages across the country. Select credits include: *Anne of Green Gables* (Charlottetown Festival); *Dion: A Rock Opera*, *The Antipodes* (Coal Mine Theatre); *Pollyanna* (Theatre Aquarius); *Bittergirl*, *Anne of*

*Green Gables* (Thousand Islands Playhouse); *Kelly v. Kelly*, *Life After* (CanStage/ Musical Stage Co.); *Gaslight* (Vertigo Theatre); *A Christmas Carol* (Shaw Festival); *Into the Woods* (Talk is Free Theatre); *The Adventures of Pinocchio* (YPT); *Ai Yah – Sweet and Sour Secrets* (Lunchbox Theatre). Lots of love to her parents, Rainer, and Kola @kelseeyverzotti



## **MARSHALL VIELLE**

### **Christmas Present**

(they/them) For Theatre Calgary: *Awoowaakii*, *A Christmas Carol* (2019-21, 2023-24), *Blow Wind*, *High Water*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Shakespeare by the Bow). Elsewhere: *Father Tartuffe* (Arts Club); *The Jungle Book* (ATP); *The House of Bernarda Alba* (Sage Theatre); *Christmas Carol: A Drag Story* (Blue Jeans Theatre); *Where the Two-Spirit Lives* (Theatre Outré); *Napi and the Rock* (Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra); *Iiyistsiyii*, *Istotsi*,

*Kaahsinoniks* (Making Treaty 7 Cultural Society); *We Are All Treaty People* (Quest Theatre). Marshall is an award-winning actor, director, arts educator, and drag performer from the Kainai Nation. In their free time, they enjoy watching horror films, singing show tunes in the car, and nurturing their growing collection of house plants. Marshall is thrilled to be back at TC for another festive season!



## **BRETT DAHL**

### **Swing**

For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2019, 2023-24), *Romeo in Romeo & Juliet* (Shakespeare in the Park). Elsewhere: *The Hooves Belonged to the Deer* (In Arms Collective); *Tempest*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *Twelfth Night*, *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Measure for Measure* (Freewill); *Like Orpheus* (International Dublin Gay Theatre Festival/Theatre Outré); *Tiny Beautiful Things* (Shadow Theatre); *Chariots of Fire* (The Grand Theatre); *King Lear*, *Twelfth*

*Night* (Canadian Stage); *The Circle* (ATP); *All's Well That Ends Well* (Shakespeare Company); *A Worthy Opponent* (Lunchbox); *The Soul Collector* (Catalyst). Brett is the Artistic Director of Theatre Outré. Brett is a graduate of the BFA-Acting/MFA-Directing programs from the UofA. Brett is a recipient of the Lieutenant Governor of Alberta Emerging Artist Award and the Stephen Hair Emerging Actor Award.

# CAST



## JESSICA ECKSTADT

### Swing; Assistant Voice & Dialect Coach

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *Beaches the Musical*, *Selma Burke*, *Meteor Shower* (Voice & Dialect Mentee), *A Christmas Carol* (2023-24), *Ragtime: A Concert Performance*. Jessica believes sharing her passion through performing or teaching is one of the best experiences in life. She is very proud to be an award-winning choreographer for the Youth Singers of Calgary, as well as teaching students to hone and discover their passion through

various classes and private lessons. Jessica is a Betty Mitchell Award-winner and nominated performer and has performed across Canada, the US, Europe, and South America. She holds a performance diploma from Mount Royal University (Calgary) and BFA from Concordia University (Montreal). Jessica loves being a member of the *Christmas Carol* family that helps bring holiday magic to so many!



## KAITLYN OLFERT

### Swing

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2024). Kaitlyn is a Calgary-based performer thrilled to be creating with Theatre Calgary this holiday season. She is an emerging artist who completed her training at the University of Lethbridge, and enjoys using the theatre as a gathering space for memory-making, deep thinking and feeling. Select credits include:

*Mary Jane* (Fire Exit Theatre); *Girls Like That* (New West

Theatre); *Snow White* (Birnton Theatricals); *Top Gunn* (Jubilations Dinner Theatre); *Hippo Needs a Bath* (Wagonstage Children's Theatre); *Sticky Situations* (Sticky Jar Collective). A huge thank you to her boys for their inspiration and support. <https://kaitlynolfert.wixsite.com/kaitlyn-olfert>



## GREG PEMBER

### Swing; Associate Choreographer, Dance Captain

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2023-24), *Legally Blonde*, *Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville*, *Crazy For You*, Assistant Director - *Beaches the Musical*, Swing Dance Choreographer - *Forgiveness*. Elsewhere: *Brigadoon* (Shaw Festival); *Too Many Cooks*, *Spamalot*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Screwball Comedy*, *Priscilla: Queen of the Desert* (Stage West); *Newsies*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Rock of Ages*, *Thoroughly*

*Modern Millie*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Sound of Music* (Drayton); *Ghostlight* (Off-Broadway/Signature Theatre), *Spring Awakening*, *Hamlet* (The Roxy). Choreography: *Something Rotten!*, *Elf: The Musical*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Honk!* (Storybook Theatre); *Austentatious* (Forte). Love & gratitude to Mom, Dad, Bob, and Scott for their unconditional support. [yogawithgreg.com](http://yogawithgreg.com) @yoga.with.greg

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# CREATIVE TEAM



## GEOFFREY SIMON BROWN

### Playwright

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: Playwright – *A Christmas Carol* (2019-2021, 2023-24); Actor – *Skylight*, *Much Ado About Nothing*. Geoffrey is an award-winning Albertan playwright, actor, and theatre creator. He is a founding member of the Major Matt Mason Collective where he has developed and produced small-scale independent theatre for the past fourteen years. His other plays include *Static*, *Michael Mysterious*,

*The Circle*, *Night*, *Progress*, *Still Still Still*, *Control*, *Air*, *Destroy*, and *If I Could Tell You Everything* (written alongside the Theatre Junction high school mentorship ensemble). As an actor he has performed on many of the major stages in Calgary as well as some living rooms and basements. He is a graduate of the National Theatre School of Canada's playwriting program. More at [geoffreysimonbrown.com](http://geoffreysimonbrown.com).



## STAFFORD ARIMA

### Director

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *Forgiveness* (Outstanding Direction, Betty Mitchell Award), *Ragtime: A Concert Performance*, *A Christmas Carol* (2019-21, 2023-24), *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *The Secret Garden*, *Mary and Max A New Musical*. Broadway: *Allegiance*, *Seussical* (Associate Director), *A Class Act* (Associate Director). Off-Broadway: *Altar Boyz*, *Carrie*, *The Tin Pan Alley Rag*. Regional: *Forgiveness* (Stratford Festival, Winner

- Tyrone Guthrie Derek F. Mitchell Artistic Director's Award - Best Director), *Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris* (Stratford Festival); *Dial M for Murder* (The Old Globe); *Bhangin' It* (La Jolla Playhouse); *Candide* (San Francisco Symphony); *Miss Saigon* (California Music Circus). International: *Ragtime* (West End, Olivier nominated), *Bhangra Nation* (Birmingham Rep.), *Broadway Dreams* (Moscow). Stafford is a graduate of York University, and a founding Board member of the Canadian Guild of Stage Directors and Choreographers. [staffordarima.com](http://staffordarima.com)

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# CREATIVE TEAM



## JANE MACFARLANE

### Associate Director, Resident Voice & Dialect Coach

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: Associate Director - *A Christmas Carol* (2023-24), Resident Voice Coach - More than 85 productions since 2000 including: *Dial M for Murder*, *Legally Blonde*, *Awoowaakii*, *Blithe Spirit*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *The Lehman Trilogy*, *Meteor Shower*, 12 seasons of Shakespeare by the Bow and 18 years of *A Christmas Carol* (incl. playing Mrs. Cratchit - 2001-02). Additionally, Jane adapted and directed the

2022 ShakesGo production of *The Merry Wives of Windsor*. She has also worked for ATP, Vertigo, and The Shakespeare Company. She has taught Voice for the Actor and Acting at such institutions as York University, Harvard University, Southern Methodist University, MRU, UAlberta, and is currently the Division Lead for Drama in the School of Creative & Performing Arts at UCalgary.



## JESSE ROBB

### Choreographer

For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2019, 2023-24). Broadway: Co-choreographer of *Water For Elephants* (Tony, Drama Desk, OCC noms and the Chita Rivera Award), *Miss Saigon* (Assoc. Choreographer). Off Broadway: *Ginger Twinsies*. Jesse is the Movement Director/Assoc. Choreographer of *Les Miserables* in the US, Madrid, Korea and Tokyo. Cirque Du Soleil: Zumanity. Regional: The MUNY, Alliance Theater, Stratford

Festival of Canada, Ogunquit Playhouse, The Ordway, among others. Jesse will return to Theatre Calgary next spring as Director and Choreographer of *Come From Away*. @jesserobbchoreography



## SCOTT REID

### Set & Video Design

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary (selected): *Blithe Spirit*, *The Mousetrap*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *TC Returns*, *A Christmas Carol* (lighting - 1999, set & projections - 2019, 2023-24, production design - 2020, 2021), *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *Mom's The Word: For Crying Out Loud*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *A Raisin in the Sun*. Elsewhere: *Pride and Prejudice*, *Clue* (Citadel); *Alberta Kitchen Party*, *Stealing Sam*, *Disgraced*, *The New Canadian*

*Curling Club* (ATP); *Misery*, *Clue*, *Murder on the Orient Express*, *Strangers on a Train*, *Dracula: The Bloody Truth* (Vertigo); *Don Pasquale*, *Macbeth*, *Eugene Onegin*, *South Pacific* (Calgary Opera); *Our Canada*, *Class Acts* (Alberta Ballet); *Better Get Hit in Your Soul*, *Modern Vaudevillians*, *Juliet and Romeo* (DJD). Scott has also designed for Quest Theatre, Lunchbox Theatre, and The Shakespeare Company. scottreiddesign.com

# CREATIVE TEAM



## DEITRA KALYN

### Costume Design

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2019-21, 2023-24), *The Mousetrap*, *Million Dollar Quartet*, *Noises Off*, *Shakespeare by the Bow* (2012-2018, 2021), *Blow Wind High Water*, *The Crucible*, *One Man, Two Guvnors*, *King Lear*. Deitra is full of Christmas joy and thrilled to be back at Theatre Calgary for this festive production. She is a Betty Mitchell Award-winning and Jesse Richardson Award-nominated costume designer, and holds a Fine Arts degree

from the Alberta College of Art + Design (ACAD). Her work has been seen featured at ATP, Vertigo Theatre, Decidedly Jazz Danceworks, and in screen projects with Netflix, MGM, AMC, HBO, Joe Media Group, DDG, and Corkscrew Media. Deitra is a proud member of IATSE 212 and the Associated Designers of Canada (ADC 659). Wishing everyone a joyful season — and sending all her love to her wonderful brood of boys.



## KEVIN LAMOTTE

### Lighting Design

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2000-18, 2023-24), *The Crucible*, *The Philadelphia Story* (2005, 2015), *Enron*, *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Beyond Eden*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Timothy Findley's The Wars*, *Of Mice and Men*, *Saint Joan*, *Macbeth*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *True West*, *Candida*. Kevin has created lighting designs for theatre, dance and opera across Canada and internationally. Recently: *Mahabharata*

(international tour); *GNIT*, *Tons of Money*, *The Secret Garden*, *White Christmas* (Shaw Festival); *La Traviata* (Opera de Montreal). His awards for outstanding lighting design include Calgary's Betty Mitchell Award and Toronto's Dora Mavor Moore Award. Kevin is the Lighting Design Director for the Shaw Festival and a member of The Associated Designers of Canada/IATSE 659.



## ANTON DEGROOT

### Associate Lighting Design

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *Dial M for Murder*, *A Christmas Carol* (2023-24), *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Noises Off*, *The Shoplifters*. Elsewhere: *Treasure Island*, *HMS Pinafore*, *The World Without* (Stratford Festival); *Liars at a Funeral*, *The Seafarer*, *The Circle* (Alberta Theatre Projects); *The Da Vinci Code*, *Heist*, *Clue*, *Misery*, *Nine Dragons* (Vertigo); *Giant*, *Struck* (Ghost River); *Please Return to Empire Video*, *The Ballad of Georges Boivin*, *Countries*

*Shaped Like Stars* (Lunchbox); *Chapter Two*, *Deathtrap*, *Mamma Mia*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder* (Stage West). When not making plays, Anton can be found training the next generation of scenographers at the University of Calgary. Up next: *The Starling Effect* with Verb Theatre. All the love to Meg.

# CREATIVE TEAM



## DARREN YOUNG

### Associate Sound Design, Associate Music Director

(he/him) For Theatre Calgary: *A Christmas Carol* (2023-24).

Darren is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, sound designer, music director, and educator. He has been a featured performer with the Calgary Philharmonic Orchestra, New Music Edmonton, New Works Calgary, Kensington Sinfonia, and Instrumental Society of Calgary. He is a core member of the experimental music collective Timepoint Ensemble, and also

performs and records as a member of the bands Diatessaron, Jung People, and Lucky Sonne. His compositions and sound designs have been heard across Canada, and he recently composed music for *Exile*, a live dance show choreographed by Meghann Michalsky, at the Banff Centre for Arts and Creativity in February, 2025. Darren is the President of the Classical Guitar Society of Calgary and has been on faculty at the MRU Conservatory since 2019.



## KENNEDY GREENE

### Stage Manager

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *A Christmas Carol* (2020-21, 2024), *As You Like It*, *The Mousetrap*,

*Jimmy Buffett's Escape to Margaritaville*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, *The Louder We Get*. Elsewhere: *Bluebeard's Castle*, *Gianni Schicchi*, *Don Giovanni*, *Das Rheingold*, *Carmen*, *La Traviata*, *Rigoletto*, *Everest*, *Turandot*, *Filumena* (Calgary Opera); *Deathtrap*, *A Closer Walk with Patsy Cline*, *There Goes the Bride* (Stage

West); *The Da Vinci Code*, *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson - #2B*, *The Thin Man*, *The Hollow* (Vertigo); *Naughty But Nice TenMas!*, *Naughty But Nice 9, LIVE!* (Forte Musical Theatre Guild); *Allergic to Water* (Wee Witches/Inside Out Theatre); *STRUCK* (Ghost River Theatre); *Heaven*, *Flight Risk* (Lunchbox); *Kim's Convenience* (Alberta Theatre Projects/Arts Club).



## MICHELLE HARRISON

### Assistant Stage Manager

(she/her) Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: Select credits

include *Rigoletto*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Flight*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Carmen*, *Don Pasquale*, *The Flying Dutchman*, *The Barber of Seville*, *La Bohème*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *La Cenerentola* (Vancouver Opera); *Waitress*, *The Sound of Music*, *Kinky Boots* (Arts Club Theatre); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Arts Club/Citadel); *Whose Life Is It Anyway?* (Realwheels). Michelle is a graduate of the University

of British Columbia. Many thanks to everyone at Theatre Calgary and to my family & friends. Thank you for supporting live performance!



# LITTLE FLAMES

Theatre Calgary proudly invites you to watch Fiddler, Composer, and Music Director Allison Lynch in a new music video for Little Flames, directed by Stafford Arima. An original song by Lynch, Little Flames is heard at the conclusion of *A Christmas Carol*.

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# CREATIVE TEAM



## CHANDLER ONTKEAN

### Assistant Stage Manager

(she/her) For Theatre Calgary: *The Lehman Trilogy*, *A Christmas Carol* (2023-24), *Noises Off*, *Mary and Max A New Musical*. Elsewhere: *Beyond the Sea*, *Shark Bite*, *Home For the Holidays* (Lunchbox Theatre); *Screwball Comedy*, *Elvis Has Left the Building* (Stage West); *A Killing at La Cucina*, *The Girl on the Train*, *Whispers in the Dark*, *Deathtrap*, *The Lonely Diner*, *Undercover*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Case of the Jersey Lily* (Vertigo Theatre);

*The Birds and the Bees*, *Cowgirl Up* (Alberta Theatre Projects). When not working in theatre, Chandler also works in film costuming, watches LOTS of movies, and admires sloths. Thanks to her family, roommates, and local movie theatre employees who keep her sane and feed her popcorn.



## NICOLE OSCAR

### Apprentice Stage Manager

(she/they) Theatre Calgary debut. Elsewhere: *The Brothers Paranormal*, *Ms Holmes & Ms Watson-#2B* (Vertigo Theatre); *Please Return to Empire Video* (Lunchbox Theatre); *The Witty Squirrel* (Calgary Opera); *Misery* (New West Theatre); *Zauber* (Centre Artistique International Roy Hart); *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *The Little Prince*, *A Dinner Party* (University of Lethbridge). Thank you to my family, related and not, for the endless love and support. Enjoy the show!

*Automation provided by Creative Connors Inc.*

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## SPECIAL THANKS & ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

*The generous support of Canadian Actors' Equity Association; Elena Belyea; Meredith Johnson; Yousef Kadoura; Alan Kingsley; Mark Limacher; Debbie Patterson; Carissa Sams Rouleau; Donna Sharpe; V.A. Hill Fine Strings*

**SPIRITS:** *Alex Currie, Cecilia Currie, Brent Falk, Samuel Markholm, Elizabeth Raynor-Hohol, Victoria Tharakan, Jenna Turk*

## **NEXT AT THEATRE CALGARY – A WORLD PREMIERE**

### **A Q&A WITH THE CREATORS OF *THE TALE OF THE GIFTED PRINCE***

Theatre Calgary, in partnership with Somerled Arts are thrilled to present the World Premiere of *The Tale of the Gifted Prince*, running February 14-March 15 in the Max Bell Theatre.

In a kingdom on the edge of rebellion, Prince Ren must save his father's throne. Armed with five humble gifts, he embarks on a quest to enlist the aid of a reclusive shaman. As danger looms, Ren discovers the gifts hold powers that will either mend a realm or shatter it forever. *The Tale of the Gifted Prince* is a new musical that you will never forget.

*The Tale of the Gifted Prince* is written by **Lezlie Wade**, with music by **Daniel Green**, based on the novel *The Remarkable Journey of Prince Jen* by Lloyd Alexander. We asked Lezlie and Daniel a few questions about the show and what audiences can expect.

#### **Give us 5 words to describe *The Tale of the Gifted Prince*.**

**Lezlie:** Thrilling. Funny. Mystical. Beautiful. Musical.

**Daniel:** Epic. Magical. Adventurous. Fun. And hopefully, Catchy!

#### **Why did you want to take the original novel of *The Remarkable Journey of Prince Jen* and make it into a musical?**

**Daniel:** I first fell in love with the novel as a kid, and even then I thought it could make a great musical. It's a wonderful adventure story, funny, daring, romantic - and the whole thing revolves around the different gifts that the prince is carrying. I liked the idea that the tale of each gift could have its own musical theme.

**Lezlie:** I was struck by the 'Shakespearean' nature of the novel. I had just finished working on *As You Like It* at the time and was inspired to see how I could adapt such a sweeping and relevant story.

#### **What musical inspirations are you bringing to *The Tale of the Gifted Prince*?**

**Daniel:** The story is set in a mythical ancient China, so we nod to that setting in some of our motifs and our orchestrations - but ultimately it's a fairy tale, so the score is very much inspired by the fairy tale musicals I grew up with - Disney movie musicals like *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and stage musicals like *Into The Woods*.

## ***How long have you and Daniel been collaborating on bringing this musical to life?***

**Lezlie:** Dan and I have been collaborating on *The Tale of the Gifted Prince* for about 12 years. It began as a 10-minute musical in our BMI workshop class, and subsequently was developed into what we have today. Ironically, not one of the songs from that original 10-minute musical survived (some of the characters as well). The process would have been shorter had we not been faced with new post-Covid realities that required new rewrites. But in the end, I think it might have been a blessing because those rewrites introduced some new and interesting elements to the show.

## ***Why will this be a great show for the whole family?***

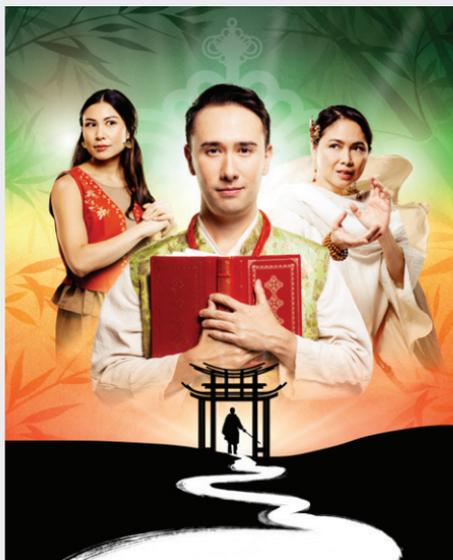
**Lezlie:** It's fashioned like those classic hero journeys - *The Wizard of Oz*, *Pippin*, *Harry Potter*... it's the journey through darkness into light; overcoming great odds, that children and adults can identify with. It's funny, scary, adventurous. Something for everyone.

**Daniel:** I loved this story as a child and I love it now - I think you can approach it from any age and come away with something entertaining and engrossing. Hero's journeys aren't something you grow out of - they're some of the most fundamental building blocks of human storytelling.

# ***The Tale of the Gifted Prince***

will have its world premiere  
at Theatre Calgary from  
February 14 - March 15, 2026.

To learn more about the  
cast and creative team, and  
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(l to r) Cast members Kelsey Verzotti, Kennedy Kanagawa, and Ma-Anne Dionisio. Photo: Tim Nguyen



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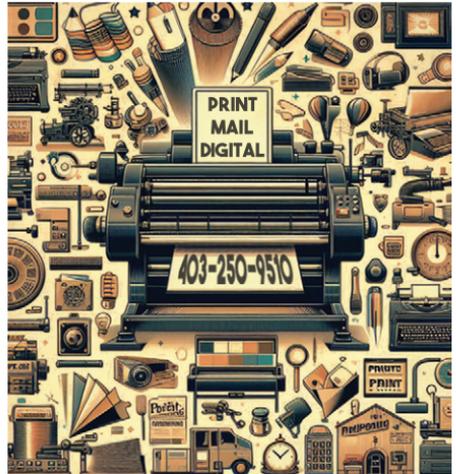
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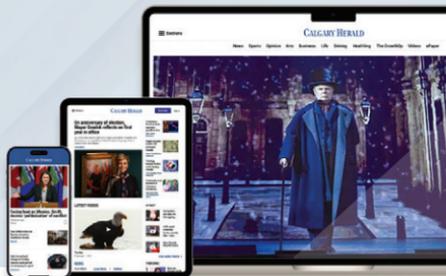


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Sabrina Thornton  
William & Colleen Tobman  
Annemarie Tocher  
Dustin Toll  
Lynn & Jane Topp  
A. Toy  
Danuta Trafford  
Barbara & Clement Trenholm  
Michael & Dianne Trew  
John Troesch  
Lynn Tsutsumi  
Bill & Cindy Tuer  
Carol Twasiuk  
Wendi-Lynn Ulan  
John & Peggy Van De Pol  
Marinus van der Westhuizen  
Evelyn Vandenhengel  
K & C Vickaryous  
Krutika Viegas  
Voice Pictures

Jan Walsh  
Paul & Anne Wanklyn  
Janet Watson  
Patricia Watson  
Ruthann Watson  
Jackie Watt  
Marianne Watt  
Denise Watts  
Marc Waugh  
Judith Weaver  
Johannes Widenborg  
Jeffrey Wiebe  
Cathy Wiechnik  
Francine Wieliczko  
Johannes Wildenborg  
Gord Will  
Melody Williamson  
Tania Willumsen  
Beth Wilson  
Marilyn Wilson  
Shirley Winlaw-Tierney  
Valerie Wolfe  
Wendy Woolsey  
Gail Yester  
Irene & Roman Zakaluzny  
Andy & Mary-Anne Znotins  
Mandie Zoller  
Michael Zwiers

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## LEGACY CIRCLE

Leaving a legacy is about more than just financial support; it's about creating a lasting impact on what matters most to you. Making a gift in your will is a deeply personal, inspiring, and meaningful way to create your own legacy and continue to ensure the future of something you love - Theatre Calgary! The following visionary philanthropists are helping Theatre Calgary continue to perform and carrying us into our future.

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Derek Bridges  
Joyce Doolittle  
Kay Grieve  
David Haigh  
Harry Hartley  
Margaret Hess, Q.C.  
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Barbara Morin  
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Reach out today to discuss how your legacy gift can ensure future generations have access to the transformative power of live theatre. Call (403) 294-7465 or email [donations@theatrecalgary.com](mailto:donations@theatrecalgary.com)

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We are incredibly grateful to our Corporate Sponsors and Partners! The support of these amazing organizations allows us to produce the highest quality shows and attract the highest quality talent from across the country. Join us in shining the spotlight on them to extend a huge thank you for their generosity and commitment to Theatre Calgary.

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For more information on corporate sponsorship opportunities, please contact **Taylor Hicks**, Manager, Community Partnerships. Call 587-441-9018 or email at [thicks@theatre Calgary.com](mailto:thicks@theatre Calgary.com)

# THE SPIRIT OF GIVING

*"... I have always thought of Christmas-time as a good time; a kind, forgiving, charitable, pleasant time; the only time I know of, in the long calendar of the year, when men and women seem by one consent to open their shut-up hearts freely, and to think of people below them as if they really were fellow-passengers to the grave, and not another race of creatures bound on other journeys." - Charles Dickens*

## Thank you!

In the spirit of Christmas, we would like to express our gratitude to our donors who have supported Theatre Calgary over the past year. Your generosity empowers excellence on our stage, and strength in our community.

## Season of Giving

If you haven't had a chance to make a 2025 donation, we welcome your support. Since ticket sales make up only 39% of our revenue, community donations are vital. Support what you love.

Visit **DONATE NOW** at [THEATRECALGARY.COM](https://www.theatrecalgary.com) or **SCAN HERE:**



The cast of *A Christmas Carol* (2023)  
Photo by Trudie Lee