

MEDIA RELEASE

THE CLASSIC YULETIDE TREAT *A CHRISTMAS CAROL* USHERS IN EDMONTON'S HOLIDAY SEASON

November 21, 2017

(EDMONTON) Everyone's favourite holiday tale of suffering and redemption returns to the Citadel December 1, 2017, for an unprecedented 18th season. *A Christmas Carol* is universally beloved for its dynamic themes and uplifting message that, ultimately, giving will bring you more joy than receiving.

A Christmas Carol tells the tale of the lonely, embittered Ebenezer Scrooge, a man who cares more about money than his employees, fellow citizens and even his sole remaining relative, and is particularly irate about Christmas and the season of giving. The play takes the audience through Scrooge's journey towards enlightenment, as he is visited by the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, and learns some important lessons along the way.

Tom Wood's stage adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic novel, *A Christmas Carol*, debuted at the Citadel in 2000, and has been filling patrons with the Yuletide spirit ever since. For the first time in the show's history, a new director, **Wayne Paquette**, takes the reins. **Bob Baker**, the show's original director, acted as a consultant on the show this season. Mr. Paquette, Artistic Coordinator at the Citadel Theatre, previously spent four years as Associate Director for *A Christmas Carol*, and will direct the show true to Mr. Baker's original vision.

A new Scrooge will make his debut this season as well. Citadel favourite **Julien Arnold**, who has played Bob Cratchit several times over the years, will perform as Ebenezer Scrooge for the first time. **Glenn Nelson** will continue to play Scrooge for select performances, as he has done in past years. **Jamie Williams** returns as Bob Cratchit, with **Beth Graham** in the role of Mrs. Cratchit, and **Lilla Solymos** playing the iconic role of Tiny Tim.

In the spirit of holiday generosity and in Citadel tradition, the cast will collect donations for Edmonton's Food Bank in the Maclab Theatre lobby after each performance. Capital Power, a proud supporter of Citadel Theatre and Edmonton's Food Bank, will match these donations up to \$20,000. To date, the Citadel has helped raise more than \$940,700 dollars.

A Christmas Carol kicks off the holiday season at the Citadel December 1 and runs through December 23, 2017.

CAST

FEATURING: JULIEN ARNOLD and GLENN NELSON as Ebenezer Scrooge*

Mr. Rank/Reverend Fish/Coachman	ROBERT BENZ
Mrs. Dilber/Matron	DARLA BICCOM
Young Scrooge/Ghost Future/Vendor	OSCAR DERKX
Joseph/Wealthy Father/Fezzi Guest	PATRICK DODD
Mrs. Cratchit/Fezzi Guest	BETH GRAHAM
Belle/Emmeline	JULIA GUY
Fred/Fezzi Guest	AARON HURSH
William/Caleb/George/Fiddler	ALEX KELLY
Jacob Marley/Old Joe/Grandpa Fezzi	JOHN KIRKPATRICK
Vegetable Vendor/Granny Fezzi/Beetling	LAURA KREWSKI
Mrs. Denham/Tilly/Fezzi Maid	ANNETTE LOISELLE
Mr. Swidger/Mr. Topper	ANDREW MACDONALD-SMITH
Mr. Denham/Fezzi Servant	DAVID MADAWO
Mrs. Blum/Mrs. Fezziwig/Laundress	NANCY McALEAR
Fanny/Nora/Flower Vendor	AMY SAWKA
Alice/Fezzi Guest	SHANNON TAYLOR
Bob Cratchit	JAMIE WILLIAMS
Fezziwig/Ghost Xmas Present/Mr. Toll	ASHLEY WRIGHT

*Alternating performances

Youth Chorus

NOAH BAKER	Young Scrooge/Urchin/Joe's Assistant /Fezzi Guest
VIRGINIA BRIGGS	Belinda Cratchit/Middle Fezzi Daughter/Holly Vendor #1
WILL BRISBEN	Ragged Caroller/Altar Boy/Urchin/Fezzi Guest
SKYLAR CAMPBELL	Peter Cratchit/Urchin/Fezzi guest/Richard
LIAM CLORAN	Urchin/Guest/Schoolboy
MADISON DENNIS	Spoiled Boy/Fezzi Daughter/Ignorance
LAUREN MARUSIN	Martha Cratchit/Fezziwig Guest
JAKE OLEKSIW	Poulterer's Apprentice/Fezzi Servant
GREGORY PETRUK	Trinket Seller/Apprentice/Thief/School Boy
AOIFE ROWE-DOYLE	Wealthy Twin/Urchin/Beetling/Fezzi Guest/Holly Vendor #2
LUCIA ROWE-DOYLE	Wealthy Twin/Fezziwig Guest-Girl/Street Urchin/Beetling
SASHA RYBALKO	Caleb's Daughter/Want/Fezzi Guest/Urchin
CARSYN SEETOO	Jenny/Urchin/Fezzi Guest
KYDEN SEETOO	Fezzi Guest/Urchin/ Edwin/Joe's Assistant
ADAM SKOGSTAD	Phillip, Urchin/Fezzi guest/Turkey Boy
LILLA SOLYMOS	Tiny Tim/Beetling/Urchin
ANNA SVEISTRUP	Ghost of Christmas Past/Urchin/Beetling
MAKAYLA SWARTZ	Wealthy Sister/Margaret/Fezzi Daughter Tall
KAYSON TAYLOR	Toby/Street Urchin/Fezzi Servant/Beetling

Creative Team

Director	WAYNE PAQUETTE
Original Director	BOB BAKER
Assistant Director	HEATHER CANT
Set & Costume Designer	LESLIE FRANKISH
Lighting Designer	ROBERT THOMSON
Sound Designer	MICHAEL BECKER
Choreographer	LINDA RUBIN
Music Director	DON HORSBURGH
Dialect Coach	DOUG MERTZ
Stage Manager	MICHELLE CHAN
Assistant Stage Manager	RACHEL DAWN WOODS
Assistant Stage Manager	MOLLY PEARSON
Apprentice Stage Manager/Child Supervisor	NYSSA BEAIRSTO
Child Supervisor	ADAM BLOCKA
Child Supervisor	EMMA INGEN-HOUSZ
Child Supervisor	ERIN VALENTINE

NOTICE:

Please note that there will **not** be a media call for this show. To arrange interviews with the cast and creative team, or to obtain photographs, please contact:

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Government Funders: Government of Alberta; Alberta Foundation for the Arts; Alberta Lottery Fund, The City of Edmonton; The Edmonton Arts Council; Canada Council for the Arts; Canadian Heritage.

Special Thank You to: Edmonton's Food Bank

Tickets are available at www.citadeltheatre.com or through the box office at 780.425.1820. Tickets start at just \$30, plus fees and GST.

The Citadel Theatre is a not-for-profit organization that relies on the generous support of donors, sponsors, and foundation and government funders.