

## MEDIA RELEASE

### A Cherished Tradition Returns: 26 Years of *A Christmas Carol* at the Citadel Theatre

October 27, 2025

**Edmonton, Alberta** – For more than a quarter century, *A Christmas Carol* has been a cherished holiday tradition at The Citadel Theatre. This November, the beloved production returns for its 26th season, continuing a legacy that has become deeply woven into the festive fabric of Edmonton.

What began in December 2000 as an ambitious holiday production, complete with a large ensemble cast, onstage magic, and a snow machine that seemed to never rest, has grown into a multi-generational tradition. For many families, *A Christmas Carol* at the Citadel isn't just a performance, it's the official start of the holiday season.

Since 2019, audiences have embraced a fresh take on the classic tale, adapted by **David van Belle** and set in the nostalgic warmth of the 1950s. With songs like *White Christmas* and *I'll Be Home for Christmas*, and the familiar ghosts of Christmas Past, Present, and Future, this version honours the spirit of **Charles Dickens'** original while offering new layers of music, magic, and meaning.

Now in her second year directing the production, **Lianna Makuch** continues the work first envisioned by Artistic Director **Daryl Cloran**, who introduced van Belle's adaptation to Citadel audiences. At the heart of the story is a message that never loses its relevance: that redemption is always possible, and that no one is beyond hope.

Each year, we hear stories from longtime patrons who return again and again. Families have made it their annual tradition, often spanning generations. In 2022, one young couple became engaged on the Maclab stage, with help from Scrooge actor **John Ulyatt**, Citadel staff, and a touch of theatre magic. It was a moment that reflected what this show has come to mean to so many -- a place where memories are made.

After 26 years, *A Christmas Carol* has become more than a seasonal favourite. It is a tradition that continues to bring joy, reflection, and connection to the Edmonton community. Whether it's your first visit or part of your family's holiday ritual, the Citadel invites you to join us once again for this unforgettable celebration of the season.

*A Christmas Carol* plays in the Maclab Theatre November 22 to December 24, 2025, ending with a special Christmas Eve matinee performance. Tickets are on sale at [citadeltheatre.com](http://citadeltheatre.com) or by calling the Box Office at 780.425.1820.

A Captioned and Relaxed Experience performance is happening Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 1:30pm. Accessible Performances are happening for every show in the 2025/26 Season with funding provided by the Stollery Charitable Foundation. More information can be found at [citadeltheatre.com/accessibility](http://citadeltheatre.com/accessibility).

Pay What You Choose performances, presented by Alberta Blue Cross will be taking place on Sunday, November 23 at 7:30pm, Saturday, November 29 at 1:30pm and Saturday, December 6 at 1:30pm. Information on these performances and how to buy tickets is available at [citadeltheatre.com](http://citadeltheatre.com).

Production photos will be available by Wednesday, November 26, 2025.

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## CAST

|                        |  |
|------------------------|--|
| Maya Baker             | Fanny, Ensemble                                    |
| Breanna Bender         | Tim Cratchit*                                      |
| Patricia Cerra         | Belle, Marnie, Ensemble                            |
| Chris W. Cook          | Ensemble   |
| Ivy DeGagné            | Ghost of Christmas Past, Martha Cratchit, Ensemble |
| Cathy Derkach          | Mrs. Dilber, Hilda Fezziwig, Piano, Ensemble       |
| Oscar Derkx            | Fred, Bass, Ensemble                               |
| Braydon Dowler-Coltman | Ben, Ghost of Christmas Future, Ensemble           |
| Jesse Gervais          | Ghost of Christmas Present, Santa, Ensemble        |
| Steven Greenfield      | Barker, Piano, Trombone, Ensemble                  |
| Alison MacDonald       | Emily Cratchit, Ensemble                           |
| Graham Mothersill      | Topper, Young Marley, Ensemble                     |
| Glenn Nelson           | Nelson, Ensemble                                   |
| Christina Nguyen       | Phyllis, Fezziwig Singer, Ensemble                 |
| Troy O'Donnell         | Jacob Marley, Mr. Fezziwig, Ensemble               |
| Biboye Onanuga         | Drummer, Ensemble                                  |
| Bh  y Pastolero        | Ensemble   |
| Michael Peng           | Ensemble   |
| Elena Porter           | Ensemble   |
| Emmy Richardson        | Tim Cratchit*                                      |
| John Ulliyatt          | Ebenezer Scrooge                                   |

\*Tim Cratchit Performer Schedule (Subject to Change)

## **YOUTH ENSEMBLE**

Jack Cloran, Anjali DeSilva, Koi Gennings, Edgar Greenfield, Aubrey Malacad, Amanda Mella Rodriguez, Nicolas Melo, Brady Miller, Zadie van Belle, Maia Vinge, Lincoln Weishaupt

## **UNDERSTUDIES**

|                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| Chris W. Cook     | Topper, Young Marley, Ben, Ghost of Christmas Future, Fred            |
| Cathy Derkach     | Piano Player  |
| Graham Mothersill | Ghost of Christmas Present, Santa                                     |
| Glenn Nelson      | Ebenezer Scrooge  |
| Bhéy Pastolero    | Ghost of Christmas Past, Martha Cratchit, Fanny, Belle, Marnie        |
| Michael Peng      | Jacob Marley, Mr. Fezziwig, Nelson, Barker                            |
| Elena Porter      | Emily Cratchit, Mrs. Dilber, Hilda Fezziwig, Phyllis, Fezziwig Singer |

## **CREATIVE TEAM**

|                      |                                |
|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| David van Belle      | Playwright                     |
| Lianna Makuch        | Director                       |
| Daryl Cloran         | Original Director              |
| Cory Sincennes       | Set & Costume Designer         |
| Leigh Ann Vardy      | Lighting Designer              |
| Mishelle Cuttler     | Music Director, Sound Designer |
| Laura Krewski        | Choreographer                  |
| Steven Greenfield    | Associate Music Director       |
| Mitchell Labrosse    | Associate Sound Designer       |
| Andrew Ritchie       | Assistant Director             |
| TBC                  | Associate Lighting Designer    |
| TBC                  | Dance Captain                  |
| Molly Pearson        | Stage Manager                  |
| Cheryl Hoover        | Stage Manager (Rehearsal)      |
| Andrea Handal Rivera | Assistant Stage Manager        |

|                   |                                      |
|-------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Ken James Stewart | Assistant Stage Manager              |
| Sarah Austin      | Apprentice Stage Manager             |
| Claire Sonmor     | Apprentice Stage Manager (Rehearsal) |
| Adam Blocka       | Children's Supervisor                |
| Alexander Ariate  | Children's Supervisor                |
| Austin Kennedy    | Children's Supervisor                |

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**For more information or to arrange interviews, contact:**

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