

## 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
Bhéy Pastolero	Ensemble
Michael Peng	Ensemble
Elena Porter	Ensemble
Emmy Richardson	Tim Cratchit*
John Ulyatt	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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