South Coast Repertory

Marc Masterson  ARTISTIC DIRECTOR
Paula Tomei  MANAGING DIRECTOR

David Emmes & Martin Benson  FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

presents the 34th annual production of

CHARLES DICKENS’

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

adapted by Jerry Patch

Thomas Buderwitz  SCENIC DESIGN
Dwight Richard Odle  COSTUME DESIGN
Donna and Tom Ruzika  LIGHTING DESIGN

Dennis McCarthy  MUSIC ARRANGEMENT/COMPOSER
Drew Dalzell  SOUND DESIGN
Dennis Castellano  VOCAL DIRECTOR
Sylvia C. Turner  CHOREOGRAPHER

Hisa Takakuwa  ASSISTANT DIRECTOR
Jackie S. Hill  PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jamie A. Tucker*  STAGE MANAGER

DIRECTED BY
John-David Keller

Julianne and George Argyros/Argyros Family Foundation  HONORARY PRODUCERS
CAST OF CHARACTERS
(In order of appearance)

UNDERTAKER ................................................................. Christian Barillas
JOE, a cider salesman and a receiver of stolen goods ......................... Art Koustik
CONSTABLE ..................................................................... Xavier J. Watson
TOY LADY ........................................................................ Ann Marie Lee
PUPPET SHOW .............................................................. James MacEwan
THOMAS SHELLEY ................................................................ Nick Slimmer
ELIZABETH SHELLEY ..................................................... Kirby Wilson
OLIVER SHELLEY ............................................................ Dominic Brack, Jaden Fogel
RICH WOMAN ................................................................... Jennifer Parsons
RICH BOY ......................................................................... Liam McHugh, Noel Renfrow
RICH GIRL ......................................................................... Caitlyn Roum, Maddy Nickless
YOUNG GIRL ABOUT TOWN ............................................. Lindsay Elizabeth Frazin, Shane Iverson
TEEN GIRL ABOUT TOWN ............................................... Timothy Landfield
WREATH SELLER .................................................................. Erika Schindele
LAUNDRESS ...................................................................... Christopher Delfino, Thomas McCarthy
CHIMNEY SWEEP ........................................................... Hal Landon Jr.
EBENEZER SCROOGE, a grasping, covetous old man .................... William Francis McGuire
BOB CRATCHIT, clerk to Ebenezer ............................................. Daniel Blinkoff
FRED, nephew to Ebenezer .......................................................... William Francis McGuire
SOLICITORS ..................................................................... Richard Doyle*, Karen Hensel
JACOB MARLEY’S GHOST, a spectre of Ebenezer’s former partner in business .. Gregg Daniel*
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PAST, a phantom showing things past .... Richard Doyle*
EBENEZER AS A BOY ....................................................... Dominic Brack, Jaden Fogel
FAN, the sister of Ebenezer .............................................................. Lindsay Elizabeth Frazin, Shane Iverson
MRS. FEZZIWIG ................................................................... Karen Hensel
MR. FEZZIWIG, a kind hearted, jovial old merchant ....................... John-David Keller
JACOB MARLEY AS A YOUNG MAN ...................................... Xavier J. Watson
EBENEZER AS A YOUNG MAN .......................................... Christian Barillas
BELLE, sweetheart of Ebenezer ................................................... Erika Schindele
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT, a spirit of a kind, earthy and generous nature ...... Timothy Landfield*
“TINY” TIM CRATCHIT ....................................................... Nika Natalie Aydin, Erika Maggipinto
MRS. CRATCHIT .................................................................. Jennifer Parsons
BELINDA CRATCHIT .......................................................... Jillian Tabone, Tasba Zentil
PETER CRATCHIT .............................................................. Liam McHugh, Noel Renfrow
MARTHA CRATCHIT ............................................................. Grace O’Brien, Clarke Audrey Schwartz
MR. TOPPER, a bachelor .......................................................... James MacEwan
PERSISTED MAIDEN ............................................................. Kirby Wilson
SALLY, the wife of Fred .......................................................... Ann Marie Lee
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS YET-TO-COME, an apparition showing the shadows of things which may yet happen ........................................................................... James MacEwan
WANT ..................................................................................... Caitlyn Roum, Maddy Nickless
IGNORANCE ....................................................................... Dominic Brack, Jaden Fogel
GENTLEMEN ON THE STREET .............................................. Gregg Daniel *, Richard Doyle*, William Francis McGuire
THE SCAVENGERS ................................................................ Karen Hensel*, Ann Marie Lee*, Erika Schindele*
TURKEY BOY ..................................................................... Christopher Delfino, Thomas McCarthy
POULTERER ......................................................................... Xavier J. Watson

Please note: Children’s roles are double cast. Actors with † appear Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Tuesday at noon and Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. Others appear in balance of performances.

* Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.
SETTING
19th-Century London

LENGTH
Approximately two hours, including one 15-minute intermission.

PRODUCTION STAFF
Casting Director .............................................................. Joanne DeNaut, CSA
Assistant Stage Manager ....................................................... Sue Karutz*
Stage Management Interns ........................................ Marissa Putnick, Samantha McCann
Deck Crew .................................................... Amber Caras, Robert Harrison, Emily Kettler, Victor Mouledoux
Follow Spot Operators ........................................... Summer Ellsworth, Jon Hrykas
Sound Operator ............................................................. GW Rodriguez
Light Operator ............................................................. Andrew Stephens
Child Wrangler ............................................................. Becca Lustgarten
Wig and Makeup Technician ........................................ Jenni Gilbert
Wardrobe Master .......................................................... Bert Henert
Dresser ............................................................... Deona Offield
Costume Design Assistant ......................................... Adriana Lambardi
Additional Costume Staff ...................................... Jessica Brown, Pauline Good, Sarah Timm

Cellular phones, beepers and watch alarms should be turned off or set to non-audible mode during the performance.
Please refrain from unwrapping candy or making other noises that may disturb surrounding patrons.

The use of cameras and recorders in the theatre is prohibited. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the theatre.
How We Keep Christmas

This year we celebrate our 34th staging of Charles Dickens’ *A Christmas Carol*. Once again, Hal Landon Jr. plays Ebenezer Scrooge and John-David Keller directs. SCR Founding Artists Richard Doyle and Art Koustik, who have reprised their roles virtually every season, also are back this year. The *Christmas Carol* cast has become a family, gathering each November to do our work. New folks are made kin by our veterans; the veterans are invigorated by the newcomers. By December we’ve joined our clan (and our show) to re-create our show anew. But our show is not complete until joined by our greater family: our audiences. A few of you have seen the show every year since 1980. Many of you first came with your parents and are now bringing your own children. SCR’s *A Christmas Carol* has endured because it brings families together. We are reminded to celebrate the season and to consider together Ebenezer Scrooge’s redemption. The value of love, life and family is heightened by the fact that these don’t last forever. It is the equation Scrooge comes to know, and one our family appreciates again each year.

Read on as some members of the cast and creative team share their stories and memories of *A Christmas Carol*.

**Hal Landon Jr.**

34 years: Actor (Scrooge)

“As the seasons have gone by, so many people have come up to me during the course of the year and told me how much the play means to them. The Christmas spirit is revived in them every year, and people who were children when they first saw it now bring their children.”

**John-David Keller**

34 years: Director and Actor (Mr. Fezziwig)

“Many of my favorite memories revolve around the children in the cast. I always insist that they not have their own dressing room, but share with the adults, so they can really experience what it is like to be part of a production. Of course, the children are given instruction in rules of behavior that the adults are not. I remember one time asking a father about how his child was enjoying being a part of the show, and the father replied, ‘He’s having the time of his life, and his vocabulary has become quite colorful.’”

**Daniel Blinkoff**

11 years: Actor (Bob Cratchit)

“A few years ago, on Christmas Eve, our last show for that year, I was waiting backstage for the scene where we glimpse into Tiny Tim’s future. I feel a tug...”

John-David Keller and Karen Hensel as Mr. and Mrs. Fezziwig (2009).
on my sleeve, and it’s Tiny Tim. This was a kid with a lot of initial anxiety about performing, but through the course of the production he really fell in love with the show and became a real actor. He says to me, ‘Don’t go on.’ I ask him why, and he says, ‘If you go on, that means it will all be over soon.’”

Hisa Takakuwa
15 years: Actor (Sally/Toy Lady/Scavenger), 8 years: Assistant Director

“Of all the shows in which I have ever performed, A Christmas Carol is special and intimate in its interface between the audience and the actors. As an actor in the show, and now as an audience member, I have become truly aware of the emotional flow between the audience and cast that occurs each night. It really exemplifies the best of the live theatre experience.”

Reminiscing with Jerry Patch

A chat with SCR’s A Christmas Carol adaptor, Jerry Patch

What is your favorite memory of SCR’s A Christmas Carol?
I remember getting up at 4:30 a.m. in Huntington Beach during the summer of 1980 to write the adaptation SCR first presented that Christmas. The sun was up early, blazing across my desk, while I tried to put myself in London in December. It wasn’t that hard—Dickens overpowered life at the beach almost every morning.

How has SCR’s A Christmas Carol changed for you over the years?
That first production in 1980 had SCR’s young company actors playing roles considerably older than they were. One of the gifts of A Christmas Carol has been watching those actors return annually with deeper, more authentic portrayals of characters they’ve come to know very well. To have Hal Landon Jr. as Scrooge and John-David Keller directing for 34 years is truly a treasure, and could only be possible in a theatre like SCR.

Why do you think the story of A Christmas Carol has endured?
Most writers never manage to create an archetypal role. Charles Dickens created a number of them, and Ebenezer Scrooge is probably the most widely known. Dickens’ account of his redemption is an annual reminder that while we’re alive we still have the capacity to serve others, to reach for greater humanity, and that, as Scrooge comes to know, to do so is a privilege.

There are so many adaptations and variations on the original Dickens story as part of our cultural holiday tradition. To you, what makes SCR’s adaptation unique?
I think SCR’s decision to create a production set in London, but not specifically British or realistic, has given the show a universal quality that speaks to our Southern California audiences. The resultant theatricality of the production makes it immediate, accessible and communal for our audiences in ways that some of the very good film versions, which rely on specificity and realistic detail, can’t really do as well. At the play’s end, our audiences are as much a part of Fred’s Christmas party as the actors onstage.

Jerry Patch is now director of artistic development at Manhattan Theatre Club.
History of ‘A Christmas Carol’

In the late fall of 1843, the 31-year-old author of *Oliver Twist* and *Nicholas Nickleby* began writing a story to be published during the Christmas season. With four children and a wife to provide for, flagging sales and decreasing interest in his latest work, Charles Dickens was in need of a career jump start.

Moved to action by a Parliamentary report on the plight of child laborers, Dickens visited a copper mine. Appalled by what he saw, Dickens began to develop ideas for his next story—a story that would, in the author’s words, “strike a blow on behalf of the poor man’s child.” He titled the piece *The Sledgehammer*; more than 150 years later, it’s the story known all over the world as *A Christmas Carol*.

Success of ‘A Christmas Carol’

Writing the story in just six weeks, Dickens told friends that the Cratchits were “ever tugging at his coat sleeve, as if impatient for him to get back to his desk and continue the story of their lives.” Dickens could hardly have imagined that his tale would become beloved by so many.

In 1857, *A Christmas Carol* became the first of Dickens’ works that he performed publicly. The Manchester Examiner reported that “there is always a freshness about what Mr. Dickens does—one reading is never anything like a mechanical following of a previous reading.” In 1867 and 1868, Dickens put on a blockbuster *A Christmas Carol* tour of the United States, turning a profit of $140,000—nearly two million dollars today. President Andrew Johnson took his family to every performance in Washington D.C., and theatergoers camped overnight in the streets to purchase tickets.

*A Christmas Carol* has been translated for readers all over the world and adapted into dozens of stage productions, films and even an opera. Though he could not have anticipated how successful his novella would prove to be, Dickens would surely be happy that his story of the virtues of goodwill and generosity continues to reach millions of people every year.

About Dickens

Charles Huffman Dickens was born in Landport (now part of Portsmouth), England, on February 7, 1812. In 1824, he was given his first position in business in the employ of Warren’s Blacking Factory, Chatham. For six months, the young Dickens adhered labels to containers of blacking, and perhaps unknowingly, collected material for what would become world-famous portrayals of Victorian England’s working class. By the mid 1800s, Dickens had achieved widespread fame with the publication of *The Pickwick Papers*, *Oliver Twist* and *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*.

*A Christmas Carol*, like many of Dickens’ other works, has autobiographical elements woven throughout. Like the Cratchits, the Dickens were a large brood. His own frail, sickly brother often was called “Tiny Fred.” Dickens’ spendthrift father, John, caused the family, except 12-year-old Charles, to relocate to a debtor’s prison for a time. Charles worked in a factory during this time, and never forgot the experience.
Christmas Woodcuttings

The art of woodcutting was originally developed in China as a means of creating an illustration on paper by carving a block of wood that was then inked and stamped on paper. In England, the technique was mastered by the prolific woodcutter John Leech, whose woodcuttings were used as illustrations in the original publication of *A Christmas Carol* in 1843 (pictured below). Leech and other popular woodcutters, such as William Hogarth, used their woodcuttings to echo the themes of poverty, redemption and goodwill in Victorian England. The scenic design of SCR’s *A Christmas Carol* was inspired by the woodcuttings and the way they portrayed the glimmers of light and hope during the darkness of Victorian England. But don’t take our word for it; see for yourself!

![Scrooge extinguishes the first of three Spirits.](image1)
![Reformed Scrooge and Bob Cratchit.](image2)
![The Fezziwig Ball.](image3)

Victorian London

Imagine yourself in London in Charles Dickens’ time. Nearly two million Londoners, rich and poor alike, spill into the city streets among the manure left by thousands of horse-drawn carriages. Smoke swarms out of chimneys and soot coats all that it falls upon. In parts of the city, raw sewage pours from the gutters into the Thames—the main water supply. A common laborer’s average weekly wage was three shillings, nine pence—that’s approximately 14 modern U.S. dollars. A loaf of bread cost about two pence (65¢ in modern USD) and rent for the year cost about 25 pounds (about $1,900 modern USD). However, this was a luckier existence than the destitution of those poor folk who would receive aid in the form of employment in a workhouse.

Dickens made sure the voices of the unfortunate were heard in his work, along with huge doses of good humor and myriad evocations of the joys of home and hearth. He continues to do the same for us today. In all of his stories, we remember that there are those less fortunate than ourselves. We remember that there are those willing to change. Most importantly, we remember that there is hope.

“It is a fair, even-handed, noble adjustment of things, that while there is infection in disease and sorrow, there is nothing in the world so irresistibly contagious as laughter and good humour.”

– Charles Dickens
Christmas Carol Trivia

1. *A Christmas Carol* was written by Charles Dickens in:
   A. 1848  
   B. 1843  
   C. 1855  
   D. 1862

2. Who has NOT played the infamous role of Ebenezer Scrooge in a film adaptation of *A Christmas Carol*?
   A. John Wayne  
   B. Kelsey Grammer  
   C. Jim Carrey  
   D. None of the Above

3. How many years, including this year, has Hal Landon Jr. played the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in SCR’s production of *A Christmas Carol*?
   A. 16  
   B. 22  
   C. 25  
   D. 34

4. How many different directors have directed *A Christmas Carol* here at SCR during its 34-year run?
   A. 1  
   B. 2  
   C. 3  
   D. 4

5. In SCR’s *A Christmas Carol*, what is Scrooge’s business called?
   A. Marley & Me  
   B. Scrooge & Marley  
   C. Scrooge’s Finances  
   D. Marley & Scrooged

6. What is Ebenezer Scrooge’s nightly eatery?
   A. Brown’s Landing  
   B. Pig & Whistle  
   C. Hound & Thorn  
   D. The Lucky Duck

7. Who was surrounded by Muppets in the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in the Brian Henson film, *The Muppet Christmas Carol*?
   A. Michael Caine  
   B. Ian McKellan  
   C. Patrick Stewart  
   D. Bill Murray

8. How many total ghosts visit Scrooge on Christmas Eve in SCR’s *A Christmas Carol*?
   A. 2  
   B. 3  
   C. 4  
   D. 5

9. How many children do the Cratchits have in SCR’s production of *A Christmas Carol*?
   A. 2  
   B. 3  
   C. 4  
   D. 5

10. Who has been with SCR’s *A Christmas Carol* since its inception?
    A. Hal Landon Jr.  
    B. John-David Keller  
    C. Art Koustik  
    D. Tom & Donna Ruzika  
    E. Dwight Richard Odle  
    F. All of the Above

Games for a Victorian Christmas

FORFEITS

To play, the guests choose a “Constable,” the British term for a police officer, who then exits the room. Once the Constable is out of earshot each player “forfeits” an article, be it a pen, brooch, bracelet, etc., into a pile. The Constable enters the room blindfolded and unaware of what object each player has deposited into the pile. The object of the game is for the Constable to match the article to the person by only feeling the object. If the Constable is correct the owner must obey an order of the Constable, something silly like doing a dance or reciting a funny phrase, to have their item returned to them. If the Constable incorrectly matches the article to the owner, the owner of the object gives the Constable something silly to do. This continues until all of the items in the pile have been given back. The Constable wins if he or she can match owner with article more times correctly than incorrectly. At the end the Constable chooses a replacement and the game starts all over.

DICTIONARY

His parlor game is not only good for Christmas, but for any occasion. The guests all receive a piece of paper and a pen and sit around a table. This game requires a dictionary from which each party guest picks a word, preferably one that is unknown to the other guests. After writing the chosen word down on a piece of paper, he or she must create four definitions for the word, one being correct and three being incorrect. Then all the words are read aloud with their definitions. The person who can identify the most correct definitions wins.

Example: Humbug
   A. Something said during Christmastime to welcome someone to a holiday party.  
   B. A person or thing that tricks or deceives.  
   C. A singing bug.  
   D. Someone who gives to charities.
returns to A Christmas Carol after appearing in last season’s The Motherf**ker with the Hat. Earlier in 2013, he was cast as a series regular on CBS’s Jim Gaffigan pilot and made a guest appearance on “Modern Family,” alongside Nathan Lane. Recent theatre credits include Romeo & Juliet and Richard III (Utah Shakespeare Festival), Pride and Prejudice and Twelfth Night (Oregon Shakespeare Festival) and Lydia (Yale Repertory Theatre and Denver Center Theatre). Other theatre includes Macbeth with The Antaeus Company, Sonia Flew at Laguna Playhouse, Center Theatre Group’s A Very Old Man with Enormous Wings and Cornerstone Theater Company’s As You Like It at Pasadena Playhouse. Film and television credits include Seven Psychopaths, Best Night Ever (upcoming), Bosco’s Guitar and Sabotage, as well as the pilot for ABC Family’s “Bunheads,” “Without a Trace,” “Passions” and the pilot I See You.” Barillas attended the University of North Carolina and received his MFA from UCLA, where he was the recipient of the George Burns Fellowship in Comedy.

returns as Bob Cratchit for his 11th consecutive year. Other SCR appearances include An Italian Straw Hat (Garland Award: Best Actor), Major Barbara (Robby Award), The School for Wives, The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow, Nostalgia and Nothing Sacred, as well as many Theatre for Young Audiences productions and Pacific Playwrights Festival readings. Los Angeles credits include The Children (Theatre@Boston Court, StageScen-LA Award: Best Featured Actor), Macbeth (The Antaeus Company, StageScen-LA Award: Outstanding Ensemble, Outstanding Performance By An Actor), Opus (Fountain Theatre, Ovation Award), American Tales (The Antaeus Company), A Distant Shore (Kirk Douglas Theatre), Pera Palas (Theatre@Boston Court) and Lunch Poet (Yale Cabaret Blue). Regionally he has appeared at Williamstown Theatre Festival, McCarter Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, Yale Repertory Theatre and many others. He received a Joseph Jefferson Citation for his work in Leander Stillwell as well as a Best Actor nomination for Flesh and Blood. Film and television credits include Rockabye, With Honors, Crossing the Bridge, “Close to Home” (recurring), “Charmed,” “NYPD Blue” and “Law & Order.” He is a member of The Antaeus Company and The Actor's Center in New York. He received his MFA from the Yale School of Drama.

returns to SCR after appearing in the season opener, Death of a Salesman. Other SCR appearances include August Wilson’s Jitney and Fences. Regional credits include the Joe Turner’s Come and Gone (Mark Taper Forum); Jitney (Pasadena Playhouse); Much Ado About Nothing (Shakespeare Santa Barbara); Cyrano de Bergerac (Milwaukee Repertory Theatre); A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Tamming of The Shrew, Merry Wives of Windsor and Two Gentlemen of Verona (Shakespeare Center L.A.); Master Harold and the Boys (Cape May Stage and Actors Theatre of Louisville); Peer Gynt (Hartford Stage Co.); and Mother Courage and Her Children (CenterStage). Film credits include Hancock, Spiderman.

**Julianne & George Argyros/Argyros Family Foundation**

(Honorary Producers) have been major supporters of South Coast Repertory since the theatre’s early days. The couple’s generous support of the Next Stage Campaign named the Julianne Argyros Stage. They have also made a significant gift to the Legacy Campaign to build the endowment that ensures the future of SCR. In September, Julianne served as Honorary Chair of SCR’s 50th Season Gala Ball, Theatrical Gold—the theatre’s most successful Gala ever—to which she and her husband, George, also contributed $2 million. This strong support is indicative of their commitment to South Coast Repertory and the arts in Orange County. “SCR has brought exceptional theatre to our community through its productions and, with each passing season, the theatre’s work has broadened and gained relevance,” Julia says. “I grew up aware of the wonderful role theatre can play in a child’s life and believe it’s important that we never lose that sense of magic.” The Argyros family keeps the magic alive as Honorary Producers of A Christmas Carol.
3, Evan Almighty and Hollywood Homicide. Television credits include a recurring role on the HBO series “True Blood” (Reverend Daniels); guest starring roles on “Harry’s Law,” “Castle,” “Parenthood,” “Weeds,” “The Sarah Silverman Show”; and Disney’s “Good Luck Charlie,” “Austin & Ally” and “Kickin It.” He is a founding member and Artistic Director of Lower Depth Theatre Ensemble, LowerDepthTheatreEnsemble.org

RICHARD DOYLE *
Solicitor/ The Spirit of Christmas Past/Gentleman

is an SCR Founding Artist. From 1964 to the present, he has logged nearly 50 years as an SCR actor. He has appeared in some 200 productions, recently as Henry in The Fantasticks, Roy in The Trip to Bountiful, Jack in The Weir and Lord Summerhays in Misalliance. He appeared in Intimate Exchanges (2004), for which he earned a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle (LADCC) nomination. He won an LADCC Award for his role in Sally Nemeth’s Holy Days and was nominated for his role as Reverend Hale in The Crucible. He has made many film and television appearances, including the western Heatbacks and Thieves and the upcoming Villisca. He is a voice actor in animation, advertising, documentaries and interactive games. Doyle can be heard on the new interactive motion capture project “Fate.” He is a recipient of The Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Award. Next summer, he will continue his role as the live show narrator of the Pageant of the Masters, an Orange County performing arts tradition.

KAREN HENSEL *
Solicitor/Mrs. Fezziwig

has been associated with SCR since her debut in Spokesong in 1979. Her performances at SCR have included The Heiress, Cold Sweat, Hotel Paradiso, Bosoms and Neglect, Unsuitable for Adults and Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune, a production that was also presented at the Singapore Theatre Festival. She also appeared in Cloud Nine, Our Country’s Good, Hay Fever and, memorably, Caryl Churchill’s Top Girls, which was also presented by SCR at the Westwood Playhouse and for which she was awarded the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award. She has performed at Mark Taper Forum, Pasadena Playhouse and American Conservatory Theater. A member of the Broadway cast of Zoot Suit, she might be recognized by television viewers as Doris on “The Young and the Restless” (18 years), or for her many guest spots on nighttime dramas. She is currently the director of the Acting Intensive Program at SCR.

JOHN-DAVID KELLER *
Mr. Fezziwig

is a member of SCR’s resident acting company. He has been with the company since 1973 as both an actor and director. He has directed A Christmas Carol for its entire 34-year history. Among his other SCR directing credits are Godspell, Jacques Brel Is Alive and Well and Living in Paris, In Fashion, The Real Inspector Hound (SCR’s first Equity show), Peg O’ My Heart and Tomfoolery. He has also acted in more than 100 productions at SCR. He recently appeared in the production of Anton Chekov’s Ivanov at the Odyssey Theatre in Los Angeles and in Mrs. Warren’s Profession at The Antaeus Company. Keller is the concert host for the Orange County Philharmonic Society’s fifth grade concerts. He is a member of Actors’ Equity, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and The Antaeus Company.

ART KOUSTITK *
Joe/Ensemble

is an SCR Founding Artist who has appeared in scores of productions, including Much Ado about Nothing, The Hollow Lands, Of Mice and Men, Tartuffe and Ah, Wilderness! He also appeared in BAFO, Six Degrees of Separation, She Stoops to Folly, The Taming of the Shrew, The Misanthrope, A Streetcar Named Desire, Twelfth Night, Hard Times, The Crucible, Prelude to a Kiss, Glengarry Glen Ross, Galileo, The Foreigner, Rum and Coke, The Show-Off, Saint Joan, Playboy of the Western World, Coming Attractions, American Buffalo, The Elephant Man, Time Was and many others, including most annual productions of A Christmas Carol. Outside of SCR, he has been in film and television programs such as La Bamba, “Valerie,” “Hill Street Blues,” “Moonlighting,” “The Golden Girls,” “Dallas” and “The Young and the Restless.” He says: “With my wife Peggy, I am at last a happy man. As the years go by I am more aware how important faith, family and friends are. God bless us, everyone.”

TIMOTHY LANDFIELD *
Wreath Seller/The Spirit of Christmas Present

has appeared in the SCR productions of Eurydice, Noises Off, Bach at Leipzig, Pinocchio, The Clean House, The Norman Conquests: Round and Round the Garden and Hay Fever. His Broadway credits include Company, The Sound of Music, Rumors, Arsenic and Old Lace,
Wild Honey, The Crucifer of Blood and Tartuffe. Off-Broadway, he was in the original production of Sister Mary Ignatius Explains It All for You and The Actor’s Nightmare. He has played major roles in regional theatres across the country, including Phleas Fogg in 80 Days at La Jolla Playhouse. Television and film credits include “Bones,” “Numb3rs,” “Six Feet Under,” “Without a Trace,” “Monk,” “Frasier,” “CSI,” “Law & Order” and The Cooler with William H. Macy. He is on the faculty at The American Academy of Dramatic Arts, where he teaches and directs. Landfield recently directed outdoor productions of Shakespeare’s Twelfth Night and Much Ado About Nothing in Los Angeles. He is proud to be a part of SCR’s family.

Hal Landon Jr.*
Ebenezer Scrooge

is an SCR Founding Artist who has appeared in The Trip to Bountiful, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Hamlet, Nothing Sacred, Man from Nebraska, Born Yesterday, The Caucasian Chalk Circle, A View from the Bridge, Habeas Corpus, Cyrano de Bergerac, Antigone, The Drawer Boy (Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award nomination), Major Barbara and Tartuffe. Other credits include Arcadia, Our Town, Sidney Bechet Killed a Man, BAFO, Six Degrees of Separation, An Ideal Husband, A Mess of Plays by Chris Durang, Faith Healer, Green Icebergs, The Miser, Our Country’s Good and Waiting for Godot. He created the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in SCR’s A Christmas Carol, and has performed it in all 33 past productions. He appeared in Leander Stillwell (Mark Taper Forum) and in Henry V (The Old Globe in San Diego). Among his television and film credits are “The Closer,” “My Name is Earl,” “CSI: NY,” “Mad Men,” The Artist, Trespass, Pacific Heights, Bill & Ted’s Excellent Adventure and Playing by Heart.

Ann Marie Lee*
Toy Lady/Sally/Scavenger

returns to SCR for her seventh season of A Christmas Carol, and previously appeared in A Little Night Music and Pinocchio. She recently appeared in her sixth show with Main Street Theatre Company. As a long-time resident artist at A Noise Within, some of her credits include Man and Superman, As You Like It, The Cherry Orchard, The Glass Menagerie, Great Expectations and Hay Fever. National tours include Peter Pan and Do Black Patent Leather Shoes... Her off-Broadway and regional credits include “Sondheim: A Celebration at Carnegie Hall,” A Midsummer Night’s Dream with the LA Phil at the Hollywood Bowl, The Constant Wife at Pasadena Playhouse and And The Winner Is... at Laguna Playhouse, among others. Film and television credits include “Brothers and Sisters,” “The Nine” (recurring), “Nip/Tuck,” “7th Heaven,” “Law and Order: CI,” “ER,” “Providence,” HBO’s Breastmen,” “Any Day Now,” “Picket Fences” and “LA Law” (recurring). Radio plays include Hollywood Theatre of the Ear and NPR’s “Beyond 2000.” She is an audio books narrator for Books On Tape, Blackstone and Tantor. She earned a BA in drama from Catholic University, Washington, D.C.; and received a performance and teaching Fulbright Fellowship in American Drama to Poland.

William Francis McGuire*
Fred/Gentleman

appeared at SCR previously in A Midsummer Night’s Dream, A Wrinkle in Time, The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow, A Christmas Carol and Tartuffe. He has also worked at the Guthrie Theater (The Rover, Naga Mandala, The Seagull, Electra, Iphigenia at Aulis, The Good Hope, Peer Gynt and Billy and Dago, among others), The Shakespeare Theatre Company (Henry V and Macbeth), Bay Street Theatre Fest (Troppeano Paints), American Repertory Theatre (Boys Next Door), Yale Repertory Theatre (Search and Destroy) and many others. His film credits include The Day After Tomorrow and Mission Impossible III, among others. His television credits include “100 Deeds for Eddie McDowd” (series regular), “CSI,” “Castle,” “Justified,” “Eagleheart,” “Criminal Minds: Suspect Behavior,” “The Mentalist,” “Saving Grace,” “Weeds,” “Numb3rs,” “Navy NCIS,” “Without a Trace,” as well as a number of Movies of the Week. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.

Jennifer Parsons*
Mrs. Cratchit

returns to SCR for a 10th year in A Christmas Carol after recently appearing in Anastasia Krupnik and The Borrowers. She also appeared in other SCR productions such as The Heiress, Cyrano de Bergerac, Getting Frankie Married—and Afterwards, Our Town, She Stoops to Folly, The Importance of Being Earnest, Buried Child, Sideways Stories from Wayside School and Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business, The BFG (Big Friendly Giant), James and the Giant Peach, The Only Child and Bunnicula. She has performed on and off-Broadway, in regional theatres across the country and is a company member at Theatre 40. She has also appeared in numerous films and television shows.
Erika Schindele*  
Laundress/Belle/Scavenger

appeared at SCR previously in *A Christmas Carol*, *Jane of the Jungle*, *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!*, *An Italian Straw Hat*, *A Year with Frog and Toad*, *The Brand New Kid*, *Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business* and *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*. Her theatre credits include *Collected Stories* at Coachella Valley Repertory (Desert Theater League nominee); *Merrily We Roll Along* and *1776* at Actors Co-op; *Hello Dolly!* at Welk Resort Theatre; *A Christmas Carol* at Sierra Madre Playhouse and Glendale Center Theatre; *The Sound of Music* with Limon/Carr Productions; *Out of this World* with Musical Theatre Guild and *The Wild Party* (Los Angeles premiere); and *Carousel, Mame* and *Camelot* at Cabrillo Music Theatre. Television appearances include “Criminal Minds.” In addition to being an SCR Acting Intensive Program graduate, she is a graduate of the UCLA Department of Theatre, Film and Television.

Playwright, Director and Designers

Jerry Patch (Adapter) was affiliated with South Coast Repertory from 1967-2005. He served as dramaturg on nearly 150 new plays seen and developed at SCR, including the world premieres of *Abundance, Freedomland, Golden Child, Intimate Apparel, Search and Destroy, Three Days of Rain* and *Wit*. His dramatic writing has been produced at SCR and other theatres, and on television. He was project director of SCR’s Pacific Playwrights Festival from its inception in 1998 through 2005, and for seven years served as artistic director of the theatre program of Sundance Institute. As professor of theatre and film, he taught at Long Beach City College, University of California, Irvine, UC-San Diego, CSU Long Beach and other institutions. He was consulting dramaturg for Roundabout Theatre Company of New York for nearly a decade, and left SCR to become resident artistic director for The Old Globe in San Diego. He is now director of artistic development at Manhattan Theatre Club in New York.

John-David Keller* (Director) See bio on page P10.

Thomas Buderwitz (Scenic Design) previously designed *The Whale*, *The Prince of Atlantis*, *The Trip to Bountiful, Three Days of Rain*, *The Weir*, *Crimes of the Heart*, *Collected Stories*, *The Heiress*, *Doubt, a parable, Pig Farm, Bach at Leipzig, Proof, A Delicate Balance, A Christmas Carol* (11 seasons), *But Not for Me* and the 2007 through 2013 Galas for SCR. He has designed for numerous other theatres including Center Theater Group, Geffen Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, Portland Center Stage, Intiman Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, Denver Center Theatre Company, Chautauqua Theater Company, Reprise Theatre Company, Arizona Theatre Company, Florida Studio Theater, Riverside Theater, Theatre @ Boston Court, A Noise Within, The Antaeus Company, PCPA Theaterfest, and San Diego Repertory among many others. Buderwitz has received four Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Awards (24 nominations) and three Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards, including the 2005 Career Achievement Award for scenic design. His television designs include specials and series for every major broadcast and cable network. He has been honored with three Emmy Award nominations and an Art Directors Guild Award nomination. tombuderwitz.com

Dwight Richard Odle (Costumes) has dressed SCR’s *A Christmas Carol* for all of its 34 years. He has also designed more than 90 other productions here, working in both scenery and costumes. As resident designer for the Laguna Playhouse, he created some 150 productions including, most recently, the costumes for *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Odle’s designs have also been seen at the Fullerton Music Theatre, Mainstreet Theatre Company, McCoy-Rigby Entertainment, Westwood and Pasadena Playhouses, Disney, Sea World San Diego and Robert Redford’s Sundance Resort. He has worked for theme parks in Seoul and Barcelona and designed the late Pope John-Paul’s 1984 Mass in Dodger Stadium. He has
been recognized for career achievement by Arts Orange County and also honored for lifetime achievement by the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle. His new business, The Collection Ltd. in Fullerton, is a costume rental resource for theatres in Orange County and beyond.

**Donna and Tom Ruzika (Lighting Design)** celebrate their 34th year of designing *A Christmas Carol* and 41 years of marriage. They have also enjoyed collaborating on productions at SCR, the Hollywood Bowl, and other regional theatres. Ms. Ruzika has designed productions at Utah Shakespeare Festival, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Laguna Playhouse, The Colony Theatre, FCLO, Pasadena Playhouse and Long Beach’s International City Theatre. Her work has also been seen in Cairo, Egypt, Bogotá, Colombia, and Barcelona, Spain. Mr. Ruzika’s designs have been seen on Broadway, in national tours, at major regional theatres, and with many national and international dance and opera companies. His entertainment lighting can be seen at theme parks in six countries, and his architectural lighting can be seen in prestigious hotels, casinos, restaurants, retail centers and performing arts centers across the nation and in Europe and Asia. Mr. Ruzika has received numerous awards for his contributions to the art and craft of lighting design.

**Dennis McCarthy (Musical Arrangement/Composer)** returns to SCR, where he previously composed music for *An Italian Straw Hat, Getting Frankie Married—and Afterwards, Ben and the Magic Paintbrush, The Beard of Avon, Much Ado about Nothing* and *Of Mice and Men*. During his career, he has written music for more than 2,000 films, television movies and series episodes, including “V,” “MacGyver,” “Parker Lewis Can’t Lose,” “Star Trek,” “Dawson’s Creek” and “Dynasty.” He has won two Emmy Awards during his 18 years of music for “Star Trek” and composed the music for the series’ first feature, *Generations*. He was honored recently with ASCAP’s “Golden Note” award. He is teaching film scoring at the Art Center of Design in Pasadena, is a Southern California native, a father of three and proud grandfather of nine beautiful grandchildren.

**Drew Dalzell (Sound Design)** is happy to be back at SCR, where he previously designed *Cloudlands, The Emperor’s New Clothes, Putting It Together, An Italian Straw Hat, Imagine, A Little Night Music, A Christmas Carol, Bunnicula, The Hoboken Chicken Emergency, Intimate Exchanges* and *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*. His other design work includes *Toy Story: The Musical* for Disney Cruise Lines; *The Laramie Project at Laguna Playhouse; Fen (Garland Award) and As I Lay Dying (Ovation Award nomination)* at Open Fist; *A Time for Love, Songs for a New World* (Ovation Award) and *Tick, Tick...Boom* at Rubicon Theatre; and *Side Show* (Ovation Award nomination), *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (Ovation Award nomination) and *The Laramie Project and Fuddy Meers* with The Colony Theatre Company. He is an associate artistic director for The Echo Theatre Company. He owns Diablo Sound, whose recent projects include the Nickelodeon Cruises for Norwegian Cruise Lines and Halloween Horror Nights for Universal Studios Hollywood.

**Dennis Castellano (Vocal Director)** has musically directed the SCR productions of *The Fantasticks, Cloudlands, Ordinary Days, Putting It Together, An Italian Straw Hat, A Little Night Music, A Christmas Carol, Happy End, Sunday in the Park with George and A Chorus of Disapproval*. Recent credits include *The Producers, Monty Python’s Spamalot* (both with Gary Beach), *Funny Girl* (with Vicki Lewis), *Sweeney Todd, Evita, The Music Man and Crazy for You* (Sacramento Music Circus); *Hairspray, Cats, Thoroughly Modern Millie and The King and I* (Musical Theatre West); *Me and My Girl and A Chorus Line* (The Music Theatre of Wichita); and *My Fair Lady, The Unsinkable Molly Brown, Guys and Dolls and Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (McCoy Rigby Entertainment). Castellano serves as the head of the music theatre program at the University of California, Irvine and is very proud of his many students performing on musical theatre stages around the country.

**Sylvia C. Turner (Choreographer)** is an award-winning choreographer and educator who is active in theatre,
concert dance and arts organizations. In addition to performing professionally, she has conducted dance research in Europe, West Africa and the Caribbean. Her work has been seen in many SCR productions, including Cloudlands, Safe in Hell, Twelfth Night, A Christmas Carol, The Birds (with Culture Clash), Arcadia, Dancing at Lughnasa, Pride and Prejudice and many educational touring productions. Other credits include “The Lion King Parade and Street Show” at Disneyland; an animated film for the Luxor Hotel, Las Vegas; Bridge to Angel Island for Ballet Pacifica; and a collaborative work, Bullwhip Days, based on slave narratives, in addition to her concert works. Turner adjudicates choreography, serves as a panelist for arts granting agencies, and is a former board member of Arts Orange County. She is currently the dean of fine and performing arts at Santa Ana College.

HISA TAKAKUWA (Assistant Director), acted in A Christmas Carol for 14 seasons and is now Assistant Director. After completing her professional training as an actor, Takakuwa appeared at SCR in The Man Who Came to Dinner and 13 Educational Touring Productions. Other acting credits include work as a resident artist at A Noise Within and at Indiana Repertory Theatre, Sundance Institute’s Children’s Theatre and Playwright’s Lab and Grove Shakespeare Festival. She has directed many Theatre Conservatory Players productions, including Metamorphoses, Hard Times, Mansfield Park, Into the Woods, Seussical and Annie. Other productions include Twelfth Night and Henry V at Actors Co-op in Hollywood. She was assistant director to Art Manke on SCR’s production of The Wind in the Willows and to Libby Appel on A Raisin in the Sun at IRT. Takakuwa is SCR’s Theatre Conservatory and Educational Programs director. She received her BA from Smith College and MFA from CalArts.

JAMIE A. TUCKER* (Stage Manager) is excited to be in his 12th season at SCR. Tucker completed his MFA in dance, specializing in stage management, at the University of California, Irvine in 1994. Since coming to SCR, he has stage-managed or assisted on 62 productions. Some of his favorites have been the world premieres of Richard Greenberg’s Three Days of Rain, The Violet Hour and The Dazzle, Rolin Jones’ The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow; and Noah Haidle’s Mr. Marmalade. Other favorites include Elemento Pea, Jitney, A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Crimes of the Heart, Fences, Anna in the Tropics, The Trip to Bountiful, A View from the Bridge, Chinglish, Death of a Salesman and Hamlet. He has had the pleasure of working seven seasons on La Posada Magica and this will make his sixth season at the helm of A Christmas Carol. If you can’t find him in the theatre, he is likely to be riding his bike through the canyons of South Orange County. Tucker is a proud member of Actors’ Equity.

SUE KARUTZ* (Assistant Stage Manager) returns for her second year on A Christmas Carol and has stage managed on ten other productions at SCR. She has toured with The Black Rider (London, San Francisco, Sydney, L.A.), Wicked (Chicago, L.A., San Francisco), Les Misérables (U.S., Canada, China and Korea) and Cirque du Soleil’s Corteo (Russia and Belgium.) Off-Broadway she earned her Equity card on Howard Crabtree’s When Pigs Fly. Karutz is a graduate of El Camino College, UC Irvine and UC San Diego, has stage managed for Center Theatre Group, Los Angeles Opera, Pasadena Playhouse, Falcon Theatre, Deaf West, American Conservatory Theater, La Jolla Playhouse, Idaho Shakespeare Festival and The National Theatre of the Deaf, and she also spends some of her time running the show Fantasmic! at Disneyland Resort.

MARC MASTERSON (Artistic Director) is in his third season with SCR. Recent directing credits include Death of a Salesman, Eurydice and Elemento Pea at SCR, As You Like It for the Houston Shakespeare Festival, The Kite Runner at Actors Theatre of Louisville and the Cleveland Play House. He previously served for 11 years as artistic director of Actors Theatre of Louisville and produced the Humana Festival of New American Plays. During his tenure, he produced more than 100 world premieres, expanded audiences and the reper-
toire, deepened numerous community-based projects. Other directing credits include *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment*, *Glengarry Glen Ross*, *The Tempest*, *Mary’s Wedding*, *The Crucible*, *Betrayal*, *As You Like It*, *The Importance of Being Earnest* and *Macbeth* in Louisville. World premieres directed at the Humana Festival include works by Lisa Dillman, Wendell Berry, Craig Wright, Eric Coble, Adam Bock, Gina Gionfriddo, Melanie Marnich, Charles Mee and Rick Dresser. He served as artistic director of City Theatre in Pittsburgh for 20 years and was founder and chairman of the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Alliance, a board member of the Citizens for the Arts in Pennsylvania, and Leadership Pittsburgh. He served six years on the Board of the Theatre Communications Group and as a theatre advisory panel member for the National Endowment for the Arts as well as numerous foundations. He won the Man of the Year Vectors Award, and received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Pittsburgh New Works Festival.

**Paula Tomei** (Managing Director) is responsible for the overall administration of SCR and has been managing director since 1994. A member of the SCR staff since 1979, she has served in a number of administrative capacities, including subscriptions manager, business manager and general manager. She was the president of the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for theatre, and served two terms as a board member. She has also served as treasurer of TCG, vice president of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) and has been a member of the LORT Negotiating Committee for industry-wide union agreements. In addition, she represents SCR at national conferences of TCG and LORT; is a theatre panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA) and the California Arts Council; site visitor for the NEA; and has been a guest lecturer in the graduate school of business at Stanford and UC Irvine. She is on the board of Arts Orange County, the county-wide arts council, and the board of the Nicholas Endowment. Tomei graduated from UC Irvine with a degree in economics and pursued an additional degree in nonprofit management at UC Irvine.

**Martin Benson** (Founding Artistic Director), co-founder of SCR, has directed nearly one-fourth of SCR’s productions. In 2008, he and David Emmes received the Margo Jones Award for their lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and fostering the art and craft of American playwriting. They also accepted SCR’s 1988 Tony Award for Outstanding Resident Professional Theatre and won the 1995 Theatre L.A. Ovation Award for Lifetime Achievement. Benson has received the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for Distinguished Achievement in Directing an unparalleled seven times for George Bernard Shaw’s *Major Barbara*, *Misalliance* and *Heartbreak House*, John Millington Synge’s *Playboy of the Western World*, Arthur Miller’s *The Crucible*, Sally Nemeth’s *Holy Days*; and Margaret Edson’s Pulitzer Prize-winning *Wit*, which he also directed at Seattle Repertory Theatre and Houston’s Alley Theatre. He has directed American classics such as *A Streetcar Named Desire* and has distinguished himself in staging contemporary work, including the critically acclaimed California premiere of William Nicholson’s *Shadowlands*. Most recently, he directed the world premiere of Julie Marie Myatt’s *The Happy Ones*, a revival of George Bernard Shaw’s *Misalliance*, Horton Foote’s *The Trip to Bountiful* and Samuel D. Hunter’s *The Whale*. Benson received his BA in theatre from San Francisco State University.

**David Emmes** (Founding Artistic Director) is co-founder of South Coast Repertory. In May 2008, he received the Margo Jones Award for his lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and fostering the art and craft of American playwriting. In addition, he has received numerous awards for productions he has directed during his SCR career, including a Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Award for the direction of George Bernard Shaw’s *The Philanderer*. He directed the world premieres of Amy Freed’s *Safe in Hell*, *The Beard of Avon* and *Freedomland*, Thomas Babe’s *Great Day in the Morning*, Keith Reddin’s *Rum and Coke* and *But Not for Me* and Neal Bell’s *Cold Sweat*; the American premieres of Terry Johnson’s *Unsuitable for Adults* and Joe Penhall’s *Dumb Show*; and the Southland premiere of *Top Girls* (at SCR and the Westwood Playhouse). Other productions he has directed include *New England* by Richard Nelson, *Arcadia* by Tom Stoppard, *The Importance of Being Earnest* by Oscar Wilde, Alan Ayckbourn’s *Woman in Mind* and *You Never Can Tell* by George Bernard Shaw, which he restaged for the Singapore Festival of Arts. He has served as a theatre panelist and on-site evaluator for the National Endowment for the Arts, as well as a panelist for the California Arts Council. After attending Orange Coast College, he received his BA and MA from San Francisco State University, and his PhD in theatre and film from USC.
Ensemble

**James MacEwan**

*Puppet Show/Mr. Topper/The Spirit of Christmas Yet-to-Come*

was born and raised in Johannesburg, South Africa, and is making his debut on American soil. He is a graduate of South Coast Repertory’s Acting Intensive Program and is thrilled to be involved in *A Christmas Carol*. Some highlights from his South African credits include *Mamma Mia*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Grease*, *Don’t Drink the Water* and *The Beauty Queen of Leenane*. He has appeared on international television in *Wild at Heart* and the HBO series “Generation Kill.” jamesmacewan.com

**Nick Slimmer**

*Thomas Shelley*

is a recent graduate of South Coast Repertory’s Acting Intensive Program and was a six-year student in the Theatre Conservatory Kids and Teen Programs, performing in numerous shows. He is delighted to be returning to the *Christmas Carol* family. Having previously portrayed the role of Peter Cratchit, he is now eager to embrace his new role of Thomas Shelly. In addition to his SCR credits, he has also appeared in multiple television programs, including “Wizards of Waverly Place,” “Criminal Minds” and “Saving Grace.” Favorite past theatre credits include Cat in the Hat (*Seussical*), Henry Crawford (*Mansfield Park*) and Peter (*Peter Pan*) at SCR and Matt (*Dog Sees God*) at The Garage Theatre.

**Xavier J. Watson**

*Constable/Jacob Marley as a Young Man/Poulterer*

is an Atlanta native making his SCR debut. His Atlanta stage credits include *High School Musical 2: On Stage* (world premiere), *The Ancestors Live Here* and *Harvest Time*. Watson is a graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts (AADA) and was awarded the Charles Jehlinger Award for Excellence in Acting, the institution’s highest honor. He is also a member of the 2013-14 AADA Company. His AADA performances include *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Othello: The Moor of Venice*, *Ruined*, *Blue Window* and *Goodbye Freddy*. He is a graduate of South Coast Repertory’s 2013 Acting Intensive Program.

**Kirby Wilson**

*Elizabeth Shelley/Pursued Maiden*

is pleased to be making her professional debut performance on the South Coast Repertory stage. She is a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Arts, where she performed as Salima in *Ruined*. Kirby is a recipient of the 2013 Michael Thoma Award. She is also a graduate of the South Coast Repertory Acting Intensive program.

Students in SCR’s Young Conservatory portray all the young characters in *A Christmas Carol*. Two teams alternate performances. Appearing Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday at 7:30 p.m., Sunday at noon and Dec. 24 at 4 p.m. are (above top row, left to right) Noel Renfrow, Thomas McCarthy, Shane Iverson and Clarke Audrey Schwartz (above, bottom row, left to right) Jaden Fogel, Maddy Nickless, Erica Maggipinto and Tasha Zentil. Appearing in the balance of performances are (above top row, left to right) Liam McHugh, Grace O’Brien, Lindsay Elizabeth Frazin and Christopher Delfino (above bottom row, left to right) Dominic Brack, Nika Natalie Aydin, Jillian Tabone and Caitlyn Roum.