



SEGERSTROM STAGE / NOVEMBER 27 - DECEMBER 26, 2021

# South Coast Repertory

David Ivers  
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Paula Tomei  
MANAGING DIRECTOR

David Emmes & Martin Benson  
FOUNDING ARTISTIC DIRECTORS

presents the 41st annual production of

CHARLES DICKENS'

# A CHRISTMAS CAROL

adapted by Jerry Patch

Thomas Buderwitz  
SCENIC DESIGN

Dwight Richard Odle  
COSTUME DESIGN

Donna & Tom Ruzika  
LIGHTING DESIGN

Dennis McCarthy  
MUSIC ARRANGEMENT/COMPOSER

Drew Dalzell  
SOUND DESIGN

Dennis Castellano  
VOCAL DIRECTOR

Kelly Todd  
CHOREOGRAPHER  
based on the original staging of Sylvia Turner

Joanne DeNaut, CSA  
CASTING

Talia Krispel\*  
STAGE MANAGER

DIRECTED BY

## Hisa Takakuwa

based on the original staging of John-David Keller

Julianne & George Argyros/Argyros Family Foundation  
HONORARY PRODUCERS

## CAST OF CHARACTERS

(In order of appearance)

UNDERTAKER .....	<i>Tommy Beck*</i>
JOE, a cider salesman and a receiver of stolen goods .....	<i>Art Koustik*</i>
CONSTABLE .....	<i>Rosney Mauger*</i>
TOY LADY .....	<i>Paige Lindsey White*</i>
PUPPET SHOW .....	<i>Kelsey Kato</i>
THOMAS SHELLEY .....	<i>Nick Slimmer</i>
ELIZABETH SHELLEY .....	<i>Kelsey Bray</i>
OLIVER SHELLEY .....	<i>Arman Hamidi, Maximilian Lalli†</i>
RICH WOMAN .....	<i>Tamlyn Tomita*</i>
RICH BOY .....	<i>Cooper Latham, Colin Savage†</i>
RICH GIRL .....	<i>Maddie Chung, Presley Coogan†</i>
YOUNG GIRL ABOUT TOWN .....	<i>Justine Roussel, ChloeLux Phan†</i>
TEEN GIRL ABOUT TOWN .....	<i>Zoe Hebbard, Halia Lindauer†</i>
WREATH SELLER .....	<i>Richard Soto*</i>
LAUNDRESS .....	<i>Erika Schindele*</i>
CHIMNEY SWEEP .....	<i>Nicholas Brown, Dylan Gorham†</i>
EBENEZER SCROOGE, a grasping, covetous old man .....	<i>Richard Doyle*</i>
BOB CRATCHIT, clerk to Ebenezer .....	<i>Daniel Blinkoff*</i>
FRED, nephew to Ebenezer .....	<i>Sol Castillo*</i>
SOLICITORS .....	<i>William Francis McGuire*, Melody Butiu*</i>
JACOB MARLEY'S GHOST, a spectre of Ebenezer's former partner in business .....	<i>Michael Manuel*</i>
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PAST, a phantom showing things past .....	<i>Jennifer Parsons*</i>
EBENEZER AS A BOY .....	<i>Arman Hamidi, Maximilian Lalli†</i>
FAN, the sister of Ebenezer .....	<i>Kelsey Bray</i>
MRS. FEZZIWIG .....	<i>Melody Butiu*</i>
MR. FEZZIWIG, a kind-hearted, jovial old merchant .....	<i>William Francis McGuire*</i>
JACOB MARLEY AS A YOUNG MAN .....	<i>Rosney Mauger*</i>
EBENEZER AS A YOUNG MAN .....	<i>Tommy Beck*</i>
BELLE, sweetheart of Ebenezer .....	<i>Erika Schindele*</i>
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT, a spirit of a kind, earthy and generous nature ...	<i>Richard Soto*</i>
“TINY” TIM CRATCHIT .....	<i>Maddie Chung, Presley Coogan†</i>
MRS. CRATCHIT .....	<i>Tamlyn Tomita*</i>
BELINDA CRATCHIT .....	<i>Sofia Mendez, Tessany Azizi†</i>
PETER CRATCHIT .....	<i>Cooper Latham, Colin Savage†</i>
MARTHA CRATCHIT .....	<i>Tess Fox, Natalie Bright†</i>
MR. TOPPER, a bachelor .....	<i>Kelsey Kato</i>
PURSUED MAIDEN .....	<i>Kelsey Bray</i>
SALLY, the wife of Fred .....	<i>Paige Lindsey White*</i>
THE SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS YET-TO-COME, an apparition showing the shadows of things which may yet happen .....	<i>Rosney Mauger*</i>
WANT .....	<i>Justine Roussel, ChloeLux Phan†</i>
IGNORANCE .....	<i>Arman Hamidi, Maximilian Lalli†</i>
GENTLEMEN ON THE STREET .....	<i>Sol Castillo*, Michael Manuel*, William Francis McGuire*</i>
THE SCAVENGERS .....	<i>Jennifer Parsons*, Erika Schindele*, Paige Lindsey White*</i>
TURKEY BOY .....	<i>Nicholas Brown, Dylan Gorham†</i>
POULTERER .....	<i>Rosney Mauger*</i>



**SETTING**

*19th-Century London*

**LENGTH**

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

**PRODUCTION STAFF**

Assistant Stage Manager ..... *Julie Ann Renfro\**  
 Production Assistants ..... *Lauren Buangan, Julian Olive*  
 Dance Captain ..... *Erika Schindele*  
 Deck Crew ..... *Steven McFann, Mason Meskell, Ben Morrow, Nicholas Yocca*  
 Follow Spot Operators ..... *Rachele Ekstrand, Hayden Kirschbaum*  
 Sound Engineer ..... *Cinthia Nava Palmer*  
 Light Board Operator ..... *Sean Deuel*  
 Young Performers Supervisor ..... *Rubén Bolívar*  
 Wig and Makeup Crew ..... *Klint Flowers*  
 Wardrobe Supervisor ..... *Kendall Dayton*  
 Dresser ..... *Anna De Le Cour*  
 Assistant Costume Designer ..... *Sarah Timm*  
 Additional Costume Staff ..... *Whitney Claytor, Lalena Hutton, Ramzi Jneid, Tessa Oberle, Ashley Trutanich*

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

*\* Member of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.*

*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.*

*Photos may be taken before and after the show, and during intermission, but not during the performance itself. Show your appreciation for the play by using the hashtag #XmasSCR. Smoking is not permitted anywhere in the theatre.*

THE ORANGE COUNTY  
**REGISTER**  
*Media Partner*

# In Memoriam, ['Ring out, wild bells']

Alfred Lord Tennyson (1809-92)

Ring out, wild bells, to the wild sky,  
The flying cloud, the frosty light:  
The year is dying in the night;  
Ring out, wild bells, and let him die.  
Ring out the old, ring in the new,  
Ring, happy bells, across the snow:  
The year is going, let him go;  
Ring out the false, ring in the true.  
Ring out the grief that saps the mind  
For those that here we see no more;  
Ring out the feud of rich and poor,  
Ring in redress to all mankind.  
Ring out a slowly dying cause,  
And ancient forms of party strife;  
Ring in the nobler modes of life,  
With sweeter manners, purer laws.

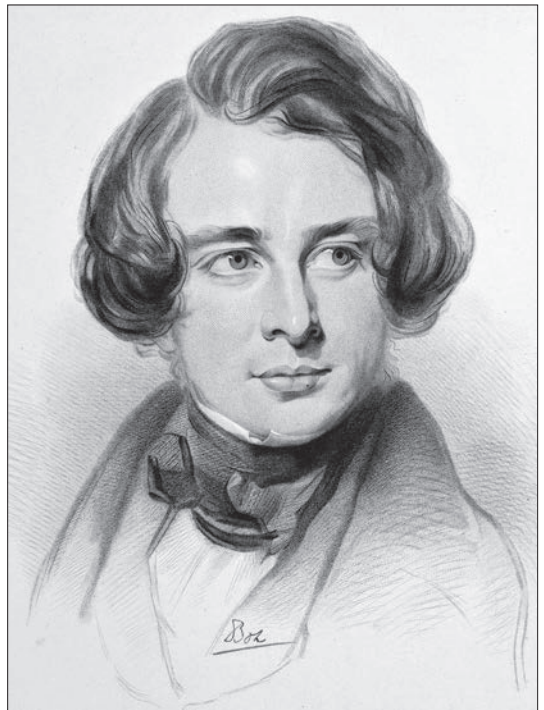
Ring out the want, the care, the sin,  
The faithless coldness of the times;  
Ring out, ring out my mournful rhymes  
But ring the fuller minstrel in.  
Ring out false pride in place and blood,  
The civic slander and the spite;  
Ring in the love of truth and right,  
Ring in the common love of good.  
Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old,  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.  
Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land,  
Ring in the Christ that is to be.

## 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.



Sketch of Dickens in 1842 during his first American tour by an unknown artist.

# The History and Success 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 170 years later, it's the story known all over the world as *A Christmas Carol*.

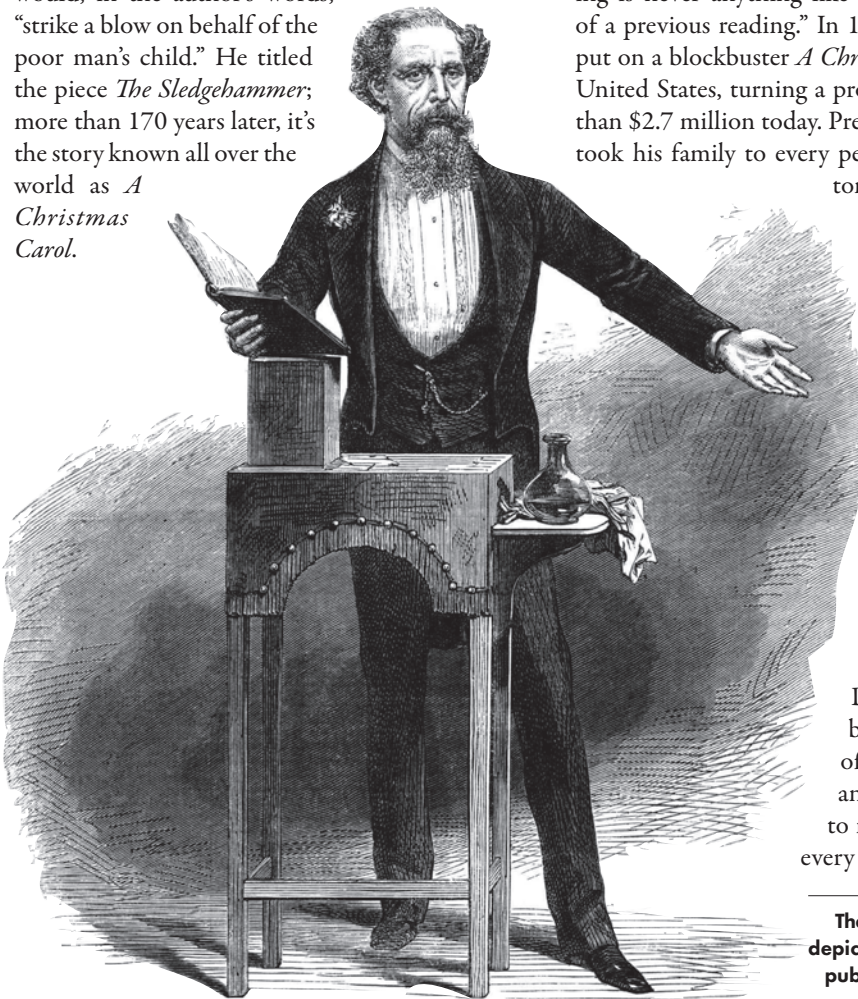


Writing the story in just six weeks, Dickens told friends that the Cratchits were "ever tugging at his coat sleeve, as if impatient for him to get back to his desk and continue the story of their lives." Dickens could hardly have imagined that his tale would become beloved by so many.

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—more than \$2.7 million today. President Andrew Johnson took his family to every performance in Washington D.C., and theatergoers camped overnight in the streets to purchase tickets.

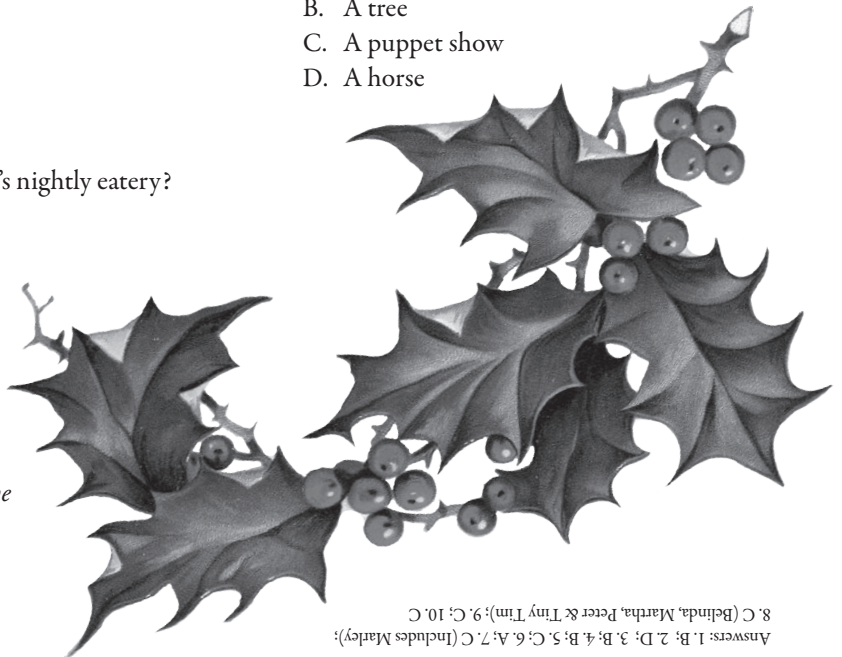
*A Christmas Carol* has been translated for readers all over the world and adapted into dozens of stage productions, films and even an opera. Though he could not have anticipated how successful his novella would prove to be, Dickens would surely be happy that his story of the virtues of goodwill and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

The *Illustrated London News* depicted Dickens giving his last public reading of *A Christmas Carol* in March 1870.



# 'A 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 different directors have directed *A Christmas Carol* here at SCR during its 41-year run?
  - A. 1
  - B. 2
  - C. 3
  - D. 4
4. 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
5. What is Ebenezer Scrooge's nightly eatery?
  - A. Brown's Landing
  - B. Pig & Whistle
  - C. Hound & Thorn
  - D. The Lucky Duck
6. 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
7. How many total ghosts visit Scrooge on Christmas Eve in SCR's *A Christmas Carol*?
  - A. 2
  - B. 3
  - C. 4
  - D. 5
8. How many children do the Cratchits have in SCR's production of *A Christmas Carol*?
  - A. 2
  - B. 3
  - C. 4
  - D. 5
9. What is Scrooge's sister's name?
  - A. Brittany
  - B. Constance
  - C. Fan
  - D. Belle
10. What comes onstage in the first scene of SCR's *A Christmas Carol*?
  - A. A wagon
  - B. A tree
  - C. A puppet show
  - D. A horse



Answers: 1. B; 2. D; 3. B; 4. B; 5. C; 6. A; 7. C (Includes Marley); 8. C (Belinda, Martha, Peter & Tiny Tim); 9. C; 10. C



## SCR Theatre Conservatory Students Shine on Stage

**I**n today's performance of *A Christmas Carol*, you'll see young actors in the roles of Martha, Belinda, Peter and "Tiny" Tim Cratchit. And Turkey Boy. And the specters of "Want" and "Ignorance." And the young people among the partygoers. All of them are students in SCR's Theatre Conservatory who earned the roles through hard work, talent, rigorous auditions and the growth and promise they have shown in their classes.

"The students selected for *A Christmas Carol* show maturity, focus, confidence and an overall readiness to take on this exciting challenge. It's a thrill for us to provide young actors this singular opportunity to perform and learn next to professional artists in this beloved classic," says Conservatory Director Hisa Takakuwa, who portrayed Sally and Toy Lady in *A Christmas Carol* for 14 years, served as assistant director for 14 additional years and directs the production this year. "Each year's cast of 16 young actors brings a new life and energy to this wonderful show."

Many conservatory students between the ages of 9 and 17 audition each year for the annual holiday classic. They must have at least two years of conservatory training, show strength in their class work and have the recommendation of their teacher.

"Our acting classes guide students toward understanding the artistic process, discovering their creativity and building their ability to work confidently with others," explains Takakuwa. "Our students learn through their work in this production and when they resume classes, we see how much they have grown as artists."

**Above, Lauren Lee, Jennifer Parsons, Daniel Blinkoff, Presley Coogan, Olivia Drury and Nicholas Brown as the Cratchit family in the 2018 production of *A Christmas Carol*.**

### "A Christmas Carol" Leaves Lasting Impact

We asked Theatre Conservatory students from past productions of SCR's *A Christmas Carol* what made the experience special for them.

"*A Christmas Carol* was integral to my growth as an artist and in my education. I learned that dedication requires stamina; that being present requires focus; and commitment to your fellow artists requires commitment to your choices. This experience shaped me and I am so grateful for that."

—Sanaz Toossi (Martha Cratchit, 2008)

"*A Christmas Carol* was my first professional stage experience and it helped me gain insight into the entire production process, which inspired me to pursue a BA in theatre from UCSD. Today, I am a K-8 educator and theatre artist—I even worked as the child assistant for the 2015 season of *A Christmas Carol*—and I would argue that the experience of working on this production was one of the most impactful moments of my training in the Theatre Conservatory's Kids and Teen Program, as well as my academic career."

—Brianna Beach (Martha Cratchit, 2007, and Fan, 2008)

"*A Christmas Carol* was a portal into the world of the professional actor. While I got the chance to explore my craft with sage adult actors, I also developed crucial leadership skills among the younger actors."

—Christopher Huntley (Boy Scrooge, 2008, and Peter Cratchit, 2011)

Share your own story about *A Christmas Carol*. Email: [theatre@scr.org](mailto:theatre@scr.org)

# Artist Biographies



## **TOMMY BECK**

*Undertaker/Ebenezer as a Young Man*

is excited to be making his SCR debut. His recent credits include *The Explorers Club*, *All My Sons* (Jewel Theatre Company); *Marjorie Prime*, *Shakespeare in Love*, *Miss Bennet* (Marin Theatre Company); *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Kansas City Actors Theatre); *Colossal* (San Francisco Playhouse); *The Real Thing*, *The Monster Builder*, *Eccentricities of a Nightingale* (Aurora Theatre Company); *A Few Good Men* (Hillbarn Theatre); *Pride & Prejudice*, *Persuasion* (Livermore Shakespeare Festival); *Sleuth*, *Dracula* (Center REPeritory Company); *Sense & Sensibility* (TheatreWorks); *Much Ado About Nothing* (Cal Shakes); *Cymbeline* (Marin Shakespeare Company); *Hamlet*, *Compleat Female Stage Beauty*, *The Three Musketeers* (City Lights Theater Company). Beck has worked extensively in performance capture, most notably with 2K Games, Hangar 13, Firaxis, Pixar, Epic Games, and Industrial Light & Magic. He received his BA from New York University and is a proud member of AEA & SAG/AFTRA.



## **DANIEL BLINKOFF**

*Bob Cratchit*

returns for his 18th consecutive year as Bob Cratchit. His other SCR appearances include *An Italian Straw Hat* (Garland Award, Best Actor), *Major Barbara* (Robby Award, Best Supporting Actor), *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. His LA credits include *The Children* (Boston Court Pasadena, StageSceneLA Award, Best Featured Actor), *Macbeth* (The Antaeus Company, StageSceneLA Award, Outstanding Ensemble, Outstanding Performance by an Actor), *Opus* (Fountain Theatre, Ovation Award), *Ameri-*

*can Tales* (The Antaeus Company), *A Distant Shore* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Pera Palas* (Boston Court Pasadena) and *Lunch Poet* (Yale Cabaret Blue). Regionally, he has appeared at Williamstown Theatre Festival, BAM, McCarter Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, as well as many others. His film and television credits include *Rockabye*, *With Honors*, *Crossing the Bridge*, *Kuuiipo*, *The Umami of Gumbo*, "Close to Home" (recurring), "Charmed," "NYPD Blue" and "Law & Order." Blinkoff received his MFA from the Yale School of Drama. He and his wife Tamlyn Tomita are also building Outside In Theatre in Highland Park, LA that will open in 2023. To learn more, you can visit <http://outsideintheatre.org>



## **KELSEY BRAY**

*Elizabeth Shelley/Pursued Maiden/Fan*

(she/her) is so grateful to be back performing at South Coast Repertory where she was a student in the Education Conservatory for over 11 years and performed as Belinda Cratchit in the 2010 production of *A Christmas Carol*. Her regional credits include *Junie B. Jones*, *Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells* (Junie B., Oklahoma Children's Theatre), *Clean Slate* (Gina, world premiere, Ignition Arts) and *Illuminate* (world premiere, original company member, Ignition Arts). She earned her BFA in acting and directing from Oklahoma City University. Endless gratitude to her amazing family, friends and mentors. Happy Holidays! [kelseybrayactor.com](http://kelseybrayactor.com) IG: @Kelsey.bray98



## **MELODY BUTIU**

*Solicitor/Mrs. Fezziwig*

is excited to return to *A Christmas Carol*, where she played Sally in 2018-19. SCR credits include *M. Butterfly*, *Shipwrecked! An Entertainment*, *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*, *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience*, and more. In April 2022, you



can catch her as Tita Yvonne in the Amblin/Rideback film, *Easter Sunday*, starring comedian Jo Koy. New York credits include *Doctor Zhivago* (Broadway) and David Byrne's *Here Lies Love* (The Public Theater). Regional theatre credits include *Vietgone* (Geva Theatre Center/Denver Center) *Right to Be Forgotten* (Arena Stage), *South Pacific* (Rev Theatre Company), *Here Lies Love* (Seattle Repertory Theatre), *Merrily We Roll Along* (The Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts), *Sunday in the Park with George* (Huntington Theatre Company), *Monstress* (American Conservatory Theatre), *Stage Kiss* and *Shipwrecked!* (Geffen Playhouse), *Helen* (Getty Villa), *A Perfect Wedding* (Kirk Douglas Theatre), *Long Story Short* (San Diego Repertory Theatre), *A Little Night Music* and *Golden Child* (East West Players), *36 Views* (Portland Center Stage), *Hair* (Reprise), and *Dogeaters* (La Jolla Playhouse). Film and TV credits include *Untold: This is My Story*, *Swearing*, *The Patients*, "Mom," "Call Me Kat," "This is Us," "The Kominsky Method," "NCIS," "NCIS: LA," "Kingdom," "Rizzoli & Isles," "Gotham," "Major Crimes" and "Modern Family." More at melodybutiu.com, Instagram: @themelodybutiu



**SOL CASTILLO**

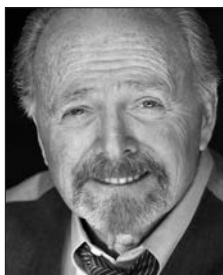
*Fred/Gentleman*

is excited to return to live theater in *A Christmas Carol*. He was last seen as Mino in the return of *American Mariachi* at Outside SCR. His previous SCR credits include Mino in the 2019 production of *American Mariachi*, *A Christmas Carol*, *The Night Fairy* and *The Hollow Lands*. You may also remember him as Refugio/Buzzard from his eight-season run in Octavio Solis' *La Posada Mágica*. He also appeared in Arizona Theatre Company's production of *American Mariachi*. Other credits include Solis' world premier of *Quixote Nuevo* at California Shakespeare Theater; Lord Chac Ha in *The Realm of the Maya* at Plaza de La Raza; the Denver Center for the Performing Arts debut of *Sunsets and Margaritas*; *Of Mice and Men* at Pasadena Playhouse; *Zoot Suit* at San Diego Repertory Theatre; and in the national tour of *Veteranos: A Legacy of Valor*. He dedicates his performance to his family, who inspire him to keep playing. Follow him at Instagram and Twitter @elsolcastillo.

# Honorary Producer

**JULIANNE & GEORGE ARGYROS/ARGYROS FAMILY FOUNDATION** have been

leading supporters of South Coast Repertory since its earliest days. Highlights of their generosity include major contributions to the Next Stage Campaign, leading to the naming of the Julianne Argyros Stage, and to the Legacy Campaign to build the theatre's endowment. Julianne is an Honorary Trustee and, in 2013, she served as Honorary Chair of SCR's legendary 50th Season Gala, Theatrical Gold. This is the 14th year that the couple has been the Honorary Producer of *A Christmas Carol*. Speaking of the show, Julianne comments: "This holiday classic is our family's favorite tradition and, every year, it continues to delight and amaze young and old alike!" SCR is deeply grateful to the Argyros Family for their extraordinary commitment to our theatre and the community.



**RICHARD DOYLE**

*Ebenezer Scrooge*

is an SCR Founding Member, most recently heard in the solo audio performance of SCR's *A Christmas Carol*, a story he is quite familiar with, having been in SCR's stage version for 36 seasons. He was last seen at SCR in *Outside Mullingar* by John Patrick Shanley (2020) and previously in *Kings, Rest, The Weir* and more than 200 other productions. His other SCR favorites include *Holy Days*; *The Beard of Avon*; *You, Nero*; *Men's Singles*; *Unsuitable for Adults* (U.S. premiere); *Playland*; *Frankie and Johnny in the Clair de Lune*; *The Crucible*; *Intimate Exchanges*; *Cyranos*; *A View from the Bridge*; *Of Mice and Men*; and, from SCR's Third Step Theatre, *The Tavern* by George M. Cohan. Live stage is Doyle's first love, but he has also kept busy with film and television including a regular role as Mr. Gaines on "Cheers"; several roles on "M\*A\*S\*H"; his first feature, the Micheal Crichton film *Coma*; Wolfgang Peterson's *Air Force*

*One*; and *Mass Appeal*, with his favorite actors Jack Lemmon and Milo O'Shea. He has also appeared in many independent features, including *Abduction of Angie*. Voice acting brought him face to face with the genesis of his love for live performance: storytelling. His work as an animation voiceover actor ranges from "Sky Commanders" "The Chimp Channel," "Batman," "Ben Ten" and "Spiderman" to video and motion capture performances in dozens of video games like "MGS 3" as Big Boss, to podcasts like "Exeter" and "Solve." A decade ago, Doyle was noticed by The Pageant of the Masters and was tapped to be the live show narrator for this unique event, where he welcomes folks and encourages them to "enjoy stories surrounding this Arts themed show." Here at SCR, he likewise hopes that you "Enjoy the Show!"

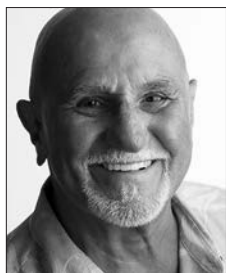


**KELSEY KATO**

*Puppet Show/Mr. Topper*

is honored to be returning to *A Christmas Carol* at SCR, after performing as Peter Cratchit back in 2010! He has performed in many productions with

SCR Theatre Conservatory's Teen Players and Summer Players, including *David Copperfield* (David Copperfield), *Into The Woods* (Baker), *Mary Poppins* (George Banks), *Beauty and the Beast* (Beast) and *Seussical* (Horton). He most recently performed as a puppeteer in *Little Shop of Horrors* at the Pasadena Playhouse. His other credits include Posthumus Leonatus (understudy) in *Cymbeline* (Porters of Hellsgate) and Claudio in *Measure for Measure* (Method and Madness). He received his BA from UCLA. Instagram: @kel\_c\_kato



**ART KOUSTIK**

*Joe/Ensemble*

is an SCR Founding Member 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 40 years of *A Christmas Carol* (he's the last actor that remains from the original 1980 production). He originated the role of Joe the Cider Man and Mr. Fezziwig and played the latter role for 24 seasons. Outside of SCR, he has been in film and on television programs such as *La Bamba*, "Valerie," "Hill Street Blues," "Moonlighting," "The Golden Girls," "Dallas" and "The Young and the Restless" and productions of *Guys and Dolls*, *Chapter 2*, *Brigadoon* and *Anything Goes*. 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."



**MICHAEL MANUEL**

*Jacob Marley's Ghost/Gentleman*

is happy to be returning to SCR, where he last appeared as Boris in *Amos and Boris*, and before that Madame Pernelle in *Tartuffe*,

Big Stone in *Eurydice*, Francis Flute/Thisbe in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and in numerous readings and workshops since 1994. He has worked in regional theatres across the country including The Alley Theatre, Empty Space Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre, Berkeley Repertory, Arena Stage, Shakespeare Theatre DC, Group Theater, Yale Repertory Theatre, New Jersey Shakespeare Festival and Theatre For a New Audience. Manuel spent 2019 at A Noise Within playing Iago in *Othello*, The Creature in *Frankenstein* (Ovation, LADCC, LA Theatre Bites and Stage Scene LA Awards) and Tilden in *Buried Child*. Other theatres in LA include Pasadena Playhouse, Mark Taper Forum, Cornerstone Theater Company, Shakespeare Festival LA, Geffen Playhouse, Interact Theatre Company, Upright Citizens Brigade, Main Street Players, About Productions, Parson's Nose and Impro Theatre where he is a Main Company member. He has appeared in numerous television programs and films. He is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama.



**ROSNEY MAUGER**  
*Constable/Jacob Marley as a Young Man/The Spirit of Christmas Yet-to-Come/Poulterer*

is honored and ecstatic to return to theatre once again and to be returning for his fourth stint in *A Christmas*

*Carol*. He previously appeared at SCR in *All the Way* as Rev. Ralph Abernathy. His other credits include Bobo in *Raisin in the Sun* at A Noise Within. He completed SCR's Acting Intensive Program in 2016 and is also a graduate of The American Academy of Dramatic Arts. His highlighted roles at The Academy included *Othello* and Hedley in *Seven Guitars*. Originally from central Florida, he appeared in the August Wilson productions of *The Piano Lesson* as Lymon directed by American Theater Hall Of Fame Director Woodie King Jr. And also *King Hedley II* at Seminole State College in Lake Mary. He wishes everyone a warm welcome back to the theatre!



**WILLIAM FRANCIS MCGUIRE**  
*Solicitor/Mr. Fezziwig/Gentleman*

appeared at SCR previously in *Shakespeare in Love*, *All the Way*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *A Wrinkle*

*in Time*, *The Intelligent Design of Jenny Chow*, *A Christmas Carol* and *Tartuffe*. He also has 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 Theater Fest (*Tropeano 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*. 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," "NCIS," "Without a Trace," as well as a number of Movies of the Week. He is Chair of the Department of Theatre Arts at Saddleback College and a graduate of Yale School of Drama.



**JENNIFER PARSONS**  
*The Spirit of Christmas Past/Scavenger*

returns to SCR for her 19th year in *A Christmas Carol* —17 as Mrs. Cratchit and one as Belle (back in the long ago). She has also appeared

in the SCR productions of *The Heiress*, *Cyrano de Bergerac*, *Getting Frankie Married—and Afterwards*, *Our Town*, *She Stoops to Folly*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Buried Child*, *Flora & Ulysses*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Anastasia Krupnik*, *The Borrowers*, *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, *Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business*, *Brand New Kid*, *The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)*, *The Only Child* and *Bunnicula*. Her other recent SoCal performances include *The Glass Menagerie*, *Silent Sky* and *Vanya, Sonia, Masha & Spike* at International City Theatre. She has performed on and off-Broadway, in regional theatres across the country and is a company member at Theatre 40. Her most current television credits include recurring guest star roles on "How to Get Away with Murder" and "Proven Innocent." Other guest star credits include roles on "All Rise," "The Romanoffs," "Longmire," "Bones," "Criminal Minds" and "Stalker." She is happily married to Scrooge, Richard Doyle.



**ERIKA SCHINDELE**  
*Laundress/Belle/Scavenger*

is honored to continue to be a part of this beloved Christmas tradition. She appeared at SCR in the world premiere of *An Italian Straw Hat*, as well as numerous

Theatre for Young Audience productions. Recently, she returned to the stage as Georgie Burns in Simon Stephens *Heisenberg* at Jewel Theatre Company and before the world shut down, she was Mrs. Weston in a musical production of *Emma* at the Ensemble Theater in Santa Barbara. She played Stella Kowalski in the iconic *A Streetcar Named Desire* (Jewel Theatre Company) and at Laguna Playhouse, she was in the West Coast premiere of *I'm Still Getting My Act Together* (starring Gretchen Cryer), as well as *The Odd Couple* and *Love, Loss and What I Wore*. Her other theatre credits include *Collected Stories* at

Coachella Valley Repertory (Desert Theatre League Award nominee, best actress); *Merrily We Roll Along* and *1776* at Actors Co-op Theatre Company; *Hello Dolly!* at Welk Resort Theatre; and *A Christmas Carol* at Sierra Madre Playhouse and Glendale Center Theatre. She recently starred in the films *Emerald* and *The What If*; and her television appearances include “Criminal Minds” and “American Dreams.” For Brent and Jack, always. erikaschindele.com.



**NICK SLIMMER**

*Thomas Shelley/Ensemble*

is thrilled to be making his return to *A Christmas Carol* for the fifth time. He is a graduate of the SCR’s Acting Intensive Program and American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He is also a series regular on the popular web series “Life as a Mermaid.” His favorite roles include Boy in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Johnny Applesseed in the world premiere of *American Tall Tales* and Matt in *Dog Sees God*. Slimmer would like to thank his parents for their support, director Hisa Takakuwa for giving him the opportunity, and his girlfriend, Emily, for her love.



**RICHARD SOTO**

*Wreath Seller/The Spirit of Christmas Present*

who is a member of SAG-AFTRA and Actors Equity, is overjoyed to be back with the tradition of *A Christmas Carol*, where he was last seen as Young Ebenezer. His other SCR credits include Vecino in *A Long Road Today/El Largo Camino de Hoy*, SCR’s *Dialogue/Diálogos* project in Santa Ana. He also appeared in *Coriolanus*, *The School for Scandal*, and *Romeo & Juliet* at The Old Globe. Other credits include *The Misanthrope* and *Major Barbara* at A Noise Within. He is a faculty instructor with SCR’s Theatre Conservatory, adjunct professor at Vanguard University, and a teacher at the Orange County School of the Arts. As a writer, his written work includes the Latinx superhero comic book, *The Legend of El Lobo*, his plays, *The Black Book*, and *Los Invisibles/The Invisible Ones*, which address the inhumane treatment

of immigrants, for Protest Plays Project’s #TheatreActionImmigration Initiative, and plays *Freedom To Speak, I Leave You Hope, It Ain’t Perfect*, and *Something Worth Pursuing*, for the We The People Theatre Action Program at Sacred Fools Theater. He is currently working on projects involving his passions of people, history, education, and comic books. Follow him at Instagram @therichardsoto



**TAMLYN TOMITA**

*Rich Woman/Mrs. Cratchit*

is a native Los Angeleno, UCLA Bruin, AAPI from the (818). Her stage work includes *A Distant Shore* (Kirk Douglas Theatre); *Question 27, Question 28* (East West Players/Japanese American National Museum); *The Square* (Mark Taper Forum’s Taper, Too!), *The Summer Moon* (A Contemporary Theatre and South Coast Repertory); *Day Standing on its Head* (Manhattan Theatre Club); *Nagasaki Dust* (Philadelphia Theatre Company); *Don Juan: A Meditation* (Mark Taper Forum’s Taper, Too!) and *Winter Crane* (Fountain Theatre). Her television credits include “Cobra Kai,” “Star Trek: Picard,” “The Man in the High Castle,” “The Good Doctor,” “Teen Wolf,” “Berlin Station,” “Chasing Life,” “How to Get Away with Murder,” “True Blood,” “Glee,” “Heroes,” “Eureka,” “Criminal Minds,” “24” and “JAG” among others. Her film credits include *The Karate Kid II*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *The Day After Tomorrow*, *Picture Bride*, *Robot Stories*, *Kuuipo*, *the Umami of Gumbo* and *Come See the Paradise* among others. She is proud to be Mrs. to “Mr. Cratchit.”



**PAIGE LINDSEY WHITE**

*Toy Lady/Sally/Scavenger*

appeared at SCR previously in *Abundance* and *Kings*. Her other favorite credits include Eliza Doolittle in *Pygmalion* (Pasadena Playhouse); Brooke Wyeth in *Other Desert Cities* (Arizona Theatre Company and Indiana Repertory Theatre); Ann in *At Home at the Zoo* (Wallis Annenberg Center for the Performing Arts); Titania/Hippolyta in *Mendelssohn’s Midsummer* (Disney Concert Hall); Georgie in *Heisenberg*



Students in SCR's Theatre Conservatory portray all the young characters in *A Christmas Carol*. Two teams alternate performances. Appearing Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays at noon are (above, top row, left to right) **ChloeLux Phan, Colin Savage, Dylan Gorham, Halia Lindauer**



(bottom row) **Tessany Azizi, Presley Coogan, Maximilian Lalli and Natalie Bright**. Appearing in the balance of performances are (above, top row, left to right) **Nicholas Brown, Zoe Hebbard, Cooper Latham, Arman Hamidi** (bottom row) **Tess Fox, Maddie Chung, Sofia Mendez and Justine Roussel**.

(Mark Taper Forum, understudy); *Fallen Angels* and *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Ensemble Theatre Company of Santa Barbara); *Rapture Blister Burn* (San Diego Repertory); *Love's Labour's Lost, Romeo & Juliet*, and *R II* (Santa Cruz Shakespeare); *Trying and Ghost-Writer* (International City Theatre); *The Children, RII*, and *With Love and a Major Organ* (Boston Court Pasadena); *Walking the Tightrope* (24th Street Theatre); and *A View from the Bridge* (Ahmanson Theatre and Kennedy Center, understudy). She also toured internationally in *Trial of the Catonsville Nine* (The Actors' Gang). On television, she appeared in "Shameless," "American Woman," "Corporate," "Days of Our Lives" and "TV Funhouse." She is the winner of a LA Drama Critics' Circle Award for Lead Performance. [paigilindseywhite.com](http://paigilindseywhite.com)

## PLAYWRIGHT, DIRECTOR AND DESIGNERS

**JERRY PATCH** (*Adapter*) served as dramaturg on over 150 new plays, including the world premieres of *Abundance, Freedomland, Golden Child, Intimate Apparel, Search and Destroy, Three Days of Rain, Ruined* and *Wit*. He was the founding project director for South Coast Repertory's Pacific Playwrights Festival and artistic director of the theatre program of Sundance Institute. A professor of theatre and film, he was consulting dramaturg for Roundabout Theatre Company (New York) for nearly a decade and resident artistic director at The Old Globe in San Diego. He is now artistic consultant for Manhattan Theatre Club, where he served more than a decade as Director of Artistic Development, and is resident dramaturg at SCR.

**HISA TAKAKUWA** (*Director*) helms SCR's Theatre Conservatory and education programs. She previously served as assistant director on *A Christmas Carol* for 14 seasons and was an actor in the show 14 years. She has directed numerous Theatre Conservatory Players productions including adaptations of Dickens' *Oliver Twist, David Copperfield* and *Hard Times*. After completing her professional training as an actor, Takakuwa appeared at SCR in *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and in 13 Educational Touring productions. Her other acting credits include work as a resident artist at A Noise Within, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Sundance Institute's Children's Theatre, Playwright's Lab and Grove Shakespeare Festival. Other directing credits include *Twelfth Night* and *Henry V* at Actors Co-op Theatre Company (Hollywood). In 2019, she received an honorable mention from the Tony Awards Excellence in Theatre Education Award and, with Erin McNally, the California Educational Theatre Association's Professional Artist Award. She received her BA from Smith College and MFA from CalArts.

**THOMAS BUDERWITZ** (*Scenic Design*) previously designed *Outside Mullingar, The Monster Builder, The Whipping Man, Tartuffe* (co-design with Dominique Serrand), *The Whale, The Prince of Atlantis, The Trip to Bountiful, Three Days of Rain, The Weir, Crimes of the Heart, Putting It Together, Collected Stories, The Heiress, Doubt, Pig Farm, Bach at Leipzig, Proof, A Delicate Balance, A Christmas Carol* (18 previous seasons), *But Not for Me* and 2007-16 Galas for SCR. He has designed for other theatres including the

Shakespeare Theatre Company, Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Goodman Theatre, Geffen Playhouse, Pasadena Playhouse, Center Theatre Group, The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, Portland Center Stage, Intiman Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Artists Repertory Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, Denver Center Theatre Company, Chautauqua Theater Company, Reprise Theatre Company, Arizona Theatre Company, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Boston Court Pasadena, A Noise Within, Antaeus Theatre Company, PCPA Theaterfest and San Diego Repertory Theatre. Buderwitz has received six Los Angeles Stage Alliance Ovation Awards and three Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle Awards. 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. He is a proud member of United Scenic Artists, Local 829, and is adjunct faculty at the University of Southern California School of Dramatic Arts.

**DONNA & TOM RUZIKA** (*Lighting Design*) celebrate their 41st year of designing for *A Christmas Carol* and 49 years of marriage. They have enjoyed collaborating on productions at SCR, the Hollywood Bowl and other regional theatres. Ms. Ruzika has designed 21 seasons for the Utah Shakespeare Festival and 30 seasons for Fullerton Civic Light Opera. She has also designed at Kansas City Repertory, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Laguna Playhouse, 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. The Ruzikas have received numerous awards for their 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 won two Emmy Awards during his 18 years of music for “Star Trek” and composed the music for the series’ feature film, *Generations*. He was honored with ASCAP’s Golden Note Award. He teaches 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*, *Bunnica*, *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 Theatre Company; *A Time for Love*, *Songs for a New World* (Ovation Award) and *Tick, Tick...Boom* at Rubicon Theatre Company; and *Side Show* (Ovation Award nomination), *Billy Bishop Goes to War* (Ovation Award nomination), and *The Laramie Project* with the Colony Theatre Company; and *Wicked Lit!* 2012, 2013 (Ovation Award nomination), 2014 (Ovation Award), 2015 (Ovation Award), 2016 (Ovation Award nomination), 2017, and 2018 for Unbound Productions. He owns Diablo Sound Inc., which provides themed entertainment projects around the world.

**DENNIS CASTELLANO** (*Vocal Director*) has musically directed the SCR productions of *The Light in the Piazza*, *The Fantasticks*, *Cloudlands*, *Ordinary Days*, *Putting It Together*, *An Italian Straw Hat*, *A Little Night Music*, *Happy End*, *Sunday in the Park with George* and *A Chorus of Disapproval* in addition to 26 years of *A Christmas Carol*. He is the music supervisor for the six-show summer season at Broadway Sacramento, where he conducted their productions of *Shrek*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *In the Heights*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Sister Act*, *The Producers*, *Mary Poppins*, *Hair*, *Show Boat*, *Sweeney Todd* and *Funny Girl*. His other credits include *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (5th Avenue Theatre, Seattle); *Dreamgirls*, *My Fair Lady*, *The Unsinkable Molly Brown* and *Guys and Dolls* (McCoy/

Rigby Entertainment); *Bright Star*, *Elf*, *Something Rotten*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *South Pacific*, *Oklahoma!*, *Hairspray*, *Cats*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie* and *The King and I* (Musical Theatre West); and *Li'l Abner* and *The Goodbye Girl* (Musical Theatre Guild).

**KELLY TODD** (*Choreography*), a UCLA theater alumna, is so happy to be back at SCR for the holidays and for SCR's next Theater for Young Audiences project, *Last Stop on Market Street*. For 12 years, she was a resident artist at the Chance Theater, where some of her favorite projects have been *Lysistrata Jones*, for which she received a 2014 Ovation Award for Best Choreography; *West Side Story*, for which she received the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle 2012 Special Award for Fight Choreography; and *Triassic Park* (2013) and *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (2011), both of which won the Ovation Award for Best Musical in an Intimate Theatre and garnered Ovation Award nominations for Best Choreography. She was named Southern California's Choreographer of the Year in 2011 and 2012 by StageSceneLA. Other credits include SCR's *Sweeney Todd*, *Once*, *The Light in the Piazza*, *Ivy + Bean: The Musical*, *Absurd Person Singular* and *Seussical* and *The Who's Tommy* at Segerstrom Center for the Arts. She is currently a professor in the Theatre Department at Pepperdine University where she runs the musical theater emphasis. Thank you to Hisa for giving her the opportunity to work with this festive cast and team.

**TALIA KRISPEL** (*Stage Manager*) is excited to be back at SCR, where her credits include *A Christmas Carol* (since 2014), *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon*, *Junie B. Jones Is Not a Crook*, *Abundance*, *Amadeus* and *Pinocchio*. Her other credits include *The Music Man* starring Adam Pascal, *Mamma Mia!*, *West Side Story*, *Matilda the Musical*, *Shrek the Musical*, *Beauty and the Beast* starring Susan Egan, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *Peter Pan* (5-Star Theatricals); *Inherit the Wind*, *Dame Edna: Back with a Vengeance*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* and a workshop of *Legally Blonde* (Broadway); *The Secret Garden* (3-D Theatricals); *The Little Mermaid* (Sound Stage LIVE!); *Mamma Mia!* (ACT of Connecticut); *Man of La Mancha* (A Noise Within); *West Side Story* and *Sister Act* (Theatre By The Sea); *Guys and Dolls* and *The Sound of Music* (Ocean State Theatre Company); *Joseph and the Amazing Techni-*

*color Dreamcoat* (Ogunquit Playhouse); *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (North Shore Music Theatre); *Miracle Worker* (Paper Mill Playhouse); *The Times They Are A-Changin'* (The Old Globe); and *Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular* (Radio City Music Hall). She earned a Master's degree in Educational Theatre in Colleges and Communities from New York University. For Mychal Adair-Lynch and Dad. [taliakrispel.com](http://taliakrispel.com)

**JULIE ANN RENFRO** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is so happy to return to SCR for *A Christmas Carol!* Other SCR favorites include *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, *The Parisian Woman*, *Of Good Stock*, *The Light Princess*, and most recently *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Additional credits include LA Opera, Geffen Playhouse, La Mirada Theater, Pasadena Playhouse, Laguna Playhouse, Sydney Independent Theatre Company, Long Beach Shakespeare Company, and the 2018 North American Tour of *A Night with Janis Joplin*. Renfro is from Costa Mesa, CA., where she received her BA in theatre arts from Vanguard University and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. LYBNC!

**DAVID IVERS** (*Artistic Director*) is responsible for the overall artistic operation of the theatre. The 2019-20 season was the first he programmed here, and he directed *She Loves Me* (2020), and the 2021 Pacific Playwrights Festival reading of *Coleman '72* by Charlie Oh. In 2015, he directed the SCR-Berkeley Repertory Theatre co-production of *One Man, Two, Two Guvnors*. Prior to SCR, he was artistic director for Arizona Theatre Company and, before that, served more than 20 years as an actor and director at Utah Shakespeare Festival, with the last six as artistic director. He was a resident artist at Denver Center for the Performing Arts for a decade, acting in and/or directing more than 40 plays and has helmed productions at many of the nation's leading regional theatres including the Guthrie Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Berkeley Repertory Theatre and South Coast Repertory. His early career included serving as associate artistic director of Portland Repertory Theatre and appearing in productions at some of the nation's top regional theatres including Portland Center Stage and the Oregon, Alabama and Idaho Shakespeare festivals. He has taught at the University of Michigan, University of Minnesota, Southern Utah University and Southern Oregon University. He earned his BA

from Southern Oregon University and his MFA from the University of Minnesota.

**PAULA TOMEI** (*Managing Director*) is responsible for the overall administration of SCR. She has been managing director since 1994 and a member of SCR's staff since 1979. She is a past president of the board of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for theatre. In addition, she served as treasurer of TCG, vice president of the League of Resident Theatres (LORT) and as a member of the LORT Negotiating Committee for industry-wide union agreements. She represents SCR at national conferences of TCG and LORT and served as a theatre panelist and site visitor for the National Endowment for the Arts and the California Arts Council. Her teaching background includes a graduate class in non-profit management at UC Irvine (UCI) and as a guest lecturer in the graduate school of business at Stanford. She was appointed by the chancellor to UCI's Community Arts Council and serves on the Dean's Leadership Society Executive Committee for the School of Social Sciences at UCI. She is also on the board of Arts Orange County, the county-wide arts council, and the board of the Nicholas Endowment. She graduated from UCI with a degree in economics and pursued an additional course of study in theatre and dance. In March 2017, she received the Mayor's Award from the City of Costa Mesa for her contributions to the arts community. In 2018, she received the Helena Modjeska Cultural Legacy Award from Arts Orange County. In 2019, she was awarded UCI's Distinguished Alumna in the School of Social Sciences at the Lauds & Laurels Celebration.

**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 LA 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 the world premiere of 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*. He directed revivals of Beth Henley's *Abundance* and Horton Foote's *The Trip to Bountiful*; and Samuel D. Hunter's *The Whale and Rest* (world premiere); *The Whipping Man* by Matthew Lopez; and *The Roommate* by Jen Silverman (West Coast premiere). Benson received his BA in theatre from San Francisco State University.

**DAVID EMMES** (*Founding Artistic Director*) is co-founder of South Coast Repertory. He received the Margo Jones Award for his lifetime commitment to theatre excellence and to fostering the art of American playwriting. In addition, he has received numerous awards for productions he has directed during his SCR career. 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 *Red*, *New England*, *Arcadia*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Woman in Mind* and *You Never Can Tell*, which he restaged for the Singapore Festival of Arts. He has served as a theatre panelist and onsite 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 from USC.



The Actors and Stage Managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



The Scenic, Costume, Lighting and Sound Designers in LORT theatres are represented by United Scenic Artists Local USA-829, IATSE.



The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.