



AUDITION PACKET

A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas

EARLY AUDITIONS for the ROLE OF SCROOGE

Auditions for additional roles will be held on Sunday, September 20 at 6 pm

Drama by Charles Dickens Adapted for the stage by Michael Wilson

Directed by Greg Anderson

INFORMATION: 218-878-0071 (Theater)

SCROOGE AUDITIONS: Sunday, April 26 at 6 pm

Auditions for additional roles will be held on Sunday, September 20 at 6 pm

***Please note casting may take 1-2 weeks. Those not cast - may or may not receive an individual phone call.*

Feel free to contact the theater for cast list or further questions.

WHAT DO I NEED FOR AUDITIONS?: Auditions will consist of a cold read from the script. Audition sides are included, and full scripts can be loaned from the theater.

Bring your completed audition form and a calendar reflecting any conflicts with you.

*****PLEASE NOTE – For audition purposes the directors is not looking for an Scrooge “character,” he is looking for authenticity – whatever that means to the individual actor.**

REHEARSAL & PERFORMANCE INFORMATION:

Rehearsals may begin as early as October 5, 2020 (Rehearsals run approx. 4-5 days per week, most likely rehearsals will be early evenings and possibly weekends)

Local Performances will be held: December 3-13, 2020

ABOUT THE SHOW:

This theatrical and spirited version of A CHRISTMAS CAROL puts the phantasmagoric qualities of Charles Dickens’ classic tale center stage. A swirling, dancing chorus of ghosts that weave through this uplifting holiday story of redemption, magic and hope.

“...rousing, crowd-pleasing...Dickens’ classic becomes particularly spooky. In addition to the ghoulish specter of Jacob Marley, and the spirits of Christmas past, present and future, this version introduces a half-dozen additional ghosts.” —NY Times. “Michael Wilson’s adaptation of Dicken’s classic tale of Ebenezer Scrooge distills the essence of the holiday spirit in a series of sights, sounds and splendors that all but guarantee audiences leave bursting with a feeling of Christmas...Everywhere, Wilson plays up the ‘ghost story’ aspects of Dickens’ tale. It is a great gift indeed to see a faithful, loving and brilliantly imagined version of a true classic.” —Hartford Courant.

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Audition Form: **EBENEZER SCROOGE** A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas

Please bring this completed form with you to the audition with calendar and conflicts
(*acting resume and headshots are optional*).

Name _____

Address _____

Home phone _____

Cell phone _____ (Do you text message? Yes / No)

E-mail _____

Occupation _____ Age _____ Height _____

Work or school hours _____

If you are familiar with this play, are there any part that interests you?

Would you accept another part if not offered any listed above? _____

Would you consider working on the crew or technical team? _____

Do you, sing, dance, play an instrument or have other special talents? If so, please explain level of skill:

Experience: Although not required, please list some of your theater background. *Some of this information may be used in the playbill for the show.*

Do you have ANY conflicts with the rehearsal/performance schedule?_____

Please list ALL conflicts below (be as specific as possible to dates, times). Additional conflicts after being cast may not be accepted?

Casting Agreement:

By accepting a role, I agree to play the role assigned to me to the best of my ability, trusting the judgement of the director and staff. In doing so, I also agree to wear the costumes, makeup and wig or hairstyle of the director's and/or designer's choosing.

Initial_____

Attendance Agreement:

By accepting a role, I agree to attend all rehearsals and performances as defined by the rehearsal schedule. I agree to arrive in a timely matter and be prepared to start when directed to do so.

Initial_____

*Thank you so much for auditioning for the show!
We appreciate your time and interest in the County Seat Theater Company!*

SCROOGE. Poor Tiny Tim! Answer me Spirit, are these the shadows of things that will be or are they the shadows of the things that may be? Answer me spirit of death — for I know you now and you are he. Death is the subject of your lesson, and it is death I must learn. Spirit! Show me what I shall be in the days to come. *(The Spirit circles the stage as The Ghostly Apparitions enter and reveal a tombstone which reads Ebenezer Scrooge.)* No. Spirit! Oh, no, no, no! Spirit tell me I may sponge away the writing on the gravestone! Hear me! I am not the man I was. Why show me these things if I am beyond all hope? Good Spirit, I will change my life! I will live in the Past, the Present, the Future. The Spirits of all three will strive within me! I will not shut out the lessons that they teach. Oh tell me I may sponge away the writing on the gravestone! *(He entreats the Spirit, but it withdraws as the ghostly apparitions dance about Scrooge until the lights come up, revealing Scrooge once again in his bedroom. On the bed, are the doll, the cider bottle, and the clock, whose steam whistle alarm blows until Scrooge shuts it off.)*

The clock tolls three: On the mantle, within Marley's House, the clock lights up and emits steam — three blasts. Suddenly, the Spirit of Christmas Future appears, in clouds of steam and smoke, atop a huge HG Wells-like Time Travel Machine. Scrooge falls to his knees.

SCROOGE. I am in the presence of the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come? *(The Spirit says nothing, and merely points.)* You are about to show me shadows of the things that have not yet happened, but will happen in the time before us. Is that so, Spirit? *(No response.)* Ghost of the Future! I fear you more than any specter I have seen. But as I know your purpose is to do me good, and as I hope to live to be another man from what I was, I am prepared to bear you company. Will you not speak to me? *(No response.)* Lead on! Lead on! The night is waning fast, and it is precious time to me, I know. Lead on, Spirit! *(The Spirit moves away, blowing its steam whistle, as Scrooge follows.)*

blaze and radiance. Scrooge wails about with the poker.)
SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. Put down your arms! Put them down! And know me better, man!

SCROOGE. Who are you?

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. I am the Ghost of Christmas Present. Look upon me. You have never seen the like of me before!

SCROOGE. Never.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. You have never walked forth with my younger brothers?

SCROOGE. I don't think I have. I am afraid I have not. Have you had many brothers, Spirit?

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. More than eighteen hundred and fifty!

SCROOGE. That's a tremendous family to provide for!

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. I provide for mankind. Will you lay down your arms?

SCROOGE. Alright. What is that you're drinking?

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. It is the elixir of life! Shall you drink from its cup? Many have drunk before you!

SCROOGE. Who are these that have drunk before me?

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. Colonels, generals, bankers men of rank, but also, men of rank and file, officers, clerks, grocers, and so on, and so on. They drink from this chalice in celebration of their brief but wondrous life on this earth.

SCROOGE. Why drink the health of a brief life? A long, and profitable life should be our toast.

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. I can see this drink is not for you, Ebenezer Scrooge! In the span of eternity, man's life is not long, so each day, hour, and minute must be cherished. You cannot have a wondrous — and what you call — profitable life if you do not treasure its brevity.

SCROOGE. Very well. I'll drink to a short life. But I am most particular about me drinks. Yours is not a medicine?

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. Perhaps it is. But it does not taste like a medicine.

SCROOGE. Very well. To a quick foreclosure — *(He takes the chalice and drinks.)*

SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT. Slowly, man, drink it slowly! How can you savour its flavor if you gulp it down so? Well?

The Spirit points to a corpse, laid out on a table, covered by a sheet.

SCROOGE. A dark, empty house. A body alone, unto itself. Spirit! This is a fearful place! In leaving it, I shall not leave its lesson, trust me. Let us go! (*The Spirit remains steadfast in its pointing.*) I understand you, and I would do it if I could. But I have not the power, Spirit. I have not the power. Let me see some tenderness connected with death, or this dark, lonely chamber, Spirit, will be forever present for me.