A CHRISTMAS CAROL

The Musical

Music by
ERNEST BRUSUBARDIS

Lyrics & Adaptation by
MICHAEL KOSCINSKI

Based on the Charles Dickens classic A Christmas Carol

December 5-15, 2019

Directed by
ROBERT HURD SR.

Music Directed by
CATHERINE PFEILER

A Christmas Carol is produced by Lake Country Players through special arrangement with Ernest Brusubardis.

Lake Country Playhouse
221 E Capitol Drive | Hartland, WI 53029
www.lakecountryplayhousewi.org

Run Time: 2 hours. 15-minute Intermission | Rating: PG

Recording Equipment & Cameras: The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs during a performance are strictly prohibited.
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

Welcome to Lake Country Playhouse, a cleverly converted Masonic Lodge, and the home of the Lake County Players since 2002. The Players, founded in 1959, are one of the oldest community theater groups in Wisconsin, and we are looking forward to a season long celebration of our 60th Anniversary this year!

This past year presented some unforeseen problems and opportunities. In the midst of the winter thaw, melting snow began seeping through the roof and into our costume room causing a total roof replacement by spring. We also had to replace the air conditioning systems in the lobby, upstairs dressing & green rooms. Thanks to your continued patronage we funded the repair and improvements through ticket sales alone. However, as we look to the future, we know that the 1950s vintage furnace, though fully operational but highly inefficient, will need to be replaced and I’d like to have this completed in the summer of 2020. I suspect that ticket sales will cover only a portion of the estimated $35,000 replacement cost, so we’re looking at various grants as well other fund-raising opportunities and individual donors to help offset the cost.

This season we are particularly proud to present a slate of Mainstage musicals and plays including Mars Lost, a World Premiere drama written by local playwright Justin Spanbauer, in addition to several family friendly classic musicals with opportunities for both adult and youth actors: The Music Man, A Christmas Carol and The Secret Garden. The Performing Arts Academy, founded and run for the past 6 years by Katie Behrend Berg, presents a supplementary five show Academy Series seeking to further the mission of our organization through arts education initiatives and children’s theatre productions.

For 60 years, we have made it our mission to showcase local talent and support the artistic and personal development of our members and our community, all while offering topnotch performances that we believe exceed our patrons’ expectations. We are committed to this location, this venue and this community and we love and own our identity, as one reviewer put it; as “the little theater that puts on big shows!” If you’d like to provide your support please see our website for more information or contact me directly at robert_hurd@att.net!

Now please, sit back and enjoy the show!

Bob Hurd Sr.
Lake Country Playhouse, Board President
A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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Cathy Pfeiler ................................................................................................................Lobby Decorator
James Baker ................................................................................................................Photography

SETTING

London; between 1800 and 1850
SHOW ORDER

ACT ONE

Hail, Hail to Christmas................................................................. Company
Much Good...................................................................................... Fred, Scrooge
These Are But Shadows............................................................. Christmas Past
Fezziwig Dance .............................................................................. Company
Without Me.................................................................................. Belle

INTERMISSION

ACT TWO

Carol of the Bells............................................................................. Company
Come and Know Me, Man............................................................. Christmas Present
Dear Lord in Heaven ...................................................................... Cratchit Family
The Winter Will Soon Be Over ...................................................... Mrs. Cratchit, Tiny Tim
I Took ‘Em...................................................................................... Mrs. Shelby, Old Joe
Thank Ye, Jacob............................................................................. Scrooge
God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen/Joy to the World ......................... Company
Much Good (Reprise) ..................................................................... Fred, Company
Finale............................................................................................. Company

SPECIAL THANKS

Bob & Nancy Hurd for the donation of the signs and lights used in this production.

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BIOGRAPHIES

Megan Alaimo (Ensemble) – is ecstatic to partake in her first-ever musical and show at Lake Country Playhouse as a part of the ensemble and in the role of Katherine (Kate). Prior to coming to the LCP, she has acted primarily at Kettle Moraine High School’s Drama Club. Some of her favorite roles include Thranduil from The Hobbit, Ousier from Steel Magnolias and Francis Flute/Thisby in A Midsummer Night’s Dream. She would like to thank her parents for driving her over hill and dale to get to rehearsals in time, and believing in her.

Cayla Anderson (Christmas Present) – is thrilled to be on the LCP stage for the sixth time! This is the third Christmas Carol production at LCP for her—previous roles: Christmas Past and Mrs. Cratchit! She wants to thank her family for always being so supportive of her love for theater! Thank you also to Bob Hurd for having faith in me to have this challenging and blast-of-a-role! God Bless Everyone!! Enjoy!

Emma Bond (Mrs. Cratchit) – is thrilled to be back performing with Lake Country Playhouse as Mrs. Cratchit. Last year she performed as Elizabeth, Fred’s wife. Emma would like to thank her incredible husband, Collin, for happily holding down the fort at home with the kiddos while she spent hours at rehearsals. She also would like to thank her parents, June and Leo, for always supporting her in her musical and theatrical career, and for flying in from New Hampshire to see her perform this season!

Matt Brown (Gentleman 1) – Once again, Matt is pleased to be part of such a classic show! Matt has been involved with LCP for several years, and most recently seen in The Music Man. Thanks for coming to our show!!

Barb Christensen (Ensemble) – will celebrate 50 years as a member of Lake Country Players this spring. Her first role was Adelaide Adams in Calamity Jane in 1970, but since then has appeared in too many shows to mention. Favorite roles include Bloody Mary in South Pacific and Domina in Forum. In recent years, Barb has turned her talents to directing such shows as Brigadoon, Fiddler on the Roof, Forum, Witness for the Prosecution, and most recently she reprised her role from 2001 as a Pick-a-Little Lady in The Music Man. Barb lives in Hartland with her two furry roommate cats, Sterling and Pumpkin. Warm fuzzies to cast, directors, and crew. Tis the Season, enjoy the show.

Beth Daniel (Mrs. Fezziwig) – is excited to be in her first show at Lake Country Playhouse, and is especially thrilled to be able to share the honor of performing with her daughter Adeline. After seeing LCP’s production of A Christmas Carol last year, she wanted to be part of this wonderful production. Beth is proud to be able to help others celebrate their holiday as the cast performs this magical production. Merry Christmas, Everyone!
**Adeline Daniel** *(Ensemble)* – is excited to be returning to the stage at Lake Country Playhouse. Prior to *A Christmas Carol*, Adeline appeared in the *Pirates of the Curry Bean*, but her favorite part is putting together the tech for the shows. She wishes to thank her fellow cast members and friends for making the show fun and for helping her learn the ropes.

**Hannah Duffield** *(Ensemble)* – is so excited to be part of this amazing show! This is her first production at Lake Country Playhouse and she couldn’t be happier. Last year she appeared in *Footloose* at Oconomowoc High School. She would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas!

**Chase Eastman** *(Tiny Tim)* – is so excited to play Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol*. This is his first named role at LCP, as well as his first production including adults. Chase was in the ensemble of *Mary Poppins Jr.* through the Academy this summer. He was in the Ensemble for the Lion King Jr. at LCS, as well as playing Cookson in Peter Pan Jr. and several other grade-level plays at LCS. Chase is a 6th grader at Lake Country School. In his free time, Chase loves to sing, play and watch sports, play games, and spend time with his family.

**Elise Frey** *(Ensemble)* – is a 6th grader at University Lake School (ULS) in Hartland. This is Elsie’s first role with LCP and she is very excited to be a part of this group. Elsie began acting in first grade. Her roles have included: Future in *The Pirate Carol* (Fort Atkinson Community Theater), Abby in *We the People* (FACT), her favorite—Velveteen Rabbit in *The Velveteen Rabbit* (FACT), Pollyanna in *The Enchanted Bookshop* (FACT), Lilly’s Purple Plastic Purse, Dreamweaver in *Monster in My Closet* (Council for the Performing Arts in Jefferson), Ensemble in *Bye, Bye, Birdie* (ULS), and Violet in *Willy Wonka* (ULS).

**Goo** *(Marley)* – has been acting since 1974 and is really excited about this opportunity to play the ghost of Jacob Marley. This is the third year and the third fabulous character with which LCP’s *A Christmas Carol* has blessed Goo. Goo also appeared as Lewis Morris of New York in LCP’s *1776*. Most recently seen this Fall starring as Florence Foster Jenkins in *Glorious* with Falls Patio Players. So glad to be a part of this family again. I thank my spouse, Jackie, for the support, patience and understanding of my love for theatre, and all the time away from home in the evenings.

**Terry Haller** *(Scrooge)* – is honored to be part of another production at Lake Country Playhouse. At LCP he has appeared as Todd, the Highland Hitman, in *Unnecessary Farce*. Jacob Marley in last year’s production of *A Christmas Carol*, and Wayne Seabury in *Amateurs*. Regionally, roles have ranged from Axel Hammond in Larry Shue’s *The Nerd*, to Judas in Andrew Lloyd Webber’s *Jesus Christ Superstar*. He hopes you enjoy this year’s production and have a wonderful holiday season!
Ally Higbee (Belinda Cratchit) – Ally is so excited about her 4th show at Lake Country Playhouse and her second time being in A Christmas Carol. Other shows Ally has appeared in included Pirates of Penzance Jr, The Sound of Music, Into the Woods, The Music Man, and more. Outside of musicals, Ally loves to dance, and has been taking lessons since age 2 studying ballet, jazz, hip hop, tap, and more. This year Ally is also dancing in The Great Russian Nutcracker at The Riverside Theater. Ally would like to thank her wonderful parents for always supporting her along with her dance, and voice teachers for always believing in her and pushing her to do more.

Peter Hirt (Young Man Scrooge) – is a recent graduate from Nova Southeastern University and is excited for his second show with LCP this year after being in The Music Man as Constable Locke. He was in multiple shows at Nova Southeastern University such as Little Shop of Horrors, Once Upon A Mattress, Improv Jam 2018 and 2019, and The Mayfly: A 24 Hour Theatre Project.

Emily Jennaro (Ensemble) – is excited to join the A Christmas Carol tradition! Emily is a fifth-grader who recently caught the acting bug. This past Fall she thoroughly enjoyed playing a member of the Boy's Band in Music Man Jr (LCP). Her favorite role to date is Michael Banks in Mary Poppins Jr (LCP). She was also a member of the ensemble cast in her school's production of Beauty and the Beast Jr (CELA).

Laura Jennaro (Ensemble) – is blessed to join in this year’s production of A Christmas Carol. While she enjoys singing in the women’s choir at her church, this is the first time she has been cast in a musical. Laura is grateful for this opportunity to share an experience with Emily and could not do it without the support of family and friends, especially Joe and Bobby!

Ellie Katka (Ensemble) – loves this show, this is her fourth year with LCP's A Christmas Carol. She was also in The Music Man earlier this fall. She is a 5th grader at Horizon elementary. When she's not on stage, she enjoys swimming and being a Junior Girl Scout. She hopes you enjoy the show.

Joey Katka (Turkey Boy/Ensemble) – Fresh off the LCP stage for The Music Man, Joey is excited to be reprising his role as Turkey Boy. Joey loves the stage; this is his 4th year in this production. He has played Michael Darling in Peter Pan Jr. here at LCP, a professor in Legally Blonde Jr. at WCT, and the leader of the Lollipop Guild in Wizard of Oz at Carroll University. Joey is a 6th grader at Horizon elementary and enjoys playing piano, Zelda, and Boy Scouts. He hopes you like the show as much as he likes performing for you.

Natalie Krogwold (Gillian Cratchit) – is a 5th-grader at Swallow School and thrilled to be making her LCP debut! Favorite past credits include Pepper in Annie.
(The Fireside Theatre), Marta Von Trapp in The Sound of Music (West Community Theatre), Lily in The Giver, Young Nala in The Lion King Jr. (WCT), Peaches in Molly’s Most Accurate Retelling of Fairytales, and Children’s Chorus in Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (The Box Theatre Co.). Natalie would like to thank Bob for this amazing opportunity, vocal coach Ben Tajnai for his incredible mentorship, and her family and friends for their love and support!

Richard Levine (Old Joe) – returns for his 8th Christmas Carol show in a row. Through the years he has played a Gentleman, Old Joe, as well as other dubious parts. This year he returns, as the audience favorite, in the role of “Old Joe”. What he likes most is the love that is shared amongst the cast on the Lake Country Playhouse stage. This community theater is the best.

Max Levine (Peter Cratchit) – is 15 years old, and loves to bike and ski. When he isn’t outdoors, he loves to play video games. Currently working on his expert mode in guitar hero. He has done this show with his dad for 7 years now, and has loved each year more and more. He hopes you enjoy too!

Aase Mattson (Belinda Cratchit) – is excited to be back for a second year of LCP’s A Christmas Carol. She performed as Tanya Roberts in Waukesha Civic Theater’s 2018 production of The House Without a Christmas Tree. She has participated in Waukesha Civic Theater’s Summer Academy and A.C.T. classes for five years and loves to perform and sing at school and church. She lives in Waukesha with her parents and younger brother.

Meryl Mesenbrink (Ensemble) – is excited to help be a cast member of A Christmas Carol. She has enjoyed meeting and working with adult cast members. Meryl is a 7th grader at St. Charles. She has recently played the role of Willy Wonka in the musical Willy Wonka Jr. and was in Mary Poppins Jr. playing various ensemble parts. Meryl enjoys volleyball and being with friends and family. She would like to thank her directors for helping her and her family for all the loving support.

Kylee Retzer (Fan/Ensemble) – is excited to be performing in A Christmas Carol for her second year. Last year she played a street urchin and sang in the ensemble. This last summer, Kylee starred as Small Alice in Alice in Wonderland Jr. at Waukesha Civic Theater. Prior to that, she performed in the Ensemble at Music Man Jr. at Waukesha Civic Theater. Kylee is a sixth-grader at Kettle Moraine Middle School and enjoys being a member of the Dance Squad.

Cayden Retzer (Peter Cratchitt) – is proud to be performing in A Christmas Carol and enjoys being part of what has become a family. This is his third year in A Christmas Carol previously playing Peter Cratchitt, Turkey Boy, and Ensemble. Before this, Cayden starred as Simba in Lion King Jr., Tommy Djilas in Music Man Jr., and Dodo Bird in Alice In Wonderland Jr. at Waukesha Civic Theater. Cayden is an 8th
grade student at Kettle Moraine Middle School and performed in The Wizard of Oz as the Scarecrow at Kettle Moraine Middle School.

**Ariel Rosen (Gentleman 2)** – Born and raised in Minnesota, Ariel is thrilled to be a part of a company that allows her to continue to pursue her love for theater. She has acted, directed, and worked behind the scenes on such productions as Hamlet, Flowers for Algernon, Barefoot in the Park, Steel Magnolias, and LCP’s own A Christmas Carol (2018) and The Tin Woman.

**Brittany Roux (Belle)** – is thrilled to be making her debut at Lake Country Playhouse. She was recently seen as Sister James in Doubt (Sunset Playhouse) and Brooke in Noises Off (Secret Identity Productions). She graduated from Wisconsin Lutheran College with a degree in Business Marketing, but still had the privilege of being a part of their theater program. Some of her favorite roles there included Anna in Sleepwalking, Anna in Bee-Luther-Hatchee, and Kenni in Becky’s New Car.

**Ava Schweitzer (Fan/Street Urchin)** – is excited to be part of Lake Country Playhouse’s 2019 A Christmas Carol. New to the theater world, Ava has participated in school plays, LCP’s Mary Poppins Workshop, portrayed a young Newsie in Divine Savior Holy Angels summer production of Disney’s Newsies, and soon you will be able to see her in Watertown Players’ production of Disney’s Beauty and the Beast Jr.

**Joseph Seelig (Ensemble)** – a Junior at Arrowhead High School in Hartland, is returning to the Lake Country Playhouse in this year’s production of A Christmas Carol. At 6’1” tall, Joseph is hard to miss in the ensemble, but always enjoys blending in as part of the cast within the show. Joseph has enjoyed performing outstanding roles with North Shore Middle School’s productions of Annie Jr., as the President’s Assistant/Sound Effects man, and as a police officer in Murder at the Goon Show. Joseph is thankful to his parents Jeffrey and Ruth Seelig for their support of his acting career, and to his grandparents Dick & Kathy Seelig for their encouragement and patronage.

**Jeffrey Seelig (Mr. Fezziwig)** – returns to LCP for A Christmas Carol, reprising the role of Mr. Fezziwig, and understudying Jacob Marley. He has been active at the Playhouse for many years, performing as Roger Sherman in 1776, Sir Bernard Humphries in The Explorer’s Club, and most recently, Charlie Cowell in The Music Man. Jeffrey is an IT-Certified Desktop Support Technician for Cummins Business Services in Stoughton, WI, a U.S. Navy Iraq War Veteran, and a Distinguished Toastmaster experienced in public speaking. Jeffrey is honored to share the stage with his son Joseph and is appreciative of his parents Dick & Kathy Seelig for their unending support of his performance pursuits.

**Eric Starr (Fred)** – Eric is excited to be making his 11th appearance at Lake Country Playhouse! Having never been in A Christmas Carol, he is excited for this new
adventure and Fred feels like the perfect character for the job! Still, he hopes he is up to the challenge, as Fred seems to smile a lot and make merry...foreign curiosities to this performer. The show, however, is quite familiar, as Eric recalls directing several Christmas Eve performances in his grandmother’s basement as a child, starring his brother and cousins. Finally, Eric would like to thank God and his family, including his parents and grandmother, for helping make this all possible. Now sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

**Madeleine Unger** *(Fan/Ensemble)* – is filled with Yuletide joy having been cast in this production. Seven years ago, she observed children performing in the cast of LCP’s production of *A Christmas Carol* and walked away dreaming of singing and dancing on stage for an audience. Since then she has performed regularly in Academy productions at LCP and in St. Anthony on the Lake School’s drama club where she is in 7th grade. Most recently she has been cast as Young Anna in *Frozen Jr.* (STA drama club), and in *Mary Poppins Jr* and *The Music Man* (LCP). Performing in this production is a dream come true for her. She wishes you a Merry Christmas and thanks you for being here to enjoy this magical Christmas gift.

**Cindy Vogt** *(Ensemble)* – Since her first play *The Egg & I* (LCP), Cindy has been very active, with her favorite roll being Essie in *You Can’t Take it with You!* Other credits include *Jesus Christ Superstar, Godspell, Evita, Showboat, Nunsense, South Pacific, Octette Bridge Club*, and 7 years in *A Christmas Carol*! She designs, does theatrical painting, and has achieved Lifetime Membership on the board of LCP. Thanks to the cast and crew for all their hard work! Enjoy!

**Kathy Voigt** *(Mrs. Shelby)* – This is Kathy’s 3rd production of LCP’s *A Christmas Carol*. This year she is excited and anxious to take on the role of Mrs. Shelby. After recently retiring from 30 years as a flight attendant at United Airlines, she is enjoying a “road less traveled”. She enjoys sports, gardening, making homemade soup, and working at Ironwood golf course, all added with an extra dash of sunshine and warm weather.

**Chance Wall** *(Boy Scrooge)* – is thrilled to be back at the Lake Country Playhouse performing in *A Christmas Carol* for the 3rd time. Previous LCP shows also include *The Music Man* (Ensemble) & *Pirates of Penzance Jr.* (Pirate). Other performances include *The Giver, Billy Elliot, Gypsy, & Annie Get Your Gun* with Waukesha Civic Theater; *The Children’s Hour* (Grocery Boy) with Outskirts Theatre; and *Twelfth Night* (Curio/Priest) & *The Secret Garden* (Colin Craven) with SummerStage. Chance would like to thank his family for all their support and this amazing cast and crew. Enjoy the show!

**Hannah Weinberg-Kinsey** *(Ghost of Christmas Past)* – feels spirited to be back on the Lake Country Playhouse stage for the 2nd time. She recently played Lisa in LCP’s production of *Mamma Mia*. Soon after she was a proud member of the ensemble in *Jekyll and Hyde* (West Allis Players). Each day she performs in her 7th grade ELA classroom and loves to write songs on her ukulele. She hopes this season and this story reminds you what really matters in life, and that we all find room to hear the message we need to hear in our own lives.
Brian Wochle (Narrator/ Bob Cratchit) – is excited to be returning to the stage at LCP! He was last seen in LCP’s Mamma Mia as Papa Groundskeeper, a production which he loved. This is his 4th year appearing in A Christmas Carol here at LCP. You may also have seen him during every Brewer’s game, as the face of Badger Mutual during commercials! When not performing, Brian is an IT guy by day and dad and husband by night. He would like to thank his family for allowing him to do something he loves, and wishes all the Merriest Christmas!
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The Trial of Ebenezer Scrooge
by Mark Brown

Limited Engagement! Performances at the 1st Congregational Church | Directed by Breanne Brennan

based on characters created by Charles Dickens in “A Christmas Carol”

DECEMBER 19-29

LAKECOUNTRYPLAYHOUSEWI.ORG | 221 E CAPITOL DR. HARTLAND, WI

The Trial Of Ebenezer Scrooge is produced by special arrangement with Dramatic Publishing. dramaticpublishing.com.

Do you want to build your character?

Come on, let’s do a play!

WINTER ACADEMY
THEATRE CLASSES
START JANUARY 13TH

AGES 3-18 | 8 WEEK SESSION
LAKECOUNTRYPLAYHOUSEWI.ORG /TAKE-A-CLASS

A CHRISTMAS CAROL 15
19–20 SEASON BOX OFFICE INFO

MAINSTAGE SERIES | Musicals $24/ticket & Plays $20/ticket
PREMIUM 1st & 2nd Row | ONLINE ONLY for Mainstage Musicals $26/ticket & Plays $22/ticket
GROUPS of 10+ | Musical $22/ticket & Plays $18/ticket
ACADEMY SERIES | Musicals & Plays $8/Child ticket and $15/Adult ticket

Tickets are always available online at lakecountryplayhousewi.org/purchase-tickets, or at the door 1 hour prior to any performance. Seating is assigned, early ticket buyers will have best selection. Gift Certificates are also available for purchase online.

UPCOMING AUDITIONS

THE SECRET GARDEN
Mainstage Musical - Directed by Breanne Brennan & Sandra Renick
January
March 20-April 5, 2020

THE TRIAL OF GOLDILOCKS
Academy Workshop – Directed by Kathryn Rae Mooers & Jordyn Stewart
December 9, 10, 11, 2019
February 27-March 1, 2020

THE SECRET GARDEN
Academy Workshop Productions – Directed by Kathryn Rae Mooers, Jordyn Stewart, Calynn Klohn & Emily Kittell
December 9, 10, 11, 2019
April 30-May 3, 2020

Mainstage auditions are listed on our website at lakecountryplayhousewi.org/audition-info
Academy (youth only) auditions are listed on our website at lakecountryplayhousewi.org/youth-auditions

GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER: To learn more, email info@lakecountryplayhousewi.org
USHER: Email our House Manager at info@lakecountryplayhousewi.org
GIVE: Make a tax-deductible donation to Lake Country Players, Inc. online at www.lakecountryplayhousewi.org/donate or send gifts or grant information to us at 221 E Capitol Dr. Hartland, WI
FOX BROS. COLLECTION PROGRAM: Turn in Fox Bros. Piggly Wiggly Receipts to benefit the theater - We’ll receive 1% in cash annually for submitted receipts! Drop yours in our front door mailbox today, or at any performance.

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Lake Country Playhouse is operated by Lake Country Players, Inc.