

ALLEY THEATRE

FOR RELEASE
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A Christmas Carol - A Ghost Story of Christmas Returns Home For the Holidays

- Holiday Tradition Continues in Newly Renovated Hubbard Theatre November 20 through December 28, 2015

HOUSTON – Alley Theatre Artistic Director Gregory Boyd announces the cast and creative team for the theatre's 28th production of **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas**, staged in the newly renovated Hubbard Theatre.

Michael Wilson's adaptation of **A Christmas Carol** returns this year with a re-telling of Charles Dickens' classic story, which follows Ebenezer Scrooge's journey with the three ghostly spirits that visit him on Christmas Eve. **A Christmas Carol** instills a powerful message about redemption and the spirit of the holiday season. Houston's seasonal favorite has been seen by nearly one million adults and children. This year, Alley Associate Director James Black directs this colorful, comical, and music-filled production which runs **November 20th – December 28th**. Tickets are available now through the Alley Theatre Box Office at 713.220.5700 as well as online at www.alleytheatre.org

"We are blessed to have such a beautiful production of **A Christmas Carol** and I still find something new and reinvigorating in the show every time I see it," said Boyd. "Scrooge's redemption is one of the greatest stories in our civilization and culture."

The cast of **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas** includes Alley Theatre Resident Company members Jeffrey Bean as Ebenezer Scrooge, Elizabeth Bunch as Mrs. Fezziwig/Mrs. Cratchit, Paul Hope as Second Solicitor/ Mr. Fezziwig, Chris Hutchison as Bob Cratchit, Charles Krohn as Undertaker/Old Joe, Melissa Pritchett as Mary Pidgeon/Spirit Of Christmas Past, David Rainey as Bert/Spirit Of Christmas Present and Ebenezer Scrooge Alternate, Jay Sullivan as Fred/Scrooge At Twenty-One and Emily Trask as Belle/Fred's Wife.

Rounding out the cast are Michael Brusasco as First Solicitor/Fiddler, John Feltch as Mrs. Dilber/Jacob Marley, Dylan Godwin as Apparition/Dick Wilkins/Mr. Topper, Mitchell Greco as Apparition/Party Guest, Shawn Hamilton as Mr. Marvel and Bert/Spirit of Christmas Present Alternate, Mark Ivy as Apparition/Lamplighter/Travis, Julia Krohn as Apparition/Rich Lady/Patricia, Kelley Peters as Apparition/Wendy/Martha Cratchit, David Matranga as Understudy and Mr. Marvel Alternate and Brooke Wilson as Apparition/Beggar Woman/Fred's Sister-In-Law.

A Christmas Carol features Tony Award-winning scenic designer Tony Straiges (Alley's *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*) with costumes by Alejo Vietti (Alley's *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club, A Few Good Men, Noises Off*). Lighting is designed by Rui Rita (Alley's *The Old Friends, Freud's Last Session, The Seafarer*), and original music is composed by John Gromada (Alley's *The Elephant Man, Dividing the Estate, Ether Dome*).

In addition to the adult cast, 22 children from the Greater Houston Community will be participating in various roles in this production, and a future announcement of those casting details will follow.

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A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas Fact Sheet

WHAT: Alley Theatre presents the 28th production of **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas**, by Charles Dickens, adapted and originally directed by Michael Wilson and directed by James Black.

WHEN: Previews start November 20, Opens November 22, Through December 28, 2015

WHERE: Alley Theatre, located at 615 Texas Avenue, Houston, TX 77002

TICKETS: Tickets to **A Christmas Carol** are now on sale and start at \$26. Discounted tickets are available for any student, regardless of age, with a valid student ID for \$16 for designated performances in designated sections. Tickets can be ordered online (alleytheatre.org) or by phone (713.220.5700). Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more.

Recommended for general audiences, children six and older.

PHOTOS: **A Christmas Carol** photos are available at www.alleytheatre.org/press

FEATURED EVENT- DECK THE TREES: Holiday Trees are displayed November 20, 2015 through January 1, 2016. The Deck the Trees Celebration will transform Alley Theatre's lobby into a winter wonderland of trees that are decorated by Houston's top designers and sponsored by generous businesses and individuals. For more information visit: www.alleytheatre.org/support-us

A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas is generously sponsored by Lead Sponsor ConocoPhillips, and Supporting Sponsors Ernst & Young, National Oilwell Varco and Vinson & Elkins. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2015-2016 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre.

ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading not-for-profit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company lead by Artistic Director Gregory Boyd and Managing Director Dean R. Gladden. Home to a Resident Company of actors, the Alley creates a wide-ranging repertoire and innovative productions of classics, neglected modern plays, and premieres. Alley All New, the initiative to commission and develop new work year round, features the Alley All New Festival each season presenting workshops and readings of new plays and musicals in process. Additionally the Alley serves 65,000 students annually with award-winning education and community programs including in-school arts integration residencies, school tours and student matinees. A recipient of the Special Tony Award for Outstanding Regional Theatre, the Alley has brought productions to Broadway, 40 American cities including New York's Lincoln Center and internationally to London, Berlin, Paris, and St. Petersburg throughout its 69 year history.

The Alley Theatre began a \$46.5 million building renovation in 2014-2015 season, the first major improvements since the building opened in 1968. With more than 500 performances in 2015-2016, the Alley will produce more shows than all other performing arts organizations in the Houston Theater District combined.