

# ALLEY THEATRE

FOR RELEASE

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## Alley Theatre's Holiday Tradition **A Christmas Carol - A Ghost Story of Christmas** Celebrates the Theatre and Resident Company

*The Theatre's production of the Charles' Dickens classic runs November 19-December 29 and includes more than 40 cast members, including Alley Resident Company Members.*

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

The Alley celebrates its twelfth season of Michael Wilson's adaptation of **A Christmas Carol**. The holiday tradition returns with a retelling of Charles Dickens' classic story, which follows Ebenezer Scrooge's journey with the three ghostly apparitions who visit him on Christmas Eve. **A Christmas Carol** instills a powerful message about redemption and the true spirit of the holiday season. Houston's seasonal favorite has been seen by nearly one million adults and children. Alley Associate Director James Black directs this colorful, comical, and music-filled production which runs **November 19 – December 29**. Tickets are available now through the Alley Theatre Box Office at 713.220.5700 as well as online at [www.alleytheatre.org](http://www.alleytheatre.org).

"Every time I watch **A Christmas Carol**, I find something new and reinvigorating. We are blessed with such a beautiful production from longtime Alley artist Michael Wilson, and are thrilled to offer this production to our audiences again this season," said Boyd.

The cast of **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas** includes Alley Theatre Resident Company members Jeffrey Bean as Ebenezer Scrooge, Chris Hutchison as Bob Cratchit, Paul Hope as Second Solicitor/ Mr. Fezziwig, Charles Krohn as Undertaker/Old Joe, Melissa Pritchett as Mary Pidgeon/Spirit Of Christmas Past, David Rainey as Bert/Spirit Of Christmas Present, Jay Sullivan as Fred/Scrooge At 21 and Emily Trask as Belle/Fred's Wife.

Rounding out the cast are Michael Brusasco as First Solicitor/Fiddler, John Felch as Mrs. Dilber/Jacob Marley, Dylan Godwin as Apparition/Dick Wilkins/Mr. Topper, Shawn Hamilton as Mr. Marvel, Mark Ivy as Apparition/Lamplighter/Travis, Julia Krohn as Mrs. Fezziwig/Mrs. Cratchit, McKenna Marmolejo as Apparition/Rich Lady/Patricia, Trace Pool as Apparition/Party Guest, Raven Troup as Apparition/Wendy/Martha Cratchit, and Brooke Wilson as Apparition/Beggar Woman/Fred's Sister-In-Law.

**A Christmas Carol** is adapted and originally directed by Michael Wilson. The production is directed by James Black and features Tony Award-winning scenic designer Tony Straiges (Alley's *The Heiress*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*) with costumes by Alejo Vietti (Alley's *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Sherlock Holmes and the Adventure of the Suicide Club*). Lighting is designed by Rui Rita (Alley's *The Old Friends*, *Freud's Last Session*), and original music is composed by John Gromada (Alley's *The Elephant Man*, *Dividing the Estate*, *Ether Dome*). Choreography is by Hope Clarke.

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

**A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas** is generously sponsored by ConocoPhillips and Vinson & Elkins. The Alley Theatre is supported by the 2016-2017 season sponsor United Airlines, the official airline of the Alley Theatre.

**TICKETS:** Tickets to **A Christmas Carol** are now on sale and start at \$30. 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](http://alleytheatre.org)) or by phone (713.220.5700).

Performances of **A Christmas Carol** are Tuesday - Friday at 7:30 p.m., Saturday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m., and Sunday at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. **A Christmas Carol** is recommended for general audiences, ages 6 and up. Schedule may vary. Check [alleytheatre.org](http://alleytheatre.org) for a current schedule

## ABOUT THE ALLEY THEATRE

The Alley Theatre, one of America's leading not-for-profit theatres, is a nationally recognized performing arts company led 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 70 year history.

After a year-long, \$46.5 million renovation during the 2014-15 season, the Alley Theatre now has one of the most technically advanced non-profit theatre complexes in the nation. With more than 450 performances in 2016-2017, the Alley will produce more shows than all other performing arts organizations in the Houston Theater District combined.

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### **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas** Fact Sheet

**WHAT:** Alley Theatre presents the 29th 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 19, Opens November 20, Through December 29, 2016

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

**TICKETS:** Tickets to **A Christmas Carol** are now on sale and start at \$30. 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](http://alleytheatre.org)) or by phone (713.220.5700).

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**GROUPS:** Discounts are available for groups of 10 or more. Groups can celebrate the holidays at the Alley Theatre with a complimentary pre-show reception on December 1, enjoying an open bar and heavy appetizers provided by Mandola's Catering followed by a performance of **A Christmas Carol – A Ghost Story of Christmas**. Ticket price is \$28. For more information on group tickets, please call group sales Monday-Friday from 9:30 am to 6 pm at 713.315.3346 or by email at [groupsales@alleytheatre.org](mailto:groupsales@alleytheatre.org)

**PHOTOS:** **A Christmas Carol** photos are available at [www.alleytheatre.org/press](http://www.alleytheatre.org/press)

**SOCIAL MEDIA:** Find us [@alleytheatre](https://twitter.com/alleytheatre) and #ChristmasCarolHOU

**TRAILER:** Available [HERE](#)

**FEATURED EVENT- DECK THE TREES:** Holiday Trees are displayed November 19, 2016 through January 3, 2017. 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](http://www.alleytheatre.org/support-us)