

NEW STAGE *Theatre*

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IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Make A Christmas Carol A Part Of Your Holiday Tradition



Jackson, Mississippi—New Stage Theatre’s traditional holiday gift to the community—*A Christmas Carol, A Ghost Story of Christmas*—opens on Saturday, December 1 and runs through Friday, December 21. Curtain times for public performances are 7:30 p.m. and 2:00 p.m. on Sundays. Tickets can be purchased at the box office, located inside the Jane Reid Petty Theatre Center, charged by phone by calling the theatre at **(601) 948-3533** or ordered online at www.newstagetheatre.com. The production is sponsored by Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi.

In this new adaptation, Ebenezer Scrooge is a wealthy man, rich in money and poor in spirit. He’s locked his solitary heart into a cashbox and forgotten where he’s put the key. A swirling, dancing chorus of ghosts weave through this uplifting holiday story of redemption, magic and hope as Scrooge is visited by spirits of his past, present and future. Dickens’ classic tale reawakens the true spirit of Christmas in holiday story of redemption, magic and hope.

“We are excited to produce a brand new staging of traditional holiday favorite *A Christmas Carol* for our 53rd season,” said Artistic Director Francine Thomas Reynolds. “Since New Stage first staged an adaptation of the Dickens’ novella, in 1984, no play has been as consistently produced at the theatre as *A Christmas Carol*. Five actors have played the role of Scrooge and 13 directors have helmed the production throughout the years. The theatre has delighted Mississippi audiences with four adaptations of the timeless Charles Dickens classic and this season will be the first time New Stage has produced the Michael Wilson version that puts the lesson-imparting spirits front and center.”

“Peppy Bidy’s direction of the play on a set from guest scenic designer Chris Rich and Turner Crumbley as Scrooge are just some of the other firsts that will be found in this year’s production,” continues Reynolds. “New Stage Theatre has produced *A Christmas Carol* twenty-three times. From life-size puppets to flying ghosts, some traditions have changed over the years but the powerful story of redemption in *A Christmas Carol* remains the same and will enchant audiences with its message of selfless giving. *A Christmas Carol* has everything: great story telling, singing, dancing, special effects and heart. I am looking forward to our audiences experiencing this new production being performed by a cast of 17 adults and 20 youth actors.”

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This year's cast features familiar faces and new talent. Cast members include Turner Crumbley (New Orleans) as Scrooge, Wesley Saunders (Moscow, ID) as Bob Cratchit, Hayden Schubert (Jackson) as Fred, Mandy Kate Myers (Pearl) as Christmas Past, Joe Frost (Jackson) as Christmas Present, David Sollish (Brandon) as Mr. Fezziwig, De-De Odom (Hattiesburg) as Mrs. Fezziwig, Malaika Quarterman (Jackson) as Mrs. Cratchit, Ethan Hartfield (Brandon) as Tiny Tim, and Chris Roebuck (Ridgeland) as Marley. *Crumbley appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association.*

Other cast members include Drew Stark (Jackson), Jordan Williams (Jackson), Cameron Pitre (Jackson), Andrew Fehrenbacher (Clinton), Hosea Griffith (Jackson), Elizabeth Thiel (Brandon), Sarah Coleman (Jackson), Cherry Rendel (Jackson), Jasmine Rivera (Jackson), Jeffrey Cornelius (Jackson), Timothy Magee (Brandon), Willis Thigpen (Jackson), Jameson Williams (Brandon), Darby Frost (Jackson), Marshall Robertson (Newton), Nehemiah Thompson (Jackson), Mark Daniel Cornelius (Jackson), Rivka Quarterman (Jackson), Kendra Quarterman (Jackson), Lucy Jones (Madison), Olivia Mathews (Brandon), Kymbrianna Griggs (Jackson), Isabelle Gonzalez (Flowood), Chloe Vizier (Jackson), Analia Gonzalez (Flowood), Treasure White (Jackson), Avery Stallings (Jackson), Alice McPhail (Jackson).

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**Special Holiday Events at New Stage Theatre During
*A Christmas Carol, A Ghost Story of Christmas***

Toys for Tots: December 1 – December 2

- We will offer \$25 tickets to those who bring a new unwrapped toy to the performances December 1-2. Customers must bring the item to the window and purchase tickets at that time. One toy per ticket. Tickets are subject to availability. Tickets can be purchased in advance during box office hours.
- *New Stage will continue to collect toys through December 14*

Give the Gift of Theatre this Holiday Season!

- Gift certificates, Mini-Flex Passes, Education Classes, and Summer Camps make the perfect holiday gifts. Contact the box office for details.

Assisted Listening Devices: Available at every performance. Please call the box office to reserve a device.

Actor Chat: Wednesday, December 12 and Wednesday, December 19

- Stay after the show and ask questions of the cast and crew

A Christmas Carol Performances:

December 1, 6-8, 12-15 & 18-21 at 7:30 p.m.

December 2, 9, & 16 at 2 p.m.

All 10 a.m. School Matinees are Sold Out

Ticket prices:

\$35

\$28 for students, seniors, and military

Group discounts are available

Purchase Tickets:

601-948-3533

www.newstagetheatre.com