



THEATRE

HUNTSVILLE

Our Theatre. *Your Theatre.*



A CHRISTMAS STORY

Adapted by Philip Grecian

Based on the motion picture *A Christmas Story*, © 1983
Turner Entertainment Co., distributed by Warner Bros.,
written by Jean Shepherd, Leigh Brown and Bob Clark,
and on the book *In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash*
by Jean Shepherd.

This show has been made possible by public support from the following:



Huntsville Arts & Cultural Grant Program



... and the support of PATRONS like YOU.



**A
CHRISTMAS
STORY**
Adapted by Philip Grecian

**NOVEMBER 11-13
& 17-20, 2022**

**VON BRAUN CENTER
PLAYHOUSE**

HUNTSVILLE, ALABAMA

DIRECTED BY

JESSICA
ALEXANDER-
BRADLEY

A Christmas Story is performed in Two Acts,
with one fifteen-minute intermission.
Concessions may be enjoyed in the theatre.

This project has been made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

Supported in part by the Huntsville Arts & Cultural Grant Fund,
a program of the City of Huntsville and Arts Huntsville, Inc.

A Christmas Story is presented by special arrangement with
THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY, Woodstock, IL

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THE TIME & PLACE

Hohman, Indiana
The 1940's

SYNOPSIS

Ralphie Parker is nine years old and lives in Hohman, Indiana, a generic small town in middle America. The only thing Ralphie wants for Christmas is an Official Red Ryder Carbine-Action Two Hundred Shot Range Model Air Rifle, with a compass and thing that tells time built right into the stock. Everyone tells him that he'll shoot his eye out, so Ralphie will have to be creative if he is going to open the present of his dreams on Christmas morning.

The story is narrated by grown-up Ralph who fondly remembers adventures with his friends Flick and Schwartz in the weeks before Christmas. They navigate a childhood filled with school, bullies, cowboys, girls, and lamps that are curiously shaped like a leg. Frequently at odds with his cranky dad but comforted by his doting mother, Ralphie struggles to make it to Christmas Day with his glasses and his hopes intact.

SPECIAL THANKS

Alabama State
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Patricia L. Blackman

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CAST

Ralph Parker
David French

Ralphie Parker
Ryan French

The Old Man
Ben Stone

Mother
Shae-Lynn Imler

Randy Parker
Daniel French

Miss Shields
Gena Rawdon

Schwartz
Cillian Stanford

Flick
Buzz Willis

Esther Jane
Rylee Jae Howell

Helen
Coryn Grace Miller

Scut Farkas
Lillian Aguilar

Helen Understudy
Berkeley Asher Preer

PRODUCTION STAFF

Director
Jessica Alexander-Bradley

Assistant Director
Nora Hickman

Technical Director
Scenic Design
Kenny Paone

Stage Manager
Leslie Gates

Assistant Technical Director
Mirji Campolongo

Assistant Stage Manager
Sarah Sawin

Costumes

Pam Anders | Jessica Alexander-Bradley | Ben Stone
Shae-Lynn Imler | Nora Hickman | Karen Alexander

Properties/Sound Effects
Davenport Scott

Lighting Design
Bakari Prigg

Audio Engineer
Al Gilbert

Make Up
Ben Stone

A CHRISTMAS STORY

Backstage Crew

Kaitlin McClellan | Mel White | Blake Parker
 Emily Willis | Sally Martin Priester | Jasmine Hampton

Scenic Construction/Scenic Art

Kenny Paone | Mirji Camoplongo | Dex Edwards
 Nora Mencinger | Tricia Bosh | Jessica Alexander-Bradley
 Mark Eccleston | Mitchell Stookesbury | Colby Vernon
 Nora Hickman | Kc Schmidt | Sarah Sawin
 Randall Cox | Cole Hollingsworth | Justin Stanford
 Michelle Novosel | Tom Alexander | Tom Prohaska
 Jay Hixon | Shae-Lynn Imler

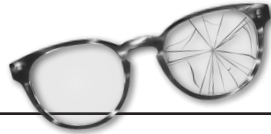
Production**Photography**

Jeff White

Box Office

Patricia Blackman | Nancy Morris
 Beth Cox | Fred Tamm-Daniels

...and thank you to all of our hard-working volunteers
 who are Theatre Huntsville



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 Gary Schwartz | Jenni Harvey
 Jamie Stephens | Jerry Mitchell

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Darien Harris

Ticketing Manager

Patricia Blackman

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Mirji Campolongo

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Al Gilbert

Lighting Technician

Bakari Prigg

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BIOGRAPHIES

Lillian Aguilar | Scut Farkas

Lillian is excited to be in her first 'big' show and with Theatre Huntsville for the first time. She attends Monrovia Middle School will be 13 this month. She has performed in camps with Fantasy Playhouse and is looking forward to being in more shows. Lillian is enjoying playing the exciting character of Scut Farkas. Enjoy the show!

Jessica Alexander-Bradley | Director

Jessica is excited to direct her first production with Theatre Huntsville. By day, she's the Director of Proposals and Marketing for System Dynamics International and in her spare time works with many theater organizations in various capacities. Jessica was last seen as Poppy in TH's *Noises Off* and will be choreographing *Spamalot* for TH later this season. WINGS Awards: Best Choreography—*Fame* (HCCA), *Urinetown* and *Cabaret* (RT); Judges' Choice, Ensemble—"Cell Block Tango" (IMP); Judges' Choice, Choreography—"Fezziwig Dance," *A Christmas Carol* (FP). Roles: *Noises Off* (Poppy), *Leading Ladies* (Meg), *Nonsense/Nunset Boulevard* (Sister Leo) (TH); *Urinetown* (Little Sally) (RT). Directed: *Some Enchanted Evening* (HCCA); *Puss in Boots*, *Sleeping Beauty*, *Stuart Little*, and *Winnie the Pooh* (FP). Thanks to you, the audience, for supporting local live theater. Thanks to Nora, Leslie, Kenny, Mirji, and all the cast and crew for their hard work. Love to Michael and my parents for their love and support.

Mirji Campolongo | Assistant Technical Director

This is Mirji's second season with TH and she is super excited she gets to be a part of another amazing production. Originally from California, Mirji graduated from San Francisco State University and then taught technical theatre at Lowell High School until moving to Huntsville in 2020. Most recently, she's worked on *The Mousetrap* and *Winter Wonderettes* as a carpenter and painter, and designed the set for *Dreamgirls*, and *Love Letters* in the Studio Theatre. Mirji was also Technical Director for last season's *Noises Off*. She wants to thank her wonderful family and friends, especially her mother, father and sister. ¡Los quiero mucho!

Daniel French | Randy

Even though he has plenty of experience playing the role of Ryan's pesky little brother, this is Daniel's first time playing a role onstage. Daniel enjoys singing in his school choir and he takes two hip hop classes at the Dance Company. He is close to earning his Arrow of Light and he enjoys camping and hiking with his Cub Scout Pack. Daniel wants to thank his dad and brother for introducing him to his newest happy place: the stage!

David French | Ralph

As always, David is just glad to be here. He's especially glad to share the stage with two of his four sons.

Ryan French | Ralphie

Ryan is thrilled to be playing Ralphie on stage in his first show with Theatre Huntsville. Ryan has played Daddy Warbucks in *Annie Jr* (St. John's School), ensemble in *13 the Musical* (LMP), an Oompa Loompa and understudy for Augustus Gloop in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Fantasy Playhouse), a Who in *Seussical the Musical* (HCC), and a juggler in *Aladdin* (SJS). His next theatrical endeavor will be playing Prince Eric in the *Little Mermaid, Jr* with his school. Ryan has taken dance classes since he was 3 years old, and tap is his favorite. Ryan is a member of the Junior Thespian Society at SJS. Offstage, Ryan is an active Life Scout in his Scouts BSA Troop, enjoying camping and water sports the most. He would like to thank his cats for putting up with being fed dinner late because of his rehearsal schedule.

Leslie Gates | Stage Manager

Leslie is happy to have the opportunity to stage manage again after a few years away from the backstage. She is usually found in the Theatre Huntsville office wrangling elaborately color-coded spreadsheets. Leslie will be directing TH's June musical *Spamalot*. Thank you to everyone for supporting local arts and Theatre Huntsville. We appreciate you, and hope we can add a few hours of joy to your day. 22!

Nora Hickman | Assistant Director

Nora is thrilled to be back behind the scenes serving as Assistant Director for *A Christmas Story*. Previously, Nora has been AD for *A Sanders Family Christmas* (Southern Rouge Theatre Company), *The Odd Couple* (LMP), and *Don't Dress for Dinner* (Renaissance). Nora has been on stage most recently in *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues* (TH), *Death by Design* (TH), *Always a Bridesmaid* (TH), and *The Belles of Whitechapel* (Evil Cheez). Thank you to an amazing cast and crew, especially to Jessica for giving me the opportunity to AD. A special thank you to my wonderful husband, Jay Hixon who's currently directing *A Sanders Family Christmas* for his 7th year. (You're amazing-er!)

Rylee Jae Howell | Esther Jane

Rylee Jae is making her Theatre Huntsville debut in *A Christmas Story*. She is a 6th grader at Riverton Intermediate School. Rylee Jae plays pickball and tennis and loves to travel. She has had a great time working with the cast and crew and looks forward to many more shows in the future. Rylee sends love and thanks to her family for supporting her in all of her theatre performances.

Shae-Lynn Imler | Mother

Shae-Lynn has been doing theater for 15 years, but this is her first show with Theatre Huntsville. She was last seen as Laura Warwick in Agatha Christie's *The Unexpected Guest* with The Laurel Mill Playhouse in Baltimore, MD.

BIOGRAPHIES

Coryn Grace Miller | Helen

Coryn is thirteen years old and in 9th grade in the Performing Arts Theatre Magnet Program at Lee High School. She has maintained academic honors each school year while engaging in extra-curricular activities. Hobbies include singing, dancing, acting, reading, and traveling. Coryn loves the arts and enjoys being in school and community plays including *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*, *Lyle the Crocodile* and *Annie*. She is happy to have been cast in several Academy for Academics and Arts school plays including *The Stinky Cheese Man*, *Charlotte's Web*, *The Addams Family*, and *The Lion, Witch, and the Wardrobe*, to name a few. Coryn's proudest moment was receiving the Wings Award for her performance as "Joetta" in *The Watsons Go to Birmingham*. She is blessed to be a part of this cast and continuing to do what she loves.

Kenny Paone | Technical Director

Kenny is extremely excited for you to experience *A Christmas Story* and the rest of Theatre Huntsville's 25th season! Kenny is the current full-time Technical Director for Theatre Huntsville and is credited as the technical director for many community theatrical performances across several local arts organizations such as *Lyle the Crocodile* with Fantasy Playhouse, *Into The Woods* with Huntsville Community Chorus, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* with Grissom High School, and *The Little Prince* with Ars Nova. Kenny is also a former entertainment cast member for the Walt Disney Company in Florida, and prides himself in bringing the Disney standard to the local community.

Berkeley Asher Preer | Helen Understudy

Berkeley is extremely excited to be in her second Theatre Huntsville production, having appearing in *Dreamgirls* in September. She is a military brat that has lived and traveled all over the world. She made her stage debut at age 6 in local theatre while her family was stationed in New Orleans. She is a member of the Advanced Theatre Production team at James Clemens High School. She is also a member of the "Blue Angels" James Clemens competitive dance team. When she is not dancing or practicing her acting, she can be found spending time with her family, reading, or playing with her dog "Tango."

Cillian Stanford | Schwartz

Cillian is a fifth grader at The Academy for Academics and Arts. In 2019, he made his theatre debut as a street urchin in Fantasy Playhouses' *A Christmas Carol*. He has also performed in AAA's musical, *The Addams Family* and the musical, *Anastasia*, at Huntsville High School. He has been enjoyed many Fantasy Playhouse camps and classes and most recently played Bruce in *Matilda the Musical* advanced musical theatre camp. He currently studies voice and piano at

A CHRISTMAS STORY
BIOGRAPHIES

The Studio. He loves singing, dancing, playing guitar, and performing and hopes to be in many more productions. Thank you to Theatre Huntsville and the Huntsville theatre community for your support!

Ben Stone | Old Man

Ben does plays. Sometimes on stage.

Gena Rawdon | Miss Shields

Gena has been active in community theatre for thirty years, though she hardly looks it. After working in the Shoals for seven years, her first show in Huntsville was Theatre Huntsville's *Sabrina Fair* in 2000. She has worked with Theatre Huntsville, HCCA, Evil Cheez Productions and many other amazing arts groups in North Alabama. Thanks to the Tribe and the News Guy and all of you for supporting the arts. My cup runneth over.

Buzz Willis | Flick

Buzz is a 5th grader at Rainbow Elementary in Madison. He excited to be in his first show with Theatre Huntsville! Other favorite roles include Boy Scrooge in the Bank Street Players production of *Humbug* and Walter in the Dreamweavers production of *Sleepy Hollow*. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

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Written By: Barbara Fields · Based on the work of Charles Dickens



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SHOW DATES!

- Nov. 11 7pm
- Nov. 12 2pm & 7pm
- Nov. 13 2pm & 7pm
- Nov. 17 7pm
- Nov. 18 7pm
- Nov. 19 2pm & 7pm
- Nov. 20 2pm

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 7:30 pm



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 Friday, November 18, 2022
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Cavell Trio
 Friday, January 13, 2023
 7:30 pm



Ariel Quartet
 Friday, February 24, 2023
 7:30 pm



Cantus
 Saturday, March 4, 2023
 5:00 pm



3 Van Cliburn Medalists
 Friday, April 21, 2023 7:30 pm
 Saturday, April 22, 2023 2:00 pm & 7:30 pm



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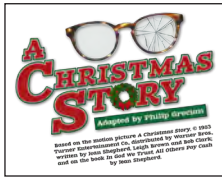
2022-2023 OUR 25TH SEASON

MAIN STAGE

at the Von Braun Center Playhouse



Book and Lyrics by Tom Eyer
Music by Henry Krieger
Sep 16-25, 2022



by Philip Grecian
Nov 11-20, 2022



Based on the screenplay
by Jonathan Lynn
Written by Sandy Rustin
Jan 20-29, 2023



by Lydia R. Diamond
Mar 17-26, 2023



Book and lyrics by Eric Idle
Music by John Du Prez
& Eric Idle
Jun 9-25, 2023

STUDIO THEATRE

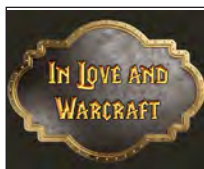
at Lowe Mill ARTS & Entertainment

by Yasmina Reza
Translated by
Christopher
Hampton
Oct 14-22, 2022



by Greg Allen
Feb 10-18, 2023

by Madhuri Shekar
Apr 21-29, 2023



a program in
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