



SCROOGE!

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 8, 2024



NEAR WEST THEATRE PRESENTS

SCROOGE!

"USE EACH MAGIC MOMENT WELL, WHILE YOU ARE FREE TO CHOOSE THEM..."

NOVEMBER 22 - DECEMBER 8, 2024

PERFORMANCES: NOVEMBER 22, 23, 29*, 30 & DECEMBER 1, 5**, 6, 7 & 8

*ASL INTERPRETED PERFORMANCE

**SENSORY PERFORMANCE

FALL INTERGENERATIONAL MAINSTAGE PRODUCTION

RUNTIME: 2 HOURS AND 10 MINUTES, 15-MINUTE INTERMISSION

BOOK, MUSIC AND LYRICS BY LESLIE BRICUSSE

SCROOGE! IS PRESENTED BY ARRANGEMENT WITH CONCORD THEATRICALS.
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THE TEAM

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WARDROBE SUPERVISORS



THE TEAM

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BACKSTAGE.....MARIO BECERRA, JUDAH BISHEIMER,
ELIOT PALCISCO & JACKSON TAN
FLY.....ROSS FERTEL
SPOT OPERATORS.....REDD BOOSE, CHARLIE GOLDBERG,
NICK MAISTROS, & RUSSELL MILLER

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TEEN MARKETING TEAM ELISA GAUNTNER, PARKER GOOD,
MEGHAN KREIGER, YAMINI SRIDHAR,
& ROSE SHAKARIAN KVIDERA
PRODUCTION ART DESIGNER.....NOAH HRBEK

SPECIAL THANKS

TO THE FOLLOWING PEOPLE FOR HELPING US PUT THIS SHOW TOGETHER

KELLIE ADON	BLESSING GEE
MATTIE ADON	D'ARYL SNEAD
PEYTON MURRY	JULES ZIEL
NATHAN MURRY	BRIAN CURRIE
SYDNEY NOELLE WARREN	PARKER GOOD
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THE CAST

EBENEZER SCROOGE	MATT LOEHRKE
BOB CRATCHIT	JT TAN
MRS. CRATCHIT	ERIN HEISEY
TINY TIM	GUADALUPE "GUSSIE" GARCIA PRIGNITZ
KATHY CRATCHIT	PEYTON MURRY
PETER CRATCHIT	CLAYTON OBERTACZ
MARTHA CRATCHIT	UMA BOLE
"SARAH" CRATCHIT	YAMINI SRIDHAR
JACOB MARLEY	HANS HOLZNAGEL
CHRISTMAS PAST	ESTHER TAN
CHRISTMAS PRESENT	NEDA SPEARS
CHRISTMAS YET TO COME:	ANNA LOEHRKE, ROSE SHAKARIAN KVIDERA, & CJ HARKNESS
NEPHEW HARRY	CHRISTIAN MCGINNIS
TOM JENKINS	CONNOR KARBOSKI
MR. FEZZIWIG	TOM HILL
MRS. FEZZIWIG	ELIZABETH O'HARA
DICK WILKINS / TOPPER	LYDIA BROWNING
YOUNG EBENEZER	ISAAC COOK
ISABEL	HANNAH RUTKOWSKI
EBBY	GRAHAM DAVIES
JOCELYN JOLLYGOODE	NINA AUST
HUGO HEARTY	CALEB HARKNESS
MRS. DILBER	ZION BENSON
MISS DILBER	DANI SCAGGS
BESS	REID JUDKINS
BISSETT—THE BUTCHER	DAVE WEINMANN
PUNCH & JUDY MAN	ANNA LOEHRKE
BEGGAR WOMAN	SARAH DURHAM
WINE MERCHANT	SHIVA RISNER
MR. CARSTAIRS	MICHAEL CHAPMAN
BAKER WOMAN	MAYELA SQUIRES
MR. PRINGLE	BOB ZOMBAR
MRS. PRINGLE	SARAH VAS
SCHOOL TEACHER	AMARA ALBERTO
JEN	LILY RISNER
HELEN	GISELLE JONES
MARY	MAGGIE CHAPMAN
BOY WITH SLED	JAXON FLOYD

THE CAST CONT'D

ENSEMBLE..... AMARA ALBERTO, NINA AUST, ZION BENSON,
LYDIA BROWNING, MAGGIE CHAPMAN, MICHAEL CHAPMAN,
ISAAC COOK, GRAHAM DAVIES, SARAH DURHAM*, JAXON FLOYD,
GISELLE JONES, REID JUDKINS*, ANNA LOEHRKE,
ELIZABETH O’HARA, KENDALL PALLETT*, DANI SCAGGS,
SHIVA RISNER, ROSE SHAKARIAN KVIDERA*, CAYLA SINGLETON*,
MAYELA SQUIRES*, MARI STAREK*, NATHAN MURRY,
DECEMBER HILEY, KIT WEINMANN, DAVE WEINMANN,
SARAH VAS*, & BOB ZOMBAR

CHILDREN ENSEMBLE..... MATTIE ADON, WILLOW BISHEIMER,
SELAH BISHEIMER, DARLING DAVIS,
ASCENCION "SUNI" GARCIA PRIGNITZ, JACKSON HARDIMAN,
ARIA MURRY, EVAN MURRY, LILY RISNER, AIDA SHAKARIAN KVIDERA,
TEDDY TAN, & LYDIA WHITEHOUSE

*DENOTES FEATURED DANCE ENSEMBLE

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

SCENE 1: A LONDON STREET – CHEAPSIDE

OPENINGCOMPANY

SCENE 2: SCROOGE’S OFFICE

M.O.N.E.Y.SCROOGE

SCENE 3: A LONDON STREET – CHEAPSIDE

CHRISTMAS CHILDREN..... BOB CRATCHIT, TINY TIM, KATHY, FATHER CHRISTMAS,
TOM JENKINS, MISS DILBER, BESS, BISSETT,
PUNCH & JUDY MAN, BEGGAR WOMAN,
WINE MERCHANT, & ENSEMBLE
FATHER CHRISTMAS TOM JENKINS & MERCHANTS
I HATE PEOPLE! SCROOGE & ENSEMBLE

SCENE 4: EXTERIOR OF SCROOGE’S LODGINGS

SCENE 5: SCROOGE’S HALLWAY

SCENE 6: SCROOGE’S BEDROOM

MAKE THE MOST OF THIS WORLD MARLEY & PHANTOMS
IT’S NOT MY FAULTSCROOGE

SCENE 7: A SCHOOL ROOM

A CHRISTMAS CAROL STAFF & CHILDREN

SCENE 8: FEZZIWIG’S WAREHOUSE

DECEMBER THE TWENTY-FIFTH FEZZIWIG, MRS. FEZZIWIG, & ENSEMBLE

SCENE 9: EBENEZER’S OFFICE

HAPPINESS EBENEZER, ISABEL, SCROOGE, & CHRISTMAS PAST
YOU-YOUSCROOGE & YOUNG EBENEZER

SCENE 10: SCROOGE’S BEDROOM

LOVE WHILE YOU CAN.....CHRISTMAS PAST

SCENE 11: SCROOGE’S BEDROOM

IT’S NOT MY FAULT (REPRISE).....SCROOGE

SCENE 12: A LONDON STREET – CHEAPSIDE

FINALE ACT I..... CHRISTMAS PRESENT, SCROOGE, & ENSEMBLE

SCENES & MUSICAL NUMBERS CONT'D

ACT II

SCENE 1: A LONDON STREET – CHEAPSIDE

THE MILK OF HUMAN KINDNESS TOM JENKINS, BOOZERS,
QUARTET, & LANDLORD

SCENE 2: THE CRATCHIT’S HOUSE

THE BEAUTIFUL DAY TINY TIM & THE CRATCHITS

SCENE 3: SCROOGE’S NEPHEW’S SITTING ROOM

THE MINISTER’S CAT..... MARY & GUESTS

SCENE 4: A HOVEL

HAPPINESS (REPRISE)..... SCROOGE
A BETTER LIFE SCROOGE

SCENE 5: THE STREET OUTSIDE SCROOGE’S OFFICE

SCENE 6: THE CRATCHITS HOUSE

THANK YOU VERY MUCH SCROOGE, TOM JENKINS, & ENSEMBLE

SCENE 7: THE CHURCHYARD

A BEAUTIFUL DAY (REPRISE)..... TINY TIM, BOB CRATCHIT, & SCROOGE

SCENE 8: SCROOGE’S BEDROOM

I’LL BEGIN AGAIN..... SCROOGE

SCENE 9-11: A LONDON STREET – CHEAPSIDE

FINALE ACT IICOMPANY

DIRECTOR'S LETTER

Welcome Friends,

After seven years as executive director of Near West Theatre, it has been a wonderful journey directing a NWT main stage production. I want to thank the entire production team, crew, community, NWT staff and Trinidad Snider for their support and grace throughout this process. I especially want to share my gratitude for the Scrooge! cast for their constant dedication and passion around this story and our unique approach in telling it. Our performers are a beautifully diverse mix of longtime NWT alumni and fresh new voices, bringing together a rich tapestry that embodies our values and celebrates our community.

In some form or another, we are all familiar with the Charles Dickens classic and many of us include this story as tradition every holiday season. Over these last few months, I have been asking myself why? Why does this story still resonate so strongly after almost 200 years?

I believe the themes of this tale are still relevant today. We are introduced to a broken man who firmly believes the accumulation of wealth, even at the suffering of others, is righteous. Rather than lifting up the poor, he supports institutions that "decrease the surplus population". Wealth is power and poverty is a disease of the weak. We read or watch this story and understand in our hearts he is wrong and sad in his thinking, yet many of us make celebrities and leaders out of these same men today. We experience versions of Scrooge in our daily lives, and even more importantly, within ourselves.

We want to believe in the goodness in man and root for his redemption. Evil is created, not born. We witness and embrace Scrooge's early childhood trauma, the loss of his sister, and his love lost as a young adult. By feeling his pain, we understand how values can become misguided after such suffering. For me, his journey to redemption truly begins when he allows himself to feel the suffering of others through Tiny Tim. Empathy and humility are truly righteous values.

We all have the power to be good. It is a choice.

Near West Theatre produced Scrooge! almost ten years ago and featured a friend who believed in the power of good. He suffered his fair share of trauma yet made the choice every single day to be a light to those around him.

My work in this production is dedicated to him.

Let us all be a light to others this holiday season.

Mike Obertacz
Scrooge! Director



BREAK-A-LEGS

MARI, WE LOVE WATCHING YOU SHINE! PROUD OF YOU ALWAYS. WE LOVE YOU SO MUCH! MOM & DAD

Kendall: we are so proud of you! Keep reaching for the stars! love. Mom. Dad. Ellie. & Teddy

WE LOVE TO SEE YOU SHINE ON STAGE! LU-VINGS, DADDY, MOMMY, KANE, AND ZANEY WOO!

PROUD OF YOU, MATT! LOVE FROM ANNA, KIWI, AND MOJO

Graham - you make us so proud! We Love you! Mom, Dad, Benny & Ruby

CONGRATULATIONS, AIDA! ✨ YOUR TALENT WILL LIGHT UP THE STAGE! CAN'T WAIT TO CHEER YOU ON-GO SHINE! LOVE MOM + DAD

Rose, you will dazzle on stage! Break a leg+enjoy every moment! Mom and Dad are cheering for you! 🥳

We are proud of you, Gussie! You shine as Tiny Tim! Love Mom, Brian, Macklin, Coop, Finn, Sonny, Miles, Mateo!

We love you Suni and are so proud of you! Love Mom, Brian, Macklin, Cooper, Finn, Sonny, Miles, and Mateo!

Jax - We love your passion for the theater! Break a leg! Mom and Dad

GET TO KNOW THE CAST

Mattie Adon (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/they) is thrilled to push her limits in this production of *Scrooge!* at Near West Theatre! Mattie has truly found her people in the theater community and is loving the diverse and supportive family at Near West! Mattie thanks all the actors, actresses, and crew, past and present for encouraging her and shaping her into the actress she is becoming. Special thanks to our Director, Michael Orbertacz, for this awesome experience! Mattie dedicates this performance to her brother, Kane, who is always there for her!

Amara Alberto (*School Teacher/Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to be back at Near West Theatre for another all-ages show! You may have seen Amara before in *Historic Haunts* (2021: Tour Guide, 2022: Velma West, 2023: Twilight Zone Host, 2024: Martha Wise) or heard her in *The Wizard of the Oz* (Pit Singer) at Near West Theatre. Amara hopes you enjoy the show and that all your meeces have cheeses this holiday season.

Nina Aust (*Jocelyn Jollygoode/Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to return to the Near West Theatre stage! Previously, she portrayed Charlie Cowell, anvil salesman, in *The Music Man*. Offstage, Nina runs Super Nina Photography, capturing memories behind the lens. When she's not photographing, you can find her spending quality time with her wife, Amy, and their daughter, MJ. Nina sends her deepest gratitude and love to Amy, her unwavering rock, and sends endless love to MJ, her biggest inspiration.

Zion Benson (*Mrs. Dilber/Ensemble*) (he/him) is a recent Alumni of Cleveland School of The Arts and is thrilled to be joining Near West Theatre for his first production. Some of Zion's recent credits are *New Works Play Festival* (Director and Writer) at Cleveland School of The Arts, *Dreamgirls* (Ensemble) with All-City Arts, and *The Midnight Mist* (Jasper, the Truth Seeker Molder) at Cleveland Public Theatre. He would like to thank his family and friends and give a shout out to his dear friends Kai and Julie for their endless support and humorous memories! Take a seat, relax, and enjoy *Scrooge! The Musical!*

Selah Bisheimer (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/her) is ecstatic to be returning to Near West Theatre and is a sixth grader at Urban Community School! Her recent show was *Frozen Jr.* (Oaken, Snow chorus) at Near West Theatre! When Selah is not on stage she enjoys playing lacrosse, reading the Harry Potter series, and spending time with family and friends. Selah would like to thank her family and friends for encouraging her to push herself to do her best and is inspired to do theater from her sister, Jaidyn. FOR THE POWER OF GRAYSKULL!!!

Willow Bisheimer (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/her) is excited to make her Near West Theatre debut! Her favorite candies are Crunch Bars and Twix. Willow absolutely loves dogs and cats, and her favorite animal is a Bulldog. She just loves their little faces and basically everything about them. Her favorite shows are *Stranger Things* and *Bluey*, and she loves music. Her favorite song writers are Sabrina Carpenter and Camilla Cabello. Her favorite songs are Psycho Freak by Camilla Cabello and Thumbs by Sabrina Carpenter.

GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Uma Bole (*Martha Cratchit*) (she/her) is excited to make her Near West Theatre debut! Uma does tennis as a main sport, so she does it 5 to 6 days a week. She also does soccer as a second sport, but she plays it less, though she still does enjoy it. She reads a lot and plays violin. She additionally likes to dance. She has two best friends that moved to Cleveland at the start of third grade. Those best friends are twins, and Uma sees them almost every day out of school, and every day in school. She is vegetarian, but one time she ate a chicken quesadilla because someone made a mistake at a restaurant. She has done a few musicals before (all the shows she has done were musicals), and she is extraverted.

Lydia Browning (*Dick Wilkins/Topper/Ensemble*) (Any Pronouns) is excited to be in another show at Near West Theatre! Some recent shows include: *Sweeney Todd* (Beadle Bamford) at Lakewood High School, *Mean Girls: High School Edition* (Mr. Duvall) at Beck Center for the Arts, and *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble) at Near West Theatre. Lydia also plays cello, and would like to thank their dogs for their moral support.

Maggie Chapman (*Mary/Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to be a part of *Scrooge*! She just finished her most recent performance at Near West Theatre in the West Clinton Historic Haunts (Velma West). Her previous Near West performances include *BKLYN* (City Weed) and *The Wizard of Oz* (u/s Almira Gulch/Wicked Witch). Other recent credits include: *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Wife/Butler), *Murder Medium Rare* (Carmen Joseph), and *Newsies* (Seitz/Newsie) at Fairview Fine Arts & Theatre Association. Maggie is overjoyed to continue performing with Near West Theatre and sends a huge thank you to everyone involved in making these performances possible.

Mike Chapman (*Mr. Carstairs*) (he/him) is so excited to be joining his daughter, Maggie, on stage for the first time! He hasn't acted since grade school but has had the pleasure of seeing his three kids perform in a variety of shows over the years. Now that he's retired (and with a not so gentle nudge from his daughter), Mike thought it was time he tried his hand at theater again. He thanks Near West Theatre for giving him the chance to get back on stage and the cast of *Scrooge*! for being so welcoming. Enjoy the show!

Isaac Cook (*Young Ebenezer/Ensemble*) (he/him) is grateful to be performing on the Near West Theatre Stage once again. He is in his senior year of highschool and his recent credits include: *Legally Blonde* (Aaron/Ensemble) at Near West Theatre, *All Shook Up* (Chad) at the Norwalk Arts Center, and *Catch Me If You Can* (Hanratty) at St. Paul High School. He plans on going to College after High School in pursuit of a BFA in Musical Theatre. He would like to thank his parents, as he does for each performance, for their support in every aspect of the arts and to his vocal teacher Dr. Elizabeth Tracy for her help and reminding him that he does in fact need to breathe when he's singing. Enjoy the show!

DEC
20
7:30
PM



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HOLIDAY
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GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Graham Davies (*Ebby/Ensemble*) (he/him) is so excited to be a part of his first show with the Near West Theatre! He is a 5th grader at Onaway Elementary School in Shaker Heights and has loved working with Mr. O in the past. Besides theater, Graham loves playing sports such as flag football, basketball & baseball, organizing, and building Legos! Good luck to the rest of the cast and enjoy the show!!

Darling Davis (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/her) is so happy to return to the Near West Theatre stage in *Scrooge*! Previously, Darling was in NWT's *RISE!* Production of *Frozen Jr.* this past May. She is a sixth grader at Urban Community School. When she's not at school or rehearsal, she likes to spend time with her sisters and brothers De'Ara, Kia, Serna, Deasia, King, Elliot, and Lawrence. Darling also likes playing dress to impress with her friends, coloring, watching Dance Moms, and eating. Darling would like to thank her parents, Safara and Dwanye. GO BUCKEYES!

Sarah Durham (*Beggar Woman/Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to make her Near West Theatre debut in this production. Most recently, she appeared in *Freaky Friday* (Katherine) at Rubber City Theatre. Other notable credits include: *A Chorus Line* (Sheila), *Much Ado About Nothing* (Don Jon), *Evita* (Eva Perón), and *Gypsy* (Louise). She holds a BA in Theatre from Wright State University and an MA in Arts Administration from the University of Kentucky. Currently serving as the Business Operations Director for the National Center for Choreography in Akron, she also guides emerging talent at Brecksville Broadview Heights Middle School as a director and choreographer. Her next project will be directing the BBHMS spring musical.

Jaxon Floyd (*Boy With Sled/Ensemble*) (he/him) is ecstatic to be making his Near West Theatre debut in this classic show. Favorite past credits include: *Beauty and the Beast Jr.* (Lefou) at 82nd Street Theater and *High School Musical* (James/Jock) at The Brecksville Theater, *Les Misérables* (Sailor 1/Convict/Student) at Independence Community Theater, and *Beauty and the Beast* (Eggseller) at The Cassidy Theatre. When not on stage he enjoys playing soccer, tennis, and spending time with his family and friends. Jaxon would like to thank his family for support in his theatrical journey.

Suni Garcia Prignitz (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to be back for her fourth intergenerational show at Near West Theatre. Previous NWT credits include: *The Little Mermaid* (Ensemble), *The Music Man* (Ensemble), and *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin/Flying Monkey). She has also been in *Matilda* (Tomi) and *Seussical* (Mrs. Mayor) with Upstage Players. When she isn't acting, singing, and dancing, she enjoys playing basketball and softball. Suni is a sixth grader at Urban Community School and proud resident of Ohio City.

GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Guadalupe "Gussie" Garcia Prignitz (*Tiny Tim*) (she/her) is so excited to be in her second show, and first named role, at Near West Theatre. She was last seen on the NWT stage in *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin/Winkie). She was also in *Seussical* (Ensemble) with Upstage Players earlier this year. Gussie is a passionate dancer and an apprentice with the company dancers at Dance Arts By Regina. When she isn't performing, she loves reading and playing rugby. She is a fourth grader at Urban Community School and proud resident of Ohio City.

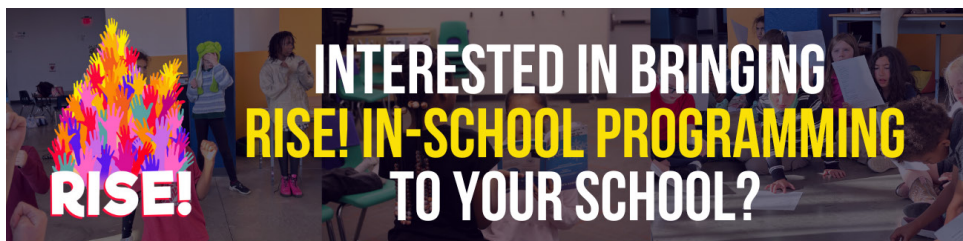
Jackson Hardiman (*Children's Ensemble*) (he/him) is excited to join the Near West Theatre community. His most recent credit includes *Beauty and the Beast* (Utensil, Wolf, Enchanted Book) at Onaway School and *The Heart of Magic* (Writer, Producer). When Jackson is not on stage, you can find him on the soccer field, basketball court, playing Dungeons and Dragons, and watching *The Dragon Prince*. Jackson would like to thank his parents for driving him to all of his favorite activities and Mr. O, Ms. Fader, and Ms. Leta for supporting his love of the theater.

CJ Harkness (*Hugo Hearty/Ensemble*) (he/him) is very excited to be in his first show here at Near West Theatre. He would like to thank his family and friends for all of their support. Enjoy the show! GO GUARDIANS!!

Erin Heisey (*Mrs. Cratchit*) (she/her) having recently returned to Cleveland after 12 years away, Erin couldn't be happier for her Near West Theatre debut! Previous local credits include *The Prom*, *Gypsy* (Thelma/Renee), *Titanic* (Caroline), *Charlotte's Web* (Wilbur), *Pippin* (Catherine), *Peter Pan* (Mrs. Darling), *Matilda* (Acrobat/Big Kid), *Ivy & Bean* (Bean), and *Joseph* (Judah). Back in Philadelphia, Erin enjoyed roles in *Parade*, *Sister Act*, and *A Christmas Story*. By day she's a trip planner for Compassion International, and a huge fan of giving kids a platform. Endless thanks to D and my NWT fam, for being "all the joy and beauty".

December Hiley (*Ensemble*) (Any Pronouns) is very excited to be doing their first musical production. She'd like to thank Saint Martin de Porres high school for pushing this opportunity forward. When December's not on stage, she draws all kinds of strange creatures in cartoon style. She also likes playing games such as Minecraft, Cuphead, Five Nights at Freddy's, Bendy and the Ink Machine, and more! December can't wait to be on stage and perform!

Tom Hill (*Mr. Fezziwig*) (he/him) is delighted to be back on the Near West Theatre stage, where he has previously been seen in *Big Fish* (Older George Bloom), *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble), *Beauty and the Beast* (Maurice), and in the 2015 production of *Scrooge!* (Ghost of Christmas Present). Tom has appeared in some 50 productions at theaters across northeast Ohio, and is a proud member of the Get Away With Murder troupe. His performance today is dedicated to the memory of Kevin, Emily, and Sharron.



INTERESTED IN BRINGING RISE! IN-SCHOOL PROGRAMMING TO YOUR SCHOOL?

Near West Theatre invites students to actively explore the **creative process** of musical theatre through **imagination, self-expression, and community.**



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Program Manager: Amani Green
agreen@nearwesttheatre.org



GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Hans Holznagel (*Jacob Marley*) (he/him) likes to imagine Marx reading Dickens. His Near West Theatre roles over the past quarter-century have included Warbucks, Cratchit, Zorba, John/Judas, Grandpa George, Tateh, Fezziwig, et al. He's a proud member of The Singers' Club of Cleveland (singersclub.org). For Mom and Dad. Love, as always, to Kathy.

Giselle Jones (*Helen*) (she/her) is so excited to be in her first musical at Near West Theatre and is an ICU nurse! When Giselle is not on stage she enjoys going to the beach, scrapbooking, watching movies and being with her friends. Giselle would like to thank her family and friends for their support. Enjoy the show! and Happy Holidays :)

Reid Judkins (*Bess/Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is excited to be joining her first show at Near West Theatre and is an eighth grader at Learwood Middle School! Her most recent show was *The Wizard of Oz* at Beck Center for the Arts. When Reid is not acting, she enjoys reading, golfing, and hanging out with her friends. She would like to thank her family for supporting her! Enjoy the show!

Connor Karboski (*Tom Jenkins*) (they/them) is so excited to be a part of *Scrooge*! Recently at Near West Theatre they have been seen in *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble), *The Music Man* (Officer Locke), and *Cinderella* (Jean-Michel), as well as engaging with the Near West Theatre community as a teaching artist! Out in the wild Connor is a barista, a cat parent, and an aspiring author! Connor would like to thank Mike for his trust and everyone for their support and love.

Anna Loehrke (*Punch and Judy Man*) (she/her) is thrilled to be back on the Near West Theatre stage; This year to share it with her husband Matt. Anna, originally from Montana, was last seen at NWT in *The Wizard of Oz* (Wicked Witch of the West). Thank you for starting your holiday season with us, enjoy the show!

Matt Loehrke (*Ebenezer Scrooge*) (he/him) is honored and humbled to "Humbug!" with this wonderful crew and cast - which includes his amazing wife! Matt was last on stage with Near West Theatre in *The Prom* (Sheldon). Other favorite productions include *Seussical* (Horton), and *Willy Wonka* (Grandpa Joe) both at the Missoula Children's Theatre, where he also served as Education Director. He holds a BA in Theatre Arts from Linfield University and an MA in Theatre Education from the University of Northern Colorado. He would like to dedicate this performance to the memory of his high school drama teacher, Jim Doell, who ignited the spark for his passion of theatre. TPOG.

Christian McGinnis (*Nephew Harry*) (he/him) is enthused about performing on Near West Theatre's stage again and to share and tell a story with his talented cast mates. His most recent credits includes: *The Wizard Of Oz* (Uncle Henry/Emerald City Guard) at Near West Theatre, *Oliver Twist* (Ensemble) also at Near West Theatre, *Imagine Home* (Pastor Byron) and *Song Of The Seekers* (Levi) at Cleveland Public Theatre, *Metamorphoses* (Vertumnus) at Shaker Heights High School, *West Side Story* (Jet/ Ensemble) at Cleveland Heights High School and *Damn Yankees* (Rocky), *High School Musical* (Ensemble) at Roxboro Middle School. Christian wants to thank his family and friends for the support! Merry Christmas!!!

GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Aria Murry (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to be back at Near West Theatre and is currently a fifth grader at Ohio Connections Academy. Some of her recent credits include *Frozen Jr.* (Bishop) at Near West Theatre. When she's not performing, Aria loves playing Animal Jam, drawing, and watching YouTube videos. She would like to give a special thanks to her family and friends for all their support. Sit back, relax, and enjoy the show!

Evan Murry (*Children's Ensemble*) (he/him) is thrilled to be back on stage at Near West Theatre. A 7th grader at Ohio Connections Academy, Evan recently was seen in *Frozen Jr.* (King Agnar) at Near West Theatre. When he's not performing, Evan enjoys collecting Pokémon cards, playing video games, building with Legos, and designing gaming PCs. He would like to thank his family and friends for their support. He hopes you enjoy the performance as much as he enjoyed being part of it!

Nathan Murry (*Ensemble*) (he/him) is excited to make his Near West Theatre debut! An eleventh grader at Ohio Connections Academy, Nathan loves expressing his creativity both on and off stage. When he's not performing, he enjoys playing Fortnite, posting funny animal videos on YouTube, listening to music, and doing yard work. He would like to thank his family and friends for their support and hopes this performance leaves you inspired!

Peyton Murry (*Kathy Cratchit*) (she/her) is excited to be returning to Near West Theatre, where she was recently seen in *Frozen Jr.* (Elsa) and *Legally Blonde* (Ensemble). A junior at Ohio Connections Academy and dual-enrolled at Tri-C Community College, Peyton balances her love for learning with her passion for the arts. When she's not acting, she enjoys gaming and reading. Peyton would like to thank her family and friends for their continued support. She hopes you enjoy the show!

Clayton Obertacz (*Peter Cratchit*) (he/him) is grateful to be returning to his favorite place, the Near West Theatre stage! Previous theatre credits include *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin Mayor) and *The Music Man* (Winthrop) at Near West Theatre, *Madagascar Jr.* (King Julien) at Cain Park, and *Beauty & the Beast* (Cogsworth) at Onaway Little Theater. Clayton is a fifth grader at Onaway Elementary School in Shaker Heights and loves music, dancing and video games. He wishes to thank the cast and production team for making his theatre journey so welcoming and supportive. This performance is dedicated to the love of his life (mom), his wingman (Elliot), and chauffeur (dad).

Elizabeth O'Hara (*Mrs. Fezziwig/Ensemble*) (she/they) is excited to join the cast in her first musical in nearly 15 years. While not performing on the stage, Elizabeth has been helping staff and participating in improv activities like DnD and LARPing. Elizabeth enjoys coming home to her husband, Cavan and their two cats and dog. In her free time she also enjoys making costumes, visiting Faires, and being a loaf in her bed. Elizabeth wants to thank her family and friends for their support. She especially would like to thank her husband for being supportive and enthusiastic about her choice to return to the stage. Elizabeth hopes you have your glass of punch and cakes ready. Enjoy the show!

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GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Kendall Pallett (*Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to be returning to the Near West Theatre stage! She is 13-years-old and an eighth grader at Rocky River Middle School. Favorite credits include *Cinderella* (Mouse/Town Kid) at Near West Theatre, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* (Imogene Herdman) and *Going Medieval* (Mervin the Adequate) at Beck Center for the Arts and the 2023 and 2024 *Historic Haunts* (Young Sweeney 2023 and Bonfire Kid 2024) at Near West Theatre. Kendall loves Broadway shows, her dog Teddy, traveling, volleyball, singing, dancing, and acting! She would like to thank her amazing and supportive family, friends, and the Near West Theatre community.

Lily Risner (*Jen/Ensemble*) (she/her) is excited to be in her first show at Near West Theatre. Lily is a third grader at Menlo Park Academy, and a level 9 plasmoid druid in Dungeons and Dragons. In her free time, Lily likes to draw and do crafts, play outdoors with friends, and read. Enjoy the show!

Shiva Risner (*Wine Merchant/Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is jazzed to be participating in her first performance at Near West Theatre. Shiva's last theatre stint was some time in the '90's in *Annie* (Orphan) at Stagecrafters. In her free time, Shiva enjoys trying new, weird recipes with her kids, board games, and being a movie snob. Shiva would like to thank her fabulous hubby for picking up the slack at home, and her amazing parents and in-laws for their help and support with the kids. Enjoy the show! Free Palestine!

Hannah Rutkowski (*Isabel*) (she/her) is so thankful for this opportunity to perform in her first Near West Theatre production! Previous credits include: *Blood At The Root* (Toria u/s), *Everybody* (Girl/Time), *Julius Caesar* (Soothsayer) at Ohio University, *Alice In Slasherland* (Tina); *STARKID'S Trail To Oregon* (Daughter) at Ohio University Lab Series, *Yerma* (Female) at Vibrancy Theater, *RENT* (Maureen) at Ohio Valley Summer Theater, *Gypsy* (Louise) at Stuart's Opera House, and *Much Ado About Nothing* (Benedick) at Athens on Tap. Thanks to Mike, Julie, Kenya, and Trinidad. She also thanks her parents for supporting her endlessly.

Dani Scaggs (*Miss Dilber/Ensemble*) (she/her) is thrilled to be back on the Near West Theatre stage. She most recently performed here in *The Wizard of Oz* and *The Little Mermaid*. Dani is a 2020 graduate of Westlake High School where she performed in several musicals including *Oklahoma* and *Mamma Mia*. As a child, she was also in *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Ensemble) and *The Wizard of Oz* (Munchkin). Dani would like to thank the production team for giving her this opportunity. She thanks her family and friends for their support and hopes everyone enjoys the show.

GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Aida Shakarian Kvidera (*Children's Ensemble*) (she/her) is so excited to make her Near West Theatre stage debut. She is a sixth grader at CMSD's Campus International School. Aida's past theatre experience includes *Frozen Kids* (Queen Iduna). In addition to theatre, Aida participates in tap and jazz at Dance Arts by Regina, and is in book 3 for Suzuki cello at The Music Settlement. When Aida is not on stage, she enjoys time reading, being with her sisters and writing plays with her close friends. She lives in the neighborhood and is so honored to be part of the Near West Theatre community!

Rose Shakarian Kvidera (*Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is so excited to be in her second show at Near West Theatre! She is 14-year-old, and a freshman at Beaumont. Previous NWT credits include: *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble), and in the 2023 and 2024 *Historic Haunts*. Rose was also a crew member for *The Music Man* in 2022. Rose wants to thank the amazing and talented cast of *Scrooge!* and her family for driving her too and from practices and for all their support throughout this process.

Cayla Singleton (*Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her/they) is so excited for her first show at Near West Theatre and is a sophomore at Saint Martin de Porres High School. Her most recent credits are performing dances and acting at The Karamu House. When Cayla is not on stage she enjoys listening to music and writing poetry!

Neda Spears (*Christmas Present*) (she/her) is excited to make her Near West Theatre debut with *Scrooge!* The Musical. She has been seen recently at Cassidy Theatre in *Steel Magnolias* and *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Other productions: *The Spitfire Grill* (Access Theatre Project), *Into The Woods* (Happy Endings Lyric Players and Olde Towne Hall Theatre), *The Texas Chainsaw Musical*, *Avenue Q* and *We Will Rock You!* (Blank Canvas Theatre), *Matilda The Musical* (Beck Center for the Arts), *Sherlock Holmes: The Baker Street Irregulars* (Dobama Theatre), *All Night Strut*, (Theater in the Circle). Thanks to all of you who have come out to support theater in all its forms.

Yamini Sridhar (*Belinda Cratchit*) (she/her) is so excited to be cast in this production of *Scrooge!* She is currently a ninth grader at Laurel School. A show at Near West is always one of the most exciting things for her. Her current favorite musical is *Hadestown*. She is 14-years-old and loves playing games, making earrings, reading and watching movies with her dog (RIP). One of her favorite book universes is the Riordanverse and she has been spewing so many random facts about Greek and Roman mythology.

Mari Starek (*Phantom/Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is excited for her Near West Theatre debut, and she is overjoyed to be part of this cast! She is also excited this is a holiday show because it's her favorite time of year. Credits include: *High School Musical* (Ensemble) at The Brecksville Theatre, *Ragtime* (Harlem Ensemble), *Legally Blonde Jr.* (Pilar), *Children of Eden* (Storyteller), *Annie* (Orphan Ensemble), *Elf the Musical* (Ensemble), and *The Little Mermaid* (Ensemble) at The Cassidy Theatre, and *Frozen Jr.* (Pabbie) at Independence Community Theatre. In her free time, Mari enjoys playing sports and hanging out with friends. She would like to thank her family and friends for all of their support!

GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Mayela Squires (*Baker Woman/Featured Dance Ensemble*) (they/them) is so excited to be returning to the stage at Near West Theatre! They just recently graduated from Baldwin Wallace University with a degree in Acting & Directing, and are learning and traversing the journey of adulthood. Their most recent credits include: *The Prom* (Dance Ensemble) at Near West Theatre and *Measure for Measure* (Pompey) with Cleveland Shakespeare Festival! Mayela would like to thank their friends, family, and boyfriend for all their support! Enjoy the show!

Esther Tan (*Ghost of Christmas Past*) (she/her) started her first year of high school this year and is so incredibly excited to be playing the Ghost of Christmas past! This is Esther's first named role, and she is super excited to see her younger brother and dad take to the stage with her! This is Esther's fourth musical with Near West Theatre, where she has been in *The Music Man* (Ensemble), *The Wizard of Oz* (Ensemble), and *Legally Blonde* (Ensemble). Other than theater, Esther plays violin, soccer, and makes art. She is super stoked to show what the cast has been working on the past eight weeks. She wants to thank the audience for coming and hopes they have a great time!!!

JT Tan (*Bob Cratchit*) (he/him) is grateful for this seminal opportunity to share a stage with Esther, Teddy, and Jackson working backstage. His most recent credits include: *Guys and Dolls* (Nathan Detroit), *Harvey* (Judge Omar Gaffney), *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* (Ensemble), and *Guys & Dolls* (Pit Orchestra)... a quarter century ago. When not on stage, the life JT loves is making music with his friends, coffee with the missus (Sarah), sailing on Erie, playing Ultimate/pickleball/Overwatch, and embracing that this too shall pass. Thanks for supporting this exceptional community!

Teddy Tan (*Children's Ensemble*) (he/him) is a current fifth grader, performing in his second show at Near West Theatre. Previously, he appeared in *The Wizard of Oz* with his sister and this year with both sister and dad. When not on stage, he enjoys video games, soccer and friends.

Sarah Vas (*Mrs. Pringle/Featured Dance Ensemble*) (she/her) is excited for her Near West Theatre debut and her first adventure with live theater performance at the ripe old age of 51. The Near West family welcomed her with grace and she has enjoyed every part of bringing this production to life. She especially thanks her on-stage partner who has helped her hit her marks while understanding the "magic of musical theater" over the realistic and sensible use of doors. Thank you, Mr. Pringle! It's been a true pleasure! Sarah also dedicates her time on stage to her departed father, the original Scrooge and to her mother, who always made Christmas special despite him.

Dave Weinmann (*Bisset The Butcher/Ensemble*) (he/him) has appeared in Near West Theatre's 2022 production of *The Music Man*. He couldn't be more thrilled that he gets to share the stage with his daughter, Kit in *Scrooge!* Dave has spent the last two years practicing improv at Imposters Theater and planning his bid for the 2028 presidential election. If elected, he will bring back Bluey and Toys R Us.

GET TO KNOW THE CAST CONT'D

Kit Weinmann (*Ensemble*) (she/her) is delighted to make her onstage debut at Near West Theatre. Kit is a sixth grader who enjoys crocheting, reading, and being an all-around professional goofball. Kit would like to thank her dad for supporting her through this journey.

Lydia Whitehouse (*Ensemble*) (she/her) is so excited to be in this show! The last show she did at Near West Theatre was *The Wizard of Oz*, and she just did a fun horror show called *Acts of Clay* at Wizbang Theatre. She is in sixth grade, and loves to draw and has illustrated two children's books. She also loves cats, plays piano, likes watching scary movies and Studio Ghibli, and enjoys roller coasters. She can't wait for her family and friends to see her in the show!

Bob Zombar (*Mr. Pringle/Ensemble*) (he/him) was last seen on the Near West Theatre stage in *The Wizard of Oz*. He has been involved with local community theatre onstage, backstage or as a volunteer for over 40 years. His first role at NWT was as the Nephew in *Scrooge!* in 1993. He has also played *Mr. Fezziwig* and now continues the tradition with this 2024 production of *Scrooge!* Some other favorites credits at NWT include: *Oliver* (Bill Sykes), *The King and I* (The Kralahomme), and *Finian's Rainbow* (Senator Rawkins). He hopes everyone enjoys the show and leaves the theatre with the spirit of joy it inspires.



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GET TO KNOW THE ARTISTIC TEAM

Julie Billinghurst (*Stage Manager*) (she/her) is thrilled to be back for another season at Near West Theatre! She has previously been the SM at Near West for *Cinderella*, *The Music Man*, *The Last Five Years*, *The Wizard of Oz* and the past three NWT Benefits. She has worked at other theaters in NE Ohio including French Creek Theatre, LCCC, LCMT and TrueNorth. Some of her past favorites include *She Loves Me*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Big Fish*. She is excited to help add some joy to your holiday season with this amazingly talented group of actors and production staff! This is truly a labor of love by everyone involved. Teamwork makes the dream work!!

Joshua Caraballo (*Sound Designer*) (he/him) is excited to be back with NWT for this production. The Holiday Season always kicks off with a fun show at Near West Theatre. Josh has supported live events and designed many shows over the past 18 years in the Cleveland area. He has supported NWT during that time offering his skills in both design and live sound operation for plays, benefits, and other live performances. His most recent design credits include *BKLYN the Musical*, *The Prom*, and the prerecorded production of *Les Miserables*. Josh is a full-time Lead Theatre Technician at Tri-C. Other design credits include work with the Beck Center, Baldwin Wallace, and Tri-C's Jazzfest Productions. He enjoys spending time with his family, volunteering as a youth coach for basketball and baseball and listening to all varieties of music.

Vanessa Cook (*Costume Designer*) (she/her) BW Conservatory (BM) and Regent University (MA) alum, Mrs. Cook is the owner of Cook Theatre Designs, LLC, a freelance design firm that serves Ohio theatre programs. She served as TD, designer and adjunct professor at Heidelberg University and is former costume/set designer for Heidelberg's Community Music School. In addition to Near West, Mrs. Cook currently works with several Cleveland based theater companies. Most recently; Spark Theatre 4 Youth, The Brecksville Theatre, Dobama, Cleveland Opera Theatre, and Hathaway Brown Theatre Institute. She also assists with local and regional HS productions teaching the next generation about technical theatre. She has decades of experience and specializes in costume and prop creation. Mrs. Cook is the co-founder of the Norwalk Arts Center (NAC) and serves on the board of directors as Secretary, as well as NAC's prop/set and costume mistress.

Matt Gittins (*Music Director*) (he/him) is thankful to make his Near West Theatre Music Director debut! Acting: Judas (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), Rooster (*Annie*), Moonface Martin (*Anything Goes*) among others. Conducting: *Into the Woods*. *The Addams Family*. Composition: You Go On- Write Out Loud 2024 Finalist, Three-Time Semi-Finalist at Eugene O'Neill National Music Theatre Conference, Colorado New Musical Theater Festival Finalist 2021 among others. A thank you to my family, friends and to the cast, crew and creative team for *Scrooge*. AEA, Otterbein Musical Theater Class of 2019, Eugene O'Neill Cabaret Alumni.

Perren Hedderson (*Technical Director*) (he/him) has been with Near West Theatre for many years, starting as a young teen acting and helping construct the sets. He is now the Technical Director and a freelance Projection Designer. He has also worked in film here in Cleveland and for a few years in New Mexico. Credits include *We Will Rock You* (projections) at Blank Canvas Theatre, *Chess* (projection design) at Near West Theatre, and a side music project called Triage. He's a Dad now too with two kids. Love to Sarah, Kellen, Asa, and Sab!

GET TO KNOW THE ARTISTIC TEAM

Emily Hennen (*Assistant Technical Director*) (she/her) graduated from Ohio University with a BFA in Production Design and Technology in 2016 and has been with Near West full time since 2018. Occasionally, she also works as a sound and video technician for Near West events and performances, and she is thrilled to continue working with such a talented and creative team.

Jenny Hitmar-Shankland (*Scenic Charge*) (she/her) has been painting for Near West Theatre since 2002. She paints as a scenic artist throughout Northeast Ohio but considers Near West one of her families. She has taught scenic painting at Baldwin Wallace University and regularly paints their mainstage shows. She has painted for the Cleveland Play House for seven years, and now operates under her business name Fresco Scenic Studio. She loves how close the Ohio theater community is and also has painted for Cleveland Opera Theater, Parade the Circle, Blank Canvas, Ballet Theater of Ohio, Carousel Dinner Theater, Sign Stage, and Chagrin Arts Academy. She is proud to have painted the Lobby mural for Near West Theatre, and grateful for the continual trust from an organization that allows her to throw large amounts of liquid around its beautiful stage. Love to her husband and two children who are growing up here.

McKenzie Merriman (*Props Designer*) (she/her) has worn many hats with Near West Theatre since her debut as Lucy in *Snoopy!* in 2003. Past credits include: *Cinderella* (Ensemble), *Anyone Can Whistle* (Costume Design), and *Beauty and the Beast* (Asst. Director). Thank you for supporting live theatre and much love to the chickens.

Cameron Caley Michalak (*Scenic Designer*) (he/him) is a Cleveland-based Scenic Designer, Technical Director, Artist, and Builder. Regional design credits include: Cleveland Play House productions of *Watching Butterflies*, *These Mortal Hosts*, *Venus in Fur*, *Every Good Boy Deserves Favour*, and *A Soldier's Tale*. CWRU/CPH MFA Acting Program's design credits include *The Liar*, *Passage*, *A Philadelphia Story*, *The Three Sisters*, *The Misanthrope*, and *The Winter's Tale*. Cleveland Ballet's *The Nutcracker Suite*, *Alice*, *Provocativo*. Selected local credits include *When Farah Cries* (Borderlight I.T.F.); *What We Look Like*, *John*, *Appropriate*, *The Effect*, *The Night Alive* (Dobama); *Les Misérables*, *Mary Poppins*, *The Wiz*, (Near West Theatre); *Meteor Shower*, *Really Really* (Beck Center); *Bubly Black Girl* (Karamu) and after at least 24 years with M.A.D. *Factory Kinky Boots*, *Aida*, *Sweeney Todd*, and *Hairspray*. Cameron recently completed his MFA in Interdisciplinary Arts from Goddard College, and acts as Technical Director and Instructor for Cleveland State University's Department of Theatre and Dance.



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ARTISTIC TEAM CONT'D

Mike Obertacz (*Director*) (he/him) is honored to serve as the executive director of Near West Theatre for the last seven years where he has stewarded the organization into its new home in the Gordon Square Arts District, navigated the pandemic while serving mission and community, and expanded staff and operations to include signature events and youth programs. Prior to this role, and early in his career, Mike was a professional actor performing in regional theatres across the nation. Some favorite roles and theatres include *Oklahoma* (Jud Fry) and *Godspell* (Company) at the Sierra Reparatory Theater, *Parade* (Prosecutor Dorsey) at the Stagedoor Theatre, *Man of LaMancha* (Dr. Sanson Carrasco - The Knight of Mirrors) at the Hollywood Playhouse, *The Sound of Music* (Captain Von Trapp) at The Dutch Apple Dinner Theatre, and of course *1776* (Henry Lee), *Spring Awakening* (Adult Men) and *Music Man* (Mayor Shinn) at our beloved Near West Theatre. Directing credits include *The Nerd* at Theatre West Virginia, originating NWT's annual *Historic Haunts* for the first two years as writer and director, and *James and the Giant Peach Jr.* and *Beauty & the Beast Jr.* at Onaway Little Theater in Shaker Heights. After a long career in the theatre and in many roles, *Scrooge!* The Musical will be Mike's largest platform as a director and is looking forward to the challenge and opportunity.

James Romeo (*Associate Sound Designer*) (he/him) is elated to be given the opportunity to return back to Near West Theatre for another main stage production. Recent productions include: *The Prom* (Near West Theatre), *Avenue Q* (Cleveland State University), *The Last Five Years* (NWT), *Bring It On* (NWT), *Head Over Heels* (NWT), *By The Way, Meet Vera Stark* (CSU), *Ain't Misbehavin* (NWT), *Music Man* (NWT), *Sweeney Todd* (CSU), *All Shook Up* (NWT), CSU Spring 2022 Dance Concert, *Richard III* (CSU), *She Loves Me* (CSU), and *Blithe Spirit* (CSU).

Michael Stein (*Production Manager*) (he/him) is in his eighth year at Near West Theatre (NWT) as PM/ RM. His 40+ year career in theatre has taken him across the U.S. from Maine to California but mostly in Ohio as the Stage Manager/Production Manager/Lighting Designer at the Carousel Dinner Theatre in Akron, OH. Prior to returning to Near West Theatre in 2016, he was the Production Manager at the Palace Theater in Wisconsin Dells, WI. As always, he thanks and sends love to his wife Carlie.

Trinidad Snider (*Artisitic Director*) (she/her) started her Near West Theatre (NWT) journey at the age of 15 in the summer teen production of *FAME*. Since then, she has had the honor and privilege to be both onstage and behind the scenes in various theaters in the Cleveland area and beyond for the past 35 years. Most recently, she was seen onstage in the Cleveland Playhouse production of *In The Heights* as Abulea Claudia. Trinidad is slated to direct this year's productions of *Little Shop of Horrors* and *Beautiful!* She is a proud member of the board at Dobama Theatre. She is so grateful to the NWT staff and board for all their support and hard work. She is incredibly thankful for this community. She would like to thank Mike Obertacz and the entire cast and production team of *Scrooge!* the Musical for their hard work and commitment to creating a safe space to build community. She sends her love to her family and friends, especially Michael, Kirstin, Colin, Dylan, Michaela, Clark, Daisy and Ollie. For George, who was the keeper of the milk of human kindness, and Kevin, whose *Scrooge* believed in The Power of Good and sharing it always. TPOG

ARTISTIC TEAM CONT'D

Angela Warholic (*Asst. Stage Manager*) (she/her) is as excited as ever to come back home to Near West Theatre. Angela was born and raised in Cleveland, is a 2020 graduate of Cleveland State University, and is currently pursuing a graduate degree in Labor Relations and Human Resources. She has been working as a stage manager in the Cleveland area since 2019 and has had the pleasure of working with such companies as Cain Park, Heights Youth Theater, Near West Theatre, and North Coast Men's Chorus. You may have also seen her on stage at Near West in *The Little Mermaid* and *Historic Haunts* or Broadview Heights Spotlight's *Our Town*. As always, she would like to thank James Kisicki for his faith and support that have sustained her even after his passing.

Kenya Woods (*Choreographer*) (she/her) is a highly respected and sought after choreographer and teaching artist based in Cleveland. She has worked with both the dance and theatrical community for over 20 years. She is a certified Horton Technique teacher and is trained in Russian Classical Ballet. Theatrical Choreography and Director credits include: *Rent* (Cain Park) *Bklyn: The Musical* and *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Near West Theatre), Director, *Everybody* (CWRU MFA Program), *Blood At the Root* (CWRU Undergraduate Program) *The Absolutely Amazing and True Adventures of Miss Joan Southgate* (Cleveland Public Theatre), *The Bubbly Brown Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin* and *Passing Strange* (Karamu House), *Ya Mama!* (Cleveland Public Theatre, New York International Fringe and Hollywood Fringe), *Once on This Island* (Playhouse Square, CSA Theater Elite), *Bunnicula* (Cleveland Play House), *A Son is Given* (Hanna Theatre), *Through Her Eyes* (Cleveland Public Theatre), *Cabaret* (CWRU MFA and Undergraduate Program). She is excited to be back at Near West Theatre to work with the talented and hard working theater community along with the creative theatrical department.

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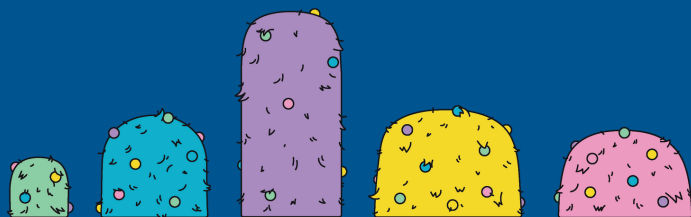
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