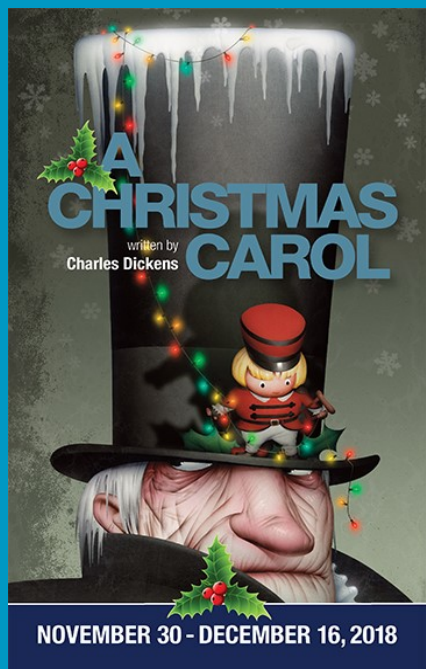




FLOODLIGHT

FEATURED PRODUCTION

October 2018



Adapted by
Donna Ferragut

Produced by Rachel Alberts,
Maria Ciarrocchi,
and Robert Kraus

Directed by
Shelagh Roberts

Musical Direction by
Linda Wells

Choreographed by
Michele Koros

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Tickets Now!
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703-683-0496**

Producers **Rachel Alberts**, **Maria Ciarrocchi**, and **Robert Kraus**, Assistant Producer **Bobbie Herbst**, and Director **Shelagh Roberts** invite you to ring in the holiday season with a return of the classic by Charles Dickens. Ebenezer Scrooge, a miserable, bitter old miser travels with ghostly guides through Christmases past, present, and future to find the true meaning of the holidays. Complete with special effects, Victorian carols, and Tiny Tim, *A Christmas Carol* is a must for the whole family.

This year's LTA production is led by stage managers **Melissa Dunlap** and **Sam Jensen**. Music direction is by **Linda Wells**, with choreography by **Michele Koros**. The set is designed by **John Downing** and will be built by **Julie Fischer**, painted by **Mona Wargo**, and decorated by **Eileen Doherty**. **Carol Clark** will design props, and **David Correia** will provide sound design. The ghosts of past, present, and future will be lit by **Nick Friedlander** and **Michael Page**. Veteran LTA costumers **Jean Schlichting** and **Kit Sibley** will provide gorgeous Victorian attire, and make-up and hair will be designed by **Robin Worthington**. **Margaret Snow** and **Kirby Ruble** will help the actors change characters a multitude of times as our wardrobe mistresses.

The cast includes 23 versatile actors, each playing a variety of roles: **Harry Barnes** (Turkey Boy, Belle's Child), **Nic Barta** (Young Scrooge, Topper), **Natalie Cavender** (Want, Belle's Child, Urchin), **Taegan Chirinos** (Ghost of Christmas Past), **Avery Clifford Evans** (Boy Cratchit), **Colin Davies** (Charles Dickens, Ghost of Christmas Present), **Joel Durgavich** (Bob Cratchit), **Alex Eskew** (Boy Scrooge, Belle's Child), **Tim Foley** (Ghost of Christmas Future, Gentleman #2, Poulterer), **Robert Ford** (Old Joe, Gentleman #1), **Josh Gordon** (Tiny Tim), **Larry Grey** (Marley, Fezziwig), **Brittany Huffman** (Mrs. Fezziwig, Mary, Mrs. Pipchin),
(continued on page 2)

The Little Theatre of Alexandria

Russell Wyland, President

Maria Ciarrocchi, Governor for
Membership

Kirstin Apker, *Floodlight* Coordinator

Linda Wells, *Floodlight* Editor

Next Floodlight December 10th

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President's Column



Russell Wyland

‘Tis the Season

It's hard to believe that the holidays are close at hand. As I write this, LTA's annual holiday tradition, *A Christmas Carol*, is deep into rehearsals. It is amazing to me – and heartening – that our production seems to gain luster every year. I vaguely recall when LTA closed its doors over the holidays. It's now hard to image a holiday in Alexandria without LTA's production! Each new director who undertakes *A Christmas Carol* at LTA interprets Charles Dickens' classic story in a slightly different way. Sometimes it is dark, and the ghosts are genuinely scary, and sometimes it's campy, with Scrooge being almost comical. Sometimes London is gritty, while sometimes it's filled with Victorian holiday cheer. All performances, however, remind us that we can break through the negativity of everyday life (political London in Victorian times had striking similarities to the Washington, D.C., of today) and find simple happiness and joy with our neighbors. If you haven't taken in LTA's *A Christmas Carol* lately or have never seen it, please do. 'Tis the season to rediscover the joy of the most exciting and meaningful time of the year.

The end of the year also means it is time for LTA's annual fundraising campaign. Over the next weeks, we will be sending out our annual appeal for donations. In the last year, we have undertaken a HUGE project to improve our building and increase the safety of our patrons. A few weeks ago, the Alexandria Fire Marshal completed his inspection of our new fire safety system. It is actually a cluster of different systems that include new hand-pull alarms, a laser beam detection system in the auditorium, sensors in the HVAC, smoke detectors, and a security company to monitor everything. It was an expensive but necessary purchase. Such purchases are possible only because our generous patrons remember LTA at the end of the year. We provide high-quality theater – in part, because we have the luxury of owning our building – but with that ownership comes expenses, and our annual donation drive is important for keeping our building in tip-top shape.

On behalf of the LTA Governors, I wish you a safe and joyful holiday season.

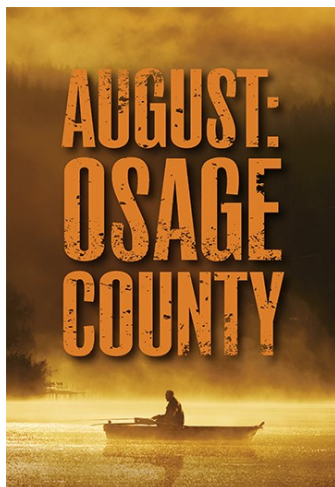
Russell Wyland, President

P.S. The LTA History Corps is still looking for members. Please let me know if you're interested (see the last issue of the *Floodlight* for more information).

(continued from page 1)

Molly Johnson (Belinda, Miss Fezziwig), **James Kennedy** (Peter Cratchit), **Sarah King** (Martha, Belle's Child), **Raeanna Larson** (Belle, Ruth), **Donna Lovelace** (Mrs. Dillber), **Brian Lyons-Burke** (Scrooge), **Cameron McBride** (Fred, Dick Wilkins, Businessman #2, Caroline's Husband), **Jillian McLeod** (Caroline, Miss Fezziwig, Skater), **Christine Tankersley** (Mrs. Cratchit), **Miranda Tonsetic** (Fan, Belle's Child), and **Katherine Watters** (Ignorance, Girl Cratchit).

This production is sure to put you in the holiday spirit!



Thank You from *August: Osage County*

For our production of *August: Osage County*, we had an astonishing cast. Thank you, cast! And for the best apple pie we've ever eaten, we had a remarkable production staff of highly qualified and experienced people. Thank you, crew! A special thanks to our properties people for providing a very long list of props, which included a full (real) chicken dinner for every performance, not to mention the catfish (eat the fish!) and crashing plates. Thanks to all!

Lloyd Bittinger, Producer

Susan Devine, Director

New Members

Sophie de Waal

Sam Kaynor

Reid Kidd

Lynley Peoples

Deven Sawker

Margaret Webster

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

Costume Department Co-Chair

The Little Theatre of Alexandria is currently looking for a Costume Department Co-Chair. If you enjoy costuming and working with people, this is the job for you! Duties include:

- ♦ organizing and maintaining LTA's costume inventory and storage area
- ♦ assisting LTA costume designers with finding items in LTA's inventory
- ♦ managing LTA's costume loan program to include helping costumers find items and maintaining a tracking system for loaned items
- ♦ coordinating volunteers and interns to help with the costume department
- ♦ assisting with costuming LTA participants in Alexandria City parades and events
- ♦ providing costume assistance for LTA's educational showcases and one-act performances
- ♦ coordinating costume donations to LTA.

Those who are interested or have questions should contact **Susan Boyd**, Governor for Artistic Support, at susan.fashionpolice@gmail.com.

Planning Your Gift

Have you considered including The Little Theatre of Alexandria (LTA) as a beneficiary of your estate? LTA can suggest tools that will assist you in making plans that will support the artistic and education programs of the theatre in the future, as well as provide your estate with tax benefits. Supporters of LTA who make planned gifts are invited to be members of *The LTA Legacy Society*. *The LTA Legacy Society* recognizes those who have demonstrated their concern for the long-term well-being of LTA by notifying us of their bequest or other planned gift. For additional information, please call Tina McCrea at 703-683-5778 ext. 2 or email Tina@thelittletheatre.com.

LTA Award Nominees 2017 - 2018

Winners will be announced at Awards Night on Sunday, November 4th, at 7:00 p.m.

Excellence in Sound Design

Lynn Lacey for *Driving Miss Daisy*
David Correia for *Anne of Green Gables*
David Correia and David Hale for *The Nance*

Excellence in Props Design

Kirstin Apker and Jocelyn Steiner for *Legally Blonde*
Rebecca Sheehy and Leslie Reed for *Anne of Green Gables*
Kirstin Apker for *The Nance*

Excellence in Costume Design

Juliana Confrancesco for *A Christmas Carol*
Jean Schlichting and Kit Sibley for *Anne of Green Gables*
Jean Schlichting and Kit Sibley for *The Nance*

Excellence in Lighting Design

Jeff Auerbach and Kimberly Crago for *A Christmas Carol*
Ken and Patti Crowley for *Harvey*
Ken and Patti Crowley for *The Nance*

Excellence in Set Design

Mary Hutzler for *Anne of Green Gables*
Matt Liptak for *Harvey*
Dan Remmers for *The Nance*

Excellence in Set Painting

Stacey Becker for *A Christmas Carol*
Stacey Becker for *Anne of Green Gables*
Luana Bossolo and Mary Hutzler for *Harvey*

Excellence in Set Construction

Ken Brown for *A Christmas Carol*
Jim Hutzler and Jeff Nesmeyer for *Harvey*
Tom O'Reilly for *The Nance*

Excellence in Set Decoration

Charles Dragonette for *Anne of Green Gables*
Jocelyn Steiner and Matt Liptak for *Harvey*
MYKE for *The Nance*

Excellence in Makeup Design

Larissa Norris for *Legally Blonde*
Lori Bonnette for *Anne of Green Gables*
Felicia Hecker for *The Nance*

Excellence in Hair Design

Heather Hicks for *Legally Blonde*
Kadira Coley for *Anne of Green Gables*
Susan Boyd and Kit Sibley for *The Nance*

Best Bit Part

Katie Beth Hicks as the Judge in *Legally Blonde*
Marcelo Guzman as Carlos in *Legally Blonde*
David Featherston as E.J. Lofgren in *Harvey*
Sarah Gale/Sarah Holt as Rose in *The Nance*

Best Performance in a Minor Role

Benita Adams as Pilar in *Legally Blonde*
Janice Rivera as Carmen in *The Nance*
Danielle Comer as Joan in *The Nance*

Best Junior Performance

Halle Kaufax as Serena in *Legally Blonde*
Anna Maria Shockey as Diana Barry in *Anne of Green Gables*
Evie Graham Jewett as Young Elizabeth in *The Audience*

Best Supporting Role in a Musical

Katherine Lipovsky as Paulette Bonafonte in *Legally Blonde*
Tony Gilbert as Matthew Cuthbert in *Anne of Green Gables*
Christopher Miller as Gilbert Blythe in *Anne of Green Gables*

Best Supporting Role in a Play

Will Cooke as Harold Wilson in *The Audience*
Jack B. Stein as Efram in *The Nance*
Charlene Sloan as Sylvie in *The Nance*

Best Performance in a Musical

Morgan Arrivillaga as Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde*
Kaylen Morgan as Emmett Forrest in *Legally Blonde*
Cassie Cope as Anne Shirley in *Anne of Green Gables*

Best Performance in a Play

Kevin Sockwell as Hoke Colburn in *Driving Miss Daisy*
Andy Izquierdo as Elwood P. Dowd in *Harvey*
Chuck Dluhy as Chauncey Miles in *The Nance*

Best Musical Director

Christopher A. Tomasino for *Legally Blonde*
Colin Taylor for *Anne of Green Gables*
Christopher A. Tomasino for *The Nance*

Best Choreography

Stefan Sittig for *Legally Blonde*
Cristina Cayere for *Anne of Green Gables*
Stefan Sittig for *The Nance*

Best Director

Hans Bachmann for *Legally Blonde*
Michael J. Baker, Jr., for *Anne of Green Gables*
Frank D. Shutts II for *The Nance*

A Busy Time for LTA's Board

The Board of Governors continues to identify ways to make LTA's future shine bright.

The Board recently approved two new projects. The first will complete the re-wiring of our lighting system, which will enable productions to take advantage of new LED-based technology. LED lights run cool, last longer, and (ultimately) cost the theatre less. The Board thanks Lights Co-Chairs **Kimberly Crago** and **Jeff Auerbach** for their efforts in making this happen. Second, the Board approved the installation of a small HVAC unit for the paint/lighting room, the only area in our building not covered by HVAC. Anyone who has volunteered to paint a set in the winter or summer can tell you that this backstage space is either freezing cold or scorching hot. Thank you to Governor for Building **Frank Shutts** and Building Chair **Mary Hutzler** for doing the legwork on this important project.

On the horizon: the Board will join forces with the LTA Council to look at the possibility of co-funding an update to the women's public restroom. Such a project on a room that gets a lot of use is overdue, and the Board thanks the Council for its leadership on the project.

The Board voted to approve **Mary Beth Smith-Toomey** and **Elissa Hudson** (co-producers), **Colin Taylor** (musical director), and **Stefan Sittig** (choreographer) to work with **Kristina Friedgen** (director) on *The Producers* opening in July 2019. We are delighted and honored to welcome this talented group back.

The Board again looks forward to LTA's representation in the Scottish Walk. Governor for Development **Sarah Holt** will coordinate LTA's efforts this year and will be looking for volunteers soon. The Scottish Walk is on December 1st. Looking a bit farther into the future, LTA will again be a venue in Alexandria's First Night on December 31st, and a call for volunteers will go out soon.

Finally, the Board decided to work with Business Manager **Tina McCrea** and Box Office Manager **Crissy Wilke** to streamline their responsibilities and allow them to work more collaboratively on larger projects. The Board is also looking for one or two business office volunteers to work a few hours each week. Work would vary based on the interests and skills of the volunteers. If you're interested, please contact Tina in the business office (Tina@thelittletheatre.com) or Russ Wyland (RWyland@mindspring.com) or call 571-278-9203.

Russell Wyland, President

Your Board of Governors at Work

Annual LTA Ladies Holiday Dinner

Monday, December 3rd, 6:00 p.m.

Tempo Restaurant (4231 Duke Street, Alexandria, Virginia)

The cost is \$35.00, which includes appetizer, entrée, dessert, taxes, and tip (sodas, coffee, and alcoholic drinks are extra). A finalized menu will be sent out prior to the event. To reserve a spot, mail a check to LTA Ladies Night, 600 Wolfe Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. The check should be made out to **Rachael Hubbard**.

Please note that this year, in lieu of a gift exchange, attendees are encouraged to donate to the renovation of the women's restroom at LTA.

Governor's Message

Seasonal Planning

A good season is all about balance: a balance of experience on the committee and a balance of plays in our final slate. There needs to be something for everyone to maintain the vibrant and varied community at LTA. Farces, murder mysteries, dramas, and musicals large and small all have their place on the LTA stage.

We have just wrapped the selection of LTA's 2019/2020 season. I could not be prouder of the work that my play reading committee put in. If you see **Lynn O'Connell, Sarah Holt, Franklin Coleman, Rich Amada, Brendan Quinn, Eileen Doherty, Joann Sordellini, Katie Beth Hicks, or Zell Murphy** around the theatre, please thank them for the hours they spent winnowing down all the plays that came in through our annual open call, and who persevered through two rounds of selection. Our 2019 summer musical will be *The Producers*, followed by *A Few Good Men*, a Director's Choice open slot, and *A Christmas Carol*. 2020 kicks off with *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*, then *Moonlight and Magnolias*, *Bluestockings*, and wraps up with a classic comedy that we can't announce yet (expect to see the title in early January!).

We are now segueing into director selection. The 2018/2019 season received a record 43 applications, and I am hopeful that we will meet if not exceed that number of applications for the 2019/2020 season. Under the leadership of our Director Selection Chair **Lynn O'Connell**, committee members **Brendan Quinn, Franklin Coleman, Charlie Dragonette, Nick Friedlander, Alan Wray, Rachel Alberts, Susan Devine, and Zell Murphy** will be hard at work over the next several months.

I've had the privilege to hold the Governor for Seasonal Planning position for a little over a year now, and I am so happy to see that the participation from our theatre community continues to increase with each season. From the responses to open committee calls to the number of people who submit show suggestions to our open calls every year, so many voices are involved in seasonal planning. LTA's play reading and director selection committees represent our diversity: subscribers of all ages, new and experienced actors, directors, and tech representatives have all created another wonderful season.

Ashley Amidon

Governor for Seasonal Planning

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Council Corner

The Council met on September 30th at Tempo Restaurant. It was good getting together with old and new theatre friends. Vice Director **Tina Anderson** recognized the Council's new members (**Michael J. O'Connor**, **Joel Durgavich**, **Zell Murphy**, and **Kimberly Crago**). **Adriana** and **Chris Hardy** traveled the farthest to get to the meeting – they came from Texas!

Financial Officer **Lloyd Bittinger** reviewed our balance sheet and our profit and loss statements. A special thanks goes to **Donna Hauprich** and **Frank Winters** for approving the minutes from the June meeting. **Genie** and **Geoff Baskir** agreed to approve the minutes for our September meeting.

LTA President **Russell Wyland** updated us on the fire prevention system. He is also looking for volunteers to assist in putting together a history of LTA.

November is holiday decorating time at LTA! Put November 17th on your calendars. Decorating starts at noon, and we will provide a light lunch for everyone helping. Please let **Tina Anderson** or **Lloyd Bittinger** know if you will be joining us, as they are coordinating the event this year. Also, on January 6th, we will be removing the decorations starting at 1:00 p.m.

Rance Willis was appointed chair of the Nominating Committee. The positions to be filled are Vice Director and Recording Secretary.

Luana Bossolo discussed the condition of the women's public restroom. A motion was made and approved to donate \$15,000 to the theatre if LTA matched the funds to renovate these facilities. Luana also announced that she would pledge to donate \$200 for the renovation project and challenged all members to make a pledge of at least 20 percent of that amount. Donations can be made to the Council by check or by credit card. May we count on your support?

Carolyn Winters

LTA Council Director

The Arts Build Communities

In Case of Emergency

Did you know that in case of an emergency, LTA has three AEDs (automated external defibrillators)?

They are located as follows:

- 1) in the lobby, near the Council (Green) Room
- 2) in the cast entrance hallway, near the backstage door
- 3) in the Alexandria Academy, on the first floor



The Little Theatre of Alexandria
600 Wolfe Street
Alexandria, VA 22314

Box Office: 703-683-0496

Business Office: 703-683-5778 x2

Fax: 703-683-1378

www.thelittletheatre.com

Mark Your Calendars

| | |
|-------|-----------------------------------|
| 11/4 | LTA Awards Night |
| 11/17 | LTA Council holiday decorating |
| 11/30 | <i>A Christmas Carol</i> opens |
| 12/3 | LTA Ladies Night |

BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors, under the direction of the President, is responsible for managing the affairs and operations of The Little Theatre of Alexandria.

The Governors for the 2018 – 2019 season are:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| President..... | Russell Wyland |
| Governor for Artistic Support..... | Susan Boyd |
| Governor for Box Office..... | David Hale |
| Governor for Building..... | Frank D. Shutts II |
| Governor for Development..... | Sarah Holt |
| Governor for Education..... | Michael J. Baker, Jr. |
| Governor for Front of House..... | Diedre Nicholson-Lamb |
| Governor for Membership..... | Maria Ciarrocchi |
| Governor for Production..... | Alan Wray |
| Governor for Public Relations..... | Rachel Alberts |
| Governor for Seasonal Planning..... | Ashley Amidon |
| Governor for Technical Support..... | Robert Kraus |

Additional officers are:

| | |
|---------------------------|-----------------|
| President Pro-Tem..... | Rachel Alberts |
| Treasurer..... | David Hale |
| Board Secretary..... | Carolyn Winters |
| Executive Secretary..... | Jamie Blake |
| LTA Council Director..... | Carolyn Winters |

Volunteer Info

**Did you know that it takes
the time and talent of nearly
150 volunteers to stage each
production?**

**For more information on
volunteering at LTA, please
contact:**

**Maria Ciarrocchi,
Governor for Membership**
mariabelle22@gmail.com

Thank you for your service!