



CHANCE THEATER
Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center
5522 E La Palma Ave
Anaheim, CA 92807
www.ChanceTheater.com/press-room

October 21, 2025

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FOR PHOTOS OF THE CAST: www.ChanceTheater.com/press-room

THIS WINTER, THE PAST COMES CALLING.

Scrooge! The Musical

THE NEWEST ADDITION TO OUR HOLIDAY LITERATURE SERIES

BASED ON THE BELOVED ALBERT FINNEY FILM.

ANAHEIM, CA — Chance Theater, Anaheim's official resident theater company, is thrilled to announce the Chance premiere presentation of *Scrooge! The Musical*, the heartwarming and festive adaptation of **Charles Dickens'** classic novella *A Christmas Carol*, featuring book, music, and lyrics by Academy Award- and Grammy-winner **Leslie Bricusse**, directed by **James Michael McHale** (*Sweeney Todd*, Chance Resident Artist), with music direction by **Lex Leigh** (*Tick, Tick... Boom!*, Chance Resident Artist).

Set in Victorian London, the story follows the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, a cold-hearted moneylender who despises Christmas and lives a life devoid of compassion and joy. On Christmas Eve, Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley, who warns him to change his ways or suffer a grim fate in the afterlife. Scrooge undergoes a profound experience of redemption over the course of a Christmas Eve night, after being visited by the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future.

With a score full of memorable songs, including music for which composer Leslie Bricusse received an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Score for the film adaptation, *Scrooge! The Musical* blends humor, drama, and uplifting messages in a celebration of redemption and the true meaning of Christmas.

Director McHale notes, “I’m really excited to explore how a community can be invested in an individual’s redemption. This production leans into the idea that transformation doesn’t happen in isolation; it takes witnesses, challengers, supporters, and yes, even ghosts.”

He adds, “Featuring a multi-talented cast portraying multiple roles, we hope to offer a fresh look at this classic tale, with greed turning into giving, bitterness melting into generosity, and one man rediscovering the power of connection and compassion.”

Joining McHale and Leigh on the design team for *Scrooge! The Musical* is choreographer **Niko Montelibano** (*Tick, Tick... Boom!*), scenic and lighting designer **Masako Tobaru** (*Jane Austen’s Emma, The Musical*, Chance Resident Artist), costume designer **Gwen Sloan** (*What the Constitution Means to Me*, Chance Resident Artist), sound designer and engineer **James Markoski** (*Jane Austen’s Emma, The Musical*), projection designer **Nick Santiago** (*Sweeney Todd*), stage manager Jordan Jones (*Tick, Tick... Boom!*), dramaturg Wylie Aitken (Executive Producer and Season Producer), and dialect coach Glenda Morgan Brown (*Sweeney Todd*).

The stellar cast of *Scrooge! The Musical* will feature a mix of newcomers and returning actors: **Bruce Goodrich** (*Such Small Hands*, Chance Board Member) plays Scrooge, **Matt Takahashi** (*Fancy Nancy, The Musical*, Chance Resident Artist) plays Bob Cratchit and Others, **Megan Sigler** (Chance debut) plays Mrs. Cratchit, Mrs. Dilber, and Landlord, **Corydon Melgoza** (*Spring Awakening*), plays Nephew Harry, Young Ebenezer, and Pringle, **Sophie Sonntag** (Chance debut) plays Isabel, Helen, and Beggar Woman, **Winston Peacock** (*Sweeney Todd*) plays Ghost of Christmas Present, Mr. Fezziwig, Harty, and Carstairs, **Kayley Stallings** (*Spring Awakening*) plays Ghost of Christmas Past and Wine Merchant, **Lizzie Spellman** (Chance debut) play Mrs. Fezziwig, Jollygoode, Baker Woman, and Bess, **Justin Ryan** (*Sweeney Todd*) play Jacob Marley and Butcher, **Adam Leiva** (*Sweeney Todd*) plays Tom Jenkins, Boy, and Peter Cratchit, **Sydney DeMaria** (*Ragtime*) plays Miss Dilber, Teacher, and Mary, **Jack Thomas Aitken** (*Spring Awakening*) plays Punch & Judy Man, Dick Wilkins, and Topper, **Audrey Moore** (Chance debut) and **Amy Sorensen** (Chance debut) split the role of Tiny Tim Cratchit, and **Grace Jenkins** (Chance debut) and **Charlotte Santulli** (Chance debut) split the role of Kathy Cratchit.

Tickets for *Scrooge! The Musical* are now on sale, and can be purchased online at <https://chancetheater.com/scrooge/> or by calling the box office at (888) 455-4212. Early booking is recommended due to already high demand.

Our 2025 Season Producers are **Bette & Wylie Aitken**, with Associate Season Producers the **Family of Mary Kay Fyda-Mar**. The Executive Producer of this production is **Bette & Wylie Aitken**.

For press inquiries, interviews, press comps, or photos, please contact Producing Associate Shinshin Tsai at (949) 346-2374 or Shinshin@chancetheater.com.

ABOUT CHANCE THEATER

Proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, Chance Theater has received the National Theatre Company grant from American Theatre Wing for “nurturing a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre.” The Chance won 31 OCTG Theatre Awards, including two for Outstanding Production of a Musical (“Next to Normal” and “Fun Home”) and one for Outstanding Production of a Play (“Cry It Out”). Previously, Chance Theater won eight Ovation Awards, including four for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre), and four LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season. The Anaheim City Council named Chance Theater “the Official Resident Theater Company of Anaheim” in 2014, and Arts Orange County has twice named the Chance as “Outstanding Arts Organization.” Known for using bold and personal storytelling to promote dialogue and connection within the Southern California theatrical landscape, the Chance is committed to contributing to a more compassionate, connected, and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, The Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles, and OC Theatre Guild, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

CALENDAR LISTING

WHAT: *Scrooge! The Musical*

Scrooge! The Musical is a heartwarming and festive adaptation of Charles Dickens’ classic novella A Christmas Carol, featuring music, lyrics, and book by Leslie Bricusse. Set in Victorian London, the story follows the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, a cold-hearted moneylender who despises Christmas and lives a life devoid of compassion and joy. On Christmas Eve, Scrooge is visited by the ghost of his former business partner, Jacob Marley, who warns him to change

his ways or suffer a grim fate in the afterlife. Scrooge undergoes a profound experience of redemption over the course of a Christmas Eve night, after being visited by the ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future. With a score full of memorable songs, including music for which composer Bricusse received an Academy Award nomination for Best Original Score for the film adaptation, Scrooge! The Musical blends humor, drama, and uplifting messages in a celebration of redemption and the true meaning of Christmas.

WHEN:

Previews: November 28 - December 5, 2025; Fridays at 8PM, Saturday at 8PM, and Sunday at 7PM

Opening Night: Saturday December 6, 2025 at 8PM

Performances: December 7 - 21, 2025

Select Wednesdays and Thursdays at 7:30PM, Fridays at 8PM, Saturdays at 3PM & 8PM, and Sundays at 3PM

FULL PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE:

- Fri, Nov 28 @ 8:00 pm - PREVIEW
- Sat, Nov 29 @ 8:00 pm - PREVIEW
- Sun, Nov 30 @ 7:00 pm - PREVIEW
- Fri, Dec 5 @ 8:00 pm - PREVIEW
- Sat, Dec 6 @ 8:00 pm - OPENING
- Sun, Dec 7 @ 3:00 pm
- Wed, Dec 10 @ 7:30 pm
- Thu, Dec 11 @ 7:30 pm
- Fri, Dec 12 @ 8:00 pm
- Sat, Dec 13 @ 3:00 pm
- Sat, Dec 13 @ 8:00 pm
- Sun, Dec 14 @ 3:00 pm
- Wed, Dec 17 @ 7:30 pm
- Thu, Dec 18 @ 7:30 pm
- Fri, Dec 19 @ 8:00 pm
- Sat, Dec 20 @ 3:00 pm (Public Sale for closing weekend begins Nov 28)
- Sat, Dec 20 @ 8:00 pm
- Sun, Dec 21 @ 3:00 pm - CLOSING

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours, 15 minutes with intermission

TICKETS: \$12-\$54, with discounts for children (age 4-12), educators, veterans, seniors and students. Pay-What-You-Can preview performances are also available to ensure that live theater is accessible to everyone.

WHERE: Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center on the Cripe Stage
5522 E. La Palma Ave., Anaheim, CA 92807

DRIVING DIRECTIONS: Chance Theater @ Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center is located at 5522 E. La Palma Avenue in Anaheim Hills. Going west on La Palma from Imperial Highway, we are on the left in the front of the industrial park just past the In & Out. There is plenty of free convenient parking in front of the theater.

MORE INFO: www.ChanceTheater.com or call (888) 455-4212

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