



Fine Arts Center  
COLORADO SPRINGS  
Theatre Company

36 West Dale Street  
Colorado Springs, CO 80903  
Box Office: 719.634.5583  
Tickets: [csfineartscenter.org](http://csfineartscenter.org)

## Press Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### A CHRISTMAS CAROL

#### Holiday tradition continues Dec. 5 with discounted family matinees

**COLORADO SPRINGS** (Nov. 12, 2008) – The Fine Arts Center Theatre Company will continue a holiday tradition by staging Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* Dec. 5 – 21 at the SaGāJi Theatre, 30 W. Dale St.

Last season's production of *A Christmas Carol* was the third-highest attended show in FAC history.

Back by popular demand, the show will retain many favorite cast members from last season, while adding some new actors and elements, including a very special effect: certain characters will actually fly across the stage, thanks to funding from the FAC's Curtain Call Society.

Shows are Thursdays at 7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday nights at 8 p.m.; and Sundays at 2 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. To accommodate families on budgets, the FAC is offering discounted tickets for the 2 p.m. shows on Saturday, Dec. 13, and Saturday, Dec. 20.

Dickens' Yuletide story tells the tale of Scrooge, a miser, who is visited by the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. This musical adaptation was created for the stage by world-renowned, Academy Award-winning composer Michel Legrand and Sheldon Harnick, one of the theatre's most celebrated Tony Award and Pulitzer Prize-winning librettists. This universal story is ultimately one of family and conscience, of desperation, regret, and second chances.

Legrand has earned three Academy Awards from 16 nominations, three Grammy Awards and an Emmy for his work. Harnick co-earned the Pulitzer Prize for *Fiorello!* and a Tony Award for *Fiddler on the Roof*. The *New York Times* has said of the show, "It bursts out as a real musical should ... the lyrics are, by turns, playful and tender."

"Dickens believed that Christmas should be a time when everyone should go home and enjoy a 'short holiday' with their family," said Alan Osburn, Performing Arts Director. "I look at this production as a time when we can gather some of Colorado Springs' best actors for a 'short holiday' and share in the spirit of Christmas."

"Saying that this show is a technical challenge is a huge understatement," said Osburn. "The script calls for more than 20 scene changes, a massive sound and lighting plot, the use of pyrotechnics, and flying actors around the stage. By reusing some of last year's elements, we can now add to this year's production, and we'll add even more next year. This year's big upgrade is that we will actually fly actors during the show, and we've also increased the orchestra size to enhance the wonderful score."

There are only 26 people in the cast, but each plays multiple roles. If each actor played a single part, the cast would total over 75. Scrooge is played by **John Rogerson**, most recently seen in Chicago productions such as *Robin Hood* and *Guys and Dolls*. Young Scrooge is played, once again, by **Marco Robinson**, star of the FAC's *Brighton Beach Memoirs* and *Biloxi Blues*.

**Sally Lewis Hybl** returns as Mrs. Cratchit. Her performance in the FAC's production of *Into the Woods* earned her the 2007 Pikes Peak Arts Council's *Best Actress* award. Fred is played by **Kyle Dean Steffen**, whose regional credits include the *The House of Blue Leaves* and *Of Mice and Men*. The ghosts of Christmas past, present and future are portrayed by **Ericka Gasper**, **Julian M. Bucknall** and **Rex Bennett**. **Lisa Pratt** and **David Plambeck** are the Fezziwigs.

A number of talented child actors – **Brenna Anhder**, **Mary Earle**, **Logan** and **Mallory Hybl**, **Carmen Vreeman**, **Sara Volz**, **Patrick Yukman** and **Joshua Zepf** – portray the Cratchit children and others.

*A Christmas Carol* is directed by **Alan Osburn**, the Producing Artistic Director of the FAC Theatre Company. Osburn has worked as a producer, director, teacher and actor for more than 30 years. His acting credits include the Broadway and National Touring Companies of *Les Misérables* as Inspector Javert. His FAC directing credits include *Anything Goes*, *Sunday in the Park with George*, *Brighton Beach Memoirs*, *Biloxi Blues* and *Into the Woods*, nominated for the Best Musical Ovation Award by the *Denver Post*.

The music is directed by **Cynthia Fox Soulier**, head of the voice department at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs; and **Mary Ripper Baker**, adjunct dance instructor at Pikes Peak Community College, is the choreographer, whose credits include *Beauty and the Beast* and *Into the Woods*.

The design team includes **R.Thomas Ward** (scenic), **Elizabeth Fry** (costume), **Loren Wilder** (lighting), **Steve Stevens** (sound), and **Jessica Rose** (properties master).

*A Christmas Carol* is sponsored by the El Pomar Foundation (FAC Annual Sponsor), KCME, and the Gay & Lesbian Fund for Colorado.

#### Tickets and Show Times

Thursday/Sunday	7:30 p.m.	\$26 FAC members; \$31 non-members
Friday/Saturday	8 p.m.	\$30 FAC members; \$35 non-members
Sunday	2 p.m.	\$26 FAC members; \$31 non-members
Saturday Matinee	2 p.m.	\$23 FAC members (adult); \$18 FAC members (child)
(Dec. 13 and 20)		\$25 non-members (adult); \$20 non-members (child)

#### FAC Theatre Company Season

**A Christmas Carol** | Dec. 5 – 21  
**The Full Monty** | Jan. 23 – Feb. 15  
**Lend Me a Tenor** | March 20 – April 5  
**The Music Man** | May 8 – 31

Call the FAC Box Office at **719.634.5583**, or visit [csfineartscenter.org](http://csfineartscenter.org), for tickets and information on group sales.



The Fine Arts Center's restaurant, Café 36, is **now serving dinner** on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights, **the perfect complement to a night of theatre.**

**Reservations**  
**719.477.4377**