GEORGE FOX UNIVERSITY
PERFORMING ARTS DEPARTMENT PRESENTS

A CHRISTMAS Carol

Original Music by Anna Lackaff & Rick Lombardo
Adaptation and Original Lyrics by Rick Lombardo
Music Arrangement by Anna Lackaff

An AUDIO Drama
LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

George Fox University is located on traditional Kalapuyan homeland. The Kalapuya lived in the Willamette Valley of western Oregon before being removed by force to the Grand Ronde and Siletz Reservations in 1856-57. The George Fox University theatre program acknowledges the Kalapuya as the rightful inhabitants of this land.

Additionally, we acknowledge our role in the Kalapuya’s history of pain, marginalization and cultural erasure, both in the past and present. We extend our hope for ongoing work towards reconciliation and peace as we honor the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, the Confederated Tribes of Siletz, and respect the many diverse Indigenous people still connected to this land on which we gather.

DIRECTOR’S NOTES

Welcome to George Fox University’s first audio show! We are glad you have taken the time out of your busy schedules to celebrate Christmas with us through our production of A Christmas Carol!

When the theatre faculty first realized that COVID-19 would require us to create theatre without ever setting foot in Wood-Mar Auditorium this year, we immediately started brainstorming alternative ways to tell stories that would both train our students in the fundamentals of our art, while also providing entertainment for our virtual audiences.

Our November production of Silent Sky by Lauren Gunderson dove into live-virtual theatre, while this production of A Christmas Carol dives into the world of audio production, similar to an old-time radio drama. Both shows have stretched our actors, designers and technicians in new and exciting ways. Ultimately, while COVID-19 has been highly disruptive, we are thankful for the opportunity to explore and create in new ways, and we are proud of how well our students rose to the occasion this semester! Bravo to all of you!

As you enjoy this retelling of A Christmas Carol, may your hard edges be softened, may your hearts be warmed, and may you lean into a life of second chances.

Finally, thank you to Danielle Warner and the music program for collaborating with us on this special event. We couldn’t have done it without you!

Enjoy the show,
Rhett Luedtke, Director
THEATRE MISSION
To love, inspire and challenge our communities through the power of story.

THEATRE VISION
To celebrate the unique God-given gifts and perspectives each person brings to the world while courageously exploring the tensions within faith, art and culture.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director ................................................................. Rhett Luedtke
Musician and Music Programmer .............................. James Pick
Vocal Director ......................................................... Danielle Warner
Sound Designer ....................................................... Bryan Boyd

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TECHNICAL TEAM

Mix Engineers ......................................................... Bryan Boyd
                                      Matthew Martin
Recording Engineers
Emma Boyd                     Marley Ross       Matthew Martin
Sound Effects Artist ..................................... Johnathan Billington*
Sound Technicians
Daegan Arnold                  Jenny Fournier*  Allie Schluchter*
Noah Benson                   Ellie Hartman       Anna Smoll
Johnathan Billington*         Lauren Herman*     Alizabeth Stevans
Aireen Celentino              Marley Ross         Abigail Torres
Matthew Edwards

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Performing Arts Administrative Assistant .......... Kathy Harris
Production Assistants .......................... Elyse Bradford*
                                      Marley Ross
Box Office Manager ................................. Kathy Harris
Box Office Staff ............................................. Skyler Atkinson

*Member of the Alpha Psi Omega, the university’s theatre honor society
A GEORGE FOX THEATRE PRODUCTION

CAST

Scrooge ........................................ Luke Peters*
Collecting Man 1, Marley, Mr. Fezziwig, Peter, Business Man 2, Old Joe ............. Thomas Millage
Bob Cratchit, John ............................. Johnathan Billington*
Fred, Dick, Mrs. Cratchit, Undertaker's Man .. Lydia Crist*
Young Scrooge, Molly, Topper, Maid .......... Allie Schluchter*
Fan, Martha, Elizabeth ....................... Maddie Teel
Collecting Man 2, Belle, Willie, Business Man 1 .. Emma Johnson*
Mrs. Fezziwig, Mrs. Dilber, Alice, Edna ........ Shanon Keehn*
Ghost of Christmas Present, Poulterer ............ Elizabeth Herbert*
Turkey Boy, Samuel, Tiny Tim, Hermione ........ Janae Graves
Ghost of Christmas Past, Belinda, Business Man 3 . Gabrielle Brinkman

QUARTET

Soprano ........................................ Anna Smoll
Alto ............................................. Ellie Hartman
Tenor ........................................... Alex Lopez
Bass ............................................. Nathan Johnson
Flute ........................................... Jordan Moody

AUTHOR BIOS

Anna Lackaff tours nationally as member and keyboardist of Mannheim Steamroller. She has served as music director/conductor/pianist for San Jose Repertory Theatre, New Repertory Theatre, Encore Musical Theatre, Boston Center for the Arts, Off-Broadway, Performance Network Theatre, Des Moines Playhouse, and many others. She has been voice faculty at Minnesota State University Mankato; resident music director of Carousel Theatre, ME; program music director of Walnut Hill School Theatre Academy, MA; adjunct faculty at Drake University, IA; and guest artist at Simpson College, IA. Compositions include the musical Thank You for Being a Friend (Off-Broadway and others); music for public television; pop and art songs; and choral music, including her Ave Maria performed by The Western Wind. As a singer, she has performed with ¡Sebastiani and Third Chair Chamber Players. A visual artist, she illustrated Virginia Tufte’s memoir, Pieces, with 60-plus drawings (Graphics Press), and her work has been cover art for the Journal of the American Veterinary Medical Association. She lives in Iowa with husband Dr. Aaron Santos. A Christmas Carol, as presented here, was composed and first produced in 2005. AnnaLackaff.com

Rick Lombardo is the director of the Penn State School of Theatre, as well as the producing artistic director of Penn State Centre Stage. He is a three-time winner of the Elliot Norton Award from the Boston Theatre Critics Association for Outstanding

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Director, as well as the recipient of the Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence for his 13 years serving as producing artistic director at New Repertory Theatre in Boston. He was the artistic director at the San Jose Repertory Theatre for seven years, where he was also a three-time nominee for Outstanding Director - Large Theatre by Theatre Bay Area. His Off-Broadway productions include the premieres of Bill W. and Dr. Bob at New World Stages, Albatross at 59E59, Ring Twice for Miranda at City Center, and his own co-written rock musical adaptation of The Snow Queen at the Signature Center. He has directed more than 100 plays and musicals which have been seen on stages across the country, including the Arizona Theatre Company, The Kennedy Center, Opera Boston, WHAT, Actors Shakespeare Project, Porthouse Theater, Actors Express, Atlanta Lyric Theatre, The Gloucester Stage Company, New York’s Town Hall, and The Berkshire Theatre Festival, among others. ricklombardo.net

ARTISTIC STAFF BIOS

Bryan Boyd (Sound Designer) is dad to Emma, Mykel, and Sara, and husband to Kim. He is also a theatre professor at George Fox, where he runs the design and technical theatre program. In addition to 60 designs on campus, Bryan has designed scenery and lighting for theatres in the Northwest including Artists Repertory Theatre, Broadway Rose Theatre Company, Sound Theatre Company, Seattle Music Theatre, Northwest Children’s Theatre, and the WWU Summer Repertory Theatre. Bryan has received several awards from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, and was named a Kennedy Center Celebrated Teaching Artist. In the summer, Bryan runs the Theatre Design Institute, a series of graduate courses for high school theatre teachers.

Rhett Luedtke (Director) is a professor of theatre at George Fox University, with a special emphasis in directing and theatre history. Rhett was the recipient of the 2019 George Fox University Undergraduate Scholar of the Year award, the 2016 Kennedy Center Gold Medallion for Excellence in Educational Theatre, the 2010 George Fox Undergraduate Teacher of the Year award, and the 2010 National Directing Fellowship from the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival. He has directed more than 50 productions during his career, and serves as the artistic director of the Big Bridge Theatre Consortium – an organization committed to developing new American plays dedicated to interfaith conflict and peace. Rhett received a bachelor’s degree in theatre and English from Valparaiso University in Indiana and an MFA in directing from Illinois State University.

James Pick (Music Programmer) is a versatile musician equally comfortable on a concert stage, in an orchestra pit, and at a theatre studio. His performances take him all across the Northwest as a collaborative pianist and music director in a variety of professional, academic and community situations. Recent theatre credits include Up and Away and Tuck Everlasting (music director, piano) with Broadway Rose and Chicago (piano) with West Linn High School. In addition to his collaborative endeavors, James enjoys composing and teaching piano lessons.
Danielle Warner (Vocal Director) is the director of choral studies at George Fox University and she currently directs four choirs that are open to current students and community members. She is thrilled to be collaborating with the theatre department for the first time. Past vocal directing credits include Angry Housewives, Radio Gals, Hairspray, and Bye Bye Birdie.

CAST BIOS

Johnathan Billington* (Bob Cratchit, John) is a junior theatre major with a double concentration. He is extremely excited to get to share the story of A Christmas Carol with all of you. He wants to thank Emma, Lydia, Danny, Kaleb and Luke for their support, and his professors for their guidance and kindness.

Gabrielle Brinkman (Ghost of Christmas Past, Belinda, Businessman, Storyteller) is a junior theatre and illustration double major. She co-designed hair and makeup for George Fox’s production of Jane Eyre, and last winter played “Sister Lillian” in The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month. She is very honored to be part of this special portrayal of A Christmas Carol and would like to thank her family, professors and friends for supporting her along this artistic journey she’s ventured.

Lydia Crist (Fred, Dick, Mrs. Cratchit, Undertaker’s Man) is a junior theatre major. She has previously worked as the hair and makeup designer for Jane Eyre, run/wardrobe crew in A Gentleman’s Guide to Love and Murder, and acted in The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month. She would like to thank her wonderful family and great friends, Emma, Danny, Johnathan, and Luke for all their love and continued support.

Janae Graves (Turkey Boy, Samuel, Tiny Tim, Hermione) is a sophomore theatre major. This is Janae’s first full-length production at George Fox, although she has been part of a few smaller projects. She has really enjoyed being part of this production and the chance to explore many different voices. She is extremely grateful to her friends for all the joy they bring, and to her professors for tirelessly working to find innovative ways for their students to continue doing creative work.

Ellie Hartman (Quartet Vocalist, Alto) is a senior music major. She is currently a George Fox choir member, and has done theatre in the past. She is thankful for her friends, family and mentors for their constant support.

Elizabeth Herbert (Ghost of Christmas Present, Narrator, Poulterer) is a junior double major in organizational communication and theatre. In the past, Elizabeth was seen as “Agnes” in The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month last winter. She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support, and her father for his most melodious and jolly laughter.

Emma Johnson* (Bell, Collecting Man 2, Business Man 1, Storyteller, Willy) is a junior double major in history and theatre. She has previously worked as a crew member for

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Jane Eyre and The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month, and house managed for The Government Inspector. She also designed the hair for A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder. You might have seen her in the second-stage show The Amish Project (“Anna”). She would like to say thank you to Lydia, Johnathan and Danny for being in her life, for always being there, and for supporting her. Enjoy!

Nathan Johnson (Quartet Vocalist, Bass) is a senior nursing major. Although he has never participated in a show at George Fox, he has sung in the George Fox Concert Choir for the last four years as a Bass 2. He’s grateful for this opportunity and wants to thank everyone who has helped him in his choral journey.

Shanon Keehn* (Storyteller, Mrs. Fezziwig, Mrs. Dilber, Alice, Edna) is a junior theatre major. Her most recent credits include sound designer for The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month, and playing “Miss Shingle” in A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder. She’s thankful for her friends and her professors for all their support over the years.

Alex Lopez (Quartet Vocalist, Tenor) is a senior marketing major. Alex has loved his musical journey at Fox, and thanks his director and peers for their continued support.

Thomas Millage (Marley and Others) is a junior theatre major and music minor. Having only plied his talents in high school productions such as You’re a Good Man, Charlie Brown, and ’Twas the Night Before Christmas, he is excited to have finally been cast in a George Fox show and looks forward to its completion.

Jordan Moody (Quartet Vocalist, Bass) is a two-time graduate of George Fox. He earned his bachelor’s degree in music: pre-teaching in 2015, and his master of arts in teaching in 2017. After working in the student accounts office at Fox for two and a half years, he has accepted a position as the middle school choir teacher at Alder Creek Middle School in the North Clackamas School District. Jordan is always looking for ways to engage in making music and remains optimistic about our ability to create beautiful and meaningful music at a distance.

Luke Peters* (Scrooge) is a junior theatre major at Fox. His most recent roles at George Fox have been “Calvin” in The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month, and “Monty” in A Gentlemen’s Guide to Love and Murder. He’s thrilled to be performing the role of “Scrooge” in A Christmas Carol! He would love to thank all cast and crew for making this a wonderful environment to tell this story in, and all his friends and family for their love and support.

Anna Smoll (Quartet Vocalist, Soprano) is a senior music performance and pre-teaching major. Anna is thrilled to be working with the George Fox theatre department for the first time. Her past credits include “Ethel McCormack” in Footloose the Musical, “Emily Hobbs” in Elf the Musical, and “Baker’s Wife” in Into the Woods.

Allie Schluchter* (Young Scrooge, Storyteller, Molly, Topper, & Maid) is a senior double-concentration theatre major and art minor. This is her third main-stage show at Fox,
and she was last seen as “Laura Langford” in The Shakers of Mount Lebanon Will Hold a Peace Conference This Month. She’d like to thank her friends and family for being such a loving support system.

**Madeleine Teel** (*Fan, Martha, Elizabeth*) is a junior double major in theatre and theology. She is thankful to her family, for their love and support, her friends, for their encouragement and time, and her roommate, for putting up with all of her antics. She would also like to thank her professors for all their wisdom and love.

### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Special thanks to Christine and Todd Martin for their generous support of the safety and well-being of our George Fox University theatre community.

Andy Baker  
Casey Brooks  
Matt Meyer  
Matthew Swanson  
Ethan Swihart  
Matthew Tibbs
The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by David M. Rubenstein.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts’ Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.