

“A CHRISTMAS CAROL” 2024 AUDITION PACKAGE

VILLAGE THEATRE WATERDOWN (VTW)

AUDITION DATES: June 8 (1-4pm), June 10 (7-9pm), Callbacks June 13 (7:30-9:30pm)

Welcome to the auditions for Village Theatre Waterdown's "A Christmas Carol", running from November 22nd to December 8th, 2024. Our adaptation will be a traditional one that follows Charles Dicken's novella closely and has a few extra characters. This production is not a musical, but Christmas carols are sung throughout the show by some of the cast. British accents will NOT be used in the show (unless you already have one 😊).

Please make sure the Audition Form is filled out completely. You may bring it with you to the audition or fill it out when you arrive (we will have extra copies). Parents/guardians of youth under age 18 are required to sign the audition form. For parents of young actors (under age 14), please accompany your child to the entire audition.

WHAT TO EXPECT WHEN YOU AUDITION?

Sides [excerpts] of the script will be handed out by the audition monitors. Please be prepared to read your sides with a group, and depending on the character, sing a verse of a Christmas carol/song and do improvisation with another actor(s).

WHAT SHOULD I BRING TO THE AUDITION?

You are welcome to attach a head shot and a resume with acting, singing or musical performance experience (or use space provided in the Audition Form). Please bring a list of all rehearsal schedule conflicts. The director will usually work around minor conflicts, which is why it is important to list all known conflicts on the audition form. Actors must be available for all performances, as conflicts with performance dates will affect your chances of being cast. See special note about the school show on the audition form.

CALLBACKS

Callbacks are by invitation only on June 13th (7:30-9:30pm). If you don't get a callback, it does not necessarily mean that you won't be cast.

CASTING NOTIFICATION

You will be notified by email or by phone whether you are cast or not. Casting should hopefully be completed within a week after callbacks. Please do not contact Village Theatre Waterdown by email or phone to ask about casting.

REHEARSAL SCHEDULE

September 22nd will be a readthrough for all cast members. Rehearsals start September 24th for larger roles. Rehearsals start October 15th for smaller roles. Rehearsal days/times are Sundays (12:30-4:30pm), Tuesdays (7-10pm) and Thursdays (7-10pm). The rehearsal schedule will be finalized after the show is cast. There will not be rehearsals on October 13th (Thanksgiving weekend) and Oct 31st (Halloween).

Young actors will rehearse until 9pm on the weeknights. During tech rehearsals November 17-21 (final week of rehearsals before opening), young actors are expected to remain until the end of rehearsal (approximately 10pm but it could be longer).

Thank you,

Deb Dagenais, Director

Deb Koehler, Producer

Anne Hogan, Stage Manager

Village Theatre Waterdown (VTW) Audition Form – “A Christmas Carol” 2024

First Name	
Last Name	
Where do you live?	
Phone &Text Number:	
Email:	
Experience	
Have you acted on stage before?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Provide details here or attach resume) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you have singing performance or choir experience?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Provide details here or attach resume) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you play a musical instrument?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (Provide details of which instrument(s) here, or attach resume) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Roles	
For what role(s) would you like to audition? (A list of roles is attached, starting on page 5). If you are willing to accept any role in the production, please clearly write 'All'.	List which role(s) are you interested in
If you are not cast for this production, would you be interested in volunteering in another area of Village Theatre?	<input type="checkbox"/> Usher and Concession <input type="checkbox"/> Assistant Stage Manager <input type="checkbox"/> Set design/painting <input type="checkbox"/> Sound & Light <input type="checkbox"/> Costume, Hair or Makeup <input type="checkbox"/> Props <input type="checkbox"/> Other, please specify: _____
Conflicts	
While you audition, the Director may take a picture of you for decision-making purposes, after which it will be deleted. Do you consent to having your picture taken?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you anticipate any conflict with the Performance dates/times shown on page 3?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (write known conflicts here) <input type="checkbox"/> No
Do you anticipate any conflict with the Rehearsal Schedule dates/times shown on page 1?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes (write known conflicts here) <input type="checkbox"/> No

<p>Can you be available to perform on a weekday matinee performance, scheduled on Tuesday, November 26th? VTW hopes to have the opportunity to do this show for local, middle school students and will be sending an invite to schools in September. The performance is estimated to start between 10-11:30am.</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No (if you are cast, your role may be played by someone else in the cast)
<p>Since there will be children in this play, actors that are cast in the production are required by VTW Policy to acquire a "Vulnerable Sector Check". Recent costs were \$31 in Halton and \$36 in Hamilton.</p> <p>Do you agree to present a completed Police check to VTW when requested before the rehearsals start?</p>	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No If you respond "No" , you will not be able to be cast in this production.
Village Theatre Waterdown Membership	
<p><i>All cast must be a Village Theatre Waterdown member. I agree to pay the \$5.00 membership fee if I am cast.</i></p>	
<p>Signature: _____ Date: _____</p> <p>Parent/Guardian Signature, if under Age 18: _____ Date: _____</p>	

Eleven Performance Dates and Times:

Date	Performance Time
Friday, November 22, 2024	7:30pm
Saturday, November 23, 2024	7:30pm
Sunday, November 24, 2024	2pm
Tuesday, November 26, 2024 **School show**	Estimated to start between 10-11:30am
Thursday, November 28, 2024	7:30pm
NO SHOW November 29	
Saturday, November 30, 2024	1pm (no evening show due to the Santa Clause Parade in Waterdown)
Sunday, December 1, 2024	2pm
Friday, December 6, 2024	7:30pm
Saturday, December 7, 2024	2pm
Saturday, December 7, 2024	7:30pm
Sunday, December 8, 2024	2pm

THE ROLES

This list is a guide for ages; flexibility may be used in casting characters. Certain actors will be cast in more than one role and as RESIDENTS OF LONDON, CAROLERS, STREET URCHINS, VILLAGERS, VILLAGE SCHOOL CHILDREN and various PARTY GUESTS.

Age 40s+	<u>EBENEZER SCROOGE</u> : a tight-fisted hand at the grindstone. A squeezing, wrenching, grasping, scraping, clutching, covetous old sinner.
Age 30s-40s	<u>BOB CRATCHIT</u> : a clerk in the service of EBENEZER SCROOGE, and the loving father of a fine family.
Age 20s-30s	<u>FRED</u> : handsome nephew of old SCROOGE, with a cheerful voice and a sparkling laugh.
Age 20s+	<u>THE NARRATOR</u> : (TINY TIM older), a poet and theatre artist; the teller of this ghostly tale.
Age 30s+	<u>JACOB MARLEY</u> : SCROOGE's first and only business partner; dead as a doornail.
Age 20s+	<u>THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST</u> : the first of the three spirits, she is of the air – resplendent in starlight.
Age 20s+	<u>MEG</u> : FRED's bride, very pretty, with a dimpled, surprised look.
Age 20s+	<u>MARTHA CRATCHIT</u> : Oldest of the CRATCHIT daughters.
Age 30s+	<u>THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT</u> : a giant of harvest and plenty, glorious to behold.
Age 30s+	<u>GENTLEMAN 1, 2, and 3</u> : prosperous London merchants, extremely charitable.
Age 20s+	<u>THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS YET TO COME</u> : SCROOGE's subterranean nightmare of himself at the turning point of his life. May also play YOUNG SCROOGE.
Age 20s+	<u>YOUNG SCROOGE</u> : a clever chap, filled with enormous potential until his great passion, greed, engrosses him. May also play THE GHOST OF CHRISTMAS YET TO COME.
Age 30s-40s	<u>MRS. CRATCHIT</u> : BOB's wife, poor in possessions but rich in family.
Age 40s+	<u>MR. FEZZIWIG</u> : former employer of YOUNG SCROOGE, voluminous in his great jovial benevolence.
Age, 30s+	<u>MRS. FEZZIWIG</u> : one vast substantial smile.

Age 30s+	<u>MRS. DILBER</u> : SCROOGE's housekeeper.
Age Late teens+	<u>JOE MILLER</u> : keeper of the poultry shop.
Age Late teens+	<u>DICK WILKINS</u> : SCROOGE's former best friend, who died young.
Age Late teens, 20s	<u>BELLE</u> : YOUNG SCROOGE's betrothed, a fair maiden, honorable and pure.
Age Late teens, 20s	<u>BELINDA CRATCHIT</u> : second of the CRATCHIT daughters, and a happy lass.
Age 10-13	<u>TINY TIM CRATCHIT</u> : crippled, thoughtful, brave, and with a goodly heart.
Age 10-13	<u>LITTLE EBENEZER</u> : son of NARRATOR/TIM CRATCHIT.
Age 12-16	<u>PETER CRATCHIT</u> : a kind boy, devoted to his brother and sisters.
Age 12-16	<u>TURKEY BOY</u> : a rambunctious street urchin.
Age 12-16	<u>BOY SCROOGE</u> : a boyhood vision of EBENEZER SCROOGE at boarding school.
Age 12-16	<u>IGNORANCE AND WANT</u> : Mankind's most pitiful children.
Age 10-14	<u>FAN</u> : SCROOGE's childhood sister, brimful of glee.
Age Teen+	<u>THE BLACK FRIARS</u> : these theatrical "spirits" from another realm assist the NARRATOR in his telling by attending and otherwise moving the action of the play forward.