

Kelly James Tighe (*Scenic Designer*) has been designing scenery around the U.S. for over twenty years. Originally from the San Francisco Bay Area, Mr. Tighe served as the resident designer for Center REPeritory Company, Contra Costa Musical Theatre and Diablo Light Opera Company. As a NY based designer, Kelly's work has been seen on the road, off-Broadway, in Atlantic City and Vegas. Off-Broadway productions include *Almost Heaven* and the current revival of *The Fantasticks* (directed by Tom Jones). National tours include *Movin' Out* (directed by Twyla Tharp, *Mooseltoe* (annual holiday tour featuring the voice talent of Chirsopher Plummer, Victoria Clark and Al Roker), and the current national tour of *Cats*. Other notable projects include multiple productions for western Michigan's Cherry County Playhouse, Ohio's Carousel Dinner Theater, Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, San Jose Rep, Laguna Playhouse, and West Chester Broadway Theater. From 2002-2006 Kelly was the designer in residence at the Gateway Playhouse on Long Island, designing sets that were seen on the Gateway's stages and subsequently sent to theaters around the country. Theater highlights include *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *The Full Monty*, *Sweet Charity*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Enchanted April*, *Around the World in Eighty Days*, *West Side Story*, *All Shook Up*, *The Who's Tommy*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Follies*, *Man of the Moment* and 16 years of Center REP's hit production of *A Christmas Carol*. Television and commercial work includes spots for Verizon, Disney Channel, Animal Planet, Kit Kat, art direction for Regina Spektor's *Us* video and multiple infomercials. Mr. Tighe holds the record for the most awards in any category with his 19 wins for outstanding scenic design in the Northern California regional theater Shellie Awards. Other awards and recognitions include the SF Bay Area Theater Critics' Circle Awards, East Bay Express Best of the Bay, Goodman Choice Award and DramaLogue.

Jeff Mockus (*Sound Designer*) has produced music and sound for Bay Area theatre for over 20 years, including Center REP's *A Marvelous Party*, *Cabaret*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Musical of Musicals: The Musical!*, *Hank Williams Lost Highway*, *Around the World In 80 Days*, and *The Marriage of Figaro*. Among his recent work are TheatreWorks' *The Secret Garden*, *Fly By Night*, *Superior Donuts* and [title of show], American Conservatory Theater's *Clybourne Park*, *War Music*, *The Rainmaker*, and *The Circle*, and California Shakespeare Theatre's *Mrs. Warren's Profession*, *Uncle Vanya*, *Private Lives*, *An Ideal Husband*, and *Pericles*. Mr. Mockus contributed original music to the West Coast premiere of *Legacy of Light*, which marked his 70th production for San Jose Repertory Theatre, where he has received Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Awards for *Old Wicked Songs* and *Mary's Wedding*, and Dean Goodman Choice Awards for *By The Bog of Cats*, *ART*, and *Major Barbara*.

John Earls (*Lighting Designer*) DRAA On Broadway/Lesher Arts Center Anniversary, *The Lady with All the Answers* (Off Center/Center REP); *Oklahoma!*, 42nd Street-Shellie Award, *Cinderella*- Shellie Award (CCMT); *Lesher Speaker Series-Newsmakers*; *Chevron Family Theatre Festival: A Christmas Carol* (Center REP); *ARF Stars to the Rescue*; *The Shellie Awards*; *Rocky Horror Show*, *Let's Go To The Movies* (Town Hall). Thanks to the ACME Theatre Company.

Mark Hanson (*Music Director*) returns to *A Christmas Carol* for a sixth time. Shows for Center REPeritory also include *Blues in the Night* and *Noel and Gertie* (Shellie Award). Shows on the Hoffman Stage include *Hairspray*, *A Chorus Line*, *Oliver*, *The Producers* (Shellie Award), *Cinderella* (Shellie Award), *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* (Shellie Award), *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and *Sunday in the Park with George* (Shellie Award). Mark is pleased to be working once again with Center REPeritory on this timeless holiday classic – happy holidays to all!

Jeff Collister* (*Production Stage Manager*) is an avid San Francisco Giants fan and is looking forward to their triumphant return to glory in 2012! He has been Production Manager for Center REP since 1995 and has stage managed more than 45 productions since starting with the company in 1989. Favorites include *Boeing-Boeing*, *A Number*, *Almost Heaven – John Denver's America*, *Becoming Memories*, *Suds: The Rockin' 60's Musical Soap Opera*, *Godspell*, *The Mystery Of Edwin Drood* and numerous productions of *A Christmas Carol*. Jeff directed *Urinetown*, *The Musical*, and *Grease* for Contra Costa Musical Theatre. Next spring he will direct Center REP's production of *Xanadu*. He worked as Production Stage Manager for *Dame Edna – The Royal Tour* in San Francisco. Jeff is a Shellie Award winning actor and a member of Actors Equity Association.

Joe Coe (*Assistant to the Production Manager*) This is Joe's fourth season with Center REP and he couldn't be happier to be a part of such an amazing team of professionals and friends! Joe has had the pleasure of working with such companies as Berkeley Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre, Suicide Kings touring production of *In Spite of Everything*, Boston Conservatory, SpeakEasy Stage Company, and Jose Mateo Ballet Theatre. Joe would like to thank all of his colleagues here at the LCA for a great season and for making it such a joy to work here!

THANK YOU TO OUR
OPENING NIGHT DINNER SPONSORS:
Fleming's Prime Steakhouse & Wine Bar
O-C Bowl
Scott's Seafood Grill and Restaurant

Alex Logemann (*Deck Manager*) is celebrating his 30th show backstage with Center REP. Alex has been backstage for ten seasons and is beyond pleased to be involved with such an amazing group. Alex has also crewed shows for Contra Costa Musical Theatre and with Diablo Theatre Company. Alex is a proud member of the Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble. He is very thankful for our community and the fun it provides. Happy Holidays! "The real measure of our wealth is how much we'd be worth if we lost all our money."--Benjamin Jowett

Michael Butler (*Artistic Director*) This is Michael's sixth season as Artistic Director of Center REP, where his directing credits include last season's *Dracula*, *Boeing-Boeing* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, as well as the Shellie and/or BATCC Award-winning productions of *Around the World in 80 Days*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, *The Marriage of Figaro*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Enchanted April*, and *Witness For the Prosecution*. His directing work has also been seen at San Jose Rep, Cleveland Playhouse, Seattle Rep, Laguna Playhouse, ACT in Seattle, Marin Theatre Company, Aurora Theatre Company, San Jose Stage, Shakespeare Santa Cruz, and The Juilliard School, of which he is a graduate. As an actor, Michael has worked on Broadway and off, in regional theatres, film and television, as well as REP's productions of *The Mousetrap* and *Noises Off*. He is a published songwriter and the co-writer and composer of numerous music-theatre pieces, which he has directed and performed in NY, LA, and at festivals in India and Morocco. In his career as a performer he has also danced with the Erick Hawkins Dance Company, portrayed the villainous Pierre LeChance on *The Guiding Light*, and played guitar and harmonica in many rock, blues, and country western bands at all the notable dives in NYC.

OUR SPONSORS

Chevron (Season Sponsor) has been the leading corporate sponsor of Center REP and the Lesher Center for the Arts for the past eight years. In fact, Chevron has been a partner of the LCA since the beginning, providing funding for capital improvements, event sponsorships and more. Chevron generously supports every Center REP show throughout the season, and is the primary sponsor for events including the Chevron Family Theatre Festival in July. Chevron has proven itself not just as a generous supporter, but also a valued friend of the arts.

Diablo Regional Arts Association (DRAA) (Season Partner) is both the primary fundraising organization of the Lesher Center for the Arts (LCA) and the City of Walnut Creek's appointed curator for the LCA's audience outreach. DRAA's role in the community is all about building partnerships with the focused goal of enhancing artistic quality at the LCA and providing opportunities for everyone to enjoy the arts. Through partnerships with the LCA and its producers, individual donors, corporate and foundation sponsors and the City of Walnut Creek, DRAA plays a vital role in advancing the arts for the betterment of the community. Please visit us online at www.draa.org.

Contra Costa Times (Season Media Sponsor) In the East Bay, the largest newspaper of the Bay Area News Group is the Contra Costa Times and its sister editions, the West County Times, Valley Times, San Ramon Valley Times and East County Times. The Times, was judged the best newspaper in its circulation category in the state five times in a six-year period by the California Newspaper Publishers Association. In 2005, it won the prestigious national Freedom of Information Award from Associated Press Managing Editors. And, in 2007, it was honored by the California Newspaper Publishers Association for its leadership on public records.

Lesher Foundation (Foundation Sponsor) Since 1994, the Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation has awarded grants totaling more than \$40 million and reaching citizens in all parts of Contra Costa County. True to the original wishes of Dean and Margaret Lesher, the Foundation continues to build on the strengths of the community by supporting organizations and programs that provide help and support to people in need; enhance and enrich the lives of all citizens; and promote a healthy and exciting future for the community. Established in 1989, the Foundation received its principal assets from Dean Lesher's estate in 1993 and 1995. In 1997, an additional endowment from Dean Lesher's estate followed the death of Margaret Lesher. A significant and final bequest from Mr. Lesher's estate was received in 2003. As a family foundation, support for the Contra Costa community will be carried on by the next generation of family members. Grant-making decisions are based on the vision of Dean and Margaret Lesher who felt quality education, diverse art programs, and healthy children and families are the building blocks of a strong and vibrant community. The Leshers defined the "spirit of giving" as "investing in the community and its people." By providing financial support and direction in these critical areas, the Dean & Margaret Lesher Foundation is investing every day, every week and every year in the health and well-being of this county that Dean and Margaret so loved.



CENTER REP THANKS :
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Contra Costa Musical Theatre
Diablo Theatre Company
Selix Formal Wear of Pleasant Hill
Shannon and Mike Demers
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Joe Martin

ABOUT CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

Center REP is the resident, professional theatre company of the Lesher Center for the Arts. Our season consists of eight productions a year – a variety of musicals, dramas and comedies, both classic and contemporary, that continually strive to reach new levels of artistic excellence and professional standards.

Our **mission** is to celebrate the power of the human imagination by producing emotionally engaging, intellectually involving, and visually astonishing live theatre, and through Outreach and Education programs, to enrich and advance the cultural life of the communities we serve.

What does it mean to be a producing theatre? We hire the finest professional directors, actors and designers to create our productions at Center REP. These are not touring productions – they're conceived and developed here, the sets and costumes are built in our shops, and the actors rehearse in our rehearsal hall. Whether the production is a Bay Area premiere or a Shakespearean classic, each is devised to be a one of a kind, artistic creation that will be a unique theatre experience for our audience.

What does it mean to be a professional theatre? It means that all our artists and artisans are career theatre-practitioners. Many of the actors in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association; many of our directors and designers are members of professional unions. All do theatre because it is their profession and their passion.

We are very proud to have the opportunity to produce professional theatre for our community in the beautiful theatres here at the Lesher Center for the Arts. Thank you for your support!

Center REPeritory Company
Managing Director - Scott Denison
Artistic Director - Michael Butler

<i>Audience Services</i>	<i>Production</i>
Audience Services Coordinator	Production Manager
Courtney Egg	Jeff Collister
Ticket Office Staff	<i>Technical</i>
Jeremiah Vierling	Technical Director
Caitlin Downing	Joshua Lipps
Hillary Pearsall	Executive Technical Director
Karla Kopffhammer	Gerald Frenz
Britt Lauer	Associate Technical Director
Benjamin Potter	Russ Milligan
Aaron Prather	Master Electrician
Sadé Robinson	Ray Oppenheimer
<i>Production Services</i>	Carpenters
Production Services Coordinator	Daniel Casini
Toni Kileoene	Jordan Scott
Technical Staff	Cameron Swartzell
Steve Pino	Chris Swartzell
John Earls	Casting Director
Michael Arlen	Jennifer Perry
Devon Ausman	Asst. to the Production Manager/ Props Coordinator
Chris Currie	Joe Coe
Mitch Kell	Deck Manager
Garrick Schuster	Alex Logemann
Stephen Speis	Quartet Manager
Josh Stouffer	Barbara Reynolds
<i>Costumes</i>	Production Assistants
Costume Manager	Doug Alvey
Michael A. Berg	Lyle Barrere
Assistant Costumers	Sofia Dertimanis
Jenine Hillaire	Kourtney McCrary
Max Hilsabeck	John Valentine
Matthew O'Connor	<i>Administration</i>
<i>Education</i>	Asst. to the Managing Director
Education Directors	Gail Pfeifer
Jeff Draper	Usher Coordinator
Kerri Shawn	Carolyn Orlik
<i>Marketing</i>	Program
Marketing Director	Linda Nomura
Gabe Marin	
Marketing Assistant	
Ariel Ford	

Original Choreography **Laren Fender**
Original Sound Design **Norm Kern**

CITY COUNCIL Robert Simmons, Mayor Kristine Lawson Kish Rajan Cindy Silva Gary Skrel CITY MANAGER Ken Nordhoff DIRECTOR Arts, Recreation and Community Services Barry Gordon	 ARTS COMMISSION Chair Reginald Marshall Fritz Brunner Carol Fowler Suzanne Masella Jacquelyn Smith
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CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY OF WALNUT CREEK

Michael Butler, Artistic Director **Scott Denison, Managing Director**

presents

A Christmas Carol

By Charles Dickens

Adaptation by Cynthia Caywood and Richard L. James

Directed by Scott Denison

Music Director

Mark Hanson

Lighting Designer

John Earls

Scenic Designer

Kelly James Tighe

Costuming

Michael A. Berg

Stage Manager

Jeff Collister*

Choreographer

Jennifer Perry

Sound Designer

Jeff Mockus

Hofmann Theatre
December 8 - 18, 2011
Lesher Center for the Arts

Season Sponsor

Season Partner

Season Media Sponsor

Foundation Sponsor

*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States
Center REP is a member of Theatre Bay Area and Theatre Communications Group (TCG), The National Organization for the American Theatre
The Sound Designer is a member of United Scenic Artists Union

CAST

Natalie Bartnick.....Sophy
 Michael A. Berg.....Mr. Applebaum
 Ben Bogen.....Thief/Bailey
 Evan Boomer.....Young Scrooge
 Jesse Caldwell*.....Bob Cratchit
 Derek Travis Collard.....Constable/Havisham
 Amanda Denison.....Belle/Anne
 Kelley Denison.....Mercy
 Max DeSantis.....Charlie/Turkey Boy
 Jeff Draper.....Marley/Topper/Old Joe
 Emily Garcia.....Flora Fezziwig/Cherry
 Trevor Gomez.....Boy Scrooge
 Jim Gray.....Mr. Bagstock - Bass
 Patrick Hart.....Silas
 Nicole Helfer.....Catherine
 Heather Kellogg.....Martha Cratchit
 Britt Lauer.....Dorit/Fauna Fezziwig
 Olivia Lowe.....Belinda Cratchit
 Sara Moore.....Charwoman
 Marty Newton.....Rudge/Marlet/Boz
 Jason Pedroza.....Future/Dick Wilkins/Marlet/Barkis
 Jeanine Perasso.....Mrs. Fezziwig/Laundress
 Grace Perry.....Lizzie
 Jennifer Perry.....Past/Nancy
 Jack Powell*.....Ebenezer Scrooge
 Barbara Reynolds.....Miss Skiffins - Soprano
 Tim Reynolds.....Mr. Tiffey - Tenor
 Joel Roster.....Undertaker/Mr. Boxer/Pip
 Kevin Sanchez.....Nigel Woodward/Snuff Box
 Kristina Schoell.....Fan
 Kerri Shawn.....Mrs. Cratchit
 Luke Sommer.....Tiny Tim/Want
 Scott Strain.....Mr. Fezziwig/Pancks
 Molly Thornton.....Miss Augustus - Alto
 Alison Valentine.....Lavinia
 Kyle Valentine.....Peter Cratchit/Georgie
 Michael Wiles*.....Fred
 Michael Ray Wisely*.....Present
 Olivia Wisely.....Molly/Polly
 Special thanks to Ken Ruta*, Narrator

CAST BIOGRAPHIES

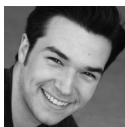
Natalie Bartnick (Sophy) is very excited to be back in *A Christmas Carol* for her 4th year! She's a junior at San Ramon Valley High School who loves singing and acting. She was recently in San Ramon's production of *All Shook Up* this last spring. She's in choir at school as part of the mixed Concert Choir and women's Treble Clef. She was also selected to sing in ACDA's Coastal Honor Choir in November. Much thanks to Mom, Dad, Logan, and Nolan for their support and inspiration!



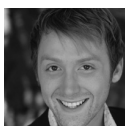
Michael A. Berg (Mr. Applebaum) is happy to be included in this season's production of *A Christmas Carol* as Mr. Applebaum, one of the solicitors. Michael is very pleased to be working on the costumes as well. He works full time for Center REP as a stitcher and sometime actor and if he is lucky he gets to design as well! Michael has been seen as the Usher in Center REP's production of *Witness for the Prosecution* and as Starveling the tailor in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Michael and Ophelia (his four legged significant other), wish all of you a bountiful and peaceful holiday season!



Ben Bogen (Thief/Bailey) is elated to be in *A Christmas Carol* for the second time after making his Center REP debut last winter and will be seen as Georg in Center REP's upcoming production of *Spring Awakening*. Ben will also be seen in Diabolo Theatre Company's *Legally Blonde The Musical* this spring as well. Previous credits include: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour u/s), *Hairspray* (Sketch), *A Chorus Line* (Mark), *RENT* (Steve/Waiter), *Oklahoma!*, *Oliver!*, *Evita* with Contra Costa Musical Theatre, *Hello Dolly!* with DTC, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip) with Stars 2000. Ben has been choreographing and directing for Standing Ovations Theatre program for 4 years and studies dance at The Ballet School in Walnut Creek. Much love to friends, family, and teachers!



Evan Boomer (Young Scrooge) is thrilled to be back with Center REP for this heartwarming production of *A Christmas Carol!* Recent credits include: *Little Shop of Horrors* (CCMT), "Hysterium" - *A Funny Thing Happened On The Way To The Forum*, "Al DeLuca" - *A Chorus Line* (CCMT), "The Waiter" - *She Loves Me* (Center REP), and he is also a proud member of the Fantasy Forum Actor's Ensemble. He holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts from California State University, East Bay, and has recently studied with Music Theatre Conservatory at Notre Dame de Namur. He hopes you enjoy the show and have a wonderful holiday season!



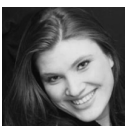
Jesse Caldwell* (Bob Cratchit) is pleased to return to Center REP for his fifth season as Bob Cratchit. Recent Bay Area performances include Henry Saunders in *Lend Me A Tenor* at the Livermore Shakespeare Festival, Mr. McClam in *Fly By Night*, a developmental musical produced at TheatreWorks and Paulet in the premiere of Mark Jackson's adaptation of Schiller's *Mary Stuart*. He has also performed at Sacramento Theatre Company, American Musical Theatre of San Jose, TheatreFirst, Woodminster, 42nd Street Moon and Willows Theatre Co. among other Bay Area theatres.



Derek Travis Collard (Constable/Havisham) is happy to return to Center REPeritory with this holiday show after just completing a run in *Little Shop of Horrors* as Mr. Mushnik for CCMT. Other recent Bay Area shows include *Hairspray* (Male Authority), *Oliver!* (Mr Sowerberry, Dr Grimwigh), *She Loves Me* (Center REP), *Jubilee*, *Wildcat* and *High Spirits* (42nd Street Moon) Regional credits: *Angels* (Pre-Broadway), *Christmas Carol* (McCartner Theatre), *Nunsense A-Men* (Sister Amnesia), *The Gold Wuthakee* (Lincoln Center), *A Funny Thing Happened ... Forum* (Hysterium), *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (Snoopy), *Funny* (Old Globe), *Pageant* (Miss Great Plains), *Sweeney Todd* (Tobias), *Rocky Horror Show* (Riff Raff), *Drood!* (Bazzard). Moose!



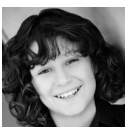
Amanda Denison (Belle/Anne) is thrilled to be back on the Hoffman stage with her *Christmas Carol* family. She is a senior at San Francisco State University and will be receiving her BA in Theatre Arts with an emphasis in Acting in the spring. Amanda is on the teaching staff for Center REPeritory Company's Young REP, an intensive young actor's training program and is an Associate Director of Performing Arts Studio, a program of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble and Lareen Fender's The Ballet School Performing Arts. Amanda will be returning to Center REP in the spring to be in the production of *Rumors*. Amanda feels fortunate to be sharing the stage with her mom, sister, niece and amazing boyfriend, Jason. This performance is dedicated to two of her guardian angels, her Grandpa George and her Nanny! Happy Holidays everyone!



Kelley Denison (Mercy) is excited to join the *Christmas Carol* family this year. She lives her passion each day by teaching Ballet and Pilates at Lareen Fender's The Ballet School Performing Arts. She hopes to see you in class! She is thrilled to be sharing the stage with her family. She thanks J for believing in her. This one is dedicated to her Grammy!



Max DeSantis (Charlie/Turkey Boy) is very excited to be back "home" at the Leshner and in *A Christmas Carol* working with Center REP for the second time! Other roles: *Oliver-Oliver!* (Sunnyvale Community Players), *Kurt-Sound of Music* (TVRT), *Heavenly Friend-Carousel* (Lyric Theatre), *Orphan Jack-Into the Woods* (DTC), *Ensemble-Oklahoma*, *Fagin's Gang-Oliver!* (CCMT), *Lost Boy-Peter Pan* (Woodminster), *Ensemble-Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Cinderella*, *Seussical* (TVRT). Max studies voice with Min Kahng, ballet and tap at The Ballet School and attended Young REP this past summer. In his free time he also studies piano, is a black belt in karate and works in films.



Jeff Draper (Marley/Topper/Old Joe) has been seen in many Center REP productions, including *Cabaret*, *How the Other Half Loves*, *Around the World in 80 Days* and *Picasso and the Lapin Agile*. Jeff loves spending his summers with the students of Young REP, where he is Co-Education Director with Kerri Shawn. Jeff would like to thank his Mom, Dad, and husband Dalon for supporting his crazy love of acting and theater.



Emily Garcia (Flora Fezziwig/Cherry) is proud to again join this marvelous production. Recent roles include *The Heidi Chronicles* (Heidi), *A Chorus Line* (Bebe), *Jake's Women* (Maggie), *Enter Laughing* (Angela), and *Cabaret* (Sally Bowles). Emily works as a Teaching Artist and is a proud member of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble. She wishes the happiest of holidays to all!



Trevor Gomez (Boy Scrooge) is very excited to perform with his holiday family for his third year. Trevor is 11 years old and in the 6th grade at Pleasant Hill Middle School. Trevor recently was bonked in the head with a lollipop in *Wizard of Oz* (DTC). Recent key roles include Rooster in *Annie, Jr.* (CC Christian Theatre), David in *Rags the Musical* (Willow's Caberet) and Malcolm in *13 The Musical* (Music Box Theatre). Other roles include a member of Fagin's Gang in *Oliver!* (CCMT), Little Guido in *Nine* (CCCT), Billy in *Nun-crackers* (Willow's Caberet), and Billy in *Honk!* (CC Christian Theatre). Trevor also performs with Pleasant Hill's Star Quest, church and school choirs and enjoys baseball, soccer and Boy Scouts.



Jim Gray (Mr. Bagstock-Bass) has been involved in music his entire life, from early piano lessons, through marching band, jazz band, rock bands, and barbershop quartets. Jim has always loved musical theater. His favorite stage production is *The Phantom of the Opera* and his favorite movie musical is *Moulin Rouge*. But it's only recently that Jim got personally involved in theater, starting with *The Music Man* at the South Bay Musical Theater. This year he was featured in a new production called *Bandstand Beat* at Tabard in San Jose. He hopes you enjoy the show!



Patrick Hart (Silas) is a senior at Miramonte High School and is thrilled to be in his first show with Center REP. In Berkeley, Patrick has played the Young Soldier/Hugh Dorsey in *Parade*, and Frank Shepherd in *Merrily We Roll Along*. In Walnut Creek, Patrick has participated in Center REP's Young REP training program for the past two summers, and he is a student at Lareen Fender's The Ballet School.



Nicole Helfer (Catherine) is a Bay Area native and a graduate of San Francisco State University, where she studied classical voice, theatre, and dance. Regional credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), *Chicago* (Velma), Harold Pinter's *The Lover* (Sarah), *A Chorus Line* (Val), *Avenue Q* (Kate Monster/Lucy T. Slut; National Regional Premiere), *Hair* (Sheila; Shellie Award Nominee), and *Brimstone* (Miraid; SFBATCCA and Shellie Award Nominee). Currently she teaches dance and theatre classes at The Ballet School, Dance Mission Theatre, Steppin' Out Studios, Spindrift School of the Performing Arts, and Kid Stock, Inc. Nicole is delighted to work with Center REP and would like to thank her friends and family for their amazing support.



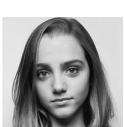
Heather Kellogg (Martha Cratchit) recently graduated from UCLA's school of Theater, Film, and Television, and is happily living back in the East Bay. She just finished playing Anya in Haggood Theatre's production of *The Cherry Orchard*. While at UCLA favorite roles included *Copenhagen* (Margrethe), *The Tempest* (Prospero), *Toyer* (Maude), and *Titus Adronicus* (Nurse/Beast). She was also a founding member and regular performer of UCLA's Rapid Fire Improv. During the summer she teaches at Center REP's Young REP Conservatory and is happy to be a part of The Ballet School's new Performing Arts Studio. Much love to her parents for all their support. "Hope is the dream of a soul awake."



Britt Lauer (Dorit / Fauna Fezziwig) is thrilled to be working, once again, with this wonderful cast and crew to present this holiday classic! Britt received her BA in Theatre from Willamette University where favorite roles included: *Antigone* (*Antigone*), *Maureen* (*The Beauty Queen of Leeanne*), *Crystal* (*The Women*), and *Gwendolyn* (*The Importance of Being Earnest*). A former Young REP student, Britt is delighted to be spending her summers as a teacher on the Young REP staff. She wishes you a Happy Holiday season and a joyful New Year!



Olivia Lowe (Belinda) is thrilled to rejoin the *Christmas Carol* family for the second time. Olivia was most recently seen as Scout in *To Kill A Mockingbird* (Center REP). She has also been part of Center REP's Young REP program for the past three years and has enjoyed every single second of it. Olivia wants to thank her parents for driving her to and from the theater until she gets her license. She hopes everyone has a lovely Holiday season!



Sara Moore (Charwoman) enjoys a diverse career in the performing arts. An acclaimed physical comedian, she has created, directed and performed material for Ringling Bros. and Barnum & Bailey Circus, The Krofft Puppets, Royal Caribbean International, Merv Griffin Productions, The New Pickle Circus, SF Circus Center and Make*A*Circus! She has also appeared in ridiculous character roles for Regional Theatre and Off-Broadway as well as in her critically acclaimed one-woman show, *Show Ho*, which just had a stellar run at New Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco! She has taught Acting, Physical Theatre and Clowning for SUNY/Purchase, The Clown Conservatory, and most proudly here at The Leshner Center's Young REP Program. Sara has also been the recipient of numerous awards and grants for everything from Acting to Screenwriting and she is now Artistic Director for Barbary Coast Amusements, a San Francisco-based company specializing in "thrill ride theatre!"



Marty Newton (Rudge/Marlet/Boz) can't remember if this is his 4th year or 5th year with Center REP's *A Christmas Carol*, but he's just excited to be a part of this production as if it were his first! Marty took the year off from performing to focus on work at Levi Strauss & Company in the City and is the Sr. Allocator for the Levi.com Online business. He'd love to be performing more, but right now the job takes up a huge chunk of his time and like most, is just happy to HAVE a job. He encourages everyone to help support the economy and go online to shop this holiday season; one brand in particular! Marty is a huge fan of the San Francisco 49ers and is excited for their showing so far this season!



Jason Pedroza (Future/Dick Wilkins/Marlet/Barkis) is filled with Christmas cheer to be back for his third year in Center REP's *A Christmas Carol!* He was last seen on the Hoffman stage in CCMT's *Little Shop of Horrors* as the Puppeteer for the Man-Eating plant, Audrey II. Jason teaches for Center REP's Young REP Actors Training program and the new Performing Arts Studio at The Ballet School. Jason is a proud member of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, Thanks & Love to Amanda, All of The Pedroza's, The Pirazzi's, The Perry's, The Denison's & his amazing friends!



Jeanine Perasso (Mrs. Fezziwig/Laundress) Once again the holidays are upon us, and Jeanine is thrilled to be back with her *Christmas Carol* family! For over 10 years she has had the good fortune to be able to celebrate this time of year in the past and the present as we look to the future. Jeanine is a proud member of FFAE, a current CCMT board member, and enjoys performing, spending time with her wonderful family and traveling.



Grace Perry (Lizzie) is a proud student of Lareen Fender's The Ballet School Performing Arts, where she studies ballet and tap. She takes theatre classes with the Performing Arts Studio all held at The Ballet School. Grace is in the first grade and loves to take Kung-Fu with her Dad at Concord Kung-Fu Academy. Grace will next appear in *Once Upon a Christmas* as a toady Soldier.



Jennifer Perry (Past/Choreographer) has been teaching Ballet and Theatre classes for over 18 years. She was lucky to have studied and trained with her grandmother, Lareen Fender at The Ballet School. Favorite roles include: Cassie (*A Chorus Line*), Frenchy (*Grease*), Bonnie Jean (*Brigadoon*), Louise (*Carousel*), Mary Warren (*Crucible*), Jennie Mae (*Diviners*), Ghost of Christmas Past (*A Christmas Carol*) Shellie Nominee, Suzy Hendrix (*Wait Until Dark*) and Bonnie (*Anything Goes*) Choreography credits include: *Hairspray*, *A Chorus Line* (BATCCA), *Cinderella* (Shellie Award Winner) *Disney's Beauty and The Beast*. Directing credits Include: *A Chorus Line* (BATCCA), *OKLAHOMA!* (Shellie Award), *42nd Street*, and *Gyps and Dolls* all for Contra Costa Musical Theatre. Jennifer is a proud member of Fantasy Forum Actor's Ensemble www.fantasyforum.org and is thrilled to be going into her 17th year of teaching for Center REP's Young REP Acting Training Program, where she serves as co-director of the Musical Theatre Program. Jennifer is the Casting Director for Center REPeritory Company. By day Jennifer is the owner and director of Lareen Fender's The Ballet School Performing Arts which is home to the Performing Arts Studio. www.theballetschool.org



Jack Powell* (Ebenezer Scrooge) returns to Center REP for a eighth season of cranky, crotchety, ill tempered and irritable misbehavior. (As well as a bit of fear, awe, and joyous celebration.) He has performed in various theatres in the Bay Area, going back to 1963, including Berkeley Rep, Aurora Theatre, Marin Theatre Co., San Francisco Shakespeare Co., and Marin Shakespeare Co. He toured with the National Shakespeare Co. and played Sir George Thunder in the New York premiere of *Wild Oats*. Various roles include Vilhelm Foldal in *John Gabriel Borkman* at Aurora Theatre, Gloucester in *King Lear*, Higgins in *Pygmalion*, Pickering in *My Fair Lady*, Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*, Falstaff in *Merry Wives of Windsor*, Norman Thayer Jr. in *On Golden Pond*, Hapagon in *The Miser*, and Dr. Paramore in *The Philanderer* for which he received a Dean Goodman Award. Various TV credits include roles on *Nash Bridges* and *Midnight Caller*.



Barbara Reynolds (Miss Skiffins - Soprano) is delighted to return for her 15th season as part of Center REP's *Christmas Carol* family. She is a summa cum laude graduate of UCLA with a degree in music, with favorite local roles including *Ragtime* (Mother), *The 1940s Radio Hour* (Ann Collier) and *She Loves Me* (Amalia) for South Bay Musical Theatre; *The Dollar Princess* (Alice Conder) and *The Most Happy Fella* (Rosabella) for Lyric Theatre; *H.M.S. Pinafore* (Josephine) with the Lamplighters; *The Secret Garden* (Lily) for Theatre in the Mountains; *A Little Night Music* (Mrs. Nordstrom) and *Ragtime* with TheatreWorks; and *Show Boat* for Foothill Music Theatre (Dean Goodman Choice award as Magnolia).



Tim Reynolds (Mr. Tiffey - Tenor) celebrates his 15th year as part of the *Christmas Carol* quartet. Recent credits include *Anything Goes* (Lord Evelyn), *The Producers* (Leo Bloom), *Bat Boy* (Dr. Parker) and *Brigadoon* (Dean Goodman Choice award as Tommy) with Foothill Music Theatre; *Urinetown* (Lockstock) with Sunnyvale Community Players; *Nine* (Guido Contini), *The Full Monty* (Harold) and *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Pilate) with City Lights Theatre Company of San Jose; and *Chicago* (Billy Flynn), *Ragtime* (Tateh), *The 1940s Radio Hour* (Johnny Cantone) and *She Loves Me* (Georg) for South Bay Musical Theatre; and *The Story of My Life* (Thomas Weaver) and *Follies* (Ben Stone) for The Tabard Theatre Company. He holds a theater degree from Northwestern University.



Joel Roster (Undertaker/Mr. Boxer/Pip) is honored to rejoin his *Christmas Carol* family for his eighth year. A familiar face in the Bay Area theatre community over the last decade, Mr. Roster has been honored with two East Bay Shellie Awards for his work in *South Pacific* (Luther Billis, CCMT) and *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* (Edward Sheridan, DAE). He currently serves as Town Hall Theatre's Director of Education in Lafayette, where he resides with his best friend and love Ginny. He wishes to dedicate this show to his dad, and to everyone who may be in need of holiday spirit.



Kevin Sanchez (Nigel Woodward/Snuff Box) is very excited to join this incredible cast for his fifth year! His stage credits include roles as Bob Bradley in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and as Bertram Cates in *Inherit the Wind*. An executive board member of the Diabolo Regional Arts Association, Kevin dedicates his performance to everyone in our community who supports the Leshner Center for the Arts.



Kristina Schoell (Fan) is honored to return to Center REP's *A Christmas Carol* as Fan for her third year. Past productions include: *The Wizard of Oz*, *Annie*, *Into the Woods*, *Will Roger's Follies* (Diabolo Theatre Company), *Evita* (CCMT), *Music Man* (Tri-Valley Rep), and *The Sound of Music* (Vagabond Players). Kristina has enjoyed Young REP's intensive theatre training program and Musical Theatre Conservatory the past three summers. She studies ballet, tap and jazz at The Ballet School and voice with Lucia Scardigno. Kristina wishes you and your family a joyous holiday season. Enjoy the show!



Kerri Shawn (Mrs. Cratchit) Last May Kerri proudly portrayed the role of Ann Landers in Center REP's Off Center production of *The Lady with All the Answers*. She is grateful to cap 2011 by returning to her *A Christmas Carol* family once again in the role of Mrs. Cratchit. Next spring she will join the illustrious cast of Center REP's *Rumors*. Kerri serves as Co-Director of Education for Center REP with Jeffrey Draper, and together they head up the Young Rep Training Program. Kerri has also loved working with CCMT, Marin Theatre Company, PlayGround, The Eugene O'Neill Foundation, and is a resident company member with Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble.



Luke Sommer (Tiny Tim) is a third grader at Vista Grande Elementary School in Danville. This is his debut performance in *A Christmas Carol* with Center REP. Luke has trained in musical theatre with the Young Actors Studio at The Ballet School and in his free time enjoys playing baseball, skiing and is currently a purple belt in karate. He is very excited and honored to be a part of this production.



Scott Strain (Mr. Fezziwig/Pancks) is thrilled to join *A Christmas Carol* after years of stealing letters next door. Scott has performed throughout the Bay Area with CCMT, DTC, Woodminster, Willows, CCCT and others. Favorites include *Beauty and the Beast* (Cogsworth), *Cinderella* (Lionel), *42nd Street* (Bert), *Titanic* (Charles Clarke), *Annie* (Rooster) and *Gyps and Dolls* (Nicely), for which he won a Shellie Award. He has also been the producer for recent Leshner Center hits *RENT* and *Little Shop of Horrors* for CCMT. He toured with the Scarlet & Cream Singers at the University of Nebraska, is a proud member of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble and an alum of Young Rep, which he shares in common with his son Grant. His Christmas wish is for everyone to support local theatre, so you've helped make his wish come true!



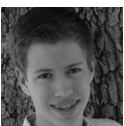
Molly Thornton (Miss Augustus - Alto) is pleased to be making her fourth appearance this year as "strolling Alto underscoring in Victorian garb." Other favorite credits include *Nine* (La Fleur/CLTC), *Urinetown* (Pennyywh/SCP), *The Who's Tommy* (Mrs. Walker/CLTC), *Chicago* (Mama Morton/SBMT), *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza/SDG), *The Goodbye Girl* (Paula / Bus Barn), *Kiss Me Kate* (Kate / WVLOA / ERMA Award) and *The Will Rogers Follies* (Betty Blake/CCMT / Shellie



Award). Much love to James and Nicole for their continued support of my theatrical passion, and to the other three members of the quartet for sharing in great music and great friendship (as well as pretty decent wine and cheese at quartet rehearsals).



Alison Valentine (Lavinia) is delighted to be making her Center REP debut. She appeared as a cut dancer in *A Chorus Line* (CCMT). Other credits include *Curtains* (DTC), *25th Annual... Spelling Bee*, *Much Ado*, *Tempest*, *Godspell*. She loved working backstage for Center REP's *Smokey Joe's Café*. She trains with Young REPeritory; studies ballet, tap, and theatre dance at Lareen Fender's The Ballet School; and studies voice with Ahmed El Gasseir. A high school senior, Alison enjoys scuba diving and skiing. She thanks her family for all their love and support.



Kyle Valentine (Peter Cratchit/Georgie) is thrilled to be back with his *Christmas Carol* family. Most recently he appeared in CCMT's *Hairspray*. Other credits include *Big River* (CCCT) and *OKLAHOMA!* (CCMT). Kyle has great fun working backstage for Center REP productions - *The Storytelling Ability Of A Boy* (ASM), *Smokey Joe's Café* (A2), *The Lady With All The Answers* (ASM), *Becoming Britney* (ASM), and *She Loves Me*. He trains with Young REP, studies dance at Lareen Fender's The Ballet School, and studies voice with Ahmed El Gasseir. A high school freshman, Kyle enjoys soccer, scuba diving, and skiing. He thanks his family for all their love and support.



Michael Wiles* (Fred) makes his 10th appearance in *A Christmas Carol* with Center REP, where he was also seen as Dr. Seward in *Dracula* and as Tom Wingfield in *The Glass Menagerie*. Other stage credits include work with the American Conservatory Theater (*Edward 2*, *A Christmas Carol*), Aurora Theatre Company (*The Persians*), Berkeley Repertory Theater (*Master Class*, *The Oresteia*), California Shakespeare Theatre (*Romeo and Juliet*, *As You Like It*, *Scapin*), Capital Stage Company (*Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *Master Class*, *Fat Pig*), Marin Shakespeare Company (*King Lear*, *Macbeth*, *Much Ado*), Pacific Alliance Stage Company (*Doubt*, *All My Sons*, *Betrayal*), Pacific Repertory Theater (*A Number*, *Eurydice*). San Francisco Shakespeare Festival (*Pericles*, *Love's Labour's Lost*) and Tacoma Actor's Guild (*Twelfth Night*). Also a pianist and music director, he has served in that capacity on over 100 professional productions. Michael is the resident Musical Director for Fantasy Forum Actor's Ensemble, and is the co-director of Center REP's Musical Theater Conservatory.



Michael Ray Wisely* (Present) feels great joy returning for another year with his daughter, Olivia, in *A Christmas Carol*. 2011 marks his 15th appearance with the company as well as a decade sharing this Dickens classic with the Bay Area. Well known to Bay Area audiences, Michael Ray has performed locally and at other West Coast theatres for over 20 years. Credits include: Berkeley Repertory Theatre, TheatreWorks, Aurora Theatre Co., Magic Theatre, SF Shakespeare, San Jose Stage, San Jose Repertory, American Musical Theatre, Marin Shakespeare and many others. Michael Ray has starred and guest-starred in television movies and series. His next project for Center REP will be the upcoming production of *Arms and the Man*.



Olivia DelRay Wisely (Molly/Polly) makes her 6th appearance with her father in *A Christmas Carol*. She began her performing career in the womb as "a sonogram" in a commercial for a local hospital. Nine years young, her other credits include: *As You Like It*, for California's Shakespeare Theatre's conservatory, *Nickel and Dimed* and *The Imaginary Invalid* at Los Positas College in Livermore, as an M.C. for her schools' talent show and a Video for the San Jose Tech Museum. She is a 4th grader at Harding Elementary in El Cerrito.

CREATIVE TEAM

Scott Denison (Director/Managing Director) has been a leader in the Arts for 37 years for Walnut Creek and the surrounding communities. Under Denison's guidance for the last 21 years as General Manager for the Leshner Center for the Arts, he oversees over 850 public events each year. He coordinates performing arts activities with over 85 producers and producing organizations. He is also the Managing Director of the Center REPeritory Company producing 8 professional productions each season; and is the director and co-founder of Fantasy Forum Actors Ensemble, an adult family performing arts company which presents programs for the young and Young at Heart. Scott directed CCMT's hits *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, *Hairspray*, and for the past 13 seasons Center REP's *A Christmas Carol*. Denison has directed over 150 productions including most recently REP's *The Lady with All the Answers* starring Kerri Shawn. In 1979 he created the Shellie Awards, which annually honors outstanding performing arts achievement in Contra Costa county. In 2007 he created the Chevron Family Theatre Festival bringing adult nationally acclaimed performances together for one day performing to over 7,000 guests of all ages.