

## CREATIVE TEAM

**Scott Denison** (*Director/Managing Director*) has been a leader in the Arts for 40 years for Walnut Creek and the surrounding communities. Under Denison's guidance for the last 23 years as General Manager for the Leshler 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 7 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 REP's *The Lady with All the Answers* starring Kerri Shawn. This spring, he will direct *Les Misérables*. 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.

**Michael Wiles\*** (*Music Director*) is pleased to return to Center REP where he music directed last season's production of *A Christmas Carol*. Michael is the Co-Founder, Co-Director, and Musical Director of Center REP's Young REP Musical Theater Conservatory. He is also the resident Music Director for Fantasy Forum Actor's Ensemble, and the Young Actor's Studio at The Performing Arts School. He has served as Music Director and Accompanist/Keyboardist on over 100 productions including *Children of Eden* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* at Contra Costa Civic Theater, *9 to 5* at The Willows Theater, *Much Ado About Nothing* at Pacific Repertory Theater, *Master Class* with Capital Stage Company, and *Pericles* at San Francisco Shakespeare Festival. His music directing credits also include work with the San Francisco Opera Guild, Redwood High School, Peninsula Youth Theater, YES Foundation, Berkeley Repertory Theater School of Theater, and Grandstreet Theater School for Youth. He studied at the Idyllwild School of Music and the Arts, and has a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle.

**Kelly James Tighe** (*Scenic Designer*) Off Broadway/National Tours *The Great Divorce* (World Premiere), *The Fantasticks*, *Almost Heaven*, *The Time of Mendel's Trouble*, *Nunsense* (Anniversary production at the Cherry Lane), *Movin' Out*, *Cats*, *Shear Madness*, *Mooseltoe: A New Moostical*, *101 Dalmatians*, *TRIUMPH* (Las Vegas Hilton). Regional: San Jose Rep, Laguna Playhouse, Michigan's Cherry County Playhouse, Arts Center of Coastal Carolina, Sacramento Theater Company, Diablo Theater Company, Contra Costa Musical Theater, Center REPeritory Company, Gateway Playhouse. Several National Television shows and commercials including Disney, KitKat, Oxygen Network, Animal Planet, etc. Online at Kellyjamestighe.com.

**Jennifer Perry** (*Swing/Dance Captain*) has been teaching Ballet and Theatre classes for over 20 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: *Sweet Charity* (Center REP), *Xanadu!* (Center REP), *Joseph and the Amazing... Hairspray* (BATCCA, Shellie Award), *A Chorus Line* (BATCCA), *Cinderella* (Shellie Award Winner) *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*. Directing credits include: *Joseph and the Amazing...*, *A Chorus Line* (BATCCA), *OKLAHOMA!* (Shellie Award), *42nd Street*, and *Guys 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 19th 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

**Jeff Mockus** (*Sound Designer*) has designed sound for Center REP's *Old Wicked Songs*, *Xanadu*, *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' *Little Women*, *Being Earnest*, *Big River*, *Of Mice and Men*, *The Secret Garden*, *Fly By Night*, *Superior Donuts*, and [title of show]. American Conservatory Theater's *Clybourne Park*, California Shakespeare Theatre's *Miss Warren's Profession*, and San Jose Repertory's *Legacy of Light*. Other work includes world premieres of *Tracy's Tiger* for Oregon Shakespeare Festival and *Lend Me A Tenor: The Musical* for Utah Shakespearean Festival; the soundscapes for Yosemite National Park's redesigned visitor's center exhibits, and the original score for Legoland California's firework spectacular, *A Spark in The Knight*.

**John Earls** (*Lighting Designer*) DRAA *On Broadway/Leshler Arts Center Anniversary: Spring Awakening*, *The Lady with All the Answers*, *A Christmas Carol* (Off Center/Center REP), *Sunset Boulevard*, *Oklahoma!*, *42nd Street*-Shellie Award, *Cinderella*-Shellie Award (CCMT); *Leshler Speaker Series-News-makers*; *Chevron Family Theatre Festival*; *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.


**Jeff Collister\*** (*Production Stage Manager*) is an avid San Francisco Giants fan and is really looking forward to the 2014 season! 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 Center REP's *Xanadu* as well as *Urinetown*, *The Musical*, and *Grease* for Contra Costa Musical Theatre. Jeff will direct *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* for REP next spring. 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.

**Alex Logemann** (*Deck Manager*) is celebrating his 40th 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 worked backstage 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. "I have found that among its other benefits, giving liberates the soul of the giver." - Maya Angelou. Happy Holidays!

**Derek Lux** (*Puppet Designer*) is an award winning puppet designer, puppet builder, puppeteer, and actor based in Los Angeles. Selected puppet building credits include *How I Met Your Mother*; *Walk by the Foo Fighters*; and *Shrek The Musical* for which he received a 2013 Ovation Honor Award for Puppet Design. In Los Angeles, he was mentored by Swizzle, a full service puppet production company and soon was sought out for professional puppet building. He developed the curriculum and taught courses at Puppet School, Los Angeles' only formal puppet training ground. As a puppeteer he most recently wrapped the first season of *88 Jade Way* for the YOMYOMF network, and can be seen regularly in *Puppet Town* (partnered with Nerdist Industries) at the Nerdmelt Showroom on Sunset Boulevard. Special thanks to Scott Denison and Jeff Collister! www.dluxpuppets.com.

**Michael Butler** (*Artistic Director*) This is Michael's eighth season as Artistic Director of Center REP, where his directing credits include *Don't Dress for Dinner*, *The Underpants*, *A Number*, *Dracula*, *Boeing-Boeing* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*, as well as the Shellie and 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*, *Noises Off* and *Rumors*. 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.

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	CITY MANAGER Ken Nordhoff
ARTS COMMISSION Joe Bologna, Chair Jane Emanuel, Vice Chair Polly Bradbury Glynnis Cowdery Carol Fowler	DIRECTOR Arts, Recreation and Community Services Barry Gordon

 Center REPeritory Company		Managing Director - Scott Denison Artistic Director - Michael Butler		
<i>Production Services</i> Coordinator <b>Toni Kiloayne</b> Technical Staff <b>Steve Pino</b> <b>John Earls</b> <b>Michael Arlen</b> <b>Chris Currie</b> <b>Kieren McEntee</b> <b>Garrick Schuster</b> <b>Stephen Speiss</b> <b>Josh Stouffer</b> <b>Hans Weichhart</b> <i>Costumes</i> Costume Manager <b>Max Alenson</b>	<i>Costumer</i> <b>Michael A. Berg</b> Dresser <b>Edie Olson</b> Puppet Designer <b>Derek Lux</b> Casting Director <b>Jennifer Perry</b> <i>Marketing</i> Marketing Director <b>Gabe Marin</b> Marketing Assistant <b>Ariel Brewer</b> <i>Education</i> Education Directors <b>Jeff Draper</b> <b>Kerri Shawn</b>	<i>Audience Services</i> Coordinator <b>Courtney Egg</b> Ticket Office Staff <b>Jeremiah Vierling</b> <b>Robert Nolan</b> <b>Andrea Toney</b> <b>Jennifer Haga</b> <b>Kiersten Jones</b> <b>Karla Kopffhammer</b> <b>Britt Lauer</b> <b>Trevor Owen</b> <b>Hans Weichhart</b> Usher Coordinator <b>Kevin Challand</b>	<i>Production</i> Production Manager <b>Jeff Collister</b> <i>Technical</i> Technical Director <b>Joshua Lipps</b> Master Electrician <b>Will Poulin</b> Additional Special Effects Design <b>Lyle Barrere</b> Carpenters <b>Matthew Hougey</b> <b>Gabriel Johnson</b> <b>Jordan Scott</b> <b>Chris Swartzell</b>	Asst. Stage Manager/Props Coordinator <b>Joe Coe</b> Deck Manager <b>Alex Logemann</b> Quartet Manager <b>Barbara Reynolds</b> Production Assistants <b>Lyle Barrere</b> <b>Kourtney McCrary</b> <i>Administration</i> Asst. to the Managing Director <b>Gail Pfeifer</b> Program <b>Linda Nomura</b>

## OUR SPONSORS

**Chevron** (Season Sponsor) has been the leading corporate sponsor of Center REP and the Leshler Center for the Arts for the past nine 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 Leshler 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.

**Leshler Foundation** (Foundation Sponsor) Since 1994, the Dean & Margaret Leshler 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 Leshler, 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 Leshler's estate in 1993 and 1995. In 1997, an additional endowment from Dean Leshler's estate followed the death of Margaret Leshler. A significant and final bequest from Mr. Leshler'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 Leshler 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 Leshler 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.

## ABOUT CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

Center REP is the resident, professional theatre company of the Leshler Center for the Arts. Our season consists of seven 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 Leshler Center for the Arts. Thank you for your support!



# CENTER REPERTORY COMPANY

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  
**Michael Wiles**  
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 12 - 22, 2013  
Leshler Center for the Arts

Season  
Sponsor



Season Partner



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



