

In the wings...

Auditions for **Dial M for Murder**

Auditions for *Dial M for Murder* will be held from **6:00-8:00 pm on Monday and Tuesday, November 11th and 12th**, at the Parkside Playhouse. The small cast consists of adults, age 20 to 40: one woman, two men, and two characters that can be cast as either male or female. The performance dates for this suspense-filled tale of money, love, and murder (via telephone) are 31 January and 1, 2, 7, and 8 February.

Call for Fairy Tale Theatre 2003 Student & Apprentice Directors

Students who are interested in applying to be a student or apprentice directors for the 2003 session may send letters or e-mail to Jo Beth Britt at 2205 Mount Alban Road, Vicksburg or <jbbr.seren.shel@usa.net>. In order to apply for a *student director*, the student must be at least 16 years old, or 12 years old for *apprentice directing*. Letters must be postmarked no later than **December 31st, 2002**.

Plans for the 2003 session of Fairy Tales are underway, and the dates have been selected as June 26th-30th. Fairy Tales operates as a totally VOLUNTEER organization. Adults who are interested in being involved are welcome to contact Jo Beth Britt, Beth Martin, or Marie Cunningham.

Gold in the Hills Auditions

Gold in the Hills auditions will be held from **2-4 pm on Jan. 4th, 2003** at the Parkside Playhouse. All parts are being auditioned: drama, singing, and dancing. There is a need for younger people to fill the parts of Tommy/Tammy (around 6-10 years old) and Barbara (around 10-17 years old) as the actors "outgrow" the parts and take on older characters. There is a need for can-can dancers (female any age) and males all ages. Basically we have a potential part for anyone over 6 years of age and in good health. *Gold* welcomes new faces; experience is not required. Traits sought are talent, effort, patience, reliability, and respect for your fellow actors.

Souvenir mugs and garters are available at *Paper Plus* downtown. For more information about *Gold*, visit the *Gold in the Hills* web site at <http://www.vicksburg.com/~gold>

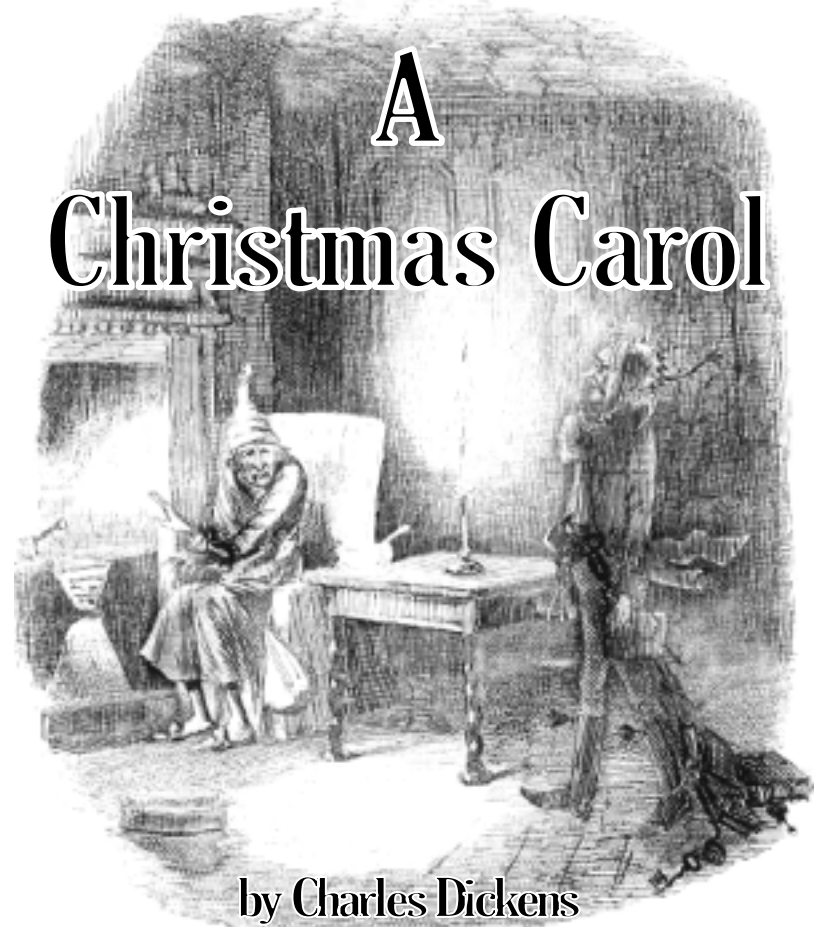
Harvey Auditions!

Open auditions for parts for 6 men/6 women will be held **Feb. 3rd and 4th, 2003 from 6:30-8:30 pm** at the Parkside Playhouse. No experience necessary!

For more information, please contact director Jason Fairchild at 636-5021 or <jason@domesofa.com>.

Vicksburg Theatre Guild
presents...

A Christmas Carol



by Charles Dickens

adapted for VTG by Garrett Wallace

8, 9, 10, 15, 16, 17 November 2002

Parkside Playhouse
Vicksburg, Mississippi
601-636-0471

<http://www.e-vtg.com/>
<http://www.vicksburg.com/~gold>

Dickens' introduction to *A Christmas Carol*

I have endeavored in this Ghostly little book, to raise the Ghost of an Idea, which shall not put my readers out of humor with themselves, with each other; with the season, or with me. May it haunt their houses pleasantly, and no one wish to lay it

Their faithful Friend and Servant,

C. D.

December, 1843.

Directors Letter

Something worth having demands a good deal of effort, and, more often than not, turns out requiring significantly more effort than one bargains for. This production is no exception. Some months ago when I decided to write an original adaptation of this Christmas classic it seemed like a perfectly reasonable and sane notion. Besides, how hard could it be? It won't take any time at all! Writing this a little more than a week before opening, the only thing that remains true about those last few statements is that it was a notion. I know one thing for sure, the guy who gets the Oscar for "Best screen-play from a previously published work" earned every bit of it, and then some. Outside of the decision to make this an original work, nothing about this project has been easy. The most irksome challenge was staying true to the book and not using something from one of the many adaptations already in existence. Not easy when there are at least two major motion pictures, a handful of "made for TV" specials, one or two modern retellings, a musical, and several animated features. I lost count of how many times that what I thought of as a clever idea turned out to have already been thought of. After too many re-writes I had to change my thinking from "darn, already has been done" to "great minds think alike". Since an original script deserves an even more original presentation, the set design had to be unique. My stage crew agrees that I succeeded in this effort; they would, however, use a different adjective no doubt.

That being said, I would be remiss if I didn't acknowledge the efforts of some very special people. Here at VTG we are a rather large extended family, all pitching in when the need arises, but with a few who give above and beyond. A special thanks to Andy, Phyllis, Jason, and Bob, I couldn't have done it without y'all. And to my Assistant Director and good right hand, Dorothy, thanks so much for keeping me organized and motivated. Sometimes you poked and prodded, other times you tugged and pulled, it worked and always got the desired results. Thank you.

Christmastime seems to come earlier each year, and with what used to start after Thanksgiving now starting after Labor Day, it is hard not to become jaded and forget the spirit of the season. That, after all, is what "A Christmas Carol" is all about, reminding us not so much of the reason for the season but rather what He expects of us now, and all the year through. It is my profound wish that in presenting this production at this time we could, in some small way, start your Christmas off on the right foot.

From ours to yours, Merry Christmas; and in the words of Tiny Tim, "God bless us, every one."



VTG season membership is a great value!

If you plan to regularly attend our performances, consider a season membership. Our regular memberships cost you half what you would pay to buy tickets separately. *All* of your membership dues go directly to support our stage productions and our facility.

As a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization with no salaried staff and no grant funding, we pay all operating expenses (including the mortgage, utilities, insurance, and building maintenance) through season memberships, ticket sales, advertising, and donations.

Regular Memberships

| | |
|---|------|
| Individual (1 ticket*) | \$35 |
| Senior Citizen (55 & over) (1 ticket*) | \$30 |
| Student (college and under) (1 ticket*) | \$20 |
| Associate (no tickets) | \$20 |
| Child (12 & under) (1 ticket*) | \$15 |
| Family (tickets* for parents | \$80 |
| & children in immediate family) | |

Special Memberships

| | |
|--|-------|
| Patron (2 tickets*) | \$100 |
| Angel (2 tickets*) | \$125 |
| Family Angel (tickets* for parents | \$160 |
| & children in immediate family) | |
| Benefactor (6 tickets*) | \$250 |
| Capital Patron (8 tickets*) | \$500 |

Business Memberships

| | |
|--|---------|
| Small Business (4 tickets*) | \$250 |
| Business (6 tickets*) | \$400 |
| Corporate (12 tickets*) | \$800 |
| Sponsor (20 tickets* for sponsored | \$2,000 |
| show, full-page program ad) | |

* Each ticket entitles every member to attend 1 performance of each *main stage* play, 1 *Gold in the Hills* performance during each of the Spring and Summer runs, and 1 *Fairy Tale Theatre* performance.

Since VTG is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization, tax-deductible donations may be made, as provided in Section 170 of the U.S. Internal Revenue Code.

Business members receive:

- one ad, in a program of choice,
- additional ads at a reduced price,
- a listing in all main stage programs, and
- tickets for each play.

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- The Collage
- Totes/Isotoner
- Tots-To-Teens
- Van Heusen
- Vitamin World
- Welcome Home

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Dedication

To my parents, who taught me the joy of celebrating Christmas.
To my daughters, Shannon and Milleigh, who taught me to see the wonder.
To my grandchildren, Ty and Kayleigh, who have renewed my spirit.
But most of all to God, for so loving the world, that he gave his only begotten Son
The Reason for the Season

GW, November 2002



*As For
Soul?*

Join us for our exciting 2002-2003 season!

As the oldest chartered community theatre in Mississippi, Vicksburg Theatre Guild has offered live theatre for over 65 years, first on the original Playhouse stage on Bowmar Avenue and now at our Parkside Playhouse location. Our 2002-2003 season will be filled with music, drama, and comedy. We hope you will join us this season at your theatre.

Remaining 2002-2003 VTG Season

Dial M for Murder

by Frederick Knott

Auditions: 11 & 12 Nov 2002
Performances: 31 Jan, 1, 2, 7, 8 Feb 2003

Harvey

by Mary Chase

Auditions: 2 & 3 Feb 2003
Performances: 9-11, 16, 17 May 2003

Gold in the Hills

an 1890's melodrama

Auditions: 4 Jan 2003
Performances:
14, 15, 21, 22, 28, 29 Mar; 4, 5, 11, 12 Apr
11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26 Jul; 1, 2 Aug 2003

Fairy Tale Theatre 2003

youth theatre

Auditions: Spring 2003
Performances: 26-30 Jun 2003

VTG Life members made a major financial investment to support the best interests of your theatre. We honored by their commitment.

Life Members

Mr. & Mrs. Gene Allen
 Mary Barksdale & Ken Parks
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 Mr. Jack Branning
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 Warren County Board of Supervisors



Visit us on the web at
<http://www.e-vtg.com>
<http://www.vicksburg.com/~gold>

**For further information, call
 601-636-0471**

*Paper*plus

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Thanks to Keep Vicksburg-Warren Beautiful, Inc!

Keep Vicksburg-Warren Beautiful, Inc selected VTG as its beautification project for 2002! They are sponsoring landscaping of the Parkside Playhouse by Faulk's Lawn & Garden. To raise money for the project, they sold raffle tickets and held a fund-raising party. We are grateful for their support.

2002-2003 VTG Board of Directors

President Jason Fairchild
 Past President Marie Cunningham
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 Gold Producer Barry McCleave
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 Fairy Tale Theatre Jo Beth Britt, Beth Martin
 Youth Member Meggie Welch
 Costumes Earlene McCleave, Talitha Mosely

Our Season

A Christmas Carol is the second exciting offering in this season of live entertainment from Vicksburg Theatre Guild. We hope that you enjoy this season.

2002-2003 memberships started 1 August 2002. Contact Mike Calnan or Terry Welch at the box office if you wish to join.

Comments

If you have suggestions for our programs or newsletters, please contact Mike Calnan at 601-638-2395 or Comments@e-vtg.com.

Mailing List

If you want to receive VTG newsletters and brochures, please fill out an address card at the Box Office. (Season members are automatically on the mailing list.)

"E dash VTG"


Visit our web site—E dash VTG <<http://www.e-vtg.com>> for up-to-date information about your theatre, including pictures, schedules, and membership information.




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Vicksburg Chamber Choir
presents
Ralph Vaughan Williams' Christmas
Cantata



7:30 pm, Saturday 23 November
First Baptist Church
1607 Cherry St., Vicksburg



VTG Special and Business members make an extra financial contribution beyond the cost of basic membership. We are deeply grateful for their support, and for the confidence they have placed in us.

SPECIAL and BUSINESS MEMBERS

Capital Patron

Mr. & Mrs. Mike & Karen Calnan

Benefactor

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Lobred

Business Members

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Southern Beverage

A Christmas Carol

by Charles Dickens
adapted for VTG by Garrett Wallace

Cast

Ebenezer Scrooge Andy Szuwalski
Bob Cratchit..... Jason Fairchild
Fred Phil Thornton
Marley's Ghost..... Bob Alvarado
Spirits: Past Donna Normand Hardy
Present..... Mark Jourdan
Future Andrea Fairchild
Solicitors..... Kevin Westbrook, Jr., Will Halpin
Scrooge as child..... Ryan Van Den Akker
Scrooge as young man..... Reed Whitney
Fan..... Lacey Leist
Mr. Fezziwig Richard Van Den Akker
Dick Wilkins Daniel Martin
Fiddler Mark McCann
Mrs. Fezziwig..... Glenda Arredondo
Belle Rebecca Mae Nelson
Party Guests Andrea Fairchild,
Anne Weathersby, Michael Kintz, John Myers
Belle's Children Ashtin Giambrone, Sonia Rose Arredondo
Belle's Husband..... Gerry Allen
Mrs. Cratchit..... Beth Martin
Belinda Cratchit..... Avery Burrell
Peter Cratchit Zach Booth
Cratchit Twins Haley Hardy, Kevin Arredondo
Martha Cratchit Emilee Booth
Tiny Tim Kiefer Slaton
Janet Meggie Welch
Topper Jared Lambiotte
Elizabeth..... Nikki Jobe
Edward Michael Kintz
Samantha..... Anne Weathersby
Ignorance..... Ryan Van Den Akker
Want Katie Martin
Businessmen..... Reed Whitney, Gerry Allen, Bob Alvarado
Old Joe..... Richard Van Den Akker
Mrs. Dilber Dorothy Tuccio
Mrs. Beadle..... Antoinette Anderson
Mrs. Twilling Joetta Braddock
Caroline Anne Weathersby
Caroline's Children..... Emily Beene, Fiona Weathersby, Lauren Proctor
Caroline's Husband..... John Myers
Young Boy..... Hunter Myers
Waifs..... Kevin Arredondo, Emily Beene, Ashtin Giambrone,
Ceciley Myers, Hunter Myers, Fiona Weathersby

Scenes

Stave 1: Marley's Ghost

Scene 1—A London Shop Street, 1870
Scene 2—Scrooge's Counting House, 1865, the present
Scene 3—The Shop Street, the present
Scene 4—Scrooge's Room, the present

Stave 2: The First of the Three Spirits, Christmas Past

Scene 1—Scrooge's Room, the present
Scene 2—A School Room, 1811
The Same Room, 1818
Scene 3—Fezziwig's, merchant, 1820
Fezziwig's, 1823
Scene 4—Belle's Home, 1833
Scene 5—Scrooge's Room, the present

Stave 3: The Second of the Three Spirits, Christmas Present

Scene 1—Scrooge's Room, the present
Scene 2—The Cratchit Home, the present
Scene 3—Fred's Home, Scrooge's nephew, the present
Scene 4—The Shop Street, the present

Stave 4: The Last of the Spirits, Christmas Future

Scene 1—The Shop Street, the future
Scene 2—Old Joe's, a rag and bone man, the future
The Body
Caroline's Family, a debtors wife
Scene 3—The Cratchit Home, the future
Scene 4—A Grave, the future

Stave 5: The End of It

Scene 1—Scrooge's Room, the present
Scene 2—Scrooge's Courtyard, the present
Scene 3—Fred's Home, the present
Scene 4—Scrooge's Counting House, the present
Scene 5—The Shop Street, 1870

Production Staff

Directors Garrett Wallace & Dorothy McInnis
Stage Manager Denise Whitten
Tech..... Will Halpin, David McInnis, Kevin Westbrook
Set Construction Bob Alvarado, Phyllis Birchett,
Jason Fairchild, Will Halpin, Andy Szuwalski
Art Melody Golding
Lighting..... Nick Becker, AJ Johnson
Costumes..... Lauren Wilkes Auttonberry, Earlene McCleave
Opening-Night Reception..... Mindy Giambrone
Lobby Decoration DuAnn Beck

Special Thanks

...to *Art & Soul of the South*, the *Vicksburg Outlet Mall*, *Paper Plus*,
and *The Village Green* for selling tickets. Their support allows us to speed up
the box office operation for the convenience of you, our patrons.