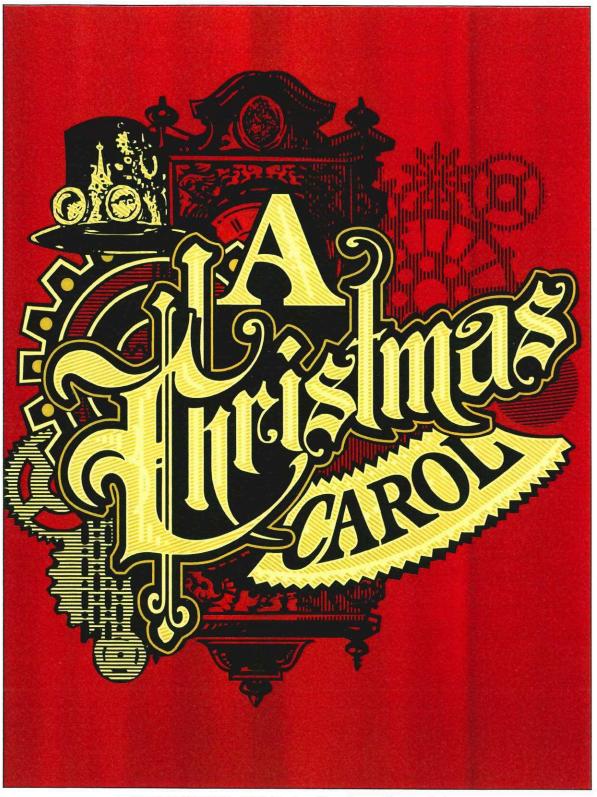
# PLAYBILL®

Wawasee High School Performing Arts Department Syracuse, IN



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# WAWASEE PERFORMING



#### **PRESENTS**

# A CHRISTMAS CAROL (BARLOW)

"A Christmas Carol (Barlow)" is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

#### A Special Thank You Goes To:

Dr. Edington and Mrs. Goshert
Mr. Walmer, Mr. Snyder, Mr. Perek, Mr. Beasley and Mr. Shutz
Nicholas Gaff and the custodial staff
All the parents who helped in so many ways!
Kevin & Patti Gunkel and the Gunkel extended family.

Ivan Lemaster

Kris Stump

Sara Minear

Tina Carson

Debra Fitzsimmons

Julie Popenfoose

Julie DuBoise

Pete Bonner and Allen Coblentz

Cover Logo designed by David Butler Designs

## THE CHRISTMAS CAROL (BARLOW)

#### Act 1

**Prologue** 

Scrooge's Counting House - Christmas Eve. Dawn - Night

London Streets. Christmas Eve. Night

Scrooge's Bedroom. Christmas Eve. Night

Scrooge's Bedroom - Christmas Eve. Midnight

A Country Road - Christmas Eve.

Grimes Academy - Christmas Eve.

Fezziwigs Emporium - Christmas Eve.

Scrooge and Isabella. Christmas Eve

Isabella's Home - Christmas Eve.

#### Act 2

Scrooge's Bedroom - Christmas Morning

Over London Streets - Christmas Morning

Frederick's House - Christmas Day

Cratchit's House - Christmas Day

Kennington Common, London - Christmas Day

Frederick's House - Christmas Day

Scrooge's Counting House - Night

Scrooge's Bedroom - Christmas Day Morning

The Streets of London - Christmas Day Morning

Frederick's Drawing Room - Christmas Day

Scrooge's Counting House - Boxing Day

**Epilogue** 

#### INFORMATION

There will be one fifteen minute intermission between ACTS. Please visit our concession stand!



# **CAST**

#### **Cast Members**

	appearance ratio and it was an interest and respond to the
Ebenezer Scrooge	Nicholas Lesko**
Ebenezer Scrooge	Evan Coblentz**
Jacob Marley	Andrik Bautista**
Bob Cratchit	Gavin Malone
Spirit of Christmas Past	Serena Lesko**
Spirit of Christmas Present	Grace Morrison**
Spirit of Christmas Yet To Come	Ashley Rose**
Ghostly Helper	Bronwyn Bonner**
Ghostly Helper	Clay Coblentz
Ghostly Helper	Dylan Minear**
The Ensemble	Anna Clark** Taylor Cripe Ethan Dennis Katelyn Dunivan Colten Edgar Lila Fierek** Kasey Gunkel** Leina Helfers Brynn Jamora Vanessa Lantz Christina Morrow Robert Schmucker** Trinity Smeltzer** Aidan Stewart Bri Stewart** Ayla Torres
Special Guests	Addison Abel Audrey Fitzsimmons Karissa Lesko Adeleine Pulley Alicea Miller Bryce Johnson Wyatt Phillips John David Stoffel Gabriel Stoffel

\*\* Denotes International Thespian Society Member

# **PRODUCTION CREW**

#### **Crew Members**

Director	Kristin Bonner
Assistant Director	
Stage Manager	Rebekah Whirledge
Lighting Director	Chris Dykhuisen
Lighting Assistant	Jackson Charles
Sound	Jeremy VanLue
Music/Effects Coordinator	Devin VanLue
Spotlight	Samantha Kolberg
Program Design	Kristin Bonner
Set Design	Kristin Bonner
Set Construction	Students and Parents
Stagecrafters	Jayden Boggs Amelia Dement Josalyn Kolberg Arrington Krull Leo Wrage Ana Wolferman
	Lainey Ramirez Allie Slone



#### **Adrianna Clark**

Anna has been a regular in WHS theatre since her freshman year beginning with *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* and *Oklahoma!* She has not missed a show and has expanded her show list to include *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe, High School Musical, You Can't Take it With You, The Addams Family, 110 Stories*, and *Steel Magnolias*. After graduation, Anna plans to attend college and study nursing. Her favorite thing about theatre is all the friends she has made.



#### **Evan Coblentz**

Evan has been a staple on the WHS stage since his freshman year starting as Charlie in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. When Evan is not on stage he can often be found caring for his goat herd, participating in Dairy Judging and making an impact through Ag Activism. After graduation, Evan plans to pursue either a double major in Ag Education and Animal Science to pursue a career as a veterinarian or ag teacher/education administrator or a major in Musical Theatre. Evan says, "I will never forget the HSM show when we did the beautiful tribute to Mrs. Thornburg. That solidified the fact that theater is a family. I also believe *The Addams Family* was a turning point in our theater program. It showed that high school theater is capable of quality productions. I will be forever grateful to have been Gomez. Theatre has groomed me in so many aspects of my life, from public speaking and stage presence, communication skills, and problem-solving skills.



#### Lila Fierek

Lila has performed on stage in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe, High School Musical, The Addams Family, 110 Stories,* and now *A Christmas Carol.* She served as student director in *You Can't Take It With You* and *The Addams Family* and has helped with set construction for all of these shows. In addition to spending many hours in the auditorium, Lila is involved in Drama Club, International Thespian Society, DECA, Newspaper/Yearbook, Book Club, Academic Superbowl, Student Council, Teen Court, and National Honor Society. She summarizes one of the highlights of her involvement in theatre at WHS in this way: "I really enjoyed the trip to New York City with the drama club. I had so much fun on that trip, and I wish I could go back. I am so glad I got to see all of those musicals on Broadway. It really changed my perspective on theatre." After graduation, Lila plans to attend college and major in journalism.



# **Kasey Gunkel**

Kasey started her stage action in eighth grade as Hera in The Historical History of the Trojan War and has continued in theatre at WHS in High School Musical, The Addams Family and 110 Stories. Kasey is also involved in Student Council, Nat'l Honor Society, Thespian Society, plays softball, and is a manager for the boys' basketball team. After graduation, Kasey plans to major in Biochemistry and later attend medical school to become a pediatrician. In her free time, she likes to play her violin, hang out with friends, and crochet. Kasey has fond memories of theater including attending shows with the cast members and picking out costumes. The most memorable show moment was: "When last year Cory totally ate it when running off stage. You could see white marks on the stage from where his head skidded." Her favorite thing about theatre is how much of a family the cast and crew are.



#### Nicholas Lesko

Nick is making his eighth appearance at WHS in *A Christmas Carol*. His favorites have been Aslan in *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe*, Troy Bolton in *High School Musical*, and Mal Beineke in *The Addams Family*, but perhaps his favorite of all is this role as Ebenezer Scrooge. Besides theatre, Nick is passionate about art, music, academic excellence, church involvement and pursuing God in everything. Nick says, "Perhaps the highlight of being a part of theatre was getting the opportunity to visit New York City with the drama club. We were able to go to multiple workshops such as stage fighting and makeup that were put on by professional performers and crew members. The absolute best experience of that trip was being able to see the musical *Wicked*, with its stunning set, gorgeous vocal performances, and jaw-dropping costumes." Beyond graduation, Nick plans to attend Ball State to study architecture and continue in performing arts on the side for fun.



#### **Brianne Stewart**

Bri has been onstage at WHS since her freshman year in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Oklahoma! The Lion*, *The Witch*, *and The Wardrobe*, *High School Musical*, *You Can't Take It With You*, *The Addams Family*, *A Christmas Carol*, and *Steel Magnolias*. After graduation, Bri plans to attend college and study interior design. Bri says, "The thing I like best about theatre is the people and environment. I've been blessed with amazing friends, and life long bonds. I always leave theatre feeling loved and happy because I have the opportunity to be surrounded by amazing people."



#### **Ashley Rose**

has performed on stage in *High School Musical*, and *A Christmas Carol* during her high school career. She has also done make up for *The Lion, The Witch*, and *The Wardrobe*. When not attending a rehearsal or a performance, Ashley enjoys art, writing and sports including volleyball, tennis, Unified flag football, and Unified track. She has also been a member of DECA, Key Club, Art Club, WLC, and was a yearbook editor for two years. Her favorite theater moment was experiencing Bronwyn drinking root beer. After graduating in December, Ashley plans to do online college classes, then go to school next fall for social work. Her favorite quote is "If Jesus can turn water into wine, he can turn C's into degrees." - Cam Gillum



### Rebekah Whirledge

Bekah has been an integral part of WHS Theatre from the start of her freshman year in *Charlie and the Chocolate*Factory, and *Oklahoma!* Other shows include *The Lion, The Witch, and The Wardrobe, High School Musical, You Can't Take It With*You, *The Addams Family, 110 Stories* and *Steel Magnolias*. She has also appeared at The Wagon Wheel in *Joseph and the Amazing*Technicolor Dreamcoat. Not only is she a talented performer,

Rebekah has been a vital influence as a student director, stage manager and set builder. About theater, she says, "I've always enjoyed meeting people through theatre. Everyone is so different, and there aren't many places where they can all come together like they do during a production." Her plan after graduation is to double major in English and Theatre at Bethel University.



#### **Grace Morrison**

Grace began her freshman year in *Oklahoma!*, then went on to act in *The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, High School Musical, You Can't Take It With You, 110 Stories, & Steel Magnolias.* Grace plans to pursue a musical theatre & hopes to someday act on Broadway. "I think when I look back at high school, I'm not going to remember the classes or the tests. I'm going to remember the countless hours during rehearsals, building the sets, and whispering backstage. I'm going to remember the nervous butterflies I always get before going on stage. I'm going to remember the amazing people that I got to meet who became like family to me. Most of all, I'm going to remember the audience cheering at the end of the show, and the pride I felt for my castmates. That curtain call means everything to me because that final bow feels like a culmination of all of the hard work we did. This auditorium let me find my true passion and I could never be more grateful."



This is the cast of *A Christmas Carol* on their field trip to rent costumes. Since this photo, they have spent countless hours together. They have become a family. That's what theatre does, creates families. Young people today are searching for a place to fit in at school. We are happy that these students have found our little family.

Live theatre improves social tolerance, improves academic performance and promotes positive social change. The arts can change lives. Thanks for supporting us by buying a ticket for our show! Our ticket revenue is the only funding we have so the more tickets we sell, the better our next show can be!

Merry Christmas from the Wawasee Performing Arts family!

#### A LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to our show! I am so happy you are getting to see what our Wawasee students are capable of creating. This show has so much beauty in it. It has all been an enormous process of collaboration. The actors on stage learned a huge amount of lines and directions, the crew organized their tasks so the show flows well and the tech people spent hours designing lights and sound to set a mood for you. It all came out amazingly beautiful. I am so very proud of them. I think you will love our show. I would also like to give a shout out to my amazing assistant director, Mindy Coblentz. She does all the things I'm not very good at...like finishing details! I greatly appreciate her friendship and ability to remind me that not all of my ideas are reasonable! (Although that spiral staircase idea came out pretty well!)

I applied for the rights to do this show for three years before finally getting accepted. I love this version because it develops Ebenezer Scrooge like no other version I read. Sometimes you need to see what makes a person become so terrible before you can love them. And when they hit rock bottom, you can see how hard it is for them to find forgiveness. But it makes the redemption all that more beautiful. Scrooge is a classic story of redemption that I think we all need to see. It makes us all realize we are all hard-hearted at one point or another and that we can be softened because we are human. And it sure doesn't hurt to have someone like Frederick in our lives...someone who loves us no matter how mean we are.

Charles Dickens was a child of trauma. At twelve years old he was taken out of school and forced to work because his father was sent to prison due to debt. Dickens returned to school eventually but his schooling was often interrupted. His shocking discoveries about poverty and disappointment that his parents did not care for him properly led to his sympathetic knowledge of the poor. You can see it in all of his stories, including "A Christmas Carol". This is a timeless story of the harshness of life, impoverished children and our desire for redemption. This world and its desires are full of futility and hopelessness. But there is hope! That is what Christmas is all about! Hope that Jesus brought to the world!

Let's celebrate the season of hope, beginning today by sharing in the story of Ebenezer Scrooge! Let me know what your favorite part was when it's over. And don't forget to leave a note or rose for your favorite character in their stocking!

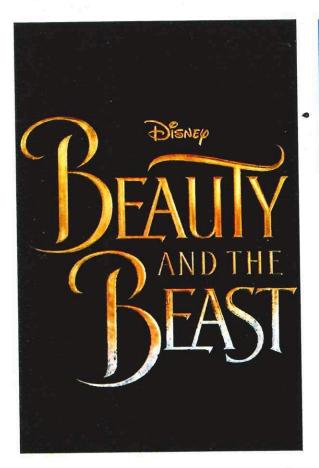
Wishing you and yours a very Merry Christmas.

With GRAVY!

Kristin Bonner



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Join us for auditions for the spring musical, Beauty and the Beast before we leave for Christmas break!

December 16-20!!

