

LYRIC THEATRE OF OKLAHOMA

Lyrics **A**  
**Christmas**  
**Carol**

PRESENTED BY DEVON ENERGY

AT THE HISTORIC HARN HOMESTEAD

**NOVEMBER 17 to**  
**DECEMBER 23, 2021**



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# INSPIRING TOMORROW'S BUILDERS

Our next generation of problem solvers just need a little spark. That push, to explore their innate curiosity. So encourage our next generation's builders. Cultivating their ingenuity will help design our future and create a better way of life.

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# Directors' Welcome

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Dear Friends,

It is with great joy and hope that we welcome you back to Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma and our 11th anniversary production of *A Christmas Carol*! Last year we were able to keep this holiday tradition alive with the planning and creation of this special production at the Harn Homestead. It was embraced by Oklahoma and theatre-lovers around the country, so we knew we wanted to bring it back – bigger and better than ever. It required extra creativity, planning, guidance, and our continued focus creating new possibilities for what is possible with our city as a theatrical backdrop.

We approached tonight's production with safety in mind first. This did put new limits on what we normally could do, but it also opened up even more possibilities as to the where, how, and why we do theatre. Part of our mission is to partner with other civic organizations, and the Lyric Theatre/Harn Homestead collaboration has been nothing short of inspiring. We didn't realize how much working together has brought renewed life to both *A Christmas Carol* and the Harn Homestead during this difficult time. We wanted the audience to take the journey of Scrooge safely which meant performing outside in the fresh air with socially-distanced and vaccinated performers and crew. In a way, it has made the story more important and necessary, at least for a moment in these challenging times.

We want to thank everyone for making this moment possible, including our loyal and generous sponsors, Lyric patrons, civic leaders, nonprofits, volunteers, and especially the staff, artists, crew, and board of Lyric Theatre. The commitment from the entire city and state that Lyric would not only survive this time, but thrive in new ways, has been nothing short of a holiday miracle.

We ask that you remember the message of *A Christmas Carol*. Scrooge learns that his "business" here on earth is not to make money but to take care of his fellow man through charity, mercy, forbearance and benevolence. As we navigate this new world, we can still share music, laughter, hope, and love. Be sure to check out what we have planned both inside and outside so you can make plans to join us for our 2022 Season! Thank you for your support of live, Oklahoma-produced theatre, and in the words of Tiny Tim, "God Bless Us, Everyone!"

Wishing you health and happiness,  
Michael Baron and Ashley Wells

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LYRIC THEATRE  
OF OKLAHOMA

MICHAEL BARON, PRODUCING ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

JIM REYNOLDS, MANAGING DIRECTOR

ASHLEY WELLS, EXECUTIVE PRODUCER

PRESENT

Lyrics  
**Christmas  
Carol**

PRESENTED BY DEVON ENERGY

WRITTEN BY CHARLES DICKENS

ADAPTED BY MICHAEL BARON<sup>+</sup>

SCENIC DESIGNER  
ADAM KOCH<sup>^</sup>

COSTUME DESIGNER  
JEFFREY MEEK

LIGHTING DESIGNER  
FABIAN J. GARCIA

ORIGINAL MUSIC &  
SOUND DESIGN  
JOSH SCHMIDT

SOUND DESIGNERS  
COREY RAY  
BRAD POARCH

PROPERTIES DESIGNER  
COURTNEY STRONG

DIALECT COACH  
NICHOLAS BARTELL

PUPPET DESIGNER  
PENNY BENSON

MUSIC DIRECTION BY  
BRIAN T. HAMILTON

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR  
ADAM BRAND

CHOREOGRAPHY  
ASHLEY WELLS<sup>+</sup>

STAGE MANAGER  
CAROLINE MUELLER

WIG DESIGNER  
BRAWNA BRINKLEY GFELLER

DIRECTED BY  
MICHAEL BARON<sup>+</sup> & ASHLEY WELLS<sup>+</sup>

<sup>+</sup>Member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC)

<sup>^</sup> Member of United Scenic Artists (USA)

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association (AEA)





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# The Holly & Ivy Casts

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**JONATHAN BECK REED \***  
Ebenezer Scrooge  
(1st 3 Weeks)



**W. JEROME STEVENSON \***  
Ebenezer Scrooge  
(Last 3 Weeks)



**MATTHEW ALVIN BROWN \***  
Narrator/Fred/Fezziwig  
Guest  
(Holly & Ivy Casts)



**MARIAH WARREN**  
Narrator/Mrs. Fezziwig/  
Aunt Lidia/Mrs. Dilbert  
(Holly Cast)



**DESTYNI WILLIAMS**  
Narrator/Mrs. Fezziwig/  
Aunt Lidia/Mrs. Dilbert  
(Ivy Cast)



**SUSAN RILEY**  
Mrs. Cratchit/Fezziwig  
Guest  
(Holly Cast)



**KARA SIMPSON**  
Mrs. Cratchit/Fezziwig  
Guest  
(Ivy Cast)



**KAYLENE SNARSKY**  
Belle  
(Holly Cast)



**KRISTIN KÜNS**  
Belle  
(Ivy Cast)



**EMILY J. PACE \***  
Ghost of Christmas  
Past/Fred's Wife  
(Holly & Ivy Casts)



**CALEB BARNETT**  
Solicitor/Ghost of  
Christmas Present  
(Holly Cast)



**JESSICA TATE**  
Solicitor/Ghost of  
Christmas Present  
(Ivy Cast)



**CHARLIE MONNOT**  
Mr. Cratchit  
(Holly Cast)



**KALEB MICHAEL BRUZA**  
Mr. Cratchit  
(Ivy Cast)



**ANDI DEMA**  
Young Scrooge/Topper  
(Holly Cast)



**JAYLON CRUMP**  
Young Scrooge/Topper  
(Ivy Cast)

\*Member of Actors' Equity Association (AEA)

# LYRIC'S 2022 HOMECOMING SEASON

Welcome back to a new season of extraordinary productions staged in Lyric's beloved Plaza Theatre, the majestic Civic Center Music Hall, the historic Harn Homestead and the all-new First Americans Museum!

## MAINSTAGE SEASON



### HEAD *over* HEELS

February 16 - March 6  
Lyric at the Plaza



### DISTANT THUNDER

March 23-27  
Lyric at the  
First Americans Museum



Roald Dahl's  
**Matilda**

June 21-26  
Lyric at the Civic Center



### KINKY BOOTS

July 19-24  
Lyric at the Civic Center



### RODGERS & HAMMERSTEIN'S CAROUSEL

July 5-10 • Lyric at the Civic Center

## SEASON EXTRAS



October 5-30  
Lyric at the Plaza



PRESENTED BY DEVON ENERGY

November 16 - December 23  
Lyric at the Harn Homestead



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## SEASON SPONSORS



THE OKLAHOMAN



# The Holly & Ivy Casts

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**JASON BIAS**

Marley/Fezzwig/Old Joe  
(Holly Cast)



**RODNEY BRAZIL**

Marley/Fezzwig/Old Joe  
(Ivy Cast)



**KIARA TOURNEAR**

Student/Fezzwig  
Daughter/Martha/Girl  
(Holly Cast)



**ERIN THOMPSON**

Student/Fezzwig  
Daughter/Martha/Girl  
(Ivy Cast)



**CHARLEE BARKS**

Fan/Fezzwig Daughter/  
Belinda/Girl  
(Holly Cast)



**HANNA ANDRAASSEN**

Fan/Fezzwig Daughter/  
Belinda/Girl  
(Ivy Cast)



**SAXON NEAL**

Young Scrooge/Fezzwig  
Guest/Boy/Turkey Boy/Peter  
(Holly Cast)



**CYRUS GLOSSUP**

Young Scrooge/Fezzwig  
Guest/Boy/Turkey Boy/Peter  
(Ivy Cast)



**CARTER HANEY**

Audience Host  
(Holly Cast)



**CRAYTON HANEY**

Audience Host  
(Holly Cast)



**ABIGAIL RUTH MANNERS**

Audience Host  
(Holly Cast)



**SELENA SIMMONS**

Audience Host  
(Holly Cast)



**DAVID FLYNN**

Audience Host  
(Ivy Cast)



**JAYLYNN NASH**

Audience Host  
(Ivy Cast)



**MAURICE QUINTEL SIMMONS**

Audience Host  
(Ivy Cast)



**KATIE SPIROPOULOS**

Audience Host  
(Ivy Cast)



# WE ARE HONORED TO SUPPORT LYRIC THEATRE

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**UNIVERSITY THEATRE**  
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

University Theatre invites you to join us for an intriguing lineup of dance, musicals, plays and opera productions that inspire the imagination!

### MAD FOREST

A gripping dramatic play by Caryl Churchill.  
Sept. 24-Oct. 3, 2021

### SHE LOVES ME

A heart-warming romantic musical comedy. Book by Joe Masteroff, music by Jerry Bock, lyrics by Sheldon Harnick.  
Oct. 15-24, 2021

### BACH'S COFFEE CANTATA

 by J.S. Bach

### LA SERVA PADRONA

 by Giovanni Pergolesi

Two one-act operas brimming with comedic entertainment. Nov. 11-14, 2021

### CONTEMPORARY DANCE OKLAHOMA

Energetic and extraordinary modern dance works with guest choreography by Sidra Bell, Gus Solomons Jr. and Tommie-Waheed Evans. Dec. 3-11, 2021

### YOUNG CHOREOGRAPHERS' SHOWCASE

A perennial favorite featuring exciting, imaginative choreography by School of Dance students with lighting design by Helmerich School of Drama students.  
Jan. 27-30, 2022

### THE SCARLET LETTER

This compelling new opera composed by Lori Laitman is a cautionary tale of puritanical patriarchy.  
Feb. 10-13, 2022

### A MIDSUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM

Shakespeare's comic fantasy of four star-crossed lovers who find themselves bewitched by fairies.  
Feb. 25-March 6, 2022

### PIPPIN

This Tony Award-winning musical tells the story of one young man's journey to be extraordinary. Music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, book by Roger O. Hirson  
April 1-10, 2022

### OKLAHOMA FESTIVAL BALLET

Featuring *The Sleeping Beauty Suite* with additional exciting choreography by Robyn Mineko Williams.  
April 22-May 1, 2022

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UNIVERSITY THEATRE

# The Cast

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**JONATHAN BECK REED** (Ebenezer Scrooge/First 3 Weeks) – AT LYRIC: *The Music Man, Fiddler on the Roof, Frost/Nixon, Guys and Dolls, An Inspector Calls, Bright Star, The Odd Couple*. REGIONAL: *The Greater Tuna Series, Casa Mañana/TX, The Normal Heart (CityRep/OKC), Oliver! (Lyric Stage/TX), The Fantasticks (Stage One/KS), 110 in the Shade (Omaha Playhouse/NE), Big River (Gateway Playhouse/NY), Me and My Girl (Pittsburgh Playhouse/PA), Damn Yankees (Birmingham Theater/MI)*. BROADWAY: *Forum (1st National), 42nd Street (3rd National/Israeli Tour)*. OFF BROADWAY: *Roadside (Original Cast), Little Me ('93 Revival)*. FILM: *Crazy Enough, Charge of the Model T's, Finding Carlos*. TV: *Law and Order, Good Morning America, Oklahoma Passage, Back in Time, Some Powerful Dream*.

**W. JEROME STEVENSON** (Ebenezer Scrooge/Last 3 Weeks) – AT LYRIC: *Newsies, Dreamgirls, Ragtime, The Rocky Horror Show*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Passing Strange, Fences, RENT, Company, Pollard Theatre Company; The Laramie Project, The Mountaintop, Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre; The Tempest, Othello, Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park; Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street, Reduxion Theatre Company*. FILM: *Making Arrangements, The Grey Man*.

**HANNA ANDREASSEN** (Fan/Fezziwig Daughter/Belinda/Girl - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Grease*. OTHER THEATRE: *13, Tuck Everlasting, Helen's Most Favorite Day, Sound of Music, Honk! Jr.*, Lyric Theatre Thelma Gaylord Academy; *A Christmas Carol*, University of Oklahoma University Theatre; *Disney's Finding Nemo, Jr.*, iTheatrics; *Wind in the Willows, CMTF*

*Broadway Workshop; Mary Poppins Jr., Frozen Jr., Sooner Theatre Studio; Iolanthe, Cimarron Opera*. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: *The Nutcracker, University of Oklahoma Festival Ballet*.

**CHARLEE BARKS** (Fan/Fezziwig Daughter/Belinda/Girl - Holly Cast) is making her Lyric Theatre debut. LYRIC THEATRE THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY: *Matilda Jr., Lion King Jr., Mary Poppins, Honk! Jr., The Music Man, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Seussical the Musical*.

**CALEB BARNETT** (Solicitor/Ghost of Christmas Present - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Grease*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Carrie!, Sweeney Todd, Rock of Ages, Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson, Casa Mañana; Hair the Musical, Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre*. OTHER THEATRE: *Rent, Mamma Mia!, Garland Summer Musicals; The Most Happy Fella, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Big Fish, Rock of Ages, University of Central Oklahoma*. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.M. Musical Theatre from University of Central Oklahoma.

**JASON BIAS** (Marley/Fezziwig/Old Joe - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Sweeney Todd, Titanic*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *The Golden Apple, Annie Get Your Gun*. OTHER THEATRE: *Company, Legally Blonde, Anything Goes, Little Shop of Horrors, The Light in the Piazza, Guys & Dolls*. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.M. from Oklahoma City University.

**RODNEY BRAZIL** (Marley/Fezziwig/Old Joe - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric's A Christmas Carol (2020), Frost/Nixon, Disney's Newsies, The Odd Couple, The Rocky Horror Show*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Little Me, CityRep*. FILM: *Emerald, Texas*.



## What do the arts mean to Oklahoma?

- stronger economy
- enriched culture
- improved academics
- revitalized communities
- creative workforce

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OTHER THEATRE: *The Divine Sister*, *Arsenic & Old Lace*, *Psycho Beach Party*, *The Boom*; *Texas: A Music Drama*, *Palo Duro Canyon*; *Schoolhouse Rock*, *Live!*, Oklahoma Children's Theatre; *Most Fabulous Story Ever Told*, OKCTC. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: *Naked Brunch*; *Worthy Causes*, Playwright.

**MATTHEW ALVIN BROWN** (Narrator/Fred/Fezziwig Guest - Holly & Ivy Casts) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric Kids' Clubhouse Interactive*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Frost/Nixon*, *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*, *When We're Gone*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *I Am My Own Wife*, *Assassins*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *An Inspector Calls*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *The Odd Couple*, *Ragtime*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Producers*. NEW YORK: *Rainbow Around the Sun*, New York Musical Theatre Festival. REGIONAL THEATRE: *The Rocky Horror Show*, AntiGravity Orlando. LOCAL: *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *American Idiot*, *Company*, *Passing Strange*, Pollard Theatre; *The Normal Heart*, *The 39 Steps*, *Next To Normal*, *Peter and the Star Catcher*, CityRep; *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, OKC Theatre Company; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Pride and Prejudice*, Oklahoma Shakespeare. Brown serves as instructor/director for Lyric Theatre's Thelma Gaylord Academy Rokademy Experiment.

**KALEB MICHAEL BRUZA** (Bob Cratchit - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *The Cat in the Hat*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Twelfth Night*, Oklahoma Shakespeare; *Four Chords and a Gun*, Tulsa Project Theatre; *Evil Dead: The Musical*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Laughter on the 23rd Floor*, *American Idiot*, Pollard Theatre Company; *Cabaret*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Hair*, Reduxion Theatre Company; *The 25th Annual Putnam*

*County Spelling Bee*, Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre. NATIONAL TOUR: *Diary of a Worm*, *a Spider*, and *a Fly*, Dallas Children's Theatre. FILM: *Blueberry Hall*, *Dinosaur World*, 5-6-7-8 *Across* (short). OTHER THEATRE: *Zona*, *The Ultra-Conservative Theatre Summit*, Theatre Crude Fringe Festival. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: Lyric Theatre Interactive, The City Cabaret.

**JAYLON CRUMP** (Young Scrooge/Topper - Ivy Cast) is making his Lyric Theatre debut. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Ain't Misbehavin'*, Broadway Tonight at UCO; *The Addams Family*, Granbury Opera House; *Hairspray*, PRM Productions; *Little Shop of Horrors*, East Texas Musical Theatre. EDUCATIONAL: *Rent*, *Rock of Ages*, University of Central Oklahoma; *Pippin*, *A Christmas Carol*, Tyler Junior College. OTHER THEATRE: *Dreamgirls*, *Newsies*, *Mamma Mia*, Tyler Civic Theatre Center.

**ANDIDEMA** (Young Scrooge, Topper - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Frost/Nixon*, *Newsies*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Billy Elliot*, *Oklahoma!* REGIONAL THEATRE: *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Oklahoma City Rep; *Cymbeline*, *My Fair Lady*, *Noises Off*, *Comedy of Errors*, Texas Shakespeare Festival; *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Misalliance*, *You Never Can Tell*, Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park. FILM: *Reagan*, *Killers of the Flower Moon*. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.F.A. from Oklahoma City University.

**DAVID FLYNN** (Audience Host/Ghost of Christmas Future - Ivy Cast) is making his Lyric Theatre debut. OTHER THEATRE: *Tuck Everlasting*, *Mary Poppins*, Lyric Theatre Thelma Gaylord Academy; *Puffs*, University of Central Oklahoma.

**CYRUS GLOSSUP** (Young Scrooge/Fezziwig Guest/Boy/Turkey Boy/Peter -



Ivy Cast) is making his Lyric Theatre debut. REGIONAL: *Polar Express*, Railway Event Productions. OTHER THEATRE: *Aladdin Kids*, *Matilda*, *Lion King*, *Mary Poppins*, *Willy Wonka*, *The Music Man*, *Helen's Most Favorite Day*, *Junie B. Jones*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Honk!*, *Wizard of Oz*, Lyric Theatre Thelma Gaylord Academy.

**CARTER HANEY** (Audience Host - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *The Grapes of Wrath*, OCU/Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre. OTHER THEATRE: *Ragtime*, *Eurydice*, *Newsies*, KidsAlive!; *H.M.S. Pinafore*, *Patience*, Cimarron Opera; *25th Annual... Spelling Bee*, *Newsies*, Deer Creek High School; *Anastasia* Youth Edition – World Premiere, *Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley* Online Edition – Pilot Production, iTheatrics; *Matilda Jr.*, *Oliver! Jr.*, *The Drowsy Chaperone Jr.*, Choreography Videos, iTheatrics; *Once On This Island*, JTF Europe. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: Pianist, Guitarist.

**CRAYTON HANEY** (Audience Host - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *The Grapes of Wrath*, OCU/Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre. OTHER THEATRE: *Ragtime*, *Eurydice*, *Newsies*, KidsAlive!; *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Cimarron Opera; *25th Annual... Spelling Bee*, *Newsies*, Deer Creek High School; *Anastasia* Youth Edition – World Premiere, *Uni the Unicorn* Online Edition – Pilot Production, iTheatrics; *Matilda Jr.*, *Oliver! Jr.*, *The Drowsy Chaperone Jr.*, Choreography Videos, iTheatrics; *Once On This Island*, JTF Europe. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: Pianist, Guitarist.

**KRISTIN KÜNS** (Belle - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*, *Junie B. Jones the Musical*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Diary of a Worm, a Spider and a Fly*, Dallas Children's Theater; *Evil Dead*,

*Hairspray*, Pollard Theatre Company; *Jane Austen's Christmas Cracker*, *Private Lives*, *Short Shakespeare*, Oklahoma Shakespeare. OTHER THEATRE: *Little Red Button*, Theatre Crude Fringe Festival; *Bad Shakespeare*, Edinburgh Fringe Festival. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.F.A. in Acting from Oklahoma City University.

**ABIGAIL RUTH MANNERS** (Audience Host - Holly Cast) AT LYRIC: *The Wizard of Oz*, *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*, *Alice In Wonderland*, *Annie*, *I Wish*, *The Women*, *The Children's Hour*, *Dead Men Don't Do Radio Plays*, *Joseph & The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Cats*, *Addams Family*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Les Misérables*, Upstage Theatre; *H.M.S. Pinafore*, Cimarron Opera. TELEVISION: Hahn Appliance Commercial. OTHER THEATER: *Into the Woods*, UCO Summerstock.

**CHARLIE MONNOT** (Mr. Cratchit - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Titanic*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Call Me Madam*, *Ragtime*. LOCAL: *Disaster!*, *Ghost*, *The Full Monty*, *Shrek*, *Lucky Stiff*, Pollard Theatre; *Hair*, *Sweeney Todd*, Reduxion Theatre; *Ragtime*, Poteet Theatre; *Parade*, Upstage Theatre; *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Into the Woods*, *Sweet Charity*, Shawnee Little Theatre.

**JAYLYNN NASH** (Audience Host - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Grease*, *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*. LYRIC'S THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY: *Mary Poppins*, *The Music Man*, *The Wizard of Oz*.

**SAXON NEAL** (Peter/Young Scrooge - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*, *The Wizard of Oz*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Seussical*, Upstage Theater; *Peter & The Wolf*, OKC Philharmonic; *13 The Musical*, Kismet Theater. FILM: *Wild Indian*, *Joey & Ella*. TELEVISION: *Reservation Dogs*.

**THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY:** *Tuck Everlasting, Once Upon Mattress, Marvel One Act Plays, James & the Giant Peach, Junie B. Jones, Urinetown, Music Man, The Addams Family, Madagascar Jr., Seussical Jr., I Wish, Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Annie Jr., Shrek Jr.* ADDITIONAL CREDITS: Rodeo Opry, Pianist/Performer.

**EMILY J. PACE** (Ghost of Christmas Past/Fred's Wife - Holly & Ivy Casts) – AT LYRIC: *The Rocky Horror Show, Frost/Nixon, Titanic, Junie B. Jones The Musical, Rock of Ages.* REGIONAL THEATRE: *Matilda, Grease, Jack Frost, Twas the Night Before Christmas, Casa Mañana; The Producers, Heathers: The Musical, American Idiot, The Pollard Theatre Company; Little Shop of Horrors, Avenue Q, Tommy, Rent, Tulsa Project Theatre; Chicago, Jewel Box Theatre; Guy and Dolls, Summerstock Productions; A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre; Jesus Christ Superstar, Oklahoma City Theatre Company.* OTHER THEATRE: *Floyd Collins, The Grass Harp, Side Show, A Chorus Line, Sunset Boulevard, Godspell, the University of Central Oklahoma.*

**SUSAN RILEY** (Mrs. Cratchit/Fezziwig Guest - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Bye Bye, Birdie, The Producers, The Rocky Horror Show.* REGIONAL: *Hope and Gravity, Circle Theatre; How I Became a Pirate, Casa Mañana; Sweeney Todd, Uptown Players/Turtle Creek Chorale; Commencing, Uptown Players.* LOCAL: *Wild West Interactive, Oklahoma! Interactive, 1776 Interactive, Will Rogers Interactive, Lyric's Musicals Interactive; Beehive, Dirty Rotten Scoundrels, The Last Five Years, Beauty and the Beast, Lucky Stiff, Legally Blonde, The Pollard Theatre; The Music Man, Nunsense, Poteet Theatre; Romeo and*

*Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park.* FILM: *The Adventures of Jurassic Pet, Backbone of the Army, Evangelion 3.0.* TELEVISION: *The Steve Harvey Show, The Price is Right, Date A Live.* ADDITIONAL CREDITS: 405 Magazine's favorite local actor 2016-18, Oklahoma Streetcar Voice.

**MAURICE QUINTEL SIMMONS** (Audience Host - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Les Misérables, Lyric's A Christmas Carol* (2020). LOCAL: *Matilda, KidsAlive!; Broadway Backwards, Big Fish, Evita, Sweeney Todd, Beauty and the Beast, RENT, Upstage Theatre; Songs for a New World, Peter Pan, Poteet Theatre; A Raisin in the Sun, Jewel Box Theatre; Ghost the Musical, The Producers, Hairspray, Pollard Theatre Company; My Fair Lady, UCO/Summerstock; HAIR, UCO/ Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre.*

**SELENA SIMMONS** (Audience Host - Holly Cast) is making her Lyric Theatre debut. FILM: *Spring Awakening, Bring it On: the Musical, StageCenter LA.* OTHER THEATRE: *Matilda, Disney's Newsies, Amélie, Carrie, American Idiot, Shrek the Musical, StageCenter LA; Once on this Island Jr., Disney's Aladdin Jr., JTF Atlanta; Disney's the Lion King Jr., JTF Houston; Hairspray, Guys and Dolls, Caddo Magnet High School.*

**KARA SIMPSON** (Mrs. Cratchit/Fezziwig Guest - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Titanic, Footloose, Wizard of Oz, Lyric's Musical Interactive — Cinderella, Oklahoma!, Call Me Madam.* REGIONAL THEATRE: *Annie, Mary Poppins, Meet Me in St. Louis* (choreographer), *The Addams Family* (director), Poteet Theatre; *Iolanthe, Ruddigore, Cimarron Opera.* ADDITIONAL CREDITS: M.M.Ed/Choral Conducting from Kansas State University, B.M.A. in Voice from University of Oklahoma.

**KAYLENE SNARSKY** (Belle - Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Grease* (associate choreographer), *Hello Dolly!*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Rock of Ages*. NATIONAL TOUR: Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *Cinderella*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *The Producers*, *Annie*; Casa Mañana. FILM: *Chicken House*. OTHER THEATRE: *A Chorus Line*, *Legally Blonde*, *The Little Mermaid*; Clear Space Theatre Company, *Unraveled*; 19th Century Hound at Factory Obscura. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.S. in Dance & Arts Management from Oklahoma City University.

**KATIE SPIROPOULOS** (Audience Host - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Grease*, *The Wizard of Oz*. REGIONAL THEATRE: *Peter & The Wolf*, OKC Philharmonic. LYRIC THEATRE’S THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY: *Joseph & the Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Seussical*, *Shrek Jr*, *I Wish*, *Some Assembly Required*, and *Not So Grimm Tales*. OTHER THEATRE: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *12 Angry Jurors*, *Urinetown*, *Peter & the Starcatcher*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *She Kills Monsters*: *Virtual Realms*, *Mamma Mia!*, Casady School Theatre. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: Ballet and Jazz, OKC Ballet; Clarinetist, Pianist; Players Acapella Group, Casady School.

**JESSICA TATE** (Solicitor, Ghost of Christmas Present - Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Les Misérables*, *Mary Poppins*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Bright Star*, *Titanic*. FILM: *The Turkey Bowl*, *Gosnell*. TELEVISION: *The Last Defense*. OTHER THEATRE: *Bye Bye, Birdie*, Circle Players. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.M.E. Vocal/Choral from Harding University.

**ERIN THOMPSON** (Student/Fezziwig Daughter/Martha/Girl – Ivy Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Lyric Kids’ Clubhouse*, *The Cat In The Hat*, *Lyric’s A Christmas Carol*. LYRIC THEATRE’S THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY:

*Seussical Jr.*, *The Music Man*, *Urinetown*, *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*, *Marvel Spotlight Plays (Hammered: A Thor & Loki Play and Squirrel Girl Goes to College)*, *Once Upon a Mattress*. OTHER THEATRE: *Kiss Me Kate*, *When We Were Young and Unafraid*, CSAS Black Box Theatre. TELEVISION: GameStop Commercial. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: Tap, Jazz, Ballet, Hip Hop at Oklahoma City University Ann Lacy School of Dance (Community Dance Center); Saxophonist, Pianist.

**KIARA TOURNEAR** (Student/Fezziwig Daughter/Martha/Girl – Holly Cast) – AT LYRIC: *Grease*. LYRIC THEATRE’S THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY: *Lion King Jr. Choir*, *Sound of Music*, *Legally Blonde Jr.*, *Honk Jr.*, *Music Man*, *Willy Wonka Jr*. OTHER THEATRE: *Into the Woods*, *Music Man*, *Fairytale Law & Order*, *An Absolutely True Story (As Told By a Bunch of Lying Liars)*.

**MARIAH WARREN** (Narrator/Mrs. Fezziwig/Aunt Lidia/Mrs. Dilbert - Holly Cast) is making her Lyric Theatre debut. REGIONAL THEATRE: *A Midsummer Night’s Dream*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Tempest*, Oklahoma Shakespeare; *Beehive*, *Heathers the Musical*, the Pollard Theatre; *A Game’s Afoot*, *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *South Pacific*, Jewel Box Theatre; *Skeleton Crew*, *Crumbs from the Table of Joy*, Carpenter Square Theatre. OTHER THEATRE: *Spamalot*, *RENT*, *Tarzan*, Southwestern College; *The Nutcracker*, Ballet Wichita.

**DESTYNI WILLIAMS** (Narrator/Mrs. Dilbert/Mrs. Fezziwig/Aunt Lidia - Ivy Cast) is making her Lyric Theatre debut. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: *Ain’t Misbehavin*, *Rock of Ages*, *Big Fish*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, University of Central Oklahoma; *Carousel*, Southwestern Christian University.

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**Kate Pritchett, French horn**

BIBER: Sonata à 7 in C major, C. 111

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MOZART: Horn Concerto No. 2

BEETHOVEN: Symphony No. 1 in C major, Op. 21

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CORIGLIANO: *Promenade Overture*

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NOVEMBER 20, 2021**

**Stefan Jackiw, violin**

MILHAUD: *Le boeuf sur le toit*, Op. 58

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SAINT-SAËNS: Introduction & Rondo capriccioso, Op. 28

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# Artistic Staff

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**ASHLEY WELLS** (*Executive Producer*) celebrates 19 years with Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma and recently was honored as recipient of the Arts in Education Governor's Arts Award. AT LYRIC: *Nunsense*, *Disney's Newsies* (Director), *Hello, Dolly!* (Director), *Junie B. Jones* (Director), *Rock of Ages* (Director), *The Wizard of Oz* (Director), *The Fantasticks* (Director/Choreographer), *Bernice Bobs Her Hair* (Choreographer), *Billy Elliot* (Director), *Pageant* (Director), *Monty Python's Spamalot* (Director), *Les Misérables* (Choreographer), *Triangle: A New Musical* (Associate Director), *The Odd Couple* (Director), *Big River* (Choreographer), *Tarzan* (Choreographer), *Some Enchanted Evening* (Director), *Sweet Charity* (Director) with Tony Award-winner Billy Porter, *Spring Awakening* (Choreographer), *Lyric's A Christmas Carol* (Choreographer), *Oliver!* (Choreographer), *The Rocky Horror Show* (Choreographer), *Urinetown: The Musical* (Co-choreographer), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Choreographer), *Oklahoma!* (Co-Choreographer), *Hello, Dolly!* (Co-choreographer), *Cabaret* (Choreographer/Ensemble), *Chicago* (Choreographer/Merry Murderess). BROADWAY AND NATIONAL TOUR: *Hello, Dolly!* with Carol Channing. REGIONAL: *Phantom of the Opera*, North Shore Music Theatre; *Evita*, *Brigadoon*, *The Music Man*, Music Theatre of Wichita; *La Cage Aux Folles*, Casa Mañana.

**PENNY BENSON** (*Puppet Designer*) - 5th year with Lyric's *A Christmas Carol*. REGIONAL: Over 50 productions in New England, including Underground Railway Theatre, MIT, Connecticut Repertory Theater, O'Neill Theatre Center, Peabody Essex Museum, Puppet Showplace Theatre and Ballard Institute and Museum of Puppetry. NATIONAL

TOURS: *A Christmas Carol*, *How Do You Spell Hope?* and *Are You Ready My Sister?* Her co-production of *StarSisters* premiered at Puppets Up! in Canada. She has also performed in Italy and China. Commercial/Video/Film clients include The Smithsonian Channel, Volvo/Mack Trucks, Sally Smart; *The Pedagogical Puppet*, and Overdue Films' *Poor Glenna*. Penny relocated to Colorado in 2019 where she has designed, fabricated and directed puppetry at Red Rocks Community College and most recently designed/fabricated puppets for the Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center production of *Rodger's* and Hammerstein's *Cinderella*. [www.pennybenson.com](http://www.pennybenson.com)

**FABIAN J. GARCIA** (*Resident Lighting Designer*)—Three years with Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma. AT LYRIC: *Master Class*, *Grease*, *Nunsense*, *Denise Lee: Pressure Makes Diamonds*, *Lyric Kids' Clubhouse*, *Lyric's Moonlight Cabaret*, *Lyric's A Christmas Carol*, *Having Our Say*, *The Cat in the Hat*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *Frost/Nixon*, *Curious George: The Golden Meatball*. THELMA GAYLORD ACADEMY: *Tuck Everlasting*, *Lion King, Jr.*, *Mary Poppins*, *Marvel One Acts*, *Honk Jr.*, *Urinetown: The Musical*, *The Music Man*, *The Realm*, *Rokademy Experiment*, *Seussical Jr.*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. LOCAL: *Ragtime & All That Jazz*, *A Classic Christmas*, *The Magic of John Williams*, *Megan Hilty Live!*, *E.T. The Extra-Terrestrial in Concert*, *The Sound of Simon and Garfunkel*, *The Hot Sardines*, *Revolution: The Beatles Symphonic Experience*, *Melinda Doolittle*, *The Music of Billy Joel*, OKC Philharmonic; *Small Mouth Sounds*, Southern Plains Productions; *She Loves Me*, Oklahoma State University; *Notes on Survival*, Oklahoma Contemporary Museum.



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**BRAWNA BRINKLEY GFELLER** (*Wig Designer*) – Seven years with Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma. AT LYRIC: *Master Class, Grease, Tarzan, James and the Giant Peach, The Wizard of Oz, Dreamgirls, Big Fish, Oklahoma!, Hello, Dolly!, Mary Poppins, Billy Elliot, Singin' in the Rain, Newsies, Disney's When You Wish, West Side Story, Fiddler on the Roof, Titanic, Lyric's A Christmas Carol, Bernice Bobs Her Hair, Rock of Ages, Bright Star, Frost/Nixon, Having Our Say, Junie B. Jones, The Rocky Horror Show, Curious George: The Golden Meatball*. LOCAL: *Alice in Wonderland* (Makeup Design), Oklahoma City Ballet. She has worked numerous Broadway National Tours, including: *Charlie & the Chocolate Factory, Hamilton, Lion King, Cats, Les Misérables, Jersey Boys, Book of Mormon, Sound of Music, Cinderella, Miss Saigon, Motown, Kinky Boots, Little Mermaid, Love Never Dies, A Bronx Tale, Fiddler on the Roof, An American in Paris, Camelot, Newsies, Beautiful, On Your Feet, Bullets Over Broadway, Spongebob and The Grinch*; (Wig Design) *Sweet Charity, Ain't Misbehavin, University of Central Oklahoma*.

**BRIAN T. HAMILTON** (*Music Director*) - More than 20 years with Lyric Theatre. AT LYRIC: *Singin' in the Rain, Bright Star, Rock of Ages, The Rocky Horror Show, The Fantasticks, Spring Awakening, A Little Night Music, Sweeney Todd, Cabaret, The Who's Tommy*. REGIONAL: *Nunsense A-Men!, StrawHat Theatre*. LOCAL: *The Normal Heart, You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown, Oklahoma City Repertory Theatre*.

**ADAM KOCH** (*Set Designer*) returns to Lyric Theatre where he previously designed Disney's *When You Wish, Bye Bye Birdie, Big Fish, Dreamgirls, Tarzan, and Sweet Charity*. INTERNATIONAL: *Dreamgirls* (Seoul, South Korea). Credits across the United States include

productions Off-Broadway, The Old Globe, Ford's Theatre, Goodspeed, Westport Country Playhouse, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Miami New Drama, Maltz Jupiter Theatre, Paper Mill Playhouse, Baltimore Center Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse, Great Lakes Theatre, Ogunquit Playhouse, Syracuse Stage, Music Theatre Wichita, Fulton Theatre, and Portland Stage. Awards include: Suzi Bass award for Outstanding Scenic Design for the outdoor production of *Titanic* (Serenbe Playhouse), as well as Helen Hayes Award nominations for both *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* (Signature Theatre), and *Bat Boy* (1st Stage). Education: Carnegie Mellon University. See more at [adamkochassociates.com](http://adamkochassociates.com) and [@instadamkoch](https://www.instagram.com/instadamkoch) on Instagram.

**JEFFREY MEEK** (*Resident Costume Designer*) 22nd season and over 100 productions with Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma. REGIONAL: Ohio Light Opera: Over 50 productions, including *Lady Kate - World Premier, Regrets Only - World Premier, The Arcadians - U.S. Premier, The Grande Duke - U.S. Premier*; Tulsa Opera: 2003/2004 Seasons; Casa Mañana Playhouse: *Annie, Disney's High School Musical, A Christmas Carol - The Musical*; Stage One: *I Do, I Do, Are We There Yet?* - World Premier, *Swing*; Eastman School of Music: 3 Seasons; Triad Theatre: *Kids in America*; Colossal Studios: *Family Pirate Adventure*; Adventure Theatre; *James and the Giant Peach* - Helen Hayes Nomination. LOCAL: OKC Philharmonic: 13 years of *A Very Merry Pops*; Reduxion Theatre: 7 Seasons, *Hair, Cabaret, Sweeney Todd, Romeo and Juliet*; Carpenter Square Theatre: *Importance of Being Earnest, Maritius*; Oklahoma Children's Theatre: *To Kill a Mockingbird*; Jewel Box Theatre: *Bus Stop, Leading Ladies, 37 Postcards, Nunsense II - The Second Coming, Suite Surrender, South Pacific*. FILM: *Fingerprints, Pearl, Agenda*.

**CAROLINE MUELLER** (*Production Stage Manager*) – AT LYRIC: *Grease, Lyric’s A Christmas Carol, Lyric’s Moonlight Cabaret, Titanic, Newsies, Singin’ In the Rain, When We’re Gone. Fun Home.* OKC BALLET: *Firebird, Romeo & Juliet, Dracula.* OKC CIVIC CENTER FOUNDATION: 2021 Kelli O’Hara Awards Coordinator. ADDITIONAL CREDITS: B.F.A. in Design and Production from Oklahoma City University.

**COREY RAY** (*Resident Sound Designer/ Audio Engineer*) has been with Lyric Theatre for 1 year. AT LYRIC: *Master Class, Grease, Nunsense, Denise Lee: Pressure Makes Diamonds, Lyric Kids’ Clubhouse Cabaret, Lyric’s Moonlight Cabaret, Lyric’s A Christmas Carol.* Corey graduated from

ACM@UCO in 2014 with a B.A.T. in Music Production and has worked as an audio engineer in the live concert industry for 13 years.

**COURTNEY STRONG** (*Props Designer*) - 15 years with Lyric Theatre of Oklahoma. AT LYRIC: *Rock of Ages, Disney’s When You Wish, Million Dollar Quartet, Billy Elliot, Big Fish, Mary Poppins, Oklahoma!, A Little Night Music, Monty Python’s Spamalot, Disney’s The Little Mermaid, Les Misérables, Tarzan, Big River, The Glass Menagerie, Call Me Madam, Sweet Charity, Ragtime, Oliver!, Steel Magnolias, The Rocky Horror Show, Urinetown: The Musical.* LOCAL: *The Christmas Show, OKC Philharmonic; The Secret Garden, Myriad Botanical Gardens.*

## Production Staff

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Assistant Set Designer .....	Steven Royal
Company Manager/Production Manager.....	Matthew Sipress
Technical Director .....	Adam Brand
Assistant Stage Managers.....	Keegan Johnston, Abigail Templer, Geni Gallant
Dialect Coach.....	Nicholas Bartell
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# Lyric Leadership

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**MICHAEL BARON** (*Producing Artistic Director*) At Lyric, he directed *Master Class*, *Grease*, *Frost/Nixon*, *Titanic*, *Singin' in the Rain*, *Bright Star*, *When We're Gone* (world premiere), Disney's *Freaky Friday*, *Fun Home*, Disney's *When You Wish*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *I Am My Own Wife*, *Assassins*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Dreamgirls*, *Mann...And Wife* (world premiere), *Bernice Bobs Her Hair* (world premiere), *Big Fish* with David Elder and Tony-nominee Emily Skinner, *Oklahoma!*, *An Inspector Calls*, *A Little Night Music* with Tony-nominee Dee Hoty, *Les Misérables*, *Triangle*, *Big River*, *Tarzan*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, *Call Me Madam* with Tony-winner Beth Leavel, *Spring Awakening*, *Ragtime*, *Oliver!*, *Boeing Boeing*, *Always... Patsy Cline*, *December Divas*, *The Rocky Horror Show* and the annual production of Lyric's *A Christmas Carol* (also adapted). He has directed over 95 productions at theaters across the country including the current production of *A Christmas Carol* at Ford's Theatre in Washington, D.C. Other regional directing highlights include - ZACH Theatre: *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Spring Awakening*; Signature Theatre: *The Little Dog Laughed*, *Songs for a New World* starring Tony-winner Alice Ripley, Tony-nominee Brian D'Arcy James, Emmy-nominee Titus Burgess, and music direction by Jason Robert Brown; Adventure Theatre: *James and the Giant Peach*, the world premiere musical *Big Nate*; Goodspeed Musicals: *Meet John Doe*; Trinity Repertory Company: *The School for Scandal*. La Mama: *The Whore of Sheridan Square* (wrote and directed, published in anthology *Plays and Playwrights 2006*). NEA: 2010-2018 Poetry Out Loud National Competition Finals with hosts, John Leguizamo, Kerry Washington and Anna Deavere Smith. Teaching: American University, Brown University, Holy Cross College and Rhode Island College. Michael has been a theatre

grant panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and the National Alliance for Musical Theatre. Training: B.A. in Theatre Arts, Wake Forest University; M.F.A. in Directing, Trinity Repertory Conservatory. Michael served as the Associate Director of Signature Theatre in Arlington, Virginia-winner of the 2009 Regional Theatre Tony Award. Michael received the 2012 Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Direction of a Resident Musical in Washington, D.C. for Adventure Theatre's production of *A Year with Frog and Toad*, the 2016 Oklahoma Governor's Arts Award, and a special award from Oklahoma City Mayor's Committee on Disabilities Concerns. He is a board member for the National Alliance for Musical Theatre.

**JIM REYNOLDS** (*Managing Director*) joined Lyric Theatre as Managing Director in 2017. He has an accomplished background in arts management, marketing, public relations, project management, strategic planning and customer service. He comes to Lyric from ZACH Theatre in Austin, TX where he held the marketing and public relations director position for 25 years. During his tenure, Jim was an integral part of the theatre's success as it grew from an annual operating budget of \$550,000 to \$8,000,000 during which time the organization opened two new theatre facilities. Prior to that, he was the sales director at Dallas Theater Center, under the artistic leadership of Adrian Hall who is often hailed as a founding father of the American regional theatre movement. Fresh from the University of South Carolina, he served as house manager and ultimately the production business manager at the Alliance Theatre/Atlanta Children's Theatre, the Southeast's leading regional theatre. Jim currently volunteers as Board Chair of the Plaza Business Alliance, which promotes business success in the historic Plaza District.

# Lyric Theatre Board of Directors

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