

Kudzu Playhouse, 10743 Alpharetta Highway, Roswell, GA 30076

Kudzu Family Playhouse, 10743 Alpharetta Highway, Roswell, Ga. 30076

Kudzu Sprouts, 10743 Alpharetta Highway, Roswell, Ga 30076

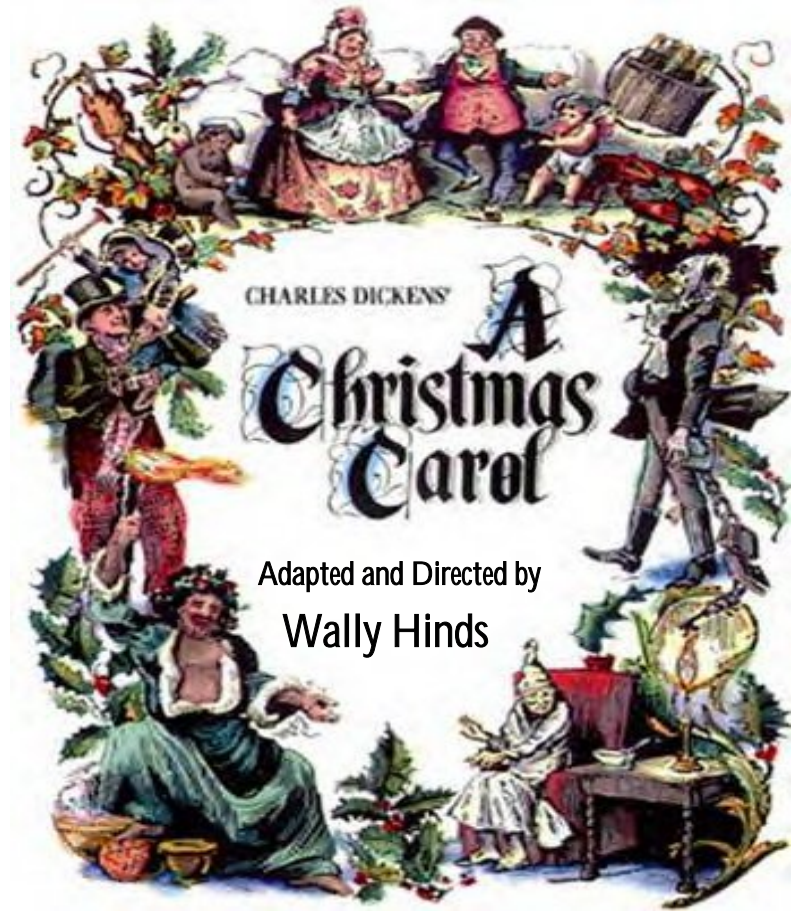
770-594-1020 Tel      770-594-1318 Fax

[www.kudzuplayhouse.org](http://www.kudzuplayhouse.org)

E-mail us at [kudzuplayhouse@aol.com](mailto:kudzuplayhouse@aol.com)

# Kudzu Playhouse

Presents



CHARLES DICKENS'

## A Christmas Carol

Adapted and Directed by  
Wally Hinds

Let us honor Christmas in our hearts and try to keep it all the year

November 28-December 24, 2008

Friday @ 8pm November 28, December 5, 12 & 19

Saturday @ 8pm November 29, December 6, 13 & 20

Saturday @ 3:00pm December 6, 13 & 20

Sunday @ 3:00pm December 7, 14 & 21

Thursday @ 8pm December 4, 11 & 18

Tuesday @ 8pm December 23

Wednesday @ 3:00pm, Christmas Eve, December 24



For reservations call 770-594-1020

[www.kudzuplayhouse.org](http://www.kudzuplayhouse.org)

## 2009 Winter classes!!

<u>Acting and Improv</u> (ages: 6-9)	Instructor: J. J. Swann Jan 13-Mar 17 (10 weeks)	Tuesday 5:00-6:00pm	\$170.00
<u>Acting&amp;Improv Stage/Screen</u> (ages: 10-14)	Instructor: J. J. Swann Jan 13-Mar 31 (12 weeks)	Tuesday 6:00-7:00pm	\$200.00
<u>Playwriting</u> (ages: 11-15)	Instructor: Cathy Ray Jan 14-Mar 4 (8 weeks)	Wednesday 5:00-7:00pm	\$220.00
<u>Technical Theatre</u> (ages: 13 thru adult)	Instructor: David Shelton Jan 15-Feb 19 (6 weeks)	Thursday 5:00-7:00pm	\$185.00
<u>Speech For the Stage</u> (ages: Intergenerational 6-99)	Instructor: Mary Sittler Jan 24 (2 hours)	Saturday 3:00-5:00pm	\$45.00
<u>Speech For the Stage</u> (ages: Intergenerational 6-99)	Instructor: Mary Sittler Jan 31 (2 hours)	Saturday 3:00-5:00pm	\$45.00
			\$85.00 for both Classes

### Home School Daytime Weekday Classes

<u>Drama Classes</u> (ages 6-10)	Instructor: Leslie Kelley Jan 13-Mar 17 (10 weeks)	Tuesday 1:00-2:00pm	\$170.00
<u>Playwriting</u> (ages: 11-15)	Instructor: Cathy Ray Jan 14-Mar 4 (8 weeks)	Wednesday 2:00-4:00pm	\$220.00

See website for more details and bios on all Instructors  
[www.kudzuplayhouse.org](http://www.kudzuplayhouse.org)

All of the Fall Classes will be at 10743 Alpharetta Highway in the Brannon Square Shopping Center

## Kudzu Wants YOU!!!

COSTUMES.....PROPS.....STAGE MANAGING....TECNICAL....SET BUILDING  
 ANSWERING THE PHONES.....PUBLICITY.....MARKETING.....DIRECTING  
 ACTING....FUNDRAISING....PAINTING....CONCESSIONS..TAKING TICKETS  
 CLEANING OUT THE BACKSTAGE.....PACKING BOXES.....ETC.....ETC

If you can wield a hammer or a paintbrush, or climb a ladder to hang a light; or if you know which end of a drill holds the bit, or how to run lights or sound or be a stage manager; or if you can help with set dressing , or hunt for props, or hem a skirt, or be a crew member; or man the concession stand, or if you would like to learn to do any of these things.....

Call Jeannie Hinds or Suzanne Clark at 770-594-1020, It's a great way to meet and have fun with new people, and you may find that the world of community theatre is right up your alley.

2009

Kudzu Kidz

2009

Summer Drama Camps

For information or to register for these classes, call 770-594-1020.

Ages 6-10 June 1, June 15, July 6, and 20

Ages 10-14 June 8, June 22, July 13 and July 27

Through creative dramatics, theatre games, character development, improvisational scenes and simple scripts written by the students or developed from popular tales, the students will learn about playing different characters and memorization. A final stage performance for family and friends concludes the creative drama class.

The cost is \$200.00 per camper for 1 week, Monday –Friday, 10 am-3 pm

The class will be limited to 20 students

To hold a space a \$50.00 non-refundable deposit (Toward camp fee) is required.

770-594-1020

**A LITTLE DRAMA NEVER HURT ANYONE!!!**

**OUR EDUCATIONAL PURPOSE**

Children who participate in the arts learn skills they will value throughout their lives, in school, in work and in play. In addition to developing artistic skills, they learn creative thinking, communication, and they have a chance to practice cooperation, teamwork and self-motivation. This balanced approach encourages children to develop their unique talents and fosters self-confidence.

**Classes and Camps and Theatre Tickets,  
(from one to a whole season)  
make great gifts!**

It has gotten so expensive to mail information! We are developing an email list so that we can send announcements when shows are going to open and when we have information to pass along. We will never sell or share your email address. Please let us know if you want to be on our list.



kudzuplayhouse@aol.com



2009 Kudzu "Sprouts" Shows 2009

All seats are \$6.00

2008 ~~~~~For children 3 to 9 years old~~~~~2008

**Snow White and the 7 Dwarfs**

April 2-25, 2009

Thursday-Saturday at 11 am

Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs with only three characters? Impossible? Not with this enchanting play. The three characters in the play include Snow White, the wicked Queen and a "stage manager" who at various times becomes the huntsman, the handsome prince and the director for the creative dramatic which are so much a part of the production. The children in the audience take all the additional roles. They become a forest, the dwarfs, and even participate as part of the stage crew in putting together the sets. This is the ultimate in children's theatre because every youthful member of the audience actually becomes part of the play.

**A Chris "MESS" Carol**

December 2-December 19, 2009

Wednesday-Saturday at 11 am

Chris has the worst temper of any child you have ever seen. All Chris thinks about is "Chris". She is selfish and spoiled and thinks nothing of having temper tantrums. On Christmas Eve she meets four mysterious strangers who help to change her life.

Shows are always around 1 hour with no intermission and no blackouts and always have audience participation.

Reservations strongly suggested for all "Sprouts" shows

Kudzu Playhouse is looking for an ensemble of actors who can perform during the day for school shows and daytime matinees for the 2009 season.

Call 770-594-1020 or email us at

kudzuplayhouse@aol.com

Kudzu Playhouse needs people to work in the concession stand and take tickets at each show. If you would like to be a volunteer, please call the theatre at 770-594-1020 . We would love to have you be a part of the theatre.

**Kudzu Playhouse, Inc.** is a non-profit, tax exempt organization. Kudzu Playhouse is a member of the Atlanta Coalition of Performing Arts, Fulton Arts North, The Historic Roswell Convention and Visitors Bureau, Theatre Communication Group and the American Alliance for Theatre in Education.

We wish to extend our most heartfelt thanks to the many parents, friends and supporters for their hard work and dedication. They have been there with us giving of their time, money and support. Without them, AND YOU, this theatre would not exist.

2009 SEASON OF PLAYS **Kudzu Playhouse** 2009 SEASON OF PLAYS

10743 Alpharetta Highway, Brannon Square, Roswell, Georgia 30076

**Sabrina Fair**

February 13-March 15, 2009

By Bernard Slade  
Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm  
A man and woman meet by chance at a romantic inn over dinner. Although both are married to others, they find themselves in the same bed the next morning questioning how this could have happened. They agree to meet on the same weekend each year. Each of them always appears on schedule, but as time goes on each has some personal crisis that the other helps them through, often without both of them understanding what is going on. Twenty five years of manners, morals and attitudes are mirrored during these encounters.

**Man of LaMancha**

April 3-May 3, 2009

Written by Dale Wasserman/Music by Mitch Leigh/Lyrics by Joe Darion  
Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm  
The epic story of knight-errant Don Quixote, his servant Sancho, and the woman of his dreams, the lovely Aldonza/Dulcinea. The tale—set during the Spanish Inquisition—tells the romantic and noble journey of a knight who sets out to right all wrongs and win the heart of a good woman as he duels windmills along the way. Based on *The Adventures of Don Quixote* by Miguel de Cervantes', *Man of La Mancha* is the classic comic tragedy of man's struggle against all odds to dream impossible dreams.

**Caught on the Hop**

May 22-June 21, 2009

By Derek Benfield  
Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm  
When impressionable Phil announces to his good friend George that he has fallen for a girl on the top of a 49 bus, George is not surprised, such affairs have happened and blown over many times before. But he is surprised when he learns that Phil intends to divorce his wife Maggie and go to live with his new girlfriend in the house next door! However, friends being friends, the obliging George is persuaded to lend a helping hand, thus setting in motion the most frenetic confusion of mistaken identities, plotting and counterplotting that ever erupted on a quiet summer's day in the suburbs.

**Mr. Hobbs Vacation**

July 10-August 9, 2009

By Wally and Jeannie Hinds  
Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm  
Ellie Hobbs plans a summer vacation in Florida over the objections of her husband, Howard, who thinks it will cost too much money. She invites their married daughter to join them along with their 12 and 17 year old daughters. Things began to fall apart the minute they arrive. To complicate matters, they end up with some wacky next-door neighbors and a surprise visit from her sister and her family. Just when poor Howard thinks things couldn't get worse, chaos breaks loose from every direction.

**Don't Mention My Name**

August 21-September 20, 2009

By Fred Carmichael  
Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm  
An award-winning playwright asks what you would do if you suffered temporary amnesia and stumbled into a bed and breakfast off season only to find you were expected for the weekend. The plot becomes more and more hilarious until all questions are answered, including who the hero is and what the crime is with a surprising twist ending. This combination of intriguing laughter, romance and mystery provides a delightful evening.

**I'll Be Back Before Midnight**

October 9-November 8, 2009

By Peter Colley  
Friday and Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 3pm  
Jan, who's recovering from a nervous disorder, and her husband rent a remote cabin from an odd farmer who tells gruesome ghost tales. When the husband's sister arrives, frightening events transpire. What happens to the fragile wife as bodies appear and disappear gives this classic thriller its horrifying impact. A first rate thriller and a wonderfully spooky ghost story.

**A Christmas Carol**

November 27-December 24, 2009

By Wally Hinds  
Thursday, December 4, 11 & 18 at 8pm  
Saturday, December 6, 13 & 20 at 2:30pm  
Sunday December 7, 14 & 21 at 2:30pm  
Tuesday, Dec 23 at 8pm & Wednesday, Dec 24 at 2:30pm  
Charles Dickens shows us Ebenezer Scrooge as he falls asleep in his dingy, cold quarters on Christmas Eve. The old miser is visited by three ghosts, each revealing to Scrooge the wrong doings of his and what will happen if he continues in his evil ways. This traditional holiday classic for the whole family is filled with old English Christmas Carols guaranteed to fill you with the Christmas spirit and warm your heart.

but only after he is through negotiating peace with the ever-violent UN. Luke would like to thank Aladdin for showing him a whole new world, and Chuck Norris for teaching him to count to infinity. Luke is also proud to have become the first person to beat a mannequin in a staring contest. Luke also plans to become the first person to set foot on the moon.

**DANI ZUBER** (*Laundress*) Dani is so excited to be back in *A Christmas Carol* after having been away for the past five years. Dani has been doing theatre as long as she can remember. *A Christmas Carol* has become a very special tradition with her family and it wouldn't be Christmas without it! By day, Dani works with special needs students at a local elementary school and at night she is working on getting her master's degree in teaching early childhood education. Dani would like to thank her parents and her other parents, Wally and Jeannie, for all the love and support they have given her! And a special thanks to Jillian, for joining in our craziness. This one is dedicated to Nana, her biggest fan! "We miss you!"

### Production Staff Biographies

**WALLY HINDS** (*Director, Beggar, Fezziwig, Christmas Present, Old Joe, and Poulterer*) See cast bios.

**GREG FITZGERALD** (*Co-director/Bob Cratchit*) See Cast bio's.

**JILLIAN WILSON** (*Stage Manager*) Jillian is happy to be at Kudzu stage managing for the first time. She would like to thank Dani and Colleen for bringing her to Kudzu in hopes of meeting a guy and then bringing her back again and again to see its wonderful plays. She is thankful for the fun times and great memories. She is also thankful that they convinced her, despite their turns and giggles, to stage manage this play (p.s. She knows when you are using mindset on her). She has had a wonderful time and has learned a lot about theater and all the work that goes into it. It has made her appreciate the world of theater so much more. Jillian would also like to thank her mom and dad for everything and watching her dog so that she could go to practices. Lastly, she really hopes that you enjoy the show and you have a very Merry Christmas.

**DON KEEL** (*Musical Director/Solicitor*) See Cast bio's.

**M. REED HIGGINS** (*Choral Director/Fred*) See Cast bio's.

**DAVID SHELTON** (*Lighting Design/Board Operator*) Theatre has become apart of David's life and soul, and a place where he can let his creativity fly free while still being grounded in the world of reality. Ever since he has entered into the realm of theater, he has had the opportunity to work in almost every role, from Master Electrician & Stage Manager to Director & Actor. Since joining Kudzu Playhouse in October 2007, David has worked on over 20 Kudzu productions in addition to those for other theater groups. In that short time, he has even been nominated and won the MAT Awards' "Best Sound Design - Musical" for Kudzu Playhouse's production of *Little Shop of Horrors*. He thanks everyone who has helped him make it to where he is today.



Veruca Salt in *Willy Wonka*. Katie LOVES *A Christmas Carol* and the year, for her, is always divided between “number of months after ACC” and “number of months until ACC”! She is blessed to work with so many very talented actors and singers. Katie wishes to thank her dad and Reed for their help and support and Wally, Greg, Brad and Judy for giving her the opportunity to play Belle. She hopes you enjoy the show! Merry Christmas!

**MORGAN KEEL** (*Ghost of Christmas Past/Topper scene*) Morgan is a senior at Northview High School. This is Morgan’s tenth production at Kudzu Playhouse, most recently appearing as *Templeton* in *Charlotte’s Web*, and *Cora* in the summer melodrama. Morgan is very happy to spend the holiday season with her Kudzu family one more time before going off to college and so happy Kalie could join that family this year. Morgan wishes to thank her own family for always believing in her and the directors for giving her an opportunity to play her dream role. She hopes you all enjoy the show and heed its message so that she need not haunt you, too! Merry Christmas!

**COLLEEN KILTS** (*Mrs. Cratchit*) Colleen is very excited to be appearing in *A Christmas Carol* at Kudzu Playhouse for the third time. Some of Colleen’s favorite childhood memories are of going to and appearing in *A Christmas Carol* in her home state of Massachusetts; she couldn’t imagine a holiday season without it and hopes that everyone enjoys seeing it as much as she enjoys being in it. She also appeared in *Godspell*, *Oklahoma*, and *Damn Yankees* in Massachusetts and has stage managed *Same Time Next Year* here at Kudzu. Colleen teaches children with autism and is also a graduate student at Georgia State University. She would like to thank Wally and Jeannie for all that they do, Greg for being a great assistant director, and Jillian for being a wonderful stage manager. She would also like to express her gratitude to God, her family, her friends, and her cat for making everything possible.

**BRINK MILLER** (*Ebenezer Scrooge*) Brink is delighted to be back for his fourteenth season as Scrooge in this joyous Christmas tradition. He welcomes back all those families for which this wonderful show has also become a Christmas tradition and is glad you have found us at our new location. Brink has performed in over fifty productions in the Atlanta area, many of them at Kudzu. He was most recently seen at Kudzu as Les in *Breakfast With Les and Bess*. His most recent appearances have been as Danforth in *The Crucible* at Blackwell and Bradley in *The Cocktail Hour* at Stage Door. He sends special love and thanks to Sandy and to his three lovely daughters for supporting him in the time commitment required during the Christmas season by this special passion. He hopes that you will all leave the theatre with the joy and spirit of Christmas. As Tiny Tim observes, “God bless us. God bless us every one!”

**KEVIN SCHAEFER** (*Peter Cratchit*) Kevin Schaefer is a freshman in High School, where he has been active in the Theatrical Alliance as both an actor and technical support crew member. He also enjoys playing tennis and is a roller coaster aficionado. Kevin is very excited to return for his second season of *A Christmas Carol*, after having played young Ebenezer Scrooge last year.

**BEN TIESLAU** (*Young Scrooge*) Ben Tieslau is a senior in high school. He’s a pretty cool kid who tries not to take things too seriously. He enjoys laughing. If you want to know more, just ask him.

**LUKE TIESLAU** (*Topper/Fezziwig scene*) Luke Tieslau was overjoyed to be cast in another play at Kudzu. In his free time, Luke enjoys visiting his home town of Atlantis,

2009

Kudzu Family Playhouse

2009

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**The Adventures of Nate the Great**

Based on the book by Marjorie Weinman Sharnat and Adapted by Pamela Sterling

January 10-February 8, 2009 Saturday and Sunday at 2pm Saturday January 31 & February 7 at 7:00pm  
Nate the Great is the sharpest kid detective ever to solve his neighborhood’s mysteries. With his faithful dog, Sludge, and his friends, he solves important cases, always remembering to leave a note for his mother and to wear his galoshes.

**The Secret Garden**

Based on the book by Frances Hodgson Burnett

February 28-March 29, 2009 Saturday and Sunday at 2pm Saturday, March 21 & 28 at 7:00pm

This joyous story about the blossoming of the earth and the human spirit is a garden of delight for the imagination. An orphaned 11-year-old girl finds wonder, friendship and redemption in an abandoned secret garden on her reclusive uncle’s Yorkshire estate.

**Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business**

Based on the book by Barbara Park/Adaptation, Music and Lyrics by Joan Cushing

April 18-May 17, 2009 Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm Saturday, May 9 & 16 at 7:00pm

*Junie B. Jones and a Little Monkey Business* follows a strong-willed six-year-old girl through her feelings of frustration at having a baby brother on the way. When Junie B. hears her Grandma refer to her newly-arrived brother as the “cutest little monkey” ever, she can’t wait to tell her friends that she will have the best show-and-tell in class - a real live monkey!

**The Princess and the Pea**

Based on the Hans Christian Andersen tale by Wally Hinds

June 4-27, 2009 Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 11am

A long time ago, there lived a prince who was looking for someone very special to marry. Although the handsome prince meets ladies blessed with beauty, wealth, and brains, he knows in his heart that none is the true princess he longs for. Then he meets a young woman he likes very much. Could she be his queen? One tiny pea buried underneath twenty soft mattresses might reveal the truth...

**Cinderella**

Based on the Screenplay by Ken Anderson and Homer Brightman, Music and Lyrics by Mack David, Al Hoffman and Jerry Livingston

July 9-August 1, 2009 Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 11am

When Cinderella’s cruel stepmother prevents her from attending the Royal Ball, she gets some unexpected help from her Fairy Godmother.

**The Ransom of Red Chief**

Adapted from the book by O’Henry

August 22-September 20, 2009 Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm Saturday, September 12 & 19 at 7:00pm

This is a hilarious tale of the kidnapped boy, Red, known as Red Chief, who is such a holy terror that the question soon becomes: Will Red’s uncle pay to get him back or will the kidnappers have to pay to get rid of him.

**A Year With Frog and Toad**

Based on the book by Arnold Lobel/Lyrics by Willie Reale/Music by Robert Reale

October 10-November 8, 2009 Saturday and Sunday at 2pm Saturday, October 31 and November 7 at 7:00pm

*A Year With Frog And Toad* remains true to the spirit of the original stories as it follows two great friends, the cheerful and popular Frog and the rather grumpy Toad through four fun-filled seasons. Waking from hibernation in the spring, they proceed to plant gardens, swim, rake leaves and go sledding, learning life lessons along the way, including a most important one about friendship and rejoicing in the attributes that make each of us different and special.

**The Best Christmas Pageant Ever**

By Barbara Robinson

November 28-December 24, 2009 Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm Saturday, December 5, 12 & 19 at 7:00pm

Tuesday, December 22 and Wednesday, December 23 at 7:00pm

Thursday, December 24, (Christmas Eve) at 2pm

In this hilarious Christmas tale, a couple struggling to put on a church pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids, probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won’t believe the mayhem and the fun, when the Herdmans collide with the Christmas story head-on. An American Classic! One of the best Christmas stories ever and certainly one of the funniest! This delightful comedy is adapted from the best selling book.

~~~SEASON TICKETS ARE ON SALE NOW~~~

# Kudzu Playhouse Contributors 2006-

## ANGELS

\$2500-5000+

Donald and Kathleen Boyce  
Kathy and Rial Ellsworth  
Wally and Jeannie Hinds  
Lisa and Mark Kopkin  
Dorothy Sykes  
Lane Teilhaber

## BENEFACTORS

\$1000-2499

Chris and Patti Arapoglou  
Greg Fitzgerald  
Jerry Harlow and family  
Martha Kennedy

## DONORS

\$500-999

Anonymous  
Turpin and Cindy Nolan Ballard  
Bronwyn Glantzberg  
Don and Ellen Keel  
Jan and Earl Kramer  
Chris and Barry Rooker

## PATRONS

\$100-499

Ron Barnett  
Hugh Chapman  
CSI  
Chip Decker  
Melissa Estess  
Deborah Fry  
Kenneth and Susan Goldman

Harold and Jeanne Henry  
Todd and Denise Jones  
Leslie Kelley  
Mary Kingsley  
Richard and Marlene Kraich  
Mary and David Maxwell  
Amy McCracken  
Barbara McFann  
Brink and Sandy Miller  
Moms Club of Roswell  
Pat Murphy  
Paul and Vickie Olson  
Michael and Linda Rush  
Kathy Simmons

## FRIENDS

\$1-99

Kathleen Baker  
Liz Bigler  
William and Ursula Cook  
Creek View Elementary School  
Jay Croft  
Rosa De-Kelly  
Sally Henry  
Susan Higgins  
Patricia Minor  
Joseph and Sally Mrus  
Olin and Erica Piffer  
Daniel and Sylvia Rossman  
Bob Smith  
Kate Whitlock

If you have been left off this list  
please let us know

**WALLY HINDS** (*Director, Beggar, Fezziwig, Christmas Present, Old Joe, and Poulterer*) Wally is the Artistic Director and Co-Founder of Kudzu Playhouse. He has been acting since the age of twelve and has written, produced and acted in over 200 productions the last fifteen years. He was last seen in *Little Shop of Horrors* as Mushnick. He would like to thank the cast for all their hard work and dedication, Greg, for being a great co-director, Don and Reed for absolutely fantastic music, Reed, Brink, Greg and Don for the help on the set, David for all the millions of things he does everyday, Ellen for working so hard on the costumes when she did not need anything else on her plate, the many volunteers that keep this theatre running, and to you for coming to the show. He dedicates his performance to the love of his life and his sole mate, Jeannie.

**BRYAN KEEL** (*Poulter Boy*) Bryan is a seven year old second grader at Shakerag Elementary. This is Bryan's seventh production at Kudzu where he most recently had the honor of playing *Fudge* in *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. Bryan is also appearing in *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, as a favor to his mom (the director) who begged for "one more boy!" Bryan is honored to actually trade lines with Mr. Scrooge, himself! He wishes to thank his family for the constant support, Mr. Brink for being so fun to work with, the directors for giving him this wonderful opportunity and God for his talents. Merry Christmas and God Bless!

**DON KEEL** (*Musical Director/Solicitor # 1*) In what is emerging as an annual tradition, Don is happy to be performing with his entire family in *A Christmas Carol 2008* – he just hopes he can keep up with his talented wife and children! Don's performance background is primarily as a musician; covering the full spectrum from classical pianist, to headbanging guitar and keyboard player, to church music ministry leader. By day, he is a senior manager for a large general contractor. Merry Christmas!

**ELLEN KEEL** (*Mrs. Fezziwig*) Ellen has had the honor of appearing in numerous productions at Kudzu. Her favorite roles are any opportunity to play opposite her talented family or Wally or Jeannie, so she is especially blessed this year! Ellen wishes to thank her daughters, Katie and Morgan, and her husband, Don, for their support and their help with the baby; her parents for their patience when dinner is late; Bryan, for always keeping that sunny smile around; Don and Reed for the beautiful music; the directors and her fellow actors for their patience with her tiny shadow; and God, for so richly blessing her life. Ellen hopes you'll carry the message of Christmas Carol with you all year. Merry Christmas!

**FALLON KEEL** (*Townsperson*) Fallon is a 17 month old veteran of Kudzu Playhouse. Fallon first appeared in *A Christmas Carol* while *in utero* in 2006, then as an infant in 2007 and now as a tiny townsperson in 2008. Fallon has also made appearances in *Charlotte's Web* and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. She wishes to thank the directors for their patience with her as she masters walking and (hopefully) talking. She also thanks all her fellow cast members for their patience and kindness as they play "chase the baby." And, of course, Fallon's family thanks her for being such a wonderfully adaptable baby and allowing them to participate in this family tradition. We love you, precious girl!

**KATIE KEEL** (*Belle*) Katie is an eighth grader at River Trail Middle School. This is Katie's tenth production with Kudzu Playhouse, most recently appearing as Charlotte in *Charlotte's Web*, and Goldy, the dumb blonde in the summer melodrama. Katie has also enjoyed performing in her school musicals and plays, most recently appearing as

**Thank you for your patronage at Kudzu Play-**

every single day. "I love you guys." He hopes you enjoy the show.

**LAURA HENRY** (*Iris Fezziwig/Sarah in the Topper Scene*) The Christmas tradition continues! Laura is enthused to be part of her fifth talented *A Christmas Carol* cast! Besides doing theater and math, Laura enjoys volleyball, reading, and hanging out with her family. She would like to thank Wally and Jeannie for their tireless work, her Daddy for helping her learn all the Marley lines, and the cast for giving her so many hours of fun! Enjoy the show!

**RICHARD HENRY** (*Dick/Ghost of Christmas Future/Topper Scene*) Wow, the Holidays are here and already it's time for another show of *A Christmas Carol* at Kudzu. Richard is so excited to be performing in *A Christmas Carol* for the sixth year in a row and ecstatic to be re-united with friends from past years and to meet new people that decided to come out this year. He would like to thank Wally and Jeannie for their unceasing dedication to the theatre, Greg for kicking him around when necessary, his fabulous family, his 1995 Oldsmobile for getting him to and from rehearsals, and every member of the audience for coming out to see this amazing production of *A Christmas Carol*. Enjoy!!

**SALLY HENRY** (*Penelope Fezziwig/Mimsi*) Sally has been counting down the number of months till *A Christmas Carol* all summer... and it's finally here!!! Needless to say, she is so happy to be in her fifth production of *A Christmas Carol*, and reprising her roles of Mimsi and Penelope. When not at the theatre, she is an intense volleyball player. Merry Christmas and enjoy the show!

**MORIAH HEPPLER** (*Belinda Cratchit/Shelly child/Belle child*) At 9 year's old, a level 3 pianist, intermediate ballet student, and budding actress, this is Moriah's debut to Community Theater. Her solo singing debut was on stage at her RISPA ballet recital last spring. She loves animals, and enjoys horseback-riding, swimming, and playing Upward Basketball.

**TRACI HEPPLER** (*Mrs. Shelley/Adult Belle*) Traci has done some reader's theater and lots of choral singing in the past, along with some stage acting in the *long* past, but this is her first attempt at Community Theater. She is currently a preschool teacher, wife, mother of two, including daughter Moriah (who's also in this play), active in her children's PTA's, and a member of the Atlanta area choir, **Chords Of Faith.**

**M REED HIGGINS** (*Fred/Choral Director*) A Georgia-born Roswell native, Reed skipped town after high school and headed north in search of education in the fields and estuaries of southern Maryland. While at St. Mary's College of Maryland, he studied psychology and vocal performance, and somehow left with a degree in the Psychology of Performance. This production marks the fifth for Reed under the tutelage and wonderful direction of the folks at Kudzu Playhouse. Other highlights from Reed's performance career include a production of *Pirates of Penzance* at the Folger Theater in Washington, DC, a staging of Leonard Bernstein's *Trouble in Tahiti* in Alba, Italy, and most recently his portrayal of Seymore Krelbourne in *Litte Shop Of Horrors*, which won him an award for best actor in a musical from the Metropolitan Atlanta Theatre Awards in 2008. By day, Reed works for a photography store in Atlanta, and in his spare time he practices his other interests including gardening, sculpting, pottery, studying Italiano, and making music with friends.

# Kudzu Playhouse Staff

Managing Director

Artistic Director

Artistic Director of Kudzu Sprouts

Assistant Technical Director

Box Office Manager

Web Host

Web Master

Volunteer Coordinator

Drama Teacher s

Outreach Drama Teacher

Adult Acting

Summer Camp Lead Counselors

Junior Camp Counselors

Friends of Kudzu Secretary

Marketing Committee Chairman

Donations

Costume Team Leaders

Kudzu Hostess Team Leaders

Jeannie Hinds

Wally Hinds

Leslie Kelley

David Shelton

Suzanne Clark

Snapper Morgan

Rial Ellsworth

David Shelton

J.J. Swann, David Shelton, Mary Sittler and Cathy Ray

Leslie Kelley

Adriana Warner

David Olson, Karen Rooker and Lindsay Olson

Mitchell Miller, Caleb

McCracken and

Kimberly Maxwell

Marlene Kraich

Robin Goodfellow

Chip Decker

Sheri McGuinness

Kathryn Fortson

Jan Kramer

Mary Ritenour

Geri Goodfellow

Mary Maxwell

Karen Rooker

Linda Niles

Margarita Moldovan

## Other Holiday Performances at Kudzu Playhouse

### *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*

#### Kudzu Family Playhouse-Stage 2

By Barbara Robinson

**November 29-December 24, 2008**

Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm

Saturday evenings, December 6, 13 & 20 at 7:00pm

December 24, Christmas Eve ( Wednesday) at 2pm



In this hilarious Christmas tale, a couple struggling to put on a church pageant is faced with casting the Herdman kids, probably the most inventively awful kids in history. You won't believe the mayhem and the fun, when the Herdmans collide with the Christmas story head-on. An American Classic! One of the best Christmas stories ever and certainly one of the funniest! This delightful comedy is adapted from the best selling book.

### *A Chris MESS Carol*

#### Kudzu Sprouts Playhouse-Stage 2

By Wally Hinds

**December 3-December 20, 2008**

Wednesday-Saturday at 11 am

Chris has the worst temper of any child you have ever seen. All Chris thinks about is "Chris." She is selfish and spoiled and thinks nothing of having temper tantrums. On Christmas Eve she meets four mysterious strangers who help to change her life.

Make your reservations early. Space is limited.

Group Rates are available for 15 or more.

## Kudzu Mission

Kudzu Playhouse is a metro-Atlanta community theatre located in Roswell, Georgia. Kudzu Playhouse is a community theatre in the truest sense and its mission is to provide cultural and educational enrichment for the whole family through entertaining and educational theatrical performances and through dramatic instruction. The theatre maintains its commitment to the community to provide excellent theatrical productions and to enrich and create community involvement by providing opportunities for theatrical participation (technically and artistically) for individuals at all levels of experience and ages.

tremely excited to be performing in her very first play. Lauren's favorite subjects in school are art and music. She enjoys photography, playing on the computer, traveling, ballet, hip-hop and jazz. Her dog, Zoe, and her little brother and sister keep her very busy when she's at home! Lauren wants to give a huge "Thank You" to Kudzu for giving her the opportunity to perform in this play and have a blast with the cast. Thanks!!!

**GREG FITZGERALD** (*Bob Cratchit/Co-Director*) This year marks Greg's third in the holiday tradition that is *A Christmas Carol* at Kudzu Playhouse and his second year as Bob Cratchet. Greg is no stranger to Kudzu. He has worked both on stage and behind the scenes on various productions since 2005. His directing credits include *Rumors* and *Bermuda Avenue Triangle*, which earned Greg nominations for Best Director and Sound Design at this year's Metropolitan Atlanta Theatre Awards. This year's production marks the second show that Greg has worked along side Wally Hinds, the first being the 2006 production of *Father of the Bride*. In addition, Greg has appeared in several productions in the Atlanta area including *Enchanted April* (Mellersh Wilton), *Breaking Legs* (Tino DeFelice), *Not Now Darling* (Harry McMichael), *I Take This Man* (Officer Jud Keegan), *June Groom* (Uncle Harvey), *Funny Money* (Henry Perkins), *Barefoot in the Park* (Telephone Man), and *Heaven Can Wait* (Joe Pendleton). Greg would like to thank Wally and Jeannie for giving him such a great place to come and play, and to all of you who come out to support this amazing theatre. Merry Christmas!

**JOEY FLOREZ** (*Narrator*) Joey is ecstatic to be returning for his second performance with Kudzu!! He is very grateful to be working with yet another amazing cast, and especially excited to work along side Brink Miller (who played Joey's Father in law in *Breakfast With Les and Bess*) again. Joey is currently an Education major at Georgia Perimeter College, and hopes to someday teach Literature and Drama at the high school level. He would like to dedicate this performance to his girlfriend Nicole.

**KALIE FRANK** (*Rowena, Fezziwig scene*)

**DANIELLE FREDERICKSON** (*Alice*) Danie Frederickson is a sophomore at Chattahoochee High School. She is very excited to be playing Alice in her first Kudzu Playhouse production. Danie loves to act and sing and hopes to pursue it in the future. Thanks to her family's support and love, Danie is a dedicated performer.

**HAROLD W. HENRY** (*Jacob Marley/Undertaker*) Harold is having a great time with his fourth *A Christmas Carol* performance. The last two years, he has played Bob Cratchit - being the father of eight children prepared him well for playing the father of six. This year he has moved to the more age appropriate role of Marley's Ghost. With few life experiences to draw upon for the role, Harold has been leaning heavily on Brink Miller's insights into being dead. Enjoy the show - If you have visits from spectres this Christmas, "may they haunt your houses pleasantly".

**JACKSON HENRY** (*Dick/Ghost of Christmas Future/Topper Scene*) Jackson is really excited to be in *A Christmas Carol*. It is one of his joys every Christmas to be in this awesome show again and again. It never gets old. He has been acting on and off at Kudzu for the past five years, and most recently over the summer in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Virtue Triumphs over Villany* and *The Little Mermaid*. He thanks Wally and Jeannie for casting him again, and the whole cast for making rehearsal enjoyable

and that she loves them all very much!

**LINDSEY BAKER** (*Martha Cratchit*) Lindsey Baker is an eighth Grader at Northwestern Middle school. She is thirteen years old. This is her fifth year in *A Christmas Carol* at Kudzu Playhouse. She would like to thank her mother (the driver) and all her friends. She would like to give a special thanks to the wonderful cast and crew. Enjoy the show!!

**JEFF BOYCE** (*U/S Ghost of Christmas Present/Narrator*)

**ERIN BARNES** (*Carol Cratchet/Want/Beggar Girl*) Erin is in the first grade at Cumming Elementary and she is so excited to be returning to *A Christmas Carol* for her second time! She is even more excited to be playing Carol Cratchit and singing again with all of her friends at Kudzu playhouse. Erin played one of the fairgoers this year in *Charlotte's Web* at Kudzu playhouse. She continues to model children's clothes at the AmericasMart in Atlanta and she will be dancing with her jazz class for a holiday performance this season. Erin would love to thank everyone for their help, support and encouragement. May you all have a safe and happy holiday and much love to Mr. Wally and the cast!

**SHANE BECKLEY** (*Young Eben/Doug Cratchit*) Shane Beckley received his first acting role when he was 8. He played Peter in the Sawnee Cultural Arts Center production of "Peter and the Wolf". In 2008 he played in the Riverwatch Middle School production of "Bye Bye Birdie". Shane loves working with the other actors. This play has helped Shane tremendously. His goal is to be in as many plays as he can. Shane would like to thank his whole family for driving him back and forth and helping him get through it all. Shane hopes to be in many more plays at the Kudzu playhouse.

**JAY BUSBEE** (*Solicitor # 2*) Jay is a writer for Yahoo Sports and Atlanta magazine. His previous theater credits include the title role in his elementary school performance of *The Wizard of Oz*.

**LOGAN BUSBEE** (*Tiny Tim/Ignorance*) Logan is a kindergartner at River Eves Elementary, and knows the name of every single Star Wars character.

**RILEY BUSBEE** (*Faith Shelly/Belle child*) Riley is a fourth grader at River Eves Elementary, and swims and plays soccer at Newtown Park

**JASON BYRD** (*George/Daniel*) Jason Byrd loves the theater and has had leading roles since he was five years old. On stage he was in *The Little Mermaid*, *Charlotte's Web*, *A Christmas Carol* and *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* at Kudzu Playhouse in Roswell, GA. Behind the scenes he ran the tech booth for *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*. He has auditioned and been selected to represent his school at the Georgia All State Chorus, as well as the ACDA National Middle School Honor Chorus in Oklahoma City, OK in March 2009. Jason wants to thank everyone for supporting his growth as an entertainment professional. Jason is thirteen years old and goes to Northwestern Middle School in Alpharetta. He is active in Junior Beta, Honor Chorus and the Improv Team. Someday we expect to see him on Broadway in New York City.

**LAUREN CATHER** (*Fan/Shelly child*) Lauren Cather is nine years old and is ex-

## Director's Notes:

I have been involved with A Christmas Carol since 1991. A lot longer if you consider that I have been seeing it with my family since my children were very young. That's a long time. This has become such a tradition at Christmas that I don't know what I would do without it. It is a time when the cast comes together and it becomes more than just a play. This time spent together at this special time of the year is like no other. That is why a lot of the cast comes back year after year. On a sad note, this year, due to illness and death in their family, Brad and Judy Zuber, who have been an integral part of this show for many years, are not with us. We have missed them and their participation more than we can say. Our thoughts and prayers are with them as they face the trials in their life right now. We hope you will remember them in your prayers also. And we hope all of you who come see this show will be filled with the Christmas spirit and have a wonderful holiday season.

Wally

## Wish list: Picnic Tables,

Paper (regular white and card stock for printing), **Volunteers**, vintage clothing, unique costume items, **volunteers**, small tables, chairs, wooden chairs, **volunteers**, stools, pictures, mirrors, children's dress up hat and Halloween costumes (especially fairy tale costumes for our classes and camps) table cloths, curtains, silk flowers & greenery (especially trees), odd or unusual furniture pieces, **Corporate Sponsors**, **Grant Writers** and oh yeah: **volunteers!**

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!

From all of us at Kudzu Playhouse

# Kudzu Playhouse

**Managing Director—Jeannie Hinds**

**Managing Artistic Director—Wally**

## A Christmas Carol

Adapted for the stage and directed by Wally Hinds

Co-Directed by Greg Fitzgerald

Assistant Directors... Brad and Judy Zuber

Musical Direction by Don Keel

Choral Direction by M. Reed Higgins

Musical Accompaniment by Don Keel

Lyricist for "Old Joe" ...Jessica Alexander

Stage Manager...Jillian Wilson

Choreographer...Katie O'Neill

Costume Design...Ellen Keel

Costumers...Leann Barnes, Jan Kramer

Board Operator...David Shelton

Lighting Design...David Shelton

Set Design...Wally Hinds

Set Construction...Wally Hinds, M. Reed Higgins, Brink Miller, Don Keel, Greg Fitzgerald, David Shelton, Amie Kroessig

Scenic Design...Wally Hinds

Scenic Painters...Kathleen Belongie, Wally Hinds

We would like to say a HUGE THANK YOU to Leann Barnes for being the Show Coordinator for this Christmas Season. Please give her, and all the many people who helped so much, a standing ovation.

There is one 15-minute intermission

### Cast

In Alphabetical Order

Danica Alexander..... Charwoman/Fezziwig Scene  
Lindsey Baker.....Martha Cratchit  
Jeff Boyce..... Understudy/Ghost of Christmas Present  
Erin Barnes..... Carol Cratchet/Want/Beggar Child  
Shane Beckley..... Young Eben/Doug Cratchet  
Jay Busbee..... Solicitor #2

Logan Busbee ..... Tiny Tim/Ignorance  
Riley Busbee.....Shelly Child/Belle Child  
Jason Byrd .....George/Daniel  
Lauren Cather ..... Fan/Shelly Child  
Greg Fitzgerald ..... Bob Cratchet  
Joey Florez.....Narrator  
Kalie Frank .....Rowena/Fezziwig scene  
Danielle Frederickson.....Alice  
Harold Henry .....Jacob Marley/Undertaker  
Jackson Henry..... Dick/Future/Topper scene  
Laura Henry .....Iris Fezziwig/Topper scene  
Richard Henry..... Dick/Future/Topper scene  
Sally Henry ..... Penelope/Mimsi  
Moriah Heppler.....Belinda Cratchit/Shelly child/Belle child  
Traci Heppler.....Mrs. Shelley/Adult Belle  
M. Reed Higgins ..... Fred  
Wally Hinds ..... Old Joe/Fezziwig/Present/Poulterer/Beggar  
Bryan Keel ..... Poulter Boy  
Don Keel.....Solicitor #1  
Ellen Keel .....Mrs. Fezziwig  
Fallon Keel..... Townsperson  
Katie Keel ..... Belle  
Morgan Keel ..... Ghost of Christmas Past/Topper scene  
Colleen Kilts .....Mrs. Cratchet  
Brink Miller .....Ebenezer Scrooge  
Kevin Schaefer.....Peter Cratchet  
Ariel Stewart..... Ensemble/Understudy  
Ben Tieslau ..... Young Scrooge  
Luke Tieslau ..... Topper/Fezziwig scene  
Dani Zuber ..... Laundress

Cameras and Recording Devices are absolutely prohibited in the theatre. Also, as a courtesy to the actors as well as the other patrons, please make sure all cell phones and pagers are turned off.

### Cast Biographies in Alphabetical Order

**DANICA ALEXANDER** (*Charwoman/Fezziwig Scene*) Danica Alexander is a seventeen year old student at Riverwood High School. She Loves to sing ALL the time, and to dance wherever she goes. She loves acting, writing music, reading cheesy novels, being around people, the color blue, kittens (and cats), sitting by waterfalls, drinking too much coffee, designing costumes, and eating strawberry Ice-cream. This is her second year performing in *A Christmas Carol*, and she would like tell everyone thank you