Director’s Note:

There have been so many great things about working with this cast: helping actors play a scene more realistically, making artistic decisions about everything from the movement patterns to the curtains, learning about all the work a production team does, finding the ways to make things run smoother (often as we realized “Oh, we could have done that...”), but more than anything else, it’s been amazing to watch this production come to life.

It started as a message on Facebook, saying “Hey, who wants to put on a show in memory of Mr. Nash?” And, well, we’re theatre kids, plus we all really loved Mr. Nash. In short, we leapt at the chance. And next it was “Who wants which parts?” and “Who wants to be part of the production team?” I had been thinking recently that I might enjoy directing, and wanted to give it a try. So I said I’d love to, and it was exciting. Then there was a set design posted to the Facebook group, through a free service from Google. Then we were casting the play, discussing possibilities over Facebook’s chat interface. And then we got home and had our first read-through, and everyone’s lines were memorized. We rehearsed in small groups, doing one or two scenes per day, working in living rooms and basements. It was hard to stage the play without knowing exactly what our performance space would be. Initially, we thought we would probably be performing in the Fox High School drama room, but we were also looking into the idea of using Rickman. When it all worked out, we were ecstatic.

It’s been a challenge to design everything so that it could be changed at the last minute. Throughout it all, though, the actors have been incredibly on top of things and ready to work. I know that the reason this show will be a success is because everyone involved was willing to pour themselves into making a great show.

-- Lisa Henderson, Director
The Story of the Production

During Fox's production of Narnia, I was backstage taking photographs for my college photography class and began to reminisce, realizing I missed theatre terribly. Mr. Nash was backstage and he told me about how he wanted to do a community production of A Christmas Carol in the following year, and how the Theatre Troupe alumni could audition and be a part of it. When Mr. Nash passed away, I began to realize just how many people knew and loved him, and I felt like we should continue where he left off. I posted a message on the Theatre Troupe alumni group on Facebook that Daniel McKinley had started and before I knew it he had responded, and many others followed suit. Without their dedication and support, this production would still be an idea bouncing around in my head and trying to get my attention.

-- Sarah Kidwell, Producer

"I joined this production because I joined theatre troupe my senior year and really enjoyed it. This was a chance to act again, hang out with my friends, and honor Mr. Nash. I did not know Mr. Nash but I am thankful for all of his support for the Fox High Theatre Troupe."

-- Billy Busch

"I joined this production at first was because I was having theatre withdrawals. I thought it would be a good thing for me to do with my time and a nice way to give something back to Mr. Nash. Mr. Nash was always fun to talk to and would always make me laugh. One of my favorite memories of him was the time he was Father Christmas during our production of The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe. Another major reason I joined this production was that during early stages of this production my grandfather passed away after being diagnosed with cancer. I am dedicating my performance in this show to him."

-- Daniel McKinley

"I joined this production to continue enjoying the wonderful gift Mr. Nash gave to all of us. We are all brought together by our love of acting and theatre, and I think that the organizers of this show were brilliant to honor Mr. Nash through the art he used to enchant all of us. I am honored to be able to join with so many talented people to perform and to remember such a great man"

-- Michael Singer

"When Mr. Nash passed away, I began to realize just how many people knew and loved him, and I felt like we should take his idea for a community production of A Christmas Carol and perform it to honor him. Mr. Nash was a great friend to us all. I remember when I had a lead role in The Mousetrap and I was starting to panic the night before the show. We were eating dinner, but I couldn’t force myself to eat, because I was so nervous. He calmed me down and told me a trick to get rid of nerves. I also don’t think I’ll ever forget his chuckle. It was the heartiest, merriest chuckle I think I’ve ever heard."

-- Sarah Kidwell

* Mr. Nash lost his battle with cancer on September 25th, 2010. For him and for all others affected by cancer, all donations will be given to the American Cancer Society.
“It’s been a really long time since I’ve been involved in a live theater production, so the idea of doing this really appealed to me. I was also really affected by Mr. Nash’s death, so that gave me all the more reason to be involved. I love that this is such a great cause. And it’s a fantastic tribute to Mr. Nash.”

--Liz Wiegard

“I have such great memories of working with Mr. Nash in most, if not all, of the shows I’ve crewed here at Fox. I’m studying now to be a professional theatre designer and technician, and I felt like I had a lot of newfound expertise to share with our production group. This was an opportunity to give back while reflecting on Mr. Nash, and the experiences and lessons he passed on to me.”

--Sara Wiegard

“I joined this production because ever since starting college I missed that sense of camaraderie and family in a production team/cast. I knew this production would be a great tribute to a wonderful and inspiring man, teacher, and fellow thespian. I can remember when I first started becoming a part of Theatre Troupe and how warm and kind Mr. Nash was to me since I had no idea what I was doing; he helped guide me through it. I really enjoyed the stories he told me and the lessons he taught me. He will be greatly missed.

--Brenda Pauley

“Mr. Nash is one of the most memorable parts of my experience with Theatre Troupe at Fox. He was absolutely among the most interesting and well-liked people I’ve ever known. I wanted to give something back by being part of a production that honors his memory.”

--Tori Hudson

**Cast**

Ebenezer Scrooge .............................................Mike Singer*
Bob Cratchit ..................................................Billy Busch
Jacob Marley ..................................................Jacob Grosche
Fred ..............................................................Daniel McKinley*
Ghost of Christmas Past ...............................Abigail Henderson*
Ghost of Christmas Present ..........................Andrew Johns*
Ghost of Christmas Future .............................Daniel McKinley*
Tiny Tim .......................................................Carolyn Kidwell*
Mrs. Cratchit ..................................................Brenda Pauley
Martha Cratchit .............................................Mary Wolk
Peter Cratchit ...............................................Sarah Kidwell*
Cratchit Children .................................Chris Kidwell*, Aileen Wolk
Fezziwig ..........................................................Jacob Grosche
Mrs. Fezziwig ...............................................Candice Moran*
Young Scrooge ..............................................Chris Kidwell*
Middle-Aged Scrooge .................................Jake Singer*
Belle ............................................................Brittany Jonas*
Belle’s Husband ..........................................Jacob Grosche
Lucy ..............................................................Aileen Wolk
Richard ..........................................................Andrew Johns*
Elizabeth ......................................................Tori Hudson*
Joe the Hobo ................................................Sarah Kidwell*
Hobos ..........................................................Jake Singer*, Abigail Henderson*
Caroline ........................................................Candice Moran*
Caroline’s Husband .....................................Andrew Johns*
Little Girl ......................................................Brenda Pauley*
Money Collectors .................................Tori Hudson*, Mary Wolk
Ignorance .......................................................Chris Kidwell*
Want .............................................................Aileen Wolk
Fezziwig Guest .................................Tori Hudson*, Brittany Jonas*
Fan .............................................................Carolyn Kidwell*
Gossips ..................................................Candice Moran*, Carolyn Kidwell*

* Denotes a cast member who knows someone affected by cancer
Production Team

Director: Lisa Henderson
Assistant Director: Liz Wiegard
Head of Props/Production Assistant: Carolyn Kidwell
Producers: Daniel McKinley and Sarah Kidwell
Stage Manager: Abigail Henderson
Technical Director: Sara Wiegard

Technical Crew

*The entire cast worked on building and painting the set, but the tech crew had special jobs.

Lighting Designer: Sara Wiegard
Set Designer: Daniel McKinley
Sound Designer: Liz Wiegard
Sound Operator: Keith Henderson
Poster/Program Cover Design: Sarah Kidwell
Production Assistants: Casey Coleman, Tyler Coleman
Script Adaptation from Book: Sarah Kidwell, Daniel McKinley
Wardrobe: Sara Wiegard, Gabrielle Ruess
Ushers: Holland Doherty, Hannah Lackey
House Manager: Liz Wiegard
Curtain: Hailey Fadler

Special Thanks

The cast and crew would like to thank the following people who spent a great deal of their time and resources helping us make this production happen:

JoyMarie Robinson, Stuart Schuchardt, Kim Robertson and the Leader, Rick and Kathy McKinley, Margaret and Keith Henderson, Donald and Kathleen Kidwell, all of our families, and Mr. Nash.

Mr. Nash Memories

“Why I Joined the Production…”

"Ever since my sisters joined theatre I was eager to join the fun too, however, Mr. Nash made it more meaningful than I would have originally taken it. He bonded all of us students together through his pre-show prayers, ghost stories backstage and his love of Shakespeare. He knew each of us so well, taught us so much, and spent plenty of time just talking with us and sharing his life stories. Because of this love of theatre Mr. Nash grew in me, I decided to join this production in memory of him and for the show itself."

-- Carolyn Kidwell

"When I first transferred to public school in 8th grade I was terrified! Mr. Nash was substituting for my English teacher while she was on maternity leave and he and I would talk after class about various films - an avid interest of mine. He suggested I give theater a chance because of its similarity; joining made a new place a lot less frightening as I made friends I still have and discovered a new interest."

-- Candice Moran

"I remember long afternoons in Mr. Nash’s classroom reading Shakespeare and talking about theatre and his life (two things that often intermixed). His love of theatre was contagious and I caught it. When I heard about the production, I knew it was the perfect thing to mix my love of the man and the craft."

-- Abigail Henderson