

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

The Island Players will be presenting a live virtual adaptation of Charles Dickens, "A CHRISTMAS CAROL" on December 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 pm. It will be brought to you in the comfort of your own home through Zoom.

Adapted by Island Players Director Jeffrey Steiger, the play has a clever and current day twist. "It's Christmas and COVID has sequestered everyone at home aside from Scrooge's nephew and his hapless workers at the bank. As the rest of the world adjusts to the new normal, Scrooge says "Bah Humbug" and churns out high interest loans to the unemployed and beaten down. One night, three ghosts crash his Face Time and force him to take a hard look at a forgotten past, a difficult present and a possible future."

Director Steiger is also a talented actor as evidenced by his past performances in our plays, "Relatively Speaking", "Unexpected Guest" and "Beyond A Joke". His extensive credentials include; Creative Director of the AWED Theater at FL International University, Artistic Director of the New Theater of Medicine and Adjunct Instructor of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences at George Washington School of Medicine and Founding Artistic Director of CRLT Players. He is the recipient of many awards including the Hesburgh Certification of Excellence and the James T. Newbacher Award.

Our remarkable cast is comprised of; Heiko Knipfelberg as Scrooge, James Thaggard as the Narrator, Dane Oldham as Fred, Jay Poppe as Marley's Ghost, Mary Selke as Mrs. Lamb, Pamela Hopkins as Belle, Dianne Brin as the Ghost of Christmas Past, Judy Glynn as the Ghost of Christmas Present, Joanie Anton as the Ghost of Christmas Future, Mikey Lynch as Mr. Cratchit, Alice Cotman as Mrs. Cratchit and Joshua Handley-White as the Boy.

Tickets are not being sold for the performances but donations are encouraged. If you wish to make a donation to Island Players by credit card, please call Peg Faarup, VP and Box Office Chair, at 941 778-7374. If you wish to write a check, you may send it to The Island Players, P.O. Box 2059, Anna Maria, FL 34216. We appreciate your generosity in these difficult times.

To watch the plays, go to the Zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86052346632?pwd=ZGw2c1RUTWp0OVRXS2Zvb04vakZ1Zz09>

Or join manually:

Meeting ID: 860 5234 6632

Passcode: Scrooge

If you don't have Zoom, download the ZOOM Client For Meetings here: visit [zoom.us/signup](https://zoom.us/signup). You will receive an email from Zoom. In this email, click ACTIVATE ACCOUNT. On Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup>, enter the Meeting ID and Passcode. Please join the meeting by 7:20 pm. We encourage you to test your Zoom before Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> by clicking on NEW MEETING and then TEST SPEAKER and MICROPHONE.

For technical assistance or help, please contact our Webmaster, Bill Goulet at [bdgoulet0726@gmail.com](mailto:bdgoulet0726@gmail.com) and leave your contact phone number.

Take a break from your Netflix, Prime or Hulu shows and make time to watch our original, hour long productions of "A CHRISTMAS CAROL". We promise culture.... well, maybe. But it will definitely be a fun addition to the entertainment choices for your entire family!