



**A Special Zoom  
Presentation of the  
Charles Dickens' Classic**

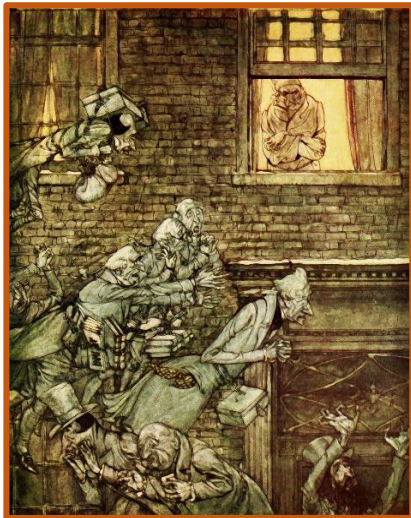
**Adapted & Directed  
by  
Jeffrey Steiger**



ISLAND PLAYERS

**Friday, December 18 and  
Sunday, December 20  
at 7:30 p.m. (Eastern)**

### **THE CAST** *(in order of speaking)*



Your Narrator	<b>James Thaggard</b>
Ebenezer Scrooge	<b>Heiko Knipfelberg</b>
Fred	<b>Dane Oldham</b>
Mrs. Lamb	<b>Mary Selke</b>
Bob Cratchit	<b>Mikey Lynch</b>
Ghost of Jacob Marley	<b>Jay Poppe</b>
Ghost of Christmas Past	<b>Dianne Brin</b>
Belle	<b>Pamela Hopkins</b>
Ghost of Christmas Present	<b>Judy Glynn</b>
Mrs. Cratchit	<b>Alice Cotman</b>
Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come	<b>Joanie Anton</b>
The Boy	<b>Joshua Hanley-White</b>

Director/Visual Effects	<b>Jeffrey Steiger</b>
Stage Manager/Sound Board	<b>Denise Handley</b>
Playbill Designer/Editor	<b>James Thaggard</b>

**Performances Are Free.  
Donations Are Welcome.**  
Please Call Peg Faarup at (941) 778-7374

### **ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

The Director would like to thank **Island Players Board of Directors, Diane Phinney, Bill Goulet, Barb Gusie, and Maggie Clark** (Publicity), **Jay Poppe** (Additional Backdrops), **Ethan Vail** (Lighting), and this **Committed, Hard-Working, and Flexible Cast**.

### **ABOUT THE DIRECTOR**

**Jeffrey Allen Steiger** makes his Island Players directing debut after appearing in our productions of "Beyond A Joke," "The Unexpected Guest," and "Relatively Speaking." Jeffrey is Artistic Director of The New Theater of Medicine and Founding Artistic Director of the CRLT Players. He has written and directed a diverse range of spoken word performances, sketches and plays, and has presented at over 100 institutions including Harvard, Stanford and the University of Nagoya, Japan. His original approach has been applied to programming at the Center for Disease Control (CDC), Universidad de la República/Uruguay, and with Robert Mankoff, editor of the New Yorker Cartoons, in examining status and the psycho-biological roots of humor. His current production, "Five Days to Friday", explores the high rate of physician suicide. Jeffrey's recognitions include the TIAA-CREF Hesburgh Certificate of Excellence, the James T. Neubacher Award, and the honorary title of Clinical Instructor of Psychiatry (GWU Psychiatry Department) in recognition of his application of the arts to medicine.

## THE CAST (in alphabetical order)

**Joanie Anton** (Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come) is an actor and playwright whose plays have been performed in New York, California, and Florida. She was last seen at Island Players as Fairy May in “The Curious Savage” and is happy to be back at Island Players in this multi-media production of ‘A Christmas Carol’ on Zoom. Joanie would like to thank Zoom Stage Manager Denise Handley and Director Jeffrey Steiger for casting her in this fun project.

**Dianne Brin** (Ghost of Christmas Past) studied acting at NYC’s HB Studios and performed many years in NYC, Chicago, and the SF Bay area. Her voiceover and audio book training was at Voicetrax in Sausalito. Her credits include three locally produced audio books and memorable roles at Players of Sarasota, Venice Stage, Lemon Bay, Manatee Players, Island Players, and the Historic Asolo. She understudied two plays at Asolo Rep and is a Past Chair of Asolo Theatre Guild Play Readers, where she directed and performed staged readings.

**Alice Cotman** (Mrs. Cratchit) has been acting in Sarasota since 2002 when she played Grandma Tzeitel in “Fiddler on the Roof.” Since then, she performed in many plays including “Over the Tavern” and “The Good Body” at Players of Sarasota as well as “Agnes of God” and “The Diary of Anne Frank” at the Manatee Players. She enjoys play reading and has acted in many Asolo Guild Play Reader performances. Alice lives in Manatee County with her husband, Ed, and dog, Bentley.

**Judy Glynn** (Ghost of Christmas Present) appears on our virtual stage tonight after appearing on our physical stage in “Boeing Boeing,” “Murderers,” “Dixie Swim Club,” “A Flea in Her Ear,” “Present Laughter,” “The Game’s Afoot,” “Lend Me a Tenor,” and more! She has performed at the Golden Apple, Sarasota Players, Manatee Players, Lemon Bay Playhouse, Venice Theatre and The Glenridge. Judy thanks Island Players for their kindness, Richard for sharing her with the theater again, and cat, Flaky Blakey, for staying quiet during the show.

**Joshua Hanley-White** (The Boy) is a second grader at the Rowlett Elementary Academy in West Samoset. Joshua is making his theatrical debut.

**Pamela Hopkins** (Belle) has enjoyed appearing on our stage in several productions, most recently in “Present Laughter,” “The Game’s Afoot,” and “Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike.” She has appeared at Players of Sarasota, Venice Theatre, and Theatre Odyssey. Pamela studied theatre at State College of Florida, serves as one of our Island Players costume designers, and directs our annual Summer Drama Camp. Thanks to Ron and Alexis for their support.

**Heiko Knipfelberg** (Scrooge) long ago performed in several off-Broadway and off-off-Broadway productions, and appeared in film and on television. This is Heiko’s twelfth year as an Island Players performer. Recent roles include Garry Essendine in “Present Laughter,” Michael Starkwedder in “The Unexpected Guest,” Inspector Goole in “An Inspector Calls,” and Andrew in “Beyond a Joke.”

**Mikey Lynch** (Bob Cratchit) made his Island Players debut as Jack Gable in “Leading Ladies” last spring. He is a recent transplant from Abu Dhabi and is excited to be the Mobility Coordinator for Manatee County Transportation. His passions include rock-climbing, running, and the planet Mars.

**Dane Oldham** (Fred) is making his Island Players debut remotely from the University of Washington Bothell, where he is a junior Media and Communication Studies major. Favorite roles include Dr. Rank in “A Doll’s House,” The Bank Chairman in “Mary Poppins,” and Polonius in “Shakespeare Abridged.”

**Jay Poppe** (Jacob Marley) is happy to be back with the Island Players, if only virtually. Jay performed in our production of “Over My Dead Body” several seasons ago. Most of his work, however, has been with the Manatee Players, where he was in their 2018 production of “A Christmas Carol”. Besides acting, Jay has done scenic and video projections for “Newsies”, “Mary Poppins” and “Monster Movie Mashup”, to name a few. He would like to thank Jeffrey Steiger for choosing him to be part of this novel production.

**Mary Selke** (Mrs. Lamb) returns to Island Players after portraying Dr. Gladys Petrelli in “Tribute” and Martha in “The Game’s Afoot.” She earned a vocal music degree from UW-Milwaukee, performed with several professional opera companies and was a founding member of Greenman Theatre (IL). Favorite roles include Anne in “The Miracle Worker,” Miss Hannigan in “Annie,” and Nancy in “Oliver!” Mary is a Zoom veteran, working with her doctoral students at Grand Canyon University, and is happy to be part of this Christmas gift to everyone missing live theater!

**James Thaggard** (Your Narrator) returns for his 23<sup>rd</sup> role at Island Players, last year portraying John Barrymore in “I Hate Hamlet,” Morris Dixon in “Present Laughter,” and (occasionally) Dr. Finache in “A Flea in Her Ear.” James earned his theatre degree from Auburn University and is a recent retiree from State College of Florida, where he served as an actor, director, playwright, lyricist, choreographer, and/or stage manager for more than 60 productions with SCF’s theatre and music programs. Thanks to the creative team and to everyone watching this amazing event.