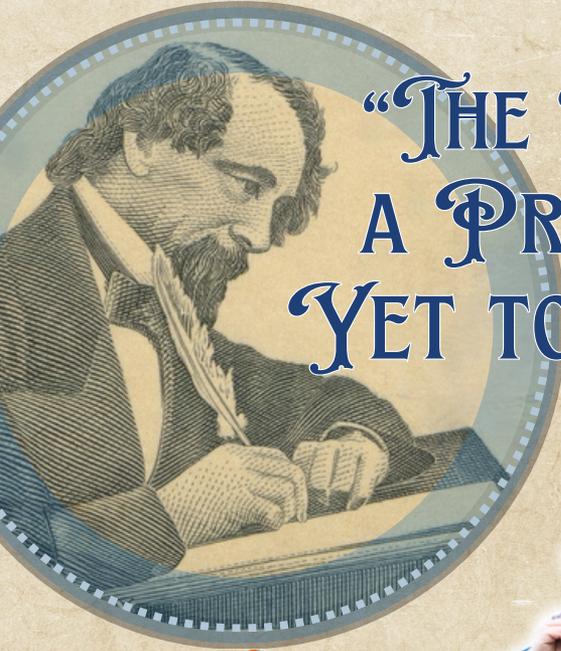


ICTRep Presents



“THE PAST,
A PRESENT
YET TO COME”

*a Prequel to
Dickens'
A Christmas Carol*



by Matt Schatz

November 13-15 at 7:30 PM

November 16 at 2:00 PM



TURNVEREIN HALL



Julie Longhofer
Artistic Director



Stan Longhofer
Managing Director

presents

**THE PAST,
A PRESENT
YET TO COME**
by Matt Schatz

SCENIC & COSTUME DESIGN

JULIE LONGHOFER

*LIGHTING DESIGN &
TECHNICAL DIRECTION*

STAN LONGHOFER

STAGE MANAGER

DEB GOIN

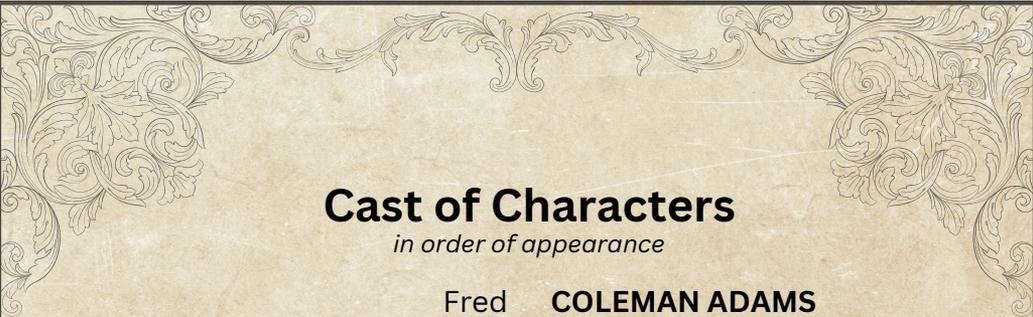
SOUND DESIGN

KIRK LONGHOFER

DIRECTED BY

J R Hurst

THE PAST, A PRESENT YET TO COME is presented through
through special arrangement with TRW PLAYS
1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036
www.trwplays.com



Cast of Characters

in order of appearance

Fred **COLEMAN ADAMS**

J.B. Roth **CHARLENE GRINSELL**

Charles Dickens **MARK SCHUSTER**

Charles Dickens Standby **CHRIS SHARKEY**

Place & Time

London

Early December, 1842



There will be a 10-minute intermission.



SPECIAL THANKS TO

*James Quint and all of the helpful people at **Old Cowtown Museum***

*Randy Harrison, Phil Speary & the **Guild Hall Players***

*Ashley McCracken-Christie, Jane Tanner & **Wichita Community Theater***

Nina Longhofer, Zach Longhofer & Torey Wilson.



CAST



COLEMAN ADAMS (*Fred*)

Coleman Adams was last seen on ICTRep's stage as James Joyce in *Travesties*, and last year had the privilege of directing a adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* at WCT as a live radio show. His other endeavors include being the executive producer of *The Mangai Project*, an animated YouTube series, and looking for a software engineering job. He hopes you'll enjoy this new perspective on the classic Christmas tale!



CHARLENE GRINSELL (*J.B. Roth*)

For ICTRep: *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson - Apt. 2B* (as Sherlock Holmes). Select Local Credits: *Into the Breeches!*, *Bad Seed*, *Jake's Women*, *The Smell of the Kill*, *Breaking the Code*, *Death by Design*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (WCT); *f*sh*, *Unanchored* (Guinea Pig Lab); *Proof*, *Living on Love* (Kechi Playhouse); *Manos: Rock Opera of Fate* (Signature Theatre); *Round and Round the Garden* (Center Theatre); *Macbeth*, *Coriolanus* (WSC). Education: BA Music Theatre, Friends University. Favorite Role: Wife to Sara.



MARK SCHUSTER (*Charles Dickens*)

Mark is pleased to be in his first show with ICTRep. He has worked on many of the stages in town including WCT, Kechi, Guild Hall, Century II, and even the Park! Some recent roles were in *The Cottage* and *Slow Food* for WCT and *The Last Lifeboat* for Guild Hall. He also directed *Lend Me a Soprano* for WCT last season. Thank you for supporting local theatre!



CHRIS SHARKEY (*Charles Dickens Standby*)

Chris Sharkey is excited to return to ICTRep after having just been a part of *Amadeus* as Count Johann Kilian von Strack. He is an active member of the Wichita performing arts community; a few highlights include the title character in *The Christmas Spirit* (WCT), Tom in *The Glass Menagerie* (Kechi), Ernst Ludwig in *Cabaret* (Roxy's), Carleton Fitzgerald in *Light up the Sky* (WCT), and Stuart Lasker in *Into the Breeches!* (WCT). When not on stage, Chris designs and leads engaging client experiences to train people on new technologies at The Smart Factory by Deloitte. Many thanks to the cast and crew and to you for supporting live theater!

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ARTISTIC TEAM



DR. JULIE LONGHOFER, Artistic Director *(Scenic & Costume Design)*

Julie earned her MA/PhD in dramatic literature & theater history from University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign in 1995. For almost 40 years, she has served as stage director, costume designer, actor, and dramaturg (literary analyst). Julie has taught hundreds of teenagers and college students how to be stronger theater artists.

In 2023, Julie took on the role of Artistic Director for Wichita Repertory Theater (ICTRep). Her vision is for a regional theater company which (1) finds the best comedies, serious plays and thrillers of literary merit, (2) uses regional talent to produce the highest quality plays in terms of acting and production values, and (3) connects deeply with Wichita audience members from all walks of life.

This is her philosophical approach in all she does:

- Live theater is a love letter from ***The Playwright*** to ***The Actors*** for ***The Audience***.
- Live theater should be a cohesive and thought-provoking experience for its community.
- “Dramatically Good” is more than just a tagline for us. Our creative teams are doing their best work while challenging themselves to a new level of artistic excellence so that our audiences are emotionally moved in a memorable way.



STAN LONGHOFER, Managing Director *(Technical Director & Lighting Design)*

As Managing Director, Stan oversees all of ICTRep’s business operations. He is also the company’s resident technical director and frequent lighting and scenic designer. By day, Stan is a professor of real estate and finance at WSU. He was Director of the WSU Center for Real Estate for 25 years. On weekends and evenings, he has variously served as psychotherapist and cheerleader on dozens of Julie’s productions.

In 2023, Stan finally convinced his wife to take a leap of faith into running a theater company. “We took the reins at ICTRep because we saw a need in Wichita for great plays produced at the highest levels of excellence. Several amateur theaters are well established here, as are other semi-professional companies focused on musicals. But there was a professional void when it came to plays.”

As a lifelong lover and participant in the Wichita theatre scene, Stan “trode the boards” at the Crown Uptown Dinner Theatre, Wichita Children’s Theatre and Music Theatre Wichita, and has vibrant memories of roles in *Oliver!*, *Bye, Bye, Birdie*, *Shenandoah*, and *The Sound of Music* among others.

NEXT AT ICTREP

SILENT SKY



The luminous story of pioneering scientist Henrietta Leavitt and an all-female team of astronomers whose groundbreaking work changed the way we see our universe.

January 22-25, 2026

SWEAT



Lynn Nottage's prize-winning 2016 drama is an unforgettable lesson in empathy. Friendships among factory workers are destroyed when layoffs, picket lines & racial tension hits the Rust Belt in the 2000s.

March 27 - April 5, 2026



J R HURST (*Director*)

J R is delighted to take on a directing job for ICTRep after his first acting appearance as Count Orsini-Rosenberg in *Amadeus*. Over the decades J R has acted and directed for Prairie Pines Playhouse, Center Theater, Forum Theater, Mosely Street, Empire House, Crown Uptown and Roxy's. Merry Christmas to all, especially his lovely spouse, Diane.



DEB GOIN (*Stage Manager*)

This is Deb's first show with ICTRep. Deb has been involved in local theatre for decades. She has participated in productions at Wichita Community Theatre and Guild Hall Players as stage manager as well as acting. Deb has also been involved in shows at Kechi Playhouse as well as Roxy's production of *Whatever Happened to Baby Jane*. Working with ICTRep has been a great experience and she hopes to be a part of future productions.



KIRK LONGHOFER (*Sound Design*)

Kirk is a sound designer, editor, producer, and live sound. His theatrical designs are heard regularly in educational, community, and professional theaters across the country. Recent theatrical work includes the world premiere of *Tree of Life* and *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (White Theatre at the J, Overland Park), *Travesties*, *Ms. Holmes & Ms. Watson, Apt.2B*, and *Sleuth* (ICTRep), *Blithe Spirit* (Guild Hall Players), and *Proof* (Olathe Civic Theatre Association).

TONIGHT'S PLAY IS PARTIALLY INSPIRED BY LETTERS BETWEEN MRS. ELIZA DAVIS AND CHARLES DICKENS

Around 1860, before the very popular *Oliver Twist* went through its second publication, Charles Dickens engaged in a long series of letters with Mrs. Eliza Davis who wrote to him as an admirer of the novel, but with serious concerns about his portrayal of the Jewish character of Fagin. The author eventually acceded to Mrs. Davis that the character (while villainous) should at least be respectfully referred to by his NAME instead of as "the wicked Jew".

Dickens halted the second printing of the novel and edited the remainder of the story (after p. 83) to more fully humanize the character.

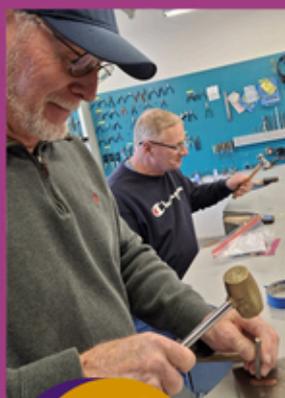
Davis and Dickens continued corresponding until his death in 1870. In 1865, she gave him a copy of Benisch's Hebrew and English Bible, inscribed: **"Presented to Charles Dickens, in grateful and admiring recognition of his having exercised the noblest quality men can possess – that of atoning for an injury as soon as conscious of having inflicted it."**



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MATT SCHATZ (*Playwright*)

Matt Schatz is a writer and composer. His plays and musicals include *A Wicked Soul In Cherry Hill* (Geffen Playhouse, Edgerton New Play Award), *An Untitled New Play By Justin Timberlake* (City Theatre/Pittsburgh CLO), *The Door You Never Saw Before* (Geffen Playhouse), *The Burdens* (The O'Neill, City Theatre, Urbanite Theatre, and others), *No One Sings Like You Anymore* (Seattle Rep Commission), *I Battled Lenny Ross* (Ensemble Studio Theatre), *Georama* (St. Louis Rep, Great River Shakespeare Festival, NYMF), *Where Ever It May Be* (CLO Spark Festival), *Dunkfest '88* (Ars Nova), *Oh, Gastronomy!* (Actors Theatre of Louisville), *Love Trapezoid* (Astoria Performing Arts Center) and *The Tallest Building in the World* (Luna Stage).

Awards include the Kleban Prize in Musical Theatre, the ASCAP Foundation Harold Arlen Musical Theater Award, the Reva Shiner Comedy Award, the New York Musical Festival Outstanding Lyrics Award, and Broadway World Pittsburgh's Original Script of the Decade Award. Matt has received five Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation New Play Commissions; the most recent is an in-progress science musical with playwright Anna Ziegler.

Matt has had television and film projects developed for Fox, USA, TBS, Warner Bros, CBS, EOne, and others and has been in writers' rooms for shows for AMC, Sony, Netflix, and others. Matt wrote the songs for Season 3 of Kevin Christopher Snipes' hit Spotify/Gimlet podcast series *The Two Princes*. He was a writer for Netflix Animation's upcoming Charlie and the Chocolate Factory adaptation, for which he also co-wrote the pilot with Oscar-winner Taika Waititi. Matt has worked as a story consultant on projects for Waititi, Lynn Nottage, Netflix Features, and Lucasfilm. He's currently co-writing a pilot for AMC. Matt lives in Los Angeles with his wife Jenna Hymes and their two daughters.

ICTRep gratefully acknowledges the City of Wichita and the Kansas Arts Commission for general operational support.



GREAT THEATER DOESN'T JUST HAPPEN!

Ticket sales cover less than 25% of ICTRep's production expenses. As a result, the memorable theatrical experiences we create wouldn't be possible without the support of generous individuals, corporations, foundations, and governmental arts programs.

Our Promise: When you give to ICTRep, you can be confident that your money will be going directly to support great theater in Wichita. We guarantee you that:

- Our artistic and administrative staff are volunteers and never paid, even when they work in other roles on productions.
- On the other hand, all of the actors and creative artists involved in our productions are paid. By supporting ICTRep you are helping aspiring young artists get a start on their professional careers.
- We strive to be good stewards of our resources and the environment, repurposing and reusing materials whenever possible. Of course, we always love a good "tree-lawn find."
- We want to make quality live theater affordable. Your donations allow us to keep our ticket prices low and offer special programs and discounts for those who might not otherwise be able to attend.

Donate online now at <https://ictrep.org/support-ictrep>.

SUPPORTERS

May 2024 - October 2025

DIAMOND (\$5,000+)

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Anita Jones
Kansas Arts Commission
Julie & Stan Longhofer
Colby Sandlian

PLATINUM (\$2,500-\$4,999)

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SILVER (\$500-\$999)

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The Trust Company of Kansas

BRONZE (\$100-\$499)

Art Allen
Clinton Koker

DIRECTOR'S NOTES

A Christmas Carol In Prose, Being a Ghost Story of Christmas was published in 1843. This was a period in which Christmas was being rather rediscovered after many years in decline as a major holiday.

Its author, Charles Dickens, had been born into a middle-class family which fell on hard times. His father was sent to a debtor's prison and twelve-year old Charles had to go to work in a shoe-blackening factory. These experiences would inform all of the adult Charles' literary work.

Since its first publication *A Christmas Carol* has been continuously in print and has been adapted and readapted for stage, opera, radio, film and television. In addition to direct versions of the story there have been innumerable pastiches, parodies and reimaginings.

Why is this story so continuously in our zeitgeist? Perhaps because it is sadly always timely. Hard times, greed and cruelty are, like the poor, always with us. This story is always needed to remind us of the existence of kindness and hope in adversity and the redeeming power of love.

Remembering the many adaptations the story means recalling many notable portrayals of Scrooge. My particular favorite is Alastair Sims in the 1951 *Scrooge*. But there have been other excellent performances by the likes of George C Scott, Patrick Stewart, Lionel Barrymore on radio, not to mention Mr. Magoo or Michael Caine opposite the Muppets.

Tonight, we will not meet with the famous miser in person as our play asks, how did Charles Dickens come to write *A Christmas Carol*? There are historical answers to the question, but our playwright chooses to imagine a story that may not be accurate, but is filled with truth.

~ J R Hurst



MORE DICKENS!!

For shenanigans & light-hearted, character-driven comedy?

...*The Pickwick Papers*

For a coming-of-age tale with a focus on growth and redemption?

...*Great Expectations*

For a mysterious tale of money and love, *plus* a corrupt Christian money lender who slanders a kind Jewish man?

...*Our Mutual Friend*

For plot twists, struggles against prejudice, and intrepid thespians?

...*Nicholas Nickleby*





ICTRep (Wichita Repertory Theater) is a semi-professional company that produces comedies, dramas, and thrillers. Our productions provide challenging roles and design opportunities for young actors and creatives to hone their crafts. In addition, we bring Wichita audiences together to enjoy high-quality, vibrant theatrical experiences that provide more than simply an evening's entertainment. We want our audiences to continue to reflect on and be moved by the plays we produce, long after the "curtain falls."

ICTRep: Dramatically Good!

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