

CHARLES DICKENS
A CHRISTMAS
CAROL

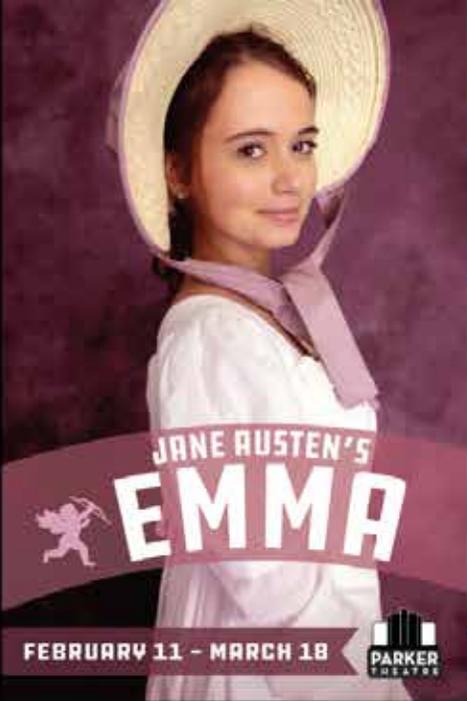
Adapted for the stage by Brinton M. Wilkins & Spencer J. Hohl

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

NOVEMBER 19TH - DECEMBER 24TH



2023 SEASON



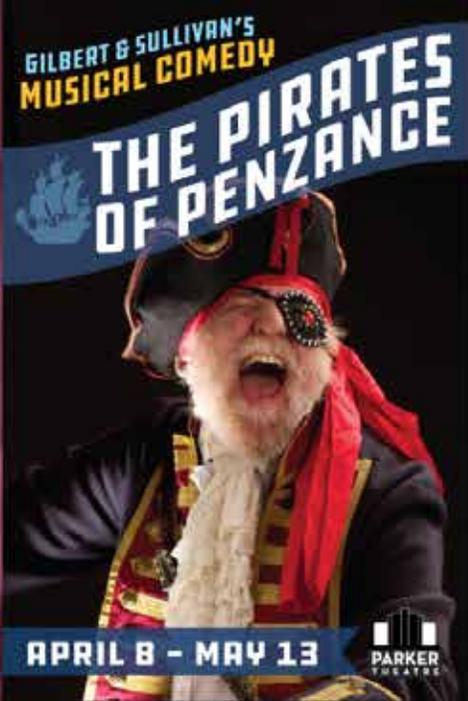
JANE AUSTEN'S
EMMA

FEBRUARY 11 - MARCH 18

PARKER THEATRE

GILBERT & SULLIVAN'S
MUSICAL COMEDY

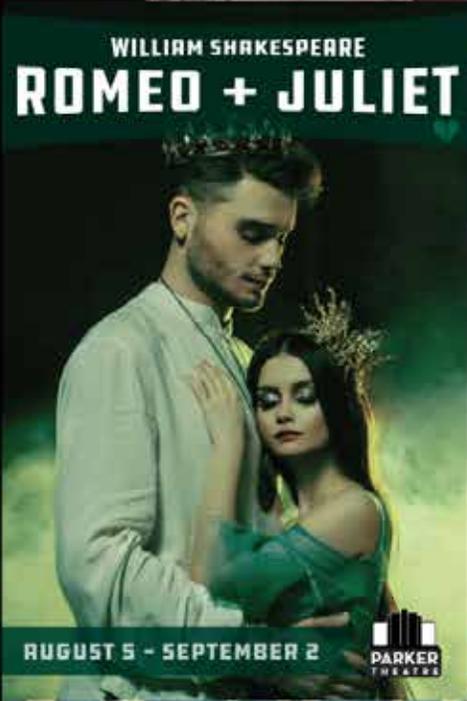
THE PIRATES OF PENZANCE



APRIL 8 - MAY 13

PARKER THEATRE

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE
ROMEO + JULIET

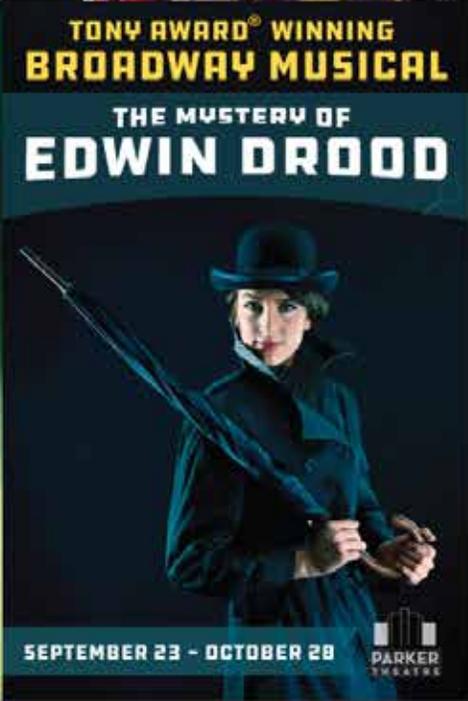


AUGUST 5 - SEPTEMBER 2

PARKER THEATRE

TONY AWARD® WINNING
BROADWAY MUSICAL

THE MYSTERY OF EDWIN DROOD



SEPTEMBER 23 - OCTOBER 28

PARKER THEATRE

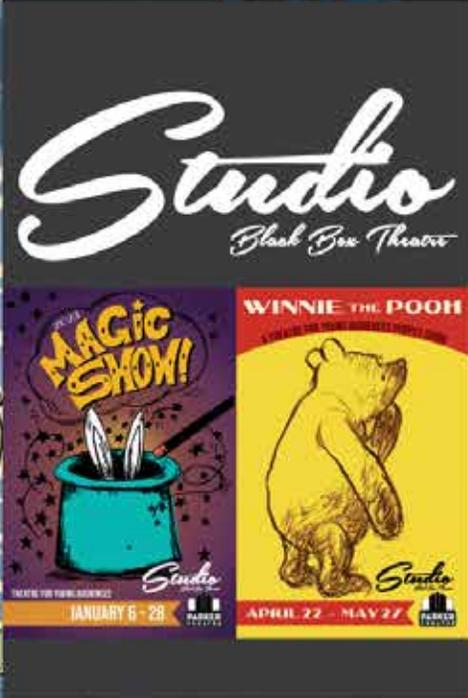
THE BABES IN TOYLAND



NOVEMBER 18 - DECEMBER 23

PARKER THEATRE

Studio
Black Box Theatre



MAGIC SHOW!

JANUARY 6 - 28

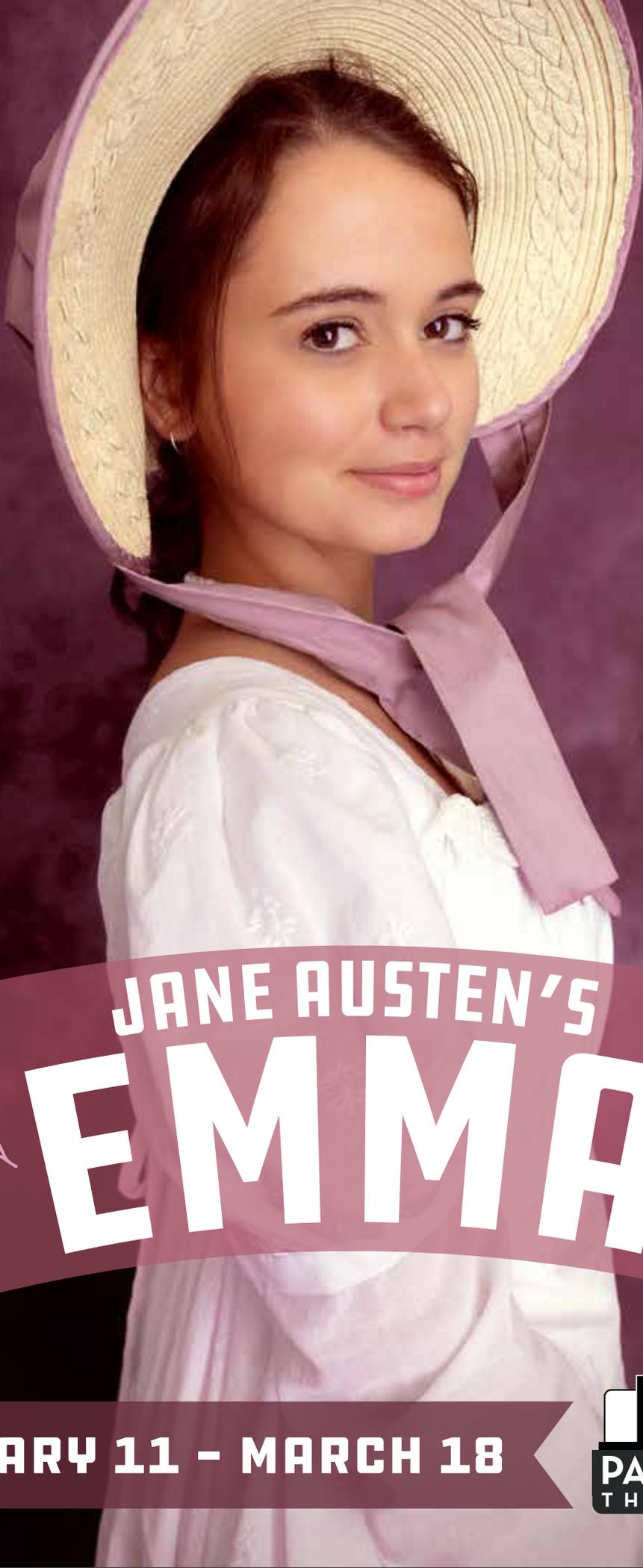
WINNIE THE POOH

APRIL 22 - MAY 27

PARKER THEATRE

GIFT PACKAGING AND GIFT CERTIFICATES
AVAILABLE IN THE BOX OFFICE

COMING NEXT ON THE MAINSTAGE



JANE AUSTEN'S

EMMA



FEBRUARY 11 - MARCH 18



**LET'S
GO
ON A
DATE!**



**36
YEARS**

**DATE NIGHT
AT THE
PARKER**

DATE NIGHT PACKAGES AVAILABLE FOR NEXT SEASON

A NOTE ON THE STAGE ADAPTATION

In 1843, the Manchester Athenaeum, a charitable organization, asked Charles Dickens to speak at a fundraising dinner on October 5, 1843. His topic: the need for educational reform in the lower classes. Addressing the view among some British leaders that “a little learning was . . . a very dangerous thing,” he launched into an oration as only he could. “Why, a little hanging was considered a very dangerous thing, according to the same authorities,” he said, “with this difference, that because a little hanging was dangerous, we had a great deal of it; and because a little learning was dangerous, we were to have none at all.”

With Dickensian gusto, he declared: “[M]y own heart dies within me when I see thousands of immortal creatures condemned, without alternative or choice, to tread, not what our great poet calls ‘the primrose path to the everlasting bonfire,’ but one of jagged flints and stones, laid down by brutal ignorance, and held together like the solid rocks by years of this most wicked axiom.” Lauding the Athenaeum, he called it a refuge where the working poor, though not able to keep “the wolf of hunger from his door,” could chase “the dragon of ignorance from his hearth.”

After a glowing reception to his speech, he returned home, still pondering the dangers of ignorance. These thoughts led to *A Christmas Carol*, which Dickens wrote and published in an intense flurry of creativity less than three months after his speech to the Athenaeum.

At the story’s literal and figurative center crouch the creatures Want and Ignorance—two demons that hang on Christmas Present’s robe, “appealing from their fathers,” and who threaten doom unless Scrooge (and everyone) learn about the plight of the poor, set

aside factious political wrangling, and do the hard work of serving each other.

A primary goal in adapting *A Christmas Carol* for the Parker Theatre was to retain this central message. The story’s broad outlines and characters are well-known. Everyone from Mickey Mouse to Jim Carrey to Albert Finney and George C. Scott have taken a whack at it. And if you say, “Bah! Humbug!” in the English speaking world, you will be hard-pressed to find someone who doesn’t know that that’s Scrooge’s catchphrase. But if you ask what the story’s themes are, you will be equally hard-pressed to find anyone who lists banishing want and ignorance. Which is truly a shame.

Yes, it is a story of regret and redemption, of mercy and love. But that redemption comes, not because Scrooge says, “I will honor Christmas in my heart and try to keep it all the year,” but because of what he does after he says that. His redemption is not earned the moment he learns of his bleak future, but by how he works to banish want and ignorance on Christmas morning and for the rest of his life. He sees and serves Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim’s want, and he does “infinitely more” to bless those around him.

As you watch this well-known tale, we hope you will see it anew; that you will raise your eyes to the Christmas star and then follow its light to the poor abodes surrounding you so that you can exercise charity, mercy, and benevolence. We are, after all, fellow passengers to the grave—and we need each other.

So we wish you a Merry Christmas!

And God bless us, every one!

-Brinton M. Wilkins

A CHRISTMAS CAROL CAST



MARK KNOWLES - EBENEZER SCROOGE

Making his Parker Theatre debut, Mark is excited for his first opportunity to play Ebenezer Scrooge. Some of Mark's credits include *My Fair Lady* (Henry Higgins), *Hello Dolly* (Horace Vandergelder, Cornelius Hackl), *Camelot* (King Arthur), *1776* (John Adams), *The Music Man* (Harold Hill), *The Sound of Music* (Captain Von Trapp), *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Lawrence Jameson), *Murder on the Orient Express* (Hercule Poirot), *The King and I* (King of Siam), *Mary Poppins* (Mr. Banks) *Seven Brides...* (Adam Pontipee), and *A Christmas Carol* (Bob Cratchit). By day, Mark is a software developer. He is the father of 5 and grandfather of 9. "I'd like to thank my wife Wendy for all of her love and support. Also, I'd like to thank my Savior, Jesus Christ. With God, all things are possible!"



JASON PURDIE - BOB CRATCHIT

Jason received his B.F.A. in Acting from Brigham Young University. For the past twelve years, he has been teaching theatre in public schools and college. After an eight-year break from acting, he is excited to return to the stage for his debut at the Parker Theatre. Jason is a classically trained actor with over thirty years of experience. Some of his previous roles include Charlie in *The Foreigner*, Reginald in *Getting Married*, and Gremio in Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*. He is thrilled and thankful to be sharing the stage for the first time with his beautiful and talented daughter, Isabelle Headlee. He'd also like to give a special thanks to his wife, Katie, for encouraging him to act again.



EMILY T. PARKER - MRS. CRATCHIT

Emily has participated in many productions at Parker Theatre over the past 28 years. She has performed, directed, and composed music for productions. Some of her roles include Anne in *Anne of Avonlea*, and Kate from *Taming of the Shrew*. Emily has directed *Princess & the Pea*, *Zorro!*, and *Tom Sawyer*. Emily is having a great time sharing the stage for the first time with her cousin Mark and her son Jago. Merry Christmas everyone!



STEPHEN HARMON - JACOB MARLEY

Steve has been acting in various local and community theaters for the past 30 years. He has appeared in numerous productions, including *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Peter Pan*, the mystery of *Edwin Drood*, and *Taming of the Shrew*. He has also been in numerous plays here at the Parker Theatre. You most recently saw him as Capt. Nemo in *20,000 Leagues Under the Sea*. He thanks his wife and family for their support, patients, and indulgence, and is very happy to be back on stage.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL CAST



BRINTON M. WILKINS - GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PRESENT/ FEZZIWIG/OLD JOE

Brinton recently directed the Parker Theatre's production of "Hamlet," in which he played Polonius and the Gravedigger. Favorite past roles include Aslan in "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe," Nick in "Over the River and Through the Woods," and Horace in Moliere's "The School for Wives." By day, Brinton is an attorney at Arcus Technology Law and is an amateur beekeeper. Brinton first appeared in "A Christmas Carol" as a beggar child in Hale Centre Theatre's first season in 1985. He then spent almost two decades performing every year in Hale's annual production with his family. He is delighted that time's wheel has spun and he now gets to tell this story with his daughter, Ellie.



ALICE ETHINGTON - GHOST OF CHRISTMAS PAST/MARTHA

Alice has been acting since a young age, having taken her first class at The Parker Theatre at age 7. You can often find her teaching at Parker Theatre School, as well as working House Staff for many shows. She has appeared in multiple shows such as: The Best Christmas Pageant Ever (Alice Wendlekin), The Sword and The Stone (Maid), and The Empresses New Phone. Alice is in her Junior year of High School, where she is currently focusing on her education in the International Baccalaureate Program.



ISABELLE HEADLEE - BELLE

Isabelle Headlee is happy to be making her debut at Parker Theatre. Isabelle grew up watching her parents perform and started acting when she was seven-years-old. She is excited to finally have the chance to act alongside her father, Jason Purdie, who has directed her in many shows, but has never performed with her. Some of Isabelle's favorite roles include Alice in You Can't Take It With You and Ida in See How They Run. When Isabelle isn't busy rehearsing, she enjoys playing with her dog and spending time with her husband, Ethan. "I'm so grateful to my husband and family for supporting me. What a special opportunity it is to share the stage with my dad! I hope everyone enjoys the show. Merry Christmas!"



DALLIN SUMAN - YOUNG EBENEZER

Dallin is excited to be performing here at the Parker Theatre for the first time. He recently graduated from UVU with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Some favorite credits include Prince Tophier in CINDERELLA (Sundance), Billy Cane in BRIGHT STAR (HCT), Scoop Rosenbaum in THE HEIDI CHRONICLES (UVU), Chip Tolentino in 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE (UVU), and Jesse Tuck in TUCK EVERLASTING (HCTO). Thanks to all my friends and family for their constant support!

A CHRISTMAS CAROL CAST



RYAN KINVILLE - FRED

A Christmas Carol will be the 5th show on the Parker Theatre stage, after playing Horatio (Hamlet), Kay (The Sword and the Stone) and Don Pedro (Much Ado About Nothing) and Patroclus in Pumpkin Giant. He has a million thanks to give to the cast, crew, and artistic team here at Parker for each opportunity to perform and for reminding him of the joys of theater. The Christmas spirit is upon us!



ANDREA MULLEN - FRED'S WIFE/MRS DILBER

Andrea Mullen is happy to be joining the cast of the Parker Theatre for this version of her 2nd favorite Muppet movie. Andrea is a graduate of BYU-Hawaii and UVU. She's lived in Florida, Washington, Hawaii and Shanghai and is happy to be home in Utah again. Andrea currently is teaching her students how to take over the world at West Hills Middle School.



MARINDA MAXFIELD - MRS FEZZIWIG/CHARWOMAN

Marinda is thrilled to be a part of this production. Previous roles include Martha in Arsenic and Old Lace, Miss Blacklock in A Murder is Announced, and Titania in A Midsummer Nights Dream. When not on stage, you can find Marinda backstage as a Director, Stage Manager, or Designer. Enjoy the show!



DEREK WAYMAN - SOLICITOR 1/POOR HUSBAND

Derek Wayman is honored to be performing on the Parker Theatre stage for the first time. Some previous roles include, "Frollo" in Hunchback of Notre Dame and "Oberon" in A Midsummer Night's Dream. He would like to thank his Wife and Two dogs for their never ending support.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL CAST



SPENCER DEBENHAM - SOLICITOR 2/TOPPER

Spencer is beyond excited to be in one of the most iconic Christmas shows of all time. He has been in some beloved productions including understudying the roles of Elvis Presley, Johnny Cash, and Carl Perkins in Million Dollar Quartet, Les Miserables (Marius), The Addams Family (Gomez), Our Town (Dr. Gibbs), and Something Rotten (Nigel). He has sung in many choirs, a barbershop chorus, and as a crooner on. He's also performed for children's corporate parties and led a mommy and me style class as lead singer and guitarist.



JULIET WENDELS - TOPPER'S WIFE/POOR WIFE

Juliet is very excited to be working with Parker Theatre for the first time, as Topper's Wife/Poor Wife in A Christmas Carol! She has many years of experience with musical theatre playing roles including; Miss Lynch from Grease, "Bertie" Healey from Annie, Miss Piglet in Off Broadway's Muffets Christmas Carol, etc. She has also had vocal training and performed at various venues over the years. She's hopes you enjoy the show!



ELISABETH WILKINS - TURKEY GIRL/LITTLE FAN

Ellie is excited to share the stage with her Dad and is overjoyed to be playing the role of Little Fan and Turkey Girl in Parker Theatre's production of "A Christmas Carol". Previous credits include, Young Anna in "Frozen Kids" (Hale Centre Theatre), Amanda Thripp in "Matilda the Musical" (Murray and Cottonwood Heights) and Gladys Herdman in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" (Parker Theatre). When she isn't performing, this busy 7 year old enjoys dancing, singing, and other creative pursuits—especially those involving sharpies, tape, paper and glue.



JAGO PARKER - PETER/BOY EBENEZER

Jago was first seen on stage in the Wizard of Oz. Ever since then he has been begging to be in another show. Jago loves to create visual art including drawing, painting, sculpting, model making and more. He would like to thank his mom for joining him in this show and loves their funny conversations while driving to and from the theatre. He can think of no better way to celebrate this holiday season than to share the story of A Christmas Carol with everyone.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL CAST



EZRA FEDDERSON - TINY TIM

Ezra is very excited to have his acting debut at the Parker Theatre. He has been working hard on his performance and is grateful for the support of his fellow cast members in discovering this new talent. In addition to acting, Ezra enjoys studying history and countries. He also enjoys engineering. When asked what he wants to be when he grows up he said, "I don't know because there are so many options. I love a lot of things!" Ezra is grateful for his parents for their support and his fellow cast members for taking him under their wing.



OLIVIA ETHINGTON - BELINDA

Olivia is estatic to be appearing in her third show at The Parker Theatre, having previously appeared in 'The Best Christmas Pageant Ever' and 'The Sword in the Stone'. Olivia loves both sides of the stage, and enjoys assisting in prop building and painting. Olivia would like to thank her family for their support, as well as her dog Oreo who cheers her on every day.



LEXIE HOLMGREN - HOLLY GIRL

Lexie is super excited to be back at Parker Theater for her second time. She was in last year's holiday show, The Best Christmas Pagaent Ever, and it went so well she is happy to be here again! Lexie is in 3rd grade in a Spanish Dual Immersion program and loves it. She enjoys drawing, climbing, riding her bike and scooter, and reading. She loves her family and friends and is grateful for all they do for her.



JOANNE M. PARKER - ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Joanne M. Parker is the founding Artistic Director of Parker Theatre. She has written over 100 plays and directed hundreds more. Her boundless energy has been the directing force behind Parker Theatre. Joanne is an original member of Children's Dance Theatre under the direction of Virginia Tanner and she received a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from the University of Utah in 1970. She is a talented performer, composer and author of lyrics for several children's award-winning songs and plays. She has also been the recipient of two Best of State Awards for play writing and is well known throughout the state for training hundreds of performers. She is the mother of five, grandmother of eighteen and great grandmother of three.



SPENCER J. HOHL - ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Spencer Hohl is a talented musician and a certified member of the Society of American Fight Directors. Spencer has acted on stage in dozens of productions in the valley. Some favorites include The Canterville Ghost, Treasure Island, Robin Hood, Hamlet, Taming of the Shrew, Zorro and The Three Musketeers. He is also a veteran actor on the Parker Theatre stage and is delighted to be back home, now in his new capacity as Associate Artistic Director. "Perfect! Do it again."

PRODUCTION

DIRECTOR: SPENCER J. HOHL
COSTUME DESIGN: PAIGE BURTON
LIGHTING DESIGN: TOM HOHL
SET DESIGN: JAMES PARKER
PROPERTIES: LARISSA ANDERSON
STAGE MANAGER: REBECCA ETHINGTON
STAGE HAND: NICHOLAS WILKINS
TECHNICIAN: LIV AUSTIN
SEAMSTRESS: REBECCA FENTON

SPECIAL THANKS

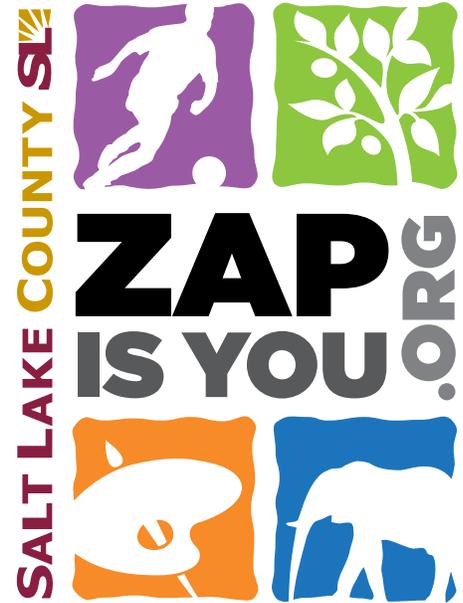
CROWN CASTER
CR ELECTRICAL
BEVGAS
CENTERPOINTE THEATER
DESERT STAR THEATER

ADMINISTRATION

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: JAMES B. PARKER
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER: PAUL PETERSEN
ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: JOANNE M. PARKER
ASSOCIATE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR: SPENCER J. HOHL
OFFICE MANAGER: MISSY STEBBING
CONCESSIONS CHEF: AMY RICHARDSON

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GEORGE S. AND DOLORES DORÉ ECCLES
F O U N D A T I O N



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SCHEDULE

TUESDAY

10:30-11:15am
Preschool Theatre

4:30 PM

Beginning Theatre
Elementary Acting
Intermediate Acting
Advanced Acting

5:30 PM

Improv - Level One
Elementary Musical Theatre
Intermediate Musical Theatre
Advanced Musical Theatre

6:30 PM

Sketch Comedy - Level Two
Elementary Acting
Intermediate Acting
Adult Class

WEDNESDAY

4:30 PM

Preschool Theatre
Elementary Acting
Intermediate Acting
Advanced Acting

6:30 PM

Adult Class
Elementary Acting
Intermediate Acting
Advanced Acting

5:30 PM

Beginning Theatre
Elementary Musical Theatre
Intermediate Musical Theatre
Advanced Musical Theatre

THURSDAY

10:30-11:15am
Preschool Theatre

4:30 PM

Beginning Theatre
Elementary Acting
Intermediate Acting
Advanced Acting

5:30 PM

Sketch Comedy - Level One
Elementary Musical Theatre
Intermediate Musical Theatre
Advanced Musical Theatre

6:30 PM

Improv - Level Two
Elementary Acting
Intermediate Acting
Advanced Acting

FRIDAY

9:30-11am
Homeschool Theatre

PARKER THEATRE SCHOOL
3601 S. STATE STREET. SSL, UT 84115
PARKERTHEATRE.ORG 801-532-6000

2022/23

THEATRE CLASSES



CLASS DESCRIPTIONS

PRESCHOOL THEATRE

Join us for creative play and activities meant to get our bodies moving! The smallest students will become familiar with movement and performing, all while building confidence in a safe environment built for imagination and expression.

AGES 3-5

BEGINNING THEATRE

Explore acting and singing techniques through creativity, improv, and imagination. Students learn how to speak clearly, create characters, and become comfortable working with and in front of others. Theatre games and exercises will be used to teach skills in a fun and interactive way.

AGES 4-6

ELEMENTARY ACTING

Dive into storytelling, projection, diction, character movement, voice acting and how to create a strong ensemble. Each week, the class will work on a new topic through games and activities that will build their skills.

AGES 7-10

INTERMEDIATE ACTING

Develop a character through voice & movement. Strengthen diction and projection and focus, creating individual performances and a strong ensemble through activities, rehearsals and games.

AGES 11-13 (Students younger than 11 may audition for a space in our intermediate levels.)

ADVANCED ACTING

Advanced acting is for students who have a firm acting foundation. Students work and train under elite teachers as they master their skills from the

ground up. Students will go beyond the basics with the intent to build the students into high quality performers, ready to take on the world.

AGES 14-16 (Students younger than 14 may audition for a space in our intermediate levels.)

ELEMENTARY MUSICAL THEATRE

Develop the building blocks of musical theatre, master body awareness and motion, as well as learn how to understand beats and add simple motions to songs. They will also explore different types of musicals as they dip their toes into this exciting, musical, theatre.

AGES 7-10

INTERMEDIATE MUSICAL THEATRE

Dive deeper into the world of musical theater, exploring old and new shows as the lessons grow more complex. Students will learn more music skills such as how to read music, and hearing and hitting different tones with our voices. Students are also taught simple choreography and moves that will help them incorporate their skills into a performance ready quality.

AGES 11-13 (Students younger than 11 may audition for a space in our intermediate levels.)

ADVANCED MUSICAL THEATRE

Advanced musical theatre is for students who have a firm musical theatre foundation and are looking for more advanced training.

The songs, the notes, the dance... it all gets more complex in this class as students work together to create a performance ready showcase that will push them to expand and master many techniques and prepare them for production.

AGES 14-16

IMPROV - LEVEL ONE

Develop the fundamentals of improvisation. With games, drills, and simple scenes you will learn how to; get over your fear of failure, respond quickly in the moment, listen actively and communicate more effectively, collaborate with and engage others, resolve conflicts, make new friends, overcome objections and rejections and how to laugh at yourself.

AGES 8+

IMPROV - LEVEL TWO

Ready to take your improv skills to the next level? Master skills beyond the basics. With more advanced games, techniques and drills, this class is meant to get you performance ready.

AGES 8+ (Students must have taken Improv

-Level One and been signed off by the teacher to attend level two improv.)

SKETCH COMEDY - LEVEL ONE

Focus on the other side of improvisation and humor this fast action class. Students will learn how to create, practice and perform their sketch comedy skits and bits in class. It's half improvisation, half production and scripting. If you like studio C or other similar shows you'll love this class!

ALL AGES

SKETCH COMEDY - LEVEL TWO

If you have mastered the basics on sketch comedy, it's time to take your skill to the next level. Master your abilities and build skits and you refine your comedic timing and twist your funny bone! Build skits for stage, tv, and more in this hysterical class.

ALL AGES (Students must have taken Sketch

Comedy - Level One and been signed off by the teacher to attend level two improv.)

ADULT CLASS

If you are looking to extend your abilities, seek feedback, or pick up an old skill that may have been forgotten or never mastered, this class is for you. Our adult classes are professional quality classes for ages 16 and older, that will focus on evaluating current ability, experimenting new methods, and breaking old habits. We dig deep into stage works and hone our skills as we continue on our journey to mastery.

AGES 16+

OTHER INFORMATION

DISCOUNTS

Many students take more than one class for well-rounded theatre training. Take two or more classes and receive a discount.

MINIMUM CLASS SIZE IS FIVE.

Parker Theatre reserves the right to split, cancel or combine classes based on enrollment.

SCHOOL CLOSED

Fall: November 21st-25th

Thanksgiving Week

Winter: December 19th-30th

Spring: April 3-7 OR 10-14

QUESTIONS?

Email: school@parkertheatre.org

Phone: 801-532-6000

Guardians are required to sign in their student(s) at the Studio building located at 3601 S State St, the building directly next door and north of the main theatre building located at 3605 S State.