

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release, please

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LAMBERTVILLE'S DOWNTOWN PLAYERS PRESENT A CHRISTMAS CAROL AND FROSTY THE SNOWMAN AT SOUTH HUNTERDON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL THEATRE IN LAMBERTVILLE, NJ

The Downtown Players, part of Lambertville's Downtown Performing Arts Center, are thrilled to ring in the holiday season with two special productions: ***A Christmas Carol*** and ***Frosty the Snowman***. Both shows, set to run during the weekend of Friday, December 17, Saturday, December 18 and Sunday, December 19, will be performed at the South Hunterdon Regional High School Theatre located at 301 Mount Airy - Harbourton Road in Lambertville, New Jersey.

Called by The New York Times "a tonic for adults, and for children a transfixing journey," ***A Christmas Carol*** ran for ten years at Madison Square Garden and in 2004, became the basis of an NBC Hallmark Entertainment special starring Kelsey Grammer as Ebenezer Scrooge.

But even without starry casts and spectacular trappings, this ***A Christmas Carol*** retains its emotional power and pure joy, thanks to the marvelously-told story by Mike Ockrent and Lynn Ahrens, and the Alan Menken and Lynn Ahrens score filled with beautiful melodies and emotional lyrics. In fact, their song "A Place Called Home" has become a holiday standard.

The cast of ***A Christmas Carol*** includes several actors known to audiences throughout the region. Lambertville resident David Whiteman takes on the role of everyone's favorite holiday grouch, Scrooge. David has performed extensively on Pennsylvania and New Jersey stages and appeared this past summer at the Washington Crossing Open Air Theatre in productions of *Moon Over Buffalo* and *Annie*. Louis Palena will play Bob Cratchit. Louis has entertained audiences on both sides of the Delaware for almost two decades and assumed the role of Artistic Director this past summer for the Washington Crossing Open Air Theatre. Additionally, he performed roles in many of the productions including the Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz* and Rooster in *Annie*. Jenny Whiteman, also of Lambertville, delighted audiences as Miss Hannigan in the Open Air season closer, *Annie*, and plays Mrs. Fezziwig in this production. The cast of ***A Christmas Carol*** is rounded out by Holly Montgomery, Jill Palena, Sam Lewis, Jay Casale, Jordan Brennan and many other familiar faces.

A Christmas Carol will be performed on:

Friday, December 17 at 7:30 pm

Saturday, December 18 at 2 pm and 7:30 pm

Sunday, December 19 at 2 pm

Tickets are \$17.00 for adults and \$12.00 for children (12 and under) and Seniors.

Especially for the kids, The Downtown Players will present the musical, ***Frosty the Snowman***, for one special performance on Saturday, December 18 at 11 am. Based on the story that has entertained generations of audiences ***Frosty the Snowman*** promises to be a delight for all ages.

Frosty the Snowman will be performed on:

Saturday, December 18 at 11 am.

Tickets are \$5 for Children and Adults.

The Downtown Players productions of ***A Christmas Carol*** and ***Frosty the Snowman*** will be performed on Friday, December 17 through Sunday, December 19 at the South Hunterdon Regional High School Theatre located at 301 Mount Airy - Harbourton Rd. in Lambertville, New Jersey. Tickets may be purchased in advance by calling the Box Office at 267-885-9857. Tickets will also be available at the door prior to any performance.

photo caption: Louis Palena (left) as Bob Cratchit and David Whiteman as Scrooge in The Downtown Players production of ***A Christmas Carol*** set to run December 17, 18 and 19 at the South Hunterdon Regional High School Theatre in Lambertville, NJ.

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