

BOLDNEWPLAYS**BOLDNEWPLAYS**

UNICORN**THEATRE**



**Ebenezer Scrooge's Big
KC MO Christmas Show**

By Gordon Greenberg & Steve Rosen

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Opening Night: Saturday, November 30, 2024

UNICORN THEATRE PRESENTS

Ebenezer Scrooge's Big KC MO Christmas Show

by Gordon Greenberg & Steve Rosen

Directed by Ernie Nolan

THE CAST

| | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| Ebenezer Scrooge | Ron Megee |
| Actor 1 | Steven Eubank* |
| Actor 2 | Teisha M. Bankston* |
| Actor 3 | Jessica Dressler |
| Actor 4 | Francisco "Pancho" Villegas* |
| Actor 3 Understudy | Anna Koehler |

PRODUCTION TEAM

| | |
|----------------------------|------------------|
| Production Stage Manager | Tanya Brown* |
| Scenic & Lighting Designer | Alex Perry |
| Costume Designer | Georgiana Londre |
| Props Designer | Seth Golay |
| Sound Designer | Thomas Newby |
| Asst. Lighting Designer | Sally Farrand |
| Scenic Painter | Layne Griffin |
| Production Assistant | Layne Griffin |
| Sound Board Operator | Natalie Burkett |

* Denotes member of Actors' Equity Association

This production is sponsored in part by:



EBENEZER SCROOGE'S BIG KC MO CHRISTMAS SHOW is presented by special arrangement with special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service imprint. (www.dramatists.com)

Originally commissioned by and world premiere presented by New Hope Productions (Alexander Fraser, Robyn Goodman, Stephen Kocis, Josh Fielder, Producers), 2017

SEASON SPONSORS



WHO'S WHO



Ernie
Nolan



Tanya
Brown



Ron
Megee



Steven
Eubank



Teisha M.
Bankston



Jessica
Dressler



Francisco "Pancho"
Villegas



Anna
Koehler

ABOUT THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

ERNIE NOLAN (Artistic Director/Director) is an award-winning playwright, director, and choreographer, and has made significant contributions to the world of theatre for young audiences and beyond. With a distinguished career spanning over two decades, Nolan brings a wealth of experience, creativity, and a profound passion for innovative and inclusive storytelling to Kansas City. Prior to joining Unicorn Theatre, Ernie served as the Executive Artistic Director of Nashville Children's Theatre (NCT). He has been recognized for his excellence in theatre, receiving the Illinois Theatre Association's 2014 award for Excellence in Theatre for Young Audiences. Nolan's extensive experience includes his tenure as Artistic Director of Emerald City Theatre, where he pioneered The Little Theatre, the nation's first performance space dedicated to interactive and immersive theatrical experiences for early theatre goers ages five and under. Nolan's impressive resume includes directing and choreographing world premieres by Tony-nominated artists and adapting beloved storybook favorites into captivating theatrical productions. His work has been showcased both nationally and internationally. He holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Musical Theatre Performance from the University of Michigan and a Master of Fine Arts in Directing from The Theatre School at DePaul University. During his time in Chicago, he directed several diverse works, including *Love and Human Remains* which won New City's Best Play of the Year Award. Nolan also served on the faculty of The Theatre School at DePaul University and helped develop new work at Chicago Dramatists.

THE CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM

RON MEGEE (Ebenezer Scrooge) is more than just a name; he's a comedic force of nature who's been shaking up the Kansas City theater scene for decades. As founder and co-producer (with the equally dynamic Jessica Dressler) of Late Night Theatre, he's brought over 100 campy, hilarious productions to life, from the iconic *Valley of the Dolls* to the outrageous *Golden Girls Gone Wild*. A true Renaissance man, Ron's talents extend far beyond the stage. He's graced the hallowed halls of the Unicorn Theatre, the opulent Lyric Opera, the glittering New Theatre and even the thrilling world of theme parks (where he's wrangled an alligator and kept skeletons in line.) His trophy case is getting full, including the GLAADKC Citizen of the Year honor and the Mark Dreiling Award for Community Leadership. Ron's impact is undeniable, but we can't forget his secret weapon: the unwavering support of his husband, designer Jon Fulton Adams. (After all, a dynamic performer needs a great look - he suggests that you marry your stylist.)

STEVEN EUBANK (Actor 1) is elated to be making his Unicorn Theatre performing debut! You may have also seen Steven onstage at New Theatre & Restaurant, Coterie Theatre, Theatre for Young America, Heartland Men's Chorus and Burlesque Downtown Underground. He has had the honor of working with numerous theatre companies in KC as a director and choreographer. Steven is the proud former Artistic Director of the now slumbering Egads! Theatre Company. He is a native of KCMO and a graduate of Missouri State University with a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance. Gratitude to Ernie and the entire *Ebenezer* cast and creative team! Love to Mom, Dad, Michael and Thomas!

TEISHA BANKSTON (Actor 2) cannot contain her excitement to return to Unicorn Theatre following her appearances in *Marys Seacole*, *Poor Clare*, *American Son*, *Informed Consent*, *Eclipsed*, and many other plays over the years. She has also been seen on the stages of other KC theatres, including The Coterie, Kansas City Actors Theatre, KC Rep, and Theatre for Young America. Teisha is featured in the documentary film, *Barbara Johns: The Making of an Icon*, the host of SciTech Now on KCPT, and has performed with Neil Young in his Kansas City Tour at Starlight, choreographed by Russ Tamblyn. Teisha is a member of Kansas City Actors Theatre Artistic Company and Board of Directors. Teisha extends gratitude and a warm heart to all; cheers!

JESSICA DRESSLER (Actor 3) is ecstatic to be spending her holiday season here at the Unicorn with these amazing creatures on and behind stage! She assures you she's done theatre before. She has. Most recent decades she is best known from Late Night Theatre with KC Dandy Ron Megee, her night life persona of "Dirty Dorothy", and her recent full feature film "Rennie"--co-written and co-produced with Jen Frank Klenke--follow www.FilmRennie.com to stay up to date on its progress and viewing options!

FRANCISCO "PANCHO" VILLEGAS (Actor 4) is tickled pink to be back at Unicorn Theatre, spreading merriment and cheer in this production of *Ebenezer Scrooge's*

THE CAST & PRODUCTION TEAM

Big KC MO Christmas Show! Pancho was last seen at Unicorn Theatre in the productions of *Lungs* and *Journey to the Poles of Inaccessibility*, and can be seen in upcoming 2025 productions at The Coterie Theatre and Music Theatre Heritage. He thanks you for being in attendance and for supporting live theater. ¡Feliz Navidad!

ANNA KOEHLER (Actor 3 Understudy) has performed all across the country but Kansas City is her hometown. She received her MFA at Regent University and went on to study with the groundlings in LA. Her one woman show, *Cold Showers*, won the bronze medal at the Houston Film Festival. Anna loves the stage and is excited to make her KC premiere. When not performing Anna is a full time yoga instructor with akycyoga.com

TANYA BROWN (Stage Manager) is in her 19th season with Unicorn Theatre. Some of her all-time favorites have been *The Revolutionists*, *Venus in Fur*, *Hand to God*, *Cock*, *Stupid F##king Bird*, and *Priscilla Queen of the Desert*.

ALEX PERRY (Scenic & Lighting Designer) holds 9/10 of a Masters of Fine Arts from UMKC and is thrilled to design for the Unicorn having also worked in the areas of scenery and props. Designs include: *H.O.T. the Musical*, *Journey to the Poles of Inaccessibility*, *Lungs*, *Our Black Death*, *Who's your Bahgdaddy*, *Heathers: The Musical*, *The Ghosts of Lote Bravo*, *The Oldest Boy*, *Hands on a Hardbody*, *Water by the Spoonful*, *Grounded*, *Venus in Fur*, *The Mountaintop*, *My Name is Asher Lev*, *Everyday Rapture*, and *Red*. Alex has also worked as lighting and scenic designer with many other theatres in the KC area, and spends his days with A to Z Theatrical Supply and Service Inc.

GEORGIANA LONDRÉ (Costume Designer) is delighted to be at the Unicorn this season, working with wonderful local artists. Georgianna is a Kansas City based costume designer and has designed over 350 productions over the last 25 years. For Unicorn Theatre, she has previously designed 40 shows, including *The Ghosts of Lote Bravo*, *The Whale*, *Wit*, *The Laramie Project*, *Hedwig and the Angry Inch*, *Art*, *The Beauty Queen of Lenane*, and *The Judas Kiss*.

SETH GOLAY (Props Designer) Seth Golay (Props Designer) is truly thrilled to be working with this talented group of local artists at historic Unicorn Theatre!! Recently Seth has been seen as an actor in *Freaky Friday* at New Theatre Restaurant and in *Company* at Music Theater Heritage, where he also directed their productions of *Funny Girl* and *Camelot*. Past Unicorn Theatre work proudly includes roles in *Bat Boy: The Musical*, *Grey Gardens*, [title of show], and *Buyer & Cellar*. Thanks to Taylor, Jason, and Ernie - and the entire design, stage management, and Unicorn teams. Your kindness and generosity makes a huge difference: <https://unicorntheatre.org/support-us/>.

THOMAS NEWBY (Sound Designer) has been making music, film and live theatre for the past 20 years. He received his MFA in sound design from UMKC in 2023. He

is a co-founder of the Green Zoo Arts Collective and has released several albums as a vocalist and songwriter for his two bands, The Green Zoo and By Fire and Sword. He has recently worked with, Homegrown Theatre, Unicorn Theatre, The Heart of America Shakespeare Festival, Kansas City Actors Theatre, The Living Room Theatre, Fishtank Theatre, KC Repertory Theatre, Music Theatre Heritage and the College of Idaho Studio Theatre. He's a gifted whistler.



Jessica Dressler
REALTOR

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COMING NEXT

Doctor Moloch

By Carla Milarch

Directed by Sidonie Garrett

January 29 – February 16, 2025





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Photography **Don Ipock**

UNICORN THEATRE'S MISSION

Unicorn Theatre enhances the Kansas City community by developing and producing high-quality, thought-provoking plays that have never been seen in the region. We illuminate social issues by shining a light on diversity and inclusive stories which include race, religion and gender identity. Unicorn creates opportunities for the advancement of emerging and established actors, directors, playwrights, designers, technicians and administrative staff.

VISION STATEMENT

By producing provocative new plays Unicorn Theatre fosters the next generation of great American writers and artists, creating innovative and intimate theatrical experiences that transcend the ordinary. We inspire the community to think and feel deeply; to see the world in new and different ways. Unicorn strives to be one of the preeminent homes for new plays in the country.