



# A Christmas Story



Play by

**Philip Grecian**

based upon *A Christmas Story*,  
Written by Jean Shepherd

**DIRECTED BY**

**Jennifer York**

November 27-December 20, 2015

Fridays & Saturdays 7:30pm

Sundays 2:00pm

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# A Christmas Story

Directed by Jennifer York

Play by Philip Grecian

based upon *A CHRISTMAS STORY*, ©1983

Turner Entertainment Co., distributed by Warner Bros.

written by

Jean Shepherd

Leigh Brown

Bob Clark

and *In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash*

by Jean Shepherd

Produced by special arrangement with

THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois

## TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE STAFF

Managing Artistic Director..... Chris Surface

Office Manager .....Karen Christensen

Technical Director.....Blake R. York

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# Director's Note

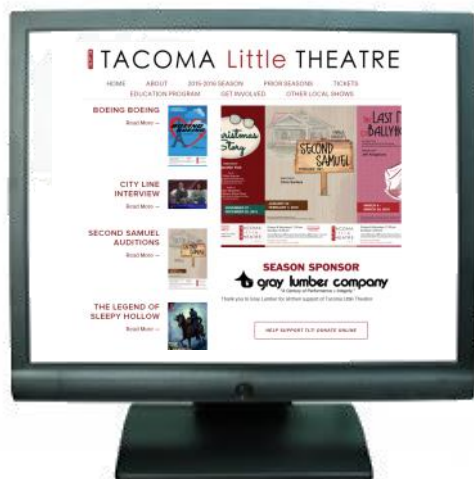
***"You'll shoot your eye out !!"***

Ralphie Parker and his quest for a Red Ryder 200-shot carbine action range model air rifle were a big part of the holidays with my family growing up in the mid-west. We came to feel like we knew these characters personally – because we did. They are everyday people, living everyday life. They just happen to be in 1940's America but we all know them well; a pesky little brother, childhood best friends, that first school crush, neighborhood bullies, disgruntled holiday elves... the list goes on. And who can't relate to the single-minded, almost tunnel vision approach, one gets in the pursuit of that one perfect toy? To this day I can't try on a jacket without throwing my arms straight out and whining "I can't put my arms down!!"

The 1983 film, on which this play is based, has become a holiday classic for families everywhere. Jean Shepherd's original short stories celebrated the rituals of American life. This story is less about the holiday itself and more about the feelings and moments that happen along the way. These moments resonate with us and, through stories like this, we relive them over and over again.

I had the privilege of recreating these moments for you this holiday season. With this cast of actors, both brand new and well seasoned, we hope to recapture your childhood and take you back to the moments you cherished as a child watching this story for the first time. So get comfortable, leave the stress of a busy holiday season at the door and reminisce with a grown-up Ralph Parker about holidays long past.

*Jen*



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- Easier to use
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- Show Archives
- Current Information
- Upcoming Specials

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# Artisite Staff

Director .....	Jennifer York
Stage Manager.....	Nena Curley
Assistant Stage Manager.....	Alyshia Collins
Resident Costume Designer.....	Michele Graves
Set Design/Master Carpenter.....	Blake R. York
Assistant Carpenter.....	Ron Bauer
Resident Lighting Designer.....	Niclas R. Olson
Sound Design.....	Blake R. York
Resident Properties Manager.....	Jeffery Weaver
Scenic Artists .....	Ana Bury, Brittany Griffins Jen York, Maggie Knott
Photography.....	DK Photography
Graphic Design .....	Maria Kadile Konop
Build Crew .....	Dan Galagan, Ron Bauer, Niclas R. Olson
Paint Crew.....	Veronica Bauer, Katlyn Madden, Ron Bauer, Mason Quinn, Josh Johnson, Bonnie Bury, Tasha Mutton, Phoebe Griffins

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# Staff Biographies

## **Jennifer York (Director)**

Jen is beyond thrilled at the opportunity TLT has given her and thankful to Chris Surface for entrusting her to direct this iconic holiday show. While *A Christmas Story* marks Jen's main stage directing debut for TLT, she has been a part of the local theatre community for over 13 years, serving as scenic artist, actor, stage manager, prop master, and director for many of the area theatres. She has loved sharing the experience with her new husband, Technical Director, Blake York. She would like to thank him and the rest of her family and friends for their unwavering support.

## **Nena Curley (Stage Manager)**

Nena is always excited to be working at Tacoma Little Theatre. She has been working all over the area for the past three years, including Stage Managing *Steel Magnolias*, *Dial M for Murder*, and *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* at Tacoma Little Theatre and *Spamalot*, *The Rainmaker*, *Drood*, and *The Chronicles of Narnia* at Lakewood Playhouse. By day, Nena is the Production Manager at Lakewood Playhouse. Nena would like to thank this wonderful cast who have lend many a helping hand. Thank you Alyshia for all the crazy work you have to do backstage to keep the show moving. Thank you Jen for bringing me on for this show. Thanks to my family for their continued support. And thanks to "Dork" for keeping me sane through the busy times!

## **Alyshia Collins (Assistant Stage Manager)**

Alyshia is excited to be a part of the team for *A Christmas Story*. She has been heavily involved in theatre for most of her life and work often at Lakewood Playhouse in a variety of positions. Thank you Nena and Jen for making this such a fun show to be a part of.

## **Blake R. York (Technical Director/Master Carpenter)**

Blake has been involved with theatre in the area for the past 12 years. This year Blake became TLT's full time Technical Director after serving as a part time Technical Director last year. Past shows designed at TLT include: *Endgame*, *Sleuth*, *Spelling Bee*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Sylvia*, *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* and *Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks*. He would like to thank his wife Jen, his parents, and his friends for everything they have done and continue to do for him.



## Staff Biographies

### **Michele Graves (Resident Costume Designer)**

Michele has been the Resident Costume Designer for the past three seasons. The quality of the shows, casts, and crews make it a pleasure to be a part of this theatre. Whether doing a period production or a contemporary piece, she enjoys costuming the many actors and getting to know the characters they portray.

### **Niclas R. Olson (Resident Lighting Designer)**

Niclas is pleased to return to TLT as resident lighting designer. Past designs for TLT include *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*, *The Joy Luck Club*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and *Cabaret*. Other local design credits include: *Oliver!*, *The Woman in Black*, *The Rainmaker* (LPH), *Tea* (Dukesbay), and *Doctor Faustus* (New Muses). He is the managing artistic director of New Muses Theatre Company. [www.NiclasOlson.com](http://www.NiclasOlson.com)

### **Jeffery Weaver (Resident Properties Manager)**

Jeffery is pleased be back as the Properties Manager for the 2015/2016 season. This past year was one of the finest years TLT has had and he hopes to continue to contribute to future successful productions. He would like to thank his wonderful husband Bruce and children who continue to support his work both on and off stage. He would also like to thank his special group of theater friends and his BFF and wifey #1 Ms. Jen who believes in him and the gifts he has to share. Unconditional love and acceptance is a true gift never to be taken for granted. Talent is everywhere if only you open your eyes to see it. "I give my life to the Theatre, because in it I'm building something for myself. And what I build, I am"

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# Cast of Characters

Ralph .....	Blake R. York
Ralphie Parker .....	Liam Loughridge
Mother .....	Heidi Walworth-Horn
The Old Man .....	Andrew Fry
Randy (11/28, 12/4, 12/11, 12/13, 12/19, 12/20) .....	Mason Gibbons
Randy (11/27, 11/29, 12/5, 12/6, 12/10, 12/12, 12/17, 12/18) .....	Luke Miller
Miss Shields .....	Jessica Robins
Flick .....	J.J. Greenwell
Schwartz .....	Tyler Saum
Esther Jane Alberry .....	Gabi Grimmett
Helen Weathers .....	Haylie Hetland
Scut Farkas .....	Evan Sherman
Ensemble .....	Ron Bauer
Ensemble .....	Veronica Bauer
Ensemble .....	Augusta Greenwell

## Setting

The 1940's

In and around the Parker household, Hohman, Indiana



# Cast Biographies



## **Ron Bauer (Ensemble)**

Ron is pleased to be sharing the stage again with his daughter, Veronica. At TLT he has performed in *Bye Bye Birdie*, *Summerplay*, and most recently as Chester in *The Great Gatsby*. Ron is very active in film and recently was in the "Take 8" film festival. The film he was in won the grand prize and will become a feature film in 2016. "Working with Jen and Nena on this production has been fun and I thank them for the opportunity. Thank you to my cast, whom have been family these past two months. Merry Christmas. Ho! Ho! Ho!"



## **Veronica Bauer (Ensemble)**

Veronica is an avid performer, having performed in 20 plays. She loves being on stage and is super excited to be back in a mainstage production at Tacoma Little Theatre, where she gets to perform with her dad again. Veronica is also very active in the Tacoma film scene and has been featured in several shorts and feature length films.



## **Andrew Fry (The Old Man)**

Andrew has performed in over 35 productions in the South Puget Sound area and is thrilled to be back performing on the TLT stage where he was previously seen as Bingham in *The Fox on the Fairway*. Other favorite roles include Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, and Georges in *La Cage Aux Folles*. He also appears on TV Tacoma's Business Matters. When he is not doing theatre he lectures at UWT. Thanks to his family for sharing in his love of theater, love you Julie, Savannah, Delaney, Madeline and Beaumont.



## **Mason Gibbons (Randy)**

Mason is thrilled to be in his first main stage show at Tacoma Little Theatre. He has previously been a part of After School @ TLT and is excited to be on stage again. He hopes that you all enjoy this show and special thanks to his family and friends who have come out to support him.



## **Augusta Greenwell (Ensemble)**

Augusta is in the 3rd Grade and has performed in many homeschool productions, including TMP's *Tom Sawyer* (Becky Thatcher), *Thrashed*, *Pirates!*, and *Pinocchio*. At Lakewood Playhouse, Augusta was White Stag in *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Christmas 2013). Augusta enjoys gymnastics and can often be found doing splits, cartwheels, or walking on her hands. Augusta thanks her parents for helping her in her first TLT production.



# Cast Biographies



## **J.J. Greenwell (Flick)**

J.J. is in the 6th Grade, and excited about his first show at TLT! He debuted at Lakewood Playhouse in *Charlie and Chocolate Factory* (Charlie), then *Alice in Wonderland* (King), *The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe* (Skunk), and *Treasure Island* (Long John Silver). At TMP, J.J. has been in the homeschool camps: *Tom Sawyer*, *Pirates!*, *Thwacked*, and as *Pinocchio* in a musical version of the classic tale. J.J. enjoys acting and singing.



## **Gabi Grimmert (Esther Jane)**

Gabi Grimmert is excited to be performing at Tacoma Little Theatre for the first time as Esther Jane in *A Christmas Story*. A sophomore at Curtis High School, she has appeared in shows such as *Legally Blonde* and *Boy Meets Girl*, in which she played the lead role of Katie Baronsky. Gabi is also an accomplished violinist and enjoys the study of literature. Gabi thanks her parents for letting her pursue her dreams. She also thanks Director Jennifer York for allowing her to enjoy this valuable experience.



## **Haylie Hetland (Helen)**

This is Haylie's 5th theatrical performance, and her first at TLT. She and her family currently reside in Yelm, where she attends the 5th grade at Prairie Elementary. She loves to sing and dance, but most of all be on stage! Haylie is very thankful for this wonderful opportunity.



## **Liam Loughridge (Ralphie)**

This is Liam's debut at TLT. He was last seen in *Oliver!* (Oliver) at TMP. Last year, he appeared in the 5th Avenue's *A Christmas Story, the Musical* (Schwartz). Liam is a 7th grader at Visitation Catholic STEM Academy in South Tacoma. He is looking forward to wearing that bunny suit! Thank you to my family and friends for all their love and support. MERRY CHRISTMAS!



## **Luke Miller (Randy)**

Luke is 9 years old and in the 4th grade. Luke started acting at Tacoma Little Theatre in the summer of 2014. Some highlights have been playing Ichabod in *Sleepy Hollow* and Sherlock in *The Hound of the Baskervilles*. He would like to thank his parents, his awesome brother Randy, and friend Courtney for supporting him.

# Cast Biographies



## **Jessica Robins (Miss Shields)**

Jessica is pleased as punch to return to the stage at TLT, having previously appeared as Anelle in *Steel Magnolias*. An active member of the Seattle and South Sound theater scene, she splits her time and talents between musicals, straight plays, and improvisational theater. Between shows, you can catch her in the house ensemble at Unexpected Productions in Pike Place Market, or at your favorite local karaoke hangout. Love to family, friends, and fans!



## **Tyler Saum (Schwartz)**

This is Tyler's first role with Tacoma Little Theatre. Tyler is ten years old, and has been acting for 3 years. He has played many lead and supporting roles with Tacoma Youth Theatre. Tyler has been in a short film, "Big Boy" and a couple public service announcements. Tyler enjoys eating pie, trapeze, go karts and hanging out in his treehouse.



## **Evan Sherman (Scut Farkas)**

Evan Sherman is 6th grader at Bethel Junior High. This is his first show and he is very excited for it to be at Tacoma Little Theatre. He has always had an interest in acting as well as live comedy. He is hoping one day to have a YouTube channel of his own. He wanted to send a special thanks to his mother Sharon York for letting him be a part of the show, as well as Blake and Jen York for giving him this amazing opportunity.



## **Heidi Walworth-Horn (Mother)**

Heidi is so pleased to be back performing at Tacoma Little Theatre. During the day, she is a middle school English and history teacher in the University Place School District. It has been a privilege to be part of bringing Jean Shepherd's holiday memoir to the stage. She would like to thank Jen York for giving her the opportunity, as well as Joe, Jack, and Anna for their unfailing support and encouragement. More importantly, she would like to thank the audience for coming to the show and supporting TLT.



## **Blake R. York (Ralph Parker)**

Blake has been involved with theatre in the greater Puget Sound area for the past thirteen years. Tacoma Little Theatre credits include: Dogberry (*Much Ado About Nothing*), Butch (*Leading Ladies*), Bozidar (*Dear Santa*), Norman Cornell (*Star-Spangled Girl*), various characters (*Jekyll and Hyde*), Tom, Phyllis, and Leslie (*Sylvia*), Blake (*The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged*), and most recently as David O. Selznick in *Moonlight and Magnolias*. See him next in *Junie B. Jones* at Tacoma Musical Playhouse as part of the TMP Family Theatre program. He would like to thank his wife Jen, his parents, family, and friends for their continuous support.

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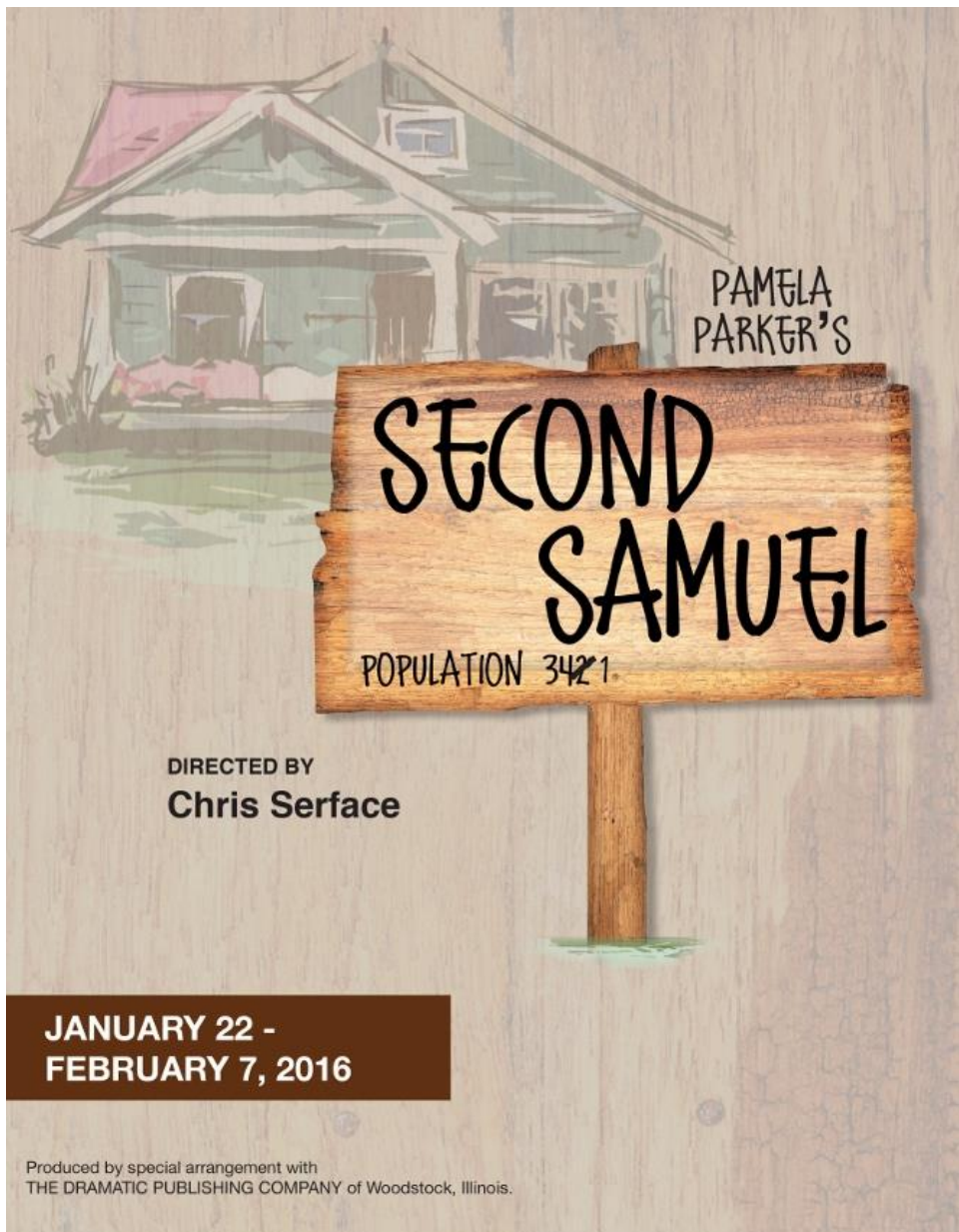
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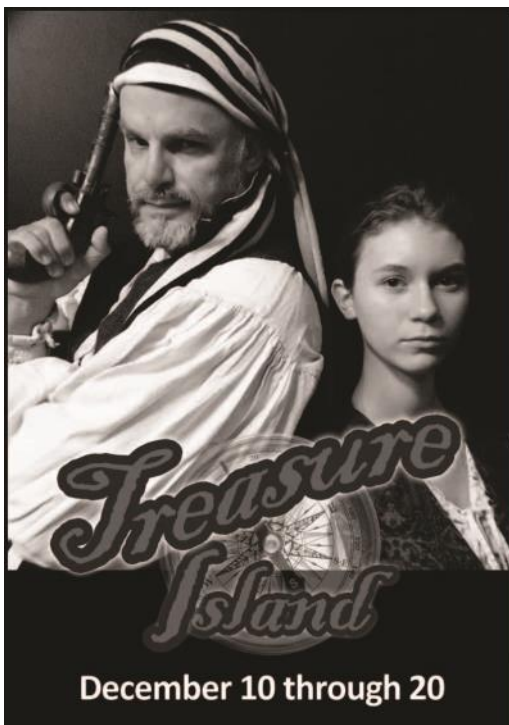
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