

Santa Cruz Sentinel Search [] Site Web Search powered by YAHOO! SEARCH

home news - business - sports - entertainment - opinion - obituaries - blogs - community - contact us - jobs - cars - homes - classifieds - print ads -

Friend us on Facebook

BOOKMARK Print Email Font Resize

Share 1 retweet



Most Viewed RSS
 Most E-Mailed

- (From the last 12 hours)
1. Toddler suffers facial trauma after two-story fall from Scotts...
 2. Some bus drivers nearly double salary with overtime
 3. Santa Cruz Metro salary database for 2009
 4. Party house database: Santa Cruz Police list of houses cited for...
 5. Stabbing victim drives to convenience store for help
 6. High speed course gives dogs the run around
 7. 2009 University of California Employee Salaries
 8. Santa Cruz Metro salary database for 2008
 9. 21-month-old boy falls out of second-story window of Scotts Valley...
 10. Sierra plane crash victims were from Santa Cruz, Freedom

Related Content

- Santa Cruz Metro salary database for 2008
- Santa Cruz Metro salary database for 2009
- Magnitude-4.4 earthquake in Pacific off Eureka
- Best Bets: August 16, 2010: Toumani Diabate
- Toddler suffers facial trauma after two-story fall from Scotts Valley home
- Santa Cruz County Stories: Ambessaw Assegued
- High speed course gives dogs the run around
- New judge takes a seat on Santa Cruz County Superior Court bench
- Cultural council grants bring murals to four county schools
- Save Our Shores hosts annual fundraiser
- Stabbing victim drives to Live Oak convenience store for help
- Street Smarts: City needs to do something about long lines at Santa Cruz's new parking paystations, reader says

Beloved Dickens 'Scrooge!' tale marks a new era for Cabrillo Stage

By WALLACE BAINE
 Posted: 12/17/2009 01:30:49 AM PST

All the novels, plays and stories of Western culture may be plowed under by the march of time, but Charles Dickens's amazingly durable holiday parable "A Christmas Carol" will go on and on. At least, that's what Cabrillo Stage is banking on.

"Scrooge!," the musical theater version of "A Christmas Carol," is the latest iteration of the famous tale, and this one could be historic, at least in Santa Cruz County.

Locals know Cabrillo Stage as the professional theater company that stages big, splashy Broadway-style musicals every summer on the campus of Cabrillo College, including 2009's big hit "The Wizard of Oz." Thanks to Dickens, however, Cabrillo Stage is moving into what used to its off-season. The opening of "Scrooge!" this weekend marks the debut of Cabrillo Stage as a year-round company.

The stars lined up just right for the company to make the jump from July into December. The October opening of the enormous new Visual, Applied and Performing Arts VAPA complex, including the spacious new Crocker Theater, made the transition possible. The decision a year ago by Shakespeare Santa Cruz to stop production on their popular annual holiday play made it irresistible.

"We could not have done this in the old theater," said Jon Nordgren, Cabrillo Stage's artistic director. "We saw the opportunity and we jumped at it."

What makes the show even more significant as a new entity filling the vacuum left behind by Shakespeare Santa Cruz is the casting



Click photo to enlarge

Related
Weekend Guide, Dec. 17-20 Dec 17:

- [Time again for 'The Nutcracker'](#)
- [Santa Cruz's Mary McLaughlin takes a long road to 'A Gaelic Christmas'](#)
- ['The Road' a harrowing but humane journey](#)

Advertisement

Real Local Banking
 Looking to purchase a home?
 Consider us!

Bay Federal CREDIT UNION
 Making a real difference

of "I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change" and has played central roles in Cabrillo Stage productions of recent years. Even though the show is built around the Christmas holiday, the production will continue well past Christmas Day into the new year. It closes Jan. 3.

"I've seen many Christmas-themed shows last until New Year's," said Nordgren. "What we're hoping is that the word-of-mouth from the pre-Christmas shows really builds post-Christmas sales."

Nordgren said that Cabrillo Stage, unlike many other theater companies, relies almost solely on ticket sales to stay afloat. A successful holiday production may give him the flexibility, he said, to apply for grants and establish an endowment. But in the mean time, he's depending on his audience.

of South Africa-born actor Joseph Ribeiro in the role of Ebenezer Scrooge. As any local theater lover knows, Ribeiro, a faculty member at Cabrillo College, was the main attraction in the SSC holiday productions for years, many times in elaborate, comic drag.

Nordgren says that this year's production of "Scrooge!" at the Crocker is the beginning of an annual tradition in which he hopes to bring back the same show to the same theater every December.

It's a big show "" more than 30 actors, a dozen musicians in the spanking new orchestra pit "" all to tell the cherished tale of iconic skinflint Scrooge who turns from miser to mensch one Christmas Eve thanks to visitations from the three ghosts of Christmas.

The show is directed by CS regular Andrew Ceglie, who directed last summer's production

Where Locals Bank
SANTA CRUZ COUNTY BANK
 Put your money where your life is.
 Member FDIC 457.5000

Century 21
 SHOWCASE, REALTORS
 438.8400 • 338.2125

- Obituaries, Aug. 16, 2010: Gama
- Coast Lines: Aug. 16, 2010

grants and establish an endowment. But in the mean time, he's depending on his audiences.

Nordgren is depending on a profitable run of "Scrooge!" to build momentum for the company's new era at the Crocker. "I Love You," the comical musical revue of last summer, was such a success, he's bringing it back for 2010, only this time to play in the new "black-box" theater that's part of the VAPA complex.

Also, planned for '10 is a new production of the Broadway musical "Swing!" celebrating the dance music of the 1940s, directed by CS vet Janie Scott, and the headlining show "Cabaret," with "Scrooge!" to follow in the fall.

"It's really a doubling of our company," said Nordgren. "Over the years, we've been relegated to an inadequate theater, having to share it with a huge arts community on the Cabrillo campus. With the expansion of the new facilities, it's going to be great."

 BOOKMARK
  Print
  Email
  Font
  [Return to Top](#)

IF YOU GO

'scrooge!
the musical'
presented by: Cabrillo Stage
when: Opening Friday. Tuesday through Saturday at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday at 2 p.m. through Jan. 3.
where: The Crocker Theater on the campus of Cabrillo College
Cost: Prices range from \$15 to \$34.
details: 479-6154,
www.cabrillostage.com

COMMENTS: Please use your real name to increase your comment's credibility. Please help us monitor this conversation by flagging hate speech, off-topic comments, vulgarity and comments that in any way advocate violence. [Terms of service](#)
[Read 4 comments »](#)

Type in your comments below

Name
(appears on your post)

Comments

Characters left: 4000

Type the numbers you see in the image on the right:



Please note by clicking on "Post Comment" you acknowledge that you have read the [Terms of Service](#) and the comment you are posting is in compliance with such terms. **Be polite.** Inappropriate posts may be removed by the moderator. [Send us your feedback](#).

<p>Rethink Capital - Penny Stock Alerts Get real-time tips on the RethinkCapital.com</p>	<p>Make Less Than \$45,000/Year? You May Qualify for a Grant to Go Back to School. www.SeeCollegeDegrees.com/Grants</p>	<p>Huge Discounts for Drivers over 25 Over 25 Years Old? www.netquote.com</p>
---	--	--

Ads by Yahoo!