

***VSU Theatre & Dance
presents the 2025-2026 season:***

A Christmas Carol

Adapted by Ian Andersen

Friday, December 5, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Saturday, December 6, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Sunday, December 7, 2025 at 1:30 PM

Friday, December 12, 2025 at 6:00 PM

Saturday, December 13, 2025 at 1:30 PM

Sunday, December 14, 2025 at 1:30 PM

SAWYER THEATRE

**A Scholarship Fundraiser in support of VSU Theatre & Dance's
Golden Circle Scholarship & Support Fund, which helps us recruit
and retain outstanding Theatre & Dance students.**



**VALDOSTA STATE
UNIVERSITY**

Patron List *2025-2026*

The patrons below have contributed to the Golden Circle Scholarship & Support Fund providing support to our production program but most importantly to the Theatre and Dance scholarships that help us attract outstanding students to our programs. The names below reflect those who have contributed through November 25, 2025.

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Dr. Susan Boddie
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VSU Theatre & Dance Faculty and Staff:

Blair Andersen
Ian Andersen
Sarah Wildes Arnett
Carol Bertho
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Madison Grant
H. Duke Guthrie
Danielle Kimble
Chalise Ludlow
Joe Mason
Ethan Parker
Melissa Pihos
Dr. Melissa Rynn Porterfield
Kathy Raess-Young
Hank Rion
Joshua Williams

Letter from the President



Dear Friends,

Welcome to Valdosta State University Theatre and Dance's 2025-2026 Season: Awakenings.

Whether you are a long-standing supporter of our productions or a first-time guest, we are delighted to have you join us for this incredible lineup of shows, each centered around a theme that is as ancient as storytelling itself, yet endlessly relevant. Whether it comes in the form of a personal revelation, a societal shift, or a quiet moment of clarity, an awakening is the turning point that shapes who we are and how we live.

VSU Theatre and Dance is committed to fostering excellence within its theatre performance, theatre production, theatre management, musical theatre, and dance programs while also contributing to the lifelong learning and cultural development of the citizens of South Georgia, North Florida, and beyond.

VSU Theatre and Dance attracts highly talented students from around the world and, over the course of four years, helps them develop critical thinking, problem-solving, planning, and organizational skills; perseverance; self-discipline; patience; physical stamina; creative abilities; a broad understanding of literature, history, and other arts, which helps them to interpret ideas and feelings; and an understanding of music, costuming, and staging.

Our faculty train more than performers. They cultivate thinkers, leaders, storytellers, and citizens. They awaken students to who they are, who they might become, and how they might move through the world with intention and artistry.

Many of our VSU Theatre and Dance graduates go on to pursue careers as writers, dancers, actors, directors, managers, and more in the film and television industry, as well as on Broadway, Off-Broadway, in regional tours, at theme parks, and more across the United States and beyond.

Before we "raise the curtain" on what promises to be a life-changing moment of storytelling, I want to say thank you to the many individuals, families, community leaders, and business owners who generously support, protect, and nurture VSU's tradition of creative excellence. Your presence here today ensures that live theatre will continue to thrive on our campus and in our community for generations to come.

Enjoy the show!

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Richard A. Carvajal". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and "C".

Richard A. Carvajal, Ph.D.
President



A Christmas Carol

Adapted by
Ian Andersen

CAST

Ebenezer Scrooge
Jacob Marley
Old Fezziwig, Old Joe
Mrs. Fezziwig
Mrs. Dilber
Charwoman
Actor 1: Bob Cratchit, Dick Wilkins, Narrator
Actor 2: Mrs. Cratchit, Narrator
Actor 3: 1st Gentleman, Christmas Present, Narrator
Actor 4: Christmas Past, Sister, Narrator
Actor 5: Fred, Belle's Husband, Narrator
Actor 6: Fezziwig Daughter, Fred's Wife, Narrator
Actor 7: Young Scrooge, Topper, Narrator
Actor 8: Belle, Caroline, Sister, Narrator
Ensemble: Ghost, US
Ensemble: Ghost, US
Ensemble: Ghost, US
Ensemble: Ghost, US
Ensemble: Ghost, US
Ensemble: Ghost, US
Child 1: Peter Cratchit, Ignorance, Child Ensemble
Child 2: Martha Cratchit, Child Ensemble
Child 3: Belinda Cratchit, Child Ensemble
Child 4: Belle's Child, Goose Girl, Child Ensemble
Child 5: Boy Scrooge, Child Ensemble
Child 6: Lucy Cratchit, Want, Child Ensemble
Child 7: Fan, Child Ensemble
Child 8: Miranda Cratchet, Child Ensemble
Child 9: Tiny Tim, Child Ensemble

H Duke Guthrie
Hank Rion
Joe Mason
Susan Boddie
Sarah Wildes Arnett
Melissa Rynn Porterfield
Matthew Duck
Anna Noelle Robinson
Zion Johnson
Olivia Martinez
Emory Lee Davis
Jaclyn Taylor
Aaron Kemper
Carter Exum
Ellie Muller
Shelby Howell
Savanna Davis
Abigail Carbery
Julia Petteys
Lucia Quesada
Ivy Andersen
Ady Williamson
Kendall Hanson
Emerson Rados
Reese Dorminey
Cara Fralick
Amelea DeCoudres
Olivia Powers
Morgan Powers

Scenic Designer
Madison Grant

Lighting & Sound Designer
Joshua Williams

Costume Designer
Chalise Ludlow

Makeup Designer
Brianna Lauser

Hair & Wig Designer
Ally Atkinson, Eden George, Olivia Martin

Stage Manager
Angel G. Tirado Zepahua

Technical Director
Madison Grant

Choreographer
Carol Bertho

Director
Ian Andersen

PRODUCTION TEAM

Assistant Stage Managers	Victoria Kanes, Keely Shipe
Assistant Lighting Designer	Bonnie Long
Head Carpenter	Allison Rooker
Head Electrician	Joshua Williams
Scenic Charge Artist	Grace Schaefer
Dance Captain	Olivia Martinez
Intimacy Captain	Savanna Davis
Fly Captain	Allison Rooker
Fly Operator	Bonnie Long
Deck Captain	Grace Schaefer
Deck Crew	Javas Gonzales,
	Brynna Norris
Backstage Hand	Emily Steele
Snow Wrangler	Nick Singleton
Props Master	Hannah Seyler
Props Handlers	Kay Bayne, Hannah Seyler
Lightboard Operator	Aidan Stelling
Soundboard Operator	A'ayla Emanuel
A1	Karlee John
A2	Juanita Justo
Child Supervisors	Tiah Carthers, Jayden Terry
Wardrobe Supervisor	Dallas Serna-Geddings
Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor	Sydne Hirshman
Wardrobe Crew	Tiyrai Anderson, Addison Newby,
	Cody Ortega, Riley Kate Thacker
	Ella Goble
Wigs & Makeup Assistant	Kathy Raess-Young
Costume Shop Manager	Juanita Justo, Allison Rooker,
Scene Shop Assistants	Grace Schaefer, Hannah Seyler
	THEA 2750, THEA 3720A
Scene Shop Personnel	Ally Atkinson, Victoria Kanes,
Costume Shop Assistants	Dr Anna Rodgers
	THEA 2730B, THEA 3720C
Costume Shop Personnel	Michaela Andersen
Box Office Manager	Ryan Blaumueller, Savanna Davis,
Box Office Treasurers	Torriah Drake, Carter Exum, Shelby Howell,
	Saniah Lewis, Nick Singleton
House Managers	Amaya Medina, Tristan Thomas
Social Media Coordinator	Tiah Carthers
Playbill Coordinator	Bonnie Long
Social Media Coordinator	Carmen Mason

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

VSU President, Dr. Richard Carvajal and Cabinet, Dr. Nicole Cox, Dr. Beibei Brantley,
Danielle Kimble, Amber Porter, Jennifer Charnock

Christ Episcopal Church

Programs and Office of Valdosta State University: Advancement, Campus Mail,
Creative Services, Financial Services, Foundation, Human Resources Information
Technology, Legal Affairs, Marketing & Communications, Parking & Transportation,
Plant Operations, Police Department, Printing & Copy Services
VSU Theatre & Dance Faculty & Staff

The Dickensian Era: A Snapshot

The early 19th century was a tumultuous time for England. The Industrial Revolution was in full swing, transforming the nation's economy and society. Urbanization and technological advancements led to rapid growth in cities like London. This drew people from the countryside to move to the city to seek work in factories and mills. This migration resulted in overcrowded, poor living conditions.

The differences between social classes were noticeable. The upper class enjoyed lavish lifestyles, while the lower class struggled to make ends meet. Child labor was rampant, and labor conditions were awful. Many families lived in squalor. Access to education and healthcare was close to non-existent for the poor.

Dickens: A Champion of Social Reform

Charles Dickens was a writer who used his pen to shed light on the injustices of his era. He was deeply moved by the plight of the poor and the exploitation of child laborers. He experienced poverty during his childhood. His works often served as a call to action, compelling readers to confront the harsh realities of society.

A Christmas Carol was a natural extension of Dickens' commitment to social reform. In the novella, he created a vivid portrait of the Victorian era. He drew from his experiences and observations. Through Ebenezer Scrooge, Dickens personified the harshness of those who profited at the expense of others.

The Ghostly Visits: A Reflection of Society

The ghosts of A Christmas Carol offer a unique view with historical context. Jacob Marley and the three spirits serve as a metaphor for societal reflection and change.

Marley, Scrooge's deceased business partner, appears with heavy chains. This is a haunting symbol of the greed and selfishness that bound him in life. His restless spirit serves as a warning to Scrooge and, by extension, to society. Marley's message is clear. Change your ways or suffer a similar fate.

The three spirits each represent a different aspect of time. They guide Scrooge through his history and the lives of those around him. They reveal his actions' fallout and the hardships the Cratchit family faces. In doing so, these visitors challenge Scrooge—and by extension, society—to confront the impact of indifference.

Christmas as a Catalyst for Change

Christmas serves as a pivotal backdrop for Dickens' narrative. In Victorian London's bleakness, social divisions softened during the holiday season. Acts of goodwill and charity prevailed. The contrast between the festive spirit of Christmas and Scrooge's miserly existence is stark. Through Scrooge's change, Dickens underscores the potential for redemption. Scrooge's journey from heartless to caring shows that people



PEACH PERFECT:

Take Your Seat

BE A PART OF THE FUTURE OF THE ARTS AT VSU

The spotlight is on you! This summer, as Peach State Summer Theatre lights up the stage, you have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to become a permanent part of Valdosta State University's performing arts legacy.

With a gift of \$1,000, you can dedicate a seat in the new Performing Arts Center auditorium — with your name or a loved one's name, engraved on a commemorative plaque.

- Choose your seat location (first come, first served)*
- Help support the arts, our students, and the future of live performance
- Leave a lasting mark on the cultural heart of VSU

* For seat location, contact Amber Porter at saporter@valdosta.edu or Blake Pearce at apearce@valdosta.edu

COMING SOON

2025-2026 SEASON

Marisol

by José Rivera

FEBRUARY 19 - 21, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 2026 AT 3 PM

SAWYER THEATRE

Winner of a 1993 Obie Award for playwrighting, *Marisol* is an apocalyptic urban fantasy. Pulled into a celestial war to save the human race, Marisol Perez finds herself on a surreal journey through a terrifying New York City in chaos. A gritty, beautiful, often humorous, tale of one woman's struggle to retain hope and sanity in the midst of devastation, *Marisol* is a triumph of the human spirit.

Content rating: MA

Spring Dances: Pulse

MARCH 11-13, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, MARCH 14, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

SAWYER THEATRE

Spring Dances: Pulse is a collection of concert dance works and dance films created by VSU Dance Faculty. Dances will provoke, inspire, liberate, and leave audiences in awe as dances intertwine storytelling, abstract thought and superb artistry.

Content Rating PG

Love's Labour's Lost

A NEW MUSICAL BASED ON THE PLAY BY

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE

Songs by Michael Friedman

Book Adapted by Alex Timbers

APRIL 23 - 25 & 27-29, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2026 AT 3 PM

Love's Labour's Lost is a smart, outrageous, and irreverent celebration of love and coming of age. Using Shakespeare's original text, this musical adaptation tells the story of the King and his best buds decide to swear off the joys of women, but when clever women from their past show up, they are forced to reconsider all of that nonsense.

Content Rating: PG 13

Adapted from Music Theatre International

FUNDRAISERS SUPPORTING VSU THEATRE & DANCE'S GOLDEN CIRCLE SCHOLARSHIP & SUPPORT FUND

The Spotlight Series

CELEBRATING STUDENT WORK

FRIDAY, MAY 1, 2026 AT 7:00 PM

SATURDAY, MAY 2, 2026 AT 2:00 PM

SAWYER THEATRE, VSU FINE ARTS BUILDING

Join us for the annual Spotlight Series as we shine a spotlight on our students and celebrate the work of our graduating seniors. | This performance is a ticketed event, proceeds support our Golden Circle Scholarship Fund which supports our Theatre & Dance students during their time here at Valdosta State University. *Tickets for this event are not included in Flex Passes.*

