

## Our Creative Team

**Warren Schweitzer** (*Lighting Designer*) likes to hide in corners and press buttons, which is why he loves helping out SETC with tech! While he usually runs sound, he is excited to run lights for the first time since high school for *What The Dickens*. He has previously run sound for *Steel Magnolias* and this past June's *Now You're Talking... One Acts Festival*.

**Barbara Rich** (*Sound Designer*) [www.RichcraftStudios.com](http://www.RichcraftStudios.com), is a voice actor and sound designer. She has had her finger in just about every voiceover genre there is with favorite projects being a 7-part animated series with the violinist Midori and just about any audiobook that she can make her way into. She is also an avid sound designer for theater and audio projects. Her theater projects include: *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors*, *Steel Magnolias*, *Here on the Flight Path*, *Stephanie Hero*, the world premiere of *Craig Fox Had a Wife*, *A Christmas Story*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *Peter Pan* (stage play), *The Neverending Story*, *A Child Shall Lead*, and *Shakespeare in Hollywood*.

**Rhonda Townsend Schantz** (*Props/Set Madame*) is the Vice President of Silent Echo Theater Company. She has been an actor, director, and all-around Jill-of-All-Trades for the company, now taking on the role of Props and Set Madame. As a performer, Rhonda has acted in numerous plays and musicals in Central Oregon. Most recently (2024) she played Fruma Sarah in *Fiddler on the Roof* (CTC) and reprised her role of Grimsby in *The Little Mermaid* (TMP). Thanks to leading man, Michael, for his endless patience and support. Enjoy the show and thank you so much for supporting community theater in Sisters!

**Lauren Jorgensen** (*Costume Designer*) Since moving to Bend in 2022, Lauren has worked on the production team for *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (CTC), *The Fantasticks* (CTC) and *Finding Nemo Jr* (TMP). Lauren was heavily involved with the Alaskan theater community from a young age with favorite roles as Anybodys in *West Side Story* and in the ensemble for *Forbidden Broadway*. The *Fur Rendezvous Melodrama* will always hold a special place in her heart with appearances both on-stage (Q, Off-Key) and with the production crew. Many thanks to her patient husband, Dustin, and sons, Dylan and Owen, for their support.



Silent Echo Theater Company presents

# What the Dickens

*A Christmas Carol with a Twist!*

by Matt Austin

Co-directed by  
Marla Manning & Angela Dean

December 5 -15, 2024

Sisters Middle School, Sisters



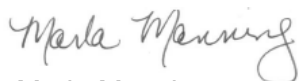
# Silent Echo Theater Company

Silent Echo Theater Company is excited to be presenting the West Coast Premiere of Matt Austin's *What the Dickens!* Since the premiere of "Now You're Talking..." One Acts Festival in 2016, we have been making our presence known in Sisters, greater Central Oregon and beyond. As we continue to pursue securing our own permanent space, we are thrilled to be partnering again with Sisters Middle School! 2024 has seen us present our eighth NYT festival, and co-produce the early development and workshop of Deena Kamm and Anne Fenn's brand new musical *Voicelless: A Musical* with Ellipse Theater Community. Our 2025 SETC calendar is still being developed but will include our ninth NYT festival, the premiere production of *Voicelless: A Musical*, and further development of our kids' program, Silent Echo Kids (originally introduced in 2019 with improv classes). Additional information about us and our future endeavors can be found on social media platforms Facebook and Instagram, and on our website, [silentechotheatercompany.org](http://silentechotheatercompany.org). If you are interested in getting involved or being added to our mailing list please email us at: [silentechotheatercompany@gmail.com](mailto:silentechotheatercompany@gmail.com)



Enjoy the show!

Sincerely,



Marla Manning  
Artistic Director and President

## Silent Echo Theater Company Board of Directors

Marla Manning (President)  
Rhonda Townsend Schantz (Vice President)  
Angela Dean (Secretary)  
Pat Leiser (Treasurer)  
Kathryn (Kat) Amstutz  
Kate Cavanaugh

## Our Playwright



**Matt Austin** is an actor, writer, improviser from New Milford, CT. He has been seen on the stage acting in 100+ productions across New England over the last 20 years, including *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Boeing Boeing* and *God in the CT* premiere of *An Act of God*. In addition to 'Dickens', he has written plays for New Britain Youth Theater as well as multiple one-acts featured at festivals around CT. As an improviser, he is a graduate of the Upright Citizen's Brigade Theater in NYC. He currently performs regularly with Sea Tea Comedy Theater in Hartford, CT and is a member of their international touring company."

## Our Creative Team

**Marla Manning** (*Co-director, Producer*) Recent directing credits include *Revenge and Sorrow in Thebes* (CTC), *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* (Co-Director, CTC), *Radiance* (CTC), *The Lost Virginity Tour* (2<sup>nd</sup> Street Theater), *Stop Kiss* (Ridgefield Theater Barn, CT) and *The Glass Menagerie* (Town Players, Newtown, CT). Having national and international producing credits spanning over 30 years, Marla founded 501c(3) non-profit Silent Echo Theater Company in 2016, an exciting addition to Sisters' cultural and artistic community. She would like to thank multi-talented playwright Matt Austin, along with our passionate and dedicated cast & crew.

**Angela Dean** (*Co-director*) has been involved with SETC since its inception in 2016. She performed in *Waiting for Dingleman's Comet* during the first *Now You're Talking...One Acts* event in 2016 and most recently was Hope in *Hope for the Best*. She has performed in *School for Scandal* and *Revenge and Sorrow in Thebes* at Cascade Theatrical. You also will find her performing with The Roundabouts Improv Company in Bend. She is honored to be able to work with the talented cast and crew of *What the Dickens*. She hopes everyone can find the joy of Christmas even when they are visited by flying ghosts.

**Kathryn (Kat) Amstutz** (*Stage Manager*) moved to Oregon from Washington State. She is currently on the Silent Echo Theater Company's board of directors. She has acted, directed, stage managed and was assistant director for numerous productions in Albuquerque, NM. She was the assistant director for CTC's production of *Revenge and Sorrow in Thebes*, and was assistant stage manager for CTC's *Fiddler on The Roof*. More recently, she directed *Levels* for SETC's *Now You're Talking...One Acts 2024*, and directed a scene from *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* for CTC's Season Sneak Peek.

## *Our Creative Team*

Producer.....Marla Manning  
Co-directors.....Marla Manning, Angela Dean  
Stage Manager.....Kathryn Amstutz  
Assistant Stage Manager.....Rhonda Townsend Schantz  
Costume Designer.....Lauren Jorgensen  
Sound Designer.....Barbara Rich  
Lighting Designers.....Eddie Lampe, Warren Schweitzer  
Props/Set Madame.....Rhonda Townsend Schantz  
Sound Board Operator.....Angela Dean  
Light Board Operators.....Eric Denzler, Warren Schweitzer  
Stagehands.....Kim Hapke, Maggie Hubbell, Bonnie O'hern  
Publicity.....Angela Dean  
Photographer.....Angela Dean  
Videographer.....Stephen Saunders  
Social Media Coordinator.....Marla Manning  
Program/Poster/Flyer Designer.....Janet Blake  
Front of House.....Deri Frazee

### *with Special Thanks to...*

Audio Visions Plus  
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Donald Killian  
Steven Livingston  
Metabolic Maintenance  
Tracy Miller  
Lindsay Nickerson  
Ray's Food Place  
Sisters Community Church  
Sisters Habitat for Humanity ReStore  
Sisters High School  
Melissa Stolasz  
Sunriver Stars

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# Silent Echo Theater Company

## *What the Dickens*

***A Christmas Carol with a Twist!***

***by Matt Austin***

***Co-directed by  
Marla Manning & Angela Dean***

**The videotaping or audio recording of this  
production is strictly prohibited  
without written consent.**





## Our Cast

Scrooge.....	Donovan Kelly
Actor 2.....	Christopher Bowns
Actor 3.....	Jessie Greger
Actor 4:.....	Doug Kaufman
Actor 5.....	Tana Steers
Actor 6.....	Meg Knight
Actor 7.....	Eddie Lampe
Actor 8.....	Georgia Hubbell

Special Appearance by Paul Bennett as Tiny Tim



**Christopher Bowns** (*Actor 2*) This is Christopher's first on-stage role in a non-musical production and he deeply appreciates everyone's support and coaching through the entire process of bringing a play to life.



**Jessie Greger** (*Actor 3*) is delighted to help bring a bit of comedy and laughter to the holiday season as part of *What the Dickens'* West Coast Premiere. As a newcomer to theater, she's thankful for the welcoming spirit of the Silent Echo Theater Company cast and crew and is very excited to share this performance with the Central Oregon community.



**Georgia Hubbell** (*Actor 8*) is in the 8th grade at Sisters Middle School. This is one of her first acting roles. She likes to do fun things and drink water. She has some small parts in the play.



**Doug Kaufman** (*Actor 4*) a native Oregonian, was active in both Theatre and Speech clubs while growing up. Originally seeking a degree in Philosophy, he attended the University of Oregon, where he suddenly had a mad epiphany and switched to Broadcasting. The rest is history. He took off for SoCal to pursue a career in TV and film, while continuing to train in acting and voiceover work. Doug returned to Oregon in '02, moving to Sisters to be with family. Itching to do theater, he eventually discovered that locally there was Silent Echo Theater Company (which agreed to scratch the aforementioned itch), and he's enjoyed working with them ever since!

## Our Cast



**Donovan Kelly** (*Scrooge*) has been performing for as long as he can remember. From writing and performing sketches for his friends as a kid, to acting in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival as an adult, theatre has always remained his greatest passion. He looks to get his MFA in directing in the near future. Donovan most recently appeared in Cascades Theatrical Company's production of *Now and Then*. He can't wait to ring in the holiday season with his fellow cast and crew, who have worked so tirelessly to make this show happen!



**Meg Knight** (*Actor 6*) most recently performed in the workshop of the brand new musical *Voicelless: A Musical*, co-produced by Ellipse Theatre Community and Silent Echo Theater Company, and portrayed Linda Loman in *Death of a Salesman* (Sunriver Stars). Other roles include Shaindel/Villager in *Fiddler on the Roof* (CTC), Shylock in *Something Rotten* (Mejcho), Gingy in *Love, Loss and What I Wore* (ETC) and Marmee in *Little Women – The Musical* (Musical Impressions). Meg wants to thank her family and fellow cast members for their support. She hopes you enjoy this take on *A Christmas Carol*. God Bless us everyone!



**Eddie Lampe** (*Actor 7, Lighting Designer*) is looking forward to being a part of this production. He has previously been seen on stage in *Spiders Web*, *Craig Fox had a Wife*, and *Here on the Flight Path*. He has also been found behind the light-board for many of Ellipse Theatre Community's productions, most recently for *Last Train to Nibroc*. He recently shared the stage for the first time with his wonderful (she prefers the term "favorite") daughter, Brittany, in the workshop production of *Voicelless: A Musical*. Thank you for coming and supporting this show and Silent Echo Theater Company.



**Tana Steers** (*Actor 5*) is excited to be performing in this hilarious production of *What the Dickens!* Tana has participated in SETC's *Now You're Talking...One Acts* series for the last two years. She previously portrayed Cathy in CTC's *A Gift to Remember*, and has appeared in various other productions in Eugene, Springfield, Salem and Central Oregon. She hopes you enjoy this show and laugh as much as we have while working on it.