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**Atlanta Artists Relief Fund Presents *The Salvation of Ebby Scrooge***  
**A Rock and Roll Woman-Powered Re-Imagining of *A Christmas Carol***

(Atlanta, GA) – The Atlanta Artists Relief Fund and Creative Conspiracy Productions present a workshop concert version of the newly revised holiday musical, THE SALVATION OF EBBY SCROOGE at Horizon Theatre on December 12th, 14th, and 15th at 7:30 pm. This contemporary female-led rock & roll re-imagining of the Charles Dickens classic, *A Christmas Carol*, is an exciting revision of the original production by Larry Larson & Eddie Lee, the creators of Horizon Theatre's hit show *The Waffle Palace*. Join Ebby and her ghostly musical crew for a terrific cause and some hilarious holiday fun—just in time for Christmas 2021. All proceeds will benefit Atlanta Artist Relief Fund (AARF), a nonprofit whose mission is to cultivate a vibrant community where no artist in Atlanta is left behind. The Atlanta Artist Relief Fund was founded in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic and is the only service agency of its kind in the country for artists and arts workers. AARF provides thousands of dollars in medical, dental, mental health, rental, and food assistance to Atlanta area artists.

Combine a female music star with an earth-shattering voice and a reputation for excess; mixed with a dose of "woman-power" rock and roll reclamation; stir-in the Charles Dickens classic, A CHRISTMAS CAROL; garnished with a dash of pandemic recovery and a diverse cast of Atlanta actors; and you get this holiday season's perfect Christmas Cocktail: THE SALVATION OF EBBY SCROOGE.

The cast includes **Keena Redding** (Georgia Ensemble *Morningside* and Horizon's *Sing with Keena*) as Ebby Scrooge, **Rob Cleveland** (*Waffle Palace Christmas* at Horizon, *Driving Miss Daisy* and *Master Harold and the Boys*, Suzi nominee), **Lala Cochran** (Horizon's *Waffle Palace Christmas*, *Sweet Water Taste* and *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*) and Barry Stoltze (Horizon's *Waffle Palace Christmas*), **Eden Mew** (Actor's Express *Fun Home*, Horizon's *The Ghosts of Little Five Points* and *Madeline's Christmas*), **S. R. Gentry** (Actor's Express *The New Century*), and **Kayce Grogan-Wallace** (Actor's Express *The Color Purple*). Direction is by Cat Mew, and Music direction is by Keena Redding; this dynamic duo is also co-producing the event for the Atlanta Artists Relief Fund. **Bios of all artists are listed below.**

This live and in-person performance will follow Horizon's COVID policy and procedures, including proof of vaccines for all audience members, artists, and staff. Masks are required for all patrons and staff, enhanced cleaning and sanitation, and HVAC system enhancements. Horizon's full COVID policy is here: <https://www.horizontheatre.com/covid-19-policies-procedures/>

"Horizon opens its doors for the holiday season for a great cause and turns our space over to some terrific artists, many of whom you have seen on the Horizon stage. Ebby Scrooge is a Black woman rock star in this version and the ghosts are throwbacks to icons of 20<sup>th</sup>-century music. Support the Atlanta Artists Relief Fund, and come celebrate the season with us," invites Lisa Adler, Horizon's Co-Artistic/Producing Director.

**These special fundraising performances will begin at 7:30 pm. Horizon Theatre is located at 1083 Austin Avenue NE 30307 at the corner of Euclid and Austin Avenues. Tickets for the show are officially free, but a donation of \$15 or more to the Atlanta Artist Relief Fund is encouraged. Tickets are available at <https://tickets.horizontheatre.com/events>**

**THE CAST AND CREATIVE TEAM**

**KEENA REDDING (Ebby Scrooge, Musical Director and Producer)** is the Director of Development and Director of Equity & Impact at Horizon Theatre. She is also an actress, singer, teacher, writer, music director, and activist. Keena has a Master's Degree in Vocal Performance from The University of Florida, a Bachelor of Arts degree in Theatre and Music, and an Opera Certificate (both from Brenau University). She was last seen onstage in Out Front Theatre's 2021 one-woman show *The Pink Unicorn*. This production will be remounted at ART Station theatre in spring 2022. Other notable recent shows include Georgia Ensemble Theatre's critically-acclaimed productions of *Morningside* and *On the Verge*. She has also performed lead roles at Atlanta Lyric, Horizon Theatre, Alliance Theatre, and Georgia Shakespeare. Keena served as music director for *Waffle Palace Christmas* (2019) and *Madeline's Christmas* (8 years) at Horizon Theatre. She is founder and lead teacher at *Hummingbird Studios*, a voice and acting studio where she assists students with their singing technique, acting skills, and audition performance.

**CATHERINE "CAT" GRIMMELL MEW** is the former chair of The Shorter College Theatre Department and Resident Director and Associate Producer at The Atlanta Lyric Theatre (during the J.Lynn Thompson and Daniel Britt days). She is returning to professional directing for one short show to help bring some much needed relief to her beloved Atlanta Artists. Cat proudly serves on the Advisory Board of Atlanta Artist Relief Fund and she is grateful to Lisa Adler, Keena Redding, all of the Horizon Theatre Staff, CC Productions, and Bridget McCarthy for the tremendous amount they have invested in our Atlanta Community.

**ROB CLEVELAND** most recently appeared at Horizon as Krampus in *Waffle Palace Christmas*. He has appeared on stages all around Atlanta, most notably as Hoke in *Driving Miss Daisy*, Sam in *Master Harold and the Boys* (Suzi nominee), and Midge in *I'm Not Rappaport* (Suzi nominee). Other recent projects include *The Royale* at Theatrical Outfit and *A Doll's House, Part 2* at Actor's Express/Aurora Theatre.

**LALA COCHRAN** is always grateful to be back at the Horizon where she has performed in 30+ productions. You may have seen her in Horizon at Home's *Cooking with LaLa*, *Sweet Water Taste* and more recently in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time* and *Waffle Palace Christmas*.

**S.R. GENTRY** is an Atlanta-based writer and actor. He holds a BFA in theatre and has been privileged to perform professionally across the city at venues including Actor's Express, Ansley Park Playhouse, Synchronicity Theatre, and now, Horizon Theatre. S.R. is also one-half of the Gentry/Mew writing team and co-founder of Atlanta Reclamation Studios. He collaborates on developing new theatre, film, and television projects based in Georgia.

**KAYCE GROGAN-WALLACE** was recently seen in *The Color Purple* at Actor's Express for which she won the Suzi Award for Outstanding Female Supporting Actor. She has performed in numerous plays such as *Hairspray* (Atlanta Lyric Theatre, Motormouth - Suzi Bass Award Nominee, Best Actress), *RENT* (Lyric/Suzi Nominee, Best Musical), *Ain't Misbehavin'* (Lyric/Suzi Winner, Best Musical Ensemble), *Gifts of the Magi* (Theatrical Outfit, City Her), and *Dreamgirls* (Lyric, Effie White). She is currently the vocal producer and has written songs for the OWN Television show *Greenleaf* which earned her an NAACP Image Award, Stellar Gospel Music Award, and was also a Grammy Award nomination. She is a native of Marietta, Georgia, and earned her degree from Kennesaw State University in Theatre & Performance Studies and minor in Dance. She is a Theatre Teacher for Marietta City School where she also earned the title of Teacher of the Year.

**EDEN MEW** is so excited to be back at the Horizon Theatre this holiday season! Credits include: *Madeline's Christmas*, *The Ghosts of Little Five Points*, *A Shot*-Horizon Theatre, *Sunday In The Park With George* (Broadway World Best Musical Nominee)-Jennie T. Anderson Theatre, *Both Our Houses* - Aurora Theatre, *Fun Home*, *Antagonists Have More Fun*-Actor's Express, *The Diary of Anne Frank*-OutFront Theatre, *Matilda*-OnStage Atlanta, *Honors U.S. History*-Alliance Theatre Reiser Lab, *Evita*, Carousel-Serenbe Playhouse.

**BARRY STOLTZE** is a graduate of the University of Illinois in Radio/TV and began his professional career in LA doing standup at The Comedy Store and The Improv and performing as a member of the Group Rep Theatre. A union actor on stage, screen, and the airwaves in Atlanta since 1983, he is a co-producer of the annual *Lend Me an Ear* fundraiser for the Atlanta Community Food Bank and is also the writer/producer of *I Can't Techno*, a musical guide to Modern Times. Most recently, he played John in Horizon's *Waffle Palace Christmas*

## ABOUT HORIZON THEATRE COMPANY

Horizon Theatre Company connects people, inspires hope and promotes positive change through the stories of our times. We produce professional area and world premieres of smart, funny and provocative contemporary plays and performances, both live and virtual. We also develop the next generation of diverse artists and audiences.

For more information, call (404) 584-7450 or visit [horizontheatre.com](http://horizontheatre.com).

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## **ABOUT ATLANTA ARTIST RELIEF FUND**

Atlanta Artist Relief Fund exists to cultivate a vibrant community where no artist is left behind. Founded in March 2020 in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, AARF (501(c)3) is the only service agency of its kind in the country for artists and arts workers. This means that we are an artist-led, human-service and advocacy organization that helps artists obtain the resources, training, professional development, and community investment needed to thrive. Through the lens of equity, we envision a community which celebrates the dignity and creativity of every person, and supports the arts as a critical component of community making. Visit [www. https://atlartsrelief.org](https://atlartsrelief.org) for more information