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West Bend Theatre Company extends 'A Christmas Carol' production plans

Annual show to be staged for several more years

WEST BEND, Wis. (April 14, 2020) – The West Bend Theatre Company is pleased to announce an extension of its annual production of Charles Dickens' classic tale, "A Christmas Carol."

The extension includes 2021 and 2022, with full expectation of performing the story through the end of the decade.

"A Christmas Carol" has been staged by the West Bend Theatre Company for more than a decade and has become a cherished tradition of the holiday season celebration for West Bend and the surrounding area.

In 2019, the eight-show run of "A Christmas Carol" was performed to a sold-out audience.

"A Christmas Carol" is annually presented the first two weekends in December at the West Bend Masonic Center, 301 N. University Drive, West Bend. The 2020 show dates have been set for Dec. 4-6 and Dec. 11-13.

The 2021 performance of "A Christmas Carol" joins a stout list of shows planned by the West Bend Theatre Company. Here are our other 2021 shows with dates, times and venues to be announced at a later date:

- **"Calendar Girls."** A true story based on 11 ladies of the Yorkshire Women's Institute who pose for a nude calendar to raise unprecedented money for the British Leukemia Research Fund. In 2010, it was the "What's On Stage Award" for Best New Comedy, written by Colin Firth.
- **"The Secret Garden."** Winner of three Tony Awards – nominated for seven – in 1991, "The Secret Garden" tells the story of an 11-year-old orphan from India Mary Lennox who returns to Yorkshire to live with her embittered, reclusive uncle Archibald and his invalid son Colin. Story is based on the theme that a child's love and kindness can heal the emotional scars and overcome isolation.

- **“End of the Rainbow.”** A musical drama by Peter Quilter focusing on the months leading up to Judy Garland’s stunning final performances at Talk of the Town in 1968. In 2019, Renee Zellweger won an Academy Award for Best Actress for her portrayal of Garland. Features songs such as “Smile,” “The Trolley Song,” “Come Rain or Come Shine,” “When You’re Smiling”, and “Somewhere Over The Rainbow.”

- **“Our Town.”** Narrated by a stage manager and performed with minimal props and sets, audiences follow the Webb and Gibbs families as their children fall in love, marry, and eventually – in one of the most famous scenes in American theatre – die. It was written by Thornton Wilder, a Madison native. It won a Pulitzer in 1938 and a Tony in 1989. The theme of “how precious life really is” feels even more important than ever.

The West Bend Theatre Company is adhering to guidance being suggested by local, state and federal authorities regarding the COVID-19 pandemic. When it is appropriate to do so, we are excited to return to the stage and perform for local theatergoers. The shows are subject to change.

The West Bend Theatre Company wants to think positive during these unprecedented times and give people something to look forward to.

Digital auditions for all upcoming shows will be accepted. Watch for digital audition information to be posted at www.wbtheatreco.com.

Founded in 2010, incorporated in 2017, the West Bend Theatre Company is a non-profit theater entity presenting live theater, camps, workshops and special events. The mission of the West Bend Theatre Company is to celebrate, enhance, and inspire by producing excellent theatre and by giving back to our community.

For more information about the West Bend Theatre Company, as well as upcoming shows, visit our website: www.wbtheatreco.com. Be sure to also follow us on Facebook.

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