



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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**CATCO is Kids Presents Regional Premiere of *A Seussified Christmas Carol* Dec. 2-11, 2016**

***21 central Ohio youths perform in this reinvention of holiday classic***

Just in time for the holidays, CATCO is Kids will present a whimsical reinvention of Dickens' most beloved Christmas story, *A Christmas Carol*, in wacky rhymed couplets and creative word play. Featuring zoot-fruited juices and binka bird geese, and characters including Bed-Headed Fred and Timmy Loo Hoo, this tale of glorious holiday cheer is similar to something Dr. Seuss might have come up with if he ever had his way with the story.

"If you and your family enjoyed the CATCO 2015-16 season opener, *The Seussification of Romeo and Juliet*, you won't want to miss *A Seussified Christmas Carol*," said Joe Bishara, CATCO associate producing director. Both in-the-spirit-of-Dr. Seuss plays, written by Peter Bloedel, appeal to adults and kids alike, and are a fun-filled introduction to a beloved holiday classic, he said.

The regional premiere of *A Seussified Christmas Carol* will be presented at the Van Fleet Theatre, Columbus Performing Arts Center, 549 Franklin Ave. Dec. 2-11. The all-kids show will feature 21 central Ohio youths, and tickets are \$10 each.

For more information about *A Seussified Christmas Carol*. and hands-on activities to do with children before attending the play, CATCO is Kids has a play guide available at [www.catcoistheatre.org](http://www.catcoistheatre.org) or by clicking this link:

<http://catco.org/www/dcms/files/pdf/playguides/a-seussified-christmas-carol-playguide.pdf>

In addition, for any interested patrons attending *A Seussified Christmas Carol*, CATCO is Kids is accepting new and unwrapped donations of socks, books, Crayons, markers, puzzles or small cars or trucks for Hilltop Preschool serving at-risk 3- to 5-year-olds. Patrons should turn in their donations at a table in the concessions area, and in exchange they will receive a \$10 ticket voucher for CATCO is Kids' upcoming production of *Goldilocks and the Three Bears*, Jan. 13-22, 2017.

Performing in *A Seussified Christmas Carol* are the following central Ohio youths:

Dean Alkire, (Belle's Husband, A Boy, and various roles), Mount Sterling  
Angela Baldasare, (Jake Marley and various roles), Clintonville  
Katelyn Baughman, (The Scrooge), Crooksville  
Jillian Cline, (Sven, The Ghost of Christmas Future), Hilliard  
Lucas Cloran, (Voice at Party #3, Old Fezziwig, and various roles), Hilliard  
Anna Cochrane, (Bed-Headed Fred's Wife and various roles), Westerville  
Macayla Core, (Ghost of Christmas Past), New Albany  
Emma Edwardson, (Mrs. Cratchit and various roles), Powell  
Helena Engberg, (Belle and various roles), Lewis Center

Sofia Feinberg, (A Maid and various roles), New Albany  
Lilliana Garcia, (Solicitor #1 and various roles), Delaware  
Madelynn Halpin (Voice at Party #2 and various roles), Bexley  
Elliot Hattemer, (Bed-Headed Fred and various roles), Upper Arlington  
Lexi Kepling, (Narrator #2), New Albany  
Krystyn Norris, (Ghost of a Christmas Present), Hilliard  
Tyler Norris, (Young Scrooge and various roles), Hilliard  
Abbie Oglibee, (Narrator #1), Powell  
Lindsey Parker, (Solicitor #2, Voice at Party #4, and various roles), Pickerington  
Sophie Reilly (Voice at Party #1 and various roles), Powell  
Emma Shachter, (Timmy Loo Hoo and various roles), Hilliard  
Nick Sanchez-Zarkos, (Bob Cratchit and various roles), Powell

Directing *A Seussified Christmas Carol* is Andrew Protopapas, a Columbus native and graduate of Capital University, where he earned bachelor's degrees in English literature, creative writing, and theatre studies. A former CATCO acting apprentice, Protopapas works as CATCO and CATCO is Kids' staff Artist Educator. In addition to providing education through theatre, Andrew enjoys acting, directing, and writing for the stage and the page. Acting credits include *A Christmas Carol*, *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Master Class* (CATCO), *Jungle Book* (CATCO is Kids), *Honk!* (CATCO is Kids), *Les Misérables* (Star Players Theatre), *Company* (Capital University), and *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Capital University). Directing and assistant directing credits include *Love in an Age of Clamor*, *Sticks & Stones* and Kids on the Block presentations.

Show times for *A Seussified Christmas Carol* are Friday, Dec. 2 and Dec. 9, at 7:30 p.m.; Saturday, Dec. 3 and Dec. 10, at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m.; and Sunday, Dec. 4 and Dec. 11, at 1 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. Tickets can be purchased at the door and at the Ohio Theatre Ticket Office, 39 S. State St.; they can also be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets, and [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com).

Patrons interested in purchasing tickets by telephone can call 614.469.0939. The box office will open two hours before show time.

CATCO is Kids' 32nd season is sponsored by support from The Ohio Arts Council, which helps fund the theatre with state tax dollars to encourage economic growth, education excellence, and cultural enrichment for all Ohioans, and supported in part by an award from the National Endowment for the Arts.

CATCO also appreciates the support of the Barbara B. Coons, Nina B. Pohlman, and Martha G. Staub Funds of The Columbus Foundation, assisting donors and others in strengthening our community for the benefit of all of its citizens, and the Greater Columbus Arts Council, supporting the city's artists and arts organizations since 1973. Other supporters include The Shubert Foundation Inc. and Nationwide Insurance Foundation.

CATCO is Kids' season sponsor is L Brands; season partner is the Columbus Metropolitan Library; and presenting partner is The City of Columbus Recreation and Parks. For more information, visit [catcoistheatre.org](http://catcoistheatre.org).

CATCO is Kids' remaining shows of the season are below:

- ***Goldilocks and the Three Bears***  
(Regional Premiere)  
By George Stiles and Anthony Drewe  
Jan. 13-22, 2017

Columbus Performing Arts Center

- ***Cowgirls Don't Ride Zebras***  
(World Premiere)  
By Chris Leyva  
March 3-12, 2017  
Columbus Performing Arts Center
- ***Anne of Green Gables***  
(Co-Production with Columbus School for Girls)  
Music by Nancy Ford  
Book and Lyrics by Gretchen Cryer  
May 5-14, 2017  
Columbus School for Girls

CATCO's shows for the 2016-17 season are:

- ***Baskerville: A Sherlock Holmes Mystery***  
(Columbus Premiere)  
By Ken Ludwig  
Jan. 25-Feb. 12, 2017  
Studio Two
- ***Sex with Strangers***  
(Regional Premiere)  
By Laura Eason  
Feb. 15-March 5, 2017  
Studio Two
- ***Henry Ford's Model E***  
(World Premiere)  
By Herb Brown  
April 19-May 7, 2017  
Studio Two
- ***I Do! I Do!***  
Books and lyrics by Tom Jones  
Music by Harvey Schmidt  
May 31-June 18, 2017  
Studio Two

To subscribe or for more information about the 2016-17 season, visit [www.catcoistheatre.org](http://www.catcoistheatre.org)

### **About CATCO**

CATCO is central Ohio's professional Equity theatre company, providing quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatre organization has adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development. For more information, visit [catcoistheatre.org](http://catcoistheatre.org). Together, CATCO and CATCO is Kids provide quality theatre and educational programs for all ages. The theatres have adopted an innovative strategy, building creative alliances that can sustain growth and development.

**CATCO Mission Statement**

Theatre is a shared experience that illuminates the mysteries of our humanity. Its magic has the power to transform us whether on stage, in the classroom or in our diverse communities. CATCO creates theatre that delights, challenges, and transports.

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