

Backstage.....

Theatre season begins again in Lake Cowichan, for the Kaatza Lakeside Players, with auditions for *A Christmas Carol*, the haunting ghost story of Christmas, by the immortal Charles Dickens.

Location for auditions is Studio 261...261 South Shore Road, north side of the road, just town-side of Centennial Hall. Thank you to Judith Quinlan for the use of her studio.

Auditions will begin on September 11th and 13th, at 7:00 p.m. for 29 roles, portrayed by 12 actors and actresses. On September 12th, at 3:00 p.m., we will hold auditions for a youth choir, ages 12 to 15 years.

Dena McPhee, the Lakeside Players' Artistic Director is excited about this presentation. *"A Christmas Carol was the first production for us in 1985. Twenty seven years later, we are pumped to retell this classic tale with a new twist for performers, technicians and especially our wonderful audiences."*

The 'twist' of which Dena speaks, is the presentation being performed as a radio play, adapted by Anthony E. [Palermo](#). We will transport our audiences back in time to old London of the 1800's by using voices, shadows, images, song and wild sound effects, to travel the eerie and exciting journey of Ebenezer Scrooge through a haunted Christmas Eve of long ago. Who can forget Scrooge's sour and gruff voice, or the creaks as he climbs his stairs, the rattle of Jacob Marley's chains, the haunting voices of a ghostly choir or the echo of Tiny Tim's crutch.

Set design and lighting will be as important as sound effects. We will create foggy London, a scene of Christmas morning along cobblestone streets, the cheery Cratchit fireplace, the shadowy darkened graveyard and the eerie Ghost of Christmas Future.

Come and help us create these timeless scenes with your imagination and creativity. Give us your innovative techniques with sound effects; the clip-clop of horses, the squeak of rusty hinges, the crackling of fireplaces, the sounds of dancing feet, laughter and tears.....there is no limit to imagination, innovation and creativity in the theatre.

Helping behind the curtain is as important as performing in front of the curtain. Preparations backstage with props, blocking, spiking and various other tasks, are all important jobs; without the stagehands who perform these activities, actors could not create their visual story.

Whether you wish to perform in front of the curtain, or assist behind the scenes, come to Auditions, Studio 261 – 261 South Shore Road, 7:00 p.m. September 11th and 13th and 3:00 p.m. September 12th.

Glenda Burg,
Vice-President, Lakeside Player