

November 1, 2019

For Immediate Release

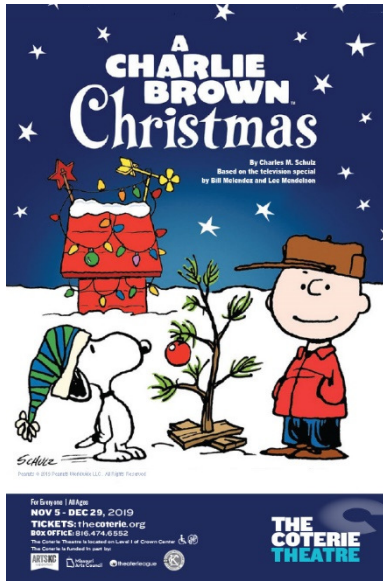
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**Extraordinary Popular Demand
Brings Holiday Classic
Back to The Coterie Stage
with Live Jazz Trio Playing
Vince Guaraldi Classics**

***A Charlie Brown Christmas*
By Charles M. Schulz**

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OVERVIEW:

WHAT: *A Charlie Brown Christmas*

By Charles M. Schulz

Based on the television special by Bill Melendez and Lee Mendelson

Stage Adaptation by Eric Schaeffer

By special arrangement with Arthur Whitelaw and Ruby Persson

Directed by William J. Christie

WHEN: November 5 – December 29, 2019

Press / Opening Night: Friday, November 8, at 7:00 p.m.

WHERE: The Coterie, Level one of Crown Center, 2450 Grand Blvd., Kansas City, MO

PRICE: \$13.00-\$15.00 for youth under 18, full-time students & seniors age 60 and older
\$17.00-\$19.00 for adults

INFO / RESERVATIONS: The Coterie Box Office

Phone: (816) 474-6552

Online: www.thecoterie.org

Kansas City, MO – The Coterie Theatre brightens up the holiday season by bringing the beloved animated holiday special, ***A Charlie Brown Christmas***, to life on stage featuring a live jazz trio

- more -

playing Vince Guaraldi's original arrangements. Written by Peanuts creator Charles Schultz and based on the television special, ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** will be directed by William J. Christie with musical direction by Gary Adams. It will be performed on The Coterie's stage in Crown Center, November 8 – December 29, 2019.

ABOUT THE PLAY

In 1965, the animated holiday classic, ***A Charlie Brown Christmas***, made its network television debut delighting families across the country. Today, ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** is rapidly becoming a tradition for generations of children and adults in Kansas City as The Coterie once again brings the show to life on stage. A reviewer for *The Kansas City Star* wrote The Coterie's original production, "*serves up a live action, Christmas-sized helping of... first class... innovative... theatrical magic. ...Young people are deliberately included and collectively charmed.*"

Capturing all the appeal, wit, and wisdom of the 1965 animated special, the stage adaptation of ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** brings to life the whole Peanuts gang, including Charlie Brown, Snoopy, Linus, and Lucy. The production also features a live jazz trio playing Vince Guaraldi's original musical arrangements, including the Peanuts theme *Linus and Lucy*, *Christmas Time is Here*, and all the favorites from the holiday classic. Additionally, every performance ends with a special encore of *Snoopy's Christmas*, which tells the tale of Snoopy's Christmas Eve encounter with the Red Baron.

The story of ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** follows Charlie Brown on a memorable journey as he tries to direct the school Christmas pageant. In their letters to Santa, everyone seems to be acting materialistic - so Charlie Brown tries to restore holiday spirit with a ragged little fir tree. Experience the power of this wonderful story live onstage as Charlie Brown turns to his best friend Linus to learn the season's real meaning.

A Charlie Brown Christmas runs approximately 55 minutes with no intermission and will be appreciated by families with all ages. The production is funded in part by Missouri Arts Council, ArtsKC Fund, Theater League, the Neighborhood Tourist Development Fund, and the Shubert Foundation.

ABOUT THE ARTISTS

The cast of ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** features Jordan Luty (as Charlie Brown), Darrington Clark (as Snoopy), Allison Jones (as Lucy), Phil Newman (as Linus), Zach Faust (as Pigpen), Vincent Wagner (as Schroeder), Catera Combs (as Violet), Deanna Mazdra (as Sally), David LeVota (as Shermey), Margo G. Roberts and Ava Wolesky (sharing the role of Frieda), and

musicians Gary Adams (pianist), Sam Wisman (bassist), and Jeff Harshbarger (percussionist) in the live jazz trio. The artistic and production company includes William J. Christie (director; based on the original staging for The Coterie by Jeff Church), Gary Adams (musical director), Marc Wayne (choreographer), Danielle Renee (resident production stage manager), Scott Hobart (set designer/resident technical director), Jarrett Bertoncin (resident lighting designer), Georgianna Londré Buchanan (resident costume designer), David Kiehl (resident sound & projection designer), Joyce Merrill (properties), Chloe Robbins (production assistant), and Jan Kohl (stage manager cover).

SHOW DATES, TIMES & TICKETS

The Coterie, now in its 41st Season and named “One of the Five Best Theaters for Young Audiences in the U.S.” by *TIME* magazine, will perform ***A Charlie Brown Christmas*** November 5 – December 29, 2019, in The Coterie Theatre, located on level one of the Crown Center Shops in Kansas City, MO. Press Night will be held on Friday, November 8, 2019, at 7:00 p.m.

- **Individual Tickets:** Tickets are \$13.00-\$15.00 for youth under 18, students, and seniors age 60 and older; and \$17.00-\$19.00 for adults. Prices vary by performance date.
- **Subscriptions:** In lieu of season subscriptions, The Coterie offers passes which work like season tickets without committing to a set schedule. Passes range from \$110.00-\$150.00 and include a variety of benefits including 10 flexible tickets that can be used on a combination of shows in the 2019/2020 Season, priority seating, ticket exchanges, and other privileges. All tickets and Spotlight Club Passes are on sale now and may be purchased by calling The Coterie’s box office at (816) 474-6552, dropping by the box office on level one of the Crown Center Shops, or by visiting www.thecoterie.org.
- **Group Pricing:** The Coterie offers groups of 20 or more a special preview rate of \$5.00 per person the first week of each production. After preview week, groups for ***A Charlie Brown*** pay only \$6.00 - \$10.00 per person depending on performance date.
- **Gift Certificates:** The Coterie offers gift certificates for holiday shoppers looking for the perfect gift. Available in any denomination, gift certificates are redeemable for show tickets, Spotlight Passes, and acting classes. Purchase online at www.thecoterie.org.

NOTABLE PERFORMANCE EXTRAS

During the run of ***A Charlie Brown Christmas***, The Coterie invites audiences to take advantage of these special, free performance extras (with paid admission):

- **Friday, November 8, 7:00 p.m.: Opening Night Celebration.** A free post-performance reception with the director, company, staff, and board of directors.

- more -

Performance Calendar

A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

NOVEMBER 5 - DECEMBER 29, 2019						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		5 10 am	6 10 am	7 10 am 12 pm	8 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	9 2 pm
10 2 pm	11	12 10 am	13 10 am 12 pm	14 10 am 12 pm	15 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	16 2 pm 4 pm
17 2 pm 4 pm	18	19 10 am	20 10 am 12 pm	21 10 am 12 pm	22 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	23 2 pm 4 pm
24 2 pm 4 pm	25 10 am 12 pm	26 10 am 12 pm	27	28	29 2 pm 4 pm 7 pm	30 2 pm 4 pm
1 2 pm 4 pm	2	3 10 am	4 10 am 12 pm	5 10 am 12 pm	6 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	7 2 pm 4 pm
8 2 pm 4 pm	9	10 10 am	11 10 am 12 pm	12 10 am 12 pm	13 10 am 12 pm 7 pm	14 2 pm 4 pm
15 2 pm 4 pm	16	17 10 am 12 pm	18 10 am 12 pm	19 2 pm 4 pm	20 2 pm 4 pm	21 2 pm 4 pm
22 2 pm 4 pm	23 2 pm 4 pm	24	25	26 2 pm 4 pm	27 2 pm 4 pm 7 pm	28 2 pm 4 pm
29 2 pm 4 pm						

CALENDAR LEGEND

- Opening Night**
- Friday Family Fun Night** featuring post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members
- Post-performance Question and Answer session** with the company
- Interpreted performance** in American Sign Language

Due to the nature of live theatre, play selection, performance schedule and casting are subject to change.

A Charlie Brown Christmas is presented by special arrangement with Tams-Whitmark Music Library, Inc., 560 Lexington Ave., New York, New York, 10022. Peanuts © 2019 Peanuts Worldwide LLC. All Rights Reserved

- **Saturday, November 9, and Sunday, November 10, 2:00 p.m.: Question & Answer session.** A free Q&A with members of The Coterie's staff and artistic company will immediately follow the performance.
- **Fridays, November 15, 22, 29, December 6, 13, 20, and 27, 7:00 p.m.: Friday Family Fun Night.** Post-performance autograph session and photo op with cast members.
- **Saturday, November 23, 2:00 p.m.:** Interpreted performance in American Sign Language.

When available, production photos will be posted online at:

www.thecoterie.org/press-room

THE REMAINING 2019/2020 SEASON

Following *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, The Coterie's 2019/2020 Season continues with the true story of Sophie Scholl, a German college student who led an important act of resistance during WWII, *The White Rose: We Defied Hitler*, January 21 – February 9, 2020; a new perspective for all Potterheads, *PUFFS or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic*, February 25 – March 22, 2020; a rock-and-roll musical about groovy, guitar-slinging *Pete the Cat*, April 7 – May 17, 2020; and the beloved musical about the mermaid princess, Disney's *The Little Mermaid*, June 16 – August 2, 2020.

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