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THE NEWLY-RENOVATED OLD TOWN THEATRE RE-OPENS WITH
CHARLES DICKENS' A CHRISTMAS CAROL

SAN DIEGO, CA – Cygnet Theatre Company is proud to mark the re-opening of the newly-renovated Old Town Theatre with its production of Charles Dickens' ***A Christmas Carol***, adapted and directed by Artistic Director Sean Murray. The production runs from runs **November 28 through December 28, 2008**. Low-priced previews are November 28 through December 5. **Press Opening is December 6 at 8pm.**

Cygnet announced at the beginning of the year that it had signed a 10-year lease with the State of California Department of Parks to manage the Old Town Theatre located at 4040 Twiggs St. in Old Town San Diego State Historic Park. As part of the contract Cygnet was required to make certain improvements to the facility. Ruttky Development Company was brought in to facilitate the renovations and construction began following a production at the theatre this past spring of Stephen Sondheim's *A Little Night Music*. The renovations include bringing the theatre up to code under the Americans with Disabilities Act, remodeling the lobby, box office and concession areas, expanding the restroom facilities, and painting the interior and exterior of the building. New carpet and seats are being installed along with state-of-the-art lighting and sound equipment.

To cover the cost of the improvements, Cygnet Theatre launched The Next Stage Campaign with a goal of raising \$975,000. Veronica Murphy, Development Director for Cygnet Theatre, recently announced that as of mid-October over \$900,000 in gifts and pledges had been raised.

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Cygnets first production in the remodeled Old Town Theatre is an all-new production of **A Christmas Carol**, adapted and directed by Artistic Director Sean Murray. Originally published in 1843, Charles Dickens' story of the old miser Ebenezer Scrooge and his visits with the Ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Yet to Come is perhaps the most beloved holiday tale of all time.

The cast for *A Christmas Carol* is lead by Cygnet Resident Artist **Jim Chovick** (*Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Desire Under the Elms*) as the coveting, old sinner, Ebenezer Scrooge. The cast also includes Resident Artist **Manny Fernandes** (*Communicating Doors, Bug*) as Jacob Marley and the Ghost of Christmas Present, along with returning artists **Craig Huisenga** (*Communicating Doors, Desire Under the Elms*) as Bob Cratchit, and **Annie Hinton** (*Book of Liz*) as Mrs. Fezziwig and Mrs. Dilber. Making their debuts at the Cygnet Theatre: **Paul Kruse** as Mr. Fezziwig, **Jaysen Waller** as Young Ebenezer and Scrooge's nephew Fred, **Amanda Cooley Davis** as the Ghost of Christmas Past and Martha Cratchit, **Emmelyn Thayer** as Mrs. Cratchit, **Max Oilman-Williams** as Tiny Tim, **Amanda Morrow** as Belle, and **Jacob Caltrider** as Peter Cratchit and Dick Wilkins. **Celia Tedde, Ian O'Meara** and **Daniel O'Meara** will play the Cratchit children.

The creative team includes assistant director **Jackie Cuccaro**, composer and sound designer **George Yé**, scenic designer **Sean Fanning**, lighting designer **Matthew Novotny**, costume designer **Shirley Pierson**, wig and hair designer **Peter Herman**, properties designer **Bonnie L. Durben**, choreographer **Bonnie Johnston**, animator **Tom Christ**, and stage manager **Esther Emery**.

Performances of **A Christmas Carol** are Tuesday through Wednesday at 7:30pm, Thursday through Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 2pm and 7pm. Tickets are \$17 - \$46. Discounts are available for children, seniors, students and military.

Tickets can be purchased by visiting Cygnet's website at www.cygnettheatre.com or calling the box office at **619-337-1525**. Tickets can also be purchased in person by visiting the box office. The Old Town Theatre is located at 4040 Twiggs St., San Diego CA 92110.

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CYGNET THEATRE FACT SHEET

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

WHAT: Cygnet Theatre Company presents *A Christmas Carol*.

WHERE: Cygnet Theatre – Old Town Stage
4040 Twiggs St., San Diego, CA 92110

WHO: Adapted by Sean Murray

Director: Sean Murray	Scenic Design: Sean Fanning
Costume Design: Shirley Pierson	Wig and Hair Design: Peter Herman ^o
Lighting Design: Matthew Novotny	Sound Design/Original Music: George Yé ^o
Properties Design: Bonnie L. Durben ^o	Animation Design: Tom Christ
Movement/Choreography: Bonnie Johnston	Asst. Director: Jackie Cuccaro
Stage Manager: Esther Emery*	Dialect Coach: Annie Hinton
Asst. Stage Managers: Brian Skipper / C. Nikki Mills	

CAST:

Jacob Caltrider (<i>Peter Cratchit, Dick Wilkins</i>)	Jim Chovick ^o (<i>Ebenezer Scrooge</i>)
Amanda Cooley Davis (<i>Ghost of Xmas Past</i>)	Manny Fernandes ^o (<i>Jacob Marley</i>)
Annie Hinton* (<i>Mrs. Fezziwig, Mrs. Dilbur</i>)	Craig Huisenga (<i>Bob Cratchit</i>)
Paul Kruse* (<i>Mr. Fezziwig</i>)	Amanda Morrow (<i>Belle</i>)
Daniel O'Meara (<i>Billy Cratchit</i>)	Ian O'Meara (<i>Billy Cratchit</i>)
Max Oilman-Williams (<i>Tiny Tim</i>)	Celia Tedde (<i>Fan</i>)
Emmelyn Thayer* (<i>Mrs. Cratchit</i>)	Jaysen Waller (<i>Young Scrooge, Fred</i>)

DATES: Previews begin: Friday, November 28, 2008
Press Opening: Saturday, December 6, 2008
Closes: Sunday, December 28, 2008

PERFORMANCE SCHEDULE
Tuesday - Wednesday at 7:30pm
Thursday - Saturday at 8:00pm.
Sunday at 2:00pm and 7:00pm.

PRICES: Range from \$17-\$46
Previews: \$27(Section A) / \$17(Section B)
Tuesday, Wednesday Evenings and Sunday Evenings: \$38(Section A) / \$28(Section B)
Thursday, Friday Evenings and Sunday Matinees: \$40(Section A) / \$30(Section B)
Saturday Evenings: \$42(Section A) / \$32(Section B)
Opening Night: \$46(Section A) / \$36(Section B)
Discounts are available for children, seniors, students, active-duty military and groups.

HOW: Phone: (619) 337-1525
Online: www.cygnettheatre.com
In Person:
Old Town Box Office: 4040 Twiggs St., San Diego, CA 92110
Rolando Box Office: 6663 El Cajon Blvd., Ste N, San Diego, CA 92115

^oCygnet Resident Artist *Member of Actor's Equity

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