

# SLT BACKSTAGE

Smithfield Little Theatre Bi-Monthly Newsletter

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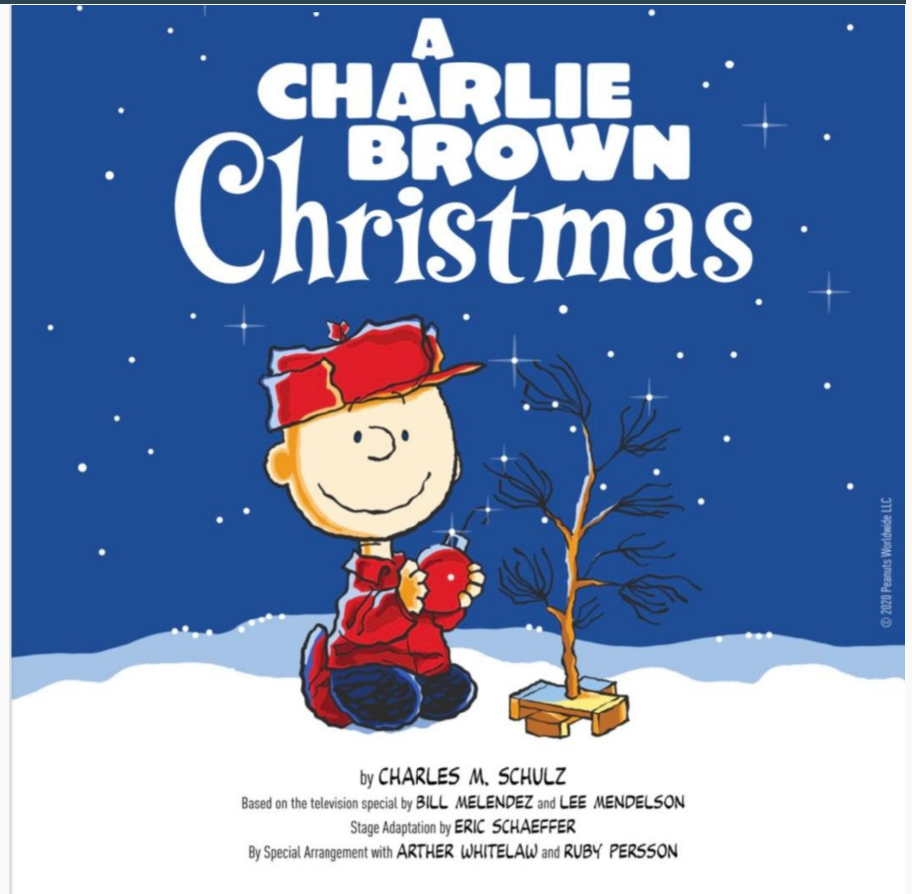
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## Main Stage

A CHARLIE BROWN CHRISTMAS

Show Dates: December 9th - 18th, 2022

Fridays at 8:00 pm

Saturdays at 2:30pm and 8:00pm

Sundays at 2:30 pm

Director: Meredith Marchant

Co-Director: Andrew Smith

To purchase tickets visit

<https://www.smithfieldlittletheatre.org/> or

call the Box Office at (757) 357-7338



# Upcoming Events

## AUDITIONS: THE KITCHEN WITCHES

Show Dates: February 10th - March 5th, 2023  
Fridays and Saturdays at 8:00pm  
Sundays at 2:30 pm

Directed by: Jeff Johnson  
Assistant Directed by: Adam Dennison

Auditions:  
Sunday, December 11th and  
Monday, December 12th, 2022 at 7:00pm.  
Smithfield Little Theatre Stage  
210 N Church Street, Smithfield, VA

### Roles:

**Dolly Biddle:** 40s - 50s; a little cherub of a woman, prone to overweight but always going at top speed. She indulges herself with anything life has to offer whenever possible - even if it's not good for her!? - and her creative imagination knows no bounds. She is intensely proud of her son Stephen, loves to dispense advice along with recipes for cabbage rolls and borscht and hates Isobel Lomax with an intensity usually reserved for detonating nuclear devices.

**Stephen Biddle:** 20s - 30s; a nervous, prematurely balding but decent young man who actually enjoys producing low-budget cable TV shows, even when his Mom is the star. Bright and capable, if somewhat shy, but always reluctant to confront Dolly on her many shortcomings. He's not a fighter - he'd rather be a lover, but nobody's asked him yet.

**Isobel Lomax:** 40s - 50s; thinks Martha Stewart could learn something about homemaking from her. She trained at the Cordon Bleu and enjoyed a successful career, including her own show "Busy Izzy." Isobel likes people to think she has a much classier background than reality supports; she would never go out without being properly accessorized. At heart, she is a bright, funny and articulate woman who has come to terms with the choices she made early in life.

**Rob/Roberta (The Camera Guy/Girl/Person): NON SPEAKING ROLE (except for the final line!)** 20s -30s; Rob/Roberta is a young "Goth" inspired person; Stephen is a little afraid of him/her/them. He/She/They cleans up the sets, resets props, carries the portable camera around during the "live broadcasts" and despite his/her/their appearance, is generally extremely efficient and precise.

For more information please visit our website at [www.smithfieldlittletheatre.org](http://www.smithfieldlittletheatre.org)

# Calling All Directors!

## Want to be a Director at SLT?

SLT is now accepting show submissions for our 62nd season. To submit a play or musical please visit our website at <https://www.smithfieldlittletheatre.org/play-reading-committee.html>

Deadline to submit is  
December 31st, 2022



## Future Audition Dates

### SHE LOVES ME

Director: Jenn Melms

Audition Dates:  
February 12th and 13th at 7pm  
at SLT

To keep updated on auditions and audition form visit our Facebook and website.

# Was That a Rubber Chicken?

BY JEFF JOHNSON

Tradition can be defined as a belief, principle, or way of acting that people in a particular society or group have continued to follow for a long time. That is exactly what the rubber chicken is all about.

It all started with a funny gag that the late Cecil Gwaltney thought of when he was directing the musical, *Once Upon A Mattress*, in the fall of 1978 in the old Cotton Gin Theatre. The set up was easy; the princess was waiting for her prince. The potential princes then line up to present to her a gift. One of the suitors that doesn't win the hand of the princess presents her with a rubber chicken. The audience erupted in laughter. It was at that moment that the tradition of the chicken was born.

The rubber chicken would not make its appearance again until that spring when Barbara Jones directed *Camelot*. Every show since then, the rubber chicken would make a single appearance in each show that was produced on SLT's stage on the third Saturday. The stage manager of each show is responsible for incorporating the chicken into the performance. Actors consider it an honor and a privilege to be selected to bring out the rubber chicken during their scene.

If you have ever attended a third Saturday performance, you might have seen the chicken or heard the laughs or applause and wondered what that was about. The third Saturday is traditionally known to us as Chicken Night, and yes, some season subscribers specifically select this night just for the chicken.



# Two-Show Subscriptions



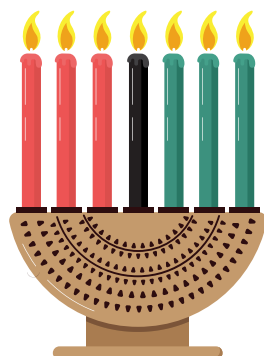
## The Perfect Gift!

### **JUST IN TIME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**

Still looking for the perfect holiday gift this year? Smithfield Little Theatre can help with that! Our Two-Show Subscriptions are now on sale on our website. Subscriptions include a ticket to *The Kitchen Witches* (opens February 10th) and *She Loves Me* (opens May 5th).

If you don't feel comfortable selecting seats for your gift recipient, an SLT gift certificate would be perfect! Our gift certificates are available online. You can purchase a gift certificate for any amount and it can be printed at home or emailed directly to the recipient.

To keep updated on our Season Subscriptions visit our website at [www.smithfieldlittletheatre.org](http://www.smithfieldlittletheatre.org) or call our Box Office at 757-357-7338.



# Our Covid-19 Policy

## **IMPORTANT COVID UPDATE**

Following CDC guidance, Smithfield Little Theatre has updated its policy and no longer requires masks or vaccinations. Volunteers and patrons may continue to wear masks at their own discretion.

As always, the health and safety of our volunteers and patrons is a priority for SLT. We will continue to monitor the CDC and VDH for updated guidelines.





## Volunteer Opportunities

**SMITHFIELD LITTLE THEATRE IS AN ALL-VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATION. VOLUNTEERS, MANY WITH NO PRIOR THEATRE EXPERIENCE, HANDLE ALL RESPONSIBILITIES FROM ACTING TO USHERING. THERE ARE NEEDS WHICH CAN TAKE UP AS LITTLE OR AS MUCH TIME AS YOU WISH TO CONTRIBUTE. FILL YOUR LEISURE TIME WITH FUN. MAKE NEW FRIENDS. TREAT YOURSELF TO A NEW EXPERIENCE! JOIN THE SLT FAMILY!**

Volunteers needed for The Kitchen Witches!

Areas needed are: Box Office, Concessions and Ushers



**HAPPY  
HOLIDAYS**