



# A CHRIS SMITH CAROL



DECEMBER 1-31

A DALEKOARTS ORIGINAL PLAY WITH MUSIC

THURSDAYS & FRIDAYS @ 7:30PM

SATURDAYS @ 2:00PM & 5:30PM

SUNDAYS @ 2:00PM

DIRECTED BY BEN THIJTJE

---

FOR TIX: 952-314-9077 OR VISIT [DALEKOARTS.COM](http://DALEKOARTS.COM)



DalekoArts (DELL-uh-koh), an ensemble theatre company, works with professional artists to pursue impactful, live performance in our community of New Prague, Minnesota and the surrounding region.

## OUR VISION

Our purpose is to decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota by increasing engagement and opportunity in New Prague and the surrounding area. It is our dream that New Prague will be a known destination for quality performing arts and arts education.

## OUR STORY

DalekoArts was founded in 2012 by theatre artists Ben Thietje and Amanda White as a way to help decentralize professional theatre in Minnesota.

New Prague was chosen as the company's home due to the community's extraordinary interest in theatre, the regional growth and development it has experienced in the last decade, its relative proximity to the Twin Cities, and its close ties to the founders.

"Daleko" — a Czech word meaning "far away" — reflects New Prague's strong bohemian roots, its spatial relationship to the cultural hub that is the Twin Cities, and the ensemble's desire to step back and examine the world from a new point of view.



DalekoArts is a proud member of the Network of Ensemble Theaters, a national coalition of ensemble theatre companies and artists.



DalekoArts is a member of the Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.



This activity is made possible by the voters of Minnesota through a grant from the Prairie Lakes Regional Arts Council, thanks to a legislative appropriation from the Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

WELCOME TO DALEKOARTS AND THE PRAGUE THEATRE!

We're finding it hard to believe this season that we've been fortunate enough to produce three goofy, weirdo-packed shows in the *Main Street Holiday* series, appropriately, right here in this little theatre on New Prague's Main Street. This year, we get another chance to sit down and pen our own silly "Christmas Carol" to the town that gives us life, and we're counting ourselves so lucky to do it. It's become our annual tradition to reprint our original holiday letter to you. Here it is, for the third year, and as true as it's ever been:

Dear Friends,

At DalekoArts, 'tis the season for feeling nothing but joy and gratitude! We've been amazed by the love, work, and artistry offered by our friends and community in the past few seasons. We're lucky to have good pals who also happen to be some of the Twin Cities' finest artists, and New Prague and its neighbors have looked out for us every step of the way. This season, we offer *A Chris Smith Carol* as DalekoArts' goofy, idiotic, fun, and totally light-hearted love letter to our audiences, and to the good people of New Prague. We're huge fans of the classic holiday film *It's A Wonderful Life*, and it just isn't Christmas until we curl up with a bowl of popcorn and watch it until the weepy, beautiful end. Jimmy Stewart's character, George Bailey, has a guardian angel, the lovable and bumbling Clarence. In the last moments of the movie, George discovers that Clarence has left him a final thought in a copy of Mark Twain's book *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*. We think Clarence's inscription in the book says everything we want to say about the last few seasons at DalekoArts, and about our future here at The Prague Theatre. He writes:

"Dear George — Remember no man is a failure who has friends. Thanks for the wings! Love, Clarence"

Thanks for the wings, friends. Joyful, peaceful holidays to you & yours.

With Love,

Ben, Amanda,  
and the Team at DalekoArts

# A CHRIS SMITH CAROL

## A DALEKO ORIGINAL HOLIDAY SHOW WITH MUSIC

written & directed by **BEN THIETJE**  
music direction by **ANTHONY J SOFIE**  
choreography by **AMANDA WHITE & THE COMPANY**  
story by **BEN THIETJE & THE COMPANY**

### CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

MONA	Lizzie Gardner*
DINO	Anthony J Sofie*
ENOCH	Toby Thietje
DOROTHY HOLIDAY	Amanda White*
CHRIS SMITH	Patrick Kozicky*
GARY TIKALSKI	Anthony Zadra

### PRODUCTION STAFF

STAGE MANAGER	Janice Geis
MUSIC DIRECTOR	Anthony J Sofie*
TECHNICAL DIRECTOR/CARPENTER	Trevor Muller-Hegel
SCENIC DESIGNER/PAINTER	Sydney Achler
LIGHTING DESIGNER	Phillip Uttech
COSTUME DESIGNER	Amanda White*
SOUND/PROPS/VIDEO DESIGNER	Ben Thietje*

\* denotes company member

**AMANDA WHITE (dorothy holiday)**

is delighted to be back with the gang in this third show in the *Main Street Holiday* series. You might have seen her previously on the DalekoArts stage as “Amanda” in *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, “Angel” in *The Rink*, “The Stage Manager” in *Our Town*, “Tracy Lord” in *The Philadelphia Story*, “Pam Caldwell” in *Rancho Mirage*, “Catherine” in *Proof*, or “Miranda” in *Adventures in Mating*. She’s also directed *Our Town*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Barefoot in the Park*, and *The Odd Couple* for DalekoArts. In addition to being a founding Artistic Director at DalekoArts, Amanda is a member of the Theatre faculty at Normandale Community College. She is a graduate of Columbia University’s Program in Arts Administration, MSU Mankato, Truman State University, and the School at Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

**ANTHONY J SOFIE (dino)**

is excited to once again fill the shoes of “Dino.” In previous DA seasons, he served as music director for *Forever Plaid*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Always...Patsy Cline*, *Urinetown*, and *The Rink*. Anthony is an active performer in the Twin Cities area, assuming the roles of music director, accompanist, vocal coach, conductor, and dialect coach. As a singer and actor, Anthony has performed with Dale Warland Singers, St. Paul Chamber Orchestra Chorale, Minnesota Opera, Minneapolis Music Theatre, Chameleon Theatre Circle, and most recently, Artistry in their production of *The Music Man*. He also currently serves as Music Director at St. Anne’s Episcopal Church and music director and accompanist for Park Center High School.

**ANTHONY ZADRA (gary tikalski)**

recently ended a three-year run of *Deer Camp: The Musical* national tour. His career is both wild and wonderful. He has been a spokesmodel for 3M, a Radio DJ in Japan, a fugitive for Red Robin, a screenwriter on several projects, a featured player in a Swahili film, a high school teacher, and an acting instructor. He is waging a private war against circus peanuts and florescent light bulbs. This is Anthony’s fourth production with Daleko (*The Philadelphia Story*, *Main Street Holiday*, *Another Main Street Holiday*), and he couldn’t be more pleased!

**BEN THIETJE (writer/director)**

has been working as a professional theatre artist and educator in the Twin Cities for the past fifteen years. He teaches and directs theatre at New Prague High School, and holds a degree in Theatre Arts from Minnesota State University, Mankato. In addition to being a Daleko founding Artistic Director, he’s appeared in the company’s productions of *The Odd Couple*, *Forever Plaid*, *Almost, Maine*, *Rancho Mirage*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Love Letters*, *Urinetown*, *Stones in His Pockets*, and *The Rink* in addition to serving as director for *Main Street Holiday*, *Another Main Street Holiday*, and last season’s *Snowed Inn*.

**JANICE GEIS (stage manager)**

is honored to be joining DalekoArts once again to celebrate the holidays! It’s the most wonderful time of the year, and I get to wear the coveted stage manager ugly Christmas sweater. Forays to other theaters include: *Next Fall* and *Based on A Totally True Story* with BOOM! Theater (SM); *Odyssey on the Edge of Light*; *Into the Dark*; *Snow Bound*; *Out of the Blue*; *Tracing Fault Lines*; *A Grimm Tale* with Mad Munchkin Productions (SM); *Letters to Sala* with the Sabes Jewish Community Center (SM); and *Collected Stories* at Milwaukee Chamber Theatre (ASM).

**LIZZIE GARDNER (mona)**

is happy to be back with the gang to reprise her role for *A Chris Smith Carol!* She has previously been seen in DalekoArts’ productions of *Another Main Street Holiday*, *Main Street Holiday*, *Almost Maine*, and she was here last spring as a Friends of Friends performer with her musical improv group, The Shrieking Harpies. She can also be seen with her improv group GARY around the Twin Cities. When she’s not performing improv, you can find her teaching improv or hanging out with her dog Charlie and her husband and fellow DalekoArts company member, Bobby Gardner! Lizzie is so happy to be back for another Daleko production and wishes everyone the jolliest of holidays!

**PATRICK KOZICKY (chris smith)**

is delighted to be working with DalekoArts again. He has performed with DA in *Adventures in Mating*, *Another Main Street Holiday*, *Our Town*, *Main Street Holiday*, *The Philadelphia Story*, and *The Odd Couple*. He directed their production of *Rancho Mirage*. Previously, he has performed with the Children’s Theatre Company, Walking Shadow Theatre Company, Park Square Theatre, Theatre Unbound, The Mechanical Division, Theatre in the Round Players, Youth Performance Company, and The New Theatre Group. Patrick would like to thank DalekoArts for inviting him to play. He thanks Dan Newman for holding down the fort...and feeding the dogs... you fed them, right? He also thanks everyone who supported the arts by purchasing a ticket to this show. Happy Holidays!

**PHILLIP UTTECH (lighting designer)**

is a freelance Designer & Technician with an MFA in Lighting Design from Western Illinois University. After working a season with DalekoArts as an electrician, he is very excited to be joining the design team for the first time! Phillip also has upcoming designs with The Seasons Dinner Theatre, MN Dance Collaborative, and Inver Hills Community College.

**SYDNEY ACHLER (scenic designer)**

is a Chicago based scenic designer and she’s delighted to be returning to New Prague for the season! Recent design credits: *Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged)*, *Stones in his Pockets*, *Our Town*, DalekoArts; *For One*, (re) discover theatre; *Big Love*, Apple Valley HS; *Hamtown Races*, Planet Ant Theatre; *Pluto was a Planet*, Illinois Wesleyan University; *Tarzan*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Crane River Theater. She received her BFA in Theatre Design and Technology from Illinois Wesleyan University.

[sydneyachler.wix.com/scenicdesign](http://sydneyachler.wix.com/scenicdesign)

**TOBY THIETJE (enoch)**

was last seen on Daleko’s stage as “Audrey II” in *Little Shop of Horrors*. He also played “Jinx” in DA’s production of *Forever Plaid*. When not on stage, Toby can be found working the DA Box Office, or selling concessions, or scanning your ticket, or about a hundred other things that help the company go. He also teaches elementary music here in New Prague and is an avid pickleball player. Thanks to Nicole for being a super mother and wife.

**TREVOR MULLER-HEGEL (technical director)**

enjoys board games, breweries, and his friends and family. He has just started his own scene shop in NE Minneapolis after living in the cities for four years. He is excited to see how this can help the theatre community thrive a little bit more and is happy to be returning to Daleko to help them with their new season.

# UP NEXT AT DALEKO



*Underneath the Lintel*  
by Glen Berger  
featuring Pat O'Brien  
Jan 19, 20 & 21

# MIDDLETOWN

BY WILL ENO

DIRECTED BY ANNE M. BYRD



FEBRUARY 23 - MARCH 11  
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS @ 7:30PM

SUNDAYS @ 2:00PM  
FOR TIX: 952-314-9077  
OR VISIT DALEKOARTS.COM

# DalekoArts THANKS ALL OUR AMAZING DONORS

## FRIEND up to \$99

Anonymous  
Susan Anderson  
Vicki Anderson  
Eunice Anderson  
in memory of Lonnie Webb  
Margaret Anzels  
Jason Ballweber  
Mary & Mark Bartusek  
Jim & Jean Becker  
Nancy Berger  
Nancy Besse  
Roselyn & David Biermaier  
Sarah Bizek  
Joan Bohnsack  
Joe Bozic  
Jane & George Brezina  
Renee Brinkman  
Debra & Scott Bryan  
Sean & Anne Byrd  
Don & Judy Conn  
Andrew & Teresa Cooran  
Janel Dropik  
Steve & JeNean Erickson  
Mike Fotis  
Lizzie & Bobby Gardner  
Maggie & Matthew Goldade  
Sam Graber  
Lisa Griebel  
Jill Gunderson-Gernes  
Lisa Haugen  
Linnea & Jim Hautman  
Janet Havlicek  
Jon & Laura Hegge  
Mary Higgins  
Cynthia Hrade  
Patricia Hrade  
Nick Huber  
Patricia Jordan  
Elizabeth Kennedy Laliberte  
Dawn Knudsen-Dahm  
Patrick Kozicky  
Lenore Krava  
Jill Kufrin  
Sara Lasch  
Matthew Lasch  
Mark Long  
Duayne & Dianne Malewicki  
Laura Meyer  
Karen Meyer  
Isabel Nelson  
Vickie Novak  
Patricia O'Neill-Scheidt  
Allison Olson  
Marilyn Phillips  
Ebonie Pittman  
Greg & Sally Rademacher  
Rachel Radermacher  
Valerie Reiter  
Paul Reyburn  
Jerre Richter  
Molly Roberts  
Wendy Ruyle  
Christi Ryburn  
Matthew Schoenbauer  
Robb & Lynn Schoenbauer  
Ann Schoenbauer

Max Schott  
Clare & Donna Schumacher  
Jennifer Shepard  
Donna Simon  
Kailey Smith  
Megan Smith  
in memory of Betty Jean Smith  
Kim Snyder  
Erik Stephenson  
Michael Stevens  
Terri Sticha  
Julie Stroud  
Dean & Laurie TeBrake  
Sandra Vanden Einde  
Wesley Volkenant  
Paul Von Stoetzel  
Alex & Kate Wagner  
Nina Warmboe  
Anna Weggel-Reed  
Bill & Carolyn Wehrmacher  
Dianne Weiers  
Mark Wiggins  
David B. Young  
Art Zaudtke  
JoAnn R. Zau

## ADVOCATE \$100-\$249

Anonymous  
Joan Anderson  
Audrey & Bob Austin  
Jean Bartusek  
Jan Battles  
Steve & Elaine Bruchman  
Renee Christianson  
Cary Coop  
Chuck & Kate Croatt  
Kathy Doyle  
Shelbi Eckman  
Doug & Lori Faust  
Brian Flanagan,  
in memory of his passion  
Paul & Angie Frykman  
Beth & Jerry Geis  
Andy Giesen  
Donna Giesen  
Cynthia Giles  
Mark Goodman &  
Debra Buss  
Daryl & Diane Goulson  
Bob & Barb Gullickson  
Anna & Marty Herrmann  
Thomas Herrmann  
Eric & Lois Hyde  
Mike & Terri Jacobson  
Kallal family  
Mike Lagerquist  
Linda Maloney  
Vonnice McWilliams  
Dr. Tim & Deb Miller  
Dave & Florence Minar  
Judy & Ted Nelson  
Amy Newton  
Brandon & Gina O'Connell  
Kathy O'Neill  
Sean & Jamee O'Neill  
Scott & Jennifer Pierce  
Larry & Carol Pint

Todd & Mary Kay Proshok  
Kevin & Jacque Rhodes  
Lou Ring  
Alice & Massimo Ronconi  
in honor of  
Armando Harlow Ronconi  
Grif & Jenny Sadow  
Rita Sapp  
Debra Savage  
Jen & Greg Saylor  
Alecia & Josh Scharback  
Robert & Tami Schmitz  
Vera Schoenecker  
Pete & Heather Schuller  
Jim & Karla Schultz  
Dennis & Winnifred Simon  
Will & Mary Jo Sivertson  
Lucas Skjaret  
Anthony Sofie  
Ron & Kathy Sofie  
Greg & Ginny Spurlock  
Marge Sticha  
Diana Svobodny  
Rod & Shelly Tietz  
Marsha & Tom Topka  
Mary & Jerry Walerius  
Judith & Dennis White  
Joe & Mary Widmer  
Dr. Mike & Kay Wilcox  
Richard & Cathy Wornson  
Dick & Mary Zwebber

## PARTNER \$250-\$499

Anonymous  
Bill Belkengren  
Bill & Mary Kay Bergevin  
Berglund Family  
Marv & Kim Deutsch  
Duane & Amy Jirik  
Murphy Family  
Steve & Amy Nelson  
Joann & Jim Petersen  
Virgil & Deb Pint  
Jeff & Traci  
Schoenbauer family  
Roy & Lori Seurer  
Rodney & Darlene Seurer  
Pat & Margaret Sullivan

## STAGE MANAGER \$500-\$999

Anonymous  
Daisy Babione  
Kiffin & Lori Deihl  
Jennifer Geisler  
Pat Marxen  
Barb & Chuck Nickolay  
Whitney Rhodes  
Jim Scharback &  
Gail Weiner  
Phil & Leanne Scheiber  
Joy Seema  
Amy "Aim Face" Surber  
Chad & Kyle Wieskus

## DIRECTOR \$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous  
Kathy & Renae Gage

Christine and Tom Karki  
Franny Turna  
Brad & Deb Yopp

## PRODUCER \$5,000-\$9,999

Brad & Kylyn  
Schoenbauer family

## ARTISTIC DIRECTOR'S CIRCLE \$10,000+

Newman Family  
Betty Jean Smith

## MARQUEE CLUB \$10+/month recurring gift

Anonymous  
Audrey & Bob Austin  
Jean Bartusek  
Bill & Mary Kay Bergevin  
Cary Coop  
Shelbi Eckman  
Beth & Jerry Geis  
Andy Giesen  
Donna Giesen  
Eric & Lois Hyde  
Mike & Terri Jacobson  
Kallal family  
Christine & Tom Karki  
Vonnice McWilliams  
Dr. Tim & Deb Miller  
Dave & Florence Minar  
Sean & Jamee O'Neill  
Scott & Jennifer Pierce  
Lou Ring  
Grif & Jenny Sadow  
Jen & Greg Saylor  
Brad & Kylyn  
Schoenbauer family  
Pete & Heather Schuller  
Greg & Ginny Spurlock  
Marge Sticha  
Marsha & Tom Topka  
Dr. Mike & Kay Wilcox

## BUSINESS FRIENDS

Goldsmith Eye Care  
Palmer Welcome Auto  
Pool & Spa Patrol

## FRIENDS OF FRIENDS INDIVIDUAL SPONSORS

Bruzek Funeral Home  
New Prague  
Chamber of Commerce

## INDIVIDUAL SHOW SPONSORS

German Days, Inc.

## DALEKOARTS SEASON SPONSORS

Prairie Pond Winery

# DalekoArts

extends its gratitude to Prairie Pond Vineyard & Winery for their generous season sponsorship.



105 E. Main St., New Prague, MN 56071  
(952) 758-7850 | [prairiepondwinery.com](http://prairiepondwinery.com)

