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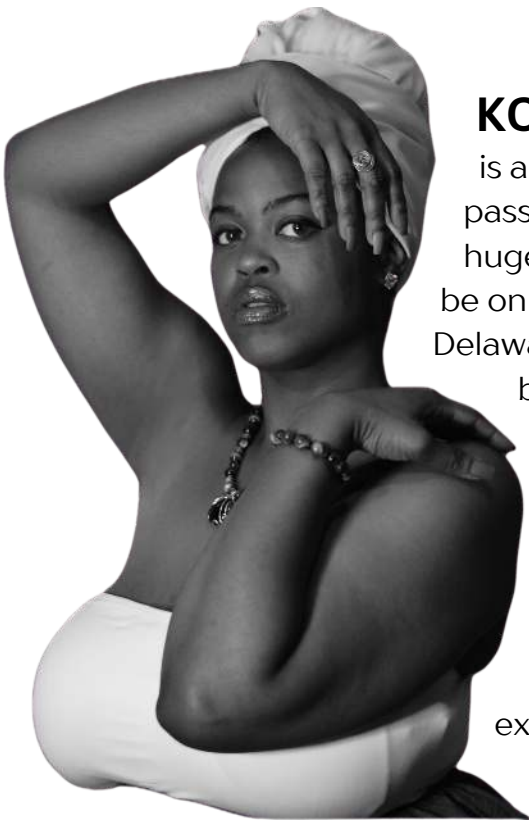
A Levittown **CHRISTMAS CAROL**
A NEW MUSICAL *in New Hope*

NEW
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CENTER

New Hope *Arts* Center
2 Stockton Ave.
New Hope, PA
215-862-9606



www.NewHopeArts.org



KOURAJ (“Courage” in Creole) (Grace/Christin)

is a vocalist/recording artist born and raised in Philadelphia, PA. Her passion for music was rooted in her at 5 years old, and has had such a huge impact on her life. And she always knew that she was destined to be on a stage. She is a member of “Altruistic Vision”, a collective based in Delaware County, as one of their recording artists & keyboardist of their band. She is also one of the vocalist for “The Harvest Groove Band”, based in Philadelphia, while pursuing her own personal career in music. KOURAJ has performed in various locations from Philadelphia to Baltimore, and plans to expand her reach across the country!

“My music will connect humanity in every form possible. I aim for it to be a reminder that no matter the exact situation, we all experience the same emotions which makes us all human.” – KOURAJ



KOURAJ has loved live theater since she was a little girl. From her parents taking her to Broadway shows, participating in high school productions, and staying connected to the live theater as an adult, live theater is one of the core foundations in KOURAJ's musical upbringing.

“I am super honored and excited for such an amazing, fun, and magical play to be my theater debut! Yet alone it being the lead role!! The ride has been unforgettable and I've learned so much!! This experience holds a special place in my heart and I will hold on to it forever!

Thank you to Righteous, Dave, and Anne, for believing in me throughout the past few months in bringing these characters to life, pushing me past my own expectations, and placing the characters in my care. To my fellow cast members, you are all spectacular in every way. I've learned so much from all of you and will never forget the memories & laughs we shared in creating such a magical play.

To Grace/Christin, though you are fictional characters, thank you for showing me old/new layers of myself and reigniting my passion for live theater. Thank you for teaching me to be brave in a whole new way. For elevating me to a new level in my artistry, and for giving my inner child the chance to live a dream!

To my beautiful parents and brother Jadon, my foundation, I love you all so much and would NOT be here without you!! To my friends and family, thank you all for supporting me in every way there is, and being there with me since the beginning!! To my “KOURAJeous” fans, you are a family I didn't know existed, and I love you all so much for how hard y'all go for me. This is only the beginning!

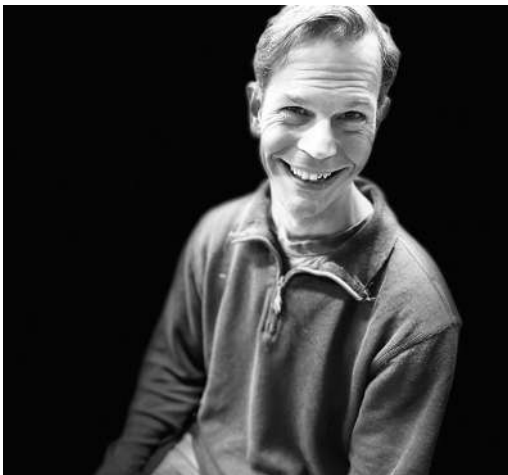
From me to you, from the bottom of my heart. Thank you, and Keep Grinding Toward Your Light!” – KOURAJ  



Justin Derry (Marley)

is a Bucks County native, and has been performing all over the area since a young age. Justin is currently a resident company member with Music Mountain Theater, across the bridge in Lambertville, NJ. He was recently seen performing as Cogsworth, in *Beauty and the Beast* there. Other favorite acting credits include: *Hello Dolly* (Ensemble); *Rent* (Collins); *Shrek* (Donkey); *The*

Producers (Ensemble/Rodger DeBris cover); *Mary Poppins* (Bert); *Crazy For You* (Eugene Fodor); *25th...Spelling Bee* (Mitch); *Ain't Misbehavin*, *Anything Goes* (Ensemble) and countless other productions. When not on stage, Justin works as a Registered Nurse in Bucks County. Justin would like to thank Righteous and Dave for pulling him into this fun production. Always for you, Mom!



Jim Burns (Ghost of Christmas Past)

In late 2019, Jim was invited by Righteous and David to help create a Christmas show at the Broken Goblet, blending Christmas standards with a modern, hyper-local take on *A Christmas Carol*. Jim played all of the ghosts. When the pandemic hit, the show went on a brief hiatus, but returned in 2022 in a more

scripted, Jim-less form. Thankfully, last year, Jim returned to the evolving production in full force, playing Christmas Past and selling cookies in costume during intermission. He is thrilled to be back again this year, continuing to bring his unique touch to the show's whimsical holiday magic. All the normal thanks and gratitude. Wife, kid, producers... What is this, an acceptance speech at the Oscars? Blah blah blah. Have a merry. And jingle jingle.....



Mark Applegate (Ghost of Christmas Present)

studied theatre and musical theatre at Seagle Festival, The Utah Shakespeare Festival and McCarter Theatre. Simultaneously, he studied voice at Westminster Conservatory of Music where he focused on musical comedy and opera. He has dabbled in directing, choreography, costume design and set construction, but finally returned to performing. Some of his favorite roles have been: Dick McGann in Street Scene, Rod in Avenue Q, Man in Chair in The Drowsy Chaperone, Freddy in Noises Off, Clown 1 in The 39 Steps and Max in Lend Me a Tenor. Lately, Mark enjoys cabaret performing with Bob Egan and other talented friends.



Matt Setzer (Ghost of Christmas Future and ...)

Matt was born in Westchester County, New York, and developed a love for singing in church with his family at a young age. After high school, he started and joined various bands and toured the country and beyond for the better part of a decade. Now residing in Lambertville, NJ, he has continued his passion through various projects playing live music with different line-ups at many of the favorite local destinations. This is his first acting performance and he is excited to be a part of this amazing experience!



Joe Beckett (Fezzi)

Joe grew up in Reading, PA. Joe never did any acting in his life but he realized it is in his blood, especially after finding out that his father was the President of his college's drama club. Joe played the lead role in his debut to the stage in 2022 playing the role of Lonnie Johnson in the play Blues in My Soul. Alongside of Righteous Jolly, this 2 actor play was over 1 hour long and 50 pages of script. A very demanding role for one's first introduction to theater. Joe currently resides in Bristol, PA with his wife Andrea, his dogs AXL and Khia, and is the proud father of 3 sons, Jared, Jayden and Cameron.



Eva Guasconi (Cratchitt)

Eva, a New Hope local, is thrilled to be part of this exciting production. With nearly 30 years of musical theater experience, Eva has been seen on stage at PaperMill Playhouse, NJPAC, and even Carnegie Hall. A frequent performer locally at Music Mountain Theatre she has been seen in *On The Town*, *Hello Dolly*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Sweet Charity* as Helene, and *CLUE* as Miss Scarlet. Other regional credits include; *West Side Story*, *Godspell*, *Footloose*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Fame*, and

Oliver. Eva serves on the board of New Hope Celebrates and Music Mountain Theatre. She is proud of her community and enjoys bringing art, entertainment, and joy to all.



Kat Bohn (Fred/Gozzi)

Sonic experimenter and artistic entrepreneur, Kat gravitates towards novel and thought provoking projects. You can find her locked in a box recording sounds and voices, reading books, or wherever the music is. Recent voice acting releases includes the “revolutionary” VR animation *NightMARA* (Venice Film Fest 2024 acknowledgement), and 2025 audiobook release “Against Progress – Intellectual Property and Fundamental Values in the Internet Age” by

Jessica Silbey (Stanford University Press 2025). Kat is also releasing various musical works in 2025 & hopes “A Levittown Christmas Carol (Original Cast Recording)” will be one of them, but that’s up to Dave & Righteous. Ask them.



Reba Holley (Levittowner)

Reba is thrilled to be part of a Levittown Christmas Carol and to work with this amazingly talented group. She has performed on stage at many area theaters and as a French horn player in area pit orchestras. Some of her favorite roles were America in Radio Gals, Abby in Arsenic and Old Lace, Blanche in

Broadway Bound, Sarah in Company, Eulalie in Music Man, Mickey in Odd Couple, Yenta in Fiddler, and Marsha in Let's Murder Marsha. When not performing, Reba works as a municipal Communications Manager. She lives in Pennington with her ever-patient husband Hoyt and is Mom to three remarkable adults and Mimi to the three loves of her life. Gratitude to Righteous for bringing me on board.



Lola Castro (Levittowner)

Lola is thrilled to be a part of this production and work with this fantastic cast. She was introduced to righteous through her mom and hopped in! Her favorite shows she's been a part of include Newsies, Annie, Phantom of the Opera, Almost Maine, 42nd Street, and Anastasia. She's been in choirs since she was 8 years old and has been privately trained for 5 years. She has plans to major in Musical Theatre in college and further her career.

PRODUCTION TEAM

Anne Mason (Stage Manager): Anne Mason is thrilled to return to the theater after a well-deserved break. With a passion for theater that began in high school, Anne led the stage crew at Pennsbury High School before earning her degree in Theater from Temple University. She later served as Executive Producer for the Newtowne Players in Maryland. Beyond her theater work, Anne volunteers for the Philadelphia Folk Festival, blending her love for performance and community. Always on the go, Anne keeps her life full by balancing work, family, volunteer work, and now, once again, theater.

Anne is deeply grateful for the love and support of her spouse, Jo, and her three wonderful children, Jay, Evie, and Nora. They've been her greatest source of encouragement during this venture. Anne is excited to bring her creative energy and leadership back to the theater.

Jason Dooley (lighting director): Jason has more than a decade of concert audio, lighting, and video experience for major label musical artists up and down the east coast. Currently house lighting engineer at 2 of Philadelphia's most popular concert venues.

Thrilled to be included as Lighting Director for Levittown Christmas Carol's 4th year, now in a larger expanded setting.

McAfee Madding (set design): McAfee is a set and lighting designer with extensive experience in all aspects of technical theater. Currently contributing as set designer at Music Mountain Theatre, McAfee brings a wealth of knowledge and creativity to each production. Having been raised in New Hope, McAfee's passion for theater was nurtured in a vibrant community known for its cultural richness. McAfee's versatility and dedication to the art of theater, helps make each project a unique and memorable experience.



David Garrett Shaw –

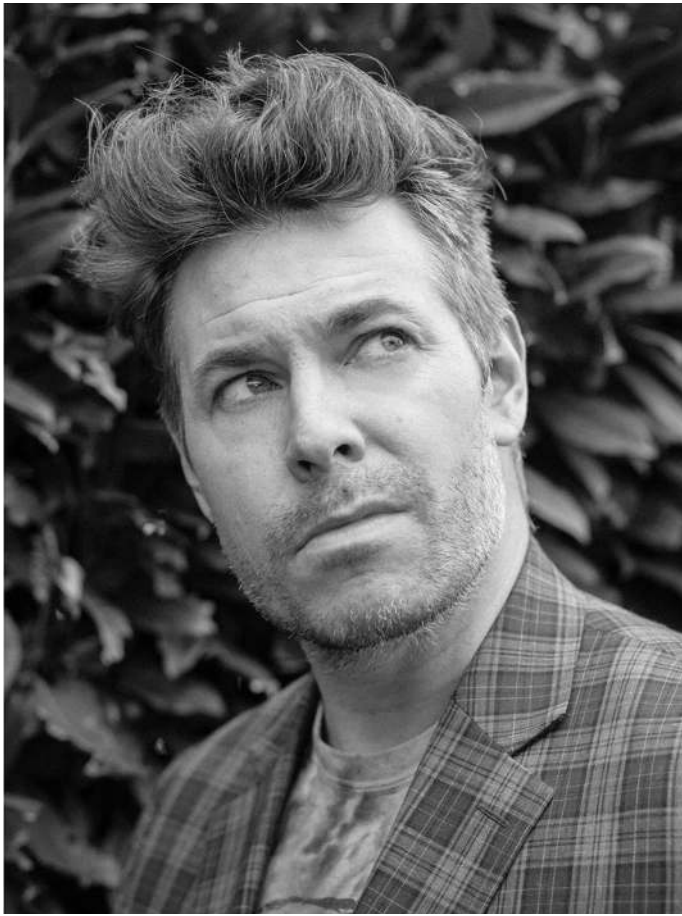
Co-creator, co-writer, composer & lyricist, pit director.

David Shaw began his creative career playing the electric and upright basses in settings including jazz big band ensembles, orchestras, and in the pit for musical theatre productions. David was also a member of the Philly Pops festival chorus. He graduated with a degree in Jazz performance from the University of the Arts in Philadelphia in 1999. From 2015–2018 David wrote his first play, *Having A Ball With God*, which was a finalist at the New York New Works Playwrighting competition in 2018.

David began writing the music and lyrics to *A Levittown Christmas Carol* in January of 2023 after being inspired by his creative partner, Righteous Jolly, when Jolly asked him to help write the script for one of the project's previous incarnations.

David is most proud to be a father of two amazing young adults, David and Danielle, from whom he finds so much artistic inspiration, especially in matters of love and kindness.

David would also like to thank his mom, Kathleen and his partner Jenn for always supporting him.



Righteous Jolly – Chuck/Scrooge, Creator, Producer, Writer, Director.

Born In Trenton NJ under a Thespis Moon, He moved shortly there after- and became an overly prideful resident of Indian Creek in Levittown! A Graduate of Truman High School IN Bristol Township- where his life was forever changed the first time he made an audience laugh.

A Multi Hyphenate performing artist and Alumnus of Circle In The Square Theatre School 2003.

Mr. Jolly has been acting and performing for over 25 years.

As an Actor- New York Credits Include:

Bury The Dead, The Apple Tree, La Ronde, A Levittown Story, (St. Marks Theatre) Having A Ball With God By David Garrett Shaw (Acorn Theatre) Regional Credits: Orphans (Phillip), Marvin's Room (Hank), Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson (Andrew), Mirette (Bellini). Mamma Mia (Sam), Once (Guy)- God Of Carnage (Michael). Bleeding and Black and White (Plague Doctor) And the World Premier of BLUES IN MY SOUL by David Robson.

Film, TV, & Web:

Robert McKenzie in 'Gemini Rising'. Krampus in 'Merry Krampus' (Creator, Writer, Producer) Lorenzo de Medici and King Charlemagne in 'The Pope: A Mini Series'.(CNN Production)

As a Musician and Vocalist:

Righteous has sang in and fronted the Rock Band 'Syrrah', as well as the Irish Group 'The Jolly Tinkers' with his Partner Greg McGarvey.

He released his first solo album under his name in 2023 entitled WHATS IN A NAME – Found wherever you stream music.

(cont'd...)

Thank you so much To Christine Ramirez and New Hope Arts for the opportunity to be able to exercise my creative voice and vision. You took a chance on me, and I hope to have done you proud.

To Thee Dave Shaw– thank you brother. We’ve only just begun. Señor Jolly can be found several times a week acting a fool whilst hosting Trivia, Open Mic, Or Singing Songs wherever Long Haired Freaky People– or for that matter Short Haired Repressed Freaky People can be found.

Formally the 7th Best Trivia Host in Bucks County” (Best of Bucks 2003) He was the proud winner of Bucks Happenings– BEST ENTERTAINER of 2024 thanks to YOUR votes and support.

No credit, trophy or adulation in this world could ever bring the pride or joy, that being the father of Noble Leif and Rhonin Zeal Brings.
I Love You Boys.

And the Cherry on top is that he gets to share his days as the broke ass husband to the beautiful and beloved love of his life, Jayna Jolly.
I Love You So.



THANK YOU

to these people and businesses who generously donated to support our vision and help this production become a reality!



**MARK AND EILEEN
MCLAUGHLIN**



**KEN STEPHON AND
WILLIAM PENN BANK**



BRUCE KING AND DIVERSIFIED GROUP



MICHELLE AND KAYLA DOYLESTOWN HAUNTS



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Sales Associate

ALEAH HOSSZU



broken goblet™

MORE GRATITUDE GOES TO:

- Goldenridge's Victoria and Bryan Foster.
- Joan and Denny Slavin Aka the SLAVINIS.
- Nancy McCardle.
- Christian Bruzesse.
- Jake and Dawn Soley.
- Pamela Fitzpatrick.
- Monica Devlin.
- Andrea and Rudy Stumpf.
- Dawicki.
- Jennifer And Lee Grey.
- Laura and Kyle Wilson.
- Chris and Gina Federenko.
- Jennifer Zefutie.
- Pat Coleman and THE ABBOTT MARSHLANDS!
- Santo Hannawacker THANK YOU!!! (You have enriched our lives with your work man. So grateful.)
- Scott Palmucci
- Thank you for the rickshaw, BOTH OF THEM!
- Some day pal, we will pull the big one off!!
- Gina Andreoli and Bristol Riverside Theatre for their contribution in Wardrobe!
- Adrienne and Sam from Bear Bones Vintage for their cultivation and help in our wares.

(cont'd...)

- Paul Hosszú for the Bike Rickshaw, a literal dream come true... and then more and more.
- Jyl Repetski for the beautiful Ornaments!!
- Jo Ciavaglia Beat Reporter and Soap Maker!
- Kayla Morawski for the Candles!
- Jayna Jolly (Merch/Logos/Design and More)
- Gabby Anderson (COOKIES)
- Dylan Randall and Newtown Signs!!
- Bill Burns Lynch for lumber.
- Thank you to all players and performers from the past who have gotten us to this point:
- Nyiema Lundsford
- Sara Stepnowski
- Yolanda Bullock (Wabi Sabi)
- Cara Carney
- Greg McGarvey
- Trina Shumsonk
- Olivia Schanbacher
- Mike Lock
- Reese Dunlap
- The IceBoys (Matt and Dan)
- Dan for Hoagiefest!!!
- Rob Devious for the sick Arrangements
- Adam Honeycutt for the first chord that started this whole damn thing!
- Broken Goblet- Jay And Mike, thank you for your openness to allow this exploration. You guys were fundamental in getting this to where it is. We are eternally grateful for your support.
- Bub! For the Hutch Windstyler BORROW, so...

PLEASE LET ME BUY IT!!!

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the ARTS!**

&

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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