

For immediate release

**BRADLEY WHITFORD TO PLAY SCROOGE IN TONY-NOMINATED
“A CHRISTMAS CAROL” AT THE AHMANSON THEATRE
NOVEMBER 30, 2021 – JANUARY 1, 2022.**

Opening Night Set for December 1, 2021

Three-time Emmy winner **Bradley Whitford** (“The Handmaid’s Tale,” “The West Wing,” “Get Out,” “The Post”) will play the role of Ebenezer Scrooge in the magical new interpretation of Charles Dickens’ timeless story, **“A Christmas Carol.”** Adapted by Tony Award winner Jack Thorne (“Harry Potter and the Cursed Child”) and originally directed and conceived by Tony Award winner Matthew Warchus (“Matilda”), “A Christmas Carol” comes to the Ahmanson Theatre November 30, 2021 through January 1, 2022. Opening night is set for Wednesday, December 1 at 8 pm. Tickets go on sale to the general public October 6, 2021.

“Like so many of us, this time of enforced isolation has left me starving for the communal experience of the live theatre. I can’t imagine a more thrilling moment than stepping onto the stage in this spectacular new adaptation of Charles Dickens’ ‘A Christmas Carol,’” said Bradley Whitford. “Come. Join us. Celebrate. And spoiler alert: God bless us. Every one!”

Bradley Whitford can currently be seen in the fourth season of Hulu’s acclaimed series, “The Handmaid’s Tale,” in his Emmy Award-winning role of Commander Joseph Lawrence. He is known for his work in the Academy Award-nominated films “Get Out” and “The Post” and will soon be seen in Lin-Manuel Miranda’s “tick, tick... BOOM!” He is currently filming “Rosaline” with Kaitlyn Dever and executive produced the documentary, “Not Going Quietly,” which is currently in select theaters. Whitford is represented by ICM Partners and Greenlight Management.

A holiday masterpiece for all ages, “A Christmas Carol” opened on Broadway to rave reviews on November 20, 2019, following critically acclaimed runs at The Old Vic, London. Breaking several box office records at the Lyceum Theatre, the production was nominated for five Tony Awards and won the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Adaptation. “A Christmas Carol” will return to The Old Vic for its fourth season this year. In addition to the production at the Ahmanson, a second production of “A Christmas Carol” will play San Francisco this holiday season.

This timeless and timely tale of isolation and redemption welcomes theatergoers of all ages into an immersive experience that’s brimming with Christmas spirit. The production features dazzling staging, moving storytelling and 12 of the most cherished Christmas carols, including “Joy to the World,” “Silent Night” and “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear.”

“A Christmas Carol” features scenic and costume design by Tony Award winner Rob Howell; lighting design by Tony Award winner Hugh Vanstone; sound design by Tony Award nominee Simon Baker; music, orchestrations, and arrangements by Tony Award nominee Christopher Nightingale; music direction by Remy Kurs; casting by Jim Carnahan, CSA and Jason Thinger; and movement by Lizzi Gee. The Los Angeles production is directed by Thomas Caruso.

“A Christmas Carol” is produced by Tom Smedes, Heather Shields, Nathan Gehan, Jamison Scott, Catherine Schreiber, Peter Stern, Xin Wen, Cornice Productions, Jack Lane, Instone Productions, Nancy Gibbs/Joseph Longthorne, Mark Lonow & JoAnne Astrow, J. Scott & Sylvia G Bechtel, Walport Productions, Alexandra Weinstein & Tobi Pilavin Weinstein, Propaganda Productions/42nd.Club, Beth Lenke/Wolfstone Productions, Tanninger Entertainment, CHK Productions/ Louise H. Beard & Seriff Productions, Mark Lippman, Fiona Howe Rudin/Sammy Lopez, David Lambert/Shawn Arani, Brian Mutert & Derek Perrigo/Gary & Reenie Heath, and Terry Schnuck/Joel t Newman, with Associate Producer Chase Thomas.

Center Theatre Group, one of the nation’s preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles’ leading nonprofit theatre company, which, under the leadership of Artistic Director Michael Ritchie, Managing Director / CEO Meghan Pressman and Producing Director Douglas C. Baker, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1600 to 2100-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the nation’s leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics and circumstance to serve Los Angeles.

Bank of America is Center Theatre Group’s 2021 – 2022 Season Sponsor. Bank of America believes in the power of the arts to help economies thrive, to educate and enrich societies, and to create greater cultural understanding. For more than 20 years, the company has supported Center Theatre Group’s innovative Education and Community Partnerships programs as well as world-class productions. Bank of America is also an instrumental supporter in accelerating Center Theatre Group’s commitment to becoming an anti-racist, equitable, diverse, and inclusive organization.

American Express is the official credit card for Center Theatre Group and the presenting sponsor of the Digital Stage.

While performances of “A Christmas Carol” do not begin until late November 30, Center Theatre Group currently plans to require all audience members to provide proof of vaccination or a negative COVID-19 test within 72 hours of attendance. CTG will be announcing further details, including methods of confirming vaccination records or negative test results closer to the Ahmanson’s re-opening date in November 2021. These health and safety measures are subject to change, at Center Theatre Group’s sole discretion and based on evolving health and safety guidance and conditions. CTG will continue working closely with The Music Center and L.A. County officials to ensure they are following all applicable health and safety protocols. Additional information about The Music Center’s safety plans, including its recent upgrades to all HVAC systems, is available at [MusicCenter.org](https://www.musiccenter.org).

Tickets go on sale to the general public on October 6 at 10 am, with a presale opportunity for subscribers and donors beginning September 27 at 10 am and for American Express Card Members beginning September 29 at 10 am. In the interim, tickets are available by subscription only. For more information call the exclusive subscription hotline at (213) 972-4444 or visit

www.CenterTheatreGroup.org/Ahmanson. Groups of 10 or more may reserve tickets by calling (213) 972-7231.

BIOS

Bradley Whitford is a classically trained stage actor who gained overnight fame as the sarcastic yet vulnerable Josh Lyman on NBC's "The West Wing." One of the few actors working successfully and simultaneously in theatre, film and television, Whitford is one of Hollywood's most sought-after talents. In 2019, he was awarded the Primetime Emmy Award for his work as Commander Lawrence, the architect of Gilead's economy, in the third season of Hulu's Emmy-winning series "The Handmaid's Tale," in which he has since been nominated for two additional Primetime Emmy awards for the same role.

Bradley will next be seen in the upcoming movie "tick, tick... BOOM!," directed by Lin-Manuel Miranda. The movie is based on the autobiographical musical by playwright Jonathan Larson. This past year, Bradley starred in multiple films including Greg Barker's Netflix drama "Sergio;" IFC's drama "Three Christs" with Richard Gere, Peter Dinklage and Julianna Margulies; Todd Robinson's political drama "The Last Full Measure" alongside Samuel L. Jackson, Sebastian Stan, Christopher Plummer and William Hurt; and the live-action CGI-animated adventure film based on the novel of the same name "Call of the Wild." Additionally, Bradley was also seen in "Songbird" alongside Demi Moore, Craig Robinson, Paul Walter Hauser and Peter Stormare. The film, directed by Adam Mason, follows a courier (immune to the COVID-23 virus) as he races against time to save the woman he loves from a quarantine camp. Bradley also serves as a producer on the documentary "Not Going Quietly," which follows the story of Ady Barkan who was diagnosed with ALS at the age of 32 and, fearing rising health care costs in light of the proposed 2018 tax reform, as he heads for Washington as part of a group voicing its concerns. He will also soon begin production for the upcoming film "Rosaline," which will be directed by Karen Maine.

Recent film credits include Brie Larson's "The Unicorn Store," which stars Larson along with Samuel L. Jackson and Joan Cusack; "Godzilla: King of the Monsters" alongside Vera Farmiga, Kyle Chandler, Sally Hawkins and Millie Bobby Brown; "Phil," which was directed by Greg Kinnear; the crime drama "Destroyer" alongside Sebastian Stan and Nicole Kidman; the sci-fi thriller "The Darkest Minds," which is based on Alexandra Bracken's popular young adult novel of the same time; Judy Greer's directorial debut "A Happening of Monumental Proportions," which featured an all-star ensemble including Jennifer Garner, Allison Janney, Common and Anders Holm; Steven Spielberg's Academy Award-nominated drama "The Post" with Meryl Streep and Tom Hanks; the critically-acclaimed Blumhouse horror-thriller "Get Out;" "Megan Leavey" opposite Kate Mara and Edie Falco; the independent film "Other People" written and directed by SNL writer Chris Kelly, which won the Grand Jury prize at the 2016 Sundance Film Festival; HBO's Lyndon B. Johnson biopic "All The Way" opposite Bryan Cranston, which received multiple Emmy nominations; Sony Pictures Classics' Hank Williams biopic "I Saw The Light;" Disney's "Saving Mr. Banks," "The Cabin in the Woods;" the gritty true-crime drama "An American Crime;" "The Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants;" "Little Manhattan;" "Kate & Leopold;" "The Muse;" "Bicentennial Man;" "Scent of a Woman;" "A Perfect World;" "Philadelphia;" "The Client;" "My Life;" "Red Corner;" "Presumed Innocent" and "My Fellow Americans."

On the small screen, Whitford also starred in NBC's "Perfect Harmony," a comedy about a small-town church choir that is out of tune in more ways than one. Bradley plays a salty, Ivy League music professor who reluctantly agrees to direct the choir after stumbling upon them and stars

alongside Anna Camp, Spencer Allport, Will Greenberg, Tymberlee Hill, Rizwan Manji and Geno Segers. He also starred in National Geographic's docudrama "Valley of the Boom," created by Matthew Carnahan and produced by Arianna Huffington, where he plays Netscape CEO James Barksdale; the POP TV series "Flack," a drama about the cutthroat world of celebrity PR and Amazon's award-winning comedy series and "Transparent" for which he won both a 2015 Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Guest Actor in a Comedy Series (and was nominated in that same category again in 2016) and a Television Critics' Choice Award for Best Guest Performer in a Comedy Series. Additional television credits include "Years of Living Dangerously," "Chicago Justice," "Mom," "Better Things," "Brooklyn Nine-Nine," "Happyish," "Trophy Wife," "The Good Guys," "Studio 60 on the Sunset Strip," "The West Wing," "ER," "The X-Files" and "NYPD Blue." His performance as Josh Lyman on "The West Wing" earned him a 2001 Emmy Award as well as Golden Globe Award nominations in 2001 and 2002.

Growing up in Wisconsin, Whitford studied theatre and English literature at Wesleyan University and attended the Juilliard Theater Center. Whitford received rave reviews for his return to the stage in the production of "Boeing, Boeing" at the Longacre Theatre opposite Mark Rylance, Christine Baranski, Kathryn Hahn, Gina Gershon and Mary McCormack. Whitford appeared on Broadway in Aaron Sorkin's military courtroom drama "A Few Good Men." He made his Theatre Club professional performance debut in "Measure for Measure" at Lincoln Center Theater and held the title role in "Coriolanus" at the Folger Shakespeare Theatre in Washington, D.C. Whitford also starred in the off-Broadway production of "Curse of the Starving Class" opposite Kathy Bates and performed in "Three Days of Rain" at the Manhattan.

Matthew Warchus' theatre credits include: "In Camera: Faith Healer," "In Camera: Three Kings," "In Camera: Lungs," "Lungs," "Present Laughter," "Art," "The Caretaker," "The Master Builder," "Future Conditional," "Speed-the-Plow" (The Old Vic); "A Christmas Carol," "Groundhog Day," "The Norman Conquests" (The Old Vic/Broadway); "Matilda the Musical" (RSC/West End/Broadway/International tour); "Ghost the Musical" (West End/Broadway/South Korea), "La Bête" (West End/Broadway), "God of Carnage" (West End/Broadway/Ahmanson Theatre); "Deathtrap," "Endgame" (West End); "Our House," "Much Ado About Nothing" (West End/UK Tour); "Boeing-Boeing" (West End/Broadway/UK tour); "The Lord of the Rings" (Toronto/West End); "Buried Child," "Volpone" (National Theatre); "Follies" (Broadway); "Life x 3" (National Theatre/The Old Vic/Broadway); "True West" (Donmar/Broadway); "The Unexpected Man" (RSC/West End/Broadway); "Art" (Broadway/West End/Los Angeles); "Hamlet," "Henry V" (RSC); "Betrayal," "Death of a Salesman," "The Plough and the Stars," "Fiddler on the Roof," "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?," "True West," "Peter Pan" (Leeds Playhouse). Opera credits include: "Falstaff," "Così Fan Tutte" (ENO); "The Rake's Progress" (ROH/WNO). Film includes: "Pride" — BIFA Best British Independent Film, "Simpatico." Matthew was an Associate Director at Leeds Playhouse and Artistic Associate at The Old Vic before being appointed Artistic Director of the theatre in 2014.

Jack Thorne's theatre credits includes: "Sunday" (Atlantic Theatre), "The End of History" (The Royal Court), "King Kong" (Broadway), "Woyzeck" (The Old Vic), "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" (West End/Broadway), "Mydidae" (Soho/West End), "Stacy" (Tron/Arcola/West End), "Let the Right One In" (West End/Dundee Rep/Royal Court), "Junkyard" (UK tour), "The Solid Life of Sugarwater" (Graeae/National Theatre/UK tour), "Hope" (Royal Court), "Bunny" (Nabokov/UK tour/New York), "Stuart: A Life Backwards" (Sheffield Crucible/UK tour). Television includes: "The Accident," "His Dark

Materials," Philip K. Dick's "Electric Dreams," "Kiri," "National Treasure," "The Last Panthers," "Don't Take My Baby," "This Is England," "The Fades, Glue," "Cast-Offs." Film includes: "The Secret Garden," "Enola Holmes" "Radioactive," "The Aeronauts," "Dirt Music," "Radioactive," "Wonder," "War Book," "A Long Way Down," "The Scouting Book for Boys." Jack's work for television has won him five BAFTAs and an RTS Television Award.

#

September 7, 2021