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## **Arizona Theatre Company Holiday Show Actors to Sing National Anthem During Cardinals/Ravens Game**

*Tony Award Winner Shuler Hensley, Child Cast to Perform on Football Sunday*

**PHOENIX** – [Arizona Theatre Company](#) is excited to announce that cast members from its upcoming holiday extravaganza, *Scrooge! The Musical*, will sing the National Anthem to kick off the Arizona Cardinals versus Baltimore Ravens game, beginning at 1:25 p.m. on Sunday, Oct. 29.

The show's headliner, Shuler Hensley, along with four of the cast's child actors who are all native Arizonans, will take to the field to sing and kick off the game. Hensley's long and illustrious list of roles and awards include film appearances in *The Legend of Zorro*, *Van Helsing*, *The Bread*, *My Sweet (aka A Wedding for Bella)*, *Odd Thomas*, *Cruiser*, and the upcoming *Into the Wilderness*.

Hensley most recently appeared on Broadway as Marcellus Washburn alongside Hugh Jackman in *The Music Man*. Other Broadway credits include Tom Kettle in Jez Butterworth's new play *The Ferryman*, directed by Sam Mendes, the Monster in *Young Frankenstein*, Javert in *Les Misérables* and Jud Fry in *Oklahoma!*, a powerful and moving performance that earned him the "Triple Crown:" Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle awards. His roles Off-Broadway include *Fiorello!*, *The Whale*, for which he was awarded "Stage Performance of the Year" by *New York* magazine, *Silence! The Musical*, *Sweet and Sad* and *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*. He is also the Artistic Director at City Springs Theatre Company and on the founding advisory board for the new Musical Theatre Program at The Manhattan School of Music.

Beni Bermudez, Max Morgan, Brooklyn Martin and Jacquelyn Fuchs – all of whom will appear in ATC's *Scrooge!* in both Tucson and Phoenix – will join Hensley for the singing of the National Anthem performance, proud to represent their state as Arizona natives.

Adapted from the Oscar-nominated film *Scrooge* comes a Christmas musical spectacular by Oscar-winning, Grammy-winning, and Tony-nominated composer Leslie Bricusse. *Scrooge!*, ATC's new holiday musical is a ground-breaking adaptation of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* filled with songs that are as impressive as the ones Bricusse wrote for *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*.

**Benicio "Beni" Bermudez**, from Gilbert, has most recently performed as Chip in *Disney's Beauty and the Beast* and Randolph MacAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie* (Hale Centre Theater Arizona), and several shows with East Valley Children's Theatre in Mesa. He received 1st Place for his age group in the "Summer Heat 2023" Singing Competition for Arizona's National Association of Teachers of Singing (NATS).

**Max Morgan**, currently a fifth grader at Canyon View Elementary, has been acting since the age of 5. His previous roles include Edgar ("Little Boy") in *Ragtime* as well as Charlie in *Elf the Musical*, both at Arts Express Theatre in Tucson. He has performed in about a dozen plays through the education program

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at Live Theater Workshop. In 2022, Morgan starred in the short film *The Top Secret Missions of Commander Phoenix and Agent Goldfish* filmed at the University of Arizona, and he will also appear in the upcoming film *Last Dollar*.

**Brooklyn Martin** is an eighth grader at the Arizona Conservatory for the Arts and Academics and is thrilled to be making her ATC debut. Her recent credits are ensemble in *The SpongeBob Musical* (Valley Youth Theater), Moana in *Moana Jr.*, (2023 AriZoni Nomination, Spotlight Youth Theater), Grace/Fan in *A Christmas Carol* and Baby Louise in *Gypsy* (Arizona Broadway Theater), Lavender in *Matilda* (TheaterWorks), and Flounder in *The Little Mermaid* (2022 AriZoni nomination, Starlight Community Theater).

**Jacquelyn “Jax” Fuchs** (Kathy Cratchit/Jenny) is a sixth grader from Phoenix who has been performing since she was three years old and has been seen on stages throughout the Phoenix area. She is an excellent student and enjoys experimenting with make-up, playing with slime and collecting Squishmallows. Fuchs is very grateful that Matt August and the Scrooge creative team have given her the opportunity to be a part of this incredible production.

Tickets for Arizona Theatre Company’s Musical, *Scrooge!*, are now on sale. For more information, please visit <https://atc.org/show/scrooge-the-musical/>.

For more information about Arizona Theatre Company, please visit ATC’s website, [atc.org](https://atc.org), or call the box office at 833-ATC-SEAT (833-282-7328).

#### **About Arizona Theatre Company**

Arizona Theatre Company’s (ATC) performances bring people together to experience essential stories, from reimagined classics to contemporary plays, original works, and innovative musicals fostering continued conversation beyond the theatre walls. Founded in 1966 and celebrating its 56th season, ATC is led by Kasser Family Artistic Director Matt August and Executive Director Geri Wright. ATC operates in two major cities and is the preeminent professional theatre in Arizona, recognized as the official State Theatre.

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