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Ford's Theatre  
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**For Release**  
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**Ford's Theatre Society Hosts  
Sensory-Friendly Performance For  
*A Christmas Carol***

**Sunday, December 12, at 2:00 p.m.  
Tickets Now On Sale**

Washington, D.C. – Ford's Theatre Society will host a **sensory-friendly performance** for ***A Christmas Carol*, Sunday, December 12, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.** This performance is designed for those with sensory sensitivities who might benefit from an adjusted theatrical environment, including those with autism.

**Theatrical adjustments for this performance of *A Christmas Carol* may include:** lessening of lighting focused on the audience; lower stage sound levels, especially for sudden or loud sounds; allowances for audience talking, movement and use of tablets and smartphones for communication; as well as designated areas outside the auditorium for anyone needing a break. Printed materials to prepare attendees for their visit to Ford's Theatre and the performance itself will be made available to patrons.

Director José Carrasquillo has infused this year's production of *A Christmas Carol* with new staging throughout. Craig Wallace returns as the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge who encounters the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future on a memorable journey. Patrons can expect traditional caroling, the celebrated Dickensian London-inspired set, familiar faces in roles of the Ghosts of Jacob Marley, Christmas Past, Present and Future, and many other hallmarks that have made Ford's Theatre productions of *A Christmas Carol* one of Washington's favorite holiday traditions for 40 years.

Ford's Theatre accessibility programs are supported by the **Liberty Mutual Foundation**.

## **Tickets to Sensory-Friendly Performance**

A limited number of tickets are available to allow ample space for patron movement needs. Tickets for the sensory-friendly performance range **\$27-\$32** and are available for purchase by calling the Box Office at (202) 347-4833, option 7. Ford's Theatre staff are trained to assist patrons in finding the best seating options for their needs. Tickets are refundable until the start of the performance on December 12, 2021.

In 2018, Ford's Theatre enlisted the support of consultants **Diane Nutting** and **Roger Ideishi** and piloted a sensory-friendly performance. In the time since, Ford's Theatre staff has taken the lead for multiple sensory-friendly productions and museum events, creating preparatory materials for theatregoers and environment adjustments at Ford's, training the front-of-house team, cast and crew to welcome our audience for the sensory-friendly performance. Ford's Theatre is excited to once again partner with Nutting and Ideishi to bring this reimagined production to life in a way that is welcoming and accessible for our audience.

"We are thrilled to once again welcome audiences to a sensory-friendly performance of *A Christmas Carol*," said **Associate Director of Visitor Experience Colleen Prior**. "This performance is truly tailored to offer a more flexible and welcoming theatrical environment for those who may benefit from adjusted light and sound levels, providing individuals and families a relaxed holiday event where they may be who they are."

Sensory-friendly performances are offered at Ford's Theatre along with other accessibility and outreach programs, including **audio-described** performances for *A Christmas Carol* (December 8, 2021, at 7:30 p.m. and December 18, 2021, at 2:00 p.m.), **sign-interpreted** performances on November 27, 2021, at 2:00 p.m. and December 16, 2021, at 7:30 p.m., **captioning** for performances through the **GalaPro app**, the **Free First Preview** program, **Generation Abe** nights for patrons younger than age 35, **Student Matinees** and more.

## **COVID-19 Health and Safety**

Regardless of age, all patrons with tickets to in-person performances are required to show a government-issued photo ID and **proof of full vaccination status** (physical copy or digital photograph of vaccination card) **or a qualifying negative COVID-19 test** upon arrival to their performance for admittance. We are unable to accept CLEAR or other third-party apps. Negative PCR tests must be dated within 48 hours of the performance; negative antigen tests must be dated within 24 hours of the performance. Tests must have a name and date associated with them. Rapid at-home tests without any identifying information or record of date taken will not be accepted. **Face coverings are also required for all.** Acceptable forms of

government-issued photo IDs include driver's licenses and passports. *A Christmas Carol* ticket holders who do not comply with these policies will not be admitted.

Ford's Theatre COVID-19 guidance is developed in collaboration with the George Washington University Medical Faculty Associates (GW MFA). As one of the largest physician groups in the Washington, D.C., metropolitan area, GW MFA is recognized for excellence in clinical care, research and training of future care providers. The advice and expertise of the medical staff at the GW MFA, which is based on data and guidelines from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, has helped Ford's Theatre Society strengthen its safety procedures to better serve and protect patrons, artists and staff as productions and daytime visits resume. For more information about Ford's Theatre health and safety protocols, visit [www.fords.org/performance-safety](http://www.fords.org/performance-safety).

### **Ford's Theatre Society**

Since reopening in 1968, more than a hundred years after President Abraham Lincoln's assassination, Ford's Theatre has explored and celebrated Lincoln's legacy and the American experience through theatre and education. Now under the leadership of Director Paul R. Tetreault, Ford's Theatre has been recognized for the superior quality of its artistic programming. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and the nationally acclaimed *Big River* to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln* and *The Guard*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. For its accomplishments, the organization was honored in 2008 with the National Medal of Arts. For more information, visit [www.fords.org](http://www.fords.org).

**#FordsCarol #a11y**

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