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**Alliance Theatre Celebrates 20 Years of Holiday Tradition With the
Broadway-Scale Favorite *A Christmas Carol***

Nov. 27 – Dec. 24, 2009
Opening / Media Night: Dec. 3, 2009

ATLANTA — Scrooge is back in the Alliance's annual holiday gift to Atlanta! Now in its 20th year, ***A Christmas Carol*** has become a holiday season tradition for generations of families throughout the Southeast. Atlanta's own Rosemary Newcott, the Sally G. Tomlinson Artistic Director of Theatre for Youth, again directs this lavish musical complete with holiday music and jaw-dropping special effects. Chris Kayser returns for his 17th season in a definitive portrayal of Ebenezer Scrooge, setting a not-to-be-missed standard of excellence. The production also brings together Atlanta's most gifted musical performers and talented child actors in a story that dazzles the eyes and warms the heart. **Opening Night is Thu, Dec. 3, at 7 p.m. on the Alliance Stage.** Tickets are available at the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office by calling 404.733.5000 or online at www.alliancetheatre.org.

This Broadway-scale musical spectacular, filled with soaring holiday music, is set in a vast Victorian warehouse where a stone-hearted Ebenezer Scrooge learns the meaning of compassion as he travels the road to redemption from his lonely, miserly life. Renowned director David H. Bell adapted this 1840s tale into a musical featuring favorite holiday carols and hymns.

Royce Mann returns to the role of Tiny Tim this year. Additionally, Atlanta's rich diversity is reflected in the casting as Neal A. Ghant returns as Bob Cratchit, Je Nie Flemming reprises her role as Mrs. Cratchit and Bernardine Mitchell is back in the dual roles of Mrs. Dilber and Mrs. Fezziwig.

A Christmas Carol, 2-2-2

The cast features 23 local actors (six are children) including two actors new to the production this season: Sinatra Onyewuchi (Dick/Ensemble) and Jordan Shoulberg (Want/Matchgirl/Ensemble). ([Biographical information on the cast and creative team members may be found in the attached fact sheet.](#))

Members of the artistic team that will bring this classic tale to life on stage are D. Martyn Bookwalter, set designer; Mariann Verheyen, costume designer; Diane Ferry Williams, lighting designer; Clay Benning, sound designer; and Michael Fauss, music director and player/conductor.

Performances are Nov. 27 – Dec. 24, 2008 on the Alliance Stage:

Friday, Nov. 27 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, Nov. 28 at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 29 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. (Opening Night)
Friday, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 5 at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 6 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 10 at 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 11 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 12 at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 13 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 17 at 7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 18 at 8 p.m.
Saturday, Dec. 19 at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m.
Sunday, Dec. 20 at 2:30 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 21 at 7 p.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 22 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 23 at 2:30 p.m. and 7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 24 at 2:30 p.m.

Opening/Media Night is Dec. 3 at 7 p.m. The Sunday, Dec. 13 show at 2:30 p.m. will be Audio Described for the visually impaired. The Dec. 17 show at 7 p.m. will be Sign Interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Tickets are \$25 - \$60 and are available at the Woodruff Arts Center Box Office by calling 404.733.5000 or online at www.alliancetheatre.org. Discount rates for groups of 10 or more are available by calling 404.733.4690. Discount rates are also available for members of the military, seniors and students. The Alliance Theatre is located at the Woodruff Arts Center, corner of Peachtree and 15th Street, in Midtown Atlanta.

***A Christmas Carol*, 3-3-3**

Family Nights

Make your experience at *A Christmas Carol* even more memorable!

Join us for Family Nights where choirs sing holiday favorites in the Galleria beginning at 6:15 p.m., prior to the 7 p.m. weeknight performance on Dec. 10, 17, 21, 22, and 23. Beginning as low as \$160, Family Night gift packages include two adult and two child tickets, pre-paid parking at the Woodruff Arts Center and a commemorative holiday family photo. Additional tickets beyond the four may be purchased at a reduced rate. Family Night packages are available for purchase now – Dec. 17.

2009 Christmas House

Don't miss another Alliance Theatre holiday tradition.

Tour sumptuously appointed rooms created by Atlanta's top designers in this beautiful home located at 1795 W. Wesley Road in Atlanta. Ticket prices: adults - \$20; children 12-18 - \$10. The Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles Christmas House benefits the important work of the Alliance Children's Theatre.

Pre-show Choir Performances

Atlanta area choirs will sing in the Main Galleria of the Memorial Arts building at the Woodruff Arts Center prior to performances of *A Christmas Carol* on Dec. 3, 10, 17, 21, 22 and 23 at 7 p.m. The choirs will begin singing at 6:15 p.m.

***A Christmas Carol* is sponsored by TARGET.**

Additional Sponsors: *A Christmas Carol* is sponsored by Delta Air Lines – Official Airline of the Alliance Theatre; Marriott Residence Inn – Official Hotel of the Alliance Theatre; and The Home Depot – Set Construction Sponsor of the Alliance Theatre.

Production of *A Christmas Carol* is made possible with grants from the City of Atlanta Office of Cultural Affairs, the Fulton County Arts Council, the Georgia Council for the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts.

FOR ELECTRONIC IMAGES OF THIS PRODUCTION, PLEASE CONTACT:

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Now in its 41st season, Atlanta's nationally acclaimed Alliance Theatre, **recipient of the 2007 Regional Theatre Tony Award®**, is the leading professional resident theatre of the Southeast, creating the powerful experience of shared theatre for diverse people on two stages for youth and adult audiences. Under the leadership of Artistic Director Susan V. Booth, the Alliance Theatre is **a national theatre with a local address**, reaching out annually to almost 200,000 patrons and members of the community. Known for its high artistic standards and national role in creating significant theatrical works, the Alliance launched three Tony Award-

winning hits to Broadway: Alice Walker's *The Color Purple*, Elton John and Tim Rice's *Aida* and Alfred Uhry's *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. And, in a rare event for a regional theatre, it originated the national tour of the Tony Award-winning Broadway musical *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. The theatre has premiered 60 works including adaptations of Carson McCullers' *The Heart is a Lonely Hunter* and Pearl Cleage's *Blues for an Alabama Sky*. Further evidence of the Alliance's commitment to new work is found in its nationally recognized Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition, a cutting-edge program introducing student playwrights to professional networks while producing the world premiere of the winning student's work. The Alliance Theatre also offers extensive education and outreach programs such as the Institute for Educators and the Collision Project for high school students. The Alliance continuously brings Atlanta the finest talent and finest art—proving once again that the Alliance is where great theatre lives. 404.733.4650 or www.alliancetheatre.org

The Alliance Theatre is a division of the Woodruff Arts Center in Atlanta, Georgia, which also includes the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra, High Museum of Art, Young Audiences and the 14th Street Playhouse.