



## Resource Centre for the Arts Visual Guide / Social Story



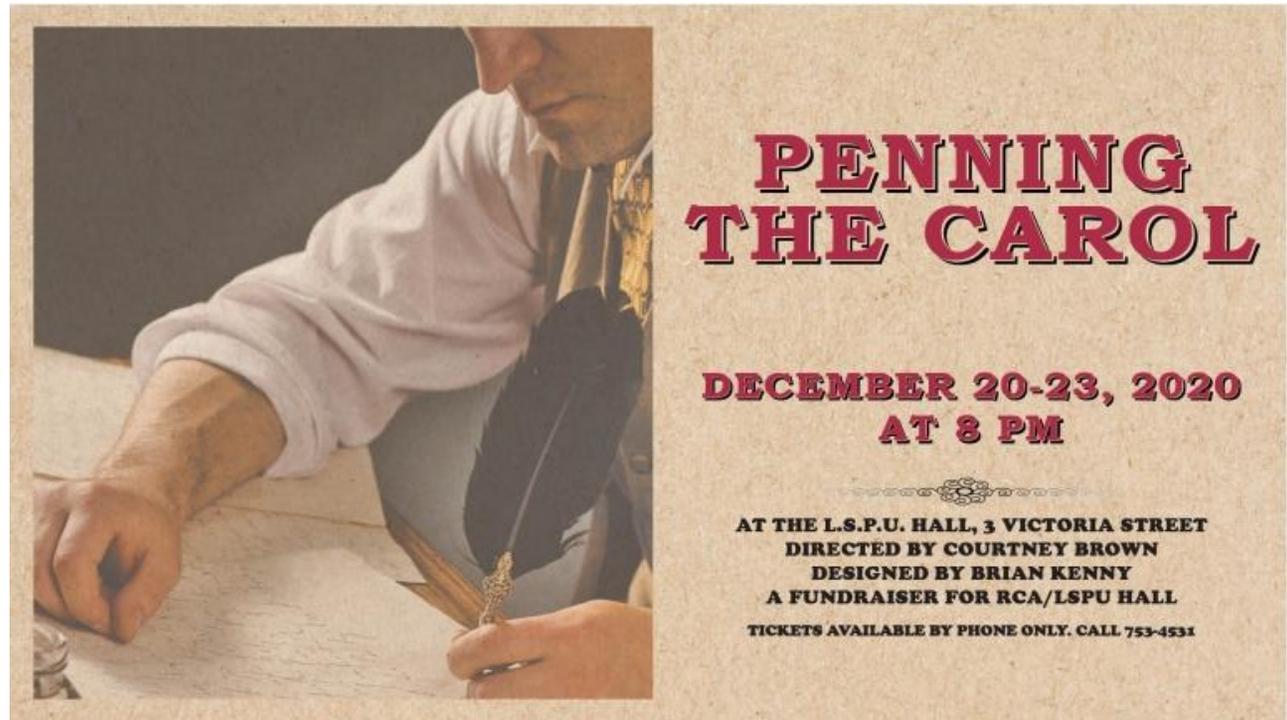
For:  
**Penning the Carol**

Showing at the  
**LSPU Hall  
Main Stage**

**December 20 – 23 2020, 8:00 pm**

**-MATINEE-  
December 23, 2:00 pm\***

\*matinee will be a Relaxed Performance



(Poster design is based on an original design by Gerry Porter.)

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## PENNING THE CAROL

Showing December 20-23, 2020 at 8 pm  
Relaxed Performance December 23 at 2 pm



Written and performed by **Aiden Flynn**, *Penning the Carol* is in its 18th year of production and is a solo retelling of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. The play supposes that Scrooge and the accompanying cast of characters are created in a session of intense writing and storytelling on Christmas Eve, 1843. *Penning the Carol* is directed by **Courtney Brown** and designed by **Brian Kenny**.

The run time for this show is approximately 75 minutes, and there will be no intermission.



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**Aiden Flynn** is an actor, director, writer, producer living in St. John's, NL. Recent appearances at the LSPU Hall include **The Father** (dir Courtney Brown), **Poison** (dir Charlie Tomlison) **Fun Home** (Best Kind Productions) and **The Weir** (Team Broken Earth), and other recent appearances include **Three Days of Rain** (Sweetline Theatre), **A Steady Rain** (Rabbittown Theatre), and **The Pillowman** (Rabbitown Theatre) at the Barbara Barrett Theatre, Arts and Culture Centre St. John's. Aiden was the founder of Rabbittown Theatre Company and co-founder of New World Theatre (renamed Perchance Theatre). He is the director of the provincial Arts and Culture Centre network in St. John's, Gander, Grand Falls, Corner Brook, Stephenville, and Labrador City. A good portion of Aiden's 25-year career as a theatre professional has been spent working at the LSPU Hall, and he is very thankful for this and any opportunity to appear on this stage and to work with staff and crew.

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**Courtney Brown** is a director and actor from Musgravetown, NL. She is also the Artistic Director of her brand-new theatre company, 30 for 60. Courtney has worked with Mindless Theatrics, The National Arts Centre, Soulpepper, Artistic Fraud of Newfoundland, New World Theatre Project, Sheep No Wool Theatre Company, c2c theatre, Rabbittown Theatre Company, Resource Centre for the Arts Theatre Company, newfoundlandartistx, Rising Tide Theatre, Groundwater Productions, Red Sky Performance and Project Humanity. She is also an Artistic Associate with Mindless Theatrics. Courtney holds a BFA (Honours) in Theatre (Acting) from York University.

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**Brian Kenny** is a designer for theatre from Mt. Pearl and is a graduate from The National Theatre School of Canada, The Banff Centre for the Arts, and Sheridan College and is a co-founder of Mindless Theatrics. Recent selected credits include: Seal Slippers: A Hall Family Panto, Dedication [RCA Theatre Company], Between Breaths, The Colony of Unrequited Dreams [Artistic Fraud of Newfoundland], No Change In The Weather [Terra Bruce], Come From Away in concert [Mirvish Productions], The Rocky Horror Show, Billy Elliott, Little Shop of Horrors [The Stratford Festival], Tibb's Eve, Chapel Arm [Mindless Theatrics], Marry Poppins [The Grand Theatre, London], Once, Mamma Mia [Theatre St. John's], Brian is a member of the board of directors for RCA and is a member of the Associated Designers of Canada.



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***Penning the Carol's Design***

The set is a small wooden writing desk and chair on a rug. The desk contains a candle, quill and ink, a wine chalice, and a silver platter. (Pictured right).

The show imagines that Dickens (Aiden Flynn) writes the story in one long continuous session from dusk to dawn. Designer Brian Kenny uses light and sound to bring the audience to different locations on Scrooge's journey from flickering fireplaces, shadowy streets and empty house and the cold counting house, to blooming parties and warm, romantic scapes from days gone by. Throughout the show there will be the chime of several clocks to mark the several "staves" of the script by acknowledging another hour has passed for both Dickens and Scrooge. Each time this happens we return from the imaginative world of *The Carol* to the late-night writing desk of Dickens himself.

Each character of *The Carol* is introduced under a box of light. Dickens creates each character in that moment. Brian has designed a unique lighting devise for the three ghosts; Christmas past is haloed in bright warm light, Christmas present casts a giant shadow on the wall behind Dickens, Christmas yet to come is a shadowy figure showing only a bare hand through the darkness to lead the way.





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**Relaxed Performances** are designed to welcome audience members who will benefit from a more relaxed sensory experience and casual environment, including (but not limited to) patrons with an Autism Spectrum condition, a sensory processing disorder, or a learning disability. There is a more relaxed approach to noise and movement within the theatre space; some minor production changes may be made to reduce the intensity of light, sound, and other technical effects.

During the 2020 run of *Penning the Carol*, there will be a Relaxed Performance on **Wednesday December 23 at 2 pm**. During this show, the house lights will be left on at half and technical cues like sound and lighting will set to lower levels.





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### Welcome back to the LSPU Hall!

There have been a lot of changes to the way we move around our space since last March, and we have been working hard to make it as safe and comfortable as possible for all patrons. Please have a read through our new building regulations:

**Patrons are required to wear a mask** when moving through the building as per NL Public Health guidelines. Masks can only be removed once you are seated in the theatre.

**Please respect physical distancing** and stay 6 feet apart from others while moving around the building. Hand sanitizing stations will be available throughout the building and will be clearly marked.

**House opens 1 hour prior to showtime.** You will be given an arrival time based on the row you are sitting in. Please arrive in that window to avoid congestion in the lobby.

**No latecomers will be admitted to the theatre.** Please arrive with enough time to be seated before the show.



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**At this time, all ticket sales will be booked over the phone during Box Office hours (Monday to Friday, 12pm-5pm).** There will be no in person or online sales until further notice. Your tickets will be emailed to you at the time of purchase as a **mobile/e-ticket** or print at home ticket.

There will be **complimentary hot chocolate** and optional Bailey's for all patrons attending Penning the Carol. You may pick up your drinks directly before heading into the Main Stage. We ask that Patrons **do not linger in the Second Space.**

**We ask you to leave the Hall one row at a time once the event is over,** starting with the front row to maintain social distancing. Patrons on the right side of the theatre will leave through the side stage exit. Patrons on the left side will either leave through the main exit, or through the balcony exit, or down the lift. Staff/ushers will be on hand to help guide patrons to the appropriate exit.

We ask that you leave the building as soon as the show is over – loitering is not permitted.





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We are so excited to welcome Patrons back to the LSPU Hall with this beloved Hall-iday classic. Thank you for choosing Resource Centre for the Art for your night out!

Please visit our website at <http://lspuhall.ca/venue-rental/accessibility> where you will find more information about our accessibility features and a link to our updated Hall Visual Guide that outlines changes in the space with regards to COVID-19.

If you have any questions about anything you have seen in this guide, please contact our Communications Manager at [communications@lspuhall.ca](mailto:communications@lspuhall.ca).

We hope you enjoy the show & hope you see you again soon!

**LSPU Hall Box Office**  
3 Victoria Street  
St. John's, NL A1C 3V2  
Phone: (709) 753-4531 ext 200

**Resource Centre for the Arts Theatre Company (RCAT)**  
223-233 Duckworth Street, Suite 207  
St. John's, NL A1C 1G8  
Phone: (709) 753-4537

