

THE BEST OF TIMES

8th graders share their favorite part of doing their first non-musical play.

"I loved seeing everyone's acting and seeing how natural they were on stage. It was a really cool experience for me."
-Lincoln Wicke (8)

"I felt like it was really fun watching how everyone grew from start to finish and watching Lincoln dance."
-Collin Bohling (8)

"It was SO fun! I got close with so many people, and it was just like we were one big happy family. I will definitely miss it."
-Annie Erwin (8)

"I LOVED being Mrs. Dilber. She was a really energetic character, and I got to channel my own energy into her while being myself."
-Riley Bearss (8)

hardly a HUMBUG

Drama club presents "A Dickens' Christmas Carol" for the fall play. Story by

Sadie Weborg & Ella Engel

Oh, A Christmas Carol... The classic and well loved novel originally written by Charles Dickens, published in 1843. According to a quick internet search, as of January 2023, there were currently 51 different Christmas Carol films and countless stage productions. Taking Dickens only six weeks to write, the story has thrived over more than 175 years. Now it was Drake's turn to try it on for size.

When it came time to audition, to some students surprise, the auditorium was filled. "I was fully expecting less people," Bailey Noall (8) said.

Obviously, even after the difficult tasks of casting the show, there was still stress involved. "I think designing it was the hardest part," said art director Mrs. Rachel Dunn. "We just wanted to get the time period right and figure out what the mood would be that we would have exactly within Scrooge's

house and the environment," Dunn said.

After countless hours of rehearsal, the opening night arrived, and even then, the stress was running high. "The thing I will always remember is that we did not get one run through before opening without having to stop. I could not sleep the night before. I was up at 3:00 AM, finally got up at 4:00, and was at school at 6:00," said director Mrs. Laurel Wicke. "Then the cast performed an incredibly rich and entertaining show. It was really stunning."

Yes, there were little hiccups throughout the run, like a tombstone left on stage, or a forgotten zipper, but every single person involved, in front or behind the curtain gave their best effort. "The show was so well done," said 8th grade AP Ms. Sara Maddock. "I know it took so many people and so much hard work to make it great, and it didn't disappoint!"

photo by susan@k12wa



HE SAID

Caleb Hubbard (6)



"The best part was probably the people. They were really supportive and nice."

"I liked my character because it was fun being an older brother. He was a nice character to play."

What was the best part about Christmas Carol?

SHE SAID

Payton Ninesling (7)



"Background painting was the most fun for me, because I got to spend time with friends, and I love painting."

"I knew I was going to miss stage crew afterwards, because I made some fun memories."

WOAH! Charlie Bonham-Flemming (7), playing Scrooge, falls back into his chair as his dead business partner, Marley, played by Collin Bohling (8), enters the stage. "I feel that becoming the character while still being yourself is the most important element of successful acting," Bonham-Flemming said. **HEARTILY SORRY.** Moments after returning from visiting his son's grave, Jack Hubbard (8), playing Bob Cratchit, cries as his wife played by Jori Ward (8) comforts him. "I wasn't actually sad, but I had to pretend to be that way," Ward said.



NEPHEW! On opening night, Tag Edwards (8), as Scrooge, gives his answer to his nephew played by Oliver Nations (7) when asked to join Fred's Christmas party. Edwards, who originally auditioned for Fred and had played more peppy characters in the past, was surprised with his role. "I was totally shocked when I got Scrooge, but at the same time I was scared because this was a huge role," Edwards said.



A FLASH FROM THE PAST. Clinging to Second Spirit, played by Lincoln Wicke (8), Briella Kiefer (8) and Tracen Allred (6), as Want and Ignorance, look to Scrooge, played by Charlie Bonham-Flemming (7), for help. "I did not really care that there was an audience with their eyes on me. I was just doing my best to portray the part well," Allred said. This classic retelling of Dicken's classic story required a high level of commitment and maturity from these young actors.



JOY TO THE WORLD! The carolers, including Elle Thomas (7), Cadence Donovan (7), Ellie Denno (7), Briella Kiefer (8), Boston Patton (7), and Mikayla Scott (6) are shouted at by Scrooge, played by Tag Edwards (8). "I liked being a caroler more than I thought I would honestly," said Donovan.



LEVELATIONS These actors reveal the best bits about their role in the show.



"I thought that it was really fun that I got to be in all four of the shows, instead of having a break, like all of the leads. I liked my bonnet because it was fun to wear."
- Ellie Denno (7)



"I really liked being Tiny Tim because it was fun to be lifted into the air, on someone's back, but it took Jack and Aven a bit to get used to carrying me onto the stage."
- Porter Schaff (6)