

*Steel City Shakespeare Center  
and the West View Hub present*

*Charles  
Dickens'* **A  
CHRISTMAS  
CAROL**

*A Solo Performance by*

**BOB COLBERT**



Friday, December 8 at 7 pm  
Saturday, December 9 at 7 pm  
Sunday, December 10 at 2 pm







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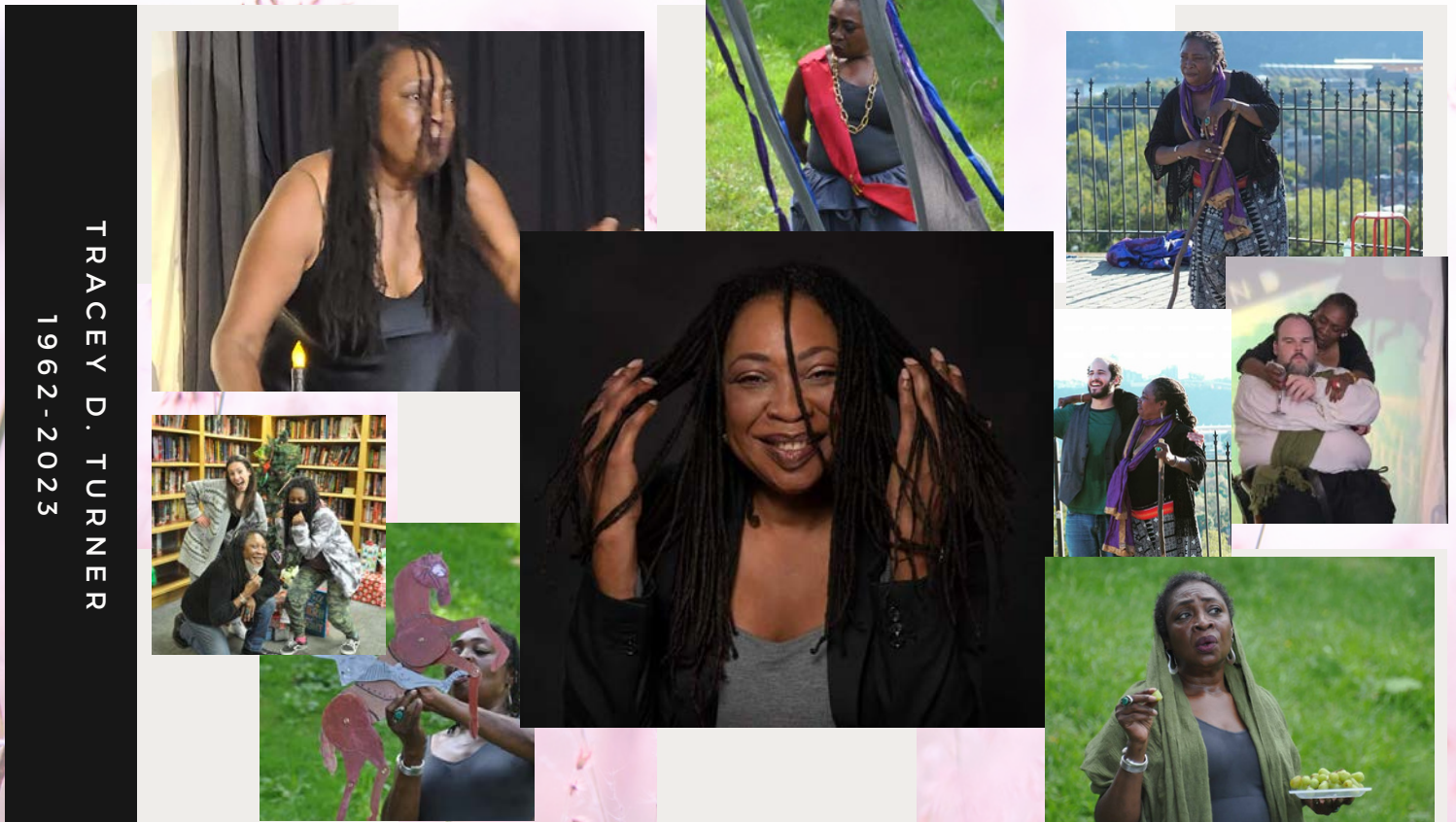
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*Steel City Shakespeare Center's  
10th Anniversary Season is  
dedicated in loving memory  
to our dear friend  
Tracey D. Turner*



*As Performer*

- *Old Sinbad in The Seven Voyages of Sinbad (2017)*
- *Duke Frederick/Duke Senior in As You Like It (2020)*
- *Scrooge in A Christmas Carol: A Radio Drama (2020)*
- *Cerimon/Dionyza/Bawd in Pericles (2021)*
- *Lady Macbeth in Macbeth (2022)*

*As Director*

- *Martin Luther King Jr.'s Letter From the Birmingham Jail (2018)*
- *The Twelve Dates of Christmas (2021)*
- *Dracula (2022)*





Bob Colbert  
Charles Dickens

**Bob Colbert** (he/him)

*Previously with SCSC: As actor: Will Shakespeare in *The Heavy Gait of Night*, Pistol/French King/others in *Henry V*, Falstaff/Dr. Caius in *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, Simonides/Lysimachus/Cleon in *Pericles*, Polonius/Horatio in *Hamlet**

*As director: A Midsummer Night's Dream (upcoming), *The Merry Wives of Windsor**

Bob is thrilled to be returning to Steel City Shakespeare Center. Bob has also performed with such Pittsburgh theater companies as Poor Yorick's Players, Pittsburgh Shakespeare in the Parks, and Gemini Children's Theatre. At Gemini, Bob performs in both their mainstage shows and their field trip/school outreach program and recently served as a teaching artist for the SCSC Youth Academy's Summer Camp. Enjoy the show!







Charles Dickens  
Author



**Charles Dickens** was born February 7, 1812, in Portsmouth, Hampshire, England, the second of eight children to John and Elizabeth Dickens. As a young boy, he was a voracious reader, considering *Robinson Crusoe*, *Gil Blas*, and the English translations of the *1001 Nights* tales some of his favorite stories.

When young Charles was 12 years old, his idyllic childhood was upended when his father, who worked as a Navy pay officer, was sentenced to debtors prison and was joined there by his wife and eight children, as was common practice at the time. This period of time, marked by harsh child labor experiences and often harsh and unstable living conditions, would inspire many of the great works he would go on to write in adulthood.

By age 20, he was drawn to the theater and briefly pursued a career as an actor before landing work as a journalist with publications such as *Monthly Magazine* and *The Mirror of Parliament*.



His success as a journalist gave him access to many of London's elite social circles and led to friendships with many of the most popular novelists of the time, particularly William Harrison Ainsworth, who would serve as a mentor to Dickens in his early career. In 1836, publisher Chapman and Hall contracted Dickens to write a monthly serial that would become his first novel, *The Pickwick Papers*.

In that same year, Dickens married Catherine Thomson Hogarth, and they would go on to raise ten children. Dickens would go on to become the most celebrated British writer of the Victorian era with works including *Oliver Twist*, *Great Expectations*, *David Copperfield*, and *Nicholas Nickleby* among many others.

His novella *A Christmas Carol* was published in 1843, written as a commentary on the harsh economic conditions of working-class Londoners and also partly inspired by a visit to Pittsburgh in 1842. This story is among his most treasured and has been translated and adapted countless times for film and theater performances.

Dickens passed away June 9, 1870, in Higham, Kent, England, after suffering a series of strokes and was laid to rest in the Poets Corner at Westminster Abbey in London.







# SCSC 2023 ARTIST CORE

Jeffrey Chips - Founder and Artistic Director

Catherine Aceto

Christine McGrath

Catherine Baird

Ella Mizera

Bob Colbert

Hannah Ruth Moss

Will Guffey

Samwise Riley

Lexie Hellinger

Lauren Scheller-Wolf

Tracey D. Turner

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS



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West View HUB

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Hannah Moss

Ella Mizera

Ben Robbins



Northmont United Presbyterian Church

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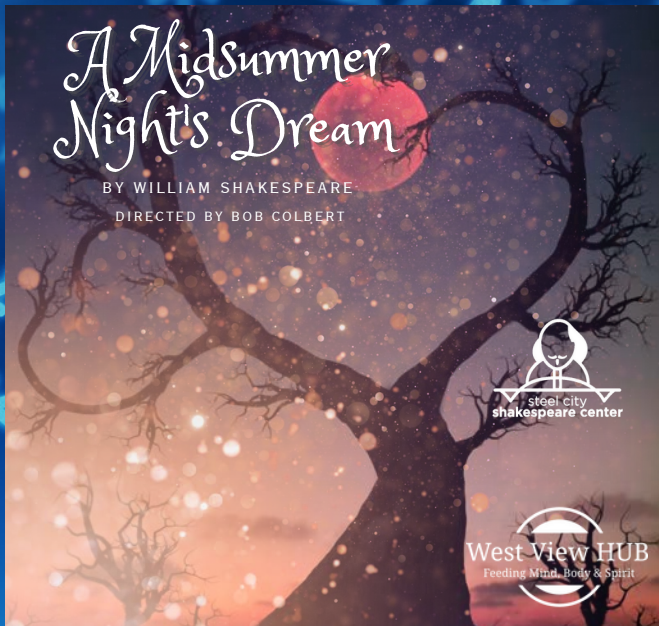
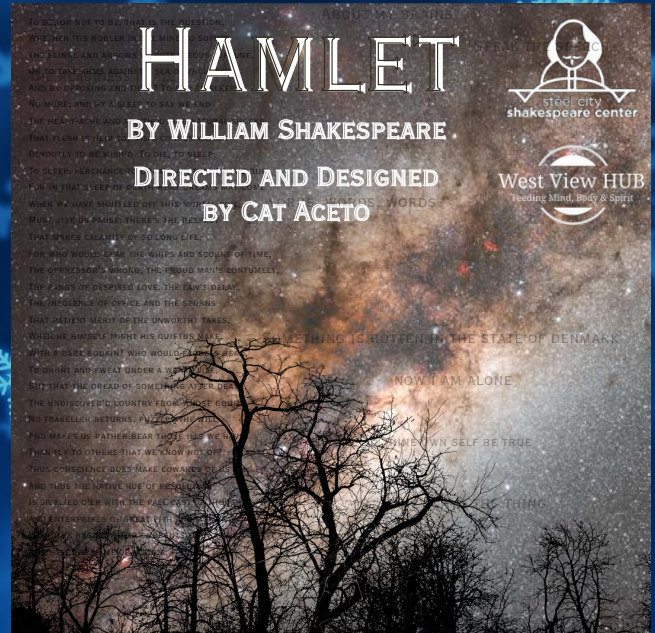




# COMING SOON...

## IN 2024

**Hamlet**  
by William Shakespeare  
Directed by Cat Aceto  
March 2024



**A Midsummer Night's Dream**  
by William Shakespeare  
Directed by Bob Colbert  
Summer 2024

### SCSC YOUTH ACADEMY

**Winter Session:**  
**Grades K-12**  
**January-February 2024**

SCSC Youth Academy  
Winter Session

Grades K-12  
Mondays and Fridays  
in January

Now is the Winter of our  
Youth's content

All programs are free to all participants  
Please visit our website for more information





# West View HUB

Feeding Mind, Body & Spirit



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[www.westviewhub.org](http://www.westviewhub.org)

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A Place to Connect

