



News Release

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Teatro Vivo celebrates holiday season with cultural Dickens twist

AUSTIN, Texas - Teatro Vivo returns with the 2012 production of *Cuento Navideño: Bah Humbug in the Barrio*, a bilingual holiday comedy, at the Long Center for the Performing Arts Dec. 6 -16.

This year's production brings back beloved characters from last year's production and offers new surprises! Written and directed by Rupert Reyes and inspired by Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, *Cuento Navideño* (A Christmas Story) takes place on Christmas Eve in a modern, urban Latino community.

Evangelina Cruz is the Latina Ebenezer Scrooge! She is a selfish businesswoman who has lost touch with her culture, her family and connection to her community. An unexpected visit from the ghost of her former business partner, the once equally-greedy Teodora, sets Evangelina on a journey to look closely at her choices.

This festive bilingual comedy infuses Latino culture, Spanish language, and Latino holiday traditions in a show to be enjoyed by the whole Austin *familia*.

Each performance will have surprise stars representing local community leaders, elected officials, celebrities and guest artists who will have a small (but fun) roles in the play.

Performances are Dec. 6-16 2012; Thursday-Saturday at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2 p.m. in the Rollins Theatre at the Long Center for the Performing Arts. Admission is \$20, \$15 for students and seniors. For tickets and information visit their [official website](#).

These performances are brought to you in part by the Redd Carpet Fund, providing artists and arts organizations access to the world-class facilities at the Long Center for the Performing Arts. This project is funded and supported in part by the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division.

This project is also funded and supported in part by a grant from the Texas Commission on the Arts and the City of Austin through the Cultural Arts Division, believing an investment in the Arts is an investment in Austin's future; visit www.NowPlayingAustin.com.

About the Playwright:

Cuento Navideño playwright Rupert Reyes is a cofounder and the artistic director of Teatro Vivo. Rupert's playwright credits include *Petra's Pecado*, *Petra's Cuento*, *Petra's Sueño*, *Vecinos*, *Two Souls and a Promise* and *Crossing the Rio*. *Vecinos* was nominated for a B. Iden Payne Award for Best Original Script in 2008. Austin Community College named him as one of 25 Most Influential Hispanics in Austin, and the University of Texas presented him the Community Leadership Award.

This year Rupert received the Emma S. Barrientos Mexican American Cultural Center Raza Award for Artistic Partnership, and the City of Austin Partners in the Arts and Humanities Award.

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