



Christmas SHORTS ON-LINE

Ho! Ho! Ho! Cheer abounds in this one-act holiday delight made up of short scenes and monologues, carefully adapted for virtual theatre and socially-distanced actors!

As Mrs. Claus prepares for Christmas by getting Santa's lucky boxer shorts ready, a series of Christmas-themed scenes unfold, from a sports segment featuring the 845th annual Reindeer Games, to a holiday quiz show featuring Scrooge, Tiny Tim, and the Ghost of Christmas Future. Mrs. Claus once again comes to the rescue when the elves rip Santa's gift bag, and a segment from North Pole News features touching moments highlighting the spirit of the season.

AUDITIONS: Ages 7+ November 7 – 10, 2020

Auditions may be completed virtually or in-person.

VIRTUAL AUDITIONS – two options:

1. Video yourself performing all the audition material and email it to info@xclaiminc.com. Auditioners who submit material should send a separate email containing photos of the audition form to make sure the video was received. These auditioners will be called by the director for a phone interview.
2. Email info@xclaiminc.com or call/text 270-935-3497 to schedule a video-conference call (gmail account required) to perform your audition material online virtually with the director.

IN-PERSON AUDITIONS

Auditioners should schedule a time slot for an audition at the **Xclaim! Center** – email info@xclaiminc.com or call 270-935-3497.

In-Person Audition Dates:

Saturday, Nov. 7 from 3:00p – 5:00p

Sunday, Nov. 8 from 3:00p – 5:00p

Monday, Nov. 9 from 5:00p – 7:00p

All auditions must be completed by Tuesday, Nov. 10.

AUDITION FORMAT Auditioners will be interviewed by director (parents should attend) and perform a variety short audition lines.

CASTING: The director will choose one cast for this production. **2020 Fall Performance Academy students get extra consideration**, but casting is based on **BEHAVIOR, LACK OF CONFLICTS**, and ability to best perform audition material. Race may be a factor in casting *Christmas Rap*. Gender will be a factor for a couple of roles.

CAST READ-THROUGH: Friday, November 13 at 5:30p
All cast members must attend read-through rehearsal. Pick-up at 7:00p.

REHEARSAL PERIOD: February 8 – March 18
2-4 days per week, based on the role. Please see the audition form for possible rehearsal times on each day of the week. Rehearsals will be in-person onstage in very small groups or duos. Masks are required.

REHEARSAL CONFLICTS: Each short will rehearse twice per week. You can only perform shorts for which you can rehearse. If cast, conflicts on your audition form are accepted, but later conflicts will NOT be accepted and WILL result in re-casting your role. **NO conflicts allowed during TECH/DRESS and FILMING.**

TECH/DRESS REHEARSALS AND FILMING: December 7-17, 2020
TBD based on cast conflicts at auditions. Three days of dress rehearsals, four days of filming and two more days of re-takes as needed.

BACKSTAGE & TECHNICAL POSITIONS: We are accepting submissions for technical positions in stage management, costuming, make-up, videography, lighting and sound techs. Interested parties should register for an audition slot.

CONTACT INFO: For more information, email: info@xclaiminc.com or visit the website **www.xclaiminc.com**.
Director: Christopher H. Cherry – (270) 935-3497

EXPECTATIONS, FEES & EXPENSES:
\$100 Production Fee – (*\$10 script, \$45 activity, \$45 production needs-royalties/licensing/props/scenery*).
Payable at once or in 2 installments (Nov. 13 and 29).
Assistance with personal costumes (*purchase garments or fabrics*)
Personal undergarments/dressing, footwear and make-up
A minimum of 5 volunteer hours for production needs
A cast viewing party will be arranged during the process.
Adhere to all COVID-19 Policies and Guidelines

LIST OF CHRISTMAS SHORTS

ANNOUNCER Narrates and introduces shorts

Santa's Christmas Shorts

MRS. CLAUS North Pole matriarch

SANTA the big guy himself!

Sweet glimpse at the relationship between Santa and Mrs. Claus, and a hilarious glance at Santa's Christmas shorts!

Letter to Santa, Part One

VICTORIA young letter writer

Precocious over-achiever preemptively confesses to shortcomings to set up request for Christmas gifts.

Reindeer Games

BOBSLED COSTAS hosts the Reindeer Games

FROSTBITE SNOWLFAKE flashy color analyst

FALINE ice-dancing reindeer who no business on the ice

SUMMER IRONY sunny sideline reporter

SCOOT reindeer curler

CHARLA another

FAYE sassy sideline injury reporter

Short glimpse of the annual Reindeer Games as shown by various reporters

Kringle, Krumple, and Kramer (injury lawyers)

LAWYER specializes in Christmas-related injuries

VICTIM ONE client who is definitely not an actor (wink, wink)

VICTIM TWO another

VICTIM THREE another

Christmas injury lawyer advertisement featuring broken hip, allergy sufferer and lost eye!

Hey, Mom!

KIDS six or more who call out for Mom

Cacophonous montage of children vying for Mom's attention at Christmas.

The Elf Who Ruined Christmas

PARCIVAL PLUMSKI lead elf

BROWNIE TWINKLETON another elf; bored

SPRINKLE GINGERSMITH another

FOLLY FLAKESTER another

MRS. CLAUS North Pole Matriarch

Clumsy elf rips Santa's magic Christmas bag!

Letter to Santa, Part Two

JOHN young letter writer

Young teen downplays less-than-great behavior to request tech and gaming gifts.

Christmas Quiz

HOPE WINTERS host of the *Christmas Quiz* game show

SCROOGE quiz show contestant

TINY TIM another

GHOST OF CHRISTMAS

YET TO COME silent quiz show contestant

A parody of the Jeopardy! game show with a modern Christmas twist!

Crazy Hank's Used Christmas Trees

CRAZY HANK used Christmas tree salesman

An advertisement for Crazy Hank's Used Christmas Trees – hint: they are less than desirable purchases!

Letter to Santa, Part Three

JULIE young letter writer

A middle-school girl deals with her feelings about the drama created with a friend and her guilt.

Christmas Rap

RAPPERS two or more Christmas rappers

Hip-hop version of The Night Before Christmas

North Pole News

HAL anchor for North Pole News

GAL another

PRICE business reporter

MISS HAP witness to sleigh accident

JOY NPN reporter

VIRGINIA young letter writer struggles to find Christmas spirit

CAROLERS small group of singers

JILL Jane's friend

JANE Jill's friend

MOM badly overbakes her cookies

DAUGHTER loves spending time with Mom

STORE CLERK offers a little Christmas gift

YOUNG GIRL wants to buy a special gift for her dad

HOMELESS PERSON suffers from the cold

TRACY a helpful soul

Nightly news report from the North Pole, reminds us to share Christmas spirit.

Be prepared to perform most of these audition sides!

MRS. CLAUS: (*Beams.*) Merry Christmas, dear! It's almost time! I've been busy. And I've just finished something very important. Close your eyes. (*grabs a pair of fuzzy, cuddly, and Christmassy boxer shorts and holds them up.*) Okay, open your eyes! Your lucky Christmas shorts! I've gotten them ready for your big trip.

VICTORIA: (*Letter to Santa. Clears her throat.*) To the Most Honorable Father Christmas. It is my esteemed pleasure to be able to reach out to you with this video, and I hope it finds you well. I can only imagine you are very busy this time of year, what with all your last-minute preparations and so forth. Still, I hope you may find time in your schedule to consider this Christmas request.

HOPE: (*Quiz show host*) Hello, and Merry Christmas! Welcome to a special edition of Christmas Quiz! Today we have some special celebrity guests playing with us. Our first guest is our youngest competitor ever... please welcome Tiny Tim! Tell us, Tim, what do you want most for Christmas this year?

TINY TIM: Well, Hope, if I could have one wish for Christmas this year, I would wish for God to bless us, every one!

SCROOGE: Bah! Every idiot who goes about with "Merry Christmas" on his lips should be boiled in his own pudding and buried with a stake of holly through his heart. He really should!

FLAKESTER: (*An elf. Holds a large bag.*) I found it! Here it is! Santa's magic Christmas bag! (*Accidentally rips the bag and gasps in shock.*) Uh-oh. Oh no! I ripped the magic Christmas bag! Tonight's Christmas Eve! What are we going to do?! (*Thinks.*) How is Santa going to carry all the—Oh no! It's Mrs. Claus! (*Hides the bag.*)

BOBSLED: (*Announcer.*) Welcome back to the 845th annual Snowlympiad! I'm Bobsled Costas, your host for this year's Reindeer Games. Tonight's primetime broadcast begins with the medal round of Ice Dancing. Let's watch as our reindeer athletes are just now taking the ice to warm up for the main event!

FROSTBITE: (*Reporter bursting with excitement.*) That's right! It's the Reindeer Games! And this is tonight's color analyst, the one and only—Frostbite Snowflake! And coming to the ice is the ever lovely Faline. (*Gasps.*) Oh! Just look at her! She's been competing for several years and is finally at the peak of performance.

SCOOT/CHARLA: (*speaks with Scandinavian accent-Norway or Sweden*) Yah, it's amazing to bring home the gold medal, like, seriously amazing. (*Holds up hooved feet.*) Ya see... our hooves aren't all that suited fer sliding rocks on da ice. It's super slippery, doncha know. Reindeer don't got much business being on da ice at all, if ya know what I mean.

JOHN: (*Letter to Santa.*) Hey, Big Guy! Merry Christmas! Did you feed the reindeer? Are they ready for the big trip? ... Anyway, I'm gonna lay this out straight for you. I haven't been on the best behavior this year, and I'm probably getting close to hitting your naughty list. I know. But I'm trying and, man, a lump of coal would really kill the Christmas spirit, if you know what I mean. Totally lame. I'm really sorry for everything! I'll try even harder next year.

LAWYER: (*To AUDIENCE.*) Has Christmas been hard on you this year? Have you been injured by one of those fake Christmas trees collapsing in its stand? Has your grandmother been run over by a reindeer? If so, you may be entitled to a cash settlement. Give us a call today at 1-800-XMAS-PAIN to get the holiday pain and suffering money you deserve!

CRAZY HANK: Merry Christmas, y'all! I'm Crazy Hank of Crazy Hank's Used Christmas Trees, where the deals on used Christmas trees are kuh-razy! Our used tree lots are so full of inventory this Christmas, we're practically giving them away! Just look at this 2019 model. It may look brown and dry, but just spruce it up with a little green spray paint and be sure not to shake it too much, and it's practically like new! And for the low, low, no-haggle price of five dollars, it could be yours!