# *A Christmas Carol*- Get to Know the Author

## Pre-Show Activity

### **Drawing Key Moments**

*Goals:*

* *Students will research the author(s) of the play*
* *Students will understand the impact an author’s work can have*

*NOTE: This activity has been aligned with TEKS and* [*Universal Design for Learning*](https://udlguidelines.cast.org/)*. TEKS can be found at the end of this document.*

### **Materials Needed**

* Access to quick research tools (books, tablets, internet)
* Paper or notebook for notes

### **Introduction- Meet the Creators**

* Using Alley Re-Sourced, introduce students to the authors and playwrights
  + Charles Dickens

### **Research**

* + - Students will choose one of the authors to study in more depth. Encourage students to find the following information:
    - One interesting fact about the playwright’s life
    - One major play they wrote
    - One theme or idea common in their work

*Notes for UDL alignment: To provide multiple ways of expressing understanding, consider letting students act or physicalize their responses. You can also utilize Think-Pair-Share to provide additional solo and partner processing time.*

#### **Sharing and Feedback**

* Each student or group shares their facts aloud with the class in a quick round-robin format.
* Discuss briefly how knowing about the playwright helps understand their plays better.

*Notes for UDL alignment: Encourage students to share in pairs, small groups, or through written reflection to offer varied ways of participating.*

## TEKS

Fine Arts- Theatre, Middle School 6-8

5(D) explore career and vocational opportunities in theatre.

High School Levels I-IV

Level I- 1(H) define the roles of and appreciate the collaborative relationships between all artistic partners such as playwrights, composers, directors, actors, designers, technicians, and audience;

4(A)/4(B) relate, analyze, and evaluate historical and cultural influences on theatre;

English Language Arts and Reading, Middle School 6-8

(9) Author's purpose and craft: listening, speaking, reading, writing, and thinking using multiple texts. The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances.

12(D) identify and gather relevant information from a variety of sources

12(F) synthesize information from a variety of sources;

English Language Arts and Reading, High School- English I-IV

(8) The student uses critical inquiry to analyze the authors' choices and how they influence and communicate meaning within a variety of texts. The student analyzes and applies author's craft purposefully in order to develop his or her own products and performances.

11(E) locate relevant sources; (F) synthesize information from a variety of sources;