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**CHICAGO BULLS STAR SCOTTIE PIPPEN JOINS 7-YEAR-OLD LA'REN KIMBLE ON STAGE IN A CHRISTMAS CAROL  
IN THE GOODMAN'S 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP WITH MAKE-A-WISH ILLINOIS**

**\*\*\*THIS ONE-NIGHT-ONLY EVENT TAKES PLACE ON FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14 AT 8PM\*\*\***

(Chicago, IL) Goodman Theatre makes a slam dunk! Chicago Bulls superstar **Scottie Pippen** and 7-year-old **La'Ren Kimble**, a young beneficiary of Make-A-Wish Illinois, will together appear in "walk-on roles" in *A Christmas Carol* on Friday, December 14 at 8pm. This event marks the sixth year that the Goodman and Make-A-Wish Illinois have joined forces to brighten the life of child battling a life-threatening medical condition. Pippen and Kimble don costumes tailored especially for them and make their "Goodman Theatre debut" in select scenes of the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary production of Chicago's favorite holiday tradition directed by Steve Scott. Tickets (\$69 - \$84; subject to change) to Scottie Pippen/Make-A-Wish Night on December 14 at 8pm are available by calling the Box Office 312.443.3800 or visiting [GoodmanTheatre.org](http://GoodmanTheatre.org). BMO Harris Bank is the Major Corporate Sponsor, and Aon and KPMG LLP are Corporate Sponsor Partners. FTD Group, Inc. is the Lead Corporate Sponsor and Chapman and Cutler is an Event Sponsor of Community Day (December 29).

"I'm excited to step on a different stage of sorts, and look forward to being part of what has been a Chicago holiday tradition for so many years," said **Scottie Pippen**, Special Advisor to the President and C.O.O. of the Chicago Bulls. "But what's most important for me is being able to work alongside my co-star, La'Ren, and Make-A-Wish Illinois. I hear La'Ren is an aspiring actress, and I'll do my best to make her and the cast of *A Christmas Carol* proud."

Seven-year-old **La'Ren Kimble** (Rockford), diagnosed with a Wilm's Tumor in 2007, loves being in the limelight and dreams about acting—whether on stage or film someday. "For a wish child, the opportunity to appear onstage in *A Christmas Carol* is a wonderful moment that allows them to experience the joy of the holiday season with the entire community," said Stephanie Springs, Chief Executive Officer of Make-A-Wish Illinois. "Together with the Goodman and Chicago Bulls, we are creating an amazing experience that will help brighten her spirits."

**Scottie Pippen**, Special Advisor to the President and C.O.O., joined the Chicago Bulls organization's front office on July 15, 2010. A 17-year NBA veteran, Pippen was inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame on August 13, 2010. He was a member of six NBA championship teams with the Chicago Bulls (1991-93, 1996-98), was named one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History and is one of four players to have his jersey retired by the Chicago Bulls. Pippen was a seven-time NBA All-Star (1990, 1992-97) and was NBA All-Star MVP in 1994. He was a three-time All-NBA first team honoree and was voted to the NBA All-Defensive first team eight times (1992-99). Pippen won two Olympic gold medals as a member of the 1992 USA Basketball "Dream Team" and returned to help lead the USA to gold at the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta. Born in Hamburg, Ark., Pippen graduated from the University of Central Arkansas.

Past child and celebrity participants in the Goodman and Make-A-Wish Illinois partnership include Emily Beazley, now age 10 (Chicago) together with Chicago White Sox Manager Robin Ventura in 2011; Charles Finch, now age 12 (Markham) together with Chicago Blackhawks Ambassador and Hall of Famer Bobby Hull in 2010; Maria Stavropoulos, now age 16 (Frankfort) together with NBC-5's LeeAnn Trotter in 2009; Emma

Cohen, now age 16 (Evanston), together with WGN-9's Dean Richards in 2008; and Michael Urbanik, now age 20 (Orland Park) also with Richards in 2007.

Now in its 27th year, Make-A-Wish Illinois continues to grant the wishes of children with life-threatening medical conditions to enrich their lives with hope, strength and joy. Since 1985, Make-A-Wish has granted more than 11,000 wishes to children across Illinois. For more information call 312.602.WISH or visit [www.wishes.org](http://www.wishes.org).

For 35 years, *A Christmas Carol* at Goodman Theatre, "the crown jewel of the holiday season" (*Daily Herald*), has hosted nine directors, eight Scrooges, 31 Tiny Tims and nearly 20,000 "Bah, Humbug!"s. Based on Charles Dickens' classic 1843 novella, *A Christmas Carol* is the unforgettable tale of the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge, Chicago star Larry Yando, a wealthy business man with no family and a disdain for holiday cheer and the poor in Victorian London. One Christmas, Scrooge is visited by four ghosts who take him on an incredible journey that offers him a new perspective on everything from his dusty past to his dark future, and presents him with an opportunity to sympathize with his fellow man and rediscover life and love.

In conjunction with the 35<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the production, the Goodman has launched the *A Christmas Carol* Endowment to ensure the legacy of *A Christmas Carol* for generations to come. Donations of all sizes (starting at \$35) will provide permanent resources to allow others to delight in the magic of *A Christmas Carol* year after year. Donors will also have access to special opportunities around *A Christmas Carol*, including a sneak peek at rehearsal and an exclusive tea party with the cast. More than \$100,000 has already been raised for the Endowment since its kick-off in late July, and the campaign will continue throughout the run of the production. For more information, visit [GoodmanTheatre.org/Christmas](http://GoodmanTheatre.org/Christmas).