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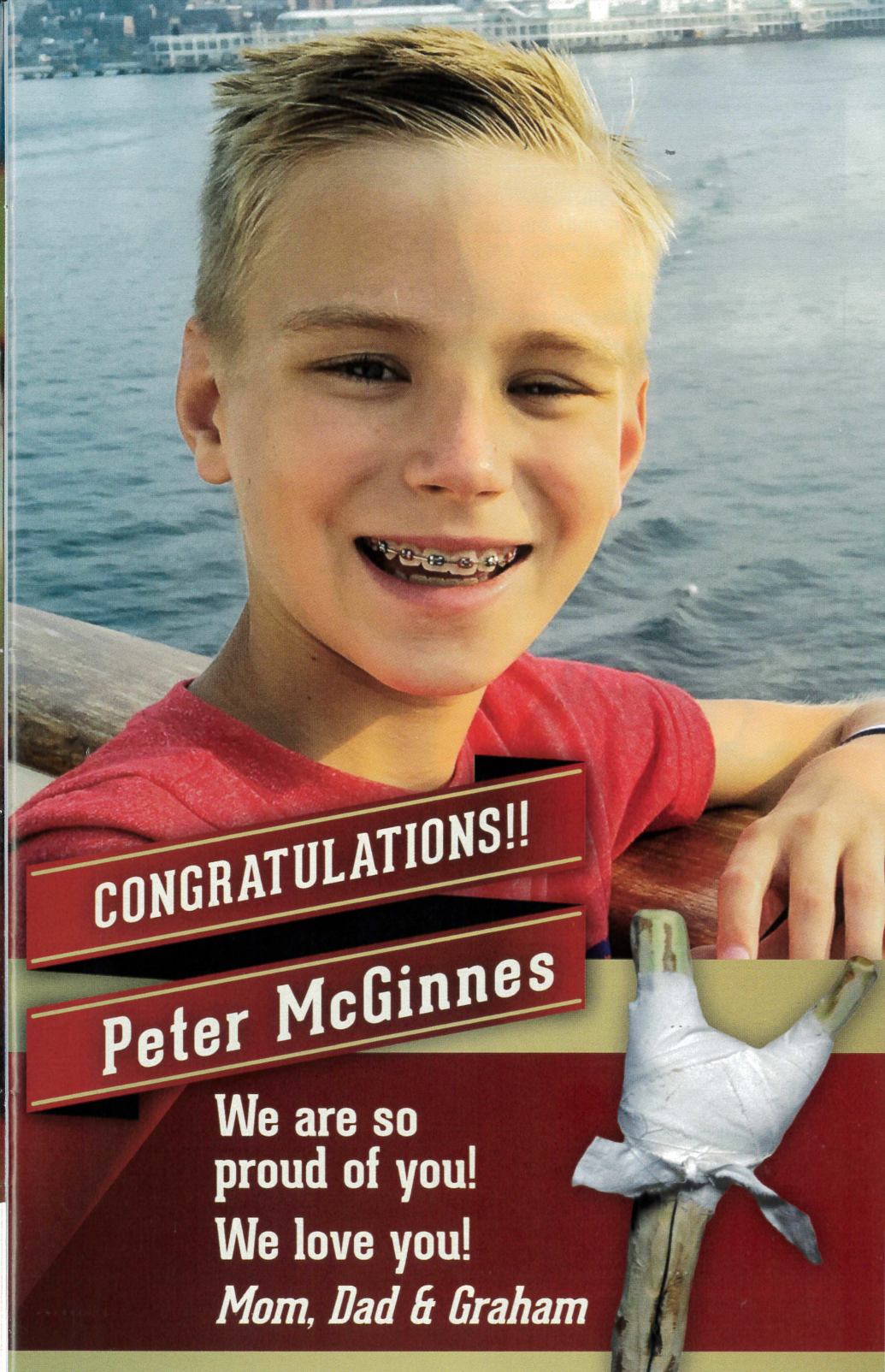
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A Christmas Carol

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Charles Dickens,
A Christmas Carol



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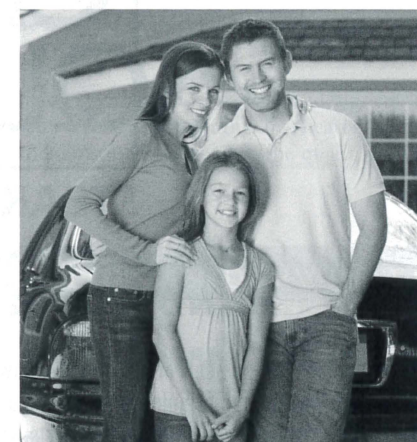
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley ...

Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members – Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch – and a core of charter members rented the empty carriage house belonging to Akron's Senator Charles Dick. Their goal was to present a wide spectrum of plays: classics, dramas, comedies, new works – even opera – with casting open to anyone who fit a part.

The women chose a carnival as their fundraiser to start paying the rent. Despite a drenching downpour, they raised \$60. They named their space "Weathervane" after the rooster on the barn's cupola. After cleaning their new home, scrounging for seats, a curtain and a coffee pot, Weathervane opened its first season. During that summer of 1935, the group presented seven fully costumed and staged plays. In 1936, Muriel MacLachlan, with the other founders, offered classes to children and adults, beginning a tradition that has become today's Education Department. In 1938, a Women's Board was formed to offer volunteer financial assistance. This group is now the Volunteer Guild.

The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1474 Copley Road and renovated it for a theater with seating capacity of 125. The all-volunteer organization hired its first employee, Nora Scott, as custodian/ticket manager. Actual management of the Playhouse was handled by the Operating Board, which reported to the Board of Trustees. Because directors were becoming scarce, the Board hired Bob Belfance as full-time Manager/Director. He held the position from 1961-1969 and from 1974-1992. During the Copley Road days, plays were presented six days a week. Because of their popularity, not everyone who wanted to see a show could be accommodated. A new home was planned.

During the 1960s, the membership's plans came together in June 1970 with the opening of *Dark of the Moon* here on Weathervane Lane. Longtime friend and founder Grace Hower Crawford died in 1971, remembering the Playhouse in her will. Her money enabled the Board to pare down the mortgage and set up an Endowment Fund. The last mortgage payment was made in 1974 through a contribution of the Women's Board. Three major additions followed: these included first-floor restrooms, classrooms, a costume shop, fly gallery and elevator. The former scene shop became the John L. Dietz Theater/Classroom in 2005 and the lobby project was completed in 2009 in time for the opening of the 75th season. Weathervane is proud to celebrate its 83rd season.

MISSION STATEMENT

Weathervane Playhouse produces high-quality live theater with volunteer artists, designers, and technicians under professional direction, provides education and training in theater arts and appreciation, and engages and entertains its audience and constituents to enrich the quality of life in Northeast Ohio.

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2017-2018 Volunteer Guild

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PLEASE:

- Turn OFF your cell phone because even silenced calls and text messages interfere with the sound system backstage, on stage and throughout the theater.
- Be sure your cell phone is turned off again after intermission when appropriate.
- If you are using an Assistive Listening headset, please turn off your hearing aids to avoid feedback.
- NO PHOTOS or VIDEO inside the theater or recording of the show in any way.
- Food and drinks are permitted in the auditorium, but please consume them quietly out of respect to your fellow audience members and performers.

FOR YOUR SAFETY:

- Please remain seated until the house lights have come up at Intermission and after the curtain call.
- NOTE: in case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance.

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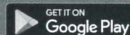
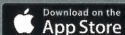


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Weathervane Playhouse
 2017/2018



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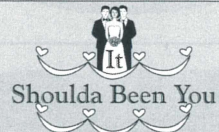
Musical Drama
 Jan. 11 - 21, 2018



Drama
 Feb. 1 - 11, 2018



Drama
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Musical
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Drama
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Musical
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New Works
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THANKS TO OUR HARD-WORKING VOLUNTEERS

Many thanks to the dozens of volunteers who have recently contributed time and talents.

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CAST LIST

Scrooge	JEFF BIXBY
Beadle / Marley / Ensemble	THOMAS BAUMGARDNER
Mr. Smythe / Scrooge's Father / Christmas Future	LOGAN SOLAND
Gracie Smythe	LUCY GEISER
Bob Cratchit	ROBBIE RUSH
Mrs. Cratchit	GWENIVERE TAYLOR
Martha Cratchit	ALEXA BIRD
Tiny Tim	PETER MCGINNES
Poulterer / Ensemble	MABEL MINELLI JENNINGS
Fred Anderson / Ensemble	LOGAN CHAPMAN
Joanna	ELENA KOLONIAR /JUILIAN "JULES" DUNLAP
Christmas Present / Scrooge's Mother	TONYA DUUS
Christmas Past / Sally Anderson / Ensemble	ABIGAIL LYMAN
Mrs. Mops / Ensemble	CHLOE BRIGHT
Scrooge At 8 / Ensemble	KYLE MCFALLS
Scrooge At 18 / Sandwichboard Man	ELEK KITCHEN
Mr. Hawkins	JACKSON BIRD
Scrooge At 12 / Ensemble	CONNOR MCFALLS
Fan At 10 / Blind Old Hag	PRUDENCE STEPHENSON
Fezziwig	JASEN J. SMITH
Young Marley / Ensemble	BEN WILLMOTT
Emily	MEGAN DIULIS
Mrs. Fezziwig	EMILY CONTI
Ghost / Ensemble	JAHLIL UNDERWOOD
Ghost / Ensemble	LILY KINSINGER
Ghost / Ensemble	JADE MONGOLD
Ghost / Ensemble	JUILIAN "JULES" DUNLAP
Ensemble	ALEXA BIRD, MAKENNA BIRD, AMIRA CASSADY, PHOEBE DIX, ELLA KENDRICK, ANNIE MCILROY, JADE MONGOLD, JUDE PEPE

SETTING

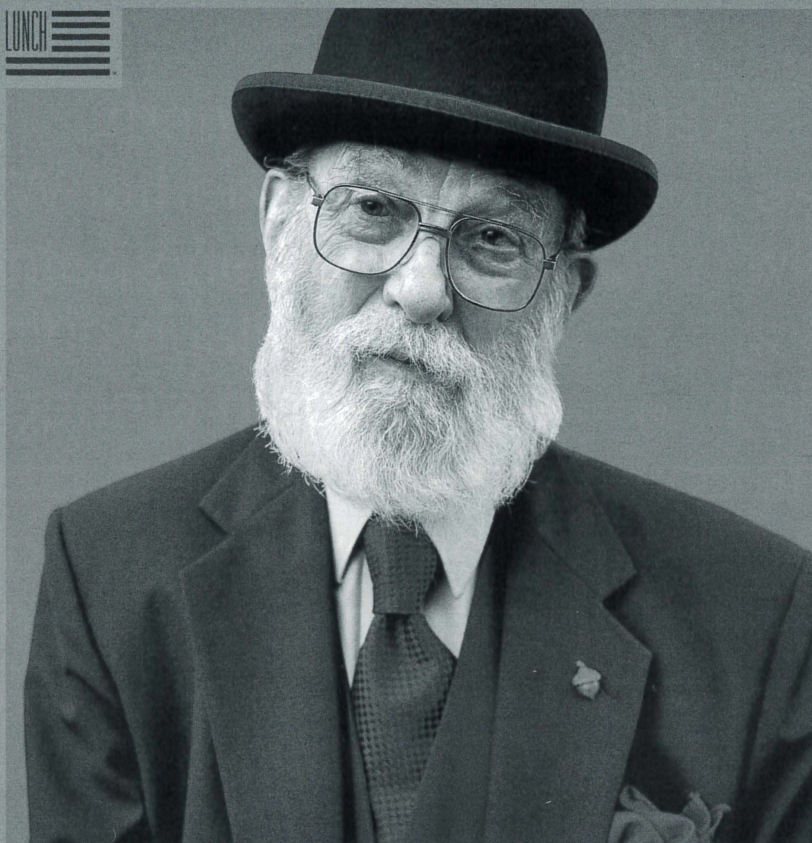
List of Scene Locations

- I. The Royal Exchange.
- II. The Streets of London.
- III. Scrooge's Parlor.
- IV. Scrooge's Bedroom. Night.
- V. The Law Courts.
- VI. The Factory.
- VII. Mr. Fezziwig's Bank.
- VIII. Scrooge and Marley, Ltd.

There will be one fifteen minute intermission

- IX. A Starry Night.
- X. The Streets of London.
- XI. St. Paul's Graveyard.
- XII. Scrooge's Bedroom. Christmas Morning.
- XIII. The Streets of London.

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Mister Fezziwig's Annual Christmas Ball

Marley's Visitation

Fezziwig's Annual Christmas Ball

Will Tiny Tim Live?

Hear the Bells

Jolly Good Time

Charity Men

Nothing to Do With Me

Link By Link

Lights of Long Ago (Part 1)

Old Bailey

Lights of Long Ago (Part 2)

A Place Called Home (Part 1)

Fezziwig's Annual Christmas Ball

A Place Called Home

Money Machine Montage

Abundance and Charity

Christmas Together

Will Tiny Tim Live?

Dancing On Your Grave

Yesterday, Tomorrow & Today

Final

God Bless Us Everyone (Bows)

ORCHESTRA

John Ebner, Piano

John Chambers, Bass

Mick Shaull, Drums

Kris Oprisch, Rehearsal Pianist

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THOMAS BAUMGARDNER (Beadle/Marley/Undertaker) trained with Clifford Billions at The University of Akron, and with Todd Ranney during performances at The College

of Wooster. Tom is a husband, father and grandfather, but always a singer. He has sung in multiple venues including our very own Weathervane Playhouse, and has sung many styles including classic opera, comic opera, classical choir, dinner theater, and musical variety shows. He heartily endorses trying anything once (let reason be your guide) and has sung Mozart to Motown with equal gusto.



ALEXA BIRD (Martha Cratchit/Ensemble) is excited to be making her stage debut at Weathervane Playhouse in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*.

Alexa is a fifth-grader at Sharon Elementary School. She has been seen previously as Orrville Community Theater as Ms. Hooty Toot In *Cinderella*, a workhouse child in *Oliver Twist*, as Witch Zelda in *The Princess and the Pea*, and as Goldilocks in *Once Upon a Crime: The Trial of Goldilocks*. Alexa would like to thank Weathervane Playhouse for this opportunity and her family for their love and support in letting her pursue her dreams.



JACKSON BIRD (Mr. Hawkins/Ensemble) is happy to be returning to the Weathervane stage. Jackson is a seventh-grader at Highland Middle School. Jackson has previously appeared

at Weathervane as an Ishmaelite in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and Jem Finch in *To Kill a Mockingbird*. He has also played Scar in *The Lion King*, Og the Leprechaun in *Finian's Rainbow*, and as Oliver Twist in *Oliver Twist*. Jackson enjoys volunteering at Weathervane both on stage and behind the scenes, and hopes to have many more opportunities. He is thankful for this wonderful theater and the opportunities it provides and his family for their unending love and support.



MAKENNA BIRD (Ensemble) is thrilled to be making her stage debut at Weathervane Playhouse. She is a freshman at Highland High School and has been seen in various productions

at Highland schools and Orrville Community Theater. Makenna has appeared in *Fame Jr.* and *Finian's Rainbow*. She played Cinderella in *Cinderella*, the Primrose Seller in *The Princess and the Pauper*, one of the workhouse children in *Oliver Twist*, and Kitty Bennet in *Pride and Prejudice*. Her favorite role to date has been the exercise-obsessed Cow in *Once Upon a Crime: The Trial of Goldilocks*. Makenna would like to thank Weathervane Playhouse for this opportunity and her family for their loving and unending support.



JEFF BIXBY (Scrooge) is thrilled to be portraying his favorite character, Scrooge, for the second time at Weathervane! Previously, he has appeared in Weathervane productions

as Polonius in *Hamlet*, Father Jacob in the last 5 productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Lord Astor in *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Reverend Humphries in *See How They Run*, and he won a Marquee Award for his performance as the Barber in *Man of La Mancha*. Jeff's first production at Weathervane was in 1973 when he appeared as Snoopy in *You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Jeff also has received two Chanticleer Awards for stage managing best productions of *Hair* and *Hairspray*. He also stage managed *Xanadu*, *Annie*, and *The Taming of the Shrew*. Jeff taught elementary school for Cincinnati Public Schools for 30 years before retiring and returning to Medina, where he grew up.



CHLOE BRIGHT (Mrs. Mops/Ensemble) is happy to be playing Mrs. Mops in this production of *Christmas Carol: The Musical*. She is a seventh-grader at Revere Middle School. In addition to

acting, she has been playing the violin for 4 years. She has previously been in a production of *Annie* as the maid and *Fame Jr.* as Mrs. Sheinkopf. Currently, she studies acting at the Houde School of Acting in Cleveland Heights.



AMIRA CASSADY (Ensemble) is thrilled to return to Weathervane Playhouse in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. Her previous acting experience includes a role as a child/chorus in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at the Chagrin Valley Little Theatre and her theatrical debut as Oretta Oompa Loopma in Weathervane's 2016 Emerging Artist Series production of *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*. Amira is nine-year-old from Miami Beach, Florida and a third-grader at Old Trail School in Bath, Ohio.



LOGAN CHAPMAN (Fred Anderson) is excited to return to the Weathervane stage. He has performed in many shows here including *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka* (Candy Man) and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Judas). He also has served on many backstage crews and was the Assistant Stage Manager for *To Kill a Mockingbird* last spring. Logan is a freshman at the Akron School for the Arts at Firestone CLC. There, he is in the band program where he plays the trombone in the marching band, concert band and jazz band. He is also a member of the Symphonic Choir and recently appeared in the theater department's production of *Memphis: The Musical*. In August he was awarded the Erin Dillon Youth Recognition Award for his dedication to Weathervane Playhouse.



EMILY CONTI (Mrs. Fezziwig) is sixteen and a sophomore at Our Lady of the Elms High School. She is excited to be playing Mrs. Fezziwig in her first production at Weathervane. She has recently performed in the Our Lady of the Elms spring production of *Peter Pan and Wendy* as John Darling. Emily would like to thank her whole family for supporting her in everything she does and Mrs. Darkow for helping her along the way.



MEGAN DIULIS (Emily) is delighted to make her debut at Weathervane Playhouse. She is a middle school student and aspires to be an actor and musician. She takes voice lessons with Susan Wallin. She has previously played the role of Kathy Selden in *Singin' in the Rain* and the Caterpillar in *Alice in Wonderland* at Our Lady of the Elms. Additionally, she trained as a gymnast for 7 years.

She enjoys competing in martial arts. She would like to thank her family for "supporting her interests and the staff at Weathervane for giving her this opportunity."



PHOEBE DIX (Ensemble) is extremely proud to be joining the cast of *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. Phoebe lives in West Akron with her parents, sister, brother, and two dogs, and attends Old Trail School. She is in the seventh grade, and her favorite subjects are history, math, science, Latin, and English. Phoebe has been taking classes at Weathervane since she was three, and has had the opportunity to perform in several school plays and performances. Phoebe attends Adirondack Camp for 8 weeks each summer, during which time she has had the opportunity to act in, and work in production of, short films. Phoebe also enjoys sailing, tennis, and the outdoors. Phoebe would like to thank Mom, Dad, Paige, and Gordy for their love and support. She also thanks director Richard Morris, Jr. for allowing her to enjoy this amazing experience!



JULIAN "JULES" DUNLAP (Joanna/Ghost/Ensemble) is thrilled to make her Weathervane stage debut in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. Jules will be playing the roles of Jonathon, a Ghost, and in the ensemble. Jules sang in the choir and performed skits at Medina Christian Academy, where she is an Honor Roll student. Jules was also elected Treasurer of the Knights Leadership Council last year. Jules received the inspiration and push from older sister Joirdan Dunlap, a former Weathervane actress, who graced the Weathervane stage in many plays including *Madeline* and *The Children of Eden*. Jules hopes to pick up the reins where her big sister left off, and continue to make her family very proud.



TONYA DUUS (Christmas Present/Scrooge's Mother) most recently appeared as Julia/Florrie/Susan in Agatha Christie's *Butter in a Lordly Dish* at Coach House Theatre, and Mrs. Potiphar/Brother Gad in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre. This version of *A Christmas Carol* is her favorite musical and she has appeared in it twice before as the Ghost of Christmas Past at

CVLT. In her spare time, she likes to lift heavy things, make costumes, bake, and is mother to a precocious 10-year-old daughter, and wife to a roadie. "Much love to Prudence & David."



LUCY JANE GEISER (Grace Smythe) is a freshman at Jackson High School in Jackson Township. She is thrilled to be returning to Weathervane for *A Christmas Carol*. Previous favorite roles include Rafiki in *The Lion King, Jr.*, Flounder in *The Little Mermaid*, Donkey in *Shrek The Musical, Jr.*, Glinda in *The Wizard of Oz*, Portia in *Cinderella*, and Nibs in Weathervane's 2015 production of *Peter Pan*. Lucy recently enjoyed a summer of musical theatre at Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan, where she played Spot and Naomi in *Sunday in the Park with George*. Lucy is blessed to be a cancer survivor and is active in the music programs at her church and school. She would like to thank her family and the *Christmas Carol* cast and crew for giving her the opportunity to be in this show.



MABEL MINELLI JENNINGS (Poulter) most recently performed in the Ensemble of *Disney's The Little Mermaid* at Weathervane and *Cinderella* at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where she is excited to be returning as a 5th grader this year. Mabel spent the first 6 years of her life traveling around the world and then landed in NYC for her first year of school. She spent 6-weeks that summer training with *On Broadway PATP* theater program where she was a featured performer. Mabel is thrilled to be a part of her second production at Weathervane Playhouse. "THANK YOU, to the production team for this wonderful opportunity."



ELLA KENDRICK (Ensemble) has enjoyed watching many Weathervane productions, and is so happy to be performing in her first one on the stage! She is a 4th grade vocal student at Miller South School for the Visual & Performing arts and is looking forward to her performance opportunities there. In her free time, she enjoys playing with her dog and hamster, watching television, and belting out *Hamilton* tunes.



LILY KINSINGER (Ensemble) is extremely proud to be a part of the cast of *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. This is her first production at Weathervane. Lily attended Akron's Shaw JCC Camp this summer, and was cast as the Villainous Cat in the 2-day production of *Honk, Jr.* Lily is a sixth-grader at Copley-Fairlawn Middle School. She loves to sing, dance, and act. Lily hopes her future includes many opportunities for acting and performing.



ELEK KITCHEN (Scrooge at 18) is a junior in the Vocal Program at Firestone CLC in Akron, where he is a part of the Men's Chorus & Symphonic Choir. He ran with the cross-country team this past fall. His Weathervane Playhouse credits include *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* (2015), *Peter Pan*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Elek is a part the All Americans Show Choir Team at Heid's ETC School of Musical Arts. He has appeared on the Firestone High School Stage in *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *In the Heights*, and *Memphis* as well as the Akron All-City Musical *Mary Poppins*. Elek would like to wish all newbies and everyone who is a part of the show the "BEST OF LUCK!"



ELENA KOLONIAR (Joanna) is excited to be making her debut performance at Weathervane Playhouse. She has enjoyed her summer workshops at Weathervane and looks forward to learning more. She is a fifth-grade honor roll student at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts. Elena has twice previously performed in *The Nutcracker* at the Ohio Conservatory of Ballet, where she studied for two years. She enjoys being a student of Irish Dance and is learning to play the violin. Elena also loves to spend time with her family and friends.



ABIGAIL LYMAN (Ghost of Christmas Past/Lamplighter/Sally Anderson) is thrilled to return to the Weathervane stage since last being seen as Judah's wife in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Other Weathervane stage credits

include Mrs. Mops in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* and orphan Kate in *Annie*. Abigail has also appeared in *Shrek The Musical* as Young Fiona in the All-City Musical at the Akron Civic Theatre. Abigail is currently a sophomore at Firestone High School/Akron School for the Arts, where she continues to pursue her love for Musical Theater. Abigail most recently appeared in the ensembles of *Memphis, The Musical* and *In the Heights*. Abigail is an alumna of Miller South School for the Visual & Performing Arts where she played a couple of her favorite roles as Ti Moune in *Once on This Island* and Pippi in *Pippi Longstocking*. Outside of school, Abigail studies voice, acting and dance with West Side Vocal Academy and Weathervane Playhouse. Abigail is an ETC All-American competitive show choir performer with Heid's School for the Musical Arts. You may spot Abigail at community events as a princess/party entertainer with Part of Their World, LLC. During the summer Abigail studies with Broadway Artists Alliance in New York City for summer intensives in acting, voice and dance. With little time to spare, Abigail enjoys traveling, photography and hanging out with her dog, Matilda. She would like to thank you for your continued support of community theater at Weathervane Playhouse and wishes "you and yours a very Merry Christmas!"



CONNOR McFALLS (Scrooge at Age 12) was last seen on this stage playing brother Gad in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He was also a part of the 2015 Weathervane's production of *A Christmas Carol*, and is happy to join the cast for a second time. This summer Connor participated in a "Disney Sings Workshop," and performed at Walt Disney World Resorts in Orlando, Florida. Other credits include *Memphis: The Musical* (Perry Como/Frank Dyer), *Once on This Island* (Daniel), *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* (Bill), and *Pippi Longstocking the Family Musical* (Constable Cling). Connor is a freshman in the Vocal Program at Firestone High School/ Akron School for the Arts. He is a member of men's and symphonic choirs, and an active theatre student. Connor also enjoys his time with Spotlight School for the Arts Show Choir, "Spotlight Singers," playing electric bass, and travel baseball.



KYLE McFALLS (Scrooge at Age 8) is excited to return to the Weathervane stage for the second time. Kyle is a 5th grader at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where he studies vocal and double bass. He sang with the children's choir in last year's production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He also appeared in Miller South's production of *Rodgers & Hammerstein's Cinderella*. Kyle is a proud member of Spotlight School for the Arts show choir, "Spotlight Singers," and loves reading and playing baseball in his free time.



PETER MCGINNIS (Tiny Tim) is excited to play the role of Tiny Tim in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. Though he has taken acting classes for several years, this is his first production. In addition to acting and singing, Peter enjoys track and tennis. He is in the 6th grade at Old Trail School.



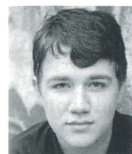
ANNIE McILROY (Ensemble) is making her theater debut in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. An 8th grader at Immaculate Heart of Mary, Annie has studied theater in acting classes at Weathervane and Musical Theater as an elective at IHM. Dance classes as a child and many years of competition in Destination Imagination have prepared Annie for this opportunity. Her grandma also took her year after year to see *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Weathervane which undoubtedly sparked her interest in theater. Annie is an awesome big sister to Sean, Erin and Charlie. Her younger siblings, parents and grandma are super proud of her ambition, talent and courage. She looks forward to starting high school at Walsh next fall.



JADE MONGOLD (Ensemble) is a sophomore at Woodridge High School, and this is her first show at Weathervane Playhouse. At her school, Jade was in *High School for Dummies*, *Godspell*, and assistant directed *David and Lisa*. She has also participated in Community Theater at ANTIC Inc., where she was in *Night of the Living Dead* and *Tom Sawyer*. Weathervane has been a whole new exciting experience, and meeting people of all ages has been amazing. Jade hopes to do more shows at Weathervane, because this experience has been one of the best so far.



JUDE PEPE (Ensemble) is an 8th grade student at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts. He is delighted to return to the Weathervane stage after performing in Weathervane's 2013 production of *Music Man*. In addition to theatre, Jude is also a moderator and/or administrator on several Minecraft servers, and runs on the cross country team. He spends his free time holding the refrigerator door open and looking for answers.



ROBBIE RUSH (Bob Cratchit) marks his fourth performance at Weathervane Playhouse. He has been seen before playing the role of Mikey (*Hairspray*) and under the sea in *Disney's The Little Mermaid*. He has also been in the past five shows performed at Woodridge High School. His favorite roles among these were Lysander (*A Midsummer's Night Dream*) and Judas (*Godspell: Revival*). He would like to thank all of his friends and family who came out to the show to support him. Robbie would like to dedicate his performance to McKenzie Crouse, "Fly high, baby girl."



PRUDENCE STEPHENSON (Young Fan/Blind Old Hag) made her stage debut at 2 years old playing a gnome and has been actively pursuing a theatrical career ever since. *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* marks her 17th stage production. She is a 5th grade drama student at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts and watches too much YouTube. She loves to create – writing, drawing, crafting – and hopes to someday have her own YouTube channel or TV show.



JASEN J. SMITH
(Fezziwig/Undertaker)
See Designer Bio



LOGAN SOLAND (Mr. Smythe) Logan is a Senior at Woodridge High School. His first play was *David & Lisa* at Woodridge, where he played the role of Dr. Alan Swinford. Logan is also a

member of Rhapsody Show Choir, Basketball and E.T.C. and enjoys performing. He would like to thank his parents for their love and support and is looking forward to doing more shows here at Weathervane.



GWENIVERE TAYLOR (Mrs. Cratchit) is a Junior at Cuyahoga Falls High School. She is involved in the drama classes at her school, and has been in such productions as *The One Act Play Festival*, where she was in *Campsite Chaos* as Little Red, and her school production of *Beauty and the Beast*, where she played as Chip. Gwen is also a proud member of Summit Choral Society's Performance Choir, where she has performed for the last seven years.



JAHLIL UNDERWOOD (Ghost/Ensemble) appears in his first production at Weathervane. This past spring, he was in the production of *Godspell* at Woodridge High School, where he is also a member of the concert choir. Jahlil is also a member of the ETC Show Choir. He loves to perform and aspires to be a choreographer in the future.



BEN WILLMOTT (Young Marley/Ensemble) first started acting at the age of eight. When he was a fourth grader, he auditioned for Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, and won admission to study vocal performance. At Miller South, he performed the role of Snow Drop in *The Anthology of Children's Literature*, and he has enjoyed doing the end-of-the-year "Big Shows." As a seventh grader at Miller South he branched out into his school's drama program and played the leading role as Durandarte the Magician in *The King Stag*. Outside of school, he and his schoolmates recently collaborated with local musician/performer Angie Haze for her "Bigger Picture" project, which included the release of a compact disc. Although he has sung on our stage previously, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* marks Ben's 'big performance' debut at Weathervane.



RICHARD MORRIS, JR. (Director/Scenic and Lighting Designer) most recently directed *Leap of Faith* at Karamu Performing Arts Theatre in Cleveland. *A Christmas Carol:*

The Musical will be Richard's directorial debut here at Weathervane Playhouse. Some of his other directorial credits include *Black Nativity*, *Christmas is Commin Uptown*, *The Government Inspector*, *Raisin*, *Dracula*, *It's a Bird...It's a Plane...It's Superman*, *Purlie Victorious*, *The Jungle Book*, *Seussical*, *Willie Wonka*, *Birds of a Feather*, *101 Dalmatians*, *Into the Woods*, *The Aristocats Jr.*, *Goldilocks on Trial*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Xanadu*, *The Trials and Tribulations of Staggerlee Booker T Brown*, and *The Submarine Steetcar*. For 10 years, he was Production Director for the Karamu Arts Summer Camp, where he introduced many teens and young adults to the art of theatrical performance. For the past 19 years he also served as Technical Director/Resident Scenic and Lighting Designer for Karamu Performing Arts Theatre. He has designed over 149 Productions. In 2011 he was the recipient of the National Award for Outstanding Achievements in Scenic Design (National Black Theatre Festival) and was keynote speaker at Alabama State University on "African American In Scenic Design." Mr. Morris has also received the 2001 Actors Guild of Greater Cleveland award for his Scenic/Lighting design for *Riff Raff* and *Treemonisha*. In 2008 he also won *Scene Magazines* "Best Scenic Design" for *Caroline or Change*. He has designed for many theaters in the Northeast Ohio Area, Ensemble Theatre, Dobama, Cleveland Public Theatre, Cuyahoga Community College, Oberlin College Theatre, Firestone Theatre and Jubar Productions, just to name a few. He is a graduate of Kent State University School of Music and Theatre. Last December he joined Weathervane's professional staff as Technical Director/Resident Scenic Designer. Richard is currently working on a New Musical production, *Two Boys from Glenville*, the story of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, the creators of Superman.



JOHN EBNER (Music Director) has worked extensively as a keyboardist, musical director and accompanist for the Carousel Dinner Theatre, Coach House Theatre, Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Players Guild of Canton, Weathervane Playhouse and Western Reserve Playhouse. He retired from teaching music after 33 years. John has had some great opportunities over the years including working with Arthur Fiedler and Paul Williams as well as performing at Cleveland's House of Blues and Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. He has won five Chanticleers and a YACTA Marquee for his work at the Weathervane. He has done commercials with his youngest son, Josh for the Cleveland Cavaliers and won an Addy Award for his work with Josh and members of the cast from Weathervane's *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. He has a Master of Music Degree in Education from The University of Akron and is a member of the American Federation of Musicians and Ohio Music Education Association.



LAUREN SPROWLS (Choreographer) is a graduate of The University of Akron, where she received her B.A. in Dance with a Business Cognate and will receive her M.A. in Arts Administration in May 2018. She has been teaching arts classes for almost 10 years and is currently the Education Director at Weathervane Playhouse. Ms. Sprowls has choreographed a number of pieces that have been performed in the Akron community. This past spring she set an original work in partnership with Elyse Morckel for the Akron School for the Arts dance program at Firestone CLC entitled *W.W.T.D.* in honor of a former classmate who passed away. Most recently she presented a duet, *It's a Man's World* at the Ballet in the City's five-year gala. Lauren has also participated in Akron Children's Hospital *Dancing for the Kids* fundraiser for the past four years collaborating with partners to create original choreography. She is very excited to be choreographing her first production at Weathervane.



TIFFANY BIRD (Stage Manager) is thrilled to be assisting this wonderful production as stage manager. She is an attorney and avid theater goer, who has been active both on and behind stage. She has appeared most recently as Clairee Marmillion in *Steel Magnolias* for Miller Productions. Tiffany has also been onstage in *Oliver Twist* and *The Princess and the Pauper* at Orrville Community Theater and made her directorial debut this spring in *Pride and Prejudice* also at Orrville Community Theater. Tiffany's children are also active both on and off the stage. She would like to thank her family for supporting her in all her crazy endeavors!



CASEY HA (Assistant Stage Manager) is in the ninth grade and home-schooled. He most recently performed as Walter Cunningham, Jr. in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and as Benjamin in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* at Weathervane Playhouse. Other Weathervane credits include: *Roald Dahl's Willy Wonka*, *Peter Pan*, *Honk!*, *Annie*, and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. Casey is an advanced-level tap dancer at the Dance Institute at The University of Akron. He also dances classical ballet, jazz, and ballroom. At The Dance Institute, Casey performed in *The Snow Maiden* and *The Sleeping Beauty: Act II*. He also performed as Michael in the 2016 Verb Ballets Ohio Tour of *Peter Pan* and he danced for NEOS Dance Theatre in *Count: The Legend of Dracula* and *Snow White and the Magic Mirror*. Casey enjoys playing piano, organ, guitar and ukulele. He also loves to draw during his free time. Casey is excited and honored to work with this talented director and cast!



LAURA NIEHAUS (Properties Designer) is ecstatic to be back working at Weathervane having just appeared in *Talking With...*! She was last seen as Eleanor in the Millennial Theatre Project's Production of *Bonnie & Clyde*. Other favorite roles include Miss Stephanie in Weathervane's production of *To Kill A Mockingbird*, Berthe in *Pippin*, Mae in *Bye Bye Birdie*, and Julia in *Lend Me A Tenor*. She also devoted her past summer to stage managing Weathervane's Emerging Artist Series Production of *The Little Mermaid*. Laura believes deeply in the inspiring and rejuvenating

powers of the arts and will always find her way back to the theater. She would like to thank the cast, the crew, and her whole Weathervane family for making this experience memorable and is constantly thankful for all the joy this theater has brought to her life. Lastly, Laura would like to thank her friends and family for their unwavering support and love that get her through all the soaring highs and the anxiety-ridden lows, the late-night talks and early-morning walks, the good times and the bad times—"I love you all."



TOM LIGGETT (Sound Designer) is thrilled to have become an ongoing volunteer here at Weathervane having previously worked behind the scenes in lighting and sound on several productions including lighting designer in *It's Only a Play*. A former musician Tom has performed all around the region on keyboards, guitars and vocals in bands and venues big and small. Now that he has retired from the music scene Tom sees lighting and sound design as a wonderful artistic outlet. He further fueled his interest in live theater, and the room it provides for boundless creativity, while directing his daughters in several musicals during their school years. A graduate of The University of Akron, he spent 10 years working for his alma mater starting in Alumni/Development and then moving into media relations in the department of Sports Information. Tom wants to thank Weathervane Playhouse and its staff for welcoming him and treating him like an old friend so quickly. Tom would like to thank his wife Susan and his daughters Erin and Anna for their support of his drive for continued artistic expression on a stage or in a production booth.



JASE J. SMITH (Costume Designer) joined the Weathervane professional staff in August 2008. Since then, he's designed costumes for dozens of Weathervane productions. As a co-designer, he and Hedy Jones took home Weathervane's Chanticleer Award for best costume design for *Man of La Mancha* in 2009. He also won a Marquee Award from the Youngstown Area Community Theatre Alliance for his work on *Children of Eden*. Elsewhere, his design work has been seen on the stages of Porthouse Theatre, Case Western Reserve University and Ohio Light Opera.



KATHY KOHL (Assistant Technical Director) holds a degree in elementary education from Bowling Green State University and a master's degree in business management from Aurora University. She began her theater career at Weathervane as a volunteer on many lighting, set construction and props crews, joining the professional staff in 2002. She also served for seven years as master painter for the theater department at Firestone High School. Most recently, she was scenic co-designer for our productions of *It's Only a Play*, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* and *Monty Python's Spamalot*. In 2015, she was a recipient of the Trustee Award and holds three Chanticleer awards for her properties designs for *Enchanted April*, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, and *The Philadelphia Story*. She lives with her husband, Doug, in West Akron where they raised their three children. When not at Weathervane, she very much enjoys being "Ommie" to Parker, Fiona, Beckett and Maisie.



KELLIE ROSSINI (Lighting Designer) has been with Weathervane since October of 2016 as the Master Electrician. She designed lights for this season's *Talking With...*, *The Santaland Diaries* in 2016, and *A Kid Like Jake* in 2017. She has been a member of I.A.T.S.E. Local #48 since 1999 and has worked for The Canton Palace Theatre, Verb Ballets, The Manchester Dance Ensemble, Martell School of Dance, Ohio Ballet, The University of Akron Dance Department and The Dance Institute at the University of Akron. She received her first bachelor's degree in technical theatre from Kent State University and is currently working on a second in Accounting.

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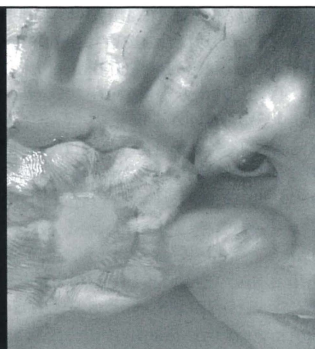


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Additional credits

Set Construction and Painting Crew

Bob Brauning	Chris Capron
Dave Deming	Dale Gilbert
Ron Hayes	Kathy Kohl
Richard Morris, Jr.	Prophet Seay

Light Crew

Logan Chapman	Mike Chapman
Sue Davis	Ken Hardman
Tom Liggett	

Costume Construction

Phyllis Bernel	Millie Keyser
Ann Lyman	Joanna Mack
Carol Smith	Jasen Smith
Robin Vandegrift	

Costume Inventory

Sandy Alexander	Jenny Banker
Yvonne Chapman	Diane Geul
Melanie Hauer	Linda Jarvis
Joanna Mack	

Light Board Operators

Jeannie Clarkson	Ken Hardman
Cindy Kendrick	John Kendrick
Ayron Lord	Sean McFalls
Missy McGinness	

Sound Board Operator

John Stephenson

Set and Props Crew

Peter Bright	Robin Bright
Chris Burns	Susie Dix
Jaiden Dunlap	Lisa Dunlap
Julie Geiser	Monna Gibson
Ken Hardman	Ilona Kitchen
Gretchen Koloniar	Ayron Lord
Lauren McFalls	Elena McGall
Susan Mongold	Maggie Vollman

Fly Operators

Mike Chapman	Ayron Lord
Platt Safford	

SPECIAL THANKS TO

