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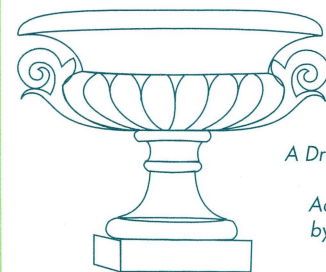
Grace Hower Crawford
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Production No.532
2007-2008



Season
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**Enchanted
April**



A Drama by Matthew Barber

Adapted from the novel
by Elizabeth von Arnim

April 16 - May 4, 2008



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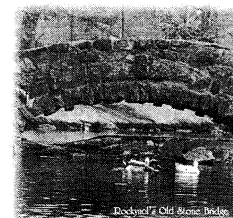
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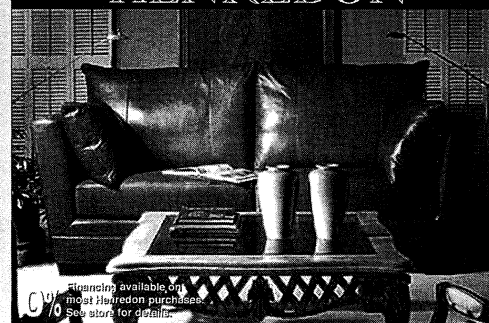
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2007-2008

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The Frog Prince

Based on a tale by The Brothers Grimm
Book adapted by Donald J. Leonard, Jr.
Music & Lyrics by David Reiser
July 28 - August 12, 2007

I Do! I Do!

Musical by Harvey Schmidt & Tom Jones
September 5 - 23, 2007

The Lion in Winter

Drama by James Goldman
October 10 - 28, 2007

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me

Drama by Frank McGuiness
Underwritten by Margaret J. Dietz
November 1 - 17, 2007

Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber
Nov. 23 - Dec. 15, 2007

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Opera by Gian Carlo Menotti
Support provided by The John A. McAlonan Fund of
Akron Community Foundation
December 15 - 23, 2007

Moon Over Buffalo

Comedy by Ken Ludwig
January 16 - February 10, 2008

Children of a Lesser God

Drama by Mark Medoff
February 20 - March 9, 2008

The Importance of Being Earnest

Comedy by Oscar Wilde
March 27 - April 6, 2008

Enchanted April

Romantic Drama by Matthew Barber
April 16 - May 4, 2008

And the Winner Is

Comedy by Mitch Albom
Underwritten by Margaret J. Dietz
May 14 - 31, 2008

Ragtime

Musical: Book by Terrence McNally
Music by Stephen Flaherty
Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens
June 4 - 29, 2007



Patron Information

* **Emergency Exits** located at the left front of the auditorium and left side of the lobby. Front door and lobby doors will also be used.

* **Restrooms** Located in lobby alcove - wheelchair accessible.

* **Handicapped Services** Seating for a limited number of wheelchairs. Please notify in advance if needed.

* **Assistive Listening Devices** Available thanks to the generosity of Virginia and J. Robert Wilson.

* **Patrons:** Expecting a call? Leave name and seat number with the House Manager. *Please turn off your cell phones, pagers and audible watches.*

* **Beverages and Food** may not be taken into the auditorium during performances.

* **Use of Cameras and Recording Devices** is prohibited during performances.

* **Curtain times** vary from show to show. Always check your tickets carefully to note performance times.

* **Latecomers** will be seated at the rear of the auditorium during a suitable break in the play if space is available and may take their reserved seats after intermission.

* **Exiting the Theater** Please remain seated until the auditorium lights are on. Parking lot illumination assures that getting to your car will be easy and secure.

* **Smoking** is permitted outside the building.

* **Lost and Found** items will be held at the Ticket Office until claimed.

* **Comments** from audience members are always welcomed. Please feel free to write to Weathervane to express your views and opinions about our productions. Send your comments to: *Executive Director, WCP.*

Weathervane Playhouse is handicapped accessible. Ramps are available to the front doors, auditorium and seating.

Assistive-listening devices for the hearing impaired are available at the Ticket Office.

Large-Type program inserts are available at the Ticket Office. These copies are not full playbills but contain information unique to this production. These inserts are photocopied and are available in limited quantity.

American Sign Language interpretations are scheduled for selected Sunday performances.

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Youth Education

Weathervane offers professionally taught classes to children and teens in acting, musical theatre, dance and technical theater. This year we are offering an all new class on podcasting! Fall and spring classes are held on Saturdays, Tuesday evenings and Wednesday afternoons for home school students. Two-week Hands on Theatre (HOT) camps are offered throughout the summer as well as intensive one-week classes in musical theater and auditioning. We also offer a comprehensive two-week Summer Stock program for teens. Next summer, students will produce, design and stage a full production of *The Outsiders*, based on the book by S.E. Hinton. Partial scholarships are available for all classes.

Children and teens may also audition for roles in Young Actor Series productions. Parents and family members also have the opportunity to participate by volunteering to assist designers and working backstage.

Weathervane works with area schools by providing education outreach and stu-

dent study guides as part of our Project STAGE program. This program brings public and private school students to see three productions each season. This season, *The Lion in Winter*, *Children of a Lesser God* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* will be featured in the Project STAGE events. Tickets are \$8.

For more information about classes or audition dates for the Young Actor Series, please call Melanie YC Pepe, Director of Education, at 330-836-2323x17.

Adult Classes

Professionally taught adult theatre classes this season include: **Audition Workshop** taught by Terry T. Burgler, **Acting at the Beginning** taught by Mark Moritz, **Comedy Science 101**, **Physical Storytelling**, **Introduction to Stage Combat** and **Swordplay for the Stage** taught by John C. Davis, **The BUSINESS of Voice Acting** taught by Joe Cali and **The ART of Acting** taught by Rohn Thomas. Look in the education brochure for more information on this season's classes.



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Weathervane appreciates the continuing strong support of individuals, corporations, foundations and other donors who help finance the Playhouse's operations, capital improvements and endowment program. Weathervane is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible. Following are some of the many ways in which you can take pride in your support of the art of theater in our community.

* Become a Weathervane Member

Your annual support makes you a voting member of Weathervane Community Playhouse. You'll receive discounts on educational programs and other benefits, based on the membership level you choose. Members are invited to Weathervane's annual meeting and to other special events. Memberships are renewable annually, beginning at \$75 (Contributing), and continuing at Sustaining, Patron, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond Levels. Membership is actively solicited in the fall but is accepted at any time. Members are recognized in the Playbill.

* Give a Special Gift To Say You Care

Special donations may be made at any time to memorialize a friend or relative whose interest in Weathervane was significant to his or her life. You may also recognize and celebrate important dates or current achievements of relatives, friends or associates.

* Remember Weathervane in Your Will

What better way to carry on your tradition of support to Weathervane than by a planned gift. By taking advantage of the tax laws which encourage charitable giving, the U.S. Government will share in the cost of your gift to Weathervane. Your gift can fulfill a specific purpose or project while providing your estate with tax savings. To help ensure that Weathervane will continue, please contact our Executive Director for more information.

*** Check For Matching Gifts** Many national and local corporations will

match your donations to Weathervane, increasing your generosity to the Playhouse. Please check whether or not your company participates in such a program.

* Designate Gifts To Local Foundations

Several of this area's larger foundations accept memorial and tribute gifts in the name of specific organizations such as Weathervane Community Playhouse. Such gifts help assure continuing grants to the Playhouse's operations and special projects. We are enormously grateful for the impressive history of foundation support in this community.

* Sponsor or Underwrite a Production

Our productions may be underwritten by local corporations or foundations. Benefits can include private "command performances" and special receptions for employees and friends when your business chooses this important method of support. Please call 330-836-2626. We'd like to discuss this kind of opportunity with you.

*** Capital Project** The construction segment of the Capital Project in 2000 included a scene shop with basement storage, a 2nd-floor classroom and rehearsal hall, soundproof production booth, elevator and fly gallery pocket above the stage and installation of the rigging system for the fly gallery. Donations for Stage Two of the project continue to purchase classroom furnishings, update the lighting system, renovate the lobby and replenish the Capital Fund for maintenance and repairs.



History *From the Barn to the Valley*



Four society women urged Weathervane Playhouse into existence in 1935 - Grace Hower Crawford, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch and Muriel Maclachlan. They started with amateur theatricals at Coach House Theater, then as now part of Akron Woman's City Club. Back then Coach House was a club theater with closed membership and profits going back to the club. This left nothing for theatrical expansion or experimentation, so the ladies set up shop in a barn owned by U.S. Senator Charles Dick on Marshall Avenue. They had no money so they planned a carnival. After expenses, they cleared \$65 and declared themselves good to go.

Friends assisted in cleaning the barn that had been a garage for the Senator's cars. They scrounged for seats, curtains and a coffee pot. Seven fully costumed and staged plays were presented during the first three weeks of the summer of 1935. The audience applauded while bringing cushions from home to sit on -- the benches were hard. There was no running water or heat in the barn, but the operation had a name -- Weathervane, named for the chanticleer on the cupola of the barn. The ladies agreed that they would produce everything -- comedy, tragedy, Shakespeare, new works -- even opera. They also decreed that anyone who fit a part could be on their stage.

"The barn" was home until 1951 when it was sold, leaving the troupe homeless. The Board renovated a cement block building on Copley Road. This served until the late 1960's when the troupe moved to the Valley. In the early years,

directors came from the membership and were charged with casting, costumes, settings and publicity. By 1960, there were so many shows that Bob Belfance was hired as Playhouse director. Along with custodian/ticket manager Nora Scott, the two-person staff relied on volunteer support.

A Women's Board was formed in 1938 to offer volunteer and financial assistance. The Youth Theater Workshop grew out of classes offered by the original founders. Muriel Maclachlan was particularly energetic in teaching children, bringing in experts in dance and voice to assist her in teaching the youngsters. Muriel's classes grew until they became today's Education Department. Project STAGE©, a program with reduced-price, school day matinees for students, was added in the early 1990s.

A fund-raising drive in the late 1960s built the present facility on Weathervane Lane. The Playhouse opened in 1970 with Phillip Arnoult's production of *Dark of the Moon*. Grace Crawford, who died in 1971, left a legacy to pay off the mortgage. Construction made possible by the most recent Capital Campaign added classrooms, rehearsal space, scene shop, additional prop storage, elevator, library, fly gallery, stage mechanics, a sound-proof production booth and a costume shop, and also upgraded the roof and HVAC system.

Weathervane celebrated its 500th Mainstage production with the award-winning *The Laramie Project* in February, 2003. The John L. Dietz Classroom Theater for students and black box productions had its inaugural production as part of our 70th Season, opening with *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* in January 2005.



Ticket Information

✳ **Tickets** Purchase in person or charge by phone with Visa, MasterCard or Discover at 330-836-2626, Mondays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on performance Saturdays from noon to 5:00 p.m. or online at weathervaneplayhouse.com. *Reservations are also required when using coupons from your Weathervane Super Coupon Book, complimentary tickets or coupons offered from any other cooperating arts organization.* Please arrive 20 minutes before curtain time to pick up your tickets.

✳ **Special seating** Please inform us if you have seating preferences due to visual, auditory or other physical needs. Please remember orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with season subscribers and advanced group sales taking first priority.

✳ **Season Subscriber Exchanges** must be phoned in at least 24 hours prior to your originally scheduled performance. We can't always guarantee the same seats but we'll give you the closest available re-

placements. An upgrade-fee applies when changing from a Preview Night. *If you cannot use your subscription seats, please call us at least 24 hours in advance to release them. We will recognize this as a donation.*

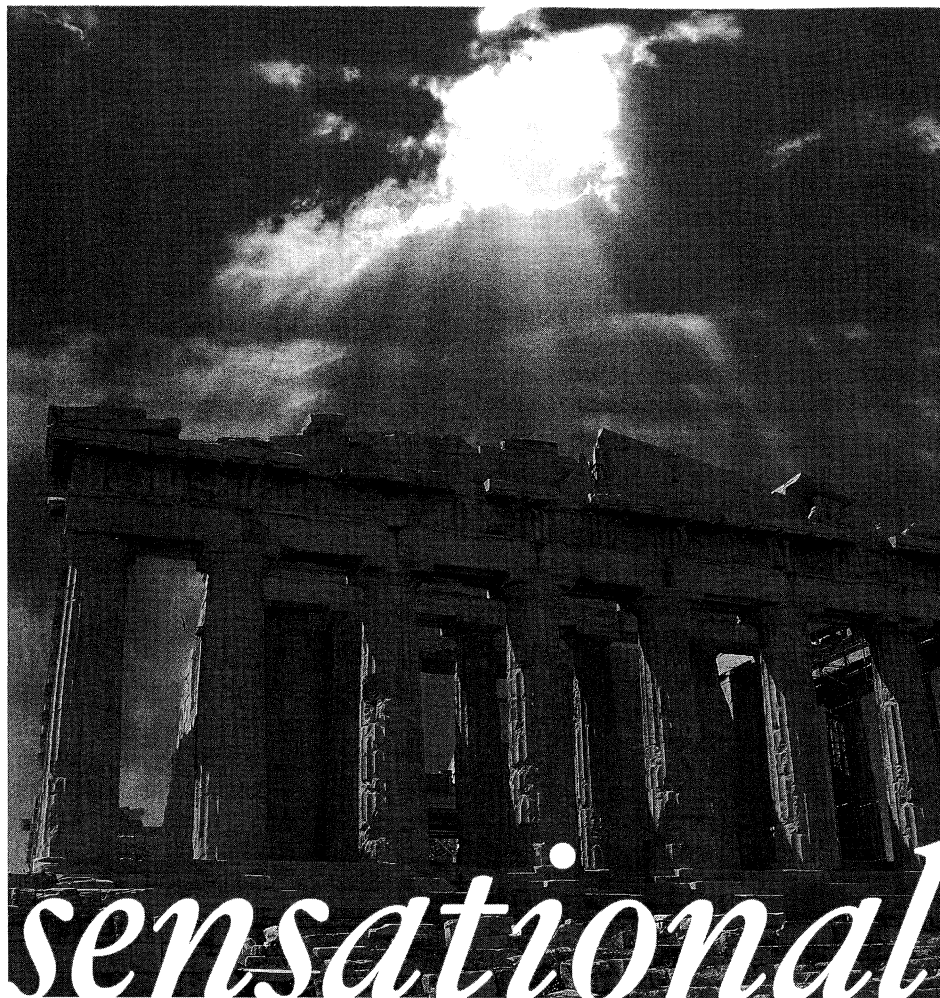
✳ **Student Rush Tickets** go on sale 30 minutes before curtain time for main stage performances only. Students with a valid ID may purchase any remaining tickets for half price. Rush tickets cannot be reserved in advance.

✳ **Discounted Group Reservations** are available for groups of 15 or more. Call Weathervane at 330-836-2626 to learn how you can entertain friends, associates or clients with a night at the Playhouse or to plan a fund-raising event for larger groups.

✳ **Gift Certificates** are available at any time in any amount you choose.

✳ **Recycle your playbills** If you do not wish to keep the playbill, please drop it in our recycling box as you exit the Playhouse.

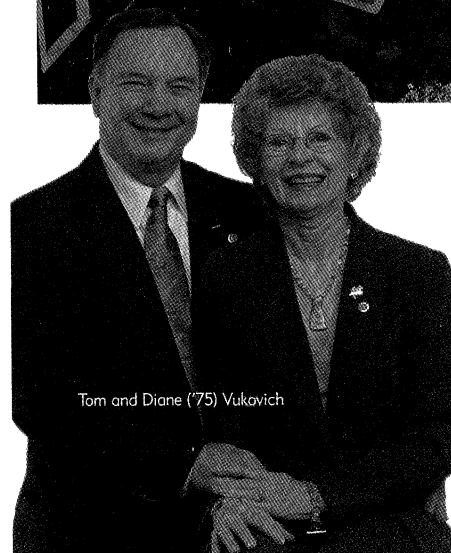
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Women's Board

The Women's Board was formed in 1938 to "offer voluntary service and financial assistance to the Playhouse." Women's Board has energized youth education programs, sponsored productions, spearheaded fund raisers and paid for many of the amenities we appreciate in the Green Room/kitchen. Members of this active group are invaluable as hostesses, office helpers and backstage workers. The Women's Board operates the Gift Boutique and Bank One Art Gallery.

New members are welcomed.

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Boutique Treasures

Our lobby Gift Boutique is a fund-raising project of our Women's Board. Shop from one hour before curtain time or during intermission for great gift items. Prices are extremely reasonable and the items on sale include a delightful variety from clowns and animal figures to jewelry and some special items for the "men" in your life. Our Boutique volunteers will also assist you with information on gallery art works.



Board of Trustees

Weathervane Community Playhouse is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation operated by a board of volunteer trustees representative of the general community.

Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees are open to the public.

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Weathervane Community Playhouse gratefully acknowledges **The Sisler McFawn Foundation, Akron Community Foundation, OMNOVA Solutions Foundation,** contributions for Project STAGE presentations and Youth Outreach Programs.



JOHN HEDGES (Executive Director) has an extensive background in professional theatre as an artist and an arts administrator. As Managing Director of First Stage Milwaukee, John led the theatre's expansion and growth while doubling its annual operating budget to \$1.3 million. John has been Associate Producer of North Shore Music Theatre, Business Director of Gloucester Stage Company, Managing Director of the Maine Stage Company and General Manager of New York's award-winning Pearl Theatre Company. He has served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource, chaired their Strategic Planning Committee and been a conference panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre and Education and has written for *American Theatre* magazine. He is an alumnus of Indiana State University, the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware and holds an honorary MFA in Theatre from Stafford University in England.



JANIS L. HARCAR (Director of Advancement) holds a Master of Arts degree in Arts Administration from The University of Akron and a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Kent State University. She has been on staff since 1993. She served Weathervane as Interim Executive Director during the 2006-2007 season. She was the recipient of Weathervane's Trustee Award in 2003 and 2007. She is a proud mother of two and "Grammy" of two!



ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) began at Weathervane under the tutelage of John R. Thomas. Before Weathervane, he worked at Cuyahoga Falls High School

where he was awarded a Design Excellence citation from USITT and a place in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He has designed for many local high schools, The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. Scott has earned five Chanticleer Awards -- one as stage manager for *Fences*, the others as lighting co-designer for *A Man for All Seasons* and *The Full Monty* and lighting designer for *The Laramie Project* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. He enjoys writing the end-of-the-season revue for The Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players who appear at our annual Chanticleer Awards Dinner.



MELANIE Y.C. PEPE (Director of Education/YAS Producer) holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Kent State University. She has been teaching at Weathervane since 1998 and has served as the supervisor of our City of Akron-sponsored Neighborhood Playhouse program. She served as Development Associate for our Capital Campaign for two years. Melanie also does work in make-up design and has worked with NEOUCOM, College of Medicine; Blue City Productions and Firestone High School's Visual and Performing Arts Program. She lives in Akron with her husband, Christopher, and three children; Jude, Xavier and Calista.



KEITH D. CAMPBELL (Director of Audience Development) holds a B.A. degree in English from The University of Akron, where he served as editor of *The Buchtelite* and sang with the Akron Symphony Chorus. During the summers of 1995 and 1996, he interned in the box office at Porthouse Theatre Company. Keith joined the Weathervane staff in November 1996 and was honored with the 2005 Trustees Award. He lives in Akron.



BARBARA TROTTER (Volunteer Coordinator) holds a Master of Arts degree in Communications from the New York Institute of Technology. She teaches speech and communication courses at Stark State College of Technology in North Canton. Barb began volunteering with Weathervane Community Playhouse in 2000, working backstage on props crews. She designed costumes for the productions of *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Proof*, both in 2003 and was costume coordinator for *Angels in America: Part II, Perestroika* in May 2006. In 2007, she designed lights for our Dietz production of *String of Pearls*. A member of the Weathervane Women's Board, Barb lives in Akron.

LISA MANSFIELD (Patron Services Manager) holds a B.A. degree in Secondary Education with a concentration in English and History from the University of Akron. A stay-at-home mom since 1994, Lisa continues to be active in the community serving breastfeeding mothers through La Leche League and volunteering at Children's Hospital. The *Akron Beacon Journal* named Lisa a "Woman of Excellence" in 2005 for her service to military families. A stage actress in high school, Lisa is excited to return to one of her first loves, the theater. She lives in West Akron with her high school sweetheart, and now local TV anchor, Eric Mansfield, and their three sons, Joshua, Jacob and Teddy.

KATHRYN A. KOHL (Assistant Technical Director) holds a degree in Elementary Education from BGSU and a Master of Business Management degree from Aurora College in Aurora, IL. She began her theater career as a volunteer on

many lighting, set construction and props crews. She won Chanticleers for her properties co-design of *The Philadelphia Story* and her properties design of *The Sisters Rosensweig*. Kathy served as Resident Master Carpenter and Master Painter for the Theatre Department at Firestone High School for six years. She lives in West Akron with husband Doug in their recently empty nest.

DREAJEAN WASHINGTON-BROWN (Data Services Manager) holds a M.S. degree in Technical Education and a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from The University of Akron. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Akron Alumnae Chapter. Drea says her major priority is spoiling her grandchildren. Balancing her time with work and family, she still finds time to crochet baby blankets for the Neo Natal Unit at Children's Hospital in Akron, and lap afghans for the Life Care Facility in Pittsburgh, PA and Carestone at Mt. Zion in Jonesboro, GA.

BENJAMIN REXROAD (Public Relations and Outreach Assistant) is a senior at The University of Akron. He is finishing his Bachelor's Degree in Theatre. He has worked at arts venues across northeast Ohio including Cleveland Public Theatre, E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall, Carousel Dinner Theatre and Weathervane Playhouse. Ben has been involved in every aspect of the "theatrical experience" - from onstage to backstage to front-of-house. However, his true passions lie in Stage Managing and Directing. Though, truth be told, he also has quite a knack for teaching others. He is the drama advisor at Coventry High School.



From Our *Executive Director*

Life is Believing



When I was reading plays and developing next year's season, the theme that kept recurring for me and what I became very drawn to was in plays that had a positive message of belief -- either an individual or group of people who, sometimes against great odds, had the courage to stand up and believe in something. For me, the notion of belief is fundamental to living a full and meaningful life and the glue that binds a society together. And so we at Weathervane both marvel at and celebrate the life-giving force of belief in our 2008-2009 Season.

Our Mainstage Series will begin September 4th with the American Classic *The Rainmaker*, the story of a plain young woman who comes to believe in her own special beauty. We follow this with a terrific contemporary musical about the belief in the power of second chances, *Children of Eden*. We'll ring in the new year by asking the question, who do you believe 'done it', with the new comedy *Bloody Murder* (just what everyone either wants to scream or commit after the holidays!). This exciting production will be a world premiere written by Broadway actor and accomplished playwright, Ed Sala. We continue with the quintessential self-discovery story of a woman coming to believe in herself with *A Doll's House*. This daring new adaptation has been hailed by critics as "bold, brilliant and alive." For all who believe that finding the right person is sometimes dumb luck, springtime will see the laugh-out-loud farce *Perfect Wedding* grace the Weathervane stage followed by the summer musical *Man of La Mancha* and the quixotic belief in "The Impossible Dream."

Our Dietz Theater will include productions of *Love! Valour! Compassion!* by Terrence McNally and the terrific new piece *Intimate Apparel* by Lynn Nottage. Both of these important plays deal with themes of belief from two very different cultural and historical perspectives.

All of this along with Youth Productions of *Go, Dog, Go/Aristocats*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (in collaboration with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival), *Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (back for a 9th year!) and our special Holiday offering of Gian Carlo Menotti's opera *Amahl & the Night Visitors*.

Life is truly believing and we invite you to welcome Weathervane back into your lives all next season (and for our remaining two shows this season -- *And the Winner Is* opening May 14th and *Ragtime* opening June 4th) for an affirmation of the life-giving force of BELIEF.

Sincerely,

John Hedges
Executive Director



Weathervane *Community Playhouse*

73rd Season – 2007-2008 – Production # 532
April 16 - May 4, 2008



Romantic Comedy by Matthew Barber

Enchanted
April

Directed by **Bob Belfance**

Stage Manager
Jill Forster

Costume Co-Design by
Randie O. Sass & Karen Burrige

Properties Design by
Kathy Kohl

Lighting Design by
Kevin Ford

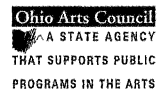
Sound Design by
Joyce Stadler

Master Gardener
Judy Willemsen

Scenic Design/Technical Director
Alan Scott Ferrall

Enchanted April is produced by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service,
440 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016.

Weathervane productions are sponsored in part by



Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186
Ticket Office: 330-836-2626 – Fax: 330-873-2150 – For staff Emails -- please see website
www.weathervaneplayhouse.com



About the Play & Playwright

About the Play

Enchanted April opens in London in 1922. We meet two English housewives, Lotty Wilton and Rose Arnott. Bored by their humdrum lives and desperate to flee a cold and damp, mid-winter London, the two hatch a plan to rent a villa in Italy for the month of April. The women place a newspaper advertisement seeking two other women to split the cost and the notice attracts the attention of two women very much removed from their usual social realm -- Lady Caroline Bramble, a beautiful young socialite, and Mrs. Graves, an imposing dowager of great wealth and self-importance. In the play's second act, the women make their trip to Mezzago on the Italian coast. Here, under the restorative spell of wisteria and sunshine, the women welcome the exciting opportunity to relax and rediscover laughter, basking in the promise of spring.

Before it was a stage play, *Enchanted April* was a book. British writer Elizabeth von Arnim's 1922 novel, **The Enchanted April**, has spawned several adaptations for the stage and screen. In 1925, a three-act stage play adapted by Kane Campbell played for a month-long run at the Morosco Theatre in New York City. In 1935, fabled Hollywood studio RKO Radio Pictures brought the story to the silver screen with Frank Morgan (the future Wizard in *The Wizard of Oz*) as Mellersh. Sadly, the film became one of the studio's biggest failures that year. The 1992 British television adaptation proved to be much more successful, and it was released theatrically in the United States, where it grossed over \$13 million and was a certified "art-house" hit. With a cast including Miranda Richardson, Joan Plowright and Alfred Molina, the film earned three Academy Award nominations (for its costume design, its screenplay adaptation and for best supporting actress for Plowright). Locally, at its 1992 stint at the Cleveland International Film Festival, it won the audience-choice award for best film. The stage adaptation you are seeing today had its original production in 2000 at the Hartford Stage Company, a resident professional theater company in Connecticut. The show transferred to Broadway in the spring of 2003, where it played for a total of 143 performances and was nominated for a Tony Award for Best Play. The Broadway cast featured Elizabeth Ashley as Mrs. Graves and former 1980s-era "Brat Pack" movie star Molly Ringwald as Rose.

About the Playwright

Enchanted April is Matthew Barber's first play. He graduated from the University of California at Los Angeles with a degree in English. Before venturing into playwriting, he worked as an advertising writer and arts journalist. He also worked for several San Francisco-area theaters doing publicity and marketing. In 2000, he told Variety that he approached his stage adaptation of the 1922 novel "as a challenge...I've avoided seeing the English version (the 1992 film) as well as the American one (from 1935)." After *Enchanted April* opened on Broadway in 2003, the Outer Critics Circle awarded Barber the John Gassner Award (presented for an American play, preferably by a new playwright). He now lives in Los Angeles.

Gifts to Weathervane's Endowment Fund were made
in Memory of **Frederick Ivan Albrecht** by

Margaret J. Dietz

Maureen & James Kovach



Enchanted April - Cast

Lotty Wilton	Tori MacNair
Rose Arnott	Holly Humes
Mellersh Wilton	Henry Bishop
Lady Caroline Bramble	Emily West
Frederick Arnott	Aaron J. Veal
Mrs. Graves	Carol Belfance
Antony Wilding	Timothy M. Kelley
Constanza	Harriet DeVeto

PLACE

Act One: London, England

Act Two: Mezzago, Italy

TIME

1922

There will be ONE 15-minute intermission between the acts.

Special music for Act II was composed by **James Praznik**. He studies at The University of Akron with pianist Philip Thomson and composer Daniel McCarthy. His compositions have been performed by a number of world-renowned musicians in venues such as E.J. Thomas Performing Arts Hall and at the Interlochen Center for the Arts in Michigan. He has performed pieces for recitals in Akron, at the University of Kentucky and at The Ohio State University.

Track Your Favorites

Keep track of your favorites all season long and you'll be prepared to vote for our Chanticleer Awards at the end of the season. Use this list as a guide...

Sound Design	Supporting Actor -- play & musical
Lighting Design	Lead Actress - play & musical
Properties Design	Featured Actress -- play & musical
Costume Design	Supporting Actress -- play & musical
Lead Actor - play & musical	Best Production
Featured Actor -- play & musical	

***For your safety, we request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.**

***The use of cameras, recording equipment and laser pointers is forbidden during this performance.**

***As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please make sure that cell phones and pagers are turned off during the performance.**

***Please do not bring food or drink in the auditorium.**

***NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.**



About Our Director

BOB BELFANCE (AEA, AFRTRA, SAG) is directing his 191st production at Weathervane. Last season he directed our production of *Over the Tavern* and, this past October, directed a well received production of *Brooklyn Boy* at the Shaw Jewish Community Center. Bob left Broadway for Akron in 1961. In New York, Lee Strasberg invited Bob, then a fledgling director, to become an observer at the famous Actors Studio. Alfred Drake, Howard da Silva, Alan Alda and his late father Robert, and Akron's Ray Wise are some of the many stars Bob has directed. When Bob became Weathervane's first professional Managing Director, he said his goal was to build a new state-of-the-art theater for Akron audiences. Bob was responsible for transforming Weathervane into one of Ohio's leading non-professional theaters. Bob, along with a host of dedicated volunteers, helped save the Loews movie theater, now the Akron Civic Theater, from the wrecker's ball. He once was heard to say, "Managing the Civic and Weathervane simultaneously was like Purgatory before death." Bob wrote, produced and directed several award-winning films for Omnibus Film Productions (he was one of 6 co-partners) and also owned and operated the Priscilla Beach Summer Theater. Bob has also served as a consultant to theaters and educational facilities. In 2002 Bob's life-long contribution to his art was recognized when he was inducted into the Ohio Community Theater Hall of Fame.

Directors Notes

The "war to end all wars" ended on November 11, 1918. The British army suffered over 2,000,000 casualties with over 707,000 killed and the rest suffering horrible wounds to body and mind. If one walked down the main street of any city or village in Britain, scores of physically and mentally maimed veterans were to be seen. The British lower class suffered the greatest number of casualties. From the upper class, the loss of potential political leaders, educators, artists, poets, etc., was incalculable. *Enchanted April* begins less than four years after the armistice. Some Britons still grieved deeply for a loved one lost. *Enchanted April* takes place in such a time, when the rich jived and the not-so-rich dreamed. Based on the novel by Elizabeth Von Arnim, *Enchanted April* can be described in one sentence - it takes place in the early 1920s when four London women, strangers, decide to rent a castle in Italy for the month of April. It is the correct description but it will not prepare you for the fact that *Enchanted April* -- an ultimate "feel-good" play -- is perfection of its genre. The play works like a spring tonic to make one realize what is important. The act of watching it is soothing. *Enchanted April* is what I call a growth play. Every character is different and better at the end and it's all because one woman (Lotty) knows that the place they have chosen is a "tub of love." The play is fresh, honest and truly timeless! The change in scenery, a month in Italy in April, facilitates each of the characters in shedding those conventions which stifle their growth and development. By the end of the story, each character not only becomes more fulfilled, but is able to relate their feelings to each other. The story is so filled with Spring and an overwhelming, dreamy sweetness, it almost preordains it. When I first read the play I found myself thinking that Lotty and Rose would crack if they did not find peace. Both Mrs. Graves and Lady Caroline are very fragile, lonely women who have known great loss and mask their pain with cold exteriors. Each character defines a traditional female stereotype: Lotty the eager-to-please wife, Rose the puritan, Mrs. Graves the hardened dowager, Lady Bramble the used-up party girl. For me, the essence of the play occurs in the moment when Mrs. Graves is successful in "pairing-up" Antony and Lady Bramble. It characterizes the hope that all the women had when they embarked on their journey - to love and be loved, to be happy with self, to be enchanted by life. *Enchanted April* is a tone poem, an impressionist painting, a masterpiece of conveying a message with few words. The true measure of any fictional piece of work is whether or not the characters grow from their experiences and emerge altered in some significant way. By that measure, *Enchanted April* is a resounding success. In short the play is, well, enchanting.



Cast Callboard

TORI MACNAIR (Lotty Wilton) marks her first stage role since moving to the Cleveland area from Columbus in August. Her most recent roles elsewhere include Cherie in *Bus Stop* and Elizabeth Procter in *The Crucible*, for which she won acting awards at the state-level festivals for both the Ohio Community Theatre Association and the American Association of Community Theatre. She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of North Carolina at Asheville and a master's degree in business administration from Montreat College in North Carolina. She works for the Dan T. Moore Company in Cleveland as a business administrator and makes her home in University Heights. She thanks everyone at Weathervane for making her experience so much fun and she thanks her wonderful husband, Marc, for his love and patience.

HOLLY HUMES (Rose Arnott) made her most recent Weathervane appearance as Poppy in *Noises Off* in 2004. She has also been seen on other local stages, including Coach House Theatre and Dobama Theatre. Her favorite roles include Catherine in *Proof*, Mae in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, Yelena in *Uncle Vanya*, various roles in *The Laramie Project*, Dawn in *Song of Survival* and Lil in *V-E Day*. She is a graduate of Kent State University with a bachelor's in Russian language and Soviet/East European studies. She works as a chiropractic assistant at Fairlawn Family Chiropractic Center. She thanks her husband, Scott Custer, for all of his love and support.

HENRY BISHOP (Mellersh Wilton) has been around Weathervane for 20-some years. He has acted, sung, danced, run props and lights and sound for all sorts of different performances. He has worked with director Bob Belfance many times. In

fact, Bob directed Henry and fellow *Enchanted April* cast member Carol Belfance 20 years ago in the Weathervane production of *Chicago*. Henry has worked and played at other area theatre groups, including Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Coach House Theatre and Eileen Moushey's Mysteries by Moushey audience-participation murder mysteries. Henry and his wife, Karen L. Wood, live in Creston, in Wayne County.

EMILY WEST (Lady Caroline Bramble) is thrilled to be performing at Weathervane for a third time. Her previous performances here include Harper in *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* and Hope in a staged reading of *Down Under*. Emily graduated from Kent State University with a bachelor of fine arts in acting. Her favorite roles include the aforementioned Harper, Mina Murray in *Dracula*, Rosannah Deluce in *Brilliant Traces* and the title role in *Annie Get Your Gun*. She works as an administrative assistant with eBlueprint in Cleveland.

AARON J. VEAL (Frederick Arnott) appears for the first time on the Weathervane stage since his appearances as Jacob in the Young Actors Series production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in 2003 and 2004. He has participated in several staged readings for Weathervane and also performed as one of the Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players for the Playhouse's Chanticleer Awards in 2005. Aaron received a bachelor of arts degree from Wright State University, where he performed as a cast member in the operetta *La Perichole* and was a member of the Men's Chorale. Aaron is a sales manager for Revol Wireless and currently resides in Uniontown with his wife, Brandi.

CAROL BELFANCE (Mrs. Graves)



Callboard Continued

earned the first of her four Chanticleers as Abigail Williams in *The Crucible* at Weathervane's previous home on Copley Road. At Weathervane's Merriman Valley location, some of her favorite roles include Dr. Livingston in *Agnes of God*, Blanche in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, Matron Mamma Morton in *Chicago*, Sara Muller in *A Watch on the Rhine*, Delia in *Bedroom Farce* and both Maggie Cutler and Mrs. Stanley in two separate productions of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*. She also choreographed several musical revues at Weathervane and created its original adult acting workshop, which she taught for many years. Of the more than 150 productions in which Carol has appeared (both professional and community theatre), some of her other favorites include: Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit*, Lady Bracknell in *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Mame in *Auntie Mame*, and Melba Snyder ("Zip!") in *Pal Joey* with Arlene Dahl. Carol holds a master's degree in speech/theatre from The University of Akron, where she taught theater, speech and communication classes. As a member of Actors' Equity, AFTRA and SAG, she has had great fun doing commercials, industrials and voice-overs. She was casting director and featured performer on two award-winning national radio series. She is happy to be engaged with this pleasant and

talented cast and crew and to be working again with her absolute favorite director.

TIMOTHY M. KELLEY (Antony Wilding) first appeared on the Weathervane stage as the King of Hearts in our 1979 production of *Alice in Wonderland*. Since then, he has been working in local theater, on and off, for the past 29 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in theater from The University of Akron. In addition to on-stage roles at such other local theaters as Coach House Theatre and Actors' Summit, he has also worked backstage in New York City for Veterans Ensemble Theatre and locally at Carousel Dinner Theatre and for the now-disbanded Kenley Players. His most recent stage roles were Ira in *Brooklyn Boy* at the Shaw Jewish Community Center in Akron and Harry in *Wait until Dark* at Weathervane.

HARRIET DEVETO (Constanza) This is Harriet's tenth show at Weathervane in more than 30 years and her ninth show with director Bob Belfance. A professional actress for 13 years, she is now back in community theater, where she started. There are many favorite roles to remember, including the one you are seeing today. In September, she will be directing Terrence McNally's *Master Class* at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre.

Awards for her talents as a lighting designer. She is a second-generation Weathervaner, following in the footsteps of her mother, Jan Michael, who for many years served as the Playhouse's pianist and musical director. In her long association with the Playhouse's Women's Board, she has



Creative Team Callboard Continued

served as treasurer for youth-theater programs and currently serves as First Vice President. Jill holds degrees from The University of Akron in sociology and criminal justice and works as Director of Specialty Courts for the Akron Municipal Court. She thanks her husband, Jim, for his strong support.

KEVIN FORD (Lighting Designer) created the swimming pool for *Lips Together, Teeth Apart*, the trap door for *Dracula*, the bridge for *Fiddler on the Roof* and the elevator for *The Rocky Horror Show*. Kevin also co-designed the lighting (with Scott Ferrall) for *Ain't Misbehavin'* and the Chanticleer Award-winning *The Full Monty*. By day, he is a CNC Supervisor for Acro Tool and Die Company in Akron. He has an associate degree in engineering from The University of Akron. He and his wife, Erin, live in Cuyahoga Falls.

RANDIE O. SASS (Costume Co-Designer) has been a volunteer at Weathervane since 1989 and a member of the Women's Board since 1990. She has costumed a number of award-winning shows, including *Fences*, *Master Harold...and the boys* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. *Enchanted April* re-unites her with director Bob Belfance, who also directed the very first show she costumed, *The Little Foxes*. She thanks the following important people in her life: her husband, Brian, for enduring her many hours at Weathervane; her co-costumer, Karen Burrige and her children; Leah and Ben, who have been taught through example about tikkun olam ("repairing the world").

KAREN BURRIDGE (Costume Co-Designer) is a former Weathervane Women's Board president. Most recently, she designed the costumes for this winter's production of *Moon Over Buffalo*. Earlier this season, she designed the stage proper-

ties for Weathervane's *Amahl and the Night Visitors*. Over the past several years, Karen has sewn dozens of costumes, assembled a multitude of stage properties, and has volunteered as one of the many friendly ushers and hostesses who welcome theater patrons to their seats. Retired from the United States Postal Service, now works at the Tallmadge Curves and answers phones for The Sunday Oldies Jukebox on 88.9 WSTB-FM. She and husband Pat live in Brimfield.

JOYCE STADLER (Sound Designer) worked on the sound crew for this winter's production of *Children of a Lesser God*. She studied filmmaking at Full Sail University (a private, for-profit university in Winter Park, Florida). At Full Sail, Joyce wrote, directed and edited two films. After graduating with both an associate's and a bachelor's degree, she put her filmmaking experience to work for Norwegian Cruise Lines, working as a broadcast technician filming various cruise-ship activities and then broadcasting them to passengers' televisions. Since returning from sea, Joyce has been volunteering as a sound technician for the singers and band at Valleyview Chapel in Wadsworth.

JUDY WILLEMSSEN (Master Gardener) As a 20+ year volunteer, Judy thought she had done it all. She has been a crew member, designer, actor and stage manager. However, she had one more frontier to explore: set design. "On my list of favorite things to do, gardening is number one. I can't thank Scott enough for believing I could design the garden for *Enchanted April*," says Judy.

KATHY KOHL (Properties Designer) - see staff bios.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer) - see staff bios.



Creative Team Callboard

JILL FORSTER (Stage Manager) is a stage-management veteran who has steered the course of such diverse Weathervane productions as *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Wait until Dark*, *1776*, *Company*, *Over the Tavern* and *My Way*. Over many years, Jill has won three Chanticleer



Production Team Members & Crews

Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director

Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson Judy Willemssen
Tom Marshall Todd Dieringer
Kevin Ford Leah Magnus
Jay Fishman Roger Dieringer
Erin Katz Ford

COSTUMES

Susie Stech Ethel Soudry
Dorothy Kies Judy Adamson
Connie Velotta Michael Oliver -
Helen Vari Hairdresser
Ansley Valentine

LIGHTS

Erin Katz Ford Leah Magnus
Jennifer Maxson Scott Custer

SOUND

Dan Levan Dan "DJ" Jankura
Matt Weaver Leslie Johnson

PROPERTIES

Erik Knuth Kathy Bartley
Jay Fishman Jessi Hale
M.J. Coulson Michael Rauh
Judy Haver Katie McConnell
Dan Levan Michelle Williams
Jennifer Maxson Robyn Cooper
Todd Dieringer Leah Magnus

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Tom Marshall, Diana Nabring & GuitarFemme on Ebay

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

March -- Christine Mason

Thanks to Our Hard-Working Volunteers

The following are the vivacious volunteers who have assisted us recently.

Susan Baker	G.G. Glenn	Barbara O'Connor	Helen Tschantz
Patrice Bechtol	Marilyn Heagerty	John O'Neill	Helen Vari
Pam Costa	Nancy Humes	Marci Paolucci	Michelle Williams
Margaret Dietz	Chuck Kelades	Mary Beth Reymann	Marta Williger
Helen Fleming	Carol Krueger	Ruth Richardson	Mary Wolfman
Erin Katz Ford	Leslie & Richard Lund	Lois Simmons	Gen Woods
Jill Forster	Mitzi Mild	Sue & Richard Smith	B.J. Zeigler
Janis Gallagher	Sheila Motter	Ethel Soudry	Nancy Zeigler
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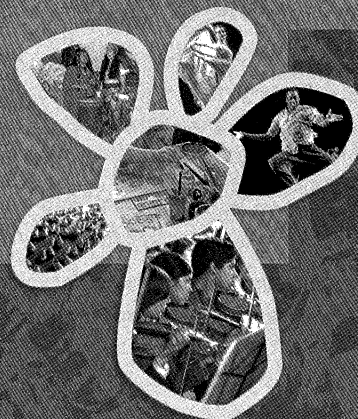
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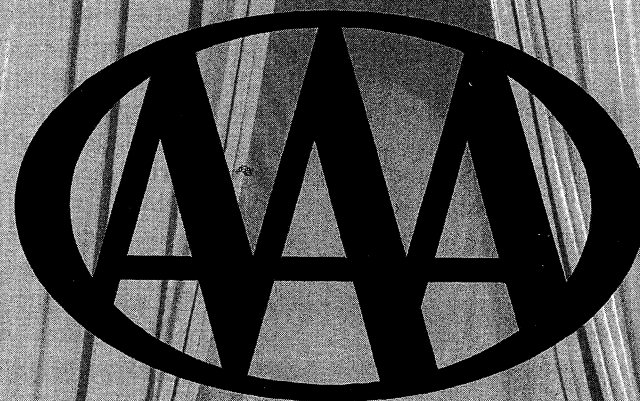
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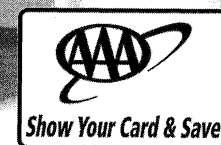
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Volunteering at Weathervane

Weathervane began as a volunteer organization and continues its growth thanks to the time and talent that members of our community invest in it. Our on-stage performers have worked long and hard to earn your applause. But their work is supported by many other unseen men and women who've helped build and paint sets, run the lights and sound, make sure that properties and set dressing items are in their proper places and do other backstage labor from stage managing to costuming and make-up. Supporting those who are actively involved in putting on each show are still more volunteers who usher, house manage, sell tickets, keep our office running and serve on our Board of Trustees, Board committees, Production Board, Advisory Board and Women's Board.

Their spirit is the backbone of our continuing operations, a valued support on which our professional staff relies.

Each month, we acknowledge the outstanding Volunteers of the Month in our lobby, but those volunteers represent all who commit their time and interest to create a great theater experience for everyone who's come to see this show.

If you have friends or relatives who volunteer generously at Weathervane, we hope you'll take a moment to thank them for their help and their support of the cultural enrichment of our community. Better yet, join them! Call us and we'll help you win your own share of the applause for a "jolly good show," an experience that offers life-enriching opportunities for all involved.

Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Let's talk Chanticleer! Shortly after the final production of each season, Weathervane volunteers, subscribers and friends share an exciting awards show and party to acknowledge outstanding work by performers and technical volunteers. And, if you have seen all of the six Mainstage productions, you are eligible to be a judge!

The top performers, as chosen by the Chanticleer "judges," are awarded rooster statuettes -- "Chanticleers" -- in recognition of their work. It's a great night to get together and share in the fun and festivities. The Chanticleer Awards event is open to all.

Awards are presented for outstanding lead performances in a drama or comedy, outstanding lead performances in a musical, outstanding featured and sup-

porting performances in a drama or comedy, outstanding featured and supporting performances in a musical and outstanding achievement in sound design, lighting design, properties design and costume design. The final award of the Chanticleer evening goes to the Best Production of the season.

In addition to performance and technical awards, the event also recognizes the Top 25 outstanding volunteers of the season, who represent all the volunteers whose time and talents create the memorable theater experiences of every Weathervane season.

We welcome you to take part in the biggest nail-biting party of the year. Make sure to pick up your ballot at the end of the season and join us!



Volunteer Responsibilities

Here's a quick introduction to the responsibilities volunteers undertake to make our shows work. If you'd like to try your hand at any of these jobs, please call us. We'll help you learn! In addition, you receive complimentary tickets to see the shows plus the pride in knowing you are joining nearly 1 million volunteers nationwide to support community theater! Volunteers with 100 hours or more of service are eligible for a special Weathervane membership!

*** Stage Management** Duties include assisting the director throughout the rehearsal period, calling cues, keeping backstage safe and orderly, and coordinating the technical needs of the show with the actors. A great opportunity for those who enjoy planning, communicating and taking charge. Once the director's work is done, it's the Stage Manager who runs each performance.

*** Set Construction** Use your building skills, carpentry or painting techniques to help make illusion come to life. Help is needed days and evenings.

*** Costumes** Designers and workers are vital. We invite skilled and unskilled seamstresses to make or alter costumes, create patterns, care for costumes during a show and keep our wardrobe department organized.

*** Lighting** Experience is a plus, but you can learn by assisting others who know computers and electrical requirements. We'll train eager volunteers to help hang, focus and add color to lighting instruments. We'll also teach you how to run the light board and follow spots. *Nobody can see the show without you.*

*** Sound** Create the music and sound effects tapes that enrich the aural envi-

ronment for each show or add "live" backstage sound. Run the sound system for technical rehearsals and productions.

*** Properties** All the items that help "dress" a set and all those used by actors in rehearsal and performance (from tea sandwiches to "deadly" weapons and "shattering" windowpanes) must be borrowed, built or cooked. Many volunteers are needed to work on each performance.

*** Office Volunteer** If you enjoy dealing with the public, we can use your help during office hours and on show nights to assist in selling tickets and answering the phone to take reservations. You may also help with mailings, work with staff and greet customers and visitors.

*** Ushering** Welcome audience members with your smile, show them to their seats, pass out programs, and serve refreshments at intermission. Your help is always welcome.

*** House Manager** This representative greets the audience, tears tickets and guides theater-goers to ushers for seating. You'll work with the stage manager to coordinate the timing of intermissions and remain in the lobby throughout the show to handle any emergency.



Who Gets On Stage?

Our volunteer performers come from throughout greater Akron and northeastern Ohio. They've committed themselves to four or more weeks of rehearsals plus performances. Their greatest reward is your applause.

Many performers come with substantial theatrical experience. Others are new to the stage. Auditions are open to all and our non-traditional casting policy opens the way for many performance opportunities. Except in cases where race, gender, age or disability is essential to the play, all roles are cast on the basis of talent.

Local newspapers carry audition dates and times or call Weathervane at 330-836-2626 to be added to the audition mailing list. Some directors prefer to set appointments for audition times and may ask that you come prepared with a brief

monologue, improvisational subject or musical number. Copies of plays scheduled or audition scenes are often available for a nominal deposit.

When you arrive at the Playhouse on audition nights, you'll learn about the rehearsal and performance schedule. You may also register as a production volunteer if you're interested in learning about the technical opportunities in the show.

You may be asked to return for callbacks and will be notified of the director's cast selection as soon as possible. Please note that if you don't win the role you've wanted so badly, it may not necessarily reflect on your talent. The director's choice of cast members must take many factors into account. So, don't be discouraged and please audition again.

Beware of the Dreaded No-Show

Have you ever seen empty seats at a *sold out* sporting event or concert? Weathervane has the same problem. Subscribers who may have exchanged from another performance wonder why they weren't given those prime empty seats for the evening.

When you buy a subscription, you are *promising* to come to the theater for that ticketed performance and we hold your seat(s). This makes it impossible to tell if a performance is ever really *sold out* and annoys other ticket buyers who see that they could have been seated in a better spot.

Subscribers: Please call the Ticket Office at 836-2626 if you will not make your ticketed performance. Thank you.

Weathervane Traditions

Meet the cast Many cast members spend a few minutes in the lobby area to meet and greet friends after performances. It's your chance to thank them for their performance.

Intermission Tea is served with our compliments by our volunteers. Soft drinks are available at a nominal cost.

Opening Night Receptions welcome audiences on Main Stage first Friday performances. We provide light refreshments after the show so you can share in the celebration.

For your sweet tooth snacks are available for purchase before the show and during intermission. Refreshments (other than water) are not permitted in the auditorium.

Proud To Support Weathervane Community Playhouse

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Vision Statement

The Akron-Summit County Public Library is recognized locally as an essential community asset and nationally as one of the finest public libraries in the United States due to its excellent customer service, collaborative community involvement, and high level of customer and employee satisfaction.

Mission Statement

The Akron-Summit County Public Library provides resources for learning and leisure, information services, meeting spaces, and programs for all ages that support, improve, and enrich individual, family, and community life.

Core Values

Excellence

Striving for excellence in all we do.

Service

Providing service that is dynamic, responsive, and respectful of our customers, colleagues, and co-workers.

Learning

Fostering life-long learning and individual enrichment.

Integrity

Operating with the highest level of honesty and respect for staff, community, and library resources.

Innovative Thinking

Encouraging innovative thinking as a means for addressing needs and challenges in order to improve the library.

Inclusion

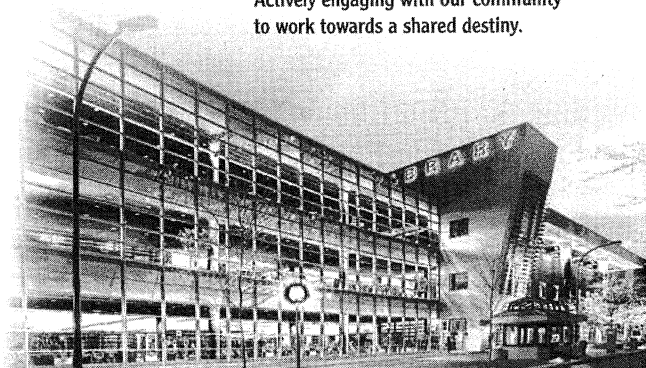
Working together and listening to customers and staff.

Diversity

Embracing and respecting diversity in our community, collection, services, and staff.

Community

Actively engaging with our community to work towards a shared destiny.



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Volunteer

Sign-Up

Complete and detach this form and return it to the Ticket Office or mail to:
Volunteer Opportunities, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

E-Mail Address _____

I am interested in the
following areas:
(Check as many as
you wish)

_____ Usher

_____ Classes

_____ Backstage Crew

_____ Fundraising

_____ Costuming

_____ Box Office

_____ Acting

_____ Orchestra

_____ House Managing

_____ Set Building

_____ Sound

_____ Play Reading/Selection

_____ Painting

_____ Lighting

_____ Board Membership

_____ Other _____

_____ Best time to reach me at the above phone number _____

_____ I am a subscriber.

_____ I am a donor.

I HAVE AN OPINION...

About tonight's play _____

About the current season _____

About future seasons _____

I have a fund-raising idea. _____

*We appreciate, and often respond to, opinions offered about our work. Be sure to fill
in your name and address above if you wish a response or would like to be contacted.*