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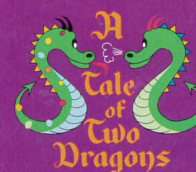
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## A Brief History of Weathervane Playhouse

*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 80th Season.



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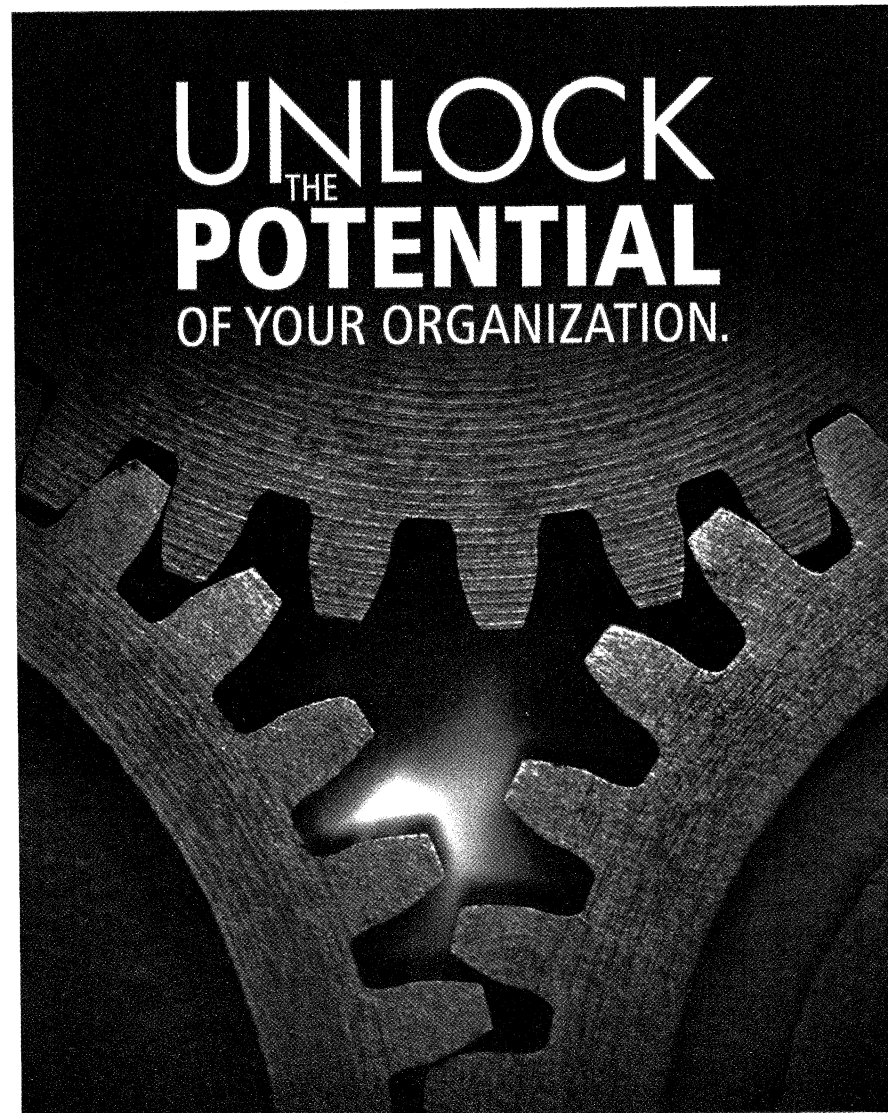
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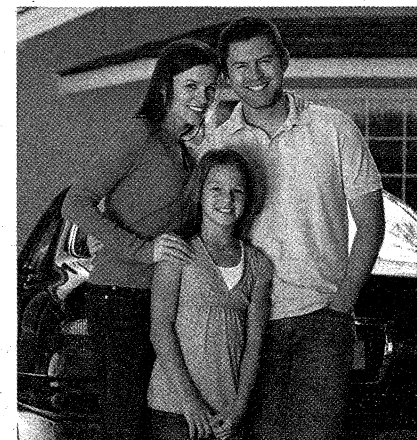
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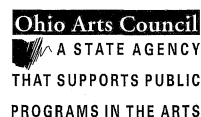
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## From Our Executive Director

### Grateful Reflection

*(the following are edited remarks from John Hedges' report to the membership on August 26, 2014)*

As Weathervane Playhouse begins its 80th Anniversary Season, I can report that this theater has never been stronger or more capable of fulfilling the demands of its mission.

Over the last seven years we have literally transformed Weathervane into a more engaged contributor to our community and a place of considerable artistic vitality.

We doubled the size of our lobby and renovated every square foot of public space in this building to make Weathervane Playhouse a real jewel in the crown of Akron, Ohio.

What a treat it was to have Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis endorse our campaign in 2008 and 2009 and to have her come here to personally coronate this beautiful facility.

By enhancing the patron experience through better physical amenities along with rebranding the theater with a new logo, exciting marketing materials, and fresh messaging (not to mention, of course, the production of some outstanding theater along the way), we have been able to grow the audience base by 24% to reach an all-time high in the history of Weathervane.

We also reached an all-time high in contributed revenue this season and total revenue for this theater has grown by 35% since 2007. Through all the ups and downs, we've been able to successfully balance our expenses in the aggregate with our revenue during my tenure.

In my opinion, this theater has also gone through an artistic renaissance as well. We've brought in exciting guest directors like Tony Award-winner Michael Rupert and co-produced the musical *Shine* starring Hal Linden with Mainstreet Musicals in New York City. We partnered with the theatre department at Kent State University and, under the leadership of Eileen Moushey, began our terrific new 10-Minute Play Festival.

These last few years have also seen us redouble our efforts to make Weathervane Playhouse a more inclusive organization. Under the direction of Jennifer Jeter, and with special funding from the Knight Foundation, we have been able to engage with the minority and African American communities in Akron in a way this organization has never before undertaken.

Our Education Programs continue to be at the forefront of proving time and again why Weathervane matters. I'm proud to say we have been able to grow those programs by 79% over the last several years to make Weathervane a major educational resource for our community.

Volunteerism continues to be strong with nearly 300 individuals dedicating in excess of 30,000 hours of volunteer time to Weathervane each year. These are people who come here because they love what theatre brings to their lives. That's why I'm not shy about trumpeting the simple fact that love is the foundation upon which this entire organization is built.

From where I sit, this theater has a very bright future.

I'd like to thank the Board of Trustees for their faith in me over these last seven years, the staff of Weathervane for their dedication and tireless work on behalf of this organization, and all of you for allowing me to be a part of the party that is Weathervane Playhouse.

Sincerely,

John Hedges  
Executive Director



# Weathervane

— PLAYHOUSE —

80th Season -- 2014-2015  
Mainstage Production #572  
September 4 - 21, 2014



**Book, Music and Lyrics by  
Leslie Bricusse  
& Anthony Newley**

**Directed by  
Michael Rupert\***

*\*The Director is a member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.*



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## About the Production

*The Roar of the Greasepaint -- The Smell of the Crowd* is a comical, allegorical satire on the British class system of the 1960s. Through a series of sketches and songs served up in a style reminiscent of vaudeville, we meet the show's two central characters: the pompous Sir (who represents "the Establishment") and the downtrodden Cocky (who stands in for "the little guy"). Sir and Cocky meet to play "The Game," which symbolizes the eternal struggle between "The Haves" and "The Have Nots."

Because Sir changes and manipulates the rules of The Game, Cocky always ends up with the short end of the stick. Sir's disciple and sidekick, known as The Kid, is eager to learn from his master while keeping an eye on the upstart Cocky, who desperately wants to beat Sir at The Game. As the mighty battle wages between Sir and Cocky, a group of young children known as the Urchins comment through song and dance (as a sort of Greek chorus).

Ultimately, Sir and Cocky are forced to realize that their interdependence is more complicated and thorny -- and perhaps more potentially variable -- than either "Have" or "Have Not" originally thought.

Now celebrating its 50th anniversary, many of the songs from *The Roar of the Greasepaint -- The Smell of the Crowd* have become musical standards: *Who Can I Turn To?*, *The Joker*, *The Beautiful Land*, *A Wonderful Day Like Today* and *Feeling Good* (which was a hit song for both Nina Simone and Michael Bublé).

### About the Show's Production History

Following the international smash success of their first show together (*Stop the World -- I Want to Get Off*), Leslie Bricusse and Anthony Newley went to work creating a new show together. For their new show's title, they playfully rearranged the phrase "the smell of the greasepaint, the roar of the crowd," which refers to the experience of theater performers. *The Roar of the Greasepaint -- The Smell of the Crowd* opened at the Theatre Royal in Nottingham, England, on August 3, 1964, and then toured the United Kingdom before its anticipated London opening. However, audience interest was minimal and it never reached the West End.

The American theatre producer David Merrick saw the show in Liverpool and decided to bring it to the United States. Merrick insisted that the show's co-creator, Anthony Newley, step into the starring role of Cocky. (One of the show's pre-Broadway stops was at the Hanna Theatre in Cleveland.) Tony Bennett released his own hit version of "Who Can I Turn To?" and Merrick persuaded RCA Victor to release the show's original cast recording before the show reached even New York City. By the time the show opened in New York in mid-May the *Greasepaint...* cast album had already sold over 100,000 copies.

After seven previews, the Broadway production, directed by Newley and choreographed by Gillian Lynne, opened on May 16, 1965, at the Shubert Theatre, where it ran for 231 performances and was nominated for six Tony Awards. Although the show did not win any Tony Awards (*Fiddler on the Roof* swept the major awards that season), the show proved to be popular and profitable on Broadway.

(Sources: Music Theatre International, Wikipedia.com and the Internet Broadway Database)

### About the Show's Creators

**LESLIE BRICUSSE** (Book, Music and Lyrics), a double Oscar- and Grammy-winner, is a writer/composer/lyricist who has contributed to many musical films and plays during his career. He was born in London in 1931 and educated at University College School and Gonville and Caius College, Cambridge. At Cambridge, he was president of the Footlights Revue Club and founded the Musical Comedy Club. There, he co-authored, directed and performed in his first two musical shows, *Out of the Blue* and *Lady at the Wheel*, both of which made their way to London's West End.

His subsequent stage musicals include *Stop the World -- I Want to Get Off*; *Greasepaint...*; *Pickwick*; *Harvey*; *The Good Old Bad Old Days*; *Goodbye, Mr. Chips*; *Henry's Wives*; *Scrooge*; *One Shining Moment*; *Sherlock Holmes*; *Jekyll and Hyde* and *Victor/Victoria*. He has written songs and/or screenplays for such films as *Doctor Dolittle*; *Scrooge*; *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory*; *Goodbye, Mr. Chips*; *Superman*; *Victor/Victoria*; *Santa Claus -- The Movie*; *Home Alone*; *Hook*; *Tom & Jerry -- The Movie* and various Pink Panther movies. He has been nominated for 10 Academy Awards, nine Grammys and four Tonys, and has won two Oscars, a Grammy and eight Ivor Novello Awards, the premiere British Music Award.

(Source for this biographical sketch: Music Theatre International)



## Cast

Sir .....	<b>Patrick Michael Dukeman</b>
Cocky .....	<b>Ryan Bergeron</b>
The Girl .....	<b>Ashley Bossard</b>
The Kid .....	<b>Kate Klika</b>
The Outsider .....	<b>Marcus Malcolm Martin</b>
The Bully .....	<b>Will Price</b>

### The Urchins

**Noah Casino, Anna Clawson, Zachary Charlick, Sarah Craven, Haley Gallagher, Sean Giannetti, Charlie Gruhler, Sara Thien An Ha, Wilson Ha, Emma Ilg, Gracie Thanasiu, Zack Troyer**

### Orchestra Musicians

**John Ebner ~ Piano**  
**George Dean ~ Guitar**  
**John Chambers ~ Bass**  
**Mick Shaull ~ Drums**

*There will be one 15-minute intermission.*

**ANTHONY NEWLEY** (Book, Music and Lyrics) was a British actor, singer and songwriter who was born on Sept. 24, 1931 in London. His first major film role was as the Artful Dodger in David Lean's *Oliver Twist* (1948). Newley had a successful pop-music career, with two No. 1 songs in 1960: "Why?" and "Do You Mind?" He won the 1963 Grammy Award for Song of the Year for "What Kind of Fool Am I?" With Leslie Bricusse, he wrote the musical *Stop the World -- I Want to Get Off* (in which he also performed), earning a nomination for a Tony Award for Best Leading Actor in a Musical. His other musicals include *Greasepaint...* (1965) and the movie musical *Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory* (1971).

Newley married and divorced three times. His first marriage in 1956, to Elizabeth Ann Lynn, was dissolved in 1963, the same year he married Joan Collins; they divorced in 1971. His third wife was a flight attendant, Dareth Dunn, whom he divorced in 1989. He was father to four children: a boy (Sacha) and girl (Tara) with Joan Collins and another boy (Christopher) and girl (Shelby) with Dareth Dunn.

His last feature role was in 1998 when Newley joined the cast of the BBC-TV series *EastEnders* in what was to have been a regular part. He withdrew from the role after a few months when his health began to fail. Anthony Newley died in Jensen Beach, Florida on April 14, 1999 of renal cancer.

### PLEASE...

- ♦ Turn OFF all mobile devices because even silenced calls and text messages interfere with the sound system backstage, on stage and throughout the theater.
- ♦ Be sure your 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 inside the theater or recording of the show in any way.
- ♦ Unwrap cough drops or mints before the performance begins.

### For Your Safety...

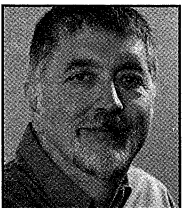
- ♦ We request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.
- ♦ NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.



## About Our Directing Team



**MICHAEL RUPERT** (Director) After *Breaking the Code* and *The Waverly Gallery*, Michael returns to The Weathervane Playhouse with *The Roar of the Greasepaint -- the Smell of the Crowd*. As an actor, in New York, he's been seen in *Legally Blonde The Musical* (Broadway, as well as the MTV Presentation), *Ragtime*, *Falsettos* (Tony nomination), *City of Angels*, *Mail*, *Sweet Charity* (Tony Award, Drama Desk Award), *Shakespeare's Cabaret*, *Pippin*, *The Happy Time* (Tony nomination, Theater World Award) *Putting It Together*, *Falsettoland*, *March of the Falsettos* and *Ancient History*. Regionally, Michael's credits include *Dangerous Beauty*, *Elegies* (Barrymore Award), *Baby*, *Adrift in Macao*, *A New Brain* (Helen Hayes nomination), *Falsettos* (LA Ovation Award), *Golden Boy*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *The Full Monty*, *Don't Stop the Carnival* (Carbonell nomination) and *The Merchant of Venice*. As a composer: *Mail* (LA Drama Critics nomination) and *3 Guys Naked From the Waist Down* (Drama Desk nomination). Locally, in addition to his work at Weathervane, Michael directed *Spring Awakening* at Kent State University. This fall, he will be starring in the new Broadway revival of *On the Town*.



**JOHN EBNER** (Musical Director) is glad to be back at Weathervane Playhouse. In past seasons, he was musical director for *Ragtime*, *Putting It Together*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Xanadu*, *Christmas My Way*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and *Ordinary Days*. He received a YACTA and a Chanticleer for *Ragtime* and another Chanticleer for *The Drowsy Chaperone*. He has worked extensively in a variety of ways as a musical director, keyboardist and accompanist for Canton Cabaret, Carousel Dinner Theatre, Coach House, Ohio Shakespeare Festival, The Players Guild of Canton, Western Reserve Playhouse and Voices of Canton. He has performed with Arthur Fiedler, Paul Williams and a Billy

Joel Tribute band at Cleveland's House of Blues. John is a retired music teacher and continues to work with local schools in Stark and Summit Counties. It is a pleasure to work with Michael and Lora and a fantastic cast and crew. It is awesome to work again with Ryan, Marcus, Jill, Scott, John, George and Mick. John is a happy husband of Cindy, proud father of Erin, Adam and Josh and a very proud grandpa of Anna and Natalie.



**LORA WORKMAN** (Choreographer) is a graduate of the Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music and has worn many theatrical hats throughout the Greater Cleveland area. She has performed in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* with Barbara Eden; *The Student Prince* with Jerome Hines; at Cedar Point Amusement Park and with The 24-Hour Project at Dobama Theatre. She created The Cleveland Cabaret Project where she directed/produced the Cleveland Premiere of *Miss Gulch Returns & A Cabaret Sampler*. She created "Class by the Glass," a cabaret/wine tasting event at PlayhouseSquare, producing such sold out shows as *Twisted Sisters and Misterys* and *What a*

*Fool Believes*. Lora directed the critically acclaimed *The Will Rogers Follies* at Berea Summer Theatre but is probably best known in this area for her choreography. Now that *Greasepaint...* has opened, she will begin rehearsals for the Halloween cabaret show *Cadaveret* which will be at PlayhouseSquare as well as *Got to Be There*, a new musical based on the music and life of Motown composer, Elliott Willensky.

### Musical Numbers

#### Act I

*The Beautiful Land*  
*A Wonderful Day Like Today*  
*It Isn't Enough*  
*Things to Remember*  
*Put It in the Book*  
*With All Due Respect*  
*This Dream*  
*Where Would You Be Without Me?*  
*Look at That Face*  
*My First Love Song*  
*The Joker*  
*Who Can I Turn To?*

#### Act II

*A Funny Funeral*  
*That's What It Is To Be Young*  
*What a Man*  
*Feeling Good*  
*Nothing Can Stop Me Now*  
*Things to Remember (Reprise)*  
*My Way*  
*Who Can I Turn To? (Reprise)*  
*The Beautiful Land (Reprise)*  
*Sweet Beginning*



## Cast Biographies



**PATRICK MICHAEL DUKEMAN** (Sir) is pleased to be back at Weathervane, having last been seen as "Lawrence" in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* this past June. Before that, he was seen as "Calliope/ Aphrodite" in *Xanadu* at the beginning of our 2013-2014 season, a production directed by Gwen Arment. He was the "Chairman" in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and in the role of his lifetime as "Man in Chair" in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, also directed by the brilliant Gwen Arment. Since his relocating back to Akron from San Francisco where he had been acting professionally for 20 years, he has played "Roger" in *The Producers* and "Ugly" in *Honk!* In SF, his portrayal of "Jerry Springer" in Jerry Springer The Opera garnered him a Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Best Actor nomination. Other credits include TheatreWorks productions of *Passion*, *Sideshow*, *She Loves Me* and *Kiss of the Spiderwoman*; also at New Century Theater, *Some Men*, "Mason" in *Take Me Out*, *Valhalla*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, "Prior" in *Angels in America*, "Fagin" in *Oliver!* and "The Stepmother" in *Cinderella*, for which he received a Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle Best Supporting Actor nomination.



**RYAN BERGERON** (Cocky) returns to Weathervane after appearing in *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Aldolpho). He has been seen Off-Broadway and in regional theatre and opera across the country, including venues such as the Provincetown Playhouse and the York Theatre (NYC), Baltimore's Centerstage and TOTH, Connecticut Repertory Theatre, Artpark (NY), Cleveland Play House, Cleveland Opera, Porthouse Theatre and Carousel Dinner Theatre, among others. Favorite credits include *Sweeney Todd* (Pirelli), *Songs for a New World* (Man 1), *Damn Yankees* (Applegate), *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (Tremont), *Parade* (Young Soldier), *Hello Again* (Young Thing) and *Into the Woods* (Rapunzel's Prince). Ryan holds a Masters of Music degree in Musical Theatre & Voice Pedagogy (NYU). Most recently, Ryan was an adjunct Professor of Voice at New York University and maintains a large voice studio in both NYC and Ohio. [ryanbergeron.com](http://ryanbergeron.com). Thanks!



**ASHLEY BOSSARD** (The Girl) is a graduate of Ohio University and received her BFA degree in performance in 2012. She recently finished *Don't Dress for Dinner* (Suzette) at Weathervane Playhouse as well as Beck Center's *She Loves Me* and *Annie*. Some of her favorite shows that she has been in are *War is F\*\*king Awesome* (Grace), a new play created by Vampire Cowboy Theatre Company, and *Servant of Two Masters* (Smeraldina) with Ohio University. After this you can see her in Cleveland Ingenuity Festival and *The Never-ending Story* (Ygramul) at Ensemble Theatre. She is so thankful to work with such a fantastic group of individuals. As always, love to her family and boyfriend. Enjoy the show!



**KATE KLIKA** (The Kid) is a freshman at Firestone High School, where she is enrolled in the pre-International Baccalaureate program. She recently played the role of Dorothy Gale in our summer production of *The Wizard of Oz*. Other credits include the role of Fantine in *Les Miserables* at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts. Kate says she would like to study voice and musical theater in college and pursue a career on Broadway.



**MARCUS MALCOLM MARTIN** (The Outsider) is starting his senior year at Copley High School, where he is active with the drama club, speech and debate team and concert chorale. He was recently seen at Weathervane in this summer's production of *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* and as Joseph in last season's *Joseph... Dreamcoat* as well as *Honk!* last summer.



**WILL PRICE** (The Bully) is a freshman at Hudson High School and is very excited to be appearing in his second Weathervane production. He previously has undertaken such roles as the Artful Dodger (*Oliver!*), Aladdin (*Aladdin*), Bert (*Mary Poppins*) and,



## 80+ Cast Biographies

most recently, John Day in our production of *Life With Father*. Will attended Interlochen Center for the Arts this past summer where he studied Musical Theater. He thanks his supportive family and friends as well as Michael Rupert for giving him this amazing opportunity.



**NOAH CASINO** (Urchin) is thrilled to be back on our stage after making his mainstage debut in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* this past June. Previous roles include Zebulon and Gad in

*Joseph...Dreamcoat*, George Gibbs in *Our Town* and Nat Eaton in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, all for Weathervane. A homeschooled high school senior from Akron, Noah is proud to say that he will be attending Kent State University in the fall to pursue a BFA degree in Musical Theater. When he's not on our stage, he enjoys mixed media work, sewing, drawing and performing with Nuance, a men's a cappella group.



**ANNA CLAWSON** (Urchin) was seen as "one of the boys" in the Porthouse production of *Oliver!* this past summer. She is a fifth grade student at Miller South School, where she played Young Cosette in their production of *Les Miserables* last school year. For Weathervane, Anna was seen in *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *Honk!*, *The Music Man* (as Gracie Shinn) and *Annie* (in the title role). She studies piano at Ohio Conservatory and dance at Nan Klinger Excellence in Dance.



**ZACHARY CHARLICK** (Urchin) a sixth grader in Jackson Township has been performing in local theaters since the age of six. Favorite roles include Oliver (*Oliver!*), Tiny Tim (*A Christmas Carol: The New Musical*), John Darling (*Peter Pan*), Tom Sawyer (*The Adventures of Tom Sawyer*), James (*James and the Giant Peach*), Bruno (*Boy in the Striped Pajamas*) and Young Shrek (*Shrek*). Offstage, Zachary enjoys reading, writing songs and creating inventions. He recently returned from a six-week intensive musical theater program at Interlochen Arts Camp in Michigan. Many thanks to Michael for the opportunity to be part of a production at Weathervane!



**SARAH CRAVEN** (Urchin) was seen in our production of *The Wizard of Oz* this past summer as an apple tree/manicurist/Jitterbug and Winkie. She is in the eighth grade at Miller South School, where she was a member of the *Les*

*Miserables* ensemble last spring. For Weathervane, she has been seen in *Annie*, *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *Honk!* and *The Music Man*. When it comes to her favorite things, Sarah says that she loves dancing (especially tap), and playing the guitar. She aspires to be on Broadway!



**HALEY GALLAGHER** (Urchin) was seen in our production of *The Wizard of Oz* as a crow/Ozian/Jitterbug and Winkie. She played Zebulon's wife in our 2013 *Joseph...*

*Dreamcoat* and, before that, was in *Annie* and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. She is a freshman at Firestone high school in their vocal music program and the pre-international Baccalaureate Program. She is a member of the Cuyahoga Valley Youth Ballet and enjoys swimming and reading in addition to all of her other activities.



**SEAN GIANNETTI** (Urchin) made his Weathervane debut as Salesman/Clyde Parsons in *The Music Man*. He was also seen in the chorus of *The Secret Garden* (Hudson Players) and played Linus in *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.

In addition, he played the Candy Man in *Willie Wonka*. Sean is a graduate of Hudson High School and a staff member at Life Center Plus in Hudson. He's also been a member of the Hudson Community Chorus for more than two years. He loves volunteering at Laurel Lake Retirement Community and The Gables of Hudson.



**CHARLIE GRUHLER** (Urchin) was recently seen in our production of *The Wizard of Oz* as Apple Tree/Polisher/Jitterbug and Winkie. While a student at Miller South School, Charlie played Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables* and Matthew Mugg in *Doctor Dolittle*. At Weathervane, he sang and danced with *The Music Man* ensemble, appeared as Issachar in *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and in the ensembles of *Annie* and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. He is a freshman at Firestone High School here in Akron.



**SARA THIEN AN HA** (Urchin) was Coroner/Poppy/Jitterbug in our recent production of *The Wizard of Oz* and played Fortunate Fishy/Fussy Frog in *Honk!* last summer. Sara was also a River City Kid in *The Music Man* and played Molly, the youngest orphan, in *Annie*. She loves to sing and act on stage and has

## 80+ Cast Biographies

shared her talents at Old Trail School and church. She studies piano, likes to draw and loves to play outdoors with her guinea pigs in her free time. She's in the fourth grade.



**WILSON HA** (Urchin) is happy to play an Urchin in *Greasepaint*. He recently played Mayor/Poppy/Jitterbug in our production of *The Wizard of Oz*.

Also at Weathervane, Wilson played Greylag in *Honk!*, Winthrop in *The Music Man* and danced in the *Annie* ensemble. He is in the sixth grade at Old Trail School where he studies violin and sings with the choir. He also studies musicianship and piano at the Ohio Conservatory. He thanks everyone who supports his musical experiences and he looks forward to more opportunities to be on stage.



**EMMA ILG** (Urchin) is another member of our cast from *The Wizard of Oz*, having played an Ozian and Jitterbug. Previously she played Betty Duckling in last summer's *Honk!* In 2012, she shared the title role in *Annie*. Emma is in the seventh grade at Claggett Middle School in Medina, where she played Cinderella in *The*

*Liberated Cinderella*. Her other hobbies include singing, guitar, composition and dancing.



**GRACIE THANASIU** (Urchin), a freshman at Firestone High School this year, has truly made her mark at Weathervane. Her credits include *The Wizard of Oz* (multiple roles), Kit Tyler in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, narrator in *Joseph...*

*Dreamcoat*, Henrietta in *Honk!*, the Baker and Gad's Wife in the 2012 *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and Tessie in *Annie*. While at Miller South School, she was very active with Jr. Thespians earning a Double Superior Individual Event rating at the 2013 and 2014 conferences.



**ZACK TROYER** (Urchin) returns to the Weathervane stage having played Levi in last season's *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and a River City Kid in *The Music Man* the summer of 2013 and was also an

ensemble member in *Joseph...Dreamcoat* in 2012. He is a sophomore at Firestone High School where he is a proud member of the school's theater program. Zach was also in the ensemble of *Bye Bye Birdie*, Akron's All-City Musical 2014.

## Leave Your Legacy at Weathervane

*Weathervane's Legacy Society is only a year old and already we have a growing number of people who have told us they are planning to remember Weathervane in their estates in the years to come.*

*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 of Weathervane. Your gift can fulfill a specific purpose or project while providing your estate with tax savings. Ask us about Charitable Remainder Trusts too.*

*To help ensure that Weathervane will continue and, if you would like to have your name added to our Legacy Society, please contact Janis Harcar at 330-836-2626 or [jharcar@weathervaneplayhouse.com](mailto:jharcar@weathervaneplayhouse.com).*



## Creative Team Biographies



**JILL FORSTER** (Stage Manager) is a second-generation Weathervane and a 36-year veteran of stage management. She has three Chanticleers for lighting designs. In her long association with the Playhouse's Women's Board (now the Volunteer Guild), she has served as treasurer for youth programs and as First Vice-President and President of the organization. Jill holds degrees from The University of Akron in Sociology and Criminal Justice. She is retired from her position as Director of Specialty Courts for the Akron Municipal Court.



**AUDREY FLIEGEL** (Sound Designer) started her volunteer activities in 2012 as a sound operator for our production of *Annie*. Her credits include *Xanadu*, *The Music Man*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. She is a graduate of St. Vincent-St. Mary High School, where she got her start in theater working with sound and was also a stage manager for *Singing in the Rain*. She is currently a student at The University of Akron working towards a degree in Media Production and a minor in Spanish.



**BRIANNA MACHUGA** (Properties Co-Designer) has been volunteering at Weathervane since working on the props crew for *Dancing at Lughnasa* in 2012. At the beginning of last season, she was Properties Co-Designer for *Xanadu* and, previously, co-designed props for *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Honk!* She is a graduate of St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron.



**JORDAN PRIDDY** (Properties Co-Designer) has been volunteering at Weathervane since working on the props crew for *Dancing at Lughnasa* in 2012. Her other props co-designs were for *Xanadu*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and *Honk!* Jordan performed with the Cuyahoga Valley Youth Ballet for five years noting her performances in *The Nutcracker*, *Fancy Nancy* and *Madeline Goes to the Circus*. She is a graduate of St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron.



**JONATHON HUNTER** (Lighting Designer) returns to Weathervane after previous shows including *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Music Man*, *Cinderella* and *Pippin*. He also served as props designer on

*A View from the Bridge*, *Breaking the Code* and *The Sum of Us* and was stage manager for *They're Playing Our Song*. Jonathon also assists with the construction of our sets. He holds a MFA degree in Lighting Design from The University of Akron.



**CHRISTOPHER J. HA** (Assistant Stage Manager) most recently worked as stage manager for *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*. He also worked as the Assistant Stage Manager for *Our Town* and *The Taming of the Shrew*. His credits onstage include four consecutive years of *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *Father Swan* in *Honk!*, as well as roles in *The Music Man*, *Annie* and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. As a dancer, his credits include *Snow White* and *The Magic Mirror: A Grimm Tale* at E.J. Thomas Hall (a NEOS Dance Theatre production), as well as numerous productions at the Dance Institute at The University of Akron. Christopher studies piano, classical ballet, jazz, tap, modern and ballroom dance training. He is a member of the Volunteer Guild and the chair of W.A.Y. (Weathervane Advances Youth).



**JASEN J. SMITH** (Costume Designer) joined the Weathervane professional staff in August 2008. He's designed costumes for many Weathervane productions. His co-design credits include *Man of La Mancha*, which earned him and his collaborator the Chanticleer Award for best costume design of the 2008-2009 season. He won a Marquee Award for best costume design from the Youngstown Area Community Theatre Association for his work on *Children of Eden*. His other regional costume-design credits include Porthouse Theatre, Case Western Reserve University and Ohio Light Opera.



**ALAN SCOTT FERRALL** (Lighting Designer) began at Weathervane as a backstage volunteer under the tutelage of the late John R. Thomas. This is Scott's 18th season as a Weathervane staff member. He has designed for Cuyahoga Falls High School, The Players Guild of Canton, Cleveland Signstage Theatre and Western Reserve Public Media (PBS-TV Channels 45/49). Here, Scott has earned seven Chanticleer Awards and has written four one-act children's plays that tour local schools. He was awarded the 2012 Trustees Award.



## In the Harris Family Gallery ~ A Weathervane Celebration

The 2014-2015 Season marks Weathervane's 80th Anniversary! To celebrate this milestone, we are featuring a selection of our History Panels, which were researched, designed and executed by Scott Ferrall, with the help of many volunteers. They beautifully showcase the buildings that preceded our current theatre and provide insight into the philosophy and lives of our Four Founders.

Also on display are several of Scott's favorite set designs from the more than 175 he's produced during his 16 year tenure as our Scenic Designer/Technical Director. To complete this exhibit, Jasen Smith, our Costume Designer and Costume Shop Manager, has provided some examples of costume illustrations with mannequins modeling the finished product. Since Jasen started working here in 2008, he has designed costumes for more than 50 shows.

The average audience member probably never considers all the elements that make up a production. The actors are the most obvious component. But, the set designer and the costumer collaborate to present the best possible picture on stage, along with the lighting designer. The costumer has to consider not only the era of the play, but also the colors of the costumes as they relate to the palette of the set. Every show is like a three-dimensional jigsaw puzzle. The set, the costumes, the actors, the lights, sound and props all have to fit together to present the playwright's words and vision of the play.

This exhibit illustrates two of those technical aspects: the collaboration of the scenic designer and the costumer. In addition, the work of many volunteers makes the magic happen. Scott has volunteers who help him with the set construction, the painting and the "set dressing" for every show. Jasen has volunteers who help him in the construction, sewing and finishing of the costumes.

There are volunteers responsible for running lights, sound and props for every show. Volunteers work in the Box Office, house manage, usher and staff the Gift Shop.

The vision of our four Founders had when they started this venture continues into the 21st century. Without such a strong volunteer base, Weathervane Community Playhouse wouldn't be celebrating 80 years of continuous performances. We hope this exhibit might inspire some to think about being "part of the show" and offer their talents to the Weathervane community. "Consider yourself at home, consider yourself part of the family."

Marci Paolucci, Gallery Curator



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## Production Team

Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director  
Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director  
Jonathon Hunter -- Carpenter

### SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson  
Bill Lambacher  
Dale Gilbert  
Roger Dieringer

### SET DRESSING

Michael Rupert  
Kathy Kohl  
Jonathon Hunter

### SOUND

Audrey Fleigel  
Russ Craven  
Scott Thanasiu

### LIGHTS

Jonathon Hunter  
Linda Hostetler  
Sue Snyder  
Dale Gilbert  
Steve Moushey  
Jasmine McAdams  
JJ McAdams  
Matt Raymon  
Kevin Lambes  
Bryson Lambes

### PROPERTIES

Brianna Machuga  
Jordan Priddy

### COSTUMES

Jasen J. Smith  
Pat Nichols  
Diantha Seibert  
Carol Smith  
Naiya Moss  
Millie Keyser  
Loretta Brinton  
Golina Vinograd

### Thanks to Our Hard-Working Volunteers

*The following are the dedicated volunteers who have assisted us recently.*

Jenny Banker  
Stacy Bechtel  
Phyllis Bernel  
June Bretzin  
Loretta Brinton  
Eleanor Campbell  
Chris Capron  
Frank Castorena  
Gail Cheslock  
Mary Kate Clancy  
Frank Comunale

Wendy Cooley  
Brenda Costarella  
Ted Davis  
Harriet DeVeto  
Rosalie Ellis  
Jill Forster  
Sierra Forster  
Dale Gilbert  
Christopher J. Ha  
Meg Hopp  
Jim Horvath

Millie Keyser  
Joanna Mack  
Michele McNeal  
Megan Nelson  
John O'Neill  
Marci Paolucci  
Phyllis Parks  
Bess Raines  
Lucy Randles  
Ruth Richardson  
Randie Sass

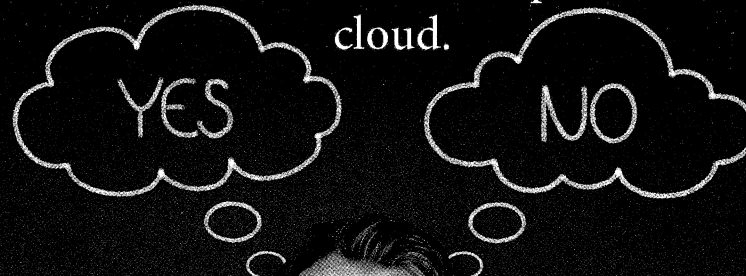
Pearl Sentelik  
Dorothy Shaffer  
Sue Smith  
Pat Stuhldreher  
Miriam Thrasher  
Valerie Thrasher  
Barbie Trotter  
Helen Vari  
Parents of "The Wizard of Oz" Cast

### JOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

In seven seasons as Executive Director, Mr. Hedges has led Weathervane Playhouse into a new era of vitality. Among the accomplishments during his tenure are growing the audience base by 24%, increasing total revenue by 31%, growing individual contributions by 57%, and the successful completion of a \$1.1 million capital fundraising campaign. A professional actor for over 20 years, his Northeast Ohio performance credits include critically acclaimed productions of *Heartbreak House* with the Cleveland Classics Project, *God of Carnage* at Dobama Theatre (2012 BroadwayWorld Regional Best Actor Award), and a special production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with the Akron Symphony Orchestra at EJ Thomas Hall. Prior to coming to Weathervane, John spent ten years in the Resident Acting Company at the historic Barter Theatre in Virginia where he performed in over sixty shows. Other acting credits include performances at Broadway's Town Hall, the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles, Actors Theatre of Louisville, the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, and the American Stage Festival in New Hampshire where he appeared opposite Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis in *The Cherry Orchard*. Film credits include the award-winning independent film *Freedom* (2006 Best Supporting Actor Award, SA International Film Festival). An accomplished arts executive, Mr. Hedges has been Managing Director of First Stage Milwaukee, Associate Producer of North Shore Music Theatre, Business Director of Gloucester Stage Company, and General Manager of New York's award-winning Pearl Theatre Company. He is a member of Actors' Equity Association, served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource as well as the Akron Area Arts Alliance, been a Conference Panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre & Education, and written for American Theatre magazine. He studied at Indiana State University, the DeVos Institute of Arts Management at the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware, the National Shakespeare Conservatory in New York, and holds an honorary MFA degree in theatre from Stafford University. John is a graduate of Leadership Akron (Class XXV).

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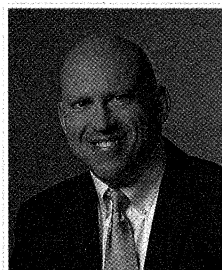
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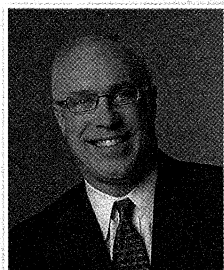
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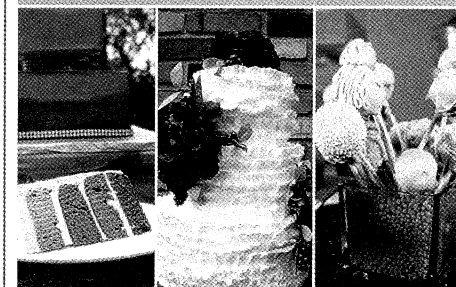


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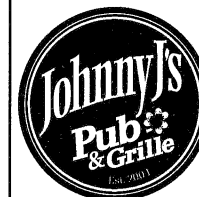


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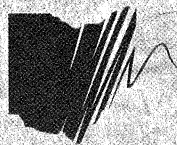


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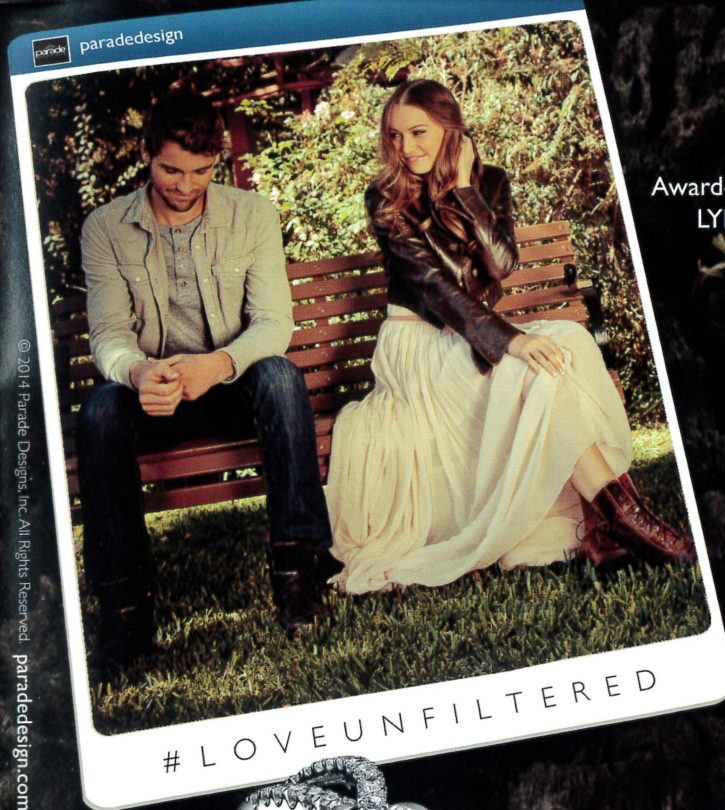
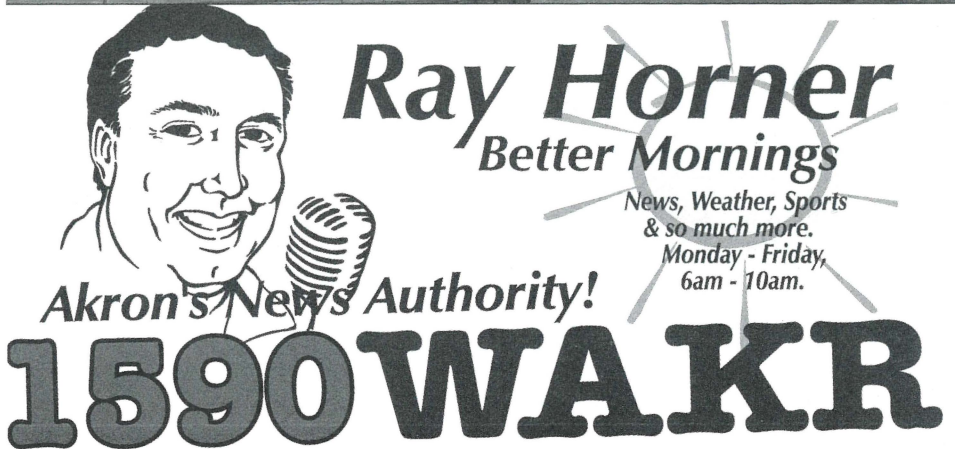
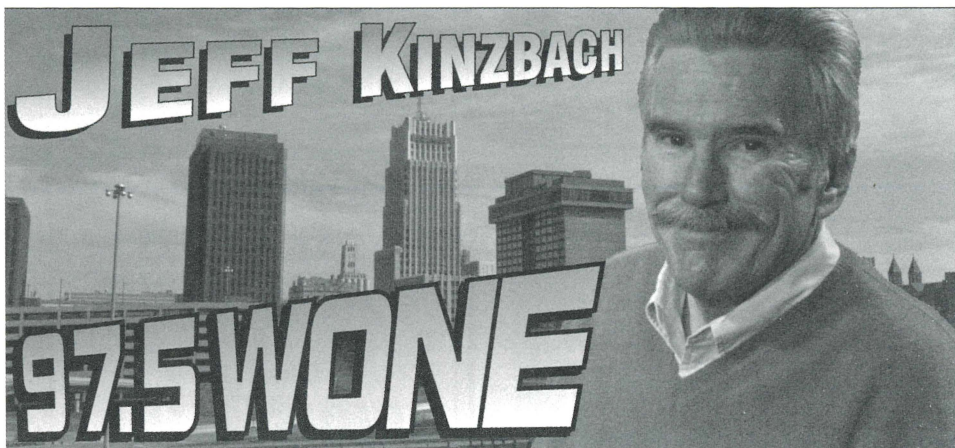


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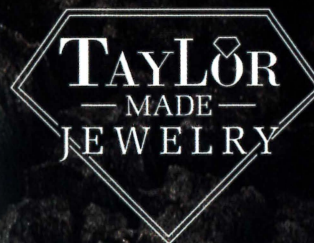
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