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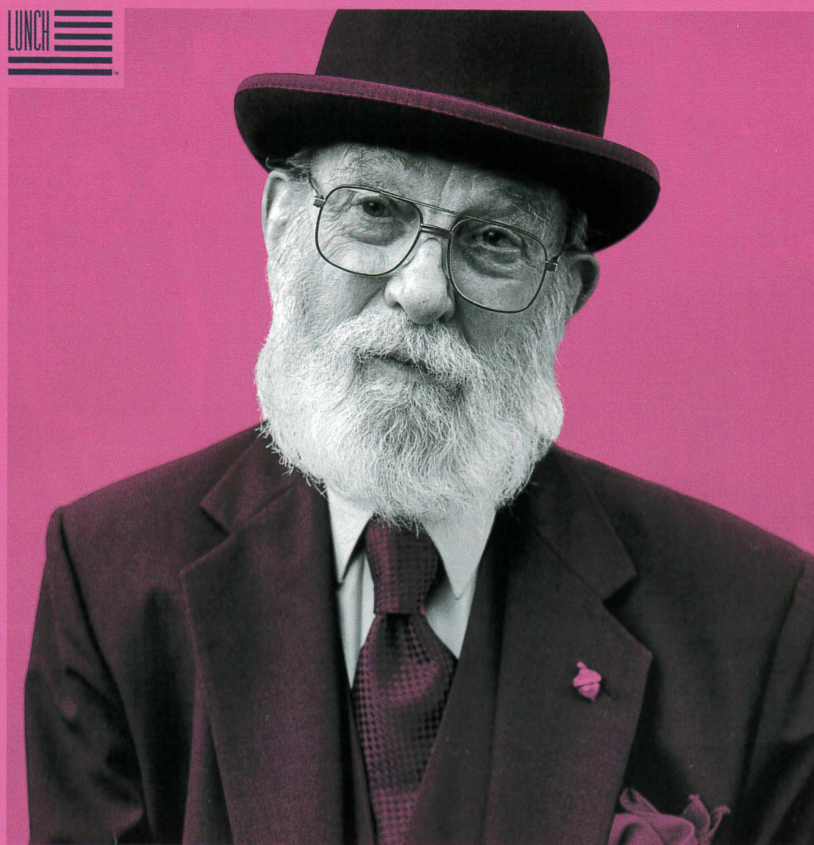
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

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 84th season.

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- Food and drinks are permitted in the auditorium, but please consume them quietly out of respect to your fellow audience members and performers.

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Hunchback History

I wanted this exhibit to feature the role of hunchbacks throughout history. The hunchback has been part of literature, opera, plays, and films for many years. Many of us are only familiar with the silent film starring Lon Chaney, or, the later film with Charles Laughton and Maureen O'Hara. Of course, these films were based on Victor Hugo's book, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame", which was published in 1831. In 1996, Walt Disney Animated Studios made an animated film of the famous story and added music. A musical play was adapted from the film and new songs were added.

"Rigoletto", an opera in three acts by Italian composer Giuseppe Verdi, based on a play by Victor Hugo, features a hunchback in the title role. There are also films of the opera. A hunchback is the title character in William Shakespeare's play "Richard the III". "Richard the III" has also been made into several films.

Of course, there is Igor, the lab assistant, in both "Frankenstein" and "Young Frankenstein" and other horror films.

There are many depictions of hunchbacks in paintings, engravings and books going back a few centuries.

This display also features the work of Robert A. Kraus (RAK), well known local fantasy artist. His original artwork presents unique interpretations of the "Hunchback of Notre Dame" characters, and movie posters embellished with his original artwork. Robert is the creator of the famous board game, "Dragon War" and the hundreds of expansions to go with it. RAK is involved in many Comic Cons throughout the year and many of the Wizard World Cons. Visit www.rakgraphics.com to see all his work.

The artwork by Robert A. Kraus is for sale. If you wish to make a purchase, please inquire at the Box Office or the Gift Shop. RAK has generously offered to donate a portion of the proceeds of any sales to Weathervane.

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ALAN MENKEN (Author) Stage musicals: *God Bless You, Mr. Rosewater*; *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Beauty and The Beast*; *A Christmas Carol*; Disney's *The Little Mermaid*; *Sister Act*; *Leap of Faith*; *Newsies*; *Aladdin*; *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*; *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz* and *A Bronx Tale*. Film work: *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty and The Beast* (animated), *Newsies*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, *Enchanted*, *Tangled*, *Sausage Party*, *Beauty and the Beast* (live version). Television credits: *Sesame Street*, *Lincoln*, *The Neighbors*, *Galavant*, *Tangled*. Awards: 2012 Tony®, Drama Desk, 8 Oscars®, 11 Grammy® Awards, 7 Golden Globes®, London's Evening Standard, the Olivier and Outer Critics Circle. Other: Songwriters Hall of Fame, Billboard's #1 single and album, Disney Legend, star on Hollywood Walk of Fame. Doctorates from NYU and the North Carolina School of the Arts.



STEPHEN SCHWARTZ (Music) wrote the music and lyrics for the current Broadway hit *WICKED*, and has also contributed music and/or lyrics to *Godspell*, *Pippin*, *The Magic Show*, *The Baker's Wife*, *Working* (which he also adapted and directed), *Rags*, and *Children of Eden*. He collaborated with Leonard Bernstein on the English texts for Bernstein's *Mass* and wrote the title song for the play and movie *Butterflies are Free*. For children, he has written songs for two musicals, *Captain Louie* and *My Son Pinocchio*. He has also worked in film, collaborating with Alan Menken on the songs for Disney's *Enchanted* as well as the animated features *Pocahontas* and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and writing the songs for the DreamWorks animated feature *The Prince of Egypt*. His first opera, *Séance on a Wet Afternoon*, was produced at Opera Santa Barbara and New York City Opera. A book about his career, *Defying Gravity*, has been released by Applause Books. Mr. Schwartz has been inducted into the Theatre Hall of Fame and the Songwriters Hall of Fame, and has been given a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Awards include three Academy Awards, four Grammy Awards, and a tiny handful of tennis trophies.



PETER PARNELL (Book) most recently wrote the new book for the Broadway revival of Lerner and Lane's *On A Clear Day You Can See Forever*, starring Harry Connick Jr. and Jessie Mueller. His plays include *Trumpet* (Atlantic Theatre Company), *QED* starring Alan Alda (Mark Taper Forum, Vivian Beaumont, LCT), a two-part stage adaptation of John Irving's *The Cider House Rules* (Seattle Rep, Taper, Atlantic, American Theatre Critics Association Award). His other plays, *Sorrows of Stephen*, *The Rise and Rise of Daniel Rocket*, *Romance Language*, *Hyde in Hollywood*, *Flaubert's Latest*, and *An Imaginary Life*, were first produced by the Public Theater and at Playwrights Horizons. For television, Parnell was a co-producer for *The West Wing* (two Emmy Award citations), and a producer for *The Guardian*, *Inconceivable*, and *Six Degrees*. His children's book *And Tango Makes Three*, co-authored with Justin Richardson, was an American Library Association Notable Book, a Henry Bergh Award winner, and has either headed or been on the ALA'S Top Ten List of Most Banned Books from 2006-2012. Parnell has served on the Literary Award Committee of PEN, and has taught writing at Dartmouth, the New School, Columbia, the Yale School of Drama, and currently at NYU. He proudly serves as Vice-President of The Dramatists Guild.

CAST LIST

Quasimodo	TONY HEFFNER
Dom Claude Frolo	THOMAS BAUMGARDNER
Esmeralda.....	BROOKE LYTTON
Phoebus Du Martin	JONATHAN MERECHANT
Clopin Trouillefou.....	MICHAEL MOYSEENKO
Jehan	BENJAMIN ARRINGTON
Saint Aphrodisius	GARY DAVIS
King Louis XI	TYLER FERREBEE
Florika.....	TÉA WITTMANN
Father Dupin/Tribunal	ADAM C. ALDERSON
Lt. Frederic Charlus.....	JASON COPEN
Madam.....	LAURA NIEHAUS
Congregants.....	GARY DAVIS, MELISSA TIPPIN, MARGO TIPPING
Gargoyles	BENJAMIN ARRINGTON, JASON COPEN, TYLER FERREBEE, LAURA NIEHAUS, TÉA WITTMANN, PATRICK SULLIVAN, SARAH JANE TOY, ALEXANDRA VANALLEN
Ensemble.....	SYDNEY BANKS, OWEN CASINO, EMILY CONTI, CASEY HA, KATE JOHNSON, CONNOR MAST, JASON BRYAN MAURER, MADISON PELLE, MARY ROHRER, PATRICK RYEL, JASEN J. SMITH, VANESSA YOVANOVICH

SETTING

Paris, 1482

THERE WILL BE ONE 10-MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT ONE

<i>Olim</i>	Congregation, Choir
<i>The Bells of Notre Dame</i>	Congregation, Choir, Frolo, Jehan, Father Dupin
<i>Sanctuary</i>	Frolo, Quasimodo
<i>Out There</i>	Quasimodo
<i>Topsy Turvy</i>	Clopin, Quasimodo, Revelers, Choir
<i>Rest and Recreation</i>	Phoebus, Frolo, Clopin, Revelers, Soldiers, Choir
<i>Rhythm of the Tambourine</i>	Esmeralda, Phoebus, Frolo, Quasimodo, Clopin
<i>Topsy Turvy (Reprise)</i>	Clopin, Esmeralda, Revelers, Choir
<i>Sanctuary II</i>	Frolo, Quasimodo
<i>God Help the Outcasts</i>	Esmeralda, Parishioners, Choir
<i>Top of the World</i>	Esmeralda, Quasimodo, Statues, Gargoyles
<i>Tavern Song (Thai Mol Piyas)</i>	Gypsies, Esmeralda, Frolo
<i>Heaven's Light</i>	Quasimodo
<i>Hellfire</i>	Frolo, Priests, Choir
<i>Esmeralda</i>	Company

ACT TWO

<i>Entr'acte</i>	Choir
<i>Agnus Dei</i>	Choir
<i>Flight into Egypt</i>	Saint Aphrodisius, Quasimodo, Statues, Gargoyles, Choir
<i>The Court of Miracles</i>	Clopin, Gypsies
<i>In a Place of Miracles</i>	Phoebus, Esmeralda, Quasimodo, Clopin, Gypsies, Choir
<i>Someday</i>	Esmeralda, Phoebus
<i>Made of Stone</i>	Quasimodo, Statues, Gargoyles
<i>Judex Crederis/Kyrie Eleison</i>	Company
<i>Finale Ultimo</i>	Company

ORCHESTRA

Edward Ridley, Jr., Musical Director, Keyboards
Trent Kay Maverick, Keyboards
Patrick Wagner, Drums and Percussion



TONY HEFFNER (Quasimodo) is thrilled to be at Weathervane as part of this amazing production! He resides in Berea and has participated in many productions in the greater Cleveland area including Cassidy Theatre, Cain Park, The Brecksville Theatre, and Beck Center. Some of Tony's favorite credits include *Next to Normal* (Gabe), *Bonnie and Clyde: A New Musical* (Clyde Barrow), *American Idiot* (Johnny), *Urinetown: The Musical* (Bobby Strong), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Leaf Coneybear/Carl Dad/Olive's Dad), and *Catch Me If You Can: The Musical* (Frank Abagnale, Jr.). When not on the stage, Tony is an instructor at The Little Gym of Rocky River teaching gymnastics, sports, and dance to children ages 4 months to 12 years. Tony would like to thank his family and friends for always supporting him in all he does! "GBOGB! For Bug."



THOMAS BAUMGARDNER (Dom Claude Frolo) Husband, Father, Grandfather, and Singer, Tom has been drawn to the arts throughout his life. He has been a soldier, a nurse, a truck driver, and many other things in a paisley career, but always, a singer. Tom has sung in *Madame Butterfly* and *The Magic Flute* at Wooster College with director/performer Todd Ranney, in comic operas *The Rose Of Algiers* and *Little Johnny Jones* with the Canton Comic Operas with Joseph Rubin, and has had solo performances with Summit Choral Society at St. Bernard's/St. Mary's in Akron, as well as dinner theater showings with the Canton Repertory, where anything from Broadway to nightclub to Motown was performed. For four years, he performed as a soloist and choir member in the Larry Wilgus *Christmas Music Spectacular* at the Akron Civic Theater. Church music remains a strong part of Tom's musical career, appearing regularly at local churches, especially the Unity Chapel in Akron. Five years ago, Tom performed in *Xanadu* at Weathervane and was astonished to find how much there is still to learn. Last year he worked again with Weathervane in *Christmas Carol* and learned still more! Tom trained with Clifford Billions at the University of Akron, and took instruction and training as well with Todd Ranney, whom he wishes to thank for the opportunities Mr. Ranney

provided to sing with the Wooster College Opera program. Additional education was acquired on an ad hoc basis, by being willing to sing or try anything, from Motown to Mozart, a method Tom heartily endorses.



BROOKE LYTTON (Esmeralda) Brooke Lytton (Esmeralda) is happy to be back at Weathervane after last season's *Young Frankenstein*. She was most recently seen in *Bare* at Western Reserve Playhouse as Rory. Other favorite credits include Cathy (*The Last Five Years*), Claire (Ordinary Days), Marcy (*I Love You Because*), Narrator (Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat), and Mother (*Ragtime*). She would like to thank her family and friends for their love and support.



JONATHAN MERECHANT (Phoebus Du Martin) has been on the Weathervane stage in *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Sebastian), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Mitch Mahoney), *Hair* (tribe), *Peter Pan* (Starkey), *Oklahoma!* (Ali Hakim), and *Hairspray* (Seaweed J. Stubbs). He made his backstage crew debut on the props crew for *Dracula*. You also may recall his many performances in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* from 2007 to 2012. Other roles include Dr. Watson in *Art of Deduction: Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes* and The Cat in the Hat in *Seussical*, both at Weathervane. Other credits include Benjamin Coffin III in *Rent* at North Canton Playhouse, ensemble in *Ragtime* at Kent State University and ensemble in *The Producers* at Firestone High School. Jonathan currently attends The University of Akron.



MICHAEL MOYSEENKO (Clopin Trouillefou) is delighted to be returning to Weathervane Playhouse to beguile you as Clopin-King of the Gypsies! Michael studied at Bowling Green State University, where he received a BMA in Music Education, with a concentration in opera. Michael's most recent theatrical involvements as an actor or as part of a directing team include *Into the Woods* (Cinderella's Prince), *The Addams Family* (Music Director), *Seussical the Musical* (Director), *Disney's The Little Mermaid* (Music

Director/Prince Eric), *Grease* (Director), *The King and I* (King Mongkut), *Die Fledermaus* (Dr. Falke), *Pirates of Penzance* (chorus), and *The Merry Widow* (chorus). Michael is forever grateful for the love and support of his friends, family, and "heaven's light," Melissa. Please enjoy this magnificent production, and thank you for your support of local theatre and Weathervane Playhouse. Brother, you're there!



BENJAMIN ARRINGTON

(Jehan/Gargoyles) is excited to be making his Weathervane Playhouse debut in one of his favorite musicals. He has been acting in the Akron/Canton area for over a decade in dozens of productions. His favorite previous credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Leaf), *Sweeney Todd* (Beadle Bamford), *Shrek the Musical* (Lord Farquaad), *Dogfight* (Fector), and *All Shook Up* (Dennis). Ben spends his time playing guitar, playing Zelda, and playing house with kids at his day job.



GARY DAVIS (Saint Aphrodisius/Congregant) is the husband of longtime Weathervane lighting designer, volunteer, and four-time Chanticleer winner Susan Davis. He ended his long retirement from

the stage, which started with the birth of their children, with Weathervane's summer production of *Into the Woods*. Gary is a tenor whose previous performance was in Weathervane's *A Little Night Music* and has also performed with Cleveland Opera (including *Aida*, *Carousel*, *Cavalleria Rusticana* and the world premiere of Stewart Copeland's *Holy Blood & Crescent Moon*), the Cleveland Orchestra and Akron Symphony Choruses, University of Akron's Opera Workshop (including Mozart's *Magic Flute* and *The Fantasticks*), Geauga Lyric Theater Guild (*Brigadoon*), and more Stow Players productions than he can remember.



TYLER FERREBREE (King Louis XI/Gargoyles) is making a return to the Weathervane stage as King Louis XI and a Gargoyle. He was last seen here as Annas in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Tyler would like to thank his friends and family for their

overwhelming support, and the cast and crew for being such a pleasure to work with!



TÉA WITTMANN (Florika/Gargoyles) was born and raised in Darmstadt, Germany. She has always sung in the choir for school and took piano lessons. At 17 she moved to St. Croix (USVI), an island in the Caribbean, and attended High School there for two years, where she discovered her interest in musicals. After graduating from Country Day School she went to Stage & Musical School in Frankfurt, Germany. Within the three years of studying she was seen on stage in different plays such as *Fame*, a school production, and *Jekyll & Hyde*, a production of the city Theatre of Lahnstein. After graduating from Stage & Musical School, she was in the show *Mass* by Leonard Bernstein, produced by Konzertchor Darmstadt, got to perform *All That Jazz* in the Opera House Frankfurt for the Hessian Movie Awards, which led to an employment in the State Theatre Darmstadt in *Footloose*, this last May.



ADAM C. ALDERSON (Father Dupin/Tribunal) is pleased to be performing in his fifth musical on the Weathervane stage! Seen most recently in his Chanticleer Award-winning performance as the Baker in *Into the Woods*, Adam has also performed roles throughout northern Ohio. Favorite roles include Mr. Mushnik in *Little Shop of Horrors*, Sheridan Whiteside in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, Herr Schultz in *Cabaret*, and Gregory Poynter in Weathervane's *Relatively Speaking*. Adam has also worked backstage as a director, music director, and dialect coach. He would like to thank his wife, Patti, his son, Alex, his family and co-workers for their unfailing support of his theatrical pursuits.



JASON COPEN (Lt. Frederic Charlus/Gargoyles) As a lifelong Disney and theater fan, he is beyond thrilled to be making his Weathervane debut in this special production! He was recently in the Canton Players Guild production of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (Choir), and locally he has performed in the Curtain Up fundraiser for North Canton Playhouse since

2015. Jason has had the privilege of singing at Carnegie Hall in New York City with Keith and Kristyn Getty every December since 2014, and has been a part of the choir and vocal team at The Chapel in Akron and Green for 20 years. He received a B.A. in vocal music from Kent State University. Phil 4:13



LAURA NIEHAUS (Madam/Gargoyles) was recently seen on the Weathervane stage as Mrs. Merkle in *Bye Bye Birdie* and as Aunt Shelia in *It Shoulda Been You*. She is excited to join this production of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Laura would like to thank her family for supporting her from that production, to this, and beyond.



MELISSA TIPPIN (Congregant) is very excited to be back in another Weathervane production. Melissa received a BS from Heidelberg University, where she studied Music and Business Administration. She is currently studying Arts Administration at the University of Akron. Originally from Bryan, Ohio, Melissa was most recently seen in Weathervane Playhouse's production of *Into the Woods* as Cinderella. She has previously appeared in Heidelberg University Theatre and Ritz Players productions such as *Shrek the Musical* (Fiona), *Into the Woods* (Baker's Wife), *Betty's Summer Vacation* (Trudy), *Almost Maine* (Rhonda), as well as numerous Fountain City Festival productions including *The Addams Family* (Wednesday Addams) and *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel). She would like to thank her family and fiancée for their continuous love and support, as well as the cast and crew of *Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Enjoy the show!



MARGO TIPPING (Congregant) is honored to be a congregant in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Margo is 16 years old and is a junior at Walsh Jesuit High School. Margo is in Harmony Gold Show Choir and performs with Centerstage Theatre at Walsh. Margo has been various productions including *Godspell*, *Legally Blonde*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, and *Clue*. Margo also played Mary Magdalene in Akron Civic's All-City Musical production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Margo would like to family and friends for always supporting her.



ALEXANDRA VANALLEN (Gargoyle) is proud to be back on the Weathervane stage. She was last seen as the Witch in last season's production of *Into the Woods*. Previous Weathervane credits are Rebecca in *It Shoulda Been You* and Inga in *Young Frankenstein*. VanAllen has been participating in theatrical productions since she was eight years old and is happy to have found a new theater family at Weathervane. When she isn't performing, she works as the Business Development Manager for Kisling, Nestico and Redick, spends time with family, and participates in charity functions sponsored by her work. She would like to take the opportunity to thank Marissa for the opportunity to be part of this talented cast.



SARAH JANE TOY (Gargoyle) is excited to be back on the Weathervane stage! She has been performing and choreographing for 13 years and has been in 47+ shows. She's grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this show. Some of her most recent roles include Logainne (Schwartz) in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray*, (Weathervane Playhouse) and *Miss Sandra* (North Canton Playhouse).



PATRICK SULLIVAN (Gargoyle) is currently in his junior year at Archbishop Hoban High School in Akron. He has most recently appeared in the 2018 All-City musical *Jesus Christ Superstar* (King Herod), Archbishop Hoban's *Oklahoma!* (Will Parker) and *Godspell* (Jesus). Other credits include *The Addams Family* (Pugsley) and the 2017 All-City musical, *Mary Poppins* (ensemble). Patrick is a 6-year member of ETC show choir, a 3-year member of Student Council, and a manager for the varsity basketball team at Hoban. He hopes you enjoy the show.



KATE LYNNE JOHNSON (Ensemble) of Dover Ohio, is making her debut performance on the Weathervane stage. Kate has been active in community theatre since 2004, and is thrilled to be a part of such a talented and professional

cast and theatre. Her most recent roles were, Fiona in *Shrek The Musical*, Rose in *Meet Me in St. Louis*, Lorraine Sheldon in *The Man Who Came To Dinner*, and Alice Beineke in *The Addams Family*. When she is not at the 'theatre', Kate works as a Customer Service Representative at IAITAM in Canton, and enjoys spending time with her boyfriend, drawing, and singing Karaoke.



VANESSA YOVANOVICH (Ensemble) could not be happier to be back on the Weathervane stage. You might have seen her last as Lucinda in *Into the Woods*. Some of her favorite roles include *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* (Irca), *Hello, Dolly!* (Dolly), *A Christmas Carol* (Clara/Bessie Fezziwig). Other credits include *Sweeney Todd*, *South Pacific*, *Carmen*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Bye Bye Birdie*. She would like to dedicate this performance as well as every other to her grandmother.



JASON BRYAN MAURER (Ensemble) is glad to be working with this bright cast in Weathervane's second mainstage show of the 2018-2019 season. Jason is a multiple Chanticleer winner. Jason is glad to be singing and acting in this show, which marks his fourth time on stage. This will be his first appearance that has not been an emergency casting choice (bad joke, but hey it's live theater and the show must go on). Jason would like to thank the staff of Weathervane and the production team of *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Please sit back and enjoy the show!



EMILY CONTI (Ensemble) is a junior at Our lady of the Elms. She is thrilled to be returning to Weathervane's stage, especially with such an amazing cast. Her recent roles include Snow White in *Into the Woods* and Lenore Harris in *A New Style for Murder*. Outside of the theater, Emily is a member of her the Chamber Choir, Social Action club and her school's theater program. She loves volunteering here at Weathervane and teaching children about music. Emily is incredibly grateful for every opportunity she has and how supportive her family is.



MARY ROHRER (Ensemble) will be starting her senior year at Firestone CLC this fall. There she participates in the ASA program for Dance, and is a member of the Madrigal and Symphonic Choirs. She also plays soccer, softball, and is in the Catalina Club. Mary has been dancing with Miss Sheena Mason for 13 years. She was most recently in *Chicago* at FHS, where she played "Liz" ("POP"). She got to be a part of the Dazzle Awards in Cleveland, where the show won 4 out of their 6 nominations. Her other favorite shows she has been in include *Bye Bye Birdie* and *Hairspray* at Weathervane, and *Godspell* at Rubber City Theatre. "Thank you to my friends and family for supporting me, and to my teachers for helping me get where I am today!"



CONNOR MAST (Ensemble) is ecstatic to make his Weathervane debut. Connor is from Millersburg and has done many shows and musicals including *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Peter Pan*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, and *Shrek The Musical*. Connor would like to thank Marissa and Josh for making him a part of this wonderful show and the cast and crew for all their hard work.



OWEN CASINO (Ensemble) graduated from high school in June and began college this semester. He couldn't be happier to be returning to Weathervane Playhouse for his fourth production. He most recently played Zig Zag in *Holes*. Other Weathervane credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. In his spare time he enjoys playing video games, talking with his friends, spending time with his dog, and playing *Dungeon and Dragons*.



CASEY HA (Ensemble) is in the tenth grade and home-schooled. His most recent Weathervane credit is as Magnet in *Holes*. Before that, he was the assistant stage manager for *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. Other Weathervane credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Ronald Dahl's Willy Wonka*, *Peter Pan*, *Honk!*,

Annie, and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. Casey is an advanced-level tap dancer at the Dance Institute at The University of Akron. He also dances classical ballet, jazz, and ballroom. At The Dance Institute, Casey performed in *The Snow Maiden* and *The Sleeping Beauty*: Act II. He also performed as Michael in the 2016 Verb Ballets Ohio tour of *Peter Pan* and he danced for NEOS Dance Theatre in *Count: The Legend of Dracula* and *Snow White and the Magic Mirror*. Casey enjoys playing piano, organ, guitar and ukulele. He also loves to draw during his free time. Casey is excited and honored to work with this talented director and cast!



SYDNEY BANKS (Ensemble) is currently in her third year at Kent State University, pursuing a Bachelor's degree in Dance Performance. She has traveled to Thailand in collaboration with SSRU Theatre, Italy for Open FLR (an international choreographic intensive), and Canada for a dance intensive with Toronto Dance Theatre. Miss Banks has performed with the Tuscarawas Dance Arts Center in the *Nutcracker* Ballet for 13 years with roles including Clara and the Sugar Plum Fairy. She has been in multiple productions at the Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County including *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Anything Goes*. This is her debut performance at Weathervane Playhouse, and she would like to wish everyone in the cast good luck!



SARAH HASHI HILA LAVENDERNEES (Ensemble) Transitioning from Costume Intern for Weathervane's *Bye Bye, Birdie*, Sarah is happy to be returning in *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. This will be her first time on stage at Weathervane since the 2004 production *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. When she is not at Weathervane, Sarah is working towards her undergraduate degree in Cultural Anthropology at Kent State University.



MADISON PELLE (Ensemble) is a recent graduate of Copley High School who aspires to work in theatrical performances as her lifetime career. She was introduced to Weathervane Playhouse by Jasen Smith, who offered her a

costuming internship for the production of *Bye Bye Birdie*. Madison has played other various roles in her high school career such as Little Sally of *Uringtown*, Sodapop Curtis of *The Outsiders*, and Humpty Dumpty of *Alice of Wonderland* just to name a few. She also performed in the Ensemble of *How to Succeed in Business without Even Trying*, *Roger and Hammersteins' Cinderella*, and performed in *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, *Madeline*, *The Nutcracker*, and more as a dancer of Point West Studios. Madison would like to thank Jasen Smith and Sarah Lavender for welcoming her into the Weathervane family. She would also like to thank her parents Pamela and Robert Pelle as well as her Siblings Alex and Miranda Pelle for supporting her and sticking with her no matter what.

JASEN J. SMITH (Ensemble) See Creative Team Bio



PATRICK RYEL (Ensemble) has worked both sides of the stage as performing artist and stage technician for over the past fifteen years. Amongst the titles he is proud to place under his artistic belt are those of dancer, actor, singer, choreographer, teacher and director. On his technical side Patrick is an accomplished lighting designer, stage manager, technical director, and theatre manager. While studying theatre at Palm Beach Community College in 1989, Patrick was introduced to a career in post-Modern dance under the tutelage of mentor and colleague Demetrius A. Klein, touring extensively throughout the United States, as well as abroad with the Demetrius Klein Dance Company until 1994. As a 1991 Princess Grace Emerging Artist Award recipient, Patrick has received rave reviews from such publications as *The New York Times*, *The Village Voice*, *The Miami Herald*, and *Dance Magazine*. Patrick was fortunate to co-found and direct Florida Dance Conservatory, a dance school, from 1994 to 1997, his own dance company CORPS Chameleon from 1996 to 1998, and Millennium Dance Syndicate from 1999 to 2002. Patrick served as technical director and theatre manager for the Art and Culture Center of Hollywood before relocating to Ohio in 2005 and beginning his career in information technology. He is currently a Computer Science major at The University of Akron and works at First Energy.



MARISSA LEENAARTS (Director/Choreographer) grew up performing in the Akron-Cleveland area. She lived in Florida and performed as an Equity singer/dancer at Walt Disney World for a number of years. At Disney, she was contracted in several shows including *The Hoop Dee Doo Revue*, *Disney's Voyage of the Little Mermaid*, and *My Disney Girls Perfectly Princess Tea Party*. Marissa directed and Choreographed Weathervane's *Hairspray* in 2017, which won a Chanticleer Award for best production. Marissa most recently choreographed Weathervane's *Bye Bye Birdie*. Other Choreography credits include Firestone High school's productions of *The Little Mermaid*, *Mary Poppins* and *Ghost the Musical*, Akron Civic Theatre/All City Musical's *Beauty and the Beast*, *Bye Bye Birdie*, and *Shrek the Musical*, Weathervane Playhouse's *Willy Wonka*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Oklahoma!*, as well as Ohio University's *Mary Poppins*. She lives happily in Akron with her husband Jason, her baby Sebastian, and their rotten boxer dog, Mr. Dempsey. Marissa is a member of Actors Equity Association.



JOSHUA LARKIN (Assistant Director), in addition to his employment as the Business Manager of Weathervane Playhouse, has been working as a director and actor throughout Eastern Ohio for fifteen years. In addition to his most recent appearance on this stage as Albert Peterson in *Bye Bye Birdie*, he was honored to have his Weathervane directorial debut, *It Shoulda Been You*, recognized as the 2017-18 season's Best Musical. A native of Dover, OH, Joshua's favorite on-stage credits include; Weathervane Playhouse: *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *You Can't Take it With You* (Chanticleer Award), *Red* (Chanticleer Award), *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Young Frankenstein*. Western Reserve Playhouse: *Love Letters*. The Little Theatre of Tuscarawas County: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Joshua is looking forward to serving as director for Weathervane's upcoming holiday tradition, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*.



ED RIDLEY (Musical Director) Ed's recent productions include: *Passing Strange*, *Simply Simone: The Music of Nina Simone*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Sister Act*, *Blues In The Night*, *The Wiz*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, *Leap of Faith*, *It Ain't Nothin' But The Blues*, *The Color Purple*, *Caroline or Change*, *Crowns*, *Cuttin' Up*, *Mahalia*, *The Piano Lesson*, and *Love, Janis*. Ed serves as music director for the Christian Fellowship Center Church and is also on the music faculty at Cuyahoga Community College. His versatility and talent as a performer have allowed him to accompany such great artists as Aretha Franklin, Lauryn Hill, Walter Hawkins, Jon Hendricks, and Clark Terry.



KELLIE ROSSINI (Stage Manager/Master Electrician) has been with Weathervane since October of 2016 as the Master Electrician. She designed lights for *The Santaland Diaries* in 2016, *A Kid Like Jake* in 2017, *Talking With...* in 2017, *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* in 2018 as well as the 2017 and 2018 *8x10 TheatreFest*. She has been a member of I.A.T.S.E. Local #48 since 1999 and has worked for The Canton Palace Theatre, Verb Ballets, The Manchester Dance Ensemble, Martell School of Dance, Ohio Ballet, The University of Akron Dance Department and The Dance Institute at the University of Akron. She received her first bachelor's degree in technical theatre from Kent State University and her second in 2018 in Accounting. Kellie has a vast amount of stage management experience and is excited to be stage managing *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*.



JOHN COYNE (Sound Designer) has been with Weathervane as a Sound Designer for three years, putting his talents to work on shows such as *Hairspray* (2016), *Peter Pan* (2013), *A Christmas Carol* (2014), and *Little Shop of Horrors* (2016). John is currently attending Kent State University for Theatrical Design and Technology.



AYRON LORD (Assistant Stage Manager/Properties Co-Designer) is a proud to have become a regular face among the many wonderful and talented volunteers at Weathervane Playhouse. Previously Ayron has contributed to the Weathervane Playhouse by designing lighting for *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, Assistant Stage Manager for *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, co-designer of properties for *Into the Woods*, and is a regular staple for many shows backstage and on lighting crew. Ayron is a graduate of Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland, Ohio with a major in Computer Engineering and has put his skills and knowledge to use for the Greater Cleveland area. He looks forward to continually improving his skills here at Weathervane Playhouse and hopes that he will be able to continue supporting the magic of theater at this venue and the Akron area for quite some time.



KAYA SANDEL (Assistant Stage Manager/Properties Co-Designer) marks her second show at Weathervane Playhouse. After her experience with *Bye Bye Birdie*, she could not wait to hop on another show. She is reprising her role as Assistant Stage Manager. At her high school, where she is a senior this year, Kaya has successfully stage managed 4 major shows along with many other minor shows. Thanks to the inspiration and encouragement from her theatre teacher, Maggie Steffen, Kaya hopes to continue stage managing as a career. Kaya would like to thank the cast and crew for their hard work and dedication to put together such a wonderful show!



RICHARD MORRIS, JR. (Scenic/Lighting Designer/Technical Director) most recently directed *Holes* and *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* here at Weathervane Playhouse. Some of his other directorial credits include *Leap of Faith*, *Black Nativity*, *Christmas is Commin Uptown*, *The Government Inspector*, *Raisin*, *Dracula*, *It's a Bird... It's a Plane... It's Superman*, *Purlie Victorious*, *The Jungle Book*, *Seussical The Musical*, *Willie Wonka*, *Birds of a Feather*, *101 Dalmatians*, *Into the Woods*, *The Aristocats Jr*, *Goldilocks on Trial*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Xanadu*, *The Trials and Tribulations of Staggerlee Booker T Brown*, and *The Submarine Steetcar*. For 10 years, he was Production Director for the Karamu Arts Summer Camp, where he introduced many teens and young adults to the art of theatrical performance. For 19 years he also served as Technical Director/Resident Scenic and Lighting Designer for Karamu Performing Arts Theatre. He has designed over 149 Productions. In 2011 he was the recipient of the National Award for Outstanding Achievements in Scenic Design (National Black Theatre Festival) and was keynote speaker at Alabama State University on "African Americans In Scenic Design." Mr. Morris also received the 2001 Actors Guild Award for his Scenic/Lighting design for *Riff Raff* and *Treemonisha*. In 2008 he also won *Scene Magazine's* "Best Scenic Design" for *Caroline, or Change*. He has designed for many theaters in the Northeast Ohio area, Ensemble Theatre, Dobama, Cleveland Public Theatre, Cuyahoga Community College, Oberlin College Theatre, Firestone Theatre and Jubar Productions, just to name a few. He is a graduate of Kent State University. In December 2016, he joined Weathervane's professional staff as Technical Director/Resident Scenic Designer. Richard is currently working on a new musical production, *Two Boys from Glenville*, the story of Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster, the creators of Superman.



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



KATHY KOHL (Assistant Technical Director) holds a degree in elementary education from Bowling Green State University and a master's degree in business management from

Aurora University. She began her theater career at Weathervane as a volunteer on many lighting, set construction, and props crews, joining the professional staff in 2002. She also served for seven years as master carpenter and master painter for the theater department at Firestone High School. Most recently, she was the scenic designer for our productions of *It's Only a Play*, *The Flick*, and the co-designer of *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, and *Monty Python's Spamalot*. In 2017, she received the Producer's Award, and in 2015, she was a recipient of The Trustees Award. She holds three Chanticleer awards for her properties designs for *Enchanted April*, *The Sisters Rosensweig*, and *The Philadelphia Story*. She lives with her husband Doug, in West Akron where they raised three children. When not at Weathervane, she very much enjoys being "Ommie" to Parker, Fiona, Beckett, Maise, and Greyson.

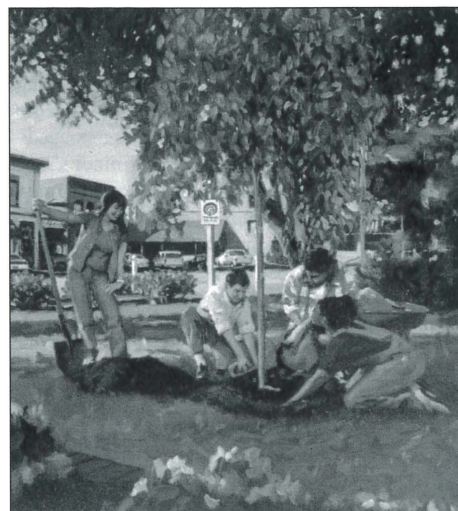


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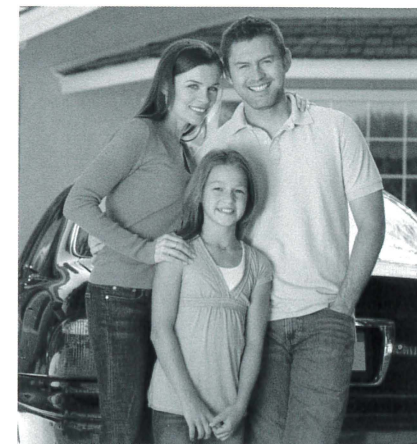
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