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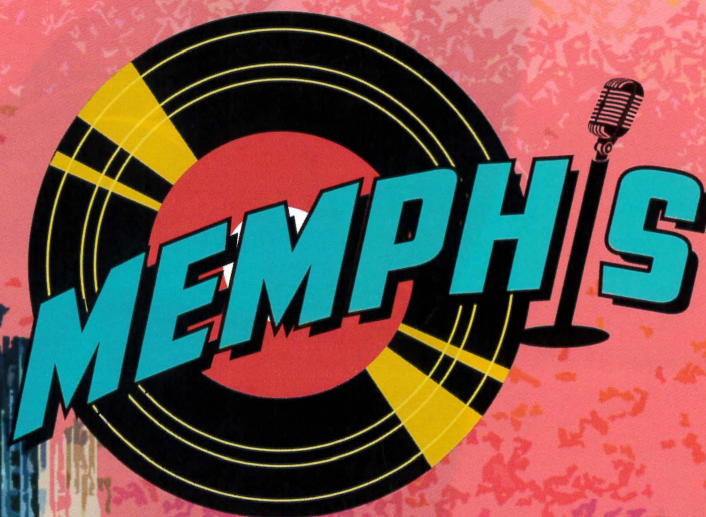
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maintain its facility and enhance artistic programming.**

Below is a list of items currently needed at Weathervane.

- Landscape Beautification Project for Weathervane (\$1,500)
- Repainting outdoor lobby entrance and architectural signage (\$8,000)
- Upright Yamaha Piano (\$6,000)
- Additional power and outlets for the stage (\$3,500)
- New stage flooring (\$2,500)
- Internship for an Arts Administration/Education/Design student (\$1,000)
- iPads and iPhones (new or recently retired)
- Website re-design (\$5,000)

*For more information contact Melanie at 330.836.2626, mycp@weathervaneplayhouse.com.

Weathervane Playhouse is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.
Donations are deductible as provided by law.

**Thanks to the amazing generosity of these donors, Weathervane has raised much of the money to
complete this season's wish list. There are still a few items left. Thank you, to all who donated.**

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Ali* Whitley (Laser Projectors)

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.

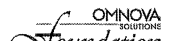
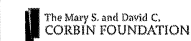
The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1474 Copley Road and renovated it for a theater with seating capacity of 125. The all-volunteer organization hired its first employee, Nora Scott, as custodian/ticket manager. Actual management of the Playhouse 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 85th season.

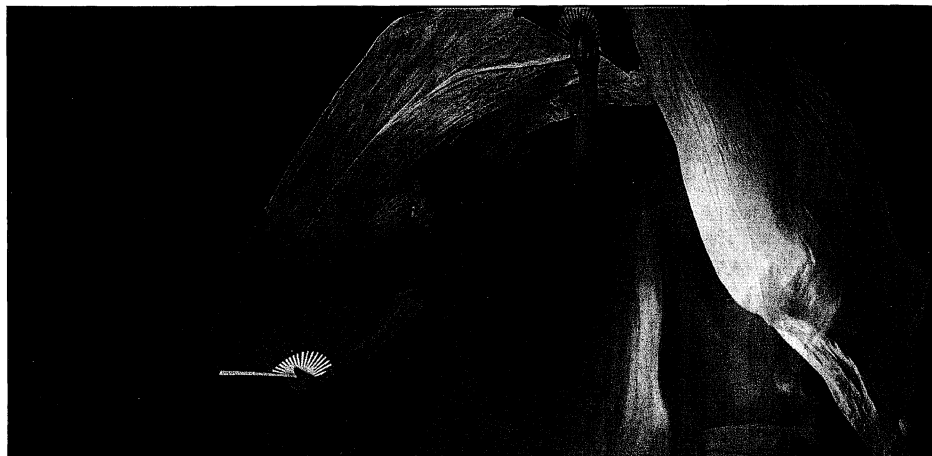
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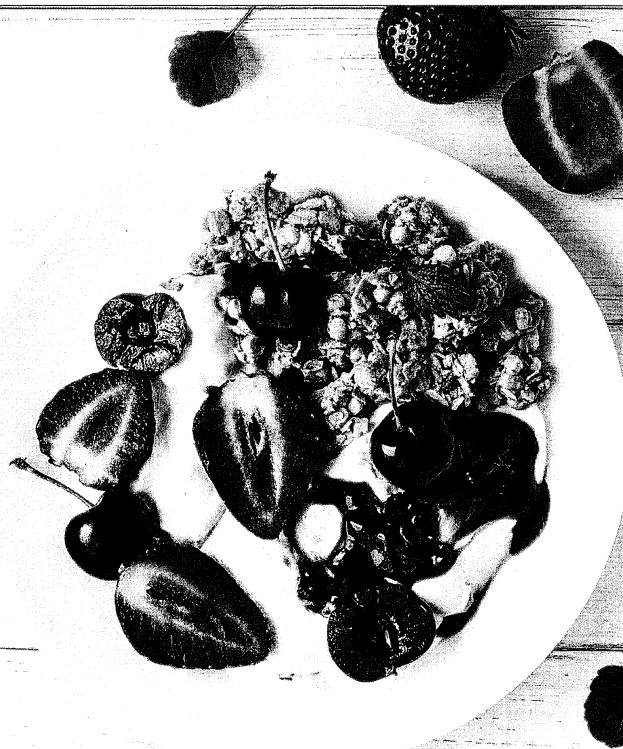
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- Food and drinks are permitted in the auditorium, but please consume them quietly out of respect to your fellow audience members and performers.

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Weathervane is pleased to showcase and celebrate the artwork of KatriceMonee Headd, whose vision and philosophy are a complement to our current production, *Memphis*. Ms. Headd is both an Equity actor and a visual artist, and well regarded in both areas.

A native of Bloomington-Normal, Illinois, she received her B.F.A. in Theatre with honors from Kent State University. KatriceMonee began her theatrical career performing at Porthouse Theatre and Tri-City Cuyahoga Community College Theatre. Cultivating her craft, she then performed regionally at Karamu House Theatre, Beck Center, Dobama Theatre, Cleveland Public Theatre and Cleveland City Hall. In 2008, she was inducted into the Karamu Hall of Fame, receiving the "Rising Star Award."

Ms. Headd expanded her reach within the artists' community in 2013 and joined the TowerPress Artist Group as a visual artist. With the support of her community, she returned to her first love of painting and drawing. Her works, entitled "Illustrations of a Colored Girl," have been exhibited throughout Northeast Ohio at Karamu Theater, George Forbes Gallery, Rebar, and Tri-C Metro, Trinity Lutheran Cathedral, Tower Press, Dobama Theatre and Cleveland City Hall.

Through her current artwork, Ms. Headd illustrates and captures the essence of Black Culture and tells her story, exploring the implications of her experiences as a black woman in America. KatriceMonee hopes to ignite and encourage conversations centered on community issues of race, ethnicity, and gender and will give momentum to the social diversity movement with a focus on a positive progression with healing as the end goal. She believes in serving God through the arts and hopes to revive, restore, and resurrect the voice of the artist. Follow KatriceMonee on the following social media platforms: Facebook: (KatriceMonee Headd) Instagram: (@katricemoneearts) Website: (KatriceMonee.com) Twitter: (KatriceMonee)

All of the artwork in this exhibit is for sale. The artist has generously offered to donate a portion of the proceeds of all sales to Weathervane. If you wish to make a purchase, please contact the Box Office. Thank you for supporting the arts!

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Scratch My Itch
Scratch Reprise/Ain't Nothin' But A Kiss
Hello, My Name Is Huey
Little 01' Doggie Named Dougie (Pre-Recorded)
Everybody Wants to Be Black on a Saturday Night (1)
That's Not Possible
Everybody Wants to Be Black on a Saturday Night (2)
Make Me Stronger
Makes Me Stronger Playoff
Is That Dirty?
Colored Woman
Someday
She's My Sister
Radio
Someday (Pre-Recorded)
The Fight
Say a Prayer

ACT 2

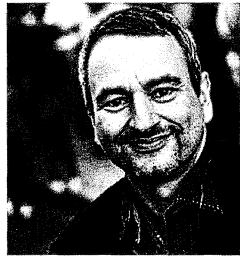
Crazy Little Huey
Gator
Big Love
Love Will Stand When All Else Fails
Stand Up
Change Don't Come Easy
Wailin' Joel/Scratch My Itch (Reprise)
Tear Down the House
Love Will Stand (Reprise)
Memphis Lives in Me
Steal Your Rock 'N' Roll
Bows

ORCHESTRA

Ed Ridley, Jr.—Keyboards
 Steve Miller—Keyboards
 Toussaint English—Bass
 Trevor Wozniak—Guitar
 Nick Greathouse—Guitar
 Mick Schaul—Drums
 Tonya Duus—Saxes, Bass Clarinet



DAVID BRYAN (Music) David is a Grammy® Award-winning keyboard player and founding member of Bon Jovi. Over the past 26 years the band has sold more than 130 million records and toured the world, playing to millions of people. Their recent Lost Highway Tour was the #1 grossing tour in the world. David and Joe DiPietro have also co-written the award-winning musical *The Toxic Avenger*, currently playing at New World Stages. David is a National Spokesperson for VH1's Save The Music Program. Much Love to Lexi, Colton, Gabby, Lily and my family.



JOE DIPIETRO (Book) has won two Tony Awards, a Drama Desk Award and 2 Outer Critics Circle Awards. Broadway: *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Tony noms – Best Book, Best Musical), *Memphis* (Tony winner – Best Book, Best Score, Best Musical.) *All Shook Up*, *Living on Love*. Off-Broadway: *Clever Little Lies*, *The Toxic Avenger*, *The Thing About Men*, *Over the River and Through the Woods*, *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*. His most recent play, *Hollywood*, recently debuted at LaJolla Playhouse. Other recent regional credits include: *The Second Mrs. Wilson* (Long Wharf Theatre & George Street Playhouse) *Chasing the Song* (La Jolla Playhouse,) *Ernest Shackleton Loves Me* (Arts Emerson,)

The Last Romance (Old Globe,) *Creating Claire* (George Street Playhouse.) He sits on the board of Only Make Believe, a charity dedicated to bringing interactive, therapeutic theatre to chronically ill children.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



ADAM VIGNEAULT (Huey Calhoun) is very excited to get back to the stage after a three-year absence. He was most recently seen as Judas in Weathervane's production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*. Some other Weathervane roles include Burger in *Hair* (Chanticleer award), Freddy in *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels* (Chanticleer award), and Adam/Noah in *Children of Eden*. Other credits include *Children of a Lesser God* (Orin), *Songs for a New World* (Man 2), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Algernon), *Godspell* (Jesus), and *Children of Eden* (Adam/Noah). By day, Adam is a regional sales manager at Ameri-Cal Corporation in Medina. He would like to thank his incredible wife Mandy and his two beautiful daughters Aria and Ayla for their love and support. "Hackadoo!!"



BROOKE JAI (Felicia Farrell) is a recent graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy in New York City (2019). She was a 2018 Best Actress Dazzle Award Nominee. Other credits include

Hello, Dolly! (Dolly Levi) and *Anything Goes* (Reno Sweeney). Brooke is a 2010 Grand Champion of the World Choir Games having earned two gold medals in pop and gospel music. She was afforded the opportunity to sing during Sunday Morning Mass in the Vatican with the Voices of Unity Youth Choir in 2016. Brooke is extremely honored to play her dream role of Felicia Farrell in her first production at Weathervane Playhouse. She gives thanks to God, her amazing parents, and her entire family and friends who continue to support her!



MIGUEL D. OSBORNE (Delray Jones) is please to return to Weathervane as Delray. He has performed on the East and West coast and overseas. His theater credits include *Dreamgirls*, *Ain't MisBehavin'*, *Little Shop of Horrors* and the 1st international touring Co of *RENT* just to name a few. Miguel has also appeared on TV's *ER*, *Up Close and Personal* with Bruce Willis and *VIP* with Pam Anderson and RuPaul. Miguel is an award winning Fashion and Costume Designer. His

Fashion line is called Azadi Unique. Azadi is Hebrew for freedom. He thanks his Heavenly Father and Earthly Mother for his many gifts. He dedicated his performance to his Aunt Joann (Azadi) Bray RIH.



JAHLIL UNDERWOOD-THOMPSON (Gator) is very excited to be in a show with such a large representation of African Americans. Especially during black history month. This is Jahlil's sixth show. His favorite show was *Godspell* at Woodridge High School. Jahlil appeared in *Holes* here at Weathervane where he played the role of Zero. He has been in two other shows at Weathervane, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*, and *Bye Bye Birdie*. Last summer he portray the character Mereb in the musical *Aida*. Jahlil also participates in a community show choir. He attends both Woodridge and Tallmadge High Schools. Jahlil is in the theater program (TACA) at Tallmadge and he loves it. He will be going into college for musical theater and sign language. He hopes that you all enjoy the show and understand its importance.



JONATHAN MERECHANT (Bobby) has been on the Weathervane stage in *Dreamgirls*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *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 the Musical*, 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.



TONYA DUUS (Mamma Gladys) most recently appeared in *The Who's Tommy* here at Weathervane and in *Agatha Christie's Butter in a Lordly Dish* at Coach House Theatre. Some of her favorite past roles include Olive in *The Odd Couple* (female version), Hot Lips Houlihan in *M*A*S*H*, the Child Catcher in *Chitty Chitty, Bang Bang* and The Ghost of Christmas Present in *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. In addition to playing Gladys in this production, she's also playing multiple instruments in the pit when she's not on stage. In her spare time, she likes to lift heavy things, make costumes, bake, and be a mother to a precocious 12-year-old daughter, and wife to a roadie. "Much love to Prudence and David."



GARY DAVIS (Mr. Simmons) is the husband of longtime Weathervane lighting designer, volunteer and four-time Chanticleer Award-winner Susan Stout-Davis. He ended his long retirement from the stage, which started with the birth of their children, with Weathervane's 2018 summer production of *Into the Woods* followed by *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (in which he got so into his role that he lost his head). He has since performed in Weathervane's *The Diary of Anne Frank* and the 8x10s TheatreFest, and *The Crucible* at Orville Community Theater. Gary is a tenor who, previous to parenthood, was in Weathervane's *A Little Night Music* and 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.



SCOTT K. DAVIS (White DJ/ Mr. Collins/White Father/Gordon Grant/Ensemble) has been involved with theatre in some way since the age of eight, when he was cast as Jack in the musical *The Beanstalk and Jack*. He earned his B.A. in Theatre and Psychology from Muskingum University, where he also served as the Theatre Department costumer for three years. Favorite

roles include Father Flynn in *Doubt: A Parable*, Philip/Freddie in *Noises Off*, Curtis Lyons in *The Lyons*, Clown 1 in *The 39 Steps*, and Eric Sheridan in *Unnecessary Farce*. Scott also performed as Guy Johnson with the Canadian national touring company of *Heart of Africa*. He was most recently seen as Thomas Kinnear in Weathervane Playhouse's *Alias Grace*. Scott wishes to thank his friends and family for their continued love and support.



KYM WILLIAMS (Black DJ/Ensemble) has been inspired by art since his first time visiting Karamu House in second grade. He was on a field trip to see a play and was startled by the freedom expressed on stage in a room full of people. Kym is excited to express that freedom in this production of *Memphis*.



RAVEN PLATT (Someday Backup Singer/Ensemble) is a senior at Columbia College Chicago, where she studies musical theatre. Raven has performed at many venues throughout Cleveland and Chicago including Severance Hall, Sherwood Music School, and Cleveland Institute of Music. Performing is her passion, and there's no place she'd rather be than the stage. Follow her on Instagram @Ravenrae_98♥



GABRIELLE GONZALEZ (Someday Backup Singer/Ensemble) is making her second appearance on the Weathervane stage. Gabrielle also performed in various productions at her alma mater, Eastern Michigan University. Gabrielle is thankful to be a part of *Memphis*. She hopes the cast and crew break all the legs!!



DELISA MEDLEA (Someday Backup Singer/Ensemble) was born and raised in Cleveland and is a graduate of John Hay High School. She has a bachelor's degree from The College of Wooster in Political Science with a minor in Black Studies. She has been a singer her entire life and has participated in many choirs. She traveled with the Kent State University gospel choir and has participated in multiple musical productions,

including the Black History Musical at the South Euclid United Church of Christ. She has performed as a professional singer for several private functions such as weddings and anniversary celebrations. She was awarded the opportunity to appear in *The Black Nativity* production at the Karamu House Theatre, and has been seen previously at Weathervane Playhouse in *Dreamgirls* (Effie White) and *The Who's Tommy* (The Acid Queen).



KAILYN MACK (Be Black Trio/Ensemble) is a Cleveland native and alumni of Cleveland School of the Arts, where she studied as a dance major. Kailyn studied and received her Bachelor of Fine Arts in Dance from Wright State University. While in college, she was a member of Dayton Contemporary Dance Company's pre-professional company. Life for her consists of following Christ wholeheartedly, trusting and believing that God will give her the desires of her heart and so much more. While growing, learning and pursuing life as a professional dancer and artist, Kailyn teaches in the Cleveland community at various places as she continues to put her degree to good use. Her career goals are to work professionally in as many fields of dance and entertainment as possible. She made her debut in Karamu's *The Black Nativity* and was featured by *The Plain Dealer* in an article about her starring role as Mary. You may have also seen her in *Dreamgirls* at Weathervane Playhouse. Most recently, you've seen her amongst the amazing ensemble of *Aida* at Karamu House. Kailyn is excited for what's in store for her future. "I will bless you with a future filled with hope—a future of success, not of suffering. You will turn back to me and ask for help, and I will answer your prayers." Jeremiah 29:11-12 CEV



ALEXIS MONET NELSON (Ensemble) is very excited and thankful to be a part of *Memphis*. Though this her my musical type of production, she has been dancing for years. Alexis is currently a junior at Notre Dame College, double-majoring in Communications and History, both of which will be used as essential prongs in achieving a law degree within the next three years. Alexis looks forward to performing with the cast. Having been a part of

St. Robert Temples praise dance ministry from a young age until middle school, provided Alexis insight into many cultural dances of the world. Alexis is a member of a private team in the Cleveland as well as Notre Dame College's Elite Dance team. She is highly appreciative of this opportunity, and would love to say "thank you" to the entire cast for welcoming her. A special thank you to her coach, Nehemiah Spencer, for taking the time to reach out to allow her to be a part of this production.



GINA MARAFIOTE (Clara/White Mother/Ensemble) this is Gina's second production with Weathervane Playhouse and is thrilled to be working with such a talented cast! Gina would like to thank Richard for the opportunity to be a part of this production. She would also like to thank everyone involved in putting this show together to help make it what it is. Some of Gina's past shows include *Chicago*, *Dreamgirls*, and *The Rocky Horror Show*. Gina would also like to thank her friends, family, and everyone in the audience for their support! "Hope you enjoy the show!"



DANE LEE (Buck Wiley/Perry Como/Ensemble) is a 2011 graduate from Kent State University with a Bachelor's of Science in Exercise Science and a minor in Theatre Arts. He was last seen at Weathervane in the spring of 2019 as Sky in the musical *Mamma Mia!* He is grateful for the opportunity to return to the stage with such a talented cast and crew.



JOHN O'NEILL (Martin Holden) is happy to return to the Weathervane stage after a long hiatus. He was seen in the Weathervane productions of *Annie* as Drake/Chorus in 1994 and President FD Roosevelt in 1995, and the Electrical Inspector in *King of the Kosher Grocers* in 2000 and as the Doctor in *Oliver* also in 2000. For Garfield Heights Little Theater he was seen as Lt. Brannigan in *Guys and Dolls* in 1996 and the Doctor in *The Miracle Worker* in 1997. Most recently, he was a member of the chorus for *Baby* at Stow Players. John is a retired Magistrate for the Portage County Municipal Court and loves to sing with the Ravenna Community Choir as well

as the St. Paul Church Choir (Ravenna). This year marks his 20th year of volunteering for the AARP Income Tax Preparation and, on Wednesdays and Thursdays, you can find him volunteering in the Weathervane Ticket Office. John thanks Richard Morris for this unexpected opportunity.



ABBIE ELLIS (Ensemble) is excited to be making her second appearance on the Weathervane stage. She was a part of the ensemble for *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* in 2018. Abbie is currently a junior at Highland High School. She has been in multiple productions at her school. A few of Abigail's favorite roles have been as a featured dancer in *101 Dalmatians*, *Finian's Rainbow* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. She wants to give a special thank you to Weathervane Playhouse for this amazing opportunity. She would also like to thank her family and friends who have stood by her and her dreams, having given her the support and encouragement she needed to pursue them.



BONITA JENKINS (Ensemble) a Cleveland native, Bonita is a former member of Milton Brunson's Thompson Community Choir in Chicago. She traveled throughout the United States performing in many churches and concert halls including the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. While living in Chicago, Bonita performed throughout the Midwest. She also performed in the 2018 *Black Nativity* at Karamu House. A mother of two honor-college students (daughter at Louisiana State University and son at John Carroll University), Bonita has always loved singing and the theater. She has recently been seen on stage at Weathervane Playhouse in *Dreamgirls*, and in Karamu House's *Aida*.



ISAAC HAAS (Ensemble) is a junior at Copley high school. He has been in five musicals which include *Urinetown*, *Oklahoma!*, *Dreamgirls*, *Aida*, and *Footloose*. He is excited to be working with such amazing people and will continue to perform.



CALA HENDERSON (Ensemble), who was born and raised in Cleveland graduated from Cleveland School of the Arts. She later received her B.F.A. in Dance with Distinction from The

Ohio State University, where she performed works by Crystal Michelle, Melanie Bales, Susan Hadley, Tine Salling, Ann Clemmensen and many others. Cala was a member of Danco II, The Philadelphia Dance Company's second company in Philadelphia, where she performed various works. Ms. Henderson served as Constellation Schools: Westside Community School of the Arts' director of dance for 3 years. She was also an artist in residence at Cleveland School of the Arts before returning to school and becoming a nurse. Currently, Cala is pursuing her B.S.N. degree and teaching dance around the city of Cleveland.



MAKENNA BIRD (Ensemble) is excited to be a part of this amazing production. Makenna has appeared at Weathervane in the recent 8x10 TheatreFest in *Listening*, as Margot Frank in

The Diary of Anne Frank, and in the ensembles of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (2018 and 2019), *Holes* and *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. She is a junior at Highland High School and the Medina County Career Center. Makenna enjoys volunteering both on stage and backstage at Weathervane and she would like to thank Weathervane Playhouse for the opportunities she has been given. Makenna wants to thank her Weathervane friends and her loving family for their unending support and encouragement.



HEATHER CULOTTA (Ensemble) is so happy to be back at Weathervane to join the ensemble of *Memphis*. Heather grew up in Green, and is a veteran of Theatre 8:15 and Summit Choral Society. Some of her past credits include *Red Hot Broadway* (w/ Debbie Gibson & Tony Nominee BJ Crosby), *Kiss Me, Kate* (Kate/Lilli Vannessi), *The Music Man* (Marian Paroo), *Stepp*, *Stewart's Show-N-Tell* (Vivian Loraine), *Seussical* (Mayzie la Bird), and most recently in her

Weathervane debut playing the Pharaoh in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She has also been a guest performer at the Dr. Oz HealthCorps Gala in NYC, as well as having worked at Don't Tell Mama Cabaret and Piano Bar in NYC. Heather is eternally grateful for her family and friends for a lifetime of support. She is overjoyed to be back on stage.



CAYLA NAPOLEON (Ensemble) is a 23 year old Cleveland native and graduate student at Ashland University. Cayla has been performing since the age of six, beginning her journey at Antioch Baptist church. Since then, she been in many productions throughout the country from *Coming Of the King* with Terrance Greene to New York fashion week. She also attended the International Association of Blacks in Dance conference 2017 in Dallas, Texas. Cayla is also very engaged in the arts around her community. This will be her first performance at Weathervane.



JESSE OYSTER (Ensemble) is currently a freshman Kent State University majoring in theatre and business. He aspires to write, direct, and produce his own shows professionally. This will be Jesse's seventeenth theatre production. Some highlights from his career are Albert in *Newsies*; Mr. Warbucks in *Annie*; and Scuttle in Weathervane's production of *Disney's The Little Mermaid*. Jesse is happy to have the opportunity to be returning to the Weathervane Stage.



RANJE PEARSON JR. (Be Black Trio/Ensemble) is 18 years old and attends Maple Heights High School. He has been performing since the age of six. Ranje is skilled in dancing, singing, acting, and also can be very comedic as well. For the last few years, he has participated in a production in Cleveland called *Showagon*. Ranje has been in choir at both church and school, since first grade, and performed in multiple plays and a dance group since high school. He is very reserved and quiet at times, but once you get to know him, you'll know he's a goofy (in a good way) person.



JUDE PEPE (Ensemble) is very excited to be a part of *Memphis* at Weathervane Playhouse. He is a Boy Scout, and studied theatre at Weathervane, where he performed in two other productions: *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*, and *The Music Man*. He would like to thank his parents and grandparents for their support and the excellent taxi services they provide.



MELANIE SCOTT (Ensemble) is very excited to take part in her first ever show in Ohio. She moved to Ohio from Connecticut, where she was born and raised, in September. Her favorite roles include Snow White in *Snow White and the Several Dwarves* (an original Christmas Panto); Jan in *Grease*; Gay Wellington in *You Can't Take it With You*; Emily in Alan Menken's version of *A Christmas Carol*; Princess Anna for the Make a Wish Foundation as well as in a Disney Cabaret; and most of all Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical The Musical*. She would like to thank the cast of *Memphis* for being so wonderful and welcoming, and Marissa for suggesting she take part.



CHRISTIAN SIMS (Ensemble) born and raised in Cleveland Ohio, Christian realized his love for dance at an early age in church through praise dancing. He began technical training at the age of 17, and has not stopped since. Christian then became a dance major at Bowling Green State University and served as a prominent member of Elem3nt Dance Team and the BGSU Dance Alliance. As a former member of the Duffy Litt Dance Ensemble, Christian danced under Terrance Greene and Greene Works Dance Company. He was a principal dancer in *The Wiz*, at the Karamu House, and has performed on many stages throughout Ohio. Currently under the direction of Errin Berry as a part of Mojuba Dance Collective of Errin Ministries, Christian is looking to continue to grow and touch as many people as possible through the art of dance.



JAE SNOW (Wailin' Joe/ Reverend Hobson/Ensemble) is excited to be making his debut with Weathervane in his second performance on stage. His first-ever credit was *Acts: A City Rising* with First Baptist Church as the High Priest, Festus and the Tribune. When he is not playing a clergy member, Jae is probably engaging in some sort of sporting activity or catching up on the latest primetime series. He would like to thank his wife Tiffany for the support with this project as well as Adam Vigneault for believing in him and pushing him out of his comfort zone.



BRIAN TUTWILEY (Ensemble) has been acting for over 10 years now. Brian loves to act and sing. He has been in many productions, both here and around the country. His passion is teaching and singing. Brian grew up singing in the church choir and continues to sing in the church today. Some favorite places to perform are Cleveland Play House, The State Theater, the Masonic auditorium, and Karamu.



KODEE WILLIAMS (Gator/ Ensemble) was born 1998 in Cleveland. Introduced to the arts during high school, he was cast in his first play as a senior as the Tin Man in the 18th annual All City musical. Graduating in 2017 from Richmond Heights High School, Kodee has continued his passion for music, making his debut at Karamu in 2018. He has appeared in Karamu's *Black Nativity* in 2018 & 2019. Kodee then appeared in Weathervane's *Dreamgirls* as C.C. in early 2019. Kodee would like to thank his mother, father, younger brother, all of his aunts and uncles, and especially The Sias's and DT (Dr. David Thomas).



RICHARD MORRIS, JR. (Director/Scenic Designer) Most recently directed *Dreamgirls*, *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*, *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 has 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, such as 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.



ED RIDLEY JR. (Musical Director) Recent productions include: *Intimate Apparel*, *Aida*, *Dreamgirls*, *Black Nativity*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Passing Strange*, *Lady Day At Emerson's Bar*

and *Grill*, *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*, *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.



NEHEMIAH SPENCER (Choreographer) is a native of Cleveland, where he started training in dance at The Cleveland School of the Arts (CSA).

Overcoming life's tough battles, Nehemiah stayed focused and followed his dreams to attend The Juilliard School in New York City. There, he earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in dance, and performed works by Paul Taylor, Larry Keigwin, and Darrell Grand Moultrie. He capped off his final year performing the renowned solo work of Talley Beatty in *Mourner's Bench*. Upon graduating, Nehemiah performed the lead dance role as "The Funky Monkey" in the Broadway production of *The Wiz*, directed by Tony award-winning choreographer George Faison. He has also traveled the world as a principal dancer with Complexions Contemporary Ballet, then as a principal with Abraham.in.Motion, under the direction of Kyle Abraham, a recipient of the MacArthur "Genius Grant." Nehemiah can also be seen in the Jill Scott video *Back Together*. He now spends his time giving back to his Alma Mater, CSA, as well as teaching at other arts-enriching studios around the city. Nehemiah has been recognized for his service around the community by former Ohio Gov. John R. Kasich, and such publications as *Dance Teacher* and *Dance Magazine*. Nehemiah looks to continue to share his love for dance and use his gift as an instrument to move the world forward.



TIFFANY BIRD (Stage Manager) has made Weathervane Playhouse her second home lately and is thrilled to return to the production booth for her ninth stint as stage manager, having previously

managed productions of *And Then There Were None*, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (2018 and 2019), *The Curious Incident of the Dog*

in the Night-Time, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical* and *It's Only A Play*. She's also provided her stage-management talents to Western Reserve Playhouse for *The Bridges of Madison County*. Tiffany has designed props for Weathervane's *Bye Bye Birdie*, *School of Rock*, and *Alias Grace*. She is an attorney and avid theatergoer who has been active both on and behind stage. Tiffany has also directed two different plays as part of Weathervane's 8x10 TheatreFest and she also directed productions of *Pride and Prejudice* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* at Orrville Community Theater. Tiffany's children are also active both on and off the stage, and every once in a while she drags her husband along, too! She would like to thank Weathervane Playhouse for the wonderful volunteer opportunities offered to this community and the chance to live her passions. She would like to thank her family for supporting her in all her crazy endeavors!



JACK-ANTHONY INA (Lighting Designer/Master Electrician) is currently a junior stage management major at Baldwin Wallace University. Jack got his start in theatre in high school, and since then has done over 100 productions in theatres all over Cleveland as a director, designer, stage manager, and technician. Recent Credits include *Newsies* (Director/Music Director, Geauga Lyric Theater Guild); *Kinky Boots* (Production Stage Manager, Baldwin Wallace University); and *Secrets: A Spy Musical* (Director, Feinstein's/54 Below). Upcoming Productions include *The Scottsboro Boys* (Production Stage Manager, Beck Center for the Arts); *Memphis* (Lighting Designer, Weathervane Playhouse); and *Kinky Boots* (Lighting Designer, Weathervane Playhouse).



PAMELA PARKS COSTA (Properties Designer) most recently designed props for last season's 8x10 TheatreFest and *Dreamgirls*. She has also been the properties designer for *It Shoulda Been You*, *Talking With...*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Red*, *Peter and the Starcatcher*, *Hamlet*, *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some)*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, *Flyin' West*, *Annie*, *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Art of Deduction: Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes*, *Quilters* and *Seussical: the Musical*.



KATIE ROWLAND (Sound Designer) is a junior at Firestone High School. She is a part of the Akron School for the Arts instrumental program for violin and she plays tuba in the band.

She is also a part of the Firestone color guard and winter guard. She enjoys volunteering at Weathervane, working sound for shows such as *Alias Grace*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *School of Rock*, *The Who's Tommy*, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, *It Shoulda Been You*, *Into the Woods* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She's excited to be back at Weathervane designing sound for this production of *Memphis*.



JASEN J. SMITH (Costume Designer) joined the professional staff of Weathervane Playhouse in 2008. Our recent production of *Mamma Mia!* marked his 100th show here at the playhouse. In past

seasons, he has designed *Children of Eden*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Intimate Apparel*, *Hair*, *Charley's Aunt*, *Life with Father*, *Into the Woods*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Dreamgirls* and many, many more. Regionally, Jase has designed *The White Devil* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *The Pirates of Penzance*, *The Mikado*, *The Merry Widow*, and *Robin Hood* (Ohio Light Opera), *The Philadelphia Story*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Tartuffe*, *The Firebugs*, *Medea*, and *Stage Door* (Case Western Reserve University), *The Odd Couple* (Porthouse Theater), and *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* starring Richard Kind for the Stephen Sondheim Center for the Performing Arts. Beyond all the costumes he has designed here, Jase has found an extended family. He cannot do what he does without the support of John, Melanie Hauer, Jen Desberg and Dawn Sniadak Yamokoski. Thank you, Millie Keyser, Robin Van der Grift, Joanna Mack, Jenny Banker, Phyllis Bernel, Carol Smith, Carol Armstrong, and Nancy Ross for all of the hours of hard work and friendship you generously give. Jase is excited to see what the next 100 shows here at Weathervane have in store for him.



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.



JOHN COYNE (House Sound Technician) has been around the Akron/Canton theatre scene for five years and is currently pursuing a BA in Theatrical Production at Kent State University. He has served as the lead sound designer for six other productions at Weathervane Playhouse (*Peter Pan*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Hairspray*, *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*, and *Mamma Mia!*) and for the recent student-directed and-designed production of *Of Mice and Men* at Kent State University at Stark. In addition, he has served as an assistant sound designer for five other productions at Kent State University at Stark (*Consider the Oyster*, *Virtual Devotion*, *26 Pebbles*, *Unnecessary Farce*, and *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*). He hopes you enjoy the show! Outside of theatre, John works with Akron-based company Clear Gold Audio and Lighting, providing professional live sound and lighting services all over Northeast Ohio and beyond.



PRUDENCE STEPHENSON (Assistant Stage Manager) "Pru" is a 7th grade drama student at Miller South School for Visual and Performing Arts. She's no stranger to the stage, both on and off, as she's been performing since the age of two. This is her first "official" backstage position, however, and she is enjoying learning about all the behind-the-scenes work that one never thinks about while being on stage.

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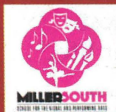
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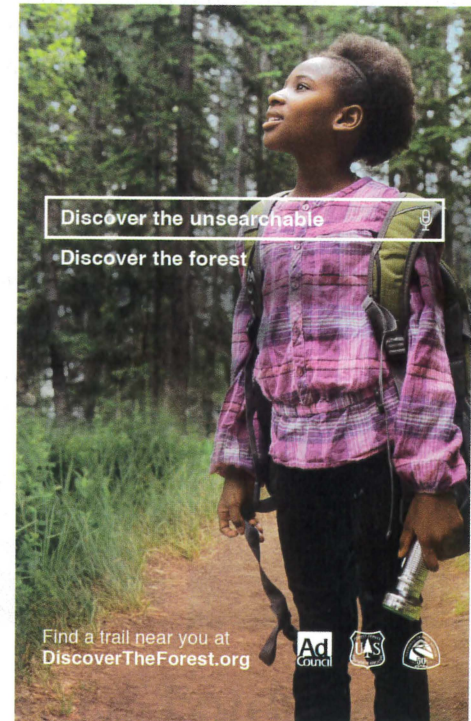
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SET CONSTRUCTION CREW

Richard Morris, Jr.

Kathy Kohl

Quentin Ball*

James Boyd

Chris Capron *

Mike Chapman

Dale Gilbert

Bill Lambacher

Charlie Morton*

**denotes having worked over 30 hours*

LIGHTING CREW

Jack-Anthony Ina

Richard Morris, Jr.

CONSTRUCTION CREW

Vanessa Hamilton

Melanie Hauer

Elizabeth Minson

Millie Keyser

Megan Nelson

Jasen Smith

COSTUME-INVENTORY CREW

Phyllis Bernel

Jenny Banker

Melanie Hauer

Joanna Mack

WARDROBE CREW

Megan Nelson

Sterling Perry

LIGHTING OPERATORS

Quentin Ball

Ken Hardman

Laura Kelly

Sue Stout Davis

SOUND OPERATORS

John Coyne

Katie Rowland

PROPS CREW

Wittman Sullivan

SET CREW

Quentin Ball

Wes Carney

Ken Hardman

Jason Maurer

Kelli Perk

Sean Vollman

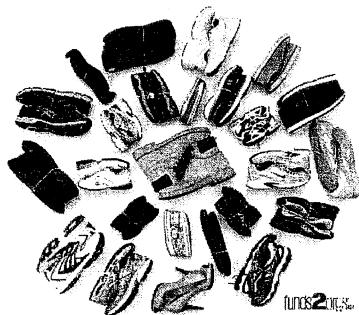
FLY OPERATORS

Wes Carney

Jason Maurer

Sean Vollman

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO KARAMU HOUSE!



**Weathervane Playhouse to Host Fundraising
Shoe Drive April 15 – June 14, 2020**

WHAT:

The public is invited to participate in a shoe drive to raise funds for Weathervane Playhouse. Donations of gently worn, used and new shoes will be accepted. The amount of money raised is determined by the total weight of the shoes collected.

All donated shoes will be redistributed to microenterprise partners through Funds2Orgs, a for-profit social enterprise, and used in developing nations for impoverished people to start their own businesses.

WHEN:

April 15 – June 14, 2020

WHERE:

Weathervane Playhouse

DETAILS:

In the U.S. alone, over 600 million pairs of shoes are thrown away per year. The materials used to manufacture a pair of shoes are created from chemical compounds that will create health hazards if left to disintegrate openly or in landfills. By donating your gently worn, used and news shoes to Weathervane Playhouse, your shoes are given a second chance to make a difference.

FOR MORE INFO:

Contact Justyn Jaymes, Director of Development,
at 330-836-2626, ext. 34, or
jjaymes@weathervaneplayhouse.com