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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's Legacy Society*

Your Legacy Gift to Weathervane can be as simple as including the playhouse in your will, establishing a life insurance policy or trust, or making the theater a beneficiary of your retirement savings plan.

For more details contact John Hedges at 330-836-2626, ext. 13

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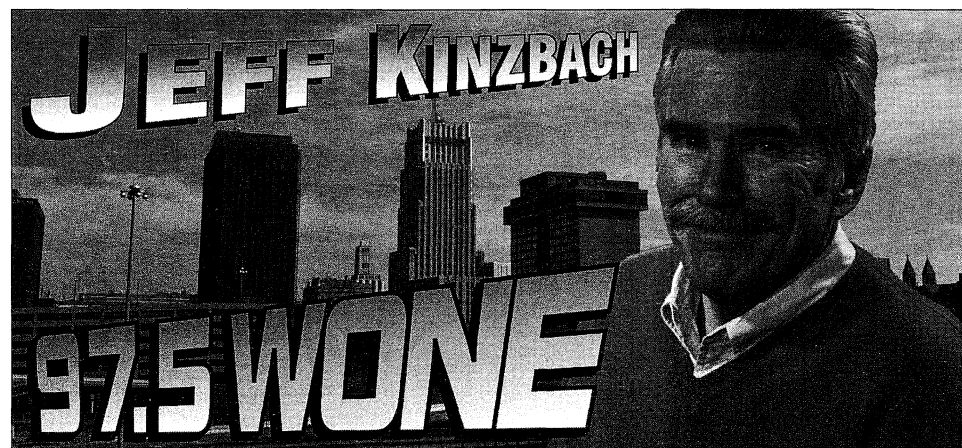
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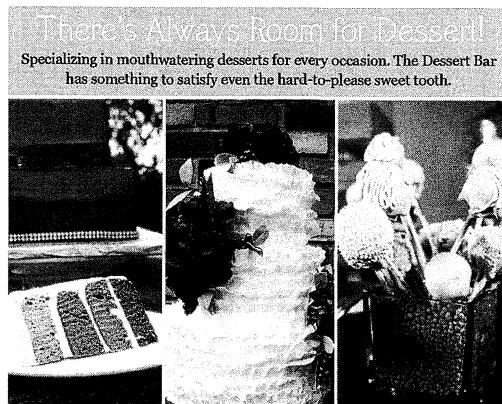


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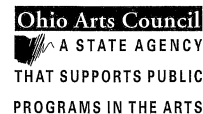
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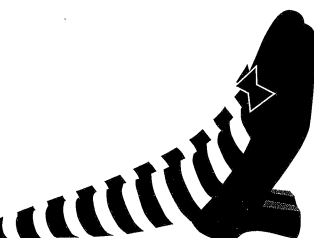


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## Musical Numbers

### Act I

Opening .....Orchestra with Girls Chorus  
Over the Rainbow .....Dorothy  
Ding Dong! The Witch is Dead.....Glinda, Dorothy, Munchkins  
If I Only Had a Brain .....Scarecrow, Dorothy, Crows  
We re Off to See the Wizard.....Dorothy and Scarecrow  
If I Only Had a Heart.....Tinman, Dorothy, Trees  
We re Off to See the Wizard.....Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow  
Lions, Tigers and Bears.....Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow  
If I Only Had the Nerve.....Lion, Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow  
We re Off to See the Wizard .....Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow, Lion  
Poppies .....Glinda, Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow, Lion, Chorus

### Act II

Entr acte  
The Merry Old Land of Oz.....Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow, Lion, Guard, Ozians  
If I Were King of the Forest.....Lion, Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow  
March of the Winkies.....Winkies  
Jitterbug .....Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow, Lion, Jitterbugs  
Winkies March/Over the Rainbow (Reprise).....Dorothy, Tinman, Scarecrow, Lion, Winkies  
Ding Dong! The Witch is Dead (Reprise).....Winkies  
Finale.....Orchestra

We love our sweet "Lollipop" Jilly!  
Grammi and Pop Pop

*The stage is always BRIGHTER  
when YOU are on it!*  
Love, Aunt Lynnne and Uncle Greg

You are the sweetest lollipop ever!  
We love you so much!  
Love, Uncle Doug, Aunt Sharon and Family

We love you sooo much! You are  
an awesome performer, bringing  
great joy to our lives.  
Love, Grandma and Grandpa

There's "no place like home" when  
our sweet Bean is there!  
Love, Mommy and Daddy

There's no one like our "Dorothy."  
Grammi and Pop Pop

*HEART, COURAGE, BRAINS...  
that's OUR KATE.*  
Love, Aunt Lynnne and Uncle Greg

Follow your yellow brick road to  
your dreams! We love you!  
Uncle Doug, Aunt Sharon and Family

We love you sooo much! You are  
an awesome performer, bringing  
great joy to our lives.  
Love, Grandma and Grandpa

You can go over the rainbow or  
anywhere else you choose  
with our love!  
Madre et Padre

Alexis,

Enjoy your Journey down  
the Yellow Brick Road!!

Another outstanding  
performance!!

Love you,  
Mom, Dad, Grandma & Grandpa

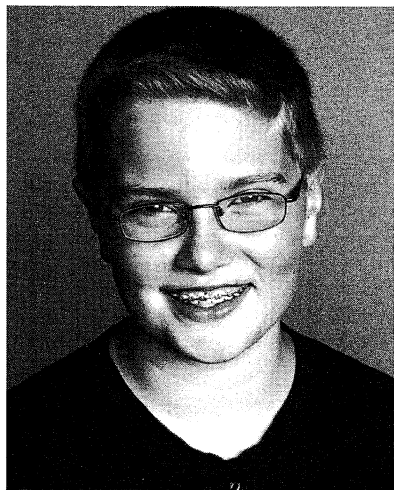
KAITLYN,

YOU ARE OUR SHINING  
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FANTASTIC! WE HOPE  
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WE ARE SO PROUD OF  
YOU!

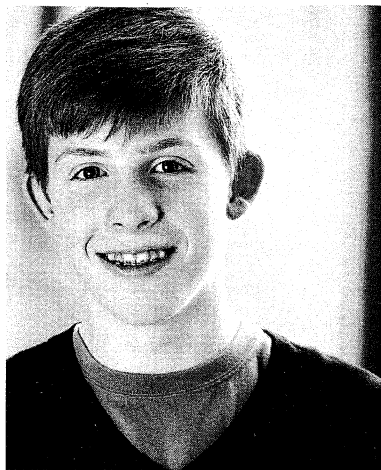
All our love,  
Your family ~  
Mom, Grandma and Millie

We are so proud of you, Ted!  
Have a great time and  
follow the rainbow!



Love, Mom, Dad, Josh and Jake

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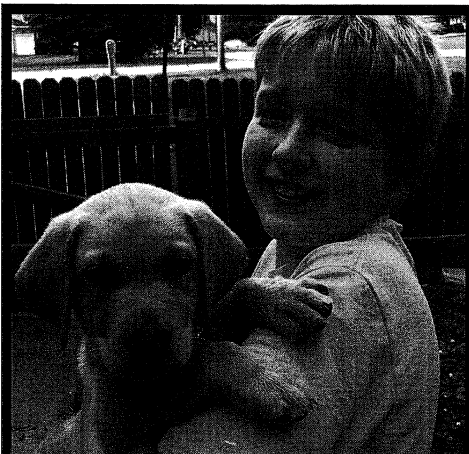
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We love you and are so proud of you!  
Mom, Dad, Joseph and Murphy

CONGRATULATIONS!

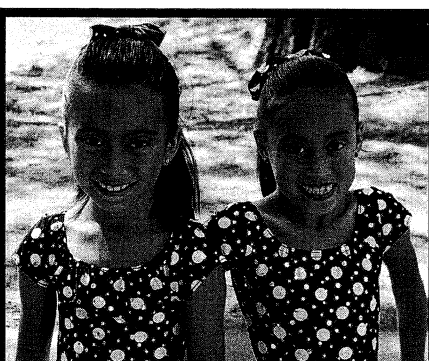


We love you!  
Dad, Mom,  
Maria, & Alex



We are so proud of you,  
Logan, and we can't wait to  
see you on the Weathervane  
stage again!  
Break a leg!

Love, Mom, Dad,  
Lindsey and Slinky



**Giovanna  
& Isabella**

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU BOTH!  
BREAK A LEG (ONE EACH)!

LOVE,  
MOM, DAD & JOSHUA



KENDYL,

TRAVEL DOWN THE YELLOW  
BRICK ROAD AND  
OVER THE RAINBOW  
TO FOLLOW YOUR DREAMS!

WE ARE SO PROUD OF YOU  
AND WE LOVE YOU VERY MUCH!

Mom, Dad, André and Teagan  
Grammy and Papa  
Uncle Joel, Aunt Amy and Tesfa





**From Our Executive Director**

### Family To Be Treasured

That's how arts marketing guru Danny Newman in his seminal book *Subscribe Now!* refers to subscribers of arts organizations -- as family to be treasured. He also refers to them as saintly! He goes on to write:

The subscriber is our ideal. In an act of faith, at the magic moment of writing the check, they commit themselves in advance of the season's beginning. They believe in us from that point on. They want us to succeed and are thrilled when we do. They are our heroes.



On behalf of everyone here at Weatherovane, we couldn't agree more -- our subscribers ARE family to be treasured and they ARE our heroes!

If you have decided to take that leap of faith with us in the past, thank you! Your support is vitally important. If you haven't found the time to either renew your subscription yet or to perhaps take that plunge for the first time, we certainly hope you do so at your earliest convenience. Next year we are planning one of our most diverse and exciting seasons ever to celebrate our 80th Anniversary.

From the familiar songs of the legendary Rodgers and Hammerstein, to the searing insight of Pulitzer Prize-winner Edward Albee, to the laugh-out-loud humor of accomplished British playwright Alan Ayckbourn, to the powerful words of new writers like Obie Award-winner Amy Herzog and Cleveland Arts Prize-winner Michael Oatman, next year we will explore a vast array of worlds and let you imagine life from a wide range of perspectives. This is all in an effort to pursue what we're really after; to be a catalyst for a more tolerant, empathetic, imaginative and enlightened society -- and to, hopefully, entertain you along the way as well!

On behalf of everyone here at Weatherovane, thank you for your attendance at this performance and for your support of live theater.

Sincerely,

John Hedges  
Executive Director  
jhedges@weatherovaneplayhouse.com



# Weatherovane

— PLAYHOUSE —

80th Season -- 2014-2015

Young Actor Production #96

July 25 - August 10, 2014



**Music and Lyrics by**

**Harold Arlen and E.Y. Harburg**

Background Music by Herbert Stothart

Dance/vocal Arrangements by Peter Howard

Orchestration by Larry Wilcox

Adapted by John Kane for the Royal  
Shakespeare Company

Based on the motion picture owned by Turner  
Entertainment Co. and distributed  
in all media by Warner Bros.

**Directed & Choreographed by Sarah Elaine Bailey**

**Musical Direction by Sharon Dobbins Alberson**

**Assistant Director ~ Dane C.T. Leasure**

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**ADDISON HAAS**

Costume Designer  
**JASEN J. SMITH**

Assistant Stage Manager  
**CALI PEPE**

Sound Designer  
**RUSSELL CRAVEN**

Properties Co-Designers  
**JAMIE ORITI**  
**ED BUTCH**

Scenic Designer  
**ALAN SCOTT FERRALL**

Young Actor Series Producer  
**MELANIE YC PEPE**

*THE WIZARD OF OZ* is produced by special arrangement with  
Tams-Witmark Music Library, 560 Lexington Ave., New York, NY 10022.

Weatherovane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weatherovane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186  
Ticket Office: 330-836-2626 • Fax: 330-873-2150 • weatherovaneplayhouse.com



## About the Production

Weathervane Playhouse celebrates the 75th anniversary of one of America's most enduring cinematic treasures -- *The Wizard of Oz* -- by presenting a faithful stage adaptation of the beloved film. Complete with all the familiar songs and iconic characters, *The Wizard of Oz* on stage continues to demonstrate the powerful magnetism of this truly American fairy tale.

Although the now-famous film was not an instant box office success in 1939, succeeding generations have enshrined the movie's treasured place in the hearts and minds of the young and the young at heart. The film was, up to that time, Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer's most expensive production and, despite largely positive reviews, initial ticket sales failed to recoup the studio's expenses.

The 1939 film is often ranked among the top 10 best movies of all time in various critics' and popular polls, and is the source of many memorable quotes referenced in modern popular culture.

### ABOUT THE SHOW'S CREATORS

**HAROLD ARLEN** (music and lyrics) was an American composer of popular music. He was born Hyman Arluck, in Buffalo, New York, on Feb. 15, 1905, the child of a Jewish cantor. He learned the piano as a youth and formed a band as a young man. He achieved some local success as a pianist and singer and moved to New York City in his early 20s. At this point, he changed his name to Harold Arlen. He performed on record with the "Buffalodians" orchestra, as well as those of Red Nichols, Henny Hendrickson and Arnold Johnson.

In 1929, Arlen composed his first well-known song: "Get Happy" (with lyrics by Ted Koehler). Throughout the early and mid-1930s, Arlen and Koehler wrote shows for the Cotton Club, a popular Harlem night club, as well as Broadway musicals and Hollywood films. Arlen also continued to perform with some success, most notably on records with Leo Reisman's society dance orchestra.

Arlen and Koehler wrote many hit songs during the early and mid-1930s including "Between the Devil and the Deep Blue Sea," "I Love a Parade," "I've Got the World on a String," "I've Got a Right to Sing the Blues," "It's Only a Paper Moon," "Let's Fall in Love," "Ill Wind" and "Stormy Weather."

In the mid-1930s, Arlen married, and spent increasingly more time in California, writing for movie musicals. It was at this time that he began working with lyricist Yip Harburg. In 1938, the team was hired by Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer to compose songs for *The Wizard of Oz*.

**E. Y. (YIP) HARBURG** (music and lyrics), often known as "Broadway's social conscience," was born on April 8, 1896 of Russian-Jewish immigrant parents, raised in poverty on Manhattan's Lower East Side, and later attended City College of New York, where he struck up a lifelong friendship with his classmate, Ira Gershwin. Yip was a master lyricist, poet and bookwriter who was dedicated to social justice.

On Broadway, Harburg began writing lyrics for multiple revues in the 1930s which included songs that became standards including "Brother, Can You Spare a Dime?", the classic anthem of the Depression (co-written with composer Jay Gorney in 1932) and "April in Paris" (co-written with Vernon Duke in 1932). He co-wrote the book (with Fred Saisy) and wrote the lyrics for *Finian's Rainbow* (1947, music by Burton Lane) which won the Henderson and George Jean Nathan Awards for Best Musical Comedy, for *Flahooley* (1951, music by Sammy Fain).

In Hollywood, Harburg wrote lyrics for numerous film musicals during the 1930s and 1940s. His most famous work was *The Wizard of Oz* (1939, with Arlen). Altogether, Yip wrote the lyrics to over 600 songs with a variety of composers. "It's Only a Paper Moon" (1932, with Arlen), "Over the Rainbow" (1939, Arlen, which won the Academy Award), "We're Off to See the Wizard," "Ding Dong! The Witch Is Dead" and "Happiness Is Just a Thing Called Joe" (1943, Arlen, from the film *Cabin in the Sky*). Later, with Lane, he wrote "Old Devil Moon" and "How Are Things in Glocca Morra?" The team of Arlen and Harburg also wrote Groucho Marx's signature song, "Lydia, the Tattooed Lady" (1939, from *At the Circus*). He died on March 5, 1981 at 84 years young.

(Source for this biographical sketch: YipHarburg.com)

**JOHN KANE** (adapter) is a British actor and writer who was born on Oct. 27, 1945. An associate actor with the Royal Shakespeare Company (RSC), he played Puck in Peter Brook's acclaimed production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* alongside Ben Kingsley, Alan Howard and Frances de la Tour, before turning to comedy script writing. His TV acting credits include the mentally-crippled Tommy in the 1974 Doctor Who serial *Planet of the Spiders*.

Continuing to work as an actor with the RSC, he also created the British TV sitcoms *Me and My Girl* (1984-1988) with Richard O'Sullivan and Tim Brooke-Taylor, *All in Good Faith* (1985-1988) with Richard Briers, and the TV drama *The Feathered Serpent* (1976-1978). He also wrote for, among others, *Never the Twain*, *Smuggler*, *Rings on Their Fingers*, and wrote the "Six Napoleons" episode of *The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes*, with Jeremy Brett in the title role.

Turning to the stage, he wrote the RSC's adaptation of *The Wizard of Oz*, the West End Cole Porter tribute *A Swell Party* and the words and music in 2005 for *The Canterville Ghost* at the Southwark Playhouse. He also wrote the TV film *The Vamp* starring Shelley Winters, the children's cartoon Britt Allcroft's *Magic Adventures of Mumfie*, and won a CableACE Award for his screenplay for *Daisies in December* starring Joss Ackland. He collaborated with composer David Bass on a children's opera, *Kids Court*, which was premiered in Cambridge, Massachusetts in 2007 by the North Cambridge Family Opera Company. He continues to work as a stage and screen actor.

(Source of this biographical sketch: Wikipedia)



## Cast

Dorothy Gale ..... Kate Klika  
Aunt Em/Glinda ..... Ali Caldwell  
Uncle Henry/Emerald City Guard/Winkie General ..... Marco Colant  
Hunk/Scarecrow ..... J.R. Heckman  
Hickory/Tin Woodsman ..... Al Oliver III  
Zeke/Cowardly Lion ..... Michael D. Swain  
Professor Marvel/The Wonderful Wizard of Oz ..... Codey Montecalvo  
Miss Almira Gulch/the Wicked Witch of the West ..... Cait McNeal

### Junior Chorus

Mayor/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Wilson Anthony Truong Ha  
Coroner/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Sara Thien An Ha  
Barrister/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Giovanna Abucejo  
Mother/Poppy/Margie Monkey ..... Gabrielle Ilg  
Mother/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Jessica Thrasher  
Mother/Poppy/Mokey Monkey ..... Hanna Kancherla  
Lullaby League/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Cecilia Bailey  
Lullaby League/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Giovanna Nestico  
Lullaby League/Poppy/Madeline Monkey ..... Lucy Kaczmar  
Lollipop Guild/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Sophia Bailey  
Lollipop Guild/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Logan Chapman  
Lollipop Guild/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Jill Klika  
Fiddler/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Isabelle Bailey  
Braggart/Poppy/Mildred Monkey ..... Jamie Victoria Mayfield  
School Teacher/Poppy/Mac Monkey ..... Kendyl Rae Rudlosky  
School Teacher/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Kaitlyn Phillips  
School Teacher/Poppy/Jitterbug ..... Isabella Abucejo

### Teen Chorus

Crow/Beautician/Jitterbug/Watto Winkie ..... Gracie Thanasiu  
Crow/Ozian/Jitterbug/Wilhelm Winkie ..... Alexis Robles  
Crows/Ozian/Jitterbug/Wanda Winkie ..... Haley Gallagher  
Apple Tree/Manicurist/Jitterbug/Wendola Winkie ..... Sarah Craven  
Apple Tree/Nikko/Wizard (u/s) Wacky Winkie ..... Theodore Mansfield  
Apple Tree/Polisher/Jitterbug/William Winkie ..... Charlie Gruhler  
Wilburt Winkie/Jitterbug/Ozian ..... Sabrina Reed  
Wicked Winkie/Jitterbug/Ozian ..... Elek Kitchen  
Ozian/Jitterbug ..... Caroline Pali  
Ozian/Jitterbug ..... Elena Gabrielle Flauto  
Ozian/Jitterbug ..... Ilona Kitchen  
Ozian/Jitterbug ..... Emma Ilg  
Wonderful Winkie/Ozian/Jitterbug ..... Bryson Lambes  
Ozian/Jitterbug ..... Elise Clawson  
Toto ..... Zsa Zsa

### Orchestra Musicians

Sharon Dobbins Alberson ~ piano  
Denise O Malley ~ clarinet/saxophone  
Michelle Worthing ~ flute  
Steve Neal ~ percussion

There will be one 15-minute intermission.





## About Our Directing Team



**SARAH ELAINE BAILEY** (Director and Choreographer) this past fall celebrated her 11th consecutive year as the director of Weathervane's annual Young Actor Series production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Last summer, she also directed and choreographed *Honk!* and *The Music Man*. Her other Weathervane directorial credits include 2012's *Annie*, 2011's *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*, 2010's *Seussical*, 2009's *Madeline and the Gypsies*, 2008's *Go, Dog. Go!* and 2006's *Madeline's Rescue*. As a performer on the Weathervane stage, she played Trix (the aviatrix) in *The Drowsy Chaperone*. Her other Weathervane performance credits include Sister Margaretta in 2006's *The Sound of Music* and Sister Amnesia in 2004's *Nunsense* (for which she won a Chanticleer Award). She has taught Weathervane youth-theater classes for nearly a decade and she is a frequent performer with The Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players at the Playhouse's annual Chanticleer Awards ceremony. Since September 2010, as Weathervane's Education Outreach Coordinator, she has also assisted the Playhouse's education department in coordinating the hiring and training of the many teachers who staff the Playhouse's participation in Akron After School (on-site, after-school theater-education classes at dozens of Akron Public Schools facilities). She received her bachelor's degree in music from Ohio Northern University and her master's degree in music and pedagogy from Westminster Choir College in Princeton, New Jersey. She has sung at Carnegie Hall with the New York Philharmonic and was a grand finalist in Guangdong, China, International Vocal Competition and has also performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland. Her favorite roles include Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, Juliette in *Romeo and Juliette* and a Cherubino in *Le Nozze de Figaro*. Her grandest roles, however, remain mother to three daughters -- Isabelle, Sophia and Cecilia -- and wife to husband Kyle, with whom she makes her home in Cuyahoga Falls.



**DANE C.T. LEASURE** (Assistant Director) is excited to be back working at Weathervane Playhouse. Last summer he served as Assistant Director for *Honk!* He has performed and directed around Northeast Ohio and in Virginia, where he completed his M.F.A. degree in Shakespeare and performance. Some of his favorite directing credits include *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol*. He is the Producing Artistic Director of the Rubber City Shakespeare Company.



**SHARON DOBBINS ALBERSON** (Musical Director) is a graduate of Kent State University School of Music and was a Blossom Music Scholar with the Cleveland Orchestra. A graduate of The University of Akron School of Law, Harvard Divinity School and Oxford University, Sharon is a minister, lawyer and musician. She is the founder and director of Faith Musicals, a faith-based musical company that produces eight original musicals for the benefit of local and national charities. For Weathervane Playhouse, she served as the musical director for 2009, 2011, 2012 and 2013 productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Honk!* (2013), *The Music Man* (2013), *Annie* (2012), *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* (2011) and *Seussical* (2010). Sharon lives in Cuyahoga Falls with her husband Ramsey and is the proud mom of Heather, who is a junior at The Ohio State University.

### PLEASE...

- ♦ Turn OFF your cell phone because even silenced calls and text messages interfere with the sound system backstage, on stage and throughout the theater.
- ♦ Be sure your cell phone is turned off again after intermission when appropriate.
- ♦ If you are using an Assistive Listening headset, please turn off your hearing aids to avoid feedback.
- ♦ NO PHOTOS 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.



## Cast Biographies



**KATE KLIKA** (Dorothy Gale) just completed her final year at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, where she played Fantine in *Les Miserables*. She will soon begin her freshman year at Firestone High School in Akron and will be enrolled in the International Baccalaureate program. Also this fall, she will be returning to our stage as The Kid in *The Roar of the Greasepaint -- The Smell of the Crowd*. Kate says she would like to study voice and musical theatre in college, then move to New York City to pursue a career on Broadway.



**ALI CALDWELL** (Aunt Em/ Glinda) is a recent graduate of Stow-Munroe Falls High School, where she was a member of the band and served as treasurer of the National Honor Society. She was also an eight-year member of ETC School of Musical Arts Showchoir. Her performance credits include Gertrude McFuzz in *Seussical*, Veta Simmons in *Harvey* and Laurey Williams in *Oklahoma!* After *The Wizard of Oz*, she's looking forward to beginning her freshman year at the University of Mount Union.



**MARCO COLANT** (Uncle Henry/ Emerald City Guard/Winkie General) will be a senior come fall at St. Vincent-St. Mary High School in Akron, where his stage credits include Cogsworth in *Beauty and the Beast*, Lucentio and Bill Calhoun in *Kiss Me, Kate* and various roles in *As You Like It* and *Singin' in the Rain*. At Weathervane, Marco played the Mayor of Whoville in *Seussical* in 2010. A member of the National Honor Society, Marco is president of his school's chapter of Mu Alpha Theta and vice president of his school's chapter of the International Thespian Society. He also enjoys playing baseball and running cross country.



**J.R. HECKMAN** (Hunk/Scarecrow) first played this same role at the Beck Center for the Arts in Lakewood and is delighted to do it again on the Weathervane stage. Elsewhere, his credits include the title role in *Joseph...Dreamcoat* at Solon Center for the Arts, John in *Peter Pan* at Mercury Summer Stock, Gavroche in *Les Miserables* at Walsh Jesuit High School, the title role in *Aladdin* at Brecksville Theater on the Square and Harold Hill in *The Music Man* at Solon Center for the Arts. He will be entering the eighth grade this coming fall at Solon Middle School. In his spare time, he

enjoys playing the piano, and he says that he would like to pursue a career in medicine.



**AL OLIVER III** (Hickory/Tin Woodsman) will enter his senior year this fall at Cuyahoga Valley Christian Academy in Stow, where he has participated with the school's speech/debate team.

He's also enjoyed several performance opportunities (such as Mr. Van Daan in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, the Rev. Dr. Harper in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Jacob Marley in *A Christmas Carol* and various roles in *Tarzan*, *Cinderella* and *Fiddler on the Roof*). My goal, says Al, is to continue to perform for the rest of my life.



**MICHAEL D. SWAIN** (Zeke/ Cowardly Lion) earlier this summer played Fred in *Bye Bye Birdie*, the third All-City Musical at the Akron Civic Theatre. Last summer, he was a member of the All City Musical's *Ragtime* ensemble. His other performance credits include Vince Fontaine and Teen Angel in *Grease* and Skipalong Rafferty in *Sagebrush Sidekicks* at Akron Early College High School, where students earn a high school diploma and an associate's degree at the same time through classes at The University of Akron which are taught by a combination of high school teachers and college professors. Michael looks forward to beginning his senior year there this fall.



**CODEY MONTECALVO** (Professor Marvel/The Wonderful Wizard of Oz) has spent several summers on our stage. You may recognize him as Barney Bullfrog from last summer's *Honk!* and from his ensemble roles in *Annie* and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. He also played Issachar in our 2012 *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. Codey's many interests include soccer, dance, singing and art. This fall, he will be an eighth grader at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron. Codey says that he hopes to study in France during high school.



**CAIT MCNEAL** (Miss Almira Gulch/The Wicked Witch of the West), a recent graduate of Firestone High School in Akron, is excited to return to Weathervane for this show, which marks her 15th performance on our stage. Her other Weathervane credits include Mercy Wood in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, Mrs. Gibbs in *Our Town*, Miss Hannigan in *Annie*, Katherine in *The Taming of the Shrew*



## Cast Biographies

and The Stepmother in *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. Most recently, she appeared in *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Romeo and Juliet* with the Rubber City Shakespeare Company. She is looking forward to beginning classes this fall at The University of Akron.



**WILSON ANTHONY TRUONG HA** (Mayor/Poppy/Jitterbug) is proud to be in *The Wizard of Oz*, which is his fourth Weathervane production. Last summer, he played Greylag in *Honk!* and

Winthrop in *The Music Man*. In 2012, he was in the dance ensemble of *Annie*. He has just finished the fifth grade at Old Trail School, where he has also studied violin and sang with the choir. Wilson studies musicianship theory and piano at the Ohio Conservatory and violin instruction outside of school. He enjoys reading and drawing and treasures spending time singing and acting on stage and playing outside. He thanks everyone who supports his musical experiences and he looks forward to more opportunities here.



**SARA THIEN AN HA** (Coroner/Poppy/Jitterbug) played Fortunate Fishy/Fussy Frog in *Honk!* last summer and a River City Kid in *The Music Man*. Two summers ago, she played the part of Molly, the youngest orphan, in *Annie*. Sara loves to sing and act on stage. She has taken many musical theater classes at Weathervane and performed her singing at Old Trail School and church. She also studies piano and works very hard at practicing. She likes to draw, and play outdoors with her guinea pigs in her free time. Sara will be entering fourth grade in the fall.



**GIOVANNA ABUCEJO** (Barrister/Poppy/Jitterbug) recently sang a solo piece in the spring program at her school, St. Hilary in Fairlawn, and is very excited to now sing for

Weathervane audiences. Outside of school and performing, Giovanna enjoys practicing gymnastics, playing volleyball, reading, playing piano and clarinet, and participating in softball games. She will be entering the sixth grade this coming school year.



**GABRIELLE ILG** (Mother/Poppy/Margie Monkey) played Gertie Goose on our stage in *Honk!* last summer and is excited to return to singing and dancing for Weathervane audiences. At Sidney Fenn Elementary School in Medina,

she played Ms. Taymor in *Hello, Broadway!* Her favorite hobbies include reading, math, singing and making crafts. She looks forward to beginning the fifth grade after her *Wizard of Oz* summer comes to an end.



### JESSICA THRASHER

(Mother/Poppy/Jitterbug) says that she loves animals, music and photography, and that she has recently started to learn how to play the guitar and

saxophone. This fall, she will be a sixth grader at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts (where she participates with the Commedia Dell'Arte troupe). Her performance credits include *The Diversity Play* and *The Bully Project*. With The New World Children's Theatre in Kent, she appeared in *It's a Sofa!*, *The Authority* and *Through the Onion Patch*.



**HANNA KANCHERLA** (Mother/Poppy/Mokie Monkey) played Fluff Duckling last summer on our stage in *Honk!* The prior summer, she was a member of the *Annie* orphan ensemble.

Shortly after her *Wizard of Oz* experience ends, Hanna will begin the sixth grade at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts (where she has performed in *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* and *Doctor Dolittle*). When not working on projects for school or theater, Hanna enjoys practicing gymnastics, piano and violin, playing soccer and traveling. Echoing many of her fellow cast members, Hanna declares, I would like to perform on Broadway some day!



**CECILIA BAILEY** (Lullaby League/Poppy/Jitterbug) has studied dance for four years and is now very pleased to sing and dance on our stage in this production. After her *Wizard of*

*Oz* summer concludes, she will be entering the second grade at St. Joseph School in Cuyahoga Falls.



**GIOVANNA NESTICO** (Lullaby League/Poppy/Jitterbug) made her Weathervane Playhouse debut last summer as Febe Fishy/Fifi Frog in *Honk!* After her *Wizard of Oz* summer here,

she will begin the fifth grade this fall at St. Hilary School in Fairlawn. Her hobbies include golf, singing, dancing and acting. I want to try out for Broadway, says Giovanna. And I want to travel to many different places!



## Cast Biographies



**LUCY KACZMAR** (Lullaby League/Poppy/Madeline Monkey) makes her Weathervane Playhouse debut in this production, though she has sung on our stage before in connection with her musical theater classes here. This coming fall, she will be entering the fourth grade at Old Trail School in Bath Township. Outside of school and her performance activities, she enjoys gymnastics and swimming.



**SOPHIA BAILEY** (Lollipop Guild/Poppy/Jitterbug) spent last summer singing and dancing on our stage as Fannie Fishy/Fabbie Frog in *Honk!* This coming fall, she begins the fourth grade at St.

Joseph School in Cuyahoga Falls, where she has earned a Christian Leadership Award. Outside of school, Sophia has taken dance classes for the past four years at Cuyahoga Falls Dance Center.



**LOGAN CHAPMAN** (Lollipop Guild/Poppy/Jitterbug) will enter the sixth grade this coming school year at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, where he has performed

in both *Les Miserables* and *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* Last summer, he played Ferdinand Fishy/Phillup Frog on our stage in *Honk!* Logan plays the trombone and steel drums and he has studied dance -- ballet, jazz, tap and lyrical -- for seven years.



**JILL KLIKA** (Lollipop Guild/Poppy/Jitterbug) this past spring played Prudence Gish on our stage in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* and Amaryllis in *The Music Man*. Jill has also appeared in two

shows at her school (Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron), where she was in *Willie the Shake's Greatest Hits* and *Doctor Dolittle*. Jill says that her favorite activities are singing with her school's show choir, writing poetry, playing the piano and studying science! She'll be a seventh grader in the fall.



**ISABELLE BAILEY** (Fiddler/Poppy/Jitterbug) spent all of last summer right here on the Weathervane stage. First, she played one of the River City Kids, in *The Music Man* and then she played Downy Duckling in *Honk!* She brings to our stage eight years of dance training (in such styles as ballet, jazz and lyrical) as well as several years of piano instruction and

Weathervane acting classes. This coming fall, she begins the sixth grade at St. Joseph School in Cuyahoga Falls, where she has earned a Christian Leadership Award and participated with student council and the math team.



**JAMIE VICTORIA MAYFIELD** (Braggart/Poppy/Mildred Monkey) will begin the fifth grade this coming school year at Strausser Elementary in Jackson Township. Prior to coming to

Weathervane, she performed with Jackson Children's Theater in *The Aristocats* and with Canal Fulton Players in *The Wizard of Oz*. In addition to such hobbies and activities as singing, gymnastics, acting and swimming, she has also raised money for Relay for Life in support of her grandmother. I want to be a Broadway star, she says.



**KENDYL RAE RUDLOSKY** (School Teacher/Poppy/Mac Monkey) is excited to return to Weathervane for a second time after her role as Gertie in last summer's production of *The*

*Music Man*. She has also performed as Maxine in the Act-It UP! Theater production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*. Away from the stage, Kendyl is active in ballet, jazz, piano and choir. She was recently the recipient of a first-place award in the Children's Concert Society's Scholastic Composer's Contest for her original composition entitled *Reliv in D Major*. Kendyl will be a fifth grader at Lakeview Intermediate School in Stow. She says that she is determined to keep acting.



**KAITLYN PHILLIPS** (School Teacher/Poppy/Jitterbug) has enjoyed her classes here at Weathervane and is now thrilled to sing and dance on our stage in this production. She will be

a sixth grader this coming school year at Roberts Middle School in Cuyahoga Falls. In addition to performing, Kaitlyn loves reading and working with stop-motion animation (to make her own movies!). She also very much enjoys chemistry and math, and says that she wants to be a chemist when she gets older.



**ISABELLA ABUCEJO** (School Teacher/Poppy/Jitterbug) says that she enjoys many special interests and hobbies including (but not limited to!) gymnastics, dancing, piano, singing,

basketball, softball, volleyball, swimming, reading, and her favorite animals are seals and monkeys. This coming school year, she begins the fourth grade at St. Hilary School.





## Cast Biographies



**GRACIE THANASIU** (Crow/Beautician/Jitterbug/Watto Winkie) most recently on our stage played Kit Tyler in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*. Before that, she played one of our two narrators in last year's *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. Her other Weathervane credits include Henrietta in *Honk!*, the Baker and Gad's Wife in the 2012 *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and Tessie in *Annie*. While a student at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, she was very active with the Jr. Thespians (earning a Double Superior Individual Event rating at Jr. Thespian Conference in 2013 and 2014). After *The Wizard of Oz*, she will begin her freshman year at Firestone High School in Akron.



**ALEXIS ROBLES** (Crow/Ozian/Jitterbug/Wilhelm Winkie) this past spring was in the *Les Miserables* ensemble at her school, Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron.

Also at Miller South, she performed as Junction Jess in *Schoolhouse Rock Live! Jr.* Last summer on our stage, she played Snowy Goose/Flashy Fishy/Finnian Frog in *Honk!* Away from the stage, Alexis has also earned a yellow belt in karate. After *The Wizard of Oz* closes, she will enter the sixth grade.



**HALEY GALLAGHER** (Crow/Ozian/Jitterbug/Wanda Winkie) played Zebulon's Wife in our 2013 *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. Before that, she was in our *Annie* and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's*

*Cinderella*. She has just completed her final year at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where she was a member of the *Les Miserables* ensemble. This fall, she begins her freshman year in Firestone High School's vocal music program and the pre-International Baccalaureate program. As a member of the Cuyahoga Valley Youth Ballet, she danced in *Miss Spider's Tea Party* and *The Little Mermaid* at the Akron Civic Theatre. Haley enjoys swimming and reading.



**SARAH CRAVEN** (Apple Tree/Manicurist/Jitterbug/Wendola Winkie) will be entering the eighth grade this fall at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts,

where this past spring she performed with the *Les Miserables* ensemble. Last year, Weathervane audiences saw her as Asher's Wife in *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, *Honk!* and *The Music Man*. In 2012, she was a loveable orphan in *Annie*. When it comes to her favorite things, Sarah

says that she loves dancing (especially tap), art and the guitar. One day, she adds, she hopes to work in New York City on Broadway.



**THEODORE MANSFIELD** (Apple Tree/Nikko/Wizard (u/s)/Wacky Winkie) is no stranger to our stage. Since 2006, he has sung with one of the youth and/or anchor choruses in our

annual production of *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, and he joined the ensemble for the 2012 and 2013 productions. His other Weathervane credits include *Honk!*, *Pippin*, *Shine!* (with special guest artist Hal Linden) and *JoJo* in *Seussical*. In 2012, he played The Little Boy/Edgar in *Ragtime* at Kent State University and was an ensemble member with the All-City Musical *Hairspray* at the Akron Civic Theatre. Come fall, he will enter the eighth grade at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where this past spring he played Enjolras in *Les Miserables*. He enjoys playing the ukulele as well as fishing.



**CHARLIE GRUHLER** (Apple Tree/Polisher/Jitterbug/William Winkie) has recently completed the eighth grade at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, where

this past spring he played Jean Valjean in *Les Miserables*. Also at Miller South, he played Matthew Mugg in *Doctor Dolittle*. On our stage, he sang and danced with *The Music Man* ensemble last summer, appeared as Issachar in last year's *Joseph...Dreamcoat* (after playing Benjamin the year before), and played in the ensembles of both *Annie* and *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella*. Outside of theater and school work, he enjoys performing magic tricks, playing the drums and piano and studying engineering. He will be a freshman this fall at Firestone High School in Akron.



**SABRINA REED** (Wilburt Winkie/Jitterbug/Ozian) will be a freshman this fall at Firestone High School's Akron School of the Arts. She is an alumna of Akron's Miller South School for

the Visual and Performing Arts, where most recently she played Eponine in *Les Miserables*. She was also a member of her school's *Doctor Dolittle* ensemble. Off the stage, Sabrina enjoys soccer, volleyball, reading and writing. I would love to live in New York City, says Sabrina. And I would like to go to New York University or Baldwin Wallace University to major in musical theatre and minor in something in the medical field.



## Cast Biographies



**ELEK KITCHEN** (Wicked Winkie/Jitterbug/Ozian) will be an eighth grader this coming fall at Field Local Schools' Falcon Academy of Creative Arts in Mogadore, where his stage credits include Hunk and the Scarecrow in *The Wizard of Oz Jr.* and The Cat in the Hat in *Seussical Jr.* With Dynamics Community Theatre in Tallmadge, he appeared in *Fruitcakes*, *Peter Pan* and *Honk!* Several years ago, Elek also got to sing a solo with his school's youth chorus in Weathervane's *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. When not performing, Elek enjoys playing piano, traveling across the country, participating with the Boy Scouts, and finding time to play with his pets (a pony, a chicken, the dogs, a cat and a turtle).



**CAROLINE PALI** (Ozian/Jitterbug) just completed her final year at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts and was involved with numerous productions

there, the latest being *Les Miserables*. She also served as a stage manager for an original Miller South production, *The Diversity Play*, has helped backstage and has operated the sound board. This fall, she will continue her theater studies at Akron School of the Arts, Firestone High School's visual and performing arts program. She is thrilled to join the Weathervane family for her first production here and will cherish the experience and memories from this opportunity.



**ELENA GABRIELLE FLAUTO** (Ozian/Jitterbug) was a solo-vocalist performer with the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra last August, a National Anthem soloist for the Akron

RubberDucks at Canal Park this past June, the 2011 Applause Talent Competition (High Gold and Overall Best Solo Vocalist), and the 2009 Onstage New York Competition (Gold Winner for Solo Vocals). Her special interests include singing, piano, gymnastics, dance, fashion design, mathematics, reading and travel. Every time I'm blessed with the opportunity to perform for an audience, says Elena, I will put on the best show that I can possibly do! A student at Revere Middle School in Bath Township, she will be a sixth grader this fall.



**ILONA KITCHEN** (Ozian/Jitterbug) will be a fifth grader this fall at Field Local Schools' Falcon Academy of Creative Arts in Mogadore, where she played several roles in *The Wizard of Oz*

Jr. With Dynamics Community Theater in Tallmadge, she appeared in *Fruitcakes*, *Peter Pan* and *Honk!* In addition to her love of performing, Ilona enjoys her participation with the Girl Scouts, traveling to new and favorite places, and spending time with her many pets (a pony, a dog, a cat and some chickens, too!).



**EMMA ILG** (Ozian/Jitterbug) enjoyed playing Beaky Duckling on our stage last summer in *Honk!* and she is having just as much fun this summer in *The Wizard of Oz*. You might also

recognize her as one of the two young girls who shared the title role in our 2012 production of *Annie*. She attends Claggett Middle School in Medina, where she played Cinderella in *The Liberated Cinderella*. Her off-stage activities and hobbies include singing, guitar, composition and dancing. This coming school year, she begins the seventh grade.



**BRYSON LAMBES** (Wonderful Winkie/Ozian/Jitterbug) makes his Weathervane Playhouse debut in this production, but he is no stranger to Weathervane as he spent most of June working

backstage in a number of technical capacities for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Before coming to Weathervane, Bryson played Fagin in *Oliver!* at Jackson Middle School. He calls Jackson Township home but he is a student at the National Inventors Hall of Fame STEM High School in Akron, where he will begin his sophomore year this fall.



**ELISE CLAWSON** (Ozian/Jitterbug) spent last summer on our stage playing Freely Fishy/Fickle Frog in *Honk!* and a River City Kid, in *The Music Man*. Before that she played Jip

the Dog in *Doctor Dolittle* at her school, Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, where, after *The Wizard of Oz*, she will start the eighth grade. Elise's many activities include playing the piano and viola, singing with her school's concert choir, enjoying art, running cross country and skiing when the snow cooperates. Elise says that she is looking forward to traveling to Europe with her school's concert choir next year!



**ZSA ZSA** (Toto), a resident of West Akron, is excited to be playing a role against her type! She says her favorite things include tennis balls, toys that squeak and long walks.



## Creative Team Biographies



**JJ McADAMS** (Stage Manager) recently returned to Weathervane after spending a semester in Germany. We were fortunate to engage her as the stage manager for *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. She is a senior theater design/technical theater major at Kent State University, where she is a member of the local Alpha Psi Omega chapter and has stage managed *Treachery of Images* and *Lovers: Winners* and served as assistant stage manager for *She Stoops to Conquer*. Her activities here include props design for *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and *The Art of Deduction...*, lighting design for *Amadeus*, and stage managing *Pride and Prejudice*, *Seussical* and *The Nerd*.



**CALI PEPE** (Assistant Stage Manager) also served as our Assistant Stage Manager for this past spring's *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* and last summer's *Honk!* As a performer, her Weathervane credits include *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, one of the River City Kids in *The Music Man*, a member of the orphan ensemble in *Annie*, *Seussical*, *Madeline* and *the Gypsies* and played Black and White Dog in *Go, Dog. Go!* An alumna of Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, she will soon begin her sophomore year at Firestone High School in Akron.



**ZACH NUSBAUM** (Lighting Co-Designer) has been volunteering at Weathervane for about seven years. Last year, he designed lights for *Joseph...Dreamcoat*, but he has designed and worked tech on multiple shows here. When not contributing his time and talents to Weathervane, Zach serves as a Senior Airman in the United States Air Force Reserve, stationed at Youngstown Air Reserve Station (Vienna, Ohio). He is a Loadmaster on the C-130 Hercules.



**ADDISON HAAS** (Lighting Co-Designer) is new to us but has been a stage manager and light board operator at Miller South School...on *Les Miserables* and *School House Rock Live! Jr.*



**RUSSELL CRAVEN** (Sound Designer) has previously served as our Sound Designer for the *Joseph...Dreamcoat* and *Honk!* Before that, he assisted on our sound for *The Music Man*, and *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Russ first learned the ropes as a sound technician/designer at his church. He is delighted to work alongside his daughter, Sarah, a member of our *Wizard of Oz* cast. He and his wife, Bronwyn, live in

Cuyahoga Falls, where he rounds out his spare time teaching guitar.



**JAMIE ORITI** (Properties Designer) last year served as both the Assistant Stage Manager and Properties Designer for *Joseph...Dreamcoat*. Prior to that, she served as our assistant stage manager for *The Music Man*. Other Weathervane credits include her service on the props crew for *Amadeus* and, in the same category of props, for her work on *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Chanticleer Award) in 2012. Elsewhere, she has also performed in front of the footlights on area stages in such shows as *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Give My Regards to Broadway*, *The Wizard of Oz* and *Oliver!*



**ED BUTCH** (Properties Designer) is participating in his first production with Weathervane Playhouse. He has been involved with the Salem Community Theatre (in Salem, Ohio) since 1999. Ed has been involved in all of the different production aspects of shows. Most recently, he appeared on stage in *A Christmas Carol*, *Blind Pew* and *Treasure Island* and Willum Cubbert in SCT's revival of *The Nerd*. He also worked behind the scenes as the stage manager for *Footloose*. He resides in Cuyahoga Falls.



**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 Scott 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 ~ Weathervane History Panels

In honor of Weathervane's 80th Year of continuous operation, our history panels, which were created during the 2009-2010 season, have been reinstalled. Please enjoy browsing through the gallery. Research for this project was done by Alan Scott Ferrall.

We acknowledge the following individuals for their help during this project:

Warren Skidmore  
Margaret J. Dietz  
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Alex Brown  
Scott Brown  
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Robert Belfance  
Keith Campbell  
Helen Fleming

Leslie Lund  
Lisa Mansfield  
Ruth Richardson  
Andrew Laird MacLachlan  
Amorah MacLachlan  
Mrs. Steven Troesch  
Barbara Kaufman

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  
Joe Hunter  
Tom Marshall  
Bill Lambacher  
David Deming  
Dale Gilbert  
Kevin Ford  
Roger Dieringer  
John Tynan  
Matt Rayman  
Dan Levan  
Thomas Broyles

### SOUND

Russ Craven  
Chris Ilg  
Scott Thanasis  
Chris Czirok  
Megan Culley

### LIGHTS

Zach Nusbaum  
Addison Haas  
Sue Stout Davis  
Linda Hostettler  
Christopher Ha  
Dale Gilbert  
Jack Steele  
Michele McNeal  
Kaley Prebonick  
Julia Prebonick

### PROPERTIES

Jamie Oriti  
Ed Butch  
Parents of the Oz  
cast

### COSTUMES

Jasen J. Smith  
Christopher T. Ersing  
Pat Nichols  
Diantha Seibert  
Carol Smith  
Naiya Moss  
Millie Keyser  
Loretta Brinton  
Kat Glover  
Danielle Gruhler  
Beth Kitchen  
Alaina Phillips  
Stephanie Gallagher  
Jen Klika

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Parents of the Oz Cast  
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Clear Gold Audio  
BCG Systems, Inc.  
Media Department at KSU

### Thanks to Our Hard-Working Volunteers

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

Stacy Bechtel  
Eleanor Campbell  
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Meg Hopp  
Jim Horvath  
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Eileen Moushey  
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Sue Smith  
Barbie Trotter  
Helen Vari

### JOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

Mr. Hedges is currently in his seventh season as Executive Director of Weathervane Playhouse. He has enjoyed an award-winning career as both a producer and an actor. In 2012 he received a BroadwayWorld Regional Best Actor Award for his portrayal of Michael in the Cleveland premiere of *God of Carnage* at Dobama Theatre. Prior to coming to Weathervane, John spent ten years in the Resident Acting Company at the Barter Theatre in Virginia where he performed in more than 60 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 work includes *Freedom* (Best Supporting Actor, SA International Film Festival) as well as *The Crimson Fold*. John 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 Pearl Theatre Company. Mr. Hedges is a member of Actors Equity Association, has served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource, been a Conference Panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre & Education, and written for American Theatre magazine. He studied at Indiana State University, the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware, is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds an honorary MFA degree in theatre from Stafford University. He is a graduate of Leadership Akron (Class XXV) and he and his wife, Cheryl, live in Munroe Falls.

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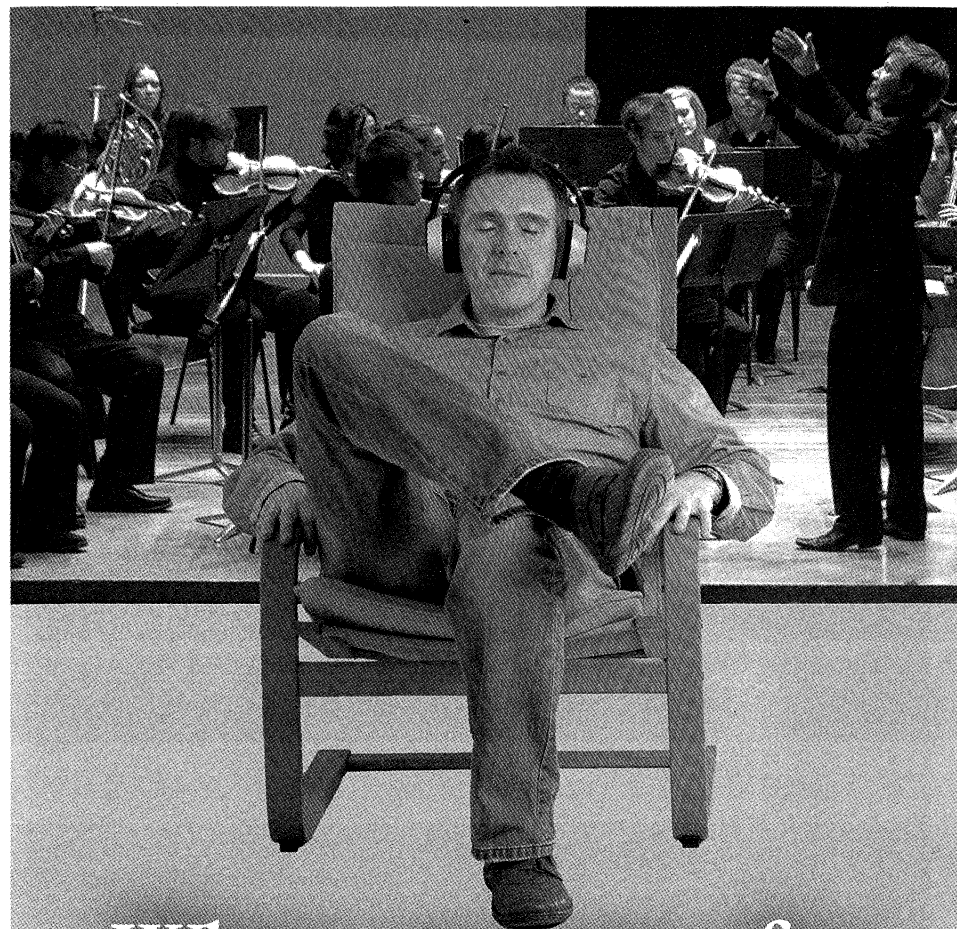
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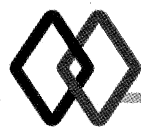


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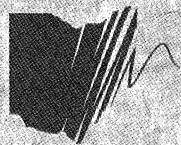
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