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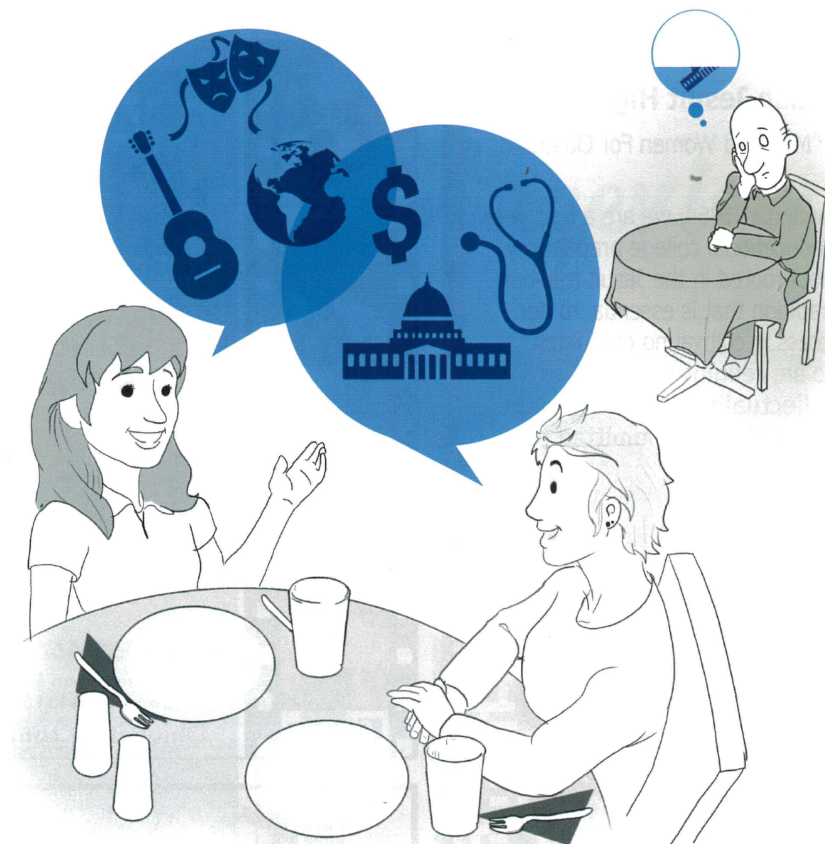


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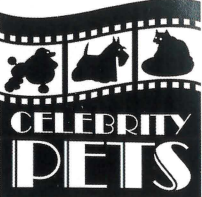


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Stageview



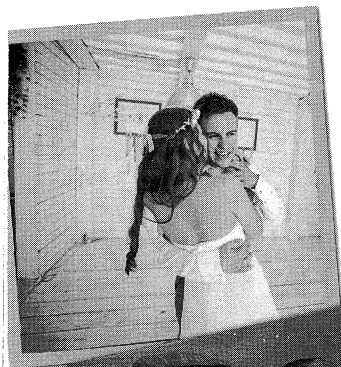
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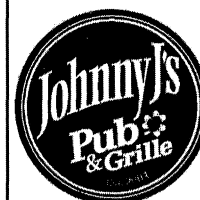
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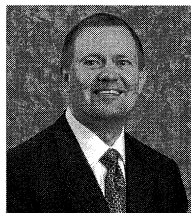
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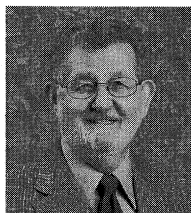
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A BRIEF HISTORY OF WEATHERVANE PLAYHOUSE

From the "barn" to Copley Road to the Valley ...

Weathervane Community Playhouse began its run in 1935. Four artistically talented Woman's City Club members – Grace Hower Crawford, Muriel MacLachlan, LaTrine 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 81st Season.

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Weathervane Playhouse is pleased and excited to feature students from Firestone High School in the Harris Family Gallery during the run of *Clybourne Park*, *The Lyons* and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. Firestone High School, Campus for International Baccalaureate and Visual & Performing Arts, is a one-of-a-kind program in the area. It is designed for students interested in drama, dance, visual art, or vocal/instrumental music who plan a career in an arts profession. The International Baccalaureate program is in its 14th year and has a very rigorous series of courses. During those fourteen years, 82% of students earned the prestigious I.B. diploma; the world average for this period was 79%.

All the students participating in this exhibit are from Mr. Patrick Dougherty's Portfolio Class. Eight of these students are juniors in the VPA (Visual and Performing Arts) program and art is their main focus. The rest of the students are seniors in advanced classes, having taken Drawing I & II, and, in some cases, painting. There are also two students from the International Baccalaureate Program who are in the Art Studio Program.

Each student chose the medium in which he or she wanted to work. The theme for the exhibit is "Family: A Narrative." The students discussed the play *Clybourne Park*. The art they've created reflects their thoughts and feelings as they relate to their own families and the families portrayed onstage.

Nathaniel Duvuvuei, Learning Specialist of the APS (Akron Public Schools) Fine Arts Department, approved funding for the materials needed for this important project. Weathervane would like to thank him for supporting this special exhibit. We are delighted to have this opportunity to feature the talents of these gifted students in The Harris Family Gallery.

Marci Paolucci
Gallery Curator



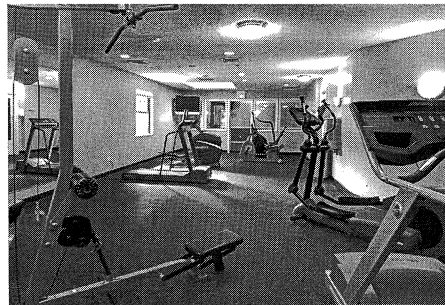
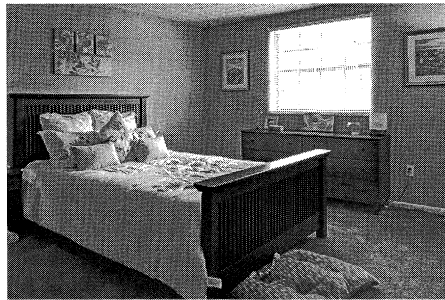
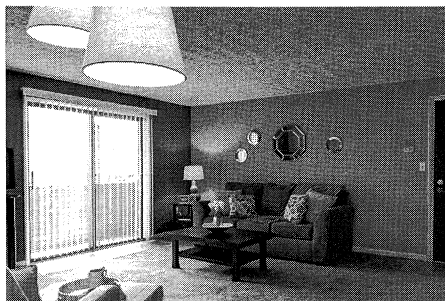
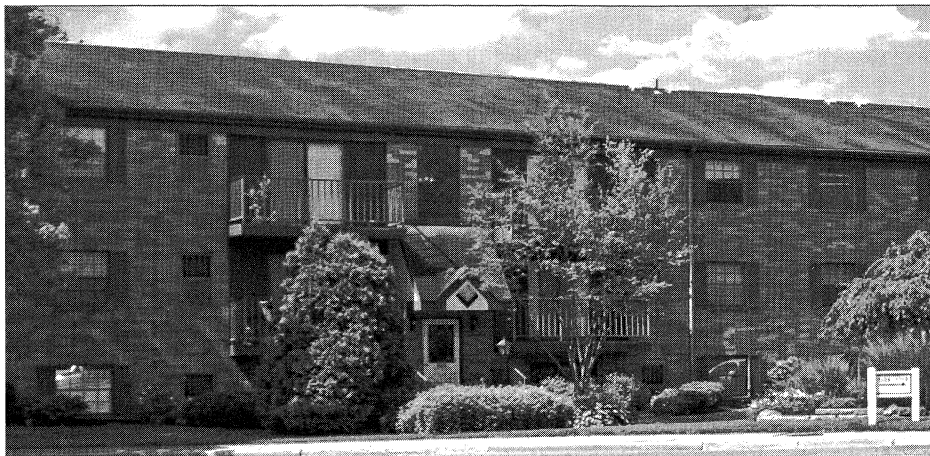
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ABOUT THE SHOW

Based on the young-adult novel by Dave Barry and Ridley Pearson, *Peter and the Starcatcher* has been described as “a grownup’s prequel to *Peter Pan*.” In this fast-moving adventure tale, a company of a dozen actors portray more than a hundred unforgettable characters who reveal the answer to the century-old question: How did Peter Pan become The Boy Who Never Grew Up?

Molly Aster is a 13-year-old Starcatcher Apprentice who finds herself in the company of pirates, a giant crocodile and angry Mollusks as she and three orphan boys (one of whom happens to be unnamed) attempt to return a trunk of precious star-stuff to her father. The star-stuff is important because it is a magical material that falls from the stars. Those who possess star-stuff are endowed with happiness, power and the ability to fly! Molly is determined to keep the star-stuff out of the hands of evildoers, and adventures abound as she and her cohorts are pursued by a mustachioed pirate captain and his sidekick Smee.

A show full of wildly imaginative and inventive theater, *Peter and the Starcatcher* is a hilarious flight of fancy that brings the magic of theatre to life.

Peter and the Starcatcher was commissioned by Disney Theatrical Productions and premiered in February 2009 at the La Jolla Playhouse in California as part of the company’s Page to Stage Play Development program. After a couple more

years of tweaking, the play moved east to the New York Theatre Workshop, where it ran at the Off-Broadway theater for a month and a half in the spring of 2011.

With great success at New York Theatre Workshop, including multiple extensions, the play transferred to Broadway to the Brooks Atkinson Theatre, where it opened on April 15, 2012 (featuring nearly all of the Off-Broadway cast members). The Broadway production closed on January 20, 2013 after 319 regular performances, but then re-opened two months later at New World Stages, an Off-Broadway theater. After nearly three straight years in New York City, *Peter and the Starcatcher* closed on January 12, 2014. A national tour of the show also started in August 2013 and played across the United States through May 2014.

Peter and the Starcatcher is one of the first “plays with music” to run in an Off-Broadway theater, transfer to Broadway, and then move back to an Off-Broadway venue once more. *Peter and the Starcatcher* received nine Tony Award nominations, and took home five Tonys (for best costume design, best lighting design, best sound design, best scenic design and best featured actor for Christian Borle). The 2011 Off-Broadway production won two Lucille Lortel Awards (one for its choreography and one for lead-actor Borle) and a *Village Voice* Obie Award for the show’s original directing team (Roger Rees and Alex Timbers).

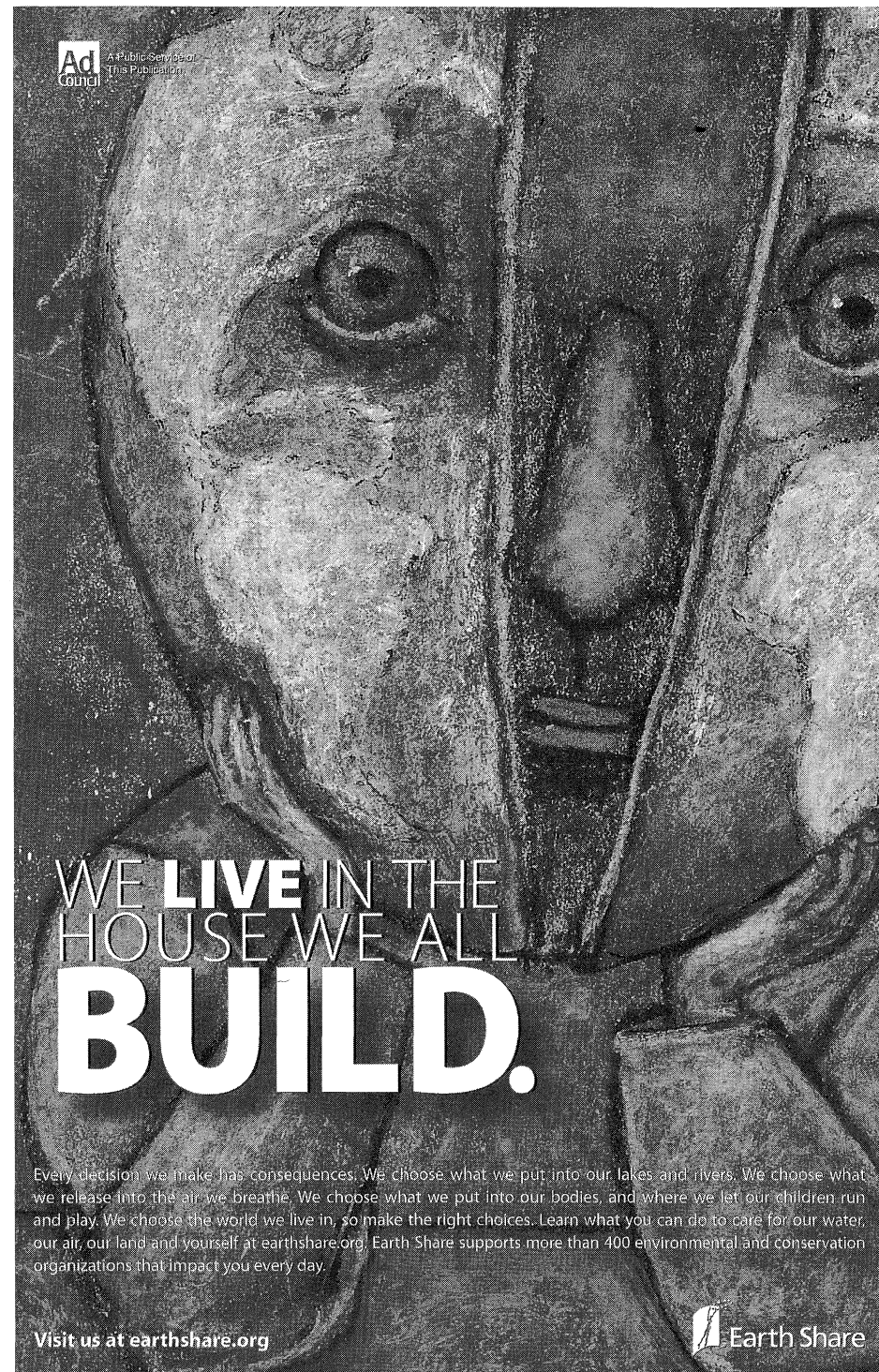
ABOUT THE SHOW’S CREATORS

Playwright **RICK ELICE**’s Broadway credits include co-writing (with Marshall Brickman) the books for both *Jersey Boys* and *The Addams Family*. His regional theater credits include *Turn of the Century* (with Marshall Brickman; directed by Tommy Tune); *Double Double* (directed by Roger Rees); *Dog and Pony* (with Michael Patrick Walker); and *Studio 54* (with Stephen Trask, Peter Yanowitz; directed by Christopher Ashley).

Composer **WAYNE BARKER** won the 2011 Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Music in a Play for *Peter and the Starcatcher*. His other Broadway credits as a composer or arranger include *Dame Edna: Back With a Vengeance*, *After the*

Night and the Music and *All About Me*. Regionally, his credits include *The Great Gatsby* (Guthrie Theatre), *Twelfth Night* and *The Three Musketeers* (Seattle Rep). Other credits: Mark Bennett’s *A Midsummer Night’s Dream* (orchestrations) Chicago City Limits, the Raymond Scott Orchestrette, and various orchestras worldwide. A longstanding member of the Dramatists Guild, he also serves as an artistic associate for new musicals at New York Theatre Workshop.


Sources: *Music Theatre International*, *Playbill.com*, *the Internet Broadway Database* and *the Off-Broadway Database*.



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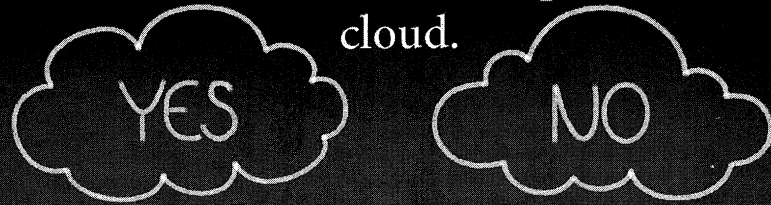
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LISA MANSFIELD
Managing Director

Being the boy who never grew up seems to be in vogue these days. In addition to the high-flying run of this beloved musical, *Peter Pan*, on Weathervane's stage this past August, the NBC live production was seen by over 9 million viewers with somewhat mixed reviews over Christopher Walken's intent. *Finding Neverland* has been running on Broadway for nearly a year with wonderful star power and happy crowds. *Peter and the Starcatcher* had its own run on Broadway was a multiple Tony Award winner.

There is something special about the overall story written by J.M. Barry that lead to this prequel to tell us a back story for the beloved character of Peter. It is no wonder Peter exclaims, "Oh the cleverness of me!"

MELANIE YC PEPE
Artistic Director

When I first decided to study theatre in college, a friend of mine asked me, "Why don't you study film? Or TV?" She, like many others, sees film and television as the natural evolution of live performing arts. In some regards, it is... but in many crucial and compelling ways, it can NEVER be.

Theatre is people coming together to dream. Actors. Designers. Audience. Together, we suspend our disbelief and allow ourselves to be magically transported. Playwright Joe Meno said, "Imagination is a place where all the important answers live." Theatre takes us there – side by side with our family, friends and neighbors.

Peter and the Starcatcher is a tribute to everything that can happen when a group of people comes together to create art, to innovate and share a story. It opens the door to new ideas and invites imaginations to fly.

If you are prone to wonder, prone to consider, prone to speculate...this show is for you.

THANKS TO OUR HARD-WORKING VOLUNTEERS

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

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Sterling Perry.....	Captain Robert Falcon Scott
Bryson Lambes.....	Gremppkin/Fighting Prawn/Sanchez/Mack

SCENES

Act I

Prologue: A Bare Stage
 Scene 1: The Neverland – On Deck
 Scene 2: The Neverland – Molly's Cabin
 Scene 3: The Neverland – Bowels of the Ship
 Scene 4: The Neverland – Bilge Dungeon
 Scene 5: The Wasp – Captain's Cabin
 Scene 6: The Neverland – Passageway
 Scene 7: The Wasp – Captain's Cabin
 Scene 8: The Neverland – Bilge Dungeon
 Scene 9: The Neverland – On Deck
 Scene 10: The Neverland and The Wasp

There will be a 15-minute intermission.

Act II: Mollusk Island

Prologue: Shore
 Scene 1: Mountaintop
 Scene 2: Jungle
 Scene 3: Mollusk Territory
 Scene 4: Mr. Grin's Cage
 Scene 5: Beach
 Scene 6: Jungle's Edge
 Scene 7: Up the Mountain
 Scene 8: Grotto
 Scene 9: Mountaintop
 Scene 10: Beach

PRODUCTION TEAM

Set Construction

David Deming
 Roger Dieringer
 Dale Gilbert
 Tom Marshall
 Ruth Richardson

Costumes

Loretta Brinton
 Jen Desberg
 Millie Keyser

Joanna Mack

Pat Nichols
 Sterling Perry
 Therese Sheffer

Costume Stock Crew

Yvonne Chapman
 Diane Geul
 Melanie Hauer
 Linda Jarvis

See your playbill insert for Sound, Lights and Properties Crew Lists and other acknowledgements.



MELANIE YC PEPE (*Director*) holds a B.F.A. in Theatrical Performance and Management from Kent State University, where she is now serving on the School of Theatre and Dance Advisory Board. She is currently working on her graduate certificate at Cornell University. At Weathervane, she has produced over 35 theatrical productions and made her directing debut in her new role as our Artistic Director with *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*. And as always, she sends special thanks to her husband and children for their incredible love and support.



JOHN EBNER (*Musical Director*) has worked extensively as a keyboardist, music director and accompanist for the Canton Cabaret, Carousel Dinner Theater, Coach House Theatre, Kent State University, North Canton Playhouse, Ohio Shakespeare Festival, Players Guild of Canton, Voices of Canton, VSA Arts, Weathervane Playhouse and Western Reserve Playhouse. He retired from teaching music after 33 years, but continues to work with schools in Stark and Summit counties. John has had some great opportunities over the years to work with Arthur Fiedler of the Boston Pops, Paul Williams, Michael Rupert, Gwen Arment, The Coasters and a Billy Joel Tribute Band with Chris Telzerow at the Cleveland House of Blues. He has recorded original music and done other commercial work for the Cleveland Cavaliers. He is a member of the American Federation of Musicians and the Ohio Music Education Association.



CHRISTOPHER J.K. HA (*Production Manager*) is currently the resident stage manager for NEOS Dance Theatre. Christopher has extensive experience as a stage and production manager, theatre technician, dancer, actor, singer, and musician. He has managed, performed in, and worked on over 50 productions locally. Venues include: Weathervane Playhouse, NEOS Dance Theatre, E.J. Thomas Hall, Akron Civic Theatre, Renaissance [Ohio] Theatre, The University of Akron Dance Institute, City of Akron,

and The Heinz Poll Summer Dance Festival. At Weathervane, Christopher has gained the honors of "Top Volunteer" (2014-15 & 2012-13 seasons), and "2nd Top Volunteer" (2013-14). He also was awarded the Erin Dillon Youth Recognition Award last season. Christopher is an improvisational Suzuki pianist with 15 years of instruction and is now studying the organ. He is a member of The American Theatre Organ Society (ATOS & WRTOS). He also studies classical dance at the Dance Institute at The University of Akron.



CALISTA PEPE (*Stage Manager*) has served as an assistant stage manager for *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *Hamlet*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* and *Honk!* As a performer, her stage credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *The Music Man*, *Annie*, *Seussical*, *Madeline and the Gypsies* and *Go, Dog. Go!* An alumna of Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron, she is a junior at Our Lady of the Elms High School.



ALAN A. COSTA (*Assistant Stage Manager*) was last seen on our stage as President Roosevelt in *Annie*. He also served as properties co-designer on our production of *Art of Deduction: Inside the Mind of Sherlock Holmes*. Outside of his theatrical pursuits, he enjoys baseball and its storied history. Retired after 40-plus years of service with FirstEnergy, he and his wife, Pamela Parks Costa, live in Akron. They are proud parents to two children and grandparents to three.



PAMELA PARKS COSTA (*Properties Designer*) designed props for last year's production of *Hamlet*. Other properties design credits include *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*.



CHRISTOPHER PEPE (*Sound Designer*) has been working with live sound for 28 years. In May of 2008, he started Clear Gold Audio & Lighting, specializing in live production for numerous

Northeast Ohio events and beyond. He has enjoyed mixing live shows with artists such as Jim Brickman, Dar Williams, Dave Weckl, John McCutcheon, and Scars on 45. Christopher has designed sound for many Weathervane productions, including *Dracula*, *Annie*, *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*. Other sound designs include *Hairspray*, *Ragtime*, and *Bye Bye Birdie* for The Akron All-City Musical performances at The Akron Civic Theatre. He also enjoys teaching classes at and mentoring students in the Akron Public Schools.



JONATHON HUNTER (*Lighting & Scenic Designer*) has designed lighting for Weathervane productions including *Clybourne Park*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*, *Ordinary Days*, *Peter Pan*, *Oklahoma!*, *A Delicate Balance*, *The Roar of the*

Greasepaint — *The Smell of the Crowd*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *The Music Man*, *Rodgers and Hammerstein's Cinderella* and *Pippin*. He holds an M.F.A. degree in lighting design from the University of Virginia and is currently Weathervane's Technical Director. Jonathon's other Weathervane credits include scenic design for *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*, *Dracula*, *Hair* and *Peter Pan*, properties designer for *A View from the Bridge*, *Breaking the Code* and *The Sum of Us* and stage manager for *They're Playing Our Song*.



JASEN J. SMITH (*Costume Designer*) joined the Weathervane professional staff in August 2008. Since then, he's designed costumes for dozens of Weathervane productions. As a co-designer,

he and Hedy Jones took home Weathervane's Chanticleer Award for best costume design for *Man of La Mancha* in 2009. He also won a Marquee Award from the Youngstown Area Community Theatre Association for his work on *Children of Eden*. Elsewhere, his design work has been seen on the stages of Porthouse Theatre, Case Western Reserve University and Ohio Light Opera.



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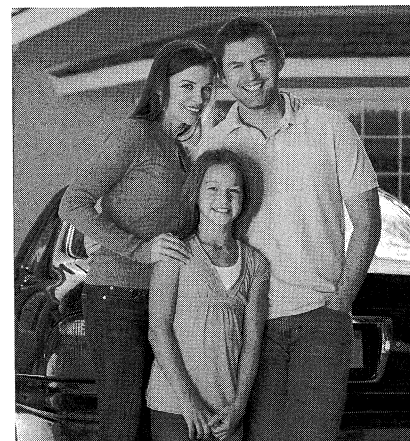
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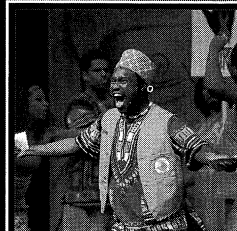
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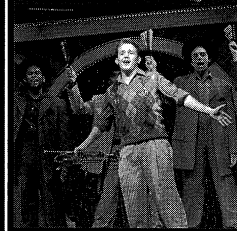
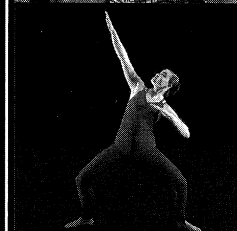
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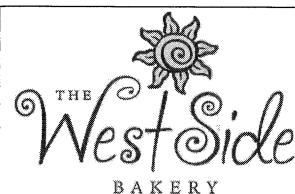
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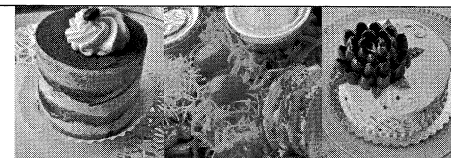
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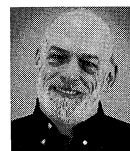
MICHAEL KNOBLOCH (*Boy/Peter*) is thrilled to be returning to Weathervane Playhouse after his most recent appearance as Leaf Coneybear in *The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee*. *Peter and the Starcatcher* is a magical piece of theatre requiring imagination and creativity and Michael is happy to be involved in this production surrounded by a cast and creative team that have these qualities in spades. Aside from Weathervane, he has been seen on the stages of Cassidy Theatre and Near West Theatre. Michael attended Case Western Reserve University, where he earned a degree in computer science. While there, he performed with the Case Footlighters, a 100% student-run theatre troupe, and sang with the All-Male a Cappella group, Speakeasy. Enjoy the show and remember: "to have faith is to have wings."



THOMAS M. WYATT (*Prentiss*) is happy to return to the Weathervane stage after performing in last year's production of *Hamlet* (Marcellus). He is a homeschooled student and actively participates in many music organizations with an emphasis in piano. Thomas also enjoys football and weight lifting.



JAMES BRUNEMANN (*Ted*) makes his debut at Weathervane with this production. He is a student at The University of Cincinnati. Other stage credits include *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers* (Gideon) and *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (chorus), both at Hudson High School.



JEFF BIXBY (*Lord Leonard Aster*) most recently played Ebenezer Scrooge in our blockbuster hit *A Christmas Carol: The Musical*. He also served as stage manager for our fall production of *Hair*. Last spring Jeff appeared on our stage in the role of a lifetime as Polonius in *Hamlet*. He is no stranger to the Weathervane stage; under the lights or behind the scenes. Other onstage credits include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Jacob) four times, *The Man of La Mancha* (The Barber) and *See How They Run* (Mr. Humphries). Stage managing credits include *Xanadu*, *Annie* and *The Taming of the Shrew*.



ADRIANA HOLST (*Molly Aster*) is thrilled to be making her debut at Weathervane Playhouse! Adriana was recently in the world premiere of *Kris Kringle* at Olmsted Performing Arts. Most recently, Adriana played Trish in Cassidy Theatre's *Bonnie and Clyde*. Last summer, she played the role of Mirandy Judkin in *Summer Days Gone By*, an original play based upon James Whitcomb Riley's poetry, at the Lantern Theatre in Valley View. As a member of the Singing Angels Performing Chorus, Adriana had the privilege to perform in dozens of venues including The United Nations in Geneva, Switzerland, and NYC's Lincoln Center. Other highlights for Adriana include winning the Cleveland National Singing Star competition and performing in The Beck Center's teen production of *Chicago*.



JOSEPH BALL (*Mrs. Bumbrake/Teacher*) is thrilled to return to Weathervane after previously appearing in our production of *Ordinary Days* as Warren. He is currently a sophomore musical theatre major at Kent State University. His recent endeavors include *Big Fish* at the Crowell Opera, *Spring Awakening* at Kent State University – Stark, and *You Can't Take it With You* at Kent State University. Joseph would like to thank his wonderful friends and family for their never-ending love and support.



JASON CALVERT (*Black Stache*) is delighted to be making his third appearance at Weathervane. Jason has a degree in Theatre Arts from Kent State University and has many acting credits to his name. His previous roles at Weathervane Playhouse were the comical Gravedigger in last year's *Hamlet* and the menacing Jud Fry in *Oklahoma!* He would like to thank his family for their support and encouragement, his girlfriend for her inspiration and humor, and their dog Ladybug Calsina for being SO CUTE! Jason would like to remind you that life goes quick, so take plenty of pictures, though not during the performance. He would also like to encourage charitable contributions be made to the National Multiple Sclerosis Society. This one's for Frank!



WILL CROSBY (*Smee*) is so excited to make his debut at Weathervane with this production. Some of his favorite past roles include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip Tolentino), *Guys and Dolls* (Nicely Nicely Johnson), *The Producers* (Franz Liebkind), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (William Barfee), *Brigadoon* (Tommy) and *The Wizard of Oz* (The Cowardly Lion). Will works as a cashier at Heinen's Grocery. He also directs at Garfield Middle School in Lakewood. Will would like to thank Melanie for all of the direction, his fellow castmates, and his friends for all the support they give! "For bug and bird. Enjoy the show!"



CONNOR REESE (*Bill Slank/Hawking Clam*) is incredibly excited to be returning to Weathervane! He was last seen here in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond* (Magistrate Talbot). He is a graduating senior from Kent State University earning his B.F.A. in Musical Theatre with a minor in dance, and will be performing in the Musical Theatre New York Showcase in March with KSU. He also recently graduated from The Stella Adler Studio of Acting's Summer Conservatory. Some of his past credits include *Spring Awakening* (Hanschen) at Kent State University – Stark, *Cats* (Skimbleshanks) at

Mercury Theatre Company, *South Pacific* (The Professor) with Akron Symphony Orchestra and *All Shook Up* (Dennis). He would like to thank his family, friends, MAB, and everyone else who offers their love and support for him in all he does.

JASEN J. SMITH (*Alf*) – see his Costume Designer bio



STERLING PERRY (*Captain Robert Falcon Scott*) is very excited to appear on the Weathervane stage for the first time! He began volunteering at Weathervane in our costume shop. He is a student at The University of Akron. Sterling appeared in the chorus of *Happy Days* at Coventry High School.



BRYSON LAMBES (*Gremplin/Fighting Prawn/Sanchez/Mack*) was last seen on our stage in the tribe of *Hair*. He made his Weathervane stage debut in *The Wizard of Oz* (Winkie/Ozian/Jitterbug). Before coming to Weathervane, he performed in Jackson Middle School's production of *Oliver!* (Fagan). He calls Jackson Township home, but he is a student at the National Inventor's Hall of Fame STEM High School in Akron, where he is in his junior year.



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Casey Ha
James Ha
John Licatatiso
Maddie Miller
Diane Thanasiu
Grace Thanasiu

SOUND

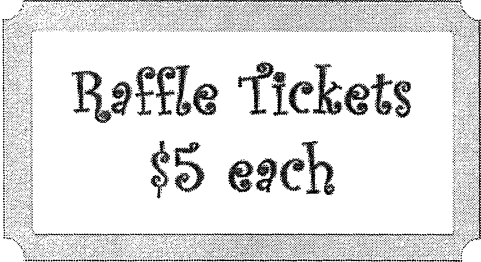
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