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Pride and Prejudice
March 4 - 14, 2010

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December 3 - 19, 2009

Seventy-Fifth Anniversary



Weathervane
— PLAYHOUSE —

John Hedges, Executive Director

Bringing Us Together

2009-2010 Season

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www.weathervaneplayhouse.com

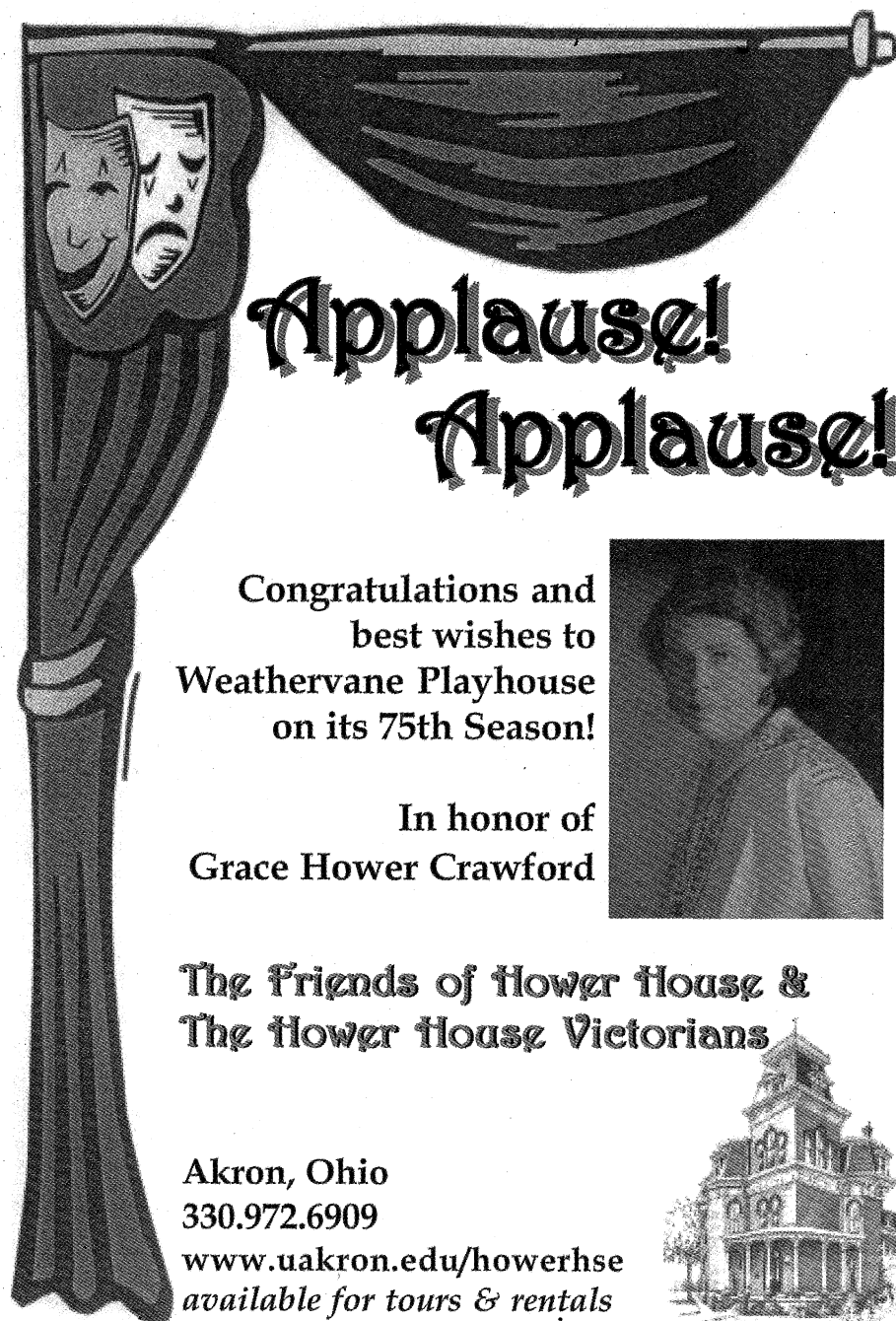
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A Brief History of Weathervane Playhouse

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. It, too, continues to this day.

The "barn" was home until it was sold. In 1951 the Playhouse purchased a cement block building at 1471 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 1961-69 and from 1974-92. 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 just completed for the opening of the 75th season.



CONGRATULATIONS

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The Passion of John Brown / Eroica

Saturday, October 17, 2009

Wizards, Vampires and Jedi Knights:

Film Music Fantasies
Sunday, October 25, 2009

Verdi e Puccini

Great Moments from Italian Opera
Saturday, November 14, 2009

Holiday Pops

Friday, December 18, 2009

All Mozart

Saturday, January 16, 2010

Gospel Meets Symphony

Saturday, January 30, 2010

Schubert and Steel

Saturday, February 20, 2010

Akron Symphony Chorus

Spring Concert
Sunday, March 14, 2010

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Saturday, March 20, 2010

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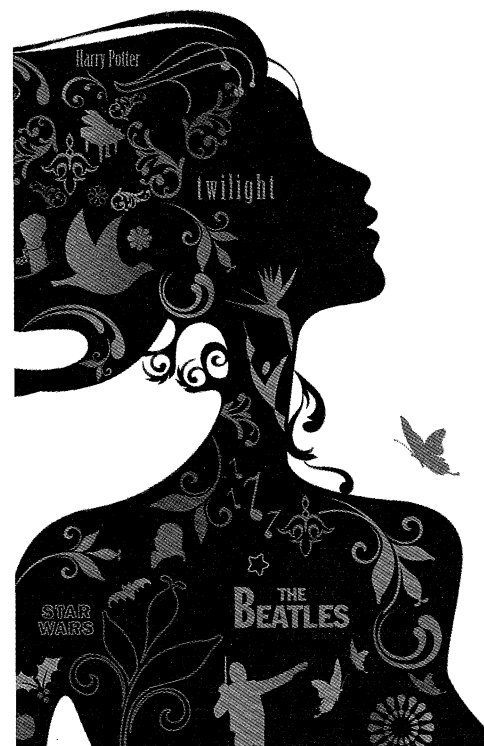
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"Thank You Dollar" Program

If you like what you've seen at this performance, we ask that you please consider giving a "Thank You Dollar" as you exit the theater. (You'll see a contribution box near the lobby's exit doors.)

As you probably know, earned income accounts for only 60% of our total expenses. The plain fact is, if each Weathervane patron gave just \$1 extra this season, we would be able to meet our goal for Individual Contributions! Won't you show your appreciation of this performance with a "Thank You Dollar" after the show?

Guide: Thank You \$1
Applause! \$2
Cheer!! \$3
Bravo!!! \$4 or more!

On behalf of all of us here at Weathervane, I thank you for your support.

Sincerely,

John Hedges
Executive Director



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to
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With Love from
Your Family



*Congratulations
to
Elizabeth Engle*

With Love from
Your Family



In the Harris Family Gallery

"Art therapy is a mental health profession that uses the creative process of art-making to improve and enhance the physical, mental and emotional well-being of individuals of all ages. Art therapists are master's-level professionals who hold a degree in art therapy or a related field" (from the American Art Therapy Association).

This is a group show featuring the work of six artists who are also licensed art therapists. Nancy Nierman Baker, who was instrumental in coordinating this effort, Jacky Martin, Lou Higginbottom, Judy Jankowski, Diane J. Maytas and Heidi Larew. Toni Daniel, a medical photographer and artist, was invited by Nancy to participate as well. There are also three pieces from different artists involved in art therapy who wished to remain anonymous. More information about art therapy is available at the Box Office.

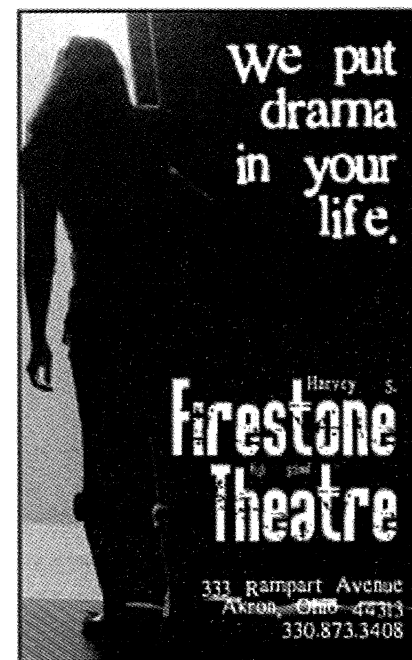
Marci Paolucci, Gallery Director



*Break a leg,
Mr. Collins!*

*We are very
proud of you,
Connor!*

Love,
Mom, Dad and Mackenzie



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Call Barbara Trotter, Coordinator of Volunteers
330-836-2626 ext. 29 / btrotter@weathervaneplayhouse.com



From Our Executive Director

In Appreciation of Parents

All we as parents want for our children is to grow up healthy and happy. Aside from realizing certain material aspects of life, one definition of "happiness" might be simply: to be able to understand the world and one's place in it. In many ways, one could argue that this is the fundamental journey of our lives. What you as parents – and grandparents and those who love and care for young people – provide your children with by exposing them to the arts is access to a more profound understanding of the world and what their place in it might be. You give them a valuable tool to accessing their own sense of humanity and, ultimately, to experiencing that elusive thing we call "happiness."



One of the great thinkers and writers of our time on the importance of the arts in the lives of young people was the late Dr. Charles Fowler. He wrote, *"Science is not the sole conveyor of truth. While science can explain a sunrise, the arts convey its emotive impact and meaning."* He went on to say that, *"Schools have a fundamental obligation to provide the fuel that will ignite the mind, spark the aspirations, and illuminate the total being. The arts can serve as that fuel."* I would suggest spending a few minutes walking the halls and looking in some of the classrooms at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts here in Akron to get a sense of what Dr. Fowler is talking about. Dr. Fowler also wrote, *"Quite simply, the arts are the ways we human beings 'talk' to ourselves and to each other. They are the language of civilization through which we express our fears, our anxieties, our curiosities, our hungers, our discoveries, and our hopes. They are the universal ways by which we humans still play make-believe, conjuring up worlds that explain the ceremonies of our lives. The arts are not just important; they are a central force in human existence."*

I hope the young people whom you love so much enjoy their experience performing in *Pride and Prejudice*. I hope they continue to find a place for the arts in their lives and allow them to illuminate the human experience and to ultimately contribute to their realization of "happiness." For providing them with this extraordinary opportunity, all of us here at Weather vane Playhouse salute you!

Sincerely,

John Hedges
Executive Director



Weather vane — PLAYHOUSE —

75th Season -- 2009 - 2010
Young Actors Production #85
March 4 - 14, 2010

PRIDE PREJUDICE

A romantic comedy adapted by Jon Jory
from the novel by Jane Austen

Directed by Melanie YC Pepe

Incidental music by Peter Ekstrom

Stage Manager
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Young Actor Series sponsored by **GOODYEAR**

Pride and Prejudice had its world premiere in a co-production between Arizona Theatre Company (David Ira Goldstein, Artistic Director/Jessica L. Andrews, Managing Director), San Jose Repertory Theatre (Timothy Near, Artistic Director/David Jobin, Managing Director) and Alliance Theatre (Susan V. Booth, Artistic Director/Thomas Pechar, Managing Director).

Pride and Prejudice is produced by special arrangement with
PlayScripts, Inc., 325 W. 38th Street, Suite 305, New York, NY 10018.



Weather vane productions are sponsored in part by Ohio Arts Council

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deserve our applause!*

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About the Play and Playwright

The village of Longbourn, home to the Bennet family, is excited by the news that a wealthy young man named Bingley has rented the nearby manor at Netherfield. After all, the five unmarried Bennet sisters know "it is a truth universally acknowledged that a single man in possession of a good fortune must be in want of a wife." Mr. Bingley brings his good friend Mr. Darcy with him, who is as rude as Bingley is kind. Darcy gets off on the wrong foot with Elizabeth, the clever but plain-looking Bennet daughter. They engage in several verbal spars and, as Elizabeth tries in vain to speak for women, Darcy cannot help but fall in love with her quick wit – and her. Meanwhile, Mr. Bingley and Jane are growing closer, despite the Bennet family's modest social status, a deterrent that nearly pries them apart forever. The pompous Mr. Collins is in town to make arrangements to inherit the Bennet home (as only men could), and plans on marrying any one of the sisters while he is visiting Longbourn. Mr. Wickham, a dashing young soldier, is in town, too, and he's got his eyes on more than one of the Bennet sisters. Whom will he charm – and what transpired between him and Mr. Darcy? Mrs. Bennet is constantly troubled by nearly everything as she attempts to see all five of her daughters married and secure, a feat that often seems impossible. The joys are romantic but the troubles bring heartache as these young women struggle for a place behind their husbands – or perhaps beside. (Source for this synopsis: the Actors Theatre of Louisville *Pride and Prejudice* study guide.)

Jane Austen published *Pride and Prejudice* in 1813. This stage adaptation of *Pride and Prejudice* originated as a co-production between Arizona Theatre Company, San Jose Repertory Theatre and Alliance Theatre (of Atlanta). The show premiered Sept. 10, 2005, in Tucson, Arizona before traveling to Phoenix, San Jose and Atlanta.

About the Playwright

From 1969 to 2000, **Jon Jory** served as Producing Director at Actors Theatre of Louisville, where in 1976 he started the Festival of New American Plays. Since 1979, this internationally celebrated festival has been funded by the Humana Foundation to showcase new theatrical works, drawing thousands of playwrights, producers, critics and theater lovers from around the world to Louisville, Kentucky. He was also the Artistic Founding Director of Long Wharf Theatre in New Haven, Connecticut, and he has been inducted in New York's Theatre Hall of Fame. Mr. Jory has directed professionally in nine nations, and in the United States has directed productions at many regional theatres including Washington's Arena Stage, San Francisco's American Conservatory Theatre, Hartford Stage, the McCarter in Princeton, Guthrie Theatre and the Oregon Shakespeare Festival.

In tackling such a novel as beloved and complex as *Pride and Prejudice*, Jory has said that adaptors have two options: "You can follow the main story and do so fully, or you can sample all of the stories that are told in the book, putting in four lines of this and four lines of that. That tends to wear out the audience. I stuck with the central story, making it as complete as possible, and then filled in around the edges." Additionally, more than 90 percent of the language Jory uses in the play comes directly from Austen's novel, and he has the characters narrate events directly to the audience. Die-hard Austen fans can rest assured that the witty narration that makes her novels so wonderful is recreated on the stage, and Jory can explain details to his audience that he might otherwise have to leave out. (Source for this biographical sketch: the Actors Theatre of Louisville *Pride and Prejudice* study guide.)



Pride and Prejudice -- Cast

Mr. Bennet.....**Jasen J. Smith**
 Mrs. Bennet.....**Michele McNeal**
 Kitty Bennet/Georgiana**Michelle Unger**
 Lydia Bennet.....**Amelia Britton**
 Mary Bennet.....**Cait McNeal**
 Elizabeth Bennet.....**Anna Bradley**
 Jane Bennet.....**Elizabeth Engle**

Mr. Collins**Connor Reese**
 Charlotte Lucas.....**Allison Good**
 Mr. Lucas/Mr. Gardiner.....**Daniel Rylander**
 Mrs. Gardiner**Alexandra Tlapa**

Mr. Darcy.....**Jason Davis**
 Mr. Bingley.....**Richard Crafton**
 Miss Bingley.....**Tegan Elliott**
 Lt. Wickham.....**Ryan Hinman**

Lady Catherine de Bourgh.....**Harriet DeVeto**
 Fitzwilliam.....**Josh Mansfield**
 Housekeeper**Zoe Sapienza**
 Manservant.....**Samuel Warro**

The setting:

The play takes place in and around Hertfordshire, England, in 1813.

There will be one 15-minute intermission between acts I and II.



For Your Safety...

- ♦ We request that you remain seated until the house lights have come up at intermission and after the curtain call.
- ♦ The use of cameras, recording equipment and laser pointers is forbidden during this performance.
- ♦ As a courtesy to fellow audience members, please make sure that cell phones and pagers are turned off during the performance.
- ♦ Please do not bring refreshments into the auditorium. However, if you have candy, please remove wrappers before the performance begins.
- ♦ NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.



About Our Director

Melanie YC Pepe currently serves as Education Director and Producer of the Young Actor Series at Weathervane Playhouse. Since coming to Weathervane she has produced almost twenty productions and has directed *Romeo & Juliet* (2007) and *The Importance of Being Earnest* (2008). She has directed over 20 productions and taught in the arts for the past 15 years. Melanie has a strong foundation in theatre having earned her BFA degree in Acting from Kent State University in 1997; stage managed for almost 30 productions and designed makeup for over 50 theatrical productions, 2 films and NEOUCOM (Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine). She met her husband Christopher while performing in a rock band ten years ago and they are now the proud parents of Calista, Xavier & Jude.

Cast Biographies

JASEN J. SMITH (Mr. Bennet) last appeared on stage as Jacob and Potiphar in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. Prior to that, he played Mr. Marks in last winter's *Intimate Apparel*, for which he also designed the costumes. In 2008, he played Arthur in the Playhouse's *Love! Valour! Compassion!* Elsewhere, his other roles include Mr. Fezziwig in *A Christmas Carol*, Barney Benson in *Kiss or Make-Up*, Roy in *Nice People Dancing to Good Country Music*, Durdles in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* and Joe in *Lovers*. When not on stage, Jasen is the Costume Shop Manager/Resident Costume Designer for Weathervane as well as an Adjunct Professor at Case Western Reserve University, where he teaches costume design and construction and designs for the university's theater season.

MICHELE McNEAL (Mrs. Bennet) shares the stage in this production with her daughter, Cait, who plays the role of Mary Bennet. Michele says she is very excited about doing a show at Weathervane, as this production marks her return to the stage after a long absence. She appeared in the chorus and played one of the Boylan sisters in Goodyear Community Theater's 1986 production of *Annie*. She also appeared in several summertime Shakespeare plays on the terrace at Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in the early to mid 1980s. Off the stage, Michele works as a Web

specialist at Akron-Summit County Public Library, where she develops Web sites and databases. She and her daughter enjoy camping and hiking.

MICHELLE UNGER (Kitty Bennet/Georgiana) is currently a sophomore at Cuyahoga Community College, but will be attending Kent State University as a musical theater major this fall. Most recently she performed as a juror in *Inherit the Wind* at Cleveland Play House, but favorite roles include Patty Simcox in *Grease* at Chagrin Falls Little Theater and Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Tri-C West. She intends to pursue a professional career as an actress and is hoping to be "discovered." Lately, she has come to realize, "you have to make your own breaks!" She thanks all the talented people she has met this last year for their support.

AMELIA BRITTON (Lydia Bennet) played Hermia in last year's Weathervane production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and then served as a summer intern at the Playhouse. She also filled her summer performing with Ohio Shakespeare Festival on the grounds of Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron in *Romeo and Juliet* and *As You Like It*. She is a ninth-grader at Akron's Firestone High School, where she serves currently as the freshman representative of the school's Thespian Troupe. Amelia is also an alumnus of Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing



Cast Biographies - continued

Arts, where in her final year she served as president of its Thespian Troupe. While at Miller South, she held several backstage and onstage roles in the school's Commedia dell'Arte troupe and in such productions as *Peter Pan* and *Rip Van Winkle*.

CAIT McNEAL (Mary Bennet), an eighth-grader at Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts in Akron with a highly extensive resume, was last seen at Weathervane as Issachar's Wife in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, Gypsy Mama in *Madeline and the Gypsies* and Egeus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. She also appeared in WCP's productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (2008 Chorus) and Disney's *The Aristocats KIDS* (Madame), as well as numerous other productions with such groups as Akron Light Opera, Ingenue Theatre Ensemble and Miller South. Off the stage, she has received honors from the National Junior Honor Society and a first-place honor from the Akron District Science Fair. Recently, she was selected to travel with People to People Student Ambassadors this coming summer.

ANNA BRADLEY (Elizabeth Bennet) is a freshman at Kent State University, where she appeared last year in *Six Characters in Search of an Author*. Her other stage credits include *The Laramie Project* (Chagrin Valley Little Theatre), *Sweeney Todd* and *Once on This Island* (Near West Theatre), *Oklahoma!* (Brush High School) and *The Wizard of Oz* (Heights Youth Theatre). Anna says that she cannot thank her parents and her Aunt Ronnie enough for all they have done to help her pursue "this crazy dream!"

ELIZABETH ENGLE (Jane Bennet) is a freshman at The University of Akron who has recently performed in *The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood* as Maid Marian, *It's a Wonderful Life* as Violet Peterson and *While Shakespeare Slept* as Cleopatra. She was a national qualifier for duo interpretation in Speech and Debate last year and has been dancing

and singing for most of her life. This is her first performance at Weathervane Playhouse.

CONNOR REESE (Mr. Collins) attends Jackson School for the Arts where he has performed in *Spoon River Anthology*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Funny Girl*. Two of his favorite roles include Honza in *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* and Kenickie in *Grease*. He performs in the Jackson Show Choir, Jacks-N-Jills, the Jackson High School Chorale and the barbershop quartet Three Men and a Tenor. Among his other accomplishments, he recently sang the National Anthem for the Cleveland Cavaliers. His off stage pursuits include scuba diving, hiking, camping, white-water rafting and playing piano & guitar.

ALLISON GOOD (Charlotte Lucas) makes her stage debut in this production. She is a Spanish major (and theater minor) at The University of Akron, where she has earned a spot on the Dean's List. After her graduation, she intends to pursue a master's degree in theater from California State University. "I'm really excited for this experience," she says. "Thanks to Melanie for this opportunity, to my family and friends for support, and to you (the audience) for coming to see the show! Enjoy!"

DANIEL RYLANDER (Mr. Lucas/Mr. Gardiner) last appeared on our stage in 2009 as Lysander in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. In 2007, he played the Baker and Naphthali in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and Benvolio in *Romeo and Juliet*. He also played Merriman in 2008's Young Actors Series production of *The Importance of Being Earnest* and Georgie in 2006's mainstage production of *Over the Tavern*, for which he won a Chanticleer Award for his performance. He has played drums for more than 10 years and also plays piano and guitar – avocations that serve him well in his participation with his band, Trademark Mistake. His offstage pursuits also include the Boy Scouts. This home-schooled 12th-grader lives with his family in Stow.



Cast Biographies - continued

ALEXANDRA TLAPA (Mrs. Gardiner) is a junior at Kent State University majoring in theater and minoring in dance. At KSU, she was a member of the acting ensemble in *Six Characters in Search of an Author* and served as Assistant Director/Dance Choreographer for Ubu Roi, which earned her the Alpha Psi Omega Award for best choreography for a student production. She says that dance has always been a huge part of her life – she has training in ballet, tap, jazz, modern and lyrical – and it will continue to stay that way. After she graduates from college, she intends to move back to Los Angeles to pursue her career as an actress. I thank my parents for always supporting me and believing in my dreams.

JASON DAVIS (Mr. Darcy) impressed Weathervane audiences enough to win a Chanticleer Award last season for his performance as Jim in *The Rainmaker*. His other Weathervane credits include *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Algernon), *Romeo and Juliet* (Mercutio) and *The Lion in Winter* (Phillip). A junior at Kent State University, Jason enjoys writing and his family's annual trips to the western United States.

RICHARD CRAFTON (Mr. Bingley) appeared on our stage as Nick Bottom in last winter's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. A home-schooled 12th-grader who lives in Akron, Richard has appeared in three productions of the Playhouse's annual holiday show, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (2008, 2007 and 2006). His other Weathervane credits include *Children of Eden* (ensemble), *The Importance of Being Earnest* (Lane) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Lord Montague). Off the stage, Richard enjoys playing his guitar.

TEGAN ELLIOTT (Miss Bingley) makes her stage debut in *Pride and Prejudice*, but she is no stranger to performing. As one of the founding members of a traveling performance-arts troupe known as The Seelie Players, Tegan travels for a living to perform at Renaissance festivals around the country. When not on the road, she calls Wooster home and enjoys

such off-stage pursuits as writing, drawing and watching movies.

RYAN HINMAN (Lt. Wickham) last appeared at Weathervane as Tom Snout in last winter's *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. He spent last summer with Ohio Shakespeare Festival in *As You Like It* on the grounds of Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens in Akron. Now a freshman at Kent State University, Ryan graduated last year from Cuyahoga Falls High School, where he appeared in such productions as *Flowers for Algernon*, *Macbeth*, *The Crucible* and *The Outsiders*.

HARRIET DeVETO (Lady Catherine De Bourgh) marks her 12th show at Weathervane spanning over 30 years. A professional actress for 13 years, she has performed from New York to California and is now very glad to be back in community theater and on home stages.

JOSH MANSFIELD (Fitzwilliam) is a freshman at Firestone High School in Akron who has appeared on our stage in several of the annual productions of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He is an alumnus of Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where he performed with the Commedia dell'Arte troupe, stage managed *Rip Van Winkle* and played roles in such shows as *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Beauty and the Beast* and *Peter Pan*. Off the stage, he has been active in the Boy Scouts of America and enjoys playing guitar. Looking toward his future, he hopes to serve in the Armed Forces during college and then possibly pursue a career in the medical field.

ZOE SAPIENZA (Housekeeper) is a freshman at Firestone High School in Akron, where her performance credits include *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying* and *Dear Gabby*. Last year at Weathervane, Zoe played Robin Starveling in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and was a member of the acting ensemble in the Summer Stock production of *Twelve Angry Jurors*. She says she is very excited to participate in her school's upcoming theater trip to London.



Cast Biographies - continued

SAMUEL WARRO (Manservant) is a seventh-grader at Akron's Miller South School for the Visual and Performing Arts, where he sings with the concert choir, performs with the Commedia dell'Arte troupe and is a member of the Junior Thespians. Last spring, he played the role of Shepherd Boy in his school's production of *Beauty and the Beast*. His

acting resume also includes stage credits at Magical Theatre Company (*The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*) and Brecksville Theater on the Square (*The Wizard of Oz*). He also played a role in a film shot in Cleveland, *American Author*. His other interests and activities include playing on a soccer team and snowboarding.

Creative Team Biographies

J.J. McADAMS (Stage Manager) served as both the assistant stage manager and properties designer for our most recent production of *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She is a senior at Stow-Munroe Falls High School, where she has studied in the Pre-Engineering Academy and has served as the photo editor of the school yearbook. After working on several technical crews for theatrical productions at her high school and at Kimpton Middle School, she became a Weathervane volunteer and served on the props crew for several productions. This past summer, she served as assistant stage manager for our production of *Madeline and the Gypsies*. Last spring, she designed properties for our production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

NINA DiSALVO (Assistant Stage Manager) is a sophomore at Tallmadge High School with an extensive list of theatrical credits on her resume. Most recently, she played the Narrator in *Beauty and the Beast, Jr.* at North Canton Playhouse. At her school, she is enrolled in the Theater-Arts Career Academy and she has appeared in several productions (*The Poe Play*, *M*A*S*H*, *The Aliens are Coming!*, *Once Upon a Mattress* and *Fiddler on the Roof*). Last spring, she received an award for Best TV Commercial in her category at the Applause Rising Talent Showcase competition in Chicago.

MATT BOEHLKE (Sound Designer) is a freshman at Cuyahoga Falls High School,

where he worked the lights for the school's production of *Jabberwock*. Just prior to entering high school, he earned the title of valedictorian of his middle school and then spent last summer traveling to a number of countries in Europe (England, France, Belgium, Germany, Switzerland and the Netherlands) with a group called People to People.

KRISTI HAGENBUSH (Lighting Designer) is a 2009 graduate from Kent State University who holds a degree in Theatre Studies. Most recently, she served as the master electrician for KSU's production of *Rent*. She also designed the lighting for Weathervane's 2008 production of *The Importance of Being Earnest*. She is thrilled to design for *Pride and Prejudice* because it has always been her favorite book and her "dream show" to work on. Kristi thanks her family for all of their love and support. And, most of all, she would like to thank Ryan for all of his love and for helping her to see that theater has always been her true passion.

DAN LEVAN (Properties Designer) has been volunteering backstage at Weathervane for more than two years. He holds a bachelor of general studies degree from Kent State University, where he is continuing his studies in the area of physics. Last spring, he played the role of Oberon in a production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* at Covenant of Grace Academy. His other interests



Creative Team Biographies - continued

include music composition, art, writing and philosophy.

JASEN J. SMITH (Costume Designer) joined the Weathervane professional staff in August 2008 as its Resident Costume Designer and Costume Shop Manager. Since then, he has designed costumes for the Playhouse's productions of *Children of Eden*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Bloody Murder* and *Intimate Apparel*. His co-costuming credits include *Putting it Together* (with Adam Thatcher) and *Man of La Mancha* (with Hedy Jones), the latter of which earned him and his collaborator the Chanticleer Award for best costume design. Jasen also won the 2009 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 (*The Odd Couple*), Case Western Reserve University (*The Philadelphia Story*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *Stage Door*), and the Ohio Light Opera (*Pirates of*

Penzance, *The Mikado*, *Robin Hood* and *The Merry Widow*). In addition to his Weathervane duties, Jasen is also an adjunct professor of costume design at Case Western Reserve University.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer) began his association with Weathervane as a backstage volunteer under the tutelage of the late John R. Thomas. This is Scott's 12th season as a Weathervane staff member, serving as the Resident Technical Director and Scenic Designer. Before Weathervane, he worked at Cuyahoga Falls High School. He has designed sets for many local high schools as well as for the Players Guild of Canton, Cleveland Signstage Theatre and PBS-TV Channels 45/49. At Weathervane, Scott has earned several Chanticleer Awards - one as stage manager for *Fences*, and the others for his lighting designs for *The Laramie Project* and *A Lesson before Dying* and co-lighting designs for *A Man for All Seasons*, *The Full Monty* and *Man of La Mancha*. He lives in Cuyahoga Falls.



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Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

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Tom Marshall
Kevin Ford
Len Cheslock
Erin Katz Ford
John Webb, Sr.
John Webb, Jr.
Scott Custer
Judy Willemssen

LIGHTING

Leslie Johnson
Brandon Davies
Judy Willemssen
John Frangos
Zach Nusbaum

PROPERTIES

Parents of the P&P cast

SOUND

Ben McComb

COSTUMES

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Susanne Abernathy
Diantha Siebert
Sandra Harding
Carol Smith
Susie Stech
Michele McNeal
Allison Good
Margaret Williams

Acknowledgements

The cast of "Rabbit Hole."
The Parents of the cast of "Pride and Prejudice"
Clear Gold Audio & Lighting

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Michelle Williams
Marta Williger
Mary Wolfman
Gen Woods
BJ Zeigler

JOHN HEDGES, Executive Director

Mr. Hedges has an extensive background in theatre as both an actor and a producer. Prior to coming to Weathervane, John spent ten years in the acting company at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, where he performed in over sixty shows. Other acting credits include performances at Town Hall in New York and the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles. Regionally he has worked at the Indiana Repertory Theatre, the Kentucky Shakespeare Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville and the American Stage Festival, where he appeared opposite Academy Award-winner Olympia Dukakis in *The Cherry Orchard*. 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 award-winning Pearl Theatre Company. Mr. Hedges is a member of Actors' Equity Association, served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource and chaired its Strategic Planning Committee, been a Conference Panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre & Education and written for *American Theatre* magazine. He studied at Indiana State University and the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware, is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory and holds an honorary MFA in theatre from Stafford University. A 2009 graduate of Leadership Akron (Class XXV), John lives in Akron with his wife, Melissa Owens, and their daughters Rachel and Mary.

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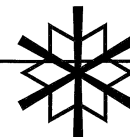
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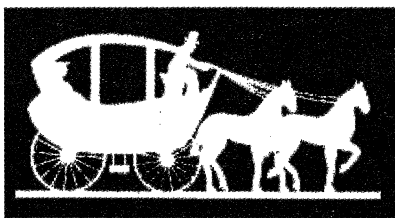
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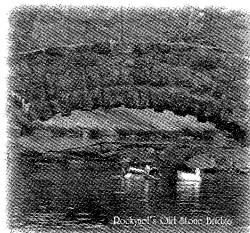
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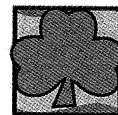
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