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Mainstage Production No. 516

2005-2006

Over the River & Through the Woods

By Joe DiPietro

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ENTERTAINMENT

October 19 - November 6, 2005



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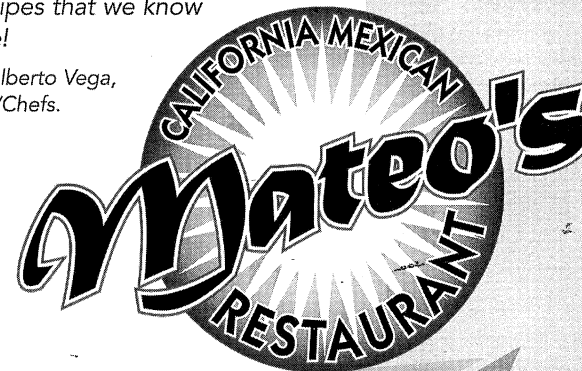
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Weathervane Community Playhouse

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Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs

Adapted by Jessie Braham White

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Much Ado about Nothing

Comedy by William Shakespeare

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Over the River and through the Woods

Comedy by Joe DiPietro

October 19 - November 6, 2005

Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber

Nov. 25 - Dec. 18, 2005

Crowns

by Regina Taylor

A gospel musical based on the best-selling book *Crowns:*

Portraits of Black Women in Church Hats

January 11 - February 5, 2006

Anitgone by Sophocles

February 17 - March 5, 2006

Lend Me a Tenor

Comedy by Ken Ludwig

March 22 - April 9, 2006

Wait Until Dark

Thriller by Frederick Knott

April 26 - May 14, 2006

Aladdin Performed by the Piper Puppets

May 6, 2006

The Sound of Music

by Richard Rodgers & Oscar Hammerstein II

June 14 - July 16, 2006

Angels in America

by Tony Kushner

Millennium Approaches -- Nov. 10 - 19, 2005

Perestroika -- May 18 - June 4, 2006

Patron Information

* **Emergency Exits** located at the left front of the auditorium and left side of the lobby. Front door and lobby doors will also be used.

* **Restrooms** Located in lobby alcove - wheelchair accessible.

* **Handicapped Services** Seating for a limited number of wheelchairs. Please notify in advance if needed.

* **Assistive Listening Devices** Available thanks to the generosity of Virginia and J. Robert Wilson.

* **Patrons:** Expecting a call? Leave name and seat number with the House Manager. *Please turn off your cell phones, pagers and audible watches.*

* **Beverages and Food** may not be taken into the auditorium during performances.

* **Use of Cameras and Recording Devices** is prohibited during performances.

* **Curtain time** Wed./Thurs. at 7:30 p.m., Fri./Sat. at 8 p.m. and Sun. at 2:30 p.m.

* **Latecomers** will be seated at the rear of the auditorium during a suitable break in the play if space is available and may take their reserved seats after intermission.

* **Exiting the Theater** Please remain seated until the auditorium lights are on. Parking lot illumination assures that getting to your car will be easy and secure.

* **Smoking** is permitted outside the building.

* **Lost and Found** items will be held at the Ticket Office until claimed.

* **Comments** from audience members are always welcomed with interest. Please feel free to write to Weathervane to express your views and opinions about our productions. Send your comments to: *Executive Director, Weathervane Community Playhouse.*



Patron Generosity

Weathervane appreciates the continuing strong support of individuals, corporations, foundations and other donors who help finance the theater's operations, capital improvements and endowment program. Weathervane is classified as a 501(c)(3) organization and contributions are tax deductible. Following are some of the many ways in which you can take pride in your support of the art of theater in our community.

* **Become a Weathervane Member**

Your annual support makes you a voting member of Weathervane Community Playhouse. You'll receive discounts on educational programs and other benefits, based on the membership level you choose. Members are invited to Weathervane's annual meeting and to other special events. Memberships are renewable annually, beginning at \$75 (Contributing), and continuing at Sustaining, Patron, Silver, Gold, Platinum and Diamond Levels. Membership is actively solicited in the fall but is accepted at any time. Members are recognized in the Playbill.

* **Give a Special Gift To Say You Care** Special donations may be made at any time to memorialize a friend or relative whose interest in Weathervane was significant to his or her life. You may also recognize and celebrate important dates or current achievements of relatives, friends or associates.

* **Remember Weathervane in Your Will** What better way to carry on your tradition of support to Weathervane than by a planned gift. By taking advantage of the tax laws which encourage charitable giving, the U.S. Government will share in the cost of your gift to Weathervane. Your gift can fulfill a specific purpose or project while providing your estate with tax savings. To help ensure that Weathervane will continue, please contact our Executive Director for more information.

* **Check For Matching Gifts** Many national and local corporations will

match your donations to Weathervane, increasing your generosity to the theater. Please check whether or not your company participates in such a program.

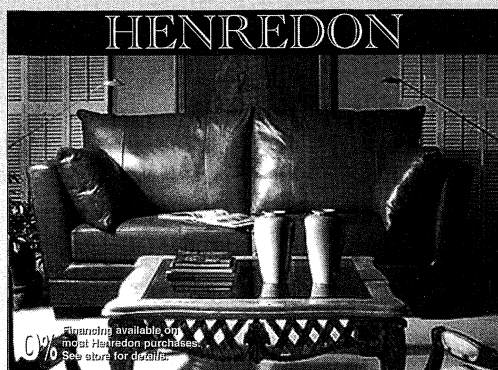
* **Designate Gifts To Local Foundations** Several of this area's larger foundations accept memorial and tribute gifts in the name of specific organizations such as Weathervane Community Playhouse. Such gifts help assure continuing grants to the theater's operations and special projects. We are enormously grateful for the impressive history of foundation support in this community.

* **Sponsor or Underwrite a Production** Our productions may be underwritten by local corporations or foundations. Benefits can include private "command performances" and special receptions for employees and friends when your business chooses this important method of support. Please call 330-836-2626. We'd like to discuss this kind of opportunity with you.

* **Capital Project** The construction segment of the Capital Project in 2000 included a scene shop with basement storage, a 2nd-floor classroom and rehearsal hall, soundproof production booth, elevator and fly gallery pocket above the stage and installation of the rigging system for the fly gallery. Donations for Stage Two of the project continue to purchase classroom furnishings, update the lighting system, renovate the lobby and replenish the Capital Fund for maintenance and repairs.



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History *From the Barn to the Valley*



Four society women urged Weathervane Playhouse into existence in 1935 - Grace Hower Crawford, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch and Muriel Maclachlan. They started with amateur theatricals at Coach House Theater, then as now part of Akron Woman's City Club. Back then Coach House was a club theater with closed membership and profits going back to the club. This left nothing for theatrical expansion or experimentation, so the ladies set up shop in a barn owned by U.S. Senator Charles Dick on Marshall Avenue. They had no money so they planned a carnival. After expenses, they cleared \$65 and declared themselves good to go.

Friends assisted in cleaning the barn that had been a garage for the Senator's cars. They scrounged for seats, curtains and a coffee pot. Seven fully costumed and staged plays were presented during the first three weeks of the summer of 1935. The audience applauded while bringing cushions from home to sit on -- the benches were hard. There was no running water or heat in the barn, but the operation had a name -- Weathervane, named for the chanticleer on the cupola of the barn. The ladies agreed that they would produce everything -- comedy, tragedy, Shakespeare, new works -- even opera. They also decreed that anyone who fit a part could be on their stage.

"The barn" was home until 1951 when it was sold, leaving the troupe homeless. The Board renovated a cement block building on Copley Road. This served until the late 1960's when the troupe moved to the Valley. In the early years,

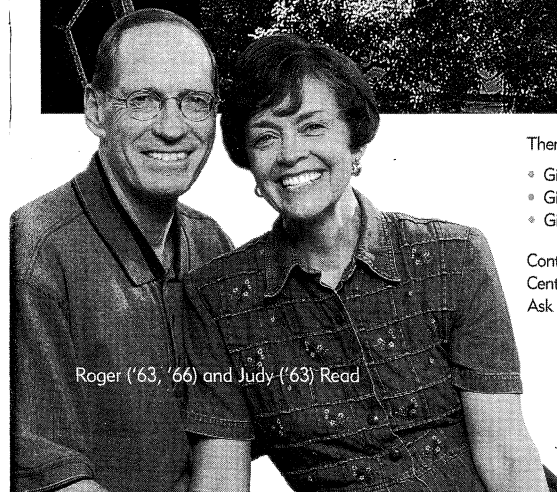
directors came from the membership and were charged with casting, costumes, settings and publicity. By 1960, there were so many shows that Bob Belfance was hired as theater director. Along with custodian/ticket manager Nora Scott, the two-person staff relied on volunteer support.

A Women's Board was formed in 1938 to offer volunteer and financial assistance. The Youth Theater Workshop grew out of classes offered by the original founders. Muriel Maclachlan was particularly energetic in teaching children, bringing in experts in dance and voice to assist her in teaching the youngsters. Muriel's classes grew until they became today's Education Department. Project STAGE®, a program with reduced-price, school day matinees for students, was added in the early 1990s.

A fund-raising drive in the late 1960s built the present facility on Weathervane Lane. The Playhouse opened in 1970 with Maggie Moore's production of *Dark of the Moon*. Grace Crawford, who died in 1971, left a legacy to pay off the mortgage. Construction made possible by the most recent Capital Campaign added classrooms, rehearsal space, scene shop, additional prop storage, elevator, library, fly gallery, stage mechanics, a sound-proof production booth and a costume shop, and also upgraded the roof and HVAC system.

Weathervane celebrated its 500th Mainstage production with the award-winning *The Laramie Project* in February, 2003. The John L. Dietz Classroom Theater for students and black box productions had its inaugural production as part of our 70th Season, opening with *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* in January 2005.

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Volunteer Sign-Up

Complete and detach this form and return it to the Ticket Office or mail to:
Volunteer Opportunities, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186

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About the current season _____

About future seasons _____

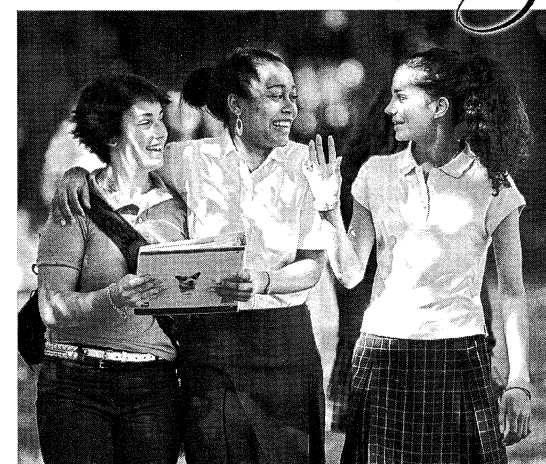
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How?
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If you are willing to donate your materials to the Library, please contact the Special Collections Division at 330-643-9030, by e-mail at specollections@akronlibrary.org or visit the Web site at www.akronlibrary.org/main-sc.html

All materials will be housed in the Library's new Special Collections Division at Main Library

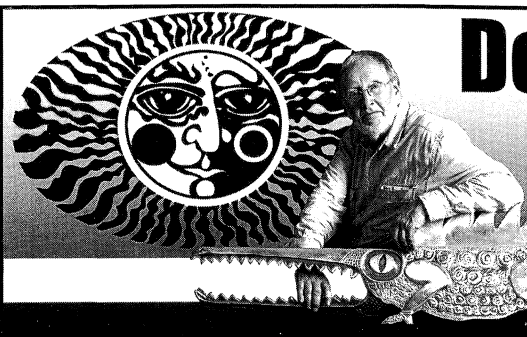
Special Collections, the Library's division responsible for maintaining local history materials, is planning a permanent collection of area music from Summit County-based musicians, professional or amateur, past and present.

Our local music wish list includes recordings by local

- pop
- rock
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Also accepting related historical materials such as photographs, posters, programs, flyers and videos.





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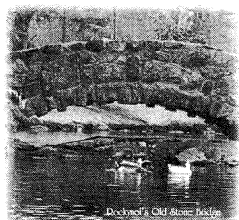
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Ticket Information

* **Tickets** Purchase in person or charge by phone with Visa, MasterCard or Discover at 330-836-2626, Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on performance Saturdays from noon to 5:00 p.m. *Reservations are also required when using coupons from your Weather-vane Super Coupon Book, complimentary tickets or coupons offered from any other cooperating arts organization.* Please arrive 20 minutes before curtain time to pick up your tickets.

* **Special seating** Please inform us if you have seating preferences due to visual, auditory or other physical needs. Please remember orders are filled on a first-come, first-served basis with season subscribers and advanced group sales taking first priority.

* **Season Subscriber Exchanges** must be phoned in at least 24 hours prior to your originally scheduled performance. We can't always guarantee the same seats but we'll give you the closest available re-

placements. An upgrade fee applies when changing from a Preview Night. *If you cannot use your subscription seats, please call us at least 24 hours in advance to release them. We will recognize this as a donation.*

* **Student Rush Tickets** go on sale 30 minutes before curtain time. Students with a valid ID may purchase any remaining tickets for half price. Rush tickets cannot be reserved in advance.

* **Discounted Group Reservations** are available for groups of 15 or more. Call Weathervane at 330-836-2626 to learn how you can entertain friends, associates or clients with a night at the theater or to plan a fund-raising event for larger groups.

* **Gift Certificates** are available at any time in any amount you choose.

* **Recycle your playbills** If you do not wish to keep the playbill, please drop it in our recycling box as you exit the theater.


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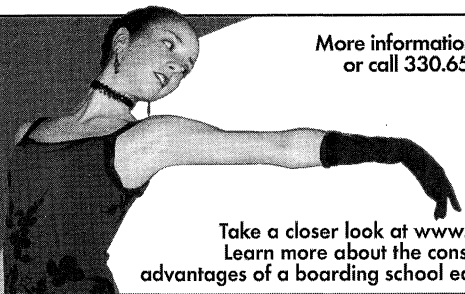
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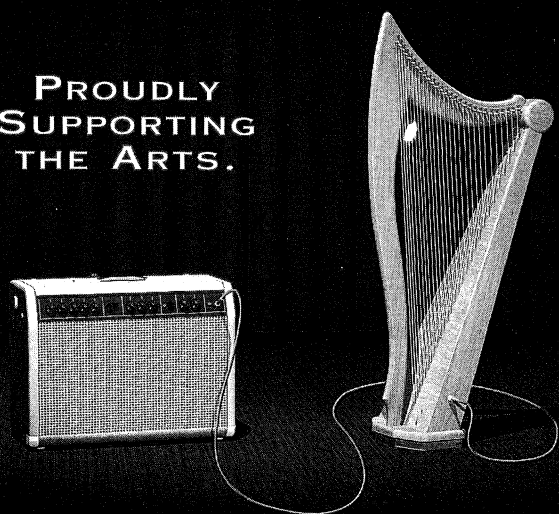
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Women's Board

The Women's Board was formed in 1938 to "offer voluntary service and financial assistance to the Playhouse." Women's Board has energized youth education programs, sponsored productions, spearheaded fund raisers and paid for many of the amenities we appreciate in the Green Room/kitchen. Members of this active group are invaluable as hostesses, office helpers and backstage. The Women's Board sponsors an annual puppet presentation for children and also operates the Gift Boutique and Bank One Art Gallery.

New members are welcomed.

2005-2006 Officers

Margaret Dietz President	Sue Smith Recording Sec.
Jill Forster First Vice President	Open Treasurer
Wendy Cooley Second Vice President	Barbara Trotter Assistant Treasurer
Lois Simmons Corresponding Sec.	

Committee Chairs

Art Gallery	Marci Paolucci	House Committee	Sue Smith
Boutique	Mary Wolfman	Membership	Lois Simmons
	B.J. Ziegler	Newsletter	Lois Simmons
Boutique Treasurer	Barbara O'Connor		Pat Weill
Cast Suppers	Randie Sass	Nominating	Nancy Ziegler
Costumes	Henrietta Cook	Murder Mystery	Karen Burrridge
Hospitality	Janet Budai	Puppet Show	Betty Williams
	Marta Williger		Leslie Lund
Hostesses	Bess Raines		
	Wendy Cooley		

Boutique Treasures

Our lobby Gift Boutique is a fund-raising project of our Weathervane Women's Board. Shop from one hour before curtain time or during intermission for great gift items. Prices are extremely reasonable and the items on sale include a

delightful variety from clowns and animal figures to pens, pins and earrings and some special items for the "men" in your life. Our Boutique volunteers will also assist you with information on purchasing gallery art works.

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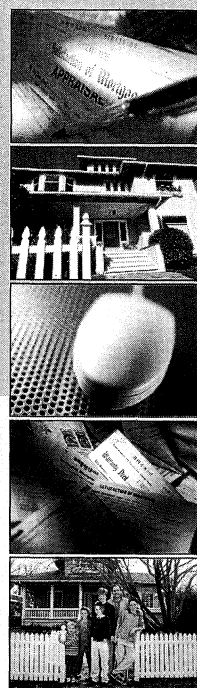


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Weathervane's Professional Staff

ELYNMARIE KAZLE (Executive Director) is in her ninth Weathervane season. Her 25+ year theatre career began in stage management then moved into producing, fundraising and public relations. She's had the pleasure of working with a wide range of artists from Baryshnikov to Tommy Tune to Viggo Mortenson, in theatres such as The Mark Taper Forum, San Diego's Old Globe, Sacramento Theater Company, Opera Columbus, Great Lakes Shakespeare Festival and Brooklyn Academy of Music. Akron played an important part of her career early on when she apprenticed with Tom Skelton at Ohio Ballet. In addition, past experience includes a stint with the *Wall Street Journal*, working at Brandt & Brandt, Robert Freedman Dramatic Agency serving as cultural ambassador to Sweden. She has served six years as USITT's VP of Membership and Development where she founded the nationally-known Stage Management Mentoring Project. She lives in Akron with husband Mark and her 10-year-old son Banno.

JANIS L. HARCAR (Director of Marketing & Development) holds an M.A. in Arts Administration from The University of Akron and a B.S. in Music Education from Kent State University and has been a Weathervane staff member since 1993. She serves as the Artistic Director of the Ravenna Community Choir and Director of St. Paul Lutheran Church Choir also in Ravenna. Jan was honored with the 2003 Trustees Award.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) began at Weathervane under the tutelage of John R. Thomas. This is his ninth season. Before Weathervane, he worked at Cuyahoga Falls High School where he was awarded a Design Excellence citation from USITT

and a place in *Who's Who Among America's Teachers*. He has designed for many local high schools as well as for The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. This past year he was awarded an Excellence in Set Design from the Ohio AACTFEST for *A Lesson Before Dying*. Scott has earned four Chanticleer Awards -- one as stage manager for *Fences*, the others as lighting co-designer for *A Man for All Seasons* and lighting designer for *The Laramie Project* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. He takes great pleasure in writing the end-of-the-season revue for The Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players who appear at our annual Chanticleer Awards Dinner.

SEAN McCONAHA (Director of Education and Producer of Youth/Family Productions) holds a dual major in Theater Performance and Pre-Law from West Virginia Wesleyan College and an M.A. in Theater from The University of Akron. He is a free-lance actor and director throughout northeastern Ohio. Sean directed the OCTA award-winning production of *Romeo and Juliet* as well as Chanticleer winners for Best Production, *The King of the Kosher Grocers* and *A Lesson Before Dying* and the inaugural Dietz production of *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*. He lives in Bolivar with wife, Beth, daughters, Leda and Delaney, and twins Zoe and Griffin.

KEITH D. CAMPBELL (Supervisor Front-of-House & Patron Services) holds a B.A. in English from The University of Akron, where he served as editor of *The Buchtelite* and sang with the Akron Symphony Chorus. During the summers of 1995 and 1996, he interned in the box office at Porthouse Theatre Company. Keith joined the Weathervane staff in November 1996 and was honored with the 2005 Trustees Award. He lives in Akron.



Professional Staff continued

JOHN COTTER (Business and Public Relations Assistant) has the duties that come with helping Jan and Keith in the Marketing and Box Office areas. He also coordinates our Acme Community CashBack program and urges everyone to save their Acme register tapes and bring them to him at the Playhouse. John retired after 36 years with Ohio Edison and has been a long-time volunteer of the Playhouse having served on the Production Board as its President and Co-Chair of Properties. He has also worked backstage for many productions and has won Chanticleers for Properties Design for four productions. He is, however, most proud of his three grandchildren, Dana, Nicholas and Kristin.

KATHRYN A. KOHL (Assistant Technical Director) holds a degree in Elementary Education from BGSU and a Master of Business Management degree from Aurora College in Aurora, IL. She began her theater career as a volunteer on many lighting, set construction and props

crews. She won a Chanticleer for properties co-design of *The Philadelphia Story*. Kathy also serves as Resident Master Carpenter and Master Painter for the Theatre Department at Firestone High School. She lives in West Akron with husband Doug and their three children, Stephanie, Zachary and Katie.

DREAJEAN L. BROWN (Data Services Manager) holds a Master of Science degree in Technical Education and a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from The University of Akron. She is the Director of Administration for the Ohio & Erie Canalway Coalition. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Akron Alumnae Chapter. Drea says her major priority is spoiling her grandchildren. Balancing her time with work and family, she still finds time to crochet baby blankets for the Neo Natal Unit at Children's Hospital in Akron, and lap afghans for the Life Care Facility in Pittsburgh, PA.

Weathervane Playhouse is a member of American Association of Community Theatre, Akron Area Arts Alliance and Ohio Community Theatre Association.



akron area arts alliance



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Board of Trustees

Weathervane Community Playhouse is a non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation operated by a board of volunteer trustees representative of the general community.
Regular monthly meetings of the Board of Trustees are open.

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Welcome from the Executive Director



Welcome to Weathervane.


I am very pleased to welcome back director **Nancy Cates** for not one but two shows this season. *Over the River* will be first and then, in the spring, she will return to direct the hilarious comedy *Lend Me a Tenor*. Along with Nancy we have the return of some wonderfully talented members of our acting community. I am delighted to bring back to the WCP boards *Henry Bishop*, *Tim Champion*, *Virginia Hanlon*, *Scott Shriner* and *Linda Graske* and also welcome newcomer *Letisha Thomas* and an outstanding team of designers and crew to bring this wonderful story to life!


This year we are 71 years young. And, even as we look ahead, we also pause to reflect upon what will be the legacy of those who have spent time developing and sharing their craft here for our community. This past season we lost two very dear volunteers, **Paul Daum** and **Vaughn G. Austin**, who both dedicated a significant amount of their time and talent to our arts programming and, as they passed from this life, left us a bequest of their treasure. For those gifts we are very grateful.


What then is our legacy for the 75th year? What can we do to ensure the future of Weathervane for generations to come? I believe the answer lies in us all. Each of us can plan for Weathervane's future. Be it a gift now to the endowment or a planned gift for a special interest, there are many ways you can fully participate in creating a legacy for Weathervane Playhouse. Our founders had a vision of a Weathervane that would continue to grow, to thrive and to serve the needs of the community. Through their wisdom and generosity, we own this building. We have successful arts programming to call upon in our history and we inspire new generations of theater and community artists who call Weathervane home.


Now I ask you to consider a gift for the future of the Playhouse. Let's begin this conversation and together we can make our theater a diamond jewel that will be treasured long into the future.

Elfrunnie Kagle

 Weathervane Playhouse is handicapped accessible. Ramps are available to the front doors, auditorium and seating.

 Assistive-listening devices for the hearing impaired are available at the Ticket Office.

 Large-Type program inserts are available at the Ticket Office. These copies are not full playbills but contain information unique to this production. These inserts are photocopied and are available in limited quantity.

 American Sign Language interpretations are scheduled for selected Sunday performances.

 Ohio Relay System 1-800-750-0750 TDD. Call to have your ticket order placed.



Weathervane

Community Playhouse

71st Season – 2005-2006 – Production # 516
October 19 - November 6, 2005



by **Joe DiPietro**

Directed by
Nancy Cates (ssdc)*

Stage Manager
Jerrold A. Mirman, Jr.

Costume Designer
Connie Velotta

Sound Designer
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Weathervane productions are sponsored in part by



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Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186
Ticket Office: 330-836-2626 – Fax: 330-873-2150 – For staff Emails -- please see website
www.weathervaneplayhouse.com



About the Playwright

Joe DiPietro, who wrote *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change*, a series of vignettes about modern relationships, has produced a memory piece in *Over the River and through the Woods*. The show broke box office records for the American Stage Company and was selected for the 1994 Eugene O'Neill/National Playwrights Conference where it won the Charles McArthur Fellowship for comic writing. Other plays by DiPietro include *The Virgin Weeps*, *Love Lemmings* and the reworking of the Gershwin musical, *Oh, Kay!* which was retitled *They All Laughed*. DiPietro also fashioned a libretto around a dozen Elvis Presley songs at the behest of the late singer's estate. The Rutgers-educated New Jersey-raised playwright says he likes writing musicals. "I like the form."



About the Director

Nancy Cates is pleased to return to Weathervane this season for her sixth production on our stage. Others in recent years have included *Gypsy*, *A Man for All Seasons*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Blithe Spirit* and *Communicating Doors*. Nancy has directed just over 120 shows in Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia, in genres ranging from the classics to the avant garde to musical comedy. Nancy is one of the two Artistic Directors (her husband Terry Burgler is the other) of the Ohio Shakespeare Festival, which recently completed its fourth summer season on the grounds of Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens. Nancy's shows for OSF include *Oh Coward!*, *Side by Side by Sondheim* and this summer's record breaker, *Swingtime Canteen*, and she looks forward to directing *A Life in the Theatre* as their first winter show early next year hosted by the Coach House Theatre. Nancy is an honors graduate of the University of Virginia, a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers, and has been honored with eleven variations of regional critics' awards for excellence in directing.

A Memorial Contribution was made to Weathervane Playhouse
in Honor of the 50th Wedding Anniversary of **Betty & Glen Williams** by
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A Memorial Contribution was made to Weathervane Playhouse
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Over the River and through the Woods -- Cast

Nick Cristano **Scott Douglas Shriner**
Frank Gianell **Timothy H. Champion**
Aida Gianell **Virginia R. Hanlon**
Nunzio Cristan **Henry C. Bishop**
Emma Cristan **Linda Graske**
Caitlin O'Hare **Letisha Thomas**

Setting: The Gianelli home in Hoboken, New Jersey
There will be one 15-minute intermission between the acts.

***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 food or drink in the auditorium.**

***NOTE: In case of an emergency in which the performance cannot continue, Calamity Vouchers will be issued for a future performance. Thank you.**

Track Your Favorites

Keep track of your favorites all season long and you'll be prepared to vote
for our Chanticleer Awards! Use this list as a guide...

Sound Design	Supporting Actor -- play & musical
Lighting Design	Lead Actress -- play & musical
Properties Design	Featured Actress -- play & musical
Costume Design	Supporting Actress -- play & musical
Lead Actor - play & musical	Best Production
Featured Actor -- play & musical	



Community
Cash Back Program **2005-2006**
"In Progress"

SAVE YOUR ACME STORE REGISTER TAPES and bring them to the
Playhouse. We'll collect them, turn them in and receive 1% cash back!

To be sure your tapes are valid, they must have the words **community cash back** at
the bottom of the tape. Please **DO NOT TEAR THIS OFF**. No need to worry about
the privacy of your credit card number; it is not reflected on the tape.

Thanks for your help! We look forward to another successful season!



Cast Callboard

SCOTT DOUGLAS SHRINER (Nick) is very happy to be back at Weathervane, where his recent appearances include *Noises Off*, *Three Days of Rain* and *The Rocky Horror Show*. Other performances here include *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* and *Loot*. Scott has also performed with Actors' Summit, the Ohio Shakespeare Festival and Coach House Theatre, where he was last seen in *Proof* in September. He sends his love to his beautiful and supportive wife Kelly and he'd like to dedicate his work in this show to his four late grandparents, especially to Mary Ellen Shriner who passed away in March and would have loved this play.

TIMOTHY H. CHAMPION (Frank) More than twenty years have passed since Tim first trod Weathervane's boards in *Light Up the Sky* with Playhouse veterans Alice Ann Davies and Ian Haberman. Steven Johnson, another newcomer in that cast, was the future brother-in-law of then nine-year-old Scott Shriner, who plays Tim's grandson in this production. In the interval, Tim has performed more than 30 roles here in 23 plays under fourteen different directors. He has been awarded six Chanticleers for his performances in *Chicago*, *Driving Miss Daisy*, *Translations*, *Conversations with My Father*, *Camping with Henry & Tom* and *A Man for All Seasons*. He has also worked backstage crews on four other productions here; directed the Salon Series reading of *Lettice & Lovage*; and is a past member of Weathervane's Board of Trustees. *Over The River...* marks Tim's tenth theatrical collaboration with director Nancy Cates. Together with Nancy's husband Terry Burgler, the three founded the critically acclaimed Ohio Shakespeare Festival,

which just completed its fourth summer season at Akron's Stan Hywet Hall & Gardens. An attorney and counselor at law with Aberth & Champion, Co., LPA in Fairlawn, Tim limits his practice to Estate Planning, Probate and Real Estate matters.

VIRGINIA R. HANLON (Aida) has received two Chanticleer Awards, one for Best Actress as Maggie Moore in *Da* (1981) and the other for Best Supporting Actress as Charlotte in *Beyond Therapy* (1988). Other favorite Weathervane productions include *The Shadow Box*, *The World of Carl Sandburg* and, most recently, *Holiday Memories* (1996). Active in community theatre for over 40 years, Virginia has also performed with Stow Players, Western Reserve Playhouse and Coach House Theatre, where she received a Best Supporting Actress award for her role as the mother in *Equus*. Because she lived in Milan, Italy for a year, she is particularly fond of the Italian spirit expressed by the characters of the grandparents in this play and hopes that one of her three grandchildren is able to come to see her on stage!

HENRY C. BISHOP (Nunzio) lists eight Weathervane shows from the 400 or so plays he's done as noteworthy: *Gypsy*-2003; *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*-2001; *The Golden Apple*-1997; *Pirates of Penzance*-1992; *Boys from Syracuse*-1989; *Chicago*-1988; *Guys and Dolls*-1987; *She Loves Me*-1986. He occupies his time making commercials, doing voice overs and substitute teaching. He has music and theater arts degrees from The University of Akron, and is married to Karen L. Wood, a teacher of special education. The two live in Creston and raise vegetarian cats, a not-for-profit hobby.

LINDA GRASKE (Emma) has a long history at Weathervane. If her name seems



Cast Callboard Continued

unfamiliar, it's because most of her appearances were under her maiden name (Linda Wyler). She met husband Bud Graske during the Weathervane production of *A Man for All Seasons* and lassoed him (literally) in *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. Linda has been acting long enough to stop counting the roles she's played, having appeared over the years at Coach House, Stan Hywet, Actors' Summit and The Players Guild, in addition to WCP. She has learned the real joy of theatre is finding good friends along the way. Earlier this year, she enjoyed performing at Coach House Theatre in *California Suite* and *The Real Thing* and, with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival at Stan Hywet, in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Her favorite roles at Weathervane include Diana in *Lend Me a Tenor*, Maire in *Translations*, Portia in

Julius Caesar and Ruth in *Blithe Spirit*. When not at the theatre, Linda can be found travelling with her husband or home spoiling the dog and her husband.

LETISHA THOMAS (Caitlin) is new to both the Weathervane Playhouse and Ohio. She is enjoying both of them greatly. However, this move was not her first: she has lived in several interesting places such as Idaho, Arizona, Alaska, Utah, New Mexico and California. In all her travels it has been important to her to stay active in the arts. Some of her favorite performances have been in *Alice in Wonderland*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *Diary of Anne Frank* and *Black Comedy*. Letisha shares a home in Twinsburg with her boyfriend Scott and her two children, Austin and Belle. She works as a Manager for the Hilton Garden Inn.



Backstage Callboard

JERROLD A. MIRMAN, JR. (Stage Manager) stage managed *The Tale of the Allergist's Wife* and was assistant stage manager for *Noises Off*. He was also properties designer for *The Grapes of Wrath*, all in the 2004-2005 season. He won a Chanticleer for lighting design in 1985 for *Foxfire* and was seen on stage in *Major Barbara*, 1776 and *Man of La Mancha*. He has fond memories of appearing in the 1978 production of *The Last of Mrs. Lincoln* starring Weathervane's fabled Flo Beard. He is emergency dispatcher for police, fire and EMS for Copley Township.

CONNIE VELOTTA (Costume Design) joined the Woman's Board in 1988 and worked under the tutelage of John Thomas in costume construction. Connie shared

costume design with Margaret Renwand for *Romance/Romance* (1993), a show that stands out as a most enjoyable one to costume. Her most challenging and diverse assignment was *Sweeney Todd* (1994). "It's very gratifying to be a part of each production working with such special, dedicated people," says Connie. She has earned three Chanticleers for her work. Her hobbies include batik designs, golf and keeping up with two active, teenage grandchildren.

JUDY WILLEMSSEN (Sound Design) has been volunteering at Weathervane since 1987. She won Chanticleers for her sound designs for *Translations* and *The Piano Lesson* and created sound designs for *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* and for *The Mystery of Irma Vep*. She has acted as stage manag-



Backstage Callboard Continued

er for two Chanticleer-winning productions--*Harvey* and *The Laramie Project*. She dedicates the sound design for *Over the River and through the Woods* to the memory of her mentor and friend, Vaughn G. Austin.

MARK A. ZIMMERMAN (Lighting Design) has served as lighting designer for numerous Weathervane productions and has been chairman of the production board. He won a Chanticleer for lighting last season's *The Rocky Horror Show*. Mark was on stage as Major Benedick in the season's opener, *Much Ado about Nothing*. His stage credits include *Gypsy*

and *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*. He played in Stan Hywet Hall and Gardens' production of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and in *Witness for the Prosecution* at Coach House Theatre. Mark is director of the theater program at Firestone High School and has been named three times to *Who's Who among America's Teachers*. His students enjoy watching him practice what he teaches.

KATHRYN A. KOHL (Properties)

See staff bios

JOHN A. COTTER (Properties)

See staff bios



In the Bank One Visual Arts Gallery

Thompson Lehnert: Painting and drawing have been his passion and profession for 55 years. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in art education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Arts degree in painting from Kent State University. He also did graduate work at Case Western Reserve University and the Cleveland Art Institute. He taught art in the public schools for 11 years, then served as art professor for 27 years at KSU. He says, "The substance of my painting is to express thoughts and feelings. Thought is pure energy. Feelings are the language of the soul. If you want to know what is true about something, you examine your feelings. Your deepest feeling is your highest truth. My paintings are an attempt to enter this realm of the invisible world to record the life energies that produce patterns of art in harmony and design."

Fran Lehnert: After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree in art education from Indiana University of Pennsylvania and a Master of Arts degree in ceramics from Kent State University, Fran taught art in the public schools, then in the art education department at KSU. After May 4, 1970, and subsequent lay-offs there, she became curator of education and ceramics at the Canton Museum of Art. Eight years ago her focus shifted from ceramics to pastels with her work in the collections of the Butler Institute of American Art, the Canton Museum of Art, the Cleveland Museum of Art and the Ohio Designer's Craftsmen Museum in Columbus. Fran says: "Realism is a comfortable way for me to express myself. My surrealist drawings are dream-like in which time, form and space have been distorted. My real concern is the subject matter, not the medium of pastel. In my recent drawings I have used famous artists' works incorporating them into a contemporary setting. Instead of a play on words, the work becomes a play on images. My greatest joy is listening to the viewers' interpretation of what the drawing is all about. Many times, their ideas are better than my titles." **Marci Paolucci**, Gallery Director



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Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director

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www.estatesalestuff.com -- Tom Marshall
Tess Burgler

Ohio Shakespeare Festival
Terry Burgler
Dawn Roman
Denise and Andrea DiGeronimo

For almost 40 years, **J.J. Marshall** ran his **Cuyahoga Valley Antiques** store on North Main Street, loaning props and offering his expertise to local theaters and high schools. Following his death 5 years ago, his son and daughter-in-law, **Tom and Marcia Marshall**, continued this tradition under the name of [estatesalestuff.com](http://www.estatesalestuff.com). In early October, Tom and Marcia closed the store, concentrating their energies on their custom T-shirt business, "**got shirts?**" (330-388-9257). To the Marshall family we offer our sincere thanks and wish Tom and Marcia success with their new endeavor.

Thanks to Our Volunteers

The following are the vivacious volunteers who assisted you by hostessing, house managing and staffing the boutique, office or Green Room during *Much Ado about Nothing*.

Meena & Puru Agrawal	Margaret Dietz	Barbara O'Connor	Helen Tschantz
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Next On Our Stage

ANGELS-IN-AMERICA

A Gay Fantasia on National Themes

PART ONE: MILLENNIUM APPROACHES

by Tony Kushner

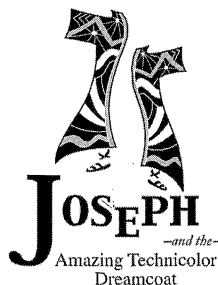
November 10 - 19

Director - Sean McConaha

The universal themes of life, love, democracy and personal responsibility play out against the backdrop of the Reagan administration and the spectre of AIDS. *Adult Audiences, please.*

Our third production in the John L. Dietz Theatre.

Sponsored by Margaret J. Dietz



by Tim Rice &
Andrew Lloyd
Webber

Nov. 25 - Dec. 18

Director:

Sarah Elaine
Bailey

Musical Director:
Margaret Knepper

This holiday production is back for a sixth season! The Biblical saga of Joseph and his coat of many colors comes to vibrant life in this delightful musical parable. Set to musical styles including country western, calypso, pop and rock 'n' roll, this Old Testament tale is perfect for the *whole family!*

Attention K-12 Teachers: discount tickets are available for the following productions -- *Over the River, Crowns, Lend Me a Tenor, Wait Until Dark* and *The Sound of Music*. Please inquire at the box office for further information. Discount not available on previously purchased tickets.



More Coming Events

The Sunday Salon Reading Series

Warm Spanish Men -- a new musical written and directed by Milian France
January 15, 2006 at 2:30 p.m. Free; discussion and light snacks follow the reading.

Immigrant by Chuck Keiper, Directed by Dr. Susan Speers

Step-up musical production

February 27 & 28 at 7:30 p.m. Tickets \$10

Over the River... Audio-Described performance for sight-impaired: Sun., Oct. 30

Over the River... ASL-Interpreted performance for hearing-impaired: Sun., Nov. 6

ASL interpretation by "The Heard" (Merry Beth Pietila and Erin LaFountain)

Angels in America: Millennium Approaches by Tony Kushner returns to the John L. Dietz Theater **November 10 - 19, 2005**. This Pulitzer Prize-, Tony Award- and Emmy Award-winning production deals with the universal themes of love, loss and the possibility of redemption. *Angels in America: Perestroika* will run **May 18 - June 4, 2006**. Margaret J. Dietz is underwriting both productions. Mark your calendars now; the Dietz Theater only seats 48 per performance.

Black & White and Dead All Over -- A Murder Mystery by Moushey will be held at the theater **November 26**. The event is sponsored by the WCP Women's Board. Karen Burridge is chairman. Form your team, search for clues.

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Including Weathervane Playhouse in your philanthropic plans helps us to continue producing theater that enriches our city and can provide you with tax advantages. Call us at 330-836-2626 for more information.

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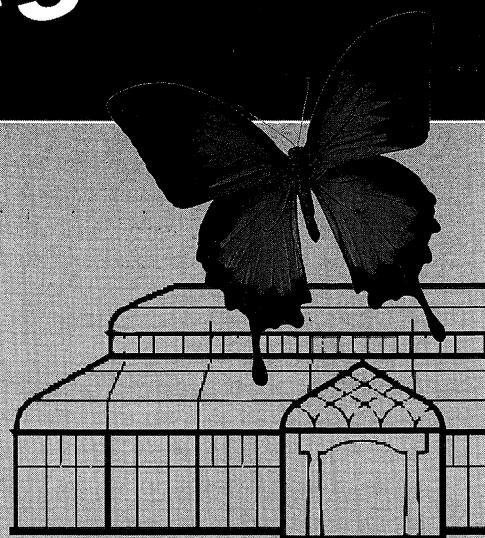
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Sunday, February 26, 2006 • 3 pm

Frederica von Stade, *mezzo-soprano*

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Tuesday, March 28, 2006 • 8 pm

Tokyo String Quartet

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All concerts are at E.J. Thomas Hall, The University of Akron; pre-concert talks are held one hour prior to performance time. For more information or a detailed season brochure, call the Tuesday Musical office.

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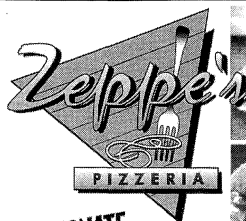
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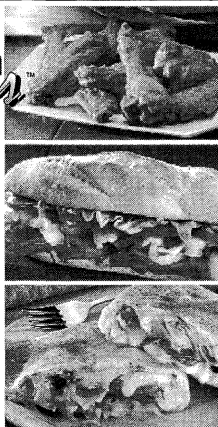
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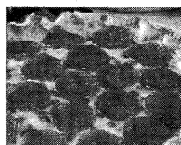


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Volunteering at Weathervane

Weathervane began as a volunteer organization and continues its growth thanks to the time and talent that members of our community invest in it. Our on-stage performers have worked long and hard to earn your applause. But their work is supported by many other unseen men and women who've helped build and paint sets, run the lights and sound, make sure that properties and set dressing items are in their proper places and do other backstage labor from stage managing to costuming and make-up. Supporting those who are actively involved in putting on each show are still more volunteers who usher, house manage, sell tickets, keep our office running and serve on our Board of Trustees, Board committees, Production Board and Women's Board.

Their spirit is the backbone of our continuing operations, a valued support on which our professional staff relies.

Each month, we acknowledge the outstanding Volunteers of the Month in our lobby, but those volunteers represent all who commit their time and interest to create a great theater experience for everyone who's come to see this show.

If you have friends or relatives who volunteer generously at Weathervane, we hope you'll take a moment to thank them for their help and their support of the cultural enrichment of our community. Better yet, join them! Call us and we'll help you win your own share of the applause for a "jolly good show," an experience that offers unique challenges with every performance.

Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Let's talk Chanticleer! Shortly after the final production of each season (August 19, 2006), Weathervane volunteers, subscribers and friends share an exciting awards banquet and party to acknowledge outstanding performances by performers and technical volunteers. And, if you have seen all of the six main-stage productions, you are eligible to be a judge!

The top performers are awarded rooster statuettes -- Chanticleers -- in recognition of their work, as voted by Chanticleer "judges." It's a great night to get together, share hopes, fun and festivities and is open to all.

Awards are presented for outstanding lead performances by a male or female in a drama or comedy, outstanding support performances, and outstanding lead and support in a musical, as well as choices in technical achievement. Chanticleers are also awarded for properties, lights, costumes and sound design, plus best production of the season. In addition to performance and production awards, the event also recognizes the Top 25 outstanding volunteers of the season. We welcome you to take part in the biggest nail-biting party of the year. Make sure to pick up your ballot at the end of the season and join us!



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Volunteer Responsibilities

Here's a quick introduction to the responsibilities volunteers undertake to make our shows work. If you'd like to try your hand at any of these jobs, please call us. We'll help you learn! Volunteers with 100 hours or more of service are eligible for a special Weathervane membership!

✳ **Stage Management** Duties include assisting the director throughout the rehearsal period, calling cues, keeping backstage safe and orderly, and coordinating the technical needs of the show with the actors. A great opportunity for those who enjoy planning, communicating and taking charge. Once the director's work is done, it's the Stage Manager who runs each performance.

✳ **Set Construction** Use your building skills, carpentry or painting techniques to help make illusion come to life. Help is needed days and evenings.

✳ **Costumes** Designers and workers are vital. We invite skilled and unskilled seamstresses to make or alter costumes, create patterns, care for costumes during a show and keep our wardrobe department organized.

✳ **Lighting** Experience is a plus, but you can learn by assisting others who know computers and electrical requirements. We'll train eager volunteers to help hang, focus and add color to lighting instruments. We'll also teach you how to run the light board and follow spots. *Nobody can see the show without you.*

✳ **Sound** Create the music and sound effects tapes that enrich the aural envi-

ronment for each show or add "live" backstage sound. Run the sound system for technical rehearsals and productions.

✳ **Properties** All the items that help "dress" a set and all those used by actors in rehearsal and performance (from tea sandwiches to "deadly" weapons and "shattering" windowpanes) must be borrowed, built or cooked. Many volunteers are needed to work on each performance.

✳ **Office Volunteer** If you enjoy dealing with the public, we can use your help during office hours and on show nights to assist in taking money and answering the phone to take reservations. You may also help with mailings, work with staff, and greet customers and visitors.

✳ **Ushering** Welcome audience members with your smile, show them to their seats, pass out programs, and serve refreshments at intermission. Your help is always welcome.

✳ **House Manager** This representative greets the audience, tears tickets and guides theater-goers to ushers for seating. You'll work with the stage manager to coordinate the timing of intermissions and remain in the lobby throughout the show to handle any emergency.

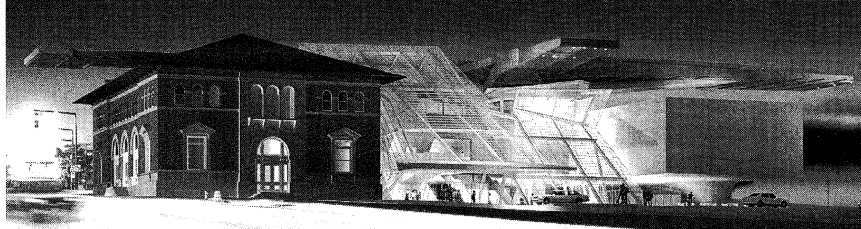
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Who Gets On Stage?

Our volunteer performers come from throughout greater Akron and northeastern Ohio. They've committed themselves to four or more weeks of rehearsals plus performances. Their greatest reward is your applause.

Many performers come with substantial theatrical experience. Others are new to the stage. Auditions are open to all and our non-traditional casting policy opens the way for many performance opportunities. Except in cases where race, gender, age or disability is essential to the play, all roles are cast on the basis of talent.

Local newspapers carry audition dates and times or call Weathervane at 330-836-2626 to be added to the audition mailing list. Some directors prefer to set appointments for audition times and may ask that you come prepared with a brief

monologue, improvisational subject or musical number. Copies of plays scheduled or audition scenes are often available for a nominal deposit.

When you arrive at the theater on audition nights, you'll learn about the rehearsal and performance schedule. You may also register as a production volunteer if you're interested in learning about the technical opportunities in the show.

You may be asked to return for callbacks and will be notified of the director's cast selection as soon as possible. Please note that if you don't win the role you've wanted so badly, it may not necessarily reflect on your talent. The director's choice of cast members must take many factors into account to develop the proper "relationships," style and reality of the ensemble. Don't be discouraged.

Beware of the Dreaded No-Show

Have you ever seen empty seats at a sold out sporting event or concert? Weathervane has the same problem. Subscribers who may have exchanged from another performance wonder why they weren't given those prime empty seats for the evening.

When you buy a subscription, you are promising to come to the theater for that ticketed performance and we hold your seat(s). This makes it impossible to tell if a performance is ever really sold out and annoys other ticket buyers who see that they could have been seated in a better spot.

Subscribers: Please call the Ticket Office at 836-2626 if you will not make your ticketed performance. Thank you.

Weathervane Traditions

Meet the cast Many cast members spend a few minutes in the lobby area to meet and greet friends after performances. It's your chance to thank them for their performance.

Intermission Tea is served with our compliments by our volunteers. Soft drinks are available at a nominal cost.

Opening Night Receptions welcome audiences on Main Stage first Friday performances. We provide light refreshments after the show so you can share in the celebration.

For your sweet tooth snacks are available for purchase before the show and during intermission. Refreshments (other than water) are not permitted in the auditorium.



Theatre Education

Youth Education

Weathervane offers professionally taught classes in acting, stagecraft, musical theatre and improvisation for children up to age 18. Fall and spring classes are held on Saturdays and two-week Hands on Theatre (H.O.T.) workshops are planned throughout the summer. The cost is minimal with a limited number of scholarships available and discounted fees for Weathervane members.

Children may also audition for roles in many productions. Casting is not dependent upon class enrollment. Participation is an extension of valuable training in every facet of production from the audition process to technical and performance experience. Family members may also have learning opportunities by participating in such productions.

Weathervane works with area schools by providing outreach information and study guides as part of our Project STAGE© program, which brings public and private school students to see as many as five productions each season. This season, *Much Ado about Nothing*, *Crowns*

and *Antigone* will be featured in the Project STAGE© events. Tickets are \$8.

For information about classes or audition schedules for Youth Productions, please call our Director of Education at 330-836-2323.

Adult Classes

Professionally taught adult theatre classes have included classical drama, improvisation, scenic design, stage lighting and directing. These classes help actors expand their performance and public speaking skills. Look for new schedules for classes periodically.

Learning On the Job

Every production participant becomes part of Weathervane's continuing education process. You'll learn from more experienced volunteers who share the creation of production and performance. If you don't have time for structured classes, sign on to become a crew member or performer. We'll help you expand your knowledge of backstage and onstage responsibilities.



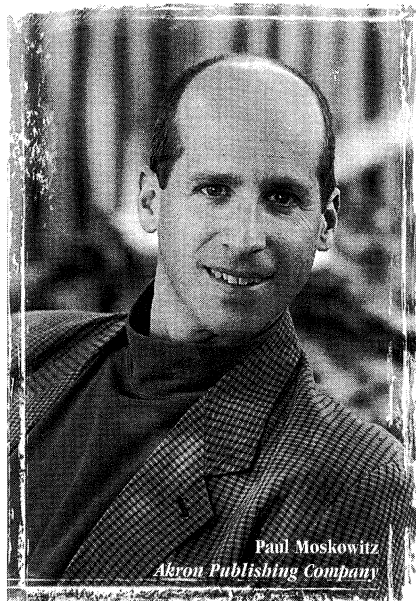
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