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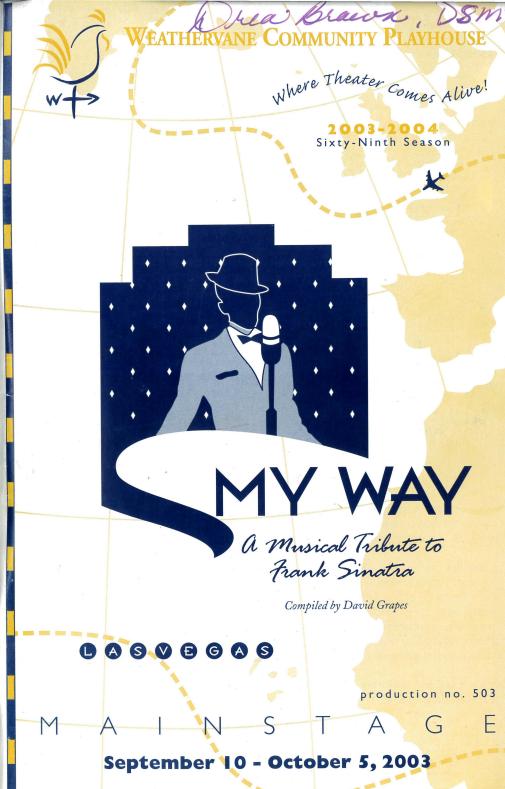
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2003-2004 The 69th Season

Weathervane Community Playhouse

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Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

by Richard R. George, Novel by Roald Dahl July 26 - Aug. 10, 2003 (*YT)

My Way

A Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra Compiled by David Grapes and Todd Olson September 10 - October 5, 2003

Proof

by David Auburn October 15 - November 2, 2003

Joseph

and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber Nov. 22 - Dec. 21, 2003 (*YT)

The Mystery of Irma Vep

by Charles Ludlam January 14 - February 1, 2004

The Crucible

by Arthur Miller February 14 - 28, 2004 (*YT)

A Lesson Before Dying

by Romulus Linney, Novel by Ernest Gaines March 10 - 28, 2004

The Dinner Party

by Neil Simon April 14 - May 9, 2004

Pinocchio

Performed by the Piper Puppets presented by WCP Women's Board May 8, 2004 (*YT)

Nunsense

by Dan Goggin June 9 - July 3, 2004

*Youth/Family Production

Patron Information

- 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.

- **Emergency Exits** located at the left front of **Curtain time** Wed./Thurs. 7:30 p.m., Fri./Sat. - 8 p.m. and Sun. - 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.

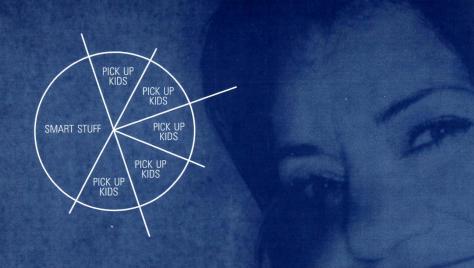
* Remember Weathervane in Your Will

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 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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From 1935 until 1951, Weathervane was housed in a modest carriage house barn on Marshall Avenue. Some recall its cramped quar-

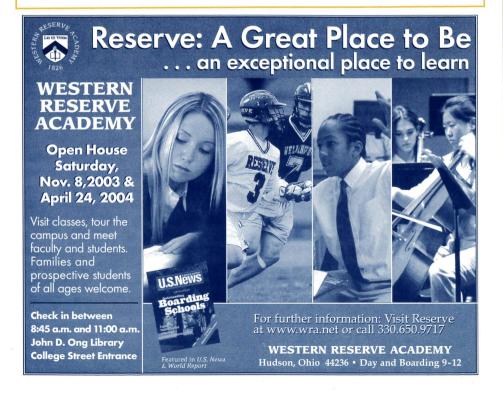
ters but especially the energy and devotion of four ladies, Grace Hower Crawford, Laurine Schwan, Helen Troesch and Muriel MacLachlan, who believed that Akron deserved the best in theater and that volunteers could make it happen. A lobby plaque lists the names of other founders who shared their commitment. The rooftop weathervane gave the theater its name and logotype character, the Chanticleer.

In 1951, the organization renovated a building on Copley Road and, from 1960 - 1992, Bob Belfance served as director. Along with custodian/ticket office manag-

er, Nora Scott, the two-person staff relied on volunteer support. Paid guest directors and children's theater instructors served in part-time positions. Ticket receipts and donations helped meet expenses and created a modest endowment. A fund-raising drive resulted in construction of the present 263-seat facility which opened in 1970. Thanks to Grace Crawford's legacy, the mortgage has been paid off.

Construction made possible by the most recent Capital Campaign added classrooms, rehearsal space, scene shop, additional prop storage, elevator, library, fly gallery and fly system, a sound-proof production booth and a costume workshop.

Weathervane celebrated its 500th Mainstage production, *The Laramie Project*, during the 2002-2003 season. Thanks for being a part of our history.





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 Theater (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, **Proof, The Crucible** and **A Lesson**

Before Dying will be featured in the **Project STAGE** events. Tickets are only \$8.

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

Adult Classes

Professionally taught Adult Theatre classes include Classical Drama, Improvisation, Scenic Design, Stage Lighting and Directing. These classes help actors expand their performance and public speaking skills.

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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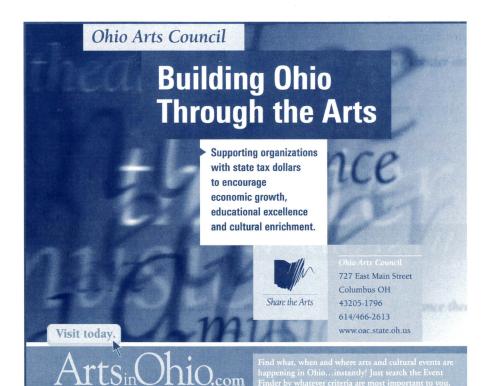


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- * Tickets Purchase in person or charge by phone with Visa, MasterCard or Discover at 330-836-2626, Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on performance Saturdays from 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Reservations are also required when using coupons from your Weathervane 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. Unclaimed tickets will be released for sale five minutes prior to curtain at the discretion of the Box Office Manager and volunteers.
- * 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 replacements. 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
- **Gift Certificates** are available at a time in any amount you choose.
- * Recycle your playbills Anyone who doesn't wish to keep the playbill may drop it in our recycling box.

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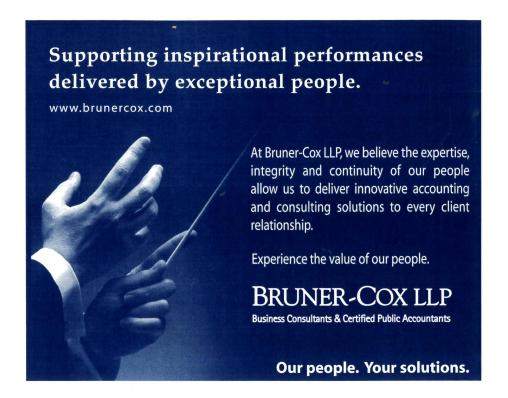
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The Women's Board was formed in 1938 to "offer voluntary service and financial assistance to the Playhouse." Women's Board has energized youth education programs, sponsored productions, spearheaded fund raisers and paid for many of the amenities we 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.

2003-2004 Officers

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	Betty Williams	

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. Our Boutique volunteers will also assist you with information on purchasing gallery art works.





ELYNMARIE KAZLE (Executive Director) begins her seventh season for WCP. She has spent 26 years in theater, first as a stage manager then in producing, fundraising and as a public relations rep for theaters across the US. She's had the pleasure of working with a wide range of artists from Mikhail Baryshnikov to Michael Korie, Ed Asner to Chita Rivera, in theaters such as San Diego's Old Globe, Sacramento Theater Company, LA Classical Ballet, Opera Columbus, Great Lakes (Shakespeare) and Brooklyn Academy of Music. Akron was important to Elynmarie early in her career when she served as lighting apprentice to Tom Skelton and Ohio Ballet in the early 1980s. Her diverse experience in Marketing/PR includes a stint with the Wall Street Journal. She is currently VP of Membership and Development of USITT, VP of the Akron Area Arts Alliance and the founder of the nationally-known Stage Management Mentoring Project. She lives in Akron with her husband Mark and 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. At the 2003 Chanticleer Ceremonies, Jan was honored with the Trustees Award.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) began at Weathervane under the tutelage of John R. Thomas. Learning the skills necessary to work full-time in the theater, Scott was hired at Cuyahoga Falls High School as auditorium manager, where he spent the next six

years. During that time, he was awarded a Design Excellence citation from USITT for Carousel, and a place in Who's Who Among America's Teachers. He has also designed for many local high schools as well as for The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. Scott has earned three 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. Scott also 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 the 1999-2000 season's Chanticleer winner for Best Production, *The King of the Kosher Grocers*. He lives in Bolivar with wife, Beth, daughters, Leda and Delaney, and twins born June 4, 2003, Zoe Grace and Griffin Dean.

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 has done post-baccalaureate studies in Arts Administration at The University of Akron. This is his eighth season at WCP.

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 serves on Weathervane's Production Board as Co-Chair of Auditions. John is a retiree of 36 years with Ohio Edison and has been a longtime volunteer of the Playhouse serving 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, his most recent being codesign of The Philadelphia Story. He is,

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 and set construction crews. She served as Properties Designer for Dracula and won a Chanticleer for proper-

however, most proud of his three grandchil-

dren, Dana, Nicholas and Kristin.

ties co-design of The Philadelphia Story. Kathy also volunteers 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 was recently promoted to the position of Director of Administration for the Ohio & Erie Canal Corridor Coalition. She is an active member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Akron Alumnae Chapter. This season she will eagerly welcome a new grandbaby and a new son-in-law. Her major priority for this season is to spoil her grandchildren.

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Weathervane Playhouse gratefully acknowledges the financial support of our corporate, foundation and individual members. Their Membership helps keep admission prices low and helps us to maintain the high standards of production you've come to associate with Weathervane. This list is updated throughout the season.

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Coming off a very successful theatre season presents our community playhouse with an interesting dilemma. How do we improve upon our success? With the economy woes that have afflicted so many of our brother and sister organizations, how do we continue to improve our service to the greater community while remaining fiscally responsible?

Our Play Selection committee rose to this challenge by choosing a modestly sized season with bold choices. Four

plays that we will present to you are premieres, either for Akron or Northeast Ohio. My Way, a tribute to Frank Sinatra is a musical that is having its first northeast Ohio run here at the Playhouse. The Dinner Party, A Lesson Before Dying and Proof are all Akron-area premieres. Our Trustees took on this challenge in the re-invention of our traditional fundraiser, choosing things that are fun as well as good for the bottom line.

To strengthen what we are doing with education and outreach, we have chosen family centered initiatives such as Faithful Fathers/Stage Dads, new ventures into the playbuilding arena such as Mr. Lewis Rules: Stories from the Juvenile Justice System and added partnerships with the City of Medina and Junior Achievement.

I am very pleased that Martín Céspedes has been able to join in this journey by making his directing and choreographing debut here at the Playhouse with My Way.... I applaud the efforts of the entire company and thank them for their time and work on this new show. We have other surprises and other guest artists who will also be joining us as the season progresses.

Coming off of our season of celebration, there is much to crow about. And, if anyone asks. Weathervane is not staying at home watching the world go by -- we are going places and you are very much encouraged to come along.

Cheers to 2003-2004!

Elmanie Kerte

Executive Director

Weathervane Playhouse

Dynamic Productions, Strong Outreach, Continuing Education



Community Playhouse

69th Season - 2003-2004 - Production # 503 September 10 - October 5, 2003



Compiled by David Grapes & Todd Olson Book by Todd Olson



Radio Sponsor

Directed & Choreographed by Martín Céspedes

Musical Director -- Margaret Knepper

Stage Manager **Jill Forster**

Properties Designer John Riazi

Costume Designers **Betty Williams Dorothy Kies**

Sound Engineer **Charles Korecki**

Lighting Designer **Erin Katz**

Scenic Designer **Alan Scott Ferrall**

Original piano/vocal arrangements by Vince di Mura -- Additional arrangements by Stephen Kummer and Donald Jenzeka -- Score conception and interpretive consultant Vince di Mura -- First workshop production presented at Artpark at the Church, Lewiston, NY, May 1999 -- World Premiere at Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Nashville TN July 2000

Special thanks: Barbara Redinger Davis, K. Dawn Grapes, Brant Pope and the FSU/Asolo Theatre Conservatory, John Fredo, Lynne Kurdzeil-Formato, Michael Hake, Christine C. Cooper

My Way, a Musical Tribute to Frank Sinatra is produced by special arrangement with Summerwind Productions, 2251 Scott Drive, Franklin, TN 37067.

Weathervane productions are sponsored in part by



Weathervane Community Playhouse, 1301 Weathervane Lane, Akron, OH 44313-5186 Ticket Office: 330-836-2626 - Fax: 330-873-2150 - Email:wcpakron@aol.com www.weathervaneplayhouse.com



When Frank Sinatra died on May 14, 1998, his music was heard in retrospectives on radio and television. David Grapes decided he had to develop a theatrical piece about "The Voice." With his collaborator, Todd Olson, he put together a program of ninety of Sinatra favorites from the nearly 1400 songs which the singer recorded. This is not a presentation of Sinatra imitators but rather a joyous gift of sad songs, romantic songs and novelty songs, all firmly entrenched in the memory banks of his listeners. From All of Me (first recorded by Sinatra in 1946) to My Way (which first appeared in the 1969 album and was one of the singer's most-requested songs), you will find yourself remembering and humming along (in your mind only please!). This program includes Bart Howard's Fly Me to the Moon, recorded in 1964 on the album, It Might as Well Be Swing; I Love Paris, a Cole Porter number which Sinatra sang in the 1960 film version of Can-Can; I've Got You Under My Skin, another Cole Porter tune first recorded by Sinatra in 1956, and that wonderful Glenn Miller hit written by Harold Arlen and Johnny Mercer, That Old Black Magic, which Sinatra recorded twice, in 1946 and 1961. The goal of this production, according to David Grapes, is to present a musical revue that recalls the essence of the man through the glorious music he sang.

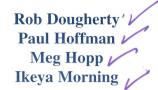
David Grapes, co-creator and original director, is currently Executive Producing Director of the Tennessee Repertory Theatre, Nashville, the largest professional theater company in that state. He worked for three years as Executive Director and Producing Artistic Director for Artpark and Artpark at the Church, a large Equity company located in upstate New York. David is a member of Actors' Equity Association, the Society of Stage Directors & Choreographers, and is a graduate of the MFA Theatre Program at University of North Carolina-Greensburg. David has had extensive experience in academic theater, having served as department chair and master acting teacher at West Virginia University at Parkersburg, WV; at Tarkio College, MO, and at Moorhead State University, MN. David's production of *My Way...* at the Asolo Theatre in Sarasota, FL shattered all previous box office records during its 35 performance sold-out run in May, 2001. David lives with his wife, Dawn, their two children and cat Shakespeare in Williamson County, TN. In his spare time he plays drums for the band, The Funky Cowboys.

Todd Olson, co-creator, author of book and director, is currently Artistic Director for American Stage Company in St. Petersburg, FL. Before that he spent three seasons as the Associate Artistic Director at Tennessee Repertory Theatre in Nashville. He received his MFA from the University of North Carolina and is a graduate of the Institute for Advanced Theatre Training at Harvard. He has taught at Harvard, Vanderbilt and Boston Universities, among others. He has directed more than 100 plays, musicals and operas and is currently writing the book and lyrics for the musical *American Storm: The Great Galveston Hurricane of 1900* with Grammy Award-winning composer Mike Reid. Todd lives in Seminole, FL with wife Charlotte and their children, Jonas and Corinna.



My Way...

Cast



Note: The cigarettes used in this production are artificial, smokeless and, therefore, non-toxic.

*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.

Act I
Strangers in the Night Bert Kaempfert, Charles Singleton, Eddie Snyder
Favorites Medley
The Way You Look Tonight Jerome Kern and Dorothy Fields
Sunny Side of the Street
All of Me
I've Got the World on a String
High Hopes
Broadway Medley
My Funny Valentine
Where or When
Let's Face the Music and Dance
Makin' Whoopee
It's All Right with Me
I Get a Kick Out of You
Cities Medley
I Love Paris
How About You?
My Kind of Town (Chicago Is)
South of the Border
Chicago, ChicagoFred Fisher
L.A. Is My Lady Alan Bergman, Marilyn Bergman, Quincy D. Jones and Peggy Lipton
New York, New York
Young Love Medley

 My Lean Baby
 Roy Alford and William May

 I Believe
 Sammy Cahn and Jule Styne

 Musical Numbers continued on next page



All songs used with permission.

My Way

Musical Numbers

Let's Get Away from It All
Something Wonderful Happens in Summer
The Tender Trap
Should I Reveal?
The Same Old Song and Dance Sammy Cahn, Jimmy Van Heusen and Bobby Worth You're Cheatin' Yourself
Love and MarriageSammy Cahn and Jimmy Van Heusen
The Lady Is a Tramp
Love and Marriage Medley (Part 2) That Old Black Magic
Witchcraft
I've Got You Under My Skin
All the Way
Intermission
Act II
Losers Medley
Drinkin' Again
Guess I'll Hang My Tears Out to Dry
One for My Baby
It Was a Very Good Year
Here's to the Losers
Big Flirt Medley You Go to My Head
Something Stupid
Nice 'n' Easy
Young at Heart
Moon Medlev
Dindi
Wave
Dream
Moonlight Serenade
Fly Me to the Moon
Songs for Survivors
This Is All I Ask
I'm Gonna Live 'til I Die
That's Life
My Way
New York, New York (Reprise)
I'll Be Seeing You



My Way Directors

Martín Céspedes (Director/Choreographer) making his Weathervane directorial debut, he most recently directed and choreographed Smokey Joe's Café at Beck Center. He last appeared in the national tours of Man of LaMancha with Jack Jones and Ron Holgate where he completed over 300 performances in the role of Pedro; "Lun Tha" in *The King and I* with Hailey Mills, Marie Osmond and Faith Prince; South Pacific with Robert Goulet, and West Side Story with Bebe Neuwirth. Martin directed and staged the off-Broadway production of Scrooge and Marley and restaged Israel Horovitz's long-running production of Line at the 13th Street Repertory Company in New York City. He has danced in the nationally renowned Denver Dance Theater, performed in night clubs, and appeared on NBC TV's Dance Fever. His most recent opera credit was the lavish PBS production of Le Cid with Placido Domingo and the Washington Opera live at Kennedy Center, where he served as dance and fight captain. He has also taught theater dance for the School of Cleveland Ballet and performed in over 20 Cleveland Opera productions. He is on hiatus from work on the independent film Edition Project and the untitled documentary on the life of Benjamin Matthews filmed in New York City. His next theater projects include Five Guys Named Moe and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, Reefer Madness and Miss Saigon.

Margaret Knepper (Musical Director) is a woman of many talents -- an accomplished actress, singer, musician, director and costume designer. She has directed at least ten musical productions at Weathervane including the highly successful *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. She played on stage in *Sweeney Todd...* and *Fiddler on the Roof.* She is voice and flute instructor at Medina High School where she has directed its last five musicals as well as the school's show choir, The Encore Entertainment Company. Margaret was a music performance major at Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music with additional studies at The University of Akron and The University of Michigan. She has performed with the Cleveland Opera, Berea Summer Theatre, Goodyear Community Theatre, Greenbrier and First Night Akron.

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

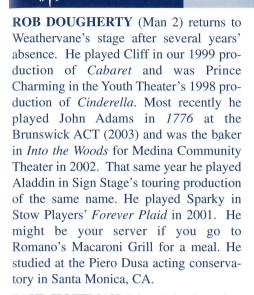
12.30 AM, May 14, 1998

I am sitting on the balcony of my San Francisco hotel room, tired of a grueling eight shows a week at the Golden Gate Theater. I can't sleep, missing home, staring out into the bay, TV on with the sound turned down. Through the glass doors, I catch a glimpse of a montage of clips: Frank Sinatra at the Paramount Theater, crowds of young women standing in line kissing his picture, Frank leaping in the air with Gene Kelly, Frank joking with the Rat Pack, Frank singing alongside everyone from Ella Fitzgerald to Elvis, Frank accepting his Oscar, Frank sitting next to John F. Kennedy at his inaugural ball, Frank dancing with Nancy Reagan and, finally, a frozen still picture of Frank, much older, with mike in hand, and underneath his picture, it reads: Francis Albert Sinatra 1915-1998. Putting the sound up, this from CNN: legendary performer Frank Sinatra has died of a heart attack in Palm Springs, California. Like a thunderbolt, I think of my best friend, Matthew, who loved this man's music like no other. With great effort, I called New York City. How can I say this? "Matt, Frank is gone, man" (pause)"but not the voice!" There was a long silence on the other side...

This past century provided us with great accomplishments, but few as lasting, as encompassing, as this human voice. We all know the story -- son of an immigrant, left for dead at birth, the down-but-not-out singer with ruptured vocal cords who mounted one of the greatest comebacks since Seabiscuit. Duke Ellington once said, "Sinatra was the ultimate theater." I say he was the ultimate story teller. Dean Martin said, "Its Frank's world, we just live in it!" Armed with nothing more than a drink in one hand, a song in the other, "so set 'em up, Joe, I've got a little story I think you should know." Voice tight as a fist, opening at the end of a bar. Like life, Sinatra didn't ride the beat of the music safely -- he rode around it, playing with it, splitting it -- musical geometry. Like Miles Davis, putting English on it and hitting it off the rail with great velocity into the corner pocket, sometimes so far behind the beat you would wonder if he would make it, yet before his cigarette ashes would hit the floor he would arrive, dressed, polished, with creases so sharp they could cut diamonds, and pathos neatly folded like a linen hankerchief in his breast pocket. This is the conundrum of Frank Sinatra -- left and right brain hardly talking, boxer and painter, first rate actor, first take actor, brash crooner, lion in winter, lover and father, troubleshooter and troublemaker, band man and loner, the singer that makes men poets, the champ who would rather show you his scars than his medals, the chairman of attitude. My Way... is not only a tribute to Sinatra, but to the composers that were lucky enough to have their words recorded by Sinatra. Just imagine the dusty trunks of music never given that chance. In the vernacular of the American musical scene, Sinatra endured the everchanging musical trends and styles by following his maxim "sing good songs." From I'll Never Smile Again to New York, New York, to the duet albums with current pop divas, he was the "big bang of popular music," singing the soundtrack of our lives. Frank Sinatra felt most comfortable around a piano bar at 2:00 AM, away from the trappings of the stage, leaning against a piano, hat angled skyward, lighting another cigerette, lighting another song. If My Way... can let you into this world, Frank's world, then simply get a drink, sit back and enjoy.

For Matthew, Happy Birthday.

Martín Céspedes, Director/Choreographer



PAUL HOFFMAN (Man 1) is pleased to be a part of this cast performing great songs recorded by Frank Sinatra. No stranger to cabarets, Paul spent two years touring with Winged Victory Singers, performing nightly in showrooms in the Catskills, Atlantic City and Miami Beach. Recently he was seen in Cain Park's Fiddler on the Roof and Beck Center's La Cage Aux Folles. Favorite roles include Cowboy Wrangler in Will Rogers Follies, Mitch in Nite Club Confidential, Max in June Moon and Rooster in Annie. He is a graduate of Cuyahoga Falls High School and studied theater at Chapman University, in California. He now lives in Cleveland.

MEG HOPP (Woman 1) played Martha Brewster in this year's Weathervane production of Arsenic and Old Lace. It's a character she knows well, having played Martha for the Brecksville Theatre on the Square in 1999. She previously appeared on our stage as Sylvie in The Odd Couple, Female Version. She also participated in Weathervane's patriotic musical review for the 2001 First Night events. Her favorite role is that of Miss Hannigan in Annie for Brecksville Theatre in the Square. She also enjoyed playing Carrie Pipperidge in Carousel and Mme. Ernestine von Liebedick in Little Mary Sunshine. Meg has a Bachelor of Arts degree from St. Norbert College, DePere, WI. She and her husband Steve have three children, Bridget, Libby and A.J., and a cocker spaniel named Maggie.

IKEYA MORNING (Woman 2) is a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy of New York City, presently living in Cleveland Heights. She has been involved in numerous musicals. Some of her favorites are Godspell, Lucky Stiff, and Ain't Misbehavin' for which she completed the national tour this past December. She sends "muchos" love and thanks to Mother, Granddaddy and Beanes! "Look, Ya'll, I'm dancin'!"

Psst...

Did you purchase single-tickets for this performance of My Way...? Are you a Weathervane subscriber yet?

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JILL FORSTER (Stage Manager) is a second generation Weathervaner with thirty years of active involvement at the Playhouse. She follows in the footsteps of her mother, Jan Michael, pianist and musical director for many years. Jill's talents lie backstage and she has won three Chanticleer Awards for lighting design. She has also kept track of finances for the early Youth Theater Program and later for the Women's Board. Jill is Director of Specialty Courts for the Akron Municipal Court and has a devoted and supportive husband, Jim. She holds degrees from The University of Akron in sociology and criminal justice. Jill dedicated her work on this production to the memory of her brother-in-law, W. Scot Sexton.

BETTY WILLIAMS (Costume Co-Design) has been a Weathervane volunteer for twenty-five years, including presidency of the Women's Board. She's also taken charge of the annual Piper Puppet Show scheduled for spring. Her most indelible mark has been on the Costume Department where she has been building costumes for so many shows that there simply isn't room to list them all. The new areas for costuming in the recent construction and the installation of the elevator have made sewing so much easier for Betty and her cohorts. Betty serves on many committees and can always be counted on to bring her special foods to any gathering.

DOROTHY KIES (Costume Co-Design) got involved in costuming when Betty Williams needed assistance and has a long list of credits for shows such as The All Night Strut, Brighton Beach Memoirs, Broadway Bound and Driving Miss Daisy. She won a Chanticleer for costume design for All the Way Home. Little Shop of Horrors was her last collaboration with Betty, but that doesn't mean she has

stopped costuming! Dorothy has seven daughters and 16 grandchildren. She learned cake decorating when her second daughter was married and she continues to turn out fabulous cakes whenever the occasion demands.

ERIN KATZ (Lighting Design) became interested in technical theater while a student at Copley High School. She was colighting designer for the Youth/Family production of Charlotte's Web and worked backstage on Stuart Little and Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. She has also provided lighting assistance for The Chosen, The Sunshine Boys and ...Forum. She was the winner of a Youth Recognition Award for her contributions to the Playhouse at a recent Chanticleer dinner. Erin begins her third year at The Ohio State University this fall where she is majoring in Hebrew and theater.

CHARLES J. KORECKI (Sound Design) designed lighting for Weathervane's The King of the Kosher Grocers, As Bees in Honey Drown, and The Wiz, as well as last season's production of Joseph.... He was on stage in the role of Audrey in Little Shop of Horrors. A graduate of Albion College, he is auditorium manager at Cuyahoga Falls High School.

JOHN RIAZI (Properties Design) likes to keep track of things. He did properties design for The Laramie Project last season. Professionally, he is a Kent State University graduate in Zoology and Chemistry and is director of New Product Development for Hygenic Corporation. He holds eight U.S. and foreign patents. His interest in theater also extends to Riverwalk Playhouse where he is a board member. John and Linda, his partner in love and crime, have three children.



Production Team Members & Crews

Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director

Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

SET CONSTRUCTION Ruth Richardson Tom Marshall Kevin Ford Donne Clark Spencer Burke John Keller Lee Lechner	Maureen Burns Addels Dan Jankura Tom C. Barnes	
COSTUMES Henrietta Cook Connie Velotta	PROPERTIES Linda Riazi Jan Michael	

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We miss you W. Scot.

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Marci Paolucci, gallery exhibit chairman, has gathered Sinatra memorabilia from a number of area collectors to present this splendid exhibition. **Denny Coyle**, Akron musician, vocalist, recording artist and actor, has provided LP record jackets from his personal collection. Roger W. Durbin, Ph.D., Associate Dean and Professor of Bibliography of the University Libraries of The University of Akron has provided some photographs from internet sources and an original piece of sheet music. The General Store Annex, located in Quaker Square, is lending a selection of reproductions of Frank Sinatra movie posters and some framed photographs of Sinatra that usually adorn their walls. The posters can be purchased from the store for \$12.00 apiece, Amanda Montigney attended the last Sinatra concert at the Richfield Coliseum and shares her program and a T-shirt (which you will find on the bust of Shakespeare in the lobby.) Larry Patch, northeastern Ohio vocalist and musician who is well-known for his Sinatra-style renditions of the "Old Blue Eyes" songbook, is lending album covers and other memorabilia from his collection. Mr. Patch is the business manager of the Cleveland Jazz Orchestra and has performed in concert with them. He has also performed at the Tri-C Jazz Fest with famous jazz musicians.





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Sun., Sept. 14 @ 7:00 p.m. (lobby)

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*Sundays at Seven: Salon Play Readings are held in Weathervane's lobby at 7 p.m. on selected Sundays with light refreshments and discussions following presentations. Free of charge. All welcome.

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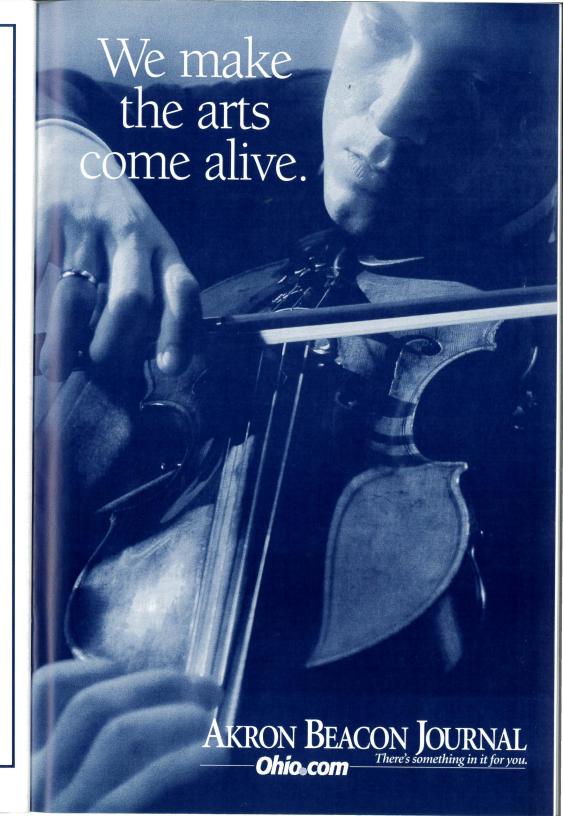
ART

by Yasmina Reza
Translated by Christopher Hampton
February 12 - 28, 2004

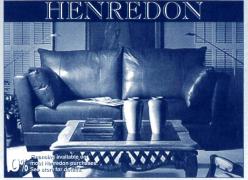
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by Agatha Christie May 6 - 29, 2004

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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.

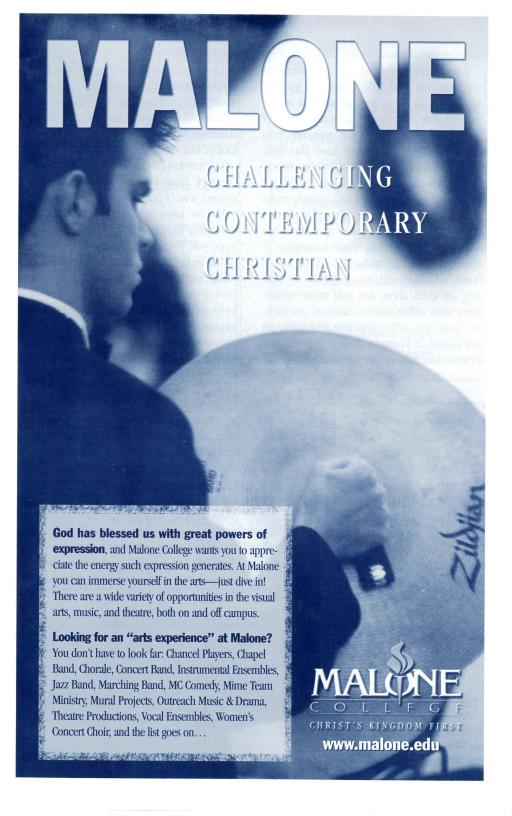
Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Shortly after the final production of each season, Weathervane volunteers and friends share an exciting party to acknowledge outstanding performances by performers and technical volunteers. 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.

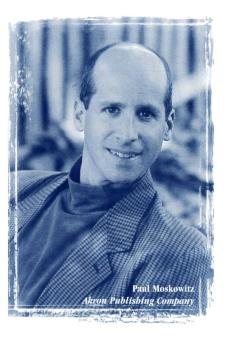
Awards are presented for outstanding lead performances by a male or female

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.





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Volunteer

Opportunities

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

NAME		
ADDRESS		
CITY	ZIP	PHONE
I am interested in the follow	ring areas: (Check as	many as you wish)
Acting	Costuming	Fund Raising
Set Building	Orchestra	Box Office
Painting	Sound	House Managing
Usher	Lighting	Play Reading/Selection
Backstage Crew	Classes	Board Membership
Other		
Best time to reach me	at the above phone n	umber
I am a subscriberI am a donor.		
I HAVE AN OPINION About tonight's play		

We appreciate, and often respond to, opinions offered about our work. Be sure to fill in your name and address above if you wish a response or would like to be contacted.



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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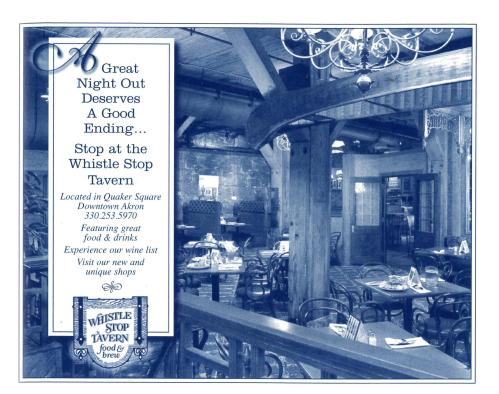
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Beware of the Dreaded No-Show

Have you ever seen empty seats at a *sold out* sporting event or concert? Weathervane has the same problem. Single-ticket buyers and 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). These subscription seats are held until intermission. This, additionally, makes it impossible to tell if a performance is ever really *sold out* and annoys 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. Thanks.

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 first Friday performances. We provide light snacks and 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.



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.

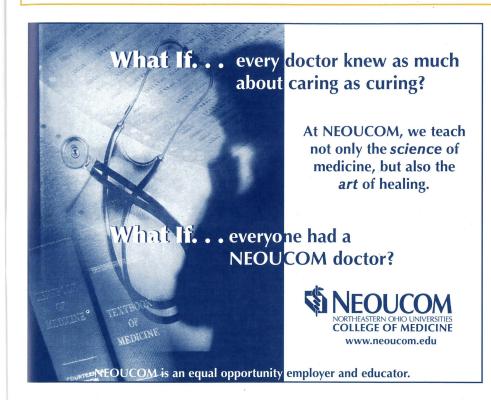
Many performers come with substantial theatrical experience. Others are new to the stage. Auditions are open to all and our non-traditional casting policy opens the way for many performance opportunities. Except in cases where race, gender, age or disability is essential to the play, all roles are cast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



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