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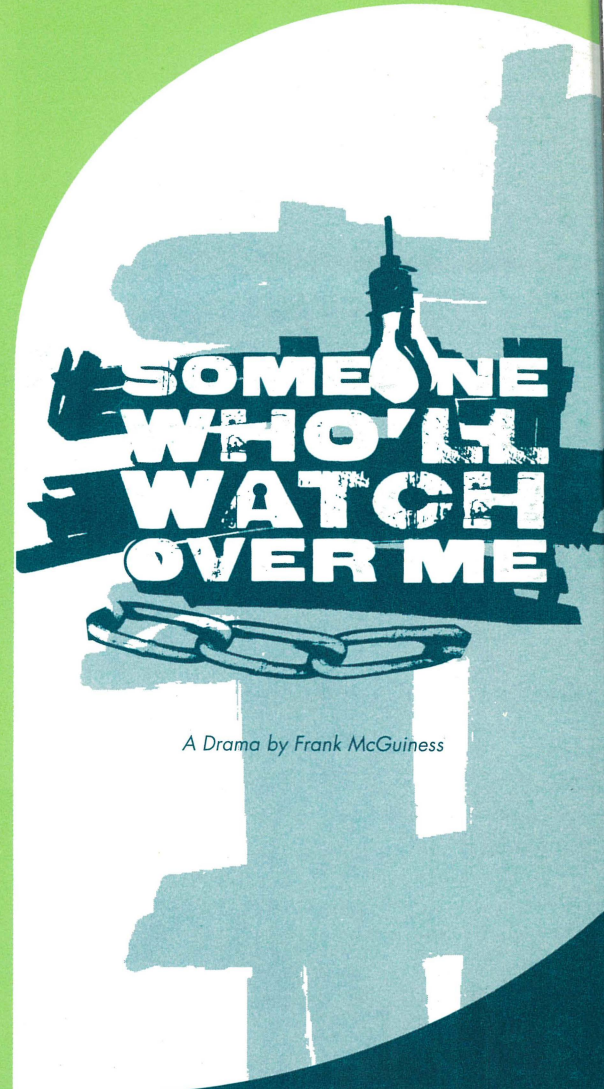
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Theater Production
Production No. 8

2007-2008



A Drama by Frank McGuiness

November 1 - 17, 2007



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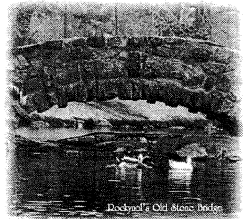


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The Frog Prince

Based on a tale by The Brothers Grimm
Book adapted by Donald J. Leonard, Jr.
Music & Lyrics by David Reiser
July 28 - August 12, 2007

I Do! I Do!

Musical by Harvey Schmidt & Tom Jones
September 5 - 23, 2007

The Lion in Winter

Drama by James Goldman
October 10 - 28, 2007

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me

Drama by Frank McGuinness
Underwritten by Margaret J. Dietz
November 1 - 17, 2007

Joseph and the

Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

by Tim Rice and Andrew Lloyd Webber
Nov. 23 - Dec. 15, 2007

Amahl and the Night Visitors

Opera by Gian Carlo Menotti
Support provided by The John A. McAlonan Fund of
Akron Community Foundation
December 15 - 23, 2007

Moon Over Buffalo

Comedy by Ken Ludwig
January 16 - February 10, 2008

Children of a Lesser God

Drama by Mark Medoff
February 20 - March 9, 2008

The Importance of Being Earnest

Comedy by Oscar Wilde
March 27 - April 6, 2008

Enchanted April

Romantic Drama by Matthew Barber
April 16 - May 4, 2008

And the Winner Is

Comedy by Mitch Albom
Underwritten by Margaret J. Dietz
May 14 - 31, 2008

Ragtime

Musical: Book by Terrence McNally
Music by Stephen Flaherty
Lyrics by Lynn Ahrens
June 4 - 29, 2007



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 times** vary from show to show. Always check your tickets carefully to note performance times.

❖ **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. Please feel free to write to Weatherlane to express your views and opinions about our productions. Send your comments to: *Executive Director, WCP.*

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♿ Weatherlane 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.



Youth Education

Weathervane offers professionally taught classes to children and teens in acting, musical theatre, dance and technical theater. This year we are offering an all new class on podcasting! Fall and spring classes are held on Saturdays, Tuesday evenings and Wednesday afternoons for home school students. Two-week Hands on Theatre (HOT) camps are offered throughout the summer as well as intensive one-week classes in musical theater and auditioning. We also offer a comprehensive two-week Summer Stock program for teens. Next summer, students will produce, design and stage a full production of *The Outsiders*, based on the book by S.E. Hinton. Partial scholarships are available for all classes.

Children and teens may also audition for roles in Young Actor Series productions. Parents and family members also have the opportunity to participate by volunteering to assist designers and working backstage.

Weathervane works with area schools by providing education outreach and student study guides as part of our Project STAGE program. This program brings public and private school students to see three productions each season. This season, *The Lion in Winter*, *Children of a Lesser God* and *The Importance of Being Earnest* will be featured in the Project STAGE events. Tickets are \$8.

For more information about classes or audition dates for the Young Actor Series, please call Melanie YC Pepe, Director of Education, at 330-836-2323x17.

Adult Classes

Professionally taught adult theatre classes this season include: **Audition Workshop** taught by Terry T. Burgler, **Acting at the Beginning** taught by Mark Moritz, **Comedy Science 101**, **Physical Storytelling**, **Introduction to Stage Combat and Swordplay for the Stage** taught by John C. Davis, **The BUSINESS of Voice Acting** taught by Joe Cali and **The ART of Acting** taught by Rohn Thomas. Look in the education brochure for more information on this season's classes.



Weathervane appreciates the continuing strong support of individuals, corporations, foundations and other donors who help finance the Playhouse'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 Playhouse. 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 Playhouse'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 Playhouse 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 Phillip Arnoult'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.



Ticket *Information*

*** Tickets** Purchase in person or charge by phone with Visa, MasterCard or Discover at 330-836-2626, Mondays 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Tuesdays through Fridays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and on performance Saturdays from noon to 5:00 p.m. or online at weathervaneplayhouse.com. *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.

*** 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.*

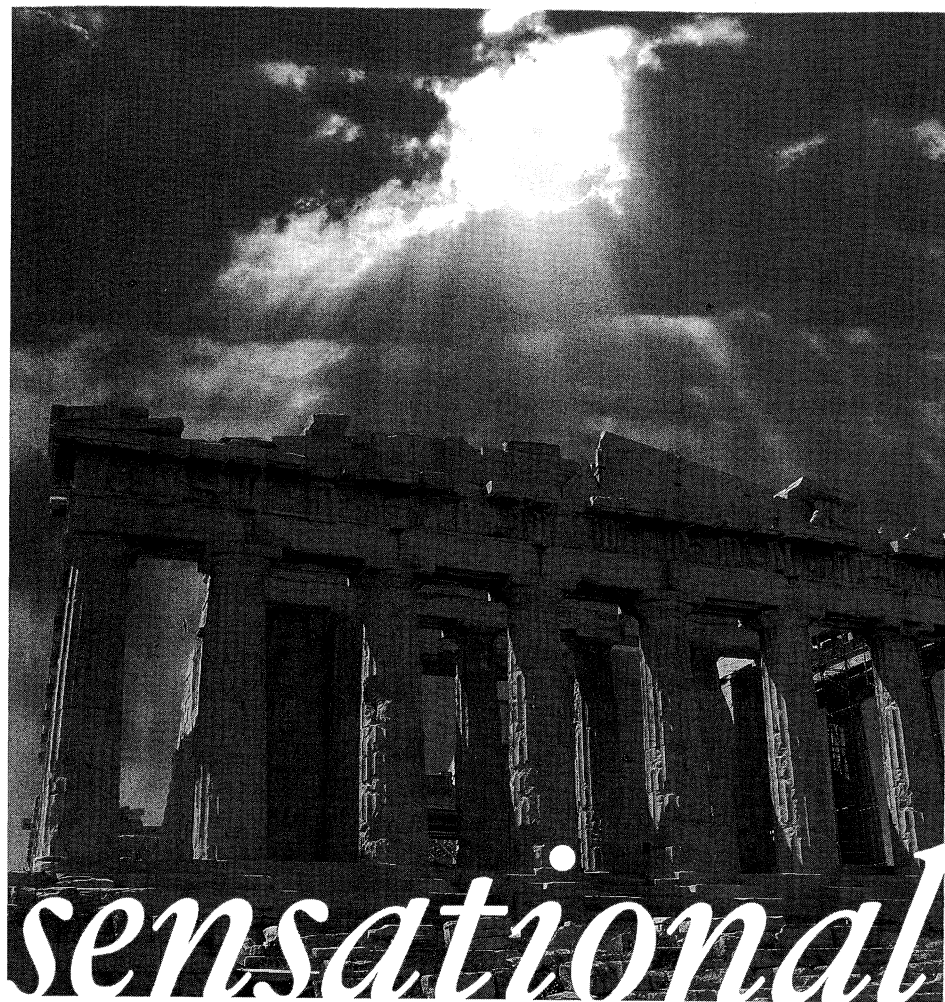
*** Student Rush Tickets** go on sale 30 minutes before curtain time for main stage performances only. Students with a valid ID may purchase any remaining tickets for half price. Rush tickets cannot be reserved in advance.

*** 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 Playhouse 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 Playhouse.

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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 workers. The Women's Board operates the Gift Boutique and Bank One Art Gallery.

New members are welcomed.

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In the Bank One Visual Arts Gallery

A reprise of the work of Alan Scott Ferrall covers his 10 years as scenic designer and technical director at Weathervane. With this historical retrospective, we are proud to honor his work and the work of more than 130 volunteers who helped transform Scott's ideas for the sets from the page to the stage.

Not only is Scott celebrating 10 years as a staff member, but also nearly 20 years of service to the Playhouse, as he started as a

volunteer in 1988 under the tutelage of the late John Thomas who was then our Technical Director.

In the 10 years that Scott has been on staff, he designed 90 shows himself and has been responsible for overseeing the construction of those plus five others. Some of his volunteers have been with him all 10 years. Kudos to all!

Marci Paolucci, Gallery Curator



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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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Our Generous Donors

Did you know that the average cost, per seat, to produce a Weathervane show is \$32.85? Thanks to the generosity of the following individuals, corporations and foundations, the cost of your seat is \$23 or less! We gratefully acknowledge their support.

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Akron Community Foundation, City of Akron, The GAR Foundation, Ohio Arts Council, State of Ohio, The University of Akron, Weathervane Women's Board

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Weathervane Community Playhouse gratefully acknowledges **The Sisler McFawn Foundation, Akron Community Foundation, OMNOVA Solutions Foundation,** contributions for Project STAGE presentations and Youth Outreach Programs.



From Our Executive Director

An Invitation to Trust

Stephen M.R. Covey writes in his book **The Speed of Trust:**

"There is one thing that is common to every individual, relationship, team, family, organization, nation, economy and civilization throughout the world - one thing which, if removed, will destroy the most powerful government, the most successful business, the most thriving economy, the most influential leadership, the greatest friendship, the strongest character, the deepest love.

"On the other hand, if developed and leveraged, that one thing has the potential to create unparalleled success and prosperity in every dimension of life. Yet, it is the least understood, most neglected and most underestimated possibility of our time.

"That one thing is trust."

Mr. Covey goes on to assert that being trustworthy and extending trust to others is not just a nice thing to do - something that Mom would be proud of - but something that relates directly to how effective an organization is in achieving its objectives and, in turn, to its overall success or failure. By working in an environment of trust, things get done quicker, people work more effectively and the result is that your chances of realizing organizational goals improve exponentially.

Weatherwane Playhouse is committed to having and promoting a culture of trust and I extend an invitation to all of you to join us as we build trust together in the years to come. In point of fact, you've extended the most tangible form of trust to us by buying a ticket and being here. You've entrusted us with two of your most important commodities - your time and your money. We take that very seriously and vow to work diligently to deliver our part - a fine performance and an enriching experience at the theater.

For trust to work, motives need to be made known and understood. There can be no hidden agendas. An organization needs to be "transparent". At Weatherwane, we have one motivating force: to improve peoples' lives. That's what we're after. How we've chosen to achieve that is through offering opportunities for people to be involved in theatrical productions and theater training programs, while always embracing our core values of excellence, respect, accountability, responsibility and openness.

From the commitment our Board of Trustees make to the Akron community to ensure the continuance and viability of Weatherwane Playhouse, to our commitment to you at every performance to provide a high quality, valued experience, we place trust at the pinnacle of what we strive for. Thank you for extending your trust to us - we vow to stay focused on always being worthy of it.

Sincerely yours,

John Hedges
Executive Director



Weatherwane Community Playhouse

*73rd Season - 2007-2008 - Dietz Production #7
November 1 - 17, 2007*



Drama by
Frank McGuinness

Generously underwritten by
Margaret J. Dietz

Direction by **Jim Fippin**

Scenic Design/Technical Director
Alan Scott Ferrall

Stage Manager
Robyn Cooper

Lighting Design by
Buddy Taylor

Properties Design by
Jerry Mirman, Jr.

Sound Design by
Judy Willemsen

Costume Design by
Benjamin Rexroad

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me is produced by special arrangement with
Samuel French, 45 West 25th Street, New York, N.Y. 10010-2751.

Weatherwane productions are sponsored in part by



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



About the Play & Playwright

Someone Who'll Watch Over Me takes place in a basement in Beirut, Lebanon. Three men -- an Irish journalist, an English academic and an American doctor -- are kidnapped and held hostage by Arabs. As they fight for survival, they engage in a battle of wits to overcome their nationalistic resentments and personal differences. The play originated at Hampstead Theatre in 1992 and starred Alec McCowen, Stephen Rea and Hugh Quarshie (with James McDaniel taking over in its eventual New York production). It then transferred to the West End's Vaudeville Theatre for a seven-week run from September to October in 1992. The original New York production ran for 232 performances from November of 1992 to June of 1993 at New York's Booth Theatre. It was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play of the 1992-93 Broadway season (but it lost to *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches*). Also, Stephen Rea, who played Edward, was nominated for the Tony Award for Best Actor in a Play, and he also won the 1993 Theatre World Award for his performance.

About the Playwright

Frank McGuinness was born July 29, 1953 in Buncrana in the Inishowen Peninsula, County Donegal in the Republic of Ireland. He was educated locally and at University College Dublin. He first came to prominence with his play, *The Factory Girls*, but established his reputation with his play about World War I, *Observe the Sons of Ulster Marching Towards the Somme*, which was staged initially in Dublin's Abbey Theatre and then internationally. It won numerous awards including the London Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright for McGuinness. McGuinness has also written new translations of classic dramas, including works by Anton Chekov, Bertolt Brecht and Henrik Ibsen. In addition, he wrote the screenplay for the film *Dancing at Lughnasa*, adapting the stage play by fellow Irishman Brian Friel. McGuinness' first poetry anthology, *Booterstown*, was published in 1994. Several of his poems have been recorded by Marianne Faithfull, including *Electra*, *After the Ceasefire* and *The Wedding*. McGuinness previously lectured in the University of Ulster and the National University of Ireland, Maynooth. He is now a writer-in-residence lecturing at University College Dublin.



Next on Our Stage



TWO Shows for your holiday enjoyment!

Both great for the entire family...

This year we take you from the Old Testament with *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*
November 23 - December 15



to the New Testament with a story centering on the birth of Christ with *Amahl and the Night Visitors*
December 15 - 23

And a January comedy!



by Ken Ludwig

Moon Over Buffalo
Jan. 16 - Feb. 10

Annual Scholarship Luncheon
Sat., Jan. 26
Lunch 1 p.m. - Show 2:30 p.m.



Someone Who'll Watch Over Me -- Cast

Edward **Greg Bealer**
Adam **Dane Lee**
Michael **Richard Worswick**

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

In the John L. Dietz Theater

Once Weathervane had a theater to call its very own on Copley Road in the 1950s, the wish/need for another smaller "black box" theater surfaced. A goal of the Capital Campaign of 2000 was to add new classrooms for the theater's numerous children's programs. The campaign raised \$1,750,000 and provided a two-story addition. New classrooms became a reality as well as the installation of a fly system over the stage.

One of the classrooms was sponsored by **Margaret J. Dietz** and named in memory of her 12-year-old son, **John L. Dietz**. This space became the "black box" theater so long awaited. John was a sixth grader at Akron's Rankin School at the time of his death in 1971 following an auto accident. A darling boy with a passion, even at that age, for play-acting, he had just finished playing a clown in a youth theater production of *Aesop's Fables*.

Angels in America: Millennium Approaches was the inaugural presentation held in Weathervane's new "black box" theater. Running from Jan. 23 to Feb. 5, 2005, the Pulitzer Prize-winning play was directed by Sean McConaha.

Parallel Lives: The Kathy and Mo Show by Mo Gaffney and Kathy Najimy (July 28 - 30 and Aug. 4 - 6, 2005) was the next production for the Dietz Theater. *Angels in America: Millennium Approaches* was remounted Nov. 10 - 19, 2005, as a preface to Part Two: *Perestroika* presented May 18 - June 3, 2006. Then came *Fat Men in Skirts* in collaboration with Just Life and Company, July 28 - Aug. 6, 2006.

During the 2006-2007 season we presented Jason Robert Brown's contemporary musical, *The Last Five Years* and Michele Lowe's, *String of Pearls*. And, now, *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me*.

***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 theater.**

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



About Our Director

Jim Fippin has been acting, directing and otherwise engaged in theatre in north-east Ohio for more than 20 years. He has appeared on stage at Porthouse Theatre, Weathervane Playhouse, Coach House Theatre and with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival. His acting resume includes roles in *King Lear*, *Twelfth Night*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, *Another Antigone*, *The Lion in Winter*, *The Odd Couple*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Real Thing*, *Macbeth* and *Custer*. As the Artistic Director of Coach House Theatre, Jim staged productions of *Chapter Two*, *Betrayal*, *Last of the Red Hot Lovers*, *Art*, *Private Lives*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* and *A Life in the Theatre*. In 2005 he was recognized by the Akron Area Arts Alliance as the area's Outstanding Theatre Artist. Jim earned his Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre from Otterbein College, where he met his wife Elaine (in the scene shop no less!). Together they live in Wadsworth with their daughter, Emelie.

Director's Notes

So, when someone would ask me what I was working on, and I told them the title of this play, the standard response was, "Oh, so it's a musical." And I would say, "No, it's about three guys being held hostage in a basement in Lebanon." To which the response would be some variation of, "Oh, so it's depressing?" That struck me as strange, since what moved me about the play was a sense of joy. Somehow, these three men -- taken captive, stripped of their liberty, their dignity, their basic privacy and living under the daily threat of death -- realize a common faith in each other that slipped the bonds of politics and religion. They discover that there are indeed "watchers over us," and that we have been entrusted with a watch of our own. This is the road that Adam, Edward and Michael must take - past suffering, humiliation and fear to find their own and, therefore, our common human bond.

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

August -- **Sue Smith**
September -- **Dan Jankura**

Weathervane's Professional Staff

John Hedges - Executive Director
Janis L. Harcar - Dir. of Advancement
Keith Campbell - Dir. of Audience Dev.
Melanie Y.C. Pepe - Dir. of Education
Alan Scott Ferrall - Scenic Designer
Barbara Trotter - Volunteer Coordinator
Lisa Mansfield - Patron Services Manager
Dreajean L. Brown - Data Services Mgr.
Kathryn A. Kohl - Assistant Technical Dir.
Benjamin Rexroad - PR/Outreach Assist.



Cast Callboard

GREG BEALER (Edward) This is Greg's second production at Weathervane. He was first seen in *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* several seasons ago. Other credits include *Guilkenstern in Rosencrantz and Guilkenstern Are Dead*, Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Ralph Clark in *Our Country's Good* and, most recently, Dogberry in *Much Ado about Nothing*. Greg thanks his friends and family for their love and support.

DANE LEE (Adam) is a Junior Computer Information Major at Kent State University. He recently spent his summer months performing at the Ohio Shakespeare Festival as an Aggie/Cowboy in *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, Antipholus of Syracuse in *A Comedy of Errors* and The Clown in *Othello*. He is amazed that he has been given this opportunity and thanks everyone involved in this

production for being incredibly supportive. Dane would like to give his love to his family and friends for always encouraging his work.

RICHARD WORSWICK (Michael) was most recently on the Weathervane stage as Geoffrey Duncan in *The Sisters Rosensweig*. In addition to his work as a model for commercial, industrial, print and voice-over advertising, he has taken on roles at several local theaters. For Weathervane, he played Selsdon in *Noises Off*; Andre Donay in *The Dinner Party*; Lord Edgar, Jane Twisden and the intruder in *The Mystery of Irma Vep*; several characters in *The Laramie Project* (which won an OCTA Award for ensemble playing) and Reuben Malter in *The Chosen*, for which he won a Best Actor Chanticleer. He chaired Weathervane's 2005 Gala and hosted a dinner for last year's TheaterFest.



Backstage Callboard

ROBYN COOPER (Stage Manager) was Properties Designer for *I Do! I Do!* and Sound Co-Designer for our Young Actor Series production of *The Frog Prince* with her son K-San. Just before that, she was a crew member for lights, sound and props for *The Full Monty*. In *String of Pearls*, she was the voice of Sister Susi and co-designer for costumes and props. She is part of Torque Improv and performs Tuesdays at Cleveland Jams Improv.

BUDDY TAYLOR (Lighting Design) is originally from Florida and has just completed his fifth season with the Ohio Shakespeare Festival. Last season, he designed lights for *A Murder Is*

Announced and *Custer*, and stage managed for *Hay Fever*, all at the Coach House Theatre. Buddy is also currently designing lights for *Oh Coward!* at Coach House.

JERRY A. MIRMAN, JR. (Properties Designer) stage managed this season's opener, *I Do! I Do!*, designed lighting for *Fences* and stage managed *The Sound of Music*, playing the Baron as well. Jerry has been active in theater for the last 20 years, appearing on Weathervane's stage in *Major Barbara*, *A Cry of Players*, *Man of La Mancha* and *1776*. In the 2005-2006 season he stage-managed *Tale of the Allergist's Wife*, served as assistant stage manager for *Noises Off*, stage managed



Backstage Callboard Continued

Over the River and through the Woods, designed lights for *Lend Me a Tenor* and sound for *Crowns*. He is serving on our Production Board as chairman of properties. When Jerry is not at Weathervane, he is a police, fire and 911 dispatcher for Copley Township.

BENJAMIN REXROAD (Costume Designer) See listing under Professional Staff.

JUDY WILLEMSSEN (Sound Designer) celebrates her 20th year at Weathervane

with a Chanticleer for *The Full Monty*. Previously she won sound Chanticleers for *Translations*, *The Piano Lesson* and *My Three Angels* and Chanticleers for stage managing *Harvey* and *The Laramie Project*. She is also on the Production Board representing stage managers. She most recently designed sound for *The Lion in Winter*.

ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/ Technical Director) See listing under Professional Staff.

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Minx Design -- Graphic Designer

Tiffany's Bakery -- Opening Night Cakes

Margaret J. Dietz -- 07-08 Dietz Productions

Summa Hospitals Foundation --

Ragtime

Akron Community Foundation -- Project STAGE

The John A. McAlonan Fund of ACF -- *Amahl and the Night Visitors*



Production Team Members & Crews

Alan Scott Ferrall -- Technical Director

Kathy Kohl -- Assistant Technical Director

SET CONSTRUCTION

Ruth Richardson

Todd Dieringer

Justyn Jaymes

Kevin Ford

Erin Katz Ford

Tom Marshall

Jennifer Maxson

SOUND

Matt Weaver

Thanks to Our Hard-Working Volunteers

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

Meena & Puru Agrawal

Patrice Bechtol

Mary Blazewicz

Connie Bowen

Karen Burridge

Gail & Len Cheslock

Henrietta Cook

Wendy Cooley

Thelma Coss

John Cotter

Margaret Dietz

Helen Fleming

Jill Forster

Marilyn Heagerty

Janet Heilmeier

Dave Heltebran

Nancy Humes

Carol Krueger

Leslie & Richard Lund

Nancy Mahoney

Mitzi Mild

Sheila Motter

Lois Murray

Barbara O'Connor

John O'Neill

Marci Paolucci

Melanie Pepe

Jean Questel

Bess Raines

Ruth Richardson

Connie Seiberling

Lois Simmons

Sue & Richard Smith

Ethel Soudry

Barbara Trotter

Helen Tschantz

Helen Vari

Connie Velotta

Linda Waite

Mary Wolfman

Gen Woods

Elizabeth Young

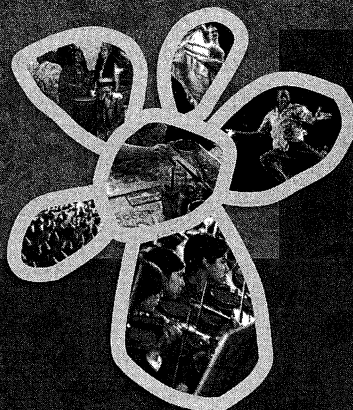
B.J. Zeigler

Nancy Zeigler



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JOHN HEDGES (Executive Director) has an extensive background in professional theatre as an artist and an arts administrator. As Managing Director of First Stage Milwaukee, John led the theatre's expansion and growth while doubling its annual operating budget to \$1.3 million. John has been Associate Producer of North Shore Music Theatre, Business Director of Gloucester Stage Company, Managing Director of the Maine Stage Company and General Manager of New York's award-winning Pearl Theatre Company. He has served on the Board of Directors of Boston's StageSource, chaired their Strategic Planning Committee and been a conference panelist for the American Alliance for Theatre and Education and has written for *American Theatre* magazine. He is an alumnus of Indiana State University, the Professional Theatre Training Program at the University of Delaware and holds an honorary MFA in Theatre from Stafford University in England.



JANIS L. HARCAR (Director of Advancement) holds a Master of Arts degree in Arts Administration from The University of Akron and a Bachelor of Science degree in Music Education from Kent State University. She has been on staff since 1993. She served Weathervane as Interim Executive Director during the 2006-2007 season. She was the recipient of Weathervane's Trustee Award in 2003 and 2007. She is a proud mother of two and "Grammy" of two!



ALAN SCOTT FERRALL (Scenic Designer/Technical Director) began at Weathervane under the tutelage of John R. Thomas. 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, The Players Guild, Cleveland Signstage and Channels 45/49. Scott has earned five Chanticleer Awards -- one as stage manager for *Fences*, the others as lighting co-designer for *A Man for All Seasons* and *The Full Monty* and lighting designer for *The Laramie Project* and *A Lesson Before Dying*. He enjoys writing the end-of-the-season revue for The Not-Ready-for-Mainstage Players who appear at our annual Chanticleer Awards Dinner.



MELANIE Y.C. PEPE (Director of Education/YAS Producer) holds a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree from Kent State University. She has been teaching at Weathervane since 1998 and has served as the supervisor of our City of Akron-sponsored Neighborhood Playhouse program. She served as Development Associate for our Capital Campaign for two years. Melanie also does work in make-up design and has worked with NEOUCOM, College of Medicine; Blue City Productions and Firestone High School's Visual and Performing Arts Program. She lives in Akron with her husband, Christopher, and three children; Jude, Xavier and Calista.



KEITH D. CAMPBELL (Director of Audience Development) holds a B.A. degree 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.



BARBARA TROTTER (Volunteer Coordinator) holds a Master of Arts degree in Communications from the New York Institute of Technology. She teaches speech and communication courses at Stark State College of Technology in North Canton. Barb began volunteering with Weathervane Community Playhouse in 2000, working backstage on props crews. She designed costumes for the productions of *Arsenic and Old Lace* and *Proof*, both in 2003 and was costume coordinator for *Angels in America: Part II, Perestroika* in May 2006. In 2007, she designed lights for our Dietz production of *String of Pearls*. A member of the Weathervane Women's Board, Barb lives in Akron.

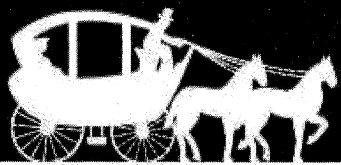
LISA MANSFIELD (Patron Services Manager) holds a B.A. degree in Secondary Education with a concentration in English and History from the University of Akron. A stay-at-home mom since 1994, Lisa continues to be active in the community serving breastfeeding mothers through La Leche League and volunteering at Children's Hospital. The Akron Beacon Journal named Lisa a "Woman of Excellence" in 2005 for her service to military families. A stage actress in high school, Lisa is excited to return to one of her first loves, the theater. She lives in West Akron with her high school sweetheart, and now local TV anchor, Eric Mansfield, and their three sons, Joshua, Jacob and Teddy.

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 Chanticleers for her properties co-design of *The Philadelphia Story* and her properties design of *The Sisters Rosensweig*. Kathy served as Resident Master Carpenter and Master Painter for the Theatre Department at Firestone High School for six years. She lives in West Akron with husband Doug in their recently empty nest.

DREAJEAN WASHINGTON-BROWN (Data Services Manager) holds a M.S. degree in Technical Education and a Bachelor of Science degree in Education from The University of Akron. 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 and Carestone at Mt. Zion in Jonesboro, GA.

BENJAMIN REXROAD (Public Relations and Outreach Assistant) is frantically trying to finish his B.A. degree in Theater at The University of Akron. He continually works in arts venues across northeast Ohio including E.J. Thomas Hall, Carousel Dinner Theatre and Weathervane Playhouse. Weathervane is always finding new uses for Ben, first as a behind-the-scenes volunteer, then as House Manager and, of late, as an instructor in the Education Program. He has recently been hired by Coventry High School, his Alma Mater, to direct the shows for their drama department. In July, Ben was nominated for the Arts Alive! Award in the Rising Young Star/Leadership category.



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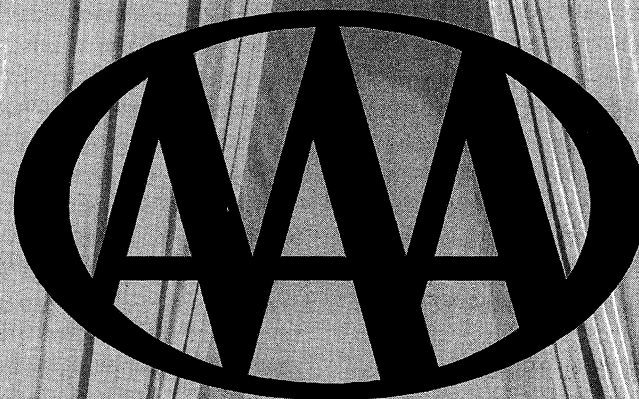
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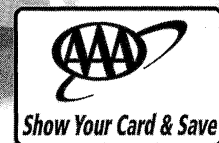
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Volunteering at Weathervane

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, Advisory 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 life-enriching opportunities for all involved.

Share the Annual Chanticleer Celebration

Let's talk Chanticleer! Shortly after the final production of each season, Weathervane volunteers, subscribers and friends share an exciting awards show and party to acknowledge outstanding work by performers and technical volunteers. And, if you have seen all of the six Mainstage productions, you are eligible to be a judge!

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

Awards are presented for outstanding lead performances in a drama or comedy, outstanding lead performances in a musical, outstanding featured and sup-

porting performances in a drama or comedy, outstanding featured and supporting performances in a musical and outstanding achievement in sound design, lighting design, properties design and costume design. The final award of the Chanticleer evening goes to the Best Production of the season.

In addition to performance and technical awards, the event also recognizes the Top 25 outstanding volunteers of the season, who represent all the volunteers whose time and talents create the memorable theater experiences of every Weathervane 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!



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! In addition, you receive complimentary tickets to see the shows plus the pride in knowing you are joining nearly 1 million volunteers nationwide to support community theater! 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 selling tickets 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.



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 Playhouse 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. So, don't be discouraged and please audition again.

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.

Proud To Support Weathervane Community Playhouse

Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease LLP
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Suite 1100
Akron, Ohio 44308

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Vision Statement

The Akron-Summit County Public Library is recognized locally as an essential community asset and nationally as one of the finest public libraries in the United States due to its excellent customer service, collaborative community involvement, and high level of customer and employee satisfaction.

Mission Statement

The Akron-Summit County Public Library provides resources for learning and leisure, information services, meeting spaces, and programs for all ages that support, improve, and enrich individual, family, and community life.

Core Values

Excellence

Striving for excellence in all we do.

Service

Providing service that is dynamic, responsive, and respectful of our customers, colleagues, and co-workers.

Learning

Fostering life-long learning and individual enrichment.

Integrity

Operating with the highest level of honesty and respect for staff, community, and library resources.

Innovative Thinking

Encouraging innovative thinking as a means for addressing needs and challenges in order to improve the library.

Inclusion

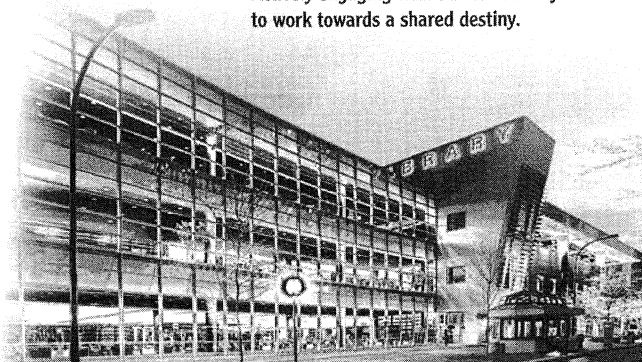
Working together and listening to customers and staff.

Diversity

Embracing and respecting diversity in our community, collection, services, and staff.

Community

Actively engaging with our community to work towards a shared destiny.



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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

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZIP _____ PHONE _____

E-Mail Address _____

I am interested in the
following areas:
(Check as many as
you wish)

_____ Usher

_____ Classes

_____ Backstage Crew

_____ Fundraising

_____ Costuming

_____ Box Office

_____ Acting

_____ Orchestra

_____ House Managing

_____ Set Building

_____ Sound

_____ Play Reading/Selection

_____ Painting

_____ Lighting

_____ Board Membership

_____ Other _____

_____ Best time to reach me at the above phone number _____

_____ I am a subscriber.

_____ I am a donor.

I HAVE AN OPINION...

About tonight's play _____

About the current season _____

About future seasons _____

I have a fund-raising idea. _____

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.