



The Fifth Annual
8x10 TheatreFest



July 10 - 12, 2015

The 2015 8x10 TheatreFest

(8 plays, 10 minutes each!)

There will be one 15-minute intermission.

Act I

MAKE-UP

By Joe Lauinger

Directed by Brian Westerley

MY SECOND PLAY

By Heath Robertson

Directed by Meg Hopp

MR. BASSETT

By Gerald Williams

Directed by Adam and Patti Alderson

PASSING THROUGH

By Chris George

Directed by Brandi Eaton and Melanie Pepe

Act II

BLACK FRIDAY

By Jennifer Tromble

Directed by Ian Haberman

RIDE SHARE

By Stanley Brown

Directed by Richard Worswick

ONE MAN SHOW

By Jason K. Melby

Directed by Brian Westerley

SIRENS

By Suzanne Hodsden

Directed by Scott K. Davis



MAKE-UP

By Joe Lauinger

Directed by Brian Westerley

Playwright

This is Joe Lauinger's second appearance at the 8x10 TheatreFest. His play *The Silver Bullet* was performed here in 2012. Among his full-length productions, *The Pie Dialogues*, under the title of *Dawn and Sean*, won Best Play at the Dayton Ohio Playhouse FutureFest 2007 and was produced in 2009 by the Main Street Theater in Houston, Texas. It is published in Best Regional Plays 2011 by Level Four Press. Joe is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

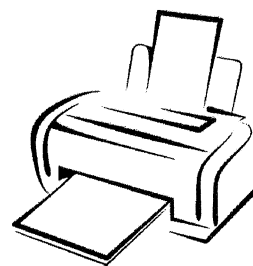
Director

Brian Westerley has lived and worked in Ohio as well as Los Angeles. He directed the world premieres of *The Day I Said Goodbye & Shark Tank* by Jason Melby. He has written and directed the plays *Caught Up in a Moment*, and *Denial is Not a River in Egypt*. A winner of numerous acting and directing trophies, Brian most recently directed *Other Desert Cities* for Wolf Creek Players -- which made it to the state OCTA (Ohio Community Theatre Association) competition after picking up six other awards at the regional level.

Cast

Sue Jeromson (She) is happy to be returning to the 8x10 TheaterFest for the fourth year, and to have moved up in the animal kingdom from mayfly to dragon to human. She'd like to thank the talented playwrights for the privilege of performing their works.

Richard Worswick (He)
See Director, *Ride Share*



MY SECOND PLAY

By Heath Robertson

Directed by Meg Hopp

Playwright

Heath Robertson lives in Fairbanks, Alaska, where he teaches sixth grade at Denali Elementary School. He has been active in local theater for many years as an actor, educator and director. Earlier this year, Heath wrote his first 10-minute play which was selected to be read at a festival in Fairbanks. This got Heath all excited, so he wrote another play for this playwright festival, and now he is thrilled to have Weathervane Playhouse produce his second effort. Heath has a wonderful 19-year-old son who attends the University of Alaska Fairbanks in the winter and fights forest fires in the summer.

Director

Meg Hopp is pleased to be making her directorial debut and thoroughly enjoying her first 8x10 experience. As an actress, you may have just seen her as Aunt Eller in Weathervane's musical production of *Oklahoma!* Or maybe you saw her in this season's British comedy, *Relatively Speaking*, or last summer's *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*. Oh heck, you probably saw her somewhere. "Thanks to Eileen for her advice and support, thanks to Heath Robertson for coming from Alaska to see his play come alive, and thanks to hubby Steve for being so understanding."

Cast

Mason P. Shuman (Mark) returns to Weathervane for what he calls "My Second 8x10 Festival." When not acting, he can be found playing music in various forms, teaching Spanish at KSU or, most enjoyably, chasing after his two young sons. He thanks his amazing wife, Kim, for supporting his creative endeavors.

Jay Sigler (Will) is pleased to be performing in the 8x10 TheatreFest. He was last seen in *Oklahoma!* (Will Parker). Other favorite shows include *Forever Plaid* (Sparky), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Robert Martin) and *Honk!* (The Cat). He thanks everyone involved with the TheatreFest and congratulates the authors for being chosen!

Kyla Williger (Kelly) is thrilled to be returning to the 8x10. Credits include Hudson Players' *Spamalot*, Weathervane's *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, North Canton's *Avenue Q* and Stow's *My Way*. A Stow native and double alumna of OSU, she practices law at Williger Legal Group to support her theater addiction. Much love to all who enable her.



MR. BASSETT

By Gerald Williams
Directed by Adam
and Patti Alderson

Playwright

Gerald Williams recently returned to live in his native Canada after spending 25 years working in Asia, where he was the artistic director of a community theatre in Japan and a professor of education. Since living in Vancouver he has begun exploring story-telling through film and has recently taken up the task of sitting down and writing regularly. This is the first of his works performed in the United States, and he recently had plays accepted in festivals in Japan and Canada. He hopes Mr. Bassett only exists on stage, and is not a reflection of anyone who may read this.

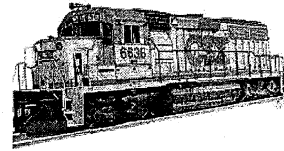
Director

Adam and Patti Alderson are excited to be directing their second 8x10 play together. Patti has been involved in various aspects of theater production in the Cleveland area, particularly Stocker Center at Lorain County Community College. Adam has acted and directed in community theaters, high schools and summer camps across northern Ohio. He was on stage this season in Weather-vane's *Relatively Speaking* with fellow 8x10 player Meg Hopp. Patti and Adam will celebrate their 10th anniversary this September. They live in Stow with their five-year-old son, Alex.

Cast

Brian Westerley (Ron)
See Director, *Make-Up*

Beth Gaiser (Laura) is delighted to make her Weather-vane debut. She's been active in the performing arts for most of her life. Memorable roles include Maggie in *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, Mary in *Jake's Dilemma* and Berta in *Boeing, Boeing*. But her favorite role is being "Mom" to her five amazing children. She dedicates this performance to her late father Raymond. "Dad, you have the best seat in the house."



PASSING THROUGH

By Chris George
Directed by Brandi Eaton
and Melanie Pepe

Playwright

Chris George is dyslexic. He has managed to compensate for the frustrations of the disorder by forcing himself to read and write voraciously. In addition to writing, he is a high school freshman English and theatre teacher. He, his wife of 25 years, and their two boys live in Houston, Texas. When asked where his ideas come from, Chris simply says, "I write to stay sane. I get stuck on one idea and it grows and grows in my head until I have to get it out through writing." *Passing Through* is the latest thing to escape Chris' head.

Directors

Brandi Eaton won First Place at the 2014 8x10 TheatreFest and stuck around to be a first-round judge and co-direct this year. She thanks her co-director, Melanie, and their wonderful cast for an amazing experience. And, as a change of pace, she will be appearing onstage in the 10x10 Festival at Chagrin Valley Little Theatre July 24 - Aug. 15.

Melanie YC Pepe holds a B.F.A. from Kent State University, where she now serves on the School of Theatre and Dance Advisory Board. She is working on her graduate certificate through Cornell University. She would like to thank her co-director and talented cast for working on *Passing Through*!

Cast

Adam Alderson (Byron)
See Director, *Mr. Bassett*

Eula "Bill" Roberts Jr. (Dan) is excited to be involved in TheatreFest after his Weather-vane debut in this season's *Crazy Man*. A retired firefighter/paramedic, Bill has lately discovered acting and enjoys exploring the different facets of theater production. A community organizer/advocate for safer neighborhoods and schools, Bill volunteers as a youth mentor with non-profit youth and family organizations. He and wife, Vanessa, co-direct a children's choir and share 31 years of marriage and three adult children.



BLACK FRIDAY

By Jennifer Tromble

Directed by Ian Haberman

Playwright

Ms. Tromble is a native of North Tonawanda, New York, who graduated from the University of New York at Buffalo with a B.A. in English and a love of theater. She's only recently begun writing for the stage, and her play *The Importance of Finding Ernie* was a finalist in Alleyway Theater's 2015 Maxim Mazumdar New Play Competition. Ms. Tromble is a regional editor for an events website and is thrilled to be a part of Weathervane's 8x10 TheatreFest.

Director

Ian Haberman began his involvement with Weathervane in 1982 when he was cast in a production of *The Royal Family*. Since then he has acted in about 25 different plays and musicals, designed and run sound for a number of shows, and directed several plays in previous incarnations of the 8x10 TheatreFest. Ian is a member of Weathervane's Board of Trustees and recently served as its Interim Artistic Director. Outside of Weathervane, Ian is a lawyer in Medina.

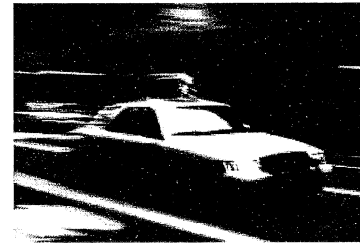
Cast

Meg Hopp (Margaret)

See Director, *My Second Play*

Rachel Gehlert (Page) is elated to once again be a part of Weathervane's 8x10! She was recently onstage at Weathervane in *Unnecessary Farce* and *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)*. Other credits: *The Book Club Play*, *A Girls Guide to Coffee* (Actors Summit Theater), *Move Over, Mrs. Markham* (Stow Players), *Tigers Be Still* (Dobama).

Alex Nine (Franklin) is thrilled to be working with Brian Westerley and Ian Haberman (but mostly Brian Westerley.) Having seen Brian perform before, Alex had the privilege to direct him last year in *Deadly Murder*, and looks forward to benefiting from his directorial tutelage. Alex would also like to thank Eileen Moushey and all of the other talented people who aren't Brian for their hard work on the festival.



RIDE SHARE

By Stanley Brown

Directed by Richard Worswick

Playwright

Stanley Brown is a Hollywood, California native who, after producing and writing numerous documentary TV series and specials, is currently pursuing acting, playwriting and directing for the theater. He's a member of the North Hollywood community theater company ELATE and a member of the Los Angeles Alliance of Playwrights. He and his wife, Deborah, recently celebrated 30 years of marriage in the same year their daughter, Stephanie, graduated cum laude from St. Joseph's College in Brooklyn, New York. He resides in West Hollywood, California with his wife and dachshund, Sadie. "Thanks to everyone at Weathervane Playhouse!"

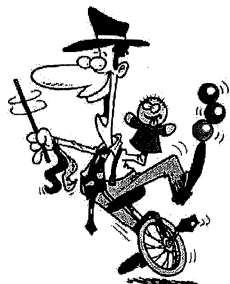
Director

Richard Worswick is very excited about making his Weathervane Playhouse directorial debut in the 2015 8x10 TheatreFest. He is happy to be collaborating with the talents of Brian Westerley and Sue Jeromson in *Make-Up*. Richard has been seen at Weathervane in *A Delicate Balance*; *Amadeus*; *Breaking the Code*; *The Goat, or Who is Sylvia*; *Someone Who'll Watch Over Me* among many, many others. He has performed at Coach House Theatre; Ohio Shakespeare Company; non too fragile theatre; Dobama Theatre; Charenton Theatre Company; the Bang and the Clatter Theatre; and The Cleveland Play House. He lives in Bath with his husband, John, and Great Danes, Apollo and Baachus.

Cast

Tom Barnes (Bill) has performed in numerous productions throughout the Akron area. He was most recently featured in the Wadsworth Theatre Company's production of *It's a Wonderful Life*, which he also co-directed and designed sound. He was last seen on Weathervane's stage in *Man of La Mancha* and *Ragtime*.

Amanda Layman (Jane) is delighted to participate in this year's 8x10 TheaterFest. Amanda recently returned to Akron after teaching English in South Korea. This fall, she will begin a graduate program at The University of Akron. She would like to thank Richard Worswick and Tom Barnes for this opportunity.



ONE MAN SHOW

By Jason Melby

Directed by Brian Westerley

Playwright

Jason K. Melby is a screenwriter/novelist living in Los Angeles, California. A Los Angeles native, Jason has been writing for over 15 years and published over 10 novels under the name "Darren Sloan," optioned two scripts, and produced several staged productions. He still lives and creates in La La Land, where he is currently working on a short film project, among other things. He hopes to add more to his resume in the coming years, so stay tuned.

Director

Brian Westerley

See Director, *Make-up*

Cast

Scott K. Davis

See Director, *Sirens*

Alex Nine (Edgar)

See Cast, *Black Friday*

Meg Hopp (Rachel)

See Director, *My Second Play*



SIRENS

By Suzanne Hodsdon

Directed by Scott K. Davis

Playwright

Suzanne Hodsdon is the winner of the 2012 Carol and Elton Holman Screenwriting Prize and a finalist for the 2014 Jack Dyer Fiction Prize. An Akron native, Suzanne cut her theater teeth at Weathervane, attending plays and youth programs. After a summer in London studying alongside the Royal Shakespeare Company and three years teaching English as a Second Language and drama in Eastern Europe, she returned to Ohio and earned an MFA in fiction writing from Bowling Green State University. She now works as a freelance writer, is the author of several plays and screenplays and is currently working on a novel.

Director

Scott K. Davis is thrilled to be returning for his fourth consecutive year as actor and director for TheatreFest. It is always a high point of his theatrical year getting to participate in this international festival. He is honored to be able to help bring these shows to life for the very first time. Thanks go out to friends, family, playwrights and of course the audience for making this event so great!

Cast

Jo McGarvey (Ellen) has been involved since the beginning of TheatreFest when she directed and performed with two of her sons. Another year she performed double duty again by directing and acting in *The Bingo King*, which was the first place winner in 2012. Last year and this, she's limited herself to acting, which is her first love. Besides TheatreFest, Jo has been seen on area stages for over 30 years, most recently in Coach House Theatre's production of *The Foreigner*.

Joshua Rowe (Percy) has worked as an actor in Canton, Peninsula and Canal Fulton, and he couldn't feel more honored for the privilege of working with this great group of people. "Special thanks to Matthew King and my director, Scott Davis. Also a HUGE thanks to everyone still supporting the arts."

Eula "Bill" M. Roberts Jr. (Albert)

See Cast of *Passing Through*

Production Staff

Curt Arnold (Production Stage Manager) is a Cleveland-based actor, director and stage manager. He happily returns to Weathervane, where he has directed *The Sisters Rosensweig*, performed in *Sweeney Todd* and in *Annie* as Rooster (for which he won a Chanticleer Award as Best Supporting Actor in a Musical), and staged managed most prior 8x10 festivals. Since 2003, he has directed and co-produced Weathervane's annual musical benefit for Community AIDS Network/Akron Pride Initiative. This year's CANAPI production is *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens* on Monday, August 24.

Karen Burridge (Properties Designer) is back again this year, still crabby and reminding directors that there is "no set." We threatened her with decaf and it calmed her down -- well, that and we all jumped in and helped move set pieces. When she's not hanging around Weathervane, Karen is hanging around WSTB FM 88.9's "The Sunday Oldies Jukebox." If she would just take up golf she could spend more time with husband Patrick. Although giving her a club is probably not a good idea.

Stephen (Sound Tech) and Eileen Moushey (TheatreFest Coordinator and Sound Tech) recently celebrated their 41st anniversary, which is amazing when you consider that not only have they designed sound together approximately 538 times but they have also wallpapered together almost totally free of screaming invectives. Sound designs include Weathervane's *Tuna Christmas*, *See How They Run*, *Charley's Aunt* and, most recently, *Relatively Speaking*. Wallpapering includes two bathrooms, three bedrooms and a living/dining room that was so hideously garish it could be seen from the moon and started showing up on Google maps. They stripped it less than six months after it was hung and have, thereafter, stuck with paint, mostly blue.

Jonathon Hunter (Lighting/Technical Director) did not feel like writing a bio, but, rest assured, he did the work. He is Weathervane's Technical Director.

Playhouse Staff

Lisa Mansfield, Managing Director

Melanie Y.C. Pepe, Artistic Director

Todd Dieringer, Director of Marketing & Technology, Volunteer Coordinator

Sarah Bailey, Director of Education, Resident Director

Dane CT Leasure, Education Coordinator, Literary Manager

Alan Scott Ferrall, Resident Technical Director and Scenic Designer

Keith Campbell, Director of Audience Development

Aimee Lambes, Patron Services Manager

Jonathon Hunter, Technical Director

Kathy Kohl, Assistant Technical Director

Jasen Smith, Resident Costume Designer & Shop Manager

Justyn Jaymes, Special Events Coordinator, Advertising Sales

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The 5th Annual 8x10 TheatreFest was
made possible, in part, by the generosity
of Frank C. Comunale.

Special Thanks to our
First-Round Judges


Adam Alderson	Meg Hopp
Patti Alderson	Matt King
Frank C. Comunale	William Morgan
Ron Cuirle	Pat Petipas
Scott K. Davis	Linda Ryan
Brandi Eaton	Thomas M. Stephan

From TheatreFest Coordinator, Eileen Moushey:

My sanity over the past five years, such as it is, was salvaged by the soothing presence and calming influence of Keith Campbell, not to mention the huge amount of work he contributes to the project. There wouldn't BE an 8x10 if it wasn't for his steady, constant, behind-the-scenes efforts. And advice and friendship. And his always reliable sense of humor.

Thank you, Keith-O-Rama.


Eileen



2015-2016 Season

Peter Pan July 31 - Aug. 16, 2015	Clybourne Park Jan. 14 - 31, 2016
Hair Sept. 3 - 20, 2015	The Lyons Feb. 4 - 14, 2016
Dracula Oct. 1 - 18, 2015	To Be Announced Feb. 25 - March 6, 2016
Ordinary Days Oct. 29 - Nov. 14, 2015	The Man Who Came to Dinner March 17 - April 3, 2016
A Christmas Carol: The Musical Nov. 24 - Dec. 20, 2015	Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike April 21 - May 8, 2016
The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee Dec. 3 - 19, 2015	Monty Python's Spamalot June 2 - 26, 2016

Meg Hopp, Abbey Kane, Jonathan Gruch in *Oktoberfest* (2014-2015 season)



Weathervane
— PLAYHOUSE —

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