



Pippi

Longstocking



April 12 - May 12, 2013



Autism Friendly - April 27 at 10 am
American Sign Language Interpreted - May 10 & 12
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April/May 2013

Dear Theatre-goer,

It has been a treat to revisit one of my favorite childhood books about the girl with fiery red braids in this colorful and fast-paced adaptation of **Pippi Longstocking**. Our production represents an exciting expansion of WFT's long-standing commitment to nontraditional casting, featuring an actor who is Deaf and a dancer who is Deaf-Blind. WFT's Pippi enters a "perfect" village, where creative expression and any departure from what is considered "normal" are discouraged. Her expansive world view helps the once narrow-minded villagers embrace diversity—and all the joy and richness it brings to their lives. I hope you will be charmed and amazed by Pippi, as reimagined by WFT's creative designers and talented cast.

It is with great pleasure that I announce our 2013-2014 season, our 33rd year of producing dynamic and inclusive professional theatre for every generation.

a delightful adaptation of J.R.R. Tolkein's classic fantasy adventure

THE HOBBIT

October-November 2013

the smash Broadway musical comes to WFT

HAIRSPRAY

January-February 2014

the East Coast premiere of Grace Lin's award-winning novel

WHERE THE MOUNTAIN MEETS THE MOON

April-May 2014

All of next season's protagonists—Bilbo, Tracy, and Minli—dare to dream big and strike out into new territory. Join us to see what they discover!

Best wishes,

Wendy Lement

Wendy Lement, Producer

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Sirena Abalian (*Pippi*) is more than thrilled to be back at WFT. She was last seen on this stage as Ruby Gillis in *Anne of Green Gables*. Other credits at Wheelock include *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* (Grammy), *Winnie-the-Pooh* (Roo), *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* (Oompa Loompa), and *Ramona Quimby* (Commercial Girl). Sirena was recognized for her performance as Jojo in WFT's *Seussical* with an IRNE Award for Most Promising Performance by a Child Actor. She has performed with Stoneham as Clara in *Nutcracker* (IRNE nomination for Best Young Actor), Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Young Eponine/Young Cosette in *Les Misérables*, and Lola in the musical *13*. Other theatre credits include Lee Bouvier in *Grey Gardens* at Arlington Friends of the Drama and Fern in *Charlotte's Web* at BCT. She has also done a radio ad for the Department of Health. Sirena would like to thank the amazing crew, cast, Kristin, Jane, Wendy, and her lovely family for their endless support! Tiddliepom and Piddlieday!

Kortney Adams (*Teacher*), a native of St. Louis, MO, has been working as an actor, director, and teaching artist in Boston since 2002. Recent projects include *Harriet Jacobs* and the world premiere of *From Orchids to Octopi* (Underground Railway); *Doubt* (Gloucester Stage); *Almost, Maine* (VTP); *After Mrs. Rochester* (IRNE for Best Supporting Actress, Wellesley Summer Theatre); and the role of Barbara Demarco in the long-running hit *Shear Madness*. Recent films include *The Makeover*, *R.I.P.D.*, and *The Proposal*. Kortney previously appeared in WFT's *Aladdin*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, and *Snow White*, and is a teaching artist in WFT's Education Program. She's also had the privilege of working for the past 9 years with Wendy Lement and Theatre Espresso. She is honored to have the opportunity to work with both Wendy and WFT again.

Kianna Barrett (*Town Kid*) is 12 years old and in the 6th grade at Pierce Middle School. This is her 7th play and her 2nd production at WFT. She enjoys singing, art, swimming, volleyball, writing, and hanging out with her friends. Kianna has been dancing jazz, ballad, and tap for 9 years. She is currently in the school drama club and chorus. Credits with the Pierce Players include *When in Rome* and (coming up in May) *Hello, Dolly!* Love to her mom, dad, brothers, and godfather, Willie, and big thanks for their support through this adventure.

Samil Battenfeld (*Town Kid*) is thrilled to be in his 5th production at WFT, where he has appeared as a baby spider in *Charlotte's Web*, a slave of the lamp in *Aladdin*, a Munchkin and monkey in *The Wizard of Oz*, and Percy in *The Miracle Worker*. He has also performed as Lyncoya in *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson* (SpeakEasy). Samil, a 5th grader at the J.W.Hennigan School, is into gaming just like his best friends Jackson Elwell, who recently played an orphan in *Oliver!*, and Sam Hiserodt. He also loves drawing, reading, playing the violin, and playing with his pet hamster. He REALLY hates getting attacked by his pet cat.

Diana Bauer (Town Kid) is a 5th grader at the Martha Jones Elementary School in Westwood. She takes dance classes, rides horses, and skis. Diana has two standard poodles named Bella and Joey.

Sofia Anais Beals (Town Kid), age 9, is excited to be making her debut in a professional production. She looks forward to a long career of plays and musicals. Sofia lives in Arlington with her family and is currently being home schooled, which allows her to be involved in all of her favorite extracurricular activities. She attends the Boston Ballet School, takes art classes and piano lessons, enjoys horseback riding, and studies foreign languages. Since she started talking and walking, Sofia has loved to perform in front of an audience and knew that she would like to be on stage someday. Thanks to her mom, dad, and sister Annabella for all of their love, support, and encouragement.

Margaret Ann Brady (Thunder) is SO happy to be back with WFT, after a turn as the villainous Sea Witch in 2011's *The Little Mermaid*. Most recent credits include *The Lily's Revenge* (ART), *The Full Monty* and *42nd Street* (Stoneham), and productions with Ryan Landry's Gold Dust Orphans, New Rep, SpeakEasy, Lyric Stage, and Apollinaire. She has taught at Merrimack Theatre's Young Artists at Play (YAAP) summer theatre program and serves as a judge for the MA Educational Theatre Guild's Drama Festival. You can also find her out on the Freedom Trail inhabiting the patriot landlady Mrs. Mary Clapham. Margaret Ann is a proud member of StageSource, the New England Alliance of performers and producers; Actors' Equity Association; and SAG/AFTRA. She currently serves on the StageSource Board of Directors and as clerk of its Executive Committee, as well as on the board of Zeitgeist Stage.

Grace Brakeman (Annika), a 10th grader at the Dana Hall School, is delighted to be back at WFT, where she was last seen in the title role in *Annie* (IRNE nomination). Her other credits here include *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Scout), *Winnie-the-Pooh* (Piglet), and *Charlotte's Web* (Fern). Other favorite theatre credits include *Footloose* (Ariel), *The Music Man* (Ethel Toffelmier), *Cats* (Rumpleteaser), and *Legally Blonde* (Delta Nu/Greek Chorus). Grace sings with the Dana Hall Chamber Singers, who recently won first place at the TABS national a cappella competition. When not acting, she loves to dance at Paulette's Ballet Studio and to do aerial circus arts such as trapeze, silks, and lyra. She sends a big thank you to her entire family for the endless support and to her WFT family and mentors for the amazing opportunities.

Georgia Branger-Klein (Town Kid) is excited to be returning to the Wheelock stage for her 4th production. She has been seen here in *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Other acting credits include work with the Charlestown Working Theater and the North End Music and Performing Arts Center, as well as a commercial for Boston Medical Center. Georgia is in 4th grade at the Advent School in Boston. In addition to acting, she competes in swimming and softball. Thanks to everyone at the WFT for these amazing experiences.

Will Christmann (School Kid) is an 8th grader at the Ottoson Middle School in Arlington. He is very excited to be back on the WFT stage. Past performances here include *Honk!*, *Aladdin*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Will has also performed in WFT's summer youth intensive production of *Dear Edwina*. He takes tap and ballet classes at Deborah Mason School of Dance. Thanks to his family and the cast and crew of *Pippi Longstocking*.

Alba Clarke (Town Kid) was born 10½ years ago in Barcelona, Spain, and her first language is Spanish. She has also lived in Arizona and Mexico. In 2007, she moved with her parents and sister to Exeter, NH. She attends Shore Country Day School in Beverly, MA, where she enjoys social sciences most. Alba loves singing, reading, traveling with her family,

skating, climbing, snorkeling, writing, and playing with her cat Lucca. She takes piano lessons and sings all the time, currently with NE Conservatory Children's and Chamber Choirs. Alba's first role was a Munchkin in *The Wizard of Oz* at the Leddy Center in NH. She gets her acting practice playing all the characters in pretend games with her little sister Claudia (who is always the protagonist).

Laurel Conrad (Choreographer) is honored to be returning for her 10th year and 11th season at WFT—where she has had the fortune to choreograph all of WFT's musicals and, occasionally, to perform. Her work here has earned her two IRNE Awards for Best Choreography for *Seussical* and *Will Rogers Follies*. Love to Jane and Sue to whom she is very grateful for the incredible chance to work with an amazing theatre company and wonderful people, creating a second family for her. Also, much love to Molly, Nyssa, and the love of her life, Mario, for their support and encouragement. xoxo

Karina Cowperthwaite (School Kid), a 6th grader from Dover, is thrilled to be making her WFT debut. Her passion for the stage began at age 4 with dance and she has performed in several classical ballets, including the *Nutcracker* for 4 years at the Walnut Hill School for the Arts. Karina recently played Louise in her middle school production of *Carousel*. Credits include a Munchkin and a Jitterbug in the *The Wizard of Oz* at Open Fields and *Heidi* at the Center for the Arts in Natick.

John Davin (Klang) was most recently seen here as the Wizard in *The Wizard of Oz* and as the Genie in *Aladdin*. He is not playing Pippi in *Pippi Longstocking*.

Ricardo Engermann (Bloom) is happy to be working with WFT again, where he has performed in *The Wizard of Oz* (Scarecrow), *The Little Mermaid* (Timothy), *Winnie-the-Pooh* (Rabbit), *The Phantom Tollbooth* (Tock), and *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* (Wilson). Other credits include SpeakEasy's *Take Me Out* (Davey Battle) and *Our Lady of 121st St.* (Balthazar). Ricardo has also had the pleasure of appearing in *Hamlet* with Boston Theatre Works (Horatio); Commonwealth Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* (Borachio); Stoneham's *As Bees in Honey Drown* (Photographer); the Lyric's *Lobby Hero* (William), *Old Settler* (Husband Witherspoon), and *The Liar* (Philiste); and Gloucester Stage's *50 Years of Caddying* (Chip Eastern) and *One Under* (Xavier).

Lindsay D. Garofalo (Production Stage Manager) is very excited to be returning to WFT for her 5th season as stage manager. Some of her favorite shows that she has been a part of are *Les Misérables*, *Seussical*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Sound of Music*, *Noises Off*, *Macbeth*, *Honk!*, and *Living Out*. During the day, Lindsay is a Kindergarten SEI teacher at Graham and Parks School. A big thank you to her family for always supporting her, and to Dan for always keeping her calm.

Dina Gorelik (Town Kid) is very excited to make her debut at Wheelock. She is 11 years old and attends Burr Elementary School in Newton. Dina most recently performed in *Antiphony* (Insignific Ant) with North Cambridge Family Opera and in *Guys and Dolls* (Big Jule) with Turtle Lane Summer Workshop. She has been performing with Family Opera for the past 5 years, and with the Turtle Lane Summer Workshop for the past 4 years. She also sings in the Handel and Haydn Society Youth Chorus. Dina would like to thank her family and friends for their support.

Hiroshi Irizarry (Town Kid) is a 7th grader at Day Middle School in Newton. He has appeared in several productions here, including *The Wizard of Oz*, *Aladdin*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*. Hiroshi enjoys karate, dance, tennis, music, video games, and watching action movies. His favorite subjects in school are science, history, and math.

(continued on page 6)

WHO's WHO (continued from page 5)

Elbert Joseph (Horse/Town Kid) is happy to be back at Villa Villekulla for another romp with an extremely talented, fun, and beautiful cast. He is glad to be part of Wendy's directorial debut at WFT. Recent credits include Lady Pink Slipper in *The Lily's Revenge* (ART) and many roles in *Arabian Nights* at Central Square. Follow your dreams and you CAN! Thanks and love to everyone who stays in his life and to the WFT staff!

Juliann F. Khirallah (Town Kid) is in the 3rd grade at Newman Elementary in Needham. She enjoys school (Mr. Saksik is her favorite teacher) and loves geography and math. Juliann also enjoys swimming, dance, and spending time with her family and friends. She has a dog named Scooby and a rabbit named Harriet.

Matthew T. Lazure (Set Designer) has designed sets for Gloucester Stage (*Carnival*); KidStage at the Boston Children's Museum (*It's All in the Cycle*); the Gold Dust Orphans (*Medea*, *All About Christmas Eve*, and *Peter Pansy*); Provincetown Theatre (*Santaland Diaries*); and Pee Wee Players of Provincetown (*The Alp-solutely Amazing Adventures of Heidi* and *Alice in Wonderland*, A Musical Curiosity). His set designs for WFT include *Oliver!*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *Honk!*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *The Secret Garden* (Elliot Norton nomination). Matthew's costume designs have been seen on the WFT stage in *Beauty and the Beast*, *Peter Pan*, *Saint Joan*, and *Snow White* (IRNE nomination). A Mass College of Art graduate, he shows his fine art in Boston, Provincetown, and online at matthewlazure.com.

Wendy Lement (Director), WFT's new producer, is thrilled to be making her directorial debut here with such a talented cast, production staff, and crew. She is also Artistic Director of Theatre Espresso, a touring educational theatre company—now in residence at WFT—which won both a National Endowment for the Arts award and a NE Theatre Conference "Excellence in Theatre" award in 2012. Wendy was a Professor of Theatre at Regis College, where she directed over 30 productions, including: *Dancing at Lughnasa*, *The Importance of Being Earnest*, *The Good Woman of Setzuan*, *Goodnight Desdemona (Good Morning Juliet)*, and *Steel Magnolias*, which won a Moss Hart Award. Her production of *The House of Bernarda Alba* won the 2000 NE Region's American College Theatre Festival, sponsored by the Kennedy Center. She has written and directed numerous plays for Theater in the Open, including *Woman with the Red Kerchief* (selected for the 2010 NE Russian Theatre Festival), *Salem's Daughters*, *King George III vs. Ruth Blay*, *Dolphins: The Myth of Persephone*, and *The Legend of the Christmas Rose*. Her play *Keri Tarr: Cat Detective*, based on her children's book (Breakaway Books 2004), premiered at Harwich Junior Theatre and won the American Alliance for Theatre and Education's 2002 Unpublished Playreading Project. She is co-author of *And Justice for Some: Exploring American Justice through Drama and Theatre* (Heinemann Press 2005), and wrote a chapter entitled "Theatre-in-Education as a Catalyst for Civic Dialogue" for the 3rd edition of *Learning Through Theatre* (Routledge 2013). Wendy holds a Ph.D. in Educational Theatre from New York University.

Mark Linehan (Larsson) returns to Wheelock Family Theatre for his 3rd production, having previously appeared in *Honk!* and *Seussical*. His most recent Boston credits include George Bailey in *It's a Wonderful Life* and Minnesota Slim in *Lumberjacks in Love* (Stoneham), Officer Stone in the world premiere of *Cupcake: A New Musical* (GBA Productions), and Homer Collins in *Floyd Collins* (Moonbox). He has also appeared in *Hairspray*, *The Music Man*, and *Mame* (Reagle); *42nd Street*, *The Nutcracker*, and *The Good*

War (Stoneham); *Romeo and Juliet* and *Crazy for You* (Fiddlehead); *Follies* (Lyric Stage, NextDoor Center for the Arts); *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas* (Foothills); and *The Last Five Years* (New Rep, BroadwayWorld Award, Best Actor in a Musical). Mark holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Emerson College. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association. Mark lives in Malden with his wife Amanda. www.marklinehan.com.

Marjorie Lusignan (Props Mistress), a native of RI, is happy to be back for a 5th season at WFT. She continues to create things beyond her wildest expectations and to share her skills and talents with young people as a member of WFT's Education Program faculty.

John R. Malinowski (Lighting Designer) has been lighting WFT productions since 1997. Highlights include: *Aladdin*, *A Tale of Two Cities*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Peter Pan*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Winnie-the-Pooh*, *The Good Times Are Killing Me*, and *Kiss Me Kate*. Since 1985 he has designed over 250 productions in NE and worked for almost every professional theatre company in the area. Under the direction of Wendy Lement, John designed sets and lights for *Pippin* at Regis College. He has received 3 IRNE awards (most recently in 2006, for lighting *Kiss of the Spiderwoman* at SpeakEasy). In 1996, he received an Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Designer and, from 2000-2002, he was an NEA/TCG Design Fellow. He is currently the Production Supervisor at the Harvard Dance Center.

Kiran Maypole (Town Kid) is in 6th grade at Brown Middle School in Newton. Last summer, she enjoyed taking classes here and performing with WFT's Story Troupers. During the school year, she sang with her school chorus and the Brown Tones, an a cappella group. Kiran also performed in her school's production of *The Mikado*. She is excited to be making her WFT debut!

Melissa Miller (Costume Designer) is a visual artist whose works most recently appeared in the group show "Sacred Earth...The Artist's View" at the Atelier Decorative and Fine Art Gallery in Greenport, NY. She worked at the Metropolitan Museum of Art as a textile conservator, and has designed for the Light Opera Company of Manhattan, the Harwich Junior and Winter Theatres, and WFT. Her credits here include *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Watch on the Rhine*, *Superman*, *Holiday Stories*, *Cinderella*, *Beanstalk*, *Peter Pan*, *Androcles and the Lion*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Holes*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Aladdin*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. She lives in NYC with her children, Harry and Josie.

Roger J. Moore (Sound Designer) has been employed by CBS Radio – Boston for over 20 years and is currently the Assistant Production Director and commercial voice of 98-5 *The Sports Hub*. Roger's featured on various local, regional, and national radio spots and also enjoys freelance video production. Since 2004 he has worked with Ryan Landry and the Gold Dust Orphans as Stage Manager and Sound Designer (*Mildred Fierce*, *Phantom of the Oprah*, *Death of a Saleslady*). Roger has been a part of WFT's "family" since 2008.

Adrianna Kathryn Neefus (ASL Interpreter) is thrilled to be back at WFT. She interpreted previously in WFT's *Oliver!* and *Anne of Green Gables*. Other credits include the national tour of *War Horse* and performances with Boston Landmark Orchestra. Adrianna graduated from the UNH in Manchester. She sends love and thanks to her family and interpreting team.

Shea Miller Novello (Town Kid) is a 4th grader at the Driscoll School in Brookline. She is delighted to return to the Wheelock stage, having appeared in *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. When she is not acting, Shea is a gymnast, snowboards, and plays tennis and baseball. Thanks to Mom, Dad, and Mimi for all of their love and support.

Cliff Odle (Captain Longstocking, Strong Man) is honored to be appearing in his 4th Wheelock show. Previous credits here include *Oliver!* (Mr. Sowerberry, Dr. Grimwig), *Saint Joan* (Robert, Executioner), and *A Tale of Two Cities* (Jarvis Lorry). Recently, he was seen in *RACE* as Henry Brown (New Rep) and as Kent in *Vacancy* (Elemental). Other credits include *Passing Strange* as The Narrator (New Rep); Mr. Prothero/Uncle Jim in *A Child's Christmas in Wales* (Gamm); Henry Evans in *The Good Negro* and Pontius Pilate in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Company One); Voice 1/Snoreal in *A Blessing and a Curse* (Spiced Wine); and Fred/State Cop in *Brendan* and Mister in *King Hedley II* (Huntington). Cliff is also a playwright and a director. Some of his works performed include *The Delicate Art of Customer Service*, *Running the Bulls*, *Motel Therapy* (Boston Theatre Marathon), and *June Rembrandt* (Stony Hill Players). His directing credits include *The Cook*, *Amadeus*, *Agnes of God*, *The Colored Museum*, and *Suburbia*. Cliff holds an MFA from Boston University in Playwriting. He is currently an adjunct professor of theatre at UMass Boston, where he will direct the first-ever UMass Student Playwright's Festival this spring. He is also a founder of both the New Urban Theatre Laboratory (NUTLab) and the Annual Jersey Voices Festival, now celebrating its 14th year. Cliff hopes that his work will serve as an inspiration to his children, GEM and C.C.

Charlotte Palmucci (Town Kid) is thrilled to be back on the Wheelock stage. She is an 8th grader at the Heath School in Brookline. Last seen at WFT in *The Miracle Worker*, she has also appeared as Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Starbuck in *Moby-Dick*, and Mike Teavee in *Willy Wonka*. Charlotte takes dance at Brookline Academy of Dance and voice lessons at Brookline Music School. Thanks to the staff at WFT for giving her this opportunity and to all her past directors who have helped her along the way. Charlotte would also like to thank her friends and family for supporting her.

Zoë Leah Parkin (Town Kid), a 2nd grader at Cambridge Montessori School (CMS), is thrilled to debut in *Pippi*. Since moving here from India a year ago, Zoë has thoroughly enjoyed classes at WFT. Other favorites include ice skating, reading, and snorkeling. Zoë thanks all the fabulous teachers at WFT and CMS!

Arianna Hart Reith (Town Kid), age 10, attends school in Brookline and is an avid reader and swimmer. She enjoys being a member of her school's student council for the second year in a row and helping out at home with absolutely everything. She recently played "The Entertainer" for a piano recital and has performed in numerous plays and even a couple of films since the age of 5. Arianna is adored by her family, including her mom, dad, two siblings, and her dog, a black and white boxer named Liberty.

Nejma Reza (Town Kid) is a happy 2nd grader at Newton Montessori School making her stage debut. She performed tap and ballet at Regis College with Joanne Langione's Dance Center and piano recitals with the Music Teachers Collaborative. Nejma enjoys reading, gymnastics, dancing, and travelling. She lives in Newton.

Hanna Schneider (Audio Describer) worked for many years in many capacities at WFT, and continues to help out whenever she can from her home on Cape Cod. Past credits here include: *Aladdin*; *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*; *Beanstalk*; *Pippi Longstocking*; *Hello, Dolly!*; *Stuart Little*; *The Hobbit*; and *Once Upon a Mattress*. Credits at Woods Hole Theater include *Boomtown* and *Rocky Horror*. Hanna is a Wheelock College alum, a preschool teacher, and the mother of Ben and Beth.

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WHO's WHO (continued from page 7)

Donna Sorbello (Mrs. Prysselius) is delighted to be back at WFT, having playing Marmee in *Little Women* several seasons ago. NE theatre credits include roles at the Huntington, Commonwealth Shakespeare, Shear Madness, Lyric Stage, New Rep, NSMT, Nora, and Reagle. Donna has just appeared as Serafina in the staged readings of *Rose Tattoo* at TAW (CT). Other credits include Amanda in *Private Lives* (Sharon Playhouse); Mad Agnes in *The Drunkard* (13th St, NY/ Coachlight); and Evie, touring, in *Stop the World I Want to Get Off* and Pat Nixon in *Fight Song* at the Gene Frankel. Some favorite roles include Ana in *Clean House* (New Century), The Woman in *Unexpected Man* (Gloucester Stage), Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie* (Palace and Harborfest), Judith in *Hay Fever* (Mt. Holyoke), and Lady (*Orpheus Descending*, IRNE Award). Recently seen on *The Makeover* as salon owner Eysse, Donna has also appeared on film and TV in *Invention of Lying*, *The Brotherhood*, *Tax Day*, *See Kate Run*, *Mulberry Tree*, and *Haichiko*. Apart from articles written for the NE Film and AEA Newsletters, Donna writes plays which have been produced at the Boston Theatre Marathon, Priscilla Beach Theatre, and Equity Library Theatre at Lincoln Center. She teaches acting and playwriting and is a member of the Advisory Board for WFT's new Emerging Playwrights Program.

Sharon Squires (Mrs. Settergren/Carnival Barker) is an actress, director, singer, writer, and acting coach originally from Grenada in the West Indies. She studied Theatre at UMass/Boston and the Harvard University Extension School, and is a graduate of the National Shakespeare Conservatory in NY. Sharon's NY credits include *Macbeth* (Ross) at the Jean Cocteau; *The Boyfriend* (Lady Brockhurst) at Debut Stage; and *Julius Caesar* (Cinna/Messala) at NSC. Boston credits include *Charlotte's Web* (Goose), WFT; *A Civil War Christmas* (Elizabeth Keckley, u/s), Huntington; *Good Night Desdemona* (*Good Morning Juliet*) (Juliet), Nora; and *The Children's Hour* (Lilly Mortar), Our Place. Recent films include *Inside*, *Day of Youth*, and *Fighting Gravity*. Sharon's directing credits include *365 Days 365 Plays* (Lyric Stage) and *Richard II*, *Julius Caesar*, and *Medea* (Visions). Special thanks and much appreciation go to Jane Staab, Jacqui Parker, and Paula Plum for opportunity and inspiration. Eternal gratitude goes to mentors Susan McGinley of UMass/Boston and Marcus Stern of the ART for years of guidance and inspiration, and eternal gratitude and love to cousins Ron and Diane Coard for unwavering support. Sharon dedicates this performance to her mother, Ena Coard-Squires.

Jane Staab (Mrs. Granberg), a co-founder of WFT with 32 years under her multicolored belt, has performed in over 70 shows and directed over 32 productions here. Her most recent roles of note: Fagin in *Oliver!* and the Wicked Witch of the West. She has been a proud AEA member for 45 years. Her recent directing credits include the IRNE-nominated *Anne of Green Gables*, *Annie*, and *The Phantom Tollbooth*. Jane swells with pride at seeing hundreds of young people and adults of all backgrounds, professional and otherwise, working together and having such fun on- and off-stage at WFT. Live theatre has transformed so many lives right here. WFT and Pippi have a great deal in common. Here's to the indomitable spirit in all of us.

Amiya Stephney (School Kid), an ambitious and determined 13-year-old, is a student at the Academy of the Pacific Rim. She enjoys reading, acting, fashion, being around family and friends, and finding activities that will give her an opportunity to learn something new and meet new people. Amiya has been involved with WFT for the past 4 years, taking numerous acting classes, including Story Troupers, and appearing on the main stage in *Honk!* and

The Miracle Worker. Her experiences here are priceless and she is very grateful to all those who believe in her. Cheers to WFT!

Peter Stewart (Music Designer) is thrilled to be making his musical debut at WFT. He has written music for over 20 shows for Wendy Lement, including *Red Shoes*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Salem's Daughters*, *Antigone*, *Jane Eyre*, and *House of Bernarda Alba*. Peter wrote the musical score for *The Good Woman of Manhattan* (Reddragonfly Films). Currently, he tours with his World Peace Cantata, is the director of the Cantata Singers, and leads the Potato Chip Band. He recently directed his musical adaptation of *Snow Queen*. Peter lives in Hamilton, with his wife, 2 children, and 2 cats.

Julia Talbot (Mr. Nilsson) is thrilled to play Pippi's sidekick in her 4th WFT production and first simian role. Past credits include Annemarie in *Number the Stars* and Young Jane in *Jane Eyre, the Musical*; future credits (she hopes) include Draco Malfoy and Wolverine from the X-Men franchise. Julia is the winner of the 2011 EACT DASH award for Best Young Actor in a Play and feels blessed to work with such a talented cast and crew. She thanks Sweden for dreaming up Pippi in the first place.

Gilesa Thomas (School Kid) absolutely loves theatre. A student at Boston Latin Academy, she enjoys playing varsity tennis and working with the theatre club. Her favorite subject is chemistry, taught by one of her favorite teachers Mr. Huie. Her other favorite teacher is Mr. Doherty. Gilesa has a cat (Bebe) and 2 parakeets (Lightning and Thunder).

Kerry Thompson (Angel Mama) is a Latin dancer who has performed in NYC, Paris, Miami, Honolulu, and throughout NE. She is the founder, director, and dance instructor for Silent Rhythms, a dance company which develops accessible dance instruction for people of varying abilities. Aside from her dance background, Kerry is a Program Associate for the Disability Rights Fund, which collaborates with the disability community to advance the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in developing countries. Kerry holds a master's degree from Harvard. At a young age, she was diagnosed with Ushers Syndrome, a rare form of deaf-blindness.

Kimetra Thompson (School Kid), a junior at Boston Latin Academy, is so grateful to be able to join the cast of *Pippi Longstocking!* This will be her 7th production with WFT, and she looks forward to many more. For extracurricular activities, Kimetra enjoys taking various classes at MassArt such as animation, fashion and fibers, and photography. She is glad to be home at WFT, as always.

Cyrus Veyssi (Tommy) lives in Brookline. Past credits here include *Aladdin* and *The Phantom Tollbooth*. Cyrus attends Noble and Greenough School in Dedham and is very much looking forward to studying theatre and performing arts next year at Tufts! He loves singing, running, and doing graphic design. Cyrus is tremendously excited and thrilled to be playing the role of Tommy. Thanks to WFT for everything it has helped him with over the past few years!

Desiree Weems (ASL Interpreter) studied American Sign Language Interpretation and theatre at UNH. Recent credits include Broadway in Boston's *War Horse*, and *Oliver!* with WFT. This production has been a dream for Desiree and will always have a very special place in her heart thanks to the vision and direction of Wendy Lement and the support and guidance of Kristin Johnson. A big thank you to her partner in crime, Adri, who is an incredible interpreter, and to the wonderful crew interpreters who helped make this process seamless! Lots of love!!



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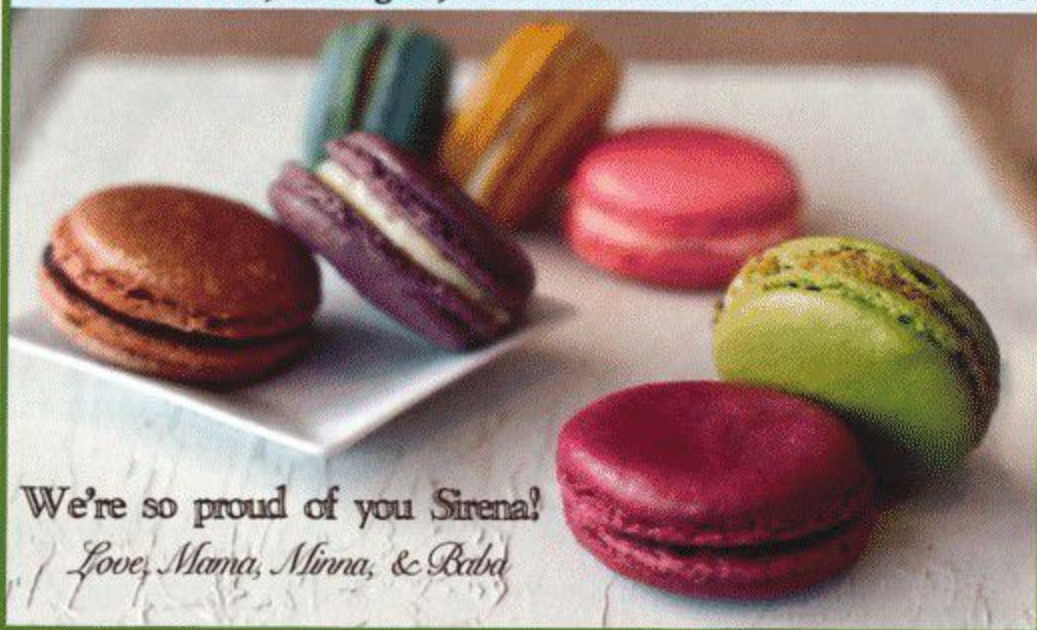
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Pippi Longstocking

by Astrid Lindgren

adapted for the stage in a translation by Thomas W. Olson

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LIGHTING DESIGNER
John R. Malinowski

SOUND DESIGNER
Roger J. Moore

ASL INTERPRETERS
Adrianna Kathryn Neefus, Desiree Weems

DIRECTOR
Wendy Lement

COSTUME DESIGNER
Melissa Miller

PROPS DESIGNER
Marjorie Lusignan

CHOREOGRAPHER
Laurel Conrad

MUSIC DESIGNER
Peter Stewart

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
Lindsay D. Garofalo*

AUDIO DESCRIBER
Hanna Schneider

THE CAST

Pippi Longstocking	Sirena Abalian
Annika Settergren	Grace Brakeman
Tommy Settergren	Cyrus Veyssi
Mrs. Prysselius	Donna Sorbello*
Mr. Nilsson	Julia Talbot
Horse/School Kid	Elbert Joseph
Teacher	Kortney Adams*
Thunder	Margaret Ann Brady*
Bloom	Ricardo Engermann*
Klang	John Davin*
Larsson	Mark Linehan*
Mrs. Settergren/Carnival Barker	Sharon Squires
Mrs. Granberg	Jane Staab*
Captain Longstocking/Strong Man	Cliff Odle*
Angel Mama	Kerry Thompson

SCHOOL KIDS

Will Christmann, Karina Cowperthwaite, Charlotte Palmucci, Amiya Stephney,
Gilesa Thomas, Kimetra Thompson

TOWN KIDS

Kianna Barrett, Samil Battenfeld, Diana Bauer, Sofia Anais Beals, Georgia Branger-Klein,
Alba Clarke, Dina Gorelik, Hiroshi Irizarry, Juliann F. Khirallah, Kiran Maypole,
Shea Miller Novello, Zoë Leah Parkin, Arianna Hart Reith, Nejma Reza

Pippi Longstocking was originally commissioned and produced by The Children's Theatre Company,
Minneapolis, MN. Produced by special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences,
a partnership of Seattle Children's Theatre and Children's Theatre Company-Minneapolis.

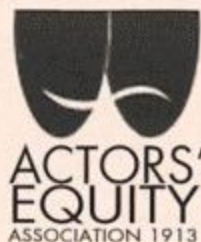
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Wheelock Family Theatre is a member of the American Alliance for Theatre and Education (AATE); ArtsBoston;
the Consortium of Boston Area Children's Theatres (CBACT); Cultural Access New England (CANE);
StageSource, the Alliance of Theatre Artists and Producers; and the Theatre Artists' Marketing Alliance (TAMA).

Ask the House Manager for individual sound enhancement devices.

The taking of photographs and use of recording devices is strictly forbidden.

Please turn off all electronic devices. Please, no eating or drinking in the theatre.



*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. The Wheelock Family Theatre is operating under the terms of a Developing Theatre's Program of Actors' Equity Association. The contract used is a Letter of Agreement.



Wheelock Family Theatre

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Assistant Technical Director/Master Electrician	Craig A. Zemsky

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Assistant to the Stage Manager	Robin Liberty
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Costumer	Lisa Simpson
Assistant to the Costumer	Jennie Hudson-Bryant
Stitchers	Mina Ha, Sarah Kershaw, Pier Talbot
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ASL Consultant	Kristin Johnson
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SPECIAL THANKS

Autism Speaks - Boston; Jamie Aznive; Gabriel Babin and Sanjeev Joshi; Shawn P. Cotter; The May Institute; Tony Mosley and the staff of the Service Center; National Autism Center; Open Door Theater; Howard Paisner; Puppet Showplace Theatre; Frank Romero and members of the Wheelock College Facilities staff; Nancy Viall Shoemaker; Pier Talbot; Jerry Wheelock; Wheelock College Faculty Committee on Autism; and the Wheelock College Autism Club and other Wheelock student volunteers.

We wish to thank all the people who have joined with us since the program went to press.

Wheelock Family Theatre Advisory Board

WFT's Advisory Board is a group of dedicated individuals from broad and diverse segments of the community who provide support and expertise to WFT's staff and artists on an ongoing basis.

We are grateful for their insights and their enthusiasm.

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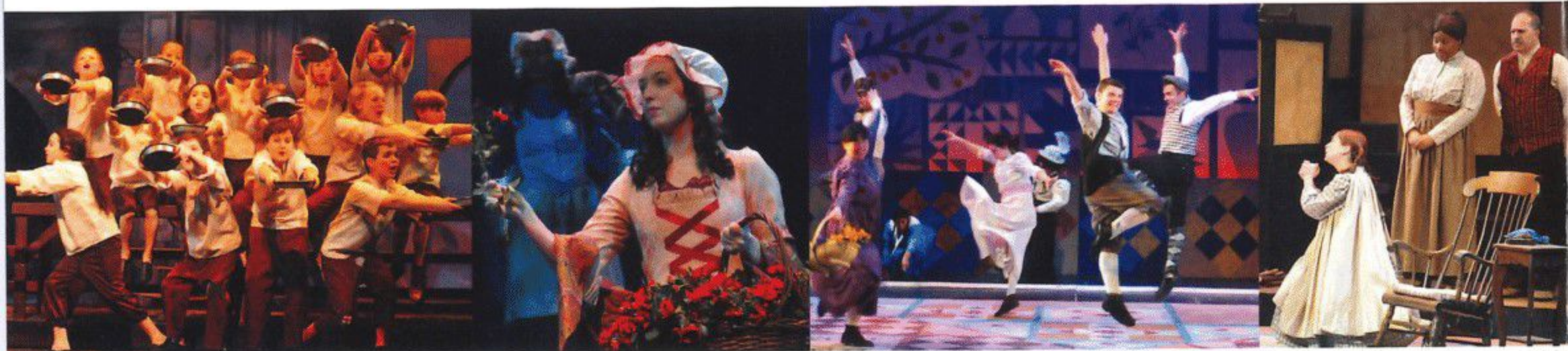
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**includes support for the Susan Kosoff Legacy Fund, established in honor of WFT Co-Founder and long-time Producer Susan Kosoff on the occasion of her retirement in the spring of 2012. Proceeds from this endowed fund will be used to support new initiatives in theatre education and outreach.*

We are grateful to all our generous donors, including 63 contributors of amounts below \$100. This list reflects gifts and pledges made between 7/1/12 & 4/4/13.



AEA actors pictured: Jennifer Beth Glick, Jacqui Parker, Robert Saoud, Jenna Lea Sco

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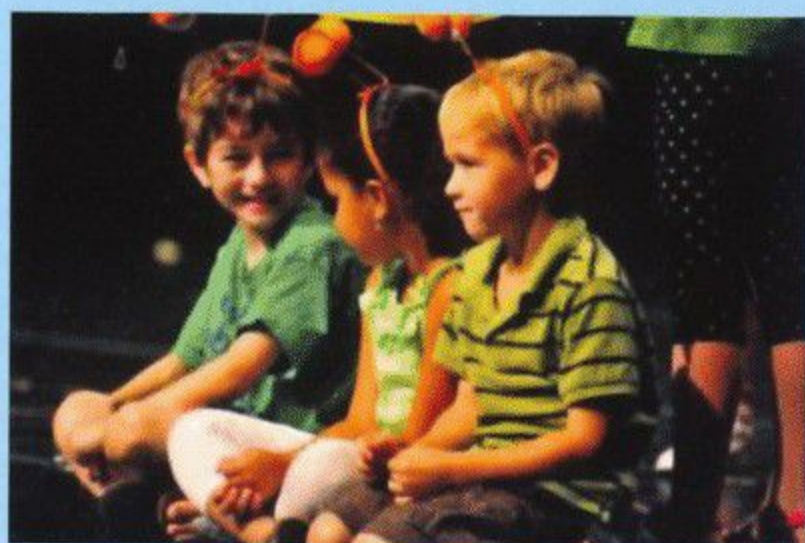
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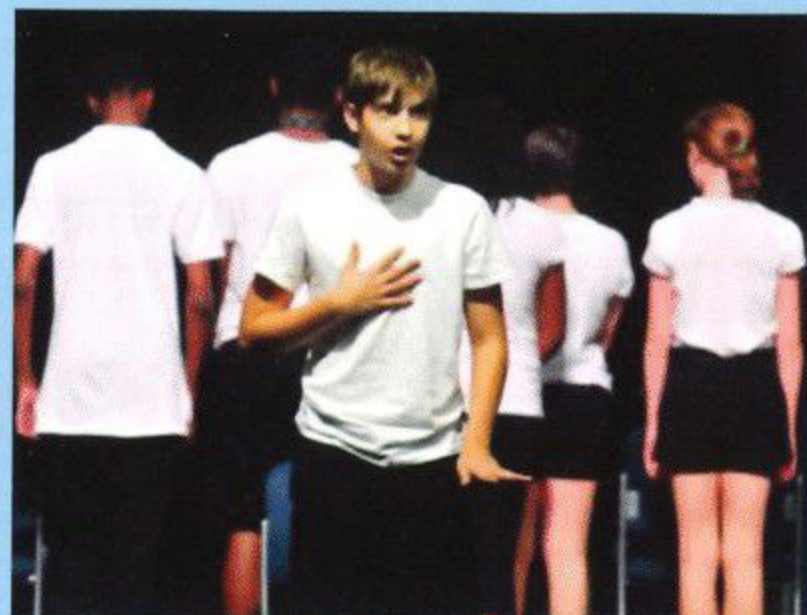
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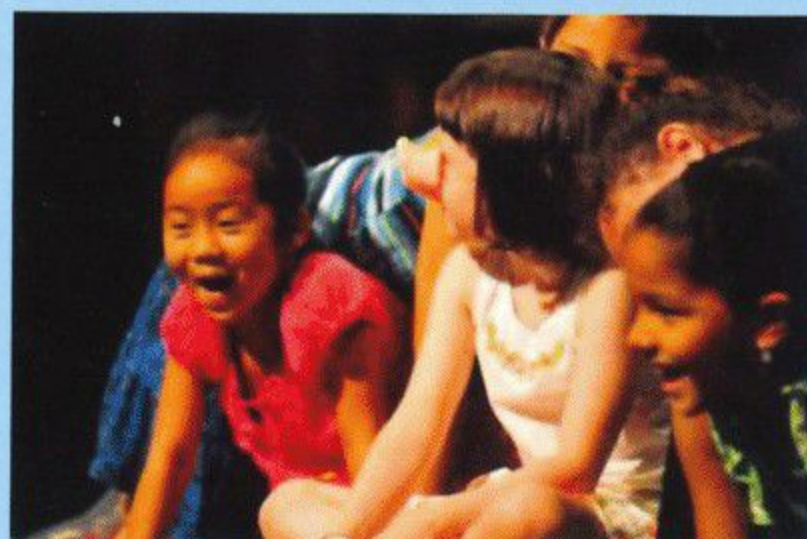
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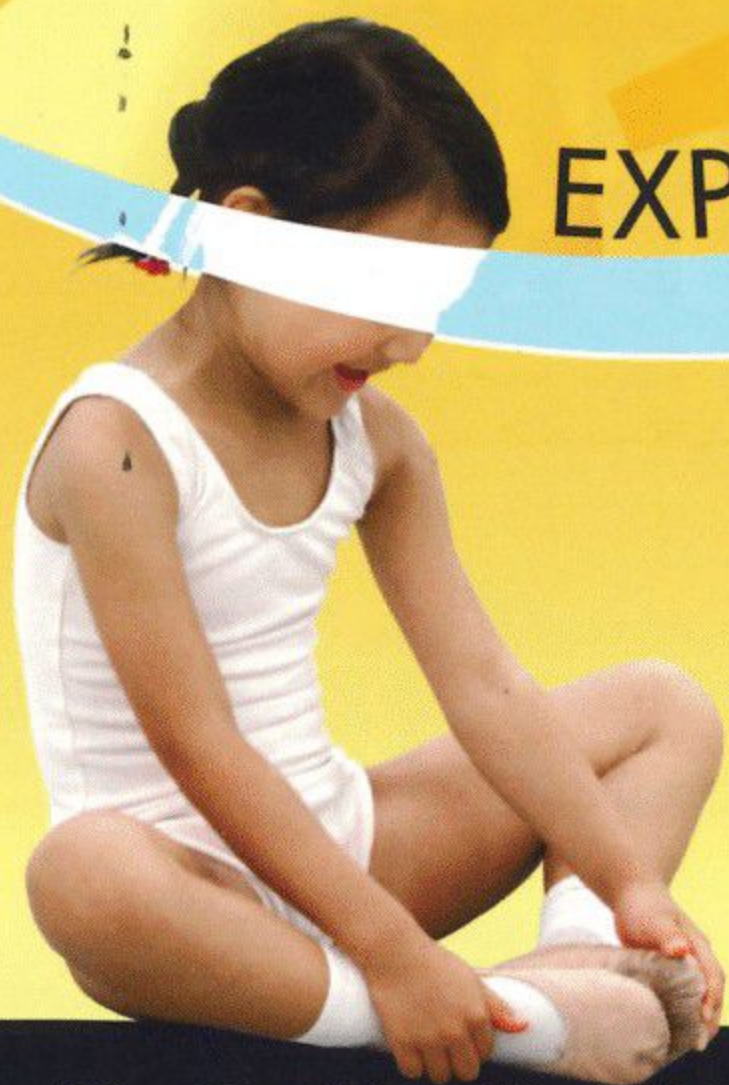
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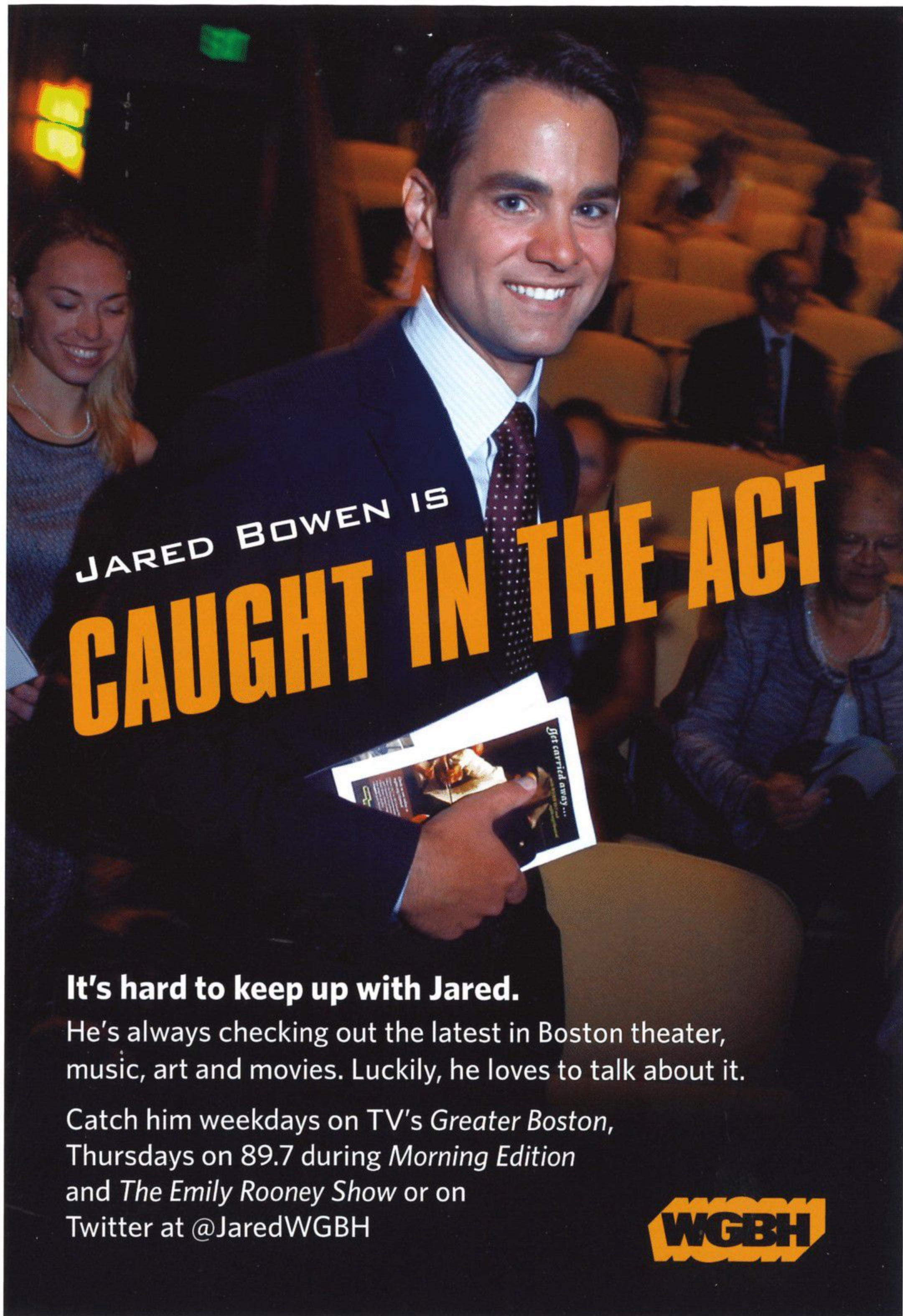
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