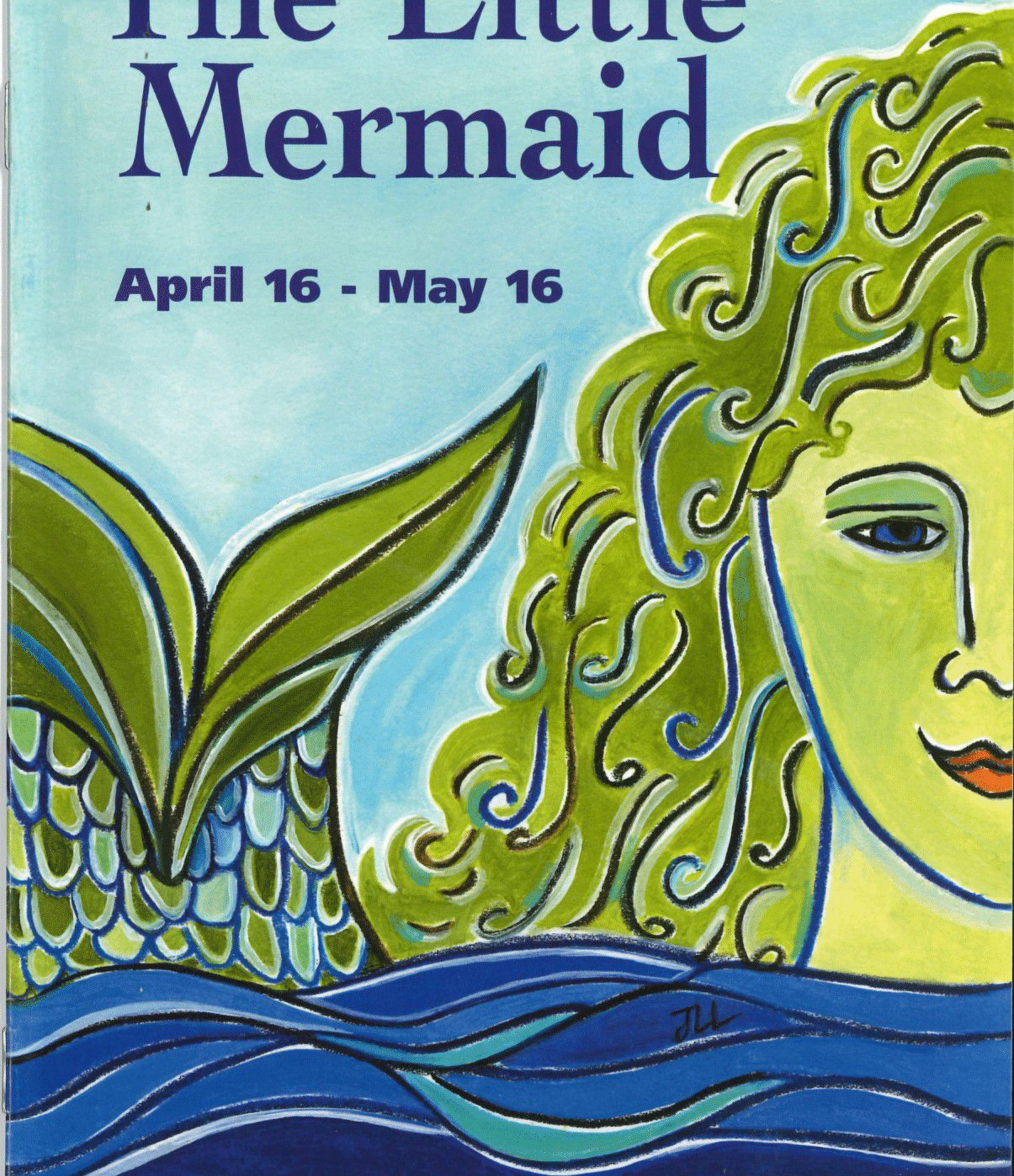


The Little Mermaid

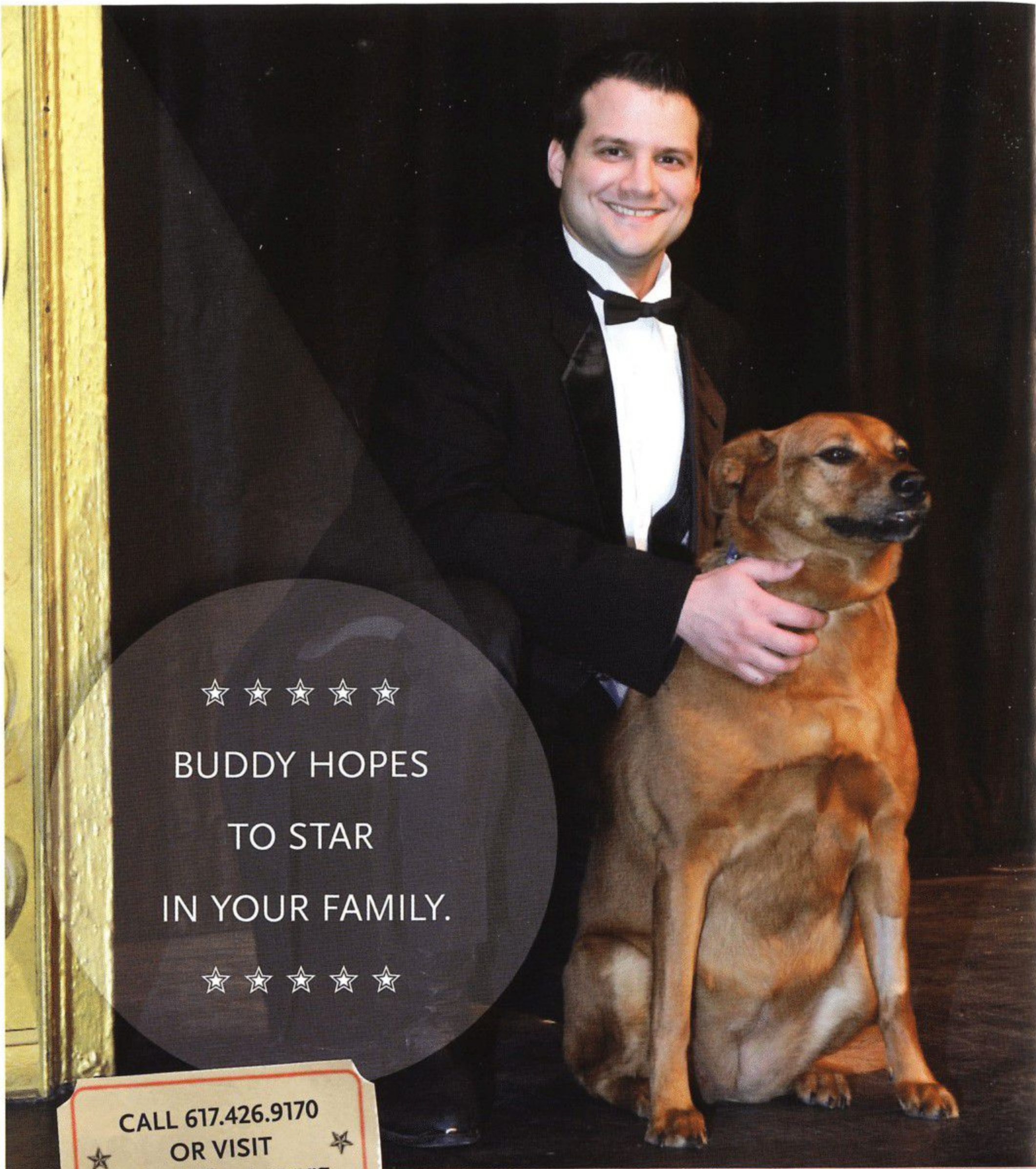
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April/May 2010

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On May 27th, Julia Jones (Leah Clearwater in the *Twilight* films) is coming home to WFT. Join us for this spectacular event to benefit the Theatre's Ticket Subsidy Fund. More details on page 10.

Last – but hardly least – we are delighted to announce our 2010-2011 season:

Annie

A classic American musical • October/November

Urban Nutcracker

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The Secret Garden

A musical adaptation by WFT founders • Jan./Feb.

Hansel and Gretel

Boston Lyric Opera's Family Opera • March

Aladdin

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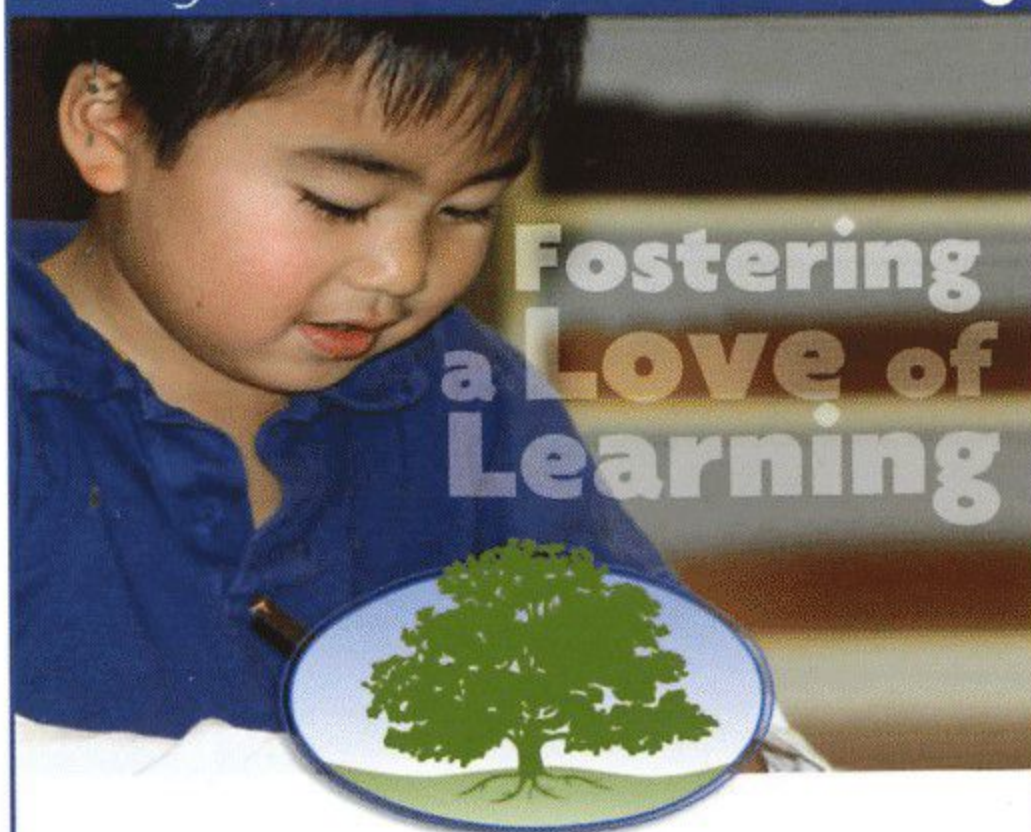


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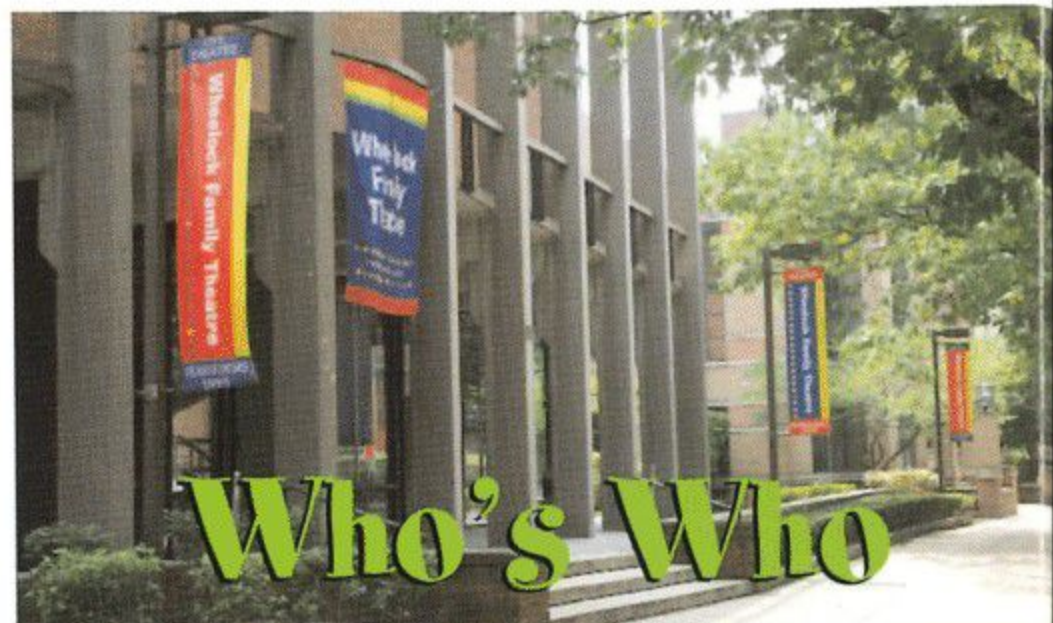


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Who's Who

Zechriah Alexandre (Crab) loves music and plays piano. He has been in several musicals with his church. He will be in the Boston Children's chorus this coming May.

Kristina Ayanian (Eel) is a high honor roll student at Marshall Simonds Middle School and a proud graduate of St. Stephen's Armenian. She recorded the CD *Tsapik, Tsapik* with the singer Nouné Karapetian. Kristina loves to dance and started taking ballet lessons at the age of 2. She is fluent in English and Armenian.

Alexandra Barber (Eel) is delighted to be back at WFT, where she debuted in *Ramona Quimby* 6 years ago. She is a freshman at Milton HS. Favorite role: Little Red Riding Hood in *Into the Woods*. Alexandra is on the competitive dance team, but acting is her passion. Thanks to everyone at WFT for getting her started.

Patrick Barron (Puppeteer) is a 3rd grader at Mount Alvernia Academy.

Haley Beecher (Puppeteer) is a 5th grader at the Bancroft School in Worcester where she is currently performing in an original production. She has attended classes during WFT's summer programs and also performs at her church. Haley loves being on stage and is thrilled to be a part of this production.

Dessie Bell-Kamen (Crab) is thrilled to return to WFT where she was last seen as a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web*. She is a 2nd grader at Brimmer and May.

Samantha Boucher (Eel) is excited to return to WFT where her credits include *Charlotte's Web* and *Peter Pan*. She appeared on the PBS TV series *Fetch* with Rufus Ruffman, and she travels around the country as a member of Girl Authority. Samantha thanks all the people who told her to follow her dreams.

Margaret Ann Brady (Sea Witch) is delighted to make her WFT debut. She has previously worked with Mr. Byrne in the Gold Dust Orphans' *Cinderella Rock* and *Death of a Saleslady*. Other area appearances include *A Child's Christmas in Wales* (Boston Playwrights/Children's); *Johnny Guitar* and *Ruthless* (SpeakEasy); *Shakespeare in Hollywood* (Lyric); and *Wedding on the Eiffel Tower* (Apollinaire). Sketch comedy: *The Mrs. Potatohead Show* and *Greetings from Planet Girl* (local venues, NY Int'l Fringe, MN Fringe). Film and TV credits include *The Love Letter* (WGBH), *Brotherhood* (Showtime), and *John and Abigail* (WGBH). Margaret Ann enjoys her work in educational theatre as a teacher with Merrimack's Young Artists at Play (YAAP) summer theatre program, as a teacher and judge for the Mass. HS Drama Guild, and as a Freedom Trail Player. She has taught improv at The Studio at CP Casting and at Emerson and Curry Colleges. Margaret Ann is a proud member of Actors Equity Association, SAG, and AFTRA.

Georgia Branger-Klein (Crab) dreams of dancing on Broadway. She attends WFT's summer program and has participated in several Charlestown Working Theater productions.

Camille Brown (Crab) is in the 1st grade at the Hemenway School in Framingham. She is a gymnast who also studies ballet, tap, jazz, and piano. She is currently performing in *Dancing Queen* for her school's variety show!

James P. Byrne (Director/Set Designer) "grew up" at the Harwich Junior Theatre and now produces, teaches, designs, and directs theatre with and for all ages, from Provincetown to Boston, NY to New Orleans to LA. Using drag queens, children, visual artists, and professional actors, Jim has presented works by Shakespeare, Frank L. Baum, Charles Ludlum, Homer, the Dalai Lama, the Hopi, and Ryan Landry. Previous WFT directing credits include *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Winnie-the-Pooh*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, *The Prince and the Pauper*, *The Tempest*, *The Hobbit*, *Stuart Little*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Happy Days*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Jim dedicates this production to the memory of Lorraine Lewis.

Analise M. Castillo (Puppeteer), a 4th grader, has been taking WFT classes since 2008. She has also taken theatre classes at the School House Art Center in Standish, ME. Other interests include reading, roller skating, hiking, traveling, and animals.

Amie Cazel (Anemone) is excited to be making her WFT debut. Performance credits include: Winter Panto 2010: *The Fantastic Voyage of Sinbad the Sailor*; Winter Panto 2009: *The Marvelous Misadventures of Mother Goose*; Winter Panto 2008: *The Curse of Dracula*, and *The Tragicomedy of Don Cristobal and Sena Rosita* (Imaginary Beasts); *Into the Woods* and *Big River* (Turtle Lane); and *Der Rosenkavalier* and *Eugene Onegin* (Lowell House Opera). Amie is an actor and educator with Improbable Players, Deana's Educational Theater, and City Stage. She studied vocal performance at Northeastern.

Colette Rae Chien (Puppeteer) is 10 and loves to act, sing, dance, and play soccer. She is excited about being in *The Little Mermaid* because it's a great experience.

Keenan Cochrane (Eel) is thrilled to be making his WFT debut. Recent credits include *Spring Awakening: The Play* (Zeitgeist), *Please Pass the Salt*, *Annie Desmond Gets a Tattoo*, and *Plastic* with SLAM Boston, and the PBS documentary *Herskovits* (Young Herskovits). A proud member of the Society of Young Magicians, Keenan thanks his actor parents for their love and support.

Marisol Covert (Eel), a sophomore at Arlington High School is thrilled to be returning to the WFT stage. Marisol has participated in community theater throughout middle and high school, and has been in many shows on the Wheelock stage.

Alexis Daly (Crab) made her acting debut last year as a baby spider in *Charlotte's Web*. She is a nationally ranked sprinter and long jumper who enjoys reading to her 3-year old brother.

Johnny Lee Davenport (Sea King) has been a member of Shakespeare & Co. since 1989 and has performed in many of their productions, including last fall's national tour of *Hamlet*. His credits with Actors' Shakespeare Project include *Much Ado About Nothing* (Leonato) and *Hamlet* (Claudius). Johnny's Trinity Rep credits include *A Raisin in the Sun* (Bobo) and *Richard III* (King

(continued on page 6)

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WHO's WHO (continued from page 5)

Edward IV). He has performed with Commonwealth Shakespeare; New Rep (Salif, *A House With No Walls*, Elliot Norton nomination); the Shakespeare Co. (Washington DC); Stratford Shakespeare Festival (Ontario); Arden Shakespeare Festival; Goodman; Steppenwolf; Actor's Theatre of Louisville; and Chicago Shakespeare, among others. Dublin, Ireland has welcomed Johnny on 4 separate occasions in *Othello*, 3 times in the title role and once as Iago. TV and film credits include *Law & Order*, *The Fugitive*, *US Marshals*, *The Blues Brothers*, and the recently filmed pilot *Empire State*.

Aria DeMarco (Crab) is very active and loves sports. Her passions are theater and animals. Her dream is to become an actress and a veterinarian. She loves to attend theater performances and rehearsals - and to be on stage!

Emily Eldridge-Ingram (Lady-in Waiting) is thrilled to return to the WFT stage after 9 previous productions, most recently as a Narrator in both *Charlotte's Web* and *Winnie the Pooh*, and as Tootles in *Peter Pan*. She has performed with WFT's Story Troupers, on the summer stage of Riverside Theatre Works as Mary Poppins, and as Ngana in a Harvard student production of *South Pacific*. Emily is a freshman at Newton North High School where she recently appeared in *Cabaret*. A special thanks to Jane and Jim for being flexible around her travels to Italy to perform with her school's Concert Choir during the run of the show!

Caroline Eng (Eel), a freshman at Winchester HS, started participating in Kidstock theatre programs at the age of 10. She has been in 6 Winchester Cooperative productions and was recently in the cast of WHS's *The Pajama Game*. Caroline is thrilled to be in her first WFT production.

Ricardo Engermann (Timothy) is happy to be working with WFT again, where he has performed in several productions including *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 Street* (Balthazar). Ricardo has also had the pleasure of appearing in Boston Theatre Works' *Hamlet* (Horatio), Commonwealth Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing* (Borachio); Stoneham's *As Bees In Honey Drown* (Photographer, et al); the Lyric's *Lobby Hero* (William), *Old Settler* (Husband Witherspoon), and *The Liar* (Philiste); and Gloucester Stage's *50 Years of Caddyshing* (Chip Eastern) and *One Under* (Xavier).

Maia Foley (Crab) started taking classes at WFT in 2008. She plays cello and percussion, and loves to sing, draw, and sew. This is Maia's first WFT production, but definitely not her last!

Ava Fray-Witzer (Crab) loves animals, reading, piano, and being active outdoors! She was last seen here as Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web*.

Maya Fray-Witzer (Puppeteer) appeared in WFT's *Charlotte's Web* and *Winnie-the-Pooh*. She loves modern dance and reading adventure books, is pretty good at violin, and is NOT shy.

Lindsay D. Garofalo (Production Stage Manager) started working in theatre when she was 12 years old and hasn't stopped. She has always stuck to staying behind the scenes designing, building, and running the crew. Some of her favorite shows that she has been

a part of are *Les Miserables*, *Seussical*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Sound of Music*, *Noises Off*, *Macbeth*, and *Living Out*. Lindsay would like to give her family a big thank you for always supporting her, and to Dan for always keeping her calm.

Trey Gaskin (Puppeteer) is currently in the 6th grade at Thayer Academy. Trey is excited to return to the WFT Stage. Other WFT credits include *Honk!*, *Ben's Trumpet* (with BalletRox) and *Charlotte's Web*. Trey has been in 3 feature films: *Gone Baby Gone*, *The Game Plan*, and *Bride Wars*. Trey would like to thank his family and acting coaches for their help.

Jacob Geiger (Crab) has seen many productions here and now makes his debut on the WFT stage. He enjoys reading, cooking, and playing with his friends.

Gillian Gordon (Lady-in-Waiting) is happy to return to WFT having also appeared in *Pippi Longstocking*, *Phantom Tollbooth* and *A Little Princess*. She has appeared with American Repertory Theatre, Reagle Players, Stoneham Theatre, Turtle Lane Playhouse, and Boston Playwrights Theatre. Gilly is an actor-in-residence at Boston Playwrights Platform. She received an EMACT/DASH nomination for Eponine in *Les Miserables* at ACTS/Turtle Lane Playhouse. Best wishes and much thanks to cast, crew and all at WFT.

De'Lon Grant (William) is thankful to be returning to the Wheelock stage again. In the Fall of 2008 he received an IRNE Award nomination for his portrayal of Dunois in WFT's *Saint Joan*. Most recently, De'Lon was blessed with the role of Samuel Sawyer in Lydia R. Diamond's critically acclaimed play *Harriet Jacobs*, based on the first female slave narrative. Some of his favorite roles include Kaine in *Dessa Rose* at the New Repertory Theatre in Boston, and Brick in Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. He earned a BFA in Acting from the University of Michigan, and just received his Master's degree in Musical Theatre performance at Boston Conservatory.

Katherine Gustafson (Crab) is happy to be returning to the WFT stage where she had her acting debut as a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web*. She loves to write songs and wishes to thank Mom, Dad, and Janie for all their support.

Neil Gustafson (Yorick) is happy to return to the WFT stage, where he was last seen as The Inquisitor in *Saint Joan*. He has performed at WFT in a number of roles including Mr. Sir in *Holes*, Henry Drummond in *Inherit the Wind*, King Alonso in *The Tempest*, and Teddy Lloyd in *The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie*. For 8 years, Neil traveled New England to perform a one-man show, *Isaiah Thomas--Patriot Printer*, produced by the American Antiquarian Society. Internationally, he has appeared in works by Shakespeare and Chekhov. On TV, he has played roles on *The Practice*; *Spenser: For Hire*; *A Midwife's Tale*; and *Black Bellamy's Treasure*. On screen, Neil played Yuri Spinov in *Next Stop, Wonderland*. His favorite role is as the father of his lovely daughter, Katherine, and of his lively son, Aidan. And, of course, many thanks to Jeri for making this all possible.

J Hagenbuckle (Composer) has designed and composed for shows on Broadway, Off Broadway, in Europe, and at regional theatres, as well as for dance, industry shows, film, and many local theatre companies (including 10 seasons with Commonwealth Shakespeare). J is the 1st Sound Designer to receive an NEA/TCG Design Grant, an Elliot Norton Award, and an MFA in Sound Design from Brandeis.

(continued on page 12)



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The Little Mermaid

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CHOREOGRAPHER
Kristen Richnavsky

LIGHTING DESIGNER
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COSTUME DESIGNER
Stacey Stephens

COMPOSER
J. Hagenbuckle

PROPS DESIGNER
Marjorie Lusignan

PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER
Lindsay D. Garofalo*

PEARL'S SONG
Jane Staab

ASL INTERPRETERS
Jody Steiner Sharon Mendes

AUDIO DESCRIBER
Hanna Schneider

THE CAST

Sea Witch	Margaret Ann Brady*
Anemone	Amie Cazel
Sea King	Johnny Lee Davenport*
Lady-in-Waiting	Emily Eldridge-Ingram
Timothy	Ricardo Engermann*
Lady-in-Waiting	Gillian Gordon
William	De'Lon Grant*
Yorick	Neil Gustafson*
Prince Stefan	David Kaim
Luna	Marvelyn McFarlane
Coral	Mary-Liz Murray
Pearl	Andrea Ross*
Marianna	Kami Rushell Smith*
Great Mother	Jane Staab*

EELS: Kristina Ayanian, Alexandra Barber, Samantha Boucher, Keenan Cochrane, Marisol Coover, Caroline Eng, Oliver Jay, Virginia Jay, Sasha MacDonald, Kyra Merisier, Mattie O'Kelley-Bangsberg, Emily Pinto, Gilesa Thomas, Kimetra Thompson

WATER PUPPETEERS: Patrick Barron, Haley Beecher, Analise M. Castillo, Colette Chien, Maya Fray-Witzer, Trey Gaskin, Juliana M. Kaplan, Dorothy Levine, Penny Mack, Becky Mason, Bridget Mussafer, Sophie Pels, Maggie Quigley, Lexi Ryan, Jacob Sims Speyer, Julia Talbot

CRABS: Zechriah Alexandre, Dessie Bell-Kamen, Georgia Branger-Klein, Camille Brown, Alexis Daly, Aria DeMarco, Maia Foley, Ava Fray-Witzer, Jacob Geiger, Katherine Gustafson, Abby Mason, Isaac Merisier, Milla Metlicka, Claudia Murray, Shea Miller Novello, Damara Omolade, Tamyjah Thompson, Christina Xiao

The Little Mermaid is in two acts. There will be one intermission between the acts.

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Wheelock Family Theatre is a member of StageSource, the Alliance of Theatre Artists and Producers; the Theatre Artists' Marketing Alliance (TAMA), and the Consortium of Boston Area Children's Theatres (CBACT).



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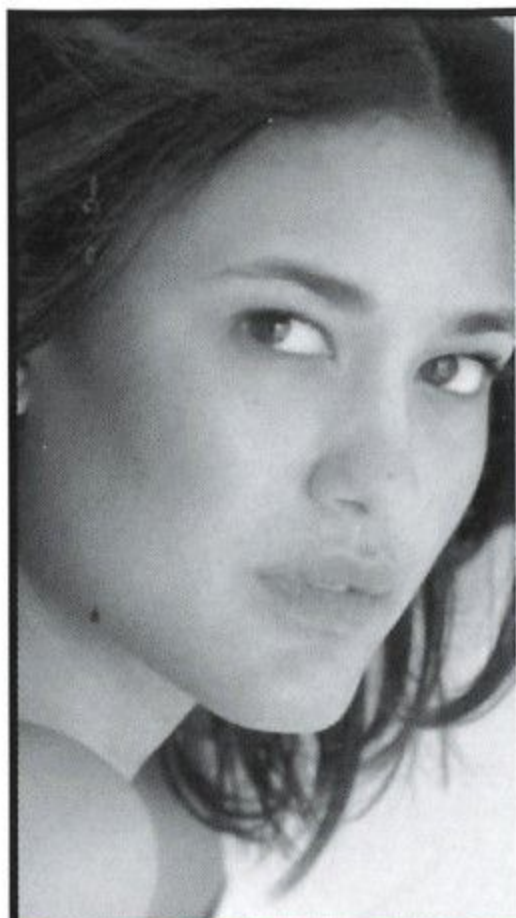
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SPECIAL THANKS

Shawn P. Cotter; Joni Liberman for poster design; Susan Mackey, Mike Fesko, Frank Romero, and members of the Wheelock College Facilities staff; Tony Mosley and the staff of the Service Center; Nina Schuessler and the Harwich Junior Theatre; Nancy Viall Shoemaker; and the Office of the President and members of the Wheelock College community who have made this production possible.

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

The Wheelock Family Theatre is dependent on performance income and contributions. Your support is needed to sustain the Theatre. Contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowable by law and may be sent to the Wheelock Family Theatre, 200 The Riverway, Boston, MA 02215-4176.



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"Being involved with WFT was one of the most fortunate aspects of growing up in Boston. Doing shows there fostered my creativity and imagination, provided a rich sense of community, and most of all, gave me the confidence to attempt acting professionally. I am eternally grateful to the WFT staff and cast members who challenged and supported me throughout my adolescence."

- Julia Jones

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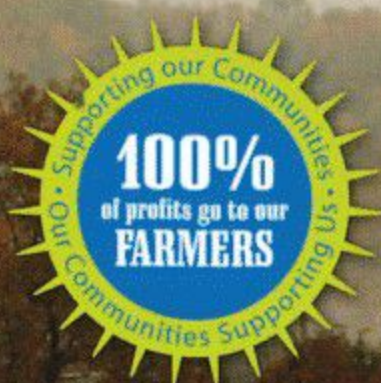
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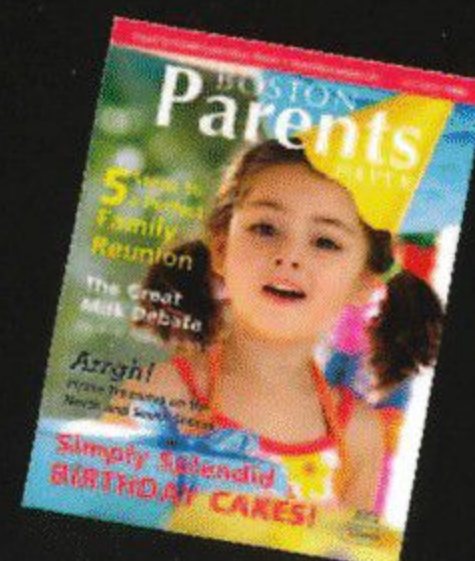
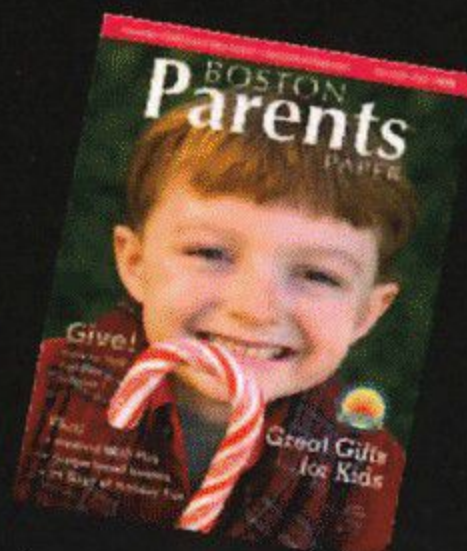
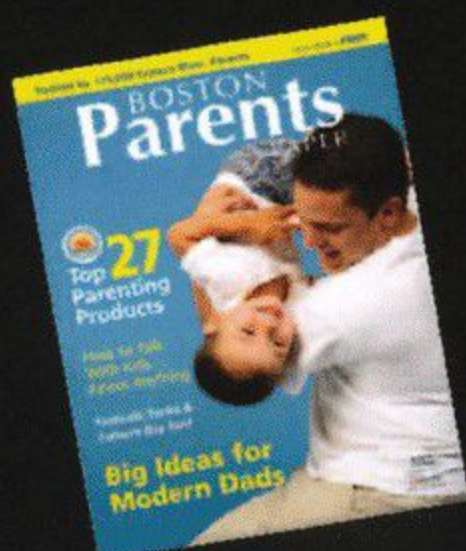
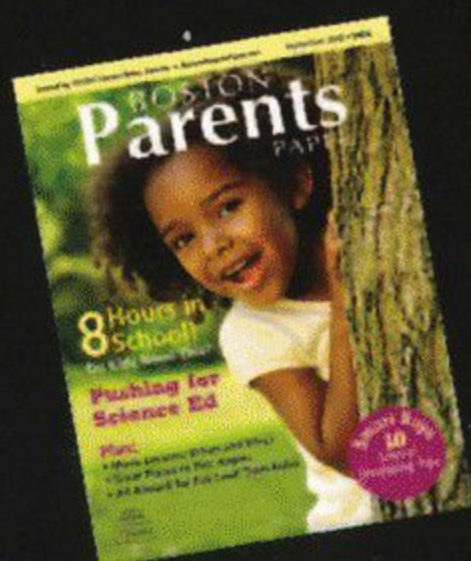


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WHO's WHO (continued from page 7)

Oliver Jay (Eel) is in 6th grader at the Fayerweather Street School in Cambridge. He is a member of Revels Repertory Company, and has sung with Youth Pro Musica. Oliver loves computers and computer programming, and also enjoys soccer, basketball, cross-country skiing, and model trains.

Virginia Jay (Eel) is 14 years old and is an 8th grader at the Fayerweather Street School in Cambridge. She is delighted to be back at WFT after appearing in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, and being a member of WFT's Story Troupers the past two summers. She studies dance at Jeannette Neill.

David Kaim (Prince Stefan) has taken classes and performed at WFT since he was a child. David has appeared in *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *The Sound of Music*, *Rent*, *Peter Pan*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. David enjoys singing, dancing, acting, and spending time with friends.

Juliana M. Kaplan (Puppeteer) is a 7th grader at the Pierce School in Brookline, where she has performed in plays. She enjoys taking classes at WFT, and she loves reading and cream cheese way too much!

Dorothy Levine (Puppeteer) was last seen here as a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web*. She enjoys writing stories, singing, reading, and taking care of nature. Dorothy is in 3rd grade.

Sasha MacDonald (Eel) is delighted to return to WFT, where she has previously been seen in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse* and *Charlotte's Web*. Favorite roles include Augustus Gloop and the Wicked Witch of the West. Sasha loves to dance, sing, and be with friends. A big thank you to Doug Jabara, Jane Staab, Lisa Korak, the cast and crew, and her family.

Penny Mack (Puppeteer) is thrilled to be making her second performance at WFT, her first being *Charlotte's Web*. She takes drama classes and guitar. Her favorite subject is English, and she wants to thank her mom and dad for their support.

Abby Mason (Crab) is a 3rd grader in the Pierce School in Brookline. Abby appeared as a Dancing Mouse in *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web*, and as the part of Girl and Little Lucy in *A Tale of Two Cities*, all at WFT. Abby has taken many classes at WFT and is thrilled to be a crab.

Becky Mason (Puppeteer) is a 4th grader in the Pierce School in Brookline. She was in the WFT production of *Charlotte's Web*. Becky loves Irish Folk Dance and has appeared in 3 school productions: *Honk!*, *Annie*, and *Seussical*. Becky has taken many classes here at WFT.

Marvelyn McFarlane (Luna) is excited to make her WFT debut! She loves working with children and has found that she's actually just a big kid herself. Recent credits include Claudette in *The Good Negro* (Company One), Herself in *Articulation*, Saartjie in *Voyeurs de Venus* (2008 IRNE nomination, Best Supporting Actress), and Freida/Darlaene in *The Bluest Eye* (2007 IRNE nomination, Best Supporting Actress). Other theatre credits include the Defense Attorney in *The Trial...* with Roxbury Crossroads, various roles in the 2008 and 2009 African American Theatre Festivals, and Ti Moune in ENC's *Once On This Island*.

Isaac Merisier (Crab) has a passion for singing and acting. He is an honor roll student. Isaac is easy to work with and he is a team player. His favorite pet is his cat. Isaac will join the Boston Children's Chorus this May.

Kyra Merisier (Eel) loves drawing, singing, writing plays, acting, and playing piano. Kyra sings with the Boston Children's Chorus. She won 1st place for female vocalist at the Massachusetts Association of Christian Schools.

Milla Metlicka (Crab) is a 3rd grader at Mission Hill School who loves to dance and perform. She's performed in the *Urban Nutcracker* for the last 3 years as an Angel and Party Girl. This is her 3rd WFT show.

Claudia Murray (Crab) is in the 3rd grade at the Rafael Hernandez Dual Language Immersion K-8 School in Roxbury, MA. Her primary interests are reading, gymnastics, piano, and of course, theatre. In addition to several school productions, she was a Sharpette in *High School Musical 3* at Riverside Theatre. She lives with her parents and brother in Boston.

Mary-Liz Murray (Coral), a 2008 graduate of UConn's BFA Acting program, has been working as an actor, director, stage manager, and theatre administrator. Most recently she directed *Anne of Green Gables* for the Weston Friendly Society. Mary-Liz has performed locally in *The Time of Your Life* (Fort Point), *Aloha Say the Pretty Girls* (Holland), and *Love's Fire* (Exquisite Corps), among others. *The Little Mermaid* is one of her favorite fairy tales and she is so excited to be making her WFT debut in this classic.

Bridget Mussafer (Puppeteer) is in the 4th grade. She has appeared in several elementary school productions and has danced at Paulette's Ballet Studio for 6 years.

Shea Miller Novello (Crab), a Brookline 1st grader, enjoys tennis, swimming, and gymnastics. This is her WFT debut.

(continued on page 14)



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WHO's WHO (continued from page 13)

Mattie O'Kelley-Bangsberg (Eel) is a 7th grader at Edward Devotion School in Brookline. Mattie has taken many acting classes at Wheelock Family Theatre, her favorite being a Saturday morning improvisation class with Danny Bolton. She has become very familiar with water and its inhabitants from snorkeling with barracudas in the Caribbean and accidentally driving an ATV into a catfish pond.

Damara Omolade (Crab) has been singing and dancing since she was 3 years old. She is a member of the Boston Children's Chorus as well as the Pope John Paul II Academy's Choir. Damara also attended a class at WFT where she initially discovered her love for acting.

Sophie Pels (Puppeteer) plays the violin and has been in the school orchestra. She enjoys singing, drawing, reading, dancing, watching movies and hanging out with friends. Sophie also loves to cook (and eat) crème brulee and pancakes.

Karen Perlow (Lighting Designer) returns to WFT, where previous productions include *Holes* and *To Kill a Mockingbird*. Earlier this season she designed *Mister Roberts* and *Indulgences* at New Rep, *Reckless* at SpeakEasy, and *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* at the Lyric. Her upcoming projects are *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* at SpeakEasy and Boston Midsummer Opera's *Trouble in Tahiti* and *Bon Appetit*. Karen teaches at MIT and is a 3-time IRNE Award winner.

Emily Pinto (Eel) is a dedicated 14-year-old actress who lives in Stoneham, MA and attends 8th grade at the Stoneham Middle School. Credits include WFT's *HONK!* (Fluff), Stoneham Theatre's *A Christmas Story* (Helen), and *Gypsy* (Baby Louise). Emily has been studying dance at the Melrose Dance Academy and Centerstage Studio for almost 10 years and has also been studying musical theatre at the Stoneham Theatre since 2005.

Maggie Quigley (Puppeteer), a 4th grader, has taken classes here and at Boston Casting. Her credits include productions with the Newton Youth Players and May Alcott in *Louisa May Alcott: The Woman Behind Little Women* (PBS).

Kristen Richnavsky (Choreographer) is a senior at Wheelock College majoring in theatre and elementary education. A veteran of 3 musicals here, she is now making her WFT debut as a choreographer! Kristen has been dancing since the age of 2 and has been choreographing dance pieces for competitions and shows since she was 15, with training from Deborah's Dance Workshop in Torrington, CT, and Broadway Dance Center in NYC. She teaches dance at a summer camp in CT. Thanks to Jim and Jane for this great opportunity!

Andrea Ross (Pearl) took the year off from school and will be going to college in the fall. Her WFT credits include Joan of Arc in *Saint Joan*, Sara Crewe in *A Little Princess*, Liesl in *The Sound of Music*, Ramona in *Ramona Quimby*, and Winnie Foster in *Tuck Everlasting*. In 2007, Andrea played Swallow in the national tour of Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Whistle Down the Wind*. Her regional credits include Fredrika in *A Little Night Music* (Lyric), Young Lizzie in *Lizzie Borden* (Stoneham), and the title role in *Annie* (Trinity Rep). She received the 2005 Elliot Norton Outstanding Actress Award. Andrea recorded the solo album "Moon River", which was produced by Andrew Lloyd Webber; she is also featured on the Webber CD compilation "60". Andrea thanks her

WFT family—especially Jim, Jane, Sue, and Charles—and her Mom and Dad, H&G, Petunia, and all of the fam for their love and support. Andrea is a proud member of AEA. www.andreaross.com

Lexi Ryan (Puppeteer), a Southborough 6th grader, is a high honor roll student at the Advanced Math and Science Academy. Credits include WFT's *Seussical*, Hanover's *A Christmas Carol*, and Turtle Lane's *The Secret Garden* (Mary).

Kami Rushell Smith (Princess Mariana) is excited to make her WFT debut! Her Boston credits include the title role in *Harriet Jacobs* (Underground Railway), Hero in *Much Ado About Nothing* (ASP), Anabel and Dessa understudy in *Dessa Rose* (New Rep), and *Lady Macbeth* (Shakespeare Now!). Kami's other regional credits include Joanne in *Rent* (Roxy); Hattie in *Kiss Me, Kate* (Flat Rock); and Sarah's friend and Sarah understudy in *Ragtime* (Weathervane). She has a BA from Carnegie Mellon and a Masters in Musical Theatre from Boston Conservatory.

www.KamiRushellSmith.com

Jacob Sims Speyer (Puppeteer), a 5th grader at the Rashi School in Newton, has performed in 5 plays at school, as well as a play at ArtBarn (Brookline). Jacob appeared as a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web* and has attended several classes at WFT, including a Technical Theatre internship.

Jane Staab (Great Mother) is thrilled to do battle with the Sea Witch as the "good." Her performance as Madame Defarge in last fall's *A Tale of Two Cities* was enough "evil" for one season. Jane has played many naughty and nice characters over her 29 years as resident AEA actor at WFT. Some notables: the Wicked Witch of the West, the "Witch" of Blackbird Pond, Mrs. Popper, Mrs. DuBose, Marilla, Cinderella's Stepmother, a Mole, a Troll, a Mouse, a Giant, a Turtle, a Grinch. Oh, my! Jane is particularly happy to have composed *Pearl's Song* just so she could hear Andrea Ross sing.

Stacey Stephens (Costume Designer) is thrilled to be working at WFT for the 1st time. His work was most recently seen at the Stoneham (*My Fair Lady* and *Dinosaur, The Musical*). Stacey worked for 3 years as Fiddlehead's Artistic Director, where he directed, designed, and created costumes for *Funny Girl* (2009 IRNE nomination), *The Odd Couple*, *Fiddler on the Roof* (2008 IRNE nomination), and *Crazy for You* (2008 IRNE Award for Best Costume Design), among many others. He has toured with *The Lion King*, *Wicked!*, and *Les Miserables* and worked on the Broadway productions of *Miss Saigon* and *Five Guys Named Moe*. Locally, he has designed costumes for SpeakEasy and Boston Conservatory. Stacey is a graduate of the American Musical and Dramatic Academy.

Julia Talbot (Puppeteer) is thrilled to be at WFT for her 1st show. She has appeared with the Stoneham's Young Company as Mabel in *Pirates of Penzance* and Alonzo in *Cats*. Julia enjoys reading, drawing, and spending time with her family.

Gilesa Thomas (Eel), an 8th grader at Boston Latin Academy, loves strawberries, acting, and tennis. She is very happy to be in this production, and she hopes you enjoy the show.

Kimetra Thompson (Eel) is thrilled to be back on the WFT stage alongside her sister Tamyjah. WFT credits include *Charlotte's Web*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*,

and *Winnie-the-Pooh*. An 8th grader at Boston Latin Academy, Kimetra enjoys writing short stories, dancing, singing, and drawing. Thanks to her teachers, family, and friends.

Tamyjah Thompson (Crab), a 1st grader, always enjoys performing on the WFT stage alongside her sister Kimetra. She has appeared here in *Charlotte's Web* and in New Rep's *Ragtime*.

Christina Xiao (Crab) is excited to return to WFT's stage, where she was last seen as a Baby Spider in *Charlotte's Web*. She is a 1st grader at Andover School of Montessori and also studies piano at the NEC Preparatory School. In the past 2 years, she has been enrolled in the WFT theatre classes and summer programs.

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