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presents

Ramona Quimby

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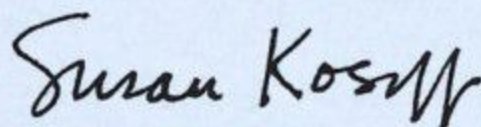
November 2004

Dear Theatre-goer,

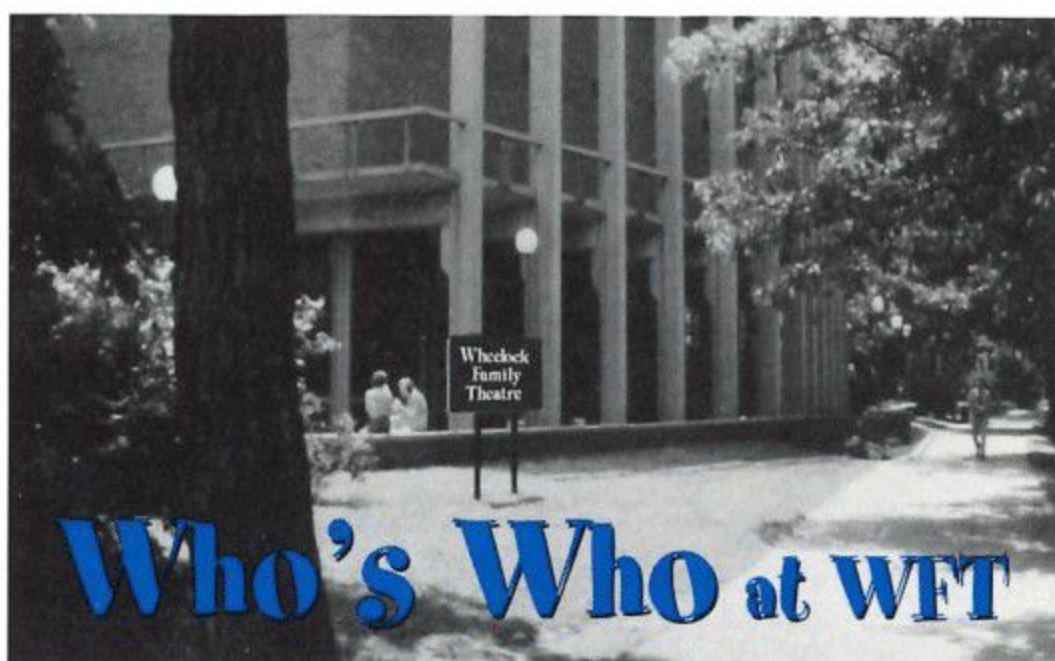
Welcome to Klickitat Street and the world of Ramona Quimby. It is a world peopled with folks like you and me, living out our lives and facing the kinds of challenges that are part of daily life: giving up a bad habit, losing one's job, getting along with siblings, adjusting to changes big and small. I suspect that what sustains the characters in *Ramona* - the unconditional love and unflagging support of family and friends and the ability to find humor in the human condition - is what sustains us all.

Working on this show has been a delightful process. We laughed often and had a lot of fun, and we hope that watching it will engender the same response in you. Especially important is our hope that Beezus's message will underscore the significance of how the ordinary is actually rather extraordinary. "People live here, and sometimes they're happy, and sometimes sad, with all their small everyday adventures - and their life goes on - in a kind of miraculous way."

Sincerely yours,



Susan Kosoff, *Producer*



Sirena Abalian (*Child in Commercial, Ensemble*) has enjoyed WFT classes, performed in the Boston Children's Opera's of *Cinderella*, and is in her third year at the Boston Ballet.

Andy Aldous (*Sound Designer*) is happy to be back at WFT, where he has also contributed to PAH! Deaf Youth Theatre's *A Nice Place to Live*, *Snow White*, *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, *Our Town*, and *The Tempest*, among others. Other recent credits include *Blues for an Alabama Sky* (Our Place) and *Asher's Command* (Nora). In his ninth season as the Huntington's house production sound engineer, Andy is currently running *Gem of the Ocean*.

Laurie Aldous (*Production Stage Manager*) is happy to be back at WFT and relieved to have finally completed her wedding plans - she tied the knot last August on top of Wildcat Mountain in Jackson, NH.

Lucy Annett (*ASL Interpreter*), originally from MN, holds CI/CT certification from the Registry of Interpreters for the Deaf. She freelance interprets and is on staff at Northeastern University. Theatre credits include *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, and *The Pirates of Penzance*. Much love and thanks to all who have supported her, especially her partner.

Rich Archer (*Technical Director*) majored in theatre arts at UMass and is a founding member of the Peabody House Theatre in Somerville. In the

(continued on page 4)

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WHO'S WHO (continued from page 3)

past, you may have seen his special effects in WFT's *Aladdin* and *The Hobbit* or his set design for *Snow White*. Rich is really excited about working with this team for *Ramona*.

Ken Baltin (*Mr. Quimby*) has most recently been seen in *Scapin* and *Waiting for Godot* (New Rep); *Haymarket* (Boston Playwrights'); *Conspiracy of Memory* (Boston Theatre Works); and *Glengarry Glen Ross* (Lyric). Other projects of note include the *Waverly Gallery*, *Twelfth Night*, and *American Buffalo* at the New Rep; *Laughter on the Twenty-third Floor* and *Lost in Yonkers* at the Lyric; *Art and Oleanna* at Merrimack Rep; *The Last Hurrah* at the Huntington; and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo* at the Jewish Theatre of NE. In addition to performing, Ken teaches acting at the Boston Conservatory.

Alexandra Barber (*Ensemble*) is a fourth grader at Cunningham Elementary in Milton. She loves acting, soccer, and swimming - and her dog, Butterscotch, most of all. Alex has enjoyed taking classes at WFT.

Michael Bartley (*Elephant, Ensemble*) has performed with WFT's Story Troupers and in a WFT Vacation Week Institute production of *I Never Saw Another Butterfly*. Other credits include *Twelfth Night* and *Fiddler on the Roof*. Michael likes reading, creative writing, hanging out with his friends, and foreign languages (he speaks French, Italian, and Latin and is learning Japanese).

Tom Bourque (*ASL Interpreter*) is a sophomore at Boston University who has performed with PAH! Deaf Youth Theatre and the Boston Children's Theatre. This is his third interpreting production.

Grace Brakeman (*Child in Commercial, Ensemble*), making her WFT debut, loves gymnastics, reading, and playing imaginary games. In real life, she is a Brownie.

(continued on page 5)

Wheelock Family Theatre Education Program

10% tuition discount for WFT Members

WHO'S WHO (continued from page 4)

Sarah Guyer Brown (*Brownie Leader, Waitress, Selma*) is happy to make her debut on the WFT stage and to be working with so many imaginative kids and adults. She received her master's degree in theatre education this September. You can see Sarah on KidStage! at the Boston Children's Museum and in occasional appearances with Theatre Espresso.

Drew Buckley (*Ensemble*) has taken classes and performed at WFT as a cat in *Snow White*. He has also appeared in Fiddlehead's *Little Red* and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Drew plays the piano; takes guitar lessons; enjoys hockey, lacrosse, and tennis; and is a coxswain for his crew team.

Anton Chaisson-Boucher (*Elephant, Ensemble*) has loved acting and performing since he was a preschooler. He has taken WFT classes for two years and especially enjoyed his stint in Story Troupers, performing at day camps and community centers around the Boston area. Anton has also appeared with the Massasoit College Teen Comedy Troupe.

Kiersten Cormack (*Whopperburger Boy, Ensemble*) has been acting and singing since she could walk and talk (or maybe even before), and she is thrilled to be in her second WFT production. She appeared here last season as a demon in *The Phantom Tollbooth* and performed the role of Timoun in *Once On This Island* at Derby Summer Arts. Love and thanks to her parents for being the greatest chauffeurs and to her friends for being so excited for her.

Libby Cornelissen (*Ensemble*) has appeared in *Godspell* and *Joseph . . . Dreamcoat*, among others. She enjoys singing in the choir at her church, dance, gymnastics, and lacrosse. Libby also likes summers at Charles River Creative Arts, vacations at NH lakes, and her pet cocker spaniel Lucky.

Jenny Donnelly (*Ensemble*), an eighth grader, most recently appeared as Rosalie in Boston Theater Bridge's *The Children's Hour*. For the last five years, she has performed with the competitive theatre group Destination Imagination. Jenny plays soccer for her school and runs cross-country for the Needham Track Club. She is excited to be making her WFT debut.

Ricardo Engermann (*Uncle Hobart*) is happy to return to WFT, where he has appeared in *Pippi Longstocking*, *The Trumpet of the Swan*, and *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*. Other credits include Philiste in Robert Walsh's production of *The Liar*; Xavier Bouvier in Israel Horovitz's *One Under* (Gloucester Stage); Horatio in *Hamlet* (Boston Theatre Works); and Moving Man/Asagai (understudy) in *Raisin in the Sun* and Leland Cunningham (understudy, performed 3/29/97) in *Blues for an Alabama Sky* at the Huntington. Ricardo also toured with the original cast of the ART's *Schlemiel I*.

(continued on page 7)

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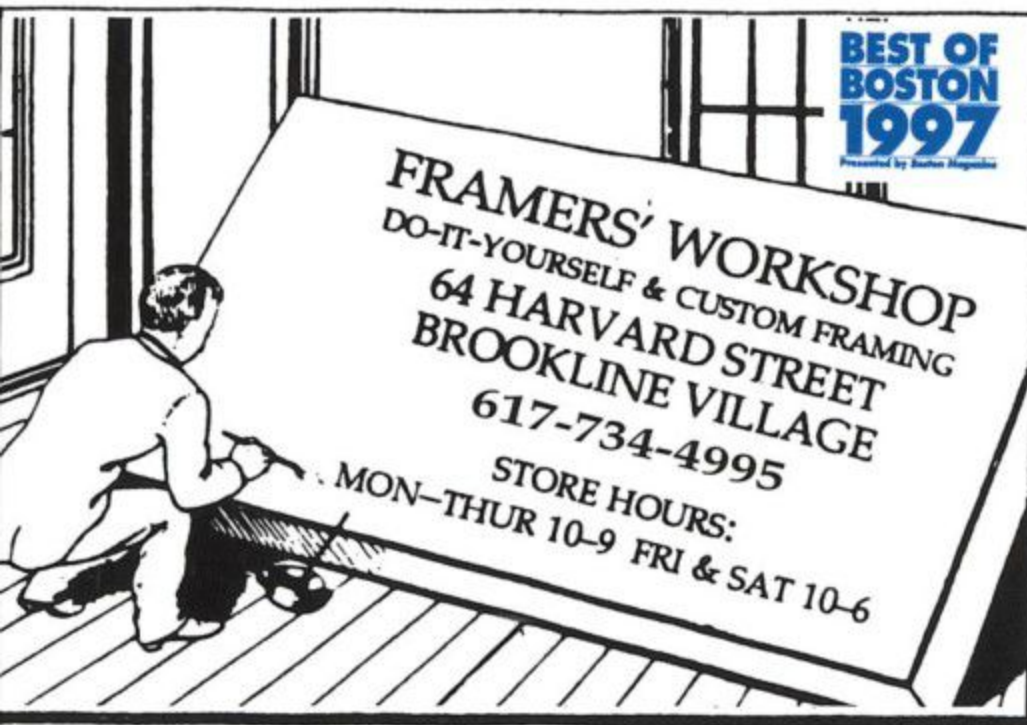
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WHO'S WHO (continued from page 5)

Marisol Getchell (*Ensemble*) enjoys drawing and writing. She has five pet birds and one hermit crab. Except for her appearance last year as a bunny in her school's production of *The Velveteen Rabbit*, this is Marisol's first experience on a big stage with real actors.

Arielle Goldhaber (*Ensemble*) is excited to be part of *Ramona*. She enjoys dance, gymnastics, swimming, and art.

Sydney Izen (*Ensemble*) takes ballet, jazz, hip hop, and tap and is on the traveling soccer team for the town of Brookline. She enjoys snowboarding in the winter and overnight camp in the summer. Sydney appeared in WFT's *Snow White* last spring.

Cheyenne Jones (*Ensemble*) has taken classes and performed at WFT for seven years. Past shows include *The Prince and the Pauper*, *Pippi Longstocking*, and *Snow White*. She has also appeared in *Charlotte's Web* at Boston Children's Theatre and presently performs with the Jammastics Dance Performance Team.

David Kaim (*Whopperburger Boy, Ensemble*), a sixth grader at the Driscoll School, has previously appeared at WFT in *Snow White* and *The Phantom Tollbooth*, and at the Nora in *Antigone*. His interests include singing, tennis, soccer, and drawing. David was born in Asuncion, Paraguay.

Maureen Keiller (*Mrs. Griggs*) is happy to be back with the Wheelock family playing yet another authoritarian figure. (She was last seen here as Mrs. Prysselius, the well meaning but misguided social worker in *Pippi Longstocking*.) Maureen has performed at many local theatres including Boston Theatre Works, SpeakEasy, the Lyric, and the Huntington. She just finished filming the role of Viv Belnap in the new Farrelly Brothers comedy *Fever Pitch*, starring Drew Barrymore. Maureen sends a big hug to Patrick, who has taught her a thing or two, and to Michael, who needs to learn.

Danila Korogodsky (*Set Designer*) comes from St. Petersburg, Russia, where he studied at Leningrad Theater Institute and worked as a resident designer at the Theater for Young Spectators. Since his first US show at HTY Honolulu in 1989, Danila has designed and taught in America. He is currently the head of stage design at CA State University, Long Beach and a resident designer at CA Repertory. Recent credits include *Dante Club*, *Knights of the Round Table*, *Lamark*, *Ivona Princess of Burgundia*, *Among the Chosen Few*, and *Pilgrims* (Cal Rep); *Die Burgschaft* (Spoleto Festival USA); *Between Two Worlds* (Lyric Opera of Chicago); *Queen of Spades* (Nantes Opera, France); *Uncle Vanya* (Bonn City Theatre, Germany); *Curlew River* (Japan Society, NY); *Reluctant Dragon* (MN Children's Theatre); *View from the Bridge* (Opera Theater of Pittsburgh); and *Ithaka* (Pittsburgh Playhouse).

(continued on page 7)

WHO's WHO (continued from page 6)

Susan Kosoff (*Director*), a founder of WFT and a professor of theatre and education at Wheelock College, has directed many productions here. She serves on the boards of Harwich Junior Theatre, Cultural Access Consortium, and StageSource, New England's alliance for theatre producers and artists.

Jake Kuhn (*Ensemble*) is a twin brother and an avid reader who enjoys origami, basketball, and swimming. He is a fourth grader at the Chestnut Hill School. Jake has appeared in *Magical Mystery Musical* and *Mystery Mansion* (Centre Stage Theatre School) and in school performances of *The Music Man* and *Kokopelli's Myths*.

Matthew Lazure (*Assistant Technical Director, Props*) is back for his third season at WFT. He is also the primary set painter for Ryan Landry's *Gold Dust Orphans*, working on such productions as *The Gulls*, *Scarrie*, and *The Exorsissy*.

Jacob Liberman (*Howie*) is delighted to be playing a third grader during his challenging junior year in high school at Gann Academy. Last seen here in *The Phantom Tollbooth*, he most recently played Jeff in *Kimberly Akimbo* (Boston Theatre Works) and Jack in *Into the Woods* (Wellesley Players). Other credits include *Pippi Longstocking*, *The Will Rogers Follies*, *Tuck Everlasting*, *Hello, Dolly!*, and *Anne of Green Gables* (WFT) and the roles of Randolph MacAfee in *Bye Bye Birdie* and Young Patrick in *Mame* (Wellesley Players). Jacob spent his summer with *Our Time Cabaret* at Stagedoor Manor. Special thanks to Sue, Laurel, and Jane and, as always, love and thanks to Mom, Dad, Katie, and Mimi.

Lance Mahon (*Ensemble*) played Jim in *The Adventures of Tom Sawyer* with Arlington Children's Theatre last summer. He enjoys swimming, watching the Red Sox, playing with his little sisters, drawing, and inventing games.

John R. Malinowski (*Lighting Designer*) has designed lighting for WFT's productions of *The Good Times Are Killing Me*; *Kiss Me, Kate*; and *Bel Canto*. He has also designed for SpeakEasy, the Lyric, the Sungan, the ART, and the Boston Conservatory. In 1996 John received an Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Design. From 2000-2002, he was a NEA/TCG Career Development Fellow. He is happy to be back in Boston.

Victoria Locke Maxfield (*Ensemble*), last seen here as Miss Cat in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*, has also appeared in local productions of *Alice in Wonderland*, *Newsies*, and *Urban Nutcracker*, among others. She has taken ballet, hip hop, and WFT classes. Victoria designs and knits hats that she sells under her own label, "Spiced Plum."

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PRODUCTION STAGE MANAGER Laurie Aldous*	ASL INTERPRETERS Lucy Annett, Tom Bourque	AUDIO-DESCRIBER TBA

THE CAST

Ramona Quimby	Andrea C. Ross
Beezus Quimby	Helen McElwain*
Mrs. Quimby	Monique Nicole McIntyre*
Mr. Quimby	Ken Baltin*
Aunt Bea	Sonya Raye*
Howie Kemp	Jacob Liberman
Uncle Hobart	Ricardo Engermann*
Mrs. Kemp	Jane Staab*
Mrs. Griggs	Maureen Keiller*
Susan	Yindy Vatanavan
Brownie Leader, Waitress, Selma	Sarah Guyer Brown
Cub Scout Leader, Mr. Frost, Doctor, Sponsor	Gary Thomas Ng*
Old Man, Director, Minister	Wesley Lawrence Taylor
Elephant	Michael Bartley, Anton Chaisson-Boucher
Child in Commercial	Sirena Abalian, Grace Brakeman
Whopperburger Boy	Kiersten Cormack, David Kaim
Dog	Chester

ENSEMBLE

Alexandra Barber, Drew Buckley, Libby Cornelissen, Jenny Donnelly, Marisol Getchell, Arielle Goldhaber, Sydney Izen, Cheyenne Jones, Jake Kuhn, Lance Mahon, Victoria Locke Maxfield, Taylor Mobley, Garrett Nelson, Rebecca Robinson, Rose Rodgers-Dryfoos, Emily Ronna, Rachel Rosenzweig, Lilia Rubin, Megan Uehlein, Kenan Johnson Verna

Ramona Quimby is dedicated to the memory of Muriel Hirt, WFT Board Member, Patron, and Friend.

WFT's wireless amplification system was made possible by a generous grant from the Cabot Family Charitable Trust.

Lighting for the Little Theatre was made possible by the generous support of Suzanne Newton.

Costumes for this production were created with the support of Suzanne Weinstein in honor of Frederick Weinstein.

There will be one 15-minute intermission between the acts. Ask the House Manager for individual sound enhancement devices. The taking of photographs and use of recording devices is strictly forbidden. Please turn off cell phones and beepers. Please, no eating or drinking in the theatre.

Produced by special arrangement with THE DRAMATIC PUBLISHING COMPANY of Woodstock, Illinois.

Wheelock Family Theatre is a member of StageSource, the Alliance of Theatre Artists and Producers, and the Theatre Artists' Marketing Alliance.



*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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SPECIAL THANKS

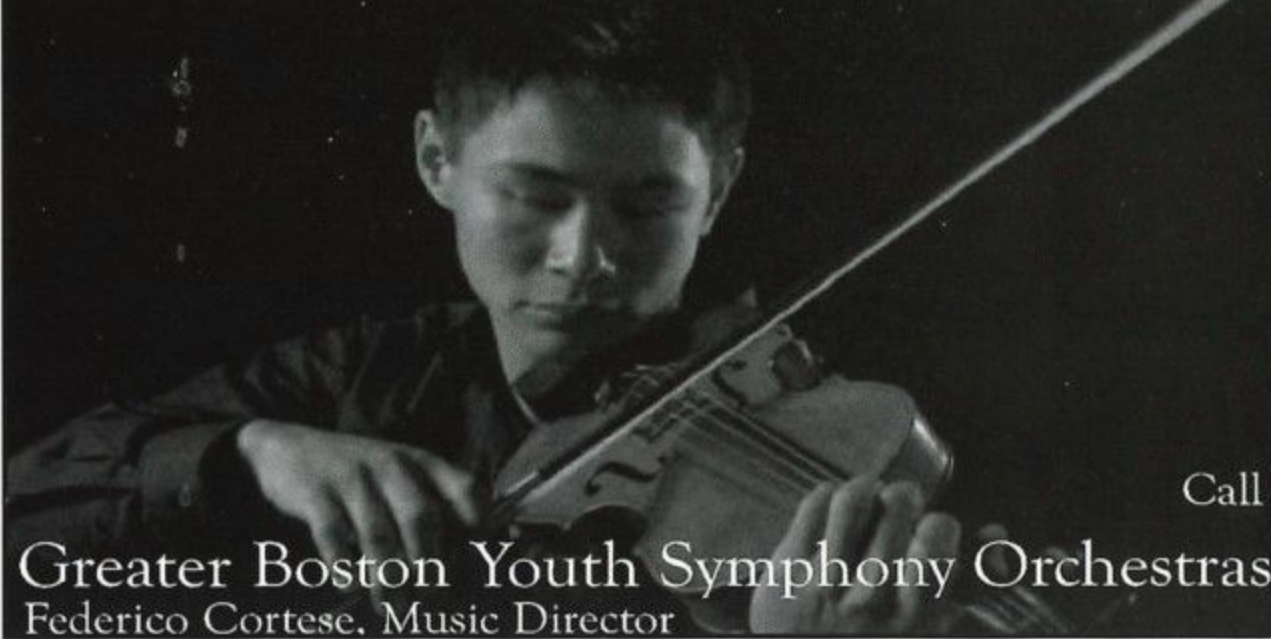
Marianne Adams; Lisa Fay; Jonathan Goldberg; Kevin Greeley; Harwich Junior Theatre; Andrea Healy; Tim Healy; Manny Heckley, Susan Mackey, Don Simpson, and members of the Wheelock College Facilities staff; Huntington Theatre prop shop; Sue Landers; Joni Liberman; Ann Manning; Chris Marinis for wheel animation; Jeff Mullen; John O'Neil and Dolly Baker for finding the tune for "Ramona"; Patriots' Trail Girl Scouts; Ann Sorvari for the study guide; Chip Towle, Sandy Tubbs, and Nancy Johnson; Clyde Younger; 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.

WFT is supported in part by grants from the Actors' Equity Foundation; Bank of America; The Massachusetts Cultural Council, The Peabody Foundation; Wheelock College; VSA arts of Massachusetts; and the Yawkey Foundation. Wheelock Family Theatre is a participant in the New Generations Program, funded by Doris Duke Charitable Foundation/The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation and administered by Theatre Communications Group, the national organization for the American theatre.

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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WHO's WHO (continued from page 7)

Helen McElwain (*Beezus*) appeared most recently in *Boston Marriage* at Merrimack Rep. Other credits include *2 Lives* (Lyric); *The House of Yes* (Coyote); *Over It* (Next Stages); *Trust* (Sugan); and *Fuddy Meers* and *The Most Fabulous Story Ever Told* (SpeakEasy). Helen has also worked with Centastage, the Underground Railway Theatre, the Publick, North Shore, and the Huntington, among others. Upcoming: *Matter Familias* at Boston Playwrights' and *My Heart and My Flesh* at Coyote.

Monique Nicole McIntyre (*Mrs. Quimby*) is thrilled to be back at WFT, where she was last seen as Rachel Wood in *The Witch of Blackbird Pond*. Favorite roles include Rachel Lynde in *Anne of Green Gables* and Mrs. Willis in *The Good Times Are Killing Me*. Monique has also performed at the Lyric Stage (IRNE Award for Quilly in *The Old Settler*), the Nora, Merrimack Rep, New Rep, and the OR Shakespeare Festival. Currently, she can be seen in commercials for Channel 5/MA Lottery and Dunkin' Donuts. Many kisses for Boo Bear and Sweet Pea!

Taylor Mobley (*Ensemble*) is happy to be a part of the cast of *Ramona Quimby*. She has taken WFT classes, as well as voice lessons and musical theatre classes at the All Newton Music School. In her free time, Taylor enjoys reading, basketball, family time, dress up, singing, and playing with her dolls and friends.

Garrett Nelson (*Ensemble*) made his WFT debut in *The Trumpet of the Swan*. He has appeared in various productions in Randolph and Brockton and enjoys basketball, golf, gymnastics, and acting out scenes from *Titanic*. Garrett is a member of the 2004 North Little League Baseball champions.

Gary Thomas Ng (*Cub Scout Leader, Mr. Frost, Doctor, Sponsor*) is happy to be returning to WFT, where he was last seen in *The Phantom Tollbooth*. Other credits include *Children of Eden* at North Shore; *Sideshow* at the Lyric; *Grease, Joseph... Dreamcoat*, and *Footloose* at the Ogunquit Playhouse; and the Far East tour of Cole Porter's *Aladdin*. Favorite roles include Paul in *A Chorus Line*, Jacob in *La Cage Aux Folles*, Norman Bulansky in *The Boys Next Door*, and King Herod in *Jesus Christ Superstar*. If you look quickly, you might see Gary in a commercial for Dunkin' Donuts currently airing.

Marian Piro (*Costume Designer*) co-founded Costumes by Illusions in 1986 and designs for theatres nationally and locally. In and about the Boston area, the company has worked with Chiswick Park, the Lyric, North Shore, and WFT. Among the many shows she has designed professionally are *The King and I*, *Lend Me a Tenor*, *As You Like It*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *The Secret Garden*, and *Chicago*.

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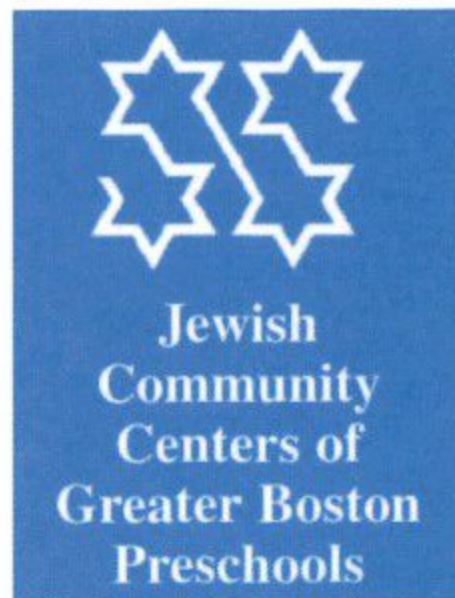
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WHO'S WHO (continued from page 11)

Sonya Raye (*Aunt Bea*), a proud member of Actors' Equity and SAG, recently performed in a US touring company as Harriet Tubman. She was nominated for an IRNE Award as Best Supporting Actress for her performance in *City Preacher* and appeared as JaySan in Letta Neely's *Hamartia Blues*. Her work has been showcased at the Women on Top Theatre Festival, African-American Theatre Festival, Boston Playwrights', Boston Center for the Arts, and Berklee Performance Center, to name a few. Theatrical roles include Tayeesha in *Elvis Heals* (with Chris Cooper) at the 2001 Woods Hole Film Festival, Millie/Petunia in *Trouble in Mind*, Angel in *Marisol*, Monologue #11 in *The Vagina Monologues*, and Eunice Hubbell in *A Streetcar Named Desire*.

Rebecca Robinson (*Ensemble*) was last seen here in *Pippi Longstocking*. A student at Brown Middle School, she loves animals, art, and theatre.

Rose Rodgers-Dryfoos (*Ensemble*) plays soccer and tennis and has read all of the "Ramona" books. She has a very cute dog named Ginger Pye.

Emily Ronna (*Ensemble*) is a busy fifth grader who loves performing. She lives in Cambridge with two hamsters, one rabbit, three cats, one dog, two guinea pigs, twelve fish, one mother, one father, and one brother. Among her interests are church choir, piano, violin, basketball, skating, Broadway musicals, and Avril Lavigne!

Rachel Rosenzweig (*Ensemble*) is excited to be joining the WFT community! Past credits include Boston Theater Bridge's *The Children's Hour* and plays with Turtle Lane's Summer Children's Workshop. A student at Brookline High, Rachel enjoys singing, dancing, and reading.

Andrea C. Ross (*Ramona*), an eighth grade student in Franklin, MA, is delighted to be performing again with WFT and this fantastic cast! Her first appearance here was as Winnie Foster in *Tuck Everlasting*. Other professional stage credits include Fredrika in *A Little Night Music* with the Lyric; *Lizzie Borden* (Young Lizzie) at Stoneham; and *Annie* (title role) with Trinity Rep. Film credits include *A House Divided* (Jodom Pictures). Thanks to Sue and Jane!

Lilia Rubin (*Ensemble*), an Arlington seventh grader, has performed the roles of Ojo the Unlucky in *The Patchwork Girl of Oz* (Arlington Children's Theatre), Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Young Cosette in *Les Miserables*, and Grandma Tzeitel in *Fiddler on the Roof*. Lilia enjoys playing soccer, rock climbing, horseback riding, and writing.

Jane Staab (*Mrs. Kemp*) is thrilled to be working alongside two of her protégés, Andrea and Jacob - along with old favorite WFT alums Ricardo, Monique, Gary, Maureen, and Wesley - and newcomers Sarah,

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WHO's WHO (continued from page 12)

Yindy, Helen, Sonya, and Ken - in addition to all the talented young people who enrich our theatre experience. Jane, WFT's casting director and general manager for 24 years, has worked on stages from coast to coast, but is happy to say WFT is her home.

Laurel Stachowicz (*Choreographer*) is happy to return to WFT, having also choreographed *Snow White*, *The Phantom Tollbooth*, *Pippi Longstocking*, and *The Will Rogers Follies* (for which she won the IRNE award for Best Choreography). Other credits include *Ragtime* and *Chicago* (Foothills) and the East Coast premiere of *Aida* (Wachusett). Laurel will be graduating from Smith College this December. Thank you Susan, Jane, Michael, Molly, Nyssa, and this wonderful cast!

Wesley Lawrence Taylor (*Old Man, Director, Minister*) is pleased to be back at WFT, where he has previously appeared in *Our Town*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, and *Inherit the Wind*. Other favorite productions include *A Fair Country* (SpeakEasy), *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest* (Spiral Stage), *Of Mice and Men* (Stanley B.), *Not About Nightingales* (Boston Theatre Works), and *Native Speech* (Molasses Tank). Wesley is also a member of the Grimes Theatre Group and its national touring company of *The Meeting*.

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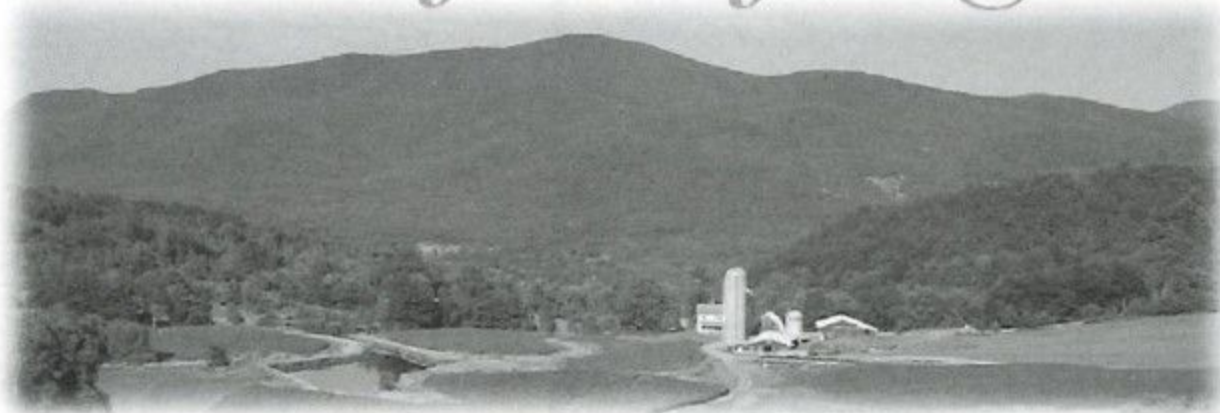
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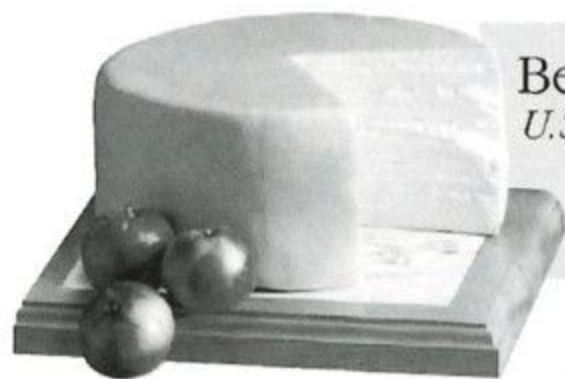
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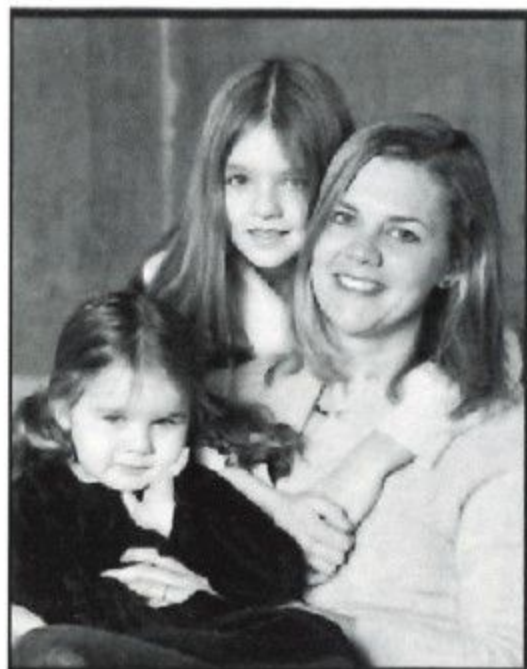
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WHO's WHO (continued from page 13)

Megan Uehlein (*Ensemble*) was last seen here in *Snow White*. Currently involved in acting, voice, and dance lessons, she also enjoys many sports and loves school. She especially enjoys hanging out with her friends, her mom, and her dad. Megan has two cats, as well as an assortment of fish, a turtle, and a hamster - all of which interest the cats!

Yindy Vatanavan (*Susan*) has appeared in Theatre Cooperative's *Letters to a Student Revolutionary* (Mother, Chorus 1, Mexican Lady); *Lead Me to the Valley Virginia Cha, Virginia Cha* (Virginia); *Creation of the World and Other Business* (Azreal), and *Happy Daughter* (Carol). She has also directed Theatre Coop's *What to Do with Mom?* and *Balloon Bending*. Yindy teaches kindergarten, first, and second grade in Brookline. Her interests include photography, Hitchcock movies, and ballroom dancing. She is a recent Northeastern graduate with a degree in theatre.

Kenan Johnson Verna (*Ensemble*) has taken classes at WFT and performed with Boston Children's Theatre. A former member of the West End House dance ensemble The Remotez, Kenan enjoys video games, baseball, football, and reading.

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