

# *Standing* OVATION

THIS PRODUCTION  
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**Don't Let  
the Pigeon  
Drive  
the Bus!**  
The Musical!

**JAN. 7 - 23, 2022**



THE **PLAYHOUSE**

#DMPlayhouse

# Great Red Wine

*made in Iowa from Grapes grown in Iowa*

## ***Iowa In the Dark***

is a dry red with light and fresh flavors. First impressions are tangy acid followed by black cherry fading to plum followed by a drying mid-palate and a long, pleasing finish. Made from Marquette, St. Croix, Petite Pearl, and Steuben grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, *Iowa In the Dark* is a versatile wine that will pair nicely with grilled meat and spicy dishes including Asian and Mexican. Serve at room temperature.

## ***2019 Iowa Marquette***

is a dry red that teases the palate with a fresh, lightly acidic entry transitioning to raspberry and black cherry and a medium-long finish. A versatile food pairing wine, *2019 Iowa Marquette* will pair nicely with grilled beef, chicken, or pasta. Serve at room temperature.

Tassel Ridge wines are sold at the Winery and over 400 retailers in Iowa (visit [www.tasselridge.com/retail](http://www.tasselridge.com/retail) for a list). Winery operations are continually changing. As of September 1, 2021, Tassel Ridge Winery is open only for to-go purchases. Please visit [www.tasselridge.com](http://www.tasselridge.com) for updates on hours and the return of Wine Tasting, Tours, Events, and Food Service. You can also order Tassel Ridge Wine shipped directly to your door in Iowa, Arizona, California, Colorado, DC, Florida, Minnesota, Missouri, and Texas (adult signature required for receipt of wine).



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**David R. Kilpatrick**  
Executive Director

We are so excited to see you at our production of *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* To read this simple yet enchanting book by Mo Willems is to enjoy something special. To see it brought to life on the stage expands everyone's perception of art and literature. If you haven't read the book, you should check it out on your next trip the library (pun intended).

As 2022 begins, we celebrate that we once again feel comfortable enough to enjoy the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre. The connection between the audience and performers in this space is extraordinary. I speak for the entire company when I say we've missed this theatre and we've missed our special young audiences. Thank you for continuing to share theatre with our future theatre-goers today.

Of course, we won't rest on our laurels. We hope to see you back in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre when we present *Charlotte's Web* in March and *Pippi Longstocking* in late April. You know that we will always give you our best as we tell children's stories.

Thank you for all that you do to make The Des Moines Community Playhouse, your community theatre, for today and for tomorrow!

The poster art for 'Charlotte's Web' features a silhouette of a cat looking up at a spider on a web against a sunset sky with clouds. The title 'Charlotte's Web' is written in a large, stylized font.

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**ON THE  
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**FOR TICKETS:**  
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From all the volunteers, cast, crew,  
and staff at The Playhouse...

# Thank you for your support!

**To make a donation, please contact:**

**Ryan Crane**

Director of Philanthropy  
515.974.5370  
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Donors listed are current from March 1, 2021 to  
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Additional partnerships are  
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## Corporate Matching Gifts

Your personal gift to The Playhouse may be eligible for a corporate match, increasing your impact. Many corporations

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## Tribute Program

The Tribute Program provides an opportunity to celebrate milestones such as birthdays, weddings, anniversaries and graduations. It can also be a way to honor the memory of friends and relatives.

In Honor of Ryan "The Man" Crane  
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## Century Club

In our first century, The Des Moines Playhouse changed lives one at a time. The Century Club is a celebration of The Playhouse's first 100 years. The goal is to increase the endowment by \$1 million, one gift at a time. The culmination of small gifts from many supporters will create a sustainable future for your theatre.

### Cornerstone Level (\$5,000+)

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We also recognize those who have included The Playhouse in their estate plans prior to the Century Club.

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An \* indicates a deceased donor.

**Don't see your name?** Those listed in this program have generously supported The Playhouse since March 1, 2021. If we've made a mistake, please contact Jada Smith, office administrator, at 515.974.5356 or jsmith@dmplayhouse.com. Gifts of \$100 or more are listed in every playbill throughout the season. Gifts under \$100 are recognized in the spring musical playbill each year.



## AUDITIONS

6 PM, MON., JAN 24

PERFORMANCE: Mar. 25 – Apr. 10, 2022

PRESENTED IN THE JOHN VIARS THEATRE  
Directed by Erin Horst

### CAST NEEDS:

**SUPPORTING & ENSEMBLE ROLES:** Any Gender, Ages 16 & up  
Many cast members will be returning from the canceled March/April 2020 production for this remount.  
There will be auditions for new cast members.

[DMPlayhouse.com/Audition](https://www.dmplayhouse.com/Audition)



# HOUSE INFORMATION

## COVID-19 UNIQUE POLICIES

- Guests are required to wear face coverings while inside the building.
- Hand sanitizing stations are located throughout the lobbies for public use.
- Guests with COVID-19 symptoms such as a temperature of 100.4°F or higher or other symptoms, either before or during a performance, are asked to leave and exchange their tickets for a later performance.
- All tickets will be refunded or exchanged without fee upon request.
- Programs are available in print and digitally.

## GENERAL PRACTICES

### Accessibility

The Playhouse strives to make its facility and performances accessible to all guests. Our theatres are wheelchair accessible. Service animals are welcome. Assisted listening devices are available in the John Viars Theatre. If your hearing aid has a T-coil, toggle to that setting to receive the audio signal directly without any headset or other equipment needed. ASL interpreted performances and audio description performances are available upon request. For these and other needs, please call the ticket office with specific service requests.

### Cameras

The taking of photographs and the use of recording devices are not allowed during a performance and are a violation of state and federal copyright laws.

### Cancellations

If a show is cancelled due to bad weather, an email will be sent to ticket holders. Cancellations will be noted on the phone system, website, and social media sites. Tickets for a cancelled performance may be exchanged for another performance. Please be sure the ticket office has your email information and current phone in the event a performance is cancelled. The Playhouse does not sell its contacts and does not sell or trade its email addresses.

### Concessions

A variety of beverages and candy may be available for purchase and are allowed in auditoriums. No outside drink or food are allowed. Staff reserve the right to deny alcoholic beverage service to anyone at their discretion.

### Elevator

An elevator between levels is located at the east end of the building.

## Emergency Exits

Please note the exit nearest your seat location. In the event of an emergency, guest services staff will provide direction.

## Etiquette

Latecomers will be seated at an appropriate break in the play. Lobby chimes are sounded five minutes before curtain as well as the close of intermission. Disruptive, unruly guests, regardless of age, will be asked to leave. Cell phone ringers should be turned off.

## Lost Items

Lost items will be held in the ticket office.

## Parking

Free parking is available in The Playhouse lots and on streets surrounding the theatre. After 5:00 PM daily, free parking is available in the Shops at Roosevelt's east/back parking lot. Parking in the west/front Shops parking lot is always restricted to Shops customers. The Playhouse is not responsible for loss of any personal property left in vehicles.

## Performance Content

The Playhouse does not rate subject matter as sensitivities vary from person to person. Questions about content, age appropriateness, or other aspects of the show such as strobe lights and other theatrical affects should be directed to the ticket office.

## Performance Schedule

The regular John Viars Theatre performance schedule is 7:30 PM Wednesdays through Saturdays and 2:00 PM Sundays. The regular Kate Goldman Children's Theatre performance schedule is 7:00 PM Fridays, and 1:00 PM and 4:00 PM Saturdays and Sundays. The Family Holiday Classic performance schedule is 7:00 PM Wednesdays through Fridays, and 1:00 PM and 5:00 PM Saturdays and Sundays. All times are subject to change.

## Preshow Talk

A preshow talk for each John Viars Theatre performance will begin 30 minutes prior to curtain in the west lobby.

## Tickets

Each audience member must occupy a seat and have a ticket, including infants.

## Ticket Office Hours

The ticket office is open Noon to 5:00 PM, Tuesdays through Fridays, and 90 minutes prior to performances. Tickets are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week, online. Ticketing fees are the same whether purchased online, by phone, or at the ticket office.

## Des Moines Community Playhouse

831 42nd Street  
Des Moines, IA 50312



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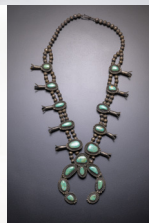
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MUSICAL NUMBERS

*I Never Get to Do Anything (Parts 1, 2, 3)* .....Pigeon

*Bus Driver* .....Bus Driver, Pigeon

*What Could Have Been* ..... Pigeon, Ducklings, Bus

*Let Me Drive the Bus!*.....Pigeon, Bus Driver, Passengers

*The Takeaway* .....Pigeon

*The Bus Breaks Down*

*Panic at the Bus Stop!*.....Bus Driver, Passengers

*Pigeon/Passenger Panic*.....Pigeon, Passengers

*I'm Broken*..... Pigeon, Bus Driver

*Keep Flappin'* .....Pigeon, Bus Driver, Passengers

*The Bus is Fixed!*

*Do My Thing*.....Pigeon

*Can I Fly the Plane?* ..... Pigeon, Audience, All

*Bows and Adulation* .....All

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27th Season

Opening January 7, 2022  
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Des Moines Community Playhouse Presents in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre

***DON'T LET THE PIGEON DRIVE THE BUS!***  
***THE MUSICAL!***

Based on the book *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* by Mo Willems

Published by Hyperion Books for Children

Script by Mo Willems and Mr. Warburton

Lyrics by Mo Willems

Music by Deborah Wicks La Puma

Dramaturgy by Megan Alrutz

This play was commissioned by the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts and was first produced at the Kennedy Center during the 2019-20 season.

Presented by Nationwide

Director: **Peter Dean**

Music Director: **Tina Haase Findlay**

Choreographer: **Madi Brauer**

Scenic Designer: **Katherine Stepanek**

Costume & Puppet Designer: **Angela Lampe**

Lighting Designer: **Abby Kilpatrick**

Properties Designers: **Sara Guerrero, Don Rothweiler**

Stage Manager: **Jessie Curry**

Playhouse Artistic Director: **Katy Merriman**

**Cast**

In Order of Appearance

\*Indicates Playhouse Debut

Actor 1 (The Pigeon) .....	<b>Brett Spahr</b>
Actor 2 (The Bus Driver) .....	<b>Greg Millar</b>
Actor 3 (Hot Dog Vendor/Passenger: Business Man/Backup Duckling 1/Airplane Engine) .....	<b>Lou Ramsey*</b>
Actor 4 (2nd Pigeon/The Duckling/The Bus Engine/The Bus/Bus Driver's Mom/Puppy) .....	<b>Payton Boesch</b>
Actor 5 (City Worker/Passenger: Teenager/Backup Duckling 2) .....	<b>Madeline Davis</b>
Actor 6 (Passenger: Little Old Lady/Backup Duckling 3) .....	<b>Julianne (JP) Ungs</b>

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* is presented without intermission.

*Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. [www.mtishows.com](http://www.mtishows.com).

Streaming is presented by special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI), New York, NY.

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

## CAST NOTES



**Payton Boesch (Actor 4)** made her Playhouse debut earlier this season as Elf Ellen in *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* Active in theatre at her alma mater, Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall, she appeared in *The Crucible* (Elizabeth Proctor), *Dead Man's Cell Phone* (Jean), and her favorite *Boeing, Boeing* (Bertha). Payton works at Cetera Financial Group. In her free time, she likes watching movies, reading, and playing with her dogs, a border collie mix named Skeeter and a Welsh corgi named Loki.



**Madeline Davis (Actor 5)** is a freshman at Grand View Christian School. Maddie loves to dance and anything theatrical and has been in numerous area shows including *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical* and *Billy Elliot The Musical* at The Playhouse, *Willy Wonka Kids* (Willy Wonka) and *Mary Poppins Jr* (Mary Poppins) in The Playhouse's Performance Academy, *Annie Jr* (Annie) with CAP Theatre, and *Disney's The Hunchback of Notre Dame* at Carousel Theatre, Indianola.



**Greg Miller (Actor 2)** started at The Playhouse with his first role in *Hello, Dolly!* Since then, he has had lead roles in *Annie*, *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang*, *Leaving Iowa*, and many more including his favorites, Harold in *The Full Monty* and Santa in *Elf – The Musical*. Greg has stage managed over a dozen shows and taught several summer and break classes. He and his wife, Carol, have three children, Ben, Shelby, and Taylor.



**Lou Ramsey (Actor 3)** is making his Playhouse debut, but counts among his credits *Kiss Me*, *Kate* (Gangster 2) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Robin Starveling/ Philostrate) at Ankeny Community Theatre and *She Kills Monsters* (Chuck) and *The Last Days of Judas Escariot* (Matthias of Galilee/Loretta) at Iowa City Community Theatre. Lou is a receptionist at America's Best Contacts and Eyeglasses in Ankeny. He likes making and listening to music, dancing around the house, watching horror movies, and working at haunted houses and escape rooms.



**Brett Spahr (Actor 1)** has been in many shows at The Playhouse and received the Dionysos Award for Outstanding Performance for *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (D'Ysquith Family), *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein* (Igor), *Chitty Chitty Bang Bang* (The Childcatcher, a favorite role), and *Monty Python's Spamalot* (Patsy). Brett is a teacher with West Des Moines Schools and teaches theatre arts at The Playhouse. He and his wife, Robin, have two daughters, Lily and Nina.



**Julianne (JP) Ungs (Actor 6)** is a junior at Drake University earning a B.F.A. in theatre design and technology. At Drake, they were properties designer for *Medea* and *Into the Woods*. Other area theatre credits include assistant set designer for *13 The Musical* at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre. JP has done nearly everything at The Playhouse, starting as a theatre student, appearing onstage in shows such as *Elf – The Musical*, PIP-ing (pre intern program), and working as a college technical and education intern.



**Peter Dean (Director)** counts among his numerous Playhouse shows *Choices* (Frank Gates), *The Addams Family* (Lurch), *Girls' Weekend* (Sheriff Tom), *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* (Mr. Hatcher), *The Wizard of Oz* (Cowardly Lion), *The Drowsy Chaperone* (Gangster), and *How I Became a Pirate* (Sharktooth, for which he won a Dionysos Award). He has been an assistant director at The Playhouse for the 2018 production of *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever* and the 2019 production of *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical* and directed *Leaving Iowa* and *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* last season. He is a member of the Friday Funday cast, member of Playhouse Partners, and was a recipient of a 2017 Dionysos Award for Volunteer of the Year. He is an adjudicator for both the IHSSA and IHSMTA supporting the arts in Iowa High Schools. Peter and his wife, Melody, have three daughters, Riley, Caitlyn, and Kenzie.

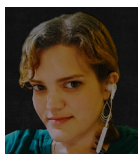




**Tina Haase Findlay** (*Music Director*) has more than 50 years as a performer. She is one of the only women in the Des Moines Jazz Hall of Fame, a two-time Iowa Blues Challenge champion, and two-time winner of Prairie Meadows Vocal Hero. She has headlined nearly every major music festival in Des Moines over the past 20 years. A composer and arranger, Tina has been a vocal coach for the past 20 years and has 13 years music ministry leadership experience. Her voice can be heard in many commercial jingles such as "Iowa, You Make Me Smile," Northern Lights Pizza, and Des Moines Mitsubishi. At The Playhouse, Tina has appeared in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Narrator), *Ain't Misbehavin'*, and the theatre's Celebration of the Century. She was music director for *Polkadots: The Cool Kids Musical* last season. Tina says her greatest joys in life are her husband, Brandon, and her daughter, Dove.



**Madi Brauer** (*Choreographer*), LGBTQ+ educator with Madi Brauer LLC, received their Bachelor of Arts in social work with a minor in dance from Luther College. At Luther, they choreographed and danced in numerous pieces including *Who Do You Trust?* with dance curation and directography by Jane Hawley. Their theatre experience includes tapping in *Crazy for You* (Mounds View Community Theatre, New Brighton, MN) and ushering for The Playhouse's summer tent theatre series. Madi enjoys practicing yoga, hiking, creating art, finding free things on Facebook Marketplace, pet-sitting, and connecting with others.



**Katherine Stepanek** (*Scenic Designer*) received her bachelor's degree in lighting design from Webster University (Webster Groves, MO) and her masters in scenic design from the University of Tennessee. This is her first design for The Playhouse. Among her favorite scenic designs are *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed* for The Rose Theatre in Omaha, *The Hobbit* for Lexington (KY) Children's Theatre, *Descendants* for Appalachian Center for the Arts in Pikeville, KY, and *Million Dollar Quartet* at Clarence Brown Theatre in Knoxville, TN. In addition to her design work, Katie is a self-defense instructor and a yoga instructor.



**Angela Lampe** (*Costume Designer/ Associate Artistic Director*) began her tenure with The Playhouse in 1993 and has designed costumes, sets, and props for nearly 300 productions including *Guys and Dolls*, *Meredith Willson's The Music Man*, *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Ella Enchanted*, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, *Ragtime*, *Les Misérables*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *West Side Story*, *Into the Woods*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Sunset Boulevard*, and *Hairspray*. She has a B.A. from Central College in Pella and a M.F.A. in theatre from the University of Nebraska. She is the recipient of four Cloris Awards for excellence in costuming and puppetry.



**Abby Kilpatrick** (*Lighting Designer*) is a freshman at Northwest Missouri State University studying business management and theatre tech and design. While in high school, she volunteered on several Playhouse backstage crews and worked with a mentor designing lights for The Playhouse's 2019 production of *Disney's Freaky Friday One Act*. Abby is excited to have been invited by artistic director Katy Merriman to return to The Playhouse as lighting designer for *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* She is looking forward to sharing her artistry and expanded skills on *Pigeon*.



**Sara Guerrero** (*Properties Designer*) enjoys building or crafting just about anything. For The Playhouse, she created props for *Cabaret*. She really enjoyed finding items from the period as research is one of her favorite pastimes. Her favorite prop for *Cabaret* was the large stack of German Reichsmark for the "Money" scene. Sara is an account manager at Storey Kenworthy and lives in West Des Moines with her two children.



**Don Rothweiler** (*Properties Designer*) has been performing at The Playhouse since 1991, when he played Cinderella's Father in *Into the Woods*. Most recently, he played Manos in the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*. He says his favorite Playhouse role to date was The Chairman in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. He also performed with Actors on Tour, The Playhouse's educational

## CAST NOTES

outreach company. Don is a retired ELCA Lutheran pastor. He enjoys graphic arts, puppetry design, and scenic design and construction. He resides in Ankeny with his wife, Jayme, a musician. Don was named a Playhouse Volunteer of the Year in 2018 and 2021.



**Jessie Curry** (*Stage Manager*) recently moved from Omaha with her fiancé, Christopher. While earning her B.A. in theatre from the University of Nebraska - Omaha, Jessie stage managed performances at the Bellevue

Little Theatre, Papillion La Vista Community Theatre, Chanticleer Community Theater (Council Bluffs), and American Midwest Ballet (Omaha). A lover of all things Disney, Jessie works for an entertainment company and performs at parties as princesses, superheroes, and other popular characters. She is a registered behavior technician at Stride Autism Centers and one day plans to have a theatre for the autism community.



**Katy Merriman** (*Artistic Director*) has been an active member of the local theatre community since moving to Des Moines in 2013. Her Playhouse directing credits include *The Sound of Music*; the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*;

the co-production with Pyramid Theatre Company, *A Love Offering* (co-directed with Tiffany Johnson); *Some Enchanted Evening*; *Stuart Little*; *I and You*; *The Roommate*; *Love Letters*; and *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* Prior to becoming artistic director, Katy appeared on The Playhouse stage in shows including *Into the Woods* (Cinderella), *Les Misérables* (Cosette), *Completeness* (Molly), and *Legally Blonde the Musical* (Elle Woods) and was the musical director for The Playhouse Performance Academy from 2016 to 2018. Katy worked with Iowa Stage Theatre Company as a resident artist where her performance credits include *The Glass Menagerie* (Laura) and *Our Town* (Emily). She also directed their 2018 production of *Fun Home*. Prior to her time in Des Moines, Katy worked with numerous theatres as a performer, director, and administrator. She has a Bachelor of Music from Butler University in Indianapolis, IN.



**Mo Willems** (*Playwright/Lyricist*), a #1 New York Times Bestseller, began his career as a writer and animator for PBS' *Sesame Street* where he garnered six Emmy Awards for his writing. During his nine seasons at *Sesame*

*Street*, Mo also served as a weekly commentator for BBC Radio and created two animated series, Nickelodeon's *The Off-Beats* and Cartoon Network's *Sheep in the Big City*. While serving as head writer for Cartoon Network's #1 rated show *Codename: Kids Next Door*, Mo began writing and drawing books for children. His debut effort, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!*, became a New York Times Bestseller and was awarded a Caldecott Honor in 2004. The following year *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale* was awarded a Caldecott Honor. The sequel, *Knuffle Bunny Too: A Case of Mistaken Identity*, garnered Mo his third Caldecott Honor in 2008. In addition to picture books, Mo created the Elephant and Piggie books which were awarded the Theodor Seuss Geisel Medal in 2008 and 2009 and a Geisel Honor in 2011. For older audiences he has published an illustrated memoir of his year-long trip around the world in 1990-91 entitled *You Can Never Find a Rickshaw When It Monsoons*. Mo's drawings, wire sculptures, and ceramics (done in collaboration with his father) have been exhibited in numerous galleries and museums across the nation and his graphic story about his family experiences during 9/11 for DC comics resides in the Library of Congress' permanent collection. Mo has been heard on NPR's *All Things Considered* where he occasionally serves as the broadcast's "Radio Cartoonist." While no longer working in television, Mo voices and produces animated cartoons based on his books with Weston Woods studios. The animated *Knuffle Bunny* was awarded Best Film during the New York International Children's Film Festival in 2008 and received the Andrew Carnegie Medal in 2007. The animated *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* garnered Mo his second Carnegie Medal in 2010. Mo wrote the script and lyrics for *Knuffle Bunny: A Cautionary Tale*, commissioned by the Kennedy Center for its 2010 season. Mo lives in Massachusetts with his family.



**Mr. Warburton** (*Playwright*) is the executive producer of Disney Jr's hit series *Muppet Babies*, which has introduced Kermit, Piggy, Fozzie, Gonzo, Animal, and a brand-new Muppet named Summer Penguin to a whole new generation of kids. But Mr. Warburton is best known as the creator of the action-packed original series *Codename: Kids Next Door* which ran on Cartoon Network for six seasons and inspired kids to start their own KND sectors worldwide. Over the years Mr. Warburton has helped produce, design, and direct many other animated shows including Disney's *Fish Hooks*, *The 7D*, and *Pepper Ann* as well as Cartoon Network's *Sheep in the Big City*, Nickelodeon's *Doug*, and MTV's *Beavis and Butthead*. He's also worked on tons of animated commercials, episodes of *Schoolhouse Rock*, and *Saturday Night Live*'s "TV Funhouse." Mr. Warburton also likes to make books. His first picture book, *1000 Times No*, was published by HarperCollins to super nice reviews and an animated version was made for Nick Jr. Recent projects include collaborating with his best pal, children's book author Mo Willems, on a musical based on Mo's best-selling book *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* for the Kennedy Center as well as an animated production of *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Opera Experience*.



**Deborah Wicks La Puma** (*Composer*), a composer, music director, and orchestrator, is one of the most produced Theatre for Young Audiences artists working today. With bestselling children's author Mo Willems, she has created *Elephant and Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"*, *Naked Mole Rat Gets Dressed: The Rock Experience*, and *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* Her many and diverse works with playwright Karen Zacarías include *Ella Enchanted* (based on the book by Gail Carson Levine), *Olivério: A Brazilian Twist*, *Frida Libre*, *Looking for Roberto Clemente*, and *Einstein Is a Dummy*. With playwright Adam Tobin she created *She Persisted* (based on the book by Chelsea Clinton) and the upcoming *What Do You Do With an Idea?* (based on the book by Kobi Yamada). Her adult works include the lyric opera *Dakota Sky* and the Mexican folk musical *Perdita* (based on Shakespeare's *A Winter's Tale*) with Kathleen Cahill. She received her M.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, her bachelor's degree from Stanford University, and studied folk music with ethnomusicologist Alfredo López Mondragón. Her honors include the Jane Chambers Playwriting Award, an NEA New American Works Grant, two Parents' Choice Awards, and a Helen Hayes Award for Outstanding Musical Adaptation. A proud Mexican-American and "Navy brat" who grew up in Brazil, Portugal, and California, La Puma is a member of TYA USA/ASSITEJ, ASCAP, and The Dramatists Guild. Mother to three daughters and Mimi the Cat, La Puma lives in Southern California with her PR agent and loving husband, Chris.



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Master Carpenter: **Nicholas Amundson**

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Scenic Charge Artist: **Nicholas Amundson**

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Playhouse Audition Crew: **Toni Farris, Brandon Record, Aja Smith, Ellie Wellman**

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Grace Aerisolphal	Claire Riesberg
Alexander Baker	Lulu Rongerude
Isabelle Baker	Ridge Rutherford
Meridan Boyd	Ashley Scarbrough
Kristin Coons	Evie Smith
Caitlyn Dean	Lily Spahr
Audrey Frett	Madeline Streaker-Seay
Katelyn Gallagher	Aaliyah Trimble
Grace Harvey	Eliza Tutty
Teddi Karnes	Ashlyn Yu
Paige Olson	



## THE PLAYHOUSE

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***"Sensational!"***

★★★★ -KATHY

***"A delightful  
romp!"***

★★★★ -CHELSEA

**SHOPS**

***"Absurdly enjoyable!"***

★★★★ -KRISTIN

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**Have you seen the Shops at Roosevelt?**

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THEATRE COMPANY

[IowaStage.org](http://IowaStage.org)



## 2021-22 SEASON

Coming back together at the Stoner Theater

### *The Cake*

by Bekah Brunstetter

Nov. 12 – 21, 2021

### *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*

by Joe Landry

Dec. 16 – 23, 2021

### *Long Day's Journey Into Night*

by Eugene O'Neill

Feb. 11 – 20, 2022

### *Sweat*

by Lynn Nottage

Mar. 25 – Apr. 3, 2022

### *Girls' Weekend 2*

by Karen Schaeffer

Apr. 29 – May 15, 2022



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