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is a dry red with light, fresh notes. First impressions are tangy acid followed by black cherry fading to plum, a dry mid-palate, and a long, pleasing finish. Made from Marquette, St. Croix, Petite Pearl, and Steuben grapes grown in Iowa, it's a versatile wine that pairs well with grilled meat and spicy foods.

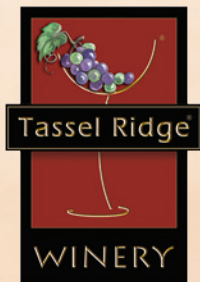
2019 Iowa Sabrevois

is a dry red with bold aromas of spices and leather on the nose followed by blackberry and plum notes with hints of baking spice, smoke, and licorice on the palate. Made from Sabrevois grapes grown in our Iowa vineyards, it pairs well with grilled meat.

2020 Iowa

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David R. Kilpatrick
Executive Director

Thank you for attending today's performance of *Go, Dog. Go!* There is something special about seeing a favorite book come alive: The joy of the characters in familiar activities, yet also different because it is humans playing the part of dogs. It can be so refreshing to embrace a story like our youths with ears, eyes, and hearts wide open. Thank you for sharing the gift of theatre with our future audiences and performers.

We are looking forward to 2023. The next production is *The Hundred Dresses*, a smart story about the consequences of not stopping bullying. Then we have *How I Became a Pirate* that will be fun for everyone. In addition to these productions, the year will contain classes, Friday Funday (theatre for 4–6-year-olds), and more musicals and comedies to lift our spirits.

The highlight of 2023 is much more than our productions. We are engaged in a capital campaign, "Tomorrow Begins Today," with a goal to modernize our children's theatre! Imagine sitting in more comfortable seats, with improved air conditioning, and better theatre technology. The world of possibilities just expanded for us! If you would like to donate toward the capital campaign, please let me know. We are getting closer and closer to our \$3.5 million goal, but we need your help.

For more than 90 years, The Playhouse has presented shows for youth and with youth. We do this because of the support of parents, grandparents, siblings, and everyone else who believes in the power of theatre to transform lives. The Playhouse couldn't do it without you! So, thank you for playing your part.

See you at the theatre.



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The conversion of thousands of print materials to digital files is nearly complete. In 2023, The Playhouse will unveil a website on which donors can find many historical records from prior plays and performances. The donors listed below made contributions toward the effort.

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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.

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Don't see your name? Those listed in this program have generously supported The Playhouse since March 1, 2022. If we've made a mistake, please contact Katy McCaull at 515.974.5359 or kmccaull@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.

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28th Season

Opening January 6th, 2023
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Des Moines Community Playhouse Presents in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre

GO, DOG! GO!

Based on the book by P.D. Eastman
Adapted for the stage by Steven Dietz & Allison Gregory
Music by Michael Koerner

Presented by **Nationwide**

Director/Playhouse Artistic Director: **Katy Merriman**
Music Director: **Brandon J. Record**
Choreographer: **Madi Brauer**
Scenic Designer: **Nicholas Amundson**
Costume Designer: **Angela Lampe**
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Properties Designer: **Ellen Harvey**
Stage Manager: **Jenna N. Darsee**
Assistant Director: **Toni K. Farris**
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Cast

*Indicates Playhouse Debut

MC Dog (aka the LATECOMER).....	Mary Bricker
Red Dog.....	Carol Palmer
Blue Dog.....	Scotty Cartwright
Yellow Dog.....	Shelby Dale
Green Dog.....	Emmitt Reyerson
Hattie.....	Ruth Christie
Crew Dog / Black and White Dog.....	Paul Honold
Crew Dog / Black and White Dog.....	Joe Smith
Accompanist	Francine Griffith

Go, Dog. Go! is presented with a 15-minute intermission.

Go, Dog. Go! is produced by special arrangement with Plays for New Audiences.

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CAST NOTES



Mary Bricker (*MC Dog*) is familiar to area audiences from roles in *Calendar Girls* (Cora, Dionysos Award winner) and *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein* (Frau Blucher, Dionysos Award and Cloris Award winner) at The

Playhouse; *Utopia – The Iowa Musical Revue* for Robert John Ford Productions; *Adore Us! Line* (Elizabeth Warren) and *A Christmas Carol* (Mrs. Cratchit) at Iowa Stage Theatre Company; *Annie* (Miss Hannigan) at Urbandale Community Theatre; and many more. When not at the theatre, Mary likes thrifting, improv cooking, and practicing yoga.



Scotty Cartwright (*Blue Dog*) recently moved to Des Moines after spending eight years in Los Angeles. An Iowa native, Scotty got his start acting at Tipton (IA) Community Schools before moving on to Central College,

Pella, where he graduated with a theatre major. He has acted in shows with Theatre Cedar Rapids, Pella Shakespeare Festival, Union Street Players in Pella, and The Iowa Fringe Festival, among others. His first role at The Playhouse was as Mr. Wormwood in *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical*.



Ruth Christie (*Hattie/Spotted Dog*) is a homeschooled sophomore and competitive cheerleader, ice skater, and gymnast. She made her TV debut alongside Olympic gold medalist Simone Biles in "Understood: Simone Biles

Inspires Two Sisters with ADHD to be Unstoppable." Ruth made her Playhouse debut as the ever-so-fabulous Lucille in *Junie B in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* (Dionysos Award nominee) and Narrator in *Charlotte's Web*, roles which earned her a Jeanne Hopson Rising Star nomination at the Cloris Awards.



Shelby Dale (*Yellow Dog*) earned her B.F.A. in musical theatre from the University of South Dakota where her shows included *She Kills Monsters*, *Men on Boats*, and *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. At The Hilltop Theatre in Baumholder,

Germany, Shelby played Ariel in *Disney's The Little Mermaid*. At The Playhouse, she was in the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*, *Pippi*

Longstocking, and *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical*. Shelby is an active reader, puzzler, and dance enthusiast.



Francine Griffith (*Accompanist*) is a musician/educator in the Des Moines area. Some of her collaborations include staff accompanist at Drake University, private piano instructor, Kinder Choir Director at Plymouth

Congregational Church, and musical director and pianist/repetiteur for area theatre productions. Francine earned her B.M.E. from Drake, studying piano with Chiu-Ling Lin, and has taught elementary music in the Waukee School System.



Paul Honold (*Crew Dog/Black and White Dog*) has numerous area stage credits including *Ragtime* at The Playhouse and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Annie*, *Six-on-Six*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*,

all at Urbandale Community Theatre. He received a 2022 Playhouse Dionysos Award for his work with The Penguin Project. The theatre cited the way he encourages and cheers on artists and mentors and helps to create a positive, accepting environment in which all participants can succeed.



Carol Palmer (*Red Dog*) is a veteran of The Playhouse and other area stages. Her favorite Playhouse role was Lina Lamont in *Singin' in the Rain* (1995-96 season). She is thrilled to be back after a long hiatus: Carol spent the last 12

years doing murder mystery comedy shows with her husband, Dan Chase, for Jest Murder Mysteries. Carol has worked for Principal for nearly 40 years. Even though she is playing a dog, she says she loves her three kitties.



Emmitt Reyerson (*Green Dog*) is excited to be at The Playhouse performing again. Earlier this fall he made his Playhouse debut as Calvin in *Guys and Dolls*. Emmitt is looking forward to performing in *Go, Dog. Go!* because, when a

child, his mother would read this book to him every day! Emmitt is a freshman at Bondurant-Farrar High School where he participates in speech. In his spare

time, he likes hanging out with friends and cuddling with his dog, Stella.



Joe Smith (*Crew Dog/Black and White Dog*) is a favorite with Des Moines audiences. His past Playhouse roles include Clown 1 in *The 39 Steps*, Fili in *The Hobbit*, and The Man in the Yellow Suit in *Tuck Everlasting*. Joe is married to

actress Mary Bricker, who is also in this show, and they have two grown sons, Jeffrey and Carter. Joe works as a marketing communications business partner for UnityPoint Health System Services in West Des Moines. In his spare time, he enjoys traveling, reading, writing, and tinkering with audio equipment.



Katy Merriman (*Director/Playhouse Artistic Director*) has been an active member of the local theatre community since moving to Des Moines in 2013. Her Playhouse directing credits include *Guys and Dolls*; *The Sound of*

Music; the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*; *A Love Offering* (co-production with Pyramid Theatre Company); *I and You*; *The Roommate*; and *Elephant & Piggie's "We Are in a Play!"* 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*. Before her time in Des Moines, Katy worked with many theatres throughout the Midwest as a performer, director, and administrator.



Brandon J. Record (*Music Director*) is a Des Moines based conductor, director, performer, and teacher. He has a Bachelor of Music degree from the University of Sioux Falls and is working on his master's degree in choral

conducting at Simpson College. This is his fifth show with The Playhouse as part of the production team, but he is not new to theatre. His numerous credits include performing, stage management, lighting design, directing, and musical direction. His favorite onstage role was Shrek in *Shrek the Musical* at the Powder River Playhouse (Gillette, WY), and his favorite production team roles to date have been music director for *Hairspray* and *Matilda*. Brandon is the director of choirs and vocal music teacher at

Des Moines Lincoln High School, artistic director and conductor of the Des Moines Diversity Chorus, and a teaching artist at City Voices. He spends his free time traveling, playing board games, and being with family, friends, and puppy, Fynn.



Madi Brauer (*Choreographer*) choreographed The Playhouse's production of *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* They are a speaker with Authentically Me, LLC and pet-sitter. You might also spot them at Smokey Row.

Madi 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?* Madi enjoys eating candy, walking to the library, writing, performing drag, and singing.



Nicholas Amundson (*Scenic Designer*) earned his B.F.A in theatre design and technology from the University of South Dakota. Working on theatre all over town, he has designed in many different styles with StageWest

Theatre Company (*Ugly Lies the Bone*, *Marjorie Prime*), Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre (*The Hobbit*, *James and the Giant Peach Jr.*), Noce (*bare: A Pop Opera*), and Kata Klysmic Productions (*The Rocky Horror Show*, *Reefer Madness*). He served as scenic designer for *The New Mel Brooks Musical Young Frankenstein*, *Road Dahl's Willy Wonka*, *A Chorus Line*, *Choices*, *Disney's The Little Mermaid*, *Ragtime*, *Catch Me If You Can* and many more at The Playhouse. In the 2019-20 season, he directed and designed *James and the Giant Peach* in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre. His favorite thing about theatre is creating out-of-the-box ways to present a story that gives the audience something fun to experience.



Angela Lampe (*Costume Designer*) 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*,

CAST NOTES

A Streetcar Named Desire, *Sunset Boulevard*, and *Hairspray*. She has a B.A. from Central College in Pella and an 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 sophomore at Northwest Missouri State University studying business management and theatre tech and design. At NWMSU, she is the theatre department's front-of-house manager. This past fall, she was stage manager for NWMSU's production of *A Small Fire*. At The Playhouse, Abby most recently designed lights for *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus! The Musical!* Abby is thrilled to be back at The Playhouse this winter, designing lights for *Go, Dog. Go!*



Ellen Harvey (*Properties Designer*) is a longtime Playhouse volunteer who has served as props designer for many shows including *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!*; *Honk!*; *Shrek the Musical*; *Annie*; and *Anne of Green Gables*. A favorite show to prop was *Seussical the Musical* because of the unique, creative props, her favorite being a goldfish in a bowl, worn on the head. She has also volunteered with guest services for more than 20 years. When not at the theatre, Ellen tackles home remodeling projects with her husband, David, and likes to paint and craft.



Jenna N. Darsee (*Stage Manager*) grew up at The Playhouse, taking classes, acting onstage, and later making her way through The Playhouse teaching staff as a PIP (pre-intern program), college intern, and now a member of the education staff. Her favorite roles include Dr. Livesey in *Treasure Island* and Raya in *I Never Saw Another Butterfly* both at Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre, Ma Ingalls in *A Little House Christmas* at The Playhouse, and Beth in *Little Women*, a co-production of The Playhouse and Terrace Hill. Jenna has been a stage manager for many shows, her favorite being *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical* at The Playhouse. Jenna is an art teacher and fine arts lead teacher at Irving Elementary, Indianola. In her free time, she enjoys playing with her dogs Greta Garbo and Ingrid Bergman, collaging, getting lost in

the Des Moines Art Center, baking, spending time outdoors, and supporting her friends in their theatre endeavors.



Toni K. Farris (*Assistant Director*) first volunteered behind-the-scenes at The Playhouse for the 1989 production of *A... My Name is Alice* (properties/shift crew). Since then, she has volunteered on the light crew, running lightboard or follow spot, for numerous productions. She has been a stage manager for *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*, *Proof*, *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* and many more. She has been assistant director for the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth* and *Guys and Dolls*. Toni is recently retired from Corteva Agriscience. In her free time, she enjoys traveling, reading, trying new restaurants, and supporting the Liverpool Football Club.



DC Felton (*Assistant Stage Manager*) is excited to be returning to The Playhouse after serving as assistant stage manager for *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical*. He has served as stage manager for Des Moines Young Artists' Theatre's production of *Disney's Descendants: The Musical*. He also enjoys time onstage, and was last seen in Open Door Rep's production of *The Manic Monologues*. In his spare time, DC attends productions and writes reviews for Broadwayworld.com and serves as an adjudicator for the Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards and as a judge and coach for the Iowa High School Speech Association.



Steven Dietz (*Playwright*) has written numerous plays for young audiences including *Honus and Me* (adapted from Gutman), *Go, Dog. Go!* (adapted from P.D. Eastman; co-written with Allison Gregory), *Still Life With Iris* (awarded the Kennedy Center's Fund for New American Plays Award), and *The Rememberer* (adapted from Joyce Simmons Cheeka). These plays have been seen at some of America's leading theatres for young people including Seattle Children's Theatre, The Children's Theatre Company (Minneapolis), Childsplay (AZ), Dallas Children's Theatre, Honolulu Theatre for Youth, and the Chicago Children's Theatre. Steven has directed the world premieres of Kevin Kling's *Lilly's Purple Plastic*

Purse (CTC) and Allison Gregory's *Even Steven Goes to War* (Childsplay), among many others. He lives with his wife, playwright Allison Gregory, and their two children in Austin, where he teaches playwriting at the University of Texas.



Allison Gregory (Playwright) plays for young audiences have been seen at some of the country's leading theatres, and include *Go, Dog. Go!*, adapted from the P.D. Eastman book and co-written with Steven Dietz; *Even Steven Goes to War* ("Zoni" Best New Script Award, AATE and UPRP awards, Kennedy Center New Visions/New Voices series); *Peter and the Wolf* (Footlight Award,

Best New Play; National Tour with Childsplay, Inc.); *Bremontown Musicians*; and *Junie B. in Jingle Bells, Batman Smells!* Her plays for adults include *Forcing Hyacinths* (Julie Harris Playwright Award, South Coast Repertory Theatre's California Playwright's Award); *Fall Off Night* (Garland Award, L.A.); *Cliffhouse*; and *Burning Bridget Cleary* (Footlight Award, Best New Play, Seattle). She has received commissions from South Coast Repertory, ACT in Seattle, The Skirball-Kenis Foundation, Seattle Children's Theatre, and Childsplay, Inc. Along with her husband, playwright/director Steven Dietz, and her two children, she splits her time between Austin and Seattle. Learn more about Allison at www.allisongregoryplays.com



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Dance Captain: **Shelby Dale**

Run Crew: **Lydia Davis, Paul Honold, Joe Smith**

Sound Board Operators: **Sam Claassen, D.C. Felton**

Light Board Operator: **Jenna Darsee**

Master Carpenter: **Paul Cartwright**

Set Construction: **Ava Rohrer**

Scenic Painter: **Nicholas Amundson**

Set Painting: **Kathleen Baustian, Harold Hinkhouse, Annie Jung, Darlene Pullen**

Light Crew: **Kendric Santos-Briggs**

Playhouse Audition Crew:
Hannah Beuse, Kyle Bochart, Jenny Bryant, Pilar Burg, Cheryl Critelli, Troy Ellerbroek, Toni Farris, DC Felton, Brandon Record

Playhouse Photographers:
Jonathan Garton, Steve Gibbons, Brent Isenberger

Playhouse Historians: **Mark Morrison, Lloyd Von Hagen**

Spotlight Literacy Schools: **Holy Family School, Des Moines; Karen Acres Elementary, Urbandale**

GO, DOG. GO! SPECIAL THANKS
David Harvey, Karen Honold, MidAmerican Energy

HARRIET THE SPY SPECIAL THANKS

Due to print deadlines, these individuals could not be acknowledged in the previous playbill.

Guest Services: **Michelle Anthony, Thora Anthony, Riley Babel, Linda Baltzley, Michael Beasley, Corley Blackford, Cynthia Blackford, Emery Blackford, Miranda Blackford, Kim Blakesley, Steve Blakesley, James Bohnenkamp, Bonnie Braatz, Madi Brauer, Julie Bruns, Jennifer Bryant, Ann Marie Buell, Jacolyn Carfrae, Karna Converse, Ken Converse, Judi Cooper, Carol Culmer, Jonahs Custer, Makenna Davis, Patty Davis, Lydia Davis, Marcella Edmonds, Mark Ferguson, Susan Ferguson, Tami**

Fetters, Rosemary Fitzjunker, Jane Flagler, Jennifer Follett, Jon Garton, Julie Gerdes, Miranda Gerdes, Dave Gerdes, Jill Gray, Hannah Henry, Harold Hinkhouse, Ngoc Ho, Michelle House, Charlie Johnson, Anne Jung, Gbomi Kayode, Susan Lee, Deb Miles, Cate Miller, Rebecca Newbury, Judy O'Keefe, Angie Parker, Kathy Polson, Karen Puffett, Mark Pullen, Darlene Pullen, Colton Quintanilla, Lisa Richards, Avery Rowling, Kendric Santos-Briggs, Olivia Simons, Kristi Sithonnorath, Amy Skarin, Shane Snitker, Ruth Staplin, Tyler Stough, Carey Templeton, Ava Thornton, Dheeraj Tunuguntla, Abigail Walter, Janet Whiteside, Ellie Willcox, Trudy Woline

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