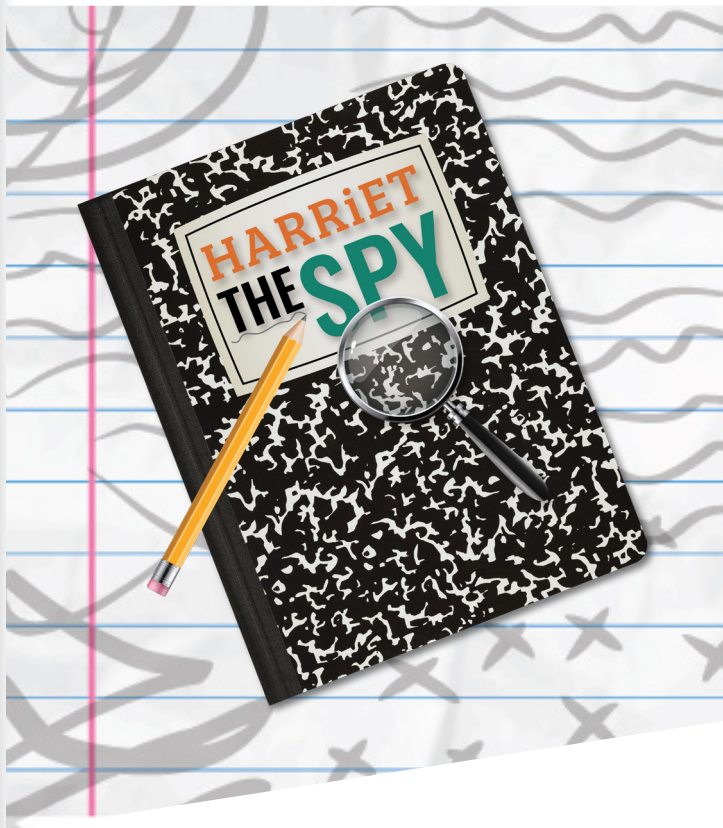


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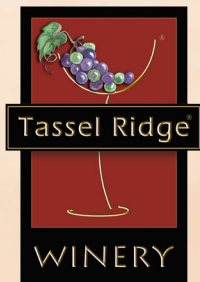
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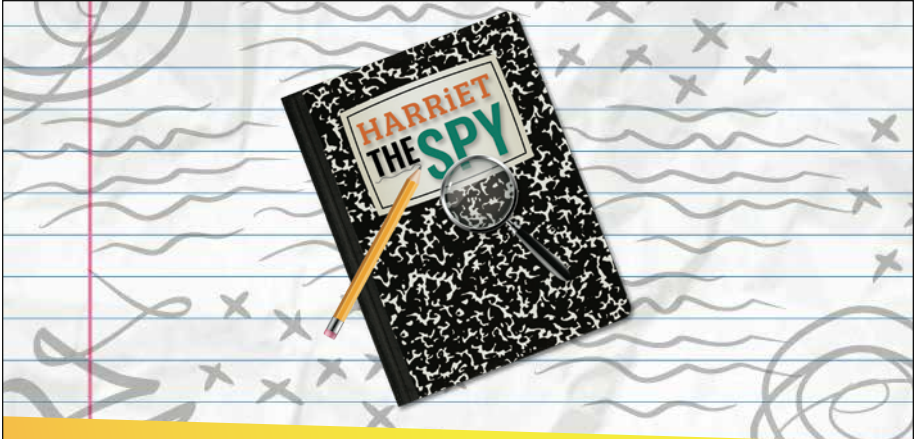
Thank you for attending today's performance of *Harriet the Spy*. There is something very special about seeing a production through a child's eyes. A child's willingness to accept the "rules of a show – for example, that isn't a real bed and yet it is real – can be so refreshing to a cynical adult. Youths embrace theatre with ears, eyes, and hearts wide open. Thank you for sharing the gift of theatre with our future audiences, performers, and backstage technicians.

This production is the start of an exciting season of children's theatre. The next production is *Go, Dog. Go!*, a favorite early reader book brought to life, and we continue with *The Hundred Dresses*, a smart story about the consequences of not getting involved. Finally, we end with an "arrrrgh!": *How I Became a Pirate*. Every production will be a delight for young and old, so if you are not a season ticket holder, become one today so you don't miss out.

Beyond our productions, it is an incredible time to be a part of The Des Moines Community Playhouse. We just announced our 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, making for a special theatrical experience. If you would like to make a donation toward the capital campaign, please let us know. We are more than halfway toward our \$3.5 million goal, and we could use your help.

For more than 90 years, The Playhouse has presented shows for youth and with youth. And we can do this because of the support of parents, grandparents, siblings, teachers, and anyone else who believes in the power of theatre to transform lives; all those who willingly bring youths to and from rehearsals and attend performances. The Playhouse couldn't do it without you! Thank you for playing your part.

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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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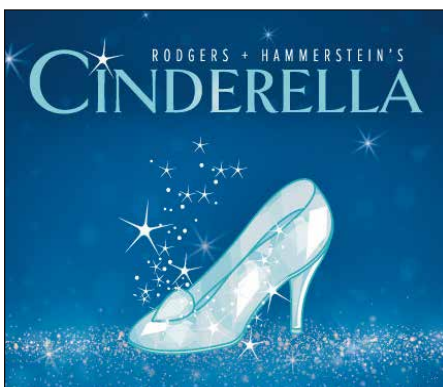
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Don't see your name? Those listed in this program have generously supported The Playhouse since March 1, 2022. If we've made a mistake, please contact Katy McCaull at 515.974.5359 or kmccaull@dmplayhouse.com. Gifts of \$100 or more are listed in every playbill throughout the season. Gifts under \$100 are recognized in the spring musical playbill each year.



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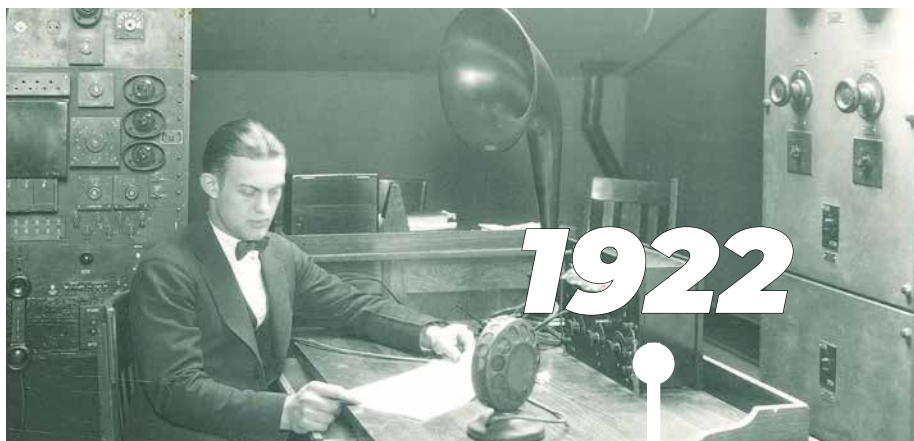
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2022

GUEST INFORMATION

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, ushers 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 restricted to Shops customers at all times. 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 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, Tuesday through Friday, and 90 minutes before each performance. 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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**Ticket office and
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515-277-6261

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515-277-6261

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515-974-5365

118th Production
28th Season

Opening October 28, 2022
Closing November 13, 2022

Des Moines Community Playhouse Presents in the Kate Goldman Children's Theatre

HARRIET THE SPY

Based on the book by Louise Fitzhugh
Adapted for the stage by Leslie Brody
Harriet the Spy has been transformed into an Apple TV+ series

Presented by **Nationwide**

Director: **Jen Green**
Scenic Designer: **Nicholas Amundson**
Costume Designer: **Jessica Van Essen**
Lighting Designer: **Virgil Kleinhesselink**
Sound Effects Designers: **Jen Green, Katy Merriman**
Properties Designer: **Manda Miller**
Stage Manager: **Kiera McGregor**
Assistant Stage Manager: **Alex Worthery**
Playhouse Artistic Director: **Katy Merriman**

Cast

*Indicates Playhouse Debut

Harriet	Vivian Rosalie Coleman	Pinky Whitehead.....	Henry Goerend*
Mother	Michaela Cross*	Miss Elson.....	Tamera Peake*
Father	Oliver Thrun	Ole Golly	Becky Scholtec
Cook	Katie Saldanha	Mama Dei Santi.....	Susan Irish
Sport (Simon).....	Colin Boyd*	Bruno/Fabio Dei Santi	William Beebe*
Janie.....	Ella Frost	Papa Dei Santi.....	Oliver Thrun
The Boy with Purple Socks.....	William Beebe*	Little Joe Curry.....	Hudson Pulver
Beth-Ellen Hansen.....	Nora Satterstrom*	Harrison Withers	Cidney McMillan*
Marion Hawthorne.....	Eisley Saldanha*	Mrs. Agatha K. Plumber	Julie Howland
Rachel Hennessey.....	Amaya Veldkamp	Nadine	Michaela Cross*
Carrie Andrews.....	Madelyn Hammond*	Mr. Waldenstein.....	Cidney McMillan*
Laura Peters	Genevieve Koenigs*	Miss Berry	Susan Irish

Harriet the Spy is presented with a 15-minute intermission.

Harriet the Spy is produced by special arrangement with Plays for Young Audiences.

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

CAST NOTES



William Beebe (*The Boy with Purple Socks/Bruno/Fabio Dei Santi*) is making his stage debut at The Playhouse. An eighth grader at ADM Middle School, Adel, he likes mountain biking, gaming, reading, and musical theatre.



Colin Boyd (*Sport (Simon)*) is a sixth grader at South Middle School, Waukee, who loves to act, sing, and make others laugh. While this is his stage debut, he did play the lead in a Des Moines Performing Arts Camp, The Claw. Colin has a sister,

Madeline, two dogs, Bay and Nala, and two kittens, Winston Furchill and Lily Marigold. He looks forward to more shows and continuing this new adventure expressing himself.



Vivian Rosalie Coleman (*Harriet*) first performed at The Playhouse in *Playhouse on the Air Presents: Miracle on 34th Street* (Annie Carroll/Susan Walker) and more recently in *Roald Dahl's Matilda The Musical* (Alice). Her favorite Playhouse role

was Marta von Trapp in *The Sound of Music*. She also has credits at CAP Theatre, Altoona, and GREAT Theatre, Waite Park, MN. Vivian is in seventh grade at Summit Middle School, Johnston, and enjoys singing and dancing.



Michaela Cross (*Mother/Nadine*) is making her stage debut in *Harriet the Spy*. She is an ESOL teacher at Johnston Middle School and is working on her PhD at Drake University. Michaela's hobbies

include hiking, camping, spending time with family, trying new foods, and traveling.



Ella Frost (*Janie*) was first seen at The Playhouse in *Tinker Bell* (Second Twin), an experience that remains a favorite. Other Playhouse credits include *Charlotte's Web* and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. Ella has taken

several Playhouse performance classes including *Matilda Jr*, *The Lion King Kids*, *Frozen Kids*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. She attends Des Moines Brody Middle School where she is in eighth grade and enjoys playing soccer, dancing, and cheerleading.



Henry Goerend (*Pinky Whitehead*) is making his Playhouse debut. A seventh grader at Waukee Middle School, he has participated in a Des Moines Performing Arts camp. Henry likes playing video games and coding.



Madelyn Hammond (*Carrie Andrews*) plays softball with WAC Venom and ice hockey with the Lady Wild. She is currently preparing for her ABRSM (Associated Board of the Royal Schools of Music) piano test. She plays trumpet in the Waukee Middle School jazz band, where she is a seventh grader. She also sings in the school choir and will be trying out for OPUS, the state honor choir. Madelyn is proficient in Mandarin Chinese.



Julie Howland (*Mrs. Agatha K. Plumber*) was first on The Playhouse stage in 2012 in *The Kid Who Ran for President* (Mom). Her favorite role was as Ladybird in *James and the Giant Peach*. At Des Moines

Young Artists' Theatre, Julie stage managed *Seussical, Jr.* Julie is a special education associate at Urbandale Community School District. Her interests include reading, baking, and spending time with family, her husband, Mike, and their children, Josiah and Sierra.



Susan Irish (*Mama Dei Santi/Miss Berry*) is returning to The Playhouse stage after nearly a decade's absence. Her last appearance, a favorite, was as Berthe in *Boeing Boeing*, for which she received a Playhouse Dionysos Award for

Outstanding Performance. Other area performances include *Women Playing Hamlet* (Jessica) at Tallgrass Theatre and Comedy Xperiment Improv Comedy Troupe. Susie is a business execution consultant at Wells Fargo and enjoys reading, writing, watching TV and movies, and learning the ukulele.



Genevieve Koenigs (*Laura Peters*) is making her Playhouse debut in *Harriet the Spy*. She discovered her love of theatre while attending Curtain Call summer theatre camps in Dallas Center. She is a seventh grader at St. Francis of Assisi. In her free time, she draws people, makes up stories, and plays guitar. She loves eating a good, juicy hamburger. Her dad has also introduced her to *Seinfeld*.

CAST NOTES



Cidney McMillan (*Harrison Withers/Mr. Waldenstein*) is making his stage debut. He is a project manager for The Weitz Company. Cid says his life right now is thinking about eating, cooking, and eating what he made; reading; disappointing his teammates in Warzone; activities with his dog, who looks like a young Cindy Crawford if she was canine; and sharing memes on Instagram.



Tamera Peake (*Miss Elson*) attended classes at The Playhouse as a child. This is her first Playhouse production though she has experience in shows at Central College including *The Laramie Project* and *Guys and Dolls*. She works as a junior web developer at Webspec, Inc. Tamera loves cooking exotic meals she finds online or sees in movies, traveling, studying and practicing code, watching animé, and chilling out on the weekends.



Hudson Pulver (*Little Joe Curry*) has been a part of The Playhouse in many capacities including set construction, painting, fly crew, and PIP (pre-intern program). His most recent stage credits are *Roadl Dahl's Matilda The Musical* (Ensemble/Michael Understudy) and *Tinker Bell* (John Darling) at The Playhouse and *A Christmas Story* (Ralphie Parker) at Ankeny Community Theatre. Hudson is an eighth grader at Bergman Academy, Des Moines, and enjoys lighting design, music, and mountain biking.



Eislely Saldanha (*Marion Hawthorne*) is performing for the first time at The Playhouse. She is a seventh grader at Des Moines Merrill Middle School where she is on the cross-country team. She likes skateboarding. Eislely is looking forward to being in *Harriet the Spy* with her mom, Katie Saldanha, who plays Cook, and is excited for her extended family to see them on stage.



Katie Saldanha (*Cook*) made her Playhouse debut as Countess Andrenyi in *Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express*. At Hope College (Holland, MI), she had roles in *Miss Julie* (Miss Julie) and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania). Katie is a stay-at-home mom who loves watching

movies and laughing with her favorite people on earth, her husband, Chris, and their three children, Thatcher, Cohen, and Eislely (who is playing Marion Hawthorne in *Harriet the Spy*).



Nora Satterstrom (*Beth-Ellen Hansen*) has taken classes at The Playhouse including an audition class and performance classes of *Seussical the Musical* and *Where the Sidewalk Ends* and is now making her stage debut. Nora is in fifth grade at Holy Trinity, Des Moines, and likes singing, playing trumpet and piano, and hanging with friends.



Becky Scholtec (*Ole Golly*) was last seen at The Playhouse in *Holes* (The Warden). A favorite with Des Moines audiences, some of her other shows include *The Cake* (Della, Iowa Stage Theatre Company) for which she received a Cloris Award, *The Little Dog Laughed* (Diane) at StageWest, and Meg in *Girls' Weekend* at The Playhouse and in *Girls' Weekend 2* at Iowa Stage Theatre Company. Becky works as a product manager at Wells Fargo. She likes traveling, reading, and horseback riding.



Oliver Thrun (*Father/Papa Dei Santi*) counts among his Playhouse credits Liam in *Calendar Girls*, Paul in *You Can't Take It with You*, Mr. Kraler in *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Pa in *A Little House Christmas*, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, and *The Velveteen Rabbit*. At Tallgrass Theatre he played Roat in *Wait Until Dark* and Officer Welch in *Rumors*. Oliver likes playing video games and biking.



Amaya Veldkamp (*Rachel Hennessey*) received a Playhouse Dionysos Award for Outstanding Performance for her role as Pippi Longstocking in the show of the same name. While only a seventh grader at Des Moines Merrill Middle School, her acting résumé includes *Junie B. in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* (May) and *Tinker Bell* (Curly) at The Playhouse and *Wait Until Dark* (Gloria) at Tallgrass Theatre. Amaya likes singing, playing volleyball, and playing with friends.



Jen Green (*Director*) received a Playhouse Dionysos Award for her role as Willamina Fleming in *Silent Sky*. Audiences last saw her on stage as Goneril in *King Lear* (Iowa Stage Theatre Company) for

CAST NOTES

which she received a Cloris Award nomination. At The Playhouse, Jen directed *Junie B in Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* and was the stage manager for *I and You*. She is a drama director at Des Moines Christian School where she directed *Peter and the Starcatcher*; *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*; and Disney's *Mary Poppins*. The latter received the Iowa High School Musical Theatre Awards Outstanding Music Production Award, the program's highest honor. Jen is the morning show co-host of Mornings with Taylor and Jen on Life 107.1.



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*, *Ronald 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.



Jessica Van Essen (*Costume Designer*) has spent much of her career in schools as a professor/costume shop manager and working with professional theatres as a costume designer and technician. She spent three seasons with the American Shakespeare Center in Staunton, VA, as their costume designer and shop manager, designing such shows as William Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, *The Winter's Tale*, and *The Comedy of Errors* among others.



Virgil Kleinhesselink (*Lighting Designer*) owns VTEC Productions sound company and is technical director at Des Moines Hoover High School where he designed lights for their production of *Les Misérables School Edition*. Virgil began his

Playhouse career in 1979 and since then has been involved with more than 200 shows as designer or actor.



Manda Miller (*Properties Designer*) is the drama director at Des Moines Christian School where she has directed *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, *Charlotte's Web*, *Peter Pan*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Disney's Mary Poppins* (awarded best overall production by Iowa High School Musical Theater Awards), and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. She also assists the school's show choir. Manda likes reading books, watching movies, and basset hounds.



Kiera McGregor (*Stage Manager*) was the assistant stage manager for *A Love Offering*. After stage managing *The Sound of Music*, she has continued in this role for other local theatres such as Tallgrass Theatre. Kiera is excited

to be working on another show at The Playhouse and working again with director Jen Green. When not at the theatre, Kiera enjoys sitting in the sun and hanging with friends and family.



Alex Worthley (*Assistant Stage Manager*) has an Associate of Science degree in forensic investigation and a B.A. in criminology, law, and justice. She works for the State of Iowa. In 2021 at The Playhouse, she was lighting

designer and production manager for the filmed work of devised theatre exploring Black identity in Iowa, *nature of the dream*. In her free time, Alex enjoys playing bass guitar, dancing, acting, writing, photography, and hanging with friends and family.



Louise Fitzhugh (*Author*) is best known for her novels *Harriet the Spy* and *The Long Secret*, which have been acclaimed as milestones in the world of children's literature. Known for their wry detail and lively drawings, the two books have

become international bestsellers. *Harriet the Spy* was named an Outstanding Children's Book of the Year by *The New York Times* when it was first published in 1964. Born in Memphis, TN, in 1928, the author was a multi-talented person. She attended Southwestern (now Rhodes) College and Bard College. She studied painting at the Art Students League in New York City and in Bologna. She was widely recognized as a painter, illustrator, and author. Other books which she wrote and illustrated include *Nobody's Family is Going to Change* and *I am Five* (one title in her delightful series about growing up). She also wrote *Sport*, the story of Harriet's best friend; *I am Three*; *I*

CAST NOTES

am Four; and illustrated *The Suzuki Bean and Bang Bang You're Dead*. She died in 1974 at the age of 46 from a brain aneurysm.



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 *Guys and Dolls*; *The Sound of Music*; the world premiere of *Escaping the Labyrinth*; the co-production with Pyramid Theatre Company, *A Love Offering*; *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*. Prior to her time in Des Moines, Katy worked with numerous theatres throughout the Midwest as a performer, director, and administrator.

PRODUCTION CREWS

Technical Directors: **Nicholas Amundson, Paul Cartwright**

Fight Captain: **Susan Irish**

Run Crew: **Sydney Maule, Caiti Ruzika, Grace Zimmerman**

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

Costume Crew: **Andrea Boyd, Susan Eisenhour, Barbara Mydland, Kern Puffett, Jennifer Van Cleave**

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**

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