

SHOWBILL

West Virginia Public Theatre

PRODUCTION OF

SCHOOL HOUSE ROCK



LIVE!

Originally Adapted and Produced for the Stage by Theatre BAM

From the Series Created by George Newall and Tom Yohe

Based on an Idea by David McCall

Book by

Scott Ferguson, George Keating and Kyle Hall

Music and Lyrics by

Lynn Ahrens, Bob Dorough, Dave Frishberg,
Kathy Mandry, George Newall and Tom Yohe

December 10 at 3 PM

THE
METROPOLITAN
THEATRE

WELCOME TO WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE'S 2022 WINTER SEASON

We are pleased you have joined us for our winter season of 2022!

Last holiday season, we produced a musical holiday review at the Oglebay Resort in Wheeling entitled *Jingle This!* It was a production that included everyone's favorite Christmas carols with theatrical scenes from favorite holiday shows. This year we are producing a spin-off of that entitled, *Jingle That!* to be performed again at the Oglebay Resort and also for a fundraiser in Morgantown on December 19th at the Hotel Morgan. I sincerely hope you will join us either in Wheeling or Morgantown for this fun, family show.

We are happy you are here to see *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* This show is holiday fun with school matinees and also evening performances for the whole family. We know you will enjoy this romp through your favorite or least favorite subjects in school.

For 35 years West Virginia Public Theatre (WVPT) has worked to offer locally produced PROFESSIONAL shows to enhance our region, economically and culturally, and to help young people experience the power of live theatre. WVPT is proud to have performed to over a million people, many of whom were students seeing live theatre for the very first time. We are proud to welcome schools and their students and faculty back to our production this year giving children a taste of live theatre.

Last summer, we were proud of our productions of *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime*, and *I Do! I Do!* It was wonderful to once again be producing to audiences in a theatre setting. This past October, we also offered a staged reading of a new play by Justin Borak. *Community Garden* was produced as part of our creating new works for the theatre in collaboration with Broadway Licensing. Despite a prolonged pandemic, there is a lot happening at WVPT! Stay tuned for information regarding our summer season of 2023. I know you will be captivated by our productions. Our goal is to bring quality, new and interesting plays to our audiences.

We are so very grateful to our donors and sponsors for their support over the years, which enables WVPT to continue its mission. Your investments have allowed us to remain West Virginia's premiere professional theatre company. We encourage your continued support of our mission to provide professional theatrical experiences for all. Thank you also to our Board of Trustees, staff and cast for your dedication in making this season a success.

Thank you again for your continued support. Enjoy the show!

Paul K. Kreider, President
Board of Trustees
West Virginia Public Theatre



West Virginia Department of
**ARTS, CULTURE
AND HISTORY**




**NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT** for the **ARTS**
arts.gov



Business Office Information

PO Box 6082
Morgantown, WV 25606
304-381-2382
wvpublictheatre.org
See the latest with #WVPT



-  West Virginia Public Theatre
-  @wvpublictheatre
-  @wvpublictheatre

Emergencies

In the unlikely event of an emergency, you will be directed by the house management to the best method of exiting the theatre and building. Please notice the illuminated exit signs in the theatre. For your safety and the safety of others, please exit as calmly as possible.

Refunds and Exchanges

All sales are final. Exchanges can be made by requesting a refund through Eventbrite.com. The cost of your ticket will be refunded, and you are welcome to then buy new tickets to the performance of your choosing. Eventbrite fees are nonrefundable.

Food and Drink

Please, no food or drink in the theatre.

Late Seating

All performances begin promptly at the show time. House staff will seat latecomers at an appropriate interval during the show. Patrons who must leave during the performance are kindly asked to do so between scenes.

Photography and Recording

No photography or video recording is permitted.

Electronics

Please be courteous to all cast, crew, musicians and fellow patrons by not utilizing electronic devices during the performances.



OUR 2022 SUPPORTERS

The Board of Trustees and Staff at the West Virginia Public Theatre offer heartfelt thanks and acknowledgment to the organizations and individuals who have provided generous financial support. Your kind contributions are met with the warmest gratitude.

\$10,000 AND ABOVE

Broadway Licensing
National Endowment for the Arts
Oglebay Resort
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
Small Business Administration
The Shubert Foundation
The State of West Virginia
WV Department of Arts, Culture & History
WVU College of Creative Arts
WVU Foundation
Your Community Foundation

\$1,000-\$9,999

Meg Baughman
Neil & Connie Bucklew
James Culberson
Joan Gorham
Kirk & Charlotte Haas
Paul & Rebecca Kreider
Renaissance Charitable Foundation
The Arts Council of Greater Morgantown
The Charles R. Nailler Memorial Foundation
The Tea Shoppe
Martin & Janet Weisse
Stephen Wetmore

\$500-\$999

Mary & David Burch
Caryn Gresham
Debbie & Greg Dunaway
Kala Golden
Raymond Prendergast
Tim Rhodes
Frankie Tack & Deana Morrow
Jack Thompson

\$100-\$499

Rudolph Almay
Charlotte Dalton
Scott Davidson
Lonnie & Paula Fluharty
Charlotte Haas
James Held
David Jecklin
Kroger
Paypal Giving Fund
Julie Patrick
Carol & Scott Rotruck
Emily Shaffer
James Seikmeier

SPECIAL THANKS

Alan McEwen
Paige Muendel
Oglebay Institute Stifel Fine Arts Center
Oglebay Resort
Zaccagnini's Morgantown Florist
West Virginia University School of
Theatre & Dance
Heath Kale
Morgantown Theatre Company



DONATE TODAY & SUPPORT THE ARTS!

A MESSAGE FROM ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

2022 was a big year for West Virginia Public Theatre. Though the pandemic took its toll on live theatre, this year has proved to be an opportunity for reconnection but not without its challenges. We kicked off our summer season working with Broadway Licensing on Stephen King and John Mellencamp's developing haunting musical, *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, directed by two-time Tony award-winner Jeff Calhoun. Then, in our first summer show of the season, *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, we had the pleasure of connecting with professionals such as Dr. Krestin Radonovich, PhD, Director of Child Neuropsychology with WVU Medicine to help bring authenticity our performances. Through her impact and the Morgantown Autism community, we were able to transform even more peoples lives with our craft and have powerful conversations.

For our second show, *I Do! I Do!*, Dan Fenaughty, who played the husband in the husband-and-wife production, got COVID right before technical rehearsals. Fenaughty quickly recovered and was well prepared to ensure the play's premiere. With this show, we reminded the audiences of the fun and whimsy that a romantic musical contains.

We also got to feature the recipient of the 2022 Broadway Licensing Scholarship, Justin Borak's staged reading of his new work *Community Garden*. The piece follows 20-somethings in Chicago, IL spending time in a Community Garden in the neighborhood of Uptown. The play examined growth, relationships, environmentalism and pizza.

This past year has been a big step in growth and education but we have all the confidence that next season will bring more opportunities for education, connection, and most importantly resilience. Thank you for supporting us through this season and next and thank you again for allowing us to do our part for our community.

Jerry McGonigle

Artistic Director



GreeneScene
COMMUNITY MAGAZINE

ARE YOU IN?

Your perfect advertising outlet to draw in your northern neighbors.

100% LOCAL - local content, local events, and local businesses.

Direct mailed to nearly 25,000 households and businesses in the area - more than 50,000 readers!

No other media has better coverage.

CALL TODAY!
724-627-2040

185 Wade St., Waynesburg, PA 15370
Email: ads@greenescenemagazine.com
GreeneSceneMagazine.com

WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE
PRESENTS

Schoolhouse Rock *Live!*

**Originally Adapted and Produced for the Stage by Theatre BAM
From The Series Created by George Newall and Tom Yohe
Based on an Idea by David McCall**

Book by
Scott Ferguson, George Keating and Kyle Hall

Music and Lyrics by
Lynn Ahrens, Bob Dorough, Dave Frishberg,
Kathy Mandry, George Newall and Tom Yohe

Scenic Design – Alina Cannon
Costume Design – Katrina Lundquist
Lighting Design – Maren Taylor
Stage Manager – Presley Weimann
Choreographer – Cheryl Pompeo
Music Director – Ryan McCurdy

Director – Katy Blake

SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE!
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI (mtishows.com).

CAST

Tom	Ryan McCurdy*
George	Eryk Bluto
Dori	Drew Gasemy
Shulie	Ellen Barneycastle
Joe	Alex Brown
Dina	Katy Blake*

*The actor appears through the courtesy of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

BAND

Percussionist	Jonah Henthorne
Keyboard.....	Brian Moats
Bass.....	Frank Bombariere

"Verb: That's What's Happening"

"A Noun is a Person, Place, or Thing"

"Three is a Magic Number"

"Sufferin' Till Suffrage"

"Lolly, Lolly, Lolly"

"Unpack your Adjectives"

"Just a Bill"

"The Preamble"

"Ready or Not, Here I Come"

"Rufus Xavier Sarsaparilla"

"Figure Eight"

"Victim of Gravity"

"Zero, My Hero"

"Conjunction Junction"

"Great American Melting Pot"

"Elbow Room"

"Interplanet Janet"

Director's Note:

When Jerry McGonigle asked me to direct *Schoolhouse Rock Live!* for WVPT's holiday show, my first thought was "Absolutely!" (an interjection). I was immediately brought back to Saturday morning cartoons during my childhood in the days before cable TV and 24-hour cartoon networks. I would sing along with "I'm Just a Bill" and with the father and son duo who ran Lolly's. I'd count along with "Three Is a Magic Number", "My Hero, Zero", and "Ready or Not, Here I Come". I remember learning about America's Melting Pot, the Suffragist movement, and I even got extra credit in Mr. Massey's 7th grade class for singing "Preamble to the Constitution" at a *Schoolhouse Rock*. It is my joy and pleasure to re-visit these songs and lessons from my childhood – to share them with an audience of young people new to the material and with their parents who may have their own memories of those Saturday mornings past.

DESIGNERS AND DIRECTORS



KATY BLAKE [AEA/SAG-AFTRA] (*Director/Dina*) Katy has traveled across the country in the Broadway tours of *Evita*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Mamma Mia*, and *Whistle Down the Wind*. In NYC, she has performed in Off-Broadway shows at the York Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre, and the Westside Theatre. Regionally she created the role of Pam in CATCO's *The Last Smoker in America*, and Sirroco at Pasadena Playhouse's production of *Mask* (dir. Richard Maltby, Jr.). She played the Hollywood Bowl in *South Pacific* with Reba McEntyre. Katy is also a writer and her show, *Storming Heaven: The Musical* was produced at WVPT in 2019. www.katyblake.com.



RYAN MCCURDY [AEA/SAG-AFTRA] (*Music Director/Tom*) is an actor-musician and theatrical producer based in NYC. He has worked in a variety of venue and genre settings including Carnegie Hall, Broadway's Minskoff and New Amsterdam Theatres, The Bitter End, and Town Hall. His work has brought him to Manhattan Theatre Club, Second Stage, Baltimore Center Stage, and Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival as a performer, designer, and supervisor. Ryan is the Executive Director of Savannah Repertory Theatre, an associate producer of Bespoke Plays in LA, and a proud member of Actors' Equity and SAG-AFTRA.



CHERYL POMPEO (*Choreographer*) the director of Oglebay Institute's School of Dance in Wheeling, has been a teaching artist/choreographer for 46 years. She has been with OI since 1986, building its dance program from the ground up. OI's dance program has classes, pre-professional programs, a danceabilities program, and two ballets annually. Cheryl is a distinguished guest lecturer at Bethany College. She conducts dance outreach programs for underserved children and choreographs the Wheeling Symphony Viennese Ball, BLHS Pantherettes and musicals throughout the Ohio Valley. She is the proud wife of Gary and "mother" of their cat, Sam.



ALINA CANNON (*Scenic Designer*) is a scenic design graduate student at WVU and holds a BA in Theatre Arts from Weber State University in Ogden, Utah. She works as a scenic designer, scenic artist, and a props artisan. She has received recognition in the past from the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival as a national finalist in scenic design, and won The National Partners of the American Theatre Design Award (2020). She is designing WVU's upcoming production of *Bright Star* in April. You can check out her previous work at alinacannondesign.com.



KATRINA LUNDQUIST (*Costume Design*) is currently a third-year costume design and technology MFA student at West Virginia University. She was the costume designer for WVU's productions of *Airness* and *The Skriker*. She completed her undergraduate BA in Theatre at the University of West Florida where she designed *Dearly Departed*, *Antigone*, and *A Christmas Carol*. This is her second time working with West Virginia Public Theatre after costume managing their 2022 summer season.



MAREN TAYLOR (*Lighting Design*) is a second-year lighting design and technology graduate student at West Virginia University. She has a BA in theatre from Northwestern College. She is thrilled to be the lighting designer for *Schoolhouse Rock! Live!* Productions she has previously designed are *Bright Star*, *Eurydice*, *Noises Off*, *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Dance Now*. Most recently, she designed lighting for *Carrie* at WVU. She has won an award for her designs for *Bright Star* and *Eurydice*. In addition to being a student, she is the house lighting designer for the Metropolitan Theatre.



PRESELEY WEIMANN (*Stage Manager*) is a WVU alumni and a WVPT regular. She has been working as the Properties Supervisor with Alleghany Image Factory on Lifetime Network's films to be released early next year. WVPT credits include SM on *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time*, *A Christmas Carol*, ASM on *39 Steps* and *A Charlie Brown Christmas*; SM of *Ghost Brothers of Darkland County*, and PA, *Elvis the Musical* workshops done in collaboration with Broadway Licensing. She thanks Jerry McGonigle for always providing wonderful opportunities and guidance, as well as her family and friends for their unwavering support.



JERRY MCGONIGLE (*Artistic Director of West Virginia Public Theatre*) came to WVU in 1990 from Orange County, CA, where he designed, founded and ran the Professional Actors Conservatory at Rancho Santiago College. Jerry has both acted and directed nationally and internationally at such theatres as E.T.A. Hoffman Theatre, 100 Monkeys Productions, Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Pac Theatre Co., Missouri Repertory Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, and the Missouri Shakespeare Festival. He holds a BA from the University of Dallas and an MFA in Acting from The American Conservatory Theatre of San Francisco.

HOLIDAY COMPANY



ELLEN BARNEYCASTLE (*Shulie*) is an actor, musician, teacher, and life-long learner based in Atlanta. She most recently finished a seven-month acting intensive at the Robert Mello Studio. Favorite past roles include Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Lucy in *Dracula*, and Peter in *Peter Pan*. When she's not teaching piano or yoga, you can find her flying in the air on a lyra (aerial hoop)! She is so excited to share the joy of *Schoolhouse Rock* with you!

Instagram: ellenlindsaybarneycastle



ALEX BROWN (*Joe*), after four years away is thrilled to be returning to West Virginia Public Theatre. Previously seen as Peter in the WVPT production of *Peter and the Starcatcher*, Alex has since performed and instructed with numerous award-winning drum corps and winter guard organizations. Alex would like to thank the entire cast and crew for their support and encouragement in making this joyous production possible.



DREW GASEMY (*Dori*) is so excited to be making her West Virginia Public Theatre debut! A recent graduate of West Virginia University earning her BFA in Musical Theatre and BA in Dance, Drew has recently been seen performing at Hersheypark, *Sweet Charity* (Nickie/US Charity), and *35mm: A Musical Exhibition* (Actor 6). She would like to thank all of her friends and family as well as the entire cast and creative team for their support and encouragement. Enjoy the show!



ERYK BLUTO (*George*) is thrilled to be back with WV Public Theatre for the holiday season! He graduated from WVU in May with a BFA in Musical Theatre. Some of his recent credits include Orin Scrivello (*Little Shop of Horrors*), Actor 1 (*35MM*), and Young Scrooge (*A Christmas Carol*). Happy holidays!

AUTHORS



SCOTT FERGUSON (*Author*) Scott's background covers it all: director, actor, teacher and writer. THE MAIN STREET KIDS' CLUB was first workshoped at Northwestern University, which is also his alma mater. Scott is a veteran teacher and director for the NU National High School Institute. He is also the co-founder and artistic director of TheatreBam Chicago, where he conceived, co-wrote and directed the hit shows SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE! and SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE TOO! He directed Jeff award-nominated productions of Xena Live! Episode Two: Xena Lives! and A MAN OF NO IMPORTANCE. Scott has also directed several musicals for regional theatres across the country.



BOB DOROUGH (*Author*) His first record album (Devil May Care, released on Bethlehem in 1956 and still available) caused quite a stir. The buzz has continued over nearly five decades since then, with Dorough recordings issued on a variety of labels, both large and tiny. Along the way, Bob became the first and the last halfway decent singer to appear on a Miles Davis record. Among Bob's more illustrious songwriting collaborators over the years have been Fran Landesman and Dave Frishberg. His tunes now appear on albums recorded by dozens of other vocalists and many have found special favor as instrumentals, too.

He is also known for his musical direction of the hit TV show, SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK and for contributing lyrics to both the show and the consequent musical versions of SCHOOLHOUSE ROCK LIVE.



DAVE FRISHBER (*Author*) Dave Frishberg has become best known for writing and performing his own songs including favorites "My Attorney Bernie" and "Van Lingle Mungo". Rosemary Clooney, Michael Feinstein, Diana Krall and Mel Torme are some of the exceptional performers who have chosen to record his music. Dave also wrote "I'm Just A Bill" about the forlorn legislative writ in the ABC Schoolhouse Rock series subsequently transformed into the popular revue "Schoolhouse Rock Live" available with MTI.



LYNN AHRENS (*Author*) won Tony, Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards and received two Grammy nominations for Broadway's *Ragtime*. For Twentieth Century Fox's animated feature film *Anastasia*, she was nominated for two Academy Awards and two Golden Globes. She and longtime collaborator Stephen Flaherty received the Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement, and in 2015 they were inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame. Broadway: *Anastasia*; *Once On This Island* (Olivier Award, Best Musical; Tony nominations, Best Book and Score); *Seussical* (Grammy nomination); *My Favorite Year*; *Chita Rivera: The Dancer's Life*; *Rocky*; Madison Square Garden's *A Christmas Carol*; *Ragtime* (2010 Broadway revival). Off-Broadway and regional: Lincoln Center Theater's *Dessa Rose*, *The Glorious Ones* (both Drama Desk-nominated) and *A Man of No Importance* (Outer Critics Circle Award, Best Musical); *Lucky Stiff*; *Little Dancer* (Kennedy Center world premiere). Film and television credits include *A "Christmas Carol"* (NBC-TV); *Camp* (IFC Films); "Schoolhouse Rock" (ABC-TV) and others. (Emmy Award and four Emmy nominations). She is a Council member of the Dramatists Guild of America, a co-founder of the Dramatists Guild Fellows Program, and a Lilly Award winner for Lyrics. www.ahrensandflaherty.com

WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE

BOARD MEMBERS

President.....Paul Kreider
 Vice-President.....Herb Faulkenberry
 Secretary.....Debbie Dunaway
 Treasurer.....Kirk Haas

Members at Large - Meg Baughman, Marlette Carter, Heidi Dunkle, Ashley Faulkner, Caryn Gresham, Jennie Jamieson, Ron Justice, April Kaull, Beth Lefevre, Bobby Nicholas, Ray Prendergast, Tim Rhodes, Renee Saggio, Frankie Tack, Jack Thompson, Lindsay Williams, Keith Jackson *ex officio*, Jerry McGonigle *ex officio*

ARTISTIC STAFF

Artistic Director.....Jerry McGonigle
 Assistant to the Artistic DirectorJosey Miller

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Director of
 Operations.....Charlotte Haas
 Director of MarketingMicah Beachy
 Bookkeeper.....Catherine Weisse

FOR WEST VIRGINIA PUBLIC THEATRE

Rehearsal Space.....Oglebay Resort, Stifel
 .Fine Arts Center, Morgantown Theatre Company
 Ushers.....Metropolitan Theatre Ushers

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager.....Aubrey Sirtautas
 Technical Director.....Steven Neuenschwander
 Assistant Stage Manager.....Joseph Solmor
 Prop Manager/Deck Crew.....Seret Cole
 Sound Engineer/Live Mixer.....Ian Morley
 Costumes Coordinator.....Tiffany Delligatti
 Charge Artist.....Alina Cannon
 Lead Carpenter.....AJ Mueth
 CarpentersKate Brittingham, Pat LoRizzo,
 WVU THET 103 Students
 Scenic Artists.....Chaz Broadbent, Jess Ford
 Electricians.....Hayley Chamberlain, Hannah Kramer,
 Brandon Russi, Joseph Solmor
 Stitcher.....Holly McMullen
 Sound Assistant.....Savannah Mateyka
 Box Office/House Manager.....Kaylea Egnor
 Company Manager.....Analise Edwards
 Wardrobe Maintenance.....Mariel Hazelwood

"This program is being presented with financial assistance from Your Community Foundation and The Arts Council of Greater Morgantown."