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Actors Guild of Parkersburg Presents



## The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR.

Book by Timothy Allen McDonald

Music and Lyrics by Timothy Allen McDonald, David Weinstein, Jonathan K. Waller, and Stephen Gabriel

Based on the book Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown and illustrated by Scott Nash



The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR. is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized materials are supplied by Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019



### Scenes & Musical Numbers

Stanley Lambchop is your ordinary, everyday, run-of-the-mill ten-year-old: normal mom and dad, normal little brother, normal life. That's just the problem... for Stanley, life is too normal. He wants to travel the world, do something amazing, something no one's ever seen before. Careful what you wish for, Stanley!

One night, the bulletin board on the wall above Stanley's bed comes loose and falls – right on top of Stanley! The next morning, Stanley Lambchop wakes up flat. Not just a little flat...really, *really* flat! In a whirlwind musical travelogue, Stanley – the ultimate exchange student – scours the globe for a solution to his unusual problem.

Prologue:	"Meet the Lambchops"Company	
Scene 1:	The Bedroom of Stanley and Arthur Lambchop "Lambchop Lullaby"	
Scene 2:	<b>The Lambchops' Kitchen</b> "My Child is Flat" Mr. & Mrs. Lambchop, Stanley, Arthur,	
Scene 3:	Dr. Dan's Office	
Scene 4:	<b>The Lambchops' House</b> "The Funny Sunny Side" Mr. & Mrs. Lambchop, Stanley	
Scene 5:	Outside on the way to the school bus stop "In a Tree"Stanley, Birds	
Scene 6:	<b>In Stanley's Community</b> "Travelin' Through the Mail"Mrs. Cartero, Stanley,	
Scene 7:	Los AngelesMr. & Mrs. Lambchop, Arthur, Company"Talent"Talent Agent, Assistants 1 & 2, Stanley, Company	
Scene 8:	Arthur's Letter "Arthur's Letter" Arthur	
Scene 9:	Paris "Mom and Dad's Letter" Mr. & Mrs. Lambchop, Stanley	
Scene 10:	Hawaii "Surfin' the Mail"Stanley, Bikini Wahini, Company	
Scene 11:	Back Home "Travelin' Finale"Stanley, Mr. & Mrs. Lambchop, Arthur, Mrs. Cartero, Company	

### Cast

Staular-	Mammara Carmer			
Stanley				
Arthur				
Mrs. LambchopALYSSA KNIGH				
Mr. Lambchop				
Mrs. Cartero				
Cousin Sophie (Sleepover Guest)				
Jacob (Sleepover Guest)				
Jackson (Sleepover Guest)	Owen Tidd			
Caleb (Sleepover Guest)	Landen Stengel			
Caleb (Sleepover Guest) Jennifer (Sleepover Guest) Cheyenne (Sleepover Guest)	Abby Smith			
Cheyenne (Sleepover Guest)	Olivia Moretto			
Luna (Sleepover Guest)	Selena Martin			
Bulletin Board				
Dr. Anne				
Nurse Betty	Sarah Saho			
Bluebird #1.	Abby McClung			
Bluebird #2	Gretchen Dowler			
Bluebird #2 Canary Parrot	Tru Hill			
Parrot	Caroline Affolter			
Owl.	Holly Buskirk			
Blue Jay	Elaine Freed			
Scarlet Tanager				
King of Cool Kids				
Cool Kids	les Davis, Ashley Doyle,			
	ufman, Katie Wilkinson			
Napoleon	Zac Graham			
Napoleon Mona Lisa				
Julius Caesar	ZACCOOPER			
Joan of Arc	Hannah White			
Sneak Thief	Payton Biirkhammer			
O. Jay D'Art	ANDREW MISER			
Hollywood Agent				
Assistant 1				
Assistant 2				
Wannabes Payton Burkh				
Sarah Saho, Abby Smith, Hai				
Samantha	,			
1				
KikiAbby Smith Bikini WahiniGrace Wilson				
Go-Go Dancers				
KALEIGHDAVIS, HANNAHHECK, JESSICAHECK, LYDIAJAMES, DAISYLAWRENCE,				
Abby McClung, Cyan Poling, Molly Powell, Sarah Saho, Haley Thomas				
Assistant Director				

### Crew

Director	Barbara Ream		
Assistant Director	Paige Smith		
Music Director	Sherry Braid		
Choreographer Technical Director	Helen Reilly		
Technical Director	Marsha Mueller		
Technical Group Coordinator	Steve Smith		
Costume Coordinator	Lynda Hannus		
Technical Group Coordinator	,Katy Lockney		
Assistant Stage Manager Light Board Operator	Aaron Hardy		
Light Board Operator	Eliza Hyde		
Sound Operator	Marley Umensetter		
Spot Light OperatorsROBBIE BAR	RTON, ALEXIS HEFNER		
Costume Coordinator			
Costume CrewEMILY BILES, PAT	fricia Burkhammer,		
Mandie Jones, Katy Lockney, Lisa Miser,			
Sam Miser, Angela Nelson, Paige Smith			
Hair/Makeup CoordinatorsLynda Hannus, Alice Lawrence			
Hair/Makeup CrewBecky Buskirk, Samantha Harris, Alice Lawrence			
Angie Moretto, Baile			
Backstage CrewJesse Eaton, JoAsia Karw			
Pierce Karwatka, Charis Mace, Connor Walker,			
Avery McClun	g, Joshua Mitchell		
Rehearsal Pianist	Bailey Ream		

You are invited to meet the cast in the auditorium following the performance.

Guild Builders is sponsored by Camden-Clark Medical Center and is funded in part by the Ohio River Border Initiative, a joint project of the Ohio Arts Council and the West Virginia Commission on the Arts; Belpre Area Community Development Foundation; Parkersburg Area Community Foundation; Artsbridge United Arts Fund; and the WV Division of Culture and History, and the National Endowment for the Arts, with approval from the WV Commission on the Arts, and in partnership with the Parkersburg Arts Center.





Ohio River
Border Initiative
Arts Network



### The Louvre Museum

OCATED IN PARIS, FRANCE, the Louvre Museum is one of the largest, oldest, and most famous museums and art galleries in the world. Over 8.5 million people visited the Louvre in 2009 to see the collection of some of the most recognizable works of art in the world, including the Venus de Milo, Madonna of the Rocks and the Mona Lisa.

When Stanley visits the Louvre Museum in Paris, he stops a thief from stealing two paintings. Do you know these famous works of art?





#### Mona Lisa

The Mona Lisa was painted in France by Leonardo da Vinci in the 16th century. It is an oil painting on poplar wood and is considered da Vinci's greatest masterpiece. It took him four years to complete and was originally purchased by the French king in 1507 for 4,000 French ecus (coins), which would have been equivalent to \$10,000 today.

Though Stanley keeps her from getting stolen, "Mona Lisa" has not always been so lucky. In 1911, a worker at the Louvre managed to steal the painting and keep it hidden in his apartment for two years.

#### NAPOLEON

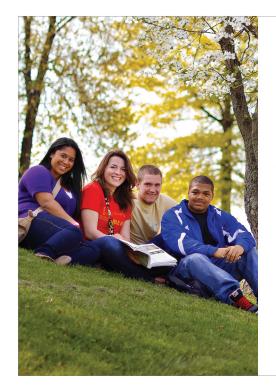
David Jacques Louis painted Napoleon in his study in the Tuileries Palace in 1812. The painting is unique because traditionally leaders would have portraits painted of them in their robes of state, but Napoleon chose to be painted in his military uniform. The portrait portrays the message that besides being a military leader, Napoleon is also a powerful statesman, administrator and legislator.

Taken from www.tuts.com/Public/Shows/StudyGuides/HSMT\_flatstanley.pdf





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## A Letter from the President



Y FIRST ENCOUNTER with Flat Stanley came in November of 2008 when I received a letter in the mail from Naylor, Missouri. A young boy sent Flat Stanley to me and asked if I could show him around my town, take pictures of him in the places we visited, and then forward him to another location.

I was a bit confused, but quite amused, so I set out to introduce Flat Stanley to my world. During

Flat Stanley's visit, we went to my workplace, ate dinner at a pizza shop, and headed to the pet store to buy food for my dog. I even took Flat Stanley to get a haircut. I chronicled our time together in photos and notes, sent those back to the elementary school in Naylor, Missouri, and gave Flat Stanley to a local college student so she could send him to her home in The Netherlands.

It's a bit silly to admit as an adult, but I had a blast playing with Flat Stanley. I think it was fun because I had to suspend my reality a bit to play along, and that was an enjoyable experience.

I think you will enjoy your experience today at the Guild as well. The young men and ladies you will see in this production by the Guild Builders have worked for many hours learning about the ins and outs of the "front stage" and "back stage" of theatre. They have sewn costumes, worked on sets, run lights and sound, and rehearsed lines and choreography for months in preparation for today's musical adventure. Thanks to Barbara Ream, director of Guild Builders, and all of the volunteers who have worked with these young theatre buffs.

Now, I invite you to suspend your reality for a bit and travel along with Flat Stanley as he crosses the globe.

Rebekah V. Mathis-Story

REBERAH D. MATHIS-STUMP President of the Board of Trustees



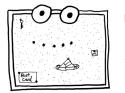
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### Director's Note



O TRAVEL THE WORLD and have amazing adventures. This premise is what has made the Flat Stanley books by Jeff Brown a perennial favorite since the first book was published in 1964. Three decades later, an elementary teacher from Ontario started The Flat Stanley Project as a cross-curricular project. Today The Flat Stanley Project has

registered over 6000 schools in more than 88 countries, and it is included in over 15% of the curriculums in elementary schools in the United States.

On the website FlatStanley.com, it is suggested that "Flat Stanley was one of the earliest social networks for children." These Flat Stanley projects in which students mail their Stanleys around the world involve map reading, journal writing, creative writing, letter writing, and research skills. While students can still mail a Stanley made from paper, they now have the option of emailing an electronic version. There are apps to track Stanley, websites on which a host can be requested, and online maps to which Stanley's travels can be pinned. After almost twenty years of globe trekking, is it surprising that Stanley' travels brought him to the stage?

When The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR. became available, it was seen as a perfect fit for the Guild Builders program. The well-known story line, the upbeat music, and the opportunities for stand-out characters inspired our creativity. Every Saturday morning, the students arrived at the Actors Guild ready to see what we would be doing that week. Whether it was dancing, singing, set construction, creating the marketing artwork, rehearsing, or designing costumes, the students worked hard and looked forward to sharing the production with an audience. Both the cast and the crew are comprised of our fourth through ninth graders, and all have worked hard to learn their roles. Their enthusiasm has made it a joy to bring this show to the Actors Guild stage.

Of course none of this would be possible without the dedicated staff members who give generously of their time and considerable talents to the Guild Builders program. While the program begins in October, the staff works through the summer to prepare, and during the year they get up early on Saturday mornings to make sure everything is ready for the students each week. The staff members who comprise the production team - Sherry Braid (music), Helen Reilly (dance), Lynda Hannus (costumes/makeup), Paige Smith (assistant director), Steve Smith (technical crew) - are so talented and such a joy to work with. The Guild Builders program is a labor of love, and I feel privileged to be a part of it.

To the students and staff, add the creative Technical Director (Marsha Mueller), supportive parents, and knowledgeable visiting instructors, and the result is what you see on the stage.

So join us as we conclude our adventure for the 2012-2013 season. As you leave the performance, may it be with a feeling of having experienced something amazing!

Barbara Ream Director, The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR.



## Dramatic

## **PERFORMANCE**.

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## The Bayley Award

The "Bayley" was established by the Actors Guild with a two-fold purpose: first, to honor one of our "founding mothers" and most influential members – Suzanne Bayley. The other function of the Bayley Award is for our membership to express an annual, public "thank you" to an individual, group or business in the community for services to the Guild above and beyond the call of neighborly duty.

Our most recent Bayley Award was granted to the Khalil Family.

## The Khalil Awards

For many years Dr. Ghassan Khalil and his family have made an annual contribution to ensure the continuation of live theater in our community and have championed the importance of the arts in our lives. The Khalil Awards were established to honor the Outstanding Production and the Outstanding Performance of each season. An anonymous panel consisting of persons who have seen every show of the previous season selects the recipients of these awards.

The Actors Guild of Parkersburg would like to congratulate director Charlie Matthews and the entire cast and crew of *Tuesdays with Morrie* as the Best Show for the 2011-2012 season. Receiving the honor for Best Performance was John Lee, for his portrayal of Morrie in *Tuesdays with Morrie*.

## The Grace-Marie Merrill Award

Melody Carson is the most recent recipient of the Grace-Marie Merrill Award for exceptional volunteerism to the Actors Guild of Parkersburg. The award is named for a former drama teacher at Parkersburg High School who was an early member of the Guild, where she acted in and directed plays.

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on the third Thursday of every month at 7 P.M. \*Jean Newton

To become a voting member of the Actors Guild,

contact Susan Schuchts at sschuchts@yahoo.com

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- ★ Indicates a Life Member Current as of 1/15/13



### SUNDAY SERVICES

8:00 AM - Holy Eucharist 10:30 AM - Holy Eucharist with Choir

### Who's Who in the Cast & Crew

**CAROLINE AFFOLTER** (Parrot) is in her fourth year of Guild Builders. Last year she played Vida Curtis, the photographer, and a hostess in *Kilroy Was Here!* Prior to that, she portrayed a follower and a juggler in *Robin Hood the Musical* and Fyodor in *Fiddler on the Roof JR.* A seventh grader, Caroline sings in the Edison Middle School choir. Caroline also has an interest in animals; the farm she lives on has thirteen horses and seven dogs!

**ROBBIE BARTON** (Spotlight Operator) is in his first year with Guild Builders and his first experience with theatre. He is an eighth grader at VanDevender where he is on the wrestling team, the tennis team, and the track team (100 m dash, 200 m dash, and 200 m hurdles). Welcome, Robbie!

**PAYTON BURKHAMMER** (Sneak Thief, Wannabe, Go-Go Dancer) has theatrical experience at several local venues. In addition to playing Edith in Guild Builders' last play, *Kilroy Was Here!*, she also played Beth in the Guild Builders production of *Robin Hood the Musical*, Pantomime Princess in *Once Upon a Mattress* at Marietta College, and Payton in *School House Rock Live* at the Mid-Ohio Valley Players Theatre. Payton is an eighth grader at Marietta Middle School.

HOLLY BUSKIRK (Owl) loves to tap dance, sing, act, and play with her dogs. She looks to her favorite actors for inspiration: Chandler Riggs, Ian Somerhalder, Josh Hutcherson, and Nina Dobrev. Holly would like to thank her "lovely mom and dad" for supporting her in her endeavors to be an actor. Welcome, Holly!

**McKenzie Cameron** (Go-Go Dancer) is a sixth grader at Barlow-Vincent Elementary School and is in the school chorus. She has sung with the Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus since 2010; this is the final year she can participate before aging out of the Chorus. McKenzie enjoys singing, reading, writing, and acting. She would like to thank her mom and dad for taking her every Saturday to Guild Builders. She is excited to be performing in her second Guild Builders play after portraying a serviceman and messenger in last year's *Kilroy Was Here!* 

**HANNAH CASTO** (Assistant Director) is in her fifth year as a Guild Builder. She's learning guitar and Greek ("Japanese was easy"). She loves acting and singing. Last year Hannah played Rita in *Kilroy Was Here!* Previously, Hannah has played a follower in *Robin Hood the Musical*, Tamara in *Fiddler on the Roof JR.*, and Chloe Squires in *The Music Man JR*. Hannah is a ninth grader at Parkersburg High School.

**ZAC COOPER** (Julius Caesar Statue) is in his third year in the Guild Builders program. Last year he portrayed a serviceman in *Kilroy Was Here!*, and the previous year he was a member of the backstage crew for *Robin Hood the Musical*. Zac is in the sixth grade at VanDevender. He enjoys spending time with

his family and his three chihuahuas, one hamster, and one cat (who is bigger than the dogs!).

**CHARLES DAVIS III** (Cool Kid) joins the Guild Builders cast this year. His first introduction to the theatre was as a bat in the Missoula Children's Theatre production of *Hansel and Gretel*. Charles is in the fourth grade at Jefferson Elementary where he is part of the basketball team. He enjoys X-Box games and rollerblading. Welcome, Charles!

**KALEIGH DAVIS** (Hollywood Assistant, Go-Go Dancer) is a ninth grade student at Parkersburg High School. This is her third year in Guild Builders; last year she was Eve in *Kilroy Was Here!* and a soldier in *Robin Hood the Musical*. She has performed with the MOV Players in *The Big Bad Musical; Let Your Hair Down, Rapunzel;* and *School House Rock*. She has also taken part in four Missoula Children's Theatre productions and Camp Vaudeville at the Smoot. This year Kaleigh had the opportunity to be an extra in an indie movie, *Angels Perch,* which will premier fall 2013. Kaleigh enjoys dance, cheer leading, high jump, and writing stories.

**GRETCHEN DOWLER** (Bluebird #2) is in her second year of Guild Builders. She was part of the backstage crew last year for *Kilroy Was Here!* Gretchen is in fifth grade at Parkersburg Catholic Elementary where she is on the basketball team. She likes *The Littlest Pet Shop*. Welcome, Gretchen!

**ASHLEY DOYLE** (Cool Kid) is a fourteen-year-old eighth grader at VanDevender Middle School and is excited about this year's performances. This is her second year in Guild Builders and first year acting in the cast; she was part of the backstage crew for *Kilroy Was Here!* Ashley would like to thank her friends and family for inspiring and supporting her.

**JESSE EATON** (Backstage Crew) is a fifth grader at Neale Elementary School and keeps a 4.0 grade average. He enjoys participating in theatrical events at the Smoot Theatre. Jesse is also in the school band and choir. He leads songs and prayers at his church and was elected part of the Wood County Honor Choir. Jesse loves trains and enjoys reading. Welcome, Jesse!

**ELAINE FREED** (Blue Jay) is a home-schooled sixth grader who loves to read chapter books. She is eleven. Her cousins were in Guild Builders first, providing her with the inspiration to participate. This is Elaine's third year in the program after being a spot light operator the first year and a hostess last year in *Kilroy Was Here!* She believes the Guild is a place where everyone is your friend.

**ZACK GRAHAM** (Napoleon) is a ten-year-old fifth grader at Ravenswood Grade School. He recently completed his fourth year playing for the Ravenswood Red Devils youth football team. Zack enjoys learning as much as he can about the Civil War. He was the spotlight operator last year for *Kilroy Was Here!* Zack loves being in Guild Builders and looks forward to coming each week for the rehearsals. **AARON HARDY** (Assistant Stage Manager) is a fifth grader at Vienna Elementary School and is in his second year of Guild Builders; last year he ran the light board during *Kilroy Was Here!* His theater credits include *King Arthur's Quest, Hansel and Gretel, Oliver!*, and *Kilroy Was Here!* 

**EMMA HARRIS** (Cool Kid) is a fourth grader at Franklin Elementary School. While she has a great deal of experience with dance and dance recitals, this is her first time in a play, and she is so excited. Welcome, Emma!

**HANNAH HECK** (Samantha, Go-Go Dancer) played a hostess last year in *Kilroy Was Here!* A sixth grade homeschooler, Hannah has been in different plays and enjoys coming to Guild Builders. She is thankful to play the part of Samantha this year.

**JESSICA HECK** (Go-Go Dancer) is an animal lover. Her favorite animals are wolves and dogs. She also enjoys skating. Jessica is in the fourth grade, and she homeschools. This is Jessica's first year in Guild Builders, and she loves it. Welcome, Jessica!

**ALEXIS HEFNER** (Spotlight Operator) is a fifth grader at Criss Elementary School. She has been taking guitar lessons for two years. Other interests include karate and clarinet lessons. This is Alexis' first year as a Guild Builders student. Welcome, Alexis!

**TRU HILL** (Canary) is in her second year of Guild Builders. She loves to dance and sing and has a diverse range of performance experience. Tru was a hostess in *Kilroy Was Here!* She also sang at a Mother's Day tea party and danced on stage with an African drumming group. She is really glad that her mom and grandma drive her to the Guild for practices and is excited about performing in *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR*.

**ELIZA HYDE** (Light Board Operator) is a fifth grade homeschooler who loves reading, skating, and bike riding. She loves her dog and two cats. This is Eliza's first year in Guild Builders. Welcome, Eliza!

**HAYLEN IRVINE** (Kandi) is a fifth grader at Blennerhassett Elementary School where she played the lead role in the school play. She is also in the school choir and was chosen for Wood County Honors Choir with a speaking part. Other choir experience includes a second year in the Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus. This is her first year in Guild Builders. She enjoys performing and is very excited about learning more about singing and dancing. Welcome, Haylen!

**LYDIA JAMES** (Hollywood Assistant, Go-Go Dancer) is an eighth grader at Warren Local. She is an avid reader and aspires to be an author. This is Lydia's first year in Guild Builders. Welcome, Lydia!

JOASIA KARWATKA (Backstage Crew) is a sixth grader. She enjoys acting and also getting to help put the set together. JoAsia loves horses. She dances at

Mid-Ohio Valley Ballet and performs in a play every year for her homeschool co-op. Welcome, JoAsia!

**PIERCE KARWATKA** (Backstage Crew) is a fourth grade homeschool student. He enjoys being a Boy Scout. Pierce likes playing with his dog, video games, and reading about technology. He has participated in theatre projects through his homeschool groups. Welcome, Pierce!

**NOAH KAUFMAN** (Cool Kid) is a fifth grader. He loves playing soccer and watching *The Walking Dead*. Noah would like to thank his mom and dad for waking up early every Saturday to have him at Guild Builders by 9:00 AM. Welcome, Noah!

ALYSSA KNIGHT (Mrs. Lambchop) joined Guild Builders this year. Alyssa was very excited to be cast in the role of Mrs. Lambchop. In 2008 she was in *Wait Until Dark* at the Mid-Ohio Valley Players Theatre. In her free time she enjoys watching movies, listening to music, and cooking. She would like to thank her family and cat for putting up with the hours of serenading, and she especially wishes to thank the cast, crew and directors of Guild Builders. Welcome, Alyssa!

**DAISY LAWRENCE** (Dr. Anne, Wannabe, Go-Go Dancer) is a sixth grader at Hamilton Middle School. She was recently in *Little Women of Orchard House* at the Mid-Ohio Valley Players Theatre. She has also been in *Robinson Crusoe, Hansel and Gretel, King Arthur's Quest,* and *Wiz of the West* through the Missoula Children's Theatre program. Last year Daisy portrayed government agent June Forrest in the Guild Builders production of *Kilroy Was Here!* She is in the Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus, takes dance lessons at Mid-Ohio Valley Ballet Academy, and plays the snare drum as well as various other percussion instruments. Daisy would like to thank her dad, Darin, for encouraging her to enter the talent show when she was in the second grade. Without him, Daisy probably wouldn't be on the stage in the first place!

**K.T. MACCHIA** (Hollywood Agent) is an eighth grader at Barlow-Vincent and is in her third year in the Guild Builders program. Last year she was Melba, a riveter, in *Kilroy Was Here!* She was a tumbler in *Robin Hood the Musical* the year before. Other acting experiences include many school plays, the Missoula Children's Theatre production of *Snow White*, and Camp Vaudeville at the Smoot Theatre. K.T. has even appeared in a local television commercial. In addition to playing the piano and singing, she improves upon her performance skills by taking acting workshop classes at the Smoot and dance lessons at PACE (ballet, tap, and jazz/hip-hop). She is excited about another year of Guild Builders.

**CHARIS MACE** (Backstage Crew) is homeschooled and in the fourth grade. She has two cats. Charis plays piano and performs every year in a play with her homeschool co-op. She loves reading and couldn't wait for the current year of Guild Builders so she could be a stage hand. Welcome, Charis!

**SELENA MARTIN** (Sleepover Guest Luna) plays the flute and loves volleyball. She is a sixth grader at Edison Middle School. Selena thanks her mom for always getting up early to take her to practice. Welcome Selena!

**ABBY MCCLUNG** (Bluebird #1, Go-Go Dancer) is a seventh grader and is homeschooled. This is her third year in Guild Builders, appearing last year as Marion and as a hostess in *Kilroy Was Here!* and running a spot light for *Robin Hood the Musical*. She loves to act and has also performed at the Smoot Theatre. She also loves 4-H. She would like to thank the staff of Guild Builders for making this possible.

**AVERY MCCLUNG** (Backstage Crew) has patiently waited to join her sister in Guild Builders. She is a homeschooler in the fourth grade. Avery enjoys playing drums and participating in 4-H. She spends her spare time reading and playing with her pets. Welcome, Avery!

**PAUL MILLER II** (King of the Cool Kids) is in the eighth grade at Jackson. This is his first year in Guild Builders. Self-described as "one of the funniest, coolest ever," he skates and loves music and declares the mall to be his "second house." Welcome, Paul!

**ANDREW MISER** (Bulletin Board, O. Jay D'Art) is in his third year of Guild Builders. He has appeared in Guild Builders productions of *Robin Hood the Musical* as a soldier and in *Kilroy Was Here!* as the MP. Other Actors Guild appearances include the chorus in *Godspell* and as Pud in *On Borrowed Time*. An eighth grader at VanDevender Middle School, he enjoys choir, playing the violin, tennis, cross country and being on Vandy's quiz bowl team.

**JOSHUA MITCHELL** (Backstage Crew) is in sixth grade. This is Joshua's second year in Guild Builders; last year he played a soldier in *Kilroy Was Here!* He is good at stories and says that participating in the tech group is fun!

**NOAH MORETTO** (Sleepover Guest Jacob) has been part of the Guild Builders program for four years. Prior roles include Jack in *Kilroy Was Here!*, a sword fighter and a follower in *Robin Hood the Musical*, and a Rabbi in *Fiddler on the Roof JR*. His other interests include attending camps and youth group activities. He describes himself as "smart and funny" and believes his contribution to *The Musical Adventures of Flat Stanley JR*. makes the show "unbelievable."

**OLIVIA MORETTO** (Sleepover Guest Cheyenne) is in her second season as a Guild Builders student, appearing last year as a hostess in *Kilroy Was Here!* Olivia is in fifth grade at Newport Elementary School. She has been playing the piano for two years and enjoys drawing.

**CYAN POLING** (Go-Go Dancer) is interested in the arts. In addition to her participation in Guild Builders, this Neale Elementary School fifth grader has appeared in school plays, performed in *The Nutcracker* and plays the flute. Welcome, Cyan! **MOLLY POWELL** (Go-Go Dancer) is a seventh grader at Edison Middle School. She debuts with Guild Builders this year and loves acting. Welcome, Molly!

JARED REAM (Arthur) returns to Guild Builders after playing the government agent Horace in last year's production of *Kilroy Was Here!* Other theater experiences include Missoula Children's Theatre productions, Camp Vaudeville, and the Actors Guild production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* as an Oompa-Loompa. Jared is a fifth grade homeschooler. In addition to acting, he enjoys participating in dance and in the Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus where he loves being part of the quartet. He is also ecstatic about Legos—his room is full of them!

MICHAEL REAM (Mr. Lambchop) is a ninth grade homeschooler. This is his sixth and final year in Guild Builders. He has portrayed Carl in *Kilroy Was Here!*, a soldier in *Robin Hood the Musical*, the lead in *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi*, Noah in *The Hidden Secrets*, and the professor in *Narnia*. He has also appeared in a production of *James and the Giant Peach* at WVU-P, four Missoula Children's Theater productions, five Camp Vaudeville productions, and the Actors Guild's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* as an Ooompa-Loompa. Michael enjoys taking dance and karate lessons; this year he was pleased to join the Boys' Ensemble at the Smoot Theatre. He loves reading and all things giraffe.

**SARAH SAHO** (Nurse Betty, Wannabe, Go-Go Dancer) is in her third year of Guild Builders. Last year she played Gretchen, an undercover agent, in *Kilroy Was Here!* and the year prior a castle maiden and follower in *Robin Hood the Musical*. Sarah is an eighth grader at Warren Elementary School. She dances, plays volleyball and loves her friends and family.

**ABBY SMITH** (Sleepover Guest Jennifer, Wannabe, Kiki) is in the sixth grade at VanDevender Middle School. This is her third year in Guild Builders. Previously she portrayed Mrs. Wilcox in *Kilroy Was Here!* and a soldier in *Robin Hood the Musical*. Other performances include the Missoula Children's Theatre productions of *Snow White* as Dr. Specs and *The Wiz of the West* as a munchkin. Abby enjoys acting, dancing, singing, unicorns and cheering.

**MATTHEW SMITH** (Stanley) is a seventh grader at Barlow-Vincent Elementary School. This is his third year in Guild Builders, having played the part of Leo in *Kilroy Was Here!* and Will Scarlet in *The Musical Adventures of Robin Hood.* He has previously appeared in the Mid-Ohio Valley Players Theatre production *Oliver!* and was an Oompa-Loompa in the Actors Guild production of *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.* Matthew has participated in four Camp Vaudeville shows at the Smoot Theatre and currently sings with the Smoot Theatre Boys Ensemble. He takes piano lessons and plays the trumpet in his school band. He is a First Class Boy Scout and enjoys reading and Lego building. **VICTORIA SMITH** (Cousin Sophie) is a fourth grader at Barlow-Vincent Elementary School. This is her first year in Guild Builders. She participated in three summers of Camp Vaudeville at the Smoot Theatre. She currently sings with the Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus and enjoys taking piano lessons. She is happy to be in Guild Builders this year. Welcome, Victoria!

**LANDEN STENGEL** (Sleepover Guest Caleb) was born February 24, 2002, in Portsmouth, Virginia. He is the son of Ed and Stephanie Stengel of Parkersburg. He has a sister and two brothers. Landen is a fifth grader at Vienna Elementary School. His favorite activities include soccer, basketball, and learning the trumpet. He also enjoys collecting sports cards and playing video games. This is Landen's first year in Guild Builders. Welcome, Landen!

**HALEY THOMAS** (Mona Lisa, Wannabe, Go-Go Dancer) is a ninth grade student at Ritchie County High School. Her previous theater experience includes *Macbeth* and *The Hysterical History of the Trojan War* at the Parkersburg Co-Op and a role in *Scrooge Makes-Up*. This is her fourth year participating in Guild Builders, having played a hostess in *Kilroy Was Here!*, a merchant and follower in *Robin Hood the Musical*, and Isaak a bottle dancer in *Fiddler on the Roof JR*.

**EDIE TIDD** (Mrs. Cartero) is a sixth grade homeschooler participating in her second year in Guild Builders. Along with her role as an undercover agent in last year's Guild Builders production of *Kilroy Was Here!*, Edie has acted in the Missoula Children's Theatre productions of *Wiz of the West* and *Snow White*. She recently appeared in the Actors Guild production of *The Secret Garden*. In addition to dancing and acting with the Mid-Ohio Valley Ballet Academy for the last six years, Edie has participated in and performed with the Smoot Theatre's Camp Vaudeville and the Cello Company of Parkersburg. She would like to thank her family for their support.

**OWEN TIDD** (Sleepover Guest Jackson) is a fourth grade homeschooler participating in his first year of Guild Builders. Along with his participation in Camp Vaudeville productions at the Smoot Theatre for two years, he has also performed with the Missoula Children's Theatre in *Snow White* and *Wiz of the West.* He has danced and acted with the Mid-Ohio Valley Ballet Academy for four years and recently played Colin in the Actors Guild production of *The Secret Garden.* Owen plays cello and piano and is looking forward to another exciting year of acting and music. Welcome, Owen!

**MARLEY UMENSETTER** (Sound Operator) is in the seventh grade at Blennerhassett Middle School where she is a mat maid and member of the school choir. Marley has appeared in several school plays. Although this is her third year in Guild Builders, this is the first year Marley has been part of the technical crew, and she looks forward to experiencing theater from the tech side. Previously she played a serviceperson in *Kilroy Was Here*! and a nobleman and follower in *Robin Hood the Musical*. **CONNOR WALKER** (Backstage Crew) is twelve years old and a first-year Guild Builders student. He has appeared in two previous plays, the Mid-Ohio Valley Players Theatre production of *School House Rock Live Junior* and the Smoot Theatre production of *Wiz of the West* in which he served a technical role. Welcome, Conner!

**HANNAH WHITE** (Joan of Arc statue) is a seventh grader at Eastern Middle School. This is her second year in Guild Builders; last year she portrayed Pamela, the reporter, in *Kilroy Was Here!* She has appeared in *Godspell* as an angel, *Seussical the Musical, Beauty and the Beast,* and *The Wizard of Oz.* She has also performed in the Missoula Children's Theatre productions *Hansel and Gretel* and *King Arthur's Quest.* Her hobbies also include reading, singing, hanging out with friends, and playing volleyball. She is reported to be very good at playing the clarinet and making people laugh (not at the same time).

LYDIA WHITE (Scarlet Tanager, Wannabe) is a fifth grader at Belpre Elementary School and is in her second year of Guild Builders. Last year Lydia was a hostess in *Kilroy Was Here!* Her acting career began early, appearing in *Seussical the Musical* when she was only three years old! She has performed in the Actors Guild productions of *Beauty and the Beast, The Wizard of Oz*, and *Godspell*, and in the Smoot Theatre productions *Hansel and Gretel, King Arthur's Quest* and *Snow White*. She is a member of the Smoot Theatre Children's Chorus and is learning to play the saxophone.

**KAITLYNN WILKINSON** (Cool Kid) is ninth grade homeschooler and is in her fifth year of Guild Builders. Last year she was a serviceperson in *Kilroy Was Here!*; previously she played a follower and musician in *Robin Hood the Musical*, Roza in *Fiddler on the Roof JR*, and Jared Squires in *The Music Man JR*. She has participated in several church programs and plays the guitar. She is also a member of Girl Scouts and Jr. Red Cross.

**GRACE WILSON** (Bikini Wahini) is in her third year as a Guild Builder. She has appeared in *Kilroy Was Here!* as a hostess, *Robin Hood the Musical* as a sword fighter and follower, *Godspell*, and *Beauty and the Beast*. Belying her delicate appearance, she enjoys "Call of Duty: Black Ops II" and zombies. Grace also loves her "bestest" friend, Tru Hill. Her favorite food is pie. Yeah buddy!

The Flat Stanley decorating contest winners can be seen in the lobby display case. Thank you to the business and individuals who sponsored the prizes for the contest: McDonald's, 7th Street and Parkersburg Actors Guild Member

We are proud of our two graduating high school senior student assistants, Katy Lockney and Sophia Moretto. Your dedication to the program and your level of talent have been greatly appreciated. We will miss you, but we know you are off to have amazing adventures!

### Staff & Student Assistants

**Darin Affolter** (Technical Group Assistant) is in his third year on the staff of Guild Builders assisting with the technical crew and set construction. Darin is very involved with the local 4-H program and with his church.

Sherry Wilson Braid (Music Director) was the 1990s ensemble director for *It's the Reel Thing.* She was music director of *Pump Boys and Dinettes, Guys and Dolls, Smokey Joe's Café* and has served as the music director for the past few Guild Builders productions. On stage at the Guild she appeared in *Into the Woods* as Cinderella in 1992 and as the Witch in 2011. She also made Guild appearances in *Always Patsy Cline* as Patsy; *Beauty and the Beast; Big, The Musical; The Secret Garden; Godspell; Nuncrackers;* and many others since 1985. She is employed as a school nurse for Wood County Schools. She is very proud of her "own" Guild Builder, Grace Wilson.

Lynda Hannus (Teaching Artist Residency, Make-Up, Hair, Costumes) coordinates the Teaching Artist Residency portion of the curriculum, which brings in professional artists to teach classes for the students. The past three years she served as co-costumer and was in charge of make-up and hair for *Robin Hood the Musical* and *Kilroy Was Here!* Lynda has previously coordinated hair and make-up for *The Stories of Scheherazade, Narnia, The Music Man JR., Fiddler on the Roof JR.*, and *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi*. This year, Lynda coordinated the costume design and construction, and she created many of the pieces as well. This is Lynda's seventh year on the staff.

Alice Lawrence (Marketing Designer), proud Guild Builder parent, joined our staff this year after helping out with hair and makeup for the 2012 Guild Builder production of *Kilroy Was Here!* Alice originally hails from the south, where she graduated from The College of Charleston in South Carolina. She and her family (Darin works at Woodcraft, Daisy is a second-year Guild Builder, and Harper Grace is a future Guild Builder) moved to Parkersburg from Afton, Virginia, in 2008. She is in her twenty-fifth year working for the educational travel company WorldStrides. Reading, crafting, camping, and singing are pastimes she enjoys with her family. Before moving to Parkersburg, during a tour of the town, they happened upon an entertaining and enthusiastic rehearsal for *Narnia* at the Actors Guild and made it a goal to participate in Guild Builders.

**Robert Macchia** (Administration) is in his second year on staff and became involved with Guild Builders a year after his youngest child, K.T., joined the program. It's a whole new world for him as his acting experience is limited to elementary school plays, most notably a lead role in fifth grade as Jiya in Pearl S Buck's *The Big Wave*. He utilizes his coaching experience (baseball, softball, basketball, and some soccer) and his outgoing personality to assist with the student actors where needed. Lisa Miser (Playbill, Backstage Submissions) joined the Guild Builders staff this year after having her sons, Sam and Andrew, participate in the program for the past several years. In a previous life she was a writer and graphic designer and now serves as a chauffeur and concessionaire...or where needed (which even led to a bit part as a handyman on the Actors Guild stage). She is happy to serve a role in a program which has greatly benefited her sons.

Marsha Mueller (Technical Director) returned to the Guild Builders program this year after working with *Robin Hood the Musical* two years ago. As the technical director, Marsha designed the set and oversaw its construction. She also worked with the students in the technical group and coordinated the backstage crew. Her ingenuity helped Stanley travel the world!

Angie Moretto (Sign In, Administration) is in her third year on staff. In addition to helping at the sign-in table, she helps as part of the make-up crew. Angie has coached volleyball for eighteen years and has been teaching Sunday school at St. John Parish in St. Mary's, West Virginia, for the past thirteen years. She currently has two children in the Guild Builders program and one who returned as a student assistant.

**Barbara Ream** (Program Coordinator, Director) became involved with Guild Builders when her oldest child joined the program. Now she is in her sixth year as a Guild Builders staff member and fourth year as program coordinator. In past years, Barbara directed *Rikki-Tikki-Tavi* and *Robin Hood the Musical*, co-directed *The Hidden Secrets*, and was assistant director for *Narnia*. When not busy with Guild Builders, Barbara homeschools her three children—Bailey, Michael and Jared.

Helen Reilly (Choreographer) first appeared on our stage as the Queen in *Cinderella* and performed in the chorus in *Oliver!* and *Beauty and the Beast*. This is Helen's thirteenth year on our staff, during which she has choreographed for *Kilroy Was Here!*, *Robin Hood the Musical, Fiddler on the Roof JR., The Music Man JR., Narnia, The Stories of Scheherazade, Voyage Aboard the Charming Sally, The Wind in the Willows, and The Great Ghost Chase.* She was co-director and co-choreographer for *Peter Pan* and was a dance instructor for *Forty-Second Street*. Helen's first show with Guild Builders was our *Li'l Abner* production, where she choreographed several numbers including the wonderful Sadie Hawkins race. Helen has also choreographed several main stage shows including *South Pacific, Annie* and *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

Viviannette Sanchez-Smith (Student Attendance Coordinator) is in her second year on staff and greets the parents and students each week as they sign in. Outside of Guild Builders, Viviannette is active in the scouting community, serving as troop committee member for her son's Boy Scout troop and troop leader for her daughter's Girl Scout troop.

**Paige Smith** (Assistant Director) is in her second year on the Guild Builders staff. She is excited to be learning more about directing and theater as an

assistant director this year. She also volunteers at the Actors Guild as house manager and usher for many productions. Paige is director of nursing for emergency and urgent care services at Memorial Health System in Marietta. She is excited to be a part of the staff this year along with her husband Steve (technical coordinator) and her daughter, Abby, who is in the cast.

Stephen Smith (Technical Group Coordinator) oversees the classes and work of the technical group students. For the past couple of years, he has volunteered at the Actors Guild as part of the technical crew (light board operator, running crew, etc.) for many productions. Stephen appeared on stage for the first time in the Actors Guild's production of On Borrowed Time. Stephen is an assistant professor of business and accounting at WVU-Parkersburg.

Robin White (Directors Excerpt Coordinator) has been involved with the Actors Guild since the early 1990s. He has appeared in productions of Annie Get Your Gun, Weird Romance, An Inspector Calls, The Civil War, The Foreigner, Into the Woods, and others. Additionally, Robin has directed Guild productions of Seussical, Beauty and the Beast, The Wizard of Oz, A Year With Frog and Toad, and most recently, The Secret Garden. Robin writes the Guild's newsletter, Backstage. He is a teacher for Belpre City Schools and enjoys sharing theater with his family, which includes his wife, Ruthie, and kids, Hannah, Lydia, and Riley.

Ruthie White (TAR Assistant) has worked behind the scenes on several of her husband Robin's past productions. While in college, Ruthie performed with the Pied Pipers, a children's improvisational troupe, and in productions of You Can't Take it With You and The Secret Place. Ruthie is a fourth grade teacher at Eastern Elementary and is an active member of the Belpre Church of Christ.

Teresa Wilkinson (Registration) coordinates the registration process. During the year she also assists with make-up instruction. Teresa joined the staff four years ago. Teresa is also active in the homeschooling community, Junior Red Cross. and her church.

Tim Wilson (Scheduling Coordinator) is a human resources specialist at the Bureau of the Public Debt and has been playing with the Actors Guild since 1992. Most recently Tim appeared in Into the Woods. He has also performed in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, The Civil War, Honk!, The Secret Garden, Is There Life After High School?, and Forever Plaid, to name a few. This is his third year on the Guild Builders staff.

\_\_\_\_\_

EmilyBiles (Student Assistant) has appeared on stage in several shows, including the Smoot Theatre productions The Boyfriend and How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, and as Hermione in last year's Guild Builders show, Kilroy Was Here! She is a sophomore at Parkersburg High School and finds it interesting to be working on a show for the first time where she does not appear on stage.

Ryan Hannus (Student Assistant) is a first year Student Assistant after being 24

in the Guild Builders program for five years during which he performed as Elliot in Kilroy Was Here!, Friar Tuck in Robin Hood the Musical, Mordcha in Fiddler on the Roof JR., Mayor Shinn in The Music Man JR., and the Demon in Narnia. He has taken voice lessons from Jessica Baldwin for four years and is active in Junior Red Cross. Ryan is a tenth grade student who performs in homeschool and church productions. He also participated in the Missoula productions of *Cinderella* and *Snow White*, and he portraved Pierre in *The* Boyfriend at the Smoot Theatre. This year Ryan assisted with the Technical Group, using his skills and interests to help the students construct the set.

Katy Lockney (Stage Manager, Student Assistant) is a senior at Parkersburg High School. She plans to attend Marshall University in the fall and major in accounting while expanding her knowledge of the Spanish language (currently in her fourth year of study). This is Katy's third year as a Guild Builders student assistant, helping with the tech group and serving as this year's stage manager. Her commitment and contributions to the program have been invaluable and she will be greatly missed. Good luck, Katy!

Sam Miser (Student Assistant) is a sophomore at Parkersburg High School and in the P.H.S. Chamber Choir. His Guild Builders roles have included Kilroy in Kilroy Was Here!, Little John in Robin Hood the Musical, and Motel the tailor in Fiddler on the Roof JR. He has also appeared in the Actors Guild productions Big, the Musical and Hairspray and in the P.H.S. production, Black *Comedy.* He is excited to be helping with Guild Builders this year.

Sophia Moretto (Student Assistant) is in her third year as student assistant and is glad to be back for her final year. She is a senior at Marietta High School and is actively involved with her school's marching and concert band. Sophia has been in numerous Guild Builder plays including Rikki-Tikki Tavi, Fiddler on the Roof JR., The Music Man JR., and Narnia. She was also in school plays including A Very Potter Musical Act I and Rest Stop. She has assisted with the choreography for the plays including Kilroy Was Here!, Robin Hood the Musical, and Once Upon a Mattress. Sophia hopes to stay involved in theater in college this fall. Her choreography skills and theater experience have added much to the Guild Builders program, and she will be missed. Best of luck, Sophia!

Bailey Ream (Student Assistant) is a tenth grade homeschooler. This is her first year as a student assistant. While in Guild Builders, Bailey portrayed Lady Merle in Robin Hood the Musical, Darzina in Rikki-Tikki-Tavi, Clara in The Hidden Secrets, a white dog in Narnia, and Dinny in The Stories of Scheherazade. Bailey has taken part in seven Missoula Children's Theatre productions at the Smoot Theatre, and she participated in Camp Vaudeville for eight years. She also took part in the productions James and the Giant Peach at WVU-Parkersburg and Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at the Actors Guild. This year Bailey served as rehearsal pianist. She looks forward to pursuing a career in music and has enjoyed working with and learning from Sherry Wilson Braid during this production!

Andrew Wilkinson (Student Assistant) is a junior this year. He originally started acting at the Smoot Theatre, and when he found out about Guild Builders, he knew this was the place for him! While in Guild Builders, Andrew portrayed Tevye in *Fiddler on the Roof JR.*, Marcellus in *The Music Man JR.*, and the Sheriff of Nottingham in last year's production of *Robin Hood the Musical*. He also played Augustus Gloop in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. Andrew loves singing, and his ambition is to perform on Broadway.

Special Thanks

The Guild Builders staff who give of their time throughout the year to plan and implement this program. Without your dedication, this program would not be possible.

All the Guild Builders parents for their time and support to help our 16th year to be a success. We have enjoyed working with your children.

Darin Lawrence for creating our life-sized Stanley that has traveled around our community. Thank you for sharing your time and many talents with us.

Our volunteer instructors: Barbara Full, Brian Howard, Bill Knotts, Josh Martin, Charlie Matthews, Sophia Moretto, Dave Prather, Dixie Showalter, and Robin White. Thank you for sharing your time and expertise with our students.

Emily Biles, Ryan Hannus, Katy Lockney, Sam Miser, Sophia Moretto, Bailey Ream, and Andrew Wilkinson – our student assistants who returned to help after graduating from Guild Builders. Thank you for returning this year and giving back to the program.

The Parkersburg Art Center for additional classroom space. Without them we would have been taking classes in the stairways.

Best Wishes to our Ninth Graders who will be graduating from the Guild Builders Program: Hannah Casto, Kaleigh Davis, Michael Ream, Haley Thomas, and Katie Wilkinson. We have loved working with you!

Emily Carr for sharing her gift of accents with our students. The kids thought the accent class was *fantastique*!

John Gradwohl, Josh Martin, and Marsha Mueller for sharing their special talents with and teaching new skills to the Technical Group.

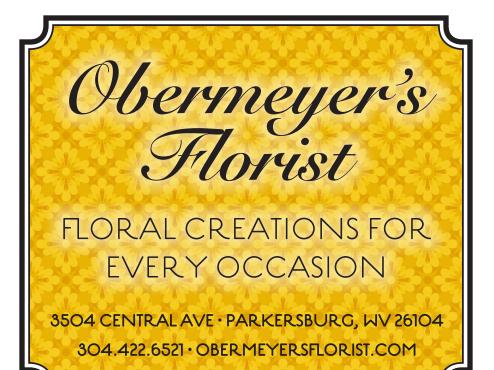
New Start Thrift Mart for loaning us many of the kids' costume pieces. You were such a blessing! Stanley has loved his time in the Mid-Ohio Valley. He has enjoyed traveling throughout our community and having adventures at the following locations. Be sure to check out his video scrapbook in the lobby!

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## LOS ANGELES

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Stanley creates his first feature film: *Stanley* 

Saves the Mail!

Stanley's first stop on his world adventure where he visits his friend Samantha and meets a Hollywood Talent Agent.

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Stanley goes to the Louvre and stops a Sneak Thief who has been stealing great works of art.



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30





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Saho

Haley

Thomas

Hannah

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Miser

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Cyan Poling

Molly Powell



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Matthew Smith



Edie Tidd

Lydia

White







31

Kaitlynn Wilkinson



Connor

Walker

### **OUR MISSION STATEMENT**

Guild Builders will encourage children and young teens in all areas of the theatre arts and endeavor to foster a life-long appreciation through the production and performance of plays and/or musicals.



Lydia James



Daisy Lawrence





K.T. Macchia



Pierce









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### Join Us Next Year for Guild Builders 2013-2014

Who: 4th through 9th grade students

- What: Free comprehensive theatre arts program that includes weekly instruction and participation in all aspects of theatre arts.
- When: Saturday mornings 9:00 a.m. until 12:30 p.m. October through March
- Where: Actors Guild of Parkersburg, 724 Market Street
  - How: Online registration will open through the Guild Builders website on June 15 at www.actors-guild.com/guild-builders. You can contact us at guildbuilders@actors-guild.com for additional information.

Each year the Guild Builders students participate in a marketing class in which they produce artwork relating to that year's production. From these submissions, the marketing posters, cast t-shirts, and playbill cover are developed. This year's playbill cover design incorporated artwork and lettering from the following Guild Builders students:

Jesse Eaton • Hannah Heck • Lydia James • JoAzia Karwatka • Daisy Lawrence K.T. Macchia • Charis Mace • Selena Martin • Paul Miller • Sarah Pifer Victoria Smith • Marley Umensetter • Lydia White • Grace Wilson

Additional artwork from the following students can be seen throughout the playbill:

Payton Burkhammer • Gretchen Dowler • Aaron Hardy • Jessica Heck • Tru Hill Daisy Lawrence • Charis Mace • Abby McClung • Sarah Pifer • Sarah Saho Victoria Smith • Haley Thomas • Edie Tidd • Lydia White



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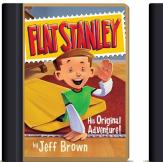
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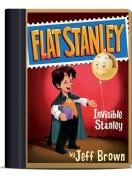


## The first Flat Stanley book was published in 1964.

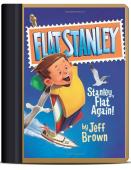












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For more information about Flat Stanley, activities, and online activities, visit the Flat Stanley books website at www.flatstanleybooks.com.





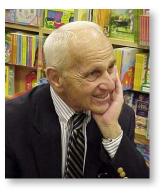
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## About the Author



J EFF BROWN WAS BORN IN NEW YORK CITY in 1925 and died in 2003. In addition to having a successful career as a children's book author, he was a story editor and assistant film producer in Hollywood. He also worked as a short-story writer and editor for such popular magazines as The New Yorker, Esquire, and The Saturday Evening Post. His Flat Stanley series has sold nearly one million copies in the United States. The author talks about how he came up with the idea for the Flat Stanley books:

More than thirty years ago, I was saying goodnight to my now grown-up sons, J.C. and Tony (Flat Stanley is dedicated to them), and J.C., stalling for my chat time, asked me not to leave the bedroom. He was scared, he claimed, and when I asked him what he was afraid of he couldn't think of anything. As I started out again, he had an inspiration. "I'm afraid my big bulletin board will fall on me," he said. I told him that that was ridiculous; the big board on the wall above his bed had been securely mounted by me, and even if it got loose it would do so so slowly that he wouldn't even notice it, just go off to sleep, and by the time it rested fully upon him he'd be sound asleep and wouldn't wake, so the board would just lie there all night. Then I thought of small joke and said: "Of course, when you wake up in the morning, you'll probably be flat." Both boys thought that was a hoot and many evenings after that one, we'd make up stories about adventures you could have if you were flat. Best idea I ever had, and I didn't even know I'd had it. Not for many months, until a friend in the kid-book business, who knew about the flat stories, suggested I make them into a book.

As to the name of his famous title character, Brown explains:

My wife and I had a dinner party, and one of the guests was a now quite wellknown writer named Janet Malcolm. My kids came in to say goodnight, and Janet asked J.C. if he was going to be a writer. When J.C. said yes, she asked if he'd use a pen name, then had to explain 'pen name' to him. He'd have one, he said without hesitating: Stanley. Stanley Lambchop. A year later, I used it in the book to please J.C.

 $Taken \ from \ www.state the atrenj.org/media/pdfs/key notes\_Flat\_Stanley\_2009.pdf$ 

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