



CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

**OVER THE
RIVER AND
THROUGH
THE WOODS**
BY JOE DIPIETRO

CEDARVILLE UNIVERSITY'S DEVRIES THEATRE
OCTOBER 4-6, 11-14, 2012

PRODUCED BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH DRAMATISTS PLAY SERVICE

FROM THE DRAMATURG

Born and raised in New Jersey by an Italian-American family, playwright Joe DiPietro knew what it was like to grow up Italian in New Jersey. He even said that the four grandparents in *Over the River* are loosely based on his grandparents. With humor that can only come from truly understanding family, DiPietro portrays a realistic picture of the importance of family to one of America's largest ethnic groups. In doing so, he also gives insight into every family, no matter their background.

Joe DiPietro once said, "The biggest difference between these generations is their concept of family and home. Our grandparents believed family was central, and work is something you just do to provide for them. For our generation, it's a lot more complicated." He knew values change from generation to generation. Parents struggle understanding their children. Grandchildren wonder how their grandparents can stay in one place their entire lives. Grandparents wonder if the better life they promised to give the next generation is really better.

As you enjoy *Over the River*, see the fun and humor but do not overlook the depth behind the characters. The difficulty of letting go, the hardship of making the decision to leave everything familiar, the struggle to understand what is truly important in life — these are things we all will face in our lives. Whether you are a grandparent, parent, or student, you will identify with one of Joe DiPietro's characters. Their struggles are not terribly different from our own.

— Nicole Renee Moore, *Guest Dramaturg*

Nicole graduated from Cedarville University with a theatre degree in 2008. She lives in Maryville, Tennessee, with her husband, Ken, and son, Sam.

Originally produced on the New York stage by Jonathan Pollard, Bernie Kukoff, Tony Converse and James Hammerstein.

Produced by Helen Hayes Performing Arts Center
(Pam Klappas, Artistic Director; Tony Stimac, Executive Producer) on October 3, 1997.

Presented at The Berkshire Theatre Festival
(Arthur Storch, Artistic Director; Kate Maguire, Managing Director) on August 12, 1997.

Produced by The American Stage Company
(James N. Vagias, Executive Producer) on January 10, 1996.

Developed at the 1994 National Playwrights Conference/Eugene O'Neill Theater Center
(Lloyd Richards, Artistic Director).

First produced at The Belmont Italian American Playhouse
(Dante Albertie, Artistic Director; Marco Greco, Executive Director) in April 1994.

"Yes Sir That's My Baby"

Written by Walter Donaldson and Gus Kahn.
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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UPCOMING PRODUCTIONS

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat

by Andrew Lloyd Webber

January 31–February 10, 2013

Tartuffe, or the Imposter

by Molière

April 4–14, 2013

cedarville.edu/theatre

ABOUT THE THEATRE MAJOR



Cedarville University's theatre major, offered through the Department of Art, Design, and Theatre, is a rigorous program with two concentrations: design and performance. Our graduates are well prepared for graduate schools, educational programs, professional theatre, public media, and ministry settings. They excel in their art as they honor God with their lives.

PLAYERS AND MANAGEMENT

Keriann Arnott (Stage Manager) is a senior theatre major with a minor in business administration from Richwood, Ohio. She thanks God for His guidance and love. She is very grateful for her family as well as her extended theatre family for their encouragement and support as she finishes her final year at Cedarville. Jeremiah 29:11.

Heather Barker (Emma) is a senior theatre major from Beavercreek, Ohio. She was last seen as Logainne Schwartzandgrubbinere in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* at Greater Hamilton Civic Theatre. She is thrilled to premiere Emma at Cedarville's DeVries Theatre, one of her favorite roles to date! After graduation, Heather hopes to pursue a master's degree in theatre for youth. She thanks her friends and family for their support.

Levi Curby (Nick) is a sophomore broadcasting and digital media student from Fairview, Oklahoma. Along with acting, Levi enjoys playing the piano and baseball. Levi knew he was destined to be involved with theatre after his award-winning debut performance as baby Jesus. Levi thanks his parents, Dr. Merchant, and his Lord and Savior. Tengo familia!

Chandler Hull (Caitlin) is a sophomore theatre major from Cincinnati, Ohio, and is honored to make her stage debut at Cedarville's DeVries Theatre. She thanks Aaron, Laura, Hannah, and her family for all their love and support, and dedicates her performance to Mr. Everett, her real-life Nunzio.

Ben Lenox (Nunzio) is a junior theatre major from Grove City, Ohio. He thanks his family for instilling in him what being a family really means. He also thanks Isaac and Rob for putting up with loud accent practice. Finally, he thanks his real-life "Emma," Lauren, for her daily love and support. "All to the glory of God."

Doug Malcolm (Assistant Stage Manager) is a junior theatre major from Canton, Michigan. He thanks the cast and crew for the time and effort they've put into this show and Dr. Merchant for her vision and expertise throughout. May our efforts be a pleasing act of worship to the One True God.

Eric Rasmussen (Frank) is a junior theatre major from Newtown Square, Pennsylvania. He eventually wants to own and direct at his own dinner theatre. He thanks his friends and family for their love and support and especially his Lord and Savior. Glory to God.

Kristin Troyer (Aida) is a senior theatre major from Lima, Ohio, who would like to tell stories for the rest of her life. As usual, she thanks her family, but for this show, especially her grandparents, whom she feels she might understand a little better. She is also thankful for the opportunities this show has provided her to peer through foggy glasses, walk with a shuffle, and make lasagna.

CAST

(IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)

Nick Cristiano Levi Curby
Frank Gianelli Eric Rasmussen
Aida Gianelli Kristin Troyer
Nunzio Cristiano Ben Lenox
Emma Cristiano Heather Barker
Caitlin O'Hare Chandler Hull

SETTING

The Gianelli home in Hoboken, New Jersey

ACT I

A Thursday in the summer of 1992

ACT II

Two days later

PLAY ON WORDS, a study guide, has been prepared by the production dramaturg and is available without charge from an usher or at the concessions booth.

Please silence all electronic devices. Also, as a courtesy to the actors and those around you, please do not text or instant message during the performance. Thank you.

ARTISTIC STAFF

Director

Diane Conrad Merchant†

Set Designer

Donald N.C. Jones‡

Costume Designer

Donald N.C. Jones‡

Lighting Designer

Robert L. Clements‡

Stage Manager

Keriann Arnott

Assistant Stage Manager

Doug Malcom

Guest Dramaturg

Nicole Renee Moore

Dialect Specialist

Rocco dal Vera*

Dialect Coach

Rebecca Baker*

Dialect Assistant

Josiah Hutchings

†



The Director is an Associate Member of the **STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

*Member of VASTA, Voice and Speech Trainers of America

‡Member of USITT, United States Institute of Theatre Technology



Concessions will be available in the lobby during intermission.
All proceeds are used to fund student wages and student events.



Located in the
Lower Level of the SSC

Show this program after the show and receive
15% OFF Any Drink
Cash or Credit Orders Only

PRODUCTION STAFF

Production Manager

Timothy Phipps‡

Technical Director

Timothy Phipps‡

Dramaturgy

Coordinator

Diane Conrad Merchant†

Scenic Charge

Donald N. C. Jones‡

Set Construction/

Decoration

Amelia Lyons

Doug Malcolm

David Dion

Jesse Colt

Travis Mattke

Casey Cundall

Virginia Scites

Emily Dykeman

Josiah Hutchings

Gisela Mullican

Bradley Van Strien

Wardrobe Manager

Charissa Curby

Costume Supervisor

Joy McTaggart

Costume Crew

Lauren Holtzem

Kelsey Morrow

Lesley Nash

Kara Pernicano

Anna Porter

Karah Power

Andria Quirindongo

Properties Master

Donald N. C. Jones‡

Assistant

Properties Master

David Dion

Properties Supervisor

Lindsay McGee

Properties Crew

Sarah Largent

Rebecca Levergood

Savanna Harlow

Jenny Allen

Rebecca Matson

Master Electrician

Gisela Mullican

Electricians

Doug Malcolm

Josiah Hutchings

Sarah Largent

Nat Biggs

Eric Rasmussen

Lindsay McGee

Adam Silorey

Emi Breyfogle

Heather Barker

Joy McTaggart

Ren Holtzem

Assistant to the

Lighting Designer

Casey Cundall

Light Board Operators

Casey Cundall

Gisela Mullican

Sound Technician

Keith Soules

Hair and Makeup

Supervisor

Heather Barker

Hair and Makeup Crew

Victoria Boward

Madison Hart

Cristina Vazquez

Emi Breyfogle

House Manager

V Scites

Box Office

Keriann Arnott

Box Office Assistant

David Dion

Administrative Assistant

Diane Reid

Production

Photographer

Scott Huck

Due to early program printing deadlines, we may have inadvertently omitted names of members of the production staff who were added to teams in the final days of the rehearsal process. We sincerely appreciate their contributions to *Over the River and Through the Woods*.



The Kennedy Center

THE JOHN F. KENNEDY CENTER FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS

**The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival-45,
part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program,
is generously funded by David and Alice Rubenstein.**

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the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation,
The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein, and
the National Committee for the Performing Arts.**

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,300 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.



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THE DAYTONY ORGANIZATION
*RECOGNIZING EXCELLENCE IN THEATRE
IN THE MIAMI VALLEY*
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