

Wayne Brinda, Ed.D. Co-founder/Producing Artistic Director of Prime Stage, Wayne recently directed *The Diary of Anne Frank*. As producer, he has brought several world and regional premieres to life, including *The Music Lesson*, *The Westing Game*, *The perks of Being a Wallflower* and *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*. Wayne was the Artistic Director of the Red Barn Theater in Allison Park for 10 years and the previous Director of the Playhouse Jr. He has directed for Apple Hill, South Park Theater and Little Lake Theater. Wayne has taught English and Theatre at Sewickley Academy Senior School and The Oakland School. He earned his Ed.D. in Educational Leadership from Duquesne University in 2004. His dissertation Bringing Literature to Life for Sixth Grade Reluctant Readers: A Collaborative, Participatory Study using Theatre for Young Audiences Experiences to Address Aliteracy is listed in "Dissertations of Note." Currently as Assistant Professor, Wayne is Coordinator of the Secondary Program at the University of Pittsburgh Bradford. He has published articles and presented workshops at the National Council of Teachers of English, the American Alliance for Theatre and Education, Association for Middle Level Education, the International Reading Association, and others. A Museum Teaching Fellow at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington DC, he delivers workshops on using theatre and literature to teach the Holocaust. He was awarded as a North Allegheny Distinguished Alumnus in the Arts

Linda Haston is an Actors' Equity performer, a director and teaching artist. She has performed regionally and having lived in New York for 10 years locally with City, Public, Quantum, PICT, Prime Stage and Off the Wall Theatres to name a few. In February 2018 she took her successful one woman show *Mother Lode*, to Off-Broadway in New York for two weeks. It is an original play based on stories about her relationship with her mother, written by Virginia Wall Gruenert, Artistic Director at Off the Wall Theatre. She has directed for several season with Off the Wall Theatre Productions. She is currently an adjunct professor at Point Park Conservatory Theatre. She is the Education Director & Teaching Artist for Prime Stage Theatre, which includes her overseeing the Teacher's Advisory Council, the Literacy in ACTION, and Global Classroom Programs. She is also on the boards of Pittsburgh New Works Festival, Off the Wall Theatre Productions and Front Porch Theatricals.

Josette Kurey teaches English and Literary Arts at Westinghouse Arts Academy, where she directed the one act *Halftime at Halcyon Days* and has served as assistant director for the Fall play and Spring Musical. She volunteers in many capacities at the Theatre Factory in Trafford, where her own original children's play *Just Imagine* was recently performed.

Ken Lutz is a retired Pittsburgh Public Schools music teacher. As an actor, he has appeared in many productions in and around Pittsburgh, including fourteen Prime Stage plays, the most recently was *Of Mice and Me*. He also serves on the Prime Stage Teacher Advisory Council and is the coordinator for the Prime Stage Global Classroom Program.

Michael Perry is eternal student with a love of learning, an M.S.Ed from Duquesne University and 35 years of performing experience. He can be found telling tales at Tellabration, The Pittsburgh Storytelling Festival, The Ellwood City Storytelling Festival and The Youngstown Children's Book Fair each year. As an actor he has appeared with: Prime Stage Theater, The Pittsburgh Savoyards, and the Circus too, but that's another story.

Ryan Pontzloff is a senior Secondary Education major with a focus on English Literature at Duquesne University's School of Education. Ryan is from the North Hills of Pittsburgh and graduated from Shaler Area High School in 2016. Throughout his high school career, Ryan worked on countless performances and productions both on and off the stage. Some of his capacities at Prime Stage Theatre Co. include being an Education Program Intern, member of the Teacher Advisory Committee, and member of the Drama Awards Review Committee. Ryan plans to stay at Duquesne for his Master's Degree in K-12 Administration and Supervision immediately after earning his Bachelor's Degree. Ryan hopes to stay in the area and obtain a job as a high school English teacher where he can further his work with bringing literature to life through Prime Stage Theatre.

Heather Sendera moved to Pittsburgh with her family in 2014 after having lived in Wisconsin, Illinois, Australia, Arizona and Texas. Heather has worked in the for-profit financial sector, with non-profit organizations and volunteer-based organizations as well as the public-school system. She is currently the Prime Stage Education Box Office Manager.