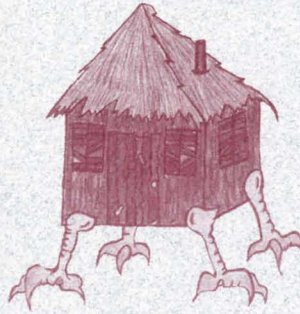


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**FAMILY FUN @**

**SFA'S Summer Theatre**



# The Two Maples

Sideways Stories

From Wayside

School



*Turner Auditorium, Griffith Fine Arts Center*

*Stephen F. Austin State University*

*June 30 through July 17, 2004*



## ***2004 Summer Rep Company***

Carneithia "Nikki" Anthony  
Robert Bills  
Sara Boland-Taylor  
Thomas Brazzle  
Lacey Elaine Carnley  
Chase Crowson  
Darrell D. Grant  
Joshua Ryan Heerssen  
Amanda Lee Johnson  
Amanda Jurek  
Marjorie Elizabeth Kammerlohr  
Chris Kennedy  
Heather Light  
Matthew R. Oliver  
Genevieve Marie Plangman  
Paul Reynolds  
Matthew Smith  
Whitney L. Smith-Nelson  
Heaven Chijerae Stephens  
Jennifer Stoneking  
Kate Sumrow  
Zach Whitaker

## ***2004 Summer Rep Production Staff***

Producer ..... C. W. Bahs  
Artistic Director/Director (*Sideways Stories*) ..... Allen Oster  
Director (*Two Maples*)/Programs ..... Rick Jones  
Scenic Designer ..... Tomy Matthys  
Costume Designer ..... Angela Bacarisse  
Lighting Designer ..... Joshua Ryan Heerssen \*  
Technical Director ..... Steven H. Shirey  
Costume Shop Supervisor ..... Barbara Blackwell  
Company Manager ..... Whitney L. Smith-Nelson \*  
Production Stage Managers ..... Whitney L. Smith-Nelson \*, Kate Sumrow  
Poster/Publicity/Box Office ..... Office of Arts Information  
House Manager ..... Lyndsey Doolen \*  
Theatre Office Supervisor ..... Nelda Hartley



## A Letter from the Producer

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our summer season of family entertainment. These two productions (*The Two Maples and Sideways Stories from Wayside School*) are multi-generational. They appeal to old and young alike. As children of all ages we come together to exercise our powers of empathy and to extend our emotional range by understanding the experiences of others.

Whether watching a classic Russian folk tale or a more contemporary story of a school at which more than the architecture is a little out of the ordinary, our imaginations will be stretched, our minds challenged, and our feelings touched. We'll also get a chance to laugh. We are delighted that you have joined us in the adventure of live theatre.

From our family to yours--

Clarence W. Bahs  
Chair, Department of Theatre

**Think about including a Theatre Production  
for Entertainment at your  
Child's Birthday Party!**

June 30 & July 1, 9, 10, 14 & 15 at 7:00 p.m.  
July 10 at 2:00 p.m.

# The Two Maples

by Eugene Schwartz

Translated from the Russian by Miriam Morton

Directed by Rick Jones  
Scenic Design by Tomy Matthys  
Costume Design by Angela Bacarisse  
Lighting Design by Joshua Ryan Heerssen \*  
Sound Design by Zach Whitaker  
Original Music by Austin Day  
Music Director: Shari Watterston  
Fight Choreography by Juanita Finkenberg  
Stage Manager: Kate Sumrow

## CAST

Egorushka .....	Heaven Chijerae Stephens *
Fedya .....	Matthew R. Oliver
Vasilisa-the-Hardworker .....	Jennifer Stoneking *
Mikhail Potapych, the Bear .....	Amanda Lee Johnson *
Sharik, the Dog .....	Thomas Brazzle
Koshka Ivanovna, the Cat .....	Genevieve Marie Plangman
Baba Yaga, a Witch .....	Marjorie Elizabeth Kammerlohr *
Ivanushka .....	Matthew Smith
Mice .....	Lacey Alaine Carnley
	Darrell D. Grant
	Amanda Jurek
Chicken Legs .....	Chase Crowson
	Darrell D. Grant
	Chris Kennedy *
	Steven H. Shirey



### **Time and Place**

*Act I: A Clearing in the forest. Long ago, late afternoon.*

*Act II: The next day.*

*Act III: The next morning.*

### **THERE WILL BE TWO 10-MINUTE INTERMISSIONS**

### **About the Playwright**

Eugene Schwartz (Evgenii Shvarts) was born in Rostov, Russia, in 1896. Although he began his adult life as a law student, he was fascinated by the theatre. Alas, he was not an especially talented actor, so he was limited to a series of minor and walk-on roles. He turned to writing poetry and stories for children, eventually switching to playwriting when he was in his mid-thirties. Most of his early plays are fairy tales, often adapted from non-Russian sources. In this sense, *The Two Maples* is an exception: it is Russian through-and-through, although the legendary material has clearly been adapted for a modern audience. Other plays for children include *Little Red Riding Hood*, *The Snow Queen*, *Cinderella*, *The Tale About Time That Got Lost*, *The Buried Treasure*, and *Brother and Sister*. Later in his career, Schwartz wrote several plays for adults, often keeping to the format of the fairy tale, but using this structure as a means by which to offer social commentary: a risky business in Soviet Russia. Indeed, Josef Stalin is said to have loved one of Schwartz's plays, *The Dragon*, until one of his ministers pointed out that he himself was the subject of many of the play's satiric barbs. *The Naked King*, *The Shadow* and *An Ordinary Miracle* are Schwartz's other best-known plays for adults. He died in 1958.

### **About the Story**

Baba Yaga is one of the most famous figures in Russian folklore. With her trademark hut on chicken legs (best known, perhaps, as the subject of one of Modest Mussorgsky's *Pictures at an Exhibition*) she terrorized generations of Russian children... not least because she didn't always lose. Her adversary was almost always a woman or a child, seldom if ever a man. Vasilisa, too, is a familiar figure, often as a counterpoint to Baba Yaga. Sometimes she is "the Beautiful," sometimes "the Brave," sometimes, as here, "the Hardworker."

### **Crew for *The Two Maples***

Properties Manager .....	Amanda Jurek
Light Board Operator .....	Carneithia "Nikki" Anthony
Sound Board Operator .....	Sara Boland-Taylor
Backstage/Special Effects .....	Robert Bills, Whitney L. Smith-Nelson *
Wardrobe/Makeup .....	Heather Light *

Presented by special arrangement with New Plays Incorporated,  
Charlottesville, Virginia

July 2, 3, 7, 8, 16 & 17 at 7:00 p.m.  
July 3 & 17 at 2:00 p.m.

# Sideways Stories from Wayside School

adapted by John Olive

from Louis Sachar's "Wayside School" novels

Directed by Allen Oster

Scenic Design by Tomy Matthys

Costume Design by Angela Bacarisse

Lighting Design by Joshua Ryan Heerssen \*

Choreographer: Whitney L. Smith-Nelson \*

Sound Design by Paul Reynolds \*

Stage Manager: Whitney L. Smith-Nelson \*

## CAST (in order of appearance)

Mrs. Gorf, the meanest teacher in the history of Wayside School ..... Amanda Lee Johnson \*

Myron, a student ..... Thomas Brazzle

Bebe, a student ..... Carneithia "Nikki" Anthony

Louis, the yard teacher ..... Chase Crowson

Leslie, a student ..... Sara Boland-Taylor

Rondi, a student ..... Heather Light \*

Dameon, a student ..... Robert Bills

Mrs. Jewls, a teacher ..... Marjorie Elizabeth Kammerlohr \*

Sammy, a new student ..... Amanda Lee Johnson \*

Miss Zarves, the 19th floor teacher ..... Amanda Lee Johnson \*

Mr. Pickle, the school Counselor ..... Chris Kennedy \*

Miss Valoosh, a dancer ..... Amanda Lee Johnson \*

Mr. Gorf, a substitute teacher ..... Chris Kennedy \*

Miss Mush, the school cook ..... Amanda Lee Johnson \*

Mrs. Kidswatter ..... Chris Kennedy \*



## ***Time and Place***

The play takes place in the Thirtieth Floor classroom of Wayside School.

**THERE WILL BE ONE INTERMISSION BETWEEN ACTS.**

## ***About the Author***

Louis Sachar was born in East Meadow, New York and wrote his first children's story when he was in high school. It was about a mean teacher named Mrs. Gorf who turned her students into apples. While attending college at the University of California at Berkeley, Mr. Sachar worked as a playground supervisor at Hillside Elementary School. The children called him Louis, the yard teacher. A year after graduating with a degree in Economics, Sachar wrote his first book, *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, which was published during his first year of law school at Hastings College of Law in San Francisco. After receiving his law degree in 1980, he spent the next eight years working part-time as a lawyer and writing children's books until he decided to become a full-time author. His books, besides *Sideways Stories from Wayside School*, include *Wayside School Is Falling Down*, *Wayside School Gets a Little Stranger*, *There's a Boy in the Girls' Bathroom*, *Dogs Can't Tell Jokes*, and the Marvin Redpost series. In 1991, Louis and his wife, Carla, and daughter, Sherre, moved to Austin, Texas, where the long, hot Texas summers inspired him to write the story and screenplay, *Holes*.

## ***About the Playwright***

John Olive, a Minnesota native, is the author of several plays for children and adults, including *Minnesota Moon*, *The Voice of the Prairie*, *Careless Love*, *Evelyn and the Polka Dot King*, *Standing on My Knees*, *Clara's Play*, and *The Fierce Clockwork of Destiny*. Olive's work has been performed at theatres throughout the United States, such as Steppenwolf, Actors Theatre of Louisville, the Old Globe, the American Conservatory Theatre, the Manhattan Theatre Club, Minneapolis Children's Theatre, and Hartford Stage. His play, *A Summer Moon*, won a 1997 Kennedy Center Award for Drama. John continues to write and teaches at The Loft in Minneapolis, where he lives with his wife, Mary, and their son, Michael.

## ***Crew for Sideways Stories from Wayside School***

Properties Manager ..... Jennifer Stoneking \*  
Light Board Operator ..... Kate Sumrow  
Sound Board Operator ..... Amanda Jurek  
Backstage/Projection ..... Darrell D. Grant, Matthew R. Oliver, Matthew Smith  
Wardrobe/Makeup ..... Lacey Alaine Carnley, Genevieve Marie Plangman,  
Heaven Chijerae Stephens \*

Presented by special arrangement with Susan Schulman:  
A Literary Agency, 454 West 44th St., New York, NY 10036.  
The play was Commissioned and First Produced  
at Seattle Children's Theatre in 2001.



## **Production Staff**

**C. W. Bahs** (Producer) is Chair of the Theatre Department at SFA. He is a graduate of Bowling Green State University in Ohio, where he was honored as "Outstanding Alumnus." His SFA directing credits include *Follies*, *Cabaret*, *The Miracle Worker*, *King Lear*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, and *I Do, I Do*.

**Allen Oster** (Artistic Director; Director, *Sideways Stories*) is a native of North Dakota. His recent SFA directing credits include *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *1918*, *And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little*, and *Hamlet*. He administers the Student-Directed Productions program and directs SFA's High School Summer Theatre Workshop. He received the Teaching Excellence Award for the University in 1996. He received his MFA in Directing from the University of Utah, and has acted and directed professionally.

**Rick Jones** (Director, *Two Maples*; Programs) earned his PhD from the University of Kansas. At SFA he has directed *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*, *The Land of the Dragon* and *Ghosts*. He has also provided dramaturgical support for *Women in Flames*, *The Seagull*, *Copper Camp*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*. This is his third experience with Eugene Schwartz's plays: he directed *The Dragon* at the University of Kansas, and was Technical Director for *The Two Maples* at Cornell College in Iowa.

**Angela Bacarisse** (Costume Designer) has designed over 200 productions. She has worked at such professional companies as the Pioneer Valley Summer Theatre in Massachusetts and the Texas Shakespeare Festival in Kilgore. At SFA her credits include the 2004 New Plays Festival, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Pericles*, *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*, *The Land of the Dragon*, and *1918*.

**Tomy Matthys** (Scenic Designer) has taught at SFA for over thirty years, during which time he has designed over 200 productions here. Among his most recent scenic designs are *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*, *Bacchae*, *Follies*, *Bus Stop*, *And Miss Reardon Drinks a Little*, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, *Rhinoceros*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

**Barbara Blackwell** (Costume Shop Supervisor) became Costume Shop Supervisor in 2000. She was Costume Illustrator for *The Land of the Dragon*, and has worked on many other shows, including most recently the 2004 New Plays Festival, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Pericles*, and *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*.

**Juanita Finkenberg** (Fight Choreographer, *Two Maples*) earned her MA from California State University in Los Angeles. She is a dancer and a certified fight choreographer. She has worked on all four New Plays Festivals at SFA, as well as such other productions as *Pericles*, *Follies*, *Hamlet*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa*.

**Steven H. Shirey** (Technical Director) earned a BFA in Theatre from SFA in 1994 and an MFA in Lighting Design from USC in 1998. He has been Technical Director at SFA since 2001. He designed lighting for the operas *Street Scene*, *The Consul*, and *The Magic Flute*; he also designed the sets for the 2004 New Plays Festival.

**Shari Watterston** (Music Director, *Two Maples*) holds an MA in Theatre from SFA, and currently is a Lecturer in the Department. She has directed and choreographed both at SFA and at Nacogdoches High School, and has been Assistant Director of the Original Cast for three years. She has performed extensively both at SFA and with the Lamplite Theatre.



## ***The Staff, continued***

**Austin Day** (Composer, *Two Maples*) is a junior Music major from Tyler. He plays piano for SFA's Swingin' Axes, The Tom Houston Big Band and the United Methodist Church in Nacogdoches. As a composer he has a wide variety of interests, and hopes one day to use them for film scoring.

**Joshua Ryan Heerssen** (Lighting Designer) has designed or co-designed lighting for *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*, SFA Dance Rep 2003 and 2004, *Trio*, *Veronica's Room*, and *Halcyon Days*. He will leave this fall for an internship with the Arizona Theatre Company.

**Paul Reynolds** (Sound Designer, *Sideways Stories*) has designed sound for such productions as the 2004 New Plays Festival, *Pericles*, *Bacchae*, *Pvt. Wars*, *Don Perlimplin*, and *Lobster Alice*. A junior from Whiteface, Paul transferred to SFA from South Plains College.

**Whitney L. Smith-Nelson** (Company Manager; Stage Manager and Choreographer, *Sideways Stories*) has credits in Stage Management (*The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Don Perlimplin*), directing (*Haiku*, and *The Vise* this fall), choreography, and makeup design. She was also assistant director for *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, and will assistant direct *Six Characters in Search of an Author* in the fall.

**Kate Sumrow** (Stage Manager, *Two Maples*) stage managed in both the 2002 and 2004 New Plays Festivals, as well as for *The Informer*, *Lobster Alice*, and *Veronica's Room*; she assistant stage managed *Follies*. Kate is also a ROTC cadet, was captain of a Ranger Challenge team, and participated in the Bataan Memorial Death March.

**Zach Whitaker** (Sound Designer, *Two Maples*), a junior from Austin, has designed sound for *The Increased Difficulty of Concentration*, *Follies*, and *Extremities*. He has also run the sound board for *Rhinoceros* and for two New Plays Festivals. Zach is also a Student Productions Assistant.

## ***The Acting Company***

**Carneithia "Nikki" Anthony** (Bebe, *Sideways Stories*) is a junior from Tyler. Her SFA credits include roles in *Pericles*, *A Winnie-the-Pooh Birthday Tail*, and *Follies*. Nikki was also a member of the Original Cast for 2003-04.

**Robert Bills** (Dameon, *Sideways Stories*) has appeared in the SFA productions of *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*, *1918*, and *Lot 13: The Bone Violin*. Robert is a junior from Brazosport High School in Freeport.

**Sara Boland-Taylor** (Leslie, *Sideways Stories*) is an incoming freshman from James Bowie High School in Arlington, where her credits included such productions as *Julius Caesar*, *Dracula*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. She also appeared in *The Libation Bearers* in SFA's High School Theatre Workshop.

**Thomas Brazzle** (Sharik, *Two Maples*; Myron, *Sideways Stories*) has been seen in *A Fallen Man*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, and *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*. Thomas is a sophomore from James Bowie High School in Arlington.

**Lacey Elaine Carnley** (Mouse, *Two Maples*) is making her SFA debut. Lacey is a junior from Boyd High School, where she appeared in *The Curious Savage* and *Ladies in Waiting*. In addition to acting, she is pursuing an emphasis in hair and makeup design and a teaching certificate.



## ***The Acting Company, continued***

**Chase Crowson** (Louis, *Sideways Stories*) transferred to SFA from Abilene Christian University in 2002. At SFA he has appeared in *Pericles* and *Copper Camp*. Chase is a senior from Langham Creek High School in Houston.

**Darrell D. Grant** (Mouse, *Two Maples*) is a sophomore from Forest Brook High School in Houston. Darrell's SFA acting credits include *A Fallen Man*, *The Gulf*, and *Pericles*. He was also a member of the Original Cast for 2003-04.

**Amanda Lee Johnson** (Mrs. Gorf, etc, *Sideways Stories*; Mikhail Potapych, *Two Maples*) has appeared on the SFA Mainstage in *Pericles*, *Bacchae*, *A Winnie-the-Pooh Birthday Tail*, *The Sex Education of My Mother*, and *Moon over Buffalo*. She will be on an internship at the Dallas Children's Theatre in the fall.

**Amanda Jurek** (Mouse, *Two Maples*) is making her SFA acting debut. A transfer from San Jacinto College in Houston, Amanda has worked on crews for *The Man Who Came to Dinner* and *Pericles*, and stage managed *Thoughts on the Instant of Greeting a Friend on the Street*.

**Marjorie Elizabeth Kammerlohr** (Baba Yaga, *Two Maples*; Mrs. Jewls, *Sideways Stories*), a senior from Carrollton, will spend next year in London and Barcelona on the European Theatre Arts program. Her most recent SFA Mainstage credits include *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Pericles*, and *The Seagull*.

**Chris Kennedy** (Mr. Gorf, etc., *Sideways Stories*) has appeared in such productions as *Women in Flames*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *The Seagull*, *Private Eyes*, *The Medicine Show* and *Thanks*. Chris, a sophomore from San Antonio, will be a staff member for the High School Workshop this summer.

**Heather Light** (Rondi, *Sideways Stories*) transferred to SFA from Lon Morris College, where she appeared in *Romeo and Juliet*. At SFA she has been seen in *Private Eyes* and *Wake Up, Santa Claus!*, and has worked on a number of crews. This fall she will direct *The Role of Della*.

**Matthew R. Oliver** (Fedy, *Two Maples*) is a sophomore from C. E. King High School in Houston, where he appeared in such shows as *How to Succeed in Business without Really Trying*, *Side Man*, and *Thieves Carnival*. He is making his SFA acting debut this summer.

**Genevieve Marie Plangman** (Koshka Ivanovna, *Two Maples*) is a sophomore from Denton High School. She has studied ballet, modern and jazz dance, and has been active in church theatricals. A Dean's List student, Genevieve is making her SFA acting debut.

**Matthew Smith** (Ivanushka, *Two Maples*), a senior from Leander, has appeared in *The Gulf*, *Follies*, and *The Medicine Show*, as well as the opera *Street Scene*. He has been a member of the Original Cast for two years. Matt also has credits in lighting, both as a designer and as a master electrician.

**Heaven Chijerae Stephens** (Egorushka, *Two Maples*) has credits in both acting (*A Fallen Man*, *Bacchae*) and hair and makeup design (*Lucky*, *The Elixir of Love*, *Pericles*). A President's List student, Heaven is also listed in *Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities*.

**Jennifer Stoneking** (Vasilisa-the-Hardworker, *Two Maples*) is familiar to SFA audiences for her roles in *1918*, *The Fifth Sun*, *Extremities*, *Another Antigone*, *Guernica*, and *1969, or Howie Takes a Trip*. A senior from Nacogdoches, Jenny will be attending Rose Bruford College's European Theatre Arts program in the fall.



**SFA Department of  
Theatre  
Faculty and Staff**

Dr. Richard Berry  
*Dean, College of Fine Arts*

Dr. Clarence W. Bahs  
*Professor and  
Department Chair*

Ms. Angela Bacarisse  
*Assistant Professor*

Dr. Richard Jones  
*Assistant Professor*

Mr. Tomy Matthys  
*Associate Professor*

Dr. Alan Nielsen  
*Professor*

Mr. Allen Oster  
*Professor*

Mr. Luis Ramirez  
*Associate Professor*

Mr. Jack Heifner  
*Playwright-in-Residence*

Ms. Juanita Finkenberg  
*Adjunct Faculty*

Ms. Shari Watterston  
*Lecturer*

Ms. Barbara Blackwell  
*Costume Shop Supervisor*

Mr. Steve Shirey  
*Scene Shop Supervisor*

Ms. Nelda Hartley  
*Administrative Assistant*

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Theatre Division  
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**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

SFA Summer Rep 2004 acknowledges the following for their contributions to this season's productions: Angelina College, Kent Barrett, Dr. Richard Berry, Sylvia Bierschenk, Card & Party Factory, Marie Charlson, Austin Day, Juanita Finkenberg, Nelda Hartley, Kroger Food Stores, Matt and Kim Lyle, Rit Manning, Susan McKinney, Dr. Alan Nielsen, Party 'n Things, Kary Raine, Shari Watterston, Theatre 150 & 350 (Jessica Byboth, Justin Cole, Jacqui Garick, Sonia Lerner, Christopher Ward, James Wetuski, Ryan Williams).

**PLEASE NOTE:**

- There is no smoking permitted in the Griffith Fine Arts Center.
- Please do not take food or beverages into the theatre.
- Late-comers will be seated at an appropriate break at the sole discretion of the House Manager.
- Cameras, pagers, and recording devices are prohibited in the auditorium.

**AFTER THE PERFORMANCE, MEMBERS OF THE CAST WILL MEET SPECTATORS IN THE LOBBY FOR PHOTOGRAPHS, AUTOGRAPHS, ETC.**

\* Designates membership in the  
Beta Phi cast of  
Alpha Psi Omega,  
the National Honorary Dramatics Fraternity



**SFA**  
*Department of Theatre*  
STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY

**Announces the  
2004-2005 Season of Plays**

**Faculty-Directed Mainstage Productions  
Turner Auditorium, 7:30 p.m.**

**Hair** The Tribal Love-Rock Musical October 7-9  
Book & Lyrics by Gerome Ragni & James Rado, Music by Galt MacDermot

**Six Characters in Search of an Author** November 16-20  
By Luigi Pirandello

**Harvey** February 22-26  
By Mary Chase

**The Member of the Wedding** April 26-30  
By Carson McCullers

**Fall 2004 Student-Directed Productions**

Downstage Theatre--Fridays at 7:30; Saturdays at 2:00 and 7:30

**The Vise** September 24 & 25  
**Quake** October 22 & 23  
**Self Torture and Strenuous Exercise** November 5 & 6  
**The Waste Disposal** December 3 & 4