

HIGH SOCIETY

THERE'S NO NEED TO visit New York to hear the impressive speakers that the Chautauqua Institution is known for. For the ninth year, Chautauqua-in-Chagrin hosts panels throughout the summer, including Denver police Cmdr. William Nagle July 21 at the Federated Church. With his city legalizing marijuana in 2014, he knows the topics that cloud the issue. Here's some of what he's learned.

// SHEEHAN HANNAN

THE CURE-ALL Legalizing marijuana, both recreational and medicinal, won't solve the drug crisis. "The marijuana lobby will tell you that heroin and other drugs will fall by the wayside," says Nagle. "Our experience is that taking substances becomes less onerous because people think it's OK, and all drugs increase."

DECEPTIVE PACKAGING After recreational legalization, a secondary market for edibles — marijuana-laced food — developed in Denver, some with packaging that resembles regular food. To protect children, rules about packaging are important. "If you have kids that can't read, they may not know," says Nagle.

NEW TESTING With no Breathalyzer equivalent, marijuana is harder to test for than alcohol. To determine if someone is under the influence while driving in Denver — more than 5 nanograms per milliliter of blood — the options are summoning a drug recognition expert to the scene or a saliva test, at \$17 per test. "We don't really have a good field test," says Nagle.



Boiling Point

The Manhattan Project Cleveland Lab cooks up zany, 10-minute plays every other month. / BY SHEEHAN HANNAN /

The play being rehearsed in writer Katie Walker's living room is, by all accounts, truly terrible. Two witchy sisters, *Issues and Trouble*, are stalking a couple along the Appalachian Trail. With a *Wicked Witch of the West* cackle, *Issues* casts a spell to — *oh no!* — form a blister on the girlfriend, Heidi's foot! As her boyfriend Jimi gallantly rushes to her aid, inadvertently, two cats prance through and a dog howls in the background.

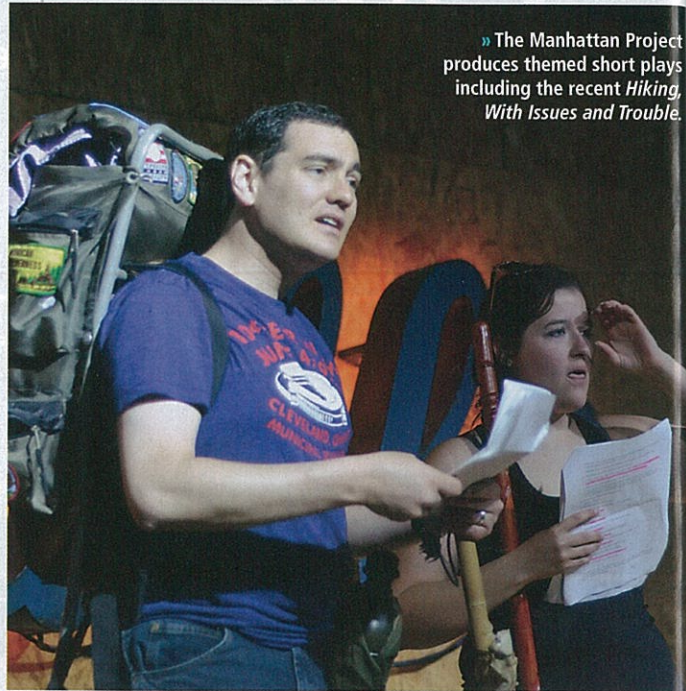
But *Hiking, With Issues and Trouble* is awful on purpose. The Manhattan Project Cleveland Lab, a bimonthly theater workshop, tasks actor-and-writer teams to make 10-minute plays on a given theme, anything from Paul Bunyan to a Christmas pageant. *Hiking* was created to fit the May theme of a bad play.

"The idea is that, like the atom bomb, it's awesome and terrible," says Peter Roth, who portrayed Jimi and started the Manhattan Project about two years ago. With little to no technical elements, the plays are somewhere between a simple reading and a full one-act. Each play is staged at Mahall's 20 Lanes, with the next performance Aug. 5.

Since its inception, the Manhattan Project has become a place for misfit scripts, where writers and actors can escape from the seriousness of institutional theater.

"The actual opportunity to do a lot of writing and see actors try and do it, and see what works and doesn't work, is incredibly valuable," says Roth.

Unlike many theater series that require submis-



» The Manhattan Project produces themed short plays including the recent *Hiking, With Issues and Trouble*.

sion fees and are rather selective, the Manhattan Project is free and open to all. So you'll find unknown and established playwrights alike, such as Eric Coble, who wrote a script for the workshop called *Dyngus Day* about two African-American women trying to understand the kooky Polish tradition. That open-door policy is especially important to Roth, who struggled to get his own full-length plays produced and recently self-staged his show *The Gynthish Self*, an adaptation of Henrik Ibsen's *Peer Gynt* set in a Denny's.

"With the way theater companies work, with a bunch of different gatekeepers," he says, "I thought it would be easier to do it with a bunch of my friends, sort of crash the gate."

➔ MORE INFO facebook.com/themanhattanprojectclevelandlab



Patriot Act

THOUGH DAN FOLINO, the 37-year-old star of *American Idol*, wouldn't call himself a fan of Green Day's music, he does know a thing or two about being a rock star. Folino, who plays the angsty young Johnny in the Beck Center for the Arts' rendition of the rock opera July 10-Aug. 16, spent 10 years fronting the glam-rock band *vanityCrash*. "I'm just going to tune into that cocky, arrogant frontman sort of mentality," Folino says. "Johnny never turns it off. He feels entitled to a better life, but he doesn't deserve it." 17801 Detroit Ave., Lakewood, 216-521-2540, beckcenter.org // EMILY MCINTYRE



THINK YOUR BUSINESS HAS WHAT IT TAKES?

The Weatherhead School of Management announces its 28th annual Weatherhead 100 awards. These prestigious awards encourage the spirit of entrepreneurship and recognize companies that exemplify innovative success in Northeast Ohio. The 2015 Weatherhead 100 will showcase the fastest growing companies based on revenue from 2010 to 2014 and winning companies will be categorized as one of the following:



WEATHERHEAD 100

Companies whose net sales were at least \$100,000 in 2010 and over \$1 million in 2014, and who had a minimum of 16 full-time employees in 2014.



WEATHERHEAD 100 UPSTARTS

Companies whose percentage of sales growth qualifies for the Weatherhead 100 and in 2014 had \$5 million net sales or less with 15 or fewer employees.



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Companies whose percentage of sales growth qualifies for the Weatherhead 100 and had net sales of \$100 million or more in 2014.

QUALIFICATIONS

12-month period of net sales from 2010–2014

2010 net sales must be at least \$100,000

Headquartered in Ashland, Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Mahoning, Medina, Portage, Richland, Stark, Summit, Trumbull, or Wayne County

Company must not have been a franchise or a subsidiary of another company between 2010 and 2014

NOMINATIONS

You may nominate your firm or another organization that has shown strong growth over the past five years. Prior winners are eligible and encouraged to reapply. To be considered for the 2015 Weatherhead 100 award, please go to weatherhead100.org. Application deadline is August 7th at 5 p.m.

If you have any questions regarding the nomination process, please contact Morgan Ricketts at 216.368.3247 or weatherhead100@case.edu.

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