

Arden Theatre Company Presents

# Go, Dog. Go!



*Go, Dog. Go!*

Directed by Matt Pfeiffer

On the Arcadia Stage

April 16-June 1, 2008

 **Meet the Pups Having All the Fun!** 

**Cast**

Yellow Dog.....Chris Faith  
Emcee Dog .....Doug Hara  
Red Dog.....Andrew Kane  
Blue Dog.....Julianna Zinkel  
Green Dog.....Elyse Taylor  
Hattie/Spotted Dog.....Genevieve Perrier

**Direction**

Director.....Matt Pfeiffer  
Music Director.....David Ames  
Choreographer.....Samantha Bellomo  
Stage Manager.....Stephanie Cook  
Assistant Stage Manager.....Alec Ferrell

**Designers**

Scenic Designer.....Brian Sidney Bembridge  
Lighting Designer.....James Leitner  
Costume Designer.....Lisa Zinni

# WELCOME!!!

Inside this study guide you will find tons of cool, interesting facts and loads of fun activities you can do on your own or with friends!  
So, flip the page and get started!

Go, **Read**. Go!

- 🐾 Summary of the Play
- 🐾 Who Wrote the Book?
- 🐾 Who Wrote the Play? + A What...? (Adaptation!)
- 🐾 Fun Facts About Dogs
- 🐾 Imagination Station
- 🐾 Super Dogs!
- 🐾 Some questions to woof! about



## What Happens in *Go, Dog. Go!*

At the very beginning of the play, we meet a nice-looking fellow dressed up in a coat and a hat. He is seated on the stage and is looking around, waiting for the play to start. Suddenly, a few short blasts of music make the man jump. His hat falls, his coat pulls off and we see he is actually a dog! A blue hat appears onstage and he decides to wear it. Then a roller skate appears on stage. The dog puts it on to try and skate, but he doesn't do it very well at first. After a couple of tries (and a second roller skate) he is able to skate wonderfully. A whole community of dogs appear-blue dogs, red dogs, big and little dogs-all going by fast on roller skates, bicycles, scooters and strollers. The dog we met at the beginning of the play steps forward and introduces all the dogs there are onstage.

After we meet the dogs, a pretty dog comes by wearing a big hat. She is Hattie and she asks the first dog, who is called M.C. Dog, if he likes her hat. He does not, so she leaves.

Many beautiful trees appear for the dogs to play on. Red Dog, Green Dog, and Blue Dog all come out to play on the trees. Yellow Dog sees all the fun and wants to play on a tree, too. But there are no trees for Yellow Dog. The dogs play a game and sing a song around the trees and Yellow Dog plays with them, too, hoping to also have a tree. He cannot have one, however. He leaves. The other dogs keep playing until the Yellow Dog comes back with the sun. The Dogs then start singing about how hot it is in the sun. M.C. Dog comes back with a megaphone and says, "Work, dogs, work!"



All the dogs get to work. They work together to build something, each with their own specific job at hand. After a while, they all stop to wipe their brows of sweat. Then, M.C. Dog reminds them to

keep working hard. As they do so, the sounds of their instruments build up to music. They go on for a while until M.C. Dog realizes he has been looking at his plans upside down! He quickly fixes this and the other dogs follow suit.

Lunchtime comes around and the dogs have lunch boxes filled with food. They each pull out large sandwiches and immediately begin to trade lunches. Somehow, Yellow Dog ends up with all the sandwiches! He gives each one back to its owner. Red Dog ends up without a sandwich and Yellow Dog shares his with him. Hattie comes back with a different hat on. She asks M.C. Dog if he likes her hat. He does not, so she leaves again.

During lunch, the dogs decide it's time to play a game of baseball. They are all excited and get all ready to play when M.C. Dog comes by. The Dogs think he is not going to be pleased, but he just wants to be the umpire! They play a great game of baseball, when suddenly M.C. Dog throws blue glitter all over the stage. He tells us it is night in a whisper. A moon rises, they are in the water, and everything is a beautiful blue.

The "Water Ballet" begins with the Dogs swimming through the water. All the Dogs are having a fun, but quiet time. Then, Green Dog, Blue Dog and Red Dog float by on a little boat. They are quietly happy, with a lollipop, a banjo and some checkers to play. A Dog blows out the lantern hanging above them and the moon goes out.

A big bed with a big sheet is now onstage. There is commotion under the sheet-lots of movement and giggling. M.C. Dog comes in with a big light switch and tells the Dogs it is time to sleep. The Dogs close their eyes and go to sleep. However, after a few seconds they all slowly begin to get up and start to play again. They are all playing different things when M.C. Dog comes back in to remind them that night is not a time for



play. As the dogs are asleep, we see a carnival start to build up. Most of the dogs get up to go see it and tell us about it (except Blue Dog-she is completely asleep!). There is a Ferris Wheel and a roller coaster where dogs go up and dogs go down! M.C. Dog comes back in and the dogs quickly hurry into bed. He pulls out a megaphone and announces that it is daytime. The dogs hurry to wake up (except Blue Dog!) when Hattie enters again. She is wearing a different hat, which M.C. Dog also does not like. She leaves.

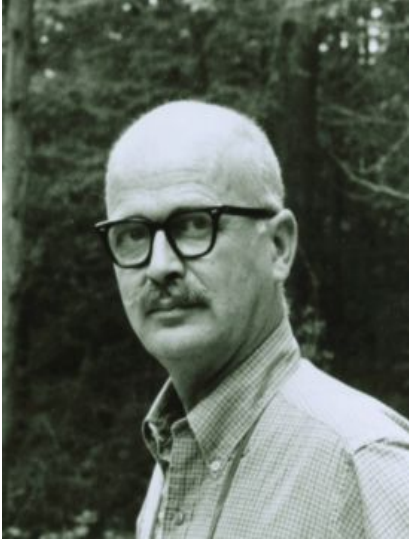
Then, M.C. Dog wakes up Blue Dog and she sees she is all alone. She begins to remember all the fun with all the dogs, and is jumping and playing all over the stage. Then, Yellow Dog comes by in a car! Blue Dog gets in the car with Yellow Dog and they zoom off. All the dogs are now onstage, zooming around in cars. An accident happens, and the dogs stop to make sure everything is ok. But the cars then keep zooming and playing about, making loud car noises. They zoom everywhere! Hattie comes back and wonders where all the cars are going so fast. M.C. Dog comes on after Hattie leaves with miniature versions of everything we've been seeing, including a big tree we have never seen before. He sets up tiny cars around it and big ladder leading up to the tree. He tells us that's where all the dogs are going. But what will they do up there? What is happening on top of the tree?

They are having a dog party! The biggest, best dog party ever! Dogs are playing games, having ice cream, jumping rope and so much more. Hattie enters wearing the grandest hat she has ever worn. A song begins where she asks all the dogs if they like her hat. As the song ends, she asks M.C. Dog one more time if he likes her hat. He says he does, he does like the hat! The dogs all cheer happily as the song plays again. Then, Hattie climbs into M.C. Dog's car and as they drive off they wave and say, "Good-bye!"



## 🐾 Who Wrote the Book? 🐾

P.D. Eastman



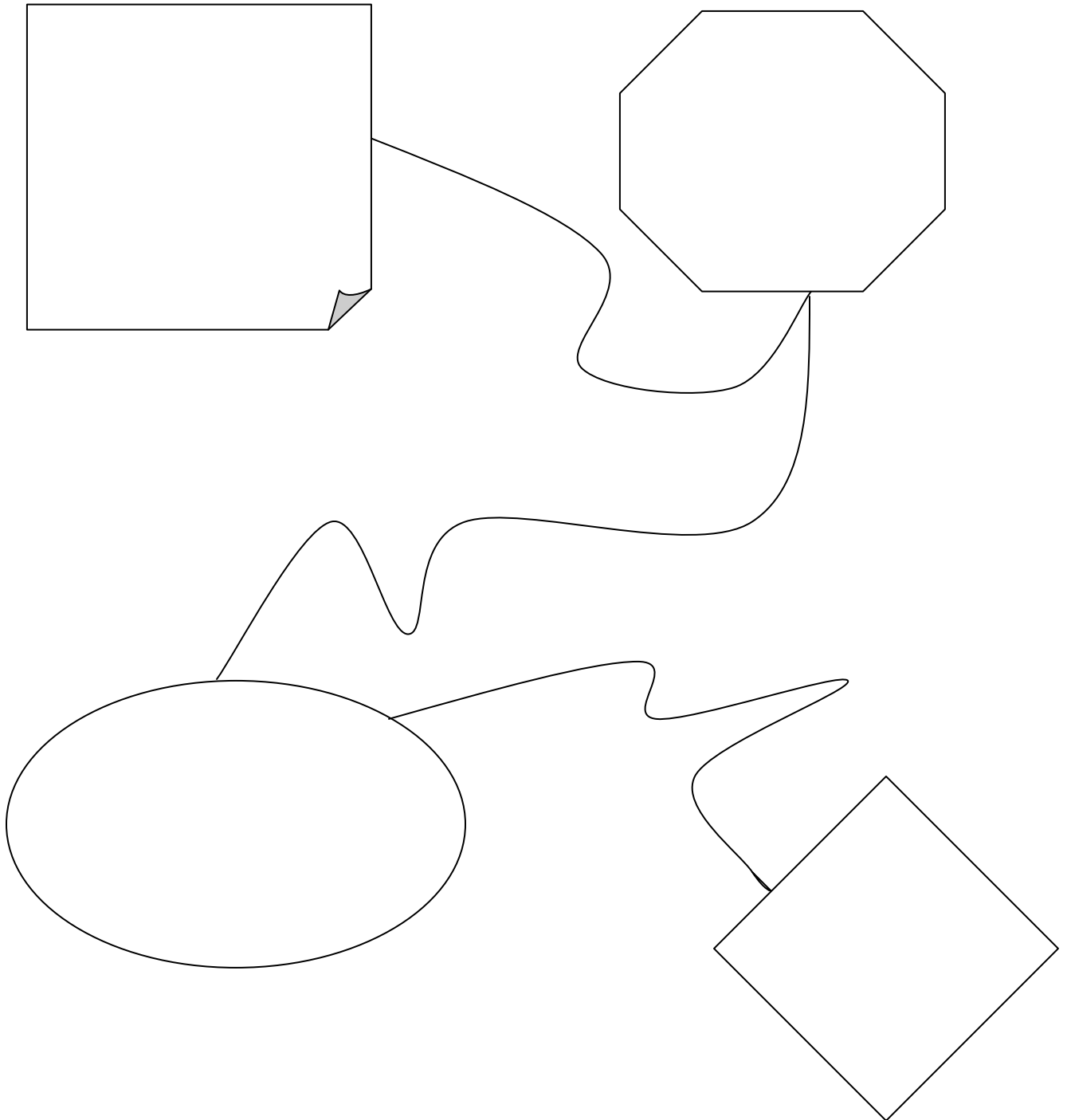
Philip Dey Eastman was born on November 25, 1909 in Amherst, Massachusetts. His parents were Clarence Willis and Ann Hull (Dey) Eastman. He went to grade school at Phillips Academy and continued onto high school at Williston Academy, two very prestigious schools in his area. He then went on to study at Amherst College in 1933. After that, he decided to go to the National Academy of Design for his love of illustration.

Eastman had many jobs that were about illustration. He always enjoyed drawing, and was lucky enough to find himself among some of the best in the business. He first worked in the story department of Walt Disney Productions from 1936 to 1941. Afterwards, he worked at the story department for Warner Bros. Cartoons - another incredibly successful company, from 1941 to 1943. Then, from 1945 to 1952 he worked in the story department of UPA Pictures. In 1941, he married a woman named Mary Louise Whitman. They had two sons, Alan and Peter Anthony Eastman. Peter actually went on to become an animator and has written and illustrated several books for Random House Beginner Book Series, the company that published his father's beloved children's books.

## It's YOUR Turn!

P.D. Eastman had super cool jobs working at making cartoons for Disney and Warner Bros. Pick your favorite dog from the play, and make up your own cartoon for them! You can make up what they do on a regular day, or make up a funny story about them, or draw a special day for them (like their birthday)!

Start here!



## Who Wrote the Play?

### Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz



Allison Gregory is a successful playwright who has done all kinds of jobs. Her work for adults includes *Forcing Hyacinths* (Julie Harris Playwriting Award, South Coast Repertory Theatre's California Playwright's Award); *Fall Off Night*, *Cliffhouse*, *Point Deception*, and her latest, *Burning Bridget Cleary*. She is very popular for her simple, but highly creative style. She also writes plays for young audiences, like *Go, Dog. Go!* and *Even Steven Goes to War* ("Zoni" Best New Script Award, AATE and UPRP awards, Kennedy Center New Visions/New Voices series).

Steven Dietz has done plenty of work for young audiences! His work includes include *HONUS AND ME* (adapted from Dan Gutman), *STILL LIFE WITH IRIS* (awarded the Kennedy Center's Fund for New American Plays Award) and *THE REMEMBERER* (adapted from Joyce Simmons Cheeka). These plays have been seen at some of America's leading theatres for young people, including Seattle Children's Theatre, The Children's Theatre Company (Minneapolis), Honolulu Theatre for Youth, and the Chicago Children's Theatre. He and Allison Gregory are married and live in Austin, Texas with their two children.



## A What?...

What Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz did to write the play *Go, Dog. Go!* from the book *Go, Dog. Go!* is called an adaptation. An adaptation is taking a story that has already been written and creating something new with it - it can be a play script, a movie script, a cartoon, or even a dance piece!

You can make your own adaptation, too! Here are some suggestions on how to do just that - or make up your own!

(P.S. This could be lots of fun to do with a group of friends!)

- ❖ Pick out your favorite story or poem.
- ❖ Decide what you want to turn it into. (A play, or a movie, or a dance)
- ❖ Grab some pencils and paper and start writing down your ideas.
- ❖ If a play sounds like fun, pick out the main characters in your book or poem. (Make up some more if you have a large group of people!)
- ❖ Begin writing a script. A script is what actors, directors and designers use to make a play (or a movie). It has all the lines people say and all the action that happens on stage. For example, they can look like this:

BOB: Hey, Mary. How are you doing?

MARY: I'm doing well, how are you?

BOB: Great! I got this for you! (*BOB hands MARY a flower*)

MARY: Thanks, Bob!

Yours doesn't have to look just like that! You (and your friends) can just practice remembering the lines you made up for your characters!



Now you can rehearse (or practice) your script and put on a performance! Invite your family and friends to see it! Use the invitation below to invite someone special to come see your show!

***YOU'RE INVITED TO A SPECIAL  
PERFORMANCE OF***

***TITLE: \_\_\_\_\_***

*Presented Especially For You!*

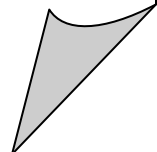
*Date: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Time: \_\_\_\_\_*

*Place: \_\_\_\_\_*



**I HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**













 Doggie Word Search! 

Find all the words in the list in the word-search below.  
Careful - it might be tricky!

X	L	T	G	W	I	S	B	L	U	E	D	O	G	Z	BLUEDOG
S	Y	A	O	R	I	V	M	B	N	Y	Z	U	N	Z	CARNIVAL
L	U	H	D	Q	E	Y	T	R	A	P	P	I	Q	F	GREENDOG
E	Y	N	C	Y	H	E	Y	I	E	V	G	E	T	L	HAT
F	T	U	M	T	H	S	N	R	I	H	I	T	X	F	HATTIE
X	Z	A	D	Q	G	H	B	D	T	H	N	D	X	G	MCDOG
D	C	O	K	S	G	W	A	T	O	J	Y	F	U	O	NIGHTTIME
S	C	A	M	S	Y	O	I	T	N	G	J	E	H	D	PARTY
S	C	N	R	S	R	M	D	V	T	M	A	I	W	W	REDDOG
L	P	N	L	N	E	E	L	D	N	I	T	P	N	O	ROLLERSKATE
J	Q	F	V	I	I	K	L	T	E	S	E	X	W	L	SPOTTEDDOG
L	T	S	V	O	O	V	O	L	R	R	M	W	V	L	SUN
C	Q	A	L	Z	O	L	A	X	O	E	T	H	D	E	TREE
E	G	E	L	J	V	O	V	L	U	R	E	J	W	Y	YELLOWDOG
D	S	P	O	T	T	E	D	D	O	G	X	C	N	P	

## Did YOU Know...

-  The heaviest dog ever weighed 319 pounds.
-  The tallest dog ever was a Great Dane who stood 41 inches high.
-  The smallest mature dog was a Yorkshire Terrier that was 2 1/2 inches high at its shoulder.
-  Chow-Chows have blue-black tongues.
-  Schipperke means "Little Captain" in Flemish.
-  The Chihuahua is the smallest breed in the world.
-  In the 19th century Dalmations defended carriages against highwaymen and kept away animals that could scare the horses.
-  Monks used the Lhasa Apso as a guard dog in temples.
-  Siberian Huskies have been used to herd reindeer in Siberia for 3000 years.
-  Louis Doberman, a German tax-collector, created the Doberman breed in the late 1860s to protect him while he worked.





## Woof! Imagination Station!



Time to get creative! What would your very own dog be like? If you have a pet dog, then use him or her as your dog! If not, then totally create your own!

Dog's Name \_\_\_\_\_



Draw Your Dog Here! (Remember to be creative-what would be his or her favorite outfit?)



What would be his/her job? \_\_\_\_\_



What would be his/her favorite food? \_\_\_\_\_



What's his/her favorite game? \_\_\_\_\_

## Super Dog!

Dogs make great pets, but did you know that dogs can be heroes, too? Here are some true stories about some pretty brave canines (another word for dogs) that saved the day!

In Connecticut in 2006, an elderly couple in Buffalo, NY were taking care of their birds in their sanctuary some twenty feet from their home. A huge snowstorm hit, completely blocking them into the tiny building. Because of the temperatures outside and the lack of anything to sustain life on the inside, the couple feared the worst. Then, sensing they were in trouble, their 160-pound German Shepherd-Timberwolf mix named Shana, began furiously digging outside. She made a 1 foot wide and twenty foot long tunnel back to their house. She returned to retrieve her owners, and barked and tugged until they went through the tunnel back to their home. The couple was safe and sound and warm thanks to their pup, Shana.

In London in 2002, a man unfortunately bound to a wheelchair because of an accident fell and became stuck in a mud ditch one spring day. Far away from any phones or people, the man thought quickly to try and save himself. His assistance dog, aptly named Hero, thought quickly on his paws and started tugging on the man. The man happened to have a rope on him, and had Hero use this to pull him out to safety.

For many more dog hero stories over the years, ask an adult to read this website with you: <http://www.kibblesnbitsdoghero.com/timeline.asp> It has many cool short stories about hero dogs over the years!

Time to be a story teller!

On the lines below, create your own Super Hero dog story! He can have as many super powers as you like - just remember he needs a super hero name (and maybe a cape!) If you need more space, use the back of this page!

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## Some Questions to Woof! About



What was your favorite part of the play? What is your favorite part of the book? Are these two the same or different? Why or why not?

What are some of the ways the dogs in the play are just like people?

Why do you think Allison Gregory and Steven Dietz chose this book to make into a play?

Plays use designers to help create everything you see on stage—the lights, the costumes and the set. What were some parts of the design that were really interesting to you? Why?

Which Dog would you be if you had the choice? Why?

## Where we got our information:

[www.playsforyoungaudiences.org/playwrights/gregory\\_allison.html](http://www.playsforyoungaudiences.org/playwrights/gregory_allison.html): Bio for Allison Gregory

[www.wikipedia.com](http://www.wikipedia.com) : Bio for P.D. Eastman

[www.playsforyoungaudiences.org/playwrights/dietz\\_steven.html](http://www.playsforyoungaudiences.org/playwrights/dietz_steven.html): Bio for Steven Dietz

[blog.caffeinatedsoftware.com/images/blog\\_caffeinatedsoftware\\_com/061107\\_0754\\_GoDogGo1.png](http://blog.caffeinatedsoftware.com/images/blog_caffeinatedsoftware_com/061107_0754_GoDogGo1.png) --Go, Dog. Go! Book picture

[www.bio.davidson.edu/courses/anphys/2000/Hatfield/Hatfield8.htm](http://www.bio.davidson.edu/courses/anphys/2000/Hatfield/Hatfield8.htm) : Fact sheet on dogs

[www.nbc30.com/news/10467999/detail.html](http://www.nbc30.com/news/10467999/detail.html) : the first hero dog story

[www.dogsinthenews.com/issues/0203/articles/020312a.htm](http://www.dogsinthenews.com/issues/0203/articles/020312a.htm) : the 2nd hero dog story

[www.mercymemorial.org/images/Stars.jpg](http://www.mercymemorial.org/images/Stars.jpg) : the stars and moon photo

[www.dkimages.com/discover/previews/982/50399628.JPG](http://www.dkimages.com/discover/previews/982/50399628.JPG) the roller skates picture

[www.eastfarleighpreschool.com/images/party%20hat.jpg](http://www.eastfarleighpreschool.com/images/party%20hat.jpg) the party picture

[www.kokolikoko.com](http://www.kokolikoko.com) our word search