

# THE WRIGHT BROTHERS

(Those Daring Young Men & Their Flying Machine!)

A true **STEM** show - portraying one of America's earliest successes in combining **Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics**.

**CONTACT: Gardner Arts Network 212-496-9121 [info@gardnerartsnetwork.com](mailto:info@gardnerartsnetwork.com)**

- A highly engaging musical story with great songs and top notch performers.
- Recommended for 2<sup>nd</sup> - 6<sup>th</sup> grades as well as family audiences of all ages.
- Running Time 55 minutes (can be adjusted)
- Themes and take-away messages of THE WRIGHT BROTHERS:
  - Encourages perseverance - never giving up on your dreams.
  - The value of out-of-the-box, inventive thinking.
  - Teamwork, brotherhood and loyalty.
- Extensive Study Guide (both teacher and student edition) linking the history and science to the story, is available on the Wright Brothers page at [www.freshbrewedproductions.com](http://www.freshbrewedproductions.com).
- Original cast recordings of the entire score are available to share with schools and family audiences to help promote the show.
- Marketing/Funding tie-in opportunities with local airports, museums, USAF, and other organizations. (We're happy to brainstorm with you)
- Cast is able to offer workshops on History of Flight, Theatre, Music & Composition, etc. Contact us about customizing a workshop for you.
- Participation before, during and after the show can be facilitated by including activities, contests and post-show, onstage interactive presentations.

## SYNOPSIS OF THE PLAY:

The scene opens in Dayton, Ohio at the bicycle shop of Orville and Wilbur Wright. As usual, instead of fixing bikes they are thinking up and working on new, unheard of inventions.

After reading about inventors in Europe working on the development of human flight, they start to think of it as a possibility, despite the dangers involved. Their sister Katharine thinks they already spend too much time on crazy inventions and not enough on making the bicycle business a success. Wilbur then shares with her his most secret dream of being able to bring the possibility of a flying machine into reality.

Meanwhile, their cranky neighbor, Mrs. Weatherby, comes by to pick up the bicycle she left for repair months before. Orville is a little intimidated by her and tries to make up any excuse he can think of - with no success.

The brothers now decide that it is indeed their destiny to make this dream real and begin in earnest to build a machine that can fly. Starting with gliders, they take their dreams and equipment to Kill Devil Hills, near Kitty Hawk, NC.

After some success, but a lot more failure, they return to Dayton feeling despondent and at the end of their road. Fortunately, a respected French/American scientist and friend, Octave Chanute, steps in to lift their spirits.

Back again in North Carolina they are finally ready for their historic, first flight. Who will win the coin toss to be the very first human to experience sustained, powered flight?