

Alliance Kendeda National Graduate Playwriting Competition

Alumni Booklet



*Celebrating 20 years of connecting emerging playwrights to the
world of professional theatre!
2004-2024*

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**indicates the year's winning playwright*



DAPHNE GREAVES

Day of Kings (Winner)

Daphne Greaves is a graduate of the playwriting program at The Julliard School. She is the winner of the 2004 National Graduate Playwriting Competition and her historical drama *Day of the Kings* had its world premiere at Atlanta's Alliance Theatre in January 2005. Other plays include *Killing Time*, *Shade and Crash!*. Greaves' plays have been seen at such theatres as the Public Theatre, The Women's Project, New Jersey Repertory, Puerto Rican Traveling Theatre and others. Her radio drama *The African Grove* aired on National Public Radio.



ANDREW BARRETT

Rainy Days & Mondays

Andrew Barrett is a native New Yorker who completed his MFA at the prestigious Iowa Playwright's Workshop at The University of Iowa. His play "and/or" was presented in The New Works Now Festival 2004 at The Public Theater in NYC. Previously, the play was selected as the winner of Frank Basille Emerging New Playwright Competition at The Phoenix Theater in Indianapolis, IN. Other recent works include *Rainy Days & Mondays* (finalist in the graduate playwriting competition, The Alliance Theatre, Atlanta, GA), *FLESH* (The Iowa New Works Festival), and a 10-minute monologue, *Amanda* (The Riverside Theatre, Iowa City, IA). Andrew is also a respected writer of book and lyrics for new musicals. His first was *Between Time & Timbuktu* based on the collected works of Kurt Vonnegut. Andrew holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from The Boston Conservatory.



MARCUS GARDLEY

dance the holy ghost: a play on memory

Marcus Gardley, born and raised in Oakland, California, is an acclaimed poet, playwright, and screenwriter, and Co-Chair of playwriting at the Yale School of Drama. The *New Yorker* describes him as "the heir to Garcia Lorca, Pirandello and Tennessee Williams." His plays include *The House that Will Not Stand*, which had its world premiere at Yale Rep in 2014, and for which he received the 2018 AUDELCO Award and the 2019 OBIE Award; *X: Or, Betty Shabazz V. the Nation*; *black odyssey* (2023 Drama Desk nomination); *The Gospel of Loving Kindness*; *Every Tongue Confess*; *On the Levee*, music and lyrics by Todd Almond (commissioned by Yale Rep); *...and Jesus moonwalks the Mississippi*; *The Road Weeps*, *The Well Runs Dry*; and *dance of the holy ghosts* (Yale Rep world premiere, 2006). He is the recipient of the 2019 Doris Duke Artist Award, the 2015 Glickman Award, the PEN/Laura Pels Award, a Kesselring Honor, and he is a two-time finalist for Kennedy Prize in 2015 and 2016.

Marcus's work for television includes *Maid* (Netflix), for which he won the 2022 Writers Guild of America Award for best adapted longform series; *Boots Riley's I'm a Virgo* (Amazon); *The Chi* (Showtime); *Foundation* (Apple); *NOS4A2* (AMC); *Tales of the City* (Netflix); and *Mindhunter* (Netflix). His feature adaptation of the musical *The Color Purple* will be released in theaters on Christmas day; and *What's Going On*, his Marvin Gaye biopic, is in pre-production at Warner Brothers. He has also written a biopic about James Baldwin with Janelle Monae attached to star.

A summa cum laude graduate of San Francisco State University and David Geffen School of Drama, where he received his M.F.A., Marcus has taught previously at Brown University, Columbia University, University of Massachusetts at Amherst, University of San Francisco, and the National Theatre Institute.



Photo: Chad Runyon

MEGAN GOGERTY

Love Jerry

Megan Gogerty is a playwright, comedian, and professor based in Iowa City, Iowa. A recipient of the Cloris Leachman Award for Outstanding Artistic Achievement, her solo show *Lady Macbeth and Her Pal*, Megan played the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and won the Audience Pick of the Fringe at the Cincinnati Fringe Festival. Her play *Bad Panda* (Theatre Without Borders, Beijing; Iron Crow Theatre Co.; WordBRIDGE Boomerang Playwright honoree) is published by Original Works Publishing and was translated into Spanish for a five-month run at Del Teatro Milan in Mexico City. The Atlanta Journal-Constitution listed her solo show *Hillary Clinton Got Me Pregnant* in their yearly Top Ten Best Plays. Megan's musical drama *Love Jerry* premiered at Actors Express in Atlanta and was produced in the New York Musical Theatre Festival where it won three Talkin' Broadway Citations and four NYMF Excellence Awards including Excellence in Writing (Book). Her ten-minute play *Rumple Schmumple* (Dramatic Pub.) was a Kennedy Center/National ACTF honoree. Her short play *Super Hot Raven* and *Raven II: The Ravening* is published in the anthology *The Best American Short Plays of 2015* by Applause Books. Other plays include: *FEAST*. (Riverside Theatre); *Housebroken* (Riverside Theatre, Hollins University); *Save Me, Dolly Parton* (Riverside Theatre, Synchronicity Theatre; named among Best Plays in Atlanta by Creative Loafing). Her musical tribute album to the TV show *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* is widely available online. Her standup comedy credits include opening for Louie Anderson, Cameron Esposito, and Rachel Bloom, and she has headlined or emceed several charity and private events in the Midwest, including serving as the keynote speaker for the Emma Goldman Clinic Choice Event, the Iowa Center for Advancement's Victory Campaign Celebration, and events for the Iowa Women's Foundation. Megan was a Playwrights' Center Jerome Fellow, a WordBRIDGE alum, and she earned her MFA in Playwriting from the University of Texas at Austin. She currently teaches playwriting and standup comedy at the University of Iowa Playwrights Workshop and is a regularly returning visiting faculty for the Playwright's Lab at Hollins University.



MAT SMART

Hand, Foot, Arm, and Face

Mat Smart has written 25 full-length plays that have been produced around the country and currently has several television and film projects in development. His play *Kill Local* premiered at the La Jolla Playhouse and was recently translated and performed in Seoul, South Korea at the Broadway Musical Center. *The Agitators*, his play about the true, untold friendship between Susan B. Anthony and Frederick Douglass, has been produced at over 20 different theatres from Maine to Seattle. Select plays include: *The Royal Society of Antarctica* (Gift Theatre, recipient of the Jeff Award for Best New Work in Chicago), *Eden Prairie, 1971* (National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere, Riverside Theatre; New Jersey Rep; BETC), *Samuel J. and K.* (Williamstown Theatre Festival; Steppenwolf), *Naperville* (Slant Theatre Project, Theatre Wit), *Tinker to Evers to Chance* (Geva; Merrimack Rep), *The 13th of Paris* (City Theatre), and *The Hopper Collection* (Huntington; Magic). His newest play, *A Black-billed Cuckoo*, a comedy about birding, was recently workshopped at the South Carolina New Play Festival and upcoming at the Playwrights' Center. An avid traveler and baseball fan, Mat has been to all of the states, all of the continents, and all of the current MLB stadiums. A native of Naperville, Illinois, he currently lives in Brooklyn. Undergrad: University of Evansville. MFA: UCSD.



KENNETH LIN

said Saïd (Winner)

Kenneth Lin is an award-winning playwright and screenwriter whose plays EXCLUSION, KLEPTOCRACY, LIFE ON PAPER, WARRIOR CLASS, INTELLIGENCE-SLAVE, FALLOW, PO BOY TANGO, and SAID SAÏD have garnered widespread acclaim. His awards and honors include the Princess Grace Award, Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition, L. Arnold Weissberger Award, and the TCG Edgerton New Play Prize. He has written and produced several film and television projects and was nominated for an Emmy for his work on House of Cards. Education: Yale School of Drama, US Fulbright Fellowship. Upcoming: FAREWELL MY CONCUBINE with composer Jason Robert Brown. Kenneth currently resides in Los Angeles with his wife and sons.



MICHAEL COOPER

Sunfish

MICHAEL COOPER (Composer/Lyricist)

BROADWAY: IT SHOULDA BEEN YOU (Outer Critics Circle Nomination, Additional Lyrics). OFF-BROADWAY: CITY OF (Music). REGIONAL: LOVE, ALWAYS (Music & Lyrics), MARGUERITE (Second To Nun) (Music), LOVE & OTHER DESTINATIONS (Lyrics), LONDON: LUNA PARK (Lyrics), From Page To Stage, KOREA: SUNFISH (Co-Book/Lyrics) Top Jury Honor DIMF, VIRTUAL: THE DUCHESS CARPATHIA BOUFFRAY, ALTERNATIVE FAQs and APRÉS-SKI (and live: JE SUIS L'ART) (Music), 2005 Jonathan Larson Award Winner. Williams College; NYU GMTWP. Selected for NAMT, ASCAP/Disney Workshop, and Johnny Mercer Writers Grove at Goodspeed Musicals. Recent commissions: UNFRAMED (Gund Gallery, Kenyon College), ALICE IN... (Kenyon College) and REMEMBERING TOMORROW: THE LIVES OF EDGAR CAYCE (Zeiders American Dream Theater). Michael serves as the Executive Artistic Director of the Paradise Theatre in Paonia, CO.
www.michaelcoopermusicandlyrics.com



HYEYOUNG KIM

Sunfish

HYEYOUNG KIM is a Jonathan Larson Award Winner. Selected for NAMT, ASCAP/Disney Workshop, TRU. Composer/Librettist lab at New Dramatists, Johnny Mercer Songwriting Project and Sokoloff Arts Fellow with Town Stages and Sokoloff Arts. Ewha Womans Univ.: NYU GMTWP. SUNFISH (Co-Book/Music)- Daegu International Musical Theatre Festival(Top Jury Honor), Stoneham Theater(BWW Boston Best musical in a mid-size theater); FALLING(Music)- Songwriters Showcase NAMT, Creative Factory, Korea; CAFE-IN(Music)- Live theater, Korea. Toured to Tokyo and Osaka, Japan; LUNA PARK(Music)- MTF's 4@15, NYC, Oregon Performance Lab, From Page to Stage, London. APAC's Benefit Reading Concert, NYFA's New Work Series; VAMPIRE IN A BOX(Co-Lyrics/Music)- SHArthall, Korea; DAYS OF RAGE(Book/Music)- NYTB's New Works pre-premiere series, NYTB's Choreography Lab, Town Stage's Workshop; READY TO FLY(Music)- New-Wave Award (Korea Musical Awards); A STORY NO ONE KNOWS(Book/Music)- NYTB's New Works pre-premiere series, student workshop at Emerson. JOURNEY AROUND MY BEDROOM(Music)- NY Times Top 5 pick zoom play for young audiences.
www.hyeyoungkimmusic.com @hyeyoungkimmusic



L.A. KUEMMELE

the Monongahela House

L.A. Kuemmel is a playwright-turned-novelist with a love of immersive world-building and strong female characters. At the age of 11, she discovered Robin McKinley's *The Hero and the Crown* and became a life-long fantasy and sci-fi lover. She grew up in small towns in the Mid-West and Deep South where she dreamed frequently of running away from home. Once in New York City she joined the anarchist collective of the WOW Cafe where her full-length plays, *Thicker Than Water* and *I May Never Go Home*, debuted, along with several comic skits and cabaret performances.

In 2006 she was honored as a Keneda Playwright by the Alliance Theater of Atlanta for her ensemble historical drama *Monongahela House*. That same year her teleplay for "The Work of 50 Men" was awarded a Sloan Foundation grant for production at WQED. It aired on public television and garnered a Bronze Telly. Now in Los Angeles, she has developed several screenplays and collaborated with Fell Swoop writer's workshop on their staged productions. Kuemmel is a graduate of Playwrights Horizons Theater School at NYU and holds an MFA from Carnegie Mellon School of Drama's Dramatic Writing Program. *Song of Reckoning* is her first novel.



BRIAN TUCKER

Sins of the Father

Brian Tucker is a native of the South Side of Chicago, currently living in Brooklyn. He is the youngest ever recipient of the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Fellowship administered through the Juilliard School, where he served a two-year fellowship under Marsha Norman and Christopher Durang. Brian's plays include *The Great Defeat of Coltrane Grey* (2004 New York International Fringe Festival production; Barrington Stage Company workshop; Juilliard School staged reading), *Sins of the Father* (Finalist in the Alliance Theatre's Keneda Playwriting Competition; in development with Perseverance Theater Company), *Bathing Van Gogh* (workshop production Juilliard School) and *The St. James Infirmary* (production Juilliard School, directed by Marion McClinton). He is the recipient of the Herrick Theater Foundation Award for Playwrights and two LeCompte du Nouy Prizes, administered through Lincoln Center.



WILLIAM WHITEHURST

He Who Outruns Rainstorms

William Whitehurst is the author of numerous dramatic works which have been produced in major markets in the UK and the US, including Edinburgh, London, New York and Los Angeles. These stagings were either at fringe festivals (like San Francisco Fringe, New York Fringe and Edinburgh fringe), and/or "storefront" or "pub style" venues.

Awards include Best Play, Renegade New Original Works Festival, August, 2018 (*He Who Outruns Rainstorms* - a Keneda finalist); the Hollywood Fringe Encore Award 2016 (*Cockroach Dialogues*); Best Play and Best Overall Production, San Francisco International Fringe Festival 2008 (*Knuckleball*); ; Best Play, Eclectic Theater's Hurricane Season of One Acts, Los Angeles, 2004 (*Menage a Trois*); and first place, Theater League of South Florida Annual New Plays Prize 2002 (*Mosshead*).

He is a co-founder with actor/director Andy McQuade of Second Skin Theatre, a London-based theatre collective. The company produced many of his plays over the years including *American Football*, *Pigeon Man Apocalypse*, *Knuckleball*, *The Hideous Face of Love*, *Rasputin* and *The Cockroach Dialogues*.

He holds an MFA in Creative Writing/Drama from Florida International University and an MFA in Theatre and Dramatic Writing from the University of Southern California. He currently teaches history and English at the International French School of Singapore.



DARREN CANADY

False Creeds (Winner)

Darren Canady hails from Topeka, KS. His work has been produced at the Alliance Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Aurora Theater, Congo Square Theater, Horizon Theatre, London's the Old Vic Theatre, M Ensemble, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Edinburgh Festival Fringe, American Blues Theater, and others. His awards include the Alliance Theater's Keneda Graduate Playwriting Award, Chicago's Black Excellence Award, the Black Theatre Alliance Award, and the American Theatre Critics Association's Osborn Award. His work has been developed at numerous festivals including the O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwright's Conference. His play *You're Invited* appeared in *The Best American Short Plays 2010-2011*. His work has been seen or developed at the Quo Vadimus Arts' ID America Festival, the Fremont Centre Theatre, Premiere Stages, the BE Company, Penumbra Theatre, and American Blues Theater. Darren is an alum of Carnegie Mellon University, New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and the Juilliard School. He is a current member of the Core Writers Program at the Playwrights's Center and Midwest Dramatists Center. He is an artistic associate with American Blues Theater and Congo Square Theatre. He currently teaches playwriting at the University of Kansas.



BETH BRANDON JENSEN

girls

Beth Brandon Jensen | Former Reality TV Producer | Freelance Grant Writer

After graduating from Florida State's MFA in Screen and Playwriting program, Beth headed to LA just as the 2007 writers strike hit, launching her into a ten-year + career producing Reality TV for shows including "Extreme Makeover: Home Edition," "Vanderpump Rules," and the "Real Housewives" franchise.

Becoming a parent shifted her focus, leading her to retire from the hustle of TV and embrace freelance content writing, including developing and growing her blog at thedgafmom.com. She also became a ghostwriter for several well-known health and wellness websites and served as a social media manager at the start of the pandemic for Princess Cruises.

In the past year, she has again transitioned to become a freelance grant writer. She has been mainly collaborating with arts and humanities nonprofit organizations, which allows her to channel her passion for storytelling and love for the arts while providing expert guidance to help fund these organizations. Based in Southern California, she juggles it all with my husband who works in the mental health sector, while they raise two boys, aged 7 and 9.



CARSON KREITZER

Flesh and the Desert

CARSON KREITZER is a playwright, lyricist, and librettist, and recent Guggenheim, McKnight, and MacDowell Fellow. Her musical LEMPICKA, co-written with Matt Gould and directed by Rachel Chavkin, just finished its run at the La Jolla Playhouse. Other projects include CAPITAL CRIME!, a play with songs set in Gilded Age New York, and a trio of plays about the climate crisis: green, TIMEBOMB and a new play inspired by her time in Svalbard, sailing with The Arctic Circle Artist and Scientist Residency Program. Her plays include THE LOVE SONG OF J. ROBERT OPPENHEIMER (Rosenthal New Play Prize, Stavis Award), THE SLOW DRAG (New York and London), SELF DEFENSE or death of some salesmen, FLESH AND THE DESERT, SLITHER, BEHIND THE EYE, and LASSO OF TRUTH (NNPN Rolling World Premiere). Her plays have been produced or developed by the Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, the Public Theatre, The Royal Court Theatre, the Guthrie Theater, Portland Center Stage, Clubbed Thumb, New Georges, Mabou Mines, and the Actors Gang, among others. Ms. Kreitzer is an Affiliated Writer with The Playwrights' Center, an alumna of New Dramatists, and was the first Playwrights of New York (PoNY) Fellow at the Lark. She has received support from the NEA, TCG, the Jerome and McKnight Foundations, and the Jonathan Larson Award. Her collection SELF DEFENSE and other plays is available from No Passport Press.



CHRIS LEVYA

Solamenta Una Vez

Chris is a playwright and director based in Columbus, OH. He's also a husband, dad, and lover of animation. Chris' plays grow from curiosity. He uses humor to ask big questions and to foster empathy. He focuses on creating entertaining, meaningful, and lasting experiences for audiences. His plays take place in heightened worlds and are grounded by authentic characters. Chris was awarded an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and he has collaborated with and had his plays developed by The Contemporary Theatre of Ohio, CLIMB Theatre, MadLab Theatre, the Human Race Theatre Company, the Alliance Theatre, Curtain Players New Play Initiative, Great Plains Theatre Conference, and the Columbus School for Girls, among others. He received an M.F.A. from the Playwrights Workshop at The University of Iowa, a B.A. in Directing from Coe College, and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.



RUTH MCKEE

The Nightshade Family

Ruth McKee's Keneda Finalist play *The Nightshade Family* was subsequently produced in New York as a part of the SPFNyc festival. After her MFA, she moved to Los Angeles where she helped found the site specific company Chalk Repertory Theatre, and produced plays in unconventional spaces across Los Angeles, including her own works *Stray*, *Full Disclosure*, *Hell Money*, and *In Case of Emergency*. She still lives in LA with her husband and two kids, and spends her time writing, reading, teaching, and playing outside as much as she can.



TARELL MCCRANEY

In the Red and Brown Water (Winner)

Tarell Alvin McCraney is the Artistic Director of the Geffen Playhouse in Los Angeles. He is also a member of Teo Castellanos/D-Projects Theater Company in Miami, a member of the Steppenwolf Theatre Ensemble, and co-wrote the 2016 film *Moonlight*, based on his own work *In Moonlight Black Boys Look Blue*, for which he received an Academy Award for Best Adapted Screenplay. His numerous awards include the Whiting Award, Steinberg Playwright Award, Doris Duke Artist Award, Windham-Campbell Prize, London Evening Standard Award for Most Promising Playwright, New York Times Outstanding Playwright Award, the Paula Vogel Award, and a 2013 MacArthur Fellowship. He received his BFA in acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University. In May 2007 he graduated from Yale School of Drama's playwriting program, receiving the Cole Porter Playwriting Award upon graduation. He also is an Honorary Warwick University Graduate.



MERRI BIECHLER

Confessions of a Reluctant Caregiver

Merri Biechler is the Director of Ohio University's School of Theater, Associate Professor of Instruction, playwright, actor, and educator. She's the recipient of an Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Award and a Boomerang Fund for Artists award. Her plays include *Tammy Faye's Final Audition* (Tantrum Theater, Dublin, OH; Centenary Stage Company; Cincinnati Fringe 2015 – Best of Fringe; Washington DC Capital Fringe 2015 – Best of Fringe); *An Appalachian Christmas Carol* (Brick Monkey Theater Ensemble world premiere; Woodford Theatre, KY); *Occupation* (Hollywood Fringe 2016 – Dozen Best; Seven Devils Playwrights Conference semifinalist; P73 Playwriting Fellowship semifinalist; Perishable Theatre's International Women's Playwriting Festival finalist); *Real Girls Can't Win* (Centenary Stage Company Women Playwrights Series winner; Stavis Award nominee; David Mark Cohen Award finalist); *Bombs, Babes and Bingo* (Mortar Theatre Company world premiere; New Orleans Fringe Festival; Artist's Laboratory Theatre workshop; P73 Playwriting Fellowship semifinalist; Clubbed Thumb biennial commission finalist); and *Confessions of a Reluctant Caregiver* (Northern Light Theatre in Edmonton, Alberta, world premiere canceled due to COVID; Princess Grace Award finalist; Jane Chambers Student Playwriting Award winner; Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition finalist; WordBRIDGE Playwrights Laboratory participant, and the recipient of grants totaling \$40,000 to use the play as a teaching tool for medical students). Merri received her MFA in playwriting from Ohio University.

As an actor, Merri attended North Carolina School of the Arts and studied with Sanford Meisner at the Neighborhood Playhouse and at his home on the island of Bequia, West Indies. She spent 18 months with the original Off-Broadway cast of *Tony 'n Tina's Wedding*, appeared in the films *He Said, She Said*; *The Thing Called Love*; *Claire in Motion*; *Trailerpark*; and *Pieces of April*; and guest-starred on episodes of *Judging Amy*, *E.R.*, and *Murphy Brown*. She appeared in Tantrum Theater's production of *The Cake*. Her new project, with co-creator Samuel Dodd, is *The Healthy Village: Immersive Healthcare Theater*. It uses fine arts techniques and methods to teach healthcare students to work in partnership with their patients.



BEKAH BRUNSTETTER

Green

Bekah hails from Winston-Salem, North Carolina, and currently lives in Los Angeles. As a TV writer and producer, she has written for *Switched at Birth*, *American Gods*, *This is Us*, and *Maid*. She has developed pilots for FX, Hulu and Apple. As a playwright, her work has been staged and developed by The O'Neill Playwright's conference, the Atlantic Theater, Portland Center Stage, The Old Globe, the La Jolla Playhouse, *Naked Angels*, South Coast Repertory, The Echo theater, and Ojai Playwright's conference. Her play *The Cake* has been produced over 80 times worldwide, as ran off Broadway at Manhattan Theater Club. She is currently working on *Commissions* for South Coast Rep, Manhattan Theater Club, Barrington Stage, and Playmaker's Rep. Her musical adaptation of *The Notebook* with Ingrid Michaelson will open on Broadway in Spring 2024. She is an alumni of the CTG Writers Group, Primary Stages writes group, Ars Nova Play Group, The Playwright's Realm, and the Women's Project Lab, and the Echo Playwright's Group. BA UNC Chapel Hill; MFA in Dramatic Writing from the New School for Drama.



ROSS MAXWELL

Blind, Bleeding, & Drunk

ROSS MAXWELL was born in Scotland and raised in Oregon. He is a member of Youngblood, the playwrights collective through the Ensemble Studio Theatre. Maxwell is also a member of the Partial Comfort Theatre Company. Recent productions include: "PEDESTRIANS" and "SUICIDAL FAGS AND THE DEATH OF GOD," both in Vital Theatre Company's Vital Signs New Works Festival. "PEDESTRIANS" was selected for the Samuel French Competition. His new full-length play, "HIS OCCUPATION", was commissioned by Purdue University and will be produced in March 2005. Recently he has worked as a television producer and writer, and is known for his work on *Riverdale* (2017-2018), *Chilling Adventures of Sabrina* (2018-2020), *Teen Wolf* (2016), *Glee* (2011-2015).



JOSH TOBIESSEN

Election Day

Since being a part of the Keneda Competition, Josh returned to the Alliance in 2011 for a production of his play, *Spoon Lake Blues*. His other plays, including *Election Day* (his Keneda finalist play), *Red State Blue Grass*, *Crashing the Party*, *Lone Star Spirits* and *Stinkers* and have been produced or developed at such places as *Crowded Outlet*, New York City; *The Jungle Theater*, Minneapolis; *Mixed Blood Theatre*, Minneapolis; *Oregon Shakespeare Festival*, Ashland; *Pioneer Theatre Company*, Salt Lake City; *Second Stage Theatre*, New York; *Slant Theatre Project*, New York; and *AiShangChu Theatre*, Hong Kong. His most recent play, *The Yankfield Yeti*, was a finalist for the O'Neill New Play Conference and received a finalist award as part of the 2023 New Jersey State Council on the Arts Individual Artist Fellowship program.



JULIA BROWNELL

Smart Cookie (Winner)

Julia Brownell is an Emmy-nominated TV writer, screenwriter, and playwright. She's written on television shows such as *This is Us*, *Parenthood*, *The Path*, *Smash*, and *Hung*. Julia's play *All-American* premiered Off-Broadway produced by Lincoln Center/LCT3 and has been produced across the country. Her play *Smart Cookie* won the Keneda Graduate Playwriting Award and was produced by the Alliance Theatre in 2009. She's a mom of two boys and a competitive marathon runner.



RANDALL COLBURN

Lamp and Moth

Mr. Colburn is an editor at Entertainment Weekly. As a widely produced writer, he has covered nearly every corner of media/pop culture space at pubs like EW, The AV Club, The Guardian, and has a popular podcast. Past work includes productions with Victory Gardens Theater, InFusion Theatre Company, Brain Surgeon Theater, The Mammals Theatre Company, Dream Theatre Company and The Right Brain Project, who dedicated their 2010 season to his work. His play, *Verse Chorus Verse*, received its Off-Broadway premiere with Barefoot Theatre Company after a successful run with Chicago's Tympanic Theatre Company spring 2011. He is the recipient of an Individual Artist Grant from the Illinois Arts Council and a former finalist for the 2011 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, the Alliance's 2009 Keneda Graduate Playwright Competition and the 2009 New York Summer Play Fest. Colburn has also been commissioned by InFusion Theatre Company and has developed plays with companies including the Public Theatre, the Alliance Theatre, Stage Left Theatre Company and Chicago Dramatists, where he is also a resident playwright. Colburn was recently named "One to Watch" by the Chicago Reader. He received his MFA in Playwriting from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale.



ZAYD DOHRN

Sick

Zayd Ayers Dohrn is an award-winning writer whose plays have premiered off-Broadway, across the country, and internationally, including at Playwrights Horizons, the Vineyard Theatre, Naked Angels, Steppenwolf, and many others. Honors include the Horton Foote New American Play Prize, the Edgerton Foundation New Play Award, the Kennedy Center's Jean Kennedy Smith Award, the Sky Cooper American Playwriting Prize, Theatre Master's Visionary Playwright Award, and Lincoln Center's Lecomte du Nouy Prize. Zayd is also the creator, writer, and host of the narrative podcast *Mother Country Radicals*, which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2022 and won the award for "Best Audio Storytelling." He is currently a Professor at Northwestern University and Director of the MFA in Writing for the Screen + Stage. www.zayddohrn.com.



Photo: Elisabeth Caren

SARAH GUBBINS

Fair Use

Sarah wrote the feature *Shirley* directed by Josephine Decker which premiered at Sundance. Her television work includes being the Co-Creator, Writer and Executive Producer of *I LOVE DICK* for Amazon, a Co-Executive Producer on the FX television show *BETTER THINGS* season three, and a Co-Executive Producer on the Hulu limited series, *PAM & TOMMY* for which she received an Emmy, PGA, and WGA nominations. She is currently developing a feature with Working Title and a limited series based on Joan Didion's *The White Album*.



ALEX LEWIN

The Near East

A former magazine journalist, Alex holds an MFA in Playwriting from the University of California at San Diego and is currently a member of the Writers' Workshop at the Center Theatre Group. His plays have been presented and developed at the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Chautauqua Theatre Company, Geva Theatre Center, MCC, The New Group, P73, Ensemble Studio Theatre, the Alliance Theatre, Arena Stage, the New Harmony Project, the Absolut Gay Theatre Festival (Dublin), and New York Theatre Workshop, where he is an Artistic Associate. Commissions: La Jolla Playhouse, Ensemble Studio Theatre/Sloan Foundation, and KBEM/Jazz 88 (St. Paul, MN). He was also a 2012-13 Jerome Fellow. Alex has been a finalist for the L. Arnold Weissberger Award, the Heideman Award, and the Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition, among others. For five years he was a member of the MCC Playwrights Coalition.



ISMAIL KHALIDI

Tennis in Nablus (Winner)

Born in Beirut to Palestinian parents and raised in Chicago, Ismail Khalidi is a playwright and director who has written, directed, performed, curated and taught internationally.

Khalidi's plays include *Tennis in Nablus* (Alliance Theatre, 2010), *Truth Serum Blues* (Pangea World Theater, 2005), *Foot* (Teatro Amal, 2016-17), *Sabra Falling* (Pangea World Theater, 2017), *Returning to Haifa* (Finborough Theatre, 2018) and *Dead Are My People* (Noor Theatre, 2019). Khalidi's plays have been published in numerous anthologies. His writing on politics and culture has appeared in *The Nation*, *Guernica*, *American Theatre Magazine*, and *Remezcla*. His poetry and plays have been published by Mizna, and he co-edited *Inside/Outside: Six Plays from Palestine and the Diaspora* (TCG, 2015). Khalidi has received commissions from the Actors Theatre of Louisville, Noor Theatre, Pangea World Theatre, and The Public Theatre, and is currently a Visiting Artist at Teatro Amal in Chile. He holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts.



DANA LYNN FORMBY

The Small of Her Back

Dana Lynn Formby is the current theatre instructor at Front Range Community College at the Larimer Campus. Her television pilot was a 2022 second-round runner for the Austin Film Festival and is in the top 21% on Coverfly. She is a Bloomsbury Methuen published playwright. She is a finalist or semifinalist for the 2015, 2016, and 2017 Princess Grace Award for playwriting. Her play *THE LABELER*, was a 2016 finalist for the American Blues Theatre Blue Ink Award and was read at Luna Stage in 2017. Her play *JOHNNY 10 BEERS' DAUGHTER* was a finalist for the O'Neill 2016 National Playwrights Conference and the 2016 Emory Fellowship in playwriting. It was produced in 2017 by Something Marvelous and Chicago Dramatists. Her play *AMERICAN BEAUTY SHOP* was developed at Bloomington Shakespeare Festival, read at Steppenwolf's First Look 2014 and produced by Some Company of Sydney Australia as well as Chicago Dramatists. Dana is a three-time 'Kilroy Honorable Mention' playwright. Her plays have been produced, workshopped, or developed by Pegasus Theatre Chicago, Stage Left, Chicago Dramatists, Mortar Theatre Company, Steep, PICT, Victory Gardens, WordBRIDGE, Florida Studio Theatre, The Alliance Theatre of Atlanta, The Kennedy Center, Theater Emory, The Department of Cultural Affairs of Chicago, and New York Theatre Workshop. Her short play *A DECK OF MONSTERS* was featured in Goodman Theatre's New Play Bake-Off. Her play *UNTIL DEATH* was produced in 2015 at Concordia University Chicago in association with Chicago Dramatists. She holds an MFA in playwriting from Ohio University. She has been commissioned by Theater Emory.



VIRGINIA GRISE

blu

Virginia Grise is a recipient of the Alpert Award in the Arts, Yale Drama Award, Whiting Writers' Award, and the Princess Grace Award in Theatre Directing. Her published work includes *Your Healing is Killing Me*, *blu*, *The Panza Monologues* and an edited volume of Zapatista communiqués titled *Conversations with Don Durito*. Her interdisciplinary body of work includes plays, multimedia performance, dance theater, performance installations, guerilla theater, site specific interventions, and community gatherings. She holds an MFA in Writing for Performance from the California Institute of the Arts and is a founding member of a todo dar productions. Currently she serves as the Mellon Foundation Playwright in Residence at Cara Mia Theatre.



EMILY SCHWEND

Splinters

Emily Schwend's plays include *UTILITY* (The Amoralists in NYC, Orange Tree Theatre in London, Interrobang Theatre Project in Chicago, 2016 Yale Drama Series Award, 2017 IT Award for Outstanding Premiere Production of a Play), *THE OTHER THING* (Second Stage Theatre Uptown), *TAKE ME BACK* (Walkerspace in NYC, The Poor Theatre in Chicago), *SOUTH OF SETTLING* (Steppenwolf's Next Up Rep), and *SPLINTERS* (CUDC Source Festival). She was a 2016-2017 Radcliffe Institute Fellow at Harvard University and the inaugural 2014 Tow Foundation playwright-in-residence at Second Stage Theatre. Her work has been developed at The New Group, Roundabout Theatre Company, ACT Theatre, Marin Theatre Company, Partial Comfort Productions, Ars Nova, the Alliance Theatre, PlayPenn, and the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, among others. She is a frequent contributor to Christine Jones's Theatre for One booth. She is the recipient of a Bogliasco Fellowship, a MacDowell Fellowship, the ACT New Play Award, the David Calicchio Emerging American Playwrights Prize, the Lecomte du Nouy Prize, and the Heideman Prize. Her work has been commissioned by the Studio Theatre in DC, the Ensemble Studio Theatre through the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, and the Old Vic in London. Emily also works as a science communicator in the biotech and biopharma hub of Cambridge, MA. She is a proud alumna of the playwriting programs at Juilliard and Tisch.



Photo: Bill Jacobson

PAUL DAVID YOUNG

No One But You

Paul David Young's *All My Fathers* was presented by La MaMa E.T.C. in New York in fall 2019 as part of La MaMa's 58th season. Evan Yionoulis, an Obie winner, formerly Professor in the Practice of Acting and Director at Yale School of Drama and Resident Director at Yale Repertory Theatre for twenty years and now Richard Rodgers Director of Drama at Juilliard, directed the production, which was praised in *The New Yorker* ("hilarious"); *The Reviews Hub* (five stars *****: "All My Fathers is remarkable work and should not be missed."); *Interludes* (RECOMMENDED); *Theater Is Easy* ("performances that are both hilarious and poignant"); *Theater Pizzazz* ("Young's humor is salient and sardonic. The actors are just terrific."); and *LighAng & Sound America* ("Packed with curveballs, All My Fathers is also a work of considerable literacy."). His 2017 Trump Satire, *Faust 3: The Turd Coming, or The Fart of the Deal*, performed by four clowns at Judson Church, was featured in *The New York Times*, *The Huffington Post*, *New York Magazine*, *Time Out New York*, *Village Voice* ("Voice Choice"), *The Wall Street Journal*, and *Hyperallergic*. *Upstage Downstage* picked his play *Kentucky Cantata*, at *HERE* in New York, as one of the top 13 plays of Off-Broadway and Off-Off-Broadway for 2015. Erik Haagensen of *Backstage* selected his *In the Summer Pavilion* in *NYCFringe* and at *59e59 Theaters* as a "Critic's Pick." His *No One But You* won the Kennedy Center's Paula Vogel Playwriting Award and was a finalist for the Keneda Fellowship. His one-act *Aporia* was a finalist for the Kennedy Center's John Cauble Short Play Award. His translations, with Carl Weber, of Heiner Müller's *Anatomy Titus Fall of Rome* and *Macbeth* were published as *Heiner Müller: After Shakespeare*. A contributing editor at *PAJ* (MIT Press), he writes regularly for *Hyperallergic*. His book *newARTtheatre: Evolutions of the Performance Aesthetic*, about visual artists appropriating theatre, was issued by *PAJ* in 2014. He has had residencies at Lower Manhattan Cultural Council's *Workspace*, *Millay Colony*, *Djerassi Resident Artists Program*, and *Ensemble Studio Theatre's Summer Conference*. *LMCC* awarded him a five-month *Process Space* residency on *Governors Island* for 2015, where he conceived and performed *Curtain Wall Part 3: An Immersive Landscape Theater Performance of Christopher Marlowe's "Hero and Leander,"* in which he swam across New York Harbor. www.pauldavidyoung.com



Photo: Colin Browne

DAVID MITCHELL ROBINSON

Carapace (Winner)

David Mitchell Robinson's goal is to write a play about every place he's ever lived has resulted in *Carapace* (Minneapolis), *Olympic Village* (Atlanta), *The Imaginary Music Critic Who Doesn't Exist* (Chicago), and *Terminals* (airplanes). These and other plays have been produced, developed, or commissioned by the Alliance Theatre, Steppenwolf, the Atlantic Theater Company, Arena Stage, Center Theatre Group, the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Primary Stages, the Kennedy Center for Performing Arts, Actor's Express, Forum Theatre, Theater J, B Street Theatre, the Inkwell, Rep Stage, Ohio University, Pittsburgh Irish and Classical Theatre, Rorschach Theatre, the Source Festival, and more.

David has been the winner of the Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition and the Scott McPherson Playwriting Award as well as a nominee for the PoNY Fellowship, the Lanford Wilson Award, the Terrence McNally Award, and a Suzi Bass Award. He has also been a finalist for such programs as the Jerome Fellowship, the Clubbed Thumb Biennial Commission, NNPN's Smith Prize Commission, InterAct Theatre's 20/20 Commission, the Lark's Playwrights' Week, the NNPN Showcase of New Plays, and the Source Festival's Full Length Plays.

He holds an MFA in Playwriting from Ohio University and a BA in Literature/Theater from the New College of Florida. He currently lives in DC, where he is working on his plays about Baltimore and Iowa City.



JOE LUIS CEDILLO

Noche y Mourning

Joe Luis Cedillo is a Stranger. Chicano Playwright-Director & Dramaturg with some Sound Design credits. Previously produced in the *Edge of the World Theatre Festival* in '01 & '02 with Urban Ensemble Theatre Collective, '03 & '04 as Artistic Director of *Tres Chingasos Theatre Collective*, and '07's *Edge Fest* curated event with a solo performance piece. Also had work as part of the Unit Collective EWOC's (Emerging Writer's of Color) *Madness* produced in '10 for Minneapolis Fringe and is collaboratively creating a piece for '11 Minneapolis Fringe. Current Associate Artistic Director for Texas State's Black and Latino Playwright's Conference ('06-present) and former Literary Manager/Production Dramaturg for Alley Theatre in Houston, Texas for the 60th Anniversary season. Studied Poetry and earned BA in English (Creative Writing emphasis) from Cal State University at Northridge and recently graduated from University of Iowa's Playwright's Workshop. Had reading of play *NOCHE Y MOURNING* at Alliance Theatre in Atlanta, Georgia and 59E59 via Primary Stages as a Keneda Finalist. Also work in video, you can find my stuff on YouTube under my full name. Currently, in pre-production to direct Greg Machlin's *7 DAYS: A FANTASIA ON THE LIFE OF MILES DAVIS* inaugural production for Company of Strangers (with Greg), working on short story collection *MESSICANS IN DA FOUNTAIN*, screenplay *CRUISING HEAVEN*, dramaturging two one-woman shows (Anastasia Coon's *GRACIE N' ROSE* and Sheela Kangal's *NORM*), developing script for Hollywood Fringe *DREAMS OF A DEAD CITY* (you best come out if you made it this far into my bio), and working on article for HowlRound (www.howlround.com) about LA Theatre Support for New Plays/Works. Yet can't get a day job or a date...but still living the Dream and keeping the Faith.



WILL FANCHER

The River Was Whiskey

Will Fancher is from Chicago, by way of Boston, Memphis, and a bunch of other places. His play *The River Was Whiskey* was a Keneda finalist in 2010. After that, Will graduated from the writing program at Second City and wrote and directed sketch comedy shows across Chicagoland until the world ended in March 2020. Most recently, he has found a second (or third or fourth) career as a children's musician and songwriter; he teaches in the "Wiggleworms" early education program at the Old Town School of Folk Music and for Chicago Center for Music Education. He also does on-demand personalized songwriting for the local startup Songfinch. Will lives in Chicago with his lovely wife and two terrible little boys.



SHANE SAKHRANI

The Doctor is Indian

Shane Sakhrani is an international playwright and screenwriter born in Hong Kong to Indian parents. Shane's plays combine traditional Asian-American themes with the aesthetic of Broadway comedies of the 30s and 40s. Shane's romantic comedy 'A Widow of No Importance' was a Critic's Choice for the LA Times, Backstage, LA Weekly and the LA Theatre Alliance (Ovation awards). Shane's plays have been produced and performed at East West Players (Los Angeles, CA), Victory Gardens Theatre (Chicago, IL), Alliance Theatre (Atlanta, GA), Primary Stages (New York, NY), EnActe Theater (Palo Alto, CA), Silk Road Rising (Chicago, IL), Shunya Theatre (Houston, TX), Alliance Francaise (Singapore), Haque Center of Acting and Creativity and the Hong Kong Fringe Club. Shane's half-hour comedy pilot "Indians in America" was a semi-finalist for the 2018 ATX Pitch Competition, the WeScreenplay Diverse Voices Awards and a quarterfinalist for the Slamdance Pilot Competition. Shane holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing (Playwriting and Screenwriting) from the University of Southern California. He is a Lecturer in Creative Writing, Playwriting and Screenwriting for the MFA Creative Writing Program at the University of Hong Kong. Shane divides his time between Hong Kong and Los Angeles.



MARTÍN ZIMMERMAN

White Tie Ball

Martín Zimmerman is a multi-ethnic, bilingual playwright and screenwriter whose plays include *Seven Spots On The Sun*, *On The Exhale*, *White Tie Ball*, *The Making Of A Modern Folk Hero*, *The Solid Sand Below* and *Let Me Count The Ways*, and have been produced or developed at The Kennedy Center, Goodman Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwrights Conference, Alliance Theatre, Teatro Vista, Ojai Playwrights Conference, Playwrights Foundation, and Cara Mía Theatre Co. among many others, with upcoming projects at Roundabout Underground, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, La Jolla Playhouse and Milwaukee Repertory Theater. A recipient of the Terrence McNally New Play Award, Steinberg/ATCA New Play Award Citation, Humanitas Prize New Voices Award, Sky Cooper New American Play Prize, McKnight Advancement Grant, Jerome Fellowship, Carl Djerassi Playwriting Fellowship and the National New Play Network's Smith Prize, Martín was a Staff Writer on Netflix's *Narcos*, is a Story Editor on the upcoming Netflix Series *Ozark*, has been the Alliance for Latino Theater Artists (ALTA) Artist of the Month, was a member of the 2011-2012 Playwrights' Unit at Goodman Theatre, is a Playwright in Residence at Teatro Vista, a Resident Playwright at Chicago Dramatists, and has been a finalist for the Keneda Competition and Heideman Award.

MFA in Playwriting: The University of Texas at Austin. BA in Theater Studies, BS in Economics: Duke University.



MEG MIROSHNIK

The Fairy Tale Lives of Russian Girls (Winner)

Meg Miroshnik's work features a heightened attention to language and an emphasis on complicated central roles for women. Her plays include *The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls*, *The Droll*, *The Tall Girls*, *Lady Tattoo*, and an adaptation of the libretto for Shostakovich's *Moscow, Cheryomushki*. She is the recipient of a 2012 Whiting Award.

Her work has been produced and developed by La Jolla Playhouse, O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Center Theatre Group, South Coast Rep, the McCarter Theatre Center, Alliance Theatre, Yale Rep, the Kennedy Center, Lark New Play Development Center, Chicago Opera Theater, the Moscow Playwright and Director Center, Washington Ensemble Theatre, Circle X, The Wilma Theater, Undermain Theatre, Perishable Theatre, WordBRIDGE Playwrights Laboratory, One Coast Collaboration, and published by Samuel French. *The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls* was a finalist for the 2012 Susan Smith Blackburn prize and winner of the 2011-2012 Alliance/Keneda Graduate Playwriting Award.

Meg hails from Minneapolis and currently lives in Los Angeles. She is a founding member The Kilroys, a band of playwrights and producers committed to gender equity in the American theater. thekilroys.org and megmiroshnik.com



BOB BARTLETT

Whales

Bob Bartlett, Associate Professor of Theatre, teaches playwriting, screenwriting, and dramatic literature and theory in the Department of Fine and Performing Arts. His plays include *A HOME BY THE SEA*; *THE ESCORT*; *SIGHTED*, a futuristic retelling of HG Wells' short story *THE COUNTRY OF THE BLIND*; *LÝKOS ÁNTHRÓPOS*, an exploration of lycanthropy recently produced in the woods of Central Maryland; *UNION*, a new play about Walt Whitman's years living and loving in Washington, DC, during the Civil War; *THE REGULAR* (2022 O'Neill Finalist; 2020 Seven Devils Playwrights Conference); *E2*, an adaptation of Christopher Marlowe's *EDWARD II* which recently premiered at Maryland's Rep Stage; *THE ORBIT OF MERCURY* (2017 O'Neill Finalist); *SWIMMING WITH WHALES* (1st Stage - six 2019 Helen Hayes Award nominations); *HAPPINESS (AND OTHER REASONS TO DIE)* (The Welders); *THE ACCIDENT BEAR* (The Avenue Laundromat); *FALWELL* (Active Cultures); *KUCHU UGANDA* (DC Queer Theatre Festival); *KANSAS* (First Draft); and *FINDING FAUCI* (Transformation Theatre). His play *BAREBACK INK*, a queer reimagining of the Ganymede myth, recently had a run at NYC's Hard Sparks, directed by Obie-winner David Drake. Recently, Bartlett has been producing his own site-specific work: his play *THE ACCIDENT BEAR* had a successful run in the Avenue Laundromat in Downtown Annapolis; during the first year of covid, he staged his play *THREE STRANGERS SITTING AROUND A BACKYARD FIREPIT AT TWO IN THE MORNING LISTENING TO BRUCE SPINGSTEEN'S NEBRASKA* in his backyard; he recently staged his horror play, *LÝKOS ÁNTHRÓPOS*, in a wooded clearing in central Maryland; his romcom *LOVE AND VINYL* will run throughout the summer of 2023 at KA-CHUNK!! Records in downtown Annapolis; and he wrote the covid-inspired, twelve-episode *DUCK HARBOR* with EM Lewis for 1st Stage in Tysons which aired in 2021. Bartlett won the 2021 USM Board of Regents Faculty Award in Research, Scholarship, and Creative Activity, and is recent past chair of The National Playwriting Program (NPP) of KCACTF (Region 2), a two-time recipient of the Individual Artists Award in Playwriting from the Maryland State Arts Council, an affiliated artist with the National New Play Network, and a member of The Dramatists Guild of America. He is a founding member of The Welders, a DC-based, producing playwrights collective who were recognized with the 2016 John Anielle Award for Emerging Theater Company by theatreWashington's Helen Hayes Awards.

Education: MFA in Playwriting, Catholic University of America; MA in English - Language and Literature, Bowie State University



TIMOTHY GUILLOT

We Fight We Die

Timothy Guillot is a playwright and composer from Washington, DC via New York. His plays, musicals, and original compositions have been read and performed in the US, Europe, and South Korea. His work has been read and performed at Center Theatre Group, Alliance Theatre, The Lark Playwrights' Center, Imagination Stage, Yale Cabaret, Forum Theatre, the Mead Theatre Lab, Source Festival, Capital Fringe Festival, and many others. He is the 2016 winner of the Dramatic Writing Prize from the Adirondack Shakespeare Company, the 2011 recipient of the KCACTF Musical Theatre Award, a finalist for the Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition, the Larry Neal Writers' Awards, the nuVoices Festival, and a semifinalist for the O'Neill (twice), and Blue Ink. At Imagination Stage, Tim's work as a composer on TVY plays *Mouse on the Move*, *Inside Out*, and *Blue* has been remounted over 20 times at Imagination Stage, and seen additional productions in Oregon, Oklahoma, New York, and Florida. In 2017, *Inside Out* was performed at the ASSITEJ festival in South Korea, becoming the first American company to present in the festival's history. Tim is also a commissioned artist at Imagination Stage, where he co-wrote the new musical adaptation of Dickens' *Davy Copperfield* with Janet Stanford, which received its world premiere in February of 2019. Tim lives in Alexandria, VA.



ALEXANDER MAGGIO

Lost Cause

Alex Maggio is a TV writer working to shift the climate narrative. He got his start as a Writers' Assistant on the third season of *HOMELAND*, then joined the staff for all six seasons of *MADAM SECRETARY*, where he was responsible for writing and producing multiple episodes that highlighted the climate refugee crisis. He most recently served as a Co-Executive Producer for the CBS drama series *FBI*. Behind the scenes, he works as an advisor to Good Energy – a nonprofit story consultancy dedicated to portraying the climate emergency on screen -- and helped develop "A Playbook For Screenwriting in the Age of Climate Change."



BEN SNYDER

Shoe Story

Ben Snyder is a television producer, filmmaker, and playwright. He wrote for the Netflix series *Grand Army* and produced the HBO series *Betty*. Ben has developed television for BET, Channel 4, Lionsgate Entertainment, and Warner Bros. His most recent feature film, *Allswell*, with Bobby Cannavale and Max Casella won the Best Screenplay Award at the 2022 Tribeca Film Festival. His previous film, *11:55*, with Julia Stiles and John Leguizamo, is streaming on Showtime. Ben was the story consultant for the Sundance award-winning documentary *The Wolfpack*. His plays have been produced at P.S. 122, The Vineyard Theater, Crossroads Theatre, The Apollo Theater, New York Stage and Film, and at HBO's U.S. Comedy Arts Festival. Ben's plays have been nominated for NAACP Image Awards and published in the anthology, "Say Word! Voices from Hip Hop Theater," Michigan Press. He is a member of Labyrinth Theater Company and teaches at Brooklyn College.



MIKE LEW

Bike America (Winner)

Mike Lew's plays include Teenage Dick (Donmar Warehouse, Woolly Mammoth, Ma-Yi at the Public, and Artists Rep productions; Public Studio, O'Neill, OSF workshops), Tiger Style! (Olney, Huntington, La Jolla Playhouse, and Alliance productions; O'Neill and CTG workshops), Bike America (Ma-Yi and Alliance productions), microcrisis (Ma-Yi, InterAct, and Next Act productions), Moustache Guys, and the book to the musical Bhangin' It (Richard Rodgers Award; La Jolla Playhouse, Jerome Robbins Project Springboard and Rhinebeck Writers Retreat "Triple R" workshops). He is a Tony voter, Dramatists Guild Council member, and resident of New Dramatists. He is a Mellon Foundation Playwright in Residence at Ma-Yi and former La Jolla Playhouse Artist-in-Residence (both with Rehana Lew Mirza). Honors include Lark Venturous and NYFA fellowships and the Kleban, PEN Emerging Playwright, Lanford Wilson, Helen Merrill, Heideman, and Keneda awards. He is former co-director of Ma-Yi Writers Lab, the largest collective of Asian-American playwrights in the country. He is married to fellow playwright Rehana Lew Mirza, who he met in Ma-Yi Lab (read the story here). Training: Juilliard (2013), Yale (2003).



PETER FLOYD

Absence

A New Hampshire native, Peter Floyd came to Boston as a student and has lived in the city for all his adult life. A graduate of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, with a degree in political science, Peter has worked as a library aide, a graduate admissions officer, a software quality engineer, and (currently) a programmer for a medical software company based in Cambridge. Peter's playwriting career began with the short play "The Little Death," which premiered at MIT in 2005. It subsequently appeared in the Playwrights' Platform Festival the following year, where it won the Audience Choice award for best play. It has since been published by Heuer Publishing. In 2010 he began his studies in the playwriting MFA program at Boston University, where he developed his first full-length play, *Absence*. *Absence* was named co-winner of the Kennedy Center's Jean Kennedy Smith Award and a finalist for the Alliance Theatre of Atlanta's Keneda Award. The play received its first full production at the Boston Playwrights' Theatre in February-March 2014, for which it was nominated for Best New Script for both the Elliot Norton and IRNE awards, and its first international production at the Oslo Nye Trikkehallen in Norway in September-October 2015. Peter developed his play *The Centipede King* at the MFA Playwrights' Workshop at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C. Peter was selected as one of four New Voices @ New Rep Playwriting Fellows for 2012-13, sponsored by the New Repertory Theatre of Watertown, MA; for this program he wrote the play *Protocol*. With the onset of the Pandemic, Peter turned his attention from drama to prose. He has written several fantasy stories that have appeared in *GigaNotoSaurus*, *The Arcanist*, and *Bards and Sages Quarterly*. Peter lives in Chestnut Hill, MA, with his lovely and patient wife Vinita.



NEELEY GOSSETT

Roman Candle Summer

Neeley Gossett is a co-founder of Found Stages, a professional immersive theatre in Atlanta. Her play, *Beulah Creek* (nominated for The Suzi Bass Awards' Gene-Gabriel Moore Playwriting Award) was Found Stages' first production, held at Dunwoody Nature Center in 2014. In 2017, The Alliance Theatre produced her play, *Alice Between*. *Roman Candle Summer* was a Keneda finalist, and Decoration Day was chosen as The Alliance's 2016 Keneda Alumnus Reading. She is a recipient of The Alliance's Reiser Atlanta Artists Lab. Her works have previously received productions and readings at The Weird Sister Theatre Project, Theatre Emory, 7 Stages, Lark Play Development Center and many others. Several of her plays for Young Audiences are published by YouthPLAYS. *Frankenstein's Funeral*, an immersive play that she co-wrote with Annie Harrison Elliot, Nichole Palmietto, and Addae Moon, premiered in 2019. The AJC named her one of the "8 Atlanta playwrights to watch in 2020." Neeley holds an M.F.A. from The Playwright's Lab at Hollins University, an M.A. in English from The University of North Carolina Wilmington and a B.A. in Theater Arts from Marymount Manhattan College. She is Assistant Professor of English at Georgia State University's Perimeter College and is the Honors College Coordinator for the Dunwoody Campus.



DIANA GRISANTI

River City

Diana Grisanti is a playwright and educator whose work has been produced across the country. Her plays include *Enter Ghost*, an immersive haunted Hamlet experience (co-written with Steve Moulds, for Kentucky Shakespeare); *Lawbreakers!* (a fast and furious history of women's suffrage) (StageOne Family Theatre); *The Patron Saint of Losing Sleep* (Actor's Theatre of Charlotte); *River City* (National New Play Network); *...Ghost Party* (Cleveland Play House); and the bilingual musicals *The City Dog* and *the Prairie Dog*, *Casa Alfonsa*, and *The Guava Tree / El Guayabo* (co-written with composer Emiliano Messiez, for Creede Repertory Theatre). Currently she's at work on *Vanessa in Bed*, an audio-play for Audible Theatre. Diana has been a Michener Fellow, a Kentucky Arts Council Fellow, and a Writer in Residence at Vanderbilt University. She holds an MFA in Playwriting from the University of Texas at Austin and a BA in Theatre Arts from the University of Iowa. She teaches dramatic writing at Ball State University. Find out more at dianagrisanti.com.



JANINE NABERS

Annie Bosh is Missing

JANINE NABERS is an Emmy nominated tv writer and is in an overall deal at Amazon Studios. She has been named one of Adweek's Creative 100 in 2023. Most recently, *SWARM*, the culturally buzzy series she co-created and Executive Produces with Donald Glover debuted on the streamer. She is developing a series with Prentice Penny at HBO, executive producing *QUILLS* with Rob Williams and Javier Bardem at Searchlight, developing *SYD* at Annapurna as well as a project with Lucky Chap at Amazon. Janine was a Co-Executive Producer writing on seasons 3 and 4 of *ATLANTA* on FX. Other credits include HBO's *WATCHMEN* for which she won a WGA Award, Co-Executive Producer on *AWAY* for Netflix, and Marti Noxon's *DIETLAND* for AMC, *UNREAL* for Lifetime, and all five seasons of *GIRLFRIEND'S GUIDE TO DIVORCE* at Bravo. Janine won the Yale Drama Series prize from over 1,600 entries from around the world for her play *SERIAL BLACK FACE*. A native of Houston, Texas, Janine is a graduate of the Lila Acheson Wallace Playwriting Fellowship at Juilliard.



MADHURI SHEKAR

Love and Warcraft (Winner)

Madhuri Shekar is a playwright and screenwriter. Winning the 2013/14 Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting award kickstarted her theater career, starting with her first professional production of *In Love and Warcraft* on the Hertz Stage. Since then her plays have been produced across the country and internationally, including three world premiere commissions by the Alliance Theater - *Antigone*, presented by the girls of St. Catherines (2015), *A Bucket of Blessings* (2016 - Suzi Bass winner) and *The Incredible Book Eating Boy* (2022). Her other plays include *Evil Eye* (audio drama on Audible), *House of Joy*, *A Nice Indian Boy* (soon to be a movie starring Jonathan Groff and Karan Soni) and *Queen*. She got her MFA at USC, and is an alumna of the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program at Juilliard. She is currently a playwriting fellow at New Dramatists. Film & TV work: She wrote the Amazon/Blumhouse feature *EVIL EYE* produced by Priyanka Chopra Jonas and starring Sarita Choudhury, based on her Audible original audio drama. Her TV credits include the upcoming series adaptation of *THREE BODY PROBLEM* for Netflix, executive produced by David Benioff and D.B. Weiss, Alex Woo, and Rian Johnson, and the HBO fantasy epic *THE NEVERS*. She worked on *SISTER ACT 3* for Disney, and has multiple pilots in development. She lives in Jersey City with her husband and two adorable little boys.



LINDSEY FERRENTINO

Magic Man

Lindsey Ferrentino is a prolific playwright who writes with, according to *The New York Times*, "a muscular empathy which seeks to enter the minds of people for whom life is often a struggle of heroic proportions." Whether writing about a female burn survivor or the first leading role for a person with Down Syndrome, Lindsey has been called, "a brave playwright of dauntless conviction whose unflinching portraits are hard to come by outside of journalism."

Her produced plays include *Ugly Lies the Bone* (Roundabout Theatre Company, The National Theatre, UK, NYT Critics Pick), the "barrier breaking" *Amy and the Orphans* (Roundabout Theatre Company), *This Flat Earth* (Playwrights Horizons), and *The Year to Come* (La Jolla Playhouse). She is currently under commission from Roundabout, Manhattan Theatre Club, and South Coast Rep. She is writing the book on a number of new musicals: *The Queen of Versailles* with music and lyrics by Stephen Schwartz, starring Kristin Chenoweth; *The Artist*, based on the film by the same title, directed by Drew McConie.

Lindsey is also a screenwriter with various projects in development. Most recently announced, she is adapting and directing her play *Amy and the Orphans*, produced by Aggregate Pictures and the screenplay for the film *Not Fade Away*, for Annapurna Pictures. David O. Russell and John Krasinski are producing.

Lindsey is the recipient of the 2016 Kesselring Prize, Laurents/Hatcher Citation of Excellence, ASCAP Cole Porter Playwriting Prize, Paul Newman Drama Award, 2015 Kilroys List, finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn, Catalyst Award for Entertainment Industry Excellence, NYU Distinguished Young Alumna Award, nominated for the Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Award, and is the only two-time finalist for the Keneda Playwriting Prize. She holds a B.F.A. from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, and has two M.F.A.'s in playwriting from Hunter College and The Yale School of Drama.



ANDREW HINDERAKER

Colossal

Andrew Hinderaker is a Resident Playwright of Chicago Dramatists, an ensemble member of the Gift Theatre in Chicago, and a three-time Jeff Award Nominee. His plays include *I Am Going To Change The World*, *Dirty*, *Kingsville* and *Suicide, Incorporated*, which premiered at the Gift in 2010 and was subsequently produced Off-Broadway at the Roundabout Theatre. Hinderaker's newest play, *Colossal*, featuring a dance company, a drumline, and a fully-padded football team, was the recent recipient of multiple awards from the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Hinderaker has been hailed as "a hugely-exciting, risk-taking young writer" by the Chicago Tribune's Chris Jones, and as an author of "stupid, soapy melodrama" by a critic he'd prefer not acknowledge by name. His plays have been produced and/or developed by Manhattan Theatre Club, the Goodman Theatre, Steppenwolf, the Araca Group, the Alliance Theatre, *Mixed Blood*, No Rules Theatre Company, Victory Gardens, *Rattlestick*, Stage Left, and several others. He currently holds commission from the Roundabout Theatre Company and Marc Platt Productions, and recently completed his M.F.A. in Playwriting at the University of Texas in Austin. Hinderaker is a member of the 2013-2014 Playwrights' Unit at the Goodman Theatre.



Photo: Joe Mazza (Brave Lux)

JACOB JUNTUNEN

In the Shadow of His Language

Before Jacob Juntunen was a father heading the playwriting MFA at SIU and living in St. Louis, he was a 1970s kid in California watching PBS puppets. In the 1990s, Jacob was a high school dropout making sandwiches at a deli in Portland. The teachers at Clackamas Community College and Edward Albee saved him, and he got degrees from Reed College and Northwestern. In 1998 he saw a VHS tape of Tadeusz Kantor's theatre with mannequins and he's lived in Poland repeatedly to understand it. Now he collaborates with his students a bunch, and he founded Contraband Theatre in 2016. His plays include *See You in a Minute* (a comedic pandemic play set in 2041), *18 Months After November*, *Hath Taken Away* (the Book of Job in the modern Midwest), *In the Shadow of His Language* (his vexed feelings about academia), *Joan's Laughter* (a kick-ass play about Joan of Arc!), and his most-produced shorts, *No Winter No Worries* (funny), and *Saddam's Lions* (not funny). Jacob's work has been supported by Alliance Theatre, Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center (for puppets!!), Great Plains Theatre Conference, Last Frontier Theatre Conference, Sewanee Writers' Conference, a Fulbright, the NEH, Krakow's International Cultural Center, the Illinois Arts Council, and more. Jacob loves dramaturgs and has worked with Martine Kei Green-Rogers, Heather Helinsky, and Dan Smith. His plays and scholarship have been published by Routledge and Vintage. You can read his plays on New Play Exchange. His website has too many words, but, what can you do? He's a writer.

www.jacobjuntunen.com



Photo: Antonio De Lucci

C. QUINTANA

Scissoring

C. QUINTANA, or CQ (pronouns: she/any), is a queer writer with Cuban and New Orleans roots based on Canarsee and Munsee Lenape land in Cypress Hills, Brooklyn. CQ's plays and musicals have been developed and produced nationwide. *Scissoring* (once a finalist for the 10th Annual Alliance-Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Award) received its world premiere at INTAR in New York City in 2018 and is now available via Dramatists Play Service. This past summer, CQ's Audible Emerging Playwrights Fund audio play *The 126-Year-Old Artist*, directed by Estefanía Fadul, premiered on Audible and is now available via the platform. CQ's television writing credits include AMC's upcoming *Orphan Black: Echoes*, ABC's *The Baker and the Beauty*, and the second season of Fox's *Alert: Missing Persons Unit*. She is the recipient of grants and fellowships from New York State Council on the Arts (NYSCA), Café Royal Cultural Foundation (for her novel-in-progress, *The Twisted Fate of La Media Luna*), MacDowell, Playwrights Realm, Van Lier/New Voices at The Lark, CubaOne, Lambda Literary, and Queer|Art, as well as commissions from the Carthage College New Play Initiative, The Kennedy Center, The Civilians, Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Project, and more. CQ holds an MFA in Playwriting from Columbia University and is a proud member of the Writers Guild of America East. For more, visit cquintana.com or [@cquintanatown](https://twitter.com/cquintanatown)



TSEHAYE GERALYN HEBERT

The C.A. Lyons Project (Winner)

Tsehaye GERALYN Hébert is a self-described "bona fide gumbo girl." The nationally acclaimed playwright triaged between her grandparents' rural Louisiana family seat, her Baton Rouge birthplace, and her mother's beloved New Orleans. Steeped in her African-Creole culture, she relishes quiet world-changing moments that live on stage alongside the hyperbole and spectacle of Mardi Gras. With a rich polyglot larger-than-life-world full of music, dance, activism, and storytelling, there's no wonder Hébert found her way to the theater.

The Northwestern University and School of the Art Institute of Chicago alum penned *The Chicago Quartet*, a series of works set across 19th and 20th century Chicago. Fearless in scope, Hébert's work is highly imaginative and might include Lucy Parsons, Ida B. Wells, Jane Addams, Chicago's Black avant-garde arts communities, or the lady sitting next to her at the salon.

The citizen artist is committed to inclusivity and sustainability. Hébert's writings and performances center race, gender, disability, and the economics and geography of making art. She brings communities and demographics together to grieve, heal, celebrate, and move boldly forward.



KIMBERLY BARRANTE

An Alien in Inwood

Kimberly Barrante is the geeky offspring of a chemist and a librarian. She began her career as a playwright in New York City, after receiving a BA from Emerson College. She received her MFA in Dramatic Writing at Tisch NYU before moving to Los Angeles. Her award-winning screenplay *CELERITAS* was on the Annual Black List in 2014. It was later performed on *The Black List Table Reads Podcast* in 2015. Kim completed a feature-writing fellowship at Lionsgate Studios in 2016. She has gone on to work in both features and television. Her pilot, *SEDNA*, was recently optioned to Universal Content Productions. *Composition 8* is attached to produce.

As a copywriter, she has written explainer videos and marketing for Hyperscience and LEGO®. She has also worked as a storyboard artist, storyboarding both live action and animated videos for Hyperscience, Pitney Bowes, Steel Series, and LEGO®. She is attracted to companies that are fair trade, environmentally conscious, embrace diversity, and are cruelty free. She likes brands with a sense of humor, but also heart.



MICHAEL YATES CROWLEY

Evanston: A Rare Comedy

Michael Yates Crowley is a writer and performer whose work has been produced in New York, Chicago, Los Angeles, Berlin, Edinburgh, and elsewhere. His works for theater include *Block Association Project* (Humana Festival premiere); *The Rape of the Sabine Women*, by Grace B Matthias (Playwrights Realm at The Duke on 42nd Street), *Song of a Convalescent Ayn Rand...* (Joe's Pub at the Public Theater), *Evanston: A Rare Comedy* (O'Neill National Playwrights Conference selection), and *TEMPING*, which has been performed over 1,000 times at venues including Lincoln Center, American Repertory Theater, and three sold-out runs at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Together with the director Michael Rau, he founded the narrative technology company Wolf 359. Honors: New York Foundation for the Arts Playwriting fellowship, Playwrights Realm Page One residency, Soho Rep Writer/Director Lab, Ars Nova Play Group, Millay Colony residency, Academy of Theater and Digitality 2024 Fellowship (Germany). Education: Lila Acheson Wallace Playwrights Program at Juilliard.



EMILY DENDINGER

Pocketful of Sand

Emily Dendinger is a New York-based writer by way of Virginia. Her plays include *No Home for Bees* (2017 Source Festival Finalist), *Little House in the Big City* (2017 NNPB Showcase Finalist), and *Pocketful of Sand* (winner of the 2016 Activate Midwest New Play Award and 2015 Alliance/Keneda finalist). She is a two-time winner of Theater Masters and has been a finalist for the City Theatre National Award, Ingram New Works Lab at Nashville Rep, 2017 Emerald Prize, Playwrights Center Core Apprenticeship, and Heideman Award. Emily has worked around the country with companies including The Acting Company, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Route 66, The Lark, Sideshow Theatre, The Alliance, NNPB, Curious Theatre Company, NJ Rep, Orlando Shakes, Ashland New Play Festival, and TimeLine Theatre. Her work has been developed at The Perry Mansfield Festival of New York, Durango New Play Festival, and Tofte Lake Residency. Emily was a 2015-2016 NNPB Playwright-in-Resident, and is an alumni member of TimeLine's Writers Collective and an NNPB affiliate artist. She currently has a pilot in development with Glickmania. MFA: University of Iowa



GEORGETTE KELLY

Ballast

Georgette Kelly is a playwright with one foot in Chicago and the other in New York. Her work has been produced across the country, and she has participated in numerous artistic residencies, including the 2018-2019 Goodman Playwrights Unit. Her play *I CARRY YOUR HEART* received the inaugural Hope on Stage Playwriting Award, accompanied by a rolling world premiere, and *BALLAST* was featured on The Kilroys List and received the Craig Noel Award for Outstanding New Play. Other plays include: *NORTH STAR*, *FAITH IN A FALLEN WORLD*, *IN THE BELLY OF THE WHALE*, *F*CK LA VIE D'ARTISTE*, *HOW TO HERO*, and an adaptation of Jeanette Winterson's *LIGHTHOUSEKEEPING*. Georgette's work has been developed with The Kennedy Center, The National New Play Network, The DC Source Festival, The Alliance Theatre, Diversionary Theatre, and Chicago's DCASE. She is a resident playwright at Chicago Dramatists, a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, and she has participated in residencies at the Tofte Lake Center, the National Winter Playwrights Retreat, and terraNOVA Groundbreakers Playwrights Group. She has been chosen as a finalist for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, the Lark Playwrights Week, the Playwrights' Center CORE Writer Program, the BPP Woodward/Newman Drama Award, the Stage Left Playwright Residency, and the Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition. Georgette holds a B.A. in Performance Studies from Northwestern University and an M.F.A. in Playwriting from Hunter College, where she studied with Tina Howe, Arthur Kopit, and Mark Bly.



ELEANOR BURGESS

Start Down (Winner)

Eleanor Burgess's new play, *Galilee*, 34, will have its world premiere this Spring at South Coast Rep. Her previous plays, including *The Niceties*, *Wife of a Salesman*, *Chill*, *Sparks Fly Upward*, and Keneda winner *Start Down*, have been produced at theaters across America, including Manhattan Theatre Club, Geffen Playhouse, McCarter Theatre Center, and the Huntington Theatre Company, Writers Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Geva Theatre Center and Merrimack Rep, as well as the Finborough Theatre in London. Eleanor has been a member of the Dorothy Strelsin New American Writers Group at Primary Stages, Page 73's writers' group Interstate 73, The Civilians' R&D Group, and New York Theatre Workshop's 2050 Fellowship. She has also written for film and television, including work on *Perry Mason* for HBO, *WeCrashed* for Apple TV+, and *Interview With The Vampire* for AMC. Originally from Massachusetts, she studied history at Yale College and Dramatic Writing at NYU/Tisch.



WILL ARBERY

The Confession

Will Arbery is a playwright and screenwriter. His play *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* premiered at Playwrights Horizons in 2019 and was a Pulitzer Prize Finalist, OBIE winner, Lortel winner, New York Drama Critics Circle Award winner, and was named one of the best plays of the year by *The New York Times*, *Vulture*, *Time Out*, and more. Other plays include: *Corsicana* (Playwrights Horizons), *Evanston Salt Costs Climbing* (The New Group), *Plano* (Clubbed Thumb), and *Wheelchair* (3 Hole Press). He was the recipient of a Whiting Award in 2020. TV: *Succession* and *Irma Vep*. His work has been featured in *The Paris Review*, and his plays are currently available from Concord Theatricals and TCG Books. He's currently under commission from The Metropolitan Opera, Manhattan Theatre Club, and Audible. willarbery.com



HILARY BETTIS

Ghost of Lote Bravo

Hilary Bettis is a critically-acclaimed playwright whose work has been developed and produced all over the country including, Roundabout Theatre, New Georges, The Sol Project, Miami New Drama, Studio Theatre, Alley Theatre, New York Theatre Workshop, La Jolla Playhouse, amongst others. Accolades include, Egerton Foundation New Play Awards, National Endowment for the Arts Grant, and a finalist for the Blackburn Prize, Keneda Award, Nuestras Voces National Playwriting Competition, American Blues Theater's Blue Ink Award, amongst others. In television Bettis won the 2019 Writer's Guild of America Award for her work on the critically acclaimed, Golden Globe and Emmy Award winning FX series "The Americans." She wrote for the Hulu miniseries "The Dropout," starring Kate McKinnon, and Amazon's "Rodeo Queens" starring Dakota Johnson and Fred Armisen. She's an alumni of the Sundance Institute Episodic TV Lab, and is developing projects for AMC, Hulu, and PatMa. She's a graduate of The Juilliard School. Proud member of The Kilroys and WGAEast. She lives in Brooklyn, NY with her husband, two cats, and a tiny tiny human that cries a lot. She is represented by CAA and Grandview. www.HilaryBettisWriter.com



NINA BRADDOCK

Wishbone

Nina Braddock is a NY-based playwright and television writer who is currently on strike. Before that, she was a Co-Executive Producer on 'The Untitled Ava Duvernay, Joshua Jackson and Lauren Ridloff Project' for Starz. Previously she served as Executive Producer on 'The Sinner' (USA), a Co-Executive Producer for 'Saint X' (Hulu), a writer/producer on 'Servant' (Apple), and wrote on 'The Bell Jar' (Showtime), 'Brave New World' (Peacock), and 'Berlin Station' (Epix). Her play UNTITLED BABY PLAY received its world premiere at IAMA Theater Company at Atwater Village Theater in Spring 2022. She has developed plays with Clubbed Thumb, where she was a member of the 2016/17 Early Career Writers' Group. She was awarded a 2016/17 Sloan Commission by Manhattan Theatre Club to write UNLUCKY NUMBER: a play following three patients as they undergo a clinical study testing the relative efficacy of medication and exposure therapy for treatment of Obsessive Compulsive Disorder. Her play WISHBONE was a finalist for the 2016 Alliance/Keneda Graduate National Playwriting Award, the Bay Area Play Festival, the Playwrights Realm fellowship and Interstate 73. She received an MFA in Dramatic Writing at Tisch where she was awarded the John Golden Playwriting Prize.



Photo: Zackary Canepari

JEN SILVERMAN

All the Roads Home

Jen Silverman is a playwright, novelist, and screenwriter.

Plays include: Spain (2ST); The Moors (Yale Rep, Playwrights Realm); Collective Rage: A Play in 5 Betties (Woolly Mammoth, MCC Theater, Southwark Playhouse London); The Roommate (Humana Festival, Williamstown, Steppenwolf, South Coast, Long Wharf, etc); Witch (Writer's Theatre, Geffen, Huntington), and Highway Patrol (The Goodman). Jen's plays have been produced internationally in Australia, the UK, the Czech Republic, Switzerland, Brazil, Spain, and elsewhere.

Books include the debut novel We Play Ourselves (named one of the best books of the year by BuzzFeed; a finalist for the Lambda Literary Award), story collection The Island Dwellers (finalist for a PEN/Robert W. Bingham Prize), and new novel There's Going to be Trouble forthcoming from Random House in April 2024. Jen's poetry chapbook Bath was selected by Traci Brimhall for Driftwood Press. Additional work has appeared in Vogue, The Paris Review, Ploughshares, The Sun, The Yale Review, and elsewhere.

Silverman is a three-time MacDowell Fellow, a member of New Dramatists, and a Scholar of Note at the American Library in Paris. Silverman wrote The Miranda Obsession as a narrative podcast for Audible, starring Rachel Brosnahan. Jen also writes for TV and film, including Tales of the City (Netflix) and Tokyo Vice (HBO/Max). Honors include fellowships from the New York Foundation for the Arts, the Lower Manhattan Cultural Council, the National Endowment for the Arts and the Guggenheim.



MANSA RA

Too Heavy for My Pocket (Winner)

MANSA RA is an Afro-Futurist writer who brings a soulful new voice to the American Theatre. His plays are poetic reflections of Black life in the American South. From his award winning debut *Too Heavy for Your Pocket* to his latest play ... what the end will be which was hailed by *The New York Times* as "everything that is meant when we say that Black lives matter."

His other plays include *In the Southern Breeze*, *Shutter Sisters*, and *The Dancing Granny*. Ra's screen credits include NBC's *New Amsterdam* and Tyler Perry's *Ruthless*. He is currently commissioned by *The Roundabout Theater* and *Alabama Shakespeare Festival*. He has won numerous prizes and awards including the Alliance/Keneda National Competition. He has commissions with *Hattiloo Theatre*, *Alabama Shakespeare Festival*, the *Old Globe Theatre*, *Manhattan Theatre Club*, and the *Roundabout Theatre Company*. He was educated at *Morehouse College* and *Spelman College* before earning an M.F.A. in Playwriting from the *Geffen School of Drama* at *Yale*. He also taught theater studies and creative writing for the *Playwriting Center* at *Emory University*. He currently lives in *Memphis* where he writes at sunset on the *Mississippi River*.



EMILY FELDMAN

Lover in Tableau

Emily Feldman is a playwright living in *New York City*. Emily's play, *THE BEST WE COULD* (a family tragedy), premiered at *Manhattan Theatre Club* in 2023, directed by *Daniel Aukin*. It received an *Edgerton New Play Award*, and Emily served as the *Tow-Playwright in Residence* at *Manhattan Theatre Club* from 2019-2020. Emily's work has been generously supported by *MacDowell*, *The Jerome Foundation*, *The Kilroys*, *SPACE on Ryder Farm*, *Page 73*, *The Ground Floor* at *Berkeley Rep*, *The Playwrights Center*, *The Kennedy Center's Paula Vogel Award*, *The Broadway Women's Fund*, *The New Harmony Project*, *New York Stage and Film*, *Montana Rep*, *Actors Theatre of Louisville*, *Roundabout Theatre Company*, and other theaters and development organizations. Emily is working on new play commissions from *Manhattan Theatre Club* and *Playwrights Horizons* and a TV project with *AMC/Dwight Street Books*. She is a proud member of the *WGA*. She's an alum of *Middlebury College*, *UC San Diego*, and *The Juilliard School*.



LINDSEY FERRENTINO

Moonlight on the Bayou

Lindsey Ferrentino is a prolific playwright who writes with, according to *The New York Times*, "a muscular empathy which seeks to enter the minds of people for whom life is often a struggle of heroic proportions." Whether writing about a female burn survivor or the first leading role for a person with *Down Syndrome*, Lindsey has been called, "a brave playwright of dauntless conviction whose unflinching portraits are hard to come by outside of journalism." Her produced plays include *Ugly Lies the Bone* (*Roundabout Theatre Company*, *The National Theatre, UK*, *NYT Critics Pick*), the "barrier breaking" *Amy and the Orphans* (*Roundabout Theatre Company*), *This Flat Earth* (*Playwrights Horizons*), and *The Year to Come* (*La Jolla Playhouse*). She is currently under commission from *Roundabout*, *Manhattan Theatre Club*, and *South Coast Rep*. She is writing the book on a number of new musicals: *The Queen of Versailles* with music and lyrics by *Stephen Schwartz*, starring *Kristin Chenoweth*; *The Artist*, based on the film by the same title, directed by *Drew McConie*.

Lindsey is also a screenwriter with various projects in development. Most recently announced, she is adapting and directing her play *Amy and the Orphans*, produced by *Aggregate Pictures* and the screenplay for the film *Not Fade Away*, for *Annapurna Pictures*. *David O. Russell* and *John Krasinski* are producing. Lindsey is the recipient of the *2016 Kesselring Prize*, *Laurents/Hatcher Citation of Excellence*, *ASCAP Cole Porter Playwriting Prize*, *Paul Newman Drama Award*, *2015 Kilroys List*, finalist for the *Susan Smith Blackburn*, *Catalyst Award for Entertainment Industry Excellence*, *NYU Distinguished Young Alumna Award*, nominated for the *Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Award*, and is the only two-time finalist for the *Keneda Playwriting Prize*. She holds a *B.F.A.* from *New York University's Tisch School of the Arts*, and has two *M.F.A.'s* in playwriting from *Hunter College* and *The Yale School of Drama*.



BENNETT FISHER

Borealis

Bennett Fisher is an award-winning playwright and screenwriter. His plays include *Shelter*, *Candlestick*, *Damascus* (Samuel Goldwyn Award, O'Neill Conference finalist), *Borealis* (Alliance/Keneda Prize finalist), *Don't Be Evil*, *Campo Maldito*, and the immersive theatrical experience *The Speakeasy*. Other immersive projects include private events for First Person Travel and content for *The Unreal Garden*, presented at the 2019 E3 Conference. He is currently developing film and television projects with Bill Mechanic (former CEO of Fox), Simon West (*Con Air*, *Laura Croft: Tomb Raider*), Constantin Films (the *Resident Evil* franchise), Atar Studios, and more. In addition to his creative work, Bennett has designed and taught storytelling seminars for Airbnb's Product Team and works with private clients as a communication and writing coach.

Bennett's theatrical work has been presented and produced by the Magic Theater, the House Theater of Chicago, Strawdog Theater Company, Kansas City Repertory, Bay Area Playwrights Festival, La Jolla Playhouse's WOW Festival, Oregon Contemporary Theater, the Alliance Theater, the Kennedy Center MFA Playwrights Workshop, Florida Repertory Theater, the Martin E. Segel Center, Burbage Theater Company, People of Interest, Campo Santo, Oakland Theater Project, Theater Emory, the Unicorn Theater, Sleepwalkers Theater, New Conservatory, the Cutting Ball Theater, Custom Made Theatre Company, and others.

Bennett is currently a resident playwright at Playwright's Foundation, a company member of Campo Santo, and a former Shank Fellow and Associate Artist at Victory Gardens Theatre in Chicago.

Bennett is professionally represented by the Gersh Agency and source management + production. He received his MFA in playwriting from UC San Diego.



MORA HARRIS

SpaceGirl

Mora V. Harris is a playwright and educator based in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Since being selected as a finalist for the Alliance/Keneda Award in 2016, her alien comedy *SPACE GIRL* has received 26 productions in schools, colleges, and community and professional theaters throughout the United States, including *The Weird Sisters Theater Project* (Atlanta) and *The National Women's Theatre Festival* (Raleigh). It is published by Playscripts Inc., alongside *MIRCALLA*—a TYA adaptation of the gothic vampire novel *Carmilla*, and her contributions to two ten-minute play anthologies for teens. She is a founding member of the Pittsburgh Public Theater's Playwrights Collective and her work has also received development and support through City Theatre Company, The Hangar Theatre, the Sewanee Writers' Conference, Pittsburgh Opera, the Greater Pittsburgh Arts Council, and the Kennedy Center's Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center Fellowship. She was a two-time National Finalist for the Kennedy Center's John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play for her plays *BOXED IN* and *ONDINE'S CURSE*, and a Second Place winner of the Alfred P. Sloan Script Competition for her screenplay, *EGGHEAD GENIUS*. Recent productions include *INDOOR CATS* (Red Theater) and *THE ASTRONOTS* (Bloomsburg University). She holds a B.A. in Creative Writing and Theater from Oberlin College and an M.F.A. in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University. She teaches Middle School Literary Arts at Pittsburgh CAPA 6-12, and is Pittsburgh's Regional Co-Representative for the Dramatist Guild.



Photo: Matthew Dunivan
Photography

ALIX SOBLER

Sheltered (Winner)

Alix Sobler is a writer of theater, podcasts, television, and film based in New York City. Her plays have been read or produced at theaters around the world, including the The Alliance Theater (Atlanta, GA), Theater J (Washington D.C.), Theatre Lab at FAU (Boca Raton, FL), Roundabout Theatre Company (New York, NY), The Kennedy Center (Washington, D.C.), South Coast Repertory (Costa Mesa, CA), The Finborough Theatre (London, UK), Segal Centre (Montreal QC), Fiasco Theater Company (New York, NY), The Stratford Shakespeare Festival (Stratford, ON), Royal Manitoba Theatre Centre (Winnipeg, MB), Gulfshore Playhouse (Naples, FL), and others. Her plays have won and been finalists for multiple awards including the 2018 Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition, the Canadian Jewish Playwriting Competition, The Gulfshore Playhouse New Play Series, the Columbia@Roundabout New Play Contest, the National Playwrights Conference at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center (finalist), the Henley Rose Playwriting Competition (finalist), and the Jane Chambers Award (runner-up), among others. She is a graduate of Brown University and received her MFA in playwriting from Columbia University, where she was honored to study with David Henry Hwang, Lynn Nottage and Charles Mee, among others. She is also passionate about teaching playwriting and theater to up-and-coming artists, hobbyists, children, and anyone interested in expressing themselves.



TEARRANCE ARVELLE CHISHOLM

Anacostia Street Lions

Tearrance most recently presented his new play *Black Dick* at the 2019 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. Last season Tearrance premiered *P.Y.G.* at Studio Theater as both playwright and director; the play has previously been developed at the Magic Theater's Virgin Play Festival and at Julliard. He won a Helen Hayes award (the Charles MacArthur Award for Outstanding Original New Play or Musical) for his play *Hooded: Or Being Black for Dummies*, which premiered and was revived at Mosaic Theater.

Tearrance has developed new works with Signature Theatre, Theatre J, Theatre Alliance, and The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. He has held residencies at The Bay Area Playwrights Festival, The Virginia Center for Creative Arts, Djerassi Resident Artists Program and The Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. He was a finalist for the Inaugural Relentless Award and the Theatre 503 Playwriting Award. Tearrance received two of the 2016 National KCACTF awards, the Rosa Parks Playwriting Award and the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award. Tearrance was a part of the Pacific Playwrights Festival at South Coast Rep with his play *Anacostia Street Lions*. He developed the play *Black Lady Authority* under the auspices of the Sundance Theater Lab. Tearrance holds an MFA in Playwriting from the Catholic University of America. He is a recent graduate from the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program at Julliard, and is a former Sundance Institute and Time Warner Foundation Fellow, and 2050 Fellow at New York Theater Workshop.



LEO MCGANN

The Honey Trap

LEO MCGANN is a playwright from Belfast. He began writing with Tinderbox Theatre Company through their Fireworks Young Writers group, and was also part of the Royal Court's Young Writers Programme and Studio Group in London. Awards include National Partners of the American Theatre Playwriting Excellence Award in 2016, and the Kennedy Center's Harold and Mimi Steinberg National Student Playwriting Award in 2018. He was a finalist for the 2017-2018 Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Award and a nominee for the Rolex Mentor and Protégé Arts Initiative. His play *The Honey Trap* was produced as a workshop production at Boston Playwrights' Theatre in 2017. He co-wrote TV/web drama *Backstage Story* for BBC, where he has also worked as an Assistant Producer. He has a BA in Modern History from Oxford and an MFA in Playwriting from Boston University. He is the recipient of a 2017-2018 BAFTA Los Angeles Scholarship. He has taught Creative Writing at Boston University.



TORI SAMPSON

Where Butterflies Go in Winter

Tori Sampson, a native of Boston, MA, is proud to be from "The City of Champions" and even prouder to be a human rights activist and Black Woman storyteller. By introducing her daughter to the genius that was Carroll O'Connor, Tori's mother opened her eyes to the art and power of comedy for "goodness sake". And it was on and poppin' from there. Today, Tori focuses her imagination on creating comedies for the stage. Her plays include *This Land Was Made* (Vineyard Theatre, 2023), *If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must be a Muhfucka* (Playwrights Horizons, 2019), and *Cadillac Crew* (Yale Repertory Theatre, 2019). Her plays have been developed at Great Plains Theatre Conference, Berkeley Repertory Theatre's The Ground Floor residency program, Victory Garden's IGNITION Festival of New Plays, Playwrights Foundation, Ubuntu Festival and Vineyard Theater. Tori is a 2017-18 Playwright's Center Jerome Fellow and a 2018-19 McKnight Fellow. Two of her plays appeared on the 2017 Kilroys List. Her awards and honors include the 2016 Relentless Award, Honorable Mention; the 2016 Paula Vogel Award in Playwriting from The Kennedy Center; the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, Second Place; the Alliance Theater's 2017 Keneda Prize, Finalist; the 2018 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, Finalist. Tori is currently working on commissions from Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Yale Repertory Theatre, and Atlantic Theater Company. She holds a BS in sociology from Ball State University and an MFA in playwriting from Yale School of Drama.



KORDE ARRINGTON TUTTLE

Graveyard Shift

Korde Arrington Tuttle (Playwright) is a multi-disciplinary artist from Charlotte, NC. His work has been seen at Ojai Playwrights Conference, The Fire This Time Festival, HomeBase Theatre Collective, The Movement Theatre Company, 2015's AfroFuturism Conference and The Tenth Magazine. Tuttle is a recipient of the Steinberg Playwriting Fellowship and a finalist for both 2017 Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Contest and City Theatre National Award for Short Playwriting Contest. Film credits include *Them: Covenant* and *Mix Tape*. Tuttle is a current playwright-in-residence at Lincoln Center Theater and a Middle Voice Theatre Company Member at Rattlestick Playwright's Theater. He received his MFA from The New School.



B.J. TINDAL

Goodnight, Tyler (Winner)

B.J. Tindal (they/them) is a Black queer playwright, teaching artist, and sour candy enthusiast. B.J. spends their creative time writing plays, poetry, and lists on lists on lists. They recently moved back to their hometown of Philadelphia after completing their MFA in Writing for the Screen and Stage at Northwestern University. Since moving back to the city, B.J. has been working with a number of organizations devoted to arts-Education, including Philly Young Playwrights and After-School Activities Partnerships as well as creating their own workshops designed to encourage writing-confidence for elementary school students. B.J.'s play *Goodnight, Tyler* received its world premiere in February 2019 at the Alliance Theater and has been published by Samuel French/Concord Theatricals in Fall 2020. Their other play, *What We Look Like*, had its inaugural production at Oberlin College's new Irene and Alan Wurtzel Theater also in February 2019. B.J. is an alum of PYP (2009) and is THRILLED to be back working for the organization that is responsible for their love of Playwriting.



KARINA BILLINI

Faded: A Calypso

Karina Billini is a Dominican-American playwright, poet, and educator from Brooklyn. Karina completed her undergraduate degree in playwriting at Marymount Manhattan College and received her MFA in Playwriting from The New School for Drama. She is a proud alum of the New Harmony Project Conference, Ensemble Studio Theatre's Youngblood, Pipeline PlayLab, Gingold Theatrical Group's Speaker's Corner, among others. Her plays have been workshoped and/or produced at Alliance Theatre, Williamstown Theatre Festival, New Harmony Project, Fault Line Theatre, Teatro Vivo, among others. Her play, *APPLE BOTTOM* is a recipient of the Ensemble Studio Theatre/Alfred P. Sloan Foundation commission and recent finalist for the 2023 Eugene O'Neill National Playwriting Conference. Her other plays include: *2144 SOUTH ST* (Barrington Stage's Bonnie and Terry Berman's New Play Award Finalist), *FADED* (Williamstown/Alliance/Keneda Finalist), *BECOMING LUCY* (EST/Teatro Vivo), and *ALL THE HELIUM HEARTS OVER BELT PARKWAY* (EST.). She is a Lila Acheson Wallace American playwriting fellow at The Juilliard School. www.karinabillini.com



MARY KAMITAKI

Southernmost

Mary is a New York-based playwright born and raised on the Big Island of Hawaii. Her plays have been produced by Playwrights' Arena and developed at the Alliance Theatre, A Noise Within, Open Fist Theatre Company, Pasadena Playhouse, Skylight Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre/LA, UCLA, and USC.

She is an alum of the New West playwrights' group at Ensemble Studio Theatre LA and is currently developing new work with the Interstate 73 playwrights' group at Page 73 in Brooklyn. Mary's work explores questions of identity and self-determination facing young people today, particularly mixed, queer girls who reinvent themselves to survive in transforming worlds.



SAM RILEY

Happy Hour

Sam Riley is a writer whose work has been featured in The Rumpus' Funny Women column, The McSweeney's Internet Tendency, and The Lifted Brow. She has an MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU, for which she received the Tisch School of the Arts Fellowship. Her play "HAPPY HOUR" was a finalist in the 2018 Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition.



MARISELA TREVIÑO ORTA

Shoe

Marisela Treviño Orta is an award-winning playwright, a graduate of the Iowa Playwrights Workshop, and a Playwrights' Center Affiliated Writer. A poet for many years, Marisela found her way to the playwriting while completing an MFA in Writing at the University of San Francisco where she studied poetry. Her produced plays include: A Place to Belong (2018 ACT's Young Conservatory); Braided Sorrow (2008 Su Teatro); Ghost Limb (2017 Brava Theatre); Heart Shaped Nebula (2015 Shotgun Players); Nightfall (2021 Audible); Return to Sender (2019 Nashville Children's Theatre); The River Bride (2016 Oregon Shakespeare Festival); Shoe: Somewhere (2020 Temple University); Wolf at the Door (2018 National New Play Network Rolling World Premiere); and Woman on Fire (2017 Camino Real Productions). Marisela is an alumna of Goodman Theatre's Playwrights Unit, the Playwrights Foundation's Resident Playwright Initiative, and a member of the Latinx Theatre Commons' national Steering Committee. Her awards include: 2006 Chicano/Latino Literary Prize in Drama; 2009 Pen Center USA Literary Award in Drama; 2013 National Latino Playwriting Award; 2016 Kilroys List; 2016 Latinidad Playwriting Award Runner-Up, The Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival; and 2019 Alliance/Keneda Finalist. Currently, Marisela is working on a new play called A Girl Grows Wings for the Latino Theater Company as part of their Circle of Imaginistas commissioning program and is collaborating with Organización Secreta Teatro of Mexico City to develop the piece.



Photo: Colin Usher

STEPH DEL ROSSO

53% Of (Winner)

Steph Del Rosso is a playwright, fiction writer, screenwriter, and educator. Her Alliance/Keneda award-winning play *53% OF* received its world premiere Off-Broadway at Second Stage Theater in 2022 and is published by Concord Theatricals. Her work has been produced or developed at The Public, La Jolla Playhouse, Studio Theatre, The Kennedy Center, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, JACK, Ojai Playwrights' Conference, Cape Cod Theatre Project, and others. She is a winner of the Steinberg Playwright Award and the Mississippi Review Prize in Fiction, a Core Writer at the Playwrights' Center, a 2023/2024 New Georges Audrey Resident, and a 2023 MacDowell Fellowship Recipient. Artist fellowships include: MacDowell (upcoming), the Bogliasco Foundation (upcoming), the Headlands Center for the Arts, and Willapa Bay. She lives in Brooklyn. stephdelrosso.com



LOGAN FAUST

Unkindness

Logan Faust is a Louisiana-born playwright, television writer, and actor who holds his Master of Fine Arts in Dramatic Writing from NYU Tisch. Before moving to New York, he lived in New Orleans, where he received his BA in Theatre Arts from Loyola University New Orleans. His play *Unkindness* is a finalist for the Alliance Theatre's Keneda Prize, and he currently works as a Writers PA for *Filthy Rich*, airing on FOX in January 2020.



AVA GEYER

Monster

Ava Geyer is a playwright and screenwriter based in Brooklyn, NY. She's a 2023 resident of SPACE on Ryder Farm, a member of Obie-winning writers group EST/Youngblood and under commission by La Jolla Playhouse. Past honors include Theater Masters' Visionary Award (2020) and Shank Residency at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater ('19-'20). She writes about tech, economics, sex, and female consciousness. Aaron Sorkin with a feminist heart. Plays include *Monster* (finalist, Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition), *B-Storm* (pub. by Concord Theatricals; winner, National MFA Playwrights Festival), *Death Cleaning* (Bloodworks Reading Series '23) and *Fruit Snacks* ("Hopeful Decade" event, Williamsburg, BK). Ava is an Artist Advocate for Healing TREE, a mental health nonprofit dedicated to promoting trauma-focused therapy. Generally regarded as the most promising young writer to emerge from her Crown Heights apartment. MFA: UC San Diego '19. BA: Princeton University '15.



CARY SIMOWITZ

Djarum Vanilla

Cary Simowitz (He/Him/His) is a playwright and lawyer hailing from Coral Springs, Florida, currently serving as the Dramatists Guild Regional Ambassador for St. Louis. He recently graduated from UCLA's School of Theater, Film, and Television with his Master of Fine Arts in Playwriting. He is the author of five full-length plays, three one acts, and several ten minute pieces, in addition to multiple works of poetry and short fiction. He received his Bachelor of Arts in English and Psychology from Washington University in St. Louis in 2013. Following undergraduate school, he received his Juris Doctor from Washington University School of Law in 2016, and is licensed to practice law in Missouri and New York.

Cary's plays have collectively garnered him modest recognition in over two-dozen competitions across the country. His play, *Djarum Vanilla*, was developed at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts in Washington DC in August of 2018 as part of their MFA New Play Festival. It went on to receive the Kennedy Center's 2019 Rosa Parks Award for "Distinguished Achievement," and was developed at the Alliance Theater in Atlanta Georgia as a 2019-2020 Alliance/Keneda finalist play. It was later incorporated into the middle school English literature curriculum at the KIPP School in the Bronx. His UCLA thesis play, *A Wolf's Mother*, was produced at UCLA as part of its 2019 MFA New Play Festival, and was subsequently given a workshop production at the Garage Theater in Long Beach, California, as a winner of Pandora Production's 12th Annual New Works Festival. His most recent project, *All the Oxytocin in Your Fingertips*, which explores Deaf Culture in American society, was a finalist in the 2019 Tennessee Williams/ New Orleans Literary Festival. It achieved finalist status in the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's 2020 and 2021 National Playwrights Conference, and was the Grand Prize winning play at the 2021 FutureFest New Play Festival.



INNA TSYRLIN

Stitched with a Sickle and a Hammer

Inna Tsyrlin's work responds to society's responsibility to the natural environment, ideas of political freedom through the lens of historical and current events, and identity in a diaspora. She received a Graduate Fellowship (Ohio University) for *STITCHED WITH A SICKLE AND A HAMMER*, and the play was the 2019 Renaissance Theaterworks New Play Festival finalist (Milwaukee, WI) and 2020 Alliance/Keneda Playwriting Competition finalist (Atlanta, GA). Her work has been presented in New York City at The Rising Sun Performance Company (*TATTOO ON MY ARM*), Emerging Artists Theater, HB Playwrights Theatre, and Manhattan Repertory Theater. She holds a MFA in Playwriting (Ohio University) and is a member of the Dramatist Guild.



MATT LIBBY

Data (Winner)

Matthew Libby is a writer and actor based in Brooklyn, by way of Los Angeles. His play DATA won the Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Award, and was adapted as a digital production presented by the Tony-winning Alliance Theatre in May 2021, a production featured in a New York Times review of virtual theatre works that "clear a path toward continued innovation and growth of the form." Matt is a 2022-2023 Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellow, Theater Masters Visionary Playwright, Neukom Award winner, two-time Princess Grace Award finalist, three-time O'Neill Playwrights Conference semifinalist, and Blue Ink Playwriting Award featured finalist, and his work has been produced and developed by theaters across the country, including Alliance Theatre, Northern Stage, Pioneer Theatre Company, The Kennedy Center, National New Play Network, Theater Masters, The Barrow Group, The Road Theater Company, WNYU's Theatre-in-the-Sound, and others. With Stanford Repertory Theater, he helped devise and acted in THE MANY FACES OF FARCE, which was nominated for a 2018 Bay Area Critics Award for Best Production. As a TV writer, he is developing a pilot for Hulu with producer Beau Willimon, and his screenwriting work has been recognized by The Black List and Script Pipeline. Matt studied cognitive science and creative writing at Stanford University, and received his MFA in dramatic writing from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where he was awarded the Chair's Award for Distinguished Achievement. He is a proud member of the Writers Guild of America and the Dramatists Guild of America.



KAELA MEI-SHING GARVIN

Harpers Ferry 2019

Kaela Mei-Shing Garvin (they/she) is a writer, performer, educator, and new work advocate. Kaela's plays include Call Out Culture (2022 O'Neill NPC Finalist, 2021 NADIA Festival, 2019 Ars Nova's ANTFest), High School Coven (2023 Strand Theatre Baltimore Production, 2017 Corkscrew Festival), Harpers Ferry 2019 (2022 Know Theatre of Cincinnati production, 2021 Keneda/Alliance Competition finalist), and Tiger Beat (2021 Bay Area Playwrights Festival, 2021 Seven Devils Conference finalist). Kaela has received six Kennedy Center awards and has developed work with Gingold Theatrical Group, Exquisite Corpse Company, The Road's Under Construction Lab, the Coop's Clusterf*ck, Playground-NY, and Pipeline Theater Company's Playlab. Commissions include work with Yangtze Rep (Project YZ), EST/Sloan, Montana Repertory Theater, and College of the Holy Cross. Garvin is the Tank's 2022 & 2023 Pridefest curator and a founding member of Undiscovered Countries, a Brooklyn-based incubator of new interdisciplinary art. They worked on staff at the Sewanee Writers Conference and as the BAPF Season 45 Play Selection Advisor at the Playwrights Foundation. Kaela has taught playwriting at Cornish College of the Arts, Freehold Theatre, and Indiana University. They currently work as the Programming Associate for the Tank and the Literary Manager for Luna Stage in New Jersey. www.kaelameishingggarvin.com



JESSICA HUANG

Mother of Exiles

Jessica Huang is a playwright and librettist whose work includes: *Blended 和 (Harmony)*: The Kim Loo Sisters (with composer Jacinth Greywoode - World Premiere in spring 2024), *Mother of Exiles* (Venturous Award, NNPN Annual Showcase, Rosa Parks Playwriting Award, Paul Stephen Lim Playwriting Award, Keneda Prize Finalist), *The Paper Dreams of Harry Chin* (History Theatre, Indiana Repertory Theatre, San Francisco Playhouse, New York Stage and Film Powerhouse Season, Barry and Bernice Stavis Award, Kilroy's List), and *Transmissions in Advance of the Second Great Dying* (2022 EMOS Ecodrama prize). Her audioplay *Song of the Northwoods* is now available on Audible. She is developing an original television show with WBTV. She is a Venturous Playwright Fellow at the Playwrights' Center, and was the inaugural 4 Seasons Resident Playwright. She has received awards from the National Alliance for Musical Theatre, the National Theatre Conference, the Jerome Foundation, The Dramatists Guild, and The Bret Adams and Paul Reisch Foundation. She has developed work at Hedgebrook, The Hermitage, The MacDowell Colony, New Harmony Project, New York Stage and Film, and Space on Ryder Farm, among many others. She is a four-time Playwrights' Center fellow, and has been a member of Ars Nova Play Group, Civilians R&D Group, Two River Theatre's Emerging Writers Group and Page 73's Interstate 73. She is a graduate of the Playwrights Program at Juilliard. More: www.jessica-huang.com



KEYANNA KHATIBLOU

2020: a going away party play

Keyanna Khatiblou (she/her) likes dark comedies with good roles for women and frequently writes about queer female friendships, mental health, and the Iranian diaspora. She's been published by Samuel French, produced Off-Broadway as part of Theatre Masters National MFA Playwrights Festival, and was recently a finalist for the Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition. Her plays have been developed with Chicago companies including Theater on the Lake, the New Colony, About Face Youth Theater, Prop Thtr, the Jackalope Playwright's Lab, and the Chicago Women's Theater Alliance. She has been produced and commissioned three times by the Evanston Children's Theater to write female-focused adaptations of classic fairy tales and myths. Keyanna was selected for the Television Academy Foundation Internship Program and spent the summer of 2019 as an original programming development intern at Starz. MFA: Northwestern University.



Photo: Russ Rowland

JAY STULL

The Singularity Play

JAY STULL is a playwright, director, dramaturg, and teacher. He is a 2022 NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellow in Playwriting.

His plays include: *THE SINGULARITY PLAY* (Finalist for the Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition, Finalist for the Princess Grace Award; Finalist for Playwright's Week at The Lark), *THIS IS WHAT YOU SHALL DO* (Semi-finalist for the Clubbed Thumb Biennial), *UNDONE* (Winner of Columbia@Roundabout Prize), *ANTARABHAVA* (Barn Arts Residency), *STREEPSHOW!* (produced by The Tank at The Connelly Theater; Ars Nova's ANTFest; Dixon Place's HOT! Fest), *6 MO @ NH* (co-written with EllaRose Chary; The Civilians, Joe's Pub at The Public Theater; ArtLab at Harvard College), and *THE CAPABLES* (Anna Sosenko Trust Assist Grant; produced by the Gym at Judson and the Bloomington Playwrights Project).

He is currently a dramaturg for Ken Rus Schmoll on two projects: the first is David Greenspan's solo performance of Gertrude Stein's libretto for the opera *FOUR SAINTS IN THREE ACTS*; the second, with Crystal Finn, is a theatrical adaptation of David Markson's Wittgenstein's *Mistress*. He is the former Literary Manager of The Amoralists and a former Steering Committee Member of the Literary Wing at the Lark.

He is an alumnus of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab, The Civilians R&D Group, and the Clubbed Thumb Early Career Directing Fellowship. He was an artist-in-residence and visiting lecturer in the Theater, Dance, and Media concentration at Harvard College in 2020 and has taught at NYU-Tisch and the American Academy of Dramatic Arts. He is the Horton Foote Scholar in playwriting at the 2021 Sewanee Writers' Conference. He will return to Harvard in the Spring of 2023 as an artist-in-residence and visiting lecturer in TDM. MFA: Columbia.



ELIANA PIPES

DREAM HOUSE (Winner)

Eliana Pipes is a playwright and filmmaker based in her hometown of Los Angeles. Her plays include BITE ME (world premiere off-Broadway WP Theater & Colt Coeur); DREAM HOUSE (world premiere co-production Alliance Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre, and Baltimore Center Stage, published by Concord Samuel French); HOOPS (world premiere commission Milwaukee Chamber Theater). She holds commissions from Two River Theater and South Coast Repertory. Her work has been developed or presented at the New York Theatre Workshop Dartmouth Residency, Playwright's Realm Scratchpad Series, South Coast Repertory Pacific Playwright's Festival, NNP National New Play Showcase, Old Globe Powers New Voices Festival, Fire This Time Festival, and Drama League DirectorFest. Her writing awards include the Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellowship, Alliance Keneda Prize, Leah Ryan Prize, KCACTF Harold and Mimi Steinberg Award, National Latine Playwrights Award, and Dr. Floyd Gaffney Award. As a filmmaker she's been awarded the Academy Gold Fellowship for Women through AMPAS, the WAVE Grant and Outfest x Colin Higgins Youth Filmmaker Grant. She was selected for the Orchard Project's Episodic Lab for her pilot THE YOUNG LORDS and is a member of the Sundance Institute Latine Collab Scholarship. BA English Columbia University, MFA Playwriting Boston University. www.elianapipes.com.



ALANNA COBY

Dictionary of the Vulgar Tongue

Alanna Coby is a playwright, teaching artist and performer based in New York. Alanna's work has been celebrated by the Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Award, the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, the Jane Chambers Award for Excellence in Feminist Playwriting, and The Civilians, and her work supported through workshops and residencies with the Alliance Theatre, Mabou Mines, The Drama League, Catskill Mountain Shakespeare, ShoutOut Saugerties, Dixon Place, SITI Company, The Brick, and IRT Theater. She is a proud founding member of The Syndicate, an ensemble theatre company that produces new plays by women, queer and trans+ artists, and she is also the creator of Cooking Rage, a satire cooking blog, and Ugly Comics, a comic series about the creative process. Alanna has taught playwriting at Sarah Lawrence College and the Eileen Fisher Leadership Institute and is currently a grant writer/development consultant for YWCA Ulster County and the O+ Festival in Kingston, New York. Alanna holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from NYU, class of 2021, where she was the recipient of a Tisch Graduate Award Scholarship and the Dalio Family Merit Scholarship. BA Sarah Lawrence College, 2008.



CARLYN FLINT

Net of Worth

After graduating from USC, Carlyn moved back to her chosen hometown of Tulsa, OK. Here she has immersed herself in a mission to make, share and teach in a way that benefits her community. When it comes to playwriting, she recently won Heller Theater's "Jack Dicky Brick" award for her episodic comedy about online dating. This brutally honest romp, *Adventures of a Doormat*, was voted through for a next episode seven times in a row. She is also working with Blackjack Rewrite Company to present a reading of her play *Wonderland is Real* as a fundraiser for a life-changing program called Women In Recovery. WIR provides an alternative path of rehabilitation for mothers facing long prison sentences in Oklahoma.

In other creative endeavors, she is focused on helping kids learn to read, write and create. She just illustrated and published a children's book called *Our Lady Gaia* as a call to love and care for the earth, and is also spearheading a reading and writing after school program called ARTademics using her original arts-infusion curriculum. Lastly, and the most fun, she's writing a YA sci-fi novel!



GLORIA MAJULE

Culture Shock

Gloria Majule is a playwright from Dodoma, Tanzania presently residing in Seattle, WA. She seeks to tell stories that bring multiple black voices together from across the world, and are accessible to black audiences no matter where they are. She writes plays about Africans and the African diaspora. Gloria is the 2023 winner of the Leah Prize from the Leah Ryan Fund. She has been commissioned by Audible and Atlantic Theater Company. Gloria's plays have been developed at American Blues Theater, Vassar's Powerhouse Theater, The New Group, Premiere Stages at Kean University, Great Plains Theater Commons, A is For, Alliance Theater, Westport Country Playhouse and Aye Defy. She has been a finalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Seven Devils Playwrights Conference, Blue Ink Playwriting Award, Alliance Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition and the Bay Area Playwrights Festival. Gloria graduated summa cum laude from Cornell University with a BA in Performing & Media Arts and Spanish, and holds an MFA in Playwriting from Yale School of Drama.



KYLE J. MCCLOSKEY

Where the Lovelight Gleams

Kyle J McCloskey (He/They/Anything Respectful) is originally from Philadelphia, now residing in Chicago, IL. His work was seen or developed with The Alliance Theatre, Studio Theatre, The American Playwriting Foundation, The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, The Great Plains Theatre Conference, American Theater Company, Victory Gardens Theater Company, Woven Theatre, Collaboraction Theatre Company, Stage Left Theater Company, the University of California - Los Angeles, and Loyola University Chicago.

He is a two-time recipient of the Paula Vogel Prize from the Kennedy Center, runner-up for The Harold and Mimi Steinberg National Student Playwriting Award, runner-up for the Jean Kennedy Smith Prize from the Kennedy Center, a Semifinalist for the Relentless Award from the American Playwriting Foundation, a Finalist for the Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition, a Finalist for the Blue Ink Award from American Blues Theater, a Finalist for the Princess Grace Award, a finalist for the Jerome Fellowship from the Playwright's Center, and a semi-finalist for the O'Neill Playwright's Conference. He is a past recipient of the James B. Pendleton Foundation Prize, The MacGowan Family Playwriting Fellowship, a Hollywood Foreign Press Awards Fellowship, and the George Burns & Gracie Allen Fellowship in Comedy.

MFA UCLA, BA Loyola University Chicago



STEPHEN BROWN

The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd (Winner)

Stephen recently graduated from The Juilliard School's Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program. His play *The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd* won the Keneda Award and was produced this past spring at The Alliance Theatre in Atlanta; it is currently under option to be adapted into a film. His play *everything is super great* was produced at 59E59 Theaters by New Light Theatre Project where it was a TimeOut NY Critic's Pick. His other work has been developed and received readings by Primary Stages, MCC, Page 73, Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Road Theatre, Barter Theatre, Theatre Lab, and the Aurora Theatre. He's been a Finalist for the Play Penn Conference, Seven Devil's Playwrights Conference, the Blue Ink Award, the Neukom Prize, The Aurand Harris Award, and the Working Farm at SPACE on Ryder Farm. He was a member of Youngblood at EST, Page 73's playwriting group I-73 and has had residencies with the Rockefeller Brothers Fund and SPACE on Ryder Farm. Two of his plays *The Many Wondrous Realities of Jasmine Starr-Kidd* and *Country Girls* will be published by Sam French / Concord Theatricals this year. He's currently developing a TV show based on his pilot *Barbara*.



ADAM ASHRAF ELSAYIGH

Memorial: A Verbatim Play

Adam Ashraf Elsayigh is a writer of stage and screenplays about modern humans living across and between cultures. Adam prides himself on creating worlds that are socially complex but also quite silly and a lot of fun! Adam's plays (including *Alaa: A Family Trilogy*, *Drowning in Cairo*, *Revelation*, *Memorial*, and *Jamestown/Williamsburg*) have been developed and seen at New York Theater Workshop, The Lark, NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, The Alliance Theater, and Golden Thread Productions. Adam is an alum of the Laboratory for Global Performance at Georgetown University. He holds a BA in Theater History and Dramaturgy from NYU Abu Dhabi and an MFA in Playwriting from Brooklyn College.



ARIANNA GAYLE STUCKI

Memorial: A Verbatim Play

Arianna Gayle Stucki is an actor and playwright, born into a large nonconformist Mormon family in Utah, USA. Arianna received her Bachelors in Theatre Arts from NYU Abu Dhabi, traveling to 20+ countries to witness the myriad ways of being in this great globe, and to celebrate how different cultures express story, belief, and what it means to be human. She graduated with her Masters of Fine Arts in Acting from the Juilliard School, and most recently performed in the first National Tour of Aaron Sorkin's (and Harper Lee's) *To Kill a Mockingbird*, playing the role of Mayella Ewell. Her plays have been seen at New York Theatre Workshop, The Lark, The Juilliard School, Tisch School of the Arts, and LaGuardia Performing Arts Center; and streamed throughout the world including NYU Abu Dhabi and Kampala International Theatre Festival. Arianna's guiding question in all of her life's work is how we may encounter difference without fear; a question she'd never have the courage to continually ask without her idiosyncratic family, her global community, her artistic homes, her mother, and particularly those that come to listen. Thank you all. Onwards. www.AriannaGayleStucki.com



BRITTANY FISHER

How to Bruise Gracefully

Brittany is an NYC-based playwright with roots in Richmond, VA, and graduate of Juilliard's Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program. Her play *How to Bruise Gracefully* won the 2021 Kennedy Center Lorraine Hansberry Award and was recognized by the Rosa Parks Award and Paula Vogel Award. Her play *Your Regularly Scheduled Programming* was a 2022 O'Neill NPC selection and recognized by the Kennedy Center Mark Twain Award. She was a 2018-20 Pipeline New Works Playwriting Fellow, and her work has been featured at and developed with the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, National Black Theatre, Great Plains Theatre Conference, the Alliance Theatre's Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition, Cadence Theatre Company and Virginia Repertory Theatre. She received her B.A. from James Madison University.



Photo: Kevin Bianchi

CHARLIE O'LEARY

Ridgway

Charlie O'Leary is a playwright, lyricist, and librettist. He is an alumnus of the 24 Hour Plays: Nationals, the BMI Workshop, the Brooklyn Generator, Crashbox Theatre Company's Write Play Launch, the Fornés Playwriting Workshop, the Project Y Playwrights Group, and the Road Theatre Company's Under Construction Playwrights Group. His plays and musicals have additionally been developed and presented by the Artist Co-op, CAP21, the Dare Tactic, Dartmouth College, Dixon Place, Dreamwell Theatre, the Flea Theater, the Fresh Fruit Festival, the Habitat, the Iowa New Play Festival, Jersey City Theater Center, Loading Dock Theatre, Middle Voice at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, the PIT, Pipeline Theatre Company, the Players Theatre, the Samuel French OOB Festival, Shuga Pie Supreme, the Tank, and the University of Notre Dame. His short works have been published by Methuen Drama, Smith & Kraus, and Theatre Now New York, with licensing by Music Theatre International. He has been a finalist for the Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition, the DVRP Playwrights Program, the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, Sanguine Theatre Company's Project Playwright, the Seven Devils Playwrights Conference, and the Woodward/Newman Drama Award, as well as the recipient of a New York Innovative Theatre Award and an Iowa Arts Fellowship. His song "A Date" (music by Helen Park) was a selection of the BMI Workshop Smoker; his songs have also been performed at places like 54 Below, Don't Tell Mama, the Duplex, and the West End Lounge. MFA: Iowa Playwrights Workshop.



JAMIE RUBENSTEIN

Ruth and Lydia

Jamie Rubenstein is a New York-based playwright who worked for ten years as an English teacher in public and private schools. She is the inaugural Hunter-American Renaissance Theater Company Playwriting Fellow (2023) and an Alliance/Keneda National Graduate Playwriting Competition Finalist (2023), WP Lab Semi-Finalist (2022), Bechdel Project ROO Residency Semi-Finalist (2022), and Trustus Playwrights Festival Finalist (2020). Her work has been seen or developed with the Alliance Theater, Hunter College, ESPA/Primary Stages, the Bechdel Group, and Spark Creative Works. She was an MFA Mentor at Horizon Theater's Young Playwrights Festival. She teaches at Hunter College. MFA, Playwriting: CUNY Hunter College; MA, English: Middlebury's Bread Loaf School of English; BA, English: Barnard College.



A.K. PAYNE

Furlough's Paradise (Winner)

a.k. payne is a playwright, artist-theorist, and theatremaker with roots in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Her plays love on and engage Black lives and languages beyond the confines of linear time to find/remember stories that might create conditions for our collective liberation(s). They hold a B.A. in English and African-American Studies from Yale College and a MFA in Playwriting from the Yale School of Drama, under Tarell Alvin McCraney. Their work has been the finalist for the L. Arnold Weissberger New Play Award and the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, winner of the David Mark Cohen National Playwriting Award, and 3x semi-finalist for the O'Neill National Playwriting Conference. She is a current recipient of the Kemp Powers Commission Fund for Black Playwrights and Atlantic Theatre Company's Judith Champion Launch Commission. Her work has been developed with the New Harmony Project, Great Plains theatre Conference, and Manhattan Theatre Club's "Groundworks Lab." They are a graduate of Pittsburgh Public Schools; grandchild of the Great Migration; descendant of a music teacher and a carpenter, who both march every year with their unions in Pittsburgh's Labor Day parade; a queer & non-binary abolitionist affected in community by the "New Jim Crow;" and of a great lineage of Black women storytellers and living-room archivists; all of which deeply informs, uplifts, and amplifies their work as a playwright, community organizer, and spacemaker.



JAKE BRASCH

The Reservoir

Jake Brasch (he/they) is a 2022-2023 Lila Acheson Wallace American playwriting fellow at The Juilliard School. They're a proud graduate of Ensemble Studio Theatre's Youngblood, the 2021-2022 Art House INKubator cohort, The Farm Theater's Development Workshop, and The LABYrith Intensive Ensemble. Jake is a finalist for the 2023-2024 Alliance/Keneda Graduate Playwriting Competition and a semi-finalist for The O'Neill Playwriting Conference, The Premiere Play Festival, and The Jewish Plays Project. Jake's work has been developed by the Denver Center Theatre Company, New York Stage and Film, LABYrith Theatre Company, The Ensemble Studio Theatre, The Farm Theater, The Tank, Dixon Place, Curious Theatre Company, DSA at the Edinburgh Fringe, The 14th St Y, Planet Connections, and The New Studio on Broadway at NYU. He's currently under commission from The EST/Sloan Project and The Farm Theatre. As a composer, Jake has scored several films, plays, and podcasts. He's also a founding member of American Sing-Song, a collective that writes and produces readings of impossible musicals. BFA: NYU Tisch: New Studio on Broadway/Experimental Theatre Wing.



RUDI GOBLEN

littleboylittleman

Rudi is a playwright, poet, and performer who creates solo theater and devised theater works. As an acclaimed dancer, he has toured nationally, and internationally, competing, adjudicating, and teaching with his award-winning group Flipside Kings. Rudi is a three-time recipient of playwriting awards from the Kennedy Center, the Distinguished Achievement for the Lorraine Hansberry Playwriting Award, and an O'Neill Finalist; as well as the Future Aesthetics Artist Re-grant, two Miami-Dade County Choreographer Awards, a FEAST Award for his book of poetry "A Bag of Halos and Horns," and a Theater Masters' TAKE TEN Playwright. He is a founding member of Teo Castellanos/D-Projects and Rosie Herrera Dance Theatre. And he has trained and worked with Cirque De Soleil, and DV8 Physical Theater. Publications include Theater Magazine, Imagined Theatres: Writing for a Theoretical Stage, and Samuel French/Concord Theatricals.

Rudi holds an MFA in playwriting from the Yale School of Drama where he was mentored by Tarell Alvin McCraney and Sarah Ruhl.



LIA ROMEO

The Agency

Lia Romeo is a fellow in the Lila Acheson Wallace American Playwrights Program at Juilliard. Her play *The Forest* was developed at the O'Neill Playwrights Conference, and was scheduled to receive a National New Play Network rolling world premiere this season (postponed due to the coronavirus). Her play *Sitting and Talking*, starring Dan Lauria and Wendie Malick, premiered at Mile Square Theatre and has subsequently been presented by Laguna Playhouse, New Jersey Rep, Seven Devils New Play Foundry, and other companies. Other plays have been produced off-Broadway at 59E59 and regionally around the country, and four of her plays have been recognized by the Kilroys List. She was the winner of City Theatre's National Short Playwriting Award, and has been a nominee or a finalist for the Heideman Award, the L. Arnold Weissberger Award, the Susan Smith Blackburn Prize, the Kesselring Prize, and the Steinberg Award. Her plays are published by Broadway Play Publishing, Playscripts, Dramatists Play Service, and Smith & Kraus. She is the associate artistic director with Project Y Theatre Company, and she teaches playwriting at Primary Stages/ESPA and in the M.A. program in creative writing at Fairleigh Dickinson University. She earned her B.A. from Princeton and her M.F.A. in playwriting from Rutgers/MGSA.



DAVID CARUSO

Save the Whales, etc.

David L. Caruso (he/they) is a playwright and translator from Minneapolis. His plays include *Sävé the Whälës, etc.* (Finalist, National Playwrights Conference, Terrence McNally New Play Incubator, Keneda/Alliance National Graduate Playwriting Competition, and Playwrights Realm Fellowship), *Through Hike* (Finalist, Int'l Thomas Wolfe Playwriting Competition, Semi-Finalist, National Playwrights Conference), *Forest Knowledge* (Company One, Acts of Joy Series), and *Bill & Stephanie* (High Honors, Wesleyan University). David has developed work with Playdate Theatre, Company One, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, and the Boston University School of Theatre. As a dramaturg, David has collaborated on plays at Cherry Lane Theatre, Dixon Place, and Wesleyan University, and written for the Walker Art Center's journal, *South Wall*. David has taught Intro to Creative Writing at Boston University. They are an upcoming Writing Fellow at Lighthouse Works (Fishers Island, NY), where they will write a new play and finish a new translation. David graduated from Wesleyan University with High Honors, and from Boston University with an MFA in Playwriting.