

theREP in cooperation with Berkshire Theatre Group and WAM Theatre presents

#### WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME Written by Heidi Schreck

Featuring

(in alphabetical order)

Jay Sefton\* Kim Stauffer\*

with

Isabella Brown **Isabel Sanchez** 

and

Cate Damon\* Timothy W. Hull\*

Juliana von Haubrich+

Lara Dubin+ Set Design Lighting Design Shivanna Sooknanan Costume Design

Caroline Eng+ Sound Design

Talya Kingston Dramaturgy

**Shayne David Cameris\*** Production Stage Manager

Kathleen Keane Assistant Stage Manager

#### Directed by

Kristen van Ginhoven++

What The Constitution Means to Me is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French Inc. www.concordtheatrical.com

\*Denotes Member of AEA

+ Denotes member of USA



++ Denotes member of SDC





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#### WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME CAST

(in order of speaking)

Heidi Schreck	KIM STAUFFER*
Legionnaire	JAY SEFTON*
Debater 1	ISABEL SANCHEZ
Debater 2	ISABELLA BROWN
	STAND-BYS
HeidiCATE DAMON*	LegionnaireTIMOTHY W. HULL*

#### **SPECIAL THANKS**

Molly Merrihew, WAM Theatre; Kate McGuire and Nick Paleologos, Berkshire Theatre Group
Milinda Reed, Unity House, Troy, NY
Our guest speakers: Ava Ayers, Ciji Dodds, Anthony Farley, Caitlain Devereaux Lewis,
Mary A. Lynch, Talya Kingston and Julie Novkov

#### **ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS**

Original Broadway Production Produced by: Diana DiMenna, Aaron Glick, Matt Ross, Madeline Foster Bersin, Myla Lerner, Jon Bierman, Jenna Segal, Catering Markowitz, Jana Shea, Maley-Stolbun-Sussman, Rebecca Gold, Jose Antonio Vargas, Level Forward Cornice Productions, Lassen Wyse Balsam Nederlander Productions, Kate Lear.

"What The Constitution Means to Me" was commissioned by True Love Productions.

This production originated as part of Summerworks in June and July 2017, produced by Clubbed Thumb in partnership with True Love Productions.

West Coast premiere by Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Berkeley, CA, Tony Taconne, Artistic Director Susan Medak, Managing Director.

Jim Nicola, Artistic Director, Jeremy Blocker, Managing Director, 2018.

#### PHOTOGRAPHY WARNING

You are welcome to take photos of the set before or after the show, courtesy of a special arrangement with United Scenic Artists, our designer union, and we encourage you to share your photos on social media!

#### **HOWEVER, PLEASE NOTE:**

THE VIDEOTAPING OR MAKING OF ELECTRONIC OR OTHER AUDIO AND/OR VISUAL RECORDINGS DURING THE PERFORMANCE OF THIS PRODUCTION AND DISTRIBUTING RECORDINGS OR STREAMS IN ANY MEDIUM, INCLUDING THE INTERNET, IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED

#### **CONTENT ADVISORY**

"What the Constitution Means to Me" contains mentions of domestic violence, sexual assault, human trafficking, and discussions of abortion and its stigmatization.

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#### **Meet the Cast**



#### Jay Sefton (Legionnaire)

Jay (he/him) is an actor and licensed mental health counselor, originally from Philadelphia, and currently based in Easthampton, Massachusetts. Selected theatre credits include: "Unreconciled" (Writer/Performer, Chester Theatre Company), "What the Constitution Means to Me" (WAM Theatre/Berkshire Theatre Group), "Honor Killing," "Paradise" (WAM Theatre, Fresh Takes Reading Series), "Million Dollar Quartet," "Outside Mullingar" (The Majestic Theater), "Two Rooms" (Silverthorne Theatre

Company), "The Most Mediocre Story Never Told" (Writer/Performer), "A Life in the Theatre," "Dark Rapture" (Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre) and "King Lear" (Theatricum Botanicum, Los Angeles). Jay is the recipient of the LA WEEKLY Award for Best Solo Performance for "The Most Mediocre Story Never Told." Film/TV: "The Wire," "Grey's Anatomy," "The Shield," "Summerland," "Providence." Jay holds a B.A. in theatre from West Chester University and a master's degree in psychology from Lesley University.



#### Kim Stauffer (Heidi Schreck)

Kim Stauffer (she/her) is thrilled to be returning to perform with her Capital Repertory Theatre family where her credits include "The Crucible," "Taming of the Shrew" and "Outside Mullingar." Other credits: "Much Ado About Nothing," "Mary Stuart," "Macbeth" (New York Classical Theatre); "Lady Windermere's Fan," "The Tempest," "Macbeth," "Pericles," "Lorenzaccio" (Shakespeare Theatre Company, DC); "Circle Mirror Transformation" (Kansas City Repertory Theatre); "Gaslight," "A

Streetcar Named Desire," "The Crucible" (Barrington Stage Company); "Dracula" (Actors Theatre of Louisville); "Othello" (Shakespeare Festival St. Louis); "Disgraced," "Madagascar," "Crime and Punishment" (Chester Theatre); "Emilie: La Marquise du Chatelet Defends her Life Tonight" (WAM Theatre); "Proof" (Triad Stage); "Time Stands Still" (New Century Theatre); "A Christmas Carol" (Virginia Stage Company). Film/TV: "Hence the Stars," "Pearl Divers," "Small Shots: The Amish Matrix."

She holds an MFA from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and is a passionate practitioner of Applied Theatre as a facilitator with the Alan Alda Center for Communicating Science. Kimstauffer.com @KimStauffer1 Here's to imagining "something else." For my mom, Nancy.



#### Izzy Brown (Debater)

Izzy lives in Pittsfield, MA of the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts. Current Role with theREP: Debater. Selected Theatre Credits Elsewhere: "What The Constitution Means To Me" (WAM Theatre), "Little Shop of Horrors," "She Kills Monsters," "Pippin," "Blue Stockings" (Pittsfield High School), "Touring Show," "Footloose," "Wizard of Oz," "Willy Wonka," "Aladdin," "The Lion King," "A Christmas Carol," "Mary Poppins" (Berkshire Theatre Group), "The Supa Dupa Kid" (Barrington

Stage), "Twelfth Night" (Shakespeare and Co.)

Creative Inspiration: Other artists, people who are dedicated to their craft, the wonderful people who have mentored me through the years such as Ms. Blocker, Kathy Jo Grover, Tommy Scrivens, NJ Agwuna, Kate Maguire and Kristen Van Ginhoven.

Awards/Proudest Achievement: Performing at the Tina Packer Playhouse, Performing first stand at Longy School of Music and learning the Troika in three days.

Final Word: "It is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to speak out and remove all doubt." - Abraham Lincoln



#### **Isabel Sanchez (Debater)**

Isabel (she/her) is ecstatic to be performing in her first show at Capital Repertory Theatre! She is an actor and a full-time student at the University at Albany studying Theater & Acting and Education. Some of her recent theater credits include: "The Wolves" (#46), "How We Survived" (Dana), "Emotional Assortment" (Salem), "Sixty Seconds to Midnight" (Ruth), "Twelfth Night" (Maria) and "There Was a Dent Here, It's Gone Now" (Sue Newman). Her recent short film credits include: "Laser-Focused," "Al Otro Lado," "C- Student," "Rookie Card"

and "Unconditional."

She wants to thank her family and friends for their undying support.

https://www.theisabelsanchez.com/



#### Cate Damon\* (Heidi Understudy)

Cate is pleased to be making her Capital Repertory Theatre debut in this wonderful play. Off-Broadway: "Johnny Got His Gun" (Mary)--Cherry Lane Theatre; Regional: "Rancho Mirage" (Pam), "Jack and Jill" (Jill)--New Rep Boston; "Vanya, Sonia, Masha and Spike" (Sonia), "Miss Maybelline's Nocturnal Flights of Fancy" (a reading of a new work) (Elaine)--Martha's Vineyard Playhouse; "I Have Seen Horizons" NS—Stonington Opera House; "Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf" (Martha), "God of Carnage" (Veronica), "Rabbit Hold" (Becca), "Noises Off"

(Belinda)--New Century Theatre. "The Glass Menagerie" (Amanda), "Mamma Mia" (Donna), "Alabama Story" (Emily), "Harvey" (Veta)--The Majestic Theater. Film: "The God Question" (Jane Hurst). Cate is a proud member of the professional actors' unions AEA and SAG/AFTRA.



#### Timothy W. Hull\* (Legionnaire Understudy)

Timothy is thrilled to be back at theREP where he earned his Equity card as Boo Radley/Mr Gilmer in "To Kill A Mockingbird." Most recently, he was in "Harry Potter and the Cursed Child" (San Francisco Company). Regionally, he has performed at The Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Lookingglass Theatre Company, Writer's Theatre, Colorado Shakespeare Festival and Shaw Chicago among others. He has also been a recurring character on "Chicago Fire" (NBC), as well as appeared on "Empire" (Fox), "The Big Leap" (Fox) and

"Proven Innocent" (Fox). Film credits include "Christmas Is Cancelled" and "Virgin Alexander." He is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA.

#### **Meet the Creative Team**

#### Juliana von Haubrich+ – Scenic Designer

Juliana von Haubrich (she/her) is a Berkshire-based scenic designer and visual artist. With WAM Theatre, Juliana recently designed "What The Constitution Means to Me" and "Cadillac Crew," past WAM productions include "ROE," "The Thanksgiving Play," "Ann," "Lady Randy," "The Last Wife," "Emilie," "In Darfur," "The Bakelite Masterpiece" and other earlier productions. Elsewhere in the Berkshires, Juliana has designed "Heisenberg," "The Waverly Gallery," "Hymn" (Shakespeare & Company); "I And You," "Disgraced," "Curve of Departure," "Tiny Beautiful Things," "Pride @ Prejudice," "Circle Mirror Transformation" (Chester Theatre Company); "La Cenerentola," "Richard III" (The Juilliard School); "The Taming of the Shrew," "Puddin'head Wilson" (The Acting Company); "Ghosts in the Cottonwood," "Uncle Vanya" (Echo Theatre Company). Additional Artistic Credits: designer of Williamstown's town flag; Artistic Intern (Paramount Studios "Star Trek," BBC "Bugs," TNT "Babylon 5").

Creative Inspiration: my late father, Charles Haubrich, an innovative designer and sculptor gone too soon.

Community Engagement/Activist Work: WAM Theatre and Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit. Membership/Affiliations: Local USA 829, IATSE. Training: BA in Cultural Anthropology from the University of Michigan (96), and an MFA in Scenic Design from California Institute of the Arts (99).

Awards/Proudest Achievements: Best of LA Scenic Design and being the founding Tech Director/Scenic Designer for Mosaic Youth Theatre of Detroit, with an all-female tech crew, most of whom are still creating storytelling magic in theatre and film.

Final Word: Increase your compassion and always be curious! www.JulianaDesigns.org

#### Lara Dubin+ – Lighting Designer

Lara Dubin (she/her) is a Lighting Designer and Lecturer of Lighting Design based in Western Massachusetts. Along with designing lights for "What The Constitution Means to Me" at the Unicorn Theatre and at theREP, Lara has also been the resident Lighting Designer for Chester Theatre Company since 2001 - this exceedingly long list of Chester Theatre credits can be found at dubinlighting.com along with design credits for the Great Barrington Public Theatre Company, Smith College, Mount Holyoke College, UMass Amherst, Academy of Music in Northampton, and more.

Broadway credits include Assistant Lighting Designer for "Taboo," "Movin' Out," "The Lion King," "The Green Bird," "Bells Are Ringing" and "Imaginary Friends." Lara is a member of the United Scenic Artists Local USA 829 and USITT. Thank you for coming to this show today, for reading all the bios in this program and for supporting Capital Repertory Theatre and the folks whose immense joy in life is to make this theatre experience happen for you.

#### Shivanna Sooknanan – Costume Designer

Shivanna Sooknanan is a set and costume designer based out of New York City (born and raised). Selected recent design credits include: "What the Constitution.." (theREP and BTG), "Hello Dolly" (Shenandoah), "Selling Kabul" (Premiere Stages).

Other than her own theatre designs she has been the assistant/associate to designers such as Clint Ramos, Dede Ayite, Wilson Chin, Derek McLane, Arnulfo Maldonado, etc. on shows on and off Broadway.

Some event/ commercial clients and collaborators include Tiffany and Co., Hudson Bay Co., Bergdorf Goodman and Bloomingdale. David Beahm, David Landgraf, Michael Cerbelli, Ryan Hill etc. www.shivannasooknanandesign.com, @shivanna sooknanan on Instagram

#### **Caroline Eng+ – Sound Designer**

Caroline Eng (she/her) is a sound designer and podcast engineer based in New York. Selected Sound Design credits: "What the Constitution Means To Me" (WAM Theatre / Berkshire Theatre Group), "Little Women" (Theaterworks, UCCS), "Three Sisters" (Two River Theatre), "Belfast Girls" (Irish Rep), "A Christmas Carol" (Trinity Rep), "The Late Wedding" (Brown University/Trinity Rep), "Popcorn Falls" (Greater Boston Stage Company) and "Twelfth Night" (Theatreworks, UCCS).

Selected Assistant Design credits: "Bring Down The House" (Oregon Shakespeare Festival) and "Fefu and Her Friends" (Theatre For A New Audience).

Selected Training: Fordham College At Lincoln Center (NY). Connect at carolineengdesign.com

#### Talya Kingston - Dramaturg

Talya Kingston is a playwright, dramaturg and educator who is inspired by the live interactions between artists and audiences and how these can be a catalyst for social change. She is the Associate Artistic Director at WAM Theatre and a Co-Producer for Plays In Place.

Selected Dramaturgy Credits: WAM Theatre ("What The Constitution Means to Me," "Roe," "Lady Randy") Hartford Stage ("Necessary Targets"), New York Fringe Festival ("Helmet"), Ko Festival ("Seriously.. What Did You Call Me?" Written and performed by Onawumi Jean Moss), UMass, Amherst ("Gum," "Christmas Carol," "Bovver Boys," "The Last Five Years," "Life is a Dream," "Late Style").

Playwriting: "Port of Entry" (WAM Fresh Takes Play Reading Series, upcoming Play By Play Festival), "Circling Suspicion" (upcoming Historic Northampton), "Campus Unrest" (WAM Theatre, Silverthorne Theatre, finalist in the 2019 Bechtel Test Fest), "Wave Goodbye" (2020 PLAYground TYA Festival at NorthWestern University, semi-finalist for Provincetown Playhouse's New Plays for Young Audiences), "Sheryl Addresses the PGO" (The New England Monologues Project), "Wishing on Satellites," "Anxiety Overdrive."

Publications: The Journal of American Drama and Theatre, Scene Magazine, Theater Journal, The Moving Voice, European Stages, Howlround and The Valley Advocate.

Training: MFA University of Massachusetts.

Professional Affiliations: proud member of the Northampton Playwrights Lab, the Play Incubation Collective, the Dramatists Guild and LMDA Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.

#### **Shayne David Cameris\* – Production Stage Manager**

Shayne David Cameris is a local boy and is THRILLED to be back with theREP in a new role. Credits include: Capital Repertory Theatre- "Midsummer" (2nd ASM/Mechanicals US), "The Wizard of Oz" (1st ASM), "Jersey Boys" (2nd ASM/Bob Crewe), "The True" (2nd ASM), "Fly" (Reynolds), "The Irish..." (2nd ASM), "Cinderella: On the GO!" (King et. al), "Sleepy Hollow: On the GO!" (Brom Bones), "Camelot" (Guilliam/Percussionist), "Blue Sky Boys" (CJ Caldwell); Troy Foundry Theatre- "City of Myth: Ilium Sings," "Where There's Smoke: Ilium Burns," "The Prohibition Project: Ilium Was," "Catastrophe Carnivale" and "New World Order;" Lake George Dinner Theatre- "Buyer and Cellar" (Alex More) and "The Hound of the Baskervilles" (Sir Henry et. Al); Saratoga Shakespeare Company— "Twelfth Night" (ASM/Antonio), "Henry IV Parts 1 and 2" (Mistress Quickly et. Al), "The Winter's Tale" (Clown), "Love's Labour's Lost" (Dull). Creative Associate with Troy Foundry. Love to JSC.

#### Kathleen Keane – Assistant Stage Manager

Kathleen is thrilled to be back at the REP for this production of "What the Constitution Means To Me! "She just returned to Albany from the Berkshires where she worked on WAM's first mount of the play. At the REP, her credits include "Fly," "Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors," "The Wizard of Oz" and "Harriet Tells It Like It Is". She also serves on the board at Albany Civic Theatre.

#### Kristen van Ginhoven++ – Director

Kristen (she/her) is a leader, director, educator, change-maker and social entrepreneur who works at the intersection of arts and activism. A dual Canadian/American citizen, Kristen is based in the Berkshires of Western Massachusetts, where she regularly enjoys the many outdoor and cultural wonders.

As WAM's Producing Artistic Director, her selected directing credits include "What the Constitution Means to Me" (Co-pro with Berkshire Theatre Group), "Roe," "Ann" (Co-pro with Dorset Theatre Festival), "The Bakelite Masterpiece" (with Berkshire Theatre Group), "In Darfur" (New England Premiere) and "Emilie" (New England Premiere). Kristen has also directed "Ann" at Arena Stage and Dallas Theatre Center, "Disgraced" and "I and You" at Chester Theatre, "The Whale" at Adirondack Theatre Festival, "Petticoats of Steel" at theREP and the 10 Minute Play Festival at Barrington Stage Company.

Kristen has also been an assistant director at the Stratford Shakespeare Festival of Canada and the Huntington Theatre in Boston. Kristen trained at Dalhousie University (BA), Queen's University (BEd) and Emerson College (MA). She is a member of the Society of Stage Directors and Choreographers and a member of the Lincoln Center Director's Lab.

Growing WAM Theatre and being honored by the Berkshire Theatre Critics Association with the prestigious Larry Murray Award, presented to a person or theatre project that advances social, political, or community issues in Berkshire County are two of Kristen's proudest achievements. An artist, feminist and highly sensitive person, she values healthy practices like meditating and walking, time affluence and social connection. Her guiding quote is "I may be one person, but I can be one person who makes a difference."



# WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO MEANS TO MEANS TO ME

By Heidi Schreck

SEP. 15 - OCT. 8

### AMENDMENT NINE AND BEYOND

By Megan Dellenbaugh, Dramaturgy Intern at theREP

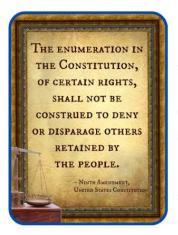
"The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people." (the Ninth Amendment)

A part of the Bill of Rights (aka the first 10 Amendments to the Constitution), the Ninth amendment, says that **even though the**Constitution lists specific rights, citizens of the United States have other rights that are not specifically delineated. James Madison proposed the collection of 12 amendments to the United States' Constitution in June of 1789. His goal was to win allies in Congress and state governments. Madison solely focused on amendments relating to rights and ignored suggestions to change the government's structure. By mid-December 1789, Congress ratified 10 of the 12 original amendments, now known as the Bill of Rights. (1)

"Enumerated rights" comes from an argument from the Federalists when the Anti-Federalists demanded a bill of rights be added to the Constitution, "there would be a dangerous implication that those would be the only rights the citizenry would have." Madison designed the Ninth Amendment to get rid of any ambiguity about unaddressed rights, but the United States has debated the true meaning of the Amendment in American society for centuries: "A dilemma surrounding the Ninth Amendment is that although it forbids the government from restricting the enumerated rights of the citizen, it does not directly affirm the existence of the rights." (2)

**Amendment Fourteen** - A large amendment with multiple subsections, the Fourteenth extended the rights in the Constitution from only white





men to "all persons born or naturalized in the United States." At the time (it was ratified in 1868, after the Civil War), this included formerly enslaved people, but it later came to mean women, Native Americans and other marginalized groups as well. It also theoretically extended the Bill of Rights' influence over the states, making states have to follow "the personal rights guaranteed and secured by the first eight amendments." Despite the idealistic language in the amendment, the document failed to extend the Bill of Rights to the states and to Black citizens. In Reconstruction, white and Black Americans fought for the government to use the Fourteenth Amendment. While they did not succeed during the 19th century, "they effectively articulated arguments and offered dissenting opinions that would be the basis for change in the 20th century."



**Section One** - "All persons born or naturalized in the United States, and subject to the jurisdiction thereof, are citizens of the United States and of the State wherein they reside. No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws." (3)

1. Clause One - "Any person born on U.S. soil - subject to the jurisdiction thereof - are citizens of the United States."

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In the case of Dred Scott v. Sandford, Chief Justice Roger Taney ruled that United States citizenship was governed by two stipulations: "(1) White persons born in the United States as descendants of 'persons, who were at the time of adoption of the Constitution recognized as citizens in the several States, [and who] became also citizens of this new political body,' the United States of America, and (2) those who, having been 'born outside the dominions of the United States,' had migrated thereto and been naturalized therein." So, under these rules, freed slaves did not count as citizens. Congress changed this rule in Section 1, Clause 1, of the Fourteenth Amendment, restoring the original idea of becoming a citizen by birth. (4)

2. Clause Two - "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States."

Clause Two says that a state cannot pass a law that goes against the rights detailed in the Constitution. (6)

3. Clause Three - "Nor shall any state deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law.

While similar to the Fifth Amendment, which binds the federal government to due process, Clause Three binds the *states* to the due process clause. The due process clause allows for many stipulations in the Bill of Rights to apply to the states. While "the Supreme Court has held that [the Fourteenth Amendment's] protection extends to all natural persons (i.e., human beings), regardless of race, color, or citizenship," they have also decided a "natural person" could refer to corporations or public officials. (4)

4. Clause Four - "No state shall deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of these laws."

Also known as the "equal protection clause," it appears that Clause Four was written to stop state governments from discriminating against African Americans. Unfortunately, the "equal protection" it provided was (and is still) not truly equal. Clause Four was used in several landmark cases for Black, LGBTQIA+ and women's rights. (4)

Section Two - "The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of race, color, or previous condition of servitude."

Also focusing on voting rights, this amendment explicitly allows Black Americans and former slaves to vote. Unfortunately, it was buried years later under voter suppression, such as literacy tests and the Grandfather Clause. While Black people were still allowed to vote under the law, voter suppression made it almost impossible for them to; it was as if they could not vote at all. (7)

#### **Cited Sources:**

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 $\frac{1/\#:\sim: text=Section\%201\%20Rights\&text=No\%20State\%20shall\%20make\%20or, equal\%20protection\%20of\%20the\%20laws.}{4. \underline{https://www.archives.gov/milestone-documents/14th-}$ 

 $\underline{amendment\#:} \sim : text = No\%20State\%20shall\%20make\%20or, \underline{equal\%20protection\%20of\%20the\%20laws}.$ 

 $5. \underline{https://www.history.com/topics/black-history/fourteenth-amendment\#14th-amendment-section-one}$ 

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xv#:~:text=The%20right%20of%20citizens%20of,or%20previous%20condition%20of%20servitude.



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