

THEREP'S NEXT ACT! NEW PLAY SUMMIT

April 2, 5, and 7, 2025



theREP's 14th Annual Summit

*Lots of great info
inside this program:*

LEARN ABOUT:

- THE PLAYWRIGHTS
 - THE DIRECTORS
 - THE ACTORS
 - THE READING COMMITTEE
- AND SO MUCH MORE!

NEW PLAYS BEING AT THEREP!

What is the NEXT ACT! New Play Summit, you may ask? It is an expansion of Capital Repertory Theatre's (theREP) commitment to the development of new work and directly reflects the theatre's mission, "to create meaningful theatre generated from an authentic link to the community."

This annual showcase of new plays, designed to shed light on the process of new play development, brings playwrights, directors, actors and audience members together for a series of workshops and readings, with the ultimate goal of finding a play that theREP will produce. To date, theREP has selected one play to produce as a World Premiere from every single NEXT ACT! New play Summit.

Officially formed in the fall of 2012, NEXT ACT! is made possible by a generous legacy gift from Samson O.A. Ulmann – a professor of English at Union College (from 1957-92).



[CLICK HERE TO LEARN ALL ABOUT THE NEXT ACT! SUMMIT!](#)

2025 Next Act! Schedule

TICKETS FOR ALL EVENTS ARE \$5.00

(not including “Rosie Is Red and Everybody Is Blue”)

**ALL EVENTS ARE IN-PERSON @ THEREP
(251 NORTH PEARL STREET, ALBANY)**

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 2, 2025

7PM - “THE LAST AMERICAN NEWSPAPER”

Adapted by Ken Tingley from his memoir

(On the mainstage)

SATURDAY, APRIL 5, 2025

1PM - FIRST FIFTEEN: BE A LITERARY MANAGER

Playwrights included:

Jill Twiss, Alyssa Haddad-Chin, Ruth Apolonia Zamoyta and

Shayne Kennedy

(On the mainstage)

MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025

7pm - “CASTLING” by Anthony T. Goss

(On the mainstage)

May 2025 will see the last two Next Act Events (date coming soon):

Poetry Slam Contest - to be Emcee'd by Capital Region Artist and Poet, D. Colin
and

The Top 10 Scripts from the Young Playwright Contest

2025 NEXT ACT! Schedule, con't.

WORLD PREMIERE PRODUCTION OF “ROSIE IS RED AND EVERYBODY IS BLUE”

by John Spellos

Directed by Reginald Douglas

at theREP

April 25-May 18, 2025

Click [here](#) for tickets.

(Please note tickets for “Rosie...” are regularly priced.)

“Rosie Is Red and Everybody Is Blue” is the winning script from the 2023 Summit. The script has been in development with theREP since shortly there after, in preparation of this World Premiere Production.



“Rosie is Red And Everybody Is Blue”

Family is everything. However, when everybody needs something and nobody wants to listen, something has to give, and Rosie is about to give it to all of them, with no holes barred.

Rosie seems to be living the proverb “when it rains, it pours.” Her brother-in-law is living in her small house, driving her up one wall and down the other. To make matters worse, her down-and-out adult son has moved in too. All this while Rosie secretly battles her own problems and emotions, just trying to make it through each day.

Filled with sharp, witty banter, this fast-paced and heartfelt comedy about family will have you in tears...both happy and heartwarming.

John Spellos is a local playwright, having grown up in the Capital Region, and is thrilled to return to his “home town” for the 2025 World Premiere of his play!



Land Acknowledgement

CAPITAL REPERTORY THEATRE (theREP)
AT 251 NORTH PEARL STREET
STANDS ON THE
TRADITIONAL LANDS OF THE
MOHICAN AND MOHAWK PEOPLE



Social Justice

theREP works to build and bridge communities that welcome and affirm people to be their whole authentic selves, honoring their multifaceted identities and lived experiences. The theatre works to resist and interrupt all systems of oppression that would marginalize individuals and communities based on social identities.

With regard to the NEXT ACT! New Play Summit theREP specifically seeks scripts that use theatre to address injustices, inequities, and cultural collisions, providing a voice for the unheard on stage, in the workplace, the Capital Region and beyond.

Covid Protocol:

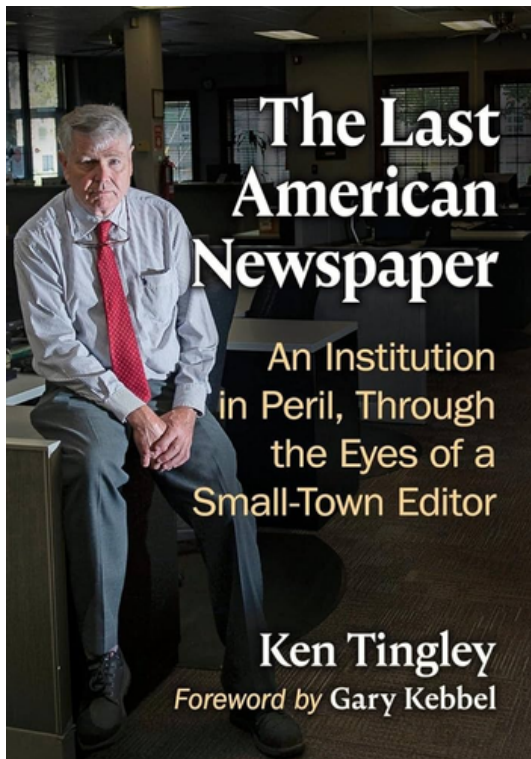
Effective Thursday, Sept. 1, 2022, masks are optional and vaccinations are not required but encouraged for patrons at most performances at theREP. Patrons may continue to wear masks at any time should they choose.

theREP welcomes audience members ages 5+ for all shows.

New Plays Being at theREP!
Wednesday, April 2, 2025 @ 7pm
(on the mainstage)

“THE LAST AMERICAN NEWSPAPER”
Adapted by Ken Tingley from his memoir

TICKETS ARE \$5.00 | CLICK [HERE](#) TO BUY



“The Last American Newspaper”

Adapted from Tingley’s memoir and commissioned by Adirondack Theatre Festival, with the support of the John E. Herlihy Literary Fellowship, this is a story about Glens Falls itself! Revisit unforgettable moments, from the triumphant 2009 Pulitzer Prize win, to dramatic exposés about environmental disasters and the opioid epidemic. The feisty members of a small-town newsroom discover the power of the press to make a difference...and to change their own lives.

Directed by Marcus Kyd
Stage Managed by Sara Friedman*

Cast:

(in alphabetical order)

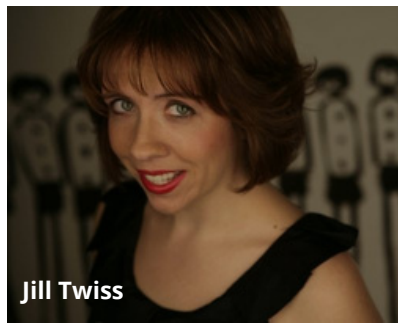
Mark Mahoney/Publisher Rick: Nicholas Baroudi*
Ken Tingley: Jeffrey Binder*
Mary Joseph/Woman on the Phone: Brenny Campbell*
Stage Directions/TV Announcers: Kathleen Carey
Don Lehman/Publisher Jim: David Girard*
Lydia Moore/Pam Brooks/Publisher Rona: Eliana Rowe*
Will Doolittle/Jack Cushing: Dennis Schebetta*

**Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association
Full Company Bios start on page 9*

Saturday, April 5, 2025 @ 1pm
(on the mainstage)

FIRST 15: Be a Literary Manager!

TICKETS ARE \$5.00 | [CLICK HERE TO BUY](#)



What is the FIRST 15? This event is curated to mirror the reading process theREP's NEXT ACT! Reading Committee Members encounter, specifically those involved in the first round of the reading process. It also simulates what most Literary Managers encounter:

"Read a synopsis and the first 10-pages of the script, and 'decide' whether or not you want to request the full script from the playwright."

Did the plot grab you? Are the characters interesting and well developed? Does the dialogue ring true to you? Do you want to know what happens next...?

The pieces selected for the FIRST 15 are scripts that rose to the top but ultimately were not selected for a full reading this year. The event also provides theREP with the opportunity to get to know and work with more playwrights. Several pieces that have been in past FIRST 15 Readings have gone on to full summit readings, the summit's Stage2Screen Event, and several have even gone on to full productions on theREP's stage.

Directed by Yvonne Perry
Stage Managed by Madison Rivera

(Each cast in alphabetical order)

“Good Vibes Only” by Jill Twiss
Everyone Else: Diaka Kaba Hill*
Stage Directions: Doug MacKechnie*
Madison’s Mom: Carmela Marner*
Madison: Nicole Zelka

“The Ancestry Dot Com Play” by Alyssa Haddad-Chin
Amy: Gabi Bazinet Douglas
Stage Directions: Lancelot Douglas
Jasmine: Diaka Kaba Hill*
Samia: Hanadi Sadi*

Con’t...

“Mrs. Whitman’s Words for Women” by Shayne Kennedy
Ida: Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid
Grace: Gabi Bazinet Douglas
Roy: Lancelot Douglas
Stage Directions: Carmela Marner*
Lillian: Nicole Zelka

“The Judge and His Daughter” by Ruth Apolonia Zamoyta
Manda: Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid
Judge: Doug MacKechnie*
Stage Directions: Hanadi Sadi*

**Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association
Full Company Bios start on page 9*

New Plays Being at theREP!
Monday, April 7, 2025 @ 7pm
(on the mainstage)

“CASTLING”
by Anthony T. Goss

TICKETS ARE \$5.00 | CLICK [HERE](#) TO BUY



“Castling”

From the 2024 Summit’s First 15 Event, “Castling” is getting a Second Look (full) reading! The play explores the lives of workers at a tire shop in Newark who incorporate chess into their morning routine. As their familiar workplace faces a “bussiness takeover,” the employees must navigate the challenges that threaten their livelihoods.

Directed by Daniel Boisrond
Stage Managed by KD McTeigue

Cast:

(in alphabetical order)

Stage Directions/Radio DJ: Gabriel Fabian

Mr. D: Hayes Fields

Byron: Michael Lake

Justin: Iniabasi Nelson

Hope: Angelique Powell

**Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association
Full Company Bios start on page 9*

Coming in May 2025...

Poetry Slam Contest Emcee'd by D. Colin



D. Colin (Emcee/Poet) is a multidisciplinary artist in poetry, visual and theater. Her poems have appeared in Trolley Literary Journal, Jaded Ibis Press, Porter Gulch Review, and forthcoming in Eco Theo Collective. She is the author of two poetry collections, *Dreaming in Kreyol* and *Said the Swing to the Hoop*. She is a NYS Writers Institute Fellow and Cave Canem alumna and has performed for The Moth, PBS, NPR among others both nationally and abroad. She has competed at the National Poetry Slam and the Womxn of the World Poetry Slam among others. She is currently working on a forthcoming body of work including poetry and visual art to be released in 2025.

Officially formed in the fall of 2012, NEXT ACT! is made possible by a generous legacy gift from Samson O.A. Ulmann - a professor of English at Union College (from 1957-92).

Click here for more information on NEXT ACT!

Summit Directors/Stage Managers



DANIEL BOISROND (Director, “Castling”) is a Haitian-American multifaceted theater director with a passion for new works and reimaged classics, Recent work include: SDCF Directing Observer for Saheem Ali on Good Bones at The Public Theater, Directing credits include: Off Broadway; Packages O’ The Things We Deliver (National Black Theatre & Chelsea Factory); ShopTalk (ArtYard), Roots (Dixon Place & La MAMA), For Colored Girls..(Breakthrough Theatre). Off-Off Broadway Samuel French Short Play Festival, and 48Hrs in Harlem As an actor, Daniel's credits include MTV's "Eye Candy" (Ethan), "idigress" (Caleb), and "Skeleton Crew" (Dez) at Premiere Stages. | National Black Theatre I AM SOUL Directing Residency finalist | BFA, University of North Carolina School of Arts | IG: [@danielboisrond](#) | www.danielboisrond.com

SARA FRIEDMAN* (Stage Manager, “The Last American Newspaper”) is Sara is thrilled to be back at The Rep! She is currently the Managing Director for Lake George Dinner Theatre and was most recently at Mills Entertainment in Saratoga Springs, NY, where she worked on national and international touring productions as a General Manager and Tour Manager. NYC credits include Around the World in 80 Days; White's Lies; Rutherford and Son, No Time for Comedy, The Charity That Began at Home (Mint Theater Company). Regional credits include: nine seasons with Saratoga Shakespeare Company, Moonlight and Magnolias, Lake Effect, Old Love (Lake George Dinner Theater); The Little Prince (Bristol Riverside Theatre); Dial M for Murder, Glitches in Reality, Fully Committed, Black Tie (Adirondack Theatre Festival); Superior Donuts, Man of La Mancha (The Rep). Sara graduated from Union College in Schenectady, NY and received her MFA from Carnegie Mellon University.

MARCUS KYD (Director, “The Last American Newspaper”) is a director and actor based in Washington, DC. He is the Artistic Director and co-founder of Taffety Punk Theatre Company where he has directed original works including Enter Ophelia, distracted (co-created with Kimberly Gilbert), Fragments of Sappho, suicide.chat.room, and adaptations of Shakespeare's Venus and Adonis, The Rape of Lucrece, and The Phoenix and Turtle, and new plays Phaeton, and Our Black Death. Other directing credits include Adirondack Theatre Festival: Dial M for Murder, and The Last Wide Open; Contradiction Dance Company's Fashion Victim, in collaboration with choreographer Kelly King; Devised Macbeth at the Shakespeare Theatre Academy, co-directed with Emma Jaster; and Part 3 of Nicholas Nickleby (a reading) at the Theatre Lab. For three years he directed the Folger Shakespeare Library's touring educational troupe “Bill's Buddies” who brought Shakespeare to life for hundreds of students every year with a live performance and interactive workshops. As an actor Marcus has performed for the the Kennedy Center, The Lincoln Center, The Folger Theatre, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Round House Theatre, Devil's Isle Shakespeare Company, Center Stage, Olney Theatre Center, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage, The Shakespeare Theatre, Anti-Social Music/WPAS, Nebraska Shakespeare Festival, and many more. He played guitar and sang for The Most Secret Method.



Marcus Kyd

KD McTeigue (SM, “Castling”) (she/her) is an actor, director, and writer. Theatrical credits include: WAM Theatre; Capital Repertory Theatre; Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble; Troy Foundry Theatre; and the Outer Loop.



Summit Directors/Stage Managers con't.



MADISON RIVERA (SM, First 15) Madison is excited to be working on her second production with theRep. Previous credits include *She Kills Monsters*(ASM) with Proctors Collaborative Theatre, Capital Repertory Theatre and The Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY, *Melodies of Christmas*(Backstage Manager) with WRGB CBS6, *Mary Shelley Meets Frankenstein*(SM). When not backstage she can be on stage with recent credits including *The Rocky Horror Show*(Janet) and *The Taming of the Shrew*(Biondello). She is so excited to work on this project and wants to thank her friends and family for always supporting her!



YVONNE PERRY (Director, First 15) is a professional actress based in both the Capital District and New York. As a director, her credits include shows at UAlbany (*The Wolves*; *My First Time*; *Circle Mirror Transformation*); Siena (*How I Learned To Drive*; *Tartuffe*; *Spike Heels*); and Union College (*Boeing Boeing*). She has directed many Theatre Voices productions, including *Defiance*, *Rogues Gallery* and *Outside Mullingar*, all by John Patrick Shanley. Yvonne is a guest lecturer in Acting at UAlbany, and has also taught and/or guest lectured at Skidmore, Union, Siena and Adelphi University. She is a certified Consent Forward Artist with IDC, and has directed moments of intimacy at Skidmore, Syracuse U and Capital Repertory Theatre, where she is also an Artistic Associate. You can learn more about Yvonne's performance, teaching and directing work on her website at www.yvonneperry.com. Proud member AEA, where she is The Greater Albany Area Liaison Co-Chair, and SAG-AFTRA.

Summit Acting Company



AALIYAH AL-FUHAID (Actor, First 15) is thrilled to be back on the Capital Rep stage! A Theatre major at SUNY Albany, Aaliyah's favorite credits include "In the Blood" (Amiga Gringa), "The Nether" (Iris), "And then there were None" (Vera Claythorn), and her voiceover work on the video game *KnockOut City*. She would like to thank family and friends who have supported her throughout the years.



NICHOLAS BAROUDI (Actor, "The Last American Newspaper") is a Manhattan based actor originally from Lake George, NY. His career was established with a Theater background from Playwrights Horizons to Arena Stage, featuring roles in, *A Few Good Men*, *A Walk in the Woods*, *Whose Life is it Anyway?*, *All My Sons*, *Junk*, *Dial M for Murder*, and *Winter Street*. A transition into Film and Television focused work include appearances in, *Person of Interest* and *FBI* (CBS); *Billions* and *The Loudest Voice* (Showtime); *Time After Time* (ABC); *Fosse/Verdon* (FX), and as a Recurring Guest Star on *Law & Order: Organized Crime* (NBC). He will next appear in the Psychological Thriller, *New Me*, Noir Drama, *Mrs. Booker on 8th Avenue*, and the Sci-Fi Thriller, *The Sound*. He is represented by BRS/Gage Talent Agency and Rewind Management.

JEFFREY BINDER* (Actor, “The Last American Newspaper”) is an actor, playwright, director, and producer. He has performed on Broadway, Off-Broadway, Regionally, and London’s West End as well as on television and in film. Additionally, he served as Associate Artistic Director of Gulfshore Playhouse in Naples, Florida for six seasons. Acting: Broadway: Lion King, Lieutenant of Inishmore (Original Broadway Cast), Mary Poppins, Side Man (Original Broadway Cast). West End: Side Man (Premiere). NYC: Music Hall (US Premiere 59E59th), Romance/The New Testament (NY Premieres/Neil LaBute, 59E59th), Dr. Faustus (Classic Stage Company), Birth and After Birth (Atlantic), Princess Turandot (Blue Light) Regional: Ride the Cyclone (McCarter Theatre), The White Chip (Merrimack Rep, World Premiere), The God Game (Premiere Gulfshore Playhouse/Capital Repertory Theatre), Love in the Wars (Premiere, Bard Summerscape), The Master and Margarita (Bard Summerscape), Bob (Premiere, Humana Festival 2011), Tartuffe (NJSF), Gulfshore Playhouse: Numerous productions including Every Brilliant Thing, the one person Higher (filmed, also playwright), An Iliad, Scapino (World Premiere, also playwright), My Fair Lady, Holmes and Watson, Hound of the Baskervilles, The Price, The Refugees, Television's "Damages" (recurring), "Law and Order," "L&O: Criminal Intent," "Guiding Light," "All My Children." Directing: Lehman Trilogy, Maytag Virgin, The Lady Demands Satisfaction, In the Next Room or the Vibrator Play, Camelot, and last year's A Sherlock Carol at Florida Rep. MFA, NYU.



BRENNY CAMPBELL* (Actor, “The Last American Newspaper”) returns to Next Act! with delight. Capital Rep audiences will remember Brenny from SHERLOCK CAROL, OTHER DESERT CITIES, BLITHE SPIRIT, GOD OF CARNAGE, among others. ATF audiences will remember Brenny from BLACK TIE and THE WHALE. Brenny helped develop StageWrite for ATF and counts her seasons as a Teaching Artist there among her happiest in a classroom. Theater: Arkansas Rep, InterAct Theater, Florida Studio Theater, Portland Stage, Majestic Theater, Saratoga Shakespeare, Lake George Dinner Theatre, among others. TV: the other two (Max) and Gotham (Fox). Film: Kid Happy, Earworm, Dead Man’s Party. Proud member of Actors Equity Association.



KATHLEEN CAREY (Actor, “The Last American Newspaper”) Active in the Capital District theater community for more than 30 years, Kathleen has worked at most area theaters, recently making her mainstage debut at the REP as Jessie in “Sweat.” Other appearances include the title role in Harbinger Theatre’s acclaimed production “Mrs. Packard,” Mary Mallon in “Typhoid Mary” (Theater Voices), Carol in “Hurricane Diane” (Harbinger) and Margie in “Good People” at her beloved Theater Barn, for which she won the Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play Award from the Berkshire Theater Critic’s Association. Happy to be back to the NEXT ACT! New Play Summit celebration!



LANCELOT DOUGLAS (Actor, First 15) (they/them) Lancelot Douglas is a local artist and proud returning participant in the Next Act Festival. They have regularly appeared in productions with Playhouse Stage Company, where they also teach and direct as part of the education program. Lancelot is grateful to be returning to the festival this season.



Lancelot Douglas (they/them)



Gabi Bazinet Douglas

GABI BAZINET DOUGLAS (Actor, First 15) (she/they) is a theatre artist based in Albany, NY. She teaches Dance and Performing Arts at Albany Academy (grades 4-12) and works with Playhouse Stage Co. as a performer, choreographer, and stage manager. She recently choreographed their production of *A Christmas Story* and performed in *Legally Blonde*. At theREP, she has performed in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and *The Wizard of Oz* and designed the food for *Scared*, directed by Margaret Hall.



GABRIEL FABIAN (Actor, "Castling") is an Actor who earned his BA in Performance Art from the University of Albany and Marymount Manhattan College. Since his graduation in 2023, he has been actively performing in the capital region. Gabriel is thrilled to be apart of the cast of "Castling," in Capital Reps 2025 Next Act! New Play Summit



HAYES M FIELDS II (Actor, First 15) Award Winning Performer, Musical Artist, and Composer. Hayes made his first "guest" performance at the tender age of 4, with "The Fields Singers," a family group with his mother and 3 sisters. This began a career spanning over 50 years! He starred in The Harlem Children's Theater Production: "The Liberation of Mother Goose." Albany's Civic Theater: "Ain't Misbehavin," and theREP's "City Séance: Ghost Tour." Hayes is a founding member of gospel group, "Higher Calling." Currently performs with Albany gospel group, "Restored," and is currently a member of the MOPCO Improvisational Theatre, in Schenectady New York. Hayes has also performed with Gospel Greats including Shirley Caesar, and Fred Hammond.



DAVID GIRARD* (Actor, "The Last American Newspaper") A Capital Region native based out of Historic Troy, NY, David has been working as a professional actor, director, and theatre educator for over twenty years. He is the Artistic Director of Troy Foundry Theatre, co-devising and directing original works such as *City of Myth: Ilium Sings* and *Where There's Smoke: Ilium Burns*, as well as directing several works by Samuel Beckett including *Not I* and *Krapp's Last Tape*. David is also a Core Adjunct Professor at Siena College, and is a former Associate Artistic Director for the Saratoga Shakespeare Company. David has worked with Capital Repertory Theatre in several capacities, most recently appearing in productions of *The Wizard of Oz* and last season's award-winning *A Midsummer Nights' Dream*. David has his MFA in Directing from Temple University and is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association.



DIAKA KABA HILL* (Actor, First 15) is a Malian-American actress. Diaka arrived in Albany in 2018, quickly earning roles in a range of regional productions. She is Assistant Artistic Director of the Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY (BTTUNY). Favorite credits include: “All in the Timing” (Theater Voices/Steamer N. 10 Theatre), “The Motherf**ker with the Hat” (Albany Barn, Inc.), “Hard Candy & Misdemeanors” (Troy Foundry Theatre), “Whitewashed: the racism project” (Creative Action Unlimited), “The Treasurer” (Theater Voices / Steamer N.10 Theatre), “Shakespeare In Love” (Capital Repertory Theatre), “Platanos y Collard Greens” (Palace Theatre), “The Last Days of Judas Iscariot” (Edinburgh Fringe Festival). <http://www.diaka.com>



MICHAEL A. LAKE (Actor, First 15) is an artist and theatre-maker from the NY Capital District. His directorial credits include Happy Birthday Wanda June (WKP), Mountaintop, Berta, Berta (BTTUNY), and POV (CAU). Michael's acting credits include Topdog/Underdog (BTTUNY), Hard Candy and Misdemeanors (TFT) Release, Sides (CAU), The Tragedy of Othello, A Midsummer Night's Dream (WKP), Fireflies, and Ben Butler (CCT), among others. His film credits include The Climb (CAU 2020), Welcome Home (Next Evolution Media (2019), and The Inheritance (2020).



CARMELA MARNER* (Actor, First 15) is received her B.A. with Honors in Renaissance Studies from Brown University and attended the 3-year Acting Program at the Central School of Speech & Drama in London where she lived and worked primarily in film and TV with such credits as Stanley Kubrick's Eyes Wide Shut; Speedy Death: A Mrs. Bradley Mystery with Diana Rigg; and Hetty Wainthropp Investigates with Patricia Routledge. For 20 years, she worked as Actress-Producer at the Franklin Stage Company, an admission-free, small professional theatre in Franklin, NY, including 10 years as FSC's Executive-Artistic Director. Favorite acting roles at FSC include Caliban & Ariel in The Tempest, Emma in Betrayal, Feste in Twelfth Night, Nora in A Doll's House and Hecuba in Trojan Women. Privileged also to be an educator, Carmela teaches in the theatre department at SUNY-Ononta and has taught acting classes and created productions of Shakespeare plays with the adult artists with disabilities at Main View Gallery & Studio in Ononta, NY, a project of the ARC-Otsego.

DOUG MACKECHNIE* (Actor, First 15) moved back home to VT with his wife last year and is thrilled to return to Capital District theatre with the 2025 Next Act! New Play Summit, after more than 30 years away. It's particularly meaningful because Capital Rep is the first Equity theatre he auditioned for (back in '92) and because he spent over a decade as an Associate Artist at Chicago Dramatists - new plays and playwrights are near and dear to his heart. Regional and Chicagoland world premieres include: Banned From Baseball (Human Race Theatre Company, Dayton, OH), Unnecessary Farce (BoarsHead Theater, Lansing, MI), Household Spirits (Theater Wit), The Gravedigger (First Folio), Menorca (16th Street), Lucinda's Bed (Chicago Dramatists), and Slaphappy (Beat The Jester Productions). He also spent quite a few years with the late ShawChicago: selected roles include Rev. James Morell in Candida, Jeeves in Jeeves In Bloom and Jeeves Intervenes, Hector Hushabye in Heartbreak House, Victor Prynne in Private Lives, Adolphus Cusins in Major Barbara, Jack Tanner in Man and Superman, and the Earl of Warwick in Saint Joan. Doug is an MFA graduate of The Theatre School, DePaul University and a proud member of Actors' Equity. Thanks and love always to Linda, who makes me possible



INIABASI A. NELSON (Actor, "Castling") was born and raised in Brooklyn, NY. Iniabasi Nelson is a graduate of State University of New York at Albany, with a degree in both Theatre and Psychology. Iniabasi's diverse cultural background, educational knowledge and life experience has allowed him to be the unique individual he is today. Similar to Mr.Potato Head, Iniabasi has a passion for developing different pieces of a character to tell a story. He recently starred in the short film Maybe In Another Life. Check out his website for more info. His dream is to one day tell stories to the world. https://linktr.ee/Iniabasi_N



ANGELIQUE POWELL (Actor, "Castling") is a Capital Region native, a passionate actor, an advocate for arts inclusivity and accessibility, and a community organizer. Her fierce advocacy, personally and professionally, creates space where everyone can thrive. She uses theatre to support, heal, educate, and mobilize her community. She uses theatre to support, heal, educate, and mobilize her community. By day, Angelique is a Director of Community Animation at The Blake Annex, where she furthers her personal mission by fostering equitable spaces and serving as a connector—helping people and organizations doing impact work build relationships and form strong collaborations. She was named in the Albany Business Review's "Women on the Rise" in 2022 and "40 under 40" in 2023. She also received the Impact Award from AFPNY's New York Hudson-Mohawk Chapter for her commitment to inclusion, diversity, equity, and access.

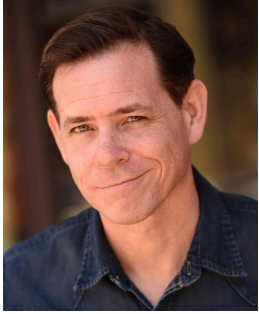




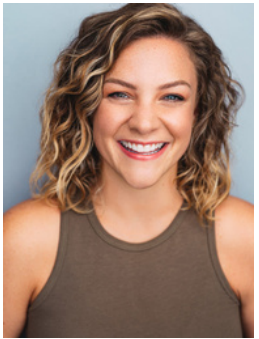
ELIANA ROWE* (Actor, “**The Last American Newspaper**”) is a Theatre Artist/Storyteller based in Albany, NY. Rowe has appeared in local and regional productions across the country, writes and performs their own solo work, and occasionally moonlights in princess cosplay. Regional Credits: “Imbrogio” (Betty) and “As You Like It” (Celia) at The Great River Shakespeare Festival, “Twelfth Night” (Viola) at the Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey. Educational Credits: “Harriet Tells It Like It Is!” (Harriet) with Capital Repertory Theatre, “Shakespeare LIVE! 2022” with The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey, and “Shakespeare and the Language That Shaped the World” (Ensemble) with Shakespeare & Company. Other recent credits include “Twelfth Night” with The Rooted Voyagers, “The Tempest: Just(ice) like Waters” with Black Shakespeare Project, “A Deed Without a Name,” “Beckett3 Echo Chambers,” and “City of Myth: Ilium Sings” all with Troy Foundry Theatre. Rowe is a 2024 Semifinalist for the National Playwright’s Conference (“My Papier Mâché Monster”). They’re also a proud alumni of Fordham University. Let’s Connect: [@simply_eliana](https://www.instagram.com/simply_eliana) | elianarowe.com



HANADI SADI* (Actor, **First 15**) is Born in Damascus, Syria 1973 where she grew up, Hanadi started acting at age 9 when she got her first TV role after winning the Best Actor Award in Syria's National Pioneers Talents Contest for Elementary Schools that she kept winning for three consecutive years. Hanadi kept performing in school throughout college acting in plays and singing in concerts along with participating in few TV and Radio children shows. She won Best Actress award in National University Theater Festival in 1997 while she was completing her postgraduate degree in translation from Damascus University. After graduation, she freelanced as a film-subtitling translator, voiceover/dubbing talent, TV news reporter, and actress. Hanadi has been residing in the United States for over twenty years through which she obtained an MFA degree in Digital Filmmaking from Anaheim University, CA. She periodically works on writing lyrics and scripts for new songs, films, and tutorials while seeking financing resources to enable her to produce her accumulating unproduced projects. www.imdb.com; www.facebook.com; www.scriptrevolution.com; www.linkedin.com; www.youtube.com



DENNIS SCHEBETTA* (Actor, “The Last American Newspaper”) is excited to work on NEXT ACT! at theREP again after directing the Young Playwright Contest Reading last year and as an actor in “Yartsy on Division.” He is an actor, director, and writer with credits off-off Broadway and regionally. Earlier this year he was seen in “The Hatmakers Wife” at Theatre Voices and as Sir Toby in “Twelfth Night” at Saratoga Shakespeare Company. Other credits include off-off Broadway’s “Where are you” at Ensemble Studio Theater, “An Ideal Husband” at Northeast Theatre Ensemble, “August: Osage County” at the Pittsburgh Playhouse, “Shining City” at Off the Wall. His award-winning short *My Date with Adam* was selected for several film festivals around the globe. He is Assistant Professor at Skidmore College and co-author of *Building a Performance: An Actor’s Guide to Rehearsal* (with John Basil). www.dennischebetta.com



NICOLE ZELKA (Actor, First 15) Celebrating her 5th time at theREP since beginning her professional career here at 18 years old as Lisa in “Mamma Mia!” Other credits at theREP include: “Jersey Boys” (Lorraine/Others), “The Full Monty” (Estelle), and “Honky Tonk Angels” (Swing/Dance Captain). National Tour: “R&H’s Cinderella” (Gabrielle, u/s Marie), “Elf” (Ensemble, u/s Emily, u/s Deb), “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory” (Ensemble, u/s Mrs. Teavee, u/s Mrs. Gloop). Proud LDC artist. Major love + thanks to Maggie, Margaret, and Kevin. [@nicolezelka](https://www.instagram.com/nicolezelka) / nicolezelka.com

Playwrights of the Summit



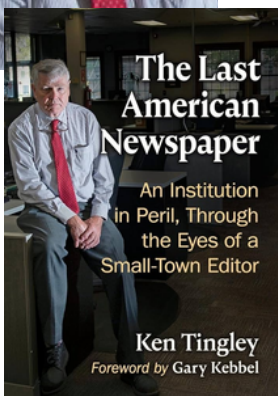
ALYSSA HADDAD-CHIN (Playwright, “The Ancestry Dot Com Play”) (she/her) is a Brooklyn-based Lebanese American playwright, educator, and arts facilitator from Upstate, NY. Her work has been developed at theaters and collectives across the country including New York Theatre Workshop, The Playwrights Realm, Keen Company, Premiere Stages at Kean, Mercury Store, B Street Theatre, Art House Productions, and others. She is the Company and Community Manager at Target Margin Theater, a Resident Artist at Breaking & Entering Theater Collective, a New Georges Affiliated Artist, and a member of the Dramatists Guild. A collection of her short plays, *And Now a Little Something for the Ladies* (among others), is published with 1319 Press. MFA: NYU Tisch School of the Arts, BA: The College of Saint Rose. alyssahaddad.com



ANTHONY T. GOSS (Playwright, “Castling”) is a New York City based Actor and Playwright from Boston, Massachusetts. He is a 2024-2026 playwright in residence with the National Black Theatre in New York. His play ‘Out of Bounds’ was a 2023 semi-finalist with the Eugene O’neill Playwrights Conference. His play “Castling” was a finalist for the 2024 Premiere Stages New Play Series and Capital Rep’s Next Act Play Summit, among others. As an actor, he was recently seen in August Wilson’s ‘The Piano Lesson’ at the Actor Shakespeare Project, ‘The Effect’ at the Gamm Theatre and ‘Toni Stone’ at the Huntington Theatre. He is excited and honored to be working with Capital Rep and further develop his play “Castling.”



SHAYNE KENNEDY (Playwright, “Mrs. Whitman’s Words for Women”) Kennedy’s play, Agreed Upon Fictions, premiered at 16th Street Theater in 2014. Handled premiered at Creighton University and was produced at The Wildwood Theatre in Minneapolis. Mrs. Whitman’s Words for Women was produced at Southeastern Louisiana University, had its second production at Creighton University and will have its first professional production this fall in Murphys, California. The Patriarch, was part of AboutFACE Theatre Company’s NEWvember festival in Dublin, Ireland, The Road Theatre Company’s Summer Playwrights Festival, and The Valley Players Theatre’s Summer Reading Series. Shayne works in accessibility for blind and low-vision people and has a popular TikTok account, or she did, depending on when you are reading this, [@shaynegoestohighschool](https://www.tiktok.com/@shaynegoestohighschool), wherein she reads her high school diary entries, thirty-five years to the day they were written.



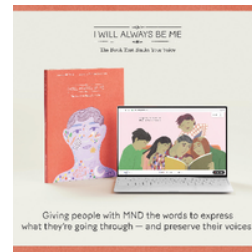
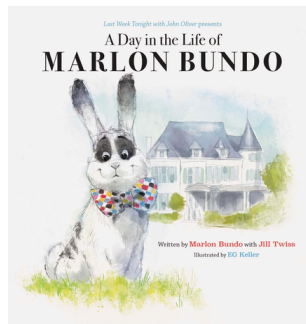
KEN TINGLEY (Playwright, “The Last American Newspaper”) was editor of The Post-Star in Glens Falls, N.Y. from 1999 to 2020. During his tenure, the newspaper won a Pulitzer Prize in editorial writing in 2009, was recognized by the New York State Associated Press Association with its “Newspaper of Distinction” award nine times while winning more than a dozen national awards for its journalism. During his tenure Tingley wrote an award-winning local news column that was regularly honored by the New York State News Publishers Association and the New York State Associated Press Association. When Tingley retired in July 2020, his column had been named a finalist by the National Society of Newspaper Columnists in 8 of the past 10 years. It was honored with a first-place award in 2016. Since retiring, Tingley has published two collections of his newspaper columns - “The Last American Editor” - and “The Last American Editor, Vol. 2.” His second book - “The Last American Newspaper” - is a memoir about the importance of newspapers in their community and all the great work The Post-Star contributed to the Glens Falls community. He adapted the book into a play in 2023. He currently writes a Substack column - The Front Page - kentingley.substack.com - three times a week to help fill the void left by the lack of commentary in the Capital District. Tingley grew up in Seymour, Conn. and graduated from Eastern Kentucky University in 1979. He married his late wife, Gillian, in 1982 and they have a 29-year-old son, Joseph, who currently works as an engagement specialist at the National World War II Museum in New Orleans, La.

Playwrights of the Summit

(in alphabetical order)



JILL TWISS (Playwright, “Good Vibes Only”) is a comedy writer who won multiple Emmys, WGA Awards, and Peabody Awards for her work as a senior writer on Last Week Tonight with John Oliver. She is the author of "A Day in the Life of Marlon Bundo," a New York Times #1 bestseller, and several other children's books. Her most recent book, "I Will Always Be Me" was written to help ALS patients describe their experiences with the disease, and when it's read aloud it can be used to electronically bank patient's voices. And in what may be her favorite jobs, Jill has written for the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (The Jimmy Awards) and the Scripps National Spelling Bee.



RUTH APOLONIA ZAMOYTA (Playwright, “The Judge and His Daughter”) started writing plays at the ripe age of 49. Since then, her full-length plays and short comedies have had productions and readings off-Broadway and in regional theatres. Her accolades include: Semi-Finalist - 2024 National Playwrights Conference (The Widow); Finalist - 2022 Austin Film Festival Pitch Competition (Helene: Hitler's Jewish Athlete); Nominee - 2021 Susan Smith Blackburn Prize (The Incels); Winner - 2018-22 New Jersey State Arts Council playwriting fellowship (The Caregivers); Resident Playwright - 2020-21 NJ Play Lab (The Incels); Contributing Playwright - the 2021 Telly Award-winning Heroes & Villains Monologues (Eleanor Roosevelt's Pudding); Semi-Finalist - 2019 Bay Area Playwrights Festival (The Fencers); Semi-Finalist - 2018 Bay Area Playwrights Festival (The Caregivers); Resident Playwright - 2018-19 INKubator program at Art House Productions in Jersey City (The Incels); Featured Playwright - 2018 New Jersey Writers Theatre's Women Playwrights Series (The Widow). Zamoyta, considers herself from Saranac Lake in the Adirondacks, having spent every summer of her childhood there and then moved to and graduated from Saranac Lake Central HS as a teen, holds degrees from Columbia University, NYU, and St. John's University, and is a member of Dramatists Guild, International Centre for Women Playwrights, HonorRoll!, and USA Fencing. She's also a communications professional, published poet, and épée fencer.

[Click here for more information on NEXT ACT!](#)

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Michael Boop

Sadrina Burney

Shayne Cameris

Kristen Cargill

Emily Curro

Michael Eck

Margaret E. Hall

Diaka Kaba Hill

Kelly Hogan

Ben Katagiri

Justin Knudsen

Jean Leonard

Sophia Lingane

Jennifer MacDonald

Maggie Mancinelli-Cahill

Hillary Parker

Earlene Hyman-Payne

Yvonne Perry

John Romeo

Bileen Schuyler

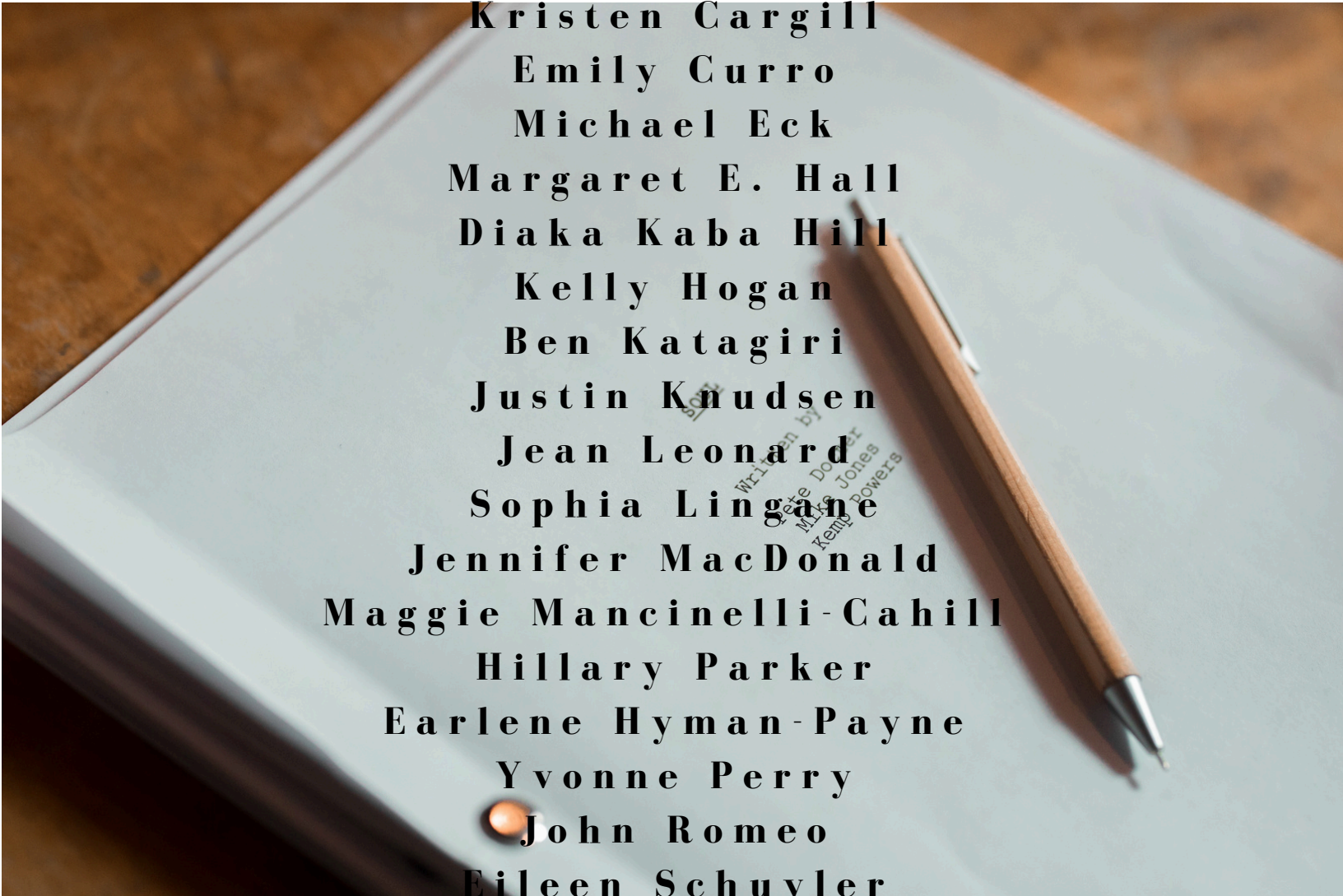
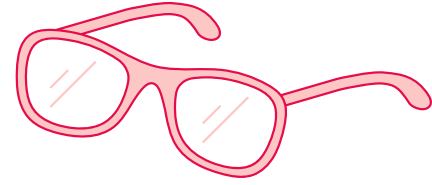
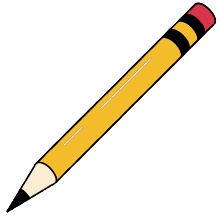
Christine Skubon

Emily Spateholts

Jenny Strassburg

Bonita Williams

Rachael Yoder



theREP's 2024-25 Season
World Premiere from NEXT ACT!
“Rosie is Red and Everybody is Blue”
by John Spellos

[GET YOUR TICKETS NOW!!!](#)



“Rosie is Red And Everybody Is Blue”

Family is everything. However, when everybody needs something and nobody wants to listen, something has to give, and Rosie is about to give it to all of them, with no holes barred.

Rosie seems to be living the proverb “when it rains, it pours.” Her brother-in-law is living in her small house, driving her up one wall and down the other. To make matters worse, her down-and-out adult son has moved in too. All this while Rosie secretly battles her own problems and emotions, just trying to make it through each day.

Filled with sharp, witty banter, this fast-paced and heartfelt comedy about family will have you in tears...both happy and heartwarming.

Directed by Reginald Douglas

at **theREP** ★

PROCTORS
Collaborative

theREP's 2025-26 Season

Regional Premiere of a Next Act Playwright!

“Dodi & Diana” by Kareem Fahmy

**Get your subscription to theREP's 2025-26 Season
(and secure your tickets to 'Dodi & Diana') NOW!**

Click [HERE!](#)



“Dodi & Diana”

The marriage of Jason and Samira has hit a crisis. He’s a white Wall Street banker and she’s a budding actress of Egyptian descent. After Samira plays a cringe-inducing role as a terrorist on a television show, she may finally break out as a star. But Jason fears their relationship will be burned by the glare of the spotlight. He consults an astrologer who instructs them to check into the Hôtel Ritz Paris on the anniversary of the death of another famous biracial couple: Princess Diana and Dodi Fayed. A smart, steamy dance of power and intimacy ensues as the lovers await a cosmic convergence that will illuminate their fate.

Playwright Kareem Fahmy’s plays “American Fast” and “A Distinct Society” were feature in past Next Act Summits. theREP is honored to continue to support Kareem’s work following the world premier of “Dodi & Diana” at Colt Cocur in New York City.

A QUICK LOOK AT THE PAST SUMMITS!

PLAYWRIGHTS

Michael Amon

Brent Askari

AJ Baker

Michael Barakiva

Cris Eli Blak

Suzanne Bradbeer

Joe Breen

Joe Borini

Alan Brody

Stephen Brown

David Bunce

Catherine Butterfield

David Buskin

Zach Calhoun

Christin Eve Cato

Makasha Copeland

Patricia Cotter

Lynda Crawford

Lisa Dellagiarino

Gino Dilorio

Jared Eberlein

Michael Erickson

Kareem Fahmy

John Fiorillo

Meridith Friedman

Seth Greenland

Dave Valdes Greenwood

Christina Gorman

Diane Baia Hale

Holly Hepp-Galvan

Michael Hilton

Michael Hollinger

Jake Holmes

Terrence Patrick Hughes

Marcus Hummon

John Kane

William Kennedy

Robert Kerr

G.D. Kimble

Barbara Kingsley

Sherry Kramer

Judith Leora

Paul Lewis

Carole Lockwood

Deb Lucasta

Rachel Lynett

Brian O'Neill

Emily Mikesell

Nancy Moss

Bob Morris

Lewis Morrow

Tira Palmquist

Steven Peterson

Jordan Ramirez Puckett

Joshua Rebell

Mark Rigney

Rich Rubin

Caroline Sherman

Peter Snoad

Susan Spain

Jenny Stafford

Blaine Teamer

Tommy Trull

Hope Villanueva

Michael Walker

Ajene D. Washington

Richard Willet

Deborah Yarchun

Desiree York



YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS

Noelle Abushqeir
Jessica Airhienbuwa
Leanne Airhienbuwa
Maxine Alpart
Jayleigh Bellefeuille
Quincy Brown
Saulha Brown
Nathaniel Burk
Kaliana Burnell
Jack Bruno

Sylvia Mattraw-Johnston
Sarah McCollum
John McCorkle
Madalyn McMann
Ava McTiernan
Amara Mitchell
Jordan Moses
Samuel Mozzillo
Jyasi Nagel
Karthik Nair



Chiara Cenci
Meghan Cenci
Rachel Covey
Jamie Curcio
Natalie Deso
Sophie Duerr
Derrick Edgren
Sydney Elmore
Amrita Ganeshkumar
Samantha Gallaghery
Jaimie Gaskell
Jashton Gieser



Elizabeth Novak
Emily O'Brien
Jamie O'Brien
Ava O'Dea
Ema Pelton
Lindsey Penet
Oliver Price
Emily Ramm
Amanda Recine
Hannah Richards
Ana Roberts
Merryn Rositzke



Fallon Greenaway
Abigail Guenther
Alyssa Haddad
Jesse Hampsch
Sean Halligan
Morgan Hughes
Lily Jandrisevits
MJ Johnson
Wisdom Johnson
Joshua Kenna
Abigail Kennedy



Straton Rushing
Aden Suchak
Resse Taylor
Nina Tuxbury
Chloe Tyson
Lydia Valentino
Rya Vallabhaneni
Jonathan Van De Loo
Nicholas Vanhoesen
S.E. Vatalaro
Steven Vendenburgh



Madaleine Kotary
Violet Kreifels
John Kunz
Olivia Lawrence
Isabella Libby
Seamus Madden



Amita Wingfield
Isabella Wu
Amy Zhang
Palge Zubel
Ava Zuelsdorf



The Proctors Collaborative Staff

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Christine Sheehan, Director of Education at Proctors Collaborative
Teddy Foster, Director at UPH

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Brandon Curry, Luke Krauss, Stephen Pellitier

The Box Office Staff

The Full Staff of Proctors Collaborative (which includes theREP, Proctors and UPH)

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