

THEREP'S NEXT ACT! NEW PLAY SUMMIT NEW VOICES YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT READING

May 30, 2025 at 5pm



theREP's 14th Annual Summit

*Lots of great info
inside this program:*

NEW PLAYS BEING AT THEREP!

LEARN ABOUT:

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

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).

2025 Next Act! New Voices Reading

TICKETS ALL ARE \$5.00

THE READING IS IN-PERSON @ THEREP
(251 NORTH PEARL STREET, ALBANY)

FRIDAY, MAY 30, 2025

@5PM - NEW VOICES YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT READING

“Intervention” by Charlie and Lewis Hood
(Guilderland High School)

“Mutiny: A Pirate’s Tale” by Alex Parmerter & Cormac Laster
(Guilderland High School)

“Rodeo and Silhouette: A Rootin’ Tootin’ Romance” by Armand Caringi &
Lyric O’Connor
(Coxsackie-Athens High School)

“The Legend of Camp North Pine” by Samantha Millett & Violet Charniga
(Coxsackie-Athens High School)

“The Spear of Emery” by Kara Whiteside & Emilyn Aldi
(Guilderland High School)

“Two Nights to Bordeaux” by Clair Hubert, Danielle Deering & Payton
Slater
(Coxsackie-Athens High School)

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.

FIRST 15: Be a Literary Manager!

New Voices provides a reading of the Collaborative School of the Arts at the REP's Young Playwright Contest finalist scripts.

Directed by Yvonne Perry
Stage Managed by Michaela Savoic

(Each cast in alphabetical order)

“Intervention” by Charlie & Lewis Hood
(Guilderland high School)

Cast:

Jasmine: Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

Stephen: Ethan Botwick*

Jon: Josh DeMarco

Stage Directions: Raya Malcolm

Mary: Madalyn Montgomery

Angie: Morgan Smith

“Mutiny: A Pirate’s Tale” by Alex Parmerter & Cormac
Laster (Guilderland High School)

Cast:

Vane: Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

Ronan: Ethan Botwick*

Bellamy: Josh DeMarco

Gulliver: Jared Lewis-Holliday

Blackbear: Doug MacKechnie*

Stage Directions: Madalyn Montgomery

Edward: Lucien Pryor

Chester: John Romeo*

Loretta: Morgan Smith

James: Brock Whaley

“Rodeo and Silhouette: A Rootin’ Tootin’ Romance” by
Armand Caringi & Lyric O’Connor
(Coxsackie-Athens High School)

Cast:

Rodeo: Ethan Botwick*

Ontario: Josh DeMarco

Heisenberg: Jared Lewis-Holliday

Billy Shakespeare: Doug MacKechnie*

Silhouette Pirouette: Raya Malcolm

The Voice of Jesus Chris: Madalyn Montgomery

Viscount Pirouette: John Romeo*

Stage Directions: Morgan Smith

Asphalt Pirouette: Brock Whaley

“The Legend of Camp North Pine” by Samantha Millett &
Violet Charniga (Coxsackie-Athens High School)

Cast:

Samara: Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

Jack: Josh DeMarco

Michael: Jared Lewis-Holliday

Ash: Raya Malcolm

Tiffany: Madalyn Montgomery

Stage Directions: John Romeo*

Jennifer: Morgan Smith

“The Spear of Emery” by Kara Whiteside & Emilyn Aldi
(Guilderland High School)

Cast:

Nazim: Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

Assistant General Ernesto: Ethan Botwick*

Leading General Marcello: Josh DeMarco

Stage Directions: Jared Lewis-Holliday

King Maxwell: Doug MacKechnie*

Duchess Elaine: Raya Malcolm

Prince Theo: Brock Whaley

“Two Nights to Bordeaux” by Claire Hubert, Danielle
Deering & Payton Slater
(Coxsackie-Athens high School)

Cast:

Guard: Ethan Botwick*

Alexander: Jared Lewis-Holliday

Random Man: Doug MacKechnie*

Stage Directors: Raya Malcolm

Joan: Madalyn Montgomery

William: John Romeo*

Narrator: Morgan Smith

Henry: Brock Whaley

**Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association
Full Company Bios start on page 5*

Creative Team



Yvonne Perry

YVONNE PERRY (Director) is 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 area colleges, Syracuse Stage, and here at Capital Repertory Theatre, where she is also an Artistic Associate. 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.

MICHAELA SAVOIE (Stage Manager) Michaela is a full-time employee at theREP, working in the Assistant Stage Manager/Assistant Company Manager Apprenticeship. She's worked as ASM - and or run crew - for many mainstage productions at theREP as well as Production Stage Manager and or Road Manager for several of theREP's On-the-Go! in-school touring productions.

CAST in alphabetical order



AALIYAH AL-FUHAID (Actor, First 15) is delighted to be part of this year's Young Playwrights Festival. Recent credits include Butterflies Are Free (Jill), In the Blood (Amiga Gringa), Hamlet (Gertrude), And Then There Were None (Vera Claythorne), and Custom Cuts (Jo). Up next, she'll appear as Madeline in Sharr White's A Sunrise in Times Square for CRAFT. Big thanks to the REP community for bringing her back for these fun readings!

[@aaliyahalfuhaid](https://www.instagram.com/aaliyahalfuhaid)



ETHAN BOTWICK* (Actor) Ethan Botwick is graduate of Russell Sage college in Troy New York, and Associate Artistic Director of Troy Foundry Theatre. Recent credits include: A Midsummer Night's Dream (Capital Repertory); City of Myth:Ilium Sings, Yellow, The Prohibition Project: Ilium Was and La Ronde (Troy Foundry Theatre/Die-Cast); Catastrophe Carnival: A Night Of Becket Shorts (Troy Foundry Theatre), Proof (Old Castle Theatre), Romeo & Juliet and As You Like It (Saratoga Shakespeare Company); Julius Caesar (The Public Theatre); Films include: Super Dark Times and Highwaymen from Troy's own Chromoscope Pictures.



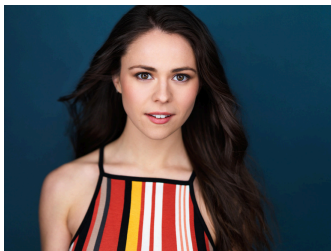
JOSH DEMARCO (Actor) Josh is so excited to be back at theREP for the 2025 Next Act Young Playwrights Contest Reading! Josh is an Albany native actor and choreographer. His most recent credit includes Urinetown with Derby Dinner Playhouse in Clarksville, Indiana. Josh's past appearances with theREP include A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Wizard of OZ, Jersey Boys and more! This summer you can find him in The Little Mermaid with Park Playhouse and Choreographer for The Prom with Not So Common Players.



JARED LEWIS-HOLLIDAY (Actor) Jared is a rising junior studying Theatre and Acting at the University at Albany. He has been featured in *Mary Shelley meets Frankenstein* (as Percy Shelley) by Kate Walat, *The Rover* (as Willmore) by Aphra Behn and *The University at Albany Fresh Acts Festivals of Spring 2024 and 2025*. You can also see him in *Between Riverside and Crazy* (as Oswald) by Stephen Adly Guirgis at The Albany Civic Theatre this July Jared is thrilled to be a part of The Young Playwright Contest this year at The Capital Repertory Theatre and is thankful to God to be a part of this. He is also very grateful for Associate Artistic Director Margret Hall and Director Yvonne Perry for having him aboard!



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



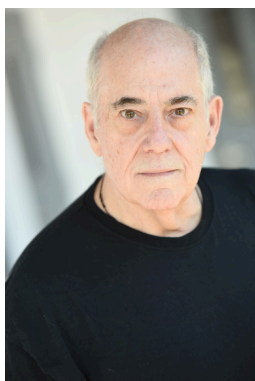
RAYA MALCOLM (Actor) Raya is an actor and musician based in the Capital Region and is thrilled to be a part of her first New Act Festival! Some credits include: Barrington Stage Company: *10X10 Play Festival*. Capital Repertory Theatre: *Hermia* (*Midsummer Night's Dream*). Great Barrington Public Theatre: *Rosie* (*Things I Know To Be True*), *Bobby* (*Breakwater*). Central Square Theater: *Match Girl/Swallow* (*Matchless & The Happy Prince*). Saratoga Shakespeare Company: *Juliet* (*Romeo & Juliet*). Next up, Raya will be co-performing an original work at the Capital Region Festival of Theatre in June and will then return to Shakespeare & Company for the revamping of *Shake It Up: A Shakespeare Cabaret* in July. Thank you for supporting new work! www.rayamalcolm.com



MADALYN MONTGOMERY (Actor) Madalyn is ecstatic to be back at the REP! Past credits include: *Beautiful*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Honky Tonk Angels* and *Jersey Boys*. Love and gratitude to family, friends and the entire Capital Rep fam! madalyn-montgomery.com
[@madalyn.a.montgomery](https://www.instagram.com/madalyn.a.montgomery)



LUCIEN PRYOR (Actor) Lucien is a 7th grader with three brothers he loves very much. He likes to play pickleball and tennis. Lucien's introduction to theater was performing the role of Charlie Bucket in Willy Wonka the Musical at his school. He's since performed in She Kills Monsters at the Rep's Summer Stage program, in Once Upon an Island at the Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY, and in the Wizard of Oz at his school. He'd like to thank his parents for driving him and picking him up each day for his rehearsals.



JOHN ROMEO* (Actor) John is an actor/director/filmmaker and voice over actor. For nearly 30 years was a member of the Resident Acting company with the NYS Theater Institute (ESYTI/ESIPA). Also has performed with Saratoga Shakespeare Company, Theater Voices (board member) and several productions at Capital Repertory Theater. Taught Acting at Russell Sage College and Union College. Co-directed "The Neighborhood That Disappeared" documentary and appeared in many independent films including "Axcellerator", "The Christmas Brew", "The Monkey", "Anomaly" and many others. Proud member of Actor's Equity Association and SAG-AFTRA.



MORGAN SMITH (Actor) Morgan is thrilled to be returning to the Rep! She's an Albany local and a massive fan of Cap Rep's initiatives to foster new playwrights! Previous shows she's been in at the Rep include Phyllis in Jersey Boys (Mainstage), Samaritan in 13 Suits (Black Box), and Katrina/Jasmine in The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (On the Go Tour). What's next for Morgan? Great question, reader! This summer she will be reprising her role as Grete in a workshop of Kafka's Metamorphosis: the Musical! in Manhattan, as well as continuing her studies at the Upright Citizens Brigade. Congrats to these fantastic young playwrights!



BROCK WHALEY (Actor) This is Brock's first time participating in this event and he is unbelievably excited! Coming up he is performing in "American Idiot" at Broadway Upstate!

2025 Summit Reading Committee Members

Victoria Benkoski

Diana Chabai-Booker

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

Eileen Schuyler

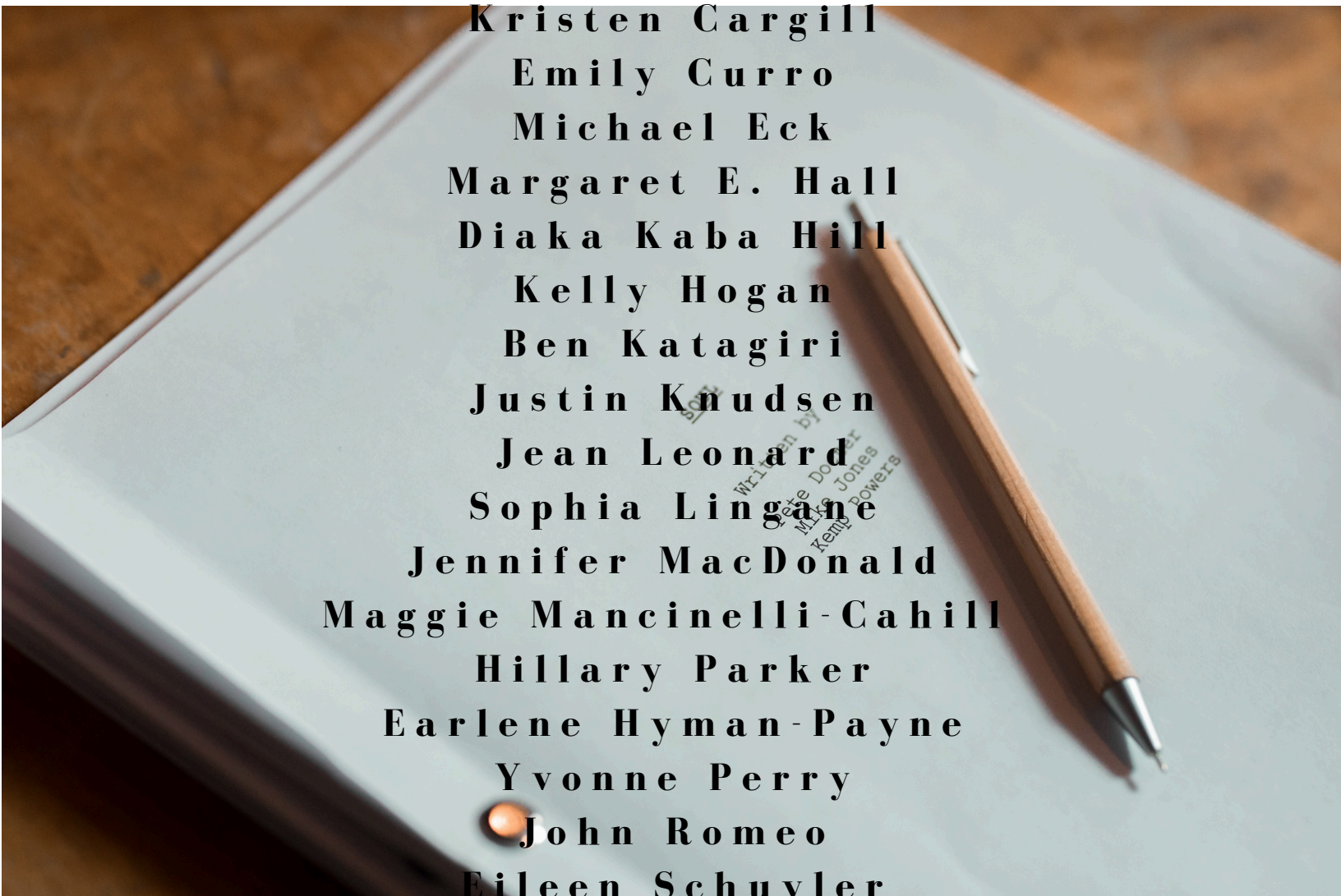
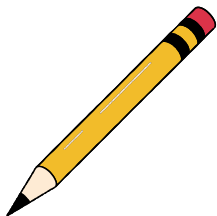
Christine Skubon

Emily Spateholts

Jenny Strassburg

Bonita Williams

Rachael Yoder



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
Saulsha 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 Ganeskumar
Samantha Gallaghery
Jaime 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 Hampseh
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



Amina Wingfield
Isabella Wu
Amy Zhang
Palge Zubel
Ava Zuelsdorf



The Proctors Collaborative Staff

Maggie Mancinelli-Cahill, theREP's Producing Artistic Director
Margaret E. Hall, theREP's Associate Artistic Director | NEXT ACT! Producer
Kait VanHeusen, theREP's Company Manager
Brandon Curry, theREP's Production Manager
Luke Krauss, theREP's Assistant Production Manager/Audio Engineer
Kate Kern, theREP's Assistant Company Manager/Production Stage Manager
Michaela Savoie, theREP's Assistant Company Manager
Andrea Adameczyk, Costume Shop Manager
Carolyn King, Assistant Costume Shop Manager
Vanessa VanZandt, Prop Supervisor
Jessica Bush, theREP's Operations Manager
Facilities Specialists: Larry Baldwin, Terrence White and Patrick McCooney

theREP's Associate Artists: Gordon Greenberg, Barbara Howard, Stephanie Klapper, Kevin McGuire, Jean-Remy Monnay, Yvonne Perry, Freddy Ramirez and Josh D. Smith

Stephanie Klapper/Klapper Casting CSA

Philip Morris, CEO Proctors Collaborative
Jean Leonard, President of Proctors Collaborative
Chris Musto, Chief Finance Officer at Proctors Collaborative
Leesa Oliver, Human Resources Director at Proctors Collaborative
Dan Hanifin, Development Director at Proctors Collaborative
Kelly Auricchio, Marketing Account Specialist at Proctors Collaborative
Jessica Sims, Marketing Specialist, Content Creation & Press at Proctors Collaborative
Christine Sheehan, Director of Education at Proctors Collaborative
Teddy Foster, Director at UPH

Tech/Crew for NEXT ACT!
Brandon Curry, Luke Krauss, Stephen Pellitier

The Box Office Staff

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

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