

THE
LYRIC STAGE
YOUR THEATRICAL HOME

APR 7 - MAY 14



Sister *Act*

And then there were nuns.
A divine, feel-good musical comedy.

MUSIC BY
ALAN MENKEN

LYRICS BY
GLENN SLATER

BOOK BY
BILL & CHERI
STEINKELLNER

WITH ADDITIONAL MATERIAL BY DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

DIRECTED BY
LEIGH BARRETT

MUSIC DIRECTOR
DAVID F. COLEMAN

CHOREOGRAPHY BY
DAN SULLIVAN

LYRICSTAGE.COM | COPLEY SQ. | 617.585.5678



A NOTE FROM THE EXECUTIVE AND ARTISTIC DIRECTORS



Our partnership truly began in earnest roughly five years ago, as we sat together at Post 390, drinking to Larry Coen, our lost collaborator and one of the most distinctive characters that we've known. In the time that followed, we have seen Lyric Stage tested by unique internal and external challenges, and we truly believe that we have emerged from it all much stronger than we were in 2018.

Half our Board of Directors and our entire full-time and box office staff have joined us since then. In *Sister Act*, as always, there's a mix of returning talent with those making their Lyric Stage debut. Larry's legacy lives on through the transformative work of Lyric City Stage, which introduces theater-based education into dozens of Boston Public School classrooms, while Lyric Back Stage joined our suite of education programs this spring.

The closing day of *The Great Leap* was a joyful occasion as we tended bar for the cast and crew celebrating, among other things, how we have grown more accustomed to rallying around one another and treating each other with grace and care.

Time and time again, it is the characters of the Lyric Stage that keep us energized and passionate—on the stage and in the wings, in the audience and in the offices.

We invite you to join us next month for *Rooted*, a new play receiving only its second production, and for our 2023/24 Season, which celebrates vibrant, complex, unforgettable characters. We can't wait to introduce you to them.

Yours dearly,

Matt Chapuran
Executive Director

Courtney O'Connor
Artistic Director

LYRIC STAGE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Glenda Fishman, Treasurer
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The Lyric Stage Company of Boston

Matt Chapuran Executive Director | Courtney O'Connor Artistic Director

presents

Sister Act

MUSIC BY
ALAN MENKEN

LYRICS BY
GLENN SLATER

BOOK BY
BILL & CHERI STEINKELLNER

WITH ADDITIONAL MATERIAL BY DOUGLAS CARTER BEANE

DIRECTED BY
LEIGH BARRETT

MUSIC DIRECTOR
DAVID F. COLEMAN

CHOREOGRAPHY BY
DAN SULLIVAN

Scenic Design, **Jenna McFarland Lord**
Costume Design, **Kelly Baker**
Lighting Design, **Christopher Brusberg****
Sound Design, **Alex Berg**
Props Artisan, **Karissa Roberts**

Production Stage Manager, **Nerys Powell***
Rehearsal Stage Manager, **Thomas M. Kauffman***
Assistant Stage Manager, **Polly Feliciano***
Assistant Director, **Mark Linehan**

Featuring:

Beth Gotha*, Jackson Jirard, Joelle Lurie*, Amie Lytle, Cristhian Mancinas-García, Cheryl McMahon*, Davron S. Monroe*, Kara Chu Nelson, Yewande Odetoyinbo*, Meghan Rose, Carolyn Saxon*, Kathy St. George*, Damon Singletary*, Kira Troilo*, James Turner, Todd Yard

Lyric Stage's 2022/23 Season Sponsors: **Paul Kastner** and **G. Lee & Diana Humphrey**

Production Sponsors: **Sally & Richard Zeckhauser**

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Director Leigh Barrett Sponsor: **Paul Kastner**

Choreographer Dan Sullivan Sponsor: **Richard Rousseau**

Cast Sponsor: **Physician Management Resources**

Orchestra Sponsors: **Alice Richmond & David Rosenbloom**

The video and/or audio recording of this performance by any means whatsoever is strictly prohibited.

SISTER ACT is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).

All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.mtishows.com

The Lyric Stage Company of Boston operates under the NEAT Agreement with Actors' Equity Association and is a member of NEAT (The Producers' Association of New England Area Theaters), and StageSource.

The Lyric Stage Company of Boston is supported in part by a grant from The Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and The Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by The Massachusetts Cultural Council, administered by the Mayor's Office of Arts, Tourism, and Special Events.



*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors & Stage Managers in the United States

**Represented by United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE



A NOTE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF *SISTER ACT*



An evening of singing and dancing nuns pursued by bungling gangsters all set to the backdrop of the musical beat of the disco 1970s? Sign me up! Truly, what could be better than settling into a night of laughter and joyous music without the heavy lift of feelings? Wait a minute. But I think I am feeling “feelings.” You mean there’s MORE to this show than just the dancing nuns?

Yes, my friends, yes there is.

Expectations. We all have them. We have them for ourselves, for the people we meet, and of the moment. What you’re going to experience tonight is what happens when people see beyond those

limited expectations and assumptions, and find love, hope, and friendship in the most unexpected place.

I invite you to be open to the possibility of hope, the letting go of fear, embracing the bravery of vulnerability to discover it in yourself and others, and to challenge your own assumptions and expectations as you enjoy *Sister Act*.

Fondly,

Leigh Barrett, Director

THE LYRIC STAGE
YOUR THEATRICAL HOME

Tyler Simahk* and
Jihan Haddad* in
The Great Leap
(2023)



GET THE LATEST SCOOP
and all the inside info by
joining our email list!
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CAST

| | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Beth Gotha* | Sister Mary Theresa |
| Jackson Jirard | TJ |
| Joelle Lurie* | Sister Mary Patrick |
| Amie Lytle | Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours |
| Cristhian Mancinas-García | Pablo, u/s Curtis/Eddie |
| Cheryl McMahon* | Mother Superior |
| Davron S. Monroe* | Eddie |
| Kara Chu Nelson | Sister Mary Eleanor/Tina/Others, u/s Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours |
| Yewande Odetoynbo* | Deloris Van Cartier |
| Meghan Rose | Sister Mary Stephen, u/s Sister Mary Robert/Sister Mary Patrick |
| Carolyn Saxon* | Sister Mary Rosa of the Blessed Severity/Michelle/Others, u/s Deloris Van Cartier |
| Kathy St. George* | Sister Mary Lazarus |
| Damon Singletary* | Curtis |
| Kira Troilo* | Sister Mary Robert |
| James Turner | Joey, u/s Monsignor O'Hara |
| Todd Yard | Monsignor O'Hara/Others |
| Jennifer Bubriski | u/s Mother Superior/Sister Mary Theresa/Sister Mary Lazarus |
| Alan Cid | u/s Pablo/Joey/TJ |
| Lillian Salazar | u/s Tina/Michelle/Nun |

Meghan Rose, Dance Captain | **James Turner**, Fight Captain

**Denotes member of Actors' Equity Association*

ORCHESTRA

| | |
|----------------|------------|
| Miles Ahlstrom | Guitars |
| Mindy Cimini | Keyboard 2 |
| Brian O'Neill | Drums |
| Paul Perfetti | Trumpets |
| Louis Toth | Reeds |
| Sahil Warsi | Bass |

SUBSTITUTES: Dave Burdett, Rich Kelley, Trumpets;
Hector St. Hillaire, Drums; **Greg Holt**, Bass; **Jim Repa**, Reeds

Musicians are represented by the American Federation of Musicians local 9-535.

MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Take Me to Heaven (Nightclub) Deloris, Michelle, Tina
 Fabulous, Baby Deloris, Michelle, Tina
 The Perfect Place Nuns
 Here Within These Walls Mother Superior, Deloris, Nuns
 It’s Good to Be a Nun Nuns, Deloris
 When I Find My Baby Curtis, Joey, TJ, Pablo
 I Could Be That Guy Eddie, Ensemble
 Raise Your Voice Deloris, Nuns
 Take Me To Heaven Deloris, Nuns

ACT II

Sunday Morning Fever Deloris, Monsignor, Nuns, Eddie, Mother Superior
 Lady in the Long Black Dress Joey, TJ, Pablo
 I Haven’t Got A Prayer Mother Superior
 Bless Our Show Deloris, Nuns
 The Life I Never Led Sister Mary Robert
 Fabulous, Baby! [Reprise] Eddie, Deloris, Nuns, Ensemble
 Sister Act Deloris
 When I Find My Baby [Reprise] Curtis
 The Life I Never Led [Reprise] Sister Mary Robert
 Sister Act [Reprise] Deloris, Mother Superior
 Spread the Love Around Company
 Raise Your Voice Company

RUNNING TIME: 2 hours and 30 minutes
including one 15 minute intermission

CONTENT WARNING:
Depictions of guns and violence, simulated gunshot.



Beth Gotha* [Sister Mary Theresa] – Lyric Stage: *My Fair Lady* [Mrs. Higgins], *Into the Woods* [Jack's Mother], *Superior Donuts* [Lady Boyle], *Dead Man's Cell Phone* [Mrs. Gottlieb], *The Importance of Being Earnest* [Miss Prism], *Book of Days* [Martha], *The Miracle Worker* [Aunt Ev], *Comedy Of Errors* [The Abbess], and *Sunday in the Park with George* [The Old Lady/Blair Daniels]. Boston area credits include productions at The Greater Boston Stage Company, Speak-Easy Stage Company, Publick Theater, Suga Theater Company, Reagle Music Theater, Merrimack Repertory Theater, North Shore Music Theater, Ogunquit Playhouse, Northern Stage, Wheelock Family Theatre, American Stage Festival, Worcester Foothills Theatre, The Next Door Theater Company, and The Village Theater Project.

Jackson Jirard [TJ] – Lyric Stage: Debut. Central Square Theatre: *Ain't Misbehavin'* [Andre Track, Dance Captain]. Greater Boston Stage Company: *Swan Lake in Blue* [Ben Kelley]. New Repertory Theatre: *Oliver!* [Noah Claypole, Assistant Choreographer]. Umbrella Stage Company: *42nd Street* [Ensemble]. Huntington Theatre: *Paride ed Elena* [Dancer]. Jose Mateo Ballet: *The Nutcracker* [Nutcracker]. Sacramento Ballet: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* [Puck], *The Great Gatsby* [Supporting Ensemble], *Romeo & Juliet* [Jester]. Ballet Austin: *The Nutcracker* [Corps de Ballet, Character Actor], *Quiet Imprint* [Soloist]. Film and Television: *Little Women*, *Defending Jacob*. Jackson received his BA in Psychology from Stanford University, his M Ed in Human Development & Psychology from the Harvard Graduate School of Education, and continues to excitedly familiarize himself with the New England scene as Associate Director of Rehearsal for Life's Urban Improv. He radiates love to his friends and family for everything they've done for him thus far.



Joelle Lurie* [Sister Mary Patrick] – Lyric Stage: Debut. SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Jerry Springer The Opera*. Acorn Theatre, NYC: *The Gunfighter Meets His Match*. Joelle is a jazz vocalist, songwriter, and bandleader who has been featured on NPR [Michael Feinstein's *Song Travels*] and has held residencies at Tavern on The Green in Central Park and at Lincoln Center. She has performed across the country at venues including here at Regattabar, as well as at Birdland, BAM, Rainbow Room, and Top of The Rock. She has three albums on iTunes/Spotify, under her name, as well as under *Jojo & The Pinecones*, her family focused band. Education: Bachelor of Music in Classical Voice from Boston University and The Opera Theatre of Lucca, Italy. | @jojolurie



Amie Lytle [Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours] – Lyric Stage: Debut. Recent regional credits include productions with THT Rep with the Hanover Theatre, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre, Burbage Theatre Company, Apollinaire Theatre, Harbor Stage Company, Hub Theatre Company, WAM, Birch Tree Productions, Sleeping Weazel, Bridge Rep of Boston, and Boston Theater Company. Amie is also a yoga teacher in the Boston area and the author of the children's book *Rescue Lou*. Special thanks to Leigh Barrett for her inspiration and friendship and to Brian for co-parenting their two kids and four dogs. | amielittle.com



Cristhian Mancinas-García (Pablo, u/s Curtis/Eddie) – Lyric Stage: Debut. Moonbox Productions: *Torch Song* [Ed Reiss], *The Wild Party* [Mr. Black]. Gloucester Stage Company: *Grand Horizons* [Tommy]. TigerLion Arts: *Nature: A Walking Play* [Henry David Thoreau]. The Wilbury Theatre Group: *Miss You Like Hell* [Manuel]. Centastage: *Noir Hamlet* [Rae Chio/Reynaldo Mori]. Firehouse Center for the Arts: *Jesus Christ Superstar* [Jesus], *Rumors* [Glenn Cooper]. Hub Theatre Company: *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* [Judas], *Goodly Creatures* [Reverend Wheelwright]. Cristhian has been performing for over 20 years on stages in Mexico, the USA, and the UK. | cristhianmancinas.com



Cheryl McMahon* [Mother Superior] – Lyric Stage: *The Treasurer (Ida)*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* [Big Mama], *My Fair Lady* [Mrs. Pearce], *The Spitfire Grill* [Effie], *Beyond Belief* [Marjorie], and *Lend Me a Tenor* [Maria]. Cheryl has performed at Greater Boston Stage Company, North Shore Music Theatre, SpeakEasy Stage Company, Huntington Theatre, Merrimack Repertory Theater, Goodspeed Opera House, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, Saco River Theatre, New London Barn, and Gateway Playhouse. Film credits include *Defending Jacob*, *The A Plate*, *Brilliant Mistakes*, *Clue VCR*, and the soon to be released *The Yorkie Werewolf*. Three-time IRNE Award recipient. Many thanks to Leigh, Courtney, and David for their trust.



Davron S. Monroe* [Eddie] – Lyric Stage *Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express*, *Breath & Imagination* [Elliot Norton Award], *The Wiz*, *Camelot*, *Company*, *My Fair Lady*, *City of Angels*, *Sweeney Todd*, *One Man, Two Guvnors*, *The Mikado*, *Avenue Q*, and *Ain't Misbehavin'*. Other credits: *Once On This Island*, *Songs for a New World*, *The View Upstairs* [SpeakEasy Stage Company], *The Little Mermaid*, *Ragtime* [Company Theatre], *Man of*



La Mancha (New Repertory Theater), *Passing Strange*, *Caroline or Change*, *Godspell* (Moonbox Productions), *Pippin*, *Hairspray* (Reagle Music Theatre). Other appearances: Boston Landmarks Orchestra (*Lost in the Stars* – a celebration of the 50th Anniversary of the “I Have a Dream” speech, and The Chariot Jubilee), Brevard Music Center, South Florida Symphony, Houston Ebony Opera Guild, and the New England Spiritual Ensemble. Davron was the first recipient of the Bob Jolly Award for up-and-coming local actors.



Kara Chu Nelson (Sister Mary Eleanor/Tina/Others, u/s Sister Mary Martin-of-Tours) – Lyric Stage: Debut. Umbrella Stage Company: *Rent* (Swing), *The Joy Luck Club* (Rose), *Evita* (The Mistress).

Moonbox Productions: *Jonathan* (Kara Powers). Seacoast Repertory Theatre: *In the Heights* (Ensemble). North Shore Music Theatre: *Miss Saigon* (Bar Girl). Fiddlehead Theatre and Hackmatack Playhouse: *West Side Story* (Francisca/“Somewhere” soloist). Other notable roles include Hope Cladwell in *Urinetown*, Natalie in *Next to Normal*, Marcy Park in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, and Éponine in *Les Misérables*. Kara would like to thank Lyric Stage and the *Sister Act* team for this wonderful opportunity, and her mom and dad for never missing a show.



Yewande Odetoyinbo* (Deloris Van Cartier) – Lyric Stage: *The Light, Breath & Imagination* (IRNE Award winner) with Front Porch Arts Collective, *The Wiz*, *Little Shop of Horrors*. SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Fairview*, *Once on This*

Island, *The View Upstairs*. Moonbox Productions: *Passing Strange*, *Caroline, or Change* (Elliot Norton nomination), *Parade*. American Repertory Theatre: *Macbeth in Stride*. New Repertory Theater: *Hair*. Reagle Music Theatre and Fiddlehead Theatre: *Show Boat*. Boston Theatre Company: *Finish Line*, *The Gay Agenda*. Wheelock Family Theatre: *In the Heights*, *Seussical*, *Ragtime*. Merrimack Repertory Theater: *Fannie Lou Hamer: Speak On It!*. Education: BFA, Musical Theater, Howard University; MFA, Musical Theater, Boston Conservatory at Berklee. Yewande is a native of Detroit, MI. A huge thank you to (Marco Polo BFF) Leigh Barrett, Courtney, Matt, and the amazing cast, crew, and staff. Also, thanks to Mom, Dad, Yemisi, and her best friends for being her biggest supporters.



Meghan Rose (Sister Mary Stephen/Dance Captain, u/s Sister Mary Robert/Sister Mary Patrick) – Lyric Stage Debut. Broadway National Tour: *Annie* (Star to Be, Lily St. Regis u/s) Regional Credits: *Chicago* (Roxie), *Funny Girl* (Fanny Brice),

Les Misérables (Cosette), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Olive), *A Chorus Line* (Maggie), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (Millie), *Into the Woods* (Cinderella). Film and Television: *Law and Order: SVU*, *The Path*, *Elementary*, *Tyler Perry's Mi Casa*, *Mi Casa*. Meghan is a graduate of UArts' Musical Theatre BFA program. She's led masterclasses for *Broadway Connection* in over 30 US cities. Born with one hand, Meghan is a guest speaker for *Helping Hands* where she encourages differently-abled children to pursue their dreams, too. Gratitude and love to her husband Braxton and toddlers Grayson and Lincoln. We're so lucky. | @thisismeghanrose



Kathy St. George* (Sister Mary Lazarus)

– Lyric Stage: *Gypsy*, *Follies*, *Light Up The Sky*, *Blithe Spirit*, *Adrift in Macao*, *Laughter On The 23rd Floor*, *The Gig*. Reagle Music Theatre: *Pippin*. SpeakEasy Stage Company: *The Divine Sister* (Elliot Norton Award), *Violet*, *Once*, *Significant Other*, *Xanadu*, *Ruthless!*. Greater Boston Stage Company: *Dear Miss Garland*, *Mame*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *42nd Street*, *Pete 'N Keely*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Steel Magnolias*. North Shore Music Theatre: *Peter Pan*, *9 to 5*. Ogunquit Playhouse: *Menopause: The Musical* and National Tour. Broadway: *Fiddler on The Roof* at the Gershwin Theatre w/Topol, directed by Jerome Robbins, Tony Award for “Best Revival” and National Tour. Off-Broadway: *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Westside Theatre) and National Tour. Kathy has received the Elliot Norton Award and two IRNE Awards. | kathystgeorge.com



Carolyn Saxon* (Sister Mary Rosa of the Blessed Severity/Michelle/Others, u/s Deloris Van Cartier) – Lyric Stage: *The Wiz*. Broadway/Broadway

National Tours: *Bring In Da Noise*, *Bring In Da Funk*, *The Civil War*. Encores/City Center: *Purlie*, *Hair*, *Can-Can*. Duke Theater: *Timmy the Great*. Carnegie Hall/Gershwin Theater: *Linda Eder: The Christmas Concert*. Regional: Papermill Playhouse, Alliance Theatre, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Connecticut Repertory, North Shore Music Theatre, Studio Arena Theatre, Weston Playhouse, Forestburgh Playhouse, Struthers Library Theatre, Central Square Theater, Revels at Sanders Theatre, Emerson Paramount, SpeakEasy Stage Company, Greater Boston Stage Company, Wheelock Family Theatre, New Repertory Theatre, Teatro Colon. Film/TV: *Sweet & Lowdown*, *Small Time Crooks*, *Curse of the Jade Scorpion*, *Boston Pops Fireworks Spectacular*, *Boston Pops Holiday Lights*, *Jeopardy!*. Elliot Norton Award winner.



Damon Singletary* [Curtis] - Lyric Stage: *Fabulation or, The Re-Education of Undine* (Father/Others), *The Wiz* (Uncle Henry/Ensemble), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Lord Leonard Aster), *City of Angels* (Big Six/Studio Guard/Dr. Madril).

Huntington Theatre: *Joe Turner's Come and Gone* (u/s Seth Holly and Bynum Walker). Reagle Music Theatre: *Pippin* (Charles). Umbrella Stage Company: *The Colored Museum* (Actor 2), *Head Over Heels* (Basilius), *Fences* (Troy Maxson). Commonwealth Shakespeare Company: *Birdy* (Rinaldi). Greater Boston Stage Company: *Miss Holmes* (Edwin/Superintendent). SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Shakespeare in Love* (Tilney/ Sir Robert DeLesseps), *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time* (Rev. Peters/ Station Policeman/Others). Damon lives in Cambridge with his wife Laurie, whose love and support is invaluable.



Kira Troilo* [Sister Mary Robert] - Lyric Stage: *The Last Five Years* (Cathy), *Gypsy* (Dainty June), *Camelot* (Lady). SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Once on This Island* (Andrea/Storyteller), *The Color Purple* (Older Olivia).

Wheelock Family Theatre: *Matilda* (Miss Honey), *Little Women* (Meg March), *In the Heights* (Carla). Moonbox Productions: *Caroline, or Change* (Emmie Thibadeaux). Recent choreography credits include *Parade* (Moonbox Productions - Elliot Norton Nomination), *TJ Loves Sally 4 Ever* (SpeakEasy Stage Company), *The Little Mermaid* (Fiddlehead Theatre Company - IRNE Nomination). Kira is the founder of Art & Soul Consulting, an Equity, Diversity & Inclusion consulting service that specializes in theater and the arts. Love to Jared, her parents, and Levi. | artandsoulconsulting.com, KiraTroilo.com



James Turner [Joey/Fight Captain, u/s Monsignor O'Hara] - Lyric Stage: Debut. Seacoast Repertory Theatre: *A Christmas Carol* (Christmas Present), *Billy Elliot* (George). The Firehouse

Center for the Arts: *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Judas), *Shrek* (Shrek), *The Last Five Years* (Jamie), *Avenue Q* (Nicky/Trekkie), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Chip). James runs a small studio for voice and acting students, and teaches Improv at North Shore Music Theater. Endless thanks to my family for their love, patience, and support.



Todd Yard [Monsignor O'Hara/Others] - Lyric Stage: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (D'Ysquith Family u/s), *Company* (David), *Gypsy* (Uncle Jocko). SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Fun Home* (Bruce Bechdel). Moonbox

Productions: *Barnum* (PT Barnum), *The Wild Party* (Burrs), *Parade* (Watson). The Umbrella Stage Company: *42nd Street* (Julian Marsh), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Albin), *Ragtime* (Tateh). New Repertory Theatre: *Man of La Mancha* (The Governor). Reagle Music Theatre: *Carousel* (Jigger), *Oklahoma!* (Ali Hakim), *West Side Story* (Lt. Schrank). Seacoast Repertory: *Billy Elliot* (Jackie Elliot). New London Barn Playhouse: *Catch Me If You Can* (Frank Abagnale, Sr.). Todd is a graduate of Mountview Academy of Theatre Arts in London. Much love and gratitude to Lydian, Audrey, and Daphne.



Jennifer Bubriski [u/s Mother Superior/Sister Mary Theresa/Sister Mary Lazarus] - Lyric Stage: Debut.

Huntington Theatre: *Hurricane Diane* (Pam Annunziata). Seacoast Repertory Theater: *Man of La Mancha* (Housekeeper), *La Cage Aux Folles* (Jacqueline), *Anything Goes* (Evangeline Harcourt), *The Music Man* (Alma Hix). Umbrella Stage Company: *Rabbit Hole* (Nat). Film and Television: *The Snowball Effect*.



Alan Cid [u/s Pablo/Joey/TJ] - Lyric

Stage: Debut. Boston Conservatory: *As You Like It* (Caveman, Ensemble, U.S. Andy). CASA: *Fame* (Nick Piazza). Genesis Theatre: *Spring Awakening* (Hanschen). Alan is a sophomore at the Boston Conservatory and is studying for a BFA in Musical Theater. Special thanks to mom, dad, and all my supportive friends! | @itmightbealan



Lillian Salazar [u/s Tina/Michelle/Nun]

- Lyric Stage: Debut. Past credits include *Head Over Heels* (Mopsa), *Ride The Cyclone* (Constance), *In The Heights* (Vanessa), *Heathers* (Heather Chandler). They are currently a Junior year musical theatre major at Boston Conservatory at Berklee. They are extremely grateful for their family, friends, and everyone who has supported them throughout the years.

Leigh Barrett [Director] - Lyric Stage: *The Last Five Years* (Directorial Debut), Performer: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*, *Souvenir*, *Gypsy*, *Company*, *Sondheim on Sondheim*, *City of Angels*, *Grey Gardens*, *Nicholas Nickleby*, *Big River*, *Animal Crackers*, *Follies*, *A Little Night Music*, *The Mikado*, *Nun-crackers*, *Sunday in the Park with George*. Other directing credits include *Closer Than Ever* (New Repertory Theater), *Hairspray* (RTW), and *Urinetown*, (Northeastern University). Leigh is the proud recipient of the 2018 Elliot Norton Prize for Sustained Excellence and the 2018 Elliot Norton Award for Outstanding Actress in *Gypsy* and

Souvenir (Lyric Stage). She has also received the Elliot Norton Award in 2004. I am so grateful to this extraordinary company of artists, onstage and off. Special thanks to my creative team: Jenna, Chris, Karissa, Kelly, Alex, Joey, Kat, David, Nerys, Polly, Thom, David, Dan, & Mark. Much Love to HB & the boys – I can't do this without you. | LeighBarrett.com

David Freeman Coleman (Music Director) – Lyric Stage: *#Booked It: An Evening with Yewande Odetoynbo*. Wheelock Family Theatre: *Matilda*. Long Wharf Theatre: *Jelly's Last Jam*. Central Square Theater & Greater Boston Stage: *Ain't Misbehavin'*. SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Once on This Island*, *Choir Boy*. Huntington Theatre: *The Bluest Eye*. American Repertory Theatre: *WILD: A Musical Becoming*. Moonbox Productions: *Passing Strange*, *Sister School*. Company One: *Miss You Like Hell*. Associate Professor of Theater at Boston Conservatory at Berklee, Lecturer of Music at Tufts University, Director of Choral Music at Dana Hall School. Two Eliot Norton Award Nominations for Outstanding Music Direction. Has worked with Idina Menzel, Audra McDonald, Mariah Carey, Bobby McFerrin, Ryan Gosling, and the Boston Pops. | davidcoleman.com.

Dan Sullivan (Choreographer) – Lyric Stage: Debut. Moonbox Productions: *Rocky Horror Picture Show*. Reagle Music Theater: *The Sound of Music*. The Weston Friendly Society: *Sweet Charity*, *Holiday Inn*, *State Fair*. Performance Credits – Lyric Stage: *On the Town*. National Tour: *Annie*. Umbrella Stage Company: *42nd Street*. Moonbox Productions: *Cabaret*, *Barnum*. Dan is currently in his 9th year as Artistic Director of The Weston Friendly Society. BFA Boston Conservatory. Thanks to MDJBNP! | littletreecostumes.com

Alan Menken (Music) – Theater: *God Bless You Mr Rosewater*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Real Life Funnies*, *Atina: Evil Queen of The Galaxy*, *Kicks*, *The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Weird Romance*, *King David*, *Der Glöckner Von Notre Dame*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Sister Act*, *Leap Of Faith*, *Aladdin*, and *Newsies*. Film: *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *Newsies*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback Of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, *Life With Mikey*, *Lincoln*, *Home On The Range*, *Noel*, *Enchanted*, *Shaggy Dog*, *Tangled*, and *Mirror Mirror*. Songs: *Rocky V*, *Home Alone 2*, and *Captain America*. Awards: Eight Oscars, eleven Grammys (including Song of the Year), seven Golden Globes, Tony®, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle,

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THE HOUSE OF RAMON IGLESIA

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JOSE RIVERA

Directed by
ARTHUR GOMEZ


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Production sponsors **Mary & Doug Woodruff** are helping us not only bring Deborah Zoe Lauffer's *Rooted* to Boston for its second-ever production, and support from our sponsors, including our season sponsors **Paul Kastner** and **Lee & Diana Humphrey** and our cast sponsors **Judith & James Barr**, will bring Deb to Boston during the rehearsal process of *Rooted*.

Subscribers and members, hold the date, **Sunday, May 21** for a private coffee date with Deb Lauffer where we'll learn together about her process and the challenges and rewards of working as a playwright today.



Lisa Tucker and
Karen MacDonald
as Emery and Hazel
in *Rooted*.

Rooted

See page 19 for more info.

THE LYRIC STAGE
YOUR THEATRICAL HOME

New York Drama Critics, Olivier and London's Evening Standard Award, Drama League. Honors: Songwriter's Hall of Fame, Doctorates from New York University and University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Glenn Slater (Lyrics) – Glenn co-created Disney's 2010 worldwide smash *Tangled* as well as the Broadway and international hit musicals *Sister Act* and *The Little Mermaid*, and, most recently *School of Rock*. With longtime collaborator Alan Menken, he is Executive Producer and Lyricist for the ABC-TV musical comedy series *Galavant*, and has also written songs for the Disney-animated film *Home on the Range* and the Broadway musical *Leap of Faith*. In the West End, Glenn provided both Book and Lyrics for Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Love Never Dies*, the sequel to *The Phantom of the Opera*. Other work includes an Emmy-nominated song for the ABC-TV comedy *The Neighbors* (2013), and the stage revue *New Yorkers* at The Manhattan Theatre Club. Glenn is the recipient of the prestigious Kleban Award for Lyrics, the ASCAP/Richard Rogers New Horizons Award, and the Jonathan Larson Award. He is an alumnus of the BMI Musical Theatre Workshop, and a member of both ASCAP and the Dramatists' Guild.

Cheri Steinkellner (Playwright) – Cheri has won four Emmy Awards, two Golden Globes, People's Choice, BAFTA, Writers Guild Award, Parents Choice and TV-Land Legend Awards, for writing and producing *Cheers*, *The Jeffersons*, *Facts of Life*, *Family Ties*, and *Who's the Boss?*, and for creating the acclaimed Disney-animated Saturday morning TV series and feature film, *Teacher's Pet*. A 2011 Tony-nominee for *Sister Act*; Cheri has also written *Princesses* (with Bill, David Zippel and Matthew Wilder); *Mosaic* (with Georgia Stitt), and *Jailbirds on Broadway* (with Bill and Jeff Rizzo). Other stage includes *Our Place*, and *Instaplay*, L.A.'s original and longest-running improvised musical-comedy. An Indy Award winner and Ovation nominee for *Hello! My Baby*, Cheri currently teaches writing at Stanford and UCSB and directs youth theatre in beautiful Santa Barbara, where she and Bill raised their three favorite children/writers/artists: Kit, Teddy, and Emma.

Bill Steinkellner (Playwright) – Award-winning television and screen writer: *Cheers* and Disney's *Teacher's Pet* [Emmys, Golden Globes, BAFTAs, Writers Guild, and People's Choice Awards]. Book writer (with wife, Cheri): *Sister Act* (London Palladium, Hamburg, Broadway), *Princesses* (Goodspeed, 5th Avenue). Writer/director

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Douglas Carter Beane [Additional Materials] – Credits include New York stage: *The Little Dog Laughed*, *The Nance*, *As Bees in Honey Drown* [Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Playwriting Award, Drama Desk Best Play Nomination], *White Lies*, *Devil May Care*. Regional: *The Country Club* [L.A. Times Critics' Choice and Dramalogue Awards]. He is a founding member of Drama Dept. and is a member of the Dramatists Guild.

Jenna McFarland Lord [Scenic Design] – Lyric Stage: *Twelfth Night*, *Warrior Class*, *Groundswell*, *November*, *This Wonderful Life*. SpeakEasy Stage Company: *Shakespeare in Love*, *Men on Boats*, *Bootycandy*, *The Color Purple*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *The Great American Trailer Park Musical*, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*. Actors Shakespeare Project: *Hamlet*, *The Merry Wives of Windsor*, *Macbeth*. Gloucester Stage Company: Over 50 shows from 2002 – present including: *The 39 Steps*, *Cyrano*, *North Shore Fish*, *Driving Miss Daisy*. New Repertory Theatre: *Collected Stories*, *Cherry Docs*. Greater Boston Stage: *Calendar Girls*, *Distant Music*, *Something's Afoot*, *Guys on Ice*, *The Mousetrap*. Central Square Theatre: *Brundibar*, *The Convert*. Off-Broadway: La Mama: *Man in Snow*. New York Playwrights Lab: *The Secret of Mme. Bonnard's Bath*. Ms. McFarland Lord is currently the set design teacher at the Boston Arts Academy, a public high school for the arts. | jennamcfarlandlord.com

Kelly Baker [Costume Design] – Lyric Stage: Debut. North Shore Music Theatre [Costume Design/Costume Coordination]: *Kinky Boots*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Buddy Holly Story*, *Cinderella*, *Smoke Joe's Cafe*, *Mamma Mia!*, *The Bodyguard*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *Jersey Boys*, *Freaky Friday*, *Oklahoma!*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Hairspray*, *Jekyll & Hyde*, *Peter Pan*, *A Year With Frog and Toad*, *Curious George and the Golden Meatball*. Theatre By The Sea: *Mamma Mia!*, *My Way*. Other companies Kelly has worked with: The Boston Conservatory at Berklee, New England Conservatory, Greater Boston Stage Company, Odyssey Opera, The Cape Playhouse, Commonwealth Shakespeare Company, White Snake Productions. Thank you to Leigh Barrett and Lyric Stage for this opportunity, and my family for their continuous support. Hi Mama!

Christopher Brusberg [Lighting Designer]** – Lyric Stage: *Buyer & Cellar*, *Red Hot Patriot*, and *The Book of Will*. New Repertory Theater: *Heartland*, *Muckrakers*, *Scenes From An Adultery*, *Closer Than Ever*. Company One: *can i touch it?*, *An Octoroon*. *Hindu Gods Trilogy*. Boston Conservatory: *Susannah*. NYU Steinhardt: *Dido and Aeneas*, *Idomeno*.

Annapolis Opera (MD): *Tosca*, *La Boheme*, *Into the Woods*. Tri-Cities Opera/Syracuse Opera (NY): *La Cenerentola*, *The Marriage of Figaro*. The Cherry Arts Space (NY): *And What Happens if I Don't*, *Hotel Good Luck*, *On the Other Side of the Sea*. EMERGE125 Dance (NY) at Chelsey Factory and Flea Theater. Christopher holds an MFA from the University of Maryland and is a proud member of USA829. For upcoming design work: ctblighting.com.

Alex Berg [Sound Design] – Lyric Stage: Debut. A Contemporary Theater of Connecticut, North Shore Music Theatre, Theatre by the Sea, American Repertory Theater, Prescott Park Arts Festival, Barrington Stage Company, Kavinoky Theatre, Shakespeare in Delaware Park. Alex is a freelance sound designer and mix engineer in the greater Boston area, as well as the Sound Supervisor at ACT of Connecticut.

Nerys Powell* [Production Stage Manager] – Lyric Stage: *The Great Leap*, *Fabulation or, the Re-Education of Undine*, *The Light*, *The Book of Will*, *The Last Five Years*, *Be Here Now*, *The Treasurer*, *Agatha Christie's Murder on the Orient Express*, and [AEA Assistant Stage Manager] *Little Shop of Horrors*. | @nerysp

Thomas M. Kauffman* [Rehearsal Production Stage Manager] – Lyric Stage: Debut. He most recently stage-managed *Heroes of the Forth Turning* and *The Inheritance* at SpeakEasy Stage Company. Thom's career as a stage manager includes more than 40 productions across New England at the Huntington Theatre, American Repertory Theatre, Trinity Repertory, NY Stage and Film, and Williamstown Theatre Festival. He is the former Production Manager of the Pennsylvania Stage Company, Boch Center/Wang Theatre, Shubert Theater, and Commonwealth Shakespeare Company; and for many years he led the stage management program at Boston University. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity and is honored to be working with this incredible group of artists.

Polly Feliciano* [Assistant Stage Manager] – Lyric Stage: Debut. The Gamm Theatre: *Sweat* [Assistant Stage Manager]. Trinity Repertory Company: *The Prince of Providence*, *A Christmas Carol* [2019], *Radio Golf*, *A Christmas Carol* [2021], *Gem of the Ocean* [Production Assistant]. *Fairview*, *The Inheritance Parts 1 & 2* [Assistant Stage Manager]. Polly is from Providence, Rhode Island and graduated from Rhode Island College with a BA in Theater. She had the privilege of being the Production Manager at Mixed Magic Theater in Pawtucket, RI from July 2020 until August 2021 and is currently on the Board of Directors for Burbage Theatre Company. Polly does it all for Bucky, Bernie, Gus, and Emmy. And also, Hayley. | @bollyrocket24

Karissa Roberts (Props Artisan) – Lyric Stage: *The Great Leap, The Play That Goes Wrong*. Merrimack Repertory Theatre: *Letters from Home* (Props Manager). Watertown Children's Theatre: *Descendants, Something Rotten* (Scenic Painter). The Barnstormers Theatre: *Lucky Stiff, Silent Sky, Black Coffee, The Legend of Georgia McBride, Into the Woods* (Scenic Charge Artist). Karissa graduated from Plymouth State University in 2022 with a BFA in Studio Art and minors in Graphic Design and Art History. | artworkbykarissa.weebly.com

Mark Linehan (Assistant Director) – Lyric Stage: *Follies*. New Repertory Theatre: *Assassins, The Last Five Years, Camelot*. Reagle Music Theatre: *The Sound of Music, The Music Man, Anything Goes, South Pacific, Thoroughly Modern Millie*. Greater Boston Stage Company: *Oregon, It's A Wonderful Life*. Wheelock Family Theatre: *Beauty and the Beast, Shrek: The Musical*. In addition to performing, Mark gives tours along Boston's historic Freedom Trail, and has been featured on numerous episodes of *Mysteries at the Museum* on Travel Channel. Four-time IRNE nominee. BFA Emerson College. Proud member of AEA. Immense gratitude to Leigh. For Amanda and Georgia, always. | marklinehan.com | [@linehanmark](https://twitter.com/@linehanmark)

Joseph Pisano (Wardrobe) – Lyric Stage: numerous productions. Joey began his career at North Shore Music Theater and has been on crew there for 9 years. Other credits include SpeakEasy Stage Company, Greater Boston Stage Company, Moonbox Productions, NEC, Theater By the Sea, Baroque Boston, Merry Go Round Playhouse and Norwegian Cruise Line. He holds an associate's degree in Costume Design from the Art Institute of New York City.

Kat Shanahan (Assistant Wardrobe Supervisor/Wig Supervisor) – Lyric Stage: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder*. She is the resident Wardrobe Supervisor at North Shore Music Theater, heading into her 10th season. Other companies she has worked for include Boston Ballet, Huntington Theatre, SpeakEasy Stage Company, Greater Boston Stage Company, Theater By the Sea, Odyssey Opera, The New England Conservatory, Boston University, The Poets Theater, Boston Conservatory, and ArtsEmerson. When not running Wardrobe, Kat has designed and/or maintained wigs for such companies as Boston Ballet, North Shore Music Theater, Huntington Theatre, Odyssey Opera, and Boston University. Kat has a BS in Film and Video Production from The New England Institute of Art. For J, O, P, R&C, always.

Gabriel Goldman (Master Electrician) – Lyric Stage: *The Great Leap, The Play That Goes Wrong, A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder, The Book of Will, Mr. Parent*. Reagle Music Theatre: *Pippin, West Side Story*. Lowell

House Opera: *Nighttown*. Wheelock Family Theatre: *The Wizard of Oz*. Brandeis University: *Orlando*. Moonbox Productions: *New Works Festival, Passing Strange*. Seacoast Repertory: *Peter Pan*. Boston Midsummer Opera: *Mélange Operatique*. Harvard TDM: *Truth Hurts*. Boston Children's Theatre: *Grease, Carrie*. Chautauqua Theatre Company: *Noises Off*. Chester Theatre Company: *The Mountaintop, Sister Play, Oh God, My Jane*. Special thanks to his parents and to his girlfriend, Shelby, for their constant love and support.

Sean Doyle (Sound Supervisor) – Lyric Stage: *The Great Leap, The Play That Goes Wrong*. Barrington Stage Company [Sound Supervisor]: *Andy Warhol in Iran, ABCD, Waiting for Godot, Ain't Misbehavin', Anna in the Tropics, A Little Night Music, All of Me, and Supadupa Kid*. Boston Playwrights Theatre [Sound Designer]: *Jado Jihad, OTP, Eat Your Young, and Lorena: A Tabloid Epic*. Film [Production Assistant]: *Spirited*. Master of Fine Arts in Sound Design Boston University.

Matt Chapuran (Executive Director) – Matt was Managing Director of the Lyric Stage from 2014 to 2018. He was previously Managing Director of Stoneham Theatre, where he ran the 2010 Boston Marathon with Producing Artistic Director Weylin Symes in support of Stoneham Theatre's educational mission. Matt has also served as Director of Development for Conservatory Lab Charter School and managed institutional giving for The Huntington Theatre. At the Nora Theatre Company, Matt was the Managing Director during the inception of a capital campaign that ultimately led to the construction of the Central Square Theater. Matt is currently co-president of NEAT (New England Area Theatres), a bargaining collective of 12 regional theatres, and is a member of the Create the Vote Coalition and its Policy Platform working group. He currently teaches Arts Management at Emerson College. He has performed, taught, and directed improvisation for two decades, including as a part of Babson College's MBA program, as one half of The Angriest Show in the World. His short stories have appeared online in *The Bookends Review, Bridge Eight, Prose Online, and Variant Literature*. He lives in Roslindale with his wife and their three daughters.

Courtney O'Connor (Artistic Director) – Courtney joined the full-time staff of the Lyric Stage in 2018 and was named Artistic Director in 2020. She has directed several pieces for the Lyric Stage, including *Preludes, The Book of Will, Stones in His Pockets, Red Hot Patriot, and The Cake*. Courtney is a senior affiliated faculty member in Performing Arts at Emerson College. In addition to directing for theatres and universities, Courtney has directed multiple site-specific productions at locations,

including Mount Auburn Cemetery and Boston's Old State House. Through her work with the Coyote Theatre Project, she oversaw the creation of more than 200 new 10-minute plays written by youths from Boston. Courtney has received the Elliot Norton Award for her work as the Associate Director on the Lyric Stage's production of *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby* and the Alan L. Stanzler Award for Excellence in Teaching.

***Actors' Equity Association (AEA)** founded in 1913, represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers nationwide. Equity seeks to foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. | actorsequity.org

Boston Musicians' Association (AFM Local 9-535) is a labor union representing over 1,600 professional musicians in the Boston metro area, Cape Cod and Maine. We work to ensure that musicians have fair wages and economic security. | bostonmusicians.org

****United Scenic Artists (USA-Local 829)** is a labor union and professional association of Designers, Artists, Craftspeople, and Department Coordinators, organized to protect craft standards, working conditions and wages for the entertainment and decorative arts industries. The members work in film, theatre, opera, ballet, television, industrial shows, commercials and exhibitions. The current active membership totals over 5,000. | usa829.org

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

- Margaret Clark**, Fight Coordinator
- Jessica Hawkins**, FOH Engineer
- Ted Hewlett**, Intimacy Director
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A darkly humorous musical that reminds us that not all American dreams should come true.

SEP 15 - OCT 22, 2023 | The white picket fence is set on fire in Stephen Sondheim and John Weidman's tragically funny and unnerving musical which peers inside the shattered minds of successful and attempted presidential assassins from John Wilkes Booth to John Hinckley, Jr. This gallery of historical misfits jolts us into their blurry points of view with unapologetic humor, fiery anthems, carefree tunes, and unbridled energy that boldly blurs the lines between ambition and madness.

Ken Ludwig's
The Game's AFOOT:
HOLMES FOR THE HOLIDAYS

By Ken Ludwig

A laugh-out-loud comedy mystery that makes a memorable multigenerational holiday outing for everyone.

NOV 10 - DEC 17, 2023 | It's a blustery December night in 1936 at the Connecticut mansion of actor William Gillette whose life was recently threatened by a rogue gunshot while he was onstage performing his most celebrated role, Sherlock Holmes. A cavalcade of quirky friends arrive upon his request for a weekend of revelry all with the intent of finding out who pulled the trigger. But when one of Gillette's glitzy and glamorous guests is stabbed to death, the survivors are trapped inside a fun house of hidden passageways and trick mirrors where any of them could be the killer.

Trouble in Mind

By Alice Childress

A Black actress makes her 1955 Broadway debut in a backstage story crackling with wit and startling revelations.

JAN 12 - FEB 4, 2024 | It's 1955, and after enduring indignities and lost opportunities, Wiletta Mayer, a seasoned Black actress, is finally making her Broadway debut. Written by a white playwright, her star vehicle is the allegedly progressive *Chaos in Belleville*, which turns out to be anything but. With warmth, humor, and sharp insight, this moving backstage look at identity and stereotypes cracks open searing truths about the American theater that remain heartbreakingly contemporary.

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FEB 23 - MAR 17, 2024 | There's a whole other story unraveling on the other side of the kitchen wall of Eugene O'Neill's *Long Day's Journey Into Night*. Two Irish immigrants pass the day amid their gloomy daily chores alongside a resilient American chauffeur with a troubled past. As tensions rise, high-spirited humor and harsh cynicism boil over as the trio confront abandoned dreams and heart-breaking misfortunes. Underneath it all, hope is not as far away as it seems.

APR 5 - MAY 12, 2024 | A comfortable chair with a record crackling away is the perfect cure for the "blues" for a charming but lonely "Man in Chair;" our guide into the world of the show-within-a-show, *The Drowsy Chaperone*. His favorite cast album from the Jazz Age comes to fizzy life complete with a self-admiring showgirl, her gin-soaked chaperone, a saucy Latin lover, a bumbling best man, a clueless groom-to-be, and a cornucopia of characters from a befuddled producer, to a dippy hostess and gangsters posing as pastry chefs.

MAY 31 - JUN 23, 2024 | Truth and fiction blur in David Henry Hwang's satiric memoir about DHH, a playwright plunged into a whirlpool of missteps and unintentional hypocrisy after a vocal protest against the casting of Jonathan Pryce as a Eurasian hustler in the Broadway production of *Miss Saigon*. What he condemns as "yellowface" soon comes back to haunt him when he later misidentifies a Caucasian actor for mixed-race and casts him in his own Broadway-bound comedy. Ultimately a forceful argument for representation, this provocative and comical sideways glance at race and assimilation asks "who has the ownership of a culture?"

Thirst

By Ronán Noone

Two Irish immigrant women search for love, serenity, and a place to call "home" in this impassioned, heartfelt drama.



Music & Lyrics by Lisa Lambert
& Greg Morrison

Book by Bob Martin & Don McKellar

A refreshing musical cocktail that's like a bubble bath for your heart. But with tap dancing. And spit takes.

YELLOW FACE

By David Henry Hwang

An Asian-American playwright and activist gets tangled in a complicated and humorous web of lies as he struggles to win back his integrity.

A MESSAGE FROM COURTNEY & MATT

Once we assembled the plays and musicals that comprise the 2023/24 Season at Lyric Stage, we were struck by the fact that every show includes actors, from the actors in the plays-within-the-plays at the heart of both *Trouble In Mind* and *The Drowsy Chaperone* to the most infamous actor in American history, John Wilkes Booth. Even *Thirst* has James Tyrone's voice echoing from the other side of the kitchen wall.

We love characters at Lyric Stage, and the artists who create them. With each character, our audiences share a world that the designers have fashioned as the actors unearth their lives.

This year, we witness characters forced to make life-altering decisions, characters who succumb to their worst natures, and characters who will carry us away with their own glee.

There's much more to say about each piece and its selection than we have room for here, and so please visit our website, LyricStage.Com/Season24 to read more about our process.

2023/2024

THE LYRIC STAGE
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JUN 2-25

Rooted

In this offbeat
comedy, all it takes
is two sisters
and a treehouse
to accidentally
start a cult.



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DEBORAH ZOE LAUFER
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From top left, Davron S. Monroe, Jennifer Ellis, and Tony Castellanos in *My Fair Lady* (2015) | Harry McEnery V, Erica Spyres, John Ambrosino, Phil Tayler, Davron S. Monroe, Jenna Lea Scott, and Elise Arsenaault in *Avenue Q*. (2012) | Damon Singletary, Yewande Odetoynbo, Carolyn Saxon in *The Wiz* (2018) | Photos by Mark S. Howard

Generous friends like you advance our mission to produce and present live theatre in Greater Boston with an intimate approach that promotes inclusivity and connection. The Lyric Stage leads an effort to integrate live theater and theater education into the lives of all residents of greater Boston. We extend our sincere thanks to those who make our work possible. Thank you for giving to YOUR theatrical home.

This list has been updated to reflect gifts through March 16, 2023. For questions, concerns, or details, please contact Development@LyricStage.com.

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– Fall 2021 Ticket Holder

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A gift from **Madelyn and Paul Sorensen** underwrote the cost of the piano featured in January’s production of *Preludes*. Board President **Ron Sudol** sponsored the recent production of *The Great Leap*.

Jan and Stuart Rose sponsor \$5 Fridays, which offers tickets to the first Friday performance of every production for only \$5 to whoever wants to purchase a ticket, reducing the cost barrier for attending live theatre.

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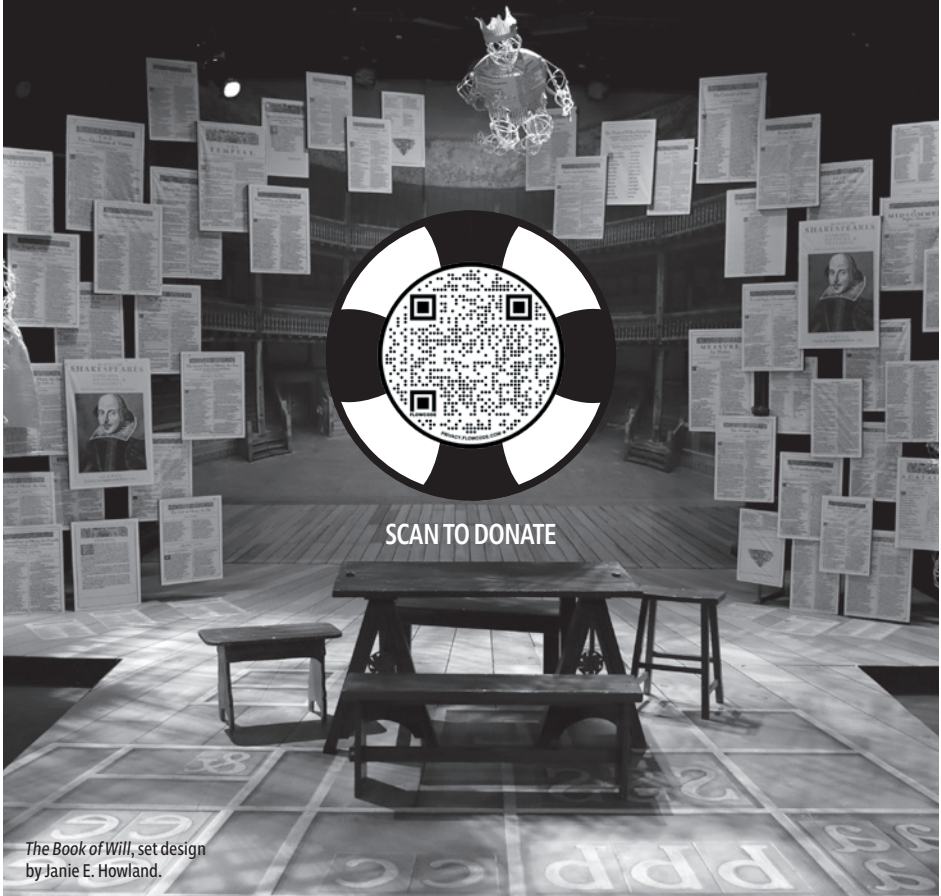
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Thank you for supporting the Theatre Community Benevolent Fund, which extends a lifeline for local theater artists in times of crisis. TCBF recognizes the essential value of artists and arts organizations to society, and treats all applicants with dignity, discretion, and compassion. Visit tcbf.org



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Learn more at LYRICSTAGE.COM under **EDUCATION** in our menu of options.

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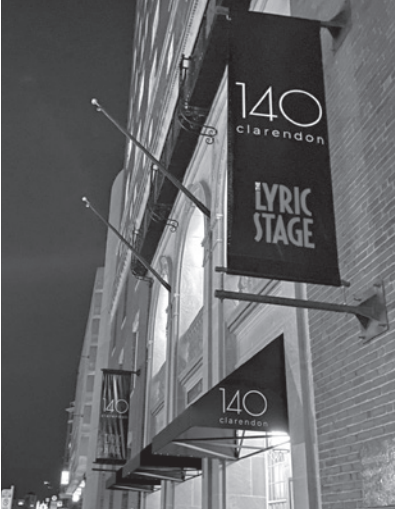
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ABOUT YOUR THEATRICAL HOME:

140 CLARENDON STREET



The Lyric Stage Company of Boston produces the majority of its work at 140 Clarendon Street, the historic YWCA Building, which resides on the land of the Massachusett and Pawtucket Peoples.

The Massachusett Peoples are the descendants of the original people that the English first encountered in what is now the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The Pennacook tribe, sometimes called Pawtucket and Merrimack Indians, lived in northeastern Massachusetts and southern New Hampshire. The Nipmuc Peoples occupied the interior portion of what is now Massachusetts and parts of Rhode Island and Connecticut. The Mashpee Wampanoag Tribe has inhabited present day Massachusetts and Eastern Rhode Island for more than 12,000 years.

140 Clarendon Street is also the home of YW Boston, formerly known as the YWCA Boston, an organization that was at the forefront of many social movements throughout the history of the city of Boston. YWCA Boston was first established in 1866, and began operating out of 140 Clarendon Street in 1927. YWCA helped propel many programs and initiatives for young women across the country, such as sex education, women's suffrage advocacy, bilingual instruction for immigrant women, the International Conference of Women Physicians, and the Interracial Seminar. Today, YW Boston's work focuses on addressing racial and gender inequities through a variety of diversity, equity, and inclusion services, youth programming, advocacy, and more.

In 1991, the Lyric Stage moved to 140 Clarendon Street from its former home on Charles Street. The current theater and adjacent offices were constructed on the second floor of the building, and a fourth floor rehearsal hall was added in 2016.

In 2021, YW Boston and its investment partners sold the building to Beacon Communities, who began the process of rehabilitating approximately 50,000 square feet of existing hotel and residential spaces into affordable housing units, health and wellness amenities, and offices for building management staff which will be operated in partnership with the Pine Street Inn. The building will contain approximately 210 apartments (an increase of 92 housing units) all of which will be income-restricted to households with incomes at or below 60% of the Area Median Income.

As a part of the sale, Beacon Communities and Lyric Stage negotiated a new 19-year lease, ensuring that 140 Clarendon Street will be the Lyric Stage's forever home.

For more on your visit and how to contact us, box office hours, ticketing & performance policies, and other FAQs go to lyricstage.com & click on YOUR VISIT.

THE LYRIC STAGE

The Lyric Stage Company of Boston produces and presents live theatre in Greater Boston with an intimate approach that promotes inclusivity and connection. The Lyric Stage leads an effort to integrate live theater and theater education into the lives of all residents of Greater Boston.

Founded in 1974 by **Ron Ritchell** and **Polly Hogan**, the Lyric Stage is Boston's oldest resident theatre company. After establishing a loyal following on Charles Street, Ron and Polly led a successful 1991 campaign to create the Lyric Stage's current home on Clarendon Street. Polly was the chief negotiator for the NEAT (New England Area Theatres) contract, which made it easier for local producers to hire members of Actors Equity Association, the union for actors and stage managers.

In 1998, **Spiro Veloudos** was appointed Producing Artistic Director. During his tenure, he continued Ron and Polly's commitment to local artists; with few exceptions, the theatrical artists that work at the Lyric Stage live in the Greater Boston area. Spiro also established a reputation for staging large musicals in the Lyric Stage's modest playing space, including a signature Sondheim Initiative, which covered ten musicals over twenty years.

In 2016, the Lyric Stage opened Clarendon Hall, a year-round rehearsal space. Clarendon Hall is available at a subsidized rate to members of the Boston Dance Alliance and other arts organizations and individuals.

Theatre-based education has been a core of the Lyric Stage's mission since its founding. In 2019, the Lyric Stage merged with City Stage Co. and its expanded education programs include Lyric City Stage, teaching artists working in classrooms in the Boston Public Schools, the Lyric First Page playwriting festival for students, and the new Lyric Back Stage.

Following Spiro's retirement in 2019, the board appointed **Matt Chapuran** as Executive Director, and shortly after, **Courtney O'Connor** was named Artistic Director. Their partnership centers Lyric Stage in Boston's theatrical community, introduces live theatre to new audiences, and promotes new theatrical voices in Boston and nationwide.



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