

# PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COLLEGE



VALDEZ, ALASKA

JUNE 11-17, 2017



# The Twenty Fifth Annual LAST FRONTIER THEATRE CONFERENCE

Prince William Sound College

presents

The Twenty-Fifth Annual  
Last Frontier Theatre Conference



June 11-17, 2017

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Welcome to the Twenty-Fifth Annual Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Prince William Sound College (PWSC) and the community of Valdez are excited to share this week with you.

We have been throwing this shindig for a quarter of a century, most of which I've been here for. I've gotten to see plays developed, relationships formed; met Arthur Miller, stepped on Edward Albee, and delivered flowers from a stalker to Laura Linney; been given free reign to create the event as what I wanted it to be, with unflinching support from both my employer and my city, to say nothing of the hundreds of artists who've spent long stretches with us. I've had failures, successes, and everything in between. My job is the greatest privilege of my life.

I can never thank everyone to whom the Conference and I are grateful. Our founders, Jo Ann C. McDowell and the late Edward Albee, put a lot of energy into an idea that many thought would be short lived. Michael Warren Powell, my mentor, is the father of the Play Lab, and I've modeled both that program and most of my life on his principles. Doug Desorcie was the backbone of the event for nearly twenty years. Gail Renardson's love for everything Conference sustained us at times when little else did. Jim Cucurull was our tech director for 20 years, a job that we now wisely split between two people. Erma Duricko was my closest advisor in the middle of the challenges that threatened to end us in 2005. David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware have been with us practically since the beginning, amazing utility players, a renaissance couple with a long history of service to the event. Ron Holmstrom has defined the Conference in the press since its early days, and the Stephens family's generosity to not only us but almost everyone in Valdez is legendary.

Those were all the past recipients of the Jerry Harper Service Award. This year, we are giving it to Jerry's wife, Sandy. She's a huge figure in the Alaska theatre scene, and her work with *Cyrano's* has defined Anchorage theatre for nearly three decades. I'm excited to have this opportunity to tell her what she means to us all.

Thanks for being a part of our Conference family for this week. Have a great time, and let us know if you need anything. Welcome to Valdez!

Dawson Moore  
Conference Coordinator

For the most up to date schedule, check the video display at the front desk or signage in front of the rooms.

1:00 to 8:00 p.m.

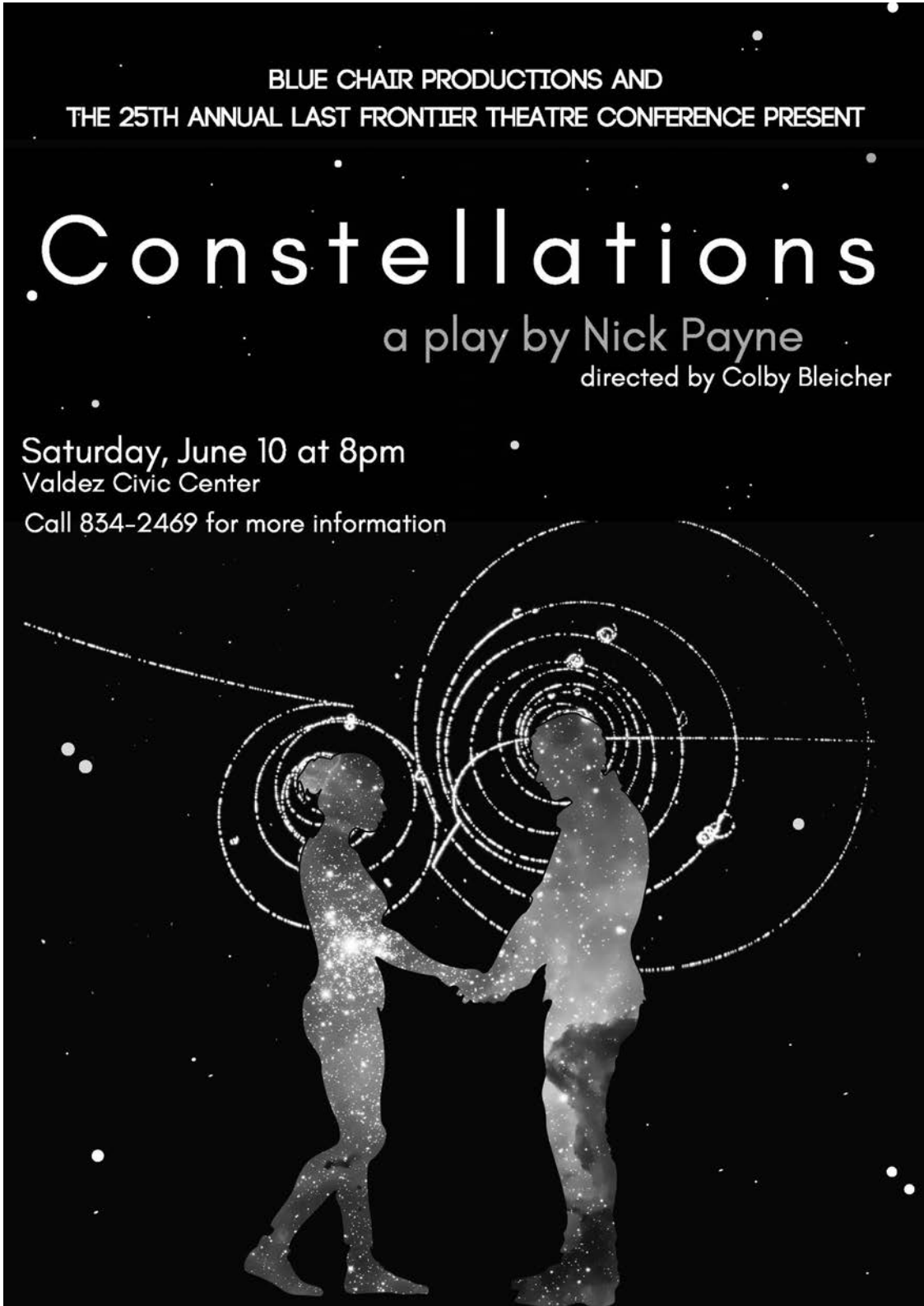
Registration Desk open.

8:00 p.m.

Blue Chair Productions presents Nick Payne's *Constellations*, directed by Colby Bleicher.

9:00 p.m.

Post-Show Reception in the Civic Center Foyer.



Room A	Room B	Room C
<b>10:30 a.m. Room A:</b> Play Lab panelist meeting (not open to public)		
<b>11:30 a.m. Room A:</b> Theatre Conference and Play Lab Orientation Session		
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> From Impulse to Expression: An Exploration of Gesture, Sound, and Language with Carol Laursen	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Bridging the Gap Between the Playwright and the Actor with Michelle Gardner	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, Part One	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> How to Write When You Don't Want To with John Cariani	
	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Two Wolves with Cassandra Medley	
<b>6:00 p.m.</b> Welcome Reception & Fish Fry for Conference participants		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>Where Do We Go From Here?</i> ; An Evening with our Featured Artists, directed by Peter Ellenstein		
<b>10:00 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

**Theatre Conference and Play Lab Orientation Session:**

An overview of the Play Lab process, covering everything from its overarching philosophy to the nitty-gritty details of where you go to rehearse.

**From Impulse to Expression: An Exploration of Gesture, Sound, and Language with Carol Laursen**

Often our juicy first impulses are abandoned as we move to something we think is safer. Using theater games and other structures we will investigate our artistic instincts: What happens when we open more fully to the gifts and surprises that rise from within? What will happen as we enter more deeply and reveal more completely our initial physical, vocal and verbal promptings? Appropriate for both writers and actors.

**Bridging the Gap between the Playwright and the Actor with Michelle Gardner**

Ever wondered what an actor sees the first time they read your script? Ever wanted to understand the actor's process better? This playwriting workshop aims to bridge the gap between the writer and the actor. It will cover how an actor reviews your script, what clues and descriptors they look for when building a character, what helps them vs. what hinders them, and how to communicate in a language they will understand.

**Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison**

How to research, rehearse, and make a monologue come to life for both you and for the writer. The Workshop gives actors the tools and hands on experience to fully inhabit, create, and bring themselves to the work. Actors come with memorized pieces and preliminary work done using the preparation sheet provided prior to the Conference. Work takes place over two classes and by individual appointment, and features memorized monologues written by participating playwrights.

**How to Write When You Don't Want To with John Cariani**

If you don't like to write, this workshop is for you. If you are lazy, this workshop is for you. If writer's block is a normal state for you, this workshop is for you. If you feel stuck when you write, this workshop is for you. If you feel like inspiration has vacated the premises more often than it visits, this workshop is for you. In this 90-minute session, we will do a series of exercises that will get you motivated, un-blocked, un-stuck, and inspired--exercises that will free you from your mind and help you connect to the "play" part of the word "playwright."

**Two Wolves with Cassandra Medley**

This free-writing monologue workshop incorporates guided exercises designed to help playwrights explore the multiple "wolves" that live inside of all great and imaginatively conceived characters. We will write several spontaneous monologues wherein characters express inner and external conflicts, agendas, strategies, and urgent needs. We will then work with techniques that help incorporate our new-found discoveries into the story turning points, climaxes, revelations, and urgent character motivations that comprise the plots of our plays.

# Sunday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Donna Warfield's <i>Following Protocol</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Barry Levine's <i>Two Women On A Swing Set</i>	
<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Tom Moran's <i>Denier</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Carolyn Kras' <i>The Subject</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Joe Barnes' <i>The Political Economy of Desire</i>
<b>2:10 p.m.</b> April Littlejohn's <i>Nobody's Whore</i>	<b>2:10 p.m.</b> Lily Werts' <i>Cold Feet</i>	<b>2:10 p.m.</b> Chip Bolcik's <i>The Field Trip</i>
<b>3:45 p.m.</b> C.J. Ehrlich's <i>The Maltese Babka</i>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Maureen Longworth's <i>Blue Ticket - Faeries Out of Alaska</i>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Julia Lederer's <i>Virtually Friends</i>

**Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.**

## Tonight's Show...

THE LAST FRONTIER THEATRE CONFERENCE PRESENTS...

# Where Do We Go From Here?

An Evening with our Featured Artists  
Directed by Peter Ellenstein

Including work written and performed by...

- Eric Coble
- Frank Collison
- Jayne Wenger
- Hilary Bettis
- Teresa K. Pond
- Timothy Daly
- Shane Mitchell
- John Cariani
- Michael Evan Haney
- Arlitia Jones
- Cassandra Medley
- Dawson Moore
- Sara Athans
- Schatzie Schaefer

Sunday, June 11  
Valdez Civic Center  
Free Admission

Call 835-2469  
for more information

<b>Room A</b>	<b>Room B</b>	<b>Room C</b>
<b>9:00 a.m. Room C:</b> Morning Warm-up Yoga with Meg McKinney		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Donna Warfield's <i>Following Protocol</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Barry Levine's <i>Two Women On A Swing Set</i>	
<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Tom Moran's <i>Denier</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Carolyn Kras' <i>The Subject</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Joe Barnes' <i>The Political Economy of Desire</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Structured Rewriting; or How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Second Draft with Arthur M. Jolly	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Improv for the Actor with Warren Weinstein, Part One	
<b>1:45 p.m.</b> Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop		
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: April Littlejohn's <i>Nobody's Whore</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Lily Werts' <i>Cold Feet</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Chip Bolcik's <i>The Field Trip</i>
<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Play Lab: C.J. Ehrlich's <i>The Maltese Babka</i>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Maureen Longworth's <i>Blue Ticket - Faeries Out of Alaska</i>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Julia Lederer's <i>Virtually Friends</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> Cyrano's Theatre Company and RKP Productions present Timothy Daly's <i>The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover</i> , directed by Dick Reichman		
<b>10:15 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

**Structured Rewriting; or How I learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Second Draft with Arthur M. Jolly**

Writing is rewriting... so take control of the process. If you've been frustrated knowing a piece wasn't working but unsure why; or spent ages crafting the perfect dialogue for a character only to cut them completely the next day, or just wondered what to do after your very first draft, this class is for you. We will examine a systematic way to move from first draft to polished script.

**Improv for the Actor with Warren Weinstein, Part One**

Learn the skills that will help you feel comfortable without a script in your hands, or if your performance goes off script and you have to maintain the scene, as well as how Improv can help you create and maintain a character in the moment while collaborating to create an improvised scene.



# Monday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Andrea Fleck Clardy's <i>We've Come This Far</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Taran Haynes' <i>Writing a Play</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Shane Kimberlin's <i>Games to Play in Cars</i>
<b>10:40 a.m.</b> Christine Whitley's <i>Horse Thief</i>	<b>10:40 a.m.</b> Greg Abbott's <i>Happy Holidays (Insert Name Here) Our Year Was (Insert Adjective Here)</i>	<b>10:40 a.m.</b> Sally Oberstein's <i>Woogie Woogie</i>
<b>12:30 p.m.</b> Paul Braverman's <i>Sins Borne</i>	<b>12:30 p.m.</b> Hedva Anbar's <i>Shockwaves</i>	<b>12:30 p.m.</b> Linda Ayres-Frederick's <i>Watershed</i>
<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Nicholas Walker Herbert's <i>Asylum</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Joy Cutler's <i>Anatomy Lesson</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Joyce Fontana's <i>The Road to Hell</i>

**Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.**

***Tonight's Show...***

The Last Frontier Theatre Conference presents:

**The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover**

By Timothy Daly  
Directed by Dick Reichman

**Monday, June 12**  
**8:00 p.m.**  
At the Valdez Civic Center  
Call 835-2469 for more information

Cyrano's 25<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY SILVER SEASON

# TUESDAY, JUNE 13

Room A	Room B	Room C
<b>9:00 a.m. to Noon</b> Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop		
<b>9:00 a.m. Room C:</b> Morning Warm-up Yoga with Meg McKinney		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Andrea Fleck Clardy's <i>We've Come This Far</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Taran Haynes' <i>Writing a Play</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Shane Kimberlin's <i>Games to Play in Cars</i>
<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Christine Whitley's <i>Horse Thief</i>	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Greg Abbott's <i>Happy Holidays</i> (Insert Name Here) <i>Our Year</i> Was (Insert Adjective Here)	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Sally Oberstein's <i>Woogie Woogie</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Improv for the Actor with Warren Weinstein, Part Two	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Talking Clever: Contemporary Dialogue Techniques with Timothy Daly	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Paul Braverman's <i>Sins Borne</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Hedva Anbar's <i>Shockwaves</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Linda Ayres-Frederick's <i>Watershed</i>
<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Nicholas Walker Herbert's <i>Asylum</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Joy Cutler's <i>Anatomy Lesson</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Joyce Fontana's <i>The Road to Hell</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> Debrianna Mansini's one-woman show <i>The Meatball Chronicles</i> , directed by Tanya Rubinstein and Laura Gardner		
<b>10:00 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

## Improv for the Actor with Warren Weinstein, Part Two

See Monday's Description.

## TALKING CLEVER: Contemporary Dialogue Techniques with Timothy Daly

A practical hands-on look at how characters—and even plot—are created by language tricks and specific dialogue devices.

# Tuesday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Hannah Ricke's <i>Schizophreniyeah!</i>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Jericho Thomas' <i>Save the Children</i>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Jill Bess' <i>Three Sisters</i>
<b>9:50 a.m.</b> Rand Higbee's <i>The Feral Child</i>	<b>9:50 a.m.</b> Karen Saari's <i>In a Clearing</i>	<b>9:50 a.m.</b> Derek Gray's <i>Surrogates</i>
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Linda Billington's <i>Here There Be Dragons</i>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Alison Elizabeth McLaughlin's <i>Lunch</i>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Amy Tofte's <i>Parts &amp; Pieces</i>
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Randall David Cook's <i>Rub-A-Dub-Dub</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Shawna Casey's <i>blue blue moon</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Jacob Marx Rice's <i>Leni &amp; Joseph</i>

**Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.**

**Tonight's Show...**

The 25th Annual Last Frontier Theatre Conference  
presents  
**The Meatball Chronicles**  
stories of food, love and life  
Written and Performed  
by  
**Debrianna Mansini**  
June 13th, 2017 8PM  
**Valdez Civic Center**  
Directed  
by  
Tanya Taylor Rubinstein with Special Thanks to Laura Gardner

<b>Room A</b>	<b>Room B</b>	<b>Room C</b>
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Longevity Stick Art with Donna Lane		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Hannah Ricke's <i>Schizophreniyeah!</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Jericho Thomas' <i>Save the Children</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Jill Bess' <i>Three Sisters</i>
<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Rand Higbee's <i>The Feral Child</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Karen Saari's <i>In a Clearing</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Derek Gray's <i>Surrogates</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Creative Movement for the Actor with Carrie Baker	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Who's Afraid of Racially Diverse Casting? And Why. A Group Discussion	<b>2:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Amy Tofte's <i>Parts &amp; Pieces</i>
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Linda Billington's <i>Here There Be Dragons</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Alison Elizabeth McLaughlin's <i>Lunch</i>	
<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Randall David Cook's <i>Rub-A-Dub-Dub</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Shawna Casey's <i>blue blue moon</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Jacob Marx Rice's <i>Leni &amp; Joseph</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> Julia Lederer's <i>With Love and a Major Organ</i> , starring Laura Gardner, Michelle Gardner, and Rob Lecrone; Directed by Ken Sawyer		
<b>9:30 p.m.</b> Reception at the Valdez Museum, hosted by the City of Valdez		
<b>10:15 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

**Longevity Stick Art with Donna Lane**

Work on your balance, flexibility, and deep breathing in this morning warm-up class. Stick are provided.

**Creative Movement for the Actor with Carrie Baker**

This workshop will focus on enhancing the actor's creative tools to bolster physical awareness, strengthen connections with acting partners, and inspire physical character development. Actors should wear workout clothes.

**Who's Afraid of Racially Diverse Casting? And Why. A Group Discussion.**

Peter Ellenstein and Dawson Moore lead a group discussion on the recent kerfuffle between the Edward Albee Estate and an intended Oregon production of *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*

# Wednesday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
9:15 a.m. Sandra Hosking's <i>Foxgloves</i>	9:15 a.m. Nancy Nguyen's <i>A Winter Conversation</i>	9:15 a.m. Ethan Warren's <i>Bag of Nails</i>
10:25 a.m. Madelyn Tomko's <i>Stairwell</i>	10:25 a.m. Whitney Rowland's <i>Wayfinding</i>	10:25 a.m. Greg Romero's <i>Door to Balloon</i>
1:00 p.m. Natalie Lifson's <i>A Better Place</i>	1:00 p.m. Andrea Staats' <i>Consciously Coupled (But Not With Each Other)</i>	1:00 p.m. Adi Eshman's <i>Three-Body Problem</i>
2:45 p.m. Tamar Shai's <i>Ugly Baby, Stupid Baby</i>	2:45 p.m. Miranda Caravelho's <i>Horri-fying</i>	2:45 p.m. Tobin Wheeler's <i>Flawless</i>

**Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.**

**Tonight's Show...**

The Last Frontier Theatre Conference  
presents

*With Love  
and a Major Organ*  
By Julia Lederer

with  
**Laura Gardner  
Michelle Gardner  
& Rob Lecrone**

Directed by Ken Sawyer

JUNE 14, 8pm  
At the Valdez Civic Center  
Call 835.2469 for more information

<b>Room A</b>	<b>Room B</b>	<b>Room C</b>
<b>9:00 a.m. Room C:</b> Morning Warm-up Yoga with Meg McKinney		
<b>10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.</b> Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Sandra Hosking's <i>Foxgloves</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Nancy Nguyen's <i>A Winter Conversation</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Ethan Warren's <i>Bag of Nails</i>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Madelyn Tomko's <i>Stairwell</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Whitney Rowland's <i>Wayfinding</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Greg Romero's <i>Door to Balloon</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Table Read to End Scene with Michael Evan Haney and Arlitia Jones	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Improv for the Actor with Warren Weinstein, part three	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Natalie Lifson's <i>A Better Place</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Andrea Staats' <i>Consciously Coupled (But Not With Each Other)</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Adi Eshman's <i>Three-Body Problem</i>
<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Tamar Shai's <i>Ugly Baby, Stupid Baby</i>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Miranda Caravelho's <i>Horrifying</i>	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Tobin Wheeler's <i>Flawless</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> The Owl & Cat Theatre Company presents Arthur M. Jolly's <i>A Very Modern Marriage</i>		
<b>10:00 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

**Table Read to End Scene with Michael Evan Haney and Arlitia Jones**

How does it happen when you're finally all in the room? Grab a seat at the table as director and playwright work through the workshop process on a new scene with actors. The goal is to illuminate the process of bringing together collaborators on a new work. How do you strike the balance between encouraging everyone's contributions while keeping the single focus of serving the play? The goal is also to have fun working together as we begin to build something larger than a printed script. There will be the opportunity for questions and conversation during and after the process.

**Improv for the Actor with Warren Weinstein, Part Three**

See Monday's Description.

# Thursday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>9:15 a.m.</b> L.M. Konoplisky's <i>A Civil War</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Luke Gomez' <i>Boxcutters and Bubblegum</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Jeff Neal Gregg's <i>Mobbin' Minny</i>
<b>10:15 a.m.</b> Joanna Castle Miller's <i>SH@MED</i>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b> Daniels Elizabeth Calvin's <i>Teen Issues</i>	<b>10:15 a.m.</b> Glyka Stoiou's <i>The Greek Shrew</i>
<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Nancy Lord's <i>Hi Vista, 1984</i>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Kristen Ritter's <i>Dungeons and Dragons and Diplomacy</i>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> John Perovich's <i>simple</i>
<b>2:15 p.m.</b> Erin Hays' <i>In the Stars</i>	<b>2:15 p.m.</b> Amanda Kohr's <i>The Lighthouse</i>	<b>2:15 p.m.</b> Jan Rosenberg's <i>How To Destroy An American Girl Doll</i>

**Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.**

**Tonight's  
Show...**

Arthur M. Jolly's  
**A VERY MODERN MARRIAGE**

**FREE ADMISSION**

By Australian company The Owl & Cat Theatre  
 Directed by Sarah Vickery / with Gabrielle Savrone,  
 Tom Carty & Shane Savage

**LAST FRONTIER THEATRE CONFERENCE**  
**8PM / 15TH JUNE**

<b>Room A</b>	<b>Room B</b>	<b>Room C</b>
<b>9:00 a.m. Room C:</b> Morning Warm-up Yoga with Meg McKinney		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: L.M. Konoplisky's <i>A Civil War</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Luke Gomez' <i>Boxcutters and Bubblegum</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Jeff Neal Gregg's <i>Mobbin' Minny</i>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Joanna Castle Miller's <i>SH@MED</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Daniels Elizabeth Calvin's <i>Teen Issues</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Glyka Stoiou's <i>The Greek Shrew</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> An Introduction and Practical Guide to Dramaturgy with Jayne Wenger	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner & Frank Collison, Part Two	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Nancy Lord's <i>Hi Vista, 1984</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Kristen Ritter's <i>Dungeons and Dragons and Diplomacy</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: John Perovich's <i>simple</i>
<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Erin Hays' <i>In the Stars</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Amanda Kohr's <i>The Lighthouse</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Jan Rosenberg's <i>How To Destroy An American Girl Doll</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> Boarding for a 2-hour cruise to Shoup Glacier on Stan Stephens Cruises		

**An Introduction and Practical Guide to Dramaturgy**

What is new play dramaturgy and why do we care? This workshop is for playwrights who are interested in forging a successful alliance with a dramaturg; directors who are seeking ideas for creating open communication between the creative team, as well as anyone who would like to be a dramaturg. We will cover the creative process from early drafts to rehearsal, right up to moderating the talkback and audience outreach.

**Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, Part Two**

See Monday's Description.



***Prince William Sound College and the  
Last Frontier Theatre Conference  
would like to thank***



***for 25 years of support that has kept  
the Conference alive***

9:00 a.m.

Monologue Workshop performers called for tech through

10:30 a.m.

Monologue Workshop Final Presentation

Noon

Lunch Break, Ten-Minute Play Slam performers' tech through

12:45 p.m.

The Ten-Minute Play Slam, directed by Carrie Yanagawa

5:00 p.m.

Reception on the Civic Center lawn

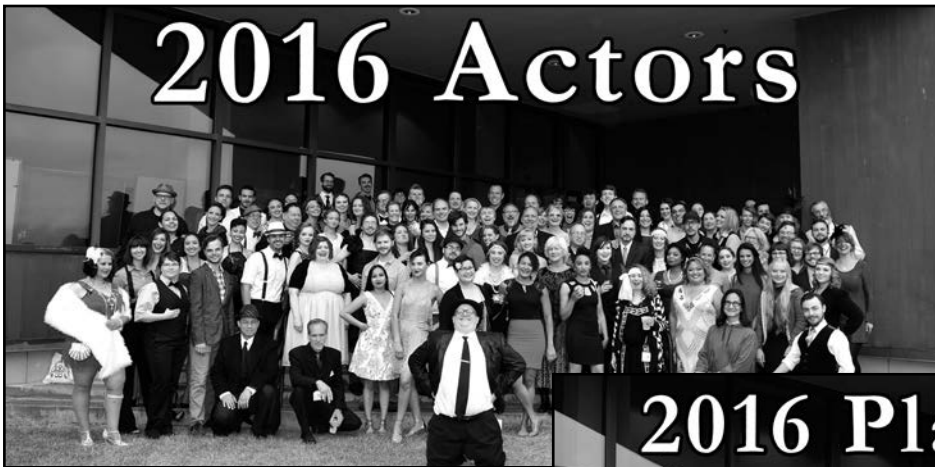
6:00 p.m.

Group photos for playwrights, actors, and featured artists

6:30 p.m.

Gala dinner. TBA Theatre presents a night of eerie elegance for 2017. It's "The Zombie Jamboree", come in your favorite Addams Family chic whether it be forebodingly formal or tastefully tattered and be prepared to dance, swing, and sing along with an undead band that is hot as hell. There will be a video tribute to Edward Albee and Michael Warren Powell, produced by Once A Year Theatre and

narrated by David Haynes, and the evening culminates in the presentation of the Jerry Harper Service Award to Sandy Harper.



Get in this year's picture at 6:00!



**Sunday, June 18**

10:00 a.m. Continental Breakfast and Wrap-Up Discussion at Prince William Sound College's Atrium.

No other Conference events scheduled for Sunday. The Civic Center is closed and locked, so please remove all personal items on Saturday.

Each one of these men  
was an inspiration

**Edward Albee**



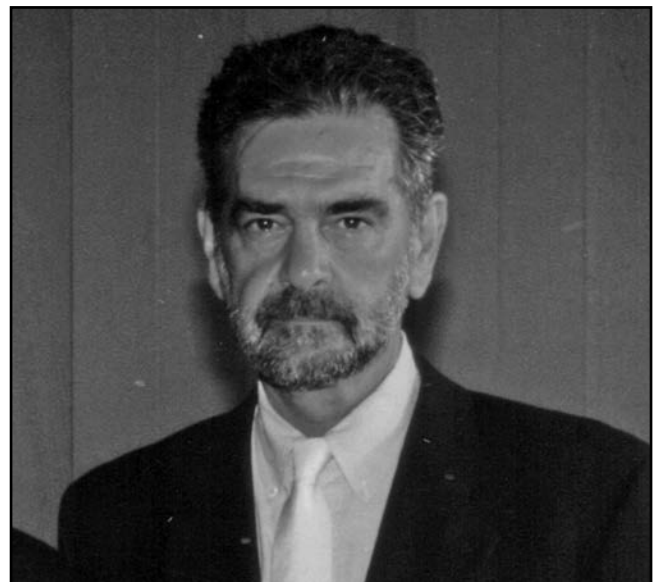
**Harold V. Fergus**



**William Hoffman**



**Michael Warren  
Powell**



Thank you for sharing  
our passion for the theatre.

The first inklings of **Blue Chair Productions** began at the 2014 Last Frontier Theatre Conference, where Ryan Buen and Colby Bleicher became friends and found they shared both a similar taste in plays and a dream to produce work in Anchorage. Two summers later, Blue Chair (a combination of its founders' last names) debuted at Out North Contemporary Art House with Nick Payne's *Constellations*, which will be presented on June 10 here in Valdez. Currently the company is rehearsing Theresa Rebeck's *Seminar*, which will play at Cyrano's Theatre Company June 30-July 9. Blue Chair Productions is committed to bringing high-quality contemporary theatre to Alaskan audiences at an affordable price. Its two founders are actors, directors, playwrights, designers, and producers, influenced by the training they received in their hometowns of Valdez and Anchorage, Alaska, as well as their educations in England and New York City. They are passionate about presenting unique plays that surprise and challenge their audiences and creators alike.



*Constellations* by Nick Payne (2016)



*bobraushenbergamerica*  
by Charles L. Mee (2012)

The mission of **Cyrano's Theatre Company** (CTC) is to provide a full season of professional-quality live performances of classic, contemporary, and original plays, cultivating local artists and reflecting our Anchorage community. 2017 marks the 25th Silver Anniversary "Season of Celebration" at CTC. Upcoming summer productions celebrate the great writing of Theresa Rebeck in a co-production of Blue Chair Productions' *Seminar* (June 30 - July 9). And join CTC to celebrate laughter and love, with *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (directed by Featured Artist Teresa K. Pond, and starring Conference attendees Jill Bess, Mark Robokoff, and Gigi Lynch, among others. The autumn will take CTC to a whole new world of artists and audiences as we dive into the Dungeons & Dragons world with *She Kills Monsters*, directed by Ryan Buen (Sept. 22 - Oct 15). See our website for the rest of our season and more information ([www.cyranos.org](http://www.cyranos.org)).

CTC is honored to have been chosen "Best Live Theatre" 1st place Platinum Award 2016, by Alaska Dispatch News, and "Best Live Theatre" 2016 by the Anchorage Press, as well as having received the Mayor's Arts Award and recently was awarded the Governor's Award for the Arts Organization (2016) for the second time. CTC is proud to offer a co-production of Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover*, a co-production with RKP Productions who created this powerful piece of theatre, performing this Monday at the conference. CTC is honored to be a part of the Last Frontier Theatre Conference and has enjoyed a long history of offering stimulating performances and new play readings here in Valdez, as well as engaging artists statewide from this conference, with our productions in Anchorage. We are pleased and thrilled that CTC's Founder Emeritus Sandy Harper will be receiving the Jerry Harper Service Award at this year's conference Gala.



*War* by Dick Reichman (2006)

**RKP (Reichman, Kellys, Pond) Production's** mission is to bring meaningful drama forward by staging productions that don't necessarily fit into a typical theatre season. We wish to provide theatre which, we hope, will fill a space among the impressive theatre programs that already exist. The idea of RKP Productions began in 2011 when Bob Pond and Dick Reichman staged *The Glass Menagerie* at Out North Contemporary Art House. Bruce and Audrey Kelly joined the team in 2014 for a November production of a complex drama between a mother and daughter dealing with perceptions, choices and the right to make the choices, Marsha Norman's *'night Mother*. In 2015, RKP produced Deborah Brevoort's *The Women of Lockerbee*, which tells the poignant story of people coming together in the face of grief to mourn and find healing. Our 2016 offerings included Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* in February and two one acts in September: Dick Reichman's *The Phone*, about the difficulties involved in dealing with a parent with Alzheimer's disease, and Nava Semel's *The Child Behind the Eyes*, which highlights the struggles of a family coping with their son who suffers from Down's

Syndrome. In January 2017 RKP Productions and Cyranos Theatre Company co-produced a reprise of Dick Reichman's play about a financial planner, *How to Make Money by Dying*. This was followed in April with Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J Edgar Hoover*, a timely piece considering present day politics. RKP Productions is especially honored to bring *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover* to The Last Frontier Theatre Conference this year.



*Sabbatron* by Schatzie Schaefer (2009)

**TBA Theatre's** mission is to enrich our community by providing innovative and comprehensive theatre arts experiences through which artists of all ages can develop their creativity and self-expression; and in so doing stimulate human potential. In addition to staging numerous productions each year and collaborating with Three Wise Moose to produce the *Don't Blink One-Page Play Marathon* and *Alaska Overnighters*, every summer they produce summer theatre academies in Anchorage and around the state, providing fun and safe environment where young artists learn creative expression alongside professional actors, designers, and technicians. TBA has been presenting evenings of entertainment at the Conference for the past decade. Presented works have included Jacob Holder's *Dirge for a Failed Bris*, *North to Alaska*, *Beyond The Veil*, *THE END*, *An Evening of Short Plays (Alaskan Plays from the Play Lab)*, *Four From The 49th*, *Nothing In Common*, *I*

*Want to Believe*, *Absolution*, Eoin Carney's *The Rendering of Conor McShea*, William Missouri Downs' *Cockeyed* and Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*, which was remounted in Anchorage at Cyrano's Off-Center Playhouse. In the spring of 2007, they won national acclaim to be the first Alaskan theatre company to be invited to present plays at The Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival. The works selected for presentation were Arlita Jones' *Grand Central and 42nd* and P. Shane Mitchell's *The Resurrection of Humpty Dumpty*, both of which started as *Alaska Overnighters* productions and have subsequently been presented here at the Last Frontier Theater Conference. TBA Theatre was named by readers of The Anchorage Daily News as Alaska's "Best Non-Profit" and "The Gold Standard in Family Fun" and has been named in the top three live theatres in the Anchorage Press for the past five years.



*The Rendering of Conor McShea* by Eoin Carney (2012)

**The Owl and Cat Theatre** was started in 2014 by Gabrielle Savrone and Thomas Ian Doyle. On a mission to create new work that provokes thought and conversation around current issues, and to help people to understand each other more. They have produced over 15 world premieres and 25 Australian premieres. The Owl and Cat is a small 36 seat intimate black box theatre with a bar out back and an artist house up top.



*FleshEatingTiger* by Amy Tofte (2016)

(Gabrielle, Thomas and co all live there and create work throughout the boho style building). They continue to push boundaries and are not afraid to try new things eg: film meets theatre, escape room theatre and more. Completely independent of any funding, they are entrepreneurs at heart. Recently adding an acting school and a speakeasy bar with the help of Aaron Savrone on the weekends to continue improving their quality of work. They are proud to keep the doors open to all actors by holding general auditions at the start of each season and are always on the hunt for new scripts from both emerging and established playwrights. 2017 has seen the launch of a new program - Platform - where The Owl and Cat are donating their time and resources to 4 groups of artists who are working on a play in development. This year has also seen The Owl

and Cat increasingly producing immersive experiences, from a play at dinner with actors and audience, to roaming shows and even an 8 seater bedroom turned theatre upstairs. They continue to push boundaries and tackle taboos in experimental ways. Perhaps next year they will bring you an immersive experience to a dorm room! Gabrielle and Thomas are incredibly grateful that their little theatre has been asked back as producing partners for the 2nd year. The entire Owl and Cat Family are delighted and honored to bring you Arthur Jolly's *A Very Modern Marriage*. Enjoy the show! To see their work, get in touch or donate, visit [www.owlandcat.com.au](http://www.owlandcat.com.au). **'A visit to the Owl and Cat Theatre in inner-city Melbourne is an adventure, a modern-day happening.'** -*The Australian, Chris Boyd*



***Prince William Sound College and the  
Last Frontier Theatre Conference  
would like to thank***

***Stan Stephens  
Glacier & Wildlife  
Cruises***

***for providing a window into the beauty  
and passion that drives the Conferance***

## Final Presentation - Saturday, June 17, 10:30 A.M.



The Monologue Workshop features pieces written by playwrights participating in the Play Lab. Playwrights are solicited to send us monologues. We jury them, then post them on our website, and let attending actors choose from them, allowing up to two performers of each piece. Participants have the opportunity to work with Frank Collison, Laura Gardner, and Rob Lecrone over the course of two classes and individual sessions during the

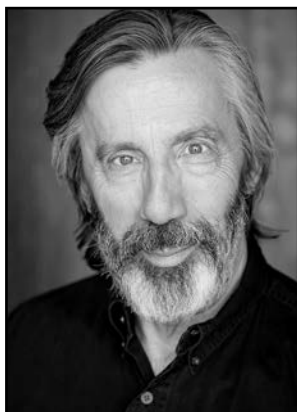
Conference. The pieces are then presented on the final Saturday of the event.

After several years, we began to build up a large collection of material, a good portion of which can be found in *Monologues from The Last Frontier Theatre Conference*, published by Focus Publishing.



“The core of Laura and Frank’s influence at the Conference is contained in their Monologues Workshop, wherein they expand the skills that sharpen and deepen an actor’s process. Both are not only talented performers, but also are consummate teachers of the actor’s craft. The benefits of a week of concentration on perfecting the techniques of acting can hardly be overstated. The performance of the monologues on stage at the end of the Conference is one of the highlights of each summer.”

- Marshall W. Mason, from the Foreword of *Monologues from The Last Frontier Theatre Conference*



Frank Collison and Laura Gardner have been instructing actors in the Monologue Workshop for the better part of 10 years. Rob Lecrone joined them in 2016 as an instructor. For more information, you can find their bios in the Featured Artist Section.

**Saturday, June 17, 12:45 P.M.**

The Ten-Minute Play Slam was started in 2007 as a way of furthering the Conference's ongoing mission to provide as many opportunities for our participating playwrights as possible. It has continued to improve every year, and has become a consistent highlight of the week in Valdez.

There are no separate submissions for the Ten-Minute Play Slam. Pieces are solicited yearly from writers presenting in the Play Lab.



Carrie Yanagawa has directed the The Ten-Minute Play Slam for the past four years. Her bio can be found in the Featured Artists section.

**The 11th Annual Ten-Minute Play Slam**

<p><b><i>Expecting Hamilton</i></b> by Chip Bolcik</p> <p><b><i>I, Phone</i></b> by Tom Moran</p> <p><b><i>To Give Up On Heaven</i></b> by Tobin Wheeler</p>	<p><b><i>Logorrhea</i></b> by Daniels Calvin</p> <p><b><i>Sons Become Fathers</i></b> by Derek Gray</p> <p><b><i>Parasite</i></b> by Joanna Castle Miller</p>
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PLAY SLAM PRODUCTION HISTORY

2016 – Directed by Carrie Yanagawa

- Joe Barnes' *Roommates*
- Chip Bolcik's *Suit Yourself*
- Eoin Carney's *Eurekas*
- Nicholas Walker Herbert's *Funeral for a Pet*
- Andrea Staats' *Progress*
- Staci Swedeen's *Rattlesnake Canyon*



2015 – Directed by Carrie Yanagawa

- Jill Bess' *The Ransom*
- Nicholas Walker Herbert's *Autograph Table*
- Tony Pasqualini's *In the Dark*
- Thomas Pierce's *Almost Connect...*
- Amy Tofte's *Not About the Money*
- Carolynne Wilcox's *Fate Demands It*

2014 – Directed by Carrie Yanagawa

- Paul Braverman's *United We Stand*
- Daniel Guyton's *Death of a Snowman*
- Rand Higbee's *Moon in a Barrel*
- David MacGregor's *New Year's Eve*
- Tom Moran's *WYWH*
- Kelly Younger's *Let's Get Physical*



2013 – Directed by Janice L. Goldberg

- Cort Brinkerhoff's *Cort's Play*
- Eoin Carney's *Fork in Road*
- Joy Cutler's *The Craving*
- Alexandra D'Italia's *The Fix Up*
- Nicholas Walker Herbert's *Kiss with a Fist*
- Nathaniel Lachenmeyer's *Birds of a Feather*
- Leslie Powell's *Backfire*
- Kelly Younger's *Mandate*



2012 – Directed by Mark Lutwak

Kevin Armento's *The Very Important Talk Every Father Fears the Most*  
 Phillip Dallmann's *The Smerjigan*  
 F. Brett Cox's *They Got Louie*  
 David Clark's *A Deck of Cards*  
 Rachel White's *Chelsea Faces Machine*  
 Joe Barnes' *Even Steven*  
 Jeanne Beckwith's *Doll Hospital*  
 Dennis Schebetta's *Dog Park or Sexual Perversity in Magnuson*  
 Matt Benedict's *Discoveries*



2011 – Directed by Mark Lutwak

Rand Higbee's *The Music That Dares Not Speak Its Name*  
 Scott Tobin's *The Washington Post*  
 Antoinette Winstead's *The Birthday Surprise*  
 Joe Barnes' *The Boy With No Nose*  
 Nick Mazzuca's *Wild Dark*  
 Raegan Payne's *Sweet Nothings*  
 Arlitia Jones' *The Children of Light*  
 Kevin Armento's *Breeders*

2010 – Directed by Jayne Wenger

Joe Barnes' *Inventory of Effects*  
 Francine Dick's *Down Memory Lane*  
 Reginald Edmund's *Everyone Respects Big E*  
 David Guaspari's *Roger and Juliet*  
 Arlitia Jones' *Tornado*  
 Geoff Kirsch's *Shipwrecked*  
 Tom Moran's *Duo*  
 Laura Neubauer's *Catch of the Day*  
 Schatzie Schaefer's *Wednesdays & Saturdays*  
 Amy Tofte's *The Course We Set*



2009 – Directed by Mark Lutwak

Joe Barnes' *The Workshop*  
 Paul Brynner's *Grocery List*  
 Damon Chua's *Text Me*  
 Rand Higbee's *The Last Ballgame*  
 Arlitia Jones' *The Empirical Eskimo*  
 Tom Moran's *Roadkill*  
 Mollie Ramos' *Finding Our Way Back*  
 Schatzie Schaefer's *Ancient Chinese Secret*  
 Judd Lear Silverman's *Ancestors of Telemarketing*

2008 – Directed by Mark Lutwak

Joe Barnes' *The Prick*  
 Jessica Chisum's *Promenade*  
 Damon Chua's *Dogs are Evil*  
 Christine Emmert's *Raft of the Medusa – Post Modern*  
 Arlitia Jones' *Another Big Hollywood Ending*  
 Lia Romeo's *Last Call*  
 George Sapio's *Putt-Putt*  
 Nick Stokes' *The Chore*  
 James Venhaus' *Three Kings*



2007 – Directed by Daniel Irvine, Mark Lutwak,  
 and Michael Warren Powell

Stuart M. Harris' *Samuel and Salkow*  
 John Levine's *The Whale Stays in the Picture*  
 John Kaiser's *Somebody Please*  
 Ruth Kirschner's *Spotlight*  
 JC Samuels' *Chameleon*  
 Deborah Chava Singer's *Sweet Night, Last Morning*  
 Jonathan Wallace's *"Caitlynn", by Helen Langley,* by Kate Imbruglio  
 Justin Warner's *Parent Interview*  
 Antoinette F. Winstead's *The Meeting*

## Sunday through Thursday, after the evening performances in the Mariners Room at the Best Western



The Fringe Festival at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference features late night readings and other performance art. Generally focused on short work, the Fringe is the last event of the night throughout the conference week. Most nights run 45 to 60 minutes in length.

Writers, submit your scripts and a short one-sentence or one-clause logline to [jannafringe@yahoo.com](mailto:jannafringe@yahoo.com). Scripts are accepted both before and during the conference. 10-minutes or less. Less is better.

Actors, show your interest by putting your name on our "Persons of Interest" sheet in the lobby. Role assignments are usually given out in the Civic Center during the lunch hour.

### Fringe History

In 1998, Play Lab founder Michael Warren Powell wanted to hear a play that hadn't gotten into the Lab. The gathering of people that night in the student commons at the college was the seed from which the Fringe grew. Erick Hayden and Barry Levine took over coordination of the event in 2001, resulting in more regular scheduling and more support from the conference. From 2012 to 2014, Bostin Christopher and Janna Shaw coordinated the event. In 2015, Janna was joined by Rob Lecrone and the partnership of Shaw and Lecrone has been bringing you the Fringe ever since.



Over the years, the Fringe has performed in many spaces, including the Totem Inn, Ernesto's Taqueria, the Glacier Sound Inn, the Fat Mermaid, and the Best Western, its current home. Regardless of location, there is rarely an empty seat at this popular event.

### Fringe Team

Your Fringe team of Shaw and Lecrone are back, with Janna Shaw in charge of casting and script selection and rabble-rouser Rob Lecrone performing hosting duties and providing additional support.



**The Coordinator** – Janna Shaw is back coordinating the Fringe and is determined to make this the best year yet. Janna's goals are to showcase works and performances unconstrained by the status quo. She does her best to carry on the established legacy with her own style of platform for artists of all origins and disciplines. All scripts submitted are thoughtfully read and all actors carefully selected. With inclusiveness in mind, it is with a heavy heart that every year some get left out. Have no fear hopeful fringe participants - you have a caring and approachable coordinator here who will fight for your right to fringe! Thanks to all who challenge Janna's organizational skills and who bless her by sharing windows to souls. There is never an unappreciated talent in the room.



**The Host** - Rob Lecrone returns for his third year hosting and co-producing the Last Frontier Fringe. Rob has had the pleasure of playing a number of Fringe-worthy roles this last year in Serial Killers at Sacred Fools in LA, including a pothead, an antebellum misogynist, a modern-day misogynist, an otherworldly gangster, an Englishman who constantly gets beaten up by Frankenstein, a cowboy who takes two minutes to die, and an awkward teenager with a camera. He can't wait to see the craziness that all of you get up to this week in the Fringe. Besides hosting the Fringe, Rob is also one of the coaches of the Monologue Workshop.

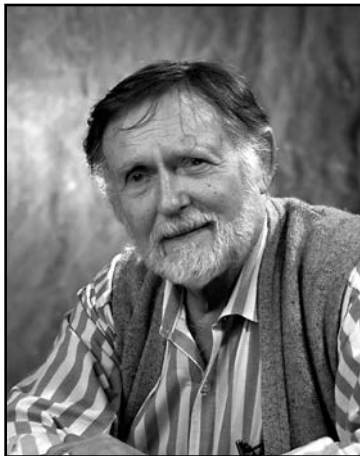
**For more information on the Fringe, e-mail Fringe Coordinator Janna Shaw at [jannafringe@yahoo.com](mailto:jannafringe@yahoo.com).**

**Follow the Fringe on Twitter: @LFTC\_Fringe**

Join us on the closing Saturday of the Conference as we gather at the Civic Center for a dinner and awards ceremony, featuring the presentation of the Jerry Harper Service Award to Doug Desorcie.

**Schedule**

- 5:00 Reception on the Civic Center Lawn.**
- 6:00 Cast and Playwright Group Photo**
- 6:30 Dinner Served**
- 7:30 Benefactor Recognition by PWSC President Dan O'Connor**
- 7:45 Jerry Harper Service Award Presentation**



**Jerry Harper** is a hero of theatre in Alaska, renowned for his talent, kindness, and work ethic. More than one thousand people attended his memorial at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium in Anchorage. At the Conference, he was a fixture in the evening performances and the Play Lab. At the University of Alaska Anchorage, the Studio Theatre was renamed in his honor. The annual **Jerry Harper Service Award** has been created to honor people who have supported the Last Frontier Theatre Conference the way he did, heart and soul.

The Last Frontier Theatre Conference is the creation of many people. While credit is rightly given to its founders, PWSCC President Emeritus Jo Ann C. McDowell and Edward Albee, and to its staff, there are hundreds of people each year who play a role in its creation. From the producers of the evening shows to the caterers, from the playwrights to the actors, from the financial benefactors to the people at the high school who loan us the music stands... it belongs to all of us.

The Jerry Harper Service Award exists to annually recognize someone who has gone above and beyond the call of duty over the life of the event. The first year's award was given to Michael Warren Powell, the father of the Play Lab. The next year it was given to the only Technical Director in the history of the Conference, Jim Cucurull. In 2009, it went to long-time Valdez Star reporter and participant Ron Holmstrom. In 2010, TBA Theatre Artistic Director Shane Mitchell was the recipient, and in 2011, powerhouse director and Conference supporter Erma Duricko was honored. We celebrated our 20<sup>th</sup> year by honoring the event's founder, PWSCC President Emeritus Jo Ann C. McDowell, and the year after we recognized her long time producing partner Gail Renardson. In 2014, Stan and Mary Helen Stephens were recognized for their long-time support of the Conference, as well as their generosity to PWSCC and the surrounding communities. The 2015 Jerry Harper Service Award was presented to longtime Anchorage Theatre mainstays David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware.

***More than an actor: A Kind, Gentle Man***

*"The death of Jerry Harper removed from the local scene a man of enormous talent, one who very well might have been the greatest stage actor ever to perform in Alaska. He played everything with great artistry and skill. Comedy or drama, he was at the top of his game always--a man of perfect timing, an actor who could command the stage and embrace an audience, living the role that was his in every performance in which he starred. His credits as a director were as long as those of his performing roles, and he brought to the stage some truly memorable evenings of theatrical magic to Anchorage. More than all of that, he will be remembered for his kindness and gentle spirit. He was a true gentleman of the old school."*

*---Bill Tobin, Voice of the Times, 2005*

# JERRY HARPER SERVICE AWARD

The 2017 Jerry Harper Service Award is being given to Sandy Harper. She is the Producing Artistic Director Emeritus of Anchorage's *Cyrano's Theatre Company* (CTC). CTC was co-founded by Sandy her husband Jerry, for whom this award is named, in 1992, the same year as the Last Frontier Theatre Conference.

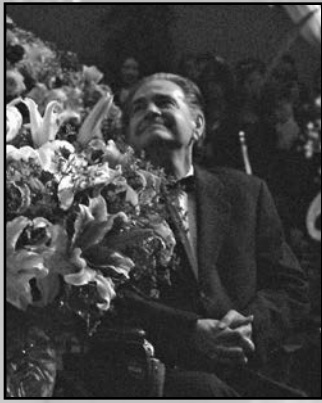
Sandy and Jerry's formative years were spent in Southern California under the mentorship of Obie-award winner Rachel Rosenthal, and both were core members of Rosenthal's innovative theatre form, "Instant Theatre" and "Instant Fairy Tales," which were highly influenced and inspired by Antonin Artaud, John Cage, and Merce Cunningham. While in California, Sandy earned her Master's Degree in Human Development from Pacific Oaks College in Pasadena.

In Alaska, Sandy has served on the national board of the Last Frontier Theatre Conference, the board of the Anchorage Downtown Partnership, the board of the Rasmuson Foundation, and the board of the Anchorage Downtown Association. She also served as president of the Anchorage Cultural Council. Sandy's accolades include the Contribution to Literacy award as the initiator of the Alaska Center for the Book; the YWCA Notable Woman of the Year (2009); induction into the ATHENA Society (2009); recognition by the Soroptimist Society for her encouragement of women in the arts (2010); an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from UAA (2011); the Lorene Harrison Lifetime Achievement award (2011); and induction into the Alaska Women's Hall of Fame (2016).

Under Sandy's leadership, CTC has been noted for eclectic programming and major projects, such as five world-premiere plays about Alaska during the celebration of Statehood and *Anchorage: The First 100 Years*, a project which produced a play for every decade to celebrate Anchorage's centennial. Another big project was commissioning and producing *The Ticket*, written by CTC's Resident playwright Dick Reichman. She was featured in *American Theatre Magazine* for producing a series of plays honoring the indigenous peoples of Alaska. CTC has also been noted for spotting and producing plays read at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference, including Anne Hanley's *The Winter Bear*. Sandy was producer of many evening productions at the Conference, including Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance*, *The Zoo Story*, *Seascape*, and *Albee's Men*, a collection of his work adapted and directed by Albee's protégée Glyn O'Malley. Sandy thanks the Last Frontier Theatre Conference for honoring Jerry with the establishment of the Jerry Harper Service Award and honoring her with this very special recognition on both CTC and the Last Frontier Theatre Conference's 25th Silver Anniversary.



# PAST RECIPIENTS



2007 ~ Michael Warren Powell



2008 ~ Jim Cucurull



2009 ~ Ron Holmstrom



2010 ~ Shane Mitchell



2011 ~ Erma Duricko



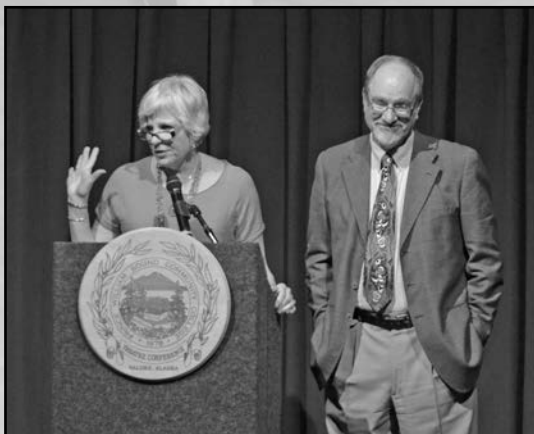
2012 ~ PWSCC President Emeritus Jo Ann C. McDowell



2013 ~ PWSCC Professor Emeritus Gail Renardson



2014 ~ Stan and Mary Helen Stephens (pictured is Mary Helen, with daughter Colleen)



2015 ~ David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware



2016 ~ Doug Desorcie

## ON GIVING FEEDBACK

- Pose observations, don't offer solutions.
- A writer needs to know when you were engaged, and when you were not.
- A writer needs to know what you got out of a play.
- Your positive response is most helpful, while your negative response is not.
- This is a nurturing environment, though you do not need to coddle the writers.
- Do not offer rewrite suggestions. Do not rewrite the play. Do not make it what you think it should be.
- Whether you liked or disliked the play is irrelevant to your response.

The above guidelines were provided in the first year of the Play Lab by Lanford Wilson to Michael Warren Powell and the Lab panelists.

## ON RECEIVING FEEDBACK

It is very important for each of you to know that you are the God of your own plays. These are the worlds you have created, and no person can tell you what your world must be.

When you receive the feedback on your play in the Play Lab and elsewhere, it is essential that you keep your ears open to everyone's comments. Be grateful that the person speaking has taken time to think about your work and state their opinion in front of a room full of people. It is a gift that they are giving you... be appreciative and gracious.

That said, they are responding immediately after seeing a reading that's had one rehearsal, at least here in Valdez. They know their immediate, gut response, which may not be perfect, but can be a great barometer.

Personally, when my work is being responded to critically, I write furiously on a note pad, smile, and nod. I non-verbally encourage people to keep telling me what they think. When it's all over, 60% of what I am given does not apply to the play that I am writing. I discard these responses, not damaged by them.

About 20% of what is given is also off-base, but the fact that they have had the reaction they did leads me to further understand how to clarify what I am trying to achieve.

And to the final 20% of the responses I say "wow, good idea, thanks!" I then write their idea into my play and act as if it was my good idea. How great a deal is that?

No one can rewrite your play, unless they have access to your computer files. Be strong in what you wrote. Be strong in what was your initial impulse to put this play on paper, to see it on stage, to have people sit and watch it. By being here, by being involved in this process, you have clearly said "I am a writer." Be one, and believe in yourself.

At the same time, take the time to humble yourself before the craft. There is an amazing amount of great thought about what goes into good story-telling. Open yourself to it, then pick what works for you, what you agree with, and continue the journey into creating and understanding your own aesthetic.

- Dawson Moore

Monday, June 12, 10:00 A.M.

Monday, June 12, 10:45 A.M.



**Room A**  
**Donna Warfield's**  
*Following Protocol*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Peter Ellenstein, and Arlitia Jones**

Stage Instructions Marcia Lynn  
Dr. Dana Weber Stacy Tanner  
Dr. Simon Martha Robinson  
Mama Gigi Lynch  
Mamusia Tamar Shai  
Devoreaux Will Jackson

In a world filled with senseless violence, no doctor wants to have to tell a mother that her child is a victim. There are established protocols that must be followed. Who do they really protect?



**Room A**  
**Tom Moran's**  
*Denier*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Peter Ellenstein, and Arlitia Jones**

Stage Instructions/ Debate Moderator Linnea Hollingsworth  
Jillian Carter Jill Bess  
Marie Carter Grace Williams  
Martin Cross Ben Corbett  
James Bradley Kevin T. Bennett  
Little Girl Addoris Davis

Thanks to an unexpected research grant, climate scientist Jillian Carter's career is back on track and she's rekindled hope of reconciling with her estranged husband. But when her funders' demands grow more and more troubling, she must find a way to salvage her integrity without ruining her life.



**Room B**  
**Barry Levine's**  
*Two Women On*  
*A Swing Set*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Timothy Daly, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions MaryAlice Larmi  
Sylph Sandra Hosking  
Jessie Alexandra McCall

In November of 2016, a 21-year-old punk rock girl meets an original punk woman from the 1970s. While sitting on the swing set of a rundown playground, they bond over the disadvantages of being female in a male dominated industry and society that consistently dismisses them.



**Room B**  
**Carolyn Kras'**  
*The Subject*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Timothy Daly, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Lisa-Marie Castro  
Princess Charlotte Stephanie Bahner  
Princess Augusta Sarah Bethany Baird  
Princess Elizabeth Kalli Randall  
Princess Mary Shaelisa Anderson  
Princess Sophia Alyssa Barnes  
Princess Amelia Kimberly Allely  
Prince George Carl Young  
Prince Ernest Jake Beauvais  
King George III John Baldwin  
Queen Charlotte Debrianna Mansini  
Thomas Garth Jamie Nelson  
Doctor Brian Wescott

Princess Sophia's family is one of the most dysfunctional in history, with notoriously mad father King George III, drug-dependent mother Queen Charlotte, sex addict brother Ernest, and agoraphobic sister Augusta. When Sophia is attacked and fights to bring the criminal to justice, her family instead seeks to mastermind a cover-up of the secret for fear of losing the throne.



Danielle Rabinovitch, Michelle Gardner, Kim Estes, Christine Eagleson, and Barry Levine patiently wait for their Play Lab rehearsal



**Room C**  
**Joe Barnes'**  
*The Political Economy*  
*of Desire* Directed by Jayne Wenger

**Panelists: Arthur M. Jolly, Teresa K. Pond, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Taylor Campbell  
Barbara Fairchild Laura Gardner  
Donald Fairchild Frank Collison  
Rick Pierce Aaron Wiseman  
Eva White Danielle Rabinovitch  
Dr. Silverstein Mark Robokoff

Chekhov, thongs, Wagner, strap-ons, the Virgin Mary, and cocaine, not to mention the usual sex, death, and money: *The Political Economy of Desire* has them all. A heartwarming tale of hope for troubled times.

**Monday, June 12, 3:00 P.M.**



**Room A**  
**April Littlejohn's**  
*Nobody's Whore*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis, John Cariani, and Arlitia Jones**

Stage Instructions Linda Ayres-Frederick  
 Hudson Austin James Roach  
 Sasha Devan Hawkins  
 Bartender Skyler Davis  
 Mario Fanzano Mark Muro  
 Marianne Christine A. Eagleson  
 Big D Casey Knight

Hudson is thrust back into his past after successful businessman, Mario Fanzano, who was like a father to him, is shot and killed. He's there to dole out the cash to the three beneficiaries who also could be suspects. *Nobody's Whore* is a sexy noir play about love, family, and, of course, murder.

**Monday, June 12, 3:45 P.M.**



**Room A**  
**C.J. Ehrlich's**  
*The Maltese Babka*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis, John Cariani, and Arlitia Jones**

Stage Instructions Ashleigh Russell  
 Jake Pantograph Frank Delaney  
 Tripsy Contrast Annie McCain Engman  
 Rochelle Badinsky Gabrielle Savrone  
 Officer O'Martin Hannigan Rees Miller  
 Avi Pincus Michael Noble  
 Annex Washbasin Carl Young  
 Hannibal Hightower Dirch Mark Muro  
 Portia "Bunny" Washbasin Lou Anne Wright  
 Effy Gingerine Andrea Staats  
 Bartender (Bruno) Oliver Siemans  
 Boxer (Roscoe/Wilmer/Lefty/Virgil) Warren Weinstein  
 The Harbormaster John Parsi  
 Mimi-Bootsie Badinski Jillian Pollock

Join private investigator Jake Pantograph through a twisty maze of mysteries wrapped in danger, as he tries to track down a missing girl, a blackmailer, a one-of-a-kind black diamond necklace, a hot babka, and some ice for his drink. There won't be any black-and-white answers in this comic homage to the shapely characters, snappy innuendo, and sultry settings of film noir.

**Room B**  
**Lily Werts'**  
*Cold Feet*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Peter Ellenstein, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Veronica Bissell  
 Valerie Paige Genise  
 Sam John Perovich

A missed connection between two friends rekindles before it's too late.

**Room B**  
**Maureen Longworth's**  
*Blue Ticket -*  
*Faeries Out of Alaska*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Peter Ellenstein, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions/Jerry Denzel Wood  
 Tommy Devin Frey  
 Sergeant Bill Jackson/ Jonathan Lang  
 Commander Carlson  
 Gary Barry Levine  
 Loretta Stacy Stimson Miller  
 Larry Fischer/Gary Brian Wescott  
 Helen Glyka Stoiou  
 Chief Lansbury/ Minister Ben Corbett  
 Morley Randall Parker II  
 Smith Jamie Nelson  
 Ed/Richard Shawn Eby  
 Wilma/Minister's Wife Jeanne Passin  
 Marge Christine A. Eagleson  
 Julius Morgan/Frank Walters Jeff Neal Gregg

A political love story that weaves stories of Juneau residents based on true events from 1963. After college Tommy returns home to discover that the Juneau Police Department secretly expels not only molesters but also suspected homosexuals from Juneau. An unexpected kiss from his best friend throws their careers into jeopardy and their lives into danger in ways Tommy can't hide from his religious widowed mother.

**Room C**  
**Chip Bolcik's**  
*The Field Trip*

**Panelists: Arthur M. Jolly, Teresa K. Pond, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Josh Schmidlein  
 Greg Theodore C. Hooker II  
 Alan Tom Carty  
 Cindy Reagan James  
 Arthur Jeff Neal Gregg  
 Megan Zoey Grenier  
 Train Announcer Jennifer Sonneborn

What does family look like? On the uptown R train, Megan encounters a "family" unlike any she's seen before, as Greg takes his three special needs clients to the Central Park Zoo for a field trip.

**Monday, June 12, 3:45 P.M.**



**Room C**  
**Julia Lederer's**  
*Virtually Friends*

**Panelists: Arthur M. Jolly, Teresa K. Pond, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Aneliese Palmer  
 Millie Karina Becker  
 Alex Jay Stevens  
 Ayyva Tiffany Tyson  
 Rosie Meg McKinney  
 Angela Michelle Gardner

Millie is throwing a Murder Mystery Party to celebrate her 30th birthday. She's booked an AirBnB in the woods and invited all her oldest friends. But people keep cancelling, the power goes out, and their AirBnB seems to be owned by some kind of Wiccan cult leader. It's only when the group take on their Murder Mystery characters that real secrets and feelings begin to emerge. A comedy about growing up, growing apart, and the technology that seems to keep us close at any proximity.



Tuesday, June 13, 10:00 A.M.



**Room A**  
**Andrea Fleck Clardy's**  
*We've Come This Far*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis,  
Michael Evan Haney, and Arlitia Jones**

Stage Instructions Kaeli Meno  
Margo Stacy Stimson Miller  
Willie Frank Delaney  
Leah Kate Rich  
Roger Rob Lecrone

Because they became such good friends at work, two school teachers plan an evening together with their husbands. As they drink wine and talk about their families, the conversation probes secrets the two couples keep not only from each other but also from themselves.



**Room B**  
**Taran Haynes'**  
*Writing a Play*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, John Cariani,  
and Timothy Daly**

Stage Instructions L.M. Konoplisky  
Y Gabrielle Savrone  
U Lisa-Marie Castro  
A Angela Colavecchio  
I Skyler Davis  
E Denzel Wood

An absurd take on the writing process, *Writing a Play* is an exploration of the playwright's struggles to come up with and write a story in the form of a one-act.



**Room C**  
**Shane Kimberlin's**  
*Games to Play in Cars*

**Panelists: Shane Mitchell, Carrie Baker,  
and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Sue Ellen Montes  
Coco Schwartz Paige Genise  
David Kennedy Nathan Huey

Meet David Kennedy, creeping to middle age and a reluctant public speaking career. Meet Coco Shwartz, moving to Germany away from the oncoming threat of continual disappointment. Together, they will drive through Alaska in winter and attempt a normal conversation. Attempt.

Tuesday, June 13, 11:15 A.M.



**Room A**  
**Christine Whitley's**  
*Horse Thief*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis,  
Michael Evan Haney, and Arlitia Jones**

Stage Instructions Austin James Roach  
Mary Shelly Wozniak  
Dutch Nicholas Walker Herbert

After having her prized Appaloosas stolen by a renowned horse thief, Mary's life and heart are destroyed. Dutch wants to makes things right between them... but can he?



**Room B**  
**Greg Abbott's**  
*Happy Holidays (Insert  
Name Here) Our Year Was  
(Insert Adjective Here)*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, John Cariani,  
and Timothy Daly**

Stage Instructions / Camper Tai-yen Kim  
Ernie Tom Carty  
Margo Jill Sowerwine  
Maggie Aneliese Palmer  
Angie Ashleigh Russell  
Arnold Frank Delaney  
Evelyn Nancy Chastain  
Harold Bob Pond  
Waitress Sarah Thiele

It can get pretty hard to write that end-of-the-year Christmas letter when most of the events in your life have gone terribly sideways.



**Room C**  
**Sally Oberstein's**  
*Woogie Woogie*

**Panelists: Shane Mitchell, Carrie Baker,  
and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Jeanne Passin  
Rose Ursula Gould  
Emily Sarah Tapp  
Alice Martha Robinson  
Bree Veronica Bissell

Aging Rose, her two grown daughters, and her granddaughter navigate their pursuit of relationships in this comical, almost real-life play. Their story is anchored in their devotion to the quirky matriarch, despite her tireless and shameless efforts to launch them toward perfect Jewish husbands they have no interest in (preferably doctors). Together they discover the mysteries and rewards of each other, meatballs and the power of Woogie Woogie.

Tuesday, June 13, 3:00 P.M.



**Room A**  
**Paul Braverman's**  
*Sins Borne*

Panelists: Sara Athans, Arthur M. Jolly,  
 and Jayne Wenger

Stage Instructions Robyn Braverman  
 EJ Taylor John Baldwin  
 Barry Taylor Kevin Lee

Ever since EJ's wife died, his only comfort has come in seclusion. Numbed to world events, he's only vaguely aware of the racial strife raging outside his door. That comfort is shattered forever when his son Barry shows up, after many years on the run. Barry bears a gift that promises to redeem EJ and change the world, but instead only shows how easily lies told can become sins borne.



**Room B**  
**Hedva Anbar's**  
*Shockwaves*

Panelists: Michael Evan Haney,  
 Cassandra Medley, and Shane Mitchell

Stage Instructions Stephanie Bahner  
 Lisa Wrighton Carol Lauren  
 Mimi Wrighton Sarah Bethany Baird  
 James Wrighton Aaron Wiseman  
 Seth Balinov Jake Beauvais  
 Paul Dixon Shane Savage  
 Helena McKee Kalli Randall  
 Malak Salah Chyna Denney

John Wrighton failed to carry out his plan to blow up a bus full of passengers but succeeded in blowing himself up, killing a policeman and sowing seeds of change in the lives of relatives and strangers.



**Room C**  
**Linda Ayres-Frederick's**  
*Watershed*

Panelists: Hilary Bettis, John Cariani,  
 and Teresa K. Pond

Stage Instructions Glyka Stoiou  
 Dad Frank Collison  
 Daughter Michelle Gardner

An old man, older than dirt, leafs through a box of crumbling photos while his daughter wields a mop in desperate combat.

Tuesday, June 13, 4:15 P.M.



**Room A**  
**Nicholas Walker**  
**Herbert's**  
*Asylum*

Panelists: Sara Athans, Arthur M. Jolly,  
 and Jayne Wenger

Stage Instructions David Haynes  
 Katie Taylor R. Campbell  
 Ben Ryan Buen  
 Chris Shane Savage  
 Dr. Grey Jill Sowerwine  
 Tom Nathan Huey

In a surreal mental asylum, reality and dreams collide as the search for truth means life or death.



**Room B**  
**Joy Cutler's**  
*Anatomy Lesson*

Panelists: Michael Evan Haney,  
 Cassandra Medley, and Shane Mitchell

Stage Instructions Reagan James  
 Joy Tamar Shai

A woman tells how a potato-stealing Russian ancestor might have caused her family's genetic curse, how a trio of cows cured her of anxiety just in the nick of time and how she found moments of bliss and beauty in the dialysis clinic. Now she wants to thank the stranger whose death saved her life.



**Room C**  
**Joyce Fontana's**  
*The Road to Hell*

Directed by Colby Bleicher

Panelists: Hilary Bettis, John Cariani,  
 and Teresa K. Pond

Stage Instructions Karen Lauer  
 Michelle Danielle Rabinovitch  
 Jake Casey Knight  
 Sandy Gigi Lynch  
 Cliff Kevin T. Bennett

Caleb is dead and his family is shattered by guilt. But are they not all victims of the plague that is devastating a nation?

Wednesday, June 14, 10:00 A.M.



**Room A**  
**Hannah Ricke's**  
*Schizophreniyeah!*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Michael Evan Haney, and Schatzie Schaefer**

Stage Instructions Daniels Calvin  
Meg Addoris Davis  
Danny Jeremy Gaunt  
Don David Haynes  
Fran Amy Kropp  
Bruno Randall Parker II  
Marvin Skyler Davis  
Dr Parik Kevin Lee

An overworked social worker enters the delusions of her clients and learns much about true resilience and bravery.



**Room B**  
**Jericho Thomas'**  
*Save the Children*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis, Arthur M. Jolly, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Susan Niman  
Older Jay Burns  
Younger Shawn Eby  
Mail Carrier Marcia Lynn

A younger man knocks on the door of an older man and asks him to help "save the children". What follows is a dynamic and dark exploration of wrongs done and forgiveness denied.



**Room C**  
**Jill Bess'**  
*Three Sisters*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Timothy Daly, and Shane Mitchell**

Stage Instructions Lily Werts  
Olivia Julia Lederer  
Jenna Marisa Garrigues  
Marcella Sarah Tapp  
Nick Brian Wescott

Two sisters, Olivia and Marcella, gather outside the hospital room of their third sister, Isabella. Olivia tries desperately to help Marcella and Isabella find peace before it is too late to heal their broken family.

Wednesday, June 14, 10:45 A.M.



**Room A**  
**Rand Higbee's**  
*The Feral Child*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Michael Evan Haney, and Schatzie Schaefer**

Stage Instructions Karina Becker  
James Hauser Warren Weinstein  
Edith Butler Lindsay Lamar Schweizer  
Irene Hauser Erin Dagon Mitchell  
Mary Kittinger Grace Williams  
Victor Cargol Josh Schmidlein

In August of 1962, while traveling through India, Thomas Kittinger, his wife Catherine and their three-year-old daughter Mary all disappeared. In March of 1972, Mary reappeared. This is her story.



**Room B**  
**Karen Saari's**  
*In a Clearing*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis, Arthur M. Jolly, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Andrea Staats  
Mark Rees Miller  
Pam Danielle Rabinovitch  
Lori Lou Anne Wright  
Roger Michael Noble

Set in a small town in Northern Wisconsin, *In a Clearing* centers around Mark, a newly recovering alcoholic embarking on a relationship with a childhood friend who has returned home in the wake of a family tragedy. As Mark copes with sobriety, he begins to suffer from flashbacks to an event that threaten his relationship and the life he is trying to rebuild.



**Room C**  
**Derek Grey's**  
*Surrogates*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Timothy Daly, and Shane Mitchell**

Stage Instructions Tom Carty  
Kate Alyssa Barnes  
Lewis Ryan Buen  
Ivy Kimberly Allely  
Josiah Isaac Kumpula  
Terry John Parsi  
Holly Kristin Fernandez Mumm  
Spud Chip Bolcik  
Doug Tom Moran  
G.W.I.O.A.S.A. Oliver Siemens

Kate has finally found her calling: to become a gestational surrogate. On the day she has to prove to the surrogate agency that she is a stable, reliable potential surrogate, however, she must first contend with the secrets she uncovers about her boyfriend, whom she has asked to pose as her fiancé, as well as the arrival of her estranged sister and brother-in-law, who are dissatisfied with the baby she carried for them. A comedy about how we see ourselves and how we want others to see us.

**Wednesday, June 14, 2:15 P.M.**



**Room C**  
**Amy Tofte's**  
*Parts & Pieces*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, Hilary Bettis, and Michael Haney**

Stage Instructions Annie McCain Engman  
Parker Taylor R. Campbell  
Mel Shaelisa Anderson  
Kipper Karen Lauer

Two estranged siblings negotiate love, money and sexual identity after the death of their mother. Oh, and boobs. The lovely ridiculousness of boobs.

**Wednesday, June 14, 3:00 P.M.**



**Room A**  
**Linda Billington's**  
*Here There Be Dragons*

Directed by Benjamin Harris

**Panelists: Peter Ellenstein, Arlitia Jones, and Shane Mitchell**

Stage Instructions Cynthia Steele  
Draco Kim Estes  
Zita Keriann Gilson  
Lance Jeremy Gaunt  
Amber Ashleigh Russell  
Cat MaryAlice Larmi  
Taylor Linnea Hollingsworth

Manhattan's Central Park is a busy place, full of joggers, Pokemon, homeless people, businesswomen, students... and one not-so-mythological creature waking from a three-century nap.



**Room B**  
**Alison Elizabeth McLaughlin's**  
*Lunch*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Arthur M. Jolly, and Schatzie Schaefer**

Stage Instructions Jennifer Sonneborn  
Emma Sarah Vickery  
Penny Sarah Tapp  
Lauren Meg McKinney

A working mom, a stay-at-home mom, and a work-from-home mom – three old friends – finally find time to meet for lunch. Who's doing it right?

**Wednesday, June 14, 4:00 P.M.**



**Room A**  
**Randall David Cook's**  
*Rub-A-Dub-Dub*

**Panelists: Peter Ellenstein, Arlitia Jones, and Shane Mitchell**

Stage Instructions/Lady Dingles Christine A. Eagleson  
Persephone "Persy" Peters-Auchincloss Carrie Baker  
Maximillian "Max" Peters-Auchincloss Mark Robokoff  
Manuela Lisa-Marie Castro  
Cressida "Sid" Peters-Auchincloss Aneliese Palmer  
Phineas Mellonmorris Jay Stevens  
Charlotte Angela Colavecchio

After one untoward development too many, Lady Liberty steps off her pedestal, jumps into New York Harbor and makes her way back to France. Or somewhere. Urging her to return are members of the Peters-Auchincloss dynasty, who desperately want, nay, need her in the background for their wedding photos.



**Room B**  
**Shawna Casey's**  
*blue blue moon*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Arthur M. Jolly, and Schatzie Schaefer**

Stage Instructions Nancy Chastain  
Joey Aguacero Tai-yen Kim  
Georgina Alexandra McCall  
Enrique Aguacero Jay Burns  
Evelyn Aguacero Denise Cotten  
Sister Seraphim Karen Saari  
J.D. Carl Young

There's a blue blue moon rising in Pianoville, California, when the facts of life take young piano-mover Joey Aguacero's dreams of love by storm.



**Room C**  
**Jacob Marx Rice's**  
*Leni & Joseph*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, Hilary Bettis, and Michael Evan Haney**

Stage Instructions Ursula Gould  
Leni Colby Bleicher  
Joseph Jaime Nelson

Leni Riefenstahl is a dancer, actor, and perhaps Germany's most influential director. Joseph Goebbels is the charmingly brutal Minister of Propaganda, intent on consolidating power for the Nazi Party. When the ambitious minister hires the even more ambitious filmmaker to shoot the greatest propaganda movie ever made, it will pull two brilliant and dangerous minds into one of most productive, powerful, and deeply antagonistic relationships in the history of film. *Leni & Joseph* explores the wild true story of two giants as they flirt, fight, and shape the lives and deaths of millions.

**Thursday, June 15, 10:00 A.M.**

**Thursday, June 15, 11:00 A.M.**



**Room A**  
**Sandra Hosking's**  
*Foxgloves*

**Panelists: Peter Ellenstein, Michael Evan Haney, and Schatzie Schaefers**

Stage Instructions Alexandra McCall  
 Wren Sarah Bethany Baird  
 Constance Reagan James

When Constance is not taking care of her invalid mother, she tends beautiful, poisonous flowers in the greenhouse. Her solace is often interrupted by a ringing bell each time Mother needs her. Vibrant younger sister Wren returns home from the city for a visit to find her mother in poor condition and her sister obsessed with her plants. Something is remembered, something is found, and someone is poisoned.



**Room A**  
**Madelyn Tomko's**  
*Stairwell*

Directed by Benjamin Harris  
**Panelists: Peter Ellenstein, Michael Evan Haney, and Schatzie Schaefers**

Stage Instructions Nathan Huey  
 Alice Angela Colavecchio  
 Colton Taran Haynes  
 Delilah Addoris Davis  
 Eric Austin James Roach  
 Gabriel Shawn Eby  
 Sara Ashleigh Russell  
 Peter Denzel Wood  
 Talia Devan Hawkins

One day in the lives of eight teenagers whose paths intersect in unexpected ways, as seen through the lens of a high school stairwell.



**Room B**  
**Nancy Nyugen's**  
*A Winter Conversation*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Cassandra Medley, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Kaeli Meno  
 June Zoey Grenier  
 Nelson Devin Frey

On a cold January night, two new friends have a conversation about death on a park bench.



**Room B**  
**Whitney Rowland's**  
*Wayfinding*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Cassandra Medley, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Sara Thiele  
 Jane Colby Bleicher  
 Harrison Devin Frey  
 Les/Newscaster 2 Nicholas Walker Herbert  
 Doctor/Representative/Reporter Aneliese Palmer  
 Davis/Matthew/Flight Attendant/ Jeremy Gaunt  
 Newscaster 1/Officer

An emotionally-numbed new widow. An inattentive, self-sabotaging husband. These two strangers collide – both literally and figuratively – tangling their life lines and setting them on a time-bending journey involving an intercontinental plane crash, a magical Japanese forest, and a choice that leads them both to an unexpected destination.



**Room C**  
**Ethan Warren's**  
*Bag of Nails*

Directed by Sara Athans  
**Panelists: Timothy Daly, Shane Mitchell, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Bob Pond  
 Stagefright Josh Schmidlein  
 The Cowboy Michael Noble

On the verge of death in the Arizona desert, an escaped convict is picked up by a wandering cowboy who promises exoneration. But as his rescuer's behavior begins to raise the convict's suspicions, the balance of power shifts between the men, drawing them towards a brutal confrontation.



**Room C**  
**Greg Romero's**  
*Door to Balloon*

**Panelists: Timothy Daley, Shane Mitchell, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Dick Reichman  
 Worker 1 Cynthia Steele  
 Worker 2 Veronica Bissell  
 Worker 3 Nancy Chastain  
 Worker 4 Kate Rich  
 Worker 5 Karen Lauer  
 Annie McCain Engman  
 Boy Casey Knight  
 Girl Tiffany Tyson

A stand-up comedian might be dying of heart failure right in front of you. Is that a joke? She might also have just poisoned you while a group of hazmat workers search for things like their faces in the Mojave Desert. Who keeps lowering the dumbwaiter to the teenagers locked in the basement, who will win the staring contest, and what are the Siamang gibbons howling about?

**Thursday, June 15, 3:00 P.M.**



**Room A**  
**Natalie Lifson's**  
*A Better Place*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, Peter Ellenstein, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Amy Kropp  
 Narrator Rachel Marquez  
 Lyla Marisa Garrigues  
 Nun Stacy Tanner

A woman makes a deal with the devil.



**Room B**  
**Andrea Staats'**  
*Consciously Coupled*  
*(But Not With Each Other)*

**Panelists: Michael Haney, Arlitia Jones, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Stacy Stimson Miller  
 Maisie Meg McKinney  
 Kyle Will Jackson  
 Van Warren Weinstein  
 Sheila Janna Shaw  
 Veronica Shaelisa Anderson  
 Raquel Devan Hawkins  
 Kenny Jay Stevens  
 Matt Erick Hayden

Maisie's husband might be in the hospital with a Maisie-inflicted gunshot wound (oops!), but she won't let that stop her from fulfilling her destiny as a Consciously Coupled Coach. She hires her cousin, Kyle, to pose as her husband for this weekend's marriage retreat, and everything is going to go just fine, ok?!



**Room C**  
**Adi Eshman's**  
*Three-Body Problem*

**Panelists: Cassandra Medley, Carrie Baker, and Schatzie Schaefer**

Stage Instructions Julia Lederer  
 Callie Chyna Denny  
 Tess Kalli Randall  
 Landon Casey Knight

*Three-Body Problem* asks questions about the nature of non-traditional relationships in modern American cities. Callie, Landon, and Tess see themselves as pioneers, smashing the patriarchy with their polyamorous lifestyle. But betrayal, money problems, and selfishness threaten to upend the complicated relationship they've formed.

**Thursday, June 15, 4:30 P.M.**



**Room A**  
**Tamar Shai's**  
*Ugly Baby, Stupid Baby*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, Peter Ellenstein, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Lou Anne Wright  
 Ibrahim John Parsi  
 Eli Ben Corbett  
 Ronen Austin James Roach  
 Protester Brian Wescott

When a violent protest erupts outside of a Palestinian-owned cafe in the Israeli-controlled sector of Hebron, the Palestinian cafe owner and an Israeli settler become trapped together for the duration of the protest. When a violent protest erupts outside of a Palestinian-owned cafe in the Israeli-controlled sector of Hebron, the Palestinian cafe owner and an Israeli settler become trapped together for the duration of the protest.



**Room B**  
**Miranda Caravelho's**  
*Horri-fying*

**Panelists: Michael Haney, Arlitia Jones, and Jayne Wenger**

Stage Instructions Jillian Pollock  
 August Nicholas Walker Herbert  
 May Danielle Rabinovitch  
 Piper Daniels Calvin  
 Lover Rachel Marquez  
 Killer Randall Parker II

August Martin has created some of the best horror films of his generation. But something has cracked in his psyche, and now things around him are about to get truly frightening.



**Room C**  
**Tobin Wheeler's**  
*Flawless*

**Panelists: Cassandra Medley, Carrie Baker, and Schatzie Schaefer**

Stage Instructions John Baldwin  
 Joe Wayne Mitchell  
 Boy Taran Haynes  
 Eve Stephanie Bahner  
 Phil Erick Hayden

Are there any sins, is there any morality, without God?

Friday, June 16, 10:00 A.M.

Friday, June 16, 11:00 A.M.



**Room A**  
**L.M. Konoplisky's**  
*A Civil War*

**Panelists: Timothy Daly, Arlitia Jones, and Schatzie Schaefers**

Stage Instructions Shawna Casey  
Eric Aaron Wiseman  
Todd Carl Young  
Mark Tai-yen Kim  
Liam Theodore C. Hooker II  
Steve Shane Kimberlin

A love divided against itself cannot stand.



**Room A**  
**Joanna Castle Miller's**  
*SH@MED*

**Panelists: Timothy Daly, Arlitia Jones, and Schatzie Schaefers**

Stage Instructions Robyn Ginsburg Braverman  
Tabatha Meier Morgan Mitchell  
Jessica Meier Emily Meinel  
Sarah Meier Dana Mitchell  
Paul Nelson Wayne Mitchell  
Taz Mitchell Oliver Siemans  
Bailey Hendrix Lily Werts  
Fernando Casias Tom Moran  
M.C. Jakes Erick Hayden  
Announcer / Simon / Bartender Brian Wescott  
Ben / Troll Skyler Davis

A multimedia dramedy exploring online activism, the dimensions of shame, and how the digital world changes our personal narratives. When aspiring writer Tabatha Meier tweets a racially-charged joke, she faces fallout both personal and professional as her public shaming reveals dark secrets and forces everyone in her life to face the past in a new way.



**Room B**  
**Luke Gomez'**  
*Boxcutters and Bubblegum*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis, Arthur M. Jolly, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Linnea Hollingsworth  
Crowley Nathan Huey  
Gena Karina Becker  
Meryl Taylor R. ampbell

Gena and Crowley are good friends. On a random movie night, Crowley decides to confront his more romantic feelings for Gena in a dramatically gruesome way. This, and the ensuing confrontation, put a strain on their friendship.



**Room B**  
**Daniels Elizabeth Calvin's**  
*Teen Issues*

**Panelists: Hilary Bettis, Arthur M. Jolly, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Paige Genise  
Julia Lou Anne Wright  
Romeo Isaac Fannin  
Father Gemini Kim Estes  
Christian Tai-yen Kim  
Duck-Butter Jake Beauvais  
Jameson Jillian Pollock  
Watermelodie MaryAlice Larmi

Plagued by faked death, star-crossed love and names that cause all sorts of problems, Romeo's story is turning tragic. Can a preacher, his atheist son, and a motley crew of misfits overcome their differences, to help her (sic), or will group therapy create bigger issues than ever before?



**Room C**  
**Jeff Neal Gregg's**  
*Mobbin' Minny*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Peter Ellenstein, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions David Haynes  
Frankie Rees Miller  
Ma Jill Bess  
Uncle Harold Kevin T. Bennett  
Uncle Arnold Mark Muro  
Dustin Jake Beauvais

Relationships are all that matter when the iron-ore stained back roads are run by family. When people come and people go, can we ever really be sure what they've been up to? Sometimes strangers are friends, and those who have been around forever never were. In today's world, is it ever possible to digest where all the bodies are buried?



**Room C**  
**Glyka Stoiou's**  
*The Greek Shrew*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Peter Ellenstein, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Leif Sawyer  
Katerina Jill Sowerwine  
Katerina's Great Aunt Ursula Gould  
Katerina's Mother Marisa Garrigues  
Katerina's Father Kevin Lee  
Katerina's Aunt, A Prostitute Martha Robinson  
Katerina's Step-Father Jamie Nelson  
Katerina's Aunt, A Psychopath Gigi Lynch  
Maria Sue Ellen Montes

Katerina tells the story of her death and remembers family stories that had a big impact in her life. She tries to explain why people were calling her "The Shrew" and why she was always in search of a prince. It is inspired by The Taming of the Shrew, A Streetcar Named Desire, as well as personal and other female stories.

Friday, June 16, 3:00 P.M.



**Room A**  
**Nancy Lord's**  
*Hi Vista, 1984*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Michael Evan Haney, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Sarah Vickery  
 Marjory Dana Mitchell  
 Charles David Haynes  
 Barbara Erin Dagon Mitchell

Leaders of the Flat Earth Society take care of business, including conducting an experiment to prove (again) that the earth is flat. Their visitor, recruited to the effort, has some other questions and inadvertently gets another answer.

Friday, June 16, 4:00 P.M.



**Room A**  
**Erin Hays'**  
*In the Stars*

**Panelists: John Cariani, Michael Evan Haney, and Teresa K. Pond**

Stage Instructions Tiffany Tyson  
 Vince Ryan Buen  
 Laura Lindsay Lamar Schweizer  
 Delfina Karen Saari  
 Simon Frank Delaney  
 Minella Colby Bleicher

When Vincent, a doubting psychic, meets Laura, he expects to find a typical client—until Laura asks him to make a prediction he's sworn never to make. He gives in, sparking a chain of events that will change both his and Laura's lives forever.



**Room B**  
**Kristin Ritter's**  
*Dungeons and Dragons and Diplomacy*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Arlitia Jones, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Grace Williams  
 Dan Egan Will Jackson  
 Alice Lowry [Snufflefritz] Reagan James  
 William [Flim] Ryan Buen  
 Bianca [Galadrin] Alyssa Barnes

A group of friends reunite over a game of Dungeons & Dragons, only to find that even their fantasy personas can't escape their real life problems.



**Room B**  
**Amanda Kohr's**  
*The Lighthouse*

**Panelists: Eric Coble, Arlitia Jones, and Cassandra Medley**

Stage Instructions Heather Sawyer  
 Jesse Newman Morgan Mitchell  
 Shane Wilkins Isaac Kumpula  
 Nadine Sarah Bethany Baird  
 Olivia/Iris/Psychologist Kimberly Allely  
 Maddie/Nurse/Judge Sarah Thiele  
 Paul/Attorney #1/Officer/Coach Leif Sawyer  
 Mike/Attorney #2/Mailman Jeremy Gaunt

Hardworking 20-year-old college student Jesse attempts to enjoy a post-finals beach week with her friends, but soon realizes the trip is more of a haunting memory than it is a vacation. Inspired by the Stanford rape case, *The Lighthouse* reveals the tumultuous aftermath of one of the most horrifyingly frequent university tragedies.



**Room C**  
**John Perovich's**  
*simple* Directed by Benjamin Harris

**Panelists: Sara Athans, Arthur M. Jolly, and Shane Mitchell**

Stage Instructions Jonathan Lang  
 Allen Mark Robokoff  
 Lisa Kristin Fernandez Mumm

Allen is thrown into a seemingly inescapable room with a table and a hammer. The room's interior decorator arrives, but refuses to help Allen leave the room until he manages to meet the right circumstances for the door to open.



**Room C**  
**Jan Rosenberg's**  
*How To Destory An American Girl Doll*

**Panelists: Sara Athans, Arthur M. Jolly, and Shane Mitchell**

Stage Instructions Shelly Wozniak  
 Vee Lisa-Marie Castro  
 Gen Zoey Grenier  
 Juan Carl Young

Teenagers Gen and Vee are struggling to make it to college. But survival is hard when their best survival tools are destroying them. This is a play about that thing you've heard about, maybe that thing YOU do, but have been too ashamed to tell someone. This is for you.





**S**ara Athans

Sara Athans is a director, facilitator, and administrator from Anchorage, Alaska. She currently serves as the Executive Director of Anchorage Community Theatre, where she has focused on diversity, access, and inclusion. She holds a BA in Theatre & Dance from the University of

Texas and an MA in Applied Theatre from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama. Some favorite directing and assistant directing credits include *The One Minute Play Festival* (2016 & 2017), *Visit to a Small Planet* (Anchorage Community Theatre, 2016), *Oh, What A Lovely War!* (Royal Central School of Speech and Drama, 2014), *Emergency Prom* (The University of Texas, 2012), *Elvis Machine* (Fusebox Festival, 2012), and *Folk* (The Cohen New Works Festival, 2011). She has facilitated workshops and worked on projects with a variety of community groups including the elderly, adults and youth with disabilities, ex-offenders, at risk youth, and elementary-aged students. Sara is particularly interested in new works and devised theatre; she believes the best theatre looks like the people who make it. Sara is a fierce feminist. She is dedicated to creating a future where people of color, women, and other marginalized groups tell their own stories onstage and are involved in every stage and aspect of the theatre-making process.



**C**arrie Baker

Carrie Baker is an Associate Professor (performance) and Chair of the Department Theatre & Film at the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF). She is a member of Actor's Equity Association (AEA), Screen Actors Guild-American Federation of Television and Radio Artists (SAG-

AFTRA), and a founding company member of New York City's Coyote REP. New York Theatre credits include: New Age Classics, New Perspectives Theatre Company, NYU Festival of New Works, Manhattan Theatre Source, and Coyote REP. Regional Theatre credits include: Utah Shakespearean Festival, Irvine Barclay Theatre, Summer Repertory Theatre, Washington Shakespeare Company, Potomac Theatre Project, Washington Stage Guild, and Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre. TV: *Guiding Light*, *Ed*, and commercial voiceovers. Film: *Mining for Ruby*, *alaskaLand*, *The Messenger*, *Chronic Town* (Sundance 2008), *Eat Me*, and various industrial films. Directing credits include *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress*, *Stop Kiss*, *Speech & Debate*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *The Laramie Project*, *Three Days of Rain*, *The Two Gentlemen of Verona* (Theatre UAF); *The Taming*

*of the Shrew* (Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre); *Turandot* (Fairbanks Symphony Orchestra); *The Telephone*, *Verdi & the Bard* (Opera Fairbanks); and *DIVE* (Middlebury College). Carrie has also served as vocal coach and stage combat choreographer on many productions. She has taught acting at Middlebury College, University of California Irvine, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Bethesda Academy of Performing Arts, Washington Shakespeare Company, and Northfield Mount Hermon School. Carrie is on the Relativity School's Program Advisory Committee in Los Angeles, the Conference's National Advisory Board, and Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre's Advisory Board. Carrie holds a BA in Theatre and English from Middlebury College and an MFA in Acting from the University of California, Irvine.



**H**ilary Bettis

Hilary Bettis writes plays, TV, and movies. She is a two-time recipient of the Lecomte du Nouy Prize from Lincoln Center and is a 2015 graduate of the Lila Acheson Wallace Playwright Fellowship at The Juilliard School. Bettis has received fellowships

and residencies at the Bay Area Playwrights Festival, O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, 2050 Fellow at New York Theatre Workshop, John N. Wall Fellow at Sewanee Writers' Conference, SPACE at Ryder Farm, Cape Cod Theatre Project, La Jolla Playhouse, New York Foundation for the Arts Fellow, Playwrights' Week at The Lark, NNPN's National Showcase of New Plays, Audrey Residency at New Georges, Two River Theater, Great Plains Theatre Conference, WildWind Lab at Texas Tech, The Kennedy Center/NNPN MFA Workshop, and a Sloan/EST Commission. She has had plays recognized every year by The Kilroys since its inception. She has been a Runner-Up for the Alliance Theatre's Keneda Award, Nuestras Voces National Playwriting Competition, American Blues Theater's Blue Ink Award and the Leah Ryan Prize. She is currently working on a commissioned adaptation of *Miss Julie* with Miami New Drama. *The Ghosts of Lote Bravo* received an NNPN Rolling World Premiere at the Unicorn Theatre in Kansas City, Missouri and Borderlands Theater in Tucson, Arizona. Her play *Alligator* was produced Off-Broadway with New Georges and The Sol Project, and was nominated for a 2017 Drama Desk for Outstanding Music in a Play. As a screenwriter, Bettis has written and produced two short films, *B'Hurst* and *The Iron Warehouse*, which have screened at film festivals across the globe. Hilary is currently Story Editor on FX's Emmy-nominated show *The Americans*. She is developing a project at The Weinstein Company with Alyssa Milano producing, as well as another project at Fox 21 TVS with producer Bob Levy. She is represented by CAA and Grandview. [www.HilaryBettisWriter.com](http://www.HilaryBettisWriter.com)



## John Cariani

John Cariani is a Tony Award nominated actor and an accomplished playwright. As a playwright, he is best known for his first play, *Almost, Maine*, which premiered at Portland Stage Company in 2004 and became the most successful play in the company's history. *Almost, Maine* opened Off-Broadway in 2006 and has since become one of the most popular plays in the United States with over 3,000 productions to date. It is currently the most frequently produced play in North American high schools, topping perennial favorites *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *You Can't Take It with You*, and *Our Town*. It has also received over twenty international productions and has been translated into over a dozen languages. In 2014, Transport Group revived *Almost, Maine* Off-Broadway to critical acclaim, and Lincoln Center recorded the production for its Theater on Film and Tape archives. *Almost, Maine* is published by Dramatists Play Service and is featured in *Smith and Kraus' New Playwrights: Best Plays of 2006*. John's other plays include *Last Gas* and *LOVE/SICK*, both of which are newly published by Dramatists Play Service and have had several professional productions across the country and around the world. His newest play, *cul-de-sac*, is currently in development. As an actor, John has appeared on and off Broadway and in several films and television shows. Originally from Presque Isle, Maine, he is a graduate of Amherst College. He lives in New York City.



## Eric Coble

Eric Coble was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and raised on the Navajo and Ute reservations in New Mexico and Colorado. His scripts had been produced on Broadway (Tony-nominated *The Velocity of Autumn*), in Disney Theme Parks (*Jedi Training: Trials of the Temple*), and in Las Vegas (upcoming at the Paris Casino). His plays include *Bright Ideas*, *My Barking Dog*, *The Giver*, *Fairfield*, and *A Girl's Guide To Coffee*, and have been produced Off-Broadway, in all fifty states of the U.S., and on several continents, including productions at Manhattan Class Company, The Kennedy Center, Playwrights Horizons, Actors Theatre of Louisville Humana Festival, Cleveland Play House, Denver Center Theatre Company, Arena Stage, New York and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals, Habima Theatre (Israel), Rabbit Hole Theatre (U.K.), Pentacion Productions (Spain), Teatr Polski (Poland), Orange Row (Mexico), and the

Contemporary American Theatre Festival (U.S.). Awards include two AATE Distinguished Play Awards for Best Adaptation, an Emmy nomination, the Chorpenning Playwriting Award for *Body of Work*, the AT&T Onstage Award, National Theatre Conference Playwriting Award, an NEA Playwright in Residence Grant, a TCG Extended Collaboration Grant, the Cleveland Arts Prize, two Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Fellowships, and four Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Grants. For more insanity, visit [www.ericcoble.com](http://www.ericcoble.com)



## Frank Collison

Frank Collison is thrilled to return to the Conference with his wife, Laura Gardner, for their eleventh year. Since last year, Frank appeared at Rogue Machine Theatre in the West Coast premiere of *Still Life* by Alexander Dinelaris. He was a recurring character on *American Horror Story* and continues as a series regular on *Mr. Pickles*, an animated show airing on Adult Swim. Frank voiced a series of Experian commercials this year. He also continues with BookPALS, a program run by the SAG Foundation. On the screen audiences will see Frank in *The Hero* with Sam Elliott, the new *Twin Peaks* airing on Showtime and *Radio Free Albemuth* on Netflix. Frank first appeared on stage as a baby in a summer tent theatre, trained at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, and earned his BA in theatre at San Francisco State University, where he performed street theatre and helped establish Pinecrest Theatre in the Sierra Nevada. He then went on to earn an MFA in acting at UC San Diego. Appearing in over 150 stage productions, Frank has worked Off-Broadway, with the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, Chamber Repertory Theatre in Boston, Denver Center Theatre Company and Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts. In Los Angeles, Frank has acted in productions at the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Los Angeles Theatre Company, Rogue Machine and Pacific Resident Theatre where he is a founding member. The LA Weekly honored his performance as Mr. Peachum in PRT's *The Beggars' Opera* as best supporting actor. Frank's film work includes *Hitchcock*, *The Happening*, *The Village*, *The Whole Ten Yards*, *Hope Springs*, *Hidalgo*, *Suspect Zero*, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, *The Majestic*, *Mobsters*, *The Last Boy Scout*, *Buddy*, *Alien Nation*, *Diggstown*, *The Blob*, *My Summer Story*, and David Lynch's *Wild at Heart*, which won the Golden Palm Award at Cannes. Frank is best known to television audiences as Horace Bing, the bumbling telegraph operator on CBS's *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*. His extensive television appearances include guest-starring roles on *Silicon Valley*, *Backstrom*, *Monk*, *Stargate Atlantis*, HBO's *Carnivale* and *Luck*, *Seventh Heaven*, *NYPD Blue*, *Star Trek*, *the Next Generation*, and *Hill Street Blues*. Contact Frank at [www.frankcollison.com](http://www.frankcollison.com)



**Ben Corbett**

Ben Corbett is a Designated Linklater Voice Teacher (Shakespeare & Co. 2012). He teaches Kristin Linklater's vocal progression, and phonetics/accents using Louis Colaiani's Phonetic Pillows, and Uta Hagen's approach to acting. His professional vocal coaching credits include the Hollywood Fringe Festival, Shakespeare Dallas, City Rep, the William Inge Theatre Festival, Nashville Shakespeare Festival, Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park, Barter Theatre, Burning Coal Theatre Company, Bare Theatre, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz. Ben's professional acting credits include two-and-a-half years as a resident actor at Barter Theatre, additional roles at the William Inge Theatre Festival, City Rep, Blowing Rock Stage Co., Burning Coal Theatre Co., Light Opera Oklahoma, Shakespeare & Co., North Carolina Shakespeare Festival, Three Rivers Shakespeare Festival, and Shakespeare Festival of Dallas. For three years, he has served as both an actor and voice/acting teacher at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. He recently gave a talk at the Association of Theatre in Higher Education, "Keep Yer Yap Shut: Freeing the Natural Voice in Rural America." Ben Corbett is a full-time Associate Professor of Voice and Acting at the William Inge Center for the Arts at Independence Community College. He has previous experience working for the William Inge Theater Festival as an actor, director, and vocal coach. For the Inge Festival, Ben has played the role of Pinky in Inge's production of *Where's Daddy*, the sole character in Inge's one-act *The Love Death* as part of Inge: *A Complex Evening* for the 2009 Inge Festival. He has directed scenes from *Come Back*, *Little Sheba*, *Picnic*, and *Natural Affection* as part of Scenes at the Inge House Scenes for several past Inge Festivals. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity, and an Associate Editor for Oklahoma for the International Dialects of English Archive. He has launched his own voice practice, BenCorbettVoice.com, and welcomes private clients who wish to explore the possibility and power of their speaking voices.



**Timothy Daly**

Timothy Daly is one of Australia's most internationally-produced playwrights, with a string of national and international productions to his credit. Actors such as Academy-Award winners Cate Blanchett and Geoffrey Rush have appeared in his plays. *Derrida In Love* was written expressly for the 2011 & 2013 Academy Award nominee Jacki Weaver, which she performed in a sold-out production in Sydney. *Kafka Dances* has won over a dozen national and international awards since its premiere, and is the most internationally-performed Australian play of all time. Its most recent production was in February-March 2015 at Theatre Grybowski in Warsaw, Poland. *Richard III (ou presque)* premiered at the 2011 Festival of Avignon, followed by a season in Paris in October to November, 2012. *The Man in the Attic* was awarded Australia's most prestigious award for a new play, the Patrick White Playwrights' Award. It received a Paris season in February 2012, and was performed in a sold-out season at the 2013 Festival of Avignon, the third of Timothy Daly's plays to be performed at France's most prestigious theatre festival. The production was invited back to the 2015 Avignon Festival, and made its Italian premiere in December 2015. Timothy Daly is the 2013 recipient of a Paris Studio Residency Award by the Australia Council for the Arts. He advises on over 100 scripts and productions a year and his book *21st Century Playwriting* will be published by Smith & Kraus later this year. Timothy Daly is represented by Victoria Wisdom and her Los Angeles-based management and production company.



Dave Belden and Ben Corbett performing at the Fringe Festival



**Peter Ellenstein**

Peter Ellenstein is an award-winning director and producer. He comes from a theatrical family and has spent 35+ years in professional theatre. His focus over the last two decades has primarily been the development of new work. He is currently acting as a consultant for the Dramatists Guild and the 24-Hour Company. In Summer, 2016 he served as Interim Artistic Director of the Gretna Theatre in Pennsylvania, where he'll direct the premiere of the new musical, *Gathering Blue* later this summer. In 2015-16 he was Interim Artistic Director of the Jerry Herman Ring Theatre at the University of Miami. For thirteen years he was Artistic Director of the William Inge Center for the Arts in Kansas, and seven years as Producing Director of the Los Angeles Repertory Company. Peter has directed first productions of plays and musicals by Theresa Rebeck, Kristoffer Diaz, Richard Helleesen, David Krumholtz, Michael Lew, Jenny Bicks, Marcia Cebulka, Michael Silversher, Joe Iconis and David Kershenbaum, among others. He has aided the development of over fifty full-length plays and hundreds of short plays. He directed and produced many plays and musicals in Los Angeles receiving much critical praise, award nominations and awards (Ovation Awards, LA Weekly, Drama-Logue, Backstage, Robby's, etc...), primarily for his work with the Los Angeles Repertory Company. Peter studied with Stella Adler, David Craig, Paul Sills, Robert Ellenstein, Robert Easton, Janet Eilber, Mary Carver, and many others. He attended American Conservatory Theatre and received his MFA from Minnesota State University, Mankato. Peter served twice on the Barack Obama campaign's National Arts Policy Committee. He is thrilled to return to Valdez and the Conference, a unique and remarkable incubator for playwrights and artists.



**Laura Gardner**

Laura Gardner is delighted to return for her eleventh Conference with her husband, Frank Collison. She was nominated for Best Supporting Actress by the LA Weekly for her performance in *Fighting Words*, which opened at the Celtic Arts Center in Los Angeles and then transferred to the Millennium Center in Wales. She was also nominated for an ADA Best Actress for *Idle Wheels* at The Road Theatre, by Alaska writer/actor James Morrison. Laura appeared on Broadway in *Smile*. Her Off-Broadway credits include *The Cocktail Hour* with Nancy Marchand and Bruce Davison, *Other People's Money*, and *Welded*, directed by Jose Quintero. She toured nationally

with *Showboat*, *Doonesbury*, *Oliver*, and *My Fair Lady*. Regional credits include the Arena Stage, Huntington Theatre, Cleveland Playhouse, McCarter Theatre, and the North Carolina Shakespeare Festival. LA credits include The Road Theatre, The Rogue Machine, Pasadena Playhouse, Will Geer Botanicum, Westwood Playhouse, Greenway Court, Tiffany Theatre, Fountain Theatre, Deaf West, Road Theatre Company and Sacred Fools. Some of her TV and film credits include *Outcast*, *Doubt*, *Scandal*, *Fresh Off the Boat*, *Secrets and Lies*, *Criminal Minds*, *Castle*, *Law and Order LA*, *Torchwood*, *The Forgotten*, *Crash*, *ER*, *Close to Home*, and *The West Wing*. You may have seen Laura and Frank recurring on the NBC hit *My Name is Earl*. Laura also shot the pilot *Shredd*, as Jason Lee's rather wacky mother. Laura trained at Boston University, Rutgers, and HB Studio, where she studied with Uta Hagen, Carol Rosenfeld, and Ken McMillan. She has been on the faculty of The Howard Fine Acting Studio, known as one of the best professional acting schools in LA and Australia, for over 18 years. She is a frequent guest teacher in New Mexico and teaches her 'Authenticity Workshop' across the country. Laura resides in Los Angeles with Frank and their two large puppies. [www.lauragardner.org](http://www.lauragardner.org)



**Michelle Gardner**

Michelle Gardner currently lives in Los Angeles, and has been enjoying the magic that is the Last Frontier Theatre Conference since 2012. While she primarily works in television and film now, her first love was the stage and she has been fortunate to enjoy a long career that includes these noteworthy roles: Anita in *West Side Story*, Annie Oakley in *Annie Get Your Gun*, Claudia in *Blown Sideways Through Life*, Aldonza in *Man Of La Mancha*, Wanda in *The Waiting Room*, Suzanne in *Twilight of the Golds*, and she is one of the few women in regional theatre to perform all 42 personalities of Sam in the solo comedy *Fully Committed*. She is proud to have been involved with several world premieres in Los Angeles, including Joshua Fardon's *Shake* and Phinneas Kiyomura's *Figure 8*. She was named "Best Reason to Stand in Line for Theatre Tickets" by the New Times, and Backstage West called her "an absolute tour de force" for her cameo performance in Theatre of Note's *Shake*. On your TV set, she has been seen on *House*, *Criminal Minds*, *The Closer*, *The Mentalist*, *Six Feet Under*, MTV's *Death Valley*, *Judging Amy*, *Bones*, and the soon to be released season of *Transparent* on Amazon. In recent years, Michelle has been developing a stage performance art that incorporates popular music with sign language, mime, dance and movement. Some of the artists she has covered include Van Halen, Katy Perry, Bruno Mars, Eminem, Hall & Oates and her debut performance of Linkin Park's *Waiting for the End* at the first annual Hollywood Fringe Festival was reviewed as "totally

unique," "an incredible translation," and "a great piece that definitely left me wanting more." She is proud to be a Featured Artist amongst this great group of storytellers.



## Michael Evan Haney

Originally from Kansas City, Michael Evan Haney is celebrating his 43rd year in professional theatre, during which time he has acted and directed more than 150 productions including staging *Around the World in 80 Days* Off-Broadway for The Irish Repertory Theatre, appearing in

Elie Wiesel's *Zalmen* on Broadway, and the first American production of *Nicholas Nickleby*. He has been an Associate Artistic Director and Artist for The Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park for fifteen years where he has directed the award winning productions of *Speaking in Tongues*, *The Clean House*, *Blackbird*, *The Syringa Tree*, *Love Song*, *As You Like It*, *Crime & Punishment*, and the world premieres of *The History of Invulnerability* (a play about Superman and the Holocaust), *Hiding Behind Comets*, and *A Delicate Ship*. His production of *A Christmas Carol* has been bringing the spirit of the Holidays to Ohio for over twenty years. Michael's regional directing credits include Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Ensemble Theatre of Cincinnati, Westport Country Playhouse and Kansas City Repertory Theatre. Internationally, Mr. Haney has directed shows at the English Theatres of Vienna and Frankfurt, as well as the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. He resides in Minnesota with his wife Amy Warner. They recently finished shooting the movie *Carol*, with Cate Blanchett and Kyle Chandler, playing their parents.



## Arthur M. Jolly

Arthur M. Jolly and his rather dubious mustache are back at the Conference for a sixth straight year, his second as a featured artist. In 2013, his play *A Gulag Mouse*, produced by TossPot Productions, was an evening performance. In 2016, *Sacred Fools*

Theatre Company produced it in Los Angeles, where it was seen by producer Vanessa Pantley & Director Simon Fink, who bought the screen rights and hired Jolly to write the screenplay. The film was shot on a soundstage in Los Angeles and on location in California and Oregon and is currently in post-production. Productions since last year's bio include the full length plays *The Ithaca Ladies Read Medea* (Little Fish), *Long Joan Silver* (Loft Ensemble), *A Gulag*

*Mouse* (University of Northern Iowa), and *Trash* (Defiance College), and the short play *Childish Things* (Stella Adler Theatre/Short+Sweet Hollywood) starring Conference favorite Frank Collison; and then also performed in Chicago, courtesy of Midnight Summit Ensemble, which is like all LFTC alums. *Childish Things* will be published in the Applause Books Series *The Best American Short Plays 2015-2016*, and is scheduled to be produced as a short film in 2017. Other published plays include *A Gulag Mouse*, *Trash*, *Past Curfew*, *The Christmas Princess*, *The Four Senses of Love*, *What the Well Dressed Girl is Wearing*, *Bath Time is Fun Time*, and two collections of one-acts, *Thin Lines* and *Guilty Moments*. Jolly is two-time Joining Sword and Pen winner, a finalist for the inaugural Woodward/Newman Drama Award, and was recognized by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences with a Nicholl Fellowship in Screenwriting. He is a member of the WGA, The Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights, and The Dramatists Guild; repped by Brant Rose Agency. More at [www.arthurjolly.com](http://www.arthurjolly.com)



## Arlitia Jones

Arlitia Jones is a poet, playwright, and co-founder of TossPot Productions in Anchorage, Alaska. Her short play *Tornado* was chosen winner in the 38<sup>th</sup> Samuel French OOB Short Play Festival and 2014 National Award Winner Summer Shorts Festival with City Theatre,

Miami, Florida. *Come to Me*, *Leopards* received a workshop production in 2013 at Cyrano's Theatre. *Rush at Everlasting* premiered at Perseverance Theatre in 2014. Jones received a 2014 Individual Artists Fellowship from the Rasmuson Foundation. She is an alumna of the Seattle Repertory Theatre's Playwrights' Group. Her latest play *Summerland* received a workshop production from Seattle Repertory Theatre in the New Play Festival last October and its world premiere at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park in 2017. She is a resident alumna at Hedgebrook and Djerassi Resident Artists Program for 2014. She participated as an emerging playwright in the 2013 Director's Lab at Lincoln Center. Her volume of poetry *The Bandsaw Riots* won the Dorothy Brunsman Award for Poetry from Bear Star Press, Cohasset, California, in 2001. Jones recently finished a new adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* commissioned by Perseverance Theatre for their 2014/2015 and 2016 season. She is currently serving as deputy mayor of Jonestown, located in the Bear Paw Camper Park, so please stop by and introduce yourself, the tea might still be hot. Member of Blue Roses Productions and the Dramatists' Guild of America. [www.arlitia.com](http://www.arlitia.com)



**C**arol  
Laursen

Carol Laursen is a Jack of all trades, synthesizer of some. During her undergraduate days at Reed College she engaged in parallel play with science by day and theater by night. After receiving her Bachelor's in Math and Biology, she went on to earn her MFA in Acting from Ohio

University's Professional Actor Training Program. Always intrigued with the deeper mechanics of body and voice used in the service of expressive arts, she has attended a number of summer intensive trainings, including two seven-week sessions of *The Actor's Space*, taught by Linda Putnam, Stephen Wangh, and Marc Samuels, who had been students of Jerzy Grotowski while he taught at NYU, *Acapella Motion* run by some of the originators of contact improvisation, and *Canada's National Voice Intensive* under the direction of David Smukler. She was managing director of Foolscap Theatre and School in Western Massachusetts until she was lured back to her native Ohio for the fulfilling experience of marriage and parenting. While there she completed 500 hours of Yoga teacher training in the Satyananda tradition and taught at an Ohio yoga center for several years. She also built a career at University Hospitals of Cleveland studying chromosomes of cancer patients, acted in or directed a dozen projects, and saw her first script, *Illuminated Lizard*, produced at Ensemble Theater and Cleveland Public Theatre. She is also a student at San Francisco Zen Center where she attends meditation retreats on a regular basis.



**R**ob  
Lecrone

Rob Lecrone is a former Alaskan who has been living in Los Angeles since 2012. He began appearing on the Anchorage stages in the late nineties. His first two appearances at Cyrano's Off Center Playhouse in downtown Anchorage weren't as an actor, but as a writer, presenting his short

stories in two solo shows in 1994 and 1995. You can find one of those stories, *The Headed and the Guttled*, in *North of Eden: An Anthology of Alaskan Writings*. In 1998, he got his first paycheck as an actor while appearing at Cyrano's as Jack Worthing in *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Some of his favorite roles in Alaskan productions include Septimus Hodge in *Arcadia*, Crumpet in *Santaland Diaries*, Watson in *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure*, and Bile in Dawson Moore's *Bile in the Afterlife*. He also appeared for a year-and-a-half as the male lead in *The Whale Fat Follies*, where he had numerous quick changes and sang and danced as a baker's dozen of characters, including a vegetarian wolf, Elvis, Richard Simmons, a Brokeback

Pirate, and many others. He was an Alaska resident for 32 years and participated in the cleanup of the Prince William Sound following the Exxon Valdez oil spill. In Los Angeles, Rob is a member of Sacred Fools Theatre Company where he has appeared in Arthur M. Jolly's *A Gulag Mouse*, as well as in numerous roles and episodes of the weekly wonder that is *Serial Killers*, Sacred Fools' competitive episodic late-night theatre. Sacred Fools also selected his five-page script *Two Visits* for inclusion in their experimental theatre piece, *The Box: Los Angeles*. As a volunteer through Laughter for a Change, he is a member of an improv group that performs once-a-month for patients and parents at Children's Hospital LA. Rob has studied extensively at the Howard Fine Acting Studio in LA, with both Howard Fine and Laura Gardner. He also studies improv at the Upright Citizens Brigade. Last summer, he took a course in Hagen Teacher Training at HB Studio in New York. He is pleased to be able to occasionally teach in Alaska, and has taught through TBA Summer Academy, the Anchorage Community Theatre, and, most recently, Midnight Sun Performing Arts. He has also taught drama as a substitute in the Anchorage School District. Rob is excited to be back coaching in the Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, to be reprising his role as host of the conference's late-night Fringe, and to be part of the team bringing Julia Lederer's *With Love and a Major Organ* to the Conference mainstage.



**D**ebrianna  
Mansini

Debrianna Mansini has trained with such greats as Kim Stanley, Jose Quintero, Edward Albee, and Alan Arkin. She has worked Off-Broadway in New York City at the Soho Rep. Her most recent stage appearances have been as a company member with the For Giving Ensemble in Santa Fe, New

Mexico, directed by Janet Davidson: *Almost, Maine*; Patty in *Kimberly Akimbo*; Margie in the New Mexico premiere of *Good People*, which toured to Albuquerque; *Motherhood Out Loud*; *Love Loss and What I Wore* (touring New Mexico and Colorado); Dana in *Imagining Brad*; Catherine in *Rapture, Blister, Burn*; and last year in the acclaimed production of *Country House*. Ms. Mansini also starred in Ron Bloomberg's original one-acts *Seriously Funny*. Her solo show *The Meatball Chronicles* debuted in May of 2016 and is currently touring the US. Ms. Mansini has had supporting roles on numerous television movies and mini-series including recurring roles in ABC Family's *The Lying Game* as well as in the hit series *Better Call Saul*. She has also worked on numerous TV series including guest roles on *The Lost Room*, *Longmire*, *Breaking Bad*, *Wild Fire*, and *In Plain Sight*. Her film credits include *Hell or High Water* and *Crazy Heart*, both opposite Academy Award-winner Jeff Bridges; *The War Boys*; *The Burning Plain*; and the Sundance selection *Drunktown's Finest*. Ms. Mansini plays the role of Georgia O'Keeffe in the upcoming PBS film *Awakening in Taos*.



**Cassandra Medley**

Cassandra Medley's most recently produced plays include: *American Slavery Project*, 2012-13, NYC, *Cell*, Molelo Theater-San Diego, California; *Cell*, Ensemble Studio Theatre Marathon 2011; *Daughter*, Ensemble Studio Theatre Marathon 2009; *Noon Day Sun*, August, 2008,

Diverse City Theatre Company—Theatre Row, New York City; and *Relativity*, a commission from the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation, Ensemble Studio Theatre, 2004. *Relativity*, produced has been by Kuntu Rep. of Pittsburg, Southern Rep. of New Orleans, 2007, the Ensemble Studio Theatre, May, 2006, the St. Louis Black Repertory Theatre, February, 2006, and the Magic Theatre in San Francisco in June, 2004. *Cell* is published in the Dramatist Play Service anthology *Outstanding One-Act Plays—2012*. *Daughter* published by Broadway Play Publishing, 2012. *Relativity* won the 2006 Audelco August Wilson Playwriting Award, was featured on Science Friday on National Public Radio, and published by Broadway Play Publishing. *Relativity* was featured in online radio broadcast of the play, Los Angeles Repertory Theatre—February, 2008. *Noon Day Sun* was nominated for the 2008 August Wilson Playwriting ward. *Noon Day Sun* is published by Broadway Play Publishing, Marathon 2004-06, as well as by Broadway Play Publishing. Ms. Medley has also the received the 2004 Going to the River Writers Life Achievement Award, 2002 Ensemble Studio Theatre 25th Anniversary Award for Theatre Excellence, the 2001-Theatrefest Regional Playwriting Award for Best Play, the 1995 New Professional Theatre Award, and the 1995 Marilyn Simpson Award. She was a 1989 finalist for the Susan Smith Blackburn Award in Playwriting, and won the 1990 National Endowment for the Arts Playwright Award. She was 1986 recipient of the New York Foundation for the Arts Grant and a New York State Council on the Arts Grant for 1987. She teaches playwriting at Sarah Lawrence College, has taught at New York University, and has also served as guest artist at Columbia University, the University of Iowa Playwrights Workshop and Seattle University. Cassandra worked as a staff writer for ABC Television: *One Life to Live* – 1995-97. She is a playwright member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre, and New River Dramatists, and the Dramatists Guild.



**Shane Mitchell**

Shane Mitchell is the founding Artistic Director of TBA Theatre in Anchorage, and is among Alaska's most prolific actors, playwrights, and directors. After earning his Master's Degree in Theater Communication from Wichita State University, he worked at Wichita Summer Rep, and since that

time has worked for many theater companies across the nation. He is the author of over 50 plays that are frequently produced all over the world. His published works include *Jolly Roger*; *King of the Pirates*, *Daze of Olde*, *The Enchanted Pajamas*, and *Half a King Is Better Than None*, all intended for young audiences. His commissioned works include *The Courtship of Zach and Ada* for the Alaska Humanities Forum and *Cyrano's Theater*, *Omega* for the International Polar Year, the five play *Understanding Cycle* for The Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, as well as works for The Anchorage Ballet, The Anchorage Symphony, Anchorage Community Theater, The Anchorage School District, and several others. *The Death or Edgar Allan Poe* is perennially produced at the Poe museum in Richmond Virginia. His play *The Resurrection of Humpty Dumpty* was a part of the Samuel French Short Play Festival in 2007, and four of his plays have been performed at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe. In 2000, he was selected as an American representative to the Olympic Arts Festival, in celebration of the games in Sydney, Australia, where his collaborative production was named Best of The Festival. Proud of his Celtic heritage, his plays are often set in or reflect the culture of Scotland and Ireland and his original work *The Daemon of Darby Castle* resides as part of the collection at Leap Castle in Coolderry Ireland. He has been honored with two Patricia Neil Acting Awards, the Jerry Harper Service Award, The UAA Alumnus of Distinction Award, and was named by the readers of the Anchorage Press as Anchorage's Best Actor in 2015. Shane is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



## Dawson Moore

Dawson Moore is a playwright, director, teacher, and actor. He works for Prince William Sound College, for whom he has coordinated the Conference since 2003. He began writing plays in 1994, developing *The Making of Eye Contact*, *Domestic Companion*, and *Sand & Granite On*

*Liberty* at UAA. Since then, his plays have been produced in Off-Broadway, across the country, and internationally in Canada, Italy, Australia and Namibia. He has won national playwriting awards for his short comedies *In a Red Sea*, *The Peach*, *Burning*, *The Bus*, *Bile in the Afterlife*, and *Domestic Companion*. *Six Dead Bodies Duct-Taped to a Merry-Go-Round*, which he co-wrote with Lindsay Marianna Walker, is included in Applause Books' *The Best American Short Plays 2010-2011*, and has been turned into a short film by Kevin T. Bennett. The companies who have staged his work include TBA Theatre, Kokopelli Theatre Company, Theatre Artists Conspiracy, Three Wise Monkeys, Unidentified Theatre Company, Reston Community Players, Impact Theatre, Bellingham Theatre Guild, UAA Theatre & Dance, Circle East, Fairbanks Drama Association, Eccentric Theatre Company, Bradley University, Prince William Sound Community College, Eureka Theatre Company, Expanded Arts Theatre, 78th Street Studio Theatre, Las Positas College, Teatro del Naville, Isis Arts Collective, Nearly Stellar Entertainment, Love Creek Productions, Playwrights Center of San Francisco, Venue 9, TOAST, the Rough Theatre Company, Two Spoons Theatre Company, Northwest Playwrights Alliance, Theatre Limina, Alleyway Theatre, Java Theatre, the University of Idaho, and the Mid-America Theatre Conference, among others. His other plays include *LibidOFF*; *Happy Loving Couples are a Thing of the Past*; *Alyson and the Great Bagel Mistake*; *The Fears of Harold Shivers*; *Living with the Savage*; *Oh, Nancy!*; *Family Stuffing*; *Laundry Day*; *Love's Lumberings Remembered*; *Skid Marks*; *The Tie*; and *The War of Virginia and Alabama*. He has also served as a play respondent and/or teacher for the Playwrights Showcase of the Western Region, the William Inge Theatre Festival, the Playwrights Center of San Francisco, the Mississippi Delta Tennessee Williams Festival, and for the Blaine Quarnstrom Playwright's Series at the University of Southern Mississippi. With TBA Theatre, he produces the *Alaska Overnights*, which to date has produced 251 new plays by 64 different writers. He is on-line at [www.dawsonmoore.com](http://www.dawsonmoore.com).



## Teresa K. Pond

Teresa K. Pond was thrilled to return to Anchorage in 2016 as *Cyrano's Theatre Company's* Producing Artistic Director. Born and raised in the Anchorage theater scene (her first show was at Grant Hall Theatre when she was 10 weeks old!), Teresa has performed, directed, and produced theatre of all styles and sensibilities in Anchorage

throughout her career. After her BFA in Communications at Chapman University, she served Executive Director of Anchorage Community Theatre for several years in the 90s. After receiving her MFA in Directing from UC-Irvine, she moved to New York City where she has directed professionally Off-Broadway, across the country regionally, and internationally. She has worked Off-Broadway with Women's Project Theatre, New York Classical Theatre, and Vital Theatre Company; also directed and produced with NewShow theatre development, NY Fringe Festival, and numerous theaters regionally over the past fifteen years. She spent two seasons as Producing Artistic Director of a professional summer theatre in Pennsylvania (Millbrook Playhouse). She has served on arts councils, development groups, and other committee associations; locally, she has directed with organizations such as Perseverance Theatre (*Peter and the Starcatcher*), *Cyrano's Theatre*, ACT, ATY, Alaska Native Heritage Center, Alaska Dance Theatre, Out North Theatre, and collaborated with UAA Department of Theatre with several other organizations, non-profit and charitable groups in a variety of roles. Teresa is a proud member of Stage Directors and Choreographer's Society (SDC).



## Schatzie Schaefer

Schatzie Schaefer is an Alaskan theatre artist whose plays have been produced in cities across the U.S. including New York, Seattle, Minneapolis, and San Francisco, as well as in her home state in Anchorage, Valdez, Fairbanks, Homer, and Juneau. Her newest full-length play *Silver Thaw*

will kick off the 2017-2018 season at Anchorage Community Theatre in the fall. *Vashon* was developed with Bay Area dramaturg Jayne Wenger and was workshopped at Juneau's Perseverance Theatre in January 2011. Other highlights include Kokopelli Theatre's production of *Just Like Julia* at NYC's Shetler Studios in 2010, *A Fabulous Coat* and *Snow in Galveston* at Impact Theatre of Brooklyn's Winter One-Act Festivals in 2007 & 2008, and *Asparagus* in Quo Vadimus Arts' ID America Festival in NYC in 2007. Schatzie wrote TV pilots and treatments with Alaska Pilot Project in 2012. After working for more than twenty years as a radio disc jockey,



Schatzie now narrates audiobooks for Amazon/Audible. As an actress, her favorite roles include Honey in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* (Cyrano's), Lisa in *Well* (Out North), Claire in *Fuddy Meers* (Manbites Dog, Durham, NC), Beth in *A Lie of the Mind* (Open Door, Chapel Hill, NC), Rita in *Prelude to a Kiss* (Valley Performing Arts), Lady Anne in *Richard 3* (UAA), and Felice in *Kafka Dances* (Cyrano's.) Directing work includes *Sherlock Holmes: The Final Adventure* (Anchorage Community Theatre), *Becky's New Car* (Cyrano's), *Rounding Third* and *Sway Me, Moon* (Out North.) She has a long history of participating in the Conference, dating back to 1994. She is a member of New York's Blue Roses Theatre Company. Schatzie is the lead singer of the pop/rock band Agents of Karma. She lives in Anchorage.



## Warren Weinstein

Born and raised in Anchorage, Warren Weinstein has been active in the local theater community since the early 1990s, performing in ACT's *A Christmas Carol*, *Inherit the Wind*, and *Fiddler on the Roof*, and in Anchorage Opera's *Carmen*. He took a break from theatre to complete his degree

in History, travel through Europe, and enjoy the Alaskan outdoors. Warren returned to the stage as a member of Scared Scriptless Improv in 2005, where he fell in love with improvised theater, specifically improvised comedy. Since then he has performed in over 300 improvised performances across Alaska, and performed improv comedy in New York, Chicago, and Los Angeles. He has trained and performed with instructors from Improv Olympic, Annoyance Theater, and Upright Citizens Brigade. He has served as the Artistic Director, Education Director, and eventually owner of Scared Scriptless, teaching both adults and youths the skills of Improv, and directing numerous improvised performances. Recently Warren has returned to scripted theater to complement his work in improv. He performed and directed in the last two *Alaska Overnights*, as well as performing in TBA Theatre's *The Burning* and *The Wizard of Oz*, ACT's *Things my Mother Taught Me*, and performing in Cyrano's productions of *One Hundred Years of Anchorage – Week 8* and *The Good Times are Killing Me*. Warren is proud and honored to be reading and teaching improv at the Conference.



## Jayne Wenger

Jayne Wenger is a director and dramaturg whose exclusive focus is on original material. She has developed the emerging work of acclaimed playwrights, composers and choreographers nationwide and her work has been recognized with numerous awards. She is the

past Artistic Director of Bay Area Playwrights Foundation

and Women's Ensemble in New York. Currently she is the Director of Creative Process for the BAPF. Current projects include *Blues is a Woman* by Pamela Rose (bluesisawomen.com) a touring theatrical music concert celebrating blues singers from Ma Rainey to Bonnie Raitt, *The Unreliable Bestiary* (unreliablebestiary.org) an ongoing project by Deke Weaver, and *The Dyke And The Porn Star* by Bayla Travis. Selected recent collaborations include Michelle Carter's *Rose In America*; *The Lariat*, a new opera by Lisa Scola Prosek, *LOVEBIRDS* by Marga Gomez, and *Men Think They Are Better Than Grass* with the Deborah Slater Dance Theater. She has had the privilege of working with many talented Alaska theatre makers, directing Arlitia Jones' *Comes To Me*, *Leopards* as well as dramaturging her *Make Good The Fires* and *Rush At Everlasting*, and working with Schatzie Schaefer, Sandy Harper, and Anne Hanley, to name a few. She was the original director and dramaturg for *The Winter Bear Project* an on-going performing arts and social outreach initiative focused on teen suicide in rural Native Alaskan communities. She is an alumna of Djerassi Resident Artist Program; a guest artist and advisory board member for the Conference, and has taught at ArtWorkshop International in Assisi, Italy, and San Francisco State University. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas and the League of Professional Theater Women.



## Carrie Yanagawa

A Last Frontier Theatre Conference family member for over a decade, Carrie Yanagawa is pleased to return to beautiful Valdez as director of the *Ten-Minute Play Slam*. An Anchorage-based director, scenic designer, and painter, she currently serves as the resident scenic charge artist for

the Anchorage Opera and is a proud company member of Anchorage's critically-acclaimed TossPot Productions. Selected recent directing credits for new plays include Kevin Armento's *Good Men Wanted* (TossPot Productions); the Conference *Ten-Minute Play Slam* (2014-present); portions of *Fourplay: Four Short Plays by Alaskans* (Three Wise Moose); and a many short plays for the *Alaska Overnights*. Selected recent scenic design credits include: *The Mikado*; *Akmaq and Nayak* (An Alaska Native adaptation of *Hansel and Gretel* designed to tour to young audiences in rural Alaskan villages); *Mozart and Salieri*; *The Impresario*; *La cambiale di matrimonio* (Anchorage Opera); *Good Men Wanted*; Arthur M. Jolly's *A Gulag Mouse* (TossPot Productions); *Hedda Gabler*, and Arlitia Jones' *Come to Me*, *Leopards* (Cyrano's Theatre Company). Selected recent regional scenic painting credits include productions with Juneau's Perseverance Theatre, Bermuda's Earl Cameron Theatre, and London's National Theatre.



**GREG ABBOTT**  
**HAPPY HOLIDAYS (INSERT NAME HERE) OUR YEAR WAS (INSERT ADJECTIVE HERE)**

Greg Abbott is the coordinator for the Minnesota Shorts Play Festival, is part of the Four Playwrights writer's group, and has been part of the local community theatre group, Mankato Mosaic Theatre Company. His short plays have been performed from California to New York, and he has been part of the Minnesota Fringe Festival performances for the past three years.



**HEDVA ANBAR**  
**SHOCKWAVES**

Hedva Anbar started writing fiction after a career in I.T. and has since found that she prefers writing plays. A number of her short plays have had semi-staged readings in London (U.K.), where she is based.



**LINDA AYRES-FREDERICK**  
**WATERSHED**

Linda Ayres-Frederick, Phoenix Theatre's Artistic Director since 1985 ([www.phoenixtheatresf.org](http://www.phoenixtheatresf.org)), has enjoyed a diverse career as an actor, producer, director, critic, and playwright in the San Francisco Bay Area with related work travel to NYC, Edinburgh, France, and Alaska. A member of the SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (VP), American Theatre Critics Association, the Dramatists Guild of America, AEA, and AFTRA/SAG. Linda is twice a Shubert Playwriting Fellow with numerous productions and publications in Bay Area Festivals including Best of SF Fringe 2010 & 2011 (for her play *Afield*) and Best Play of Marin Fringe 2012 (for her solo *Cantata #40*, also read in the 2013 Play Lab). In 2013 at the Marsh San Francisco, and at the O'Hanlon Arts Center in Marin, she performed a solo version of *Blizzard* (read in the 2014 Lab) which won Best of Fringe in SF Fringe 2014. Her full-length play *Kiska Bay* was read at Tides Theatre in the Dramatists Guild Footlight Series. Her current full-length plays include *The Unveiling*, *Black Swan*, *The Umbrella Play*, and *One Foot on the Water*. In 2011, *The Mav Mum Murder* was read in the Lab, where Linda's various work has received readings eight times over the last ten years. Two of her plays (*Dinner with the Undertaker's Son* and *Waiting in the Victory Garden*) were performed and published by Three Wise Monkeys Theatre Company in two Bay One-Acts Festivals. Her play *Red Sky at Dawn*, read at LFTC Fringe in 2015 was subsequently produced at the SF Fringe Festival. Her work also appears in *Monologues from the Last Frontier Theatre Conference*, *Squaw Valley Community of Writers*, and *Poets on Parnassus*. For the last several years, Linda has been a member of the

Monday Night Group, the longest running independent playwrights workshop in SF Bay Area. In October her play *The Unveiling* will premiere in San Francisco. She serves on the Board of Custom Made Theatre Company and the Advisory Committee of 3Girls Theatre. Since 2003 she has lived in San Francisco's Mission District with her partner. Her two beautiful grown daughters and two handsome grandchildren live in the Bay Area.



**JOE BARNES**  
**THE POLITICAL ECONOMY OF DESIRE**

Joe Barnes' first play, *Happy Hour*, premiered in 2006 as part of the Edward Albee New Playwrights Series. He has had a number of plays produced since then, including *The Black Dog*, *Second Chances*, *The Tragedy of the Tragedy of King Lear*, *The Schifflet Project*, *The Workshop*, *Inventory of Effects*, *Quality Time*, *The Surgeon General's Warning*, *Just Like That*, *Sister Fred* and *Tying the Knot*. Eight of his plays – *Summer Friends*, *Acts of Faith*, *Remembering Rory*, *The Unicorn*, *The Call*, *Tastes like Chicken*, *Riding the Elephant*, *Shavetop Mountain*, *Footnotes*, and *Errant Nonsense by a Nose* – have been read at the Conference. Barnes is a resident of Houston, Texas.



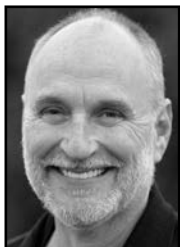
**JILL BESS**  
**THREE SISTERS**

Jill Bess, an Alaskan for over 30 years, is from Southern California, where she received her BA in Drama from the University of California, Irvine. Originally trained as an actress and director, Jill fell in love with playwriting when she began raising her family, and was inspired to write her first play, the nationally award winning one-woman show *The Mommy Dance*. Other works include *Crazy Like Me* (2016 Play Lab), *The Frenchman and the Dutchman*, *A Love Story* (2015 Play Lab), *Simple Melody* (2014 Play Lab and 2014 Tennessee Williams Literary Festival finalist), *The Ransom* (2015 Ten-Minute Play Slam), *No More* (Out North), *Confessions of a PK* (Out North), *This Stranger My Friend* (Out North), *Overboard*, *The Rapunzel Syndrome*, and several ten-minute pieces including *See Jane Run*, *Waze and Means*, *Friday Night Lights*, and *The Second Half*. Jill has also written for the *Alaska Overnighters* and the *One-Minute Play Festival*. Jill loves teaching acting and playwriting to her students at East Anchorage High School and runs her own private acting studio, Alaska True Acting.



## LINDA BILLINGTON *HERE THERE BE DRAGONS*

After 26 years of writing and editing for the Anchorage Daily News, Linda Billington retired and, much to her astonishment, turned into a playwright. Her first play, *Bear*, was chosen for the Play Lab at the Conference, and several more have since been read at the Conference. Her plays have also been accepted for the *8x10 Festival of New Alaskan Plays* in Fairbanks, and she has stayed up all night numerous times to write for the *Alaska Overnights*. Linda is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



## CHIP BOLCIK *THE FIELD TRIP*

Chip Bolcik's plays include: *The Blizzard*, Strawberry One-Act Festival; LFTC; Hurricane Season Festival. *The Writer*, The Seven; Organised Chaos' Midwinter Ignition; Abingdon Theatre New Works festival; InspiraTO Festival; The Future Ten 10-Minute Festival; Unchained Festival. *A Rocky Relationship*, Durango Lively Arts Crossroads Cafe; M.T. Pockets One Act Fest; StoreFront Theatre We Like Shorts Festival; The Artist's Exchange One-Act Festival. *In The Third Person* and *Suit Yourself*, Best Play, Manhattan Rep. *Not Enough*, Warner International Playwrights Festival. *Staten Island Fairy Tale*, *Lovin' The Boat*, and *Poof!*, winners, Sundog Theatre Scenes from the Staten Island Ferry. *Expecting Hamilton*, Equity Library Theatre. *Expecting Hamilton & Jungle Dining*, The Caleb Reese Festival. *The End Of Times (or How Becky Got Lucky)*, Manhattan Rep, LA Fresh Produce'd. *The Carravagio* and *Jungle Dining*, LA Fresh Produce'd. *Breaking Out Is Hard To Do*, Strawberry One-Act Festival. *The World's Worst Puppeteers & Jungle Dining*, LFTC.



## PAUL BRAVERMAN *SINS BORNE*

Paul Braverman is a San Francisco area playwright and actor. His plays have received dozens of productions and readings in Bay Area venues, nationally and internationally. His Frankie Payne trilogy of plays was produced at The Pear Theatre in Mountain View, California, between 2011 and 2015. Other recent productions include *Captive Audition*, a finalist in the 2014 International Playwright Festival at the Warner Theatre in Connecticut; the ten-minute play *Deuce Cooper: The Bloomfield Case*, which was produced at The Pear as part of *Pear Slices* in May, 2017; and *Sins Borne*, which debuted at the Edinburgh Fringe in August, 2016, now being presented in this year's Lab. Paul is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, Theatre Bay Area, and is a co-founding member of The Pear Playwrights Guild.



## JOY CUTLER *ANATOMY LESSON*

Joy Cutler's stage plays, radio plays, and solo performances have been produced in New York, San Francisco, Alaska, Philadelphia, Berlin, Amsterdam and Jakarta. She has worked as a writer and performer with the San Francisco ensemble, Elbows Akimbo, and with Berlin theater companies: The Berlin Play Actors, Out To Lunch Theater Group and The Flying Buttresses. Her plays have been developed at the Conference (2013-2017), the Emerging Artists Residency and Luna Theater in Philadelphia, The Inkwell in Washington, D.C., Wildacres Retreat in North Carolina, the PlayPenn Education Reading Series, and Philadelphia New Play Initiative.



## DANIELS ELIZABETH CALVIN *TEEN ISSUES*

This is Daniels Elizabeth Calvin's fourth year at the Conference; her second as a playwright. She has also written for the *Alaska Overnights*, *Famous for Fifteen*, *The One-Minute Play Festival*, and *The ThawOut Film Festival*. Her original screenplay *Atellgun (Yup'ik: Namesake)* was featured on Alaska Public Media. She is excited to continue to branch out as a playwright, and is humbled by the opportunity to work with established writers. She is looking forward to immersing in the contributions from other devoted artists, especially the new playwrights joining us.



## JOANNA CASTLE MILLER *SH@MED*

Joanna Castle Miller is a writer, producer, and comedian whose work has appeared on NBC, VH1, E! Entertainment, PBS, and Food Network. A political junkie at heart, she is the co-composer/lyricist of *Fox News the Musical* and creator and host of *Red, White and Dad* – a web show chronicling the 100% true story of her dad's 2016 campaign for President of the United States. Since the election, her political parodies have been featured on Funny or Die, WhoHaha, and The Advocate. Other recent writing work includes *Ash, Which Way There*, and *Sorta My Thing*. Joanna's latest play *SH@MED* premiered at Georgia Southwestern University in 2016. Recent producing work includes *Where You Go* and the Emmy Award-winning *New York Philharmonic's Sweeney Todd*, produced by *Live From Lincoln Center*. joannacastlemiller.com



## MIRANDA CARVALHO HORRIFYING

Miranda Carvalho is a playwright and director born and raised in San Jose, California. She was the founder of The Young Outlaws, an independent youth-run and youth-based troupe that focused on creating engaging queer and female characters and empowering the young actors that play them. Miranda has so far only been self-produced, working to put up her own shows in the festivals and venues of SJ's small and dedicated art's scene. Her work as a theatrical artist has been mentioned in Content Magazine (an arts and lifestyle magazine of the Silicon Valley), and she is honored to be attending her first reading at the Conference.



## SHAWNA CASEY blue blue moon

Shawna Casey comes to playwriting as an award-winning stage actress, having performed in premiere productions by such playwrights as Irene Fornes, Jose Rivera and Murray Mednick. In 2014, her first full-length play, *Night Becomes Day*, was awarded 2nd place in The Ebell of Los Angeles Playwright Prize competition for women playwrights in California. Her two-act fantastical rom-com *Strong Force* was chosen out of 500 submissions and given a reading at Tangent Theatre's 2014 NEWvember Festival in New York. *Strong Force* was also a finalist in the Aurora Global Age Project competition, and a semi-finalist in the Playwrights Foundation (BAPF) competition in 2015. Short plays produced in Los Angeles include *The Aegean*, *Animal Style*, *Sap*, *Bluebird*, and *Out of the Blue*. Shawna received her MFA in Playwriting at the Spalding University MFA program in 2012, and lives in Los Angeles with her husband Jack Kehler. Thanks to all who make Last Frontier Theatre Conference happen! <https://pwcenter.org/profile/shawna-casey>



## RANDALL DAVID COOK RUB-A-DUB-DUB

Randall David Cook just completed a four-month artist residency at Furman University, where his first horror-thriller, *Kappa Kappa Scream*, opened in February. Off-Broadway: *Sake with the Haiku Geisha* and *Fate's Imagination*. Other New York/Regional: *Southern Discomfort*; *Open Call* (with Randy Weiner); *Third Finger*, *Left Hand*; *Pomp & Circumstance*; *Ars Nova*, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Trustus Theatre, Neighborhood Playhouse, the Players Club and Guild Hall in East Hampton. His one-act play *Sushi and Scones* won the award for Best Play at the Southeastern Playwrights Conference and was later broadcast as a radio play by the BBC, and

his adaptation of Ibsen's *John Gabriel Borkman* was presented at New York Theatre Workshop with Len Cariou in the title role. Two-time writer for the Astaire Awards, for hosts Alan Cumming and Ben Vereen. His parody *American Idle: Murdering the Music* has had more than a hundred productions at schools and community theaters in the USA and Canada, as well as in Europe, Australia and South America. He has received commissions from the British Film Institute, Broadway Across America and the Duke Endowment. Two-time Finalist for both the O'Neill Playwrights Conference and the Sundance Filmmakers Lab. Recent readings/upcoming productions include: *A Night at the Theatre*, *Sharks and Other Lovers*, *Shadows* (with Joey McKneely), *Adult Sex Comedy* and *Disasterpiece Theatre Presents: Death at Downturn: An Upstairs-Downstairs Murder-Mystery Parody*, and *Because Longer Titles Are A Certain Indicator of High Quality and Refined Taste*. South Carolinian by birth, New Yorker by choice, and delighted to be in Alaska and at the Conference for the first time.



## C.J. EHRLICH THE MALTESE BABKA

C.J. Ehrlich's award-winning one-acts have enjoyed dozens of productions around the US and on five continents. Full-length comedies: *The Cupcake Conspiracy*: "Terrorism is Easy. Marriage is Complicated" (with Philip J. Kaplan); Florentine Players, NE; Rover Dramawerks, TX, APAC, HI, finalist, Getchell award; Mountain Playhouse International Comedy competition; *Zane to Gate 69* (Overtime, TX; Last Frontier Theatre Conference 2015); *The Maltese Babka* (Last Frontier 2017, WCT, NY 2017). Favorite collaborators include Samuel French Off-Off-Broadway Fest (NY), Boston Theatre Marathon, Seoul Players, Korea; Little Fish LA, Source DC, Grin Theatre, Liverpool. Published: *Best American Short Plays of 2014-15*, *The Lilac Ticket*, Applause/Hal Leonard; five of the last six Smith & Kraus *Best Ten-Minute Plays* anthologies: *Intervention*, *Ninth Circus of Hell*, *Noir in Second Class*, *2+1=Murder*, *Non-Refundable*; Heuer; Rutledge. A proud member of the Dramatists Guild, C.J. lists among her greatest achievements teaching her sons the fine art of the spit take. Visit at CJ-Ehrlich.com.



## ADI ESHMAN THREE-BODY PROBLEM

Adi Eshman is a playwright, screenwriter, and teacher based in Brooklyn. His plays have been produced in festivals at the Ophelia Theater, Nuyorican Poets Cafe, Theater for the New City, The Tank, and Cherry Lane Theatre. His recent works include *3-Body Problem*, *Painters* (Scratch Night at Theater for the New City; staged workshop at Chelsea Studios), *Ostropol* (workshop at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater), *ClassPass*, *King Lesbian*, *Ten Words*, and *The*

*art of the deal.* He has assisted at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Warner Bros, Braven Films, and Killer Films. He works as a writer's assistant on Steven Soderbergh's new HBO drama, *Mosaic*. He is a recipient of the NYU Jewish Studies Grant, a member of The Civilians' Field Research Team, and a proud member of the Dramatists Guild. He holds a BA from NYU Gallatin.



**LUKE GOMEZ**  
**BOXCUTTERS AND BUBBLEGUM**

Luke Gomez is ecstatic to be back in the Last Frontier. Luke is a theatre artist based out of Phoenix, Arizona. Much of his work has been with Brelby Theatre Company, a theatre founded by his college friends that he has been with since its founding. Now entering its ninth year, Luke has performed, directed, and designed just around 30 or more shows within that time frame, both with Brelby and others across the valley. His primary passion in theatre, however, is playwriting, and he has had nine scripts see production in Phoenix, two this year. In between that, Luke works frequently across the Phoenix area as an actor and theatre instructor.



**ANDREA FLECK CLARDY**  
**WE'VE COME THIS FAR**

Andrea Fleck Clardy worked in publishing for thirty years, wrote a children's book, a weekly newspaper column, and two books about upstate New York before getting around to plays. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild and National Writers' Union, and is thrilled to be part of the Conference. Her short plays and monologues have been widely produced and one (*Hijag*) has been filmed. Two (*Heartland* and *The Magic Fish*) are in *Best Ten-Minute Plays of 2016* (Smith and Kraus). Her full-length plays include *Hide and Seek*, with music by Clark Gesner, and *Job Loss*, a semi-finalist for the Princess Grace Award and the Eugene O'Neill National Theater Conference. She lives in Boston.

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**DEREK GRAY**  
**SURROGATES**

Derek Gray is a playwright, TV/screenwriter, and writing teacher. He graduated with an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Memphis and an MFA in Dramatic Writing from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, where he received the Graduate Award for Special Excellence in Writing for Television and was a featured playwright in the Festival of New Works. He is originally from Ashland, Kentucky, and currently lives in Los Angeles.



**JOYCE FONTANA**  
**THE ROAD TO HELL**

After four decades in healthcare and academia, Joyce Fontana, PhD, brought to fruition a lifelong ambition to write creatively. After one of her first 10-minute scripts, *23 Skidoo*, was selected for production at the Durango Arts Center's 10-Minute Play Festival, she was hooked. This was followed by a production of *Trail Meetups* at the Midtown International Theatre Festival Short Play Lab (Manhattan), the play critiqued by Outer-Stage Journal of Independent Stage and Film Reviews as "arguably the best of the night." *Satellite Buddha* was produced at Secret Theatre's LIC One-Act Festival (Queens, NY). *Exhibitions at a Picture* was a finalist at both Festival 56's 2016 New Works Festival (Princeton IL) and The Chameleon Circle's 17<sup>th</sup> Annual New Play Festival (Burnsville MN) with well received staged readings. Joyce thrives on opportunities to see her characters and dialogues come to life, but seeks constructive feedback, encouragement, and advice from masters of the art. Thus, she was delighted to be invited to the Conference. Joyce is a member of the International Centre for Women Playwrights. She works, plays, and writes in beautiful Southwest Colorado where she lives with her husband and three dogs.

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**JEFF NEAL GREGG**  
**MOBBIN' MINNEY**

Jeff Neal Gregg survives on a small crown of clay between a tag elder swamp and a vernal pond in Fayal Township on Minnesota's Iron Range. When he is not haunting the smattering of small towns, iron-ore stained dirt roads, and bottomless bogs tucked away in the bush, he teaches literature and writing at Mesabi Range College. Jeff writes plays, poetry, short fiction, and has one hell of a rejection folder piling up but that ain't stoppin' him. Jeff thinks it's totally groovy to be back in Valdez again. *Mobb'in' Minny* evolved from his previous ten-minute play *Camp Meat* that was at the 2004 Conference.



## TARAN HAYNES WRITING A PLAY

Taran Haynes, a Theatre major at the University of Alaska Anchorage, is a new and enthusiastic inductee into the world of playwriting; having written two plays, a 10-minute play titled *The Hardest Thing* and a one-act play titled *Writing a Play*.

His journey into this world began in a playwriting class that Dr. Brian Cook taught at UAA in the Fall of 2016, and Taran quickly found that he loved the process of crafting a play. His 10-minute play, which began as little more than writing exercises, was accepted into the 2017 Mid-America Theatre Conference's Playwriting Symposium and earned him a Discovery Grant from UAA's Office of Undergraduate research and Scholarship. Though Taran never really considered playwriting before, he has fallen in love with the art form and fully intends to continue pursuing it in the future.



## ERIN HAYS IN THE STARS

Erin Hays holds a Bachelor of Arts degree with concentrations in Theater Studies and Psychology from Yale and a Master of Fine Arts degree in playwriting from Northwestern's Writing for the Screen + Stage program. She has worked as a

theatre assistant at the Gersh Agency in New York and as a member of Second Stage Theatre's Student Leadership Forum. Her short play *Crude* was produced as a part of the Regina Taylor Project at Northwestern, and her short screenplay *Wonderland* was produced as a finalist in the Sprite Refreshing Films contest. She is an O'Neill National Playwrights Conference Semi-Finalist, an Austin Film Festival 2nd Rounder, and a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



## NICHOLAS WALKER HERBERT ASYLUM

Nicholas Walker Herbert is an award-winning playwright and theatre-artist. In February, his 10-minute drama *Funeral for a Pet* received an Equity showcase in *An Eclectic Evening of Shorts: Boxers & Briefs* by Artistic New Directions in New

York. His physical comedy full-length play *Pandora's Suitcase* received a workshop production this March in New York. His Jerkwater Play Cycle of dark comedies was presented in the Conference lab from 2011-2014. His dark drama *Bloodless* was featured in the Lab in 2016. His solo-performance *The Alien Baby Play* was produced in the *Fronterafest Long Fringe* in Austin, TX (2012) and also as an online 5-minute adaptation for Five Minute Theatre with the National Theatre of Scotland (2014). In 2014, he received the Timothy Daly Travel Scholarship Award where he traveled

to Glasgow, Scotland. This April, Nicholas relocated from Brooklyn to Sacramento, the city of his birth.



## RAND HIGBEE THE FERAL CHILD

Rand Higbee grew up in Spearfish, South Dakota, and obtained an MFA in Playwriting from the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. While at UNLV, his first full-length play, *Sir Isaac's Duel*, was named an alternate to the National

American College Theatre Festival held at the Kennedy Center. Conference goers were first introduced to him through a reading of *The Head That Wouldn't Die* at the 2006 Conference which was then given a full production by Anchorage's TBA Theatre at the 2007 Conference. Rand had another full production at the 2013 Conference when the Anchorage Community Theatre performed *At Home With The Clarks*. In 2012, Rand's play *A Girl Named Destiny* debuted at the Venus Theatre in Laurel, Maryland. The production was named by DC Metro Theatre Arts as one of the best plays of the year. In 2016, Rand was part of the first ever New Play Lab readings at the William Inge Theatre Festival and was invited back for the second year in a row in 2017.



## SANDRA HOSKING FOXGLOVES

Sandra Hosking is pleased to return to the Conference for the third time. Her plays have been performed across the U.S. and internationally, including the Samuel French Off-Off-Broadway Short Play Festival, the American Globe's

15-Minute Play Festival in New York, Buffalo Laboratory Theatre, Chicago's Gorilla Tango, and more. A champion of new works, she is founder of Play-Makers Spokane and formerly a resident playwright at Stage Left Theatre and Spokane Civic Theatre. She holds an MFA in theatre from the University of Idaho and an MFA in Creative Writing from Eastern Washington University. Hosking is an editor for a global corporation based in Spokane, Washington. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



## SHANE KIMBERLIN GAMES TO PLAY IN CARS

Shane Kimberlin is a writer, performer, musician, filmmaker, and radio DJ. He hosts a weekly live music show on KCHU 770 called Free Therapy with Shane. Last year he released his debut album, *Mariner*, a collection of original songs. His

music journalism has appeared in various publications, including Burnside Writer's Collective, musicOMH, and Bright Young Folk. Later this year, Shane will release his literary debut, *It's So Cold in Alaska*, along with his 2nd album, *Climbing Towards Normal*. This is his first play.



## AMANDA KOHR IN THE STARS

Amanda Kohr is a Los Angeles-based playwright with fond memories of bike rides and trick-or-treating in the suburbs of Northern Virginia. Since graduating from James Madison University in 2013, she has worked as a professional playwright, writer, and editor. Her play *Suckers: A Love Story* was recently performed in the Los Angeles INKFest, and she has workshopped productions with the U Witch Theatre Company and Post5 Theatre Company. Also an avid traveler and yogi, Amanda currently works as the editor for Wanderlust in Hollywood. Visit her online at [amandakohr.com](http://amandakohr.com) and through Instagram @cozycaravan as she explores the various threads of being a human.



## L.M. KONOPLISKY A CIVIL WAR

A graduate of Lafayette College, L.M. Konoplisky was a Thomas J. Watson Fellow at Sussex University in Brighton, England. In New York, she studied with Anthony Mannino, Jeffrey Jacobi, and Dale Worsley of Mabou Mines, as well as at Upright Citizens Brigade and The Cooper Union (photography). Lisa holds an MFA from Columbia College in Chicago where she taught undergraduate writing. Directing credits include *Rhinoceros*, *True West*, *Stop Kiss*, *Hamlet*, *Careless Love*, *The Vagina Monologues*, and *Paradise Lost*. Lisa's plays have appeared at the Lyceum Theatre and Blue Box World (NY); Camanea Theater, Stockyards Theatres, and Speaking Ring Theater (Chicago); Theatre Limina (Minneapolis); That Uppity Theatre Company (St. Louis); and Icarus Falling (Lansing). She won Chicago's first annual Writing and Drinking Festival, and her play was performed by The Neo-Futurists and Factory Theatre. Lisa was a resident playwright at Annex Theatre Hothouse Project (Seattle). She has taught acting in Chicago and in Madison, Wisconsin. Lisa has edited several documentary films in Los Angeles and Chicago and is currently working on a documentary about the Mississippi Delta. She published a monologue from a recently completed novel that appears in *Monologues By Women For Women* (Heinemann, 2005). Lisa was recently a guest artist at University of Wyoming at Laramie School of Theatre.



## CAROLYN KRAS THE SUBJECT

Carolyn Kras was recently Playwright in Residence at Selladour Worldwide through the support of the Fulbright LUSK Award to the United Kingdom. Her play *The Subject* had two United Nations Orange Day Readings in London and has

had 13 readings through The Subject Project: <https://thesubjectproject.wordpress.com>. Carolyn is the recipient of the Visionary Playwright Award, Hamptons International Film Festival Screenwriters' Lab selection, Alfred P. Sloan Screenwriting Award, William Randolph Hearst Creative Artist Fellowship, Aspen Ideas Festival Scholar selection, and Disquiet International Short Play Award. She has been a writer-in-residence at Ucross Foundation, Hawthornden Castle, Ragdale Foundation, American Antiquarian Society, and Anderson Center at Tower View. Her plays have been produced or developed at The Blank Theatre, The Road Theatre, Chicago Dramatists, Stage Left Theatre, Centenary Stage Company, Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, 20% Theatre Company Chicago, Williams Street Rep, Theater Masters, Found Stages, and the Edinburgh Festival Fringe, among others. [www.carolynkras.com](http://www.carolynkras.com)



## JULIA LEDERER VIRTUALLY FRIENDS

Julia Lederer is from Toronto. Her plays include *The Best Plan for Living Happily* (co-pro: Birdtown & Swanville and ?! Theatre), *Frame* (Seven Collective in NY; Alumnae Theatre), *Spooning* (InspiraTO Festival in Toronto; Midnight Summit Ensemble in Chicago; Midtown International Festival in NY) and *Boxed In* (Buddies in Bad Times). *With Love and a Major Organ* was "Patron's Pick", "Best of Fringe", and named "Outstanding New Play" at the 2012 Toronto Fringe. It had its US premier as part of Strawdog Theatre's 28th Season in Chicago, and is published by J. Gordon Shillingford Publishing. Her play *Reality Vision* is published in *One Minute Plays: a practical guide to tiny theatre* (Routledge, 2017). In Canada, Julia has developed work with The Thousand Islands Playhouse, Nightwood Theatre, Roseneath, and Driftwood Theatre. She is a core member of SMOOTHIELAND, a pilot project creating episodic theatre for young audiences. Film/TV: Julia's pilot, *Upstaged* (Great Lake Films), was selected for the LA Comedy Festival. She has had multiple scripts place in the Austin Film Festival, including her pilot, *Witch Office*. Web: *Carmilla* (Creative Consultant, smokebomb/Shafsbury), *opus for all* (episode writer, rorbi). Upcoming: *Reality Theatre: A Collection* will premier at the 2017 SummerWorks Theatre Festival (Toronto) and *With Love and a Major Organ* will be at The Theatre @ Boston Court (Los Angeles) this Fall.



## **BARRY LEVINE** *TWO WOMEN ON A SWING SET*

Barry Levine has attended the Conference every year since 1998. He has lived in Los Angeles since getting his graduate degrees from the University of Southern California some years ago. He grew up in New York City, attended Wesleyan University, and afterwards worked at places like Circle Rep. (Lab member '95-96) and other theatre companies. At USC he helped found Brand New Theater which produces student work. He has also worked for many years at KXSC, USC's radio station where he promotes new and unknown bands on his show, *The Bear's Den*, a show that just passed its 20-year mark. From 2002 to 2006 he was the singer for the band, The L-10 project, which included a pair of dates on the Vans Warped Tour in 2006. Nowadays he performs solo around L.A. and has released both a demo e.p., a live album, and two music videos. He has a blog called "Inside the Bear's Den". He is a member of the Dramatists' Guild. Some of his best play productions came about through contacts he made here at the LFTC.



## **NATALIE LIFSON** *A BETTER PLACE*

Natalie Lifson is a playwright, producer, lyricist, screenwriter, and director. At eighteen years old, she has produced and/or written for (or is currently producing and/or writing for) 26 shows, including 4 musicals and various dramas, one acts, and sketch comedy shows in venues such as The Strawberry Festival, Midtown International Theatre Festival, The Players Theatre, The People's Improv Theatre, The Secret Theatre, The Broadway Comedy Club, The Lama Theatre, and French Woods Festival.



## **APRIL LITTLEJOHN** *NOBODY'S WHORE*

April Littlejohn is former stuntwoman who turned to performance writing after retiring from too many years and too many broken parts. She has had a successful film and television career that includes four Emmy nominations, two wins, and a Taurus Award nomination. She also starred in a popular wrestling show, *WOW*, and many live stunt shows across the world. April has studied theater in Chicago, and creative writing at UCLA where she is finishing up her advanced classes in television writing. Her writing has been produced in several short films and play festivals, has three books for sale on Amazon, and is about to finish a fourth. Currently, she is producing a horror festival of theatrical shorts for the upcoming Halloween season and she is working to create and

produce television shows. She lives with her husband in Los Angeles, California.



## **MAUREEN LONGWORTH** *BLUE TICKET -* *FAERIES OUT OF ALASKA*

In medical school, Maureen "Mo" Longworth created *Turning Around*, an exposé of sexism in medicine, which she transformed into a screenplay. Internationally distributed after *Vogue Magazine* called it a "smash hit comedy," it premiered in the San Francisco Bay Area on PBS. After moving to Alaska, Maureen assistant directed *Angels in America* at the Perseverance Theatre; directed their stage read of *Wit*; and read in their 8 read. She performed with the Juneau Lyric Opera in *Candide* and *King Island Christmas*, and sings with the PFLAG Juneau Pride Chorus. For 25 years, Maureen gathered stories for *Blue Ticket - Faeries Out of Alaska*. Locals shared how men and their families disappeared over night in 1963 if law enforcement suspected they were homosexual. From their stories, she constructed this historical fiction, a love story within a docudrama. Maureen is grateful for encouragement from her teachers at Hedgebrook, the University of Iowa, the University of Alaska Southeast, Dick Reichman, and Perseverance Theatre. Special thanks for all who shared stories, her Hedgebrook Scriptwriters Group, and others who have read her script; and to the Perseverance Theatre, RKP Productions, and the Conference for stage readings.



## **NANCY LORD** *HI VISTA, 1984*

Nancy Lord, a former Alaska writer laureate from Homer, is the author of several books of fiction and literary nonfiction, including *Fishcamp*, *Beluga Days*, and *Early Warming*. She regularly reviews books for *We Alaskans*, the Sunday magazine of the *Alaska Dispatch News*. She teaches creative writing in Homer and in the University of Alaska Anchorage's MFA program, and science writing in Johns Hopkins University's graduate science writing program; she's also a core faculty member with the Kachemak Bay Writers' Conference. Her writing, in any form, generally concerns science, the environment, and socio-political topics. Her forth-coming novel, *pH*, involves ocean warming and acidification. She's returning to Valdez for a fourth time; a decade ago, her ten-minute play *At Sea* was in the Play Lab and later given a staged performance. [www.writernancylord.com](http://www.writernancylord.com).





## ALISON ELIZABETH MCLAUGHLIN LUNCH

Alison Elizabeth McLaughlin is a playwright and ghost blogger based in Brooklyn, by way of childhood in the Boston suburbs and college in Central New York. She and her work have been nurtured by ESPA Primary Stages, The Barrow Group, Gotham Writers Workshop, PlayPenn, Pataphysics at The Flea, The CRY HAVOC Company, National Playwrights Symposium at Cape May Stage, Kenyon Playwrights Conference, Iowa Summer Writing Festival, and Southampton Summer Theatre Conference. Her short plays include *To her corner of the sky*, *Go Somewhere Else*, *Lunch*, and *It Has To Be You*. She's working on *Her Neighbor*, her first full-length.



## TOM MORAN DENIER

Tom Moran has been produced 33 times in 19 different cities in 13 states. Major Alaska productions include *Boundary* at the Perseverance Theatre Second Stage in Juneau; *The Big Guy* at Anchorage Community Theatre; and *Date With History* at Fairbanks Drama Association. Other productions include *OK Computer* at Theatre Three (NY); *Rewrite* at Silver Spring Stage (MD); *Roadkill* at the Fine Arts Association (OH); *Back to Normal* at the Edgmar Center for the Arts (CA), Theatre Three, Flathead Valley Community College (MT), the UAF Student Drama Association (AK), and at the Eden Prairie (MN) Players in both 2010 and 2015; and *Duo* by Short Attention Span Theater (AK), 10x10 in the Triangle (NC), the Salt City (UT) Artist's League, Insurgo Theater (NV), Stone Soup (WA), and Deer Park High School (NY). *Duo* was also published in *The Best 10-minute Plays 2012* by Smith & Kraus. Tom's been a nine-time selection for the Play Lab and has been selected for the Fairbanks Drama Association's 8x10 Festival 14 times. He holds a bachelor's in English from the University of Notre Dame and a Master's in Creative Writing from UAF. He has resided in Fairbanks, Alaska since 2000.



## NANCY NGUYEN A WINTER CONVERSATION

Nancy Nguyen is a recent University of Alaska Fairbanks graduate with a Bachelor's in Theatre with an emphasis in performance. Nancy's last production was behind the scenes of *Five Women Wearing the Same Dress* at UAF as an assistant director, directed by Carrie Baker. She was last seen acting in UAF's production of *Ashgirl*, as one of the stepsisters Judith. Although she considers herself mainly as an actor, she has dipped her toes in both stage directing and writing. *A Winter Conversation* is one of Nancy's earlier works, and hopefully it is not her last. She

hopes to attend graduate school for theatre in the near future, but for now is content with exploring other roles of theatre.



## SALLY OBERSTEIN WOOGIE WOOGIE

Traveler, artist, and entrepreneur, Sally Oberstein first stepped onto a stage at age six, performing with a Los Angeles community theatre group for four consecutive years. She is a published writer, recorded musician/songwriter and a performer, playwright, director, and producer. She's known by friends for setting up impromptu offices in unpredictable locations across the globe, to accommodate the creation of alternative small group adventure tours to Africa, Central and South America, Asia, Europe, and Antarctica. She also runs an international travel auction that raises money for worldwide charities.



## JOHN PEROVICH SIMPLE

John Perovich's playwriting credits include *shallow grave* (Arizona State University 2014), *poseidon's regret* (Brelby Theatre Company 2015), *missing grace* (Brelby Theatre Company 2015), *on display* (Arizona State University 2016), *unexpected* (Brelby Theatre Company 2017), and *my love | my lumberjack* (B3 Productions 2017). John facilitates Write Club with Brelby Theatre Company—a free and open group for playwrights to develop new work. He teaches at Metropolitan Arts Institute, instructing theatre and film courses for high school students. Perovich has instructed at Stockton University, Arizona State University, and Chandler-Gilbert Community College. He recently founded Now & Then Creative Company, whose mission includes a focus on play development for Arizona writers. He holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Arizona State University, an MA in Educational Theatre from New York University, and a BA in Communications from Rowan University. Perovich is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, Inc.



## JACOB MARX RICE *LENI & JOSEPH*

Jacob Marx Rice's plays have been produced at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Nuyorican Poets Café, Atlantic Theatre Stage 2, and others. Jacob's play series *The Suicidal Comedies* - consisting of the plays *Chemistry*, *Coping*, and *Cracks* - has been produced around the country and has won the Kennedy Center's Jean Kennedy Smith Playwriting Award, the Excellence in Playwriting Award and FringeFAVE at the NY Fringe Festival, Producer's Pick at the Cincinnati Fringe Festival, and Producer's Encore Pick at the Hollywood Fringe. Other plays include *Leni & Joseph* (Last Frontier Theatre Conference; The Shelter, workshop), *Uncertainty/Principle* (Finalist, Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference; Finalist, EST/Sloan Project), and *Uncertainty/Principle* (Actors Theatre of Louisville; The Kraine Theater, Winner, Seymour Brick Memorial Prize for Playwriting). Jacob is a Playwright in Residence at The Shelter, an alumnus of the Pipeline PlayLab, and an MFA candidate at NYU for Dramatic Writing.



## HANNAH RICKE *SCHIZOPHRENIYEAH!*

Moonlighting as a mental health social worker in Wisconsin, *Schizophreniyeah!* is the first play Hannah Ricke has ever written. She is currently in the quagmire of graduate school, where she will one day learn enough skills to work as a wilderness therapist.

Hannah has been writing creatively since age three, but has received most notoriety for nonfiction work. She wrote freelance for the magazine *That's China* while living and working as a missionary in China, and for *The Hoppo Hour*, a Netherlands-based website about craft beer. Most jubilantly, however, was the essay she submitted to the internationally-circulated *Creative Women Worldwide*, which was used as the book's introduction. Hannah is working on more creative endeavors: two novels, short stories, and more plays. Thank you to the Last Frontier for this burst of raw oxygen to the lungs and the masts of my ship! Our Creator is wild. Fight reality. Seek Beauty.



## KRISTEN RITTER *DUNGEONS AND DRAGONS AND DIPLOMACY*

Kristen Ritter is really good at Mario Kart. Trust her, you don't have to ask her brothers. She said, you DON'T have to ask her brothers. They said what? Well, alright, if you're going to measure it that way... in wins. Then they may have a point. When Kristen's not drifting she sometimes writes stuff, like this play.



## GREG ROMERO *DOOR TO BALLOON*

Greg Romero's plays, site-specific projects, and sound-art collaborations have been presented in New York, Chicago, Philadelphia, Phoenix, Dallas, Austin, Houston, Washington DC, Louisville, Baltimore, New Orleans, and outside America's borders in Victoria, British Columbia; Toronto, Ontario; Kingston, Jamaica; and Zürich, Switzerland. Romero has been a finalist for the Heideman Award, a semi-finalist for the Princess Grace Award, and was selected as the first-ever Resident Writer of the ArtsEdge Residency, created by The Kelly Writers House and The University of Pennsylvania. He is one of three playwrights to inaugurate the Plays & Players Playwriting Residency and is an alum of the WordBRIDGE Playwrights Laboratory. His works are published by Heinemann Press, YouthPLAYS, and Playscripts, Inc. Romero received a BA in Liberal Arts from the Louisiana Scholars College and an MFA in Playwriting from The University of Texas-Austin where he held the James A. Michener Fellowship. He currently lives in Austin, Texas.



## JAN ROSENBERG *HOW TO DESTROY AN AMERICAN GIRL DOLL*

Jan Rosenberg is a two-time Eugene O'Neill semi-finalist for her plays *How To Destroy An American Girl Doll* and *What's Wrong With You*. She has been commissioned to write a play for The Farm Theater's College Collaboration Project. Other plays include *Do Not Leave Unattended* (Primary Stages ESPA\*Drills Finalist), *The Discarded*, *The Preservation of Mythical Creatures*, *Nice Monsters*, *Sweet*, *TACT*, *Pets*, *Never Have I Ever*, and *Penny*. She is also the screenwriter of an original TV pilot titled *Treat Yourself*, which takes place in an eating disorder treatment facility. Her plays have been produced and performed in collaboration with Barefoot Theatre Company, LABYRINTH Theatre Company, Vertigo Theater, Wide Eyed Productions, The One Minute Theater Festival, Tangent Theater, and several others. She received her B.A. in Playwriting and Fiction from The New School. She is a contributing writer and blogger for Book Riot and a founding member of the female playwright group The Beehive Collective.



## WHITNEY ROWLAND *WAYFINDING*

Whitney Rowland is a playwright and screenwriter currently living in Saint Paul, Minnesota. Her plays have been produced at Off the Wall Productions (Carnegie, PA), The Rochester Repertory Theatre (Rochester, MN), The Northfield Arts Guild (Northfield, MN), The Barn Players' Theatre (Mission, KS), and at universities and colleges across the country. Her work has been developed at a number of conferences, including this one, the Mid-America Theatre Conference, the Great Plains Theatre Conference, and at both the regional and national

Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festivals. Through KCACTF, she was a six-time Regional Ten Minute Play finalist, a two-time Regional One Act Play finalist, and won twice in each category. Whitney's thesis play *Wayfinding* was a 2017 Finalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. On the screen side of things, her feature-length screenplays *The BuzzBots* and *The Way Up* were finalists for the CMU/Sloan Screenwriting Contest in 2017 and 2016 respectively. Whitney holds a Bachelors in English from the University of Kansas and an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University.



### **KAREN SAARI** **IN A CLEARING**

Karen Saari's *In A Clearing* was selected for the 2015 Wisconsin Wrights New Play Festival (Forward Theater Company in Madison, Wisconsin). The play was a 2017 finalist for the ATHE (Association for Theatre in Higher Education) Award for Excellence

in Playwriting and a semi-finalist for IATI Theatre's Cimientos 2017 (NYC). Saari has co-written several locally-produced one-acts. She is a frequent contributing storyteller for a Moth-like story-share series, *That's What She Said*. Most recently, she wrote and performed with Madison's Are We Delicious? troupe. She's a member of Playwrights Center. A mother of two, Saari studied Performance Theatre and Broadcasting at Northern Michigan University and works by day as a copywriter at a technical college and as a freelance voice talent.



### **TAMAR SHAI** **UGLY BABY, STUPID BABY**

Tamar Shai is excited to have her full-length play *Ugly Baby, Stupid Baby* read at the Conference, an event that feels more like an annual pilgrimage than a conference. Tamar began writing for film, completing six feature-length screenplays and two shorts.

They live in her closet where her sharp wardrobe would be if only she had the room. Tamar is now concentrating her writing on her first love, theatre. She is fortunate to have received this year's Women's Writer Fellowship from Oregon's Literary Arts, and her novel *Fireweed* was a finalist for Hidden River Valley's Eludia Award. She is currently pursuing an MFA in Creative Fiction from the University of Alaska Anchorage.



### **ANDREA STAATS** **CONSCIOUSLY COUPLED (BUT NOT WITH EACH OTHER)**

Andrea Staats is a playwright and actor from Anchorage. Her work has been produced by Guerrilla Theatre Group, Alaska Theatre of Youth, TBA's *Alaska Overnights*, and the *One-Minute Play Festival*. This fall, she will be

moving to New York to pursue an MFA in theatre at Sarah Lawrence College.



### **GLYKA STOIOU** **THE GREEK SHREW**

Glyka Stoiou is a Greek theatre artist based in Italy, excited to visit Alaska for the third time in her life. She has studied the performing arts, cultural management, journalism and mass media. Her plays are frequently presented in national and regional theatres

in Europe. She has written the scripts in various documentary series and carries out in-depth interviews broadcasted on national and international television. Glyka enjoys writing articles for a number of magazines, as well as telling and listening to interesting stories concerning anything that draws her attention. She looks forward to seeing her favorite fairytale being published next year in Greece. In 2016, her play *Don Quixotes* was produced in Seattle and she performed at the Pocket Theatre with Carolynne Wilcox.



### **JERICHO THOMAS** **SAVE THE CHILDREN**

Jericho Thomas is a playwright/screenwriter/actor focused on the intersections of dramatic narrative and racial justice in America. He holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Arizona State University. *Writes*, his play on race and narrative ownership, was a 2017 Eugene O'Neill Playwrights Conference Semi-Finalist. His plays have been presented in New York, Arizona, Texas, and Oklahoma. Scripts currently in development: *The Most High*,

a TV show about an African-American, card dealing woman turned televangelist; *Brutality*, a slasher film about a masked killer targeting corrupt police; and *Racecar*, a play about the role of the automobile in African-American liberty.



### **MADELYN TOMKO** **STAIRWELL**

Madelyn Tomko is a Chicago-based playwright and theatre artist. She originally hails from Pittsburgh, where she earned her BA in Acting from Point Park University. Favorite works include *Stairwell*, *Bridges*, *Dinosaur Bones*, and *Much Ado About A*

*Webseries*. Madelyn's work has been produced/developed by Ophelia Street Productions, Devious Maid Productions, Horizon Theatre, and Chicago Dramatists. In 2015, Madelyn took part in Horizon Theatre's Young Playwrights Festival, where she was named The Dramatist Guild of America's Young Playwright of 2015. When not writing or performing, Madelyn can be found petting dogs, drinking tea, and pretending she enjoys cardio.



## AMY TOFTE *PARTS & PIECES*

Amy Tofte was awarded a 2015 Nicholl Fellowship in screenwriting from the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. She was recently in residence at Yaddo in upstate New York where she developed three new scripts. Her plays have been semi-finalists for the nuVoices Festival (Actor's Theatre of Charlotte), Kitchen Dog Theatre's New Works Festival, The Source Festival, The Bridge Initiative, Headwaters New Play Festival, PlayPenn and The Princess Grace Playwriting Fellowship. Her plays and solo pieces have been produced and developed throughout the United States, the United Kingdom and Australia. She is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild. MFA, California Institute of the Arts (CalArts).



## DONNA WARFIELD *FOLLOWING PROTOCOL*

Donna Warfield focuses her time on her four passions: family, playwriting, acting, and yoga. Her desire to write plays was fueled by her many years as a working actress in NYC, but work and family obligations prevented her from writing as intensively as she would have liked. She began writing in earnest when she became a permanent resident of South Florida in 2013. She has come to the Conference for the last three years, an experience that has inspired her to continue to grow. Several of her plays have received productions: *She's Off Her Rocker*, *Disney Day*, and *It's a Stretch*; another play, *Second Chance*, was chosen as a finalist by the Sundog Festival in Staten Island.



## ETHAN WARREN *BAG OF NAILS*

Ethan Warren is the writer and director of the independent feature film *West of Her*, hailed by critics as "enchanting," "mesmerizingly beautiful," and "full of mystery." His first full-length play, *Why Are You Nowhere?*, is the recipient of the 2016 Inkslinger award, and the Playwright's Award for Staged Readings at the Summer 2016 Midtown International Theatre Festival, and had its first full production at Southeastern Louisiana University in February 2017. *Ode on a Donut Shop* was produced by the Center for the Arts in Bonita Springs, Florida, at the *Stage It!* 10-Minute Play Festival in February 2017, and was published in a collection alongside the other winners. Ethan is a graduate of Bates College and the MFA program at the University of North Carolina in Wilmington, and he currently lives in the Boston area with his wife Caitlin and their daughter, Nora.



## LILY WERTS *COLD FEET*

Lily Werts is a lifetime Anchorage resident who became involved with theatre in 2015. Since then, she has acted, designed sound, and written plays. In 2016, Lily received the KCACTF meritorious achievement award for her co-sound design of *Stalking the Bogeyman* at UAA. Recently, she has designed sound for *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* at UAA. All thanks go to the theatre department at UAA for giving her opportunities and the courage to try. Lily is so excited to be back for her third Conference and can't wait for all the fun!



## TOBIN WHEELER *FLAWLESS*

Tobin Wheeler grew up in Portland, Oregon, went to college in Poughkeepsie and moved to Manhattan. In New York he worked occasionally as an actor (if he had been a stand up comic he could describe his career as semi erect) and was a member of sag, equity and aftra. He feels his membership in the Circle Repertory Theater Company's Lab was the highlight of his acting career. He quit acting, got married, had a family and worked for Grey Advertising and McCann Erickson as a writer. He's happy and proud to be in Valdez sharing his work, which is play, with his peers.



## CHRISTINE WHITLEY *HORSE THIEF*

Christine Whitley's plays include *The Goatwoman of Corvis County*: world premiere 2008 at Shakespeare & Company Lenox, Massachusetts; produced by Pacific Resident Theater in LA, 2010 Co-op season. 2008, ten-minute play *Peep Show* seen Off-Off Broadway in Blue Coyote Theater Group's Happy Endings. 2010, one-act play *Parents & Children* produced Off-Off Broadway in the Drilling Company's "Faith", *Miles Away*: winner 2010 Bloomington Playwrights Project Woodward/Newman Drama Award; semifinalist 2010 O'Neill Playwrights Conference; produced by Bloomington Playwrights Project in 2011; produced in 2014 by The Side Project, Chicago (Jeff Recommended). Finalist 2014-2015 Jerome Fellowship for Emerging American Playwrights. *Horse Thief*: semi-finalist 2016 Bridge Initiative's Playwright of the Year Award; semi-finalist for the inaugural 2017 festival of the Women Playwright's Initiative at the Ivoryton Playhouse. Christine is a graduate of The University of Cincinnati – College Conservatory of Music and a Designated Linklater Voice Teacher. Member Dramatists Guild.

***Prince William Sound College and the  
Last Frontier Theatre Conference  
would like to thank***



**First National Bank**  
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***for its unwavering support of the  
mission of the Conference***



## KIMBERLY ALLELY

Kimberly Allely has worked with various Anchorage theatre companies for over five years and continues to keep herself involved in any way she can. Most recently, she has appeared as Caroline in Anchorage Community Theatre's *The Best of Everything*, Eurydice in UAA Theatre's *Eurydice*, and Crystal in Mad Myrna's *Little Shop of Horrors* as well as the short film *Round One* with Normal People Productions. Kimberly also acts as manager and member of UAA's improv troupe, The Ad-lib Alchemists.



## SHAE LISA ANDERSON

ShaeLisa Anderson has a heart for theatre. Starting from a young age she has always known that she would do theatre her entire life, paid or not. Her credits include works from Shakespeare such as *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia) and *Romeo and Juliet* (Juliet), and musicals like *Hairspray* (Dynamite Girl Steele) and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow* (Trudy). Her acting career includes performances of characters who have been distraught in relationships, oppressed for the color of her skin, and lighthearted in children's musicals. Her most recent roles include Gina Joe Dubberly in *Christmas Belles* (ACT), Cherie in *Bus Stop* (ACT), doubling as Alison and Dr. Wink in *Pinkalicious* (Cyrano's), Barbra in Becca Mahar's serial play *Traveling Soldier*, and her most challenging role yet, Billie in Her Prime in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*. This summer she'll get to play the fun flirty role of Pipi in *The Great American Trailer-Park Musical*. She aspires to continue her career professionally, and hopes all who see her perform are thoroughly entertained.



## LINDA AYRES-FREDERICK

Linda Ayres-Frederick, Phoenix Theatre's Artistic Director since 1985, and two-time Shubert Playwriting Fellow, has been performing in the San Francisco Bay Area, nationally (NYC & Alaska), and internationally (Edinburgh & France) since 1972. She enjoys a diverse career as an actor, producer, director, critic ([forallevents.com](http://forallevents.com) & *Westside Observer*), and playwright. Her plays have received over 20 productions and 50 readings. Recent credits include: SF Fringe 2016 (*Abracadabra!*) SF Fringe 2015 (*Red Sky at Dawn*); SF Fringe 2012 (*ABC Trilogy*) Best of SF Fringe in 2014 (*Blizzard*), Best in 2011 (*Afield*) & Best in 2010 (*Zero to 90*); Best Play, Marin Fringe 2012 (*Cantata #40*); productions & publications in two Bay One-Acts Festivals and ten years of readings at the Last Frontier Theater Conference, 2005-2016. Full-length plays include *Kiska Bay*, *The Unveiling*, *Black Swan*, *The Umbrella Play*, *One Foot on the Water*, and *The Mav*

*Mum Murder*. Member: SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (VP), American Theatre Critics Association, the Dramatists Guild of America, AEA, & AFTRA/SAG. Of the over 50 roles Linda has performed, some favorites include: Alice in Custom Made Theatre's *Rapture*, *Blister*, *Burn*, Woman in CM's *The Play About The Baby* (SFBATCC Best Production Award), Edna in *The Oldest Profession* (SFBATCC Best Ensemble nomination), Ana in *The Clean House*, Helen in *Road to Mecca*, Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Blanche in *Streetcar Named Desire*, Lady Torrance in *Orpheus Descending* (SFBATCC Best Actor nomination), and Woman in *Laughing Wild*. Linda lives in San Francisco's Mission District with her life partner.



## STEPHANIE BAHNER

Stephanie Bahner is an Anchorage artist who's greatest passion is live theatre. You would have recently seen her perform in shows such as *The Little Mermaid*, *Yes Virginia! There is a Santa Clause*, and *Love Loss and What I Wore*, with The Alaska Fine Arts Academy, as well as TBA Theatre's *The Wizard of Oz* and *Miracle on 34th Street*. When she isn't performing on stage, she enjoys working behind the scenes. She was the co-lead painter for TBA's *Hamlet* and is currently set designing for Blue Chair's production of *Seminar*. You can see her in the upcoming *Cyrano's* production of *She Kills Monsters*.



## SARAH BETHANY BAIRD

Sarah Bethany Baird is psyched to return to summer camp, the Conference. It's such a privilege to help bring a play to life. Born in Alaska, she has appeared on Anchorage stages since 1995. Some favorite productions include *The Ice-Breaker*, *Macbeth*, *Pinkalicious*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Reefer Madness*, and *Cabaret*. When not rehearsing, she prefers to be petting a dog at all times.



## CARRIE BAKER

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



## JOHN BALDWIN

John Baldwin has been involved in theatre since primary school, and for the past 20 years has been acting and directing in the San Francisco Bay Area. John retired in 2013 after more than 30 years as a non-profit fundraiser and has begun doing some film and commercial work as well. A few favorite roles include Danforth in *The Crucible*, Hogan in *A Moon for the Misbegotten*, Joe Ryan in *When the Rain Stops Falling*, and Joe Keller in *All My Sons*. John is pleased to be making his debut in the Lab as EJ in Paul Braverman's *Sin's Borne*, a role he originated at the 2016 Edinburgh Fringe Festival.



## ALYSSA BARNES

Alyssa Barnes was born and raised in Anchorage, and has been performing in many of the venues around the state since the age of 17. She attended the University of Anchorage Alaska, where she acquired vocal and dance training, and received her BA in Theatre in 2012.

Her acting credits include such rolls as Belle/Wilamina from Perseverance Theatre's 2014, 2015 & 2016 production of *A Christmas Carol*, Katherine from *The Taming of the Shrew*, Constance Neville from Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*, Deborah Soloman from David Mamet's *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, Janet from Richard O'Brien's *The Rocky Horror Show*, Alice Kinnian from David Rogers' *Flowers for Algernon*, and many more. She recently moved to Chicago with her two closest friends to pursue the stage and is proud to announce that she is an ensemble member of Kalli Randall's theatre company, Midnight Summit Ensemble (MSE). She would also like to apologize for the seriousness of this bio... she is in no way a serious person.



Kimberly Allely and Jake Beauvais  
at their first Conference



## JAKE BEAUVAIS

Jake Beauvais is a Theatre major with a performance emphasis at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He has been in Department productions such as *Eurydice* as Orpheus and *Stalking the Bogeyman* as the swing for both David and The Bogeyman. He has also appeared in Anchorage Community Theatre's production of *Bus Stop* as Bo Decker. He was last seen in UAA's production of *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* as The Visitor. Jake is also a founding member of UAA's resident improv troupe, The Ad-lib Alchemists.



## KARINA BECKER

Karina Becker has been a participant in the Conference since 2006 as both a performer and stage manager. She was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska where she continues to perform with various companies in her free time. She received her BA in Theatre from the University of Alaska Anchorage. Her most recent stage credits include Laura in ACT's fall production of the 1940's classic *Laura*. Dorothy in *Wizard of Oz (TBA)*, Millie in the West Coast premiere of *Perfect Arrangement* (Walking Shadows Theatre Company), Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof (TBA)*, Rose in *A Shayna Maidel* (Anchorage Community Theatre); Kenni in *Becky's New Car*, and Esmerelda in *Camino Real* (Cyrano's Theatre Company); and Nora in *A Doll's House (UAA)*.



## KEVIN T. BENNETT

Kevin T. Bennett is an American screen and stage actor, director, filmmaker, producer, and business entrepreneur. A veteran of the arts with over 34 years of performance and production, he is a highly recognized and visible Alaskan resident artist. He appeared last year in Perseverance Theatre's *Annappurna*. Mr. Bennett is the Past President of the Board of Directors of Anchorage Community Theatre. A successful businessman, Mr. Bennett is the founding owner of Alaska's oldest independently operated elevator enterprise, Alaska Stairlift & Elevator, LLC. A member of SAG-AFTRA, Kevin's pursuits include the development of opportunities for film industry and support of its infrastructure in Alaska. His recent film short, *Six Dead Bodies Duct Taped to a Merry-Go-Round*, in which he also stars as Winston, is a condensed segment of the feature-length film.



**JILL BESS**

Jill Bess has acted for the original Alaska Repertory Theatre, Alaska Light Opera, Anchorage Opera, Out North, Alaska Theatre of Youth, Toast Theatre, TBA, Kokopelli, Anchorage Community Theatre, *Cyrano's*, and the Conference, plus scores of shows in Southern California, the West Coast, and parts of Canada. Her most recent stage roles include Silda in *Other Desert Cities* and the Princess Conti in *La Bete*. Jill can be seen in the films *The Frozen Ground* and *The Big Miracle*, the made-for-TV movie *Lost in Alaska*, and the award-winning short, *Shade*. Jill is also a director and playwright, teaches high school theatre at East Anchorage High School, and runs her own acting studio, Alaska True Acting, where she offers private coaching and group classes in the Meisner method of acting.



**VERONICA BISSELL**

Veronica Bissell is a recent graduate of New Mexico State University in Las Cruces, New Mexico. She received a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Arts, a Bachelor of Business Administration in General Business and a minor in Insurance. Some of her previous acting experience includes Belle in Scaffolding Theatre Company's regional tour of *Disney's Beauty and the Beast*, Mrs. Tottendale in *The Drowsy Chaperone*, Zoe in *Purple Breasts: One Woman's Journey through Breast Cancer*, Mrs. Whatsit/Man with the Red Eyes/Ensemble in *A Wrinkle in Time*, Jane in *West Highland Way*, Ensemble in *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, and Renata in *Nine*. The roles of Mrs. Whatsit and Zoe earned her two Irene Ryan Nominations, the first allowing her to compete at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival, Region 6 in early 2016.



**COLBY BLEICHER**

Colby Bleicher hails from Anchorage and attended NYU Tisch (Strasberg & Playwrights Horizons) with a focus in directing. Since moving back home, she has directed or acted in shows with TBA Theatre, Anchorage Community Theatre, and *Cyrano's Theatre Company*, as well as with her company, Blue Chair Productions, which she runs with Ryan Buen, the King of Valdez. Colby hopes to see you Anchorage folk at Theresa Rebeck's *Seminar*, opening June 30 at *Cyrano's*! Details at [facebook.com/bluechairak](http://facebook.com/bluechairak).



**CHIP BOLCIK**

Chip Bolcik originated the role of Larry Walters in his play *Ferry Limbo* at the Downtown Urban Arts Festival in NYC last spring. Chip played Barry Rosen in the world premiere of *The Face In The Reeds*, Fydor, the Juke Box Repairman, in the world premiere of the musical *Sneaky Ole Time*, and Harold in *Leaving Home* at the Ruskin Group Theater in Santa Monica. Chip originated the role of Ted in his comedy *Breaking Out Is Hard To Do* at the Hudson Guild Theater in NYC. Chip played Willmore, the Rover, in *The Rover* at the Folger Shakespeare Theater in DC, Col. Joseph Ryan in *The Advocate*, and Robert Windham in *A Hotel On Marvin Gardens* at 12 Miles West Theater in New Jersey. He played Herb Tucker in *I Ought To Be In Pictures*, Greg in *Sylvia*, and Les in *Breakfast with Les And Bess* at the Bickford Theater, and Lloyd Dallas in *Noises Off* at the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival.



**PAUL BRAVERMAN**

Paul Braverman is a Bay Area playwright, actor, and improviser. Favorite roles over the years include Roberts in *Mister Roberts*, Lank in *Crazy For You*, and Moon in *The Real Inspector Hound*. He has acted several times in The Pear Avenue Theatre's annual short play festival (*Pear Slices*), and regularly performs in readings as part of the theatre's on-going effort to develop new work. Paul has been performing long form improv and sketch comedy in San Francisco with several groups, including Bay Area Theatresports, Unscripted Theater, and Theatre Roulette. He is currently a member of the Pear Theatre Improv Troupe.



**ROBYN GINSBURG BRAVERMAN**

Robyn Ginsburg Braverman has been a voiceover actor for over 30 years. She currently resides in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to once playing Carmen Sandiego, Robyn works with name clients such as OpenTable, Cisco, Google, and Pennzoil. Since its inception, Robyn has supported the Mountain View-based theatre company, Pear Avenue Theatre, from co-founding through board membership and beyond; in addition to her ongoing involvement with the Pear's annual short play festival, she serves as co-coordinator of the Pear's Developmental Reading Series. Reach Robyn via [www.RobynBraverman.com](http://www.RobynBraverman.com).





**RYAN BUEN**

Ryan Buen is an actor, director, playwright, and most recently a producer. He holds a BA in Theatre from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and his Master's in Acting from the Birmingham School of Acting in England. He has worked with numerous theatre companies in Alaska, including TBA Theatre, Three Wise Moose, *Cyrano's*, UAA Theatre, Anchorage Opera, ACT, TossPot Productions, Out North, and PWSC. Recent acting roles include Roland in Nick Payne's *Constellations* (Blue Chair Productions), Benjamin in P. Shane Mitchell's *The Burning* (TBA), Phil in William Missouri Downs' *Cockeyed* (TBA), and Valere in *La Bete* (PWSC). Currently he is directing a fabulous cast in Teresa Rebeck's *Seminar*, which will be opening later this month at *Cyrano's* for Blue Chair Productions, of which he is co-founder with Colby Bleicher. He also acts as the casting director for the Play Lab. He is excited to reprise his role in *Constellations*, this year's opening performance on June 10.



**JAY BURNS**

Jay Burns is a fifth generation Alaskan who was a regular in Anchorage theatre before leaving in 2000 to get his MFA in Acting from Michigan State. He worked for a decade in Hollywood development but he gave little argument when his wife insisted their children grow up in Anchorage. Since his return home he has appeared in *Private Lives*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Laura*, *Sila*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Bus Stop*, *The Women of Lockerbie*, *A Perfect Arrangement*, *Flowers for Algernon*, and *All the Great Books*. The theatre is his temple, but his favorite performance venue is still at home, singing with his kids. Jay works as an I.T. consultant and as a story doctor, fixing novels and screenplays. Rumor has it he spends what little free time he has writing a few original plays of his own.



**DANIELS CALVIN**

Daniels Calvin is an actress, studying Mathematics/CS at UAF in Fairbanks, and pursuing theater/film in Los Angeles. Daniels trained at the Art of Acting Studio (Adler), The Groundlings School, the University of Alaska Fairbanks, and with the American Performance Alliance. Her most recent screen work includes the feature film *Sleepless*, hit TV shows *Scandal* (ABC), *The Talk* (CBS), *Love & Hip Hop* (VH1), and several appearances on *Ice Cold Killers* (Investigation Discovery). Her music video credits include videos by recording artists TPain, Juicy-J, French Montana, Charisse Mills, youtube

stars Bart Baker and Lil Dicky, vine stars Jack and Jack, and more. She has done modeling for both L.A. and Alaska Fashion Week, San Diego Comic Con, Moet and the Gesundheit Foundation. Daniels' favorite film projects are the amazing student and indie films shot in Fairbanks, including the Alaskan sci-fi TV-pilot *Cross Over*, which was Daniels' first lead role. Her past theater work includes *Tartuffe*, *Nickel and Dimed*, and *As You Like It*. She's done shows with Fairbanks Shakespeare Theater, UAF Student Drama Association, University of Alaska Fairbanks, and in 2015, she toured as a company member with the American Side Players, a small 99-seater, through the APA school. This is her fourth year at the conference. She is particularly excited for the Monologue Workshop, and collaborating with all the great artists. She thanks you for sharing this experience. Special and sincerest thanks to Dawson Moore, the city of Valdez, the Conference sponsors, and all the volunteers who make this possible. Truly, thank you.



**TAYLOR R. CAMPBELL**

Taylor R. Campbell is an Anchorage based actor whose most recent appearances include Mayella Ewell in *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Perseverance Theatre), Bec in *4000 Miles* (Cyranos), and Marianne Dashwood in *Sense and Sensibility* (JAA Mainstage). Conference goers may recognize her from Kevin Armento's *Good Men Wanted* and Ashley Rose Wellman's *Gravidity*. Taylor is very excited to get to collaborate with all the incredible artists at this year's Conference.



Meeting of the Minds at The Wheelhouse



**TOM CARTY**

Tom Carty is a busy Melbourne based actor and musician who graduated from Melbourne’s renowned 16th Street Actors Studio in 2015, where he worked with the likes of Elizabeth Kemp, Carol Rosenfeld, Kerry Armstrong, and Second City, to name but a few. Since graduating, Tom has played a number of theatre roles including Australia’s most iconic poet Banjo Paterson and a number of roles with the Owl and Cat who will be showcasing *A Very Modern Marriage* at this year’s Conference. Tom is also a successful musician and is currently working on his charity project Busking For Beds, which aims to raise money and awareness of homelessness through performing music on the streets.



**SHAWNA CASEY**

Shawna Casey has premiered in works by such playwrights as Irene Fornes, Jose Rivera, Marlene Meyer, and Michael Sargent. She performed Murray Mednick’s *Tirade for Three* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and played Dot in his acclaimed Off-Broadway production of *Joe and Betty* in NYC. At the invitation of playwright Irene Fornes, she performed in the world premieres of *The Mothers* at Padua Hills in Los Angeles, and *Terra Incognita* at the Dionysia Festival in Siena, Italy. Now a playwright herself, Shawna sticks to appearing sometimes in her own plays, which explore love in all its glory, pathos and humor.



**LISA-MARIE CASTRO**

Lisa-Marie Castro is a recent graduate of UAA with a Bachelor’s in Theatre. Her past roles include Vera Claythorne in *And Then There Were None*, Sagot in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, The Dauphin in *Marie Antoinette*, Comrade Chin in *M. Butterfly*, and many more. Lisa-Marie also costume designed shows including *A Steady Rain*, *Twelfth Night*, and *44 Plays for 44 Presidents*. When not onstage or sewing costumes, Lisa-Marie enjoys spending time with her fiancé, Kevin, and her cat, Couscous. She is excited to be at the Valdez Theatre Conference for a second time!



**NANCY CHASTAIN**

Since last we met Nancy Chastain, she was filmed as Helen in the feature-length film *The Care & Feeding of Jack* by Brian George Smith. In February 2016, she played several roles in *The Wizard of Odds*. In March, she read the part of Lydia in Mary Langham’s *The Skinny on Curves*. She later participated in *William Shakespeare’s Star Wars*. She portrayed the Queen in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* in July, and assisted in the production of *Grace and Glorie*, as well as *Valdez Exports*, readings from works presented at the 2016 Conference. This spring she portrayed a talking mime (with signer) in the Homer musical, *Circus Auditions*. This summer she will (finally!) co-direct and portray Flora in Rand Higbee’s *The Head That Wouldn’t Die*. She remains a trustee of Pier One Theatre during its transition, and continues her role as medical transcriptionist.



**ANGELA COLAVECCHIO**

Angela Colavecchio is a third year theatre major at University of Alaska Anchorage. When Angela isn’t performing she works as a nanny and a secretary. She has done five shows at UAA including *Working, And Then There Were None* (Dr. Armstrong), *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Germaine), and *Eurydice* (Loud Stone). Angela’s claim to fame is that she has eaten an entire pint of Ben and Jerry’s in one sitting without actually being sad. When Angela grows up, she wants to open a children’s theatre or be a princess... either one would be fine.



**FRANK COLLISON**

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



**BEN CORBETT**

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



**DENISE COTTEN**

Denise Cotten wears many hats in her day-to-day life, but has found she loves her actor's hat the best. She enjoys being a part of the theatre community and treasures the connections she has made. Denise has been on stage as part of TBA Theatre productions of *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Apple and the Arrow*, *Halloween in Nightmare Hollow*, and *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street*. She has also been a part of *Alaska Overnights*, both on stage and in the sound booth. Denise looks forward to each opportunity to learn and grow as an actor and hopes to broaden her experience in the Anchorage theatre community as opportunities come her way.



**ERIN DAGON MITCHELL**

Erin Dagon Mitchell is a founding member of TBA Theatre in Anchorage, where she currently serves as Associate Artistic Director. She has been honored by The Anchorage Daily News, The Anchorage Press, and KSUA's Stage Talk as Anchorage's top director. She has directed for Wichita State University, Wichita Children's Theatre, the University of Alaska Anchorage, Bend Theatre for Young People, Cyrano's Theatre Company, Anchorage Community Theater, Anchorage Concert Chorus, TBA Theatre, and many others. Favorite directing projects include *Little Women*, *Bat Boy: The Musical*, *Bark, Blithe Spirit*, *Into the Woods*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Attendees of the Conference may remember her productions of *The Rendering of Conor McShea*, *The Art of Love*, and *Bile in the Afterlife*. Her productions of Arlitia Jones' *Grand Central and 42<sup>nd</sup>* and P. Shane Mitchell's *The Resurrection of Humpty Dumpty* appeared at the Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival. She commonly performs in the Conference's evening shows where some favorite performance's include roles in Schatzie Schaefer's *Sabatron*, Edward Albee's *Counting the Ways*, P. Shane Mitchell's *Straight-line*, and Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*.



**ADDORIS DAVIS**

Addoris Davis is a senior theatre major at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Representative roles include Maria in *Twelfth Night* (UAA), the Sheep in *Marie Antoinette* by David Adjmi (UAA), and Charlotte Goodall in *Night of the Iguana* by Tennessee Williams (UAA). She also can be found backstage as a stage manager or props master. This is her first year at the Valdez Theatre Conference, and she is very excited to participate!



**SKYLER DAVIS**

Skyler Davis is a twenty-three-year-old actor who was born in Juneau and now resides in Anchorage. He has acted with Anchorage Community Theatre, Cyrano's Off-Center Playhouse, Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre, Alaska, Theatre of Youth, as well as working as a skilled laborer framing and sheet-rocking as an apprentice.



**FRANK DELANEY**

Frank Delaney has spent the last few years working throughout the Midwest as an actor and fight choreographer. An award-winning stage and voice actor, Frank received a BA in Theatre from UAA and an MFA in Acting from Western Illinois University. This past season he appeared as Lord Aster in Perseverance Theatre's *Peter and the Starcatcher*, for which he also choreographed the violence, and as Elyot in *Private Lives* with Cyrano's Theatre Co. He's excited to once again be a part of the Conference.



**CHYNA DENNEY**

Chyna Denney came to Valdez two years ago to attend Prince William Sound College's Outdoor Leadership Program, focusing on adventure filmmaking. This spring, she participated in her first play since elementary school, playing Carol in Peter Shaffer's *Black Comedy*. It didn't suck as much as she thought it would, so she's here to give it another go. She plans to graduate by the end of this summer.

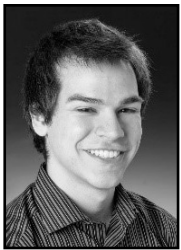


TossPot Productions' *Good Men Wanted* by Kevin Armento



## CHRISTINE A. EAGLESON

Christine A. Eagleson is a Creative Director & Consultant, Stylist, & Visual Designer living in Anchorage. A fierce advocate for the arts, she has served as Director of Events, Development, Marketing, Production Manager, and Designer. As a practiced consultant and marketing strategist, Christine specializes in rebranding and broad spectrum life styling, and performs in select operatic, musical theatre, fine art, and film. Christine's work is the merging of her two life-long passions, avant-garde design and performing fine arts. She imparts highly detailed attention to personify character, forged into distinctive appeal. With over 20 years in performance as a classical Soprano having appeared with Eugene Opera, Eugene Symphony, Oregon Gilbert & Sullivan Festival, Pacific Repertory Opera, Pentacle Theatre, Opera San Luis Obispo, Willamette Concert Opera, Working Title Opera, and Anchorage Opera in works including *MacBeth*, *Grapes of Wrath*, *Eugene Onegin*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Fidelio*, *Traviata*, *Der Fliegende Hollander*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *La Boheme*, *Die Fledermaus*, *Turandot*, *Tosca*; Oratorio: Beethoven 9, Mozart's *Coronation*, Verdi & Brahms *Requiems*, *Daphnis et Chloe*, Mahler 8, and Mendelssohn's *Midsummer Night's Dream*; Musical Theatre includes: *South Pacific*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Mikado*, *West Side Story*, and *Guys & Dolls*. Instagram: @Xpressionista



## SHAWN EBY

Shawn Eby began acting in high school and has kept acting a part of his life since then. He learned the art of improvisation at Sitka Fine Arts Camp in 2008, and has been with the Ad-lib Alchemists, UAA's improv troupe, since 2013. He received a civil engineering degree from UAA in 2015 and began working for Alyeska Pipeline Service Company. Shawn is eager to gain new experiences and enjoys working with others. He plans to someday move into a management position with Alyeska and has no plans to leave the Alchemists in the near future, but typically takes life as it comes.



## ANNIE MCCAIN ENGMAN

Annie McCain Engman first came to the Conference in 2010, and has since enjoyed the relationships and productions that have grown from these workshops. A Chicago-native actor, singer, dancer and now coach and casting director, Annie lives in New York and Los Angeles, having principled a range of films, series, commercials, radio shows, voice works, music videos, plays and operas. Recently of note, she was in *Westworld* (HBO), *The Pretenders* (Franco), *Catfight* (Heche, Oh, Silverstone), *The Lears* (Dern, Hall, Astin) and *Black Magic for White Boys* (Tukel). She is currently workshoping scripts with Joaquin Phoenix (*Her*) and Kit Harington (*Game of Thrones*). She leads a handful of folk, rock, hip hop and bluegrass bands in Brooklyn, organizes the Get With It political music project, produces music videos, directs the portrait series Women of New York, hosts The Parlour Salon art share, and dances with PMT Dance Company as well as a Latin and flamenco flash mob. As a casting director, she has populated television series (most recently for ABC), feature films, theatre works and documentaries. She coaches privately, with casts and scene groups, leads children's workshops, and lectures in college classrooms. She enjoys working as well as an interior designer and carpenter, running Etsy stores The Kept Shop and Etchy Maven, and leading wilderness expeditions, most often throughout South America and Canada. Ever grateful for the work, and excited to collaborate!



## KIM ESTES

Kim Estes' television credits include *Brooklyn 99*, *Pitch*, *The Real O'Neals*, *Secrets and Lies*, *Fresh Off the Boat*, *Stalker*, *State of Affairs*, *Pretty Little Liars*, *The Matador*, *Rake*, *The Fosters*, *The Bridge*, *NCIS*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *Private Practice*, *Law & Order: LA*, *House*, *Dexter*, *The Closer*, *Hawthorne*, *Body of Proof*, *Cold Case*, *Criminal Minds*, *Numb3rs*, and others. His stage credits include the staged performance reading of *Buried in the Night* at The Blank Theatre, *Private Eyes* at the Little Fish Theatre, *HellCab* at the Lillian Theatre, *Frankincense* and *Henry V* at the Pacific Resident Theatre Company, *Changes in the Mating Strategies of White People* at the Lounge theatre (Nominated by NAACP for Best Actor 2014) and *Treat Yourself Like Cary Grant* (Nominated by NAACP for Best Actor 2012) at the Lillian Theatre. Kim has starred in many films, including *Crossroad* (directed by Shervin Youssefian), *Not 4 Sale* and *Each Other* (both directed by Roger Melvin), *Volcano Girl* (directed by Ashley Maria), *Free Denmark* (directed by Ricardo Korda), and *The Birthday Gift* (directed by Marie Tang). In addition, he has appeared in the films *Five Hour Friends* (produced by Ron Jackson), *Viral*, *Breathing Room*, *the 400* (all produced by John Suits) and *Save Me* (directed by Jennifer Getzinger).



**ISAAC FANNIN**

Isaac Fannin grew up in Valdez, acting in many productions with TBA Theater and PWSC. His favorite roles so far are Friar Tuck and Daddy Warbucks, but he also loved his small roll in *A Midsummer's Night Dream* where he sang as a soloist. In recent years Isaac

has focused all of his attention to Jazz and Musical Theater being in the top chairs for the ASAA All State Choir two years in a row, and taking his Jazz solos to state. Isaac just graduated high school last month with two superior ratings state wide, and he plans to take his abilities to California next September.



**KRISTIN FERNANDEZ MUMM**

Kristin Fernandez Mumm is a founding member of TBA Theatre Company in Anchorage where she continues to serve as office manager and special event coordinator. She has toured nationally and internationally including

performances in New Zealand, Ireland, and, New York. Conference audiences will remember her from performances in P. Shane Mitchell's *The Memento*, Arlitia Jones *The W Dream*, and the world premiere of Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*. In addition to performance, she is also a critically acclaimed choreographer, having done celebrated works for Cyrano's Theatre Company, Anchorage Community Theater, TBA Theatre Company, Midnight Sun Theatre, and the Anchorage School District. She performs in TBA Theatre's annual installments of *Folk's Tales* and *Illusions* and frequently teaches both dance and gymnastics.



**DEVIN FREY**

Devin Frey is a lifelong Alaskan with a family history of entertaining. He discovered acting in high school, and after several resoundingly successful productions decided to pursue a career onstage. He recently graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage

with a BA in Theatre, and plans to pursue a Master's degree in the future. His most recent productions include David Holthouse in UAA's west coast premiere of *Stalking the Bogeyman*, Neal in *Lounge Lizards* at the Lofts Hotel, and Henry in UAA's *The Fantasticks*. In addition to acting, Devin has been the Sound Designer for Stand Up Guys for Labor's production of *While Ireland Holds These Graves*, co-designer for *Stalking the Bogeyman*, and designer for UAA's *Marie Antionette*. He is also a SAG-AFTRA member with only one film credit. Go ahead and ask him how.



**LAURA GARDNER**

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



**MICHELLE GARDNER**

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



**MARISA GARRIGUES**

A lifelong Alaskan, Marisa Garrigues has been involved in the Anchorage theatre community for four-and-a-half years. She has narrated the adventures of Wilbur in *Charlotte's Web*, explored the factory in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and governed Munchkin City in

*The Wizard of Oz*. Recently she had her first lead role at ACT in Katherine Divasio's *Things My Mother Taught Me* as Olivia. Mo may also be found, making props, and stage managing from time to time.



**JEREMY GAUNT**

Jeremy Gaunt is an Anchorage-based actor, and has been a participant in the Conference since 2011. His credits include *The Winter's Tale*, *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*, *Twelfth Night*, *Lounge Lizards*, *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *M. Butterfly*, and *Anthony and*

*Cleopatra*, among others. A stage combat enthusiast, he has been a featured fighter with the Three Barons Fair in Anchorage in the past and hold certifications with Dueling Arts International and British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat. Later this fall you will see him as many monsters from *Dungeons and Dragons* in Qui Nguyen's *She Kills Monsters* with Cyrano's Theatre Company. He is performing in Monday night's performance of Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover*.



**PAIGE GENISE**

Paige Genise is happy to be back again, after popping her Conference cherry in Valdez last year (and kicking her own tail for not having attended sooner)! Her favorite roles include Lady of the Lake in *Monty Python's Spamalot* at UAA, Sister Mary Hubert in *Nunsense* at ACT, and most recently as Audrey and Audrey 2 in the last two years of *Little Shop of Horrors*, and a female Riff Raff in *the Rocky Horror Show*, both at Mad Myrna's. While she has been a lifelong Alaskan, she's begun downsizing her life in preparation of the migration from Alaska to California later this year, to pursue her passion of acting and singing.



**KERIANN GILSON**

Keriann Gilson grew up in Valdez and is currently teaching English, including Creative Writing and Theatre, in Sitka, Alaska. Keriann has participated in the Conference for a number of years and has loved every minute of it! Some of her favorite past roles include

The Queen of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland*, Bert in *Cacophony Amore*, and Molly in *The Mousetrap*. She just recently finished directing her first play, Brian Starchman's *Just Another High School Play* for Sitka High School. Never having been in the director's chair, she wants to thank her students for making it such a memorable and wonderful experience. She hopes to continue participating in the conference as well as teaching theatre.



**URSULA GOULD**

Ursula Gould just completed a successful run of *Erma Bombeck: At Wit's End* at Cyrano's. She has performed in roles ranging from nuns to strippers with *Out North*, Synergy Dinner Theatre, Anchorage Opera, TAU, ACT, AFT, UAA, & JanDar Productions.

Cyrano's shows include: *Helen*, *Ten Chimneys*, *Our Town*, *The Clean House*, *Batboy: The Musical*, *Beauty Queen of Leenane*, *A Delicate Balance*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*. Other favorite roles include: Mrs. Lovett in *Sweeney Todd*, Emcee in *Cabaret*, Sister Mary Amnesia in *Nunsense*, Lenya VonBruno in *Bullshot Crummond*, Bev in *Angry Housewives*, Lola in *Damn Yankees*, Guenevere in *Camelot*, and Bloody Mary in *South Pacific*. She holds a Masters in Music Education & BM/Music Therapy and is a retired ASD Music Specialist.



**JEFF NEAL GREGG**

Jeff Neal Gregg has acted and co-directed for Mesabi Range College's theatre since 2009 and has been a member of the Iron Range Real Regional Players since 2013. Jeff teaches English at Mesabi Range College and believes he is on the stage every day when in front of learners. He has acted in *The Emperor's New Clothes*, *The Princess and the Pea*, *Peace, Love and Murder*, and *Dead Air*, and has co-directed *Aesop's Fables*, *The Pied Piper*, *The Odd Couple*, and *Steel Magnolias*.



**ZOZY GRENIER**

Zoey Grenier is a twenty-one-year-old actress from Anchorage, and is thrilled to be back in Valdez for the Conference! She has performed everywhere from the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh to Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. Past credits include *Our Bridge Place* (Young Julie), *Boy With Daffodils* (Young Jane), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), and *The Way of the World* (Millamant). A hair and makeup artist for the Anchorage Opera, Zoey has worked on productions from all over the country, and designed for several shows across the state. June 30 through July 9, Zoey can be found performing with Blue Chair Productions as Izzy in their production of *Seminar*.



Taran Haynes and Jill Sowerwine performing at the Fringe Festival



## DEVAN HAWKINS

Devan Hawkins is extremely proud to be joining fellow thespians for the Conference this year. Devan is new to professional theatre, but hopes to strengthen her ability as an actress with every role she takes on. Devan is known for her roles as Mrs. Rogers in *And*

*Then There Were None* and the Countess in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. She is originally from Nebraska and is attending the University of Alaska Anchorage to obtain her Bachelor's degree in Social Work. Although she is a bit green when it comes to theatre, she has an extensive background from her high school days as a state champion in Dramatic Interpretation. She is an avid musical buff and loves to sing and dance (despite lacking the ability to do either.) Hawkins wishes to thank her mom, Katie, for loving and supporting her and allowing her to chase her dream. She also wants to shine a light on the wonderful theatre department at UAA, she believes that her acting has improved greatly since being around such welcoming, talented individuals.



## ERICK HAYDEN

Erick Hayden is one of the founders and original coordinator of the Valdez Fringe Festival. He is currently living and working as an actor in England. His recent work includes *Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them*, *Tyrant*, and *Spectre*. He also starred in the

independent feature film *The Toymaker*, due out later this year, and the recently released independent film *1603*.



## DAVID HAYNES

David Haynes has been active in Alaska theatre for four decades, working with a plethora of performing arts groups in such classics as *Cabaret*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to The Forum*, *Return to the Forbidden Planet*, *Into the Woods*, and *She Loves Me*, among

others. He also starred in *Noises Off*, *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Sylvia*, and *Batboy: The Musical*. David recently played Polonius in TBA Theatre's masterful and imaginative production of *Hamlet*. The award-winning actor has been a frequent participant in the *Alaska Overnights*, *Fourplay*, and at the Conference. His fondest memories of the LFTC include performing Tom Moran's *The Big Guy*, Godzilla's existential monologue about his life razing Tokyo, and sharing a scene in *The Trip To Bountiful* with Jean Stapleton. David and his lovely wife, the emphatic brunette Ann Reddig, are partners in Once A Year Productions.



## TARAN HAYNES

Taran Haynes is an aspiring performer and a Theatre major at the University of Alaska Anchorage. His most recent role was playing Albert Einstein in UAA's production of Steve Martin's *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*. Taran is eager to learn and has taken every

opportunity to expand his experience in the theatre. This drive has earned him several roles at UAA, such as Phillip Lombard in Agatha Christi's *And Then There Were None*, production dramaturg for *Stalking the Boogiemán*, a significant role and Assistant Director in *44 Plays for 44 Presidents*, Tom Sawyer in *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and Not-Dead-Fred in *Spam-a-lot*. Taran has also performed in the Anchorage community, playing roles such as the Apostle Andrew in the Theater Artists United production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and Anthony in the Synesthesia Artist Collectives' production of *The House of Yes*.



## NICHOLAS WALKER HERBERT

California-born theatre artist Nicholas Walker Herbert is thrilled to return to the Conference. Although primarily a playwright, he started in theatre as an actor when he was eight. His favorite roles over the years include Michal from

*The Pillowman*, Frank Strang from *Equus*, Pridamant from *The Illusion*, Henry Packer from *Vinegar Tom*, Jed/Efran from *Aloha! Say the Pretty Girls*, Walter Mitty from *The Secret Life of Walter Mitty*, Creon from *Antigone*, Mushnik from *Little Shop of Horrors*, Puck from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, and Cyrano from *Cyrano de Bergerac*. As a playwright, his plays have been produced and developed around the country. He recently acted in a workshop production of his own full-length play, *Pandora's Suitcase*, in New York as the clownish Narrator. He graduated with honors from the University of California at Santa Cruz with a BA in Theatre Arts in 2007.



## LINNEA HOLLINGSWORTH

Hailing from Seward, Linnéa Hollingsworth has served 10 years as the Port City Players Artistic Director. During her tenure, she has directed, produced and acted in multiple genres and performance pieces. Some of

her favorite theatre roles include Hermione in *The Winter's Tale*, Kate in *Taming of the Shrew*, Ado Annie in *Oklahoma!*, and Alaska Nellie in Doug Capra's one-woman show *Into Alaska a Woman Came*. She spent last winter building up her directing chops by directing two musicals, *The Last Five Years* and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*.



**THEODORE CHALLENGE HOOKER II**

Theodore C Hooker II is thrilled to be back working at the Conference another year. He is a designer and stage manager by trade, but will often be found working in production offices or even on stage, if you look hard enough.

Most recently, he has worked as a manager for *While Ireland Holds These Graves* (Sean O'Hare), a player for both the *Alaska Overnighters* and the *One-Minute Play Festival*, building a gorgeous filing system for Cyrano's Theatre Company, and contracting (sound, art department, script supervisor) for various film projects in the Fairbanks area. If you need him while you are here, just start looking lost and helpless. He is around.



**SANDRA HOSKING**

Sandra Hosking is a playwright, actor and director based in Spokane, Washington. She has appeared in *The Miracle Worker*, *Suddenly Last Summer*, *Bell, Book and Candle*, Samuel Beckett's *Rockaby*, *Far Away*, and new works at various venues in Spokane and the

Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Directing credits include *Chalk Garden*, *A Piece of My Heart*, *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*, *Sara Crewe*, *Little Women*, and new work at the Great Plains Theatre Conference, Spokane Civic Theatre, Stage Left Theater and Play-makers Spokane. For the past 10 years, she has been producing a series of festivals featuring original plays by writers from around the world. She holds an MFA in theatre from the University of Idaho.



**NATHAN HUEY**

Nathan Huey is thrilled to be participating in the Conference again. He recently closed *Things My Mother Taught Me*; his very first production with Anchorage Community Theatre. He graduated from UAA's Department of Theatre and Dance,

and has acted in various productions there as well as with TBA Theatre, Valley Performing Arts, Theatre Artists United, Anchorage Opera, and Cyrano's Theatre Company. He's also had the opportunity to perform in the *Alaska Overnighters*, and attend the American College Theatre Festival as an Irene Ryan candidate. Favorite credits include *Godspell*, *Into the Woods*, *Terra Nova*, *The Diviners*, *Bare: a Pop Opera*, and *Wonder of the World*.



Amy Kropp, Warren Weinstein, and Will Jackson dine at Roma's Italian Kitchen



**WILL JACKSON**

William Jackson is an actor/improviser born in Belleville, Illinois. He is also a veteran, having served in the United States Air Force. He has worked film productions ranging from short films, TV commercials, and feature films to include *Broken Faith*, *Awful Nice*, and

*Moose The Movie*. Stage productions include *Good Men Wanted*, *Antony and Cleopatra*, and *The Good Times Are Killing Me*. He performs comedy improv currently as a troupe member of Scared Scriptless Improv.



**REAGAN JAMES**

Reagan James is a Chicago-based actor who is incredibly proud to be a part of the founding crew for Midnight Summit Ensemble. She is thrilled to be back at the Conference for her sixth year running. It truly is the best week of the year and something she looks forward

to constantly. Some of Reagan's favorite roles have come from Conference readings, not to mention some of her best friends. She cannot wait to continue acting in Chicago and elsewhere as opportunities arise.





## TAI-YEN KIM

Tai-yen Kim is an aspiring actor, rapper, and writer. He performs at Anchorage bars with his band Jimmy and the JetBlacks. This is his third time attending the Conference. Tai is nearing graduation at the University of Alaska Anchorage with a major in Justice and a minor in Theatre. He had the pleasure of playing the Player King this year in TBA Theatre's production of *Hamlet*.



## SHANE KIMBERLIN

Shane Kimberlin's first acting role was in Mrs. Hansen's 1st grade class as a Norwegian boy waiting for Santa. We don't understand the casting decision either. Since then, Shane has acted in the occasional play and short film, including an abbreviated *Twelfth Night* in high school and an expanded, very French *Beauty and the Beast*. In his spare time, Shane likes creative endeavors, good conversation, and occasionally wandering the outdoors.



## CASEY KNIGHT

Casey Knight is excited to be participating in his second Conference. He grew up in Oregon, but now lives in Anchorage, where he works as a real estate agent. Acting credits include Sky Masterson in *Guys and Dolls*, General Bullmoose in *Lil' Abner*, and both Theseus and Lysander in various productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.



## L.M. KONOPLISKY

A graduate of Lafayette College, L.M. Konoplisky was a Thomas J. Watson Fellow at Sussex University in Brighton, England. In New York, she studied with Anthony Mannino, Jeffrey Jacobi, and Dale Worsley of Mabou Mines. She is a certified teacher of the Meisner acting method. Her plays have been done all over the country and she has directed in Chicago and Madison, Wisconsin. Lisa has edited several documentary films and is currently working on a documentary about Chinese in the Mississippi Delta. She likes to lift heavy things for stress relief and good times.



## AMY KROPP

Amy Kropp is an actor, lawyer, and business manager/general counsel for TBA Theatre in Anchorage. Since the last Conference, Amy has appeared in *The Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow* (TBA), *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* (TBA), *Zombie Survival Orientation* (TBA), *Alaska Overnights*, and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual *Alaska One-Minute Play Festival*. She served as co-stage manager of *Hamlet* (TBA) and as production manager for *Rockin' Red Riding Hood* (TBA). Amy has studied improv with Scared Scriptless and has competed in several NATS classical and musical theatre competitions. Amy is thrilled to be attending the Conference for a second year.



## LINDSAY LAMAR SCHWEIZER

Lindsay Lamar Schweizer is an actor residing in Anchorage, Alaska. Over the years she has been able to perform regularly at home, but also New York, Minnesota, and as far away as Haifa, Israel. At the Conference, you may have seen her in some of the evening performances, such as *More Than Words* (as part of Kevin Six's *The Art of Love* and Dawson Moore's *Love Lumbering Lost*), *Fourplay* (as part of Arlitia Jones' *Shoe Story* and Schatzie Schaefer's *The Cross*), and perhaps in her personal favorite, as Penny in Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*. In Anchorage, some of her favorite roles have been as Catharine in *Proof* (Anchorage Community Theatre), Maria in *The Sound of Music* (TBA Theatre), and Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof* (TBA Theatre). The past two years she has stepped into the role of student, to complete her Master's in Library and Information Science, which she's hoping to combine with her love of theatre to be a super elementary school librarian!



**JONATHAN LANG**

Jonathan "Bearded Jon" Lang is a husband, father and multidisciplinary artist from Muldoon, Alaska. Jon has appeared on stage in Anchorage with Theatre Artist United (*Hair, The Rocky Horror Show*), TBA Theatre (*Legend of the Werewolf, Romeo and Juliet, Babes in Toyland, Goldilocks and the Three Bears*), Eccentric Theatre Company (*The Boy Friend, Bark! The Musical*), Anchorage Opera (*South Pacific*) and Anchorage Community Theatre (*The Secret Garden*) and worked backstage with Tossport Productions (*A Gulag Mouse*) and TBA Theatre (*Hamlet*). Jon's recent focus has been writing, directing, and producing short films. Several of Jon's films have been official selections of the Anchorage International Film Festival (AIFF) and Jon regularly produces films for AIFF Quick Freeze, 24 Hour Film Royal, Balto Film Challenge and Alaska Film Forum's Open Projector Night.



**MARYALICE LARMI**

MaryAlice Larmi was born and raised in Anchorage. She was bit by the theater bug in middle school, and then attended West High's School Through the Arts program where she was a permanent fixture in the theatre department. There, she played Edna Turblad in *Hairspray!*, and was the stage manager for *Seussical the Musical* at the American High School Theater Festival in Scotland. She attended UAA for a year, then moved to California where she attended programs at such prestigious institutions as the American Conservatory Theater and The Stella Adler Art of Acting Studio. Alaska theatre goers may know her from TBA's *Dracula*, Mad Myrna's *Little Shop of Horrors* and *The Rocky Horror Show '15 & '16*, and Alaska Fine Arts Academy's *Steel Magnolias*.



**KAREN LAUER**

Karen Lauer has participated in the Conference for six years. She has performed on many stages in Anchorage since she came to Alaska for a visit thirty-two years ago. Her video credits include *Christmas With a Capital C*, *Snow Angels*, and a commercial for Alaska Vein Care. Karen is happy to be back at the Conference and is very excited to be back to work with such amazing people. Karen performed two summers ago at *Cyrano's-Off Center Playhouse*, celebrating One Hundred Years of Anchorage.



**CAROL LAURSEN**

Carol Laursen received her MFA from Ohio University's Professional Actor Training Program. Her favorite roles include Mae from *Mud* and Margaret from *The Rope Dancers*, but the joy of playing the Nurse to her daughter's Juliet with the Cleveland Shakespeare Festival will likely remain a high water mark. She has also taught and directed at John Carroll University, organized a festival of poetry inspired works, and seen her first play, *Illuminated Lizard*, produced at Ensemble Theater and Cleveland Public Theater. She is delighted to be seeing Valdez again after more than 25 years since her last visit.



**ROB LECRONE**

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



**JULIA LEDERER**

Julia Lederer is an actor and writer from Toronto. She often performs in new Canadian plays. Recent ones include: *Birds of a Feather* (Port Stanley Festival Theatre); *The Best Plan for Living Happily* (Birdtown & Swanville and QuestionMark-Exclamation Theatre); *Stag and Doe* (Upper Canada Playhouse); *With Love and a Major Organ* (Next Stage Festival); *Chasing Margaret Flatwood* (Theatre Awakening), and a staged-reading of *Robert* (Driftwood Theatre). Julia also works frequently with Birdtown & Swanville (an indie theatre collective). She has acted in five productions with them, all premiers of new plays. Julia studied acting at the Hagen Conservatory.



**KEVIN LEE**

Kevin Lee is an actor, playwright, and director based in Anchorage. He began his theatre journey after leaving the Navy and has since appeared in many roles, including Agrippa in *Antony and Cleopatra*, Wolverine in *The Winter Bear*, and Robert Holthouse/Emmit in *Stalking the Bogeyman*. Most recently, Kevin directed the original production of Sean O'Hare's *While Ireland Holds These Graves*.



## BARRY LEVINE

Barry Levine grew up in New York City and did theater in high-school and college. After college he worked at Circle Rep. and was made a Lab Member in the mid-1990s. Since coming to Los Angeles, he helped found USC's Brand New Theatre, and did solo work under

the guidance of monologist Eric Trules, who helped him craft his one-man show, *Chasing Minor Threat*. Between 2002 and 2006 he was the singer for the L-10 Project, which performed in L.A., the Bay Area, New York City, and the 2006 Warped Tour. He's been a solo act since 2008 and has been seen at such clubs as The (late) House of Blues in West Hollywood, the Viper Room, Busby's, the Silverlake Lounge, and DiPiazza's in Long Beach. He also hosts the long running radio show "The Bear's Den" on KXSC, USC's radio station which just marked 20 years on the air. He's a long-time reader for the Lab and enjoys every conference.



## GIGI LYNCH

Gigi Lynch most recently appeared as Chris in Cyrano's production of *Calendar Girls*. Other local performances include *Other Desert Cities*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *Hedda Gabler*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, and *Pippin*. She's also

appeared in the Anchorage Cemetery Tours, the Alaska One Minute Play Festival, and several short films. She is thrilled to be back at the Conference to play with old friends and meet new ones.



## MARCIA LYNN

During her 25 years in Alaska, Marcia Lynn has performed in numerous community theater productions – acting, singing, and dancing – in various places around the state, including Kodiak, Bethel, Barrow, Homer, and Valdez. She's played a leading role in

the female version *Odd Couple* and a minor role in the male *Odd Couple*, both for Pier One Theater in Homer; the leading role in an original play by Nancy Chastain at Pier One; minor role in *La Bete* for Prince William Sound College, as well as an 80-year-old man (Adam) in *As You Like It*; and various other minor roles throughout the years. She's participated in musicals including *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Brigadoon*, *The King and I*, and *Crazy for You*. She has also taken part in a lot of theatre workshops and more informal types of theatrical productions. Her major at Northwestern University was Oral Interpretation, which required many reader's theatre presentations of plays and poetry.



## DEBRIANNA MANSINI

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



## RACHEL MARQUEZ

Rachel Marquez originally hails from Anchorage, but currently lives with her husband, Erick Hayden, in London. She graduated from Vassar College (NY) in 2009 with a major in Film. During her college career, she also took courses at RADA in London and ACT in San

Francisco. After graduation, she returned to Alaska to work in pre-production at Evergreen Films in Anchorage/LA. During this time, she performed in shows with *Cyrano's*, TBA Theatre, and ART, including originating the role of Lynx in the original cast of *The Winter Bear*. She also won several awards for her singing in the NATS musical theatre competitions in 2010/2011. Now, having lived in London for five years, she has been blessed with the opportunity to work in film, TV, and stage (notable credits: *Downton Abbey*, *Mr. Selfridge*, *Call the Midwife*). For more information, please visit [www.rachelmarquez.com](http://www.rachelmarquez.com)



## ALEXANDRA MCCALL

Alexandra McCall is a theatre student at the University of Alaska Anchorage. In the past few years, she has appeared as Viola in *Twelfth Night* (2014), various characters, including Presidents Taft and Eisenhower, in *44 Plays for 44 Presidents* (2015), Lamballe in *Marie*

*Antoinette* (2015), Sharon Atkins and ensemble in the musical *Working* (2017) and Suzanne in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (2017). This is Alexandra's third year at the Conference.



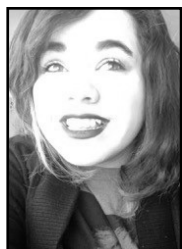
**MEG MCKINNEY**

Meg McKinney is an actress/yoga teacher/documentary filmmaker/social justice activist residing in Valdez for the past eighteen years. She has appeared in the college productions of *As You Like It* (Rosalind), *Detroit* (Sharon), *La Bête* (Elomire), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Puck), *Dimly Perceived Threats to the System* (Megan), *The Crucible* (Elizabeth), *The Master Builder* (Kaia), *Free Space* (Diane), and *Population Growth* (Donna). She has also acted in ten *Alaska Overnights*, two *One-Minute Play Festivals*, and the past ten years in the Play Lab. Her documentary film *Breathe in the Light*, co-directed and co-produced with Stacy Bloom, tells the story of four survivors of sexual assault on a healing trek into the Alaskan wilderness and is available at her website [www.breatheinthelight.org](http://www.breatheinthelight.org).



**EMILY MEINEL**

Emily Meinel is an Anchorage actress. Recently returned from Linfield College, she brought back degrees in Theatre Arts and Business Management. In the last year, she's performed in *Miracle on 34th Street* and *The Headless Horseman of Sleepy Hollow* with TBA Theatre. Her favorite role so far is Jenny from *Old Saybrook*. This is Emily's first time in Valdez for the Theatre Conference, but she's worked with the kids in Valdez for TBA Theatre's summer camps in the past.



**KAELI MENO**

Kaeli Meno is ecstatic to be attending Conference for the first time. Kaeli is going on her third year at the University of Alaska Anchorage as a History and Theater dual major. Although her emphasis is in technical theater, she has done some acting, including but not limited to: Rose in *The Flick* and Amelia in the UAA original *The Confession*. Kaeli hopes to continue to strengthen her acting skills with each opportunity that is presented to her and is excited to try new things. Kaeli has lived in Alaska her entire life, although she has never had a chance to explore much outside of Anchorage. She looks forward to the prospect of being a part of this Conference and cannot wait to attend!



**REES MILLER**

Rees Miller is happy to be back in Valdez. This year he took on the role of Artistic Director of the West High Theatre program in Anchorage. Rees has most recently been seen on stage with TBA Theatre in *Miracle on 34th Street*, before that he played the role of William Tell in *The Apple and the Arrow*, *Tales of William Tell*. Rees has also appeared in *Fox on the Fairway* (ACT), *A Christmas Carol*, *Macbeth*, *Frankenstein*, *Little Women*, and *Dracula*. By day, Rees teaches Chemistry at West Anchorage High School. He finished his Master of Theatre Arts Education degree through Alaska Pacific University in the Fall and has spent this year directing, building sets, and wrangling teen actors. This year he directed *Dracula*, *School House Rock*, and *Romeo and Juliet*. He has a great team of local professionals who have been generous with their time and expertise. He previously designed the set for West Anchorage High School's production *Little Mermaid*, and TBA's production of *In the Key of Christmas*.



**STACY STIMSON MILLER**

Stacy Stimson Miller is so excited to be back in Valdez. She has spent the year singing barbershop with her quartet and chorus, and is headed to Vegas in October to compete with Alaska Sound Celebration at the Sweet Adelines International competition. This Halloween, she got the chance to play Mother Mayeye in *Nightmare Hollow* with TBA. Before that she braved the popcorn missiles in the 2016 *Fur Rondy Melodrama* (ASC) as the French stowaway Crepe Suzette, a far cry from her previous role of saucy madam Carmen Gedditt in the 2015 *Fur Rondy Melodrama* (ASC). Acting roles that haven't involved popcorn pelting were in *Mother Goose Maritime Mayhem* (TBA Theatre), *Jeepers Creepers Gleeeful Halloween Sing Off* (TBA), *Charlotte's Web* (TBA), *Fiddler on the Roof* (TBA), *A Christmas Carol* (TBA), and *The Adventures of Peter Rabbit* (TBA). One of her favorite roles was Truvy in Anchorage Community Theatre's production of *Steel Magnolias*, and she appeared in ACT's production of *Little Women*.



## DANA MITCHELL

Dana Mitchell is an accomplished actress based in Anchorage. A graduate of the University of Colorado and UAA, she is the Development Director for TBA Theatre and has performed some of her most memorable roles there including Titania (*A Midsummer Night's Dream*), The White Witch (*The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe*) and Charlotte (*Charlotte's Web*). She won a Best Supporting Actress commendation from Stage Talk for her work in Cyrano Theatre Company's *The Heiress*. She also writes and directs for TBA, is currently building a photography portfolio and hopes to launch a photography business specializing in lifestyle portraits, events and headshots. You can see her theatrical work onstage and behind the camera at [www.tbafourthwallphotos.zenfolio.com](http://www.tbafourthwallphotos.zenfolio.com)



## WAYNE MITCHELL

Wayne Mitchell is a stage and film actor who has toured Canada, Australia, and extensively through the American Midwest. Readers of the Anchorage Press have named him one of the best actors in Anchorage for two years running. He holds a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from UAA and a MA in Theatre Communication from Wichita State University. He is adjunct faculty for Alaska Pacific University graduate level theater education program and is a frequent guest lecturer at Universities and Theater conferences on the subject of the New Vaudeville movement and physical comedy. He is a founder of TBA Theatre in Anchorage where he currently serves as Education Director.



## SUE ELLEN MONTES

Sue Ellen Montes is alumni of Michigan State University and Mansfield University. She became a resident of Valdez three years ago and taught two semesters of digital photography at PWSC. She has been involved in theatre since she was six years old, loves all aspects of it, and has done everything from running sound to acting to wardrobe to writing to set design and building and... well, you get the picture! Her favorite hobby is life, her favorite color is red, and her favorite season is THEATRE CONFERENCE SEASON! And she is currently dedicating full time to finishing a screenplay and two theatre pieces so stay tuned.



## TOM MORAN

In 17 years acting on various stages in Fairbanks, Alaska, Tom Moran has portrayed a frustrated chimp, a deceitful king, a lumbering Klansman, a hulking deaf-mute, an assortment of plebeians, guards, and commoners, a caustic Frenchman, a dimwitted inventor, and a bumbling Yooper, among many others. In real life he portrays a towering, nerdy and unapologetically smart-assed playwright.



## MARK MURO

Mark Muro is a poet, playwright, and performer. His most recent one-person show, *The Bipolar Express*, premiered in Anchorage at Out North Theater in May. Other monologues by Mark include: *Apocalypse When I Get Around To It*, or *Civil War III*, *part 1*, *Dingoes On Velvet*, *No Where Fast*, *Saint Alban's*, *Three Continents*, *Alaska: Behind the Scenery*, *A Very Muro Christmas*, *Love, Sex and All That Comes Between*. His stage roles include Ed Nolan in Judd Lear Silverman's *Heart*, Johnny in *Johnny's Girl*, Mortimer in *The Fantasticks*, and Sam in *Cemetery Club*. Mark has appeared in numerous short films and several features, and the pilot for a television dramedy, *Bad Cop*, *Bad Cop*.



## JAMIE NELSON

Jamie Nelson is returning from Kenai for his fifth Conference where Valdez feels like his second home. In May he finished playing Sheriff Heck Tate in *To Kill a Mockinbird* (Perseverance Theatre) with both Juneau and Anchorage runs. He's been privileged to act in mainstage productions here like 2015's *Macbeth* and his 2014 portrayal of George Verendt in *Gravidity*. Jamie has also played Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance Theatre), George Tesman in *Hedda Gabler* (CTC), Felix Ungar in *The Odd Couple* (Triumvirate Theatre), Russ/Dan in *Clybourne Park* (CTC), and George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (CTC). Jamie also enjoys working in TV commercials and in film. He acted in *The Ruthless Rhymer* short film which was accepted into Anchorage and Las Cruces International Film Festivals, and the award-winning short film *The Nest*. He plays a role in the upcoming feature *Sudsy Slim Rides Again*.



**SUSAN NIMAN**

When she is not aspiring to be “volunteer extraordinaire,” at the annual Conference, doing a part at Fringe, or taking unsuspecting but willing participants on beautiful but wet hikes in the Valdez rain, (after gearing them up, of course), Susan Nimman is on a country wide adventure looking for the best chili rellenos. If you have found it, please be so kind as to let her know where it is!!! Quayana.



**MICHAEL NOBLE**

For two years Michael Noble has had the honor to work as the Technical Director of Anchorage Community Theatre. Since July of 2015, Michael has managed the technical elements of eleven ACT productions, two Midnight Sun productions, two Alaska Theatre of Youth productions and dozens of short plays, staged readings, and special functions. Favorite productions include *Lady Day at Emerson’s Bar & Grill* (2017), *Visit to a Small Planet* (2016), and *The Hound of Baskerville* (2016), where in a rare fit of acting he took the stage to attempt his best Sherlock Holmes impression. This is Michael’s fourth year at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. The Conference has profoundly expanded his views on storytelling and professional theatre. Michael also recently graduated in May from the University of Alaska Anchorage with a degree in Television/Film studies and a minor in Theatre. In July, Michael and his super-hot & talented girlfriend/playwright Andrea Staats will move from their artistic home of Alaska to New York City (Actually Yonkers!) to work in the Film and Theatre industries.



**ANELIESE PALMER**

Aneliese Palmer is thrilled to be reviving the role of Marianne in Nick Payne’s *Constellations*. She did not get a math tattoo specifically for the part, but is happy that it worked out so well. Aneliese performs and teaches with Urban Yeti and Scared Scriptless Improv in Anchorage, and believes in the power of positivity through comedy. This is her first time at the Conference.



**JOHN PARSI**

Since moving to Anchorage in May 2010, John Parsi has performed with Perseverance Theatre, TossPot Productions, Cyrano’s Theatre (actor and director), Blue Chair Productions, TBA Theatre’s *Alaska Overnights*, and the *One-Minute Play Festival* (actor, director, writer). John is a member of Scared Scriptless Improv and Urban Yeti Improv (director of Urban Yeti: After Dark). He has performed improv at the *Del Close Marathon* (NYC), *Out of Bounds Comedy Festival* (Austin), *OC Improv Festival* (Fulerton, CA), *Alaska State Improv Festival* (Juneau), Los Angeles, Las Vegas, Phoenix, and Chicago. He has trained with instructors from iO, iO West, Upright Citizens Brigade, Second City, Groundlings, Chicago City Limits, and various other improv organizations. He was an extra in the motion pictures *The Kingdom* and *Answer This!*. He is a three-time American Forensics Association National Champion and a collegiate and high school speech and debate All-American. He is a lawyer with a PhD in Political Science.



**JEANNE PASSIN**

Jeanne Passin, 33 year resident Valdez, has been involved with the Theater Conference since its inception. As a practicing acupuncturist in Valdez, she enjoys poking around the conference and sharpening her skills.



**JOHN PEROVICH**

John Perovich is an educator and theatre maker based in Phoenix, AZ. Performance credits include: Lord Astor in *Peter & the Starcatcher*, Duncan in *MacBeth*, and Gonzalo in *The Tempest* (Brelby Theatre Company, Glendale, Arizona); Conrade in *Much Ado About Nothing* (Ritz Theatre, Oaklyn, New Jersey); and Ross in *Red Sky* (Provincetown Playhouse, New York, NY).



## JILLIAN POLLOCK

Jillian Pollock grew up in Southcentral Alaska but is currently teaching elementary music Ketchikan. While pursuing her undergraduate and graduate degrees at the University of Alaska Anchorage, she played several roles with the UAA Opera Ensemble and was the musical director of the UAA Glee Club. It was that club that originally brought her to the Conference in 2013, and although she has attended several times since, this will be her first year immersing herself in the experience as an actor rather than an observer. She recently played Ursula (2016) and Miss Andrews (2015) in First City Players' productions of *Little Mermaid* and *Mary Poppins*.



## BOB POND

Born in Boston, Robert Pond studied voice at the New England Conservatory of Music and Theatre in New York. His fondest memory of NY is his season as a 'super' with the Metropolitan Opera Co. Mr. Pond earned Bachelor degrees in History, Secondary Education, and has a Master's in Theatre from Portland State University. Pond's theatre experience includes opera, theatre, and seasons in summer stock as well as Off-Off Broadway. For 40 years, Mr. Pond was Artistic Director for Anchorage Community Theatre. Recently, for RKP Productions, he has directed *The Glass Menagerie*, *Night Mother*, and *The Women of Lockerbie*. Bob is most proud of being the recipient of the Lorene Harrison Lifetime Achievement in the Arts for 2003.



## DANIELLE RABINOVITCH

Danielle Rabinovitch was most recently seen in *Suspicion*, *Obsession*, *Paranoia*, *Marriage* at the New York Midtown International Theatre Festival. Last fall she studied with Lincoln Center Theater's Camille Hickman, the New York Theatre Workshop's Taylor Williams, and attended classes at Alvin Ailey American Dance Theatre and the Broadway Dance Center. Selected recent acting credits include: Emilia in *Othello*, Past in *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance Theatre); *A Gulag Mouse* (TossPot Productions); *Come to Me*, *Leopards* (Cyrano's); the Baker's Wife in *Into the Woods*, Maureen in *RENT* (Theatre Artists United); and Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors* (UHM). Film/TV credits include: *Witewold*, *Standards of Karen*, *Alaska Haunting*, ABC's *LOST*, and various commercial and voice over work. She choreographed TossPot's workshop production of Kevin Armento's *Good Men Wanted* and directed Arlene Hutton's *Last Train to Nibroc* (TBA Theatre). She has also performed with the Anchorage Symphony

Orchestra, Arctic Sirens, *Alaska Overnights*, *The One-Minute Play Festival*, and the Anchorage Opera.



## KALLI RANDALL

Kalli Randall is extremely happy to be returning for her seventh Conference. She currently lives in Chicago with her two insane roommates Reagan James and Alyssa Barnes, and has been enjoying her new homestead in the north side of the windy city. This past fall, along with three other artists, two previously mentioned, Kalli launched Midnight Summit Ensemble. A theatre company dedicated to creating work with an ensemble emphasis, putting spins on the classics as well as exploring the work of modern artists. Midnight Summit Ensemble produced their first Chicago production of *No Exit* in November of 2016 with great success. Kalli is so excited to spend this next week meeting new artists and spending time with old friends.



## DICK REICHMAN

Dick Reichman is a playwright who also acts and directs theatre in Anchorage. His latest, *The Ticket*, an imaginary dialogue between two Alaskan ex-governors, Jay Hammond and Wally Hickel, played at Cyrano's last year. *MONEY*, a play about an old stock broker and a young girl, *The Audition*, a play about acting; *The Big One*, about the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill; *Bruckner's Last Finale*, about classical composer Anton Bruckner; and *Flamel's Dream*, about modern-day alchemy; are the latest of ten originals produced at Cyrano's over the years. He is also the director of the Anchorage production of Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover*, seen on the mainstage this year.



## KATE RICH

Kate Rich is a playwright from Homer, Alaska, whose theatre skills are put to the test regularly as a prison workshop facilitator with the Alternatives to Violence Project (AVP). Kate produces and directs *Last Frontier Readings*, three evenings of play readings from the Last Frontier Theatre Conference, at Pier One Theatre in Homer. Recently, her short play *Accumulation* was included in the 8x10 Alaska Playwrights Festival in Fairbanks. Kate is delighted to return for her eighth Conference, to experience as much new theater as possible and enjoy total social overwhelm for an entire exhilarating week. This fall, Kate will join the cast of Pier One's *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Mariner Theater in Homer as a leper.



## AUSTIN JAMES ROACH

Austin James Roach is an actor, musician, and educator from Anchorage, Alaska. His most recent acting credits are: *The Best of Everything* with Anchorage Community Theatre; *Peter and the Starcatcher* with Perseverance Theatre; *Every Xmas Story Ever Told* and *Other*

*Desert Cities* with Cyrano's; *Mask Play Performance* with Familie Flöz workshop in Italy; *Greek Visions* with the Athens Centre and Elizabeth Ware and David Edgecombe; *Let It Get Weird* with Guerilla Theatre Group; and *Rocky Horror Freak Show* and *House of Yes* with SynArts and Mad Myrna's.



## MARTHA ROBINSON

Martha Robinson, an actress from Anchorage, is delighted to once again attend the Conference. She loves being part of the local theatre community and was most recently seen as Celia in *Calendar Girls* at Cyrano's Theatre Company. Other favorite roles include

Lillian in *I Hate Hamlet* and Hermia/Other Woman/Stranger in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, with additional performances in *The Vagina Monologues*, *Alaska Overnights*, *Short Attention Span Theatre* and the first Alaska *One-Minute Play Festival*. Offstage, Martha treasures her role as Mom to her two wonderful (practically grown) daughters, and whenever possible, she enjoys hiking, biking, running or skiing in the beautiful Alaskan outdoors.



## MARK ROBOKOFF

Mark Robokoff is a Conference frequent contributor. He performed the title role of Shakespeare's *Macbeth* in 2015, channeled abstract expressionist Mark Rothko in 2013's *RED*, partnered up with Aaron Wiseman in 2010's *Rounding Third*, and produced, directed, wrote

and performed in 2011's *Mountain Shack Theater Alaska*. Mark's film credits include *The Frozen Ground*, *The Big Miracle*, *Beyond*, and *Baby Geniuses 3*. He is seen most frequently on stage at Cyrano's Theatre Company (*Antony & Cleopatra*, *The Icebreaker*, *La Bête*, *RED*, *Bruckner's Last Finale*, *Helen*, *Our Town*, *Sylvia*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *Hamlet*, *Dinner with Friends*, *The Seagull*, *FourPlay*, *Kafka Dances*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, and two holiday seasons of *It's a Wonderful Life: The Radio Play*). He directed CTC's *Clybourne park* in 2012. Mark owns and runs AK Bark, a pet boutique in Anchorage. He also stacks rocks.



## ASHLEIGH RUSSELL

Ashleigh Russell is a lifelong Alaskan who enjoys hiking, fishing, and skiing. She is always up for an adventure and often accompanied by her toy poodle, Edger; who also enjoys hiking. Ashleigh was most recently seen in TBA Theatre's *Zombie Survival Orientation* where she

got to play a brain devouring zombie. She loves being a part of theater both on and off stage. Her love of art is not limited to acting, though. She paints as well. Outside of art, her goal is to one day be a mermaid.



## KAREN SAARI

Karen Saari has performed with several companies in her home state of Wisconsin. Her favorite roles include Gwendolyn in *The Odd Couple*, Popeye in *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, and Lady Bosom-Heaving in *You've Ruined a Perfectly Good Mystery*, a role she

originated. She recently wrote and performed with Madison's "Are We Delicious?" troupe in their fifth anniversary showcase, and is a frequent contributing writer/storyteller in Madison's live *That's What She Said* series. Karen is a freelance voice talent and studied performance theatre at Northern Michigan University.



## SHANE SAVAGE

Shane Savage is an actor, director, writer, and producer hailing from Melbourne, Australia, and this is his first time at Conference. After completing a bachelor of creative arts (Drama/Film) from Deakin University, Shane went on to study full time at the world renowned Howard Fine

Acting Studio. Recent theatre credits include Ricky in *Big Al* at Chapel Off Chapel and Marc Christian in *Playing Rock Hudson* at the Malthouse Theatre. Recent screen credits include playing the lead roles of Lindsay in *Anatomy* (dir. Joe Betros), Art in *Artemis* (dir. Daniel Higgins), Dean in *Nevyr Love a Vampyr* (dir. Geoffrey Wright), and Chris in the webseries *Chris & Josh* (dir. Matt Smolen). Shane also recently appeared in Season 6 of *Offspring* (Endemol Shine), Season 3 of *The Leftovers* (HBO/Warner Bros), and his latest big screen venture, Michael in the feature film *Ravenswood*, is set for a worldwide release later this year. Recent achievements include winning Best Writing at NYC WebFest, Best Online Video at the London Film Awards, Best Comedy Series at the Online Video Awards Australia, and being nominated for Best Male Performance in a Comedy by the International Academy of Web Television. Shane's latest project in which he wrote, produced, and acted in is a short film titled *SH!T*, which is currently touring the world, already being screened at 5 International Film Festivals. Shane also serves on the faculty of the Howard Fine Acting Studio Australia, is Co-Artistic Director of theatre collective North of Eight, and is the proud Owner/Director of Studio Sonder.





## GABRIELLE SAVRONE

Gabrielle Savrone is currently working in casting at Highway Casting in Prahan and proudly entering her third year of running and operating the The Owl and Cat Theatre in Richmond VIC with Thomas Ian Doyle. They have co-produced over 30 productions in that time. Gabrielle studied a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Drama) at Deakin University and has been selected to study at The Barrow Group in NYC for stage directing in 2018. Initially an actor, acting highlights include performing in Wendy Harmer and Sancia Robinson's one-woman *What is The Matter With Mary Jane* at the Seymour Centre in Sydney and Nic Barker's independent feature film *Short Distance*. She teaches acting at Studio Welder. Collaborative / Co-created works to date include *Painted Pictures*, a live art play, which was presented as a part of Melbourne Fringe 2011. *Dinner with Addiction*, an immersive dinner experience, went to stage in 2016, with her acting students on board, she compiled text from three writers' work, including her own. *Bordello* was an immersive roaming play where the audience walked through a brothel and watched the story unfold around them. *Petty Cash* was an educational experiment with Thomas Ian Doyle and Carolyn Dawes, where acting students became the cast, wrote plays for themselves, and staged them. This was successfully received in 2016. Most recently, she developed an immersive experience piece with Pearce Hessling called *Red Boots and Half Smoked Cigarettes* based on her true-life story of leaving a cult. Directing credits include *The Winners* by David L Williams (starring Ra Chapman from Wentworth); *RIOT* by Thomas Ian Doyle (Starring Jonathan Peck); *A Very Modern Marriage* by Arthur M Jolly (performing at this year's Conference); *Erasers* by Jake Arky; *After Party* by Michael Thebridge; and *Wash Room* and *Plastic Tree*, both by Thomas Ian Doyle.



## LEIF SAWYER

Leif Sawyer, the fourth generation of his family to live in Alaska, has no plans to ever leave, especially with a rambunctious fifth-generation person to raise. In addition to performing on nearly every stage in Anchorage, a few TV channels, and even a few movies, he has also been seen right here in Valdez for such productions as *Six Degrees of Separation*, *Heathen Valley*, *Folks Tales*, *The Head that Wouldn't Die*, and most recently playing the stand-up bass at the 2016 Conference "Speakeasy" gala.



## JOSH SCHMIDTLEIN

Joshua Schmidtlein is a Seattle-based actor and regular Conference participant. He has a history of college and community theatre, having been involved with productions of *Harvey* and *Greater Tuna* at Prince William Sound College, in addition to a variety of student-written and directed shows at the University of Puget Sound.



## KIEL SCHWEIZER

Kiel Schweizer lives in Anchorage, and comes to the Conference in the role of "husband of an actor," but is a talented musician and performer in his own right. Kiel has a BA in Music as well as an MA in Teaching from UAA. He has worked as adjunct instructor for UAA; teaching Fingerstyle Guitar classes, Guitar Chord Theory, Practical Theory, Beginning/Intermediate Ukulele classes, and Private Guitar Instruction. He has also been called upon to adjudicate state and local guitar competitions. Kiel is currently running the East High Guitar Program for the Anchorage School District and in 2012 created and implemented a new high school ukulele curriculum. His advanced student ukulele orchestra called Thunderbird Ukulele regularly performs around Anchorage, and recently took part of the Waikoloa Ukulele Festival in Hawaii. In his free time, Kiel enjoys playing with the Borealis Guitar Quartet, as well performing in his most important role: Dad.



## TAMAR SHAI

Tamar Shai is very excited to return to the Conference. A card-carrying TossPot, Tamar had the wonderful opportunity to perform in Arlitia Jones' directorial debut, playing Svetlana in Arthur M. Jolly's *A Gulag Mouse* at the 2013 Conference. Other favorite roles include Nina in *The Seagull* and Uta Hagen in *Ten Chimneys*, during which she had the great luck to work with David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware. Some of her latest roles have been Veronica in *Miss Witherspoon* and Evelyn in *Come to Me, Leopards*, written by Arlitia Jones and directed by Jayne Wenger. She is very much looking forward to meeting up with old friends and finding new ones in Valdez this summer.



**JANNA SHAW**

Janna Shaw was not born in Alaska but she got here as soon as she could. Through the long winters, she occupies her time with theatre and travel. Though summers are generally reserved for spending as much time playing outside as possible, the Theatre Conference and

her part in running the beloved Fringe Festival is her most anticipated venture every year. Other projects locally have included work in both short films and big budget movies, writing for the *Alaska Overnights* as well as personal endeavors, and stepping onstage at ACT and *Cyrano's*. Janna would like to thank her beautiful dogs for making every moment of everyday better and the best mother anyone could ask for - without whose support so many things would seem impossible, or at least not worth it.



**OLIVER SIEMANS**

Oliver Siemens is very gratified to be returning to Valdez after a lengthy hiatus, dashing the fondly-held hopes of the many people who thought they'd seen the last of him. He still enjoys acting, writing, and many other amusing and diverting pastimes, just

not so youthfully as he did formerly, and continues to stage his own absurdist productions from his modest home, to an audience which generally consists of his long-suffering dog and roommate.



**JENNIFER SONNEBORN**

Jennifer Sonneborn, born December 11, 1966, grew up moving around the country until she was 11 when her family settled in Anchorage. After a promising start as an actress in middle and high school she took a break for 30 years or so. Last year's Conference

changed all that. Now Jennifer can't stop volunteering to read plays in public. She lives in Homer and works as a carpenter.



**JILL SOWERWINE**

Jill Sowerwine is a cofounder of Anchorage's TossPot Productions and a graduate of the UAA Theatre Department. She most recently appeared in Perseverance Theatre's *A Christmas Carol* as Mrs. Cratchit. Other notable roles include: Charlotte Hope in

Kevin Armento's *Good Men Wanted*, Anastasia in Arthur M. Jolly's *A Gulag Mouse* (TossPot Productions); Mrs. Elvsted in *Hedda Gabler*, Jolianne in Arlitia Jones' *Come to Me, Leopards* (Cyrano's); Elena Verendt in Ashley Rose Wellman's *Gravidity* (Theatre on the Rocks).



**ANDREA STAATS**

Andrea Staats is an Anchorage actor and playwright. She studied theatre and Spanish at UAA, and most recently appeared as Gregg in ACT's production of *The Best of Everything*. This fall, she will be moving to New York to pursue an MFA in theatre at Sarah Lawrence College.



**CYNTHIA STEELE**

Cynthia Steele has been a participant at the Conference as a reader and in the Monologue Workshop. She enjoys stepping out of her own shoes and into the space of the character. She lives in Anchorage with her six dogs, her husband, and her teenage

daughter. She is super stoked just to be around the amazing talent and high caliber of writing that this conference provides. She has taught as an adjunct at the University of Alaska for many years. She is an associate editor (poetry or nonfiction) for *Cirque Journal* and volunteers with Cirque and Poetry Parlay events. She takes medical classes at UA in preparation for her Act II.



**JAY STEVENS**

Jay Stevens has appeared in PWSC Drama Department productions of Aoise Stratford's *Love and a Wide Moon*, *The Master Builder*, *Greater Tuna*, P. Shane Mitchell's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*, Jonathon Brady's *Heroes*, Tara Meddaugh's *Free Space*, and

Lisa D'Amour's *Detroit*, as well as several productions of the *Alaska Overnights*. Jay has attended the Conference as both a reader in the Play Lab and as an Assistant to the Conference Coordinator, sporadically, over the past ten years. He obtained his Bachelor's in Geological Engineering from UAF in 2015.



**GLYKA STOIOU**

Glyka Stoiou comes from Greece and moved to Italy three months ago. She is more than happy to be part of the Conference for third time in a row. She has studied the performing arts, cultural management, journalism and mass media. She works as an actress and as a video journalist in Europe, she directs and produces theatre plays and documentaries, she likes writing, traveling and going for long walks. As a self-motivated artist, she has contributed to a number of cultural institutes, seeking out interesting ideas to produce compelling projects. In 2016, her play *Don Quixotes* was produced in Seattle and she performed at the Pocket Theatre with Carolynne Wilcox.



**STACY TANNER**

Stacy Tanner couldn't be happier to return to Valdez for her second Conference. She is a Stage Manager and Actor with over ten years of experience. She will be stage managing Blue Chair Production's *Seminar* at Cyrano's Theatre Company this summer (June 30 - July 9). Her past stage management experience includes *Pinkalicious* (2016), *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)* (2016), TossPot Production's *Good Men Wanted* (2016), and the *Ten-Minute Play Slam* (2016). Stacy will be playing Vera in the upcoming dark comedy *She Kills Monsters* at Cyrano's this fall. Her past acting credits include *The Vagina Monologues* (2017), *One-Minute Play Festival* (2016), and the *Alaska Overnights* (2016). Outside of her theatre pursuits and working as a Legal Assistant in an Anchorage law firm, Stacy enjoys reading, traveling, watching anime, and playing with her Goldendoodle Cosmo.



**SARAH TAPP**

Sarah Tapp was born and raised in the San Francisco Bay Area. Since moving to Valdez 16 years ago, Sarah has gotten married and has three adorable children. She has appeared in the Valdez production *BoomTown!* and the college productions of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, *The Wind in the Willows*, and most recently, *As You Like It*. Sarah enjoys homeschooling her three children, and loves being involved in youth ministry.



**SARA THIELE**

Sara Thiele, Dena'ina Athabascan, was born and raised in Alaska. Her interest in theater was recently revived when she was given the opportunity to play Miranda Huntington in *The Winter Bear*, written by Anne Hanley. Sara has spent the last ten or so years traveling and attending college. She has a degree in Communication: Film, Television and Convergent Media. She is excited to learn another art form and be involved in the Alaska theater community.



**TIFFANY TYSON**

Tiffany Tyson is a 24-year-old native New Mexican. She recently graduated from New Mexico State University where she received a Bachelor's of Arts with an emphasis in Theatre Arts. She is very passionate about social justice and loves to combine that with her love for theatre when she gets the opportunity. Some of her roles with American Southwest Theatre Company at NMSU include Beatrice in *The Effects of Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*, Ensemble in *Purple Breasts*, and Homing Coming Queen in *Junta High*. Tiffany has also enjoyed working with No Strings Attached Theatre Company, where she has played Ensemble/Mute in the *The Fantasticks*, Hoopoe in *The Conference of the Birds*, and Ensemble in *Arabian Nights*. She is excited to be in Alaska for the first time!



**SARAH VICKERY**

Based in Melbourne Australia, Sarah Vickery is a director of performance and moving image. Working predominately in theatre, she led "career defining performances" in her most recent play, Gina Femia's *The Violet Sisters*. The Blurb magazine expressed that "under Sarah Vickery's direction, we dare not look away for a second." Sarah's play *The Day the Galaxy Inevitably Exploded and Died* was nominated for Best of Theatre Award at Sydney Fringe Festival, and her production of *Pinball* was well received at Sydney's beloved Tap Gallery as part of Mardi Gras in 2014. Sarah styled local pop-centric musician Tanzer's video *Johnny*, which won Best Music Video at Sydney Road Brunswick Short Film Competition, featured on ABC's *Rage*, and was labeled Best New Video on Triple J's *Unearthed*. She also styled for Sex on Toast's music video *Doubt*, and runs the styling account Pop Vulture Style. Sarah is currently studying at The Victorian College of the Arts (VCA) at The University of Melbourne doing her Masters in Directing for Performance. She is also currently in pre-production co-creating new queer web series *Catherine & Katherine* with award winning writer/director Katie Found. For more about Sarah go to her website <https://sarahvickery.myportfolio.com/projects>



## DONNA WARFIELD

Donna Warfield grew up in New Hampshire and graduated from the University of New Hampshire with a degree in both Theatre and Communications. She went on to receive her MA from SUNY Binghamton in Theatre, and following that completed the Meisner training program in NY with Bill Esper and later with Larry Silverman. She spent most of her acting years as a NY-based professional actress working on stage, in film and commercials, until she took a long hiatus to raise her family. In 2013, she moved to South Florida and quickly became active in its vibrant theatre community as both an actress and playwright. Her most recent roles include Annie in *The Art of Murder* and Blanche in *Broadway Bound*. She also enjoyed working with Pigs Do Fly on two separate productions of their annual ten minute original play festival.



## WARREN WEINSTEIN

(see bio in Featured Artists section)



## LILY WERTS

Lily Werts is a lifetime Anchorage resident who is most often found hiding in a booth designing sound when it comes to theatre. Every now and then she makes her way on stage to perform, usually for UAA's directing classes. Lily's first and favorite acting role was the patient in *4:48 Psychosis*. Her other roles include Geraldine Barclay in *What the Butler Saw*, Nadia in *You Can't Always Get What You Want*, and Pamela in *The Pain In The Poetry*. She hopes to become more confident acting on stage and to someday join a full production.



## BRÍAN WESCOTT

Brían Wescott [pronounced Bree-un] was born and raised in Fairbanks and studies in L.A. with Laura Gardner at the Howard Fine Acting Studio. In 2017, he has played two roles for Perseverance Theatre: Sidney in Anne Hanley's *The Winter Bear Project* and Tim in Frank Kaash Katasse's *They Don't Talk Back* (a role he played last year at the La Jolla Playhouse and Native Voices at the Autry). His film credits include *Four Quarters*, *It's Dark Here*, and the upcoming *The Pipeline*. He is a member of Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and the WGA.



## GRACE WILLIAMS

Grace Williams is a recent graduate of South Anchorage High School and is extremely excited to be attending the conference for the first time! She plans to attend the University of Alaska Anchorage where she will be majoring in Psychology with a focus in children's mental health. Grace has been in many shows around town and some of her favorites include: *Visit to a Small Planet* as Ellen (ACT), *The Tempest* as Miranda (SAHS), *The Burning* as Elizabeth (TBA), and *Fiddler on the Roof* as Chava (SAHS). Grace is thrilled to be here in Valdez with so many talented individuals and can't wait to learn from them.



## AARON WISEMAN

Aaron Wiseman has been involved in approximately 20 of the 25 years of the Conference, and he counts several of his career highlights among performances here. Among them: Edward Albee's *Seascape* (TOAST), performed to accolades from the playwright himself; *A Gulag Mouse* by Arthur M. Jolly (TossPot); *The Rendering of Conor McShea* by Eoin Carney (TBA); and *Rounding Third* by Richard Dresser (Three Wise Moose). Regional credits include Thomas in *Venus in Fur* by David Ives (Perseverance in co-production with Cyrano's Theatre Co.); Marley/Christmas Present in Arlitia Jones and Michael Haney's adaptation of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, and as Robert in Harold Pinter's *Betrayal* in both Juneau and Anchorage (Perseverance). Other notable performances include Alfred Lunt in the West Coast premiere of Jeffery Hatcher's *Ten Chimneys* (Cyrano's); and *Grand Central and 42nd* by Arlitia Jones (TBA), a finalist in the Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival. In his spare time he officiates NCAA volleyball and builds decks. He is currently on pace to set the record for total number of performances and/or readings at the Conference: wish him luck!



## DENZEL WOOD

Denzel Wood is a junior Amherst College, majoring in Theatre and Dance. He has enjoyed acting in many college productions, including *Cymbeline* (Cloten), *Adam & Eve on a San Francisco Ferry* (D.H. Lawrence), *The Cherry Orchard* (Gayev), Bertolt Brecht's *Antigone* (guard), and *Big Love* (Constantine). He has also directed various sketch films, as well as Madame Rachilde's short play *The Crystal Spider*. He is currently in the process of writing his playwriting thesis, *The Electric Dream*. Denzel is an aspiring Teacher, Director, and Playwright.



## SHELLY WOZNIAK

Shelly Wozniak's acting roles in Alaska include Gwen Harper (*Rapture, Blister, Burn*), Albert Cashier (*Good Men Wanted*), Coach (*All the Great Books, Abridged*), Sharon O'Malley (*Come to Me, Leopards*), Joanne Jefferson (*RENT*), Magenta (*Rocky Horror Show*), Simon Zealotes (*Jesus Christ Superstar*), Chiffon (*Little Shop of Horrors*), Mairead (*The Lieutenant of Inishmore*), Chesty Prospects (*Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens*), Peter (*Peter Pan*) and Yitzhak (*Headwig and the Angry Inch*). Additionally, she provided stage direction for *Other Desert Cities*, [title of show], *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Into the Woods*, and *Saucy Jack and the Space Vixens*. She is coauthor of two musicals and served as a writer for the Alaska One Minute Play Festival.



## LOU ANNE WRIGHT

Lou Anne Wright is an actor, writer and dialect coach who lives and works in Wyoming. Originally from Alabama, Lou Anne received her MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory in Denver, and has performed and/or coached across the country and internationally. Favorite past roles include Boo in *The Last Night Of Ballyhoo*, Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie*, Sue in *Last Summer at Bluefish Cove*, Beatrice in *The Effect of Gamma Rays on Man-in-the-Moon Marigolds*, and Judy Shepard in the HBO film *The Laramie Project*. Lou Anne is the co-author of the books *Playwriting: From Formula To Form* (Harcourt Brace), and *The Art of Theatre* (Wadsworth). In Hollywood, she was nominated for the Directors Guild of America's Lillian Gish Award for her film adaptation of Eudora Welty's *The Hitch-hikers*, which starred Patty Duke and Richard Hatch. Lou Anne is a certified Fitzmaurice Voicework teacher and is a contributor to the International Dialect of English Archives. She is an avid traveler and is delighted to come to the Conference for the second time.



## CARL YOUNG

Born in Los Angeles and raised in Texas, Carl Young has been involved in theatre his whole life. His various productions include Nazi Karl Heinz in *Edith Stein*, Nicholas in *The Boy Who Stole the Stars*, Claude Frollo in *St. Louis*, Kinickie in *Grease*, Aslan in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Barnette Lloyd in *Crimes of the Heart*, the Evil Dr. Kasady in Rand Higbee's *The Lightning Bug*, Bastien in *A Little Hotel on the Side*, Peter in *Prelude to a Kiss*, and Rat in *A Wind in the Willows*. He recently performed for the second time at Anchorage's Performing Arts Center in the Sydney Laurence Auditorium as a part of Perseverance Theatre's *One-Minute Play Festival*, and also for his first time in the *Alaska Overnighthers*.



Frank Delaney, Aaron Wiseman, Stacy Tanner, and Carrie Yanagawa outside the Civic Center

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