

# The Twenty Sixth Annual

*Valdez*

LAST FRONTIER THEATRE CONFERENCE

JUNE 10-16, 2018

**PWSC**

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COLLEGE

UNIVERSITY of ALASKA ANCHORAGE

Prince William Sound College  
presents  
The Twenty-Sixth Annual  
Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference



June 10-16, 2018

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Welcome to our 26<sup>th</sup> Conference. I've joked with friends about how comparatively relaxing this year has been, finally beyond the all-important, numerically significant TWENTY-FIFTH YEAR. The next one that comes with anything like that sort of random numerical pressure is our fortieth. We should be so lucky as to keep going that long. I should be so lucky to have this job, the greatest artistic honor of my life, for that long. So the pressure is off! Sort of.

Internally, I was in constant rebellion against the importance of last year. Because it was not more important than the year that proceeded it, or this year. It was only more important while it was happening, because theatre is the art of the now, of present experience, shared directly between art, artists, and audience. The fact that it was the current Conference was, for me, the only thing that made it the most important one.

So welcome to the most important year of the Theatre Conference EVER. Until next year. We've got an exciting line-up of authors in the Lab, and a week of incredibly varied evening performances. We are here to celebrate live theatre, from the amateurs to the professionals. We are here to share our love of theatre, and to learn from each other. I hope that some of the memories and friendships you make here last you the rest of your life.

I'm excited to be giving Danny and Marshall the Jerry Harper Service Award. They were here the literal first year of our event, two years before I joined, and it is likely wouldn't still be here without the clout and expertise they brought to the early years of the event. Marshall remains hands down the classiest emcee our gala has ever had, and seriously, if you've not read his [Creating Life on Stage](#), do yourself a favor and pick up a copy.

I have an endless amount of gratitude to so many people that sometimes I don't thank anyone for not wanting to leave off deserving others. But I love my boss, so at least him I'll mention here as being exceptional. PWSC Director Daniel O'Connor is an amazing leader for the college, an amazing resource for the community, and a steadfast supporter of this Conference. We're all in good hands.

Have a great week. Anything you need, any question you have, that's what we're here for.

Dawson Moore  
Theatre Conference Coordinator

SATURDAY, JUNE 9

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.

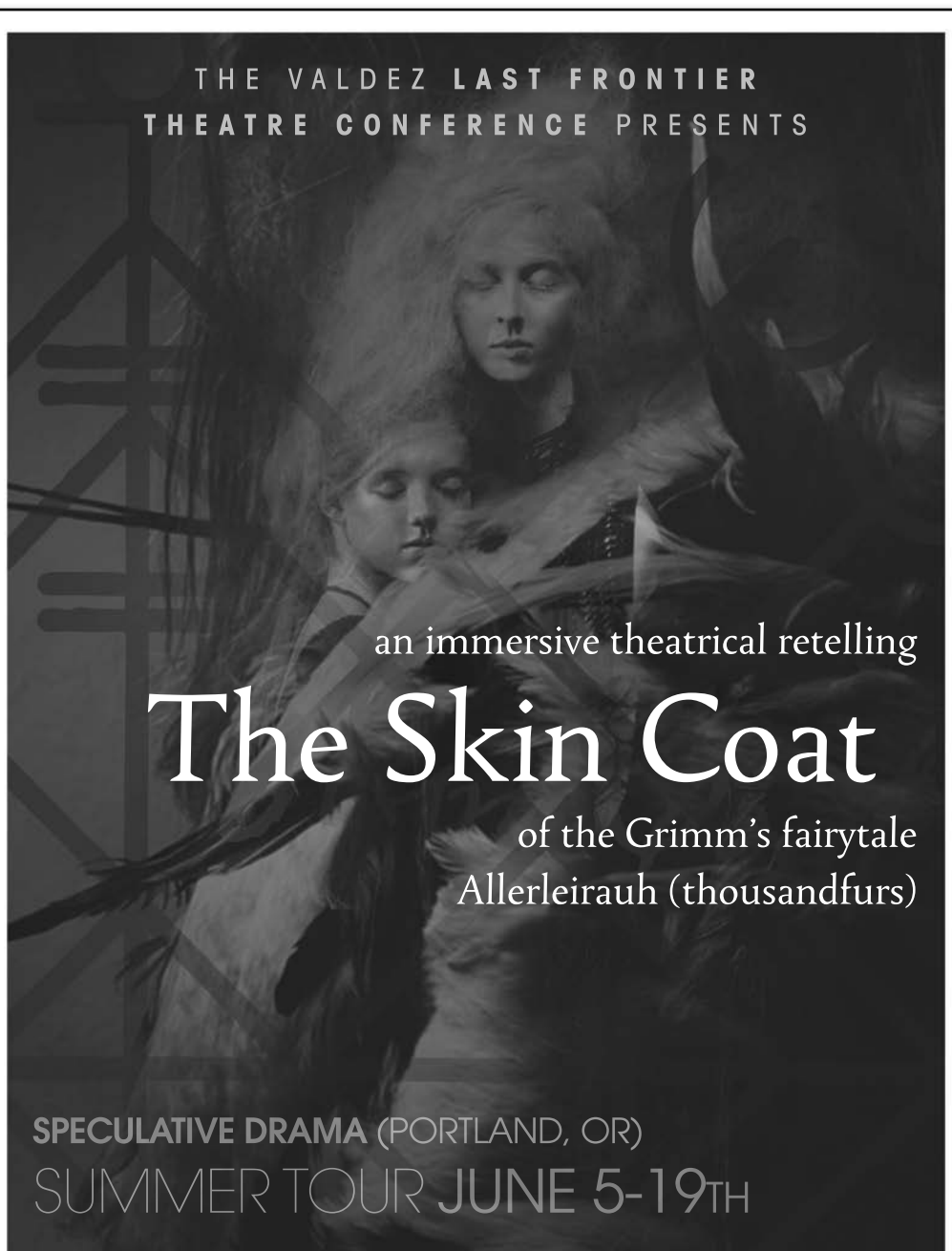
8:00 p.m.

9:00 p.m.

Registration Desk open.

Speculative Drama presents *The Skin Coat*,  
directed by Megan Sky Hale

Post-Show Reception in the Civic Center Foyer.



Saturday, June 9, at 8:00pm

**Valdez Civic Center**

call 835-2469 for more information

<http://enchants.us/the-skin-coat>

Room A	Room B	Room C
<b>10:30 a.m.</b> Room A: Play Lab panelist meeting (not open to public)		
<b>11:30 a.m.</b> Room A: Theatre Conference and Play Lab Orientation Session		
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> How Not To Get Hired As An Actor: A Professional Approach Toward Auditioning with Mark Lutwak	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> JUMPSTART! with Arlene Hutton	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, Part One	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> What To Do With a First Draft: Approaching Revision with a Solid Plan with Y York	
	<b>4:30 p.m.</b> 10 Fundamental Truths About Being A Writer I Finally Learned (And Believed) with Gary Garrison	
<b>6:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> <i>The Veritas Vigilantes take Valdez: An evening with our featured artists, directed by Erma Duricko</i>		
<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.

#### How Not To Get Hired As An Actor: A Professional Approach Toward Auditioning with Mark Lutwak

We're not going to work on your monologues in this workshop. We're going to look at all the little things that can get in the way of presenting yourself as an actor at an audition, ranging from preparation to headshots and resumes to the basic philosophy of auditioning. We all know some of these things, but here's a chance to remind ourselves of the many ways we inadvertently send up red flags when we should be just sharing our work as an actor. Please bring your headshot and resume.

#### JUMPSTART! with Arlene Hutton

For playwrights, actors, directors, and anyone interested in joyfully exploring the creative process. Whether you are new to playwriting or in the middle of a project, you already possess, deep inside you, everything you need to jumpstart your art and bring forth your unique voice. Bring a pen or pencil; this workshop includes a series of in-class exercises which reveal a roadmap to the wonders and revelations of the unconscious mind.

#### 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.

#### What To Do With a First Draft: Approaching Revision with a Solid Plan with Y York

It's been weeks, months, or even years to get a complete draft of your play. You know it isn't quite right so you set about revising, re-reading, re-thinking. This endeavor can result in shifting commas from one end of a sentence to the other which will not do much toward improving your play. This workshop provides you with a series of questions and exercises designed to uncover what may still be missing from your play and generate a significant next draft.

#### 10 Fundamental Truths About Being A Writer I Finally Learned (And Believed) with Gary Garrison

After 35 years of teaching playwriting, being an Executive Director for the Dramatist Guild and mentoring hundreds of playwrights across all that time, I learned/forgot/learned/ignored/learned truths about being a writer that if I'd only embraced instead of keeping at arm's length, I might have gotten a little further faster in my career. This open discussion will cover those ten truths and explore what you think should be added to the list.

# Sunday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Peter Porco's <i>The Loneliest Number</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Barry Levine's <i>Exiting the V-Club</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Linda Ayres-Frederick's <i>Bittersweet</i>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Tamar Shai Bolkvadze's <i>The Insurance Play</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> L.M. Konoplisky's <i>American Bowl</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Nicholas Walker Herbert's <i>Megalodon</i>
<b>2:10 p.m.</b> Andrea Staats' <i>Cat and Pond</i>	<b>2:10 p.m.</b> Jill Bess' <i>The Old Woman Who Lost Her Voice</i>	<b>2:10 p.m.</b> Douglas Gearhart's <i>Squandered Blood</i> (this one time in Iraq...)
<b>3:30 p.m.</b> Catherine Castellani's <i>In Search of Lost Time</i>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b> Joe Barnes' <i>The Day She Went Away</i>	<b>3:30 p.m.</b> April Littlejohn's <i>Tick... Tick... Boom!</i>

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

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

**THE  
VERITAS  
VIGILANTES  
TAKE  
VALDEZ!**

**At The Valdez Last Frontier  
Theatre Conference**

**SUNDAY, JUNE 10, 8:00 P.M.  
AT THE VALDEZ CIVIC CENTER  
CALL 835.2469 FOR MORE INFORMATION**

Room A	Room B	Room C
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Peter Porco's <i>The Loneliest Number</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Barry Levine's <i>Exiting the V-Club</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Linda Ayres-Frederick's <i>Bittersweet</i>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Tamar Shai Bolkvadze's <i>The Insurance Play</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: L.M. Konoplisky's <i>American Bowl</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Nicholas Walker Herbert's <i>Megalodon</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break (with Official Playwrights of Facebook Unofficial Meeting)		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Creating Characters from Metaphor with Gregory Pulver	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Discovering Playable Action with Bostin Christopher	
<b>1:45 p.m.</b> Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop		
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Andrea Staats' <i>Cat and Pond</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Jill Bess' <i>The Old Woman Who Lost Her Voice</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Douglas Gearhart's <i>Squandered Blood (this one time in Iraq...)</i>
<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Catherine Castellani's <i>In Search of Lost Time</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Joe Barnes' <i>The Day She Went Away</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: April Littlejohn's <i>Tick... Tick... Boom!</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> The Midnight Summit Ensemble presented Ashley Rose Wellman's <i>You Are The Blood</i> , directed by Kalli Randall		
<b>10:15 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

### Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett

Join Ben for vocal and physical warm-ups and games that will invigorate you and prepare you for the day's rehearsals and performances.

Stretch, shake, and sigh to free your voice and free yourself.

### Creating Characters from Metaphor with Gregory Pulver

Write and create characters and scenes from metaphors using simple words, haikus, poetry and song. This workshop is great for writers, designers, directors and devising. BYOD, or pen and paper, and be prepared to write!

### Discovering Playable Action with Bostin Christopher

This workshop will examine the ways in which an actor may go about finding the dynamic range in a script and working to discover playable action. Explore how to tap into your creativity and bring a uniqueness to your work. This workshop is for actors at any level and is also valuable insight for playwrights/directors in learning how actors work on material and how they can help actors give the performance they dream of. No preparation needed. We will be working on our feet as we explore this event based method.



# Monday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>9:15 a.m.</b> John Perovich's <i>the broken age</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Vonn Scott Bair's <i>Things, Or, The Rothko</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Merridawn Duckler's <i>Mystery of the Glass Ceiling</i>
<b>10:50 a.m.</b> Nick Mazzuca's <i>I, Weapon</i>	<b>10:50 a.m.</b> Kate Rich's <i>The Unlikely Survival of Amos Benson</i>	<b>10:50 a.m.</b> Seth McNeill's <i>The Bastard</i>
<b>12:55 p.m.</b> Tom Moran's <i>Swede Family Robinson</i>	<b>12:55 p.m.</b> Jana Ozturgut's <i>What Happens on the Ridge...</i>	<b>12:55 p.m.</b> Victoria Z. Daly's <i>Invisible</i>
<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Arthur M. Jolly's <i>The Lady Demands Satisfaction</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Charly Evon Simpson's <i>While We Wait</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Mattie Roquel Rydlach's <i>Shut It On!</i>

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

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

Midnight Summit Ensemble  
presents...

# You are the Blood

A play by:  
Ashley Rose Wellman

**8:00 PM**  
Monday, June 8th  
@  
The Valdez Civic Center

Call 907-835-2469 for more information

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.</b> Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: John Perovich's <i>the broken age</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Vonn Scott Bair's <i>Things, Or, The Rothko</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Merridawn Duckler's <i>Mystery of the Glass Ceiling</i>
<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Nick Mazzuca's <i>I, Weapon</i>	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Kate Rich's <i>The Unlikely Survival of Amos Benson</i>	<b>11:15 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Seth McNeill's <i>The Bastard</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Physical Comedy for the Actor with Wayne Mitchell	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Action, Part One: The Writing, with Carrie Baker and April Littlejohn	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Tom Moran's <i>Swede Family Robinson</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Jana Ozturgut's <i>What Happens on the Ridge...</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Victoria Z. Daly's <i>Invisible</i>
<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Arthur M. Jolly's <i>The Lady Demands Satisfaction</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Charly Evon Simpson's <i>While We Wait</i>	<b>4:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Mattie Roquel Rydlach's <i>Shut It On!</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> RKP Productions and Cyrano's Theatre Company present Schatzie Schaefer's <i>Spikes</i> , directed by Dick Reichman		
<b>10:00 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

### Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett

Join Ben for vocal and physical warm-ups and games that will invigorate you and prepare you for the day's rehearsals and performances.

Stretch, shake, and sigh to free your voice and free yourself.

### Action, Part One: The Writing, with Carrie Baker and April Littlejohn

A workshop designed to introduce action to your play to help understand your characters, drive your plot, and intensify the emotional response from your audience. The class will explore different types of action and how to write it, as well as introduce Special FX such as blood bags, guns, and knives for a greater understanding of the tools action has to offer the writer.

# Tuesday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Rand Higbee's <i>The Chicken and the Bear</i>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Kristen Ritter's <i>Step Nine</i>
<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Amy Berryman's <i>Walden</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> David A. Gregory's <i>Hank &amp; Jim Build a Plane</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Neil Sharpson's <i>The Caspian Sea</i>
<b>1:00 p.m.</b> (In Room C) Mary Portser's <i>That Spot in the Woods</i>		
<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Sarah Tuft's <i>Marvel-ous Monica; in Which Monica Lewinsky is a Superhero Hell-Bent on Revenge</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Kevin Mullin's <i>The Home of Lost Dogs</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Amanda Glassman's <i>The Wedding Party</i>

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

**Tonight's  
Show...**

The Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference presents...

# SPIKES





by Schatzie Schaefer  
directed by Dick Reichman

**GREED  
HAS  
NO  
CEILING**

**June 12, 2018  
Tuesday at 8 pm**

Valdez Civic Center

Call 835.2469  
for more information

Originated by:  and  with generous assistance from:  

Room A	Room B	Room C
	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Rand Higbee's <i>The Chicken and the Bear</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Kristen Ritter's <i>Step Nine</i>
<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Amy Berryman's <i>Walden</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: David A. Gregory's <i>Hank &amp; Jim Build a Plane</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Neil Sharpson's <i>The Caspian Sea</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Action, Part Two: The Acting, with Carrie Baker and April Littlejohn	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Sarah Tuft's <i>Marvel-ous Monica; in Which Monica Lewinsky is a Superhero Hell-Bent on Revenge</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Kevin Mullin's <i>The Home of Lost Dogs</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Amanda Glassman's <i>The Wedding Party</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> Snowflake Avalanche presents Y York's <i>Sycorax</i> , starring Demene E. Hall and directed by Mark Lutwak		
<b>10:00 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

### Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett

Join Ben for vocal and physical warm-ups and games that will invigorate you and prepare you for the day's rehearsals and performances.

Stretch, shake, and sigh to free your voice and free yourself.

### Action, Part Two: The Acting, with Carrie Baker and April Littlejohn

This workshop will introduce basic unarmed, hand-to-hand stage combat moves. The class will focus on moves that actors are most likely to be asked to execute on stage: slaps, punches, chokes, scratches, and hair pulls. Participants should wear workout clothes. Although this workshop is geared towards actors, writers and directors are very welcome to participate.


# Wednesday Rehearsal Schedule

Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Paco Jose Madden's <i>The Night of Shadows</i>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Roberta D'Alois' <i>You Should Have Been There</i>	<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Shane Patrick Mitten's <i>We Want a Divorce!</i>
<b>9:50 a.m.</b> Ashley Rose Wellman's <i>Willed Bodies</i>	<b>9:50 a.m.</b> Sean O'Hare's <i>While Ireland Holds These Graves</i>	<b>9:50 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Joanna Castle Miller's <i>around and around and around the static sun</i>
	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Jan Probst's <i>Changing the World with Big Hair</i>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Eric Moore's <i>Cooper's Box</i>
	<b>2:40 p.m.</b> Jocelyn Paine's <i>Shear Audacity</i>	<b>2:40 p.m.</b> Joy Cutler's <i>Back on Track</i>
<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Tom David Barna's <i>Past Present Future</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Sam Collier's <i>Daisy Violet the Bitch Beast King</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Alice Stanley's <i>Lipstick</i>

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

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

The Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference  
presents  
The Snowflake Avalanche production of



**SYCORAX**  
by Y York

Free admission  
Valdez Civic Center  
Tuesday, June 12, 2018 8pm

Snowflake Avalanche  
is powered by  
**Shunpike**  
POWERING THE BUSINESS OF ART

Room A	Room B	Room C
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett		
<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: Paco Jose Madden's <i>The Night of Shadows</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Roberta D'Alois' <i>You Should Have Been There</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Shane Patrick Mitten's <i>We Want a Divorce!</i>
<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Ashley Rose Wellman's <i>Willed Bodies</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Sean O'Hare's <i>While Ireland Holds These Graves</i>	<b>10:45 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Joanna Castle Miller's <i>around and around and around the static sun</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Action, Part Three: The Collaboration, with Carrie Baker and April Littlejohn	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Jan Probst's <i>Changing the World with Big Hair</i>	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Eric Moore's <i>Cooper's Box</i>
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Mary Portser's <i>That Spot in the Woods</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Jocelyn Paine's <i>Shear Audacity</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Joy Cutler's <i>Back on Track</i>
<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Tom David Barna's <i>Past Present Future</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Sam Collier's <i>Daisy Violet the Bitch Beast King</i>	<b>4:15 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Alice Stanley's <i>Lipstick</i>
<b>6:00 to 8:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>8:00 p.m.</b> TBA Theatre presents Jacob Marx Rice's <i>Leni and Joseph</i> , directed by Erin Dagon Mitchell		
<b>10:00 p.m.</b> (approximate) Fringe Festival at the Best Western Mariner's Room		

### Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett

Join Ben for vocal and physical warm-ups and games that will invigorate you and prepare you for the day's rehearsals and performances.

Stretch, shake, and sigh to free your voice and free yourself.

### Action, Part Three: The Collaboration, with Carrie Baker and April Littlejohn

This class brings both elements of performing and writing together. The writers will work with the performers to explore how adding action can change not only the scene, but the intentions of a character. The class will create "the story of the fight" with elements from the previous two classes of writing action and performing action. Though attendance in the previous Action classes is recommended, new students are welcome.

# Thursday Rehearsal Schedule


Men's Dressing Room	Women's Dressing Room	Green Room
<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Jasmine Sharma's <i>Hot Dogs and Feminism</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Timothy Crawford's <i>The Consultant from Hell</i>	<b>9:15 a.m.</b> Brenda Dolma's <i>Rising</i>
<b>10:30 a.m.</b> Jessica Stanley's <i>Sisters, Inferno</i>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b> Jacob Marx Rice's <i>Cracks</i>	<b>10:30 a.m.</b> Katherine Glover's <i>Ronald Reagan: Time Traveler</i>
<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Rita Kniess Barkey's <i>Feather and Bone</i>	<b>1:00 p.m.</b> Nicole Heneveld's <i>Measure</i>	
<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Ali Viterbi's <i>In Every Generation</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Tara Meddaugh's <i>For My Silent Sisters</i>	<b>2:00 p.m.</b> Marguerite Louise Scott's <i>Flight Plan</i>

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

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

The Last Frontier Theatre Conference presents  
a workshop production by TBA Theatre


The capacity for sympathy  
is what makes us human



**Leni & Joseph**

By Jacob Marx Rice  
Directed by Erin Dagon Mitchell

**Thursday, June 14**  
8:00pm • Valdez Civic Center  
For more information call 907.835.2469



Room A	Room B	Room C
<b>9:00 a.m.</b> Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett		
<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Jasmine Sharma's <i>Hot Dogs and Feminism</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Timothy Crawford's <i>The Consultant from Hell</i>	<b>10:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Brenda Dolma's <i>Rising</i>
<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Jessica Stanley's <i>Sisters, Inferno</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Jacob Marx Rice's <i>Cracks</i>	<b>11:00 a.m.</b> Play Lab: Katherine Glover's <i>Ronald Reagan: Time Traveler</i>
<b>12:45 p.m.</b> Lunch Break; book signing with Marshall W. Mason		
<b>1:30 p.m.</b> Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner & Frank Collison, Part Two	<b>1:30 p.m.</b> The Whole Pie: The director as leader of collaborators, with Mark Lutwak	
<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Rita Kniess Barkey's <i>Feather and Bone</i>	<b>3:00 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Nicole Heneveld's <i>Measure</i>	
<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Ali Viterbi's <i>In Every Generation</i>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Tara Meddaugh's <i>For My Silent Sisters</i>	<b>3:45 p.m.</b> Play Lab: Marguerite Louise Scott's <i>Flight Plan</i>
<b>6:00 to 7:00 p.m.</b> Dinner Break		
<b>7:00 p.m.</b> Cyrano's Theatre Company presents Glyka Stoiou's <i>Don Quixotes</i>		
<b>8:45 p.m.</b> Boarding for a 2-hour cruise to Shoup Glacier on Stan Stephens Cruises		

### Wake-up Warm-up with Ben Corbett

Join Ben for vocal and physical warm-ups and games that will invigorate you and prepare you for the day's rehearsals and performances.

Stretch, shake, and sigh to free your voice and free yourself.

### 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.

### The Whole Pie: The director as leader of collaborators, with Mark Lutwak

By treating "concept" as a continuous process of questioning, the director and design team can integrate and maximize their contributions to create the richest and most resonant possible piece of theatre.



*Tonight's Show...*

THE VALDEZ LAST FRONTIER  
THEATRE CONFERENCE PRESENTS

CYRANO'S THEATRE COMPANY  
PRODUCTION OF

BASED ON DON QUIXOTE BY MIGUEL DE CERVANTES

# DON QUIXOTES

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY GLYKA STOIOU

**VALDEZ CIVIC CENTER**  
**JUNE 15, 2017**  
**FRIDAY 7PM**

CALL 834.1614 FOR MORE INFORMATION  
OR 835.2469 DURING THE CONFERENCE

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FACEBOOK.COM/CYRANOSAK

ATWOOD  
FOUNDATION

Municipality of  
Anchorage  
Arts Advisory  
Commission

EASMUSON  
FOUNDATION

9:00 a.m. Monologue Workshop performers called for tech through

10:30 a.m. Monologue Workshop Final Presentation

Noon Lunch Break

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, catered by the Serendipity Supper Club. The evening culminates in the presentation of the Jerry Harper Service Award to Daniel Irvine & Marshall W. Mason. For an evening of upbeat elegance with live music and dance TBA Theatre invites you to join

the Masquerade, a classic party with a modern flair! To add to the fun, come dressed with a sense of style and classically masked. No mask? No problem, materials will be on hand to create your own as simple or as outlandish as you desire.



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



### Sunday, June 17

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

This year, Alaska lost three playwrights  
and an iconic director from our family

IN  
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**Mary Langham**



**Bill McAllister**



**Jean Paal**



**Bob Pond**



Thanks for sharing your stories.

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 the Anchorage community. 2018 marks the "Season of New Adventures" – Cyrano's Theatre has embarked on the greatest of new adventures, moving in September towards new growth and opportunity in a new residence at a multi-space arts center. 2018 marks CTC's first full season in their new home: each production will focus on bridging between their honored legacy and future potential. CTC is thrilled to present *Don Quixotes*, a clever adaptation featured in the 2015 Play Lab, written and performed by Glyka Stoiou (June 22-24). The fall lineup includes Shakespeare's *Much Ado About Nothing*, a multi-generational romance directed by Featured Artist Teresa K. Pond (Sept 14-Oct 7), and *A Doll's House Part 2*, Lucas Hnath's acclaimed sequel to Henrik Ibsen's classic-feminist drama (Oct 26-Nov 18). See CTC's website for the rest of the 2018 season and more information ([www.cyranos.org](http://www.cyranos.org)). CTC has continued to be honored by patrons and community: "Best Live Theatre" by Anchorage Daily News and Anchorage Press, the Mayor's Arts Award, and the Governor's Award for the Arts. CTC is proud to offer Schatzie Schaefer's *Spikes*, a co-production with RKP Productions which was featured in the 2007 Play Lab under the title *Grandma Millie & The Crooked E*, performing Tuesday at the conference. CTC is honored to be a part of the 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 their productions in Anchorage.



Dick Reichman's *The Audition*

RKP (Reichman, Kellys, Pond) Productions actually began in 2011 when Bob Pond and Dick Reichman presented *The Glass Menagerie* and conceived the idea of forming a theatre company, but it wasn't until 2014, when Audrey and Bruce Kelly joined forces with Reichman and Pond, that RKP Productions began their mission of presenting plays that don't necessarily fit in a typical theatre season in earnest. Since then RKP has staged nine productions: Marsha Norman's *'night Mother* in 2014, Deborah Brevoort's *The Women of Lockerbie* in 2015, Shakespeare's *The Winter's Tale* in spring 2016, two one-acts, Dick Reichman's *The Phone* and Nava Semel's *The Child Behind the Eyes*, in fall 2016, Dick Reichman's *How to Make Money by Dying* in January 2017, Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover* in April 2017, Jason Odell Williams' *Church and State in October 2017*, and Schatzie Shaefer's *Spikes* in April 2018. RKP has, we hope, filled a space among the impressive theatre programs that already exist and has provided meaningful, thought-provoking drama while partnering with other local theatrical organizations. We are pleased to partner with Cyrano's Theatre Company for this production and greatly honored to bring *Spikes* to the this year's Conference.



Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover*

Portland, Oregon theatre company Speculative Drama was founded to explore the intersection of classic stories and immersive theatre. Helmed by Artistic Director and London-trained classical and movement actor Megan Skye Hale and Creative Director, Technical Designer, and Portland-based musician Myrrh Larsen, Speculative Drama aims to reclaim the relevance of myths, fairy tales, and Shakespeare through movement theatre, immersive staging, and site-specific production. Speculative Drama places the audience directly into the action of our productions, combining the principles of site-specific theatre, rich and immersive soundscapes, and an extremely intimate setting. They create an atmosphere of innovation while honoring and maintaining the original texts or source materials.



Speculative Drama's production of  
*A Midsummer Night's Dream*



No theatre is made by one person. Midnight Summit Ensemble strives to embrace that ideal and to facilitate a completely collaborative experience for ensemble members and writers. MSE started in August of 2016 in Chicago, Illinois and went on to produce their first Midwest production in November of the same year. *No Exit* by Jean Paul Sartre set in the 1940s began a tradition of collaboration in which every ensemble member has a seat at the table and no idea is insignificant. They have continued to work together to entertain and produce art for the Windy City ever since. MSE makes their focus the modern adaptation of classics as well as the production of new works from up and coming playwrights - which is why the Conference is a yearly must. What better place to find fantastic new works from playwrights who are willing to workshop? The ensemble's lifeblood lies in finding an

unpublished work by an eager and talented playwright who wants to progress their script and see how bringing words to life can change and mold a text. One such playwright they have worked with on multiple occasions is Ashley Rose Wellman whom they met here at the Conference! Ashley brings an openness to the table when working together with actors and directors on her dark comedies. That openness works perfectly with very collaborative nature of MSE and has led to some incredible insights on her complex, hilarious characters. The ensemble could not be more thrilled to bring you one such work of hers, *You Are The Blood*, here at the Conference. The Midwest premier in the fall of 2017 was a unique experience for them in that they were able to bring down an Alaskan actor, Frank Delaney, to play the role of David. This meant that rehearsals were very character based in the beginning with blocking coming in later in the process to compliment the organic movement. *You Are The Blood* has been a passion project of MSE's ever since one ensemble member was in the reading of it at the Conference years ago and the whole group fell in love with the script. Seeing it come to fruition has been incredibly rewarding not just for the ensemble, but for Ashley Rose Wellman as well. Inspired by many incredible actors, the ensemble has put together a cast of people from around the USA that they believe can best bring this story to life. They could not be more excited to welcome Gigi Lynch and Chase Anderson-Shaw onto the project (and to welcome Chase to the conference for the first time!) Midnight Summit Ensemble is constantly growing and are excited to see what the future brings for their company. They are simply a small group of individuals that have a passion for theatre and love bringing it to the public.



Snowflake Avalanche is the trade name now used by playwright Y. York and director Mark Lutwak when they collaborate. In the 1980s, they were based in New York City; in 1990, they moved to Seattle. In 1999, they left Seattle for Hawai'i, and then left Hawai'i for Cincinnati. Now they are back in Seattle. For their first project since returning, they have teamed up with old partners, including Demene E. Hall, who appeared in the premiere production of *The Snowflake Avalanche*, and Frances Kenny, who designed the costumes for *the Snowflake Avalanche*, *Frog & Toad, It Comes Around*, and *The Garden of Rikki Tikki Tavi*, as well as numerous video projects. Since setting out on this

journey, York and Lutwak have collaborated on over twenty full productions and countless workshops and readings.

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 Overnights*, 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 Arlitia



William Missouri Downs' *Cockeyed*



Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*

Jones' *Grand Central and 42nd* and P. Shane Mitchell's *The Resurrection of Humpty Dumpty*, both of which started as *Alaska Overnights* productions and have subsequently been presented here at the Conference. TBA Theatre was named by readers of The Anchorage Daily News as Alaska's "Best Non-Profit", "The Gold Standard in Family Fun", "Best Arts Organization" "Best Live Theatre" and has been named in the top three live theatres in the Anchorage Press for the past six years. The company will be touring P. Shane Mitchell's *The Death of Edgar Allen Poe* to the Edinburgh Festival Fringe this coming August.



## Final Presentation - Saturday, June 16, 10:30 A.M.



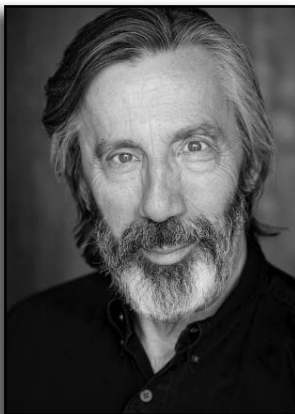
The Monologue Workshop features pieces written by Conference playwrights. Work is solicited from attending playwrights. Selected pieces are posted on our website, and actors choose from them, up to two performers per piece. Participants have the opportunity to work with Frank Collison, Laura Gardner, and Rob Lecrone over the course of two classes and individual sessions during the Conference. The work is presented on the final Saturday.



A collection of pieces from the Monologue Workshop are available from Focus Publishing in *Monologues from The Last Frontier Theatre Conference*.

"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 16, 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.



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

### **The 12th Annual Ten-Minute Play Slam**

***Oh, no! I Flew Too Close to the Sun!***

by Rand Higbee

***So Lovely Here on Earth***

by Mary Portser

***Jill and Jack***

by Jan Probst

***Active Shooter***

by Jacob Marx Rice

***Round One***

by Andrea Staats

***The World's Next Tooth Fairy is Marci Peterson***

by Joanna Castle Miller





# PLAY SLAM PRODUCTION HISTORY

## 2017 – Directed by Carrie Yanagawa

Chip Bolcik's *Expecting Hamilton*  
Tom Moran's *I, Phone*  
Tobin Wheeler's *To Give Up On Heaven*  
Daniels Calvin's *Logorrhea*  
Derek Gray's *Sons Become Fathers*  
Joanna Castle Miller's *Parasite*

## 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*

## 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*

## 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*

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



The Fringe Festival at the Valdez 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.

People interested in getting involved at the event should talk with the coordinator. Role assignments are usually given out in the Civic Center during the lunch hour.

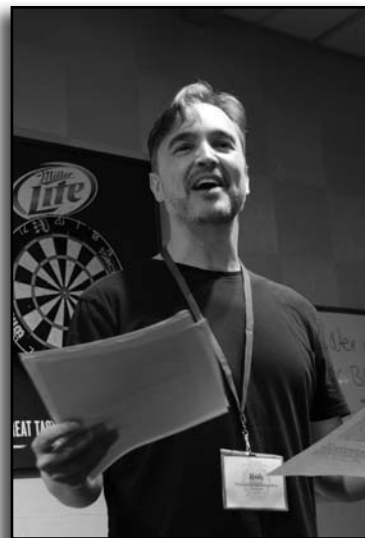
### Fringe History

In 1998, Play Lab founder Michael Warren Powell wanted to hear a play that hadn't been selected for the Play Lab. The gathering of people that night

in the Student Commons at Prince William Sound 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, Rob Lecrone stepped in for Bostin, and the partnership of Shaw and Lecrone has been bringing you the Fringe ever since.

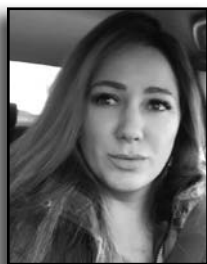


Over the years, the Fringe has performed in many spaces, including the Totem Inn, Ernesto's Taqueria, the Glacier Sound Inn, the Fat Mermaid, and the Best Western, its current home. Regardless of location, there is rarely an empty seat at this popular event.



### 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'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** - I'm having trouble with my bio. Hello, he's back. It's Rob Lecrone's fourth year hosting and co-producing the Last Frontier Fringe. In the meantime, he's been in cryogenic sleep, waiting for this time to come again. You can also find him coaching in the monologue workshop. Back again, look who's back. Don't print this.

**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 Daniel Irvine and Marshall W. Mason.

### 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 Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference the way he did, heart and soul.

The Conference is the creation of many people. While credit is rightly given to its founders, PWSC 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 Technical Director for the Conference from 1993 to 2014, 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, PWSC 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 the college and surrounding communities. The 2015 Award was presented to longtime Anchorage Theatre mainstays David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware. The 2016 award went to the former president of PWSC Doug Desorcie. For the 25th anniversary of the Conference, Sandy Harper was recognized as the Producing Artistic Director Emeritus of Cyrano's Theatre Company, which she co-founded with Jerry.

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

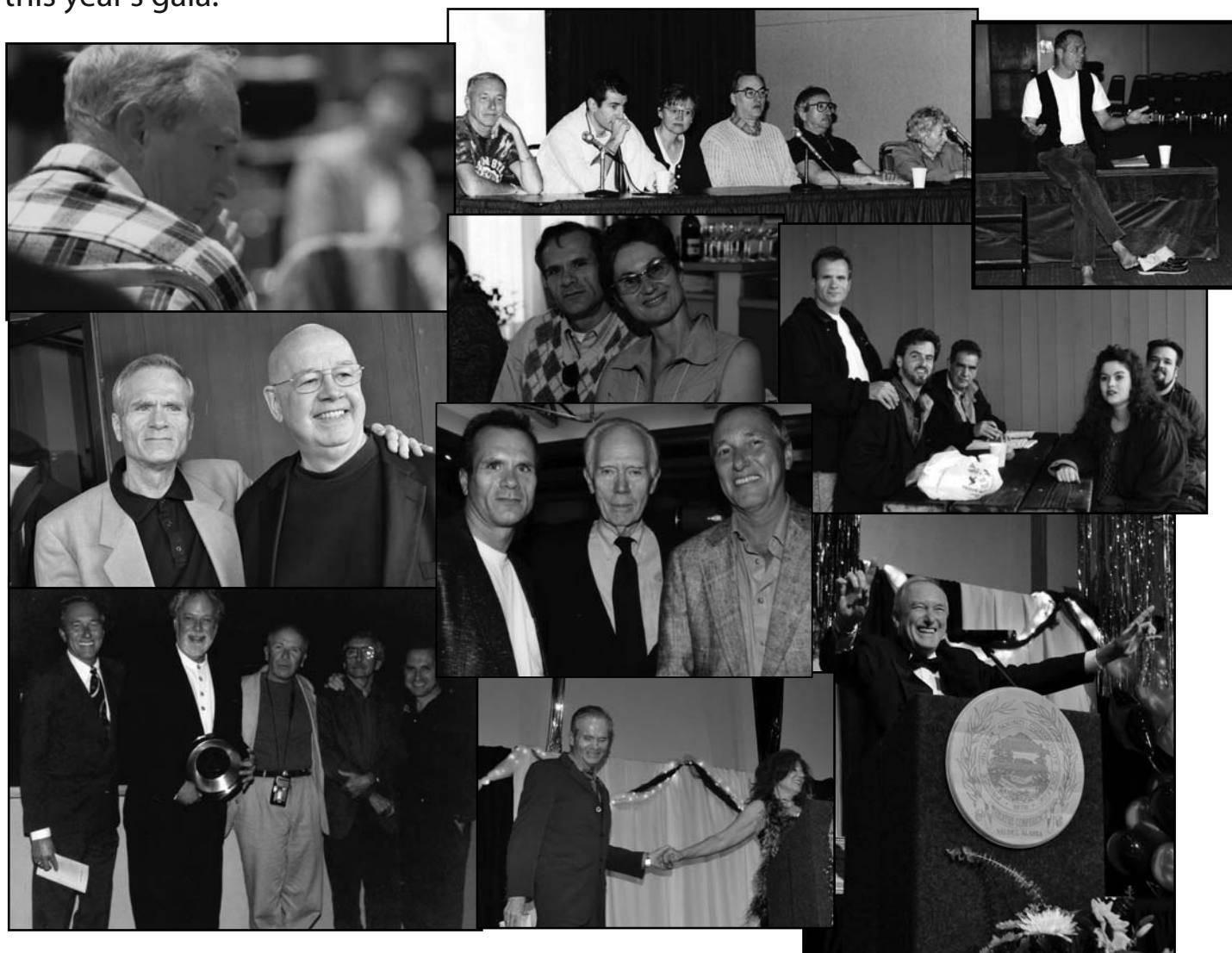
*"The death of Jerry Harper removed from the local scene a man of enormous talent, one who very well might have been the greatest stage actor ever to perform in Alaska. He played everything with great artistry and skill. Comedy or drama, he was at the top of his game always--a man of perfect timing, 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

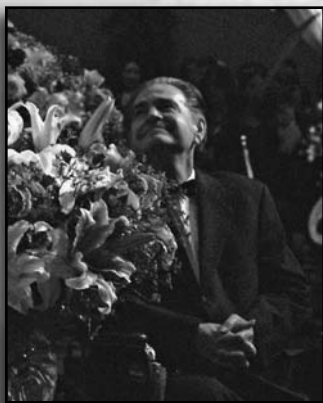
Marshall W. Mason first came Valdez in 1993. It was a three-day affair in August, and he hosted a conversation, led a directing workshop, and sat on a panel. His stature (his and Daniel Irvine's full bios are in the Featured Artists section), coupled with that of Edward Albee, made the whole event, which probably had 50 participants or so, a little surreal. Gathered here at the end of the road, in a state many Americans aren't really sure is a part of the U.S., were these genius titans of the American theatre.

Daniel Irvine joined him in subsequent years, and they served the Conference in many ways over the decades here: Marshall was frequently a Lab panelist and gala emcee, and Danny was one of the first directors of the Ten-Minute Play Slam. In the two-part history of our event, Marshall and Danny span over the entire stretch. The entire Play Lab philosophy on feedback comes from the Circle Repertory Theatre Company: Marshall was the founding Artistic Director, and Danny Artistic Director of the Circle Rep LAB.

We do our best to live up to their legacy, and appreciate them letting us thank them at this year's gala.



# PAST RECIPIENTS



2007 ~ Michael Warren Powell



2008 ~ Jim Cucurull



2009 ~ Ron Holmstrom



2010 ~ Shane Mitchell



2011 ~ Erma Duricko



2012 ~ PWSC  
President Emeritus Jo  
Ann C. McDowell



2013 ~ PWSC  
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



2017 ~ Sandy Harper

**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 11, 10:00 A.M.

Room A

**Peter Porco's  
THE LONELIEST NUMBER**

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Gary Garrison, and Barclay Kopchak



**Stage Instructions** Elaine Sullivan  
**David** Jamie Nelson  
**Emily** Angela Colavecchio  
**Weber** Sara Shipp

Novelist David Preston has a killer crush on a beautiful woman young enough to be his daughter, a visual artist whose admiration for him knows but a single limitation: No sex.

Room B

**Barry Levine's  
EXITING THE V-CLUB**

Panelists: Arlene Hutton,  
Schatzie Schaefer, and Y York



**Stage Instructions** Susan Niman  
**Chastity Johnson** Devan Hawkins  
**Vance Manning** Nathan H.G.

Vance is a rock star. Chastity is a fan/groupie he just picked up tonight at the concert after-party and has brought back to his hotel room for a night of fun. But when they get there he suddenly becomes shy and awkward. Chastity is willing, so what's stopping him?

Room C

**Linda Ayres-Frederick's  
BITTERSWEET**

Panelists: Bostin Christopher,  
Teresa K. Pond, and Gregory Pulver



**Stage Instructions** Lela Ryterski  
**Perry** Mark Robokoff  
**Kulo** Martha Robinson

Her partner is dead, her wrist is broken, and Kulo just can't let go of the clutter until her neatnik brother comes to help find the will and a whole lot more to prove that blood can be thicker than water.

Monday, June 11, 11:00 A.M.

Room A

**Tamar Shai Bokvadze's  
THE INSURANCE PLAY**

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Gary Garrison, and Barclay Kopchak



**Stage Instructions** Kelly Wilson  
**Laura** Jill Sowerwine  
**Steve** Ben Corbett  
**Parker** Kimberly Allely  
**Ryan** Neil Sharpson  
**Mikayla** Christine A. Eagleson  
**Janae** Angeliki Karakaxidu

When an investor buys a dying woman's life insurance policy it changes the course of both their lives.

Room B

**L.M. Konoplisky's  
AMERICAN BOWL**

Panelists: Arlene Hutton,  
Schatzie Schaefer, and Y York



**Stage Instructions** Roberta D'Alois  
**Billie Lou Riddle** Lou Anne Wright  
**Fadwa** Danielle Rabinovitch  
**Audry Chu** Gabby Gretel  
**Ibrahim** Rob Lecrone

A Muslim immigrant moves to a small Mississippi town and is befriended by a white, middle-aged southern belle. Cultural misunderstandings that at first seem benign or even comic become complicated by race, religion, and xenophobia and their intersections. These fears and the actions they inspire have repercussions revealing both the fault lines in the American soul and the tenuous nature of belonging.

Room C

**Nicholas Walker Herbert's  
MEGALODON**

Panelists: Bostin Christopher,  
Teresa K. Pond, and Gregory Pulver



**Stage Instructions** Rosalyn Evenson  
**Vogan** David A. Gregory  
**Cass** Jessica Stanley  
**Chandler** Kyle Walker  
**Kim** Taylor R. Campbell  
**Hannah** Peyton McCandless  
**Shelby** Tom Moran  
**Garrett** Joshua Nettinga

Cass—a marine biologist—must warn everyone about her close encounter with a dangerous ancient monster, but no one believes her. Hannah is looking for her missing brother, Vogan, but no one will help her. And Vogan—just wants to know he exists.

Monday, June 11, 3:00 P.M.

Room A

# Andrea Staats' *CAT AND POND*

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Gregory Pulver, and Schatzie Schaefers



Stage Instructions Cynthia Steele  
Cat Sara Shipp  
Pond Zed E. Jones  
Lizard Alexandra McCall

Pond is far from home after being carried south by a flying fish. Cat says she'll help Pond find a new home, but it seems like she's just leading Pond in circles! This play for young audiences will also be enjoyed by people of all ages who like cats, ponds, or the occasional toot joke.

Room B

# Jill Bess' *THE OLD WOMAN WHO LOST HER VOICE*

Panelists: Carrie Baker, Erma Duricko,  
and Jayne Wenger



Stage Instructions Marguerite Louise Scott  
Narrator Kevin T. Bennett  
Old Woman K Callan  
Her Daughter Annie McCain Engman  
Doctor / Young Man Jamie Nelson  
Young Girl / Teenage Woman Maureen Olsen  
Young Father Cody Goulder  
Teacher #1 / Man Skyler Ray-Benson Davis  
Grandfather John Havelock  
Teacher #2 Kelly Wilson  
Young Woman Stacy Tanner  
Charlotte Antoinette Martin-Hanson  
Female Narrator Kirsten Webb

A modern day fairy tale. No princess. No dwarves. No wicked witches. Just an old woman, searching for her voice.

Room C

# Douglas Gearhart's *SQUANDERED BLOOD (THIS ONE TIME IN IRAQ...)*

Directed by Jay Stevens

Panelists: Barclay Kopchak,  
David S. Leong, and Jayne Wenger



Stage Instructions Carolyn Roesbury  
John James Cerche  
Jedi Matt Fernandez  
Father Ben Corbett  
Cop Rebecca Gilman

John and Jedi were Soldiers together in Iraq, but back in Pittsburgh, Jedi is in trouble: he's been caught with his hand down his pants at a public pool and is violently confronted by an angry father who has called the police.

Monday, June 11, 4:00 P.M.

Room A

# Catherine Castellani's *IN SEARCH OF LOST TIME*

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Gregory Pulver, and Schatzie Schaefers



Stage Instructions Linnéa Hollingsworth  
Kimber Mary Portser  
Hope Demene E. Hall  
Scott Kim Estes  
Trina Jacqueline Hoffman  
Raul Matt Fernandez

Seventeen years after abruptly expelling them just short of earning their Masters, the elusive Professor has reached out to Kimber, Scott, Hope, and Trina for a long-promised but mysterious Gathering. Now each must find a way to cope—or refuse to cope—with the fact that youth never returns.

Room B

# Joe Barnes' *THE DAY SHE WENT AWAY* Directed by Jayne Wenger

Panelists: Carrie Baker, Erma Duricko,  
and Jayne Wenger



Stage Instructions Dick Reichman  
Lisa Pattison Lou Anne Wright  
Michael Pattison Bostin Christopher  
Jessica Pattison Devan Hawkins  
Christopher Reilly Taran Haynes  
Ashley Fiorini Becca Padrick  
Lieutenant Shepherd Christopher Curry

Five years ago high school senior Jessica Pattison went missing without a trace. Her parents, friends, and Jessica herself look back on what might – or might not – have happened on the day she went away.

Monday, June 11, 4:15 P.M.

Room C

# April Littlejohn's *TICK... TICK... BOOM!*

Panelists: Barclay Kopchak,  
David S. Leong, and Jayne Wenger



Stage Instructions Dennis Humphrey  
Max Jake Beauvais  
Blake Kyle Walker  
Cal Carl Young  
Jackie Stephanie Leigh  
Melanie Kirsten Swanson

Five criminals meet after a heist, each waiting for their share of the money while devouring a bag of fast food with each of their names on it... only to discover that they have swallowed a bomb and will all die if they don't figure out the codes from each of their secrets.



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

## Room A

John Perovich's  
*THE BROKEN AGE*Panelists: David S. Leong,  
Shane Mitchell, and Y York

**Stage Instructions** Megan Skye Hale  
**Wayne** Devin Frey  
**Annie** Grace Williams  
**Bill** Jay Stevens  
**Claire** Lou Anne Wright

Wayne's relationship with Annie fails as he simultaneously has visions of God descending to Earth in a spaceship. Unsure and confused by his visions, Wayne finds no help from Annie or his roommate Bill. After Wayne approaches Dr. Stevens, an art history professor, he learns that his visions might be a prophecy of what's to come. *the broken age* is a science fiction exploration into friendship, loneliness, faith... and the apocalypse.

## Room B

Vonn Scott Bair's  
*THINGS, OR , THE ROTHKO*Panelists: Bostin Christopher,  
Kia Corthron, and Patti D'Beck

**Stage Instructions** Veronica Bissell  
**Gwendolyn** Jill Sowerwine  
**Leigh** Sarah Bethany Baird  
**Sandra** MaryKate Moran  
**Rachel** Amy Berryman

A lighthearted comedy about impending death, in which two women debate the meaning of life, Duke Ellington, Armagnac, and the big red blobs of painter Mark Rothko. Oh, and cancer.

## Room C

Merridawn Duckler's  
*MYSTERY OF THE  
GLASS CEILING*Panelists: Gary Garrison, Arlene Hutton,  
and Schatzie Schaefers

**Stage Instructions** Ron Holmstrom  
**Lila** Rosalyn Evenson  
**Clancy / Red Butler** Bob Mandzi  
**Stan** Shawn Eby  
**Twisty / Ida Lupino / Moli** Christine A. Eagleson

This gumshoe-in-stiletto's comedy finds P.I. Lila drawn into a den of fake Lacanian therapists in a Hollywood headshot scam run by the foxiest of clients. Only the ghost of proto-feminism past (yes, that's a thing) film legend Ida Lupino can help her prove that nothing is more noir than sisterhood?

Tuesday, June 12, 11:15 A.M.

## Room A

Nick Mazzuca's  
*I, WEAPON*Panelists: David S. Leong,  
Shane Mitchell, and Y York

**Stage Instructions / Voices** Mark Muro  
**Hira** Colby Bleicher  
**Aveline** Megan Skye Hale  
**Guard** Matt Clark  
**Mr. Johnson** Cody Goulder

Forty years into the dystopian future a veteran cyborg with faulty gear is locked in a cell with another woman. The two prisoners must wrestle with the demons in their heads and in their pasts to see which prevails: trust or trauma?

## Room B

Kate Rich's  
*THE UNLIKELY SURVIVAL  
OF AMOS BENSON*Panelists: Bostin Christopher,  
Kia Corthron, and Patti D'Beck

**Stage Instructions** Brenda Dolma  
**Leigh** Carrie Baker  
**Heather** Grace Goodyear  
**Mirabai** Carolyn Roesbury  
**Amos** Christopher Curry

Everything seems possible until unthinkable treachery is revealed. How far would you go to save a life?

## Room C

Seth McNeill's  
*THE BASTARD*Panelists: Gary Garrison, Arlene Hutton,  
and Schatzie Schaefers

**Stage Instructions** Zed E. Jones  
**Older** Matt Fernandez  
**Younger** Ryan Buen  
**Sister** Linnéa Hollingsworth

Two brothers await the arrival of their long lost older but probably hypothetical sister at their mother's or father's or possibly a stranger's funeral. When the sister is no longer lost or hypothetical, the brothers are confronted with a conflicting account of who their parents were, and the sister is forced to face two men who resemble their father a bit too much for her liking.

Tuesday, June 12, 3:00 P.M.

Room A

# Tom Moran's SWEDE FAMILY ROBINSON

Panelists: Bostin Christopher,  
Erma Duricko, and David S. Leong



**Stage Instructions** Nathan H.G.  
**Martin Robinson** Joshua Nettinga  
**Natalie Robinson** Grace Williams  
**Jake Robinson** Taran Haynes

Martin Robinson has an upside-down trash can for an R2-D2, a rug draped over a mannequin for a Chewbacca, and an unflinching determination to win back his children's affection by using them to remake everyone's favorite space opera. But his kids may not share his enthusiasm...

Room B

# Jana Ozturgut's WHAT HAPPENS ON THE RIDGE...

Panelists: Carrie Baker, Kia Corthron,  
and Danielle Dresden



**Stage Instructions** Peyton McCandless  
**Jake** Antoinette Martin-Hanson  
**Puma** Devin Frey  
**Carter** Jeremy Gaunt  
**Liam** Jay Stevens  
**Cleo** MaryAlice Larmi

Deep in the Alaskan wilderness, the paths of a gritty trail crew and a bitter couple converge, kindling murder... and hope.

Room C

# Victoria Z. Daly's INVISIBLE

Panelists: Shane Mitchell,  
Jayne Wenger, and Y York



**Stage Instructions** Peter Porco  
**1** Kaeli Meno  
**2** Tamar Shai Bolkvadze  
**3** K Callan

When a woman of a certain age starts to lose her looks and can't find work, her younger selves know exactly what she should do about it.

Tuesday, June 12, 4:00 P.M.

Room A

# Arthur M. Jolly's THE LADY DEMANDS SATISFACTION

Panelists: Bostin Christopher,  
Erma Duricko, and David S. Leong



**Stage Instructions** Tara Meddaugh  
**Trotte Pepperston** Grace Goodyear  
**Duchess Theodosia Pepperston** Laura Gardner  
**Penelope** Jill Sowerwine  
**Tilly** Colby Bleicher  
**Luitger** Glyka Stoiu  
**Lord Abernathy** Frank Collison  
**Osric** Myrrh Larsen

Winner of *Joining Sword & Pen* 2017-18. When a young maiden who has never touched a sword learns she must defend her inheritance in a duel, she struggles with a milksop suitor, a servant girl posing as a German fencing master, a German fencing master who thinks he is there to marry her, a stodgy lawyer and her domineering aunt – the finest blade anywhere – to save her house and lands.

Room B

# Charly Evon Simpson's WHILE WE WAIT

Panelists: Carrie Baker, Kia Corthron,  
and Danielle Dresden



**Stage Instructions** Alexandra McCall  
**Grace** Shaelisa M. Anderson  
**James** Xavior Love  
**Flower Man** Jeremy Gaunt  
**Older Man** Timothy Brown

Letters and airplane tickets fall from the sky. Memories, like snowflakes, float in on a breeze. Grace waits for an email to come. James waits to send it. And as they wait, they replay memories, imagine futures, and deal with an uncomfortable present.

Room C

# Mattie Roquel Rydalch's SHUT IT ON!

Panelists: Shane Mitchell,  
Jayne Wenger, and Y York



**Stage Instructions** Angela Colavecchio  
**Emily** Veronica Bissell  
**Jack** Mark Robokoff  
**Paul** David Haynes  
**Doc** Martha Robinson

Jack, a tormented filmmaker in Jackson, Wyoming, sells his soul to a devilish doctor for a false, twisted happiness. Can his father and daughter help him get it back?

## Room B

### Rand Higbee's *THE CHICKEN AND THE BEAR*

Panelists: Gary Garrison, Shane Mitchell,  
and Schatzie Schaefer



**Stage Instructions** Seth Eggleston  
**Audrey** Jessica Stanley  
**Sunshine** Alyssa Barnes  
**David** Kim Estes  
**Ursa** David Haynes  
**Tandoori** Erin Dagon Mitchell

In Depoe Bay, Oregon, the day before great eclipse of 2017, two vendors argue over who has the rights to sell eclipse t-shirts. It turns out that it all comes down to a chicken and a bear.

## Room C

### Kristen Ritter's *STEP NINE*

Panelists: Erma Duricko, Teresa K. Pond,  
and Gregory Pulver



**Stage Instructions** Amy Kropp  
**Caroline Drop** Grace Williams  
**Peach Williams** Nicole Heneveld  
**Ximena Olivera** Alexandra McCall  
**Franco** Jeremy Gaunt  
**Maya Wesson** Sara Shipp  
**Libby Drop** Kaeli Meno

Caroline Drop, a recovering addict in a 12-Step Program, decides to make amends to everyone she has wronged in a single day. But when things don't go as planned, she is forced to face the long-term consequences of her past in this comedy of forgiveness and redemption.



Nicholas Walker Herbert and Taylor Campbell listen in on one of Michelle Gardner's many tales

## Room A

### Amy Berryman's *WALDEN*

Panelists: Carrie Baker, Kia Corthron,  
and Barclay Kopchak



**Stage Instructions** Catherine Castellani  
**Hannah** Annie McCain Engman  
**Hailey** Alyssa Barnes  
**Bryan** Joshua Nettinga

Old wounds resurface when Hailey and Hannah, twin sisters both in the field of space travel, reunite when Hailey returns from living on the moon for a year. A play set in the not-so-distant future, about rivalry, love, colonization, and the future of humanity.

## Room B

### David A. Gregory's *HANK & JIM BUILD A PLANE* *AN AFTERNOON IN HENRY* *FONDA'S GARAGE*

Panelists: Gary Garrison, Shane Mitchell,  
and Schatzie Schaefer



**Stage Instructions** Kari Miranda  
**James Stewart** Wayne Mitchell  
**Henry Fonda** Steve Mitchell

Every Sunday, Henry Fonda and James Stewart meet at Henry's garage to partake in their favorite pastime: building model airplanes. Join them as they reminisce about everything from their hilarious early days as struggling actors in New York to their detrimental feud over politics and the Hollywood Blacklist.

## Room C

### Niel Sharpson's *THE CASPIAN SEA*

Panelists: Erma Duricko, Teresa K. Pond,  
and Gregory Pulver



**Stage Instructions** Rebecca Gilman  
**Nieman** Erin Dagon Mitchell  
**Nikolai South** Kim Estes  
**Lily Xirau** Jasmine Sharma  
**Felicity** Denise Cotten  
**Laddi Chernov** Isaac Kumpula  
**Porter** Nicholas Walker Herbert  
**Nadia** Angela Colavecchio  
**Husband** Skyler Ray-Benson Davis

In a totalitarian state in the distant future, a security agent has to decide whether to help a woman smuggle her husband's soul to safety.

**Wednesday, June 13, 3:30 P.M.**

**Room A**  
**Sarah Tuft's**  
**MARVEL-OUS MONICA;**  
**IN WHICH MONICA LEWINSKY IS**  
**A SUPERHERO HELL-BENT**  
**ON REVENGE**

Panelists: Carrie Baker, Kia Corthron,  
and Barclay Kopchak



**Stage Instructions** Jessica Tullius  
**Monica Lewinsky / Marvel-ous Monica** Danielle Rabinovitch  
**Stage Manager** James Cerche  
**Pretty Young Coed / Young Monica** Reagan James  
**Bernie Lewinsky / Bill Clinton / The Professor /**  
**Agent Irons / Reporter #1 / Juror #1** Kevin T. Bennett  
**Marcia Lewinsky / The Wife / Reporter #2 /**  
**Nasty-Woman / Juror #2** Lou Anne Wright  
**New York Supergal / Linda Tripp / Reporter #3 /**  
**Tricky Trippster** Amy Kropp  
**Associate Counsel Mike Emmick / Andy Bleiler** Mark Muro  
**Associate Counsel Karin Immergut / Kate Bleiler** Jacqueline Hoffman

As Monica Lewinsky rehearses for her TED Talk, her PTSD keeps getting in the way, sending her spinning, literally, into an alternate universe. Will Marvel-ous Monica rescue The Pretty Young Coed from the Lecherous Professor? Will she learn the secret of Nasty-Woman, the mighty matriarchal superhero? And finally, will Monica be able to give her talk by making peace with her traumatic past? Combining humor, fantasy and verbatim theater, *Marvel-ous Monica* offers an overdue #MeToo look at the slut-shamed young woman at the center of a notorious political scandal.

**Room B**  
**Kevin Mullins'**  
**THE HOME OF LOST DOGS**

Panelists: Gary Garrison, Shane Mitchell,  
and Schatzie Schaefer



**Stage Instructions** Devan Hawkins  
**Emma Goldman** Kristin Fernandez Mumm  
**Alexander "Sasha" Berkman** Annie McCain Engman  
**Ben Reitman** Chase Anderson-Shaw  
**Franklin Prescott** Isaac Kumpula  
**George Osborne** Jake Beauvais  
**Isabella Costello** Kirsten Swanson  
**Mary Hainswith** Becca Padrick  
**Larry** Blake Hay  
**Thomas McCarthy** Frank Delaney

For the first two decades of the twentieth century, there was no one as radical as the anarchist Emma Goldman. Dubbed the most dangerous woman in America, Goldman condemned capitalism, denounced the institution of marriage, advocated for birth control, and was a thorn in the side of governments and industrialists alike. Her New York apartment would serve as her headquarters and a haven for bohemians, queer folk, and vagabonds of all stripes. As America enters the First World War and sedition laws are passed, war fever sweeps across the country, and Emma and her friends must make a choice about what price they're willing to pay for their beliefs.

**Thursday, June 14, 10:00 A.M.**

**Room A**  
**Paco José Madden's**  
**THE NIGHT OF SHADOWS**

Panelists: Kia Corthron, Patti D'Beck,  
and Gregory Pulver



**Stage Instructions** Bob Mandzi  
**Wife** Antoinette Martin-Hanson

The wife of a husband who has turned into a shadow, seeks to uncover the mystery of why people are turning into shadows.

**Room B**  
**Roberta D'Alois'**  
**YOU SHOULD HAVE**  
**BEEN THERE**

Panelists: Danielle Dresden, Erma Duricko,  
and Shane Mitchell



**Stage Instructions** Susan Niman  
**Freda** Sarah Bethany Baird  
**Bill** Jay Stevens  
**Mel** Cody Goulder

Three friends - or are they frenemies? - get together at a party, and wonder whether the hummus is homemade or from Whole Foods.

**Room C**  
**Shane Patrick Mitten's**  
**WE WANT A DIVORCE!**

Panelists: Gary Garrison,  
Teresa K. Pond, and Y York



**Stage Instructions** Barry Levine  
**Joe Jones** Aaron Wiseman  
**Joan Jones** Kirsten Swanson  
**Kathy Parker** Reagan James  
**Maxwell Morrison** Jamie Nelson  
**Dr. Elly Anthony** Jacqueline Hoffman

Joan Jones discovers her husband Joe Jones is cheating on her. They decide they might want a divorce and go to see alleged professionals to help them with their problems.

**Wednesday, June 13, 3:30 P.M.**

**Room C**  
**Amanda Glassman's**  
**THE WEDDING PARTY**

Panelists: Erma Duricko, Teresa K. Pond,  
and Gregory Pulver



**Stage Instructions** Beth Lincks  
**Margaret** Kimberly Allely  
**Anna** Andrea Staats  
**Patricia** Gabrielle Savrone  
**Ben** Ben Corbett  
**Julia** Shelley Lynn Johnson  
**Faith** Denise Cotten  
**Greg** Matt Clarke  
**Gerald** Rob Lecrone  
**Bartender** Dennis Humphrey  
**Emily** Amy Berryman

A family wedding goes awry when secret liaisons are revealed.

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

Room A

**Ashley Rose Wellman's  
WILLED BODIES**

Panelists: Kia Corthron, Patti D'Beck,  
and Gregory Pulver



Stage Instructions Lou Anne Wright  
Lydia Taylor R. Campbell  
Harrison Blake Hay  
Karl Xavier Love  
Josie Marisa Garrigues

At a Willed Body ceremony—an event where medical students meet the families of medical cadavers, Lydia, an ambitious first-year med student, encounters Harrison, an anxious and tender young man who is the son of the cadaver she is about to dissect. As Lydia and her lab group cut deeper and deeper into his father's body, Harrison and Lydia enter into an unconventional relationship that straddles the line between sweet and horrifying. Willed Bodies is a play about strange forms of intimacy and what's under our skin.

Room B

**Sean O'Hare's  
WHILE IRELAND HOLDS  
THESE GRAVES**

Panelists: Danielle Dresden, Erma Duricko,  
and Shane Mitchell



Stage Instructions Carolyn Roesbury  
Minstrel Dick Reichman  
Tom Clarke / William Walsh Brian Duffy  
Padraig Pearse / Fergus Quinn Mark Muro  
Countess Markievicz / Granuaille / Customer 1 Lela Ryterski  
Maire Nolan Kelly Wilson  
James Nolan / O'Donaven Rossa / Sergeant Bob Mandzi  
Paddy Toren Lawley  
James Connolly / Father O'Kane / Bartender Peter Porco  
Joe Hill / British Soldiers Shawn Eby  
Kathleen Dolan / Molly / Customer 2 / Nurse Shelley Lynn Johnson  
William Martin Murphy / General Maxwell Ron Holmstrom

An impoverished working class family in Dublin gets caught up in the Irish uprising of 1916.

Room C

**Joanna Castle Miller's  
AROUND AND AROUND AND  
AROUND THE STATIC SUN**

Panelists: Gary Garrison,  
Teresa K. Pond, and Y York



Stage Instructions Elaine Sullivan  
Kimberly Linnéa Hollingsworth  
Jessica / Female TV Voice(s) Kallie Randall  
Frank Chase Anderson-Shaw  
Preston / Male TV Voice(s) Nathan Huey

When Kimberly creates a fake man to save her business, she sparks something the world has never seen. But can the new order be sustained? *around and around and around the static sun* is a dark satire exploring how, at what magnitude, and to what effect reparation could be achieved for millennia of patriarchy.

Thursday, June 14, 1:30 P.M.

Room B

**Jan Probst's  
CHANGING THE WORLD  
WITH BIG HAIR**

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
David S. Leong, and Jayne Wenger



Stage Instructions / College Student Barry Levine  
Peter Jamie Nelson  
Lee Jill Sowerwine  
Mom Alexandra McCall

Meticulously cautious Peter and his restless girlfriend stumble upon a window to the past. As their differing needs collide, a dead relative with baggage of her own steps in.

Room C

**Eric Moore's  
COOPER'S BOX**

Panelists: Patti D'Beck, Barclay Kopchak  
and Arlene Hutton



Stage Instructions Dennis Humphrey  
Cooper Devin Frey  
Ronan Carl Young

Two childhood friends, Cooper and Ronan, have been reunited by a funeral honoring the death of Cooper's father. Late at night, they search for a mysterious box that contains evidence of how the deceased truly felt about his son. As they dig through the past, Ronan tries to save his friend from becoming like the man whom he so strongly abhors.



Jill Sowerwine and Lily Werts perform at the Fringe

Thursday, June 14, 3:00 P.M.

## Room A

Mary Portser's  
*THAT SPOT IN THE WOODS*Panelists: Erma Duricko, Gary Garrison,  
and Teresa K. Pond

**Stage Instructions** Tamar Shai Bolkvadze  
**Charlie** Christopher Curry  
**Jenna** K Callan  
**Rita** Laura Gardner

Three people wage war over a property on Cape Cod. But is it land they're fighting over or something else?

## Room B

Jocelyn Paine's  
*SHEAR AUDACITY*

Directed by Tara Meddaugh

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
David S. Leong, and Jayne Wenger

**Stage Instructions** Catherine Castellani  
**Elizabeth Hawes** Sarah Bethany Baird  
**Alexander Calder /** Nathan Huey  
**Fashion Show Announcer / Rick Russo**  
**Isamu Noguchi /** Jeremy Gaunt  
**Fashion Show Announcer**  
**Joseph Losey** Skylar Ray-Benson Davis  
**Mrs. Cynthia Fanshaw / Sketch Thief** Kelly Wilson  
**Madeline Vionnet / Sketch Thief** Cynthia Steele

The story of early 20th century designer Elizabeth Hawes, based on her own writings. Hawes was the first Paris-trained female courtier to work in New York City, where she introduced the bias cut and was a style leader, promoting trousers in public for women and comfortable, beautiful and affordable clothing for everyone.

## Room C

Joy Cutler's  
*BACK ON TRACK*Panelists: Patti D'Beck,  
Barclay Kopchak, and Arlene Hutton

**Stage Instructions** Tom Moran  
**Dolores Darcy** Jill Bess  
**Roy Darcy / Bill Walters** Kim Estes  
**Kenneth** Shawn Eby  
**Barbara** Maurene Olsen  
**Crow** David Haynes

Dolores has her hands full trying to manage a husband who attracts the unwanted attention of suicide hopefuls and her stranger-than-average teenage children whose behavior has brought the authorities to her doorstep. No one said being a wife and mother was a piece of cake. Certainly not. But add in a bullying Muse and the worst case of writer's block imaginable and she's left with just one solution - she has to get back on track.

Thursday, June 14, 4:15 P.M.

## Room A

Tom David Barna's  
*PAST PRESENT FUTURE*Panelists: Erma Duricko, Gary Garrison,  
and Teresa K. Pond

**Stage Instructions** Ron Holmstrom  
**Jose Mendez** Carl Young  
**Maria Mendez** Kaeli Meno  
**Eva Martinez** Kalli Randall  
**Edward Caspian** Bostin Christopher  
**Thomas Davids** Timothy Brown  
**Martin Jameson** John Havelock  
**Radio Announcer** Peter Porco

After a surprise nuclear attack, a panicked family of three take refuge in a NYC apartment. Losing hope while barely surviving on canned food, bad water, and candle light, things only get worse as strangers inexplicably begin pounding on their apartment door and demand to be let in immediately. Life and death choices are about to be made.

## Room B

Sam Collier's  
*DAISY VIOLET*  
*THE BITCH BEAST KING*Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
David S. Leong, and Jayne Wenger

**Stage Instructions** Jessica Stanley  
**Josephine** Stephanie Leigh  
**Henrietta** Marisa Garrigues  
**Daisy Violet** Janna Shaw  
**The Adult** Gigi Lynch

Up in their attic, sisters Josephine and Henrietta create a new sister for their family. She's monstrous and violent and embodies everything they've dreamed of: the rage of children, the fury of girls.

## Room C

Alice Stanley's  
*LIPSTICK*Panelists: Patti D'Beck,  
Barclay Kopchak, and Arlene Hutton

**Stage Instructions** Glyka Stoiou  
**Anna** Antoinette Martin-Hanson  
**Mal** Xavier Love  
**Kelly** Rebecca Gilman  
**Grindr Guys** Nicholas Walker Herbert

Lipstick is a love letter of a play to the queer community, in the shape of a silly, sweet farce. High levels of hijinks ensue when Anna attempts to determine if her dinner with Kelly is actually a date - with "help" and hindrance from a cavalcade of uninvited visitors (and the appearance of a dildo or two... or twelve).

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

**Room A**

**Jasmine Sharma's  
HOT DOGS AND FEMINISM**  
Directed by Kalli Randall



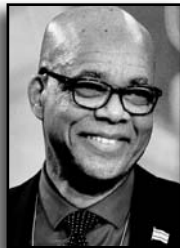
Panelists: Patti D'Beck, David S. Leong,  
and Dawson Moore

**Stage Instructions** Kaeli Meno  
**Olga** Sarah Bethany Baird  
**Sara May** Kari Miranda  
**Ruth** Rosalyn Evenson  
**Danielle (Daniel)** MaryAlice Larmi  
**Alex** Angela Colavecchio  
**Nicky** Daniels Calvin

If fitting in with fifth graders means hosting girl gang meetings in your basement to discuss new wave feminism, okay! But while figuring out how to navigate their new "friendship," Olga and her pals resort to cafeteria crime in order to catch the liberal eyes of the feminazis.

**Room B**

**Timothy Crawford's  
THE CONSULTANT  
FROM HELL**



Panelists: Kia Corthron,  
Schatzie Schaefer, and Y York

**Stage Instructions** Jocelyn Paine  
**The Devil** Kim Estes  
**Dick** Nathan Huey  
**Abby** Kristin Fernandez Mumm  
**D.X.** Seth McNeill

The Devil has issued an RFP for a consultant to help reposition Hell as a desirable afterlife destination. When Abby inexplicably becomes a candidate for the position, she has to scramble to pitch an audacious, diabolical enterprise, while plotting an escape from the Devil's lair, soul intact.

**Room C**

**Brenda Dolma's  
RISING**



Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Arlene Hutton, and Gregory Pulver

**Stage Instructions** Maureen Olson  
**Eryn Fontaine** Gabrielle Savrone

A young scientist experiences first hand a rapidly shifting climate in a residential zone that wasn't supposed to flood.

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

**Room A**

**Jessica Stanley's  
SISTERS, INFERNO**



Panelists: Patti D'Beck, David S. Leong,  
and Dawson Moore

**Stage Instructions / Voices** Annie McCain Engman  
**Penny** Grace Williams  
**Isla** Devan Hawkins  
**Sharna** Kirsten Swanson  
**Judd** Matt Clarke

Three half-sisters, all struggling with addictions, unhappily reunite following the death of a relative. When their adopted brother arrives out of the blue, sibling lines blur once more, and uneasy family relationships threaten to go up in smoke.

**Room B**

**Jacob Marx Rice's  
CRACKS**



Panelists: Kia Corthron,  
Schatzie Schaefer, and Y York

**Stage Instructions** Veronica Bissell  
**Nicole** Alyssa Barnes  
**Kate** Andrea Staats  
**Allie** Kimberly Allely  
**Humpty Dumpty** David Haynes

Nicole is trying to unboil an egg. Kat is trying to stop Global Warming. When romance sparks between the two women, Nicole must confront the explosive ending of her last relationship, with the help of a giant egg named Humpty Dumpty.

**Room C**

**Katherine Glover's  
RONALD REAGAN:  
TIME TRAVELER**



Directed by Jocelyn Paine

Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Arlene Hutton, and Gregory Pulver

**Stage Instructions** MaryKate Moran  
**Ronald Reagan** Frank Collison  
**Joe** Chase Anderson-Shaw  
**Ifrah** ShaeLisa M. Anderson  
**Uncle Leo** Frank Delaney  
**Linda** Mary Portser  
**Edwin Meese** Bostin Christopher  
**Actor 7** Isaac Kumpula

A group of time travelers wants Reagan to help save the Republican Party. A rival group wants to teach him a Scrooge-style moral lesson. But Reagan's reaction to 2016 may not be what any of them expect...



Friday, June 15, 3:00 P.M.

## Room A

Rita Kniess Barkey's  
*FEATHER AND BONE*Panelists: Mark Lutwak, Shane Mitchell,  
and Y York

**Stage Instructions** Roberta D'Alois  
**Petra** Stephanie Leigh  
**Kate** Gigi Lynch  
**Jack** Aaron Wiseman

A land developer is trying to bully Kay into selling her raptor center. Her daughter urges her to relocate, but Kay is willing to risk everything for her birds. A tragic tale about families, the love of wildlife, and the conservation of land.

## Room B

Nicole Heneveld's  
*MEASURE*Panelists: Patti D'Beck, David S. Leong,  
and Jayne Wenger

**Stage Instructions** Martha Robinson  
**Emily Dickinson** Tamar Shai Bolkvadze  
**Susan Gilbert Dickinson** Lou Anne Wright  
**Mabel Loomis Todd** Annie McCain Engman

Measure explores the close relationship between Emily Dickinson and her sister-in-law, Susan Gilbert Dickinson, who exchanged many (love?) letters during their lives. Upon the wildly enjoyable, yet unexpected, entrance of Mabel Loomis Todd, the mistress of Austin Dickinson, we discover that the Dickinsons may have more secrets than the typical family in rural Massachusetts.



Stephanie Leigh and Issac Kumpula enjoy the sunshine during lunch

Friday, June 15, 3:45 P.M.

## Room A

Ali Viterbi's  
*IN EVERY GENERATION*Panelists: Mark Lutwak, Shane Mitchell,  
and Y York

**Stage Instructions** Sara Shipp  
**Valeria Levi Katz / Maria** Dana Mitchell  
**Devorah (Dev) Katz** Jasmine Sharma  
**Yael Katz** Danielle Rabinovitch  
**Davide Levi** Dick Reichman  
**Paola Levi** Linda Ayres-Frederick

A mystical journey through continents, languages, and generations of a family and nation's stories. An Italian Jewish family joins together for Passover Seders year after year, era to era. Over matzah ball soup and (vegan) brisket, sibling rivalries simmer, plagues fall, and miracles are both remembered and forgotten. In Every Generation asks what happens to a people once they are no longer in danger? How does a community collectively adjust to freedom?

## Room B

Tara Meddaugh's  
*FOR MY SILENT SISTERS*Panelists: Patti D'Beck, David S. Leong,  
and Jayne Wenger

**Stage Instructions** MaryAlice Larmi  
**Marta** Alyssa Barnes  
**Jorani** Becca Padrick  
**Abhay** Tai Yen Kim  
**Claire** Rosalyn Evenson  
**Woman 1** Linnéa Hollingsworth  
**Woman 2** Nicole Heneveld  
**Man 1** Matt Fernandez  
**Man 2** Frank Delaney  
**Maly / Purnima** Veronica Bissell

Set in the countries of Cambodia, Romania, India, and the United States, four teenagers struggle to escape the dark underworld of child sex trafficking. Told through poignant monologues and scenes, this drama shines light on the horrors that occur all over the world, and the hope and faith that allow children to survive.

## Room C

Marguerite  
Louise Scott's  
*FLIGHT PLAN*Panelists: Panelists: Danielle Dresden,  
Arlene Hutton, and Gregory Pulver

**Stage Instructions /** Taran Haynes  
**Joe the Paramedic**  
**Arianna** Reagan James  
**Dr. Fraued** Wayne Mitchell  
**Celia** Taylor R. Campbell  
**James** Jake Beauvais  
**Gracie / Nurse Hammer** Shelley Lynn Johnson  
**Bernard** Vonn Scott Bair

A dark comedy about mental health and the mental health system. Based on a true-ish story.





## Carrie Baker

Carrie Baker is an Associate Professor (performance) and Chair of the Department Theatre & Film at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. 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 (Los Angeles) Program Advisory Committee, the Last Frontier Theatre 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.



## Ryan Buen

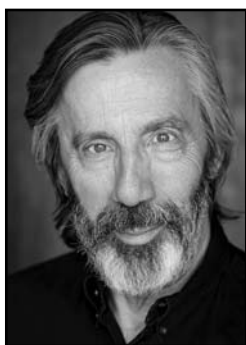
Ryan Buen is an Anchorage-based actor, director, playwright, and producer. He holds a BA in Theatre from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and his Master's in Acting from the Royal Birmingham Conservatoire in England. He has worked with numerous theatre companies in Alaska, including Blue Chair Productions (of which he is the co-founder), TBA Theatre, Three Wise Moose, Cyrano's, UAA Theatre, Anchorage Opera, ACT, TossPot Productions, Out North, and PWSC. His most recent credits come as the director of Qui Nguyen's *She Kills Monsters* (Cyrano's), Teresa Rebeck's *Seminar* (Blue Chair Productions), and Diane Grant's *The Wind in the Willows*

(TBA Theatre). Conference audiences will be most familiar with him for his recent portrayal of Roland in Nick Payne's *Constellations* (Blue Chair Productions) from last year's evening shows, and his years of service as a staff member of the Conference. This year he will be performing the role of Joseph Goebbels in Jacob Marx Rice's *Leni and Joseph* (TBA Theatre). He has been a reader in the Play Lab for fourteen years, performed in numerous evening performances, and even had three plays read in the lab. Ryan has served as assistant to the Conference Coordinator for over ten years, and has taken over as casting director for the Conference for the past three. He has served in nearly every facet possible for this event and is excited to tackle the new challenge of Play Lab Coordinator. Ryan is committed to continuing to give the best experience possible to all playwrights, actors, and panelists that give us the privilege of presenting their art.



## Bostin Christopher

Bostin Christopher is excited to return "home" after missing last year's Conference. Currently splitting his time between Juneau, Alaska, and Richmond, Virginia, Bostin has been involved in new play development through his work with a variety of organizations including: Great Plains Theatre Conference (GPTC), William Inge Center for the Arts, NYSF/Public Theatre's New Work Now!, Manhattan Theatre Club, Theatre for the New City, Moving Arts, Perseverance Theatre, Northwest Playwrights Alliance, and the Seattle Rep. He currently serves as the Director of New Play Development at Cadence Theatre in Partnership with Virginia Repertory Theatre. Bostin has been the recipient of a Theatre Communications Group (TCG) Continuing Education Grant where he explored new play development models and serves as an Ambassador-at-Large with the National New Play Network (NNPN), as well as serving on this Conference's National Advisory Board. Bostin holds the appointment of Senior Acting Teacher at Virginia Commonwealth University where he teaches courses in Acting for Camera, the Business of Theatre, Audition Technique, New Play Development, and others. Previously, he held the position of Artistic Associate at Perseverance Theatre (Alaska) where he worked on new play development commissioning new plays, helping to produce at least one new play each season, and directed the world premiere of Arlitia Jones' *Rush at Everlasting*. He has been attending the Conference since its early years and for three years he was the coordinator of the Fringe Festival. Recent credits include Pastor Paul in *The Christians* (Cadence Theatre) and the world premiere of *River Ditty* with his favorite character name ever: Atticus Dye (Virginia Rep). Other acting credits include new plays Off-Broadway (*Kit Marlowe*, *Ice Island*) and film work including *Unbreakable*, *Otis*, *Scorpion King 3*, and *In My Pocket*. His complete mess of a website can be found at <http://bostin.xyz>



## Frank Collison

Frank Collison and his wife Laura Gardner are excited to be here for their twelfth year and to once again teach the Monologue Workshop. Frank was born into the theatre. At four months, he appeared in the role of a baby at a tent theatre in Granville, Ohio. His mother directed him in his first non-crying role, the boy in William

Saroyan's *My Hearts in the Highlands*. His father, John Collison, was an actor and playwright. At the one hundredth anniversary of Abraham Lincoln's first inauguration, Frank played Willie Lincoln when his father re-enacted Lincoln's inaugural address. After the ceremony, Frank and his father met the poet and Lincoln biographer, Carl Sandberg. Frank briefly flirted with the idea of becoming an archaeologist because he liked to dig up things but after seeing his father in *The Diary Of Anne Frank*, he decided he wanted to be an actor. He 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 trained at the American Conservatory Theatre and 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. Most recently, Frank appeared at Rogue Machine Theatre in the west coast premiere of Alexander Dinelaris' *Still Life*. Frank funds his theatre career by working in film and television. He tends to play odd characters. He is sometimes approached by people on the street who ask, "What have I seen you in?" It's usually *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, *Silicon Valley*, or *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*. Contact Frank at [www.frankcollison.com](http://www.frankcollison.com)



## Ben Corbett

Ben Corbett has served as both an actor and voice teacher at the Conference for the past four years. He is a Designated Linklater Voice Teacher (Shakespeare & Co. 2012). He teaches Uta Hagen's approach to acting, Kristin Linklater's vocal progression, and phonetics and

accents using Louis Colaianni's Phonetic Pillows at the William Inge Center for the Arts. He is also a resident actor and director for the William Inge Theatre Festival. 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 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. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity, and is an Associate Editor for Oklahoma for the International Dialects of English Archive. He also teaches on behalf of the VASTA focus group at ATHE. 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.



## Kia Corthron

Kia Corthron is the 2017 resident playwright of Chicago's Eclipse Theatre Company, which has produced three of her plays including the world premiere of *Megastasis*. She is a contributing writer of Anne Bogart/SITI Company's *Steel Hammer* (ATL/Humana, Brooklyn Academy of Music, world tour). Other plays: *A Cool Dip in the Barren Saharan Crick* (Playwrights Horizons co-production with The Play Company and the Culture Project), *Trickle* (EST Marathon), *Moot the Messenger* (ATL/Humana), *Light Raise the Roof* (New York Theatre Workshop), *Snapshot Silhouette* (Minneapolis' Children's Theatre), *Slide Glide the Slippery Slope* (ATL/Humana, Mark Taper Forum), *The Venus de Milo Is Armed* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), *Breath, Boom* (London's Royal Court Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, Yale Repertory Theatre, Huntington Theatre), *Force Continuum* (Atlantic Theater Company), *Splash Hatch on the E Going Down* (New York Stage and Film, Baltimore's Center Stage, Yale Rep, London's Donmar Warehouse), *Seeking the Genesis* (Goodman Theatre, Manhattan Theatre Club), *Digging Eleven* (Hartford Stage Company), *Wake Up Lou Riser* (Delaware Theatre Company), *Come Down Burning* (American Place Theatre, Long Wharf Theatre), *Cage Rhythm* (Sightlines/The Point in the Bronx). For her body of work she has been awarded the Windham Campbell Prize for Drama, USArtists Jane Addams Fellowship, McKnight National Residency, Simon Great Plains Playwright Award (Honored Playwright), Otto Award for Political Theatre, Lee Reynolds Award. Also: Masterwork Productions Award, Columbia College/Goodman Theatre Fellowship, VCCA Wachtmeister Award, Barbara Barondess MacLean Foundation Award, AT&T On Stage Award, Daryl Roth Creative Spirit Award, Mark Taper Forum's Fadiman Award, NEA/TCG, Kennedy Center Fund, New Professional Theatre Playwriting Award, Callaway Award; and in television a Writers Guild Outstanding Drama Series Award and Edgar Award for *The Wire*. Her debut novel *The Castle Cross the Magnet Carter* was the winner of the 2016 Center for Fiction First Novel Prize. She serves on the Council of the Dramatists Guild, is a New Dramatists alumnus, and is a member of the Authors Guild.



## Patti D'Beck

Patti D'Beck is a long-time veteran of Broadway and regional theatre. Recent productions include the new Frank Wildhorn musical *Mata Hari* directed by Jeff Calhoun which opened in Seoul, Korea, and *Saturday Night Fever*, *Phantom of the Opera*, *9 to 5*, *Sister Act*, and *Ain't Misbehavin'* at

the Riverside Performing Arts Center. Her Broadway credits as Associate Choreographer, Supervisor, Dance Captain, and Actor include the original productions of *Applause* (Lauren Bacall), *A Chorus Line*, *Seesaw*, *Pippin* (Ben Vereen), *Evita*, *The Will Roger's Follies*, *My One and Only* (Twiggy and Tommy Tune), *The Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*, and the Broadway revivals of *Annie Get Your Gun* (Bernadette Peters), *Bells are Ringing* (Faith Prince), and *Grease!* (Rosie O'Donnell, Lucy Lawless). She also choreographed the opening number for the 1997 Tony Awards and served as assistant or associate choreographer to Tommy Tune and Graciela Daniele on many productions. Other productions include the direction and choreography of *A Chorus Line*, *Five Guys Named Moe*, and the choreography for *My Fair Lady*, *42<sup>nd</sup> Street*, *Paint Your Wagon*, and *The Producers*, at the Pioneer Theatre Company in Salt Lake City. She also directed and choreographed *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Guys and Dolls*, *White Christmas*, and *Mame* for Virginia Repertory Theatre. Patti has directed and choreographed many stars including Bernadette Peters, Liza Minelli, Brooke Shields, Lucy Arnez, Reba McEntire, Keith Carradine, Sandy Duncan, Lucy Lawless and many more and collaborated with and/or assisted many Broadway directors and choreographers including Tommy Tune, Bob Fosse, Michael Bennett, Graciela Daniele, Hal Prince, and Ron Field. Patti taught at Virginia Commonwealth University, New York and Pace Universities and holds a BA in Mathematics and Performing Arts from NYU and a Masters from NYU.



## Danielle Dresden

Danielle Dresden, playwright, actor, and residency artist, is producing artistic director of TAPIT/new works Ensemble Theater, which she co-founded in 1985 in Madison, Wisconsin. She is the author of 36 plays performed across the United States and abroad. Most recently,

*Typhoid Mary*, *Patient Zero...* and *the M Factor* premiered in Madison in 2017, with extensive outreach to nursing and public health students and a scheduled March 2018 performance at Edgewood College in Wisconsin. *Ben Franklin & Baron von Steuben vs. the Paine County School Board* premiered in Madison, and showcased at the Arts Midwest Conference in Milwaukee in 2016. *Work the Act* was featured in TAPIT/new works' 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary season in 2015. Other recent productions include *Convenience*, a site-specific immersive collaboration with Fresco Opera Theatre and *Source Code: Candide*, at Horse Trade Theater Group's #DRAFTSNYC in New York City, both in 2014, and *Now What*, a comedy about apocalyptic thinking (with zombies, of course!), with New World Performance Lab in Akron, Ohio, in 2013. Playwriting awards include a 2010 Wisconsin Arts Board Literary Arts Fellowship, semi-finalist for the 2014 Shakespeare's Sister Fellowship, Council for Wisconsin Writers Drama Awards in 2001, 2003 and 2006, and finalist for the Yukon Pacific New Play Award in 1999. She devotes considerable time to residencies and teaching, emphasizing making the arts accessible to everyone. She is a Kennedy Center-trained teaching artist with Madison's Overture Center, served as the Guest Artist for the Blaine Quarnstrom Playwright Series at the University of Southern Mississippi in January 2016, and, through the Wisconsin Humanities Council, she has co-presented *This Is a Real Job*, a presentation about the lives of working artists, across Wisconsin. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild and serves on the Barrymore Theater Board of Directors and the Bolz Center for Arts Administration Advisory Board.



## Erma Duricko

Erma Duricko is the founder/Artistic Director of Blue Roses Productions, as well as an Artistic Associate for Circle East. Off-Broadway, she has directed at the Lion Theatre, Abingdon Theatre, The American Place; Off-Off Broadway at Neighborhood Playhouse, manhattantheatresource,

LaMama, Goldberg Theatre, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Chasama, The Abingdon Theatre Complex, Baruch Center, The Drilling Company, Polaris North, Laurie Beecham Theater, and Liberation Theatre; regionally at Arkansas Rep, William Inge Festival, White Birch, Sag Harbor, Pocono Playhouse, Long Wharf, Hartford Stage, Scranton Public, Fernwood, and others. Her recent career is devoted to directing and producing new American plays and the work of Tennessee Williams. She has conceived and directed Tennessee Williams compilations, including *The Broken World of Tennessee Williams*, *Happy Birthday Mr. Williams*, and *Derelicts and Dreamers*, as well as many of Williams' full-lengths and one-acts. She curates Blue Roses' NYC Tennessee Williams Birthday celebration. In honor of Williams 100th birthday, Erma was privileged to direct *Camino Real* for Cyrano's in Anchorage and *Bus Stop* in Independence, Kansas. She has helped to develop, produce, and/or direct hundreds of new plays by some of the country's most outstanding playwrights, including premieres by Tennessee Williams, Craig Lucas, Kara Corthron, Lanford Wilson, Annie Evans, Arlitia Jones, Lisa Humberston, John Yearley, Craig Pospisil and many, many others. She received Drama Critic Awards for outstanding direction, a Cervantes Grant, a Meredith Harless Visiting Artist Endowment, the Jerry Harper Service Award, and is the recipient of the Tennessee Williams Award for Outstanding Contributions Preserving, Promoting and Perpetuating the Work of Mr. Williams. In Europe for much of the past three years, she has taught classes for directors, coached professional actors, read new plays, advised for a major theatre company in Cork, Ireland, and directed for Hibernia Ensemble. Erma is thrilled to be a grandmother.



## Kim Estes

Kim Estes just received the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences Primetime Emmy Award for Outstanding Actor in a Short Form Comedy or Drama Series (2017) for *Dicks*. His television credits include *Brooklyn 99*, *Hot Wet*, *American Summer*, *10 Years Later*, *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. Kim has starred in many films, including *Underdog* (Ritchie Greer), *Playing Beethoven* (Catherine Shefski), *Crossroad* (Shervin Youssefian), *Not 4 Sale* and *Each Other* (both by Roger Melvin), *Volcano Girl* (Ashley Maria), *Free Denmark* (Ricardo Korda), and *The Birthday Gift* (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). His stage credits include the staged 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 Estes incognito at the Fringe



## Laura Gardner

Laura Gardner is delighted to return for her twelfth Conference with her husband, Frank Collison. She was nominated for Best Supporting Actress by the LA Weekly for her performances 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*. Her extensive 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 *The Romanoffs*, *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 in Australia and teaches her 'Authenticity Workshop' across the country and abroad. Laura resides in Los Angeles with Frank and their two large puppies. [www.lauragardner.org](http://www.lauragardner.org)



## Gary Garrison

For the last decade, Gary Garrison was the Executive Director of the Dramatist Guild of America – the national organization of playwrights, lyricists and composers headed by our nation's most honored dramatists. Prior to his work at the Guild, Garrison filled the posts of Artistic Director, Producer, and fulltime faculty member in the Goldberg Department of Dramatic Writing at NYU's Tisch School of the Arts, where he produced over forty-five different festivals of new work, collaborating with hundreds of playwrights, directors and actors. Garrison's plays include *The Unexpected Light On Azadeh Medusa*, *Too Quick to Pick*, *Ties That Bind*, *Skirting the Issue*, *Caught Without Candy*, *Game On*, *The Sweep*, *Verticals and Horizontals*, *Storm on Storm*, *Crater*, *Old Soles*, *Padding The Wagon*, *Rug Store Cowboy*, *Cherry Reds*, *Gawk*, *Oh Messiah Me*, *We Make A Wall*, *The Big Fat Naked Truth*, *Scream With Laughter*, *Smoothness With Cool*, *Empty Rooms*, *Does Anybody Want A Miss Cow Bayou?*, and *When A Diva Dreams*. This work has been commissioned by or featured at the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, City Theatre of Miami, Boston Theatre Marathon, Primary Stages, The Directors Company, The Theresa Rebeck Writers Residency, Manhattan Theatre Source, StageWorks, Open Door Theatre, Pulse Ensemble Theatre, Expanded Arts and New York Rep. His recent work as guest artist or master teacher of playwriting involve such institutions as the Marfa Intensives, Convivio Writer's Conference (Postignano, Italy) Sewanee Writer's Conference, The Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, CityWrights, The Inkwell, Source Theatre in D.C., Baltimore Playwrights Festival, New Hampshire Playwrights Festival, Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference, Southeast Theatre Conference, Northwest Theatre Conference, Boston Playwrights, and has taught at Boston University, West Georgia College, University of Oklahoma, New York University, The University of Texas, Goddard College, Texas State University, Texas Tech, University of Southern Mississippi and the Dramatists Guild Institute. He is author of the critically acclaimed *The Playwright's Survival Guide: Keeping the Drama in Your Work and Out of Your Life*, *Perfect Ten: Writing and Producing the TenMinute Play*, *A More Perfect Ten*, and two volumes of *Monologues for Men by Men*. He is on the Tony Administration Committee for the Tony Awards and the program director for the Summer Playwriting Intensive for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. In April of 2014, The Kennedy Center instituted the National Gary Garrison Ten-Minute Play Award given to the best ten-minute play written by a university dramatist and in the spring of 2016 awarded him the Milan Stitt Outstanding Teacher of Playwriting in the country.



## Arlene Hutton

Arlene Hutton is an alumna of New Dramatists and member of Ensemble Studio Theatre, New Circle Repertory and the Dramatists Guild. Her plays have received development at the New Harmony Project, the Lark, The Barrow Group, and London's Orange Tree Theatre. Hutton is best

known for *The Nibroc Trilogy*, which includes *Last Train to Nibroc* (Drama League Best Play nomination), *See Rock City* (Spirit of America Award) and *Gulf View Drive* (L.A. Weekly, Ovation Award nominations), all published by Dramatist Play Service and recently seen in award-winning revivals in Chicago, Washington, D.C. and at Rubicon Theatre (2018 Ovation Award for Best Production: *Gulf View Drive*) Her plays have been presented Off- and Off-Off-Broadway and at theatres across the U.S., in London, Edinburgh, and throughout the world. Other works by Hutton include *Letters to Sala*, *I Dream Before I Take the Stand*, *Three Sisters Brontë*, *As It Is In Heaven*, *Running*, *Vacuum*, and *Happy Worst Day Ever* (commissioned by Cincinnati Playhouse and winner of the Macy's New Play Prize). Twice named a Tennessee Williams Fellow at the University of the South, Hutton is a three-time winner of the Samuel French Short Play Festival, eight-time finalist for the Heideman Award at Actors Theatre of Louisville, finalist for the Francesca Primus Prize and recipient of the Lippmann Award, the Calloway Award, an EST/Sloan Commission for *Maria Sibylla*, a NYSCA/NYFA Artist Fellowship and a Fellowship from the South Carolina Arts Commission. Residencies include the Australian National Playwrights Conference, Blue Mountain Center, Greenville Center Stage New Play Festival, MacDowell Colony, SPACE at Ryder Farm, VCCA, Western Carolina University, William Inge Center and Yaddo. Her play for teens, *Kissed the Girls and Made Them Cry*, premiered in Edinburgh in 2015 and is published by Playscripts. Two of her plays have been recorded for *Playing On Air* podcast: *Last Train to Nibroc*, (scene one) with Mamie Gummer & Gregg Mozgala, directed by John Rando, and *Closing Costs*, directed by Gaye Taylor Upchurch, featuring Amy Ryan and Michael Stuhlbarg. She is honored to be the first playwright commissioned by The Big Bridge Theatre Consortium, a group of university theatre departments across the country committed to developing new plays dedicated to peace and interfaith dialogue. Hutton has taught at the Sewanee Writers Conference, Fordham University and the College of Charleston. She is on the faculty of the Sewanee School of Letters and currently teaches playwriting at The Barrow Group in New York City. Later this summer she will be teaching a playwriting workshop for Arts Workshop International in Assisi, Italy. [www.arlenehutton.com](http://www.arlenehutton.com)



## Daniel Irvine

Daniel Irvine began his professional career in 1974 at Circle Repertory Company in New York. He assisted the late Rob Thirkield as literary associate and Workshop Coordinator, which he took over as LAB Director. He was made a resident director in 1976 and a member of the company.

As director of the LAB, he worked with actors, playwrights and directors to create workshops and weekly classes. Mr. Irvine created the LATE SHOW series, which premiered new one-act productions which followed the mainstage productions. In 1981, he received a National Endowment for the Arts fellowship the first year it was awarded. Mr. Irvine was invited to the former Soviet Union in 1985 as a distinguished theatre artist. He moved to Los Angeles the following year where he worked with Circle Rep actors Conchatta Ferrell and Lisa Peliken to create a group which became Circle Rep West. Mr. Irvine produced their first production in 1987, *On The Edge*, a series of ten original one-act plays. In addition to assisting Marshall W. Mason at the Amanson Theatre, he worked in television and film production for various companies. In 1994, he left one desert for another by moving to Phoenix, Arizona, and immediately began directing and acting in local productions before being hired by Arizona State University to teach acting and directing. He helped to create a new student theatre from an old warehouse on the campus and directed the premiere production. He received the College of Fine Arts Award for innovative teaching in 1996 and the following year he created a cable television class called *Theater History with Professor Danny*. Professor Danny received two awards by ASU for Educator of the Year in 1998 and 1999. He was nominated as Teacher of the Year in 2000. He taught and directed many productions during his ten years at ASU and won a ZONY Award for his performance as Zack in *A Chorus Line* for the School of Music. In 2004, he retired from the theater and teaching and moved to Mazatlan, Mexico, with his partner of over forty years, Marshall W. Mason, where they live in a house high on a cliff overlooking the Sea of Cortez with their cat, Brynner.





## Barclay Kopchak

Barclay Kopchak ferries over from the off-road fishing community of Cordova for an annual infusion of inventive energy and to provide the dramatic perspective of the Unorganized Borough retired fishwife demographic. She is president of the local theater group Stage of the

Tide and has most recently produced and directed *Arsenic and Old Lace*, *The Man Who Came to Dinner*, *Our Town*, and *Baby with the Bathwater*. She has appeared as Queen Agrava (Once Upon a Mattress), Teddy Roosevelt (*Simply Bully!*), and Hazel (*Radio Gals*), among other roles. This Conference has also inspired her to present new works including Arlene Hutton's *As It Is in Heaven* (Hannah) and Kieran Lynn's *Incident at the Border* (director). Retired from 32 years teaching for Prince William Sound College she now develops Native heritage-themed curricula for the Chugach region and plays a ridiculous amount of Scrabble.



## Rob Lecrone

Rob Lecrone returns as host of the nightly Fringe and is again coaching in the Monologue Workshop. He's excited to be back for his ninth Conference and to be in Alaska again, his home for 32 years prior to moving to Los Angeles in 2012. Following last year's conference, Rob began a 3-year

Master of Fine Arts program in Acting in Television, Film, and Theatre at California State University, Los Angeles where his most recent roles were Claudius in *Hamlet* and Captain Abdul in Staci Mitchell's *Holy Seductive Dance*. In the week on either side of this year's Conference, Rob will be reprising his role as Mr. Fitzwhickham in Sacred Fools Theater Company's *Jane Austen's Emma Frankenstein* by Jenelle Riley at the 2018 Hollywood Fringe Festival. A Sacred Fools' member, Rob won a "Best Punching Bag" Thursty Award in their 2017 season of Serial Killers, a weekly serialized theatre competition, of which *Emma Frankenstein* was the 2017 Champion. Prior to beginning his MFA program, Rob studied at the Howard Fine Studio in Hollywood with Howard Fine and Laura Gardner, graduated from the Upright Citizens Brigade's long-form improv program, and took Hagen Teacher Training with Carol Rosenfeld at HB Studio in New York. As a member of Laughter for a Change, Rob performs improv for patients and parents at Children's Hospital LA. He has appeared on the Conference stage a few times over the years, and last year played alongside Laura Gardner and Michelle Gardner in Julia Lederer's *With Love and a Major Organ*. Rob helped clean up the Prince William Sound following the Exxon Valdez oil spill, and he once ate the bear that almost ate him.



## David S. Leong

David S. Leong is excited to join the conference for the first time with his wife Patti D'Beck. He is currently Head of the MFA Performance Pedagogy program at Virginia Commonwealth University where he teaches how to teach acting and movement in higher education. More than 50 of his

former graduate students currently hold full-time faculty positions at DePaul, Marquette, Michigan State, and the universities of Connecticut, New Hampshire, Florida, Alabama, Oklahoma, and many others. He also teaches business communication for the VCU School of Business Executive Master of Business Administration program and his textbook *Keep It Short and Simple: How to Give a Great Presentation* is used by thousands of students each year in the VCU Schools of Allied Health, Arts, and Business. As Co-Founder of the *Critical Communications Group* David develops programs that address the organizational and interpersonal communication needs for the education, business, and healthcare industries. Prior to VCU, David taught at the Juilliard School, Brandeis University, and the University of Maryland. David's movement direction and fight choreography has also been seen in many Broadway and London productions including *Fool for Love*, *Amazing Grace the Musical*, *Billy Elliot the Musical*, *Ma Rainey's Black Bottom*, *Carousel*, *The Rainmaker*, *The Civil War*, *King Hedley II*, *Company*, *Picnic*, *Hamlet*, *Macbeth*, *Solitary Confinement*, *Sex and Longing*, *A Delicate Balance*, *The Homecoming*, and *In the Summer House*. London productions include the West End musical *Napoleon the Musical* and the Olivier award-winning *Jitney* at the National Theatre of Great Britain. Feature films include *Titus* and *Alien Resurrection*. His work has also been seen on nearly every Off-Broadway stage and major regional theatre in the United States.

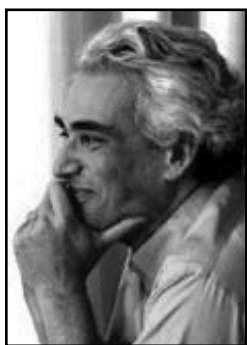


## April Littlejohn

April Littlejohn was stuntwoman in LA for twenty years, with credits on *Alias*, *Firefly*, *Charmed*, *Hancock*, *CSI: Miami*, and *Drive Angry*. She received two Emmys and two nominations as well as a nomination for a Taurus Award. She played "RIOT" in the popular women's wrestling TV show,

WOW. She studied theater in Chicago for her undergrad, and television writing at UCLA in Los Angeles. She now produces LA Horror Stories, winner of Best Drama Halloween Show in the NOHO Fringe Awards 2017. The show will run again in October 2018 as LA Horror Stories: Four Crimes. Her one-act plays *The Sugar Lottery* and *The Box* will debut this June and July at The Actor's Workout Studio in NOHO.





## Mark Lutwak

Mark Lutwak served as director of education and outreach for Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, artistic director at Honolulu Theatre for Youth, executive director at Rain City Projects, and program director for Taller Latinoamericano. He has specialized in commissioning,

developing and directing new work for both young people and adults. As a freelance director, he has directed across the U.S., produced and directed award-winning educational media, and produced a wide variety of projects for non-profits arts, community and educational organizations. As a composer and sound designer, he has created scores for theatre and video; he has recorded and performed on piano, keyboards & accordion.



## Marshall W. Mason

Marshall W. Mason is the Founding Artistic Director of New York's Circle Repertory Company, which *The New York Times* designated "the chief provider of new American plays." His artistic partnership with Pulitzer Prize-winner Lanford Wilson spanned over forty years and is the

longest collaboration between a playwright and director in the history of the American Theater. He directed twelve plays on Broadway (including *Gemini*, *Burn This*, *The Seagull*, and *Redwood Curtain*) that earned him five Tony nominations for Best Director (*Knock Knock*, *Talley's Folly*, *Fifth of July*, *Angels Fall*, and *As Is*). Off-Broadway, he was honored with five Obie Awards for Distinguished Direction (*The HOT L BALTIMORE*, *Battle of Angels*, *The Mound Builders*, *Knock Knock*, and *Serenading Louie*), plus a sixth Obie for Sustained Achievement. Memorable productions include *The Sea Horse*, *Talley & Son*, *The Destiny of Me*, and *Sunshine*. He has directed at major regional theaters throughout the United States, as well as productions in London and Tokyo. He is the author of *Creating Life on Stage: A Director's Approach to Working with Actors* (Heinemann Press) and *The Transcendent Years: Circle Repertory Company and the 1960s* (Goodreads). He was the Chief Drama Critic for Phoenix's *New Times*, for which he received an Arizona Press Club Award. He is Professor Emeritus of Arizona State University and is past president of the Stage Directors and Choreographers. He is the recipient of the Last Frontier Award (1993), the Theater World Award, the Margo Jones Award, and a Special Millennium George Abbott Award as one of "the most influential and innovative directors of the 20<sup>th</sup> century." In 2015, he was elected to the Theater Hall of Fame and in 2016 he received the Tony Award for Lifetime Achievement in the Theater.



## Dawson Moore

Dawson Moore is a playwright, director, teacher, and actor. He works for Prince William Sound College, for whom he has coordinated the play development-focused Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference since 2003. His work has been produced Off-Broadway, across the country, and

internationally in Canada, Italy, Australia, and Namibia. He has won national playwrighting 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. This year he was honored to be asked to join the National Theatre Conference. Along with TBA Theatre, he has produced the *Alaska Overnights* since 2002, which to date has produced over 270 new plays by 68 different writers. He is on-line at [www.dawsonmoore.com](http://www.dawsonmoore.com).



## 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 murder mystery *Silver Thaw*

kicked off the 2017-2018 season at Anchorage Community Theatre, and *Spikes* (featured in the 2008 Play Lab under the name *Grandma Millie and the Crooked "E"*) was produced in April at Cyrano's Theatre in Anchorage. Her play *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. 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, where she works as Development Associate for Cyrano's Theatre.



## 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 *Colette Uncensored* a solo show written by Lorri Holt and Zack Rogow which played in London at the Canal Theatre in May; *The Unreliable Bestiary* (unreliablebestiary.org) an ongoing project by Deke Weaver; and a new musical collaboration with composer Tammy Hall. Recent 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; 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 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 works privately with playwrights around the country. She has had the privilege of working with many talented Alaska theater makers including Sandy Harper, Schatzie Schaefer, Arlitia Jones, and Bostin Christopher to name a few. She is an alumna of Djerassi Resident Artist Program; a guest artist and advisory board member for the Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Valdez, Alaska; 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.



## Y York

Y York is the recipient of the Smith Prize for political theatre from the National New Play Network, the Hawai'i Award for Literature, Berilla Kerr Playwriting Award, five-time awardee of the distinguished play award from AATE, member of The Dramatists' Guild, and proud alumna of New Dramatists. She was a member of the Seattle Repertory Theater's Playwrights Group from 2015-2017. Her plays are published by Broadway Play Publishing, Dramatic Publishing, and anthologized in collections of complete works and scenes and monologues. She has taught playwriting for: Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park; New Harmony Project; Kumu Kahua Theatre; Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference; ASU; Bamboo Ridge; Ko'olau Writers' Workshop; People's Light and Theatre; Honolulu Theatre for Youth; Freehold Theatre School, University of Washington Extension, in her living room, and online for students around the world.



## LINDA AYRES-FREDERICK BITTERSWEET

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 (*Afield*) and Best Play of Marin Fringe 2012 (for her solo *Cantata #40*). In 2013 at the Marsh San Francisco, and at the O'Hanlon Arts Center in Marin, she performed a solo version of *Blizzard* that 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, as was *7 Nights with Sybil & Henry*. 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 eleven times over the last twelve 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 the Bay One-Acts Festivals. Her play *Red Sky at Dawn*, read in the Valdez Fringe in 2015, was subsequently produced at the SF Fringe Festival. Two pieces have been read at Pier One Theatre in Homer, Alaska. She has had over 20 pieces produced and over 50 pieces read publicly. 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. She also serves on the Board of Custom Made Theatre Company and is a playwright-in-residence and on 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.



## VONN SCOTT BAIR THINGS, OR, THE ROTHKO

Vonn Scott Bair is an actor, playwright, screenwriter, and amateur cookie baker based in San Francisco, California. His plays and screenplays have received over 30 productions. In 2005, the Conference presented his one-act play *Allegro Passionato*.



## RITA KNISS BARKEY FEATHER AND BONE

Rita Kniess Barkey is a writer, musician, and object-maker living in Missoula, Montana. More than a dozen of her plays have been produced around the country, most recently *The Trigger Gene* and *Dreams of Rabbits*. Her work has been developed at other playwright conferences, including Seven Devils and Indiana Theatre Works, as well as received staged readings at Chicago Dramatists, Montana Rep, Missoula Colony, and the Pandora Festival in Phoenix. Her awards include a Djerassi Artist residency, a Mary Anderson Center residency, the Basile Emerging Playwright prize, as well as fellowships from the Indiana Arts Commission, Indiana University, and Midwest Writers. A supporter of new plays, she has served as Literary Manager for the Bloomington Playwrights Project. She belongs to the Dramatists Guild and is a board member of ICWP. Her MFA is from Ohio State.



## TOM DAVID BARNA PAST PRESENT FUTURE

This is Tom David Barna's third visit to the Valdez glaciers. He credits the Conference with giving him much needed creative encouragement, immeasurable artistic insight, and, most importantly, exposure to an extraordinary artist community. As a Marine and two-time combat veteran, Tom has found an inner peace in the process of creating from the voices within. He is overwhelmed by the evolution his works receives on stage in the hands of professional artisans. Tom is most appreciative of the insight to be gained during the Play Lab and the dear kinships made along the way. Being in awe of others is so cool; living in the art itself is even better. Please visit his website at [Minnesotaplaywright.weebly.com](http://Minnesotaplaywright.weebly.com)



## JOE BARNES THE DAY SHE WENT AWAY

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*, *Errant Nonsense by a Nose*, and *The Political Economy of Desire* – have been read at the Conference. Barnes is also a poet. He is a resident of Houston, Texas.



## AMY BERRYMAN WALDEN

Amy Berryman is a writer and actor originally from Seattle, Washington. Her full-length plays include *Walden*, *The New Galileos* (developed in Amios' First Draughts series), and *Three Year Summer*, which was a semi-finalist for Sanguine Theatre Company's Project Playwright and recently received a reading with Nomad Theatricals. Her short plays have been seen in Amios' SHOTZ and Barrington Collective in NYC. The short film she wrote, co-produced, and starred in, *You Are Everywhere*, premiered in New York Shorts Fest and will soon have its west coast premiere in the LA Short Film Festival. As an actor, she was recently in Greg Kotis' play *Lunchtime* at the Brick in NYC, Erin Courtney's *I Will Be Gone* in the Humana Festival, and the web series #NoFilter. amy-berryman.com



## JILL BESS THE OLD WOMAN WHO LOST HER VOICE

Jill Bess, an Alaskan for over 30 years, is originally 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 *Three Sisters* (2017 Play Lab), *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. Jill has also written for the *Alaska Overnights* and the *Alaska One-Minute Play Festival*. Jill loves teaching acting and playwriting to her students at East Anchorage High School and also runs her own private acting studio, Alaska True Acting.



## TAMAR SHAI BOLKVADZE THE INSURANCE PLAY

Tamar Shai Bolkvadze is excited to have *The Insurance Play* read at the Conference. Tamar recently completed her MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Alaska Anchorage. In 2017, she was awarded the Women's Writer Fellowship from Oregon Literary Arts, and she was recently named a finalist in the Marin Theatre Company's David Callichio Emerging American Playwright Prize. She looks forward to the Conference every year, where she gets to see old friends, meet new ones, and watch great theatre.



## CATHERINE CASTELLANI IN SEARCH OF LOST TIME

Catherine Castellani's plays include *In Search of Lost Time*, *Possession*, *2Y20M*, *The Red Flags*, *The Mongoose and the Cobra*, and *The Bigsley Project*. Catherine's work has been developed by Dixon Place, Naked Angels Tuesdays@9, The Nora Salon, and Centenary Stage. Her 10-minute plays have been produced nationwide, including at Actors Theatre of Louisville, City Theatre (Miami), The ArtsCenter (Carrboro), and The Public Theater. For children: *There Is No E in Ski*, *The Silent Ones*, and *The Permian Extinction*. She writes occasionally for HowlRound, is published by Applause Books, and children's work is licensed by YouthPLAYS. Catherine is a two-time Fellow of the MacDowell Colony, a one-time Ucross Foundation resident, and an alumni member of The Writers Room in New York. Member of The Dramatists Guild.



## SAM COLLIER DAISY VIOLET THE BITCH BEAST KING

Sam Collier is from Washington, D.C., and currently divides her time between Chicago and northern Michigan. She is a 2017-18 member of the Goodman Theatre Playwrights Unit. Her play *Daisy Violet the Bitch Beast King* was a 2017 finalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. Other plays include *Silo Tree*, *thing with feathers*, and *Quiet, Witches*. Her work has been developed by the Chicago Theatre Marathon, Theater Nyx, the PTP/NYC After Dark Series, and New Ground Theatre. Her poems have appeared in *Iron Horse Literary Review*, *Mortar Magazine*, *The Puritan*, *Prompt Press*, *Guernica*, and elsewhere. As the 2017-19 Writer-in-Residence with the National Writers Series, she teaches in a writing program at a Career-Tech Center in Traverse City. She has also taught writing with Cornell College, Young Playwrights' Theater, and Indiana Repertory Theatre. Sam holds an MFA in Playwriting from the University of Iowa.



## TIMOTHY CRAWFORD THE CONSULTANT FROM HELL

Timothy Crawford (playwright, director, and actor) is from Chicago and studied theatre at Minnesota State University, Moorhead. He directed acclaimed Baltimore-area premieres of both *Fences* by August Wilson and *All in the Timing* by David Ives. Tim's one-act plays, *Whatchu Mean We*, *White Man?* and *The Morale the Merrier*, or *How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love Two-Day Meetings* were performed in Washington, D.C. He directed *Unintended Consequences: Three One-Act Comedies* by Al Lefkowitz and Tim Crawford for the 2008 Capital Fringe Festival in D.C. Most recently, he portrayed civil-rights icon Roy Wilkins in *All the Way* by Robert Schenkkan in Springfield, Illinois, where he currently resides.



## JOY CUTLER *BACK ON TRACK*

Joy Cutler's stage plays, radio plays, and solo performances have been produced in New York, Chicago, Boston, San Francisco, Homer, Philadelphia, Berlin, Amsterdam, and Jakarta. She has worked as a writer and performer with the San Francisco ensemble, Elbows Akimbo, and with Berlin theatre companies: The Berlin Play Actors, Out To Lunch Theater Group, and The Flying Buttresses. Her plays have been developed here at the Conference (2013-2017), the Emerging Artists Residency, Luna Theater in Philadelphia, The Inkwell in Washington, D.C., Wildacres Retreat in North Carolina, PlayPenn's reading series, and Philadelphia New Play Initiative. She has performed her solo show *Anatomy Lesson* for general audiences and medical students throughout the country. [www.joycutler.com](http://www.joycutler.com)



## ROBERTA D'ALOIS *YOU SHOULD HAVE BEEN THERE*

Roberta D'Alois is a playwright and Artistic Director of Jump! Theatre, whose mission is to present theatre based on authentic stories of mental illness. Roberta has a BA with Honors in Theatre Arts from Brandeis and an MFA in Playwriting from San Francisco State, where she also teaches. Her plays have been read or produced at Boxcar Theater, the EXIT, and Impact Theatre, and published by the International Centre for Women Playwrights. She is a former Artist in Residence at Z Space Studios and at the Kennedy Center Playwriting Intensive. As an artist-activist, Roberta was chosen as one of the 2016-17 Fellows at Yerba Buena Center for the Arts, where she worked with 30 other artists and change makers to delve deeply into the intersection of cultural and social responsibility. Jump! Theatre also completed a residency at ACT's Costume Shop in 2017 for their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Springboard Series. She is a former member of San Francisco's PlayGround, a new play incubator. [www.robertadalois.com](http://www.robertadalois.com)



## VICTORIA Z. DALY *INVISIBLE*

Victoria Z. Daly's plays have been developed at the Actors Studio and produced at the ATHE Conference, the Gi60 Festival (NYC and UK), the Warner International Playwrights Festival, the Berrie Center, Spokane's KPBX-FM (NPR) and the Edinburgh Festival, among other venues, and won numerous honors and awards. She is a Faculty Member in the Dramatist Guild Institute's Plays in Progress Program, where she works with Guild members to develop their new plays. Vicki also founded and directs The 9th Floor, a New York City writers/actors' collaborative, currently in its tenth season. She has been a television producer, script consultant, and executive at Lifetime Cable Television, Warner Brothers, and ABC. Education: MFA in Dramatic Writing, NYU/Tisch; AB and MBA degrees from Harvard; *Certificat d'Etudes* in theater from L'Ecole Jacques Lecoq in Paris. [www.victoriaz Daly.com](http://www.victoriaz Daly.com)



## BRENDA DOLMA *RISING*

Brenda Dolma drove up the Alcan Highway at age 22 with the promise of a job and stayed. A retired educator, performer/director, part-time poet and playwright, Dolma won the 2017 Homer Big Read playwriting competition with her play *Home Sweet Home(r)*. The little red theatre at the end of the Homer Spit quotes "Brenda's play touches beautifully on strong opinions and big hearts to be found in this community in a humorous and poignant way." She performs exclusively for Pier One Theatre, in Homer, Alaska, unless you count one play in college or as being a movie extra for Queen of Mean. Brenda directed theatreshakes for six years assisting Homer's next generation of actors in Shakespeare. She participated for a decade in the Homer production of the Nutcracker Ballet as grandmother, maid/mother, ginger, and spot. She has directed a number of DramaSlam plays as well as numerous Junior High plays throughout the years.



## MERRIDAWN DUCKLER *MYSTERY OF THE GLASS CEILING*

Merridawn Duckler is a poet and playwright from Portland, Oregon and the author of *Interstate*, forthcoming from Dancing Girl Press. She has adapted works by Bertolt Brecht and Franz Kafka, as well as Omar Khayyam's *Rubaiyat* and Yoko Ono's *Grapefruit*. Her plays have appeared at the Fertile Ground Festival in Portland; IPOP Festival in Olympia, Washington; Playwrights Forum Festival in Spokane; in staged readings at Seattle Repertory; the Emerging Female Playwright Festival of the Manhattan Shakespeare Project, and SWAN festival at Oregon Contemporary Theatre. She was librettist for the mock-opera *C'Opera*, performed at the LAPD and previewed in the New York Times. Previous works in the Red Cat NOW Festival, at LACE, LACMA and the Phoenix Art Museum. Her fellowships include Yaddo, this Conference, Southampton Theater Conference with Annie Baker, and the Norman Mailer Center with Paul Carter Harrison. She is the drama editor for Narrative Magazine and an editor for the international philosophy journal Evental Aesthetics.



## DOUGLAS GEARHART *SQUANDERED BLOOD*

Douglas Gearhart was born and grew up in Hagerstown, Maryland. He attended college at the University of Maryland, Baltimore County, and studied philosophy and psychology. He worked as a mental health counselor during his early 20s and later moved to Pittsburgh, where he joined the Army Reserve in 2000. He served in Iraq as an enlisted soldier in 2003 during the invasion, again in 2006-07 on the outskirts of Baghdad, and again in 2009-10 in the Kirkuk region. He has written several plays; *Squandered Blood* is his first to receive a reading. He currently lives and works in the Tampa, Florida area with his wife and son.



## AMANDA GLASSMAN *THE WEDDING PARTY*

Amanda Glassman is a screenwriter and playwright from Simsbury, Connecticut. She holds a BA from Yale University and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Oxford. Amanda has been a finalist for the Humanitas New Voices Program, the Ojai Film Festival, BlueCat Screenplay Competition, and the PAGE Awards; winner of the Bahamas Film Festival Writer's Residency and short story competitions. She was named to the Tracking Board's 2015 Young and Hungry List of screenwriters to watch and is a contributor for the Huffington Post. She lives and works in Los Angeles.



## KATHERINE GLOVER *RONALD REAGAN: TIME TRAVELER*

Katherine Glover is a Minneapolis-based playwright and performer. Her plays include *Ronald Reagan: Time Traveler*, *Celebrity Exception*, and *The Sweeter the Crime*, as well as solo shows *Dead Wrong*, *Burning Brothels: Sex and Death in Nevada*, and *A Cynic Tells Love Stories*. Her plays have been produced by This is Water Theater in Bryan, Texas; Black Sheep Theatre in Ottawa, Ontario; and the Colonial Players in Annapolis, Maryland. She won a 2013 Ivey Award for her one-act *Alien Love Triangle*, produced by Freshwater Theatre Company, and she was a 2015 Br!nk playwright with Renaissance Theaterworks in Milwaukee. She spent ten years as a freelance journalist and has a Master's from the Medill School of Journalism. She is also a founding member of the Playwright Cabal. For more info, visit [katherineglover.net](http://katherineglover.net).



## DAVID A. GREGORY *HANK & JIM BUILD A PLANE*

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, David A. Gregory has been a working actor and writer in New York City for the past ten years. He is the creator/writer/executive producer for *Powder Burns* - the Western Audio Drama about a Blind Sheriff, for which he won a 2017 Voice Arts Award. Ed Asner and the late Robert Vaughn guest star, with the title role played by *The Flash's* John Wesley Shipp. As an actor, David appeared in Hartford Stage's mounting of *Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike* for which he received a Connecticut Critics Circle nomination and the cover of American Theatre Magazine. Numerous TV credits include three seasons of *One Life to Live*, recurring characters on *The Good Fight* and *Constantine*, as well as guest spots opposite Victor Garber, John Larroquette, Elizabeth Hurley, and Ray Liotta. David considers his artistic upbringing in Fairbanks essential to his success in today.



## NICOLE HENEVELD *MEASURE*

Nicole Heneveld is a playwright and actor based in New York. She holds a BFA in Theatre Arts from Adelphi University and a degree in Classical Acting from LAMDA. During her time at Adelphi, she won three Dramatic Writing Awards, the Donald Axinn Award in Poetry, and the Robert Muroff Scholarship in Creative Writing. She was recently awarded a playwriting residency at DoLittle Farm by One Company NYC, where she completed her full-length, *By Extraction*, which explores the mysterious disappearance of Agatha Christie in 1926. Nicole's mission as a playwright is to showcase the women in history whose rich lives and accomplishments continue to inspire her to write fearlessly and unapologetically. She owes a great debt to Emily Dickinson, Aphra Behn, and Agatha Christie, among other female writers, for proving women's voices can and must be heard.



## NICHOLAS WALKER HERBERT *MEGALODON*

Nicholas Walker Herbert is an award-winning playwright and theatre-artist whose plays have been produced and developed around the United States and internationally since 2001. His 10-minute plays, *Funeral for a Pet* (2017) and *Autograph Table* (2016) received Equity showcase productions in An Eclectic Evening of Shorts: Boxers & Briefs by Artistic New Directions in New York, after being featured in the Ten-Minute Play Slam. In Spring 2017, his physical comedy *Pandora's Suitcase* received a workshop production in New York by Inside a Bear. His plays have been presented in the Play Lab since 2011. His full-length surreal play *Asylum* featured in the Lab last June received a world premiere in September 2017 by the Owl and Cat Theatre in Australia, his first international production. His one-woman show, *The Alien Baby Play*, is scheduled for production in the Edmonton International Fringe Festival in Alberta, Canada, by Impossible Mongoose in August 2018. After living in New York for almost a decade, Nicholas returned to the city of his birth, Sacramento, where he lives on a street named after an extinct radio station.



## RAND HIGBEE *THE CHICKEN AND THE BEAR*

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 produced by Anchorage's TBA Theatre at the 2007 Conference. At the 2013 Conference, 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. So far in 2018, Rand's one-act *Johnny Shoemaker* (read in the 2015 Lab) was published by Great Stage Publishing and he wrote the melodrama for Anchorage's Fur Rondy Festival (*Hope Springs Eternal*).





## ARTHUR M. JOLLY *THE LADY DEMANDS SATISFACTION*

After working as a Featured Artist for the last couple of conferences, Arthur M. Jolly is thrilled to be back just to have fun and work on his new play *The Lady Demands Satisfaction*. Previous Conference evening performances include *A Very Modern Marriage* (2017) and *A Gulag Mouse* (2013); previous Lab readings include *Trash* (2012), *A Very Modern Marriage* (2013), *Mission: Colusa* (2014), and *Straw, Sticks, Brick* (2015). Since last year's bio, Jolly won the Hammond House International Literary Prize for a Screenplay, and saw two of his screenplays produced, including a feature film version of *A Gulag Mouse*, which will be released under the title *Where We Disappear*. Publications this last year include *Rising*, which he wrote while trapped by floodwaters during Hurricane Harvey, about seven middle school students in a similar predicament; *Bully Issues*; and *The Ithaca Ladies Read Medea*. Jolly is a proud member of the WGA caucus, The Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights, and The Dramatists Guild. Repped by Brant Rose Agency. More at [www.arthurjolly.com](http://www.arthurjolly.com)



## L.M. KONOPLISKY *AMERICA BOWL*

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.



## BARRY LEVINE *EXITING THE V-CLUB*

Barry Levine enjoyed recent productions of his ten-minute play *In A World of His Own* and full-length trilogy *Freedom's Mohawk* with the L. A. company Dfcampan this past January and March, respectively. He has lived in Los Angeles since getting his graduate degrees from the University of Southern California. He has been attending the Conference since 1998. He grew up in New York City, went to Wesleyan University, and worked at places like Circle Rep (Lab member '95-96) and other companies. At USC, he helped found Brand New Theater, which produces student work. He is also a longtime DJ/host at KXSC, USC's radio station, where he promotes new and unknown bands on The Bear's Den. 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 is a longtime member of the Dramatists' Guild. Some of his best play productions came about through contacts he made here at the Conference.



## APRIL LITTLEJOHN *TICK... TICK... BOOM!*

(See bio in Featured Artist section)



## PACO JOSÉ MADDEN *THE NIGHT OF SHADOWS*

Paco José Madden is an activist/scholar/teacher/writer of Puerto Rican/Irish-German descent and a native of Washington, DC. He received an MFA in the Dramatic Writing from Arizona State University and a BA in Drama from Catholic University of America. Paco's *Beastly Beauty*, a retelling of *Beauty and the Beast* in which the "beast" is a woman, was produced by Binary Theatre Company (2018). *A Cave in the Desert*, about two men trapped in a cave searching for peace, is one of four winners for Jewish Ensemble Theatre's 2017 JetFest and is currently under considered for production by Béma Productions of Canada. His theater for young audiences play *Yasmin's Alien Invasion Adventure*, which deals with US immigration and the refugee crisis in Syria, is a 2017 selection for Purple Crayon Players' PLAYground Festival, a 2017 semi-finalist for Write Now!, and a 2017 Finalist for New Plays for Young Audiences.





## NICK MAZZUCA *I, WEAPON*

Nick Mazzuca is a multidisciplinary artist living in Durham, North Carolina. Born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska, they received their BA in Theatre from University of Nebraska-Omaha and their MA from Clemson University. Nick's play *Through the Blue Door* was workshopped at the 2008 WordBRIDGE Playwright's Lab, and their work has been performed in the Philadelphia Fringe Festival by the Tribe of Fools theatre company. This is Nick's second time in Alaska at the Conference, the previous being in 2011 for their Master's Thesis play, *The Dreamer Deepe*. Nick is extraordinarily grateful to return to Valdez, and they are excited to experience this year's Conference. When Nick isn't writing, they are taking pictures, editing video, and analyzing the mechanical aesthetics of games in digital media.



## SETH MCNEILL *BASTARD*

Seth McNeill is a New York City-based actor and playwright excited to be attending his first Conference. His plays include *Bastard*, *Contained Fires*, *The Victorian*, *The Butterfly & Stuff*, and *Sad Lonely People*. His work has been read, workshopped, and produced with

Dixon Place, Fresh Ground Pepper, InViolet Theatre, Primary Stages, TinyRhino, Amios NYC, Exquisite Corpse, Naked Angels, Emerging Artists Theater, The Secret Theatre, Renegade Theatre Festival (MI) Nouveau 47 (TX), and THEATREdART (CO). He has been named a semifinalist for ESPA Drills, The Colonial Players Promising Playwrights Contest, and The Road Theatre's Summer Playwrights Festival, has received residencies with Fresh Ground Pepper and Harwood Hill, and is a recipient of the Vera Mowry Roberts Fellowship. Adjunct faculty member at Hunter College. Education: Hunter College (MA in Theatre candidate), Primary Stages ESPA, Pataphysics at the Flea, Anne Washburn, Padraic Lillis, Tanya Barfield. [www.sethmcneill.com](http://www.sethmcneill.com)



## TARA MEDDAUGH *FOR MY SILENT SISTERS*

Tara Meddaugh is a graduate of Carnegie Mellon University's MFA program in Dramatic Writing. Her work has been presented by companies including Fusion Theatre, The Directors Company, Le Petit Theatre de Terrebonne, Theatre One, One Armed Man, Oracle Theatre, Inc, the Bobik Theatre Ensemble, The Acme Theatre Company, Woman Seeking..., The Harlequin Players, and numerous schools and universities. Her monologues have been used worldwide by theatres, actors, teachers, and even robots. She has been a script consultant for VR and animation films and written for an online video series. She has taught Playwriting and Screenwriting at Carnegie Mellon, the Pittsburgh Public Theatre, and for The Westport Country Playhouse, and she has led theatre workshops for children in underserved areas throughout New York and New Jersey. Tara's work has been published by YouthPLAYS, Oxford Press South Africa, Meriweather Publishing, and Applause Theatre & Cinema, as well as many online publications.



## JOANNA CASTLE MILLER *AROUND AND AROUND AND AROUND THE STATIC SUN*

Joanna Castle Miller is a writer, producer, and comedian whose work has appeared on NBC, PBS, VH1, and the Food Network. Plays include *Sh@med*, *Fox News the Musical*, *Parasite*, *Reformation*, and *Gratitude & Other Deviancies*. Joanna's political parodies and docuseries have been featured on Funny or Die, WhoHaha, and The Advocate, as well as in Fortune, Time, and The Hill. Other recent projects include *Ash* (short film; currently in distribution with Network Ireland TV), *Sorta My Thing* (web series; Funny or Die), and the Emmy Award-winning New York Philharmonic's *Sweeney Todd* (assistant producer), produced by Live from Lincoln Center. She is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and SAG-AFTRA. Joanna lives in Los Angeles.



## SHANE PATRICK MITTEN *WE WANT A DIVORCE!*

Shane Patrick Mitten was born in Northern Ireland but has lived in Alaska most of his life. He studied Theatre at Gonzaga University, Bennington College, and University of Alaska. In Juneau, he has taken playwriting workshop classes with professional writers Darrah Cloud, Deborah Brevoort, and Dan LeFranc through Perseverance Theatre. While at University of Alaska, he directed Chekhov's *A Marriage Proposal*, which was praised by the Anchorage Daily News as "a sparkling production" with "superb comic timing." He also directed Peter Shaffer's *The Private Ear*, described by the Anchorage Daily News as "a fine and moving interpretation." In addition, he appeared in the title role of Tony in *Tony's Having a Birthday* by Tony Pace. He currently works for the State of Alaska at the Permanent Fund Division.



## ERIC MOORE *COOPER'S BOX*

Eric Moore is a fourth year Playwriting/Dramaturgy BFA student at the University of Houston. He has had three plays produced by UH as a part of their annual Ten-Minute Play Festival, the most recent of which being *This Way to the Goatman*. He's had two plays selected as Southwest Regional Finalists for the John Cauble Award for Outstanding Short Play through the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival: *Sinkhole* in 2017, and *Cooper's Box* in 2018. His full-length *The Debasers* will have a workshop production at UH in the Fall of 2018. When not pursuing artistic endeavors, he can be found spending too much money on secondhand books and vinyl records.



## TOM MORAN *SWEDE FAMILY ROBINSON*

Tom Moran has been produced 43 times in 23 different cities in 15 states. Major productions in his home state of Alaska 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); *Breakout* by the Pend Orielle Players (WA); *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 the Eden Prairie (MN) Players; 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), Deer Park High School (NY), and Allen Community College (KS). *Duo* was also published in *The Best 10-Minute Plays 2012* by Smith & Kraus, and *Breakout* will be published in the 2017 edition. Tom's an eleven-time selection for Play Lab and has been chosen for the Fairbanks Drama Association's 8x10 Short Play Festival 15 times. He holds a Bachelor's in English from the University of Notre Dame and a Master's in Creative Writing from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He has resided in Fairbanks, Alaska since 2000.



## KEVIN MULLINS *THE HOME OF LOST DOGS*

Kevin Mullins is a playwright and theatre artist from Boston. His play *A Southern Victory* was a finalist for the Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, a semi-finalist for the WordBRIDGE Playwrights Lab, and a finalist at PlayPenn. His plays have been presented or developed with Slant of Light Theatre, Flat Earth Theatre, Vagabond Theatre Group, Boston Public Works, Mill 6 Productions, Wax Wings Productions, Interim Writers, Fresh INK Theatre, *The International Anarchist Theatre Festival of Montreal*, and the Incubator Arts Project in NYC. He is a founding member of Flat Earth Theatre and has an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Carnegie Mellon University.



## SEAN O'HARE *WHILE IRELAND HOLDS THESE GRAVES*

Sean O'Hare was born into an Irish Catholic immigrant family in Tennessee in 1943. They moved to Brooklyn when he was two, and he attended Catholic schools, including two years in a seminary. He received a Master's from Cal State Hayward; his thesis was an analysis of the troubles in Northern Ireland. He also earned four black belts in Japanese martial arts. He moved to Alaska in 1984, and has been married to Luba Belavtseva, from St. Petersburg, Russia, for almost 25 years. They have three adult children. As a journalist, Sean wrote op-eds for the Anchorage Daily News, as well as the occasional art or movie review, and had a regular column in the Anchorage Press. He has travelled all over Ireland many times, most recently in 2016, and was in Belfast during the IRA hunger strikes of 1981. This is his first play, and he is halfway through a sequel. It was inspired by both Brian Cook's playwriting class and the hundredth anniversary of the Irish Uprising.



## JANA OZTURGUT *WHAT HAPPENS ON THE RIDGE...*

Jana Ozturgut is a lifelong Alaskan who loves adventure and story. She consumes stories in any form she can get them, but her writing is focused on the screen and stage. When she's not writing or reading (or doing things she has to do), she will probably be somewhere in the wild. She has a Master's in Literary Criticism, and she has been a commercial fisherman, a teacher, and a mom (actually she's still a mom, but fazing that out).



## JOCELYN PAINE *SHEAR AUDACITY*

Working as a dresser and stitcher with Joseph Papp's *Shakespeare in the Park* in New York City was Jocelyn Paine's introduction to theatre—she turned thirteen that July. Since then, Ms. Paine has been distracted by avocations and careers in writing, painting, dancing Argentine tango, and the real-life needs of making money. She can't decide what theatre activity is more satisfying - acting, directing or costuming - so for the past few years, Ms. Paine has been involved in those capacities at Anchorage Community Theatre in *Laura* (costumer), *Plugged In Players Radio Theatre* (director, performer, costumer), *Silver Thaw*, (costumer, understudy), and, most recently, as director for Ken Ludwig's *Shakespeare in Hollywood*.



## JOHN PEROVICH *THE BROKEN AGE*

John Perovich's playwriting credits include, *shallow grave*, *poseidon's regret*, *missing grace*, *on display*, *unexpected*, *my love | my lumberjack*, and *spy love you*, premiering June 2018 at Brelby Theatre Company in Glendale, Arizona. He teaches at Metropolitan Arts Institute, instructing theatre and film with high school students. He has also instructed playwriting at several colleges. Perovich recently served as a teaching artist with Arizona Theatre Company, instructing a playwriting workshop for Veterans, supported through a partnership with Theatre Communications Group. He is the founding Artistic Director of Now & Then Creative Company, whose mission includes play development and production opportunities for Arizona writers. John is the incoming Artistic Director for Space 55 Theatre Ensemble in Phoenix, Arizona, whose focus includes new, under-represented and innovative theatre.



## PETER PORCO *THE LONELIEST NUMBER*

Peter Porco, a native New Yorker who has lived in Alaska since 1981, spent years as a reporter and editor for the Anchorage Daily News. He last had an entry in the Lab in 2012, and is currently working on *Wind Blown and Dripping*, a play about crime novelist Dashiell Hammett's time as editor of a GI newspaper in the Aleutians

during World War II. He taught creative and expository writing for thirty semesters as an adjunct at the University of Alaska Anchorage, and developed and taught courses in Film Noir for Olé!, the Anchorage adult-education program.



## MARY PORTSER *THAT SPOT IN THE WOODS*

Mary Portser has had short and full-length plays produced or developed by Fishamble (Dublin, Ireland), Inspira To Theatre Festival (Toronto, Canada), Judith Anderson Theatre (NYC), Terry Shreiber Studio (NYC), Ensemble Studio Theatre/LA, Pacific Resident Theatre

(LA), Theatre West (LA), The Blank Theatre (LA), and the Seven Devils Playwrights Conference in Idaho. She is a recipient of the *Otis Guernsey New Voices Award* from the William Inge Theatre and the winner of the Los Angeles City College One-Act Festival. Her plays have twice been finalists for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference. She wrote and performed with comedy group The Paranoids for eight years. Excerpts from her first novel, *Squawk*, can be read in the online journals *Embark* and *Bartleby Snopes*.



## JAN PROBST *CHANGING THE WORLD WITH BIG HAIR*

Jan Probst is delighted to be included in this year's fun at the Conference. A playwright, actor, and filmmaker, her plays have found their way on stage at numerous venues in the San Francisco Bay Area, including Exit Café,

Women's Work, SF Fringe, Cutting Ball and B8 Theatre, among others. While writing her way to an MFA at San Francisco State University, her ten-minute play *The First Page* landed on stage at The Kennedy Center as part of the American College Theater Festival (shout-out to Gary Garrison). A longtime member of Barewitness Films, a nonprofit improv film company, Jan can be found working either side of the camera. She also enjoys an innovative career as a medical actor, and lives in Berkeley, California, with her clarinet-playing partner and two adorable cats.



## JACOB MARX RICE *CRACKS*

Jacob Marx Rice's work has been produced and developed at The Flea Theater, Actors Theatre of Louisville, The Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, The New Ohio, Atlantic Theatre Stage 2, and others. His play series *The Suicidal Comedies* - consisting of *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 at the NY Fringe Festival, Producer's Pick at the Cincinnati Fringe Festival, and Producer's Encore Pick at the Hollywood Fringe. Jacob was a 2017 Playwright Observer at the Eugene O'Neill National Playwrights Conference and is a member of The Shelter. MFA: NYU



## KATE RICH *THE UNLIKELY SURVIVAL OF AMOS BENSON*

Kate Rich is an insomniac and student of playwriting in Homer, Alaska. Last fall she performed in *Jesus Christ Superstar* at the Mariner Theater in Homer, along with forty-seven of her newest friends. This year, she looks

forward to reviving *DramaSlam*, which is the Homer equivalent of Anchorage's *Alaska Overnights*. Each August, Kate produces *Highlights from the Last Frontier Theatre Conference*, three evenings of play readings at Pier One Theatre in Homer. Kate Rich wishes to convey her love and respect for Mary Langham, who had several plays workshopped in the Play Lab at the Conference over the years. Mary died on March 17, 2018. Mary's love of theater, circus, poetry, originality, and adventure inspired many theater artists to take creative risks of their own, and she is deeply missed.



## KRISTEN RITTER *STEP NINE*

Kristen Ritter is a playwright and fiction writer based in Anchorage, Alaska. She has lived and taught in Mexico, Russia, and Brazil (where she received a grant to study northeastern Brazilian literature). She is currently getting her MFA from the Vermont College of Fine Arts.

When she is not writing, she enjoys rock climbing, Dungeons & Dragons, and casually bringing up feminism. This is her second year attending the Conference.



## MATTIE ROQUEL RYDALCH *SHUT IT ON!*

Mattie Roquel Rydalch is happy to be back at the Conference with her new play, *Shut It On!*. She received her MFA from the University of Idaho, and her plays have had readings and workshops in Alaska, California, Colorado, Idaho, Indiana, New York, Ohio, and Utah. She

lives in southeast Idaho, writing plays and fiction, building props and scenery, painting backdrops, and working with K-4 students. She composes music and plays a collection of instruments. She likes to ski downhill, grow lemons, and draw comic books.



## MARGUERITE LOUISE SCOTT *FLIGHT PLAN*

Marguerite Louise Scott is an actress and playwright who started writing for the stage while studying acting in NYC at the William Esper Studio and becoming bedridden with a back injury. Her short plays and solo shows have appeared on stage at the 2010 *Estrogenius Festival* at Manhattan Theatre Club in NYC; *Women in Theatre Festival* (W.I.T.) at the Institute for Contemporary Art, Boston; COHO Theatre in Portland, Oregon; and both 2016/17 *Benchwarmers* at the Santa Fe Playhouse. (Oh... and lots of dark, tiny places you've probably never heard of). Marguerite recently performed at the Santa Fe Playhouse in the past two *Benchwarmers*, as Parsons in last season's *1984*, and most recently as Marks in *Talking With*. Her work is published in the 2010 *Book of Estro* and a few other out-of-print publications. She is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild.



## JASMINE SHARMA *HOT DOGS AND FEMINISM*

Jasmine Sharma is a Freshman Theatre major in the Music Theatre Certificate at Northwestern University. At school, she has had the honor and privilege of writing, directing, and acting in new work. She is a member of The Titanic Players, Out-Da-Box, The Waa-Mu show, and the audience nearly every weekend to cheer on her pals. She is a Scholastic national gold medalist, a BLANK Theatre's Young Playwrights Festival winner, and a two-time New Jersey Young Playwrights Festival winner. In addition to theatre, Jasmine is passionate about both New Jersey and its poppy seed bagels with strawberry cream cheese. <https://www.jasminesharma.org>



## NEIL SHARPSON *THE CASPIAN SEA*

Neil Sharpson studied in University College Dublin where he was a member of UCD Dramsoc and honed his skills as a writer, winning the Dramsoc Award for Best Original Script and the Dramsoc Award for Outstanding Contribution to Original Writing. He is a graduate of the Abbey Theatre's New Playwright's Programme and has been commissioned by the Abbey twice. He was also shortlisted for the Maguire International Playwriting Award in 2009. He also writes for the Irish superhero comic *League of Volunteers*, and is the founder of the comedy review blog Unshaved Mouse. As well as writing, he performs stand-up comedy and made it to the heats of Irish Comedian of the Year in 2017. He is also the puppeteer and co-host on the popular Irish YouTube channel, *Sharuf*.



## CHARLY EVON SIMPSON *WHILE WE WAIT*

Charly Evon Simpson is a playwright from New York City. Her plays include *Jump*, *Scratching the Surface*, *Behind the Sheet*, *form of a girl unknown*, *Hottentotted*, and *While We Wait*. Her work has been seen, heard, and/or developed at NNPN's MFA Playwrights Workshop at The Kennedy Center, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Ars Nova, The Flea, and others. She is a member of the 17/18 Clubbed Thumb Early Career Writers Group and the 18/19 'Wright Club with The Amoralists. She is The Pack's playwright-in-residence, one of the three playwrights chosen for Forward Flux's Three New American Plays commission, and has worked on commissions from the EST/Sloan, Clubbed Thumb, and more. Charly is a former member of SPACE on Ryder Farm's The Working Farm, Ensemble Studio Theatre's Youngblood, Pipeline Theatre Company's PlayLab, and Fresh Ground Pepper's PlayGround PlayGroup. BA: Brown. MSt: Oxford. MFA: Hunter College. [www.charlyevonsimpson.com](http://www.charlyevonsimpson.com)



## ANDREA STAATS *CAT AND POND*

Andrea Staats is a playwright and performer from Anchorage, Alaska. Her play *Consciously Coupled (But Not With Each Other)*, read in last year's Play Lab, was given a workshop production by the Prince William Sound College Drama Department in April. Other works have been performed at the *Alaska Overnights*, Midnight Sun's *Serial Bowl*, UAA Directing Scenes, and Sarah Lawrence College. She's currently pursuing an MFA in Theatre at Sarah Lawrence College and that's why she never answers her email.



## ALICE STANLEY *LIPSTICK*

Alice Stanley is a playwright, director, and producer. Their full-length play *Sally McCoy* was produced by Cohesion Theatre Company, and is scheduled for production at The Barter Theatre in Abingdon, Virginia, in October 2018, where it won the 2017 Appalachian Festival of Plays and Playwrights. Alice's plays have been produced by many theaters, including The Barter Theatre, Cohesion Theatre Company, Fells Point Corner Theater, Interobang Theatre Company, Spotlighters Theatre, Rapid Lemon Productions, Gadfly Theatre Productions, The Strand Theater, and Baltimore Shakespeare Factory. Their short piece *Addict Named Hal* recently won Audience Favorite in Fells Point Corner Theatre's *10x10x10*, and they are currently in pre-production for a short film version of the piece in the hopes of securing financing for the feature film. Alice has won Best Director from Baltimore City Paper's Best of Baltimore 2016, The Bad Oracle, and DC Metro Theatre Arts, and received the Mayor's Individual Artist Award.



## JESSICA STANLEY *SISTERS, INFERNO*

Jessica Stanley is an actor and writer from Melbourne. After topping the state of Victoria with a perfect score in drama upon the completion of high school, Jessica went on to receive a Victorian Premier's Award, the Jennifer Francis Drama Prize, and a scholarship to study at Monash University. There she completed her Bachelor of Performing Arts and performed in numerous productions, including *August: Osage County* and *The Pillowman*. Jessica was awarded the Outstanding Year Level Achiever and a Dean's Recognition Award following her work in *August: Osage County*. It was while studying at Monash that Jessica began writing plays, and in her first year out of university Jessica's first play was performed at La Mama, directed by Robert Reid. Jessica's on-screen credits include roles on the ABC's *The Doctor Blake Mysteries* and *Glitch*. In 2015, Jessica concurrently took part in the full-time program at Howard Fine Acting Studio, Melbourne, and completed her Bachelor of Psychology at Swinburne University. She continues to write new plays and study at the Howard Fine Acting Studio, where she also sits on the Board of Trustees, hosts a series of Scratch Nights, and occasionally teaches. Jessica is the Chair of independent theatre company North of Eight, founded in 2016. She is fueled by a passionate drive to continue learning and training at every opportunity.



## SARAH TUFT *MARVEL-OUS MONICA; IN WHICH MONICA LEWINSKY IS A SUPERHERO HELL-BENT ON REVENGE*

Sarah's new play *Marvel-ous Monica* has been selected for the 2018 National Playwrights Conference and has had readings at IAMA Theatre Company and the Museum of Jewish Heritage. Her play *110 Stories* has been read/produced across the U.S. and abroad in theaters including Geffen Playhouse, Public Theater, Toledo Repertoire and Vineyard Theatre with actors that include Billy Crudup, Ossie Davis, Ruby Dee, Edie Falco, James Gandolfini, Neil Patrick Harris, Samuel L. Jackson, Tony Shalhoub and Kathleen Turner. Other plays were developed/produced at EST's Lexington Center, Naked Angels' Tuesdays@9, Sundog Theatre, and 24 Hour Plays at BAM. *110 Stories* is published by Playscripts. Sarah's essays have been published in HuffPost, Indiewire and The New York Times. Sarah is a Humanitas Play LA Workshop finalist and NYFA fellow. A member of the Dramatists Guild and Antaeus Playwrights Lab, Sarah teaches dramatic writing at SF Creative Writing Institute.



## ALI VITERBI *IN EVERY GENERATION*

Ali Viterbi is thrilled to return to Valdez for her third Conference! She is an MFA playwright at UC San Diego, where she studies with Naomi Iizuka. She is also a television writer and educator. Her plays have been produced across the globe, from New York City to Australia. *Period Sisters* is a Finalist for the 2018 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference. She graduated from Yale in 2014 and received Yale's top playwriting prize. Ali's work has been developed, produced, or commissioned by Roundhouse Theatre, San Diego Repertory Theatre, The Drama League, North Coast Repertory Theatre, this Conference, The Barrow Group, The Owl and Cat Theatre, Horizon Theater Company, TinyRhino, Wildacres Residency, Yale College, and The Centropa Institute. Ali also completed a graduate certificate in Television Writing from UCLA, and her pilot was a semifinalist in the Sundance Episodic Storytelling Lab and the CineStory TV Fellowship. She is the producer of the annual San Diego Jewish Arts Festival, and she teaches undergraduate playwriting at UC San Diego.



## ASHLEY ROSE WELLMAN *WILLED BODIES*

Ashley Rose Wellman is a Los Angeles playwright with an MFA in Dramatic Writing from the University of Southern California's School of Dramatic Arts. Her plays have been read and/or produced at Pasadena Playhouse, Ensemble Studio Theatre Los Angeles (EST/LA), Rogue Machine Theatre, TossPot Productions, Midnight Summit Ensemble, Red Cup Theatre Company, this Conference, and the University of Alaska Anchorage. Her play *You Are The Blood* was named a Finalist for the 2017 O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, a Finalist for the Blue Ink Playwriting Award, and a Semi-Finalist for the 2017 Princess Grace/New Dramatists Award. Her play is a Finalist for the 2018 O'Neill, and her play *That Long Damn Dark* was a Semi-Finalist for the 2016 O'Neill. She is a member of the New West Writers Group at EST/LA, and a founding member of the Barelight Writers Project. Find out more at [www.ashleyrosewellman.com](http://www.ashleyrosewellman.com).



## KIMBERLY ALLELY

Kimberly Allely is a recent graduate from the University of Alaska Anchorage with a Legal Studies Major and Theatre Minor. Notable roles include: Caroline in Anchorage Community Theatre's *The Best of Everything*, Eurydice in UAA Theatre's *Eurydice*, and Tammy in *Debbie Does Dallas The Musical* at Mad Myrna's, as well as Jenny in 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. When not performing, Kimberly can be found behind a desk at Alaska Dance Theatre.



## JASMINE ALLEN

Jasmine Allen is a high school student from North Pole, Alaska. She has done musical theater, in her hometown, since 6th grade. She has appeared in several films in Fairbanks including film festival selections *Food* by Marcus Mooers and *That's What I Told Her* by Daniels Calvin. She is currently the lead in the film adaptation of Logorrhea, from last year's play slam. This is her first time in Valdez, and she is humbled and excited for the opportunity.



## SHAE LISA M. ANDERSON

Born and raised in Alaska, Shaelisa M. Anderson has always found herself drawn towards the theatre. She has performed in a wide range of productions since her youth, including comedic, romantic, dramatic, and musical roles. Her recent projects include: Lydia Lansing/Helena in *Shakespeare in Hollywood* (ACT); Princess Who Kissed the Frog in *Disenchanted* (Cyrano's / AFAA); Pippi in *The Great American Trailerpark Musical* (Cyrano's); Billie Holiday in her Prime in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* (ACT); Alison/Dr.Wink/Cupcakefairy in *Pinkalicious* (Cyrano's); and Cherie in *Bus Stop* (ACT). She also enjoys participating in projects in between shows like the *One-Minute Play Festival*, *Alaska Overnights*, and the new *Serial Bowl* through Midnight Sun Theatre.



## CHASE ANDERSON-SHAW

Chase Anderson-Shaw is an LA-based actor with a degree in Theatre from USC. In addition, he has previously trained with South Coast Repertory, the British American Drama Academy, and the Groundlings. Past performances include Andrew in *Recent Tragic Events* and Rod Serling in *Twilight Zone: Back to the 6th Dimension*. Chase read the part of Ben in *You Are the Blood* last year at Ensemble Studio Theatre's reading of the play and is excited to reprise the role in a fully-mounted production. He is absolutely thrilled to be in Alaska for the first time and to learn from all the amazing individuals attending the Conference!



## LINDA AYRES-FREDERICK

Linda Ayres-Frederick returns to the Conference after spending the last six months building a new performance venue (her seventh) in San Francisco. She has been a reader and playwright attending the conference eleven times in the period from 2005-2017. Phoenix Theatre's Artistic Director since 1985 ([www.phoenixtheatresf.org](http://www.phoenixtheatresf.org)), and two-time Shubert Playwriting Fellow, Linda has been performing in the San Francisco Bay Area, nationally (NYC & Alaska) and internationally (Edinburgh & France) since 1972, and enjoying a diverse career as an actor, producer, director, critic (for *allevents.com* & *Westside Observer*) and playwright. Her plays have received over 20 productions and 50 readings. Recent credits include: 3 Girls Theatre Playwright in Residence; World Premiere of *The Unveiling* 2017 SF; *The Umbrella Play* 2017 3Girls Theatre Salon Reading; *7 Nights with Sybil & Henry*, Dramatists Guild Friday Footlights Reading Series; SF Fringe 2016 (*Abracadabra!*) SF Fringe 2015 (*Red Sky at Dawn*); 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. Full-lengths 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: 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), Woman in *Play About the Baby* (SFBATCC Best Production Award & Best Actor Nomination) and Woman in *Laughing Wild*. Linda lives in the Mission District with her life partner.



## VONN SCOTT BAIR

Vonn Scott Bair's acting career began when a casting director took one look at him and said, "Vonn! You're so naturally mean looking!" Since then, he has portrayed vampires, werewolves, serial killers, mad scientists, cross-dressing kingpins of crime, cannibals, and the absolutely worst villain of them—a wine snob. He has also booked about 250 jobs in 20 years, including lead roles in four independent feature films and two TV series pilots.





## SARAH BETHANY BAIRD

Sarah Bethany Baird is super psyched to return to the Conference. Born in Alaska, she has appeared on Anchorage stages since 1995. Some favorite recent productions include *The 39 Steps*, *She Kills Monsters*, *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*. She married Anchorage actor Mark Robokoff in Valdez last summer. Sarah teaches pilates at Studio One in Anchorage and loves dancing, dogs, and dancing with dogs.



## CARRIE BAKER

(See bio in featured artists section)



## ALYSSA BARNES

Alyssa Barnes was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska, and has been performing on stage since the age of 10. She attended the University of Anchorage Alaska where she received her Bachelor's degree in Theatre. Her acting credits include: Belle/Wilamina from

Perseverance's productions of *A Christmas Carol* (2014-2017), Katherine from Shakespeare's *Taming of the Shrew*, Constance Neville from Oliver Goldsmith's *She Stoops to Conquer*, Deborah Soloman From David Mamet's *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, Alice Kinnian from David Rogers' *Flower for Algernon*, and more. She moved to Chicago to pursue a career in the arts, and is proud to be a founding member of the Midnight Summit Ensemble theatre company. You can catch her as Sylvia in MSE's production of Ashley Rose Wellman's *You Are the Blood* that will be showcased in this year's evening line-up.



A packed house at the 2017 Fringe Festival



## JAKE BEAUVAIS

Jake Beauvais is a Theatre Major with a performance emphasis at the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA). He has been in department productions such as *Eurydice* as Orpheus, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* as The Visitor, and *Radium Girls* as United States Radium Corporation president, Arthur Roeder. He has also appeared in Anchorage Community Theatre's production of *Bus Stop* as Bo Decker. He was last seen in UAA's devised production, *Earthquake '64*, as Greg and others. Jake is also a founding member of UAA's resident improv troupe, The Ad-lib Alchemists.



## KEVIN T. BENNETT

Kevin T. Bennett is an American screen and stage actor, director, filmmaker, producer, and entrepreneur. A veteran of the arts with over 35 years of performance and production, he is a highly recognized and visible Alaskan resident artist. He appeared recently in Perseverance Theatre's *Annappurna* and *A Christmas Carol*. Mr. Bennett is the Past President of the Board of Directors of ACT. A successful businessman, Mr. Bennett is the founding owner of Alaska's largest independently operated elevator enterprise, Alaska Stairlift & Elevator, LLC. As a member of SAG-AFTRA, Kevin's pursuits include the development of film industry and support of its infrastructure in Alaska and Louisiana. His recent film credits include: *Peaks and Valleys*, *Beyond*, *Wight Christmas*, and the *Baby Geniuses* sequels.



## AMY BERRYMAN

Amy Berryman is a writer and actor originally from Seattle, Washington. Her full-length plays include *Walden*, *The New Galileos* (developed in Amios' First Draughts series) and *Three Year Summer*, which was a semi-finalist for Sanguine Theatre Company's Project Playwright and recently received a reading with Nomad Theatricals. Her short plays have been seen in Amios' SHOTZ and Barrington Collective in NYC. The short film she wrote, co-produced, and starred in, *You Are Everywhere* premiered in New York Shorts Fest and was "Best Drama" winner at the LA Short Film Festival. As an actor, she was recently in Greg Kotis' play *Lunchtime* at the Brick in NYC, Erin Courtney's *I Will Be Gone* in the Humana Festival, and the web series #NoFilter. [amy-berryman.com](http://amy-berryman.com)





## 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 Main Stage of the Last Frontier Theatre Conference, plus scores of shows in Southern California, the West Coast, and parts of Canada. Her most recent stage roles include Aurora in *Spikes*, Jeanie in *Great American Trailer Park Musical*, 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*, and the made-for-TV movie *Lost in Alaska*, and in 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 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. She has most recently dabbled in devised theatre and viewpoints work with Everyman Ensemble Theatre Company in Las Cruces. 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 studied at NYU Tisch (Strasberg, Playwrights Horizons) with a focus in directing. She is the Outreach Director of Anchorage Community Theatre, Alaska's longest-running arts organization. She is also the co-founder of Blue Chair Productions, along with Ryan Buen, Play Lab Coordinator. Though primarily a director since college, the last year has seen some of Colby's favorite acting credits: Kate in *Seminar* (Blue Chair), Kaliopé in *She Kills Monsters* (Cyrano's Theatre Co.), and most recently Leni in Jacob Marx Rice's *Leni and Joseph* (TBA Theatre). Recent directing credits: *Anne of Green Gables* (TBA), *Fancy Nancy the Musical* (Cyrano's), *Constellations* (Blue Chair).



## TAMAR SHAI BOLKVADZE

TamarShaiBolkvadze is very excited to return to the Conference. A card-carrying Toss Pot, 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.



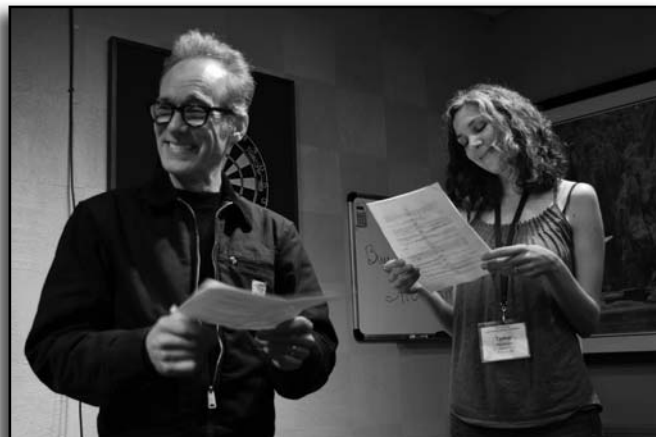
## TIMOTHY BROWN

Timothy Brown is the Associate Artistic Director of Blue Roses Productions. His plays include *The Julia Set*, *The Reality Is...*, *The Persistence of Memory*, *Bottle of Red*, and *Twelve Minutes After Midnight*. Directing credits include *Battle of Angels*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*, *Paper Lanterns* and *Truth in the Guise of Illusion*. Acting credits include Lord Byron in *Camino Real*, Jake in *27 Wagons Full of Cotton*, Monk in *Confessional*, Lloyd in *Mud*, Tom in *The Glass Menagerie*, and Decius Brutus in *Julius Caesar*. He has enjoyed over 25 years of collaboration with his best friend and artistic partner Erma Duricko. This is the eighth year that Tim has participated in the Conference.



## RYAN BUEN

(See bio in featured artists section)



Kevin T. Bennett and Tamar Shai Bolkvadze performing at the Fringe



## K CALLAN

K Callan's bicoastal theatre credits include the Victory Theatre, The Rogue Machine Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, The Back Alley in Los Angeles and in New York, The Manhattan Theatre Club, The Public Theatre, HB Studios and The New York Shakespeare Festival. Film credits include *Joe*, *A Touch of Class*, *American Gigolo* and *Why Did I Get Married Too*. TV audiences recognize Callan as Superman's Mom on *Lois & Clark: the New Adventures of Superman*. Other television credits include *Veep*, *Getting On*, *Carnivale*, *Meet the Browns*, *How I Met Your Mother*. Callan's string of industry career books for actors, writers and directors have been in the marketplace since 1985: *How to Sell Yourself as an Actor*, *The Los Angeles Agent Book*, *The New York Agent Book*, *The Script is Finished*, *Now What Do I Do?* and *Directing Your Directing Career*. She's a voting member of The Academy of Motion Picture Arts & Sciences as well as The Television Academy and a past board member of The Screen Actors Guild.



## 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 major 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 Agnes Evans in *She Kills Monsters* (Cyrano's Theatre), Mayella Ewell in *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Perseverance Theatre), and Bec in *4000 Miles* (Cyrano's Theatre). Conference goers may also recognize her from as V.A. White in Kevin Armento's *Good Men Wanted* and Jenny Wentworth in Ashley Rose Wellman's *Gravidity*. Taylor can't wait to share in this week of collaboration with her summer camp family!



## CATHERINE CASTELLANI

Catherine Castellani studied acting at NYU's Experimental Theater Wing, and discovered she is more of a ham than an actress. Her fruitful performing career in the downtown theater clubs featured roles such as The Hand of Authority (with giant paper mâché mask) and The Maid With No Lines Who Can't Clean. Retired from the stage after winning a Tarzan Yell Contest at the famed 8BC performance club (prize: an actual canned ham, promptly donated to a homeless man on the 2 train) she is proud to make her Alaskan debut. Thank you for trusting her with the stage directions.



ShaeLisa M. Anderson, Taylor R. Campbell, and Karen Lauer in Amy Tofte's *Parts and Pieces*



## JAMES CERCHE

James Cerche is a Melbourne based actor and graduate of the Australian Howard Fine Acting Studio's Full Time program. He previously attended Monash University, where he achieved his Bachelor of Arts, majoring in English, Theatre and Film Studies. He performed regularly with the Monash University Student Theatre company in a number of roles that included lead performances in *Spring Awakening* directed by Yvonne Virsik (co-production with the Monash Performing Arts Academy), *Romeo & Juliet* directed by Mark Wilson (with the Monash Shakespeare Company), and *The Lieutenant Of Inishmore*. James has also been an active member of the Melbourne independent theatre scene, engaging on and offstage in productions with several companies including performances at The Arts Centre. James' screen credits include independent feature *Angel Of Light*, shorts *Utopia*, *Skateboys*, *Rest In Piss*, *Break & Enter*, *For Your Convenience* and 48 Hour Film Festival finalist *Apocabricks*. James appeared on stage in the acclaimed 2015 production of *Psychopomp* at LaMama and recently premiered new work *Rainbow Man* at Forty-five Downstairs with his company Goodnight Darlings.



## MATT CLARKE

Matt Clarke is a multiple Scottite Award-winning ASU grad who hails from Arizona, and does various thing around there, much of it involving theatre. His credits include MET's *[sic.]*, Cody Goulder's *Space Junk*, John Perovich's *Missing Grace*, Allison Bauer's *Take Me Back*, and Jose Zarate's *Across*. He is also a regular collaborator with Media Sheep Productions. He enjoys long walks, deep conversation full of existential quandaries and doubt, and car karaoke.



## BEN CORBETT

(See bio in featured artists section)



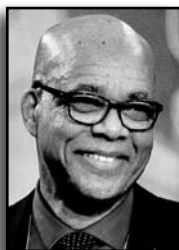
## ANGELA COLAVECCHIO

Angela Colavecchio is a third year theatre major at University of Alaska Anchorage. When Angela isn't performing, she is working as a nanny. She has done seven shows at UAA including *Radium Girls*, *And Then There Were None*, *Picasso at the Lapin Agile*, and *Eurydice*. 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 eat a lot of cake and leave a really cool ghost.



## DENISE COTTEN

Denise Cotten enjoys being a part of the Anchorage theatre community and treasures the connections she has made over the past few years. Denise has been on stage as part of TBA Theatre productions of *The Music Man* as Mrs. Paroo, *The Wizard of Oz* as Aunt Em, and *Miracle on 34<sup>th</sup> Street* as Judge Harper, to name a few. She was also a part of Cyrano Theater Company's production of *Fancy Nancy*, *The Musical*, as Mrs. Clancy (Fancy Nancy's Mom). Denise 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.



## TIMOTHY CRAWFORD

Timothy Crawford is from Chicago, studied acting at Minnesota State University Moorhead, and recently returned to acting in Springfield, Illinois. Some of Tim's favorite roles from the past were in *House of Blue Leaves*, *When You Comin' Back*, *Red Ryder*, and *The Basic Training of Pavlo Hummel*. He has done readings for the Baltimore Playwrights Festival and the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Museum including various characters in an adaptation of Doris Kearns Goodwin's *Team of Rivals* (a source for the movie *Lincoln*), multiple roles in James Still's *The Heavens Are Hung in Black*, and Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*. Earlier this year, he appeared as Roy Wilkins in Robert Schenkkan's *All the Way*.



## CHRISTOPHER CURRY

Onstage in Los Angeles, Christopher Curry has worked at the Ahmanson, Pasadena Playhouse, The Falcon, The Skylight, The Blank, and Evidence Room. New York credits include dozens of plays, including the original Off-Broadway productions of *When You Comin' Back*, *Red Ryder?*, *Life Class*, *Strange Snow*, *Isadora Duncan Sleeps with the Russian Navy*, *Kennedy at Colonus*, *The Promise*, *The Foreigner*, and on Broadway in *Crucifer of Blood*, *All My Sons*, and *Dirty Linen*. Has worked all over the place in regional theatre, most recently in *Sight Unseen* and *God of Carnage* at George St. Playhouse. He did many seasons as an actor at the O'Neill Playwrights Conference and has continued his favorite pursuit of developing new plays at the Seven Devils Playwrights Conference in Idaho. On television, he most recently played (Crazy) Earl on the series *Hart of Dixie*. Movies include *Sully*, *Starship Troopers*, *Flags of Our Fathers*, *Red Dragon*, *Home Alone III*, and the cult horror *C.H.U.D.* He got the part in *That Spot in the Woods* because he is married to the playwright, the lovely and talented Mary Portser.



## ROBERTA D'ALOIS

Roberta D'Alois has been involved in stage work for many years as a solo performer, has been a reader for many playwrights at San Francisco State, and has performed in featured roles at Actors Ensemble of Berkeley, Boxcar Theatre, The Marsh, and for several independent projects. She has a BA in Theatre from Brandeis University, and an MFA in Playwriting from San Francisco State.



## GABBY D'ARVILLE

Gabby D'Arville is from Venice Beach, California, where she worked as a camera assistant for the nearly a decade. Having dealt with the needs of her cameramen, her bosses, she felt like they were way bigger divas than the talent. So she decided to quit her job and run away to Alaska. Gabby performed stand-up comedy for the first time in January 2018 at the Blue Loon in Fairbanks, where she opened for her comic mentor, Lachlan Patterson.



## SKYLER RAY-BENSON DAVIS

Skyler Ray-Benson Davis is an actor, writer, dancer, musician and storyteller from Alaska. Native to Alaska (Tlingit). He directed, and played the role of Raven in the traditional Tlingit, *Raven Creation Story* at Icy Strait Point. He has worked as an actor with the Alaska Theatre of Youth, Anchorage Community Theatre, RKP Productions, Cyrano's Theatre Company, Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre, Perseverance Theatre, and most recently Quantum Theatre's production of *Inside Passage* by Gab Cody. He is also a carpenter. Currently, he is an itinerant artist, going wherever work is. This is his third year in attendance at the Conference, and he plans to be around for many moons more.



## 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 NPR'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, and 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*. She directed this year's evening performance of Jakob Marx Rice's *Leni & Joseph*.



Erin Dagon Mitchell, Warren Weinstein, and Lindsay Lamar in Rand Higbee's *The Feral Child*



## FRANK DELANEY

Frank Delaney has been based in Anchorage for the last several years. 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 Montfleury and Carbon De Castel-Jaloux in Perseverance Theatre's world premier adaptation of *Cyrano De Bergerac*, and as David in *You Are the Blood* with Midnight Summit Ensemble. Frank is a proud company member of Tossport Productions. He's looking forward to another great Conference.



## BRENDA DOLMA

Brenda Dolma is retired educator, performer/director, part time poet and playwright. She has performed exclusively for Pier One Theatre in Homer, Alaska, unless you count one play in college as well as being a movie extra for *Queen of Mean*. Brenda directed theatreshakes for six years, assisting Homer's next generation of actors in Shakespeare. She participated for a decade in the Homer production of the Nutcracker Ballet as grandmother, maid/mother ginger and spot. She has directed a number of DramaSlam plays as well as numerous Junior High plays throughout the years.



## CHRISTINE A. EAGLESON

Christine A. Eagleson Is an Art Director, Stylist, and contemporary performance artist. Born and raised in Oregon, with over 250 performances, lives in Anchorage, Alaska. A champion of best practices and advocate for the arts, has served as Director of Events, Development, Marketing; Production Manager, and Designer; a practiced consultant and marketing strategist specializing in branding, creative identity coaching and broad spectrum life styling. Performing in select operatic, musical theatre, fine art, and film. Before the age of 10, a student of dance in ballet, belly dancing, jazz, swing, and quintessential ballroom. A naturally comedic and active artist with over 20 years in performance as a classical Soprano appearing 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 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: South Pacific, Pirates of Penzance, Mikado, West Side Story, and Guys & Dolls. Follow & connect @Xpressionista



## SHAWN EBY

Shawn Eby began acting in high school and has continued to keep acting a part of his life. 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. His favorite roles were in *Almost, Maine* (2008) and *The Musical Comedy Murders of the 1940s* (2010). Shawn is always eager to gain new experiences and enjoys working with others.



## SETH EGGLESTON

Seth Eggleston graduated from Willamette University (Salem, OR) in May, 2017 with a Bachelor's Degree in Music and Psychology, where he gained experience as a pianist, composer, and arranger. Having grown up in Alaska, he is delighted to finally be able to attend the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Seth has been stage managing, acting, and directing music in Anchorage for many years, and has worked with TBA Theatre, Cyrano's Theatre Company, and Anchorage Community Theatre. Most recently, he served as musical director for *Christmas Knight* (TBA, 2017) and *Boris and Natasha's Goofy Gruesome Gathering* (TBA, 2017), and appeared on stage as a member of the Barbershop Quartet in TBA Theatre's production of *The Music Man*. He is also a regular director for TBA's Musical Theatre Intensive.



## 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 readings. A Chicago-native actor, singer, dancer and casting director and coach, Annie lives in New York and Los Angeles, having principled a range of films, series, commercials, radio shows, voice works, music videos, plays and two 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, Tribeca). She is currently workshopping scripts for the stage with Daniel Kwiatkowski (*The Line Between*), Greg Romero (*Door to Balloon*), dir. Kuros Charney (*My Name Is Rachel Corrie*), and screen with Joaquin Phoenix (*Her*) and Kit Harington (*Game of Thrones*). She sings with folk, rock, hip hop and bluegrass bands and organizes the Get With It political music project. Behind the camera, she produces, shoots and edits music videos and directs the portrait series Women of New York. She dances with PMT Dance Company as well as a Latin and flamenco flash mob, and hosts The Parlour Salon happenings-nod art share. 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, makes websites and advises on managing internet presence, leads children's workshops, and has lectured on a tour of universities. She also enjoys copy editing scripts and other writing. She is a hobbyist interior designer and carpenter, runs Etsy store HunterHunted, and plans wilderness expeditions most often throughout South America and Canada. Ever grateful for the opportunity and excited to collaborate!



## ROSALYN EVENSON

Rosalyn Evenson has been involved in theatre since she was a child. She went to summer theater camps at South Coast Repertory and as an adult she joined the Department of Theater and Dance at the University of Alaska Anchorage in Fall 2012. She has been a part of several productions, including *Hidden In This Picture* (2013), *Big River* (2013), *Pippin* (2014), and UAA student-directed scene *Arabian Nights* (2017), as well as being involved in various shows' productions and lighting for the 2015 Fall dance show. When she isn't going to school, doing theatre, or working as your friendly neighborhood barista, she's out traveling, watching hockey, hiking, camping, and enjoying local theater. This is Sarah's first year at the Conference.



## 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.



## MATT FERNANDEZ

Matt Fernandez is the Executive Director of Anchorage Community Theatre. He started on the stage at age eight, ballet dancing in *The Nutcracker* for three consecutive years before taking a more dramatic turn to the theatre in 1992 in *A Christmas Carol*. Matt has enjoyed playing such roles as Stanley Kowalski in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, R.P. McMurphy in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*, and William Kempe in UAA's *William Shakespeare's Land of the Dead*. Matt directed *Bus Stop*, which was showcased at the Conference in 2004, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill*, and last Spring, *In This Corner: Cassius Clay*. Recently, Matt has tried his hand acting and directing in the local film scene as well as writing novellas and children's books.



## DEVIN FREY

Devin Frey is a lifelong Alaskan with a family history of entertaining. He graduated in 2015 from the University of Alaska Anchorage with a BA in Theatre, and plans to pursue a Master's in the future. His most recent productions include playing 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 was the Sound Designer for Cyrano Theatre's production of *Orson's Shadow*, co-designer for *Stalking the Bogeyman*, and designer for UAA's *Marie Antoinette*, among others. He began attending the Conference in 2009, and each year has more fun than the year before.



## LAURA GARDNER

(See bio in featured artist section)



## MARISA GARRIGUES

A lifelong Alaskan, Marisa Garrigues has been involved in the Anchorage theatre community for 5 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*. She starred in the Anchorage Community Theatre production of Katherine Divasio's *Things My Mother Taught Me*. Mo may also be found, making props, and stage managing from time to time.





## REBECCA GILMAN

Rebecca Gilman received her BA in Theatre from UAA in 2015. She divides her time between acting, stage managing, and costume design. In the fall of 2017 she returned to her hometown of Kenai, Alaska where she is now the Secretary of the Kenai Performers Board of Directors.

Since returning to Kenai she has played Mama Bear in *Shrek: The Musical* (Kenai Performers) and in the ensemble of *My Fair Lady* (Triumvirate Theatre). Other notable roles include Maxine in *Night of the Iguana* (UAA Theatre and Dance 2014) and Sister Aloysius in *Doubt: A Parable* (Theatre on the Rocks 2014). Favorite stage management credits are *Gravidity* (Theatre on the Rocks 2014 and Last Frontier Theatre Conference 2014) along with [title of show] (2013), *Other Desert Cities* (2015), *Antony and Cleopatra* (2016), and *The Great American Trailer Park Musical* (2017) at Cyrano's Theatre Company. Rebecca is also one of the founding members of the UAA Wolfpack Theatre Club improv troupe The Ad-Lib Alchemists.



## GRACE GOODYEAR

Grace Goodyear is a recent graduate of South Anchorage High School and is super excited to be attending the Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference for the first time! Most recent credits include Olivia Darnell in *Shakespeare in Hollywood* (Anchorage Community Theatre), the

Authoress in *Little Women* (SAHS), and a member of the Chorus of the Dead in *Igor: the Butcher of Salzburg* (TBA Theatre). Grace will be heading off the Willamette University in the fall to study Social & Behavioral Sciences and Theatre Arts. When she is not on the stage, Grace likes to sing, cook, and hang out in coffee shops saying that she is actually getting work done.



## CODY GOULDER

Cody Goulder could not be more thrilled to be back at the Conference, this time participating as an actor in the Play Lab. In addition to dabbling in playwriting, directing, and designing, Goulder is also the Associate Artistic Director of Now & Then Creative

Company in Phoenix, Arizona. Previous acting credits include: *Stage Kiss*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *Fools*, *Macbeth*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Tartuffe*, *The Crucible*, *Twelfth Night*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *King Lear*, and *Poseidon's Regret*. Goulder would like to thank Dawson and the entire LFTC family for always being wonderful and for supporting new works all over.



## DAVID A. GREGORY

Born and raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, David A. Gregory received his first on-screen role in the summer of 2008 in a series of commercials for Airborne where he starred as Sebastian, a Fabio-esque romance novel hero. In 2009, he was personally chosen by James L. Brooks to

appear in the director's next outing, *How Do You Know*. Though most of his scenes ended up on the cutting room floor, David makes his big-screen debut in the film. A two-week stint on ABC's *One Life to Live* became two and half years as David was offered a contract on the popular daytime soap. He was a member of the show's final television cast when it went off the air in 2012. Since then, David has recurred on CBS All-Access' inaugural series *The Good Fight*, as well as NBC's *Constantine* and *Deception*. He has guest-starred in high profile TV roles opposite Ray Liotta, Elizabeth Hurley, John Larroquette, Victor Garber, Alyssa Milano and Christopher Jackson. In addition to his outings on television, David is writer/producer/actor for *Powder Burns*, a Western Audio Drama about a Blind Sheriff for which he won a 2017 Voice Arts Award.



## NATHAN H.G.

Nathan H.G. is a movement artist who has 12 years ballet and 13 years of Butoh and 18 years of professional theatre. In his youth he studied under full scholarship with the Milwaukee Ballet, The Pacific Northwest Ballet and other noted Ballet teachers and companies. He has also

studied with Butoh masters: Natsu Nakajima, Iwashita Toru, Setsuko Yamada, Akira Kasai, and Koichi and Hiroko Tamano. He has preformed with The Oakland Ballet, David Taylor Dance Theatre, Imago Theatre, Speculative Drama, Wobbly Dance and others.



## MEGAN SKYE HALE

Megan Skye Hale grew up right here in Valdez, and has gone on to train in masters level work as a classical actor at the London Acadmey for Music and Dramatic Arts. She is an actor and movement director with a background in Shakespeare, Lecoq style character clown,

and mask and movement theatre. As Artistic Director of Portland based company Speculative Drama, Megan explores site-specific and immersive theatre techniques, and how those intersect with classic stories from fairytales to Shakespeare. She is unbelievably excited to return to her home-town of Valdez for the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. After more than 10 years away from the conference, she is delighted to be bringing her own work to this place filled with so many memories of learning and exploring as a young actor!





## JOHN HAVELOCK

John Havelock arrived in Alaska in 1959 after graduating from Harvard College and Law School. After practicing for the state and partnering in an Anchorage law firm, he served as a White House Fellow, remaining as a Special Assistant to the Secretary of Agriculture. As state's

Attorney General in the seventies, he participated in the negotiation of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act, initiated the reorganization of Alaska's professional fisheries around a limited entry system, and revamped the state's oil tax regime. Later, he managed the state's investigation of the wreck of the Exxon-Valdez, started the University's Justice program, remaining a columnist for the ADN to this day.



## DEMENE E. HALL

Demene E. Hall was born, bred, and educated in the Midwest (Michigan). She is a world-travelled performer and has toured the entire U.S. twice over. Her stage, film, and television credits reach back forty plus years. She is very proud of being an original cast member of the

Pulitzer Prize winning production of *The Kentucky Cycle* (early 1990s), a six-hour project that premiered at Seattle's Intiman Theatre. Demene has been a Seattle resident since 1987. She is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association.



## DEVAN HAWKINS

Devan Hawkins is extremely proud to be joining fellow thespians for the Conference this year. She is originally from Nebraska and is attending the University of Alaska-Anchorage to obtain her Bachelor's degree in Social Work.

Although she has only lived in Anchorage for two years, she has been working with vigor to grow her acting ability and meet some amazing theatre folk. Devan has worked in short films, workshops, festivals and community productions in and around Anchorage. She would like to give thanks to the UAA Theatre Department for allowing her to strengthen her portfolio with roles such as Genie Chance in *Earthquake '64*, Vladimir in *Waiting for Godot*, and Mrs. Rogers in *And Then There Were None*. Her most memorable roles include Shelly in Schatzie Schaefer's *Silver Thaw* and Marie in *Woyzeck*. Devan wishes to thank her mom, Katie, for being eternally supportive and caring. She also wants to shine a light on the wonderful theatre community in Anchorage, she believes that her acting has improved greatly since being around such welcoming, talented individuals.



## BLAKE HAY

For the last few years, Blake Hay has been exploring many aspects in the craft of filmmaking including directing, producing and writing. His first step into the film industry, however, was with screen acting classes at Filmbites Youth Film School when he was ten-years-old.

Through Filmbites, he then landed his first acting job in the TV show *Prank Patrol*. From then on, Blake has continued exploring acting, trying to learn as much as he can. It was from his experiences in acting that pushed Blake to pursue screen directing. He now continues as a director for web series, short films, micro documentaries, and corporate videos, taking a strong approach in the acting side of storytelling. He also carries on studying and teaching acting to enhance his direction. Being only eighteen, Blake is determined to continue pushing himself in exploring new heights of filmmaking for the many years to come.



## 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 Orson Welles in Cyrano Theatre Company's *Orson's Shadow*. The award-winning actor has been a frequent participant in *The Alaska Overnights*, *Fourplay*, and at the Conference. His fondest memories of the Valdez LFTC include performing *The Big Guy*, Godzilla's existential monologue about his life razing Tokyo, and sharing a scene in *The Trip To Bountiful* with Jean Stapleton... and almost meeting Ben Stiller.



## TARAN HAYNES

Taran Haynes is a theatre major at UAA and an aspiring performer, director, and playwright. He has been on the UAA stage in *Radium Girls* (Tom Kreider, Reporter), *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (Albert Einstein), Agatha Christie's *And Then There Were None* (Phillip Lombard), *Big River: The*

*Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* (Tom Sawyer) and *Spam-a-lot* (Not-Dead-Fred). He also served as production dramaturg for *Stalking the Bogeyman* and assistant director in *44 Plays for 44 Presidents*. *Writing a Play*, Taran's first one-act, was accepted to the Play Lab of the 2017 Last Frontier Theatre Conference in Valdez, AK, and his 10-minute play, *The Hardest Thing*, was accepted to the Playwriting Symposium of the 2017 Mid America Theatre Conference in Houston, TX, which subsequently earned him a UAA Discovery Grant.



## NICOLE HENEVELD

Nicole Heneveld is an actor and audiobook narrator based in New York. She holds a BFA in Theatre Arts from Adelphi University and a degree in Classical Acting from the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Arts. She was most recently seen in Sal

St. George's Living History production of *The Lizzie Borden House* (Emma Borden), *Once Upon a Time, Inc.'s A Christmas Carol* (Tiny Tim), LAMDA's *Women Beware Women* (Bianca Capella) and Adelphi University's *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia). She was also honored to portray Emily Dickinson in the short film, *Fascicle as Film*. Her audiobook narration credits include *Senses Beyond* and *Song of the Red Wolf* by Toni House.



## 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 8 years-old. 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 US, and internationally. 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, and his diploma is signed by the Terminator.



## JACQUELINE HOFFMAN

Jacqueline Hoffman is an actress from Anchorage. She has performed with several Alaskan companies including Alaska Fine Arts Academy (*The Enchantress of Ipswitch*), Anchorage Community Theatre (*Crimes of the Heart*, *Blithe Spirit*, *The Best of Everything*), and TBA Theatre (*The Wizard of Oz*, *Much Ado About Nothing*). Recently she has been enjoying the unpredictable fun of Midnight Sun Theatre's *Serial Bowl*. She is always grateful to participate in the Conference.



Nicholas Walker Herbert (amused) and Rand Higbee (amused, but hiding it) at the Fringe



## LINNÉA HOLLINGSWORTH

Born and raised in Seward, Linnéa Hollingsworth pursued acting in college at the University of Alaska Anchorage. After moving back to Seward 13 years ago, she discovered the other side of the theater world, and made her name known as a producer and director for Port City

Players. Favorite productions include: *Vagina Monologues*, *Duck Hunter Shoots Angel*, *Almost Maine*, *Peter Pan*, *The Last 5 Years*, and *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*. Acting remains her passion. She recently traveled to Anchorage to perform in RKP's production of *Church and State* as Sara Whitmore. Some of her other favorite roles include: Ado Annie in *Oklahoma!*, Hermione in *The Winter's Tale*, Katharina in *Taming of the Shrew*, the Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* and Alaska Nellie in Doug Capra's one woman show *Into Alaska A Woman Came*. Linnea is also the lead singer in the Seward based jazz band, Elite 9.



## RON HOLMSTROM

Before relocating to Alaska, Ron Holmstrom worked for many years in the theatre, film and television industries in Hollywood. He is the Alaska representative of the SAG-AFTRA Seattle Local Board and serves on the Stunt and Safety Committee. Ron will next be seen in the up-coming feature film *Proper Binge*. He currently reports on entertainment news for FOX-4 and ABC-13. Ron has never been convicted of a felony.



## THEODORE CHALLENGE HOOKER II

Theodore Challenge Hooker II has been with the Conference for eight years now, both as a reader and as an Assistant Coordinator. Ted has a BA in Theatre from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. He has appeared in *Crimes of the Heart*, *The Pillowman*, *The 13 Clocks*, *A Little Hotel on the Side*, as well as *Alaska Overnights*, *One Minute Play Festival*, and various other productions. However, you are much more likely to find him on the other side of things. Managing, designing, directing, and producing are far more fun, he thinks. Outside of the theatre, Ted is working on pre-requisites for medical school and is moving to Japan this fall. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask.



## NATHAN HUEY

Nathan Huey is thrilled to participate in the Conference again. He most recently performed in *Things My Mother Taught Me* 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 performed with *Alaska Overnights*, and attended the American College Theatre Festival as an Irene Ryan candidate. Favorite credits include *Godspell*, *A Lion in Winter*, *Into the Woods*, *Terra Nova*, *The Diviners*, *Bare: a Pop Opera*, and *Wonder of the World*.



## DENNIS HUMPHREY

Dennis Humphrey teaches writing and literature at Prince William Sound College in Valdez, Alaska, and has a PhD in Creative Writing from the University of Louisiana at Lafayette. He has run with bulls in Pamplona and piloted helicopters in Iraq, where he once stood atop the Great Ziggurat of Ur, showing his propensity to turn all of his travels, even a combat deployment, into an occasion for hazardous educational tourism. His acting credits consist mainly of pinch hitting and taking one for the team, and his writing has appeared in such places as *StorySouth*, *Clapboard House*, *Prick of the Spindle*, *Blood Lotus*, *SN Review*, *Toad Suck Review*, *The New Poet*, *Collateral*, *Copperfield Review*, and *cahoodaloodaling*.



## REAGAN JAMES

Reagan James is thrilled to be back at home at the Valdez Conference. She spends most of her year in Chicago working as a social media manager and bartender, doing as much theatre as possible. As a founding member of Midnight Summit Ensemble she is elated to be presenting Ashley Rose Wellman's *You Are The Blood* here after its Midwest premier in Chicago last fall. Working with Valdez Theatre Conference writers, directors, producers, and other actors is one of her favorite collaborative experiences. Last year, she was lucky enough to jump into the Blue Chair production of *Seminar* and work with those incredible artists as well. Hopefully this year will include many more opportunities for theatre, art, and collaboration.



## SHELLEY LYNN JOHNSON

Shelley Lynn Johnson is a performer, director and acting coach. As a busy singing actor, she has performed leading roles with many San Francisco Bay Area companies: recently as Mrs. Pascual in *The House of Yes* and Virginia in *The Clean House*. Favorite musical roles include: *A Little Night Music*, *Man of No Importance*, *She Loves Me*, *Annie*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, and *A New Brain*. Non-musical stage work includes leading roles in *The Winter's Tale*, *The Cripple of Inishmaan*, *Sylvia*, *Power Plays*, and *Lettice & Lovage*. Shelley is also a voiceover actor, stage director, and an acting coach specializing in work with singers: [www.actingforsingers.com](http://www.actingforsingers.com)



## ZED E JONES

Zed E Jones arrives armed with a penchant for performance and interpersonal outreach; they bring energy and lived experience to their work, including sex-positivity, public advocacy, gender affirmation education, and of course, theater. Zed works as a core company member for Speculative Drama and Sir Cupcake's Queer Circus. In their fabled spare time, Zed likes to hang upside down in parks, cook with vegetables, and cuddle cats. Zed lives and works in Portland, Oregon.



## ANGELIKI KARAKAXIDOU

Angeliki Karakaxidou was born and raised in Athens, Greece. After finishing her studies in the performing arts, she started working in various regional and national theatres as an actress performing in shows for kids, teenagers and adults.

Some of the productions are: *Don Quixotes* (based on *Don Quixote* by Cervantes), *The Wormhole* by Glyka Stoiou, *Wealth* by Aristophanes, *Europe and the 12 Months* by Glyka Stoiou, *The Dream of the Ridiculous Man* by Dostoyefsky for the Regional Theatre of Crete, *Woody the Cook* for the Regional Theatre of Comotini, and *Earth Mobile* at the Telecommunications Museum in Athens. She has also acted in Greek TV series and short movies. She is more than happy to visit Alaska for the first time in her life and participate in the Valdez Last Frontier Theatre Conference!



## TAI YEN KIM

Tai is absolutely delighted to be back in Valdez for the annual Last Frontier Theatre Conference. He's been acting in the Anchorage theatre scene for nearly six years. His latest roles include Chad Owens in Anchorage Community Theatre's world premiere of Schatzie Schaefer's *Silver*

*Thaw*, a Reader in Midnight Sun Theatre's production of Nassim Soleimanpour's *White Rabbit Red Rabbit*, and Rain in UAA's world premiere of Crystal Skillman's *Rain and Zoe Save The World*. Tai also freestyle raps in Anchorage bars, and hopes to become a successful underground rapper.



## AMY KROPP

Amy Kropp is an actor, writer, improviser and lawyer and she serves as the Business Manager/General Counsel for TBA Theatre in Anchorage. Since the last Conference, Amy has appeared in *Boris & Natasha's Groovy Gruesome Gathering* (TBA), *The Music Man* (TBA), and both wrote and

acted in the *Alaska Overnights*. This season, she also stage managed her third show, *Christmas Knight* (TBA). Amy joined the cast of *Scared Scriptless* in the fall of 2017, and competed in this year's NATS musical theatre and classical competitions. Amy is delighted to be attending the Conference for a third year.



## MYRRH LARSEN

Myrrh Larsen is a Portland-based musician and touring and recording artist focusing on live performance with a theatrical element through Song Sagas, a series of projects in collaboration with non-musical performers. Current Song Sagas include *Piece of Me*, an ill-fated love story

between a human and a fairy featuring contortionist and aerial artist Meg Russell (New Orleans, Portland, West Coast), and *Grey Gold: A New Myth of Persephone and Hades* with his full band and a rotating cast of movement actors portraying Persephone and Hades (New York, Portland, West Coast). Other credits include Creative Director of immersive theatre company Speculative Drama, Co-Coordinator of Dr. Sketchy's Anti-Art School Portland, and music video producer for 2146 Recordings.



## MARYALICE LOVEL LARMI

MaryAlice Lovel Larmi was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. She fell into theatre in middle school, and then attended West High School's School Through the Arts program where she was a permanent fixture in the theatre program. After a brief stint in the UAA Theater Department, she

moved to California where she attended programs at the American Conservatory Theater and The Stella Adler Art of Acting Studio. Alaska theater goers may know her from Mad Myrna's *Little Shop of Horrors '16* and *The Rocky Horror Show '15 & '16*, Midnight Sun Theatre's *Serial Bowl I, II and III*, and Anchorage Downtown Partnership's *Guerrilla Shakespeare*.



## ROB LECRONE

(See bio in Featured Artists section)



## STEPHANIE LEIGH

Stephanie Leigh is an Anchorage artist whose 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's *The Wizard*

*of Oz* and *Miracle on 34th Street*. Last year she appeared in Cyrano's Theatre Company's *She Kills Monsters* and RKP Productions' *Spikes*, performing on Tuesday at this year's Conference.



## BARRY LEVINE

Barry Levine grew up in New York City and did theatre 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 21 years on the air. He's a long-time reader for the VLFTC and enjoys every Conference.



## GIGI LYNCH

Gigi Lynch most recently appeared in Perseverance Theatre's production of *Steel Magnolias*. Other performances include Cyrano's Theatre productions of *Great American Trailer Park Musical*, *Calendar Girls*, *Other Desert Cities*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Flowers for Algernon*, *Hedda Gabler*, and *A Wrinkle in Time* as well as Theatre Artists United's productions of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and *Pippin*. She's also appeared in the Anchorage Cemetery Tours, the *One Minute Play Festival*, and several short films. She is thrilled to be back at the Conference and can't wait to watch, learn, and be inspired!



## ANTOINETTE MARTIN-HANSON

Antoinette Martin-Hanson is a third year student at Arizona State University studying acting. She has recently appeared in productions such as Now & Then Creative Company's *Two Sleep Two Dream* (Doris in *Woman and a Suitcase*), ASU's devised mainstage *SPARK!* (herself), wrote and performed in a devised piece directed by Alyssa Edmondson called *That's What They Didn't Say*, Mesa Encore Theatre's *[sic.]* (Airshaft Woman), ASU's mainstage original *Haboob* (Matilde), Binary Theatre Company's *Wild Rumpus* (Wild Thing), and ASU's mainstage *She Kills Monsters* (Tilly). She is also a part of ASU's competitive ballroom team and works as a carpenter at ASU building sets for their productions.



## BOB MANDZI

Until his day job as a Geospatial Engineer sent him packing in 2010, Bob Mandzi appeared on Anchorage stages for 11 years, performing with Cyrano's, Anchorage Community Theatre, Broadway Kidz, Once-a-Year Theatre Company, UAA Theatre, and the *Alaska Overnights*. In addition, Bob sang with the Midnight Sons Chorus and Alaska Chamber Singers, and performed locally on tuba. Prior to arriving in Alaska, Bob lived in Saudi Arabia while working for the Saudi Aramco, where he was active in local theater as an actor and director. He also performed as a musician in Saudi Arabia's underground clubs, as well as "above ground" in the hotels of nearby Bahrain. Bob now lives in Saint Augustine, Florida, with his wonderful wife (and fellow reader) Elaine Sullivan.



## ALEXANDRA MCCALL

Alexandra McCall is a theatre student at the University of Alaska Anchorage. Roles at the university include Grace Fryer in *Radium Girls* (2017), Suzanne in *Picasso at the Lapin Agile* (2017), Sharon Atkins in *Working: The Musical* (2016), Lamballe in *Marie Antoinette* (2015), Presidents Taft and Eisenhower in *44 Plays for 44 Presidents* (2015), and Viola in *Twelfth Night* (2014). Most recently, Alexandra helped develop and performed in UAA's devised show *Earthquake '64* (2018), and appeared in a student directed project as Bessie in *The Drowning Girls* (2018). This is Alexandra's fourth year at the Conference.



Barry Levine and Rand Higbee (enjoying the Gala Reception catering) at the 2017 Reception



## PEYTON McCANDLESS

Peyton McCandless is honored to be a company member of Speculative Drama this year. In addition to *The Skin Coat*, she has performed with the company in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Hermia) and *The White Hound of the North* (the Youngest Princess). In Portland, OR and Minneapolis, MN, she has worked with Enso Theatre Ensemble, Transatlantic Love Affair, Theatre Pro Rata, Theatre Unbound, Chameleon Theatre Circle, and Freshwater Theatre. In addition to performing, Peyton teaches and directs young people (Northwest Children's Theater and School, Ashland Productions). She is also a certified practitioner of Global Somatics™, an embodiment practice integrating mind, body, and energy.



## SETH McNEILL

Seth McNeill is a New York City based theatre artist. As an actor, he has toured across the country performing classical plays, worked on new and classical plays in NYC, and has appeared in a number of films and TV projects. Training: Circle in the Square.



## TARA MEDDAUGH

Tara Meddaugh has acted in various theatrical projects from tangoing as a robot-in-love in a children's theatre troupe, to voicing the demo of a commander in a video game, and performing as a chick-core persona in the band, Girl Crusade. She has also acted in plays, short films, and readings of new works. She has taught acting and theatre to children and teens in underserved areas, and she is excited to return to Valdez to read in new works by talented playwrights.



## KAELI MENO

Kaeli Meno is elated to be attending the Conference for the second year in a row! She is a double major in history and technical theatre at the University of Alaska Anchorage, although she enjoys the performance side of things too. Recently she has been a part of UAA's *Radium Girls* as Mrs. Fryer, and the devised *Earthquake '64* as Anna. Although she was born and raised in Alaska this will only be her second trek out to Valdez and she cannot wait for all the great writing, and even better people that are in store this year!



## DANA MITCHELL

Dana Mitchell is an Alaskan actress and photographer transplanted from Colorado. She currently serves as the Development Director and Company photographer for TBA Theatre in Anchorage. Dana was named Best Supporting Actress in Anchorage by Stagetalk for her work in *The Heiress* (Mrs. Montgomery) at Eccentric Theatre Company. Also at ETC, she was seen in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Sister Woman) and *Deathtrap* (Myra Bruhl). She does most of her current work with TBA and has had some wonderful roles there including in *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (the White Witch), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Titania), *Hamlet* (Gertrude), and *Charlotte's Web* (Charlotte). She and her son appear together in the recent Alaska Film *Sudsy Slim Rides Again* along with several other family members and friends. When not on stage or behind a camera for Friday Photography AK, Dana is raising 2 children and trying to figure out how to ditch the day job.



## STEVE MITCHELL

Steve Mitchell has been active in the Fairbanks theatre community for over forty years. He likes to think he got his start in vaudeville at the Palace and Malemute saloons. Most recently, he appeared as Norman in *On Golden Pond* for the Fairbanks Drama Association. In years past at the Conference, he appeared in *The Sunset Clause* and *Pipedreams*. With Bruce Rogers, he conceived Bard-a-thon for the Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre, which recently completed its 19<sup>th</sup> annual reading of the complete works of Shakespeare. Steve manages the Wickersham House museum at Pioneer Park in Fairbanks, in character as Judge James Wickersham, the legendary Alaskan jurist who established the court system in Fairbanks and Valdez and restored the integrity of the courts during the Nome Gold Rush. Favorite roles include Big Daddy, Falstaff, Captain Hook, Froggy in *The Foreigner*, and Jonathan in *Arsenic and Old Lace*.



## 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.





## MARYKATE MORAN

MaryKate Moran is a Seattle actress recently seen in Ghost Light Theatricals' *Kayfabe* and Many Hats Theatre's *The Last Croissant*. She's no stranger to stage managing either, including Tracy Letts' *Superior Donuts* and Samuel Brett Williams' *Revelation*, both for The Clifton Players in Cincinnati, Ohio.



## TOM MORAN

Tom Moran lives in Fairbanks. Sometimes he acts, and other times he rides bicycles. He really isn't all that interesting, so he suggests you just go ahead and skip down to Mark Muro.



## 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 here for his sixth consecutive Conference where Valdez feels like his second home. His first home with his resplendent wife and two kids is in Kenai. He's honored to perform Tuesday night on the mainstage with the RKP/Cyrano's Theatre Co. production of *Spikes*. His

previous mainstage productions were 2015's *Macbeth* and 2014's *Gravidity*. Jamie has also played Sheriff Heck Tate in *To Kill a Mockingbird* (Perseverance), Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance), George Tesman in *Hedda Gabler* (Cyrano's), Felix Ungar in *The Odd Couple* (Triumvirate Theatre), Russ/Dan in *Clybourne Park* (Cyrano's), and George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (Cyrano's). Jamie also enjoys working in TV, commercials, and film. Jamie recently won festival awards for three short films: *Sugar Panda*, *Be Careful What You Wish For*, and *The Nest*. He plays a role in the 2018 Alaskan feature *Sudsy Slim Rides Again*.



## JOSHUA NETTINGA

Originally from Southern California, Joshua Nettinga has spent the last several years travelling the world with the Air Force. For the last seven years before moving to Anchorage last August, he'd been living the real-life drama of being a criminal trial attorney. He's thrilled to

now be in a non-litigation job that allows him to be able to return to the stage. In the last year he's appeared in *Let Nothing You Dismay*, with Anchorage Community Theater, *The Music Man* with TBA Theater Company, and *Hope Springs Eternal* or *The Dirty Deed*, the annual Fur Rondy Melodrama.



## SUSAN NIMAN

Susan Niman, 30 years in Alaska, loves to act. She loves doing many things, so acting has been squished into short spurts of time. She has played a variety of roles in the Overnighter Theater and reading at this Conference. When not acting, she is kayaking, skiing, biking, hiking and sometimes rabble rousing. She looks forward each year to the Conference to immerse herself in theater 12 hours a day for a wonderful week.



## MAURENE OLSON

Maurene Olson has been involved with theatre since her cousin convinced her to be a munchkin in a community production of *The Wizard of Oz*; ever since she's been hooked! Some of her most memorable parts have been playing the evil stepsister Grace in Rodgers &

Hammerstein's *Cinderella*, Mrs. Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol*, and Princess Fred in *Once Upon a Mattress*. Recently she played Violet Peterson in *It's a Wonderful Life* and been an ensemble member in musicals.



## BECCA PADRICK

Becca Padrick is a third-year theatre performance major at UAA, and she has had the opportunity to work on many productions, both backstage and onstage. Not only passionate about acting, she also loves scenic painting, makeup design, and directing. Having just finished directing

an abridged version of *The Producers*, she's eager for an opportunity to continue working from the other side of the metaphorical desk. Some of her favorite plays she has been in include *Working*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Earthquake '64*, and *the Complete Works of Shakespeare (Abridged)*. If you ask her to tell a joke, she can always come up with one for you on the spot. What do you get when you cross a joke with a rhetorical question?





## JOCelyn PAINE

Jocelyn Paine got the theater bug early, as a child in New York City, but it wasn't until college classes at UCLA and Santa Monica CC that she got serious about performing. Since moving to Anchorage in 1978, Ms. Paine has narrated, danced and acted in presentations for *Terpsichore Productions*, *Expanding the Stage* (UAA) and *Theatre of All Possibilities, North*. For the past few years, Ms. Paine has been involved in various capacities in Anchorage Community Theatre's *Plugged In Players Radio Theatre* (director, performer, costumer), *Silver Thaw*, (costumer, understudy), and, most recently, as director for *Shakespeare in Hollywood*. Training in Laban Movement Analysis in Switzerland is the basis of Ms. Paine's work as a Kinesthesia Coach for performers and singers.



## PETER PORCO

Peter Porco, a native New Yorker who's lived in Alaska since 1981, is attending his eighth or ninth Conference as a reader. He considers himself more playwright than actor, and his one-act play, *The Loneliest Number* is being read in this year's Play Lab. In recent years, Peter has appeared on stage several times: in the title role of the world premiere of *Bruckner's Last Finale* by his friend, Anchorage playwright Dick Reichman (Cyrano's Theatre Co., 2012); as the Narrator in his own readers play *The Lady Is a Trucker* (Cyrano's, 2015); and in the roles of Paul Sycamore in *You Can't Take it With You* and Sancho Panza and A. Ratt in a staged reading of Tennessee Williams's *Camino Real* (both Cyrano's). Peter has directed plays for the University of Alaska Anchorage, *Alaska Overnights*, and Out North's *Under 30*.



## MARY PORTSER

Mary Portser's theatrical credits include *The Velocity of Autumn* (Boise Contemporary Theatre), the national tour of *Noises Off*, *A Girl's Guide To Chaos* (American Place Theater), several shows at Missouri Rep, and the George Street Playhouse in New Jersey, as well as eight years performing/writing with *The Paranoids*. Film credits include John Sayles' *Go for Sisters* and *Passion Fish*, Nancy Savoca's *True Love*, *Household Saints* and *If These Walls Could Talk*, as well as *In Memoriam*, *The Italian Job*, and *Human Nature*. TV includes various shows and pilots.



## DANIELLE RABINOVITCH

Danielle Rabinovitch, an Alaska born actor and singer, is absolutely delighted to be returning to the LFTC. Some select credits include: *Church & State*, *Orson's Shadow*, *Othello*, *Macbeth*, *Into the Woods*, *RENT*, *Gulag Mouse*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, and *The Diary of Anne Frank*. She choreographed Kevin Armento's *Good Men Wanted* (TossPot Productions) and directed Arlene Hutton's *Last Train to Nibroc* (TBA Theatre). She has also performed with the Anchorage Opera, Anchorage Symphony Orchestra, *Alaska Overnights*, and the *One-Minute Play Festival*. TV/Film includes: *Shattered*, *Nightshift*, *Haunting Alaska*, and various commercial and voiceover work. She has trained with instructors from the Lincoln Center Theater, the New York Theatre Workshop, the New York Film Academy, and the Broadway Dance Center.



## KALLI RANDALL

Kalli Randall is an Alaska born and Chicago dwelling artist that is thrilled to be back for her seventh Conference. Although performance has always been a passion for Kalli, she has spent the last few years pursuing a career in directing and is so honored to bring her latest project to this year's evening show line up. Kalli Randall is also a proud founding member of Midnight Summit Ensemble, a theatre company she owns and operates with her two other Chicago cohorts: Reagan James and Alyssa Barnes. Kalli can't wait to see what this Conference will bring to the table!! Whatever it may be she is ready. "Live in the not knowing. That's where the best art hides."



## DICK REICHMAN

Dick Reichman was born in New York in 1945 into a Jewish family who had a wholesale store in the Garment Center. They bought scalped theater tickets to give away to the out-of-town customers. At the end of the week when tickets were left unused, he got to use one to go see a show. So he fell in love with theatre at a young age and started scribbling his own scripts. He now lives in Anchorage where Cyrano's has produced ten of his plays over the years and he has directed and performed in many more shows. Producing originals is his favorite thing to do. His production of Timothy Daly's *The Afterlife of J. Edgar Hoover* performed at the Conference last year, and Schatzie Schaefer's *Spikes*, an original from Anchorage, is in this year's line-up.



## MARTHA ROBINSON

Martha Robinson, an Anchorage-based actor, is looking forward to her fourth year at the Conference. Her most recent performance was as Woman in Cyrano's Theatre Company's production of *Our Friends, The Enemy*. Previous roles include Karen in *Things My Mother Taught Me*, Celia in *Calendar Girls*, Lillian in *I Hate Hamlet* and Hermia/Other Woman/Stranger in *Dead Man's Cell Phone*, with additional performances in *The Vagina Monologues*, Midnight Sun Theatre's *Serial Bowls*, TBA Theatre's *Overnighters* and the *One-Minute Play Festival*.



## MARK ROBOKOFF

Mark Robokoff is a Conference frequent contributor, and was married to actress Sarah Baird by Officiant Dawson Moore at last year's Conference. 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 (*Great American Trailer Park Musical*, *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.



## CAROLYN ROESBERY

Carolyn Roesbery has had a long association with the Conference, attending 19 times since 1996 when she fell in love with playwriting and staged readings. She was the first person to graduate from PWSCC with an Associate's in Playwriting. She has worked as a radio news writer and journalist in print since 1989. Living in the small fishing town of Cordova, Alaska, where she owns a florist business, Carolyn acts in and trains high school actors for large scale emergency drills, does moulage injury make-up, dances with Current Rhythms, and is active as an EMT, Search and Rescue and HAM radio operator; she is also trained firefighter. She is an oil painter, swims every day, loves SCUBA diving, and is presently writing her memoirs, a screenplay, novel, and a book of prose and poetry.



## LELA RYTERSKI

Lela Ryterski of Homer, Alaska, is an artist, writer and retired teacher who likes plays, and has done dramatic readings in Homer. She loves animals and paints pet portraits.



## GABRIELLE SAVRONE

Gabrielle Savrone was initially an actor, before moving to a focus on teaching, directing, and producing. Performance 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. 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 (which she also acted in, and which was performed at last year's Conference); *Erasers* by Jake Arky; *After Party* by Michael Thebridge; and *Wash Room* and *Plastic Tree*, both by Thomas Ian Doyle.



## MARGUERITE LOUISE SCOTT

Marguerite Louise Scott is an actress and playwright currently living in New Mexico, where she hikes with her Siamese cat, Puffin. Recent acting roles include *Parsons* in 1984 and *Marks* in *Talking With* at the Santa Fe Playhouse as well as an assortment of rough, tough and boozy characters in the short films *Paperless*, *Bottled Up* and *Truth or Consequences*.



## JASMINE SHARMA

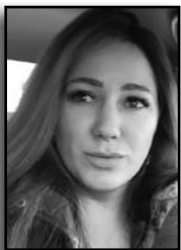
Jasmine Sharma is a Freshman Theatre major in the Music Theatre Certificate at Northwestern University. At school, she has had the honor and privilege of acting in several new works, including the Agnes Nixon Festival. Jasmine's favorite roles include Rona in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* and *Cymbeline* in *Shakespeare's Cymbeline*. In addition to theatre, Jasmine is passionate about both New Jersey and its poppyseed bagels with strawberry cream cheese. <https://www.jasminesharma.org>



## NEIL SHARPSON

Neil Sharpson is a puppeteer, stand-up comedian and YouTube host from Dublin. Although largely retired from acting since the birth of his daughter six years ago, he has had a long and varied career in theatre, playing Hamlet, Rosencrantz, Launcelot Gobbo and Nick from *Who's*

*Afraid of Virginia Wolf?* As a fluent Irish speaker he has also been active in Irish language theatre and provided voice-work the Irish dub of *Justice League Unlimited*, playing Batman and Green Lantern. Currently, he is the puppeteer for the character of Rufus on the Youtube Channel *Sharuf*.



## 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 dog 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.



## SARA SHIPP

Sara Shipp has been an active performer in Alaska for several years. She has performed the roles of Chloe in *Arcadia*, Curley's Wife in *Of Mice and Men*, Helga in *M. Butterfly*, and Louise in *The Fox on the Fairway*. Musical theatre credits include Maria in *The Sound of Music*,

Charity in *Sweet Charity*, Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls*, Fiona in *Brigadoon*, and Amy in *Little Women*. Sara currently owns and operates a private voice studio in Anchorage.



## JILL SOWERWINE

Jill Sowerwine is a cofounder of Anchorage's TossPot Productions and a graduate of the UAA Theatre Department. She most recently appeared as Sandra Morris in *Cyrano* Theatre Company's production of *Trevor* this spring. 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*, Julianne in Arlitia Jones' *Come to Me*, *Leopards* (Cyrano's); Mrs. Cratchit in Arlitia Jones' adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance Theatre); and Elena Verendt in Ashley Rose Wellman's *Gravidity* (Theatre on the Rocks).



## ANDREA STAATS

Andrea Staats is a performer and playwright from Anchorage, Alaska. Her latest project, *ANDREA IS HER DEAD PETS*, was performed at Sarah Lawrence College in Bronxville, New York, where she is pursuing an MFA in Theatre. Other recent theatrical hijinks include playing

Miss Shelbyville Pancakes 2003 in *Free Chocolate Chip Pancakes*, a devised piece about pancakes and a murder most foul, and *Shoot! Don't Talk*, a deconstruction of the 1966 spaghetti western *The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly*.



## JESSICA STANLEY

Jessica Stanley is an actor and writer from Melbourne. After topping the state of Victoria with a perfect score in drama upon the completion of high school, Jessica went on to receive a Victorian Premier's Award, the Jennifer Francis Drama Prize, and a scholarship to study at

Monash University. There she completed her Bachelor of Performing Arts and performed in numerous productions, including *August: Osage County* and *The Pillowman*. Jessica was awarded the Outstanding Year Level Achiever and a Dean's Recognition Award following her work in *August: Osage County*. It was while studying at Monash that Jessica began writing plays, and in her first year out of university Jessica's first play was performed at La Mama, directed by Robert Reid. Jessica's on-screen credits include roles on the ABC's *The Doctor Blake Mysteries* and *Glitch*. In 2015, Jessica concurrently took part in the full-time program at Howard Fine Acting Studio, Melbourne, and completed her Bachelor of Psychology at Swinburne University. She continues to write new plays and study at the Howard Fine Acting Studio, where she also sits on the Board of Trustees, hosts a series of Scratch Nights, and occasionally teaches. Jessica is also the Chair of independent theatre company North of Eight, founded in 2016. She is fueled by a passionate drive to continue learning and training at every opportunity. [www.jessicastanleyactor.com](http://www.jessicastanleyactor.com)



## 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 five 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. She owns South Side Deep Sleep Airbnb.



## 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*, Lisa D'Amour's *Detroit*, and Andrea Staats' *Consciously Coupled (But Not With Each Other)*, 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 eleven years. Last winter, he enjoyed recording an audiobook version of *The Maltese Falcon* with Heidi Franke and Dawson Moore. He obtained his Bachelor's in Geological Engineering from UAF in 2015.



## GLYKA STOIOU

Glyka Stoiou is a Greek director, writer and actress based in Italy. She has studied the performing arts, cultural management, journalism and mass media. She directs and produces theatre plays and documentaries, and writes the scripts in various documentary productions, as well as articles to a number of magazines. As a self-motivated artist, she has contributed to a number of cultural institutes, seeking out interesting ideas to produce compelling projects. Her plays are frequently presented in national and regional theatres in her home country and other countries in Europe and the U.S.A. She teaches acting, directing and creative writing in various drama schools, colleges and universities around the world.



## ELAINE SULLIVAN

Elaine Sullivan and her husband Bob Mandzi moved from Anchorage to the Lower 48 in 2010, though they have returned for visits as often as possible. They are extremely happy to be returning to Valdez after several year's absence, to once again serve as readers, and to reunite with Alaska theatre friends. Prior to arriving in Alaska, Elaine lived with Bob in Saudi Arabia, where she was active in local theatre, both on and off-stage. Her on-stage appearances included *Damn Yankees*, *The House of Bernarda Alba*, *Julius Caesar*, *Businessman's' Lunch*, *A Night in the Theatre*, and the country-western musical *CW*. Elaine now lives in Saint Augustine, Florida with her husband and kayak.



## KIRSTEN M. SWANSON

Born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska, Kirsten M. Swanson grew up playing sports competitively. She played collegiate soccer at Minnesota State University where she also took her first real acting class. While finishing her business degrees at the University of Alaska Anchorage, Kirsten took more acting classes and participated in her first show, *Big River*. From there she fell in love with theatre. She has had the opportunity to stay busy acting in musicals and plays for multiple companies around town (UAA, TAU, *Cyrano's*, *Mad Myrna's*, *Overnights*). Her first lead role was Debbie Benton in *Mad Myrna's* production of *Debbie Does Dallas: The Musical*. Recent credits include: *Columbia Rocky Horror*, *Chiffon Little Shop of Horrors*, *Brunnhilde Das Barbecue*, and *Captain Twelfth Night*. She enjoys comedic roles along with the occasional male role.



Jay Stevens and Devan Hawkins in  
*Andrea Staats' Consciously Coupled*



## STACY TANNER

Stacy Tanner couldn't be happier to return to Valdez for her third Conference. She is a Stage Manager with a decade of experience. Most recently, Stacy assistant stage managed Anchorage Opera's *Candide* (2018) and *Don Pasquale* (2017).

Additional stage management credits include TossPot Production's *Good Men Wanted* (2016), Cyrano Theatre Company's *Pinkalicious* (2016), *Every Christmas Story Ever Told (And Then Some!)* (2016), *The Ice Breaker* (2015), and the Conference's *Ten-Minute Play Slam* (2016, 2017). Her past acting credits include Vera in *She Kills Monsters* (2017) and *The Vagina Monologues* (2017). Outside of her theatre pursuits, Stacy is a graduate student in clinical mental health counseling and school counseling, and she enjoys reading, traveling, and hanging out with her Goldendoodle Cosmo.



## JESSICA TULLIUS

Jessica Tullius is a graduate from UAA's Psychology program. She started participating in shows with TBA Theatre in their Summer Academy Program where she now stage-manages. Recently she was the light board operator for their production of *The Music Man*. She has also

stage-managed for the *Alaska Overnights*. She and her harp have also been seen in *Shadow Hour*, *The Apple and the Arrow*, and *Christmas Knight*. She plays harp with the Aurora Harp Ensemble.



## KYLE WALKER

Kyle Walker has most recently appeared as Vinnie DiRuzzio in *Lucky Stiff*, Petruchio in *The Taming of the Shrew*, and Friar Lawrence in *Romeo and Juliet*. He graduated with a Bachelor's in Theatre from Grand Valley State University in 2009 and went on to help found The University Wits Theatrical

Company in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He has since written and directed five original plays, including *Shadows at the Sanford* (2013) and Gaston Leroux's *The Phantom of the Opera* (2015). He was also the director/dramaturg of the GVSU Shakespeare Festival Green Show from 2014-2017.



## KIRSTEN WEBB

Based in Portland, Oregon, Kirsten Webb has performed with Speculative Drama in *The White Hound of the North* (Queen, Faerie), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Mote/Moth), and *The Skin Coat* (Ghost Queen, Queen Mother). She has also performed with Shaking the Tree Theatre in *East of the Sun* and *West of the Moon* (East Wind, Mother), and was a company member with Mizu Desierto Butoh Theater and the experimental vocal group EVE. Kirsten was a co-creator, performer, and puppeteer with *Les Hipsters Perdus* (Yale University/San Francisco), and appeared as Miranda in *The Tempest* with the experimental theatre ensemble Control Group (Yale). Kirsten has trained in Suzuki and Viewpoints with SITI Company, butoh ritual movement with Diego Piñón, and mask and puppetry with Bread and Puppet Theater.



## GRACE WILLIAMS

Grace Williams is a sophomore at the University of Alaska Anchorage where she studies Psychology as well as Biological Sciences. She is extremely excited to be attending the Conference for the second time! Grace has been involved in many shows around town and some of her favorites include: *Visit to a Small Planet* as Ellen (ACT), *Little Women* as Meg (SAHS), *Fiddler on the Roof* as Chava (SAHS), *The Burning* as Elizabeth (TBA), and *The Tempest* as Miranda (SAHS). Grace is thrilled to be here in Valdez with so many talented artists and can't wait to learn from them.



## KELLY WILSON

Kelly Wilson has been an actor/singer in Alaska for the past 24 years. You may have seen her in *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Serial Bowl*, *One-Minute Play Festival*, *Alaska Overnights*, *Pinkalicious*, or *The Rocky Horror Show*. Kelly has also performed in Boston, Orlando, and Russia. She can also be seen singing in various venues around Anchorage. When not on stage at Cyrano's Theater Company, Kelly works in the box office. This is her seventh Conference.



## AARON WISEMAN

This is Aaron's 20th-something conference, having missed a small handful somewhere in the early aughts while playing on men's volleyball teams from Alaska at the USA Open Nationals. In the long and diverse history of the Conference, his highlights include: uncharacteristic "approval" from Edward Albee himself for his performance in *Seascape* (TOAST) [if you ask, he can tell provocative, 2nd degree stories about Albee's legendary standards for performances of his work], the most powerful standing ovation of his career for Richard Dresser's *Rounding Third* (Three Wise Moose), playing the audience-favorite-character-only-to-be-killed-in-the-first-act in Eoin Carney's *The Rendering of Conor McShea* (TBA), and the only man among powerful women in Arthur M. Jolly's *A Gulag Mouse* (TossPot). Regional credits: *Venus in Fur* by David Ives (Cyrano's/Perseverance), Harold Pinter's *Betrayal* (Perseverance), and ongoing roles in Arlitia Jones and Michael Evan Haney's adaptation of Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance). He also likes to build/remodel things and has had a career producing, shooting and editing video, at the local, regional and national level. His next ambition is to build his voice acting career.



Danielle Rabinovitch and Aaron Wiseman in Joe Barnes' *The Political Economy of Desire*



## LOU ANNE WRIGHT

Lou Anne Wright is an actor, writer and dialect coach who lives and works in Wyoming and Colorado. 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. 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 third time.



## CARL YOUNG

Born in Los Angeles and raised in Texas, Carl Young has been involved in theatre his whole life. His past roles 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 Overnights*. His short play *World War Tree* was presented at Prince William Sound College this past fall.



Frank Delaney, Gabrielle Savrone, Andrea Staats, and Michael Noble rehearse *The Maltese Babka*

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