

# THEREP'S NEXT ACT! NEW PLAY SUMMIT

*June 10-13, 2022*



## theREP's 11th Summit

*Lots of great info  
inside this program:*

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### LEARN ABOUT:

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

### ELEVEN YEARS OF NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT!

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

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

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

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

## 2022 Next Act! Schedule

ALL VIRTUAL EVENTS ARE FREE  
TICKETS FOR THE IN-PERSON READING ARE \$15.00

### IN-PERSON @ THEREP

(FOR TICKETS CLICK [HERE](#))

MONDAY, JUNE 13, 2022 AT 7:30PM

THREE MOTHERS BY AJENE D. WASHINGTON

### ZOOM WORKSHOP

(TO REGISTER CLICK [HERE](#))

SATURDAY, JUNE 11 AT 6PM

SYNOPSIS CLINIC LED BY AOISE STRATFORD

### STREAMING 5PM, JUNE 10 TO 10PM, JUNE 12, 2022

(ALL STREAMING EVENTS ARE FREE)

YARTSY ON DIVISION, BY MARK RIGNEY

FIRST 15: BE A LITERARY MANAGER

NEW VOICES: YOUNG PLAYWRIGHT CONTEST WINNERS

NEXTGEN: ALETHEIA BY MJ JOHNSON

### HOW TO WATCH:

1. [theREP's Facebook Page](#)
2. [Proctors Collaborative YouTube](#)
3. On [Apple TV](#), [Amazon Fire TV](#) and [Roku](#) - search and download the Collaborative Studios app.
4. [Open Stage Media On-Demand Channel](#)

TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!  
EMAIL COMMENTS ABOUT THE PLAYS TO:  
[NEXTACT@CAPITALREP.ORG](mailto:NEXTACT@CAPITALREP.ORG)

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

**Covid Protocol**

(for the in-person reading on Monday, June 13, 2022):

In accordance with CDC and NYS guidance, all individuals  
ages 3+ are required to wear a mask. Vaccination is  
recommended but not required.

theREP welcomes audience members ages 5+ for all shows.

**To purchase tickets for Monday June 13th's in-person reading:**  
**[www.capitalrep.org](http://www.capitalrep.org) or 518-346-2604**

**HOW TO WATCH:**

- 1. [theREP's Facebook Page](#)**
- 2. [Proctors Collaborative YouTube](#)**
- 3. On [Apple TV](#), [Amazon Fire TV](#) and [Roku](#) - search and download the Collaborative Studios app.**
- 4. [Open Stage Media On-Demand Channel](#)**

**PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!**

EMAIL COMMENTS ABOUT THE PLAY(S) TO:  
NEXTACT@CAPITALREP.ORG

**Consider: did the plot grab you? Are the characters interesting and well developed? Does the dialogue ring true? Would you like to see the piece produced by theREP?**

## THREE MOTHERS by Ajene D. Washington

**Monday, June 13, 2022 @ theREP (251 North Pearl St.)**

**THIS READING REQUIRES A TICKET | TICKETS ARE \$15.00 | [CLICK HERE](#) TO BUY**



Ajene D. Washington

**Ajene D. Washington** received his B.S. degree in Speech and Drama from Lincoln University and a M.A. from Northern Illinois University. He has directed many plays and readings, such as *Adam*, *American Menu*, *Slapped*, *Family Night*, *The Old Settler*, and many others. His plays have received readings and performances in NY, California, Arkansas, Missouri and Nashville, Tenn. He received the BRIO award from the Bronx Council of the Arts for playwriting in 2012 and 2020. His play, *I Can See, a Raging Revolt* was a finalist in the TRUSpeak festival. The Arkansas Repertory Theatre selected his play, *Almost September* for its “Voices at the River” series. He received an AUDELCO Award for Best Director and Best Set Design, also a nomination as Best Actor. He received a nomination for Best Set Design by Lucille Lortel committee. Ajene is a member of AEA, SAG, SSDC, AFTRA, Black Theatre Network and The Dramatist Guild.

**THREE MOTHERS** is a fictionalized story inspired by real people, real events and the 1964 photo of the three mothers, whose sons were brutally murdered during Civil Rights upheaval in the South. After the final funeral, during shiva in Carolyn Goodman's home on the Upper West Side of Manhattan, the three mothers come to grips with the details surrounding their sons' deaths at the hands of Ku Klux Klan members. Through their meeting they forge an unbreakable bond and commitment to the Civil Rights movement.

**Directed by** Petronia Paley  
**Stage Managed by** Rose Biggerstaff

**Cast:**

*(in alphabetical order)*

**Carolyn Goodman:** Brenny Campbell\*

**Fannie Lee Chaney:** Rosalyn Coleman\*

**Ann Schwerner:** Eliza Foss\*

**Stage Directions:** TBA

*\*Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association  
See Cast Page 12+*

**To purchase tickets for THREE MOTHERS:**  
**[www.capitalrep.org](http://www.capitalrep.org) or 518-346-2604**

## YARTSY ON DIVISION by Mark Rigney

Streaming from 5pm June 10 thru 10pm June 12, 2022

ALL VIRTUAL EVENTS ARE FREE



**Mark Rigney** is the author of *Deaf Side Story: Deaf Sharks, Hearing Jets and a Classic American Musical* (Gallaudet), and his stage plays have been produced in twenty-three U.S. states (including off-Broadway) plus Australia, Austria, Hong Kong, Nepal, and Canada. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild and a past winner of the John Gassner Playwriting Award, the Maxim Mazumdar New Play Prize, and the Panowski Playwriting Award (twice). Additional published work is available from Playscripts, Inc., Next Stage Press, ArtAge, Heartland, Applause, and multiple editions of Smith & Kraus's *The Best Ten-Minute Plays*. Over seventy of his short stories have found print, in venues ranging from literary (*Witness*, *The Best of the Bellevue Literary Review*) to fantasy and horror (*Lightspeed*, *Tales from the Magician's Skull*, *Cemetery Dance*). When not adding to his extensive collection of antique brewery items, he maintains lively outposts at his website, <http://www.markrigney.net/>, and at the [New Play Exchange](#).

### YARTSY ON DIVISION

Over the course of a two-day yard-art festival (Yart!), five neighbors square off in an ever-shifting battle for moral clarity after it becomes known that one of them attended the January 6th riot, while another relied on OnlyFans to pay the bills during the darkest days of COVID-19. Who gets to cancel whom? With Yartsy the living yard-art app as tour guide, anything can happen in this highly theatrical street-fest--and it probably will.

**Directed by** Clinton Turner Davis

**Stage Managed by** Laura Ann Crawford\*

### Cast:

(in alphabetical order)

*Stage Directions/The Inquisitor:* Ellen Cribbs

*Tanya Carson Dennis:* Gabby Franco Ferro

*Gloria Carson Dennis:* Krystel Lucas\*

*Rosie Kenner:* Tracy Liz Miller\*

*Yartsy:* Madalyn Montgomery

*Elaine Frosby:* Dwandra Nickole\*

*Craig Dennis:* Dennis Schebetta\*

\*Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association  
See Cast Page 12+

# FIRST 15: Be a Literary Manager!

Streaming from 5pm June 10 thru 10pm June 12, 2022

ALL VIRTUAL EVENTS ARE FREE



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

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

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

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

**Directed by Duane Boutté**  
**Stage Managed by Kate Kern**

*(Each cast in alphabetical order)*

**Brown Bodies on a Blue Earth** by Cris Eli Blak

*DeeJay Flo-Sister:* Diaka Hill

*Stage Directions:* Kirk Jackson\*

*Simeon:* Eddie Maldonado\*

*Reed:* Joshua Redfield\*

*Clover:* Celeste Sena

**Power of Babel** by Rich Rubin

*Stage Directions:* Barzin Akhavan\*

*Laurentiy Beria:* Kirk Jackson\*

*Lev:* Eddie Maldonado\*

*Ilya Ehrenburg:* John Romeo\*

*Isaac Babel:* Oliver Wadsworth\*

**Come Again** by Lisa Dellagiarino

*Jesus:* Barzin Akhavan\*

*Radio Scientist:* Ellen Cribbs

*Stage Directions:* Gabby Franco Ferro

*Radio Host:* Eddie Maldonado\*

*Marina Johnson:* Celest Sena

**Group** by Susan Spain

*Barbara:* Ellen Cribbs

*Anisa:* Diaka Hill

*Stage Directions:* Joshua Redfield\*

*Michael:* Kevin Craig West\*

**The Nonessentials** by Lynda Crawford

*Mellowy:* Gabby Franco Ferro

*Stage Directions:* Oliver Wadsworth\*

*Reese:* Kevin Craig West\*

*\*Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association  
See Cast Page 12+ / Playwright Bios Page 20*

## NEXTGEN: ALETHEIA by MJ Johnson

### Streaming from 5pm June 10 thru 10pm June 12, 2022

ALL VIRTUAL EVENTS ARE FREE



**MJ Johnson** is a lifelong resident of the Capital District and is absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to work with theREP for the first time. Two of their previous plays, *Face the Music* and *Sixty Seconds to Midnight*, have been featured as part of UAlbany's FRESH ACTS festival (2021 and 2022). They have also worked within the theater as a designer with recent credits including Projection Designer for A DREAM PLAY at UAlbany, Video Designer for CLOUDS at Columbia University, and Technical Director for UNCENSORED 2021 at MCC Theater. They are a 2022 UAlbany graduate with a BA in Theatre and in History.

### ALETHEIA

Set in a futuristic world one has the option to have a surgical implant installed that will then manage one's memories (clearing the clutter and allowing for a more productive life - which may or may not be warranted when people are living to 150+ years old).

### WHAT IS NEXTGEN?

NEXTGEN is an event, done in collaboration with UAlbany's Theatre Department (through playwriting professor Kate Walat), to provide a young emerging ("next generation") playwright the opportunity to take part in a reading; to be able to work with a professional theatre in the developmental process of one of their new plays. theREP looks forward to how this event will evolve in years to come.

**ALETHEIA by MJ Johnson**  
**Directed & Stage Managed by**  
**Margaret E. Hall\***

**Cast**  
*(in alphabetical order)*  
**Stage Directions:** Sivan Adler  
**Doctor:** Justin Friello\*  
**One:** Yvonne Perry\*  
**Two:** Joshua Redfield\*  
**Aletheia:** Sara States\*

*\*Denotes a member of Actors' Equity Association  
See Cast Page 12+*

# NEW VOICES: Young Playwright Contest Winners

Streaming from 5pm June 10 thru 10pm June 12, 2022

ALL VIRTUAL EVENTS ARE FREE



Jordan Moses



Amara Mitchell



Chiara Cenci



Emma Pelton



Jack Bruno



Noelle Abushqeir



Nicholas VanHoesen



Reese Taylor



Samantha Gallagher



Samuel Mozzillo

**New Voices** provides a reading of the Collaborative School of the Arts at the REP's Young Playwright Contest winners. Contest winners are also provided with a series of workshops led by theatre professionals, and get to see their short plays professionally produced on the REP's Stage by the Summer Stage Young Acting Company. Click [here](#) to learn more about the contest.



Hannah Richards



Sylvia Matraw-Johnston



**Directed by Tyaela Nieves**  
**Stage Managed by Margaret E. Hall\***



## Each Cast

(in alphabetical order)

**Ghost Writers** by Samantha Gallagher (Coxsackie-Athens HS)

*Stage Directions:* Sivan Adler

*F. Scott Fitzgerald:* George Franklin\*

*William Shakespeare:* Jake Goodman

*Ernest Hemingway:* Wynn Harmon\*

*Joey:* Madhav Raj

*Joey's Mom:* Eileen Schuyler\*

*Zelda Fitzgerald:* Rachael Yoder\*

**Before It Falls** by Jack Bruno & Noelle Abushqeir

(Coxsackie-Athens HS)

*Person 2:* Sivan Adler

*Stage Directions:* Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

*Person 1:* George Franklin\*

*Will:* Jake Goodman

*Construction Worker, Bill:* Tony Pallone\*

*Rahid:* Madhav Raj

*Librarian:* Eileen Schuyler\*

**The Yellow Notebook** by Emma Pelton, Amara Mitchell & Hannah Richards (Coxsackie-Athens HS)

*Maria:* Sivan Adler

*Simon:* Jake Goodman

*Barista/Lucy's Grandpa:* Wynn Harmon\*

*Lucy:* Alexis Papaleo

*Oliver:* Madhav Raj

*Stage Directions:* Eileen Schuyler\*

**The Church** by Sylvia Matraw-Johnston, Nicholas Vanhoesen & Samuel Mozzillo (Coxsackie-Athens HS)

*Gwen:* Sivan Adler

*Travis:* George Franklin\*

*Jez:* Jake Goodman

*Pastor Glimba:* Wynn Harmon\*

*Seth:* Tony Pallone\*

*Stage Directions:* Alexis Papaleo

*Tyga:* Madhav Raj

*Grandma Beverly:* Eileen Schuyler\*

**Crystal Gazer** by Chiara Cenci \* Reese Taylor (Coxsackie-Athens HS)

*Eloise:* Sivan Adler

*Fay:* Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

*Stage Directions:* George Franklin\*

*Edith:* Alexis Papaleo

*Agnes:* Rachael Yoder\*

**Unexpected Love** by Jordan Moses

*Jamie:* Aaliyah Al-Fuhaid

*Alex Reid:* Jake Goodman

*Stage Directions:* Alexis Papaleo

*Gina:* Rachael Yoder\*

\*Denotes a member of  
Actors' Equity Association  
See Cast Page 12+

## Synopsis Clinic | 6pm | Saturday, June 11, 2022

REGISTRATION REQUIRED FOR THIS CLINIC



**AOISE STRATFORD's** plays have had more than 100 productions internationally and around the country. Most recently, her short play *JO* was performed at the National Theatre in London. She has won several awards, including a Pinter Review Silver Medal and the Yukon Pacific Playwriting Award, and she has been a finalist for the Actors' Theatre of Louisville's Heideman Award and a nominee for The American Theatre Critics' Association New Play Award. *The Unfortunates* was a Time Out NY Critics Pick and winner of The Susan Glaspell Award. Recent commissions include an adaptation of *A Christmas Carol* for the Hangar Theatre, and two historical site specific audio plays for the Cherry Arts. Aoise is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and is represented by Beacon Artists Agency. She currently teaches playwriting at Cornell University.

Join Aoise, and fellow playwrights, for this networking event where you will learn tips on how to craft the most effective synopsis for your play possible.

- Bring a synopsis for one of your plays with you
- Hear what's worked for other playwrights
- Meet and Network with other playwrights
- This is as live - ZOOM - Event that requires registration to participate

### HOW TO WATCH:

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2. [Proctors Collaborative YouTube](#)
3. On [Apple TV](#), [Amazon Fire TV](#) and [Roku](#) - search and download the Collaborative Studios app.
4. [Open Stage Media On-Demand Channel](#)

### PLEASE TELL US WHAT YOU THINK!

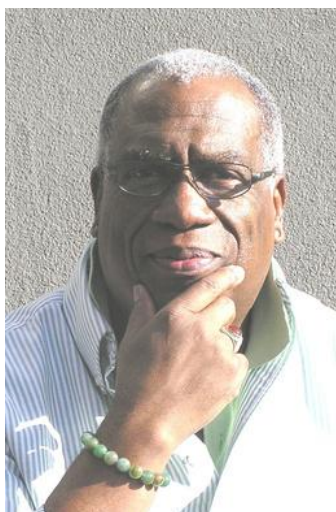
EMAIL COMMENTS ABOUT THE PLAY(S) TO:  
NEXTACT@CAPITALREP.ORG

Consider: did the plot grab you? Are the characters interesting and well developed? Does the dialogue ring true? Would you like to see the piece produced by theREP?

## Summit Directors/Stage Managers



**DUANE BOUTTÉ** (Director, *First 15*) is a NY based director, actor, and composer. Directing credits include the world premiere of Neil LaBute's *Appomattox* (Summer Shorts, NYC), *LOL* (Algonquin Productions, NY), *Home* (Rep Stage), *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Worcester Shakespeare Festival), *Stalag 17* (Good Company Players, Fresno), *The Winter's Tale* (Brooklyn College), *Othello* (Stella Adler Cons.), and *Fences* and *Cabaret* while on faculty at Illinois State University. As an actor, Boutté performed on Broadway in *Parade* and the 1994 revival of *Carousel*. Off-Broadway appearances include *Discord* (Primary Stages), *Civil Sex* (Public Theater), *The Bubbly Black Girl*, and *The Heliotrope Bouquet* (Playwrights Horizons). He stars in films *Stonewall* (1996) and *Brother to Brother*. He has appeared in other films and tv shows, and performed at Arena Stage, Goodman Theatre, Berkeley Rep, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and more. Boutté was composer for *Lyin' Up a Breeze* (Second Stage, Fresno), and *Caravaggio Chiaroscuro* (La Mama, Etc.).



**CLINTON TURNER DAVIS** (Director, *Yartsy on Division*) has directed productions Off-Broadway, and at regional theatres, colleges, and universities. A noted interpreter of August Wilson's "20th Century Cycle of Plays," his productions have received multiple AUDELCO awards and regional commendations. A recipient of the Lloyd Richards Directing Award from the National Black Theatre Festival, he has developed new works nationally and internationally. His future projects include *Fault Lines*, a Bunraku informed opera/music theatre work about the African presence in Asia; *Kieu*, his adaptation of the 19th century Vietnamese national epic poem, and *Sapeur*, a play that considers the diasporic implications of the "Dandies" in the Congo. Most recently, he directed *Two Can Play* for the New Federal Theatre and *Fly* for Capital Repertory Theatre.



**ROSE BIGGERSTAFF** (Stage Manager, *Three Mothers*) is thrilled to be back at theRep! Prior to working Next Act!, Rose has worked both backstage and on stage! Past credits include directing and stage managing with companies such as Northeast Theater Ensemble, SLOC, BrownBox Productions, NSCP, Proctors, as well as many others. Outside of theatre she enjoys painting, reading and going on hikes. Wishing broken legs to the cast and crew!



**LAURA ANN CRAWFORD** (Stage Manager, *Yartsy on Division*) is a PNW native. She fell in love with stage management while working in community theatre back in her hometown and never looked back! Previous credits include *Avenue Q*, *Newsies* and *The Woman in Black* as well as theRep's 2019-2020 Season as their Assistant Stage Manager. Between rehearsals and shows, Laura enjoys hiking in the ADK and sipping gourmet teas.

## Summit Directors/Stage Managers



**MARGARET E. HALL** (Director: *NextGen: Aletheia*/Stage Manager: *New Voices: Young Playwrights*) has worked internationally as a director, stage manager and drama teacher. As the REP's Associate Artistic Director, Margaret spearheads the REP's Neighbors For Neighbors Community Bridge Building Program, coordinates the annual Next Act! New Play Summit, directs on the mainstage, produces the On-The-Go! in-school touring program, and oversees the Young Playwright Contest and Summer Stage Young Acting Company. She made her mainstage debut at the REP with the 2017 production of *An Iliad*, other credits include: the World Premiere of *Red Maple* (2019 BroadwayWorld Berkshire's Award for Best Director of a Play), and the 2019 production of *Live From WVL Radio Theatre: It's A Wonderful Life*, to name a few. Margaret is a proud member of Actors Equity, holds a BA in Theatre Arts from SUNY New Paltz, and an MFA in Theatre Directing from the University of Essex in London.



**KAITE KERN** (Stage Manager, *First 15*) is thrilled to be able to create with the wonderful people at the REP for another show. Kate is a recent graduate of Russell Sage College, and has acted as the Stage Manager for the Theatre Institute At Sage during the following shows: *The Diary Of Anne Frank*, *Baskerville*, *Tribes*, and many more. She is also a company member of Troy Foundry Theatre and has worked with them on *Where There's Smoke* and *Echo Chambers: Beckett 3*. Kate would like to thank those in her life for always supporting her. She loves working on new works and hopes to be a part of more innovative projects such as this in the future.



**TYAELA NIEVES** (Director, *New Voices: Young Playwright Reading*) (they/she) is an interdisciplinary artist based in Brooklyn, NY. They grew up in the Capital District and have worked with The Rep since 2012 doing a variety of roles such as Acting, Directing, Stage Management, Crew, and Wardrobe. Tyaela graduated from NYU Tisch School of the Arts' Experimental Theater Wing in 2019 and has continued to pursue her passion for theater and film. Their most recent film, *Limon Agrio*, was awarded the award of recognition from Best Shorts Competition and was selected for the 2021 Latino Film Market showcase. Tyaela is currently investigating the production side of the arts, as she is an assistant to the producers of Pomegranate Arts, a NYC based performing arts production company.



**PETRONIA PALEY** (Director, *Three Mothers*) recently directed *Henry IV, Part 1* at Purchase College. *Emmet Till, the Opera*, Trilogy Opera Company; *Looking for Leroy* (Audelco Award) New Federal Theatre; *Truth Be Told*, Ensemble Studio; *Daughter*, Ensemble Studio Theatre; *Kernel of Sanity*, New Federal Theatre; *Ascension*, National Black Theatre Festival, International Fringe Festival; *Medea*, Take Wings and Soar Productions; *Antony and Cleopatra*, TWAS Theatre; *Can We Dance*, Henry Street Settlement (Women of Color Award); *Spic*, Chelsea Playhouse. Actor: *Macbeth*; *King Lear*; *The House That Will Not Stand*; *Modern Love*; *Billions*; *Damages*; Guiding Light, Another World, One Life to Live, *2 Days in New York*, *Solomon Northrup's Odyssey*. *On The Way to Timbuktu* (written and performed) premiered at Ensemble Studio Theatre. She is the recipient of three Audelco Awards for acting.

## Summit Acting Company



**SIVAN ADLER** is an eighteen year old actress from Albany New York. She is a recent graduate of HVCC's Theater department and an upcoming Acting BFA student at SUNY Fredonia. Favorite credits include Amy in *Little Women* (Hudson Valley Community College), Lauren in *Circle Mirror Transformation* (Theater Voices) and Marcy in *Dog Sees God* (Hudson Valley Community College). Sivan is thankful for Margaret for this amazing opportunity and for everyone who has ever supported her creativity.



**BARZIN AKHAVAN\*** Theatre credits include: *Aftermath* (NYTW, international tour); *The Kite Runner* (World Premiere, San Jose Repertory Theatre; Arizona Theatre Company); Mary Zimmerman's *Arabian Nights* (Arena Stage, Berkeley Rep, Lookingglass Theatre Co.); *Lidless, Inana* (Contemporary American Theatre Festival); *The Persian Quarter* (Merrimack Repertory Theatre); *The Poetry of Pizza* (Virginia Stage Company); as well as numerous Shakespeare Plays at a number of Shakespeare Festivals. Film & TV: SMASH, LAW & ORDER: CI, THE JEW OF MALTA, ANNIVERSARY, THE BLACKLIST, FUNNY FACE.



**AALIYAH AL-FUHAID** is a sixteen-year-old actress from Upstate New York. Favorite shows she has been in include *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat* at Lincoln Center, as well as *Les Miserables* at Proctors Theater. Although virtual, Aaliyah is excited to be in her first production at Capital REP!



**BRENNY CAMPBELL\*** has joyfully played on Capital Rep's stages in *Blithe Spirit* (Ruth), *Other Desert Cities* (Brooke), among her favorites. Theatre credits include *Hand to God* (Florida Studio Theater), *August: Osage County* (Arkansas Rep), and Saratoga Shakespeare, Adirondack Theatre Festival, Majestic Theater, among others. TV/Film: Gotham, and Kid Happy (2022 release).



**ELLEN CRIBBS** is an actress and freelance voiceover artist in the Capital Region. At the REP, Ellen has performed onstage in *Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley* (Anne), and *Shakespeare in Love* (Nurse).



**ROSALYN COLEMAN\*** Broadway: *To Kill A Mockingbird*, *Travesties*, *The Mountaintop*, *Radio Golf*, *Seven Guitars*, *The Piano Lesson*, *Mule Bone*. Film: MISS VIRGINIA, THE IMMORTAL JELLYFISH, FRANKIE AND ALICE, BROOKLYN'S FINEST, OUR SONG, BROWN SUGAR, MUSIC OF THE HEART. TV: BULL, JESSICA JONES, BLUE BLOODS, MADAM SECRETARY, LAW AND ORDER. Off-Broadway: *Wedding Band*, *The Woman's Party*, *Native Son*, *Breakfast with Mugabe*. Solo play *The Master's Tools* at Williamstown Theatre Festival. Next feature film: *Weapon For Peace* director. Proud mom & wife. Love you. [@irozapp](https://www.instagram.com/irozapp)

## Summit Acting Company Con't.



**ELIZA FOSS\*** Lincoln Center: *Admissions*, *Ten Unknowns* (understudy). Off-Broadway includes *The Lucky Star* (59c59) *Enemy of the People*, *Pentecost* (the Barrow Group); *Heart of the City* (Urban Stages); *Beau Jest* (The Lamb's Theater); and *Coriolanus* (The Public). Regional includes *Our Town* (New London Barn), *Dinner with Friends* (Hartford Theaterworks), *The Road to Mecca* (Portland Stage), *Diary of Anne Frank* (Cleveland Playhouse) and *Airport Angel* (Williamstown Theater Festival). Film: *Indignation*, *The Lennon Report*, *Split Ends*, *Chutney Popcorn*. TV: "Georgetown", "Law & Order", "Law & Order:SVU". Eliza is also a writer and director. She directed the short film, "Consider the Sparrow" which premiered at The Beaufort Film Festival this past March.



**GABBY FRANCO FERRO** is always happy for an opportunity to return to Capital Rep! At the REP she has appeared on the mainstage in *Shakespeare In Love* and *A Christmas Story* (the play). She's taken part in the Next Act Summits since 2019 and was a Roving Reporter and a Discussion Moderator for the 2021 Behind the Scenes series, as well. Last summer, she acted as an Adult Mentor actor with the Summer Stage Young Acting Company. Select credits also include: Tracy Turnblad in *Hairspray*, Addaperle in *The Wiz* (Barrington Stage), King Claudius in *Hamlet*, Sir Toby Belch in *Twelfth Night* (Shakespeare and Co's Fall Festival), Snug in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Saratoga Shakespeare Company), and Helena *All's Well That Ends Well* with (Classic Theater Guild). She is a proud 2021 graduate of the Neighborhood Playhouse School of the Theatre in NYC. Many thanks to Margaret and Maggie for another amazing opportunity! For Nana, with love, always and forever. [@gabbyfrancoferro](https://twitter.com/gabbyfrancoferro)



George Franklin

**GEORGE FRANKLIN\*** is an AEA actor studying at Pace University. Broadway: *Elf* and *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical!* Past credits with the REP include: *A Christmas Story*, *The Musical!*, *Gypsy*, working as an actor/mentor one summer with the Summer Stage Young Acting Program, and several Next Act! Events.

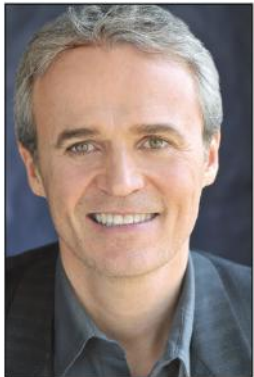


**JUSTIN FRIELLO\*** is a multi-genre composer/performer from Schenectady, NY. He is thrilled to once again work with Capital Repertory Theatre. Past projects with the Rep include many On-The-Go tours (including *Sleepy Hollow*, for which he co-wrote music and lyrics), *The Secret Garden*, *Camelot*, and *Shakespeare in Love*. Justin has also released numerous singles and EPs of his own music which can be found on [Bandcamp](https://bandcamp.com/JustinFriello) and all streaming platforms. For more information, including a calendar of upcoming performances, [visit JustinFriello.com](https://www.justinfriello.com), and follow him on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/JustinFriello), [Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/JustinFriello), [YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/JustinFriello), [TikTok](https://www.tiktok.com/JustinFriello), and [Twitter](https://twitter.com/JustinFriello).



**JAKE GOODMAN** Jake Goodman has appeared on the REP's stage in *A Christmas Story*, *the Musical*, *Camelot*, *Your Best One*, and soon to be *Jersey Boys*. Other regional credits include *Urinetown*, *Newsies*, *Little Shop*, and *Grease*. Thanks to family and friends for endless support!

## Summit Acting Company Con't.



WYNN HARMON

**WYNN HARMON\*** Capital Rep: *The True, Race, The Taming of the Shrew, Dr. Faustus, Pure Poe*. On Broadway, he played The Detective in *Porgy and Bess* (also telecast "Live from Lincoln Center" on PBS). OffBroadway appearances include *The Lucky One* (Mint Theater Company), *As You Like It* (The Pearl Theater Company) and *The New Yorkers* (Musical Theater Works). International credits include: Voltaire/Dr. Pangloss in *Candide*, at both the Théâtre du Capitole de Toulouse, and Opéra National de Bordeaux; and Charlie Cowell in *The Music Man* at Royal Opera House Muscat, Oman. Regional credits include: *Lost in the Stars, Showboat*, and *Candide* at The Kennedy Center; and shows or seasons with: Arena Stage, Long Wharf Theatre, Hartford Stage, The Alley Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre Company, The Studio Theatre, American Conservatory Theatre, Huntington Theatre Company, Westport Country Playhouse, Cincinnati Playhouse, Cleveland PlayHouse, Baltimore Center Stage, Syracuse Stage, American Repertory Theatre, Westport Country Playhouse, Resident Ensemble Players, La Jolla Playhouse, White Heron Theatre Company, The Glimmerglass Festival, Des Moines Metro Opera, multiple Shakespeare festivals; and *The Constant Wife* plus ten Shakespeare productions at The Old Globe in San Diego. Training: BFA from Boston University, MFA from American Conservatory Theatre. He is a proud recipient of a Helen Hayes Award nomination and The Edwin E. Stein Award for Excellence in the Arts.



**DIAKA HILL** was born in Bamako, Mali and raised in Brooklyn, NY, Diaka is a relatively new resident of the Capital District. New'ish to the region she may still be, Diaka has worked with theREP in a variety of different positions: she was seen on stage in theREP's 2018 production of *Shakespeare In Love*; was one of theREP's beloved House Managers (pre pandemic); and now holds the title of Operations Manager for the company. Diaka is also on the Board of Theatre Voices and is the Assistant Artistic Director of the Black Theatre Troupe of Upstate NY.

<https://www.diaka.com/>



KIRK JACKSON

**KIRK JACKSON\*** is an actor/director with four decades of experience on and off Broadway and regionally. A graduate of the Yale School of Drama, he assisted Ivo van Hove on multiple production in NYC and, recently, began to direct operas. Jackson has performed on and off Broadway and throughout the United States in nearly 200 productions, including the world premieres of Terrance McNally's *Love! Valour! Compassion!* (Broadway), Doug Wright's *Quills* (New York Theater Workshop) and *Interrogating the Nude* (Yale Rep); among numerous other credits. Jackson also teaches at acting and directing at Bennington College.

## Summit Acting Company Con't.



**KRYSTAL LUCAS\*** Her theater credits include *Hamlet* (Shakespeare Theatre DC); *Pride and Prejudice*, *Good People* (Dorset Theatre Festival); *Couriers and Contrabands* (Barrow Group Theatre); *Our Town* (Triad Stage); *Love's Labour's Lost* (Shakespeare in the Park(ing) Lot); *Twelfth Night*, *The Christians* (Denver Center); *Disgraced* (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park); *Twelfth Night Short Shakespeare* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *Twelfth Night, The Book of Will* (Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival); *In the Next Room or the Vibrator Play* (Syracuse Stage and Repertory Theatre of St. Louis); *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *The Merchant of Venice* (Old Globe Theatre); *Good People* (Alley Theatre); *Death and the King's Horseman*, *Macbeth* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); *The Sty of the Blind Pig* (TheaterWorks Hartford); *The Summer House* (Passage Theatre Company). On television, she has appeared in *Jessica Jones* (Netflix) and *The Blacklist* (NBC). She is a proud graduate of UNC-Asheville (BA) and the NYU Grad Acting Program (MFA).



**EDDIE MALDONADO\*** Born and raised in Phoenix, Arizona the classically trained bicoastal actor and singer has entertained in premier American repertory theatres, Off-Broadway, major concert venues, National Tour's, and roles in film, television, and national commercial campaigns. Stage Credits include Ritchie Valens in *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* Anniversary National Tour, Alexander Hamilton in *Hamilton in Concert*, Simba for Disney Cruise Line, and the Emcee in *Cabaret* at NY's Argyle Theatre. "Enjoy the show!"




**TRACY LIZ MILLER\*** is a Washington, CT based theatre-maker residing with her family of humans and cats. Former Director of Theatre Arts at Chandler-Gilbert Community College in Chandler, Arizona. Co-Founding Producing Artistic Director of The Bridge Initiative: Women in Theatre, [www.bridgeinit.org](http://www.bridgeinit.org). Co-Founding Producing Artistic Director of Connecticut Theatre Exchange, [www.pawlingtheatreexchange.org](http://www.pawlingtheatreexchange.org). Current: Full-time faculty at University of Rhode Island Department of Theatre. Selected professional acting credits: Sarah Weddington in *ROE* at WAM Theatre, Alonsa in *The Tempest* at Saratoga Shakespeare Company, Titania/Hippolyta in *Midsummer* at Southwest Shakespeare Company, Dora in *The Swan* at Chester Theatre Company, Molly in *Dusk Rings a Bell* at Shaker Bridge Theatre, Julius Caesar in *Julius Caesar* at Tennessee Shakespeare Company, Tekla in *The Creditors* at Miscreant Theatre Co in NYC, various new play development workshops. Member AEA/SAG/AFTRA/SDC/ATHE/Statera Arts. MFA Acting from Alabama Shakespeare Festival/University of Alabama. BFA in Music Theatre Performance from Western Michigan University.




**MADALYN MONTGOMERY** is a Junior BFA Musical Theater major at Nazareth College. Recent credits: *Into The Woods* (Little Red), *Pippin* (Swing), *Chicago Workshop 360* (Ensemble) at Callahan Theater, *The Little Mermaid* (Ariel), *Little Women* (Amy March) at NHS. Upcoming: *Jersey Boys* (Francine) at theREP. [@madalyn.a.montgomery](https://www.instagram.com/madalyn.a.montgomery)


## Summit Acting Company Con't.




**DWANDRA NICKOLE\*** is an Associate Professor and Director of Multicultural Theatre at Western Michigan University. She earned her MFA in Acting from the National Theatre Conservatory. She has performed regionally at the Tony Award winning Denver Center Theatre; The Huntington Theatre in Boston; the National Black Theatre in New York City; the Indiana Repertory Theater; and the Human Race Theatre. Her most memorable roles include Aunt Ester in August Wilson's *Gem of the Ocean*; Mrs. Muller in *Doubt*; Calpurnia in *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Matron Mama Morton* in Chicago. Her TV credits include *Law and Order*, *Third Watch*, *Law and Order: SVU* and the critically acclaimed ABC series *Wonderland*. Nickole has also written a one-woman show entitled *The Conviction of Lady Lorraine*. For booking information, visit her website [www.dwandra.com](http://www.dwandra.com) She is a proud member of AEA & SAG-AFTRA




**TONY PALLONE\*** counts his experiences at theREP among his most rewarding theatrical work. Past productions include *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Gypsy* and *The Trip to Bountiful* on the main stage, as well as previous work on Next Act!. Offstage, he wears many hats, including as a writer for numerous media outlets and as a consulting art director for the Capital District's 55+ Life magazine. Proud member of Actors' Equity.



**ALEXIS PAPAEO** Capital Repertory Theater: *Gypsy* (Baby June), *A Christmas Story: The Musical!* (Tap Soloist). Park Playhouse: *Little Women* (Jo), *Newsies* (Finch), *In The Heights* (Ensemble), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey). Alexis is pursuing a career in musical theater by attending NYU Tisch School of the Arts!

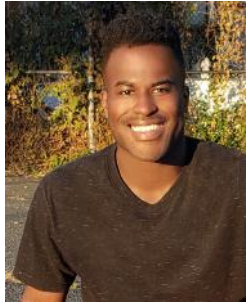


**YVONNE PERRY\*** is a professional actress, director and educator. She is an Associate Artist at Capital Rep in Albany, where she frequently performs, directs and serves on the Next Act! reading committee. She has also performed with Saratoga Shakespeare, Hubbard Hall, Oldcastle, NYSTI, NYC Fringe, River Valley Rep, Stageworks/Hudson, Theatre 88 and Gulfshore Playhouse. Yvonne originated the role of Rosanna Cabot on *As The World Turns*. (Soap Opera Award, 1993) Other TV: *Law & Order*, *SVU*; *Law & Order*, *CI*; *Ghost: Power*, *Book II*; *Silk Stalkings*, *Candid Camera*, *All My Children*. Yvonne also keeps busy doing corporate training videos, TV commercials, and narration work. Yvonne has taught and directed shows at upstate colleges for over 20 years. (Skidmore, UAlbany, Siena, Union) BFA: Adelphi University. MA: UAlbany. Member AEA and SAG-AFTRA, Vice Chair of the Greater Albany Area Liaison of Actors Equity. [yvonneperry.com](http://yvonneperry.com)

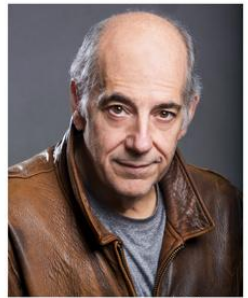


**MADHAV RAJ** is just about to finish up his sophomore year at Niskayuna High School. Last summer he participated in theREP's Summer Stage Young Acting Company and will be back with the program this summer. At Niskayuna HS he was in *The Lost Boy*. Outside of school, Madhav is a soccer player and a black belt at Taekwon-do. Madhav would like to thank his Mom and Dad for getting him interested in acting. Let the show...begin!

## Summit Acting Company Con't.



**JOSHUA REDFIELD\*** is VERY proud to be working with his Capital Rep family again! He recently performed in their On-the-Go shows *Cinderella!* and *Alice in Wonderland* and loved every second of it. Other recent credits include *Peter Pan* with Herrick Entertainment, *PJ Masks: Time to Be a Hero LIVE!* with Round Room/Entertainment One, and *Clifford the Big Red Dog* with Mills Entertainment. Loving thanks goes to his parents for their unwavering support and encouragement. All glory goes to God.

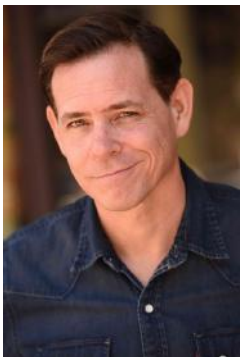


John Romeo

**JOHN ROMEO\*** John Romeo is a veteran actor from Albany. He was a member of the NYSTI company and has worked with the REP in several shows, Saratoga Shakespeare and many other stages around the world. He is also a filmmaker, and voice over performer.



**CELESTE SENA** is a NY-based actress and writer and recent graduate from Brooklyn College's MFA Acting Program (22'). She received a BA in Theater and Screenwriting from the Eugene Lang College of Liberal Arts at the New School. She is a storyteller at heart, with a passion for acting, writing, directing and producing stories that challenge narratives and explore new perspectives. During her time at Brooklyn College, she was a part of the *Black Box 10-minute Play Festival* and main stage productions of: *GunPlay: A Play about America* by Frank Higgins (directed by Benny Sato Ambush), *Everybody* by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins (directed by Duane Bouttè) and *Concord Floral* by Jordan Tanahill (directed by Nick Browne). This June, Celeste made her television debut on the *Tonight Show* Starring Jimmy Fallon, in a segment called "What's Behind Me?" Celeste is very honored and humbled to have had the opportunity to work with this amazing and generous group of artists at Capital Rep and with the incredible director, Duane Bouttè, once again.



**DENNIS SCHEBETTA\*** is an actor, director, and writer in film and theater both with credits off-off Broadway and regionally at theatres such as Ensemble Studio Theater, 29th Street Rep, Vital Theater, City Theatre, and 12 Peers Theater. As an actor, he was most recently seen as Lord Goring in Northeast Theatre Ensemble's site specific immersive *An Ideal Husband* and as Stephano in Saratoga Shakespeare Company's *The Tempest*. Other credits include *August: Osage County* at Pittsburgh Playhouse, *Shining City* at Off the Wall Theater, South Park Theater's *California Suite*, and the world premiere of Agatha Christie's *The Stranger* at iTheater. He is Assistant Professor at Skidmore Theater and co-author of *Building a Performance: An Actor's Guide to Rehearsal* (with John Basil) published by Rowman & Littlefield. [www.dennischebetta.com](http://www.dennischebetta.com)



Eileen Schuyler

**EILEEN SCHUYLER\*** happily returns to Capital Rep, where she appeared in *4000 Miles*, *33 Variations* and *Blithe Spirit*. She's also performed with Studio Arena Theater; Fulton Opera House; Soho Rep; WAM; eight seasons with Stageworks/Hudson; Proctors Theatre; Queens Theater in the Park, and 25 shows with NYSTI. Eileen is Artistic Director of Theater Voices, now in its 33rd season, and teaches and directs at Russell Sage College. An AUDIE winner for *Sherlock's Secret Life*, she is a proud member of Actors' Equity and SAG/AFTRA.

## Summit Acting Company Con't.



**SARA STATES\*** is a Korean-American adoptee currently living between Buffalo and NCY. An actor and film producer, Sara is a graduate of Baruch University with a BA in Visual Arts Administration and an MFA Acting Candidate at Brown University. She recently performed at Playwrights Horizons, Capital Repertory Theatre, and with Prospect Theatre Company. Sara starred as Olivia in the short film SCREEN TEST, which was included in Queens World Film Festival, New York Flash Film Festival, Last Shot Film Festival, Astoria Film Festival, and Lift-Off Global Network Festival. In 2021 she co-starred in and co-produced the web series, KINSLEY VS., which will have its premiere in 2022. Additionally, Sara has studied at the University of Buffalo as a non-degree student in the School of Social Work where she studied Reproductive Justice.



**OLIVER WADSWORTH\*** *Sideways* (Pecadillo Theatre), *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Pioneer Theatre); *Mystery of Irma Vep* (Arizona Theatre Company), *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof* (Fulton Theater); *Misalliance* (Old Globe and Seattle Repertory); *An Enemy of the People* (Long Wharf Theatre); *Santaland Diaries*, *Dracula* and *Christmas Carol* (Actors Theatre of Louisville); *Peter Pan* (Denver Center Theatre); *Red Maple* (Broadway World Award), *Fully Committed* (Metroland Best Performance), *The Taming of the Shrew*, *Take Me Out* and *Art* (Capital Rep.);

[Oliverwadsworth.com](http://Oliverwadsworth.com)

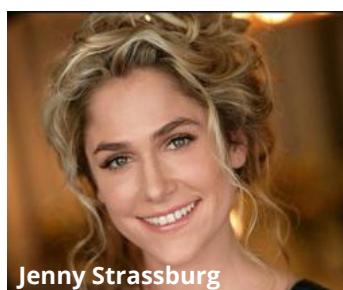
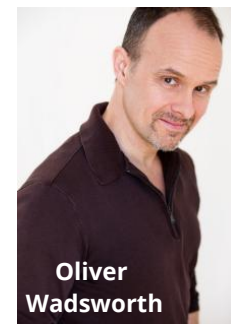
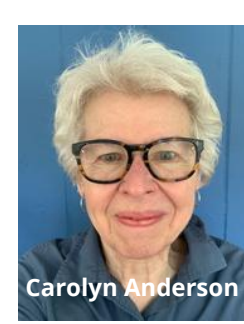
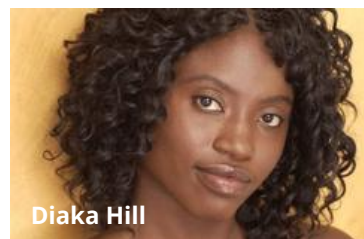
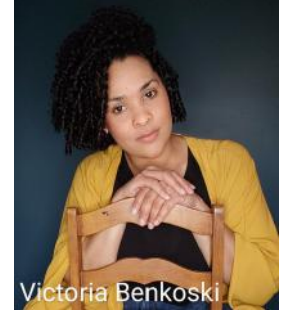
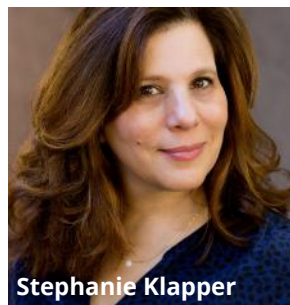
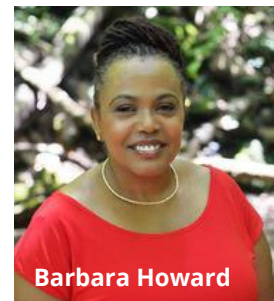


**KEVIN CRAIG WEST\*** Actor; Producer; Director and Writer. Kevin grew up in the Arbor Hill section of Albany and has been seen as Terrance Bryant on NBC's hit series *Law & Order-Organized Crime* starring Christopher Meloni and Danielle Moné Truitt. He recently appeared in an episode of NBC's series, *New Amsterdam*, CBS's series, *FBI Most Wanted* and Netflix's Oscar nominated film, *DON'T LOOK UP* starring Meryl Streep. Look for Kevin in a couple of Apple TV+ Projects screening later this year. West has received multiple nominations for Best Actor for his starring role in the feature film *THE WAY FORWARD*, which won Best Feature Film at the 2021 World Independent Cinema Awards in London. He also received an Actor of the Year nomination from the 2021 International Christian Film and Music Festival. As a filmmaker, West's award winning and controversially titled, short film, *I HATE BEING BLACK* (of which he does not) was acquired by Indieflix and is playing on Magic Johnson's, AspireTV. A random credit of Kevin's is that he is the illustrated father of Addy Walker in the American Girl Book Series. Visit him on social media [@KevinCraigWest](https://www.instagram.com/kevincraigwest) and [www.imdb.me/KevinCraigWest](http://www.imdb.me/KevinCraigWest)



**RACHAEL YODER\*** is thrilled to be returning to Capital Rep in Next Act! after previously appearing in the On-the-Go! tour of *Sleepy Hollow*. Rachael holds an MFA in Acting from NIU, and is a graduate of the Stella Adler Studio of Acting in NYC. Some favorite credits include: *Three Sisters*, *The Wolves*, *Everybody* (NIU); *A Christmas Carol*, *Amadeus* (Geva Theater Center); *Richard III*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *As You Like It*, *Othello*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Winter's Tale* (MaineStage Shakespeare.) Rachael also serves as Managing Director of The Outer Loop Theater Experience, overseeing partner projects in Tanzania with her husband Michael. She is a proud member of Actor's Equity Association. More at [www.rachaelyoder.com](http://www.rachaelyoder.com). For more information on The Outer Loop, please visit [www.outerlooptheater.org](http://www.outerlooptheater.org)

## 2022 Summit Reading Committee Members



Christina  
Limani



# Playwrights of the Summit

(in alphabetical order)



**CRIS ELI BLAK** (Playwright, *BROWN BODIES ON A BLUE EARTH*) is an award-winning playwright whose work has garnered him the Christopher Hewitt Award in Fiction, a Pushcart Prize nomination and honors and recognition from The Negro Ensemble Company, Kairos Italy Theater, Austin Film Festival, Barrington Stage Company, TEDxBroadway, and Ignition Arts. His work has been performed around the world, from Off-Broadway, London, Canada and Ireland. He is developing new work with Derby City Playwrights and Et Alia Theater Company and is currently under commission by Rattlestick Theater, American Stage and La Lengua Teatro en Español/AlterTheater Ensemble. He was the resident playwright at Fosters Theatrical Artists Residency, is currently the playwright-in-residence at Paterson Performing Arts Development Council, is the recipient of the Michael Bradford Residency from Quick Silver Theatre Company and was in the inaugural class of fellows for the Black Theatre Coalition/Broadway Across America; and was shortlisted for the Alpine Fellowship Theatre Prize. He continues to strive to create work that reflects the world that we live in, with all of its different and diverse colors, creeds and cultures.



**LYNDA CRAWFORD** (Playwright, *THE NONESSENTIALS*) Crawford's plays include *Night Shadows—Or, One Hundred Million Voices Shouting*, *On Women Festival*, *Space* at Irondale, Brooklyn, NY, March 2020; *KP 1968* (with Peter Reich), Fenimore Arts Museum, Cooperstown, NY, 2020, and HB Studio's Coming Apart Together Reading Series, June 2020; *The Rewrite*, EAT, 2019, and *The Hive*, Provo, Utah, 2019; *Stars Out of Balance*, staged reading, Planet Connections Festivity 2018; *Whitewashed*, 365 Women a Year Festival, Florida State University, October 2017; *The Audit*, HB Playwrights Theatre, June 2017, and Emerging Artists Theatre's New Work Series, October 2015; *Rojo Verde*, recipient of the Greener Planet Award, Planet Connections Festivity 2017; *Familiar Strangers*, Planet Connections Festivity 2016; *Pillow of Tears*, Women Playwrights International 2015, University of Cape Town, South Africa; *Strange Rain*, FringeNYC 2013, awarded Overall Excellence in Playwriting. Lynda's other writings have appeared in newspapers, journals, and the book, *Titters: The First Collection Of Humor By Women* (Macmillan). Lynda received an MFA in playwriting in 2001 from Brooklyn College. She is a member of HB Playwrights Forum and K/Q Playwrights. Several plays are available to read at the New Play Exchange



**LISA DELLAGIARINO** (Playwright, *COME AGAIN*) Virginia-born and Chicago-based, Lisa is an associate member of the Saint Sebastian Players Theater Company, a member of the Dramatists Guild, and President of the Board of Arts For All, a NYC-based nonprofit bringing the arts to in-need youth communities. She has a BFA in Film & TV from NYU and two kids who are disappointed that she doesn't write plays about dinosaurs. [www.arts-for-all.org](http://www.arts-for-all.org)

## Playwrights of the Summit



**MJ Johnson** (Playwright, ALETHEIA) is a lifelong resident of the Capital District and is absolutely thrilled to have the opportunity to work with theREP for the first time. Two of their previous plays, *Face the Music* and *Sixty Seconds to Midnight*, have been featured as part of UAlbany's FRESH ACTS festival (2021 and 2022). They have also worked within the theater as a designer with recent credits including Projection Designer for A DREAM PLAY at UAlbany, Video Designer for CLOUDS at Columbia University, and Technical Director for UNCENSORED 2021 at MCC Theater. They are a 2022 UAlbany graduate with a BA in Theatre and in History.



**MARK RIGNEY** (Playwright, YARTSY ON DIVISION) is the author of *Deaf Side Story: Deaf Sharks, Hearing Jets and a Classic American Musical* (Gallaudet), and his stage plays have been produced in twenty-three U.S. states (including off-Broadway) plus Australia, Austria, Hong Kong, Nepal, and Canada. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild and a past winner of the John Gassner Playwriting Award, the Maxim Mazumdar New Play Prize, and the Panowski Playwriting Award (twice). Additional published work is available from Playscripts, Inc., Next Stage Press, ArtAge, Heartland, Applause, and multiple editions of Smith & Kraus's *The Best Ten-Minute Plays*. Over seventy of his short stories have found print, in venues ranging from literary (Witness, The Best of the Bellevue Literary Review) to fantasy and horror (Lightspeed, Tales from the Magician's Skull, Cemetery Dance). When not adding to his extensive collection of antique brewery items, he maintains lively outposts at his [website](#), and at [New Play Exchange](#).



**RICH RUBIN** (Playwright, POWER OF BABEL) Rubin's plays have been staged throughout the U.S. as well as in Europe, Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Canada and Mexico. Full-length plays include *Picasso in Paris* (winner, Julie Harris Playwright Award); *Swimming Upstream* (winner, Todd McNerney Playwriting Award; finalist, Reva Shiner Comedy Award); *Caesar's Blood* (finalist, Oregon Book Award, finalist, Ashland New Play Festival); *Shakespeare's Skull* (winner, Portland Civic Theatre Guild New Play Award); *Left Hook* (finalist, Woodward-Newman Drama Award; semifinalist, O'Neill Conference); *Assisted Living* (winner, Neil Simon Festival New Play Award); *One Weekend in October* (winner, Playhouse Creatures Emerging Playwright Award; semifinalist, O'Neill Conference); *Cottonwood in the Flood* (winner, Frattin-Newman Political Play Award); *Costa Rehab* (finalist, Oregon Book Award); *September Twelfth* (finalist, Oregon Book Award; finalist, Playwrights First Award); *Marilyn/Misfits/Miller* (finalist, Julie Harris Playwright Award; semifinalist, O'Neill Conference); *Kafka's Joke* (finalist, Woodward International Playwriting Prize; semifinalist, Jewish Plays Project); and *Class Act* (semifinalist, O'Neill Conference). Member: Dramatists Guild, New Play Exchange and Portland's Nameless Playwrights and LineStorm Playwrights.

[www.richrubinplaywright.com](http://www.richrubinplaywright.com)

## Playwrights of the Summit



**SUSAN SPAIN** (Playwright, GROUP) Is excited to participate in this year's First 15 Event at Capital Repertory Theatre, where she was last seen last year in *Night Vision* by Dominique Morisseau as part of the 8:46 streamed event. Susan is an award-winning actor, director and writer who has appeared Off Broadway and regionally, and has narrated over 100 audio books, receiving an Earphones Award for her work. Susan has taught/coached students of all ages in acting and singing as well as the business of acting, most recently she taught young actors in an online class at Proctors. Check her out as Rose Franklin in FOX's *Our Kind Of People* streaming on Hulu and Disney+. Also, look for her in the Motown tribute group, *Shadows Of The 60s* touring internationally since 2013 and as Lucile in *Greenwood* by Coolidge Harris, II at the National Black Theatre Festival in NC August 1-6, 2022. Visit her at [www.susanspain.net](http://www.susanspain.net)



**AJENE D. WASHINGTON** (Playwright, THREE MOTHERS) is an award-winning playwright, director, actor and set designer that resides in Bronx, New York. He received a B.S. degree in Speech and Drama from Lincoln University and a M.A. from Northern Illinois University. He has directed many plays and readings, such as *Adam*, *American Menu*, *Slapped*, *Family Night*, *The Old Settler*, and many others. His plays have received readings and performances in New York, California, Arkansas, Missouri and Nashville, Tenn. He received the BRIO award from the Bronx Council of the Arts for playwriting in 2012 and 2020. His play, *I Can See, a Raging Revolt* was a finalist in the TRUSpeak festival. The Arkansas Repertory Theatre selected his play, *Almost September* for its "Voices at the River" series. He received an AUDELCO Award for Best Director and Best Set Design, also a nomination as Best Actor. He received a nomination for Best Set Design by Lucille Lortel committee. Ajene is a member of AEA, SAG, SSDC, AFTRA, Black Theatre Network and The Dramatist Guild.

at the REP ★

PROCTORS  
Collaborative





## YOUNG PLAYWRIGHTS

Jessica Airhienbuwa  
Leanne Airhienbuwa  
Maxine Alpart  
Jayleigh Bellefeuille  
Quincy Brown  
Saaleha Brown  
Kaliana Burnell  
Meghan Cenci  
Rachel Covey  
Jamie Curcio  
Derick Edgren  
Sydney Elmore

Amita Ganeshkumar  
Jaimie Gaskell  
Jashton Gieser  
Abigail Guenther  
Alyssa Haddad  
Morgan Hughes  
Lily Jandrisevits  
Wisdom Johnson  
Joshua Kenna  
Madaleine Kotary  
Violet Kreifels  
Olivia Lawrence  
Isabella Libby

Seamus Madden  
Sarah McCollum  
John McCorkle  
Jyasi Nagel  
Elizabeth Novak  
Emily O'Brien  
Jamie O'Brien  
Ava O'Dea  
Lindsey Penet  
Oliver Price  
Amanda Recine  
Ana Roberts

Merryn Rositzke  
Straton Rushing  
Aden Suchak  
Nina Tuxbury  
Lydia Valentino  
Rya Vallabhaneni  
Jonathan Van De Loo  
S.E. Vatalaro  
Steven VenDenburgh  
Amina Wingfield  
Amy Zhang  
Paige Zubel  
Ava Zuelsdorf

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Margaret E. Hall, theREP's Associate Artistic Director

Kait VanHeusen, theREP's Company Manager

Brandon Curry, theREP's Production Manager

Luke Krauss, theREP's Assistant Production Manager

Kaitlyn Kern, theREPs Assistant Company Manager

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

Next Act is Produced by Margaret E. Hall

Virtual Next Act Events Edited by Jeremy Clowe

Stephanie Klapper/Klapper Casting CSA

Young Playwright Contest Readers: Justin Knudsen, Christina Limani, Sadrina Renee, Jeremy Anderson-Ward, Kristyn Youngblood, Ben Katagiri, Rachael Yoder, Teddy Foster, Margaret E. Hal & Maggie Mancinelli-Cahill

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Teddy Foster, Director at UPH

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

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

