

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COMMUNITY COLLEGE



VALDEZ, ALASKA

JUNE 14-20, 2015

The Twenty-Third Annual
LAST FRONTIER
THEATRE CONFERENCE

Prince William Sound Community College
presents
The Twenty-Third Annual
Last Frontier Theatre Conference



June 14-20, 2015

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

It's an exciting time at PWSCC. We have a leader without the word "interim" before his title. J. Daniel O'Connor is great for the college, using his extensive background in higher education to help it grow enrollment and maintain its usefulness to the communities we serve. Most importantly to anyone reading this, he has had nothing but unwavering support for this event. He sees the importance of what we do here each year, and under his leadership, our growth is assured.

We are also in the process of changing our accreditation status. For many years, we have boasted of being the only independently accredited community college in Alaska. Now it's time for us to let go of that independence and join the larger

University of Alaska family as a part of UAA. Major transitions are almost always painful. They involve sacrifices, and changes in the status quo. They involve compromise.

For me, it's been great. The University is proud of our little event, and wants it to succeed. They've been very helpful with that this year, and I'd like to particularly thank my contact at UAA Development, Kelly Donnelly, for all her help in pulling together the event's first-ever mass-mailing fundraising campaign. Her guidance has been invaluable.

This year, we are very pleased to recognize Alaskan icons David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware with the Jerry Harper Service Award. They arrived in Anchorage 25 years ago, and have been major players in the Anchorage arts scene and this Conference since then. They'll be leaving the state for warmer climes this year, and we couldn't be more proud to honor their contributions to this Conference and, indeed, the entire state's theatre.

Thanks in advance to the staff I'm going to work pretty hard this week, particularly my assistant, Jay Stevens, for his amazing work ethic and dedication, and my long-time collaborator, Ryan Buen, who has been with me since I started here. I'm running out of space, but also special thanks to Michael Holcombe, Ted Hooker, and Shannon Foster.

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

Dawson Moore
Conference Coordinator

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

10:00 a.m. Registration Desk open

7:00 p.m. Meet and Greet in the Mariner's Room at the Valdez Harbor Inn



| Room A | Room B | Room C |
|---|--|--------|
| 10:30 a.m. Room A: How the Play Lab Works, from Practicality to Philosophy, with Guillermo Reyes, Dawson Moore, and Aoise Stratford | | |
| 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break | | |
| 1:30 p.m. Joy of Phonetics, Part One: Filling the Space, with Ben Corbett | 1:30 p.m. Writing from Your Unconscious with John Yearley | |
| 3:00 p.m. Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, Part One | 3:00 p.m. It's Not Just An Art (The Business of Playwriting and Screenwriting) with William Missouri Downs | |
| | 4:30 p.m. The Playwright Takes the Plunge: Into Directing, Your Own Play and Other People's with Guillermo Reyes | |
| 6:00 p.m. Welcome Reception & Fish Fry for Conference participants | | |
| 8:00 p.m. Truth Be Told: Sinners and Saints; An Evening with our Play Lab Panelists. Designed by Gregory Pulver. | | |
| 10:00 p.m. (approximate) Fringe Festival at The Fat Mermaid | | |

How the Play Lab Works, from Practicality to Philosophy, with Guillermo Reyes, Dawson Moore, and Aoise Stratford

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

Writing From Your Unconscious with John Yearley

All your best ideas, the ones that are unique to you, are in your unconscious. They are there for you to use if you know how to get to them. This class will help you learn how to tell the stories that only you can tell.

Joy of Phonetics, with Ben Corbett

This week of workshops will enliven and broaden the actor's experience of vowels and consonants. In an environment that encourages play and discovery, participants will explore virtually all sounds of the English language, physicalize and express attributes of individual sounds, and discover how those sounds carry the actor's passion and need to communicate. Each workshop will awaken the actor's body and senses, and prepare him/her for that day's rehearsals and readings. **Participants are free to come to one, some, or all of the week's workshops.**

Sunday's Workshop: Filling the Space

Participants learn a warm up to free their voices in order to fill a performance space without undue force and strain. Workshop focus will be freeing tension in the lip, necks and torso.

Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, Part One

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 this year's participating playwrights.

It's Not Just An Art (The Business of Playwriting and Screenwriting) with William Missouri Downs

Being a playwright or screenwriter isn't just about writing, you must also know how to market yourself, your product and make a little money. This workshop highlights a few techniques to help with the business side of play and screenwriting, and the challenges of trying to make a living (and a life) as a writer.

The Playwright Takes the Plunge: Into Directing, Your Own Play and Other People's with Guillermo Reyes

A discussion over the learning process for playwrights who find themselves eager to expand into directing, sometimes because they feel they need to self-produce and self-direct, or because they find themselves eager to expand their skills. Reyes discusses the pratfalls, dangers, and rewards of such a move, and delineates basic steps.

Rehearsal Schedule

| Men's Dressing Room | Women's Dressing Room | Green Room |
|--|--|--|
| | 10:45 a.m. Kyra Meyer's <i>Tree Forts</i> | 10:45 a.m. Andrew Joseph Brown's <i>The Choice is Yours</i> |
| 11:40 a.m. David MacGregor's <i>Smoker</i> | 11:40 a.m. Paul Braverman's <i>No Good Deed</i> | 11:40 a.m. Nicholas Walker Herbert's <i>Killing Grandma</i> |
| 2:10 p.m. Arthur M. Jolly's <i>Straw, Sticks, Bricks</i> | 2:10 p.m. Andrea Staats' <i>Miss Dial</i> | 2:10 p.m. Thomas Pierce's <i>Blue Lagoon</i> |
| 3:10 p.m. Tim Bohn's <i>Clean to the Bone</i> | 3:10 p.m. Tess Light's <i>To Conceive Gods</i> | 3:10 p.m. Catherine Weingarten's <i>Are You Ready to Get PAMPERED!?</i> |
| 4:00 p.m. (In ballroom C) Merridawn Duckler's <i>Origin Story</i> | | |

Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.

Tonight's Show...

PRINCE WILLIAM SOUND COMMUNITY COLLEGE PRESENTS...
An Evening with Our Play Lab Panelists

Truth Be Told

Designed by Gregory Pulver

Including work written and performed by...

David Auburn
Nan Barnett
Borin Christopher
Eric Coble
William Missouri Downs
Danielle Dresden
David Edgecombe
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak
Padraic Lillis
Guillermo Reyes
Aoise Stratford
Elizabeth Ware
John Yearley

Sinner & Saint

Sunday, June 14
Valdez Civic Center
\$10 at the door

Call 835-2469
for more information

| Room A | Room B | Room C |
|--|--|--|
| 9:00 a.m. Joy of Phonetics, Part Two: Introduction to Phonetic Pillows, with Ben Corbett | | |
| 10:00 a.m. to Noon Lunch Room: Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison | | |
| 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Merridawn Duckler's <i>Origin Story</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Kyra Meyer's <i>Tree Forts</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Andrew Joseph Brown's <i>The Choice is Yours</i> |
| 10:45 a.m. Play Lab: David MacGregor's <i>Smoker</i> | 10:45 a.m. Play Lab: Paul Braverman's <i>No Good Deed</i> | 10:45 a.m. Play Lab: Nicholas Walker Herbert's <i>Killing Grandma</i> |
| 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break | | |
| 1:30 p.m. Vision / Revision: Generating Ideas and Solving Roadblocks with Aoise Stratford | 1:30 p.m. Warm-ups and Beat Downs with Michael Hood | |
| 3:00 p.m. Play Lab: Arthur M. Jolly's <i>Straw, Sticks, Bricks</i> | 3:00 p.m. Play Lab: Andrea Staats' <i>Miss Dial</i> | 3:00 p.m. Play Lab: Thomas Pierce's <i>Blue Lagoon</i> |
| 3:45 p.m. Play Lab: Tim Bohn's <i>Clean to the Bone</i> | 3:45 p.m. Play Lab: Tess Light's <i>To Conceive Gods</i> | 3:45 p.m. Play Lab: Catherine Weingarten's <i>Are You Ready to Get PAMPERED!?</i> |
| 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner Break | | |
| 8:00 p.m. Perseverance Theatre presents Bostin Christopher and Lucy Peckham in Lisa Peterson & Denis O'Hare's <i>An Iliad</i> ; Directed by Art Rotch, Stage Managed by Nicoline Dawson | | |
| 10:15 p.m. (approximate) Fringe Festival at The Fat Mermaid | | |

Joy of Phonetics, with Ben Corbett

See Sunday's description for full details.

Monday's Workshop: Introduction to the Phonetic Pillows

An exploration of how long and short vowels carry emotion.

Warm-Ups and Beat Downs with Michael Hood

A warm-up for the hyper-motivated coupled with a three-day mini-workshop in unarmed combat techniques. Participants should come dressed to move with facility and without embarrassment.

Vision / Revision: Generating Ideas and Solving Roadblocks with Aoise Stratford

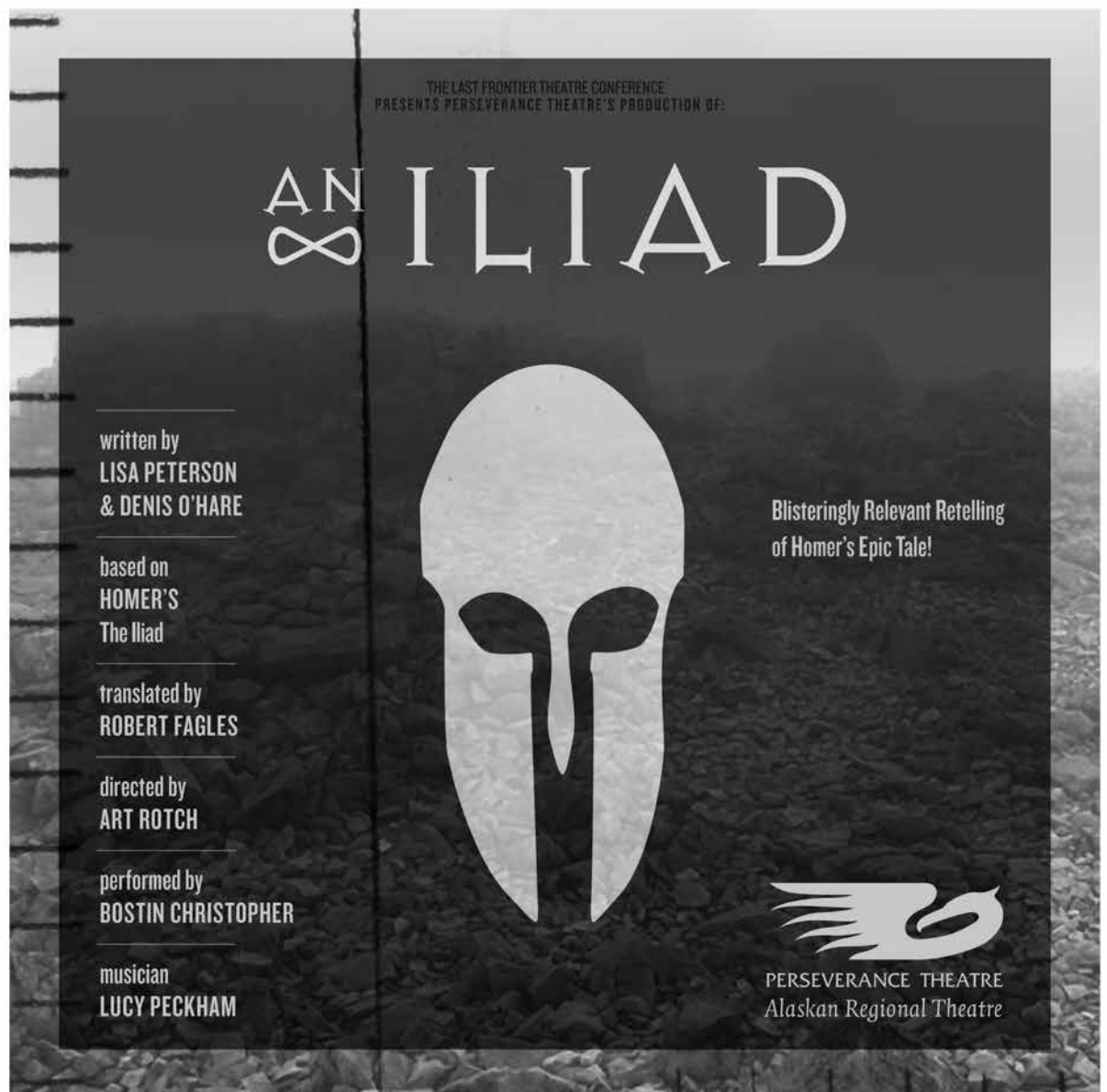
In this workshop we'll work through a wide range of tips, tricks, strategies and exercises for getting the spark of your story going and then reigniting it in the revision process when the scene or play seems stalled.

Rehearsal Schedule

| Men's Dressing Room | Women's Dressing Room | Green Room |
|---|---|--|
| 9:45 a.m. Kody James Grasset's <i>The Woods</i> | 9:45 a.m. Tom David Barna's <i>The Bonobos</i> | 9:45 a.m. Kate Dakota Kremer's <i>Porch Play</i> |
| 11:15 a.m. John Perovich's <i>be my little baby</i> | 11:15 a.m. Jerry Dale McDonnell's <i>The Lone Ranger Rides</i> | 11:15 a.m. Tom Moran's <i>OK Computer</i> |
| 1:15 p.m. Kathleen Burke's <i>So Snow</i> | 1:15 p.m. Lisa Konoplinsky's <i>Nebraska Rapture</i> | |
| 2:30 p.m. Ashley Rose Wellman's <i>That Long Damn Dark</i> | 2:30 p.m. Ali Viterbi's <i>Quick, Change</i> | 2:30 p.m. Erik Gernand's <i>The Kneeling Position</i> |

Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.

Tonight's Show...



MONDAY JUNE 15, 2015 - 8:00 P.M. AT THE VALDEZ CIVIC CENTER - TICKETS \$10 - CALL 835-2469 FOR MORE INFORMATION

| Room A | Room B | Room C |
|---|---|--|
| 9:00 a.m. to Noon Lunch Room: Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison | | |
| 9:00 a.m. Joy of Phonetics, Part Three: Continuing Vowels & Introduction of Diphthongs, with Ben Corbett | | |
| 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Kody James Grasset's <i>The Woods</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Tom David Barna's <i>The Bonobos</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Kate Dakota Kremer's <i>Porch Play</i> |
| 11:15 a.m. Play Lab: John Perovich's <i>be my little baby</i> | 11:15 a.m. Play Lab: Jerry Dale McDonnell's <i>The Lone Ranger Rides</i> | 11:15 a.m. Play Lab: Tom Moran's <i>OK Computer</i> |
| 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break | | |
| 1:30 p.m. National New Play Network's New Works in a New World, with Nan Barnett | 1:30 p.m. Warm-ups and Beat Downs with Michael Hood | 1:30 p.m. Play Lab: Kathleen Burke's <i>So Snow</i> |
| | | 2:30 p.m. Play Lab: Lisa Konoplinsky's <i>Nebraska Rapture</i> |
| 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Ashley Rose Wellman's <i>That Long Damn Dark</i> | 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Ali Viterbi's <i>Quick, Change</i> | 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Erik Gernand's <i>The Kneeling Position</i> |
| 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner Break | | |
| 8:00 p.m. TBA Theatre presents William Missouri Downs' <i>Cockeyed</i> , directed by Erin Dagon Mitchell | | |
| 10:00 p.m. (approximate) Fringe Festival at The Fat Mermaid | | |

Joy of Phonetics, with Ben Corbett

See Sunday's description for full details.

Tuesday's Workshop: Continuing Vowels, and Introduction of Diphthongs

What happens when two sounds come together to make a new sound?

National New Play Network's New Works in a New World

NNPN's Executive Director will discuss the Network, its innovative programs and its newest venture, the New Play Exchange, with an emphasis on how the organization serves playwrights and theater-makers through its acclaimed NNPN Rolling World Premieres, National Showcase, commissions, residencies, and support for the development, production and continued life of new plays.

Warm-Ups and Beat Downs with Michael Hood

See Monday's Description for full details.

Rehearsal Schedule

| Men's Dressing Room | Women's Dressing Room | Green Room |
|--|--|---|
| 9:45 a.m. Gail High's <i>One Cop Out</i> | 9:45 a.m. Rick Davis' <i>The Class of 2004ever!</i> | 9:45 a.m. Anne Bertram's <i>It's All Good</i> |
| 10:40 a.m. Helen Banner's <i>Soldier Love</i> | 10:40 a.m. Meagan Daine's <i>And Know That I Am God</i> | 10:40 a.m. Howard Meyer's <i>Paint Made Flesh</i> |
| 1:20 p.m. Jill Bess' <i>The Frenchman and the Dutchman, a Love Story</i> | 1:20 p.m. C.J. Ehrlich's <i>Zane to Gate 69</i> | 1:20 p.m. Erik Christian Hanson's <i>Polish the Turd</i> |
| 3:00 p.m. Amy Tofte's <i>The Scrambling Class</i> | 3:00 p.m. Karyn Traut's <i>Love Thy Enemy</i> | 3:00 p.m. Glyka Stoiou's <i>Don Quixotes</i> |

Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.


Tonight's Show...

The Last Frontier Theatre Conference
and the Award Winning TBA Theatre Company
Proudly Present

Cockeyed

a comedy
by William Missouri Downs

"A clever romantic comedy" - The St. Louis Post-Dispatch
"Hilarious" - Talkin' Broadway




After discovering the woman he loves looks right through him, literally,
Phil sets out to prove his existence and win Sophia's heart.

Tuesday, June 16 • 8:00pm
Valdez Civic Center

Call 835-2469 for tickets and information

TBA Theatre, Inc is a 501(c)3 non-profit corporation voted Alaska's
Best Non-Profit and the Gold Standard in Family Fun by readers of
the Anchorage Daily News and is the only Alaskan company to perform
at the Samuel French Short Play Festival in New York City



2015
After Dark

| Room A | Room B | Room C |
|---|--|---|
| 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Gail High's <i>One Cop Out</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Rick Davis' <i>The Class of 2004ever!</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Anne Bertram's <i>It's All Good</i> |
| 10:45 a.m. Play Lab: Helen Banner's <i>Soldier Love</i> | 10:45 a.m. Play Lab: Meagan Daine's <i>And Know That I Am God</i> | 10:45 a.m. Play Lab: Howard Meyer's <i>Paint Made Flesh</i> |
| 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break | | |
| 1:30 p.m. Let's Mind the Words: A discussion about designers and playwrights - with Daniel Glen Carlgren, Colleen Alexis Metzger, & Gregory Pulver | 1:30 p.m. Your Mileage May Vary: Making a Life in the Field (or Bustin with Bostin: The Life of an Actor, a Journey Through the Business) | |
| 3:00 p.m. Play Lab: Jill Bess' <i>The Frenchman and the Dutchman, a Love Story</i> | 3:00 p.m. Play Lab: C.J. Ehrlich's <i>Zane to Gate 69</i> | 3:00 p.m. Play Lab: Erik Christian Hanson's <i>Polish the Turd</i> |
| 4:15 p.m. Play Lab: Amy Tofte's <i>The Scrambling Class</i> | 4:15 p.m. Play Lab: Karyn Traut's <i>Love Thy Enemy</i> | 4:15 p.m. Play Lab: Glyka Stoiou's <i>Don Quixotes</i> |
| 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner Break | | |
| 8:00 p.m. Buffalo Laboratory Theatre presents <i>Build Your Own Adventure: Mystery of the Silver Chalice</i> , Starring John Kaczorowski and Ray Boucher, Written and Directed by Taylor Doherty; followed by a reception at the Valdez Museum | | |
| 10:00 p.m. (approximate) Fringe Festival at The Fat Mermaid | | |

Let's Mind the Words: A discussion about designers and playwrights - with Daniel Glen Carlgren, Colleen Alexis Metzger, & Gregory Pulver

What do designers look for in plays when imagining designs? How do playwrights get what they envision through their writing? And what do you do with a director who a) knows everything or b) knows nothing about design interpretation?

Your Mileage May Vary: Making a Life in the Field (or Bustin with Bostin: The Life of an Actor, a Journey Through the Business)

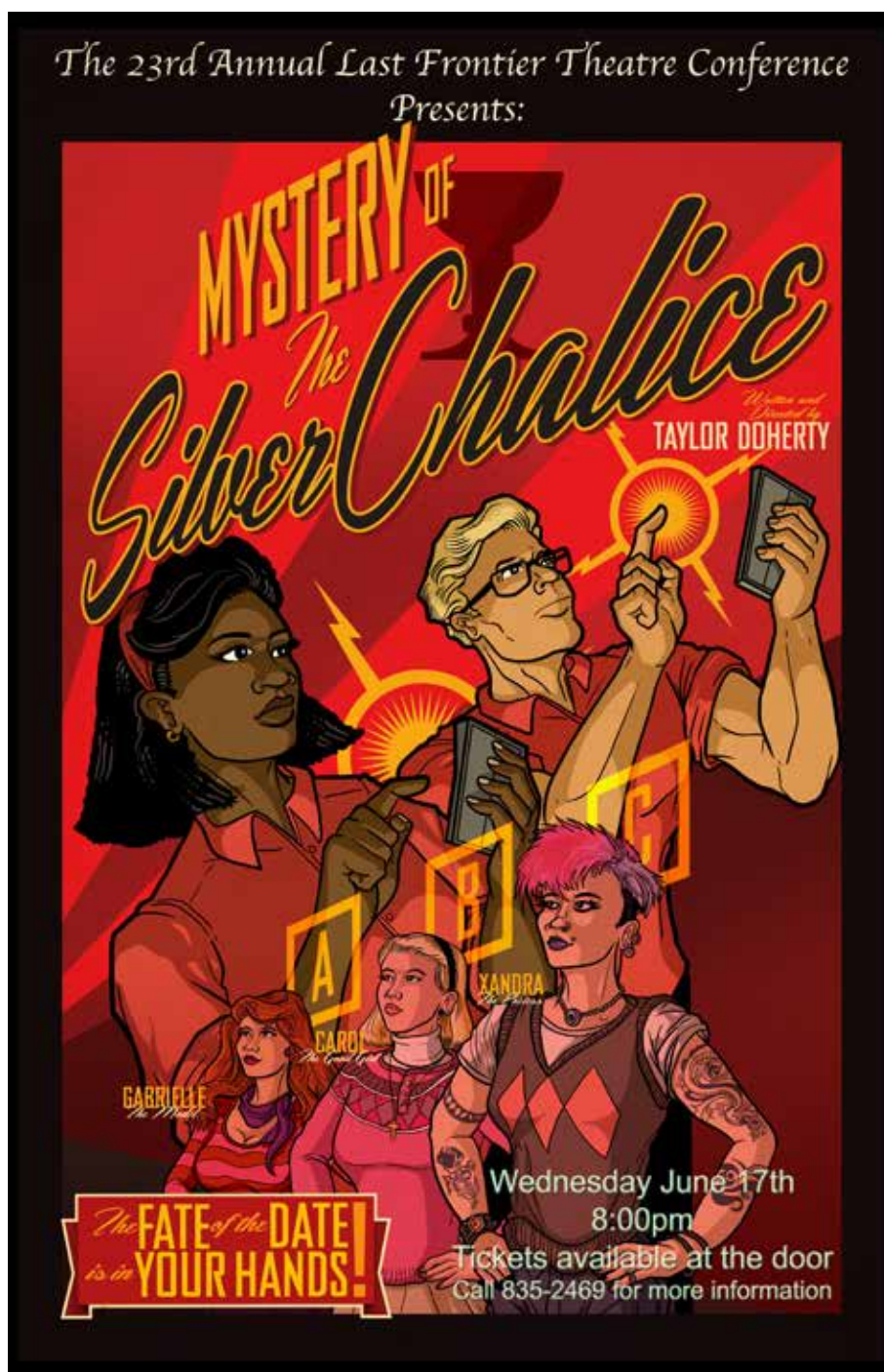
Bostin Christopher shares his life in the field: from his early successes to triumphant failures, from working/not working in LA, NYC, in film, tv and theatre, where his breaks came from, how he ended up back in Alaska working at Perseverance Theatre, and what's next for him. Examined from the business perspective, Bostin will share practical tips and anecdotes about making a life (and perhaps even a living) in the performing arts. Participants encouraged to share their stories as we look at both our uniqueness and what bonds us all together.

Rehearsal Schedule

| Men's Dressing Room | Women's Dressing Room | Green Room |
|---|---|--|
| 9:45 a.m. Nahal Navidar's <i>Songs of Our Childhood</i> | 9:45 a.m. Chip Bolcik's <i>Jungle Dining</i> | 9:45 a.m. Carolynne Wilcox's <i>Mean Spirited</i> |
| 11:00 a.m. Joy Cutler's <i>The Daisy Chain Reaction</i> | 11:00 a.m. Barry Levine's <i>Scenes From A Rock Tour</i> | 11:00 a.m. Adam Seidel's <i>American Outlaws</i> |
| 1:15 p.m. Daniels Calvin's <i>That's What I Told Her</i> | 1:15 p.m. Cody Goulder's <i>Iron Justice</i> | |
| 2:15 p.m. Mildred Inez Lewis' <i>the end of everything</i> | 2:15 p.m. Judith Leora's <i>The Cookie Fight</i> | 2:15 p.m. Joe Barnes' <i>Footnotes</i> |

Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.

**Tonight's
Show...**



| Room A | Room B | Room C |
|---|--|--|
| 9:00 a.m. Joy of Phonetics, Part Four: Consonants, with Ben Corbett | | |
| 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch Room: Individual Appointments for the Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison | | |
| 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Nahal Navidar's <i>Songs of Our Childhood</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Chip Bolcik's <i>Jungle Dining</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Carolynne Wilcox's <i>Mean Spirited</i> |
| 11:00 a.m. Play Lab: Joy Cutler's <i>The Daisy Chain Reaction</i> | 11:00 a.m. Play Lab: Barry Levine's <i>Scenes From A Rock Tour</i> | 11:00 a.m. Play Lab: Adam Seidel's <i>American Outlaws</i> |
| 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break | | |
| 1:30 p.m. Warm-ups and Beat Downs with Michael Hood | 1:30 p.m. Mystery of the Silver Chalice: The opportunities and challenges of audience-controlled theatrical narrative. | |
| | 2:45 p.m. Play Lab: Daniels Calvin's <i>That's What I Told Her</i> | 2:45 p.m. Play Lab: Cody Goulder's <i>Iron Justice</i> |
| 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Mildred Inez Lewis' <i>the end of everything</i> | 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Judith Leora's <i>The Cookie Fight</i> | 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Joe Barnes' <i>Footnotes</i> |
| 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. Dinner Break | | |
| 8:00 p.m. Cyrano's Theatre presents Shakespeare's <i>Macbeth</i> , directed by David Edgecombe | | |
| 10:00 p.m. (approximate) Fringe Festival at The Fat Mermaid | | |

Joy of Phonetics, with Ben Corbett

See Sunday's description for full details.

Thursday's Workshop: Consonants

How consonants are formed and communicated the actor's thoughts. Voice and unvoiced consonants are highlighted.

Warm-Ups and Beat Downs with Michael Hood

See Monday's description for full details.

Build Your Own Adventure - Mystery of the Silver Chalice: The Opportunities and Challenges of Audience-Controlled Theatrical Narrative.

You saw the performance! Now come learn about the process behind this remote-controlled interactive adventure from the author/director and members of the cast and crew. The discussion will focus on topics like:

- Development of "branching narrative" scripts like Silver Chalice, with over 256,000 possible combinations
- Creating rehearsal and performance techniques specifically for audience-controlled narrative
- Integrating cutting-edge interactive technologies with more traditional modes of theatrical presentation
- Unique theatrical challenges (and opportunities) for actors and crew

There will be plenty of opportunity to share your feedback with the BLT as they develop this mode of theatrical presentation for future productions!

Rehearsal Schedule

| Men's Dressing Room | Women's Dressing Room | Green Room |
|--|--|--|
| | 8:30 a.m. Donna Warfield's <i>Disney Day</i> | |
| 9:45 a.m. Rand Higbee's <i>Johnny Shoemaker</i> | | 9:45 a.m. Eoin Carney's <i>Fall From Grace</i> |
| 11:40 a.m. Samantha Cooper's <i>These Mistakes</i> | 11:40 a.m. Jacob Juntunen's <i>Hath Taken Away</i> | 11:40 a.m. Debrianna Mansini's <i>The Meatball Chronicles</i> |
| 1:00 p.m. (In ballroom C) Linda Ayres-Frederick's <i>Out of the Darkness and Into the Light</i> | | |
| 1:15 p.m. P. Shane Mitchell's <i>Birthright</i> | 3:00 p.m. Tony Pasqualini's <i>Battle of Addison Island</i> | 1:15 p.m. Alison Crane's <i>Coyote Katie's Return</i> |
| 4:35 p.m. Thomas Ian Doyle's <i>RIOT</i> | | |

Play Lab casts meet at the Front Desk.

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



| Room A | Room B | Room C |
|---|---|--|
| 9:00 a.m. Joy of Phonetics, Part Five: Developing a Warm-up, with Ben Corbett | | |
| 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Rand Higbee's <i>Johnny Shoemaker</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Donna Warfield's <i>Disney Day</i> | 10:00 a.m. Play Lab: Eoin Carney's <i>Fall From Grace</i> |
| 11:00 a.m. Play Lab: Samantha Cooper's <i>These Mistakes</i> | 11:00 a.m. Play Lab: Jacob Juntunen's <i>Hath Taken Away</i> | 11:00 a.m. Play Lab: Debrianna Mansini's <i>The Meatball Chronicles</i> |
| 12:45 p.m. Lunch Break | | |
| 1:30 p.m. Working in the Theatre, with David Auburn | 1:30 p.m. Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner & Frank Collison, Part Two | 1:30 p.m. Play Lab: Thomas Ian Doyle's <i>RIOT</i> |
| | | 2:30 p.m. Play Lab: Linda Ayres-Frederick's <i>Out of the Darkness and Into the Light</i> |
| 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: P. Shane Mitchell's <i>Birthright</i> | 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Tony Pasqualini's <i>Battle of Addison Island</i> | 3:30 p.m. Play Lab: Alison Crane's <i>Coyote Katie's Return</i> |
| 6:00 to 8:15 p.m. Dinner Break | | |
| 8:15 p.m. Boarding for a 2-hour cruise to Shoup Glacier on Stan Stephens Cruises | | |

Joy of Phonetics, with Ben Corbett

See Sunday's description for full details.

Friday's Workshop: Developing a Warm-up

Participants develop a warm-up to use before rehearsals and performances.

Working in the Theatre, with David Auburn

Join David Auburn for a discussion of all aspects of theatrical collaboration, including working with directors, designers, producers, and actors.

Monologue Workshop with Laura Gardner and Frank Collison, Part Two

See Sunday's description for full details.

Saturday, June 20

- 9:30 a.m. Monologue Workshop performers called for tech through
11:00 a.m. Monologue Workshop Final Presentation
Noon Lunch; Ten-Minute Play Slam performers called for tech through
12:45 p.m. The Ten-Minute Play Slam, directed by Carrie Yanagawa
5:00 p.m. Reception on the Civic Center lawn
6:00 p.m. Group photos for playwrights, actors, and featured artists
6:30 p.m. Gala dinner, emceed by Ryan Buen and featuring the presentation of the
Jerry Harper Service Award to David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware



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



Sunday, June 21

- 10:00 a.m. National Advisory Board Meeting (invitation only)

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

Lab-or-a-tory (n): 1. A place providing opportunity for experimentation, observation or practice in a field of study. 2. A location where new and experimental items and techniques are created.

Founded in 2007, **The Buffalo Laboratory Theatre** has grown from a small group of dedicated artists into one of the most critically-acclaimed theatres in Western New York. Creating theatre events where spectators can experience new plays and new modes of global theatrical expression, the BLT focuses on a high standard of professional artistic quality and performs in a friendly and comfortable environment that focuses on the ever-evolving needs of the modern audience.

BLT productions are known for compelling stagings and a powerful acting style that imbue a unique energy into all their work. A core part of that BLT staging style is the cutting-edge integration of technology into this beautifully ancient art form of theatre, pushing the envelope of performance with dynamic multimedia scenography and "audience-friendly interactivity."

Some of the recent highlights for the BLT include getting to work with the brilliant Stephen McKinley Henderson as he directed the 2013 production of *Gruesome Playground Injuries*, and recent collaborations with Shea's Performing Arts Center at the historic Studio Arena Theatre. The BLT also won plenty of awards for their work, including the "Best in Western New York 2014" award for their production of *Mystery of the Silver Chalice*. And as always, the BLT takes the "laboratory" part of their name very seriously by producing and developing new and/or overlooked plays as a major part of each season.

Highlights of **Cyrano's Theatre Company's** 2014-2015 season included *4,000 Miles*, *Hedda Gabler*, *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day*, and *The Ice-Breaker*--a play about climate change. We were pleased to have playwright David Rambo (currently a writer/producer on Fox's hit series *Empire*) as a guest artist. *Emotional Creature*, by Eve Ensler, was a powerhouse musical that addressed issues of gender equity in relationships, work, and education, as well as violence against women.

Macbeth played at Cyrano's before embarking on a tour which included Homer, Seward, Yakutat, and its final destination--the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. It is especially appropriate to perform *Macbeth* in Valdez, as the Conference is honoring David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware with the Jerry Harper Service Award before they make an Alaskan exit after providing quality theatre for the University and Cyrano's for the past twenty-five years.

This summer, Cyrano's will produce *Anchorage: The First 100 Years--A Theatrical Tour*, which is an official Anchorage Centennial 2015 event. It will be unique, as we will produce a different play every week featuring a different decade in Anchorage history. These plays will be in the form of a living newspaper, featuring the headline stories of the day, the colorful characters who helped shape Anchorage, authentic music of the period, and film clips.



Cyrano (2008)



The Zoo Story (1996)

On tap for this fall is *Tribes* by Nina Raine, *Other Desert Cities* by John Robin Baitz, and *King Island Christmas*, which will be especially dedicated to honor Rie Munoz and the people of King Island.

We are in the process of creating our 2016 Season. In January, we will produce a commissioned world premiere about Wally Hickel and Jay Hammond, written by our resident playwright Dick Reichman. In February, CTC is hosting TossPot Productions presentation of *Good Men Wanted* by Kevin Armento. Stay tuned--and perhaps subscribe to our e-newsletter, which offers backstories, gossip, and reminders about what is playing at Cyrano's. We do a different play every month continuously all year round! To subscribe, contact cyrano@ak.net.

Cyrano's continues to receive kudos, which include being regularly voted "Best Live Theatre in Anchorage". CTC has also been the recipient of the Governor's Award for Arts Organization, the Mayor's Award for Outstanding Arts Organization, and a citation by the Alaska State Legislature: "A Standing Ovation!". CTC, a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), has been featured in *American Theatre Magazine*, and *First Alaskans* magazine, and most recently by *Kiplinger's* magazine as one of the reasons to live in Anchorage. CTC is also active as a civic member of the Anchorage community and is a member of the Chamber of Commerce, Visit Anchorage, the Anchorage Downtown Partnership, and the Alaska Economic Development Corporation (AEDC).

CTC's founder, Jerry Harper, also has been the recipient of the Governor's Award for Individual Artist, the Lorene Harrison Lifetime Achievement Award, and an Honorary Doctorate of Letters from UAA. The Harper Studio Theatre at UAA is named after Jerry, as is the Harper Travel Grant administered by the Alaska State Council for the Arts. A scholarship to TBA's Summer Conservatory, as well as the Jerry Harper Service Award at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference, are also named in his honor. The now and future Cyrano's Theatre Company is lovingly dedicated to theatre visionary, Jerry Harper, and the high standards he established.

"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



Money (2002)



The Head That Wouldn't Die (2007)

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. This marks their ninth year presenting evenings of entertainment at the Conference. 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*, and Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*, which was remounted in Anchorage at Cyrano's Off-Center Playhouse. In the

spring of 2007, they won national acclaim to be the first Alaskan theatre company to be invited to present plays at The Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Short Play Festival. The works selected for presentation were Arlita Jones' *Grand Central and 42nd* and P. Shane Mitchell's *The Resurrection of Humpty Dumpty*, both of which started as Alaska Overnights productions and have subsequently been presented here at the Last Frontier Theater Conference. TBA Theatre was named by readers of The Anchorage Daily News as Alaska's "Best Non-Profit" and "The Gold Standard in Family Fun."



Bile in the Afterlife from
THE END (2008)



The Rendering of Conor McShea (2012)

Perseverance Theatre's mission is to create professional theatre by and for Alaskans. Alaska is full of stories and characters that aren't found anywhere else in the world. We are committed to creating theatre that represents all that is great about Alaska, and to bringing great live theatre to our Alaskan audiences. We believe that a vibrant cultural life is the hallmark of a healthy community, and we seek to bring together artists from all of Alaska to play to the broadest audiences possible. We value community engagement, cross-cultural collaboration

professional rigor, and regional voice. In 1979,

Molly Smith founded Perseverance Theatre, following her dream of starting a professional theatre company in her home town. Over

thirty five years, we've grown into a regional professional theatre, serving nearly 15,000 audience members, in both Juneau and in Anchorage, employing 150 artists, and working with 500 volunteers annually with classical, contemporary, and world premiere productions on our main and second stages. Perseverance produces extensive education and training programs including Young Company, Summer Theatre Arts Rendezvous, the Alaska Summer Theatre Intensive, and internships. We are also the



The Laramie Project (2006)

resident theatre at the University of Alaska Southeast, where we develop curricula, provide teachers for the theatre minor program, and invite UAS students into the theatre to work and learn along-side working theatre professionals from all over the world. Perseverance has premiered over 70 new plays by Alaskan and national playwrights. We have received national coverage in American Theater magazine and on National Public Radio. Perseverance Theatre was born as a grassroots organization firmly rooted in our community and state. We occupy a unique place in the heart of Alaska's artistic, cultural, and social life. We are committed to developing artists, volunteers, audiences, and programming reflective of the Alaskan community, and to delivering the finest professional theatre anywhere to our loyal, local audience.



Columbinus (2005)



11:00 A.M. Monologue Workshop Final Presentation

A collection of monologues written
by writers from this year's Play Lab,
workshopped over the week with Frank
Collison and Laura Gardner.



12:45 P.M. The Ninth Annual Ten-Minute Play Slam

Readings of short plays by
Play Lab playwrights.
Directed by Carrie Yanagawa



In the Dark

by Tony Pasqualini

Fate Demands It

by Carolynne Wilcox

Almost Connect...

by Thomas Pierce

Not About the Money

by Amy Tofte

The Ransom

by Jill Bess

Autograph Table

by Nicholas Walker Herbert



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 David Edgecombe and Elizabeth Ware.

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 PWSCC President Dan O'Connor
- 7:45 Jerry Harper Service Award Presentation



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

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

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



Michael Warren Powell receives the first award in 2007.



2008 ~ Jim Cucurull.



2009 ~ Ron Holmstrom.



2010 ~ Shane Mitchell.



2011 ~ Erma Duricko.



2012 ~ PWSCC President Emeritus Jo Ann C. McDowell.



2013 ~ PWSCC Professor Emeritus Gail Renardson.



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

JERRY HARPER SERVICE AWARD

Longtime Anchorage theatre mainstays **David Edgecombe** and **Elizabeth Ware** are receiving the 2015 Jerry Harper Service Award. Edgecombe and Ware moved to Anchorage in 1990 when he was hired as a Professor of Theatre at UAA. The couple moved from Indiana, where they were the founders of the Indiana Shakespeare Company. In Alaska, they are known not only for their work with the University of Alaska, but also through their extensive work with *Cyrano's Theatre Company* and their own company, *Edgeware Productions*, which brings Shakespeare into Alaska public schools.



They both worked extensively with Jerry Harper before his passing, with Elizabeth playing Jerry's wife many times. They began participating in the Theatre Conference in its second year, 1994. Their productions of Edward Albee's *A Delicate Balance* and *Three Tall Women* were both performed for the author in Valdez, and they were involved in numerous other Conference productions, including Aoise Stratford's *Somewhere In Between* and multiple evenings of scenes by the featured playwrights. Additionally, in their over twenty years of service to the event, they served as panelists in the Play Lab, taught classes on multiple subjects, and served on the event's advisory board.



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 15, 10:00 A.M.



Room A

Merridawn Duckler's *Origin Story*

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Danielle Dresden
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions Keriann Gilson
Gabriel William Jackson
Serp Michael Hood
Eve Hannah Wassel

In an otherworldly beauty salon, it's a hair war between snakes and angels to determine if Eve is first woman, or worst woman. But that girl, fresh from the rib, has some opinions of her own.



Room B

Kyra Meyer's *Tree Forts*

Panelists:
Barclay Kopchak
Gregory Pulver
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Stacy Stimson Miller
Jack James Jensen
Mike Rees Miller
Tom Michael Noble

Tree Forts is a 10-minute play that focuses on the family ties that bind brothers together.



Room C

Andrew Joseph Brown's *The Choice is Yours*

Panelists:
William Missouri Downs
David Edgecombe
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Theodore C. Hooker II
Tom Rob Lecrone
Barbara Annia Wyndham

The Choice is Yours calls into question what we owe to ourselves and what we owe to our families. How do you tell your wife of 23 years that she isn't who you want to be with? Or worse yet, what do you do when your best friend and the love of your life tells you that he has fallen in love with another man?

Monday, June 15, 10:45 A.M.



Room A

David MacGregor's *Smoker*

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Danielle Dresden
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions Linda Ayres-Frederick
Bryce Posey Ryan Buen
Uncle Lou Kevin T. Bennett
Derek LeClair Carl Bright
Pete Loomis Devin Frey
Amy Byrne Colby Bleicher
Mazie Gabrielle Savrone
Miss Chudleigh Jessica Sullivan

Determined to live life on the edge for one night of their lives, a sensible young man and his friends celebrate his first apartment with Cuban cigars, hard liquor, and hookers; in other words, "a smoker." It's a life-changing evening for all of them, although perhaps not quite in the way they imagined.



Room B

Paul Braverman's *No Good Deed*

Panelists:
Barclay Kopchak
Gregory Pulver
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Robyn Ginsburg Braverman
Frankie Payne Julia Cossman
Milt Stafford Jamie Nelson
Jeanine Levesque Jill Sowerwine
Tom Decker/Buddy McLean Clint Jefferson Farr
Detective Lynch Mark Muro
Sean Kineen Ben Corbett
Joey Baldatello Cody Goulder

It's 1962 – some called it Camelot, but Frankie Payne's East Boston is a grittier place, filled with greed, lust and violence. Frankie, a gin-soaked P.I., is pulled into a case by an old friend and quickly finds herself dealing with the deadly Irish mob. Now she must confront her troubled past, as she tries to keep herself and her client alive.



Room C

Nicholas Walker Herbert's *Killing Grandma*

Panelists:
William Missouri Downs
David Edgecombe
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Jeanne Passin
Granny Jane Linda Benson
Joey Muller Jay Stevens
Torin Muller Reagan James
Shelby Muller James Jensen
Emil Argonne Matt Fernandez
Officer Anita Boyd Gigi Lynch
Grandpa Bernie Rod Mehrtens

Granny Jane has got to die.

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

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



Room A
Arthur M. Jolly's
Straw, Sticks, Bricks

Music by Christian Regul

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| Straw | Christine A. Eagleson |
| Sticks | Henry Weaver |
| Bricks | Kirsten M. Swanson |
| Saveloy | Megan Harty |
| Cumberland | Stacy Stimson Miller |
| Chipolata | Julia Cossman |
| The Big Bad Wolf | Randall Parker II |
| Little Bird | Janna Shaw |
| Beaver | Kameron Hagger |

You know their story, you just never noticed amidst the huffing and puffing. A comedic musical about some building materials who want a story of their own, who dream of being houses someday... and the fate that befalls them when they meet some pigs being chased by a wolf.



Room B
Andrea Staats's
Miss Dial

Panelists:
David Auburn
Padraic Lillis
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Alexandra McCall
Phoebe Colby Bleicher
Caitlin Keriann Gilson
Chaz Matt Fernandez

Phoebe, a dentist who moonlights as a phone sex operator, is having dinner with her sister, Caitlin, and Caitlin's new boyfriend, Chaz. He's never met Phoebe before, but he finds that her voice sounds very familiar.



Room C
Thomas Pierce's
Blue Lagoon

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
Barclay Kopchak
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions Brian Wescott
Alice Debrianna Mansini
Russell Ryan Buen

A whistle blower spills secrets and discovers the modern security state has unusual ways of fighting back.



Room A
Tim Bohn's
Clean to the Bone

Panelists:
Michael Hood
Colleen Alexis Metzger
John Yearley

| | |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Stage Instructions | Megan Harty |
| Sydney Gribble | Aaron Wiseman |
| Barbara Tinkleri | Teanna Hutchison |
| Ruby Tinkleri | Kalli Randall |
| Opal Tinkleri | Joshua Schmittlein |
| Pearl Tinkleri | Janet Stoneburner |
| Winston Gluck | Carl Bright |
| Firebird | Clint Jefferson Farr |
| Grandmama | Jeanne Passin |

An internet-age riff on the fairytale classic, Cinderella. Sid Gribble, a male nurse, falls in love with a bandage-faced Barbie when he discovers her crying in her room. Will he be able to rescue her from her wicked half-sisters that are exploiting Barbie with web-cams?



Room B
Tess Light's
To Conceive Gods

Panelists:
David Auburn
Padraic Lillis
Elizabeth Ware

| | |
|--|-----------------------|
| Stage Instructions | Kate Rich |
| | Helen Moran Rowe |
| Sam/Scientist 1/Journalist 1/Protestor 1 | Rees Miller |
| Sarah/Scientist 2/Journalist 2/Protestor 2 | Melody Knudson |
| Chuck/Scientist 3/Journalist 3/Protestor 3 | Theodore C. Hooker II |

Biophysicist Helen Pario has benumbed herself to the death of her lover, Sam, while she attempts to cope with her unplanned pregnancy and the artificial life she is attempting to create in her laboratory. As scientific success dawns, Helen increasingly detaches herself from all the lives and deaths around her, and is ultimately forced to ask whether a hypothetical life form in a petrie dish has greater value than the "mundane" lives of Sam and her child. And if it does, then how valuable is any living human?



Room C
Catherine Weingarten's
Are You Ready to Get PAMPERED!?

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
Barclay Kopchak
Guillermo Reyes

| | |
|-------------------------|-----------------|
| Stage Instructions | Tamar Shai |
| Joni Mitchell | Janna Shaw |
| Sarah Mandy | Lala Araki |
| Johanna/Stephanie Huber | Sarah Brooke |
| Hester | Taylor Campbell |
| Frosted Flakes | Alison Crane |
| Meatballs | Carl Young |

For a long time, Hester has lain awake at night, waiting for THIS moment and this opportunity, the summer after her freshman year in college, where she shall be working at the same camp that her especially attractive debutante mother worked at. The only problem is that Lake Pampered is a popular-fun-sexy EXCLUSIVE all girl's summer camp and Hester is a LOSER!

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

Tuesday, June 16, 11:15 A.M.



Room A
Kody James Grasset's
The Woods

Panelists:
Bostin Christopher
Padraic Lillis
Gregory Pulver

Stage Instructions Isaac Fannin
Simon Nathan Huey
Noah Joshua Schmidlein
Beth Martha Robinson
Olivia Alexandra McCall

This is a play about the search for shelter. A play about a young man you know, but might not recognize. A play about a mother, a best friend, and a secret. Influenced by the Memory Plays of Tennessee Williams, *The Woods* explores themes of family, religion, sexuality and the choices that define us.



Room A
John Perovich's
be my little baby

Panelists:
Bostin Christopher
Padraic Lillis
Gregory Pulver

Stage Instructions Morgan Rowe
Johnny Isaac Fannin
Heather Mia Passarella
Mom Tamar Shai
Wendy Jessica Taylor
Bobby Kody Grasset
Larue Nathan Huey

Cowboy ballads and astral projection! Johnny is visited by an imaginary friend when he can no longer handle his Mother's sociopathic homeschooling experiments.



Room B
Tom David Barna's
The Bonobos

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Colleen Alexis Metger
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Joyce Eriksen
Daniel Stevenson Aaron Wiseman
Jorge Reyes Harold Fergus
Francois Dulac Dick Reichman
Karl Metzger Jerry Dale McDonnell
Thomas Putin Stu Eriksen
Eduardo Agostinelli Bob Mandzi

The College of Cardinals was ready to elect a non-Italian Pope (John Paul II). And the College of Cardinals was ready to elect a Jesuit and Argentine Pope (Francis). But is the College of Cardinals ready to elect American Cardinal Daniel Stevenson as the first openly gay pope?



Room B
Jerry Dale McDonnell's
The Lone Ranger Rides

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Colleen Alexis Metger
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Barry Levine
Edgar Stu Eriksen
Pixie Lala Araki

An elderly man recently out of prison attempts to rob a mini mart in the middle of the night but encounters a young, free-spirited lady punk rocker who finds him overqualified for the job, yet both discover possibilities



Room C
Kate Dakota Kremer's
Porch Play

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
David Edgecombe
Barclay Kopchak

Stage Instructions Debrianna Mansini
Candace Kameron Hagger
Anna Ali Viterbi
Ryan Tai Yen Kim
Bridget Andrea Staats
Clare Janet Stoneburner
Felix Theodore C. Hooker II

Four friends gather for a masturbation workshop while a young woman grapples with trauma following her rape. *Porch Play* examines the boundaries between people—those we violate but should respect and those we ought to breach—but which, by failure of imagination, courage, or sympathy, we dare not reach across.



Room C
Tom Moran's
OK Computer

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
David Edgecombe
Barclay Kopchak

Stage Instructions Tom Lucido
Colin3912 Jeremy Gaunt
Big Data Carolynne Wilcox
Julia3912 Scarlet Kittylee Boudreaux
Winston3912 Chip Bolcik
Nina Gabby Franklin
Jillian1293 Erin Tripp

What happens when the government starts using standardized tests to play matchmaker?

Tuesday, June 16, 1:30 P.M.



Room C

Kathleen Burke's *So Snow*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Michael Hood
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Robyn Ginsburg Braverman
Patient Jessica Sullivan
Jackson Brian Wescott
Yolanda Erin Tripp

Patient is a teenage foster child struggling with cancer in the hospital. Through her imagination she escapes her current pain and learns to forgive, heal, and move on.

Tuesday, June 16, 2:30 P.M.



Room C

Lisa Konoplinsky's *Nebraska Rapture*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Michael Hood
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Cynthia Lee Sims
Billie (Wilhemenia) Lou Riddle Lou Anne Wright
Emily Marks Tamar Shai
Grace Riddle Megan Harty
Toby Riddle Mark Muro

With the Rapture at hand, Billie Lou Riddle is excited to spend time with both Jesus and her pastor boyfriend. But who is going to take care of Toby, her precocious and thoughtful Cavalier King Charles Spaniel? *Nebraska Rapture* explores the many ways a soul can be saved.



Rob Lecrone, Laura Gardner and Gabrielle Savrone enjoying the cruise last year.

Tuesday, June 16, 3:30 P.M.



Room A

Ashley Rose Wellman's *That Long Damn Dark*

Panelists:
Bostin Christopher
Padraic Lillis
Gregory Pulver

Stage Instruction Doreen Ransom
Leah Regan James
Todd Devin Frey
Ed Frank Collison
Lorraine Katherine Hitchcock-Burrill
Mara Jacqueline Hoffman
Ethan Malcolm Kuntz

Purgatory is a storage unit in rural Alabama for Ed and Lorraine, the gunshot-ridden corpses of a murdered married couple. Leah and Todd, their teenage murderers, flee the state to Arkansas, haunted by memories and ghosts. When Mara and Ethan, two recent transplants from New York City, take the young adults into their new home, the disturbing unfolding reality of the situation threatens to destroy the lives of all involved.



Room B

Ali Viterbi's *Quick, Change*

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Colleen Alexis Metger
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Shonti Elder
Gabriel Fox Jamie Nelson
Annie Mia Passarella
Beth Laura Gardner
Sofia Gabrielle Savrone
Tony William Jackson

Quick, Change explores the decline of an aging actor as he portrays and eventually becomes the ultimate Shakespearean villain, Richard III.



Room C

Erik Gernand's *The Kneeling Position*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Michael Hood
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Rebecca Gilman
Ryan Rob Lecrone
Brandon Gordon McConnell

A man confronts his high school bully twenty years later when he learns that the bully is running for Congress.

Wednesday, June 17, 10:00 A.M.



Room A
Gail High's
One Cop Out

Panelists:
Padraic Lillis
Aoise Stratford
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Linda Benson
Sara Mia Passarella
Jason James Jensen
Alex Cody Goulder

What happens when a woman loves the wrong man and the right man can't make decisions? Sometimes body parts must come off.



Room B
Rick Davis'
The Class of 2004ever!

Panelists:
Gregory Pulver
Guillermo Reyes
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Rhiannon Johnson
Rose Caraballo Keriann Gilson
Teddy Materasky William Jackson
Bob Baggins Alexander Powell
Angel Leightner Lala Araki

Everyone from the class of 2004 remembers two things about Bob Baggins: he knocked out a molar with his tuba and his nickname was Bilbo. He remembers two things also: he was tormented by Teddy Francisco, and he asked Angel Leitner out six Mondays in a row; she said no six times. As a big reunion nears, Bob intends to set things right.



Room C
Anne Bertram's
It's All Good

Panelists:
Eric Coble
William Missouri Downs
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Gabby Franklin
Greg Bostin Christopher

Between flights at O'Hare, downsizing analyst Greg Tollefson confronts the consequences of the worst mistake of his life and wishes he had thought to grab an air-sickness bag.

Wednesday, June 17, 10:45 A.M.



Room A
Helen Banner's
Soldier Love

Panelists:
Padraic Lillis
Aoise Stratford
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Elaine Sullivan
Fred Jaron Carlson
Erin Lauren Stanford
Linda Rebecca Gilman

A love triangle set in the air, *Soldier Love* follows the turbulent final flight of a hang-gliding soldier on leave as he chooses between going AWOL with his damaged lover; or coming back down to earth, to his wife, and to the war in Afghanistan.



Room B
Meagan Daine's
And Know That I Am God

Panelists:
Gregory Pulver
Guillermo Reyes
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Grace Hawkins
Nathaniel Justice (Nate) Tyler Browning
Beth Justice (The Captor) Stacy Stimson Miller
Gary Justice (The Enforcer) Jamie Nelson
Derek Wright (Commander Ass Hat) Carl Young
Lee (Lieutenant Leech) Michael Noble
Ellen (Helena) Rhiannon Johnson
Brianne (Bellatrix) Zoey Grenier
Coach Don Kesocke (Donkey Suck) Jamie Nelson
Ms. Gylde Caldwell (Scaldwell) Stacy Stimson Miller
Morris Masterson Isaac Fannin

Trapped in a small Southern town he calls "Dickville," 15-year-old video blogger Nate Justice considers himself the sole known survivor of a zombie apocalypse. Through social media, he hopes to find an ally in the war against his pill-popping mom, gun-loving dad, and bullying classmates—but when you're powerless in the midst of a mindless foe, a little hope can be a dangerous thing.



Room C
Howard Meyer's
Paint Made Flesh

Panelists:
Eric Coble
William Missouri Downs
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Christine A. Eagleson
William Benson Brian Wescott
Dylan McGregor Amy Tofte
Kerri Connelly Alison Crane

Will, a transplanted NYC artist, receives an unexpected visit from his former lover and artistic running mate Dylan on the eve of his marriage to Kerri, a rising young Washington DC Senate committee member. Dylan's attempt to reclaim what has been lost forces Will and Kerri to re-examine their priorities and wounds with regard to ambition, fame, partnership and love.

Wednesday, June 17, 3:00 P.M.



Room A

Jill Bess'

The Frenchman and the Dutchman, a Love Story

Panelists:
Padraic Lillis
Aoise Stratford
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Alexander Powell
Delilah Jill Sowerwine
Henri Ben Corbett
Wilhelm Jamie Nelson
Toby Chip Bolcik

In this romantic farce, a beautiful young woman juggles two men, one French and one Dutch, and does her best to keep an important secret from them both.



Room B

C.J. Ehrlich's

Zane to Gate 69

Panelists:
Gregory Pulver
Guillermo Reyes
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Henry Weaver
Zane Archibald Matt Fernandez
Kate Welles Jessica Taylor
Jane Coldberg Kirsten M. Swanson
Agent Boffin Jay Stevens

A handler from the future briefs a 1970s secret agent on what could be his - and humanity's - last mission. But will she be in time?



Room C

Erik Christian Hanson's

Polish the Turd

Panelists:
Eric Coble
William Missouri Downs
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Harold Fergus
Olson Rod Mehrtens
Hunt Shane Mitchell

Two figureheads at The Court of Criminal Acts feud over the best way to arrest a Nigerian warlord.

Wednesday, June 17, 4:15 P.M.



Room A

Amy Tofte's

The Scrambling Class

Panelists:
Padraic Lillis
Aoise Stratford
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Alexandra McCall
Maylor Melody Knudson
Leann Morgan Rowe
Kira Tamar Shai
Paul Aaron Wiseman
Alan Brian Wescott
Franco Taran Haynes
Vic Theodore C. Hooker II

A group of millennial best friends reunite on a camping trip with the intent of supporting a friend in need. But the unexpected responsibilities of adulthood are too much for all of them to take. So they kill the truth...and bury it.



Room B

Karyn Traut's

Love Thy Enemy

Panelists:
Gregory Pulver
Guillermo Reyes
Elizabeth Ware

Stage Instructions Jerry Dale McDonnell
Alexis Gigi Lynch
Katya Donna Warfield
Ricky (Richardt) Kevin T. Bennett
Margo Annia Wyndham
Luis/Ludwig Ben Corbett
Sean Jeff Brion
Gerte Linda Ayres-Frederick

Who was this handsome man who died in WWII, wearing a German uniform -- the father her young husband never knew? An American bride begins a quest for the answer.



Room C

Glyka Stoious's

Don Quixotes

Panelists:
Eric Coble
William Missouri Downs
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Tai Yen Kim
Actress A Andrea Staats
Actress B Kalli Randall

The unbelievable adventures of Don Quixote are told by two scamps, who go on a trip to 16th century Spain and play almost all the roles of the play. It is an interactive theatre show that creates an explosion of images and reminds us of a hero who gives courage to all those who wish to change the world for the better.

Thursday, June 18, 10:00 A.M.

Thursday, June 18, 11:00 A.M.



Room A

Nahal Navidar's *Songs of Our Childhood*

Panelists:
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions/Triage Volunteer Devin Frey
Mira Zarindast Colby Bleicher
Sanaz Behzadi Nava Sarracino
Shaban Raad Taran Haynes

When an injured child-soldier, Shaban, refuses to leave the triage, he unearths a heap of buried secrets for volunteer staff Sanaz and Mira. They must stop hiding behind their ideological differences spurned by the Iranian Revolution and admit once and for all why their childhood friendship drifted so far apart.



Room B

Chip Bolcik's *Jungle Dining*

Panelists:
William Missouri Downs
Colleen Alexis Metzger
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Doreen Ransom
Nick Chester Aaron Wiseman
Roger Billingsworth Shane Mitchell
Miranda Hansen Melody Knudson

Jungle Dining is a screwball comedy in which three intrepid explorers find themselves tied up in a pot of hot water. Anthropologist Roger is sure they are part of a purification ceremony. Their guide, Nick, believes they are being cooked for dinner. Miranda, Roger's protégé, doesn't know who to believe.



Room C

Carolynne Wilcox's *Mean Spirited*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Nan Barnett
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Annia Wyndham
Elizabeth Erin Tripp
Danielle Jacqueline Hoffman
Steve Tom Moran

Steve met Elizabeth online and thinks he's going to her house for dinner, and maybe something more. Her strange sister, Danielle, has other ideas, and Steve gets an evening that is way more than he bargained for in this twisty and twisted black comedy.



Room A

Joy Cutler's *The Daisy Chain Reaction*

Panelists:
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions Nancy Chastain
Barrel Jeremy Johnson
Foote Jay Stevens
Bette Martha Robinson
Daisy Alexandra McCall
Thor Justin Oller
Arlene Kate Rich
Frank Shane Mitchell

In a world where life begins in the laboratory instead of in the womb, a rebellious teen and her family's Neo-Neanderthal housekeeper, concoct a plan to alter the course of human evolution.



Room B

Barry Levine's *Scenes From A Rock Tour*

Panelists:
William Missouri Downs
Colleen Alexis Metzger
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions /
Camera Man / Security Guard Jeremy Gaunt
Darryl Clint Jefferson Farr
Jay Devin Frey
Mason / Marshall Hamilton III Nicholas Walker Herbert
Announcer / Russ Joshua Schmidlein
Jessica Lala Araki
Carrie Kalli Randall
Mary Jessica Sullivan
Alicia Jessica Taylor

19-year-old pop-star Jay Bryant asks his uncle, older rocker Darryl G., to open for him on his latest tour. After being semi-retired as a musician for a long time Darryl is out on the road again for the first time in years. Now he and his nephew have to deal with such things as overzealous security guards, rabid fan girls (and their jealous boyfriends), scandal-chasing lawyers, media people, and more on the celebrity circuit.



Room C

Adam Seidel's *American Outlaws*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Nan Barnett
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Katherine Hitchcock-Burrill
Mitch David Haynes
Mike Rees Miller
Susan Kirstin Fernandez Mumm

Mike, a professional killer, is having an affair with Susan, who he has fallen in love with. Susan is the wife of an accountant named Mitch, who is over his head with debt to organized crime. Mitch finds out about the affair, and attempts to save his marriage by setting up a meeting with Mike with the intention of killing him. Mike being a consummate professional, goes to the meeting fully aware of Mitch's intentions, and is prepared to offer Mitch a solution to both their problems.

Thursday, June 18, 2:45 P.M.

Thursday, June 18, 3:30 P.M.



Room B

Daniels Calvin's *That's What I Told Her*

Panelists:
William Missouri Downs
Colleen Alexis Metzger
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Jeff Brion
Max Zoey Grenier
Hamilton Tyler Browning
Skeeter Justin Oller
Sarah Kameron Hagger
Trinity Kristen M. Swanson
Kid 1 Hannah Wassel
Kid 2 Isaac Fannin

It's all fun and games, until somebody dies. After a night of partying goes awry, will a group of friends choose to save the innocent or themselves?



Room C

Cody Goulder's *Iron Justice*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Nan Barnett
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Reagan James
Dick Gordon McConnell
Gal Mia Passarella

If art is means to imitate life, then some truths are not easy to bear. For one couple, as they flip through the pages of an unpublished graphic novel, they will discover the difficult realities that come with accepting as delivered in the form of the mysterious figure, Iron Justice.



AJ Knox, Jayne Wenger, Joe Barnes and Kelly Younger on Stan Stephens Cruises.



Room A

Mildred Inez Lewis' *the end of everything*

Panelists:
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions/Journalist 1 Robyn Ginsburg Braverman
Jonathon Nowak Tom Lucido
Tyler Stallworth Morgan Mitchell
Pete Sommers Paul Braverman
Shayna Gross-Mendel/Journalist 3 Lala Araki
Hailey Stallworth Nowak/Journalist 4 Marisa Garrigues
Margaret Halloran/Journalist 2 Christine A. Eagleson
Al Manaro Bob Mandzi
Mack Friedman Ryan Buen

Loosely based on the life of Brooksley Born, the government official who unsuccessfully tried to blow the whistle on the mortgage crisis, *the end of everything* examines the life of a woman whose ambitions, responsibilities, politics, and vulnerabilities collide to force her into the next uncertain stage of her life.



Room B

Judith Leora's *The Cookie Fight*

Panelists:
William Missouri Downs
Colleen Alexis Metzger
Aoise Stratford

Stage Instructions Jacqueline Hoffman
Joy Debrianna Mansini
Charlie Bostin Christopher
Gus Mark Muro
Wilson Jeremy Johnson
Lucy Kristin Fernandez Mumm
Stacey Lou Anne Wright

Three siblings - an embattled CEO, an under-employed actor and a born-again Christian - return home for Christmas and begin a fight over the financial and spiritual future of their family and the United States, and yes, also a cookie. As their battle escalates, it spills over into the strangely comforting corner convenience store and its unprepared owner, Gus.



Room C

Joe Barnes' *Footnotes*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Nan Barnett
Danielle Dresden

Stage Instructions Stacy Stimson Miller
Paul Glendenning Dick Reichman
Josh Duberstein Stu Eriksen
Dot Romano Sarah Brooke
Bill Glendenning Malcolm Kuntz
Kate Romano Jessica Sullivan
Sean O'Hanlon Rob Lecrone

English Professor Paul Glendenning is besieged by visitors - his demanding family chief among them - as he tries to prepare for retirement. Paul, in the twilight of his professional and personal life, tries to help where he can and, along the way, realizes that the years ahead might not be so barren as he had feared.

Friday, June 19, 10:00 A.M.

Friday, June 19, 11:00 A.M.



Room A
Rand Higbee's
Johnny Shoemaker

Panelists:
David Auburn
Danielle Dresden
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Michael Noble
Narrator Erin Dagon Mitchell
Johnny Tyler Browning
Mary Rhiannon Johnson
Timmy Carl Bright

Johnny Shoemaker is a high school student who develops a powerful crush on the new girl in school, but is much too shy to ask her out. Then a miracle occurs.



Room B
Donna Warfield's
Disney Day

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
William Missouri Downs
Gregory Pulver

Stage Instructions Marisa Garrigues
Pam Lisa Konoplisky
Robbie Jill Bess
Caroline Karina Becker
Jocelyn Cynthia Lee Sims

It's Disney Day at a local middle school, a day filled with fantasy and fun. As four friends, all mothers, wait for their daughters, one of them is forced to face the reality that her life is not the fairy tale she believed it to be. Her friends come together to help her accept that not every ending is happy, but there is always a chance for a new beginning.



Room C
Eoin Carney's
Fall From Grace

Panelists:
Padraic Lillis
Dawson Moore
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions /Boorish Male William Jackson
Michael "Feel Good" Feeney TD Frank Collison
Marsha Duncan Sarah Brooke
Nessa Knowles-Lawlor TD Linda Ayres-Frederick
Declan Hickey TD Kevin T. Bennett
Emer O'Keefe Taylor Campbell
Colonel Lak/President Lak Gordon McConnell

A popular but disgraced former Irish Prime Minister must regain the common touch if he is to return to power.



Room A
Samantha Cooper's
These Mistakes

Panelists:
David Auburn
Danielle Dresden
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Gigi Lynch
Renee Rudin Lou Anne Wright
Valerie Rudin Morgan Mitchell
Anna Rudin Teanna Hutchison
Leonard Rudin Tom Lucido
Alex/Homeless Man Matt Fernandez

After the second botched suicide attempt by their matriarch Renee, the Rudin family agrees to return to their beloved family orchard in an effort to reclaim their original ownership of the land. But during their journey they are all confronted with the harsh realities of recovery and each must learn in their own way: delusion doesn't win back property.



Room B
Jacob Juntunen's
Hath Taken Away

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
William Missouri Downs
Gregory Pulver

Stage Instructions Melody Knudson
Dorothea Kirsten M. Swanson
John Tai Yen Kim
Lucy Grace Hawkins

Dorothea, an Evangelical Midwestern woman, learns that she is pregnant, that she has a brain tumor, and that, to best treat her cancer, she needs an abortion. In a mix of confessional direct address and remembered interactions, Dorothea, her husband, and her best friend wrestle with this decision, their pasts, and their blessings and curses.



Room C
Debrianna Mansini's
The Meatball Chronicles

Panelists:
Padraic Lillis
Dawson Moore
Guillermo Reyes

Stage Instructions read by Hannah Wassel
Performed by Debrianna Mansini

Everything important in an Italian family happens around food. This moving and largely autobiographical 'coming of age' story is told in a heroic journey that takes place over many a meal. Warning: you might be hungry when you leave.

Friday, June 19, 1:30 P.M.



Room C

Thomas Ian Doyle's *RIOT*

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak

Stage Instructions Gabrielle Savrone
Jim Nicholas Walker Herbert
Kate Reagan James
Janette Kate Dakota Kremer
Gavin Jeremy Gaunt
Lola Ali Viterbi

Janette wants Jim out of her life. Gavin wants him in. Jim just wants a RIOT!

Friday, June 19, 2:30 P.M.



Room C

Linda Ayres-Frederick's *Out of the Darkness and Into the Light*

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak

Stage Instructions Laura Carpenter
Actor Ben Corbett
Actress Julie Voss

What a life! Driving on a country road on a sunny day, but what's greeting you around the next bend? Even when you heed your mother and still look both ways crossing the street, there are no guarantees you won't get shaken, stirred and staring into the void on impact. How to survive getting hit by a truck!



Linda Ayres-Frederick conversing with Kevin T. Bennett at the 21st Annual Conference.

Friday, June 19, 3:30 P.M.



Room A

P. Shane Mitchell's *Birthright*

Panelists:
David Auburn
Danielle Dresden
John Yearley

Stage Instructions Nancy Chastain
Amy King Karina Becker
Mrs. Rose Bloomgren Joyce Eriksen
Mrs. Lauren Heston Linda Benson
Elaine schulte Lauren Stanford
Zita Grace Hawkins
Dorothy Katherine Hitchcock-Burrill

Set simultaneously in present day Kansas and the Kansas of the Great Depression, *Birthright* follows the emotional journey of a young woman who is trying to prepare for marriage by unraveling a dark secret of her past. *Birthright* explores themes of gender roles, aesthetics, and the concepts of what defines us as human.



Room B

Tony Pasqualini's *Battle of Addison Island*

Panelists:
Nan Barnett
William Missouri Downs
Gregory Pulver

Stage Instructions Clint Jefferson Farr
Henry Torrance Frank Collison
Catherine Torrance Laura Gardner
Hilary Torrance Taylor Campbell
Richard Hernandez Alexander Powell
John Drisko James Jensen

Dr. Henry Torrance, a successful heart surgeon, and his wife and daughter, are summering at their island home off the Maine coast. But quite unexpectedly they find themselves in the midst of a revolution when they learn that a renegade political group has taken over the Maine state government and seceded from the union.



Room C

Alison Crane's *Coyote Katie's Return*

Panelists:
Eric Coble
Michael Hood
Barclay Kopchak

Stage Instructions Martha Robinson
Roy Williamson Aaron Wiseman
Ruby Jenkins Jill Sowerwine
Katie Kingfisher Glyka Stoiou
Dr. Holbrook Harold Fergus

A reclusive Oklahoma taxidermist stumbles into a relationship with a bereaved psychiatric nurse. Their awkward romance is threatened when the past staggers onto the doorstep, dragging a 30-year-old urban legend along for the ride. A quirky love story of bestial proportions.



DAVID AUBURN

David Auburn's plays include *Lost Lake* (Manhattan Theatre Club 2014), *The Columnist* (MTC/Broadway 2012), *The New York Idea* (adaptation; Atlantic Theater 2010), and *Proof* (2001 Pulitzer Prize, Tony Award, New York Drama Critics Circle Award). His

film work includes *The Girl in the Park*, which he wrote and directed. Recent stage directing credits include *Anna Christie*, *A Delicate Balance*, Tennessee Williams' *Period of Adjustment* (all Berkshire Theatre Group); and the world premiere of Michael Weller's *Side Effects* (MCC).



NAN BARNETT

Nan Barnett is a new play developer and producer, and an advocate for theater-makers and the theater they make. She is currently the Executive Director of National New Play Network, the country's alliance of more than 75 theaters with a dedication to the development, production, and

continued life of new plays (www.nnnpn.org). During her previous tenures on NNPN's Executive Committee and as its President, she worked to create and implement several of the organization's revolutionary programs, including the acclaimed NNPN Rolling World Premieres, the NNPN Playwright and Producer Residencies, and since returning to the Network as its administrative leader, its dynamic data platform, the New Play Exchange. She was a founding company member and the long-time Managing Director of the nation's largest regional theater producing exclusively new and developing plays, Florida Stage. During her twenty-four seasons there she oversaw the growth of the company and the development and production of hundreds of new plays and musicals for both emerging and seasoned playwrights including Israel Horovitz, Lee Blessing, William Mastrosimone, Tammy Ryan, Steven Dietz, Jeffrey Hatcher, Catherine Trieschmann, Christopher McGovern, Deborah Zoe Laufer, and Nilo Cruz, among others. A graduate of North Carolina School of the Arts' Professional Actor Training Program, she is the winner of the Theatre League of South Florida's Remy Award for service to the theatrical community, the Fallon Award for excellence from the Florida Professional Theatre Association, and twice South Florida's Carbonell Award as an actress. She serves on the Artistic Council for the O'Neill Theatre Center, and the Capitol region's Helen Hayes Awards' New Play Panel, and is a Coordinating Producer for the upcoming Women's Voices Theater Festival in Washington, DC, where in the

fall of 2015, more than 50 of the area's professional theaters will each produce a world premiere of a work by a female playwright.



BOSTIN CHRISTOPHER

Bostin Christopher has been telling stories for over 25 years as a director, an actor, producer, administrator, and educator. For the last four of those years, he held the position of Artistic Associate at Perseverance Theatre where his duties included acting, directing, literary/new play

development, along with producing, marketing, and communications. This fall, Bostin will join the faculty of Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU) as Senior Acting Teacher, with the rank of Assistant Professor of Acting. He will teach Acting for Camera, The Business of Theatre, Audition Technique, and direct the annual showcase of graduates in NY/LA. He has served as a guest artist, and/or workshop leader, at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference (LFTC), the Great Plains Theatre Conference (GPTC), and the William Inge Center for the Arts. He has worked on new plays with NYSF/Public Theatre's New Work Now!, Manhattan Theatre Club, Theatre for the New City, Moving Arts, Perseverance Theatre, Northwest Playwrights Alliance, and Seattle Rep. Recent directing credits include: the world premiere of Arlitia Jones' *Rush at Everlasting*, Harold Pinter's *Betrayal*, and *Alfred Hitchcock's The 39 Steps* all at Perseverance Theatre. Recent acting credits: The Poet in *An Iliad*, Long John Silver in *Treasure Island*, Leonard in Theresa Rebeck's *Seminar*, Oscar in *The Odd Couple*, and fulfilling a life-long dream playing Lennie in *Of Mice and Men*. Previous acting credits include a couple new plays Off-Broadway (*Kit Marlowe*, *Ice Island*) and too many shows to count where he had to wear his own clothes and bring in his spatula as a prop. If you really need more Bostin, you can have him in your face anytime by watching the movies *Unbreakable*, *Otis*, *Scorpion King 3*, or *In My Pocket*. You might also accidentally catch him in old reruns of *Law & Order* and *Ed* among others, and you might be able to get a few laughs if you can find some of his commercials online. Originally from Anchorage, Alaska, Bostin has lived in New York City, Los Angeles, and North Carolina. He currently resides in Juneau. He received his BA from University of Alaska, Anchorage and his MFA from the Professional Actor Training Program at PlayMaker's Repertory Company/UNC-Chapel Hill. His complete mess of a website can be found at <http://bostinx.com>.



ERIC COBLE

Eric Coble was born in Edinburgh, Scotland, and raised on the Navajo and Ute reservations in New Mexico and Colorado. His play *The Velocity of Autumn* premiered on Broadway at the Booth Theatre in 2014, starring Estelle Parsons and Stephen Spinella, directed by Molly Smith. Other scripts

include *Bright Ideas*, *The Dead Guy*, *Southern Rapture*, *Fairfield*, *My Barking Dog*, *A Girl's Guide to Coffee*, and *The Giver*, and have been produced Off-Broadway, in all fifty states of the U.S., and on several continents, including productions at Manhattan Class Company, The Kennedy Center, Playwrights Horizons, Actors Theatre of Louisville Humana Festival, Denver Center Theatre Company, Arena Stage, New York and Edinburgh Fringe Festivals, Alliance Theatre, The Cleveland Play House, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, South Coast Repertory, Asolo Repertory, Indiana Repertory, Coterie Theatre, Great Lakes Theater Festival, Stages Repertory, Geva Theatre, and The Contemporary American Theatre Festival. Awards include the AATE Distinguished Play Award for Best Adaptation, an Emmy nomination, the Chorpenning Playwriting Award for Body of Work, the AT&T Onstage Award, National Theatre Conference Playwriting Award, an NEA Playwright in Residence Grant, a TCG Extended Collaboration Grant, the Cleveland Arts Prize, two Cuyahoga Arts and Culture Fellowships, and four Ohio Arts Council Individual Excellence Grants.



FRANK COLLISON

Frank Collison is thrilled to return to the Conference with his wife, Laura Gardner, for their ninth year. Since last year Frank traveled to Michigan for the red carpet premiere of *The Pirate's Code: The Adventures of Mickey Matson* in which he starred as Admiral Joseph Ironsides. Frank

is a series regular on *Mr. Pickles*, an animated show airing on the Cartoon Network. He also shot a guest star role on *Backstrom*, Rainn Wilson's new show, played Judy Greer's father in *Grandma* with Lily Tomlin, and is recurring on HBO's *Silicon Valley*. Frank continues with BookPALS, a program run by the SAG Foundation; he has the privilege of reading to school children in neighborhood schools. He is also developing *Long Riders*, a multipart adventure series. Frank first appeared on stage as a baby in a summer tent theatre, trained at the American Conservatory Theatre in San Francisco, earned his BA in theatre at San Francisco State University where he performed street theatre, and

helped establish Pinecrest Theatre in the Sierra Nevada. He then went on to earn an MFA in acting at UC San Diego. Appearing in over 150 stage productions, Frank has worked Off-Broadway, with the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival, Chamber Repertory Theatre in Boston, Denver Center Theatre Company and Pacific Conservatory of the Performing Arts in Solvang, California. In Los Angeles, Frank has acted in productions at the Bilingual Foundation of the Arts, Ensemble Studio Theatre, Los Angeles Theatre Company, The Rogue Machine, and Pacific Resident Theatre where he is a founding member. The LA Weekly honored his performance as Mr. Peachum in PRT's *The Beggars' Opera* as best supporting actor. Frank's film work includes *Hitchcock*, *Radio Free Albemuth*, *The Happening*, *The Village*, *The Whole Ten Yards*, *Hope Springs*, *Hidalgo*, *Suspect Zero*, *O Brother*, *Where Art Thou?*, *The Majestic*, *Mobsters*, *The Last Boy Scout*, *Buddy*, *Alien Nation*, *Diggstown*, *The Blob*, *My Summer Story* and David Lynch's *Wild at Heart*, which won the Golden Palm Award at Cannes. Frank is best known to television audiences as Horace Bing, the bumbling telegraph operator on CBS's *Dr. Quinn, Medicine Woman*. His extensive television appearances include guest-starring roles on *Monk*, *Stargate Atlantis*, HBO's *Carnivale* and *Luck*, *Seventh Heaven*, *NYPD Blue*, *Star Trek, the Next Generation*, and *Hill Street Blues*. Contact Frank at www.frankcollison.com



BEN CORBETT

Ben Corbett is a Designated Linklater Voice Teacher currently teaching at Oklahoma City University. At OCU, he teaches Kristin Linklater's vocal progression, Sound and Movement, and an Advanced Shakespeare class based upon Kristin's work in *Freeing Shakespeare's Voice*. He has also taught

accents and dialects using the Louis Colaianni's Phonetic Pillows. His professional vocal coaching credits include Shakespeare Dallas, CityRep, William Inge Theatre Festival, Nashville Shakespeare Festival, Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park, Barter Theatre, Burning Coal Theatre Co., Bare Theatre, and Shakespeare Santa Cruz. Ben's professional acting credits include two-and-a-half years as a resident actor at Barter Theatre, with 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 also a proud member of Actor's Equity, and an Associate Editor for Oklahoma for the International Dialects of English Archive.



WILLIAM MISSOURI DOWNS

William Missouri Downs has won two Rolling Premieres from the National New Play Network (*The Exit Interview* and *Women Playing Hamlet*). He has also won numerous playwriting awards, been a finalist at the Eugene O'Neill, and published four books on the art of theatre including *Naked Playwriting*, a popular guide to writing plays and *Screenplay: Writing the Picture*, which is used at many top film schools. Samuel French, Playscripts, and Heuer Publishing have published his plays. The Orlando Shakespeare Theatre, The InterAct Theatre in Philadelphia, The San Diego Rep, the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, The Berkeley Repertory, the Salt Lake City Acting Company, the Actors Theatre of Charlotte, the Detroit Repertory, the International Theatre Festival in Israel, the New York City Fringe Festival, the Stadt Theater Walfischgasse in Austria, and the Durban Performing Arts Center in South Africa are a few of the 150 theatres that have produced his plays. In Hollywood he served as a staff and freelance writer on several NBC television shows (including *Fresh Prince of Bel Air*), and he sold a movie to Ron Howard's Imagine Films. He holds an MFA in acting from the University of Illinois, and an MFA in screenwriting from UCLA and was trained in playwriting at The Circle Rep Theatre in New York City.



DANIELLE DRESDEN

Danielle Dresden, playwright, actor, and residency artist, is the author of 35 plays performed across the United States and in Canada, Mexico, and Scotland, and featuring characters ranging from Athena to Zombies. Based in Madison, Wisconsin, she has served as a panelist and presenter at the Last Frontier Theater Festival in Valdez, Alaska, since 2002. She is the co-founder of TAPIT/new works Ensemble Theater, a touring, multi-disciplinary arts organization.



DAVID EDGECOMBE

Dr. David Edgecombe teaches Directing, Playwriting, Theatre History, and Literature at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He founded the Indiana Shakespeare Festival and directed 16 of its main season productions. At UAA's Department of Theatre and Dance, Edgecombe's production of *The Death of Von Richthofen as Witnessed From Earth*, Aoise Stratford's *Somewhere in Between*, and *The Scarecrow* won American College Theatre Festival Regional Awards. He is Past President of the Northwest Drama Conference. His book *Actor Training during the Age of Shakespeare* is published by Mellen Press. His play *Libby*, which he also directed, toured nationally and received critical acclaim at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland. This production featured in the title role his wife, Elizabeth Ware. The duo worked on their sabbatical project *A Woman by Design: Architect of the Southwest* which performed last summer at the Grand Canyon National Park and La Posada Inn in Winslow, Arizona. He has staged many plays which were showcased at the Conference, including *A Delicate Balance* and *Three Tall Women*. This year he and Elizabeth will be awarded the Jerry Harper Service Award. He has also directed many shows for Cyrano's Playhouse in Anchorage, including *The Seagull*, *Hamlet*, and *Adam's Rib*. Although primarily a director, David has also played Ferapont in *The Three Sisters* and Daddy in *The American Dream*. David Edgecombe was flown to Washington D.C. where he was a Kennedy Center Honoree in recognition of his work in academic theatre. He received the UAA College of Arts and Sciences Public Service Award, and directed *Othello*, which was funded by a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. This summer Elizabeth and David will conduct a three week course in Greek Theatre in Athens. Dr. Edgecombe will be retiring from UAA this year after twenty-five years of service.



LAURA GARDNER

Laura Gardner is delighted to return for her ninth Conference with her husband, Frank Collison. In the last few months she shot two features, three web series, and a short and a spot for Turbo Tax. She was nominated for Best Supporting Actress by the LA Weekly for her performance in *Fighting Words*, which opened at the Celtic Arts Center in Los Angeles and then transferred to the Millennium Center in Wales. She was also nominated for an ADA Best Actress

for *Idle Wheels* at The Road Theatre, by Alaska writer/actor James Morrison. Laura appeared on Broadway in *Smile*. Her Off-Broadway credits include *The Cocktail Hour* with Nancy Marchand and Bruce Davison, *Other People's Money*, and *Welded*, directed by Jose Quintero. She toured nationally with *Showboat*, *Doonesbury*, *Oliver*, and *My Fair Lady*. 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 the Rogue Machine Theatre Company. 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. Some of her other TV and film credits include *Castle*, *Law and Order LA*, *Torchwood*, *The Forgotten*, *Crash*, *ER*, *Close to Home*, *Criminal Minds*, and *The West Wing*. Laura trained at Boston University, Rutgers, and Herbert Berghof Studio, where she studied with Uta Hagen and Carol Rosenfeld. She has been on the faculty of The Howard Fine Acting Studio, known as one of the best professional acting schools in LA, for over 18 years and is now teaching at the Howard Fine Acting Studio in Melbourne, Australia. "Whilst" in Australia she shot 2 episodes of the wacky webisode *Chris and Josh* as Mum. She is a frequent guest teacher in New Mexico, teaching in Santa Fe. Laura resides in Los Angeles with Frank and their two large puppies. www.lauragardner.org

many years. Daniel's research is in scenic design, projection design, technical production, and automation with an emphasis on sustainability and safety.



MICHAEL HOOD

Michael Hood was professor of Theatre at the University of Alaska Anchorage for 22 years prior to taking his current position as Dean of the College of Fine Arts at Indiana University of Pennsylvania. He was awarded the President's Award of the Northwest Drama Conference in 1994, and received the UAA Alumni Award for Distinguished Teaching in 1998. Six of his productions have won regional recognition from the KC/ACTE, most recently *The Gentleman Dancing Master* for IUP in 2012. Mr. Hood has worked professionally on stage, in film, and on radio and television, and has twice directed professionally in the Russian Far East. His production of *True West*, mounted in Yuzhno-Sahkalinsk in 1994, traveled to acclaim in Khabarovsk and later to Moscow, where it played the new stage at the Moscow Art Theatre in the fall of 1995. It played here in Valdez, at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in 1996. In 1997, his UAA production of *A Piece of My Heart* was performed by invitation at the PODIUM Festival in Moscow. He continues to direct for IUP and for Unseam'd Shakespeare Company in Pittsburgh (*Othello Noir*, 2006; *Macbeth 3*, 2009, *The Tempest*, or *the Enchanted Isle*, 2013). He will direct *She Kills Monsters* at IUP in the fall. His most recent publication (2000) appeared in *Theater sans frontieres*, a collection of critical essays on the work and process of Canadian director and *animateur* Robert Lepage. An SAFD certified teacher of stage combat, Hood recently taught unarmed combat workshops for the Nanjing University of the Arts in Nanjing, China, and the Fine Arts Institute in Jakarta, Indonesia. He has frequently served as a mentor in the Association for Theatre in Higher Education Leadership Institute, was a Board member of the International Council of Fine Arts Deans, and currently serves as Vice-President and Board Member for the National Theater Conference. Michael was recently inducted as a member of the College of Fellows of the American Theatre in a ceremony at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C.



DANIEL GLEN CARLGREN

Daniel Glen Carlgren is currently the Faculty Scenic Designer, Projection Designer, and Technical Director at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He received his BFA from Southern Oregon University in 2001 and his Master of Fine Arts from University of Oregon in 2012. Daniel's credits include Scenic Design, Projection Design, and Technical Director for *Hot 'n' Throbbing*, *Spamalot*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *When You Comin' Back*, *Red Ryder?*, *Night of the Iguana* and *Big River*. Daniel's recent credits include Scenic Designer and Technical Director for *Twelfth Night*, *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, and *Shakespeare's Land of the Dead*. Daniel has also worked on the automation for Julie Taymor's *Grendal* and Wagner's *Ring Cycle* for the Los Angeles Opera and Disney's *Aladdin* at the 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle, Washington. Daniel worked at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival as a Scenic Carpenter for four seasons and has worked as a scenery, staging, automaton, and rigging specialist in the entertainment industry for



BARCLAY KOPCHAK

Barclay Kopchak ferries over to Valdez from the lively off-road fishing town of Cordova for her much anticipated annual dose of theatrical inspiration at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. As president of Stage of the Tide, Cordova's community theater group, Barclay

strives to convert that energy into local productions. She has been a part of such diverse works as *Once Upon a Mattress* (Queen Agravain), Arlene Hutton's *As It Is in Heaven* (producer, Hannah), *Baby with the Bathwater* (producer, director, Daisy), and most recently Kieran Lynn's *Incident at the Border* (producer, director). She has also enlivened local events as a tap dancing razor clam, a singing sockeye, a fish-clad Copper River Queen, and a Games Mistress. Sometimes it takes a village, sometimes it takes a drama queen... Offstage she teaches Spanish, works to promote and fund the soon-to-be-completed Cordova Center, and plays a ridiculous amount of Scrabble.



PADRAIC LILLIS

Director and Playwright Padraic Lillis is the Founding Artistic Director of The Farm Theater whose mission is to cultivate early career artists through workshops, productions, and mentoring. His plays are published with Dramatists Play Services and Indie Theater Now.

This past year he was inducted into the Indie Theater Hall of Fame. Padraic was named an Indie Theater Person of the Year in 2013 and was awarded the New York Innovative Theater Award for Outstanding Direction of Lindsay Joy's *Rise and Fall of a Teenage Cyberqueen*, and New York International Fringe Festival's Outstanding Director for Lee Kaplan's *Bully*. He wrote and directed *Hand Over Hand*, a short film currently playing in various film festivals. He was awarded the Dayton Hudson Distinguished Artist Fellowship and a Drama League Directing Fellowship. He is a member of the Labyrinth Theater Company and a life-long Yankee fan. www.padraiclillis.com



COLLEEN ALEXIS METZGER

Colleen Alexis Metzger is currently a professor of Costume Design and Technology at the University of Alaska Anchorage. She received her BA in Theatre and History from Cornell College, and she holds a Master's Degree in Costume Design and Technology from Indiana

University. Colleen has worked across the country as a Costume Designer and Technologist. Design work includes *Spamalot*, *Sense and Sensibility*, *William Shakespeare's Land of the Dead*, and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead* at University of Alaska Anchorage, *God of Carnage* at Perseverance Theatre, *The Foreigner* and *Showtime at First Baptist* at the Barter Theatre in Virginia, and *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* and *Hair* at Indiana University. Colleen has also worked as a technician at the Santa Fe Opera, the Glimmerglass Opera, Portland Stage Company, the Hangar Theatre, and the Chautauqua Opera, among others. Please visit colleenmetzgerdesigns.com.



DAWSON MOORE

Dawson Moore works for Prince William Sound Community College as the Assistant to the President and Coordinator of the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. His own plays have been produced Off-Broadway, across the country, and in Bologna, Italy. He has won national awards

for his short comedies *Bile in the Afterlife*, *In a Red Sea*, *The Peach*, *The Bus*, *Burning*, *The Fears of Harold Shivvers*, and *Domestic Companion*. *Six Dead Bodies Duct-Taped to Merry-Go-Round*, co-written with Lindsay Mariana Walker, is published in Applause Books *Best American Short Plays 2010-2011*; *The War of Virginia and Alabama* is available from JAC Publications; and he served as the editor for *Monologues from The Last Frontier Theatre Conference*, which also included his work. His other produced plays include *LibidOFF*; *Happy Loving Couples are a Thing of the Past*; *Secret Stuffing*; *Alyson and the Great Bagel Mistake*; *The Fears of Harold Shivvers*; *Living with the Savage*; *Oh, Nancy!*; *Laundry Day*; *Love's Lumberings Remembered*; *Skid Marks*; and *The Tie*. He is one of the founders of San Francisco's Three Wise Monkeys Theatre Company (along with Aoise Stratford and the late Richard Bernier), and a member of Anchorage-based Three Wise Moose in Anchorage, Alaska. He is the founding producer of the Alaska Overnights, a play-in-a-day event staged at least twice a year in Anchorage since 2002. He was the playwright-in-residence for TossPot Productions in 2014. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



GREGORY PULVER

Gregory is currently Theater Program Director and Associate Professor of costume design, make up and choreography for the University of Portland Drama Department and one of the 24 Resident Artists' at Artists Repertory Theatre in Portland, Oregon. For 20+ years

he has taught design, technology, history, choreography, music performance, and movement for actors and is a well-respected director of musical theater and comedy. He moved to Portland after a successful run as an Associate Professor of Costume Design at Western Washington University for 12 years and Chair of the WWU Theatre Department for three and a half of those years. Mr. Pulver holds an MFA in costume design and choreography from Humboldt State University, CA. He is the 1993 Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival National Costume Design Winner for his work on *Three Penny Opera*. He is a regional theatre designer and the owner of Purpose Design in Portland. Among designing both sets and costumes for Bag and Baggage Theatre, and costumes for ART and Broadway Rose Theatre, in Portland, Gregory has also designed for several short films and TV spots in Washington including a dance for the camera film. Gregory is also an accomplished singer, actor, and dog owner.



A OISE STRATFORD

Aoise Stratford's work has been produced in Canada, Austria, Italy, Australia, Belgium, England, and throughout the USA. She is the recipient of several awards including the Alan Minieri Award, A Pinter Review Prize for Drama Silver Medal, the Yukon Pacific Playwright Award,

and most recently, the Susan Glaspell Award. Her short plays have also won her "best playwright" awards at several theatres around the country. She has been a finalist for the Actors' Theatre of Louisville's Heideman Award and been nominated for an American Theatre Critics' Association New Play Award for her full-length play *Somewhere In Between*. Most recently, *The Unfortunates*, which garnered both the Gloria Anne Peter Award and the Susan Glaspell Award, was a Critics Pick for both Time Out and Backstage at the New York International Fringe Festival. She is a member of the Dramatists Guild, and serves as their regional representative for Central New York. She is currently completing her PhD at Cornell, where she also teaches. She is represented by Beacon Artists Agency NY. Her work has been published by Smith and Kraus, Dramatists Play Service, JAC Press, United Stages, and others. <http://aoisestratford.nfshost.com>



GUILLERMO REYES

Guillermo Reyes has produced and published a variety of plays including the comedies, *Men on the Verge of a His-Panic Breakdown* and *Mother Lolita* as off-Broadway productions with Urban Stages, *Chilean Holiday* and *Saints at the Rave* at the Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of

Louisville, and the historical drama, *Madison*, at Premiere Stages, winner of the New Play Award 2008. In 2010, he published a memoir with the University of Wisconsin Press, entitled *Madre and I: A Memoir of our Immigrant Lives*, chronicling his immigration from Chile and growing up in the D.C. area and in Hollywood, CA. He's a professor at Arizona State University in the School of Film, Dance and Theater. Recently, in 2013, his play *Deporting the Divas* was published in a new Cambria Series anthology, *Gay Drama Now*, edited by John Clum; and another play, *We Lost it at the Movies*, was published by the Bilingual Review Press in the anthology *Vaqueeros, Calacas and Hollywood*. In 2014, his sketch comedy play, *The Hispanick Zone*, was also published by L&S Books and is available on Amazon.



Aoise Stratford and Gary Garrison
at the 11th Annual Conference



ELIZABETH WARE

Elizabeth Ware is well known to Alaska audiences through her work with Cyrano's Theatre Company and as a Teaching Artist with the Alaska State Council on the Arts. In recent years at Cyrano's she has had the privilege of performing such roles as Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?*, Professor Bering in *W;t* and the title role in Ellen McLaughlin's *Helen*. Fascinated by the challenges of the long monologue, she has appeared in four solo performance pieces: Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter in *A Woman By Design*, Molly Ivins in *Red Hot Patriot*, Anne Hathaway in *Shakespeare's Will*, and the title role in *Libby*, an original adaptation of the Alaska classic written by her husband David Edgecombe. *Libby* has been performed throughout Alaska, on National tour, at the Athens Festival of Making Theatre in Greece, and at the Edinburgh Fringe, where she received a 4-star review in *The Scotsman*. She has taught acting at the University of Alaska Anchorage, where she also directed Jon Jory's adaptation of *Sense and Sensibility*, Anouilh's *Antigone*, a musical version of *The Elephant's Child*, and *The Heidi Chronicles*. For Cyrano's she has recently directed *Our Town*, *The Imaginary Invalid*, *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, and *Red*, which was featured at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference in 2013. On stage at the Conference she has also appeared in several of Edward Albee's plays, including *A Delicate Balance* and *The American Dream*, as Libby Beaman in *Libby*, and in John Guare's *Lake Hollywood*. Prior to coming to Alaska, she was a featured actor with the Indiana Shakespeare Festival, an experience which has informed her entire career as an educator. As a Teaching Artist she can be found in schools throughout the state introducing young people to Shakespeare. She has received the Anchorage Education Association's "Friend of Education" award and was guest artist at the Chamber Drama Theatre in Vladivostok, Russia where she performed the role of Titania in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for the Pacific Rim Theatre Festival. She holds undergraduate and graduate degrees in acting from the USIU School of Performing Arts in San Diego and Kent State University.



CARRIE YANAGAWA

Carrie Yanagawa has been your new best friend at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference for over a decade. An Anchorage-based director, scenic designer, and painter, she currently serves as the resident scenic charge artist for the Anchorage Opera.

Recent directing credits for new one-act plays include the 2014 Ten Minute Play Slam, *Fourplay: Four Short Plays by Alaskans* (Three Wise Moose), and numerous installments of the Alaska Overnights. Selected recent design credits include: *Mozart & Salieri*; *La cambiale di matrimonio* (Anchorage Opera); *A Gulag Mouse* (TossPot Productions); *Hedda Gabler*, *Come to Me*, *Leopards* (Cyrano's); *The Lion, the Witch & the Wardrobe*; *Antigone* (TBA). Selected recent painting credits include: *The Magic Flute*; *Die Fledermaus*; *Lucia di Lammermoor*; *Pirates of Penzance*; *The Sound of Music*; *Macbeth*; *La Bohème* (AO); *A Christmas Carol*; *Rush at Everlasting*; *the road weeps, the well runs dry*; *Betrayal* (Perseverance Theatre); *The Producers* (Earl Cameron Theatre, Bermuda); *Beauty & the Beast* (Elgiva Theatre, England); *The Veil*; *The Kitchen*; *Collaborators* (National Theatre, London); as well as the feature film *Big Miracle*.



JOHN YEARLEY

John Yearley is the author of *Leap* (Mickey Kaplan New American Play Prize, Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park), *Ephemeria* (John Gassner Award, Summer Play Festival), and *Another Girl* (PlayPenn, developed by Naked Angels). His plays *All in Little Pieces* and *A Low-Lying Fog* are published by Samuel French, and his work is in *Best Monologues for Women* and *One on One: Contemporary Monologues for Kids Ages 7-15*. His most recent play, *Eight Minutes, Twenty Seconds*, was commissioned by the Blue Coyote Theatre Company in New York. His work for young audiences includes *The Last Wish*, which won the Macy's New Play Prize for Young Audiences, and an adaptation of *Antigone*, which will be produced by Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park in 2016. He worked as a "script doctor" for New Line Cinema, and developed the animated series *Mamu & Dinga*. He is the author of the forthcoming book, *Daddy's Not Tall Enough to Touch the Moon*. He is a member of the Writer's Guild of America, Dramatists Guild, and twice a MacDowell Fellow.

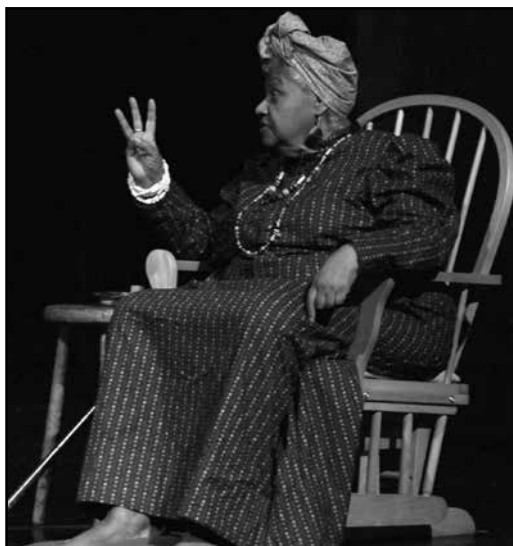
This year we lost four members of our Conference Family, who we fondly remember and will greatly miss...

MARIAN SELDES



Marian Seldes receives a Lifetime Achievement Award in 2001

JOYCE GITTOES



Joyce Gittoes in *August in April* (2007)

PJ PAPARELLI



PJ Paparelli introducing *Columbinus* (2005)

ANNE MEARA



Anne Meara performs with John Guare in 2001

Thank you for sharing your passion
for the theatre with us.



LINDA AYRES-FREDERICK

Linda Ayres-Frederick (*Out of the Darkness and Into the Light*), Phoenix Theatre's Artistic Director since 1985 (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) and the Dramatists Guild of America, Linda is twice a Shubert Playwriting Fellow with numerous productions and publications in Bay Area Festivals including Best of SF Fringe 2010, 2011 & 2014, and Best Play of Marin Fringe 2012 (for her solo *Cantata #40*, read in the Conference). In 2013 at the Marsh Theatre in San Francisco, and at the Hanlon Arts Center in Marin, she performed an earlier solo version of *Blizzard*, read in the 2014 Play Lab. Her full-length plays *Kiska Bay* and *One Foot on the Water* were read at the Tides Theatre as part of the Dramatists Guild Footlight Series. She is currently working on several full-length plays including *Black Swan*, *The Umbrella Play*, and *The Unveiling*. In 2011, *The Mav Mum Murder* was read in the Play lab, where her work has been given readings eight times over the last ten years. Two of Linda's plays (*Dinner with the Undertaker's Son* and *Waiting in the Victory Garden*) were performed and published by Three Wise Monkeys Theatre Company as part of the Bay One-Acts Festival. She has had over 20 pieces produced and over 30 pieces read publicly. Her work also appears in the recently published *Monologues from the Last Frontier Theatre Conference*. *Out of the Darkness and into the Light* will be performed in September 2015 in the SF Fringe Festival on the Exit Theatre Mainstage with other short plays from the Monday Night Playwrights, the longest running group of playwrights in San Francisco that Linda is a member of as a long time playwright/actor. She also serves as a Member of the Board of Custom Made Theatre Company.



HELEN BANNER

Helen Banner (*Soldier Love*) is a playwright based in Manhattan. She grew up in the British Channel Islands and studied at Cambridge and Tisch School of the Arts, NYU, where she completed her MFA in Dramatic Writing and was awarded the John Golden Playwriting Award. Her political satire *Tranquility*, *Serenity*, *Calm* was performed at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in 2012. Helen is an associate artist with New Georges and a member of The Jam, New Georges' performance lab for early career women theater artists.



TOM DAVID BARNA

Trekking in from Minnesota, two-time McKnight Fellow Tom David Barna (*The Bonobos*) has penned nineteen full-length plays, sixteen short plays, and 13 radio episodes, and is the benefactor of twenty-three productions. He is a member of the Dramatist Guild, The Playwrights' Center, and The 4Playwrights Project. Tom received his BA from New Mexico State University. "*I am so not about the past, but more interested in ways to shape my future; in particular on finding ways to evolve as a writer.*"



JOE BARNES

Joe Barnes' (*Footnotes*) 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*, and *Sister Fred*. Eight of his plays – *Summer Friends*, *Acts of Faith*, *Remembering Rory*, *The Unicorn*, *The Call*, *Tastes like Chicken*, *Riding the Elephant*, and *Shavetop Mountain* – have been read at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. Barnes is a resident of Houston, Texas.



ANNE BERTRAM

Anne Bertram (*It's All Good*) is a founding Artistic Associate of Theatre Unbound, a Minneapolis/St. Paul company devoted to work by and about women. She currently serves as Executive Director. Her work as a playwright has been seen in venues from Off Broadway to middle-school classrooms in Fargo, and also includes Theatre Unbound bestsellers *Murderess* (2011) and *The Good Fight* (2012). Awards and commissions include Northwestern University's Agnes Nixon Playwriting Award (for *lovehateforgive*), The Playwrights' Center's Jones Commission (for *The Donner Gold*), Studio Z's Playwright in Electronic Residence Commission (for *St. Luke's*), the Tennessee Williams One-Act Prize (for *Liability*), and the Babes With Blades Fighting Words New Play Development Program (for *The Good Fight*).



JILL BESS

Jill Bess (*The Frenchman and the Dutchman, a Love Story*), an Alaskan for 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 *Simple Melody* (2014 Play Lab and 2014 Tennessee Williams Literary Festival finalist), *This Stranger My Friend* (1999 Play Lab), *No More, Confessions of a PK*, *Overboard*, *The Rapunzel Syndrome*, and several others. Jill has participated in the Alaska Overnights and recently wrote for the 2nd Alaska One-Minute Play Festival. Jill studied at the NYC Teacher Training Institute for Young Playwrights, Inc this last summer, and recently opened her own private acting studio, "Alaska True Acting."



TIM BOHN

Tim Bohn (*Clean to the Bone*) is a playwright, director, and sometimes actor. His plays have been staged in theatres across the country and have garnered him many awards including The Eudora Welty New Play Award (*Bound*), Best in Snow (*The Covenant*), Best Short Play (*Big Shoes*) and Ten-Minute Play (*Faces Fade*) in KC/ACTF playwriting competitions. When not writing, he is an Associate Professor in the Arkansas State University's Department of Theatre, teaching courses in Directing, Playwriting, Acting, and Script Analysis. He received a Master of Fine Arts in Directing from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro and a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre from the University of Wisconsin – Parkside. Tim is a proud member of the Dramatists Guild and the Southeastern Theatre Conference.



CHIP BOLCIK

Chip Bolcik's (*Jungle Dining*) play *The Writer* had its UK debut at Organised Chaos' Midwinter Ignition in Manchester. *The Writer* was also a winner of The Fusion Theatre's "The Seven" in Albuquerque, New Mexico, a selection at the InspiraTO Festival in Toronto, and a finalist at the Unchained Festival in NYC. The Sundog Theater produced *Staten Island Fairy Tale* for Scenes from the Staten Island Ferry. *The Blizzard* won the Strawberry One-Act Festival in NYC, was part of Play Lab two years ago, and was a finalist at the Hurricane Season Festival in Los Angeles. *Breaking Out Is Hard To Do* was a finalist at the Strawberry One-Act Festival, and *In The Third Person* won the Manhattan Rep One-Act Competition. *The World's Worst Puppeteers* was featured in last year's Play Lab. L.A. Fresh Produced and The Ruskin Group Theater in Los Angeles regularly produce Chip's plays.



PAUL BRAVERMAN

Paul Braverman (*No Good Deed*) is a Bay Area playwright and actor, and co-coordinator (with his wife, Robyn) of the New Play Development series at The Pear Avenue Theatre in Mountain View. His plays have received over fifty productions and readings in Bay Area venues, as well as nationally and internationally. His short play *The Alpha Bindleman* was a finalist for the 2009 Heideman Award. Recent productions include the one-act play *Captive Audition*, which was included in the 2014 International Playwright Festival at the Warner Theatre in Connecticut, and *Birds of a Feather*, which premiered at The Pear Avenue Theatre in May, 2015. This full length play concludes the "Frankie Payne" trilogy of plays. Paul is a member of The Dramatists Guild of America, Theatre Bay Area, The Playwright Center of San Francisco, and is a co-founding member of The Pear Avenue Playwright Guild.



ANDREW JOSEPH BROWN

Andrew Joseph Brown (*The Choice is Yours*) was born and raised in Raymore, Missouri, a suburb located just south of Kansas City. He first discovered his love for theatre at eight years old. As there were no suitable roles for his age group, he began writing his own shows to star in, and forced his friends and family into participating as well. The desire to create soon overcame his need for the spotlight. While acting is still a favorite pastime, he maintains that there is no greater feeling than watching your words brought to life on the stage. He is ecstatic to be returning to the Conference this year.



KATHLEEN BURKE

Kathleen Burke (*So Snow*) is a playwright from Alamo, California, currently attending Catholic University for her MFA in playwriting. Her solo show, *Daughter of Salt*, won Best Short Solo at the United Solo Festival in New York. Her plays *Soldier W* and *The Turtle and the Kidney* both won the Oxnam Award in Playwriting and received full productions at Drew University. Her thesis production at Catholic University, *Conversations I've Never Had*, opened in February 2015 and was directed by Mary Resing. Her play *The W Trilogy* was a national semi-finalist at the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival and will receive a full production at Arcadia University in the fall of 2015.



DANIELS CALVIN

This is Daniels Calvin's (*That's What I Told Her*) second year at the Conference, but her first as a playwright. Daniels made her public playwriting debut at this year's Alaska Overnights. She is currently in pre-production for two of her original screenplays. Daniels started in theatre as an

actor, training for several years at UAF. This summer she will continue her training in Los Angeles at the Stella Adler Art of Acting Studio and with the Groundlings School. She has performed with various Fairbanks theaters, including with the University of Alaska Fairbanks and Fairbanks Shakespeare Theater. She looks forward to branching out as a playwright, and is humbled by the opportunities provided by the Conference. She is especially looking forward to immersing in the contributions from the other devoted artists.



SAMANTHA COOPER

Samantha Cooper (*These Mistakes*) is a NYC-based playwright, actor, and theatre cross-trainer originally from Cheney, Washington. She received her dual BA from Western Washington University (WWU) in Theatre Arts and English in 2010. As a theatre artist and administrator, she has been

affiliated with organizations such as ACT Young Playwrights Festival, Annex Theatre, Antioch University, ArtsCrush, Blood Ensemble, Book-It Repertory Theatre, Columbia University, downSTAGEright, Lungfish Productions, Macha Monkey Productions, Northwest Playwrights Alliance, NorthNorthwest, Seattle Repertory Theatre, WWU, and University of Washington. She was on the short list for the 2015 Disquiet International Literary Program Short Play Contest. As a poet, Samantha's work has been seen in the Seattle Star and Labyrinth Literary Journal. She is entering her third year at Columbia University as an MFA Playwriting Candidate studying under David Henry Hwang, Charles Mee, Lynn Nottage, and Kelly Stuart. Find her online at: <http://www.samanthajcooper.com/>



ALISON CRANE

Alison Crane (*Coyote Katie's Return*) is a New York based actress and playwright. She grew up in Oklahoma City where she received her BA in Theatre Arts from the University of Central Oklahoma and was a regular in the local theatre scene. She went on to receive her MFA in Acting from The

Actors Studio Drama School at The New School. Alison's work as an actress eventually led her to playwriting. Her first two full-length plays *The Abduction of Becky Morris* and *Coyote Katie's Return* were showcased at the New York International Fringe Festival in 2012 and 2014 respectively. Alison is a member of Actors Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and the Dramatists Guild. She is a founding member of the play development organization Route 66 Rodeo, and co-creator of their upcoming podcast, *Uncanny County*.



JOY CUTLER

Joy Cutler's (*The Daisy Chain Reaction*) stage, radio, and solo plays have been performed in Berlin, Amsterdam, New York, San Francisco, Philadelphia and Jakarta. *Pardon My Invasion*, read in the 2013 Play Lab, was produced at Plays and Players Theater in Philadelphia and at The Phoenix Theater in

San Francisco. Her solo memoir play, *Anatomy Lesson*, has been performed throughout Philadelphia in festivals and medical institutions. Joy received her BFA from the California College of the Arts and a MA in Performance from San Francisco State University. She was a founding member of Elbows Akimbo Theater Ensemble in San Francisco and Out To Lunch Theater Group and The Flying Buttresses in Berlin, Germany. She is currently a playwright mentor for the 2015 Emerging Artists-in-Residence program in Philadelphia.



MEAGAN DAINE

Meagan Daine (*And Know That I Am God*) was born and raised in East Texas, whence she escaped at age 17 to become an ESL teacher, a "jolly" in a Roman dance club, a private investigator, and finally a writer. Her first feature film, *West of Redemption* (starring Billy Zane and Kevin Alejandro),

was shot in Spokane in 2013, and her second, independent drama *Liberty TX*, is currently in pre-production. She is a playwright member of the Road Theatre in North Hollywood, California, where her plays *Trespass*, *Woman in Red*, and *And Know That I Am God* have received staged readings and a workshop production. Meagan lives in North Hollywood and vacations mainly in Death Valley, California.



RICK DAVIS

Rick Davis (*The Class of 2004ever!*), who lives and works in Georgia, has written 39 plays, which have been performed in New York City, Los Angeles, and across the country. Nine have been published and more than half have won awards. Most recently his short play, *Sounds of the Sea in Her Little Shell*

Ear, won the Porter Fleming Literary prize for best play. In addition, his one-act, *The Naked Man on the Couch*, and his full length, *Behold a Pale Ryder*, were published. He recently had the exciting experience of performing his monologue *The Sword Swallower's Husband* off-off Broadway.



THOMAS IAN DOYLE

Thomas Ian Doyle (*RIOT*) is an Australian playwright whose plays tend to explore unconventional subject matter. His first play, *The Other Side of Happiness*, was first performed in London (2010) at *Battersea Barge*. Doyle is currently the resident playwright and co-artistic director of The

Owl and Cat Theatre in Melbourne. He also occasionally writes and directs for film, and his most recent film, *White Feather*, was part of the official selection for *Melbourne Queer Film Festival* (2014).



MERRIDAWN DUCKLER

Merridawn Duckler (*Origin Story*) writes and lives in Portland, Oregon. Her site works include *La Brea Woman*, (Ivy Substation in Culver City), *Sleeping with the Ambassador* (Ambassador Hotel) an adaptation of Franz Kafka's *A Hunger Artist* (Perinos) *C'Opera* (LAPD, Los Angeles) *My Beowulf* (Red Cat

NOW Festival, Disney Hall), and *Guide to An Exhibitionist*, (LACMA, Phoenix Art Museum). Her verse play *The Relatives* was in the Emerging Female Playwright Festival of the Manhattan Shakespeare Project. *Fresh Hell* was produced for the Playwrights Forum Festival in Spokane, Washington. Staged readings include *Tongue In Groove* at Seattle Repertory; *Origin Story* at Shout House in Portland, Oregon; *Fire, bird* in Oregon Contemporary Theatre's SWAN Festival; and *Married To It* members reading at the Playwrights Center in Minneapolis. Fellowships include Yaddo, Last Frontier Theatre Conference, Southampton Writers Conference (with Annie Baker), and Norman Mailer Center (with Paul Carter Harrison). Her work has been reviewed in the *New York Times*, *Los Angeles Times*, and she is the recipient of an NEA grant. She has published poetry and fiction in *Carolina Quarterly*, *Isotope*, *Green Mountains*, *Farralon Review*, *Buddhist Poetry Review*, *Cirque Journal*, and others, with work forthcoming from *Agave* and *Poetica*. Her residencies include Yaddo, SLS in St. Petersburg, Russia, the Berta Anolic Fellowship in Jerusalem. She's a Fellow at the Attic Institute and Associate Editor at Narrative Magazine.



C.J. EHRLICH

C.J. Ehrlich's (*Zane to Gate 69*) award-winning one-acts have enjoyed dozens of productions around the US and on five continents. Her full-length comedy *The Cupcake Conspiracy*: "Terrorism is Easy. Marriage is Complicated" (with Philip J. Kaplan) opened Rover Dramawerks (TX)

2015 Season, and was a Finalist for the Charles Getchell award and in the Mountain Playhouse International Comedy competition. Favorite production partners include Samuel French Off-Off-Broadway Fest (NY), Boston Theatre Marathon (MA), Little Fish (Los Angeles), Source DC, Aloha Performing Arts Center (HI), Grin Theatre (Liverpool), and Pakriti Foundation (Chennai, India). Published in Smith

& Kraus' annual *Best Ten-Minute Plays* anthologies (2011-2015): *Intervention*, *The Ninth Circus of Hell*, *Noir in Second Class*, *2+1=Murder*; Heuer Press: *Home Sweet Homeland Security*. A proud member of the Westchester Collaborative Theatre and the Dramatists Guild, C.J. lists among her greatest achievements teaching her sons the fine art of the spit take. Visit at CJ-Ehrlich.com.



ERIK GERNAND

Erik Gernand's (*The Kneeling Position*) plays have been in production and/or development at theaters including Redtwist, American Theater Company, and Chicago Dramatists (all Chicago), Actors Theatre of Louisville, as well as The Barrow Group and T. Schreiber Studio (NYC). He has been

a finalist for the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference, and the Woodward Newman Drama Award, and a three-time finalist for the Heideman Award. His award-winning short films (writer/director) have screened at more than 100 film festivals around the world including SXSW, Mix Milan (Italy), Palm Springs International Shortfest, and Cinequest, as well as being broadcast on IFC, PBS, and the Logo Channel, and distributed through Strand Releasing and First Run Features. Erik is a lecturer in Radio-TV-Film at Northwestern University. www.erikgernand.com



CODY GOULDER

In his fifth trip back to the Conference, Cody Goulder (*Iron Justice*) could not be more thrilled to once again be in Valdez. Previous selections for the Play Lab Reading Series include *No Ink in Hell* (2009), *Scavengers* (2010), *Fahrenheit Rising* (2011), and *Check, Mate* (2013). Other productions include:

Cold Breakfast (MadLab Theatre, Columbus, OH), *No Ink in Hell* or *The Perfect Circle* (Pittsburgh New Works Festival), *Sorry, We're Closed* (Fresh Baked Theatre - Hollywood, CA, Binary Theatre - Tempe, Arizona), and *The Half-Way House* (ASU Workshop). Goulder earned an MFA in Dramatic Writing from Arizona State University in 2013. He is a member of the Dramatist Guild and has also worked as a dramaturge for theater companies such as Phoenix Theatre, Black Theatre Troup, and Childsplay. At this time, Goulder would like to thank Dawson and everyone at the Conference for simply being the best. You are so wonderful.



KODY GRASSETT

Kody Grasset (*The Woods*) is a current MFA Acting candidate at the University of Central Florida and a graduate of the University of Vermont where he received Bachelor's degrees in Theatre and English. *The Woods* is his first play and was developed as part of his undergraduate thesis, for which he received

College Honors. Kody's theatrical pursuits have led him to a variety of different roles: director of *The Woods*, co-scenic designer for the University of Vermont's production of *The Mousetrap*, and actor in various productions. Recent roles include Bobby Gould in the Orlando International Fringe Festival's *Speed-the-Plow*, Henry V/Dauphin (Understudy) in the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre's *Henry V*, Bob in the Vermont Stage Company's *Beyond Therapy* and Mr. Paravacini in the UVM's *The Mousetrap*. He has also studied Commedia dell'Arte and Grotowski at Routalibero Teatro in Rome, and has participated in several workshops with the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon.



ERIK CHRISTIAN HANSON

Erik Christian Hanson (*Polish the Turd*) earned his Master of Fine Arts degree in Dramatic Writing from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and was the recipient of an "Outstanding Writing ForThe Screen" certificate from the Rita & Burton Goldberg

Department. Hanson is a published playwright. His plays have been developed and produced in California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Nebraska, New York, and South Carolina. They include: *To Darfur* (The Best Ten-Minute Plays of 2008: 3 actors or more), *Property of Africa* (Boston Theater Marathon), *Same Only Different* (Great Plains Theatre Conference), *The What and Why* (finalist for Lark Playwrights' Week), and *The Jane Austen Expressway* (semifinalist for Theatre Masters National MFA Playwrights Festival).



NICHOLAS WALKER HERBERT

Nicholas Walker Herbert (*Killing Grandma*) is an award-winning playwright currently based in Brooklyn. Plays of note include the four-part Jerkwater Play Cycle of dark comedies presented in the Last Frontier Theatre Conference; *A Simple Mistake*

(2011), *Wild Saints* (2012), *Kings of Jerkwater* (2013), and *Martyrs of Love* (formally *Martyr's Kiss or Out of Love*) (2014); *The Alien Baby Play* (full-length solo-performance) in the Fronterafest Long Fringe, Austin, TX (2012); also a 5-minute online adaptation for Five Minute Theatre with the National Theatre of Scotland (2014); monologues *Coming Clean* and *Teddy Berg's Story* published by Focus Publishing (2013); *Solitude* (full-length drama) staged reading with New Dramatists (2011). He recently received the Timothy Daly Travel Scholarship Award (2014) where he traveled to Glasgow, Scotland. He has a BA with honors in Theatre Arts

from the University of California at Santa Cruz, and is co-artistic director of Inside a Bear, a storytelling company since August 2014.



RAND HIGBEE

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

the Kennedy Center. Conference-goers were first introduced to him through a reading of *The Head That Wouldn't Die* at the 2006 Conference which was then given a full production by Anchorage's TBA Theatre at the 2007 Conference. Rand had another full production at the 2013 Conference when the Anchorage Community Theatre performed *At Home With The Clarks*. In 2012, Rand's play *A Girl Named Destiny* debuted at the Venus Theatre in Laurel, Maryland. The production was named by DC Metro Theatre Arts as one of the best plays of 2012. In 2014, *Destiny* had its second production at the Madlab Theatre in Columbus, Ohio, while Rand's play *The Lightning Bug* (read in the 2009 Play Lab) was published by Next Stage Press.



GAIL HIGH

Gail High (*One Cop Out*) lives in Anchorage, Alaska, where she is an actor and the chairman of ActingUp, a senior drama troupe previously known as Off Their Rockers, part of Anchorage Community Theatre's outreach program. She is always excited when the group does one of her plays.

She is thankful to be back in Valdez with a play. The diversity of thoughts that become plays, read in Valdez, encourages a week long unfolding of the mind. Now if she can just get hers back in a suitcase...



Nicholas Walker Herbert and Fiona Kyle pose for a picture during a cruise



ARTHUR M. JOLLY

Arthur M. Jolly (*Straw, Sticks, Bricks*) and his mustache are back at the Conference for a fourth straight year. His play *A Gulag Mouse* was a Conference evening performance in 2012, and will be produced at Sacred Fools Theatre in Los Angeles in 2016; his 2013 Lab play *A Very Modern*

Marriage is currently playing in the Hollywood Fringe Festival, and opens in Ashland, Oregon, in July. A two-time Joining Sword and Pen winner and finalist for the Woodward/Newman Drama Award, Jolly has penned over 50 produced plays, with productions across the US and in Canada, Europe, Asia, and South America. Published plays include *A Gulag Mouse*, *Trash*, *Past Curfew*, *Long Joan Silver*, *The Christmas Princess*, *The Four Senses of Love*, *How Blue is My Crocodile*, *Snakes in a Lunchbox*, *What the Well Dressed Girl is Wearing*, *The Bricklayer*, and two short play collections, *Thin Lines* and *Guilty Moments*. Jolly is a member of the WGA, The Alliance of Los Angeles Playwrights, and The Dramatists Guild, and is repped by The Brant Rose Agency. More at www.arthurjolly.com



JACOB JUNTUNEN

Jacob Juntunen (*Hath Taken Away*) is a playwright and theatre scholar whose work focuses on people struggling against society's boundaries. He is the Head of Playwriting at SIU (Southern Illinois University). His play *In the Shadow of his Language* (Alliance/Kendeda National Graduate Playwriting

Contest Finalist; O'Neill Playwrights Conference Semi-Finalist; Princess Grace Fellowship Semi-Finalist) was read at Chicago Dramatists, at the Alliance Theatre, in Chicago's Department of Cultural Affairs "In the Works" series, and at Playwrights Horizons. Other plays include *Under America*, *Joan's Laughter*, and *Saddam's Lions* (published in *Plays for Two*). Jacob's play *See Him?* was in the Belarusian Dream Theater: eighteen theaters in thirteen countries simultaneously producing plays to raise awareness about human rights violations in Belarus. His academic essays and reviews concentrating on the politics of performance are in *Theatre Journal*, *Puppetry International*, *Polish-AngloSaxon Studies*, and a variety of anthologies. Additionally, he received a 2011 Fulbright Fellowship (Adam Mickiewicz University, Poland).



LISA KONOPLISKY

A graduate of Lafayette College, Lisa Konoplisky (*Nebraska Rapture*) 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); 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. A monologue from a recently completed novel of hers appears in *Monologues by Women For Women* (Heinemann, 2005).



KATE DAKOTA KREMER

Kate Dakota Kremer (*Porch Play*) is a playwright and dramaturge. Plays include *Porch Play*, *Opera of the Telephone at Delphi*, *Nocturne*, and *Blue Mountain Prohibition*, a translation/adaptation of Alejandro Casona's *Prohibido suicidarse en primavera*.

Her plays have been produced and/or developed by StageFemmes, Three Cat Productions, and New Ground Theatre. Fiction has appeared in *Red Branch Journal* and *Every Day A Century* and nonfiction in the TCG Circle Salon, *Encore Magazine*, the *Kenyon Review* blog, and the Seattle Repertory Theatre blog. She has worked in literary departments at the Seattle Repertory Theatre and Remy Bumppo Theatre Company and appeared onstage in productions and readings for the Endangered Species Project, the Great River Shakespeare Festival, and New Ground Theatre. She writes an ongoing blog series for HowlRound on the new avant-garde.



Arlitia Jones and Arthur M. Jolly converse in the Civic Center Lobby



JUDITH LEORA

Judith Leora (*The Cookie Fight*) began her career writing sketch, animation, television pilots and screenplays. Judith is a Founding Member and Managing Director of New York Madness. Her play *Gideon* was commissioned by the University of Massachusetts (Lowell) and premiered in

April 2013. Recent projects include *Where We Ended Up* (Sticky); *One Minute Play Festival: Indie Theater* edition (New Ohio Theatre); *Weird About the Baby/NYC Icon Plays* (Ego Actus Productions); *Fumes* (short film), directed by Michael Markham; *Crying in Nigeria*, Pussyfest Redux, Caplocks Theatre; *The Raven* (colibrettist), Emerging Actors Theatre *Notes From a Page* (March 2012). Numerous short plays produced in New York, including multiple plays with the ESPA Detention series, New York Madness, One Minute Play Festival, Stampede Lab, the Great Unknowns showcase, Playwrights for Pets, 15th Floor Playwrights, the Have Another Bar/Play Crawl, Above the Bridge, Street Festival and Arkham Playwrights. Full-lengths: *The Cookie Fight*, *Elijah* (Semi-finalist, O'Neill), *Gideon*, *The Cad* (musical), *Who Has Taken My Bread?* *The X and the Y* and *Heart-Shaped Uterus*. Co-produced *Gate B23*, NYC International Fringe Festival (2010). M.A. (Playwriting): Texas A&M University (Charles Gordone, Mentor) – Graduate Playwriting Award.



BARRY LEVINE

Barry Levine (*Scenes From A Rock Tour*) has attended the Last Frontier Conference every year since 1998. He has lived in Los Angeles since getting his grad. degrees from the University of Southern California some years ago. He grew up in New York City, attended Wesleyan University, and afterwards worked at places like Circle Rep. (Lab member '95-96) and other theater companies. At USC, he helped found Brand New Theater which produces student work. He has also worked for many years at KXSC, USC's radio station where he promotes new and unknown bands on his show, *The Bear's Den*. 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 recently started a music blog called "Inside the Bear's Den" and he posts stuff there every week. He is a member of the Dramatists' Guild and has been so for a long time.



MILDRED INEZ LEWIS

Mildred Inez Lewis (*the end of everything*) hails from New York City. She began as a director, training at the Ensemble Studio Theatre Institute. She also belonged to the playwrights and directors units of the Actors Studio and Circle Repertory LAB and was a U.S. representative to the International Theatre Festival. After graduating from UCLA's MFA film program, she won a Goldwyn and an HBO New Writers award. Her feature script, *Unbowed*, was made into a movie that won awards at the American Indian, Palm Springs, and other film festivals. It has screened on Encore/Starz. More recently she has co-written and directed a comedy web series, *The Etiquette Show*. Her plays have been produced in the Cambridge (UK) International Theatre Challenge, Evanston New Play Festival, L.I.C. One Act Festival, Fresh Product (LA), Theatre Left (Spokane), and DC Black Theatre Festival. Her play *Daily Habits Mask Pain* is published by LazyBee Scripts. She is excited to take part in the Conference.



TESS LIGHT

Tess Light's (*To Conceive Gods*) plays tend to incorporate any or all of the following: sarcasm, death, sarcastic death, Buddhism, foodism, poetry, song, and Shakespeare. Her work undergoes development through table readings, staged readings, and productions at theaters around New Mexico, and have been produced or read across the U.S. Her plays have received several distinctions, including semi-finalist for the 2015 Eugene O'Neill Theater Center's National Playwrights' Conference (*To Conceive Gods*). After sampling eight cities in four countries, Tess settled in Los Alamos, New Mexico, with her husband and sons, where she works as a physicist at Los Alamos National Laboratory.



DAVID MACGREGOR

David MacGregor's (*Smoker*) plays have been performed from California to New York to London and Hobart, Tasmania. He is a resident artist at the Purple Rose Theatre (Chelsea, Michigan), where five of his plays have been produced (*The Late Great Henry Boyle*, *Vino Veritas*, *Gravity*, *Consider the Oyster*, and *Just Desserts*). In 2013, his Christmas comedy *Scrooge Macbeth; or, A Shakespearean Christmas* premiered at Theatre B in Fargo, North Dakota, and his newest play, *The Antichrist Cometh*, premiered at The Chameleon Theatre Circle in Minnesota this past November. In 2014, his plays received thirty-eight productions in seven different countries, with three of them being voted Audience Favorite in various festivals. The film based on his dark comedy *Vino Veritas*, which stars Carrie Preston (of *True Blood* and Emmy-winner for *The Good Wife*), is now available on various on-line platforms.



DEBRIANNA MANSINI

Debrianna Mansini (*The Meatball Chronicles*) had her first work published while in college at UNC-W as the winner of a national poetry writing contest. She was co-writer (with Anne Litt) on the children's story *Picking Up Feets*, which was made into a short film and was selected to represent NM for International Women in Film 2010. She wrote and co-produced with her husband a short which won the Earth Keeper's award. She co-wrote and produced the web series *Cyphers*.



JERRY DALE MCDONNELL

Jerry Dale McDonnell (*The Lone Ranger Rides Again*) is a writer, an actor, and a retired wilderness, fishing, hunting and bear-viewing guide and a teacher in native villages of Alaska and a fiction and drama editor of *Cirque Journal*. His published short stories, non-fiction, plays, and poems are of the north and the west; many can be found in *Alaska Sampler, 2015* (a free international E-book—download @ runningfoxbooks.com/ak-sampler) *The South Dakota Review*, *Over the Transom*, *Cirque* (www.cirquejournal.com), www.mungbeing.com, and others. His stage work spans many years because he is elderly and consequently played Norman in *On Golden Pond* in 2013. Movie roles include *Santa and Death*, *Christmas With a Capital "C."* and *Everybody Loves Whales*. He is a cast member in *Macbeth* playing at this year's Conference. He currently lives in downtown Anchorage, but in the summer he spends as much of the temperate months as he can in the bush of the far north either by canoe or afoot. As a grandfather now to the second power he attempts to keep up with his three-year-old granddaughter who can move faster than a wolf on scent. alaskareflections.blogspot.com



HOWARD MEYER

Howard Meyer's (*Paint Made Flesh*) plays include *The Kiss*, *All That's Fair*, *The Contract*, *The Number Trilogy* (*Three, Five, Twenty*), *Lost in Paradise*, *AngelBeast*, *Cherrie & Jerry*, and the monologues *Calculus* and *Horus*. *Lost in Paradise* has been optioned for a motion picture. *Radiance* was a two-time semi-finalist (2011, 2012) at the O'Neill National Playwrights Conference and a finalist at the Hormel New Works Festival at the Phoenix Theatre (2012). It was produced by Axial Theatre in May 2013 featuring Obie award winning actor Chris McCann. *WELCOME, This is a Neighborhood Watch Community* was presented at Axial Theatre in November, 2010, directed by Drama Desk award-winner Josh Hecht and featured LABrynth co-founder David Deblinger and Emmy-nominated actor Jon Lindstrom. *Maybe Never Fell* received round-table readings at The Lark in 2013. *Paint Made Flesh* received a round-table reading at The Lark in 2014, and is a 2015 semi-finalist at the O'Neill and PlayPenn.



KYRA MEYER

Kyra Meyer (*Tree Forts*) is a Valdez playwright. When not chasing her active toddler or trying to make sure her husband is on time, she works at Gilson Middle School as a school counselor.



P. SHANE MITCHELL

P. Shane Mitchell (*Birthright*) is one of Alaska's most prolific playwrights. Plays Magazine publishes his original works *The Enchanted Pajamas* and *Half a King Is Better Than None*, and his collaborative work *Jolly Roger King of the Pirates* is published by Pioneer Dramatic Services. His awards for playwriting include the Bard Fellowship For Emerging Playwrights for his play *A Card for Mr. King* (1996) and a Panelists Choice Award for *Fractured* at the 1998 Last Frontier Theater Conference. *The Resurrection of Humpty Dumpty* was performed as part of the Samuel French off-off Broadway Festival in 2007. Works that have been or are to be performed this year at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival include *The Cactus Gulch Opry House*, *Daze of Olde* and his collaborative works *Rockin' Red Riding Hood* and *Soapy Smith's Alaskan Extravaganza*. Locally his works have been performed and commissioned by Cyrano's Playhouse, Anchorage Community Theater, Alaska Dance Theatre, Anchorage Classical Ballet, the Anchorage Symphony, Campfire Boys and Girls, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium and TBA Theatre, where he serves as Artistic Director. Shane is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



TOM MORAN

Tom Moran (*OK Computer*) has a BA in English from the University of Notre Dame and an MFA in Creative Writing from the University of Alaska Fairbanks. His master's thesis, a full-length drama set in the Alaskan wilderness, had its first production in Juneau, Alaska, in 2010 and was a semifinalist for the O'Neill Playwrights Conference. His plays have been produced on 23 stages in 11 states and his ten-minute piece *Duo* was published in 2013 by Smith & Kraus. When Tom's not writing, he works at the university, and when he's not doing that, he does foolhardy things with bicycles, rafts, and skis.



NAHAL NAVIDAR

Nahal Navidar (*Songs of Our Childhood*) is an Iranian-born playwright raised in New York. Plays include *110 Flights* (Proctor's Theatre New Play Festival, NY), *Flicted* (WAM Theatre, NY), *The Real Pain* (The Vagrancy, LA), *Songs of Our Childhood* (Golden Thread Productions ReOrient Festival, SF), *The Charlie Play* (The Vagrancy, LA), *Pairi Daiza*, *The Last Mango Tree*, and *My Dear Hussein*. Nahal is currently developing an opera entitled *Donia* with composer Julia Adolphe. Excerpts from this piece were performed at World Voice Day and the International Women's Day Celebration. Nahal is a member of the Dramatists Guild, Vagrancy Writer's Group, and Rogue Machine's Dramaturge's Table. She holds an MFA in Dramatic Writing from the University of Southern California. www.NNavidar.com



TONY PASQUALINI

A veteran of forty years in the theatre, Tony Pasqualini (*Battle of Addison Island*) is a playwright, actor, and director. His original screenplay *The Christmas Ship* won first prize in the 2003 Washington State Screenplay Contest. His adaptation of *Winesburg, Ohio* was produced by Book-it Repertory in Seattle. His play *Loyalties* received readings for Ensemble Studio Theatre's First Look Series; was a winner of the 2008 Ashland New Play Festival; and was subsequently produced in an acclaimed production, which ran for over four months in 2010, at the Pacific Resident Theatre in Los Angeles. His play *An Idyllic Life* was workshopped at the Pacific Resident Theatre. And his play *Birdbrain* received a workshop at the Rogue Machine Theatre. Tony's short play *Reaching Out to the Dark* was a winner of the Fusion Theatre's ten-minute play contest and was subsequently produced in June of 2013 in Albuquerque. His play *Lost Causes* has received staged readings at the Ensemble Studio Theatre's Winterfest, and the new play series at Playwrights Studio West. And his most recent play, *Land of the Free*, was workshopped in Ensemble Studio Theatre's Launchpad Series last fall. Tony is currently a member of the Ensemble Studio Theatre's Playwrights' Unit, where he is a co-writer of the weekly space soap opera, *In Search of doG*.



JOHN PEROVICH

John Perovich (*be my little baby*) is a playwright, dramaturg, and theatre artist currently pursuing his MFA in Dramatic Writing at Arizona State University. Perovich's play *shallow grave* received a workshop production at ASU this past fall. His play *Poseidon's Regret* will be produced in August at Brelby Theatre Company in Glendale, Arizona. John recently served as dramaturg for the Hormel Festival of New Works at Phoenix Theatre. He serves as a teaching assistant in the School of Film, Dance, and Theatre

at ASU, instructing various courses, including introduction to screenwriting. John was previously an instructor at Stockton University in Galloway, New Jersey, teaching courses in playwriting, dramatic literature, and acting. He holds a MA in Educational Theatre for Colleges and Communities from New York University and a BA in Communications: Radio/Television/Film from Rowan University. John is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.



THOMAS PIERCE

Thomas Pierce (*Blue Lagoon*) has had plays produced in Seattle and Spokane, Washington; Portland, Oregon; San Francisco; Los Angeles; Chicago; Denver; New York City; College Station, Texas; Charles Town, West Virginia; Columbus, Ohio; Fredericksburg, Virginia; Lexington, Kentucky; Maynard, Massachusetts; St. Louis, Missouri; and Seoul, South Korea. He is a member of The Dramatists Guild, and an Instructor Emeritus in Philosophy and Composition at South Seattle Community College in Seattle, Washington.



ADAM SEIDEL

Adam Seidel (*American Outlaws*) is a Chicago-based playwright and company member of Collaboration Theatre Company. His plays have been produced around the country, including Los Angeles, Houston, Tacoma, OR, NYC, Milwaukee and Chicago. Adam co-wrote Collaboration's full length play *Forgotten Future: The Education Project*, which is an examination of Chicago Public Schools and the real life struggles that students face within it. Currently Adam is co-writing *Crime Scene: The Next Chapter*, a theatrical docudrama featuring intimate portraits of five real life peacemakers who exemplify the strength necessary to stop the gun violence that plagues the streets of Chicago. In October 2015, Adam's full length play *Catching the Butcher* will receive its Off Broadway premiere at the Cherry Lane Theater.



ANDREA STAATS

Andrea Staats (*Miss Dial*) is a playwright and actor from Anchorage. She wrote her first two plays at age eight, the third at eighteen, and then had writer's block for about eleven years until taking a playwriting course. Six of her short plays were produced in Anchorage in 2014 by Guerrilla Theatre Group. She is thrilled to be attending the Conference as a playwright this year.



GLYKA STOIOU

Glyka Stoiou (*Don Quixotes*) is a writer and actress based in Greece and happy to visit Alaska for the first time in her life. She has finished her studies in journalism and mass media, the performing arts, and cultural management. Her plays are frequently presented in national and regional theatres in her home country. She has written the scripts in various documentary productions and carries out in depth interviews broadcasted on national and international television. Glyka enjoys writing articles to a number of magazines, as well as telling and listening to interesting stories concerning anything that attracts her attention.



AMY TOFTE

Amy Tofte (*The Scrambling Class*) is a South Dakota native living in Los Angeles with plays produced throughout the U.S., the U.K. and (most recently) Australia! Her play *The Count Goes Down* was a semi-finalist for both the 2014 nuVoices Festival (Actor's Theatre of Charlotte) and The Kitchen Dog Theatre's 2014 New Works Festival. Tofte was also a semi-finalist for Washington DC's 2013 Source Festival with her play *Relentless Pursuit of a Lady* and was named a semi-finalist for the 2013 Princess Grace Playwriting Fellowship for her play *FleshEatingTire*. Her plays *FLOOZY* and *FleshEatingTiger* premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival (2010 and 2011, respectively). *Tiger* was remounted at the Hollywood Fringe in 2012, where it was named "Best of Fringe" and nominated for Best Play. This is her sixth year as a participant writer in Valdez. She has two monologues published in the Conference's anthology. Tofte developed her play *WhiteDevil-LovingMother* at both the Kennedy Center and on a Visiting Scholar Fellowship at the Autry National Center. She has been invited to develop work at Seattle Repertory's reading series hosted by the Northwest Playwrights Alliance in both 2013 and 2014. She is a founding member of the play development company Fierce Backbone in Los Angeles and a proud member of The Dramatists Guild of America, Inc. MFA, California Institute of the Arts (CalArts). BA, University of Iowa. www.amytofte.com



Amy Tofte and Laura Crow during the 19th Annual Conference



KARYN TRAUT

Karyn Traut (*Love Thy Enemy*) is delighted to be participating in Conference for the fourth time. The first, in 2010, launched her short play *The Realm of Love or Folding Laundry* to the 2011 Edinburgh Fringe Festival and critical acclaim. A second year at the Edinbrough fringe followed in 2012. Karyn received her MFA from UCLA in 1970 and A.B. degree in English from UC Berkeley. (Yes! Berkeley in the 60's viewed through her play *Berkeley "Broccoli"*) Performances and readings of her work have been given throughout the U.S. including L.A. and New York City. PBS affiliate UNCTV aired her play *Alligator and Ellis* in 1993. She is an alumna of the Headlands Center of the Arts in Sausalito, and is Founder of Perihelion Theater Company in Chapel Hill. This year's surprises were publishing her first poem, *Moistening Parched Earth*, in Raleigh N.C.'s *News and Observer* – criticizing Governor Pat McCrory's appointment of a novice as N.C. Poet Laureate, and writing her first on-line article for SouthWritLarge.com (*Will the Real Jefferson Please Stand Up*) on her research of Thomas Jefferson for her play *Saturday's Children*. perihelionproductions.org



ALI VITERBI

Ali Viterbi is honored to present *Quick, Change* as part of the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. A recent graduate of Yale, Ali studied under the mentorship of Donald Margulies. She currently lives in New York City and divides her time between acting and playwriting. *Quick, Change* was previously featured in the Identity Theater Company's 2014 reading series as well as the 2014 Yale Playwrights Festival at the Yale Rep. Her one-act *Promised Land* was selected for the 2013 New South Young Playwright's Festival. Ali's play *Deadheads* received a reading as part of the Paul Enger Memorial Reading Series in NYC. *Them Lonesome Blues*, Ali's solo show, was staged by the Emerging Artists Theatre in 2014. She co-wrote *Woman of Valor*, which has been staged for six consecutive years at the San Diego REP. Ali was awarded the Marina Keegan Award, the top playwriting prize awarded to one graduating senior at Yale.



Karyn Traut prepares the Play Lab cast of her play *The Man He Loves*



DONNA WARFIELD

Donna Warfield (*Disney Day*), a theatre major at the University of New Hampshire, received her MA from SUNY Binghamton's theatre program, then went on to work for almost 20 years as a professional New York-based actress, teacher, and director until pausing to raise a family. Harboring a long-standing and long-deferred ambition to write

plays, she began writing in earnest in the summer of 2013 after moving to Florida. Her first play, *She's Off Her Rocker*, has been selected for production in Florida's Short Cuts 5, and *Second Chance* was chosen as a finalist for the Sundog Festival in New York. Other plays include *Between The Truth*, *A Ferry Tale*, *It's a Stretch*, *Gena's Weddings*, *A Windy Day*, and more. Donna is grateful to the Conference for giving her this opportunity to participate in the Play Lab, and an excuse to visit Alaska – also a long standing ambition.



CATHERINE WEINGARTEN

Catherine Weingarten (*Are You Ready to Get PAMPERED!?*) hails from Ardmore, PA, also known as the area that inspired the preppy sexy TV show *Pretty Little Liars*. Catherine's comedic plays delve into the societal pressure placed on young women to be both

impossibly good looking as well as ridiculously intellectual, humble, kind as can be but sexy. She recently graduated from Bennington College and is a current MFA playwriting candidate at Ohio University studying under Charles Smith and Erik Ramsey. She has taken workshops in playwriting with Samuel D. Hunter, Kara Lee Corthon, and Branden Jacob-Jenkins. Ms. Weingarten's works have been produced at such venues in NYC as Abingdon Theater, Nylon Fusion Collective and Fresh Ground Pepper. Her sexy-full length lesbian roller rink play, *A Roller Rink Temptation*, premiered at the New Orleans Fringe Festival in November. She is thrilled to be back at the Conference for her second time!



Andrew Joseph Brown and Catherine Weingarten peruse the Conference program



ASHLEY ROSE WELLMAN

Ashley Rose Wellman (*That Long Damn Dark*) is Los Angeles playwright and an MFA Dramatic Writing Candidate at the University of Southern California. At previous Last Frontier Theatre Conferences, her plays *Gravidity* and *Living Creatures* were selected for the 2013 and 2014 Play Labs, respectively, and the University of Alaska Anchorage's Theatre on the Rocks production of *Gravidity* was a featured evening performance at the 2014 Conference. *That Long Damn Dark* had a staged reading as part of Pasadena Playhouse's inaugural Greenhouse at the Playhouse program, and went on to be workshopped on the USC campus as part of the 2015 New Works Festival. Seven of her other plays have been produced at USC in the past five years, including full-lengths *Gravidity* and *Living Creatures* and one-acts *Obsolete Children*, *Oral*, *The Bear Stage*, *And Only the Moon Howls*, and *Carnivores*. She's so excited to be invited back to this year's Last Frontier!



CAROLYNNE WILCOX

Carolynne Wilcox (*Mean Spirited*) is a slash-artist(actor/playwright/producer/graphic designer) from Seattle, Washington, whose previously-produced stage work includes *Queen of the Dead* for On the Boards' 2015 Open Studio #6 in February; *Fate Demands It* both for Eclectic Theatre's 2014 Playwright's

Festival and as a part of *MythFest*, which ran twice at the Pocket Theatre as well as the 2014 Seattle Fringe Festival; *Pandora & The Box*, for eSe Teatro's new works festival at A Contemporary Theatre in 2012, and *Stings Like Acid*, a 2010 collaboration with New Amerikan Theatre at Theatre Puget Sound to name the most recent. *Mean Spirited* is her first stab at realism and black comedy. She holds an MFA in Original Works from Towson University. More info & a complete portfolio can be found at www.carolynnewilcox.com.



Jamie Nelson and Jill Sowerwine in Ashley Rose Wellman's *Gravidity*



LALA ARAKI

Lala Araki was born and raised in Alaska, and now resides in LA, but will soon be running off to join the circus. Since living in LA, she has appeared in several films, is one of the singers for the new musical therapy app «SingFit» on the iPhone, performed as a singer/aerialist in Venardos circus (which she will be touring with in the fall), and is currently in a theatre production of *The Dragon*. Lala also enjoys the healing arts as well, working as a massage therapist at a spa in Beverly Hills. She is so happy to be back in Alaska to bask in the artistry that this incredible Conference holds.



SARA ATHANS

Sara Athans is a professionally trained actor, director, playwright, and theatre facilitator. She was born and raised in Anchorage but has since lived overseas and in the lower 48. She has her BA in Theatre & Dance (Directing) from the University of Texas, and her MA in Applied Theatre from the Royal Central School of Speech and Drama in London. She currently serves as the Executive Director of the Anchorage Community Theatre. Sara says the best theatre looks like the people who make it.



LINDA AYRES-FREDERICK

Linda Ayres-Frederick has been Phoenix Theatre's Artistic Director (www.phoenixtheatresf.org) since 1985. Performing in the San Francisco Bay Area, nationally and internationally since 1972, she has enjoyed a diverse career as an actor, producer, director, critic, and playwright. A member of AEA, AFTRA/SAG, ATCA, the Dramatists Guild, VP of SF Bay Area Theatre Critics Circle (writing for forallevants.com and the *Westside Observer*), Linda is twice a Shubert Playwriting Fellow with numerous productions, publications, and awards in Bay Area Festivals including three time winner of Best of SF Fringe: in 2014 for *Blizzard in Assorted Domestic Emergencies*; 2011 for *Afield* and 2010 for *Best Short Plays Zero to Ninety in 90 Minutes*. In 2013, Linda received an SFBATCC nomination for Outstanding Achievement in a Major Role and Best Production and Best Ensemble Awards for her performance in Albee's *The Play About the Baby* at Custom Made Theatre. Other favorite roles include Edna in *The Oldest Profession* (nominated by SFBATCC for Best Ensemble) and several roles in the Ensemble of *Machinal*, both at BRAVA; Helen in *Road to Mecca* at the Phoenix, and Martha in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf?* at Sea Theatre. She performed her solo piece *Cantata #40* at Marin Fringe, 2012, receiving a First Place Award for Best Script, and at the O'Hanlon Art Center in Mill Valley, California. Last season she performed *Blizzard* as a solo at both the Marsh, O'Hanlon and as part of *Assorted Domestic Emergencies* at SF Fringe. In September she will perform in *Accident and Other Short Plays* at the upcoming SF Fringe Festival.



SARAH BETHANY BAIRD

Sarah Bethany Baird is delighted to return to the Conference for the fifth time. Born in Alaska, she has appeared on Anchorage stages since 1995. Favorite productions include *The Ice-Breaker*, *Macbeth*, *A Wrinkle in Time*, *It's a Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play*, *The Glass Menagerie*, *Cabaret*, and *Reefer Madness*. When not rehearsing, she loves taking dance classes at Studio Pulse. She lives in Anchorage with Mark Robokoff.



KARINA BECKER

Karina Becker was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. She has had the opportunity to work with a number of production and theatre companies as actress, stage manager, and assistant director. She was most recently seen in the West Coast premiere of Topher Payne's *Perfect Arrangement* as Millie Martindale, presented by local production company Walking Shadows in collaboration with Out North Contemporary Art House. Her other notable stage credits include Betty in Rand Higbee's *At Home With the Clarks* (ACT) which also graced the Civic Center stage at the 2013 Conference; Rose in *A Shayna Maidel* (ACT); Hodel in *Fiddler on the Roof* (TBA Theatre); Kenni in *Becky's New Car* (Cyrano's Theatre Company); Esmerelda in *Camino Real* (Cyrano's Theatre Company); Honey Raye in *Christmas Belles* and Nora in *A Doll's House* (UAA). She holds a BA in Theatre from the University of Alaska Anchorage.



Karina Becker, Rand Higbee, and Lindsay Lamar at the pre-Gala reception



KEVIN T. BENNETT

Kevin T. Bennett is an American screen and stage actor, director, filmmaker, producer, and business entrepreneur. A veteran of the arts with over 33 years of performance experience, his accolades include over 100 productions throughout stage and film, making him a highly recognized and visible Alaskan resident artist, most recently appearing as George in Perseverance Theatre's *Of Mice and Men* and his recurring role as General Haiger, with Oscar-winner Jon Voight in *The Baby Geniuses* sequels. Highly sought after as a production collaborator with over 8 years of service, Mr. Bennett is now the President of the Board of Directors to Alaska's longest operating producer of live theatre, Anchorage Community Theatre. Mr. Bennett is the founding owner of Alaska's oldest independently operated elevator enterprise, Alaska Stairlift & Elevator, LLC. A member of SAG-AFTRA, Kevin's prevalent aspiration is the forging and groundbreaking of opportunities for film industry and its infrastructure in Alaska. His new film short, *Six Dead Bodies Duct Taped to a Merry-Go-Round*, in which he also stars as Winston, is a condensed segment of the upcoming feature-length project.



LINDA BENSON

Linda Benson has been playing old ladies since high school. These roles are easier to carry off now, although the lines take longer to learn. *4,000 Miles* and *'night, Mother* were this year's feat.



Chip and Laura Bolcik posing for a snowy cruise photo



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, the Main Stage of the Last Frontier Theatre Conference, and *Cyrano's*, plus scores of shows in Southern California, the West Coast, and parts of Canada. Jill can be seen in the films *The Frozen Ground* and *The Big Miracle*, and the made-for-TV movie *Lost in Alaska*. Jill is also a director and playwright, teaches high school theatre at East Anchorage High School, and recently opened her own acting studio, Alaska True Acting, where she offers private coaching and group classes in the Meisner method of acting.



COLBY BLEICHER

Colby Bleicher was born and raised in Anchorage. She graduated from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts where she studied acting at the Lee Strasberg Theatre & Film Institute and everything else theatrical at Playwrights Horizons Theater School, the latter being home to one of very few undergraduate directing programs in the country. Directing credits include *The Author's Voice* (NYU), *Dreams of Home* (NYU), *I Hate Hamlet* (Anchorage Community Theatre), and *Perfect Arrangement* (Walking Shadows Theatre Company). Also an actor, she has appeared locally in TBA Theatre's *Fiddler on the Roof* as Tzeitel and most recently in *Cyrano's Theatre Company's Venus in Fur* as Vanda. Colby is thrilled to be attending the Conference for the second time.



CHIP BOLCIK

Chip Bolcik's credits include Harold in *Leaving Home* and Barry Rosen in the world premiere of *The Face In The Reeds* at The Ruskin Group Theatre; Willmore (the Rover) in *The Rover* at the Folger Shakespeare Theater in DC; Col. Joseph Ryan in *The Advocate* and Robert Windham in *A Hotel On Marvin Gardens* at 12 Miles West in New Jersey; Herb Tucker in *I Ought To Be In Pictures*, Greg in *Sylvia*, and Les in *Breakfast with Les And Bess* at the Bickford Theater; and Lloyd Dallas in *Noises Off* at the New Jersey Shakespeare Festival. Chip also played Ted in his play *Breaking Out Is Hard To Do* at the Hudson Guild in NYC.



RAY BOUCHER

Ray Boucher is an Artist in Residence at The Buffalo Laboratory Theatre where he has performed in many productions, most recently in *The Mystery of the Silver Chalice*, *Cyrano*, and *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. He co-founded The Walter Carlson Players and The Schrodinger's Cats Sketch Comedy Troupe in New York, NY. Additionally, as a stand-up comedian, Mr. Boucher has performed in NYC's The Comedy Cellar, The New York Comedy Club and The Gotham Comedy Club. In Western New York, he has performed for many companies, including Studio Arena, The Irish Classical Theatre, Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Red Carpet, The New Phoenix, Jewish Repertory Theatre, and in association with The Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra and Shea's Performing Arts Center. He has also acted for television in Beijing, China. Offstage, he teaches acting and theater at SUNY Geneseo and Buffalo State College.



SCARLET KITTYLEE BOUDREAUX

Scarlet Kittylee Boudreaux has performed for many of the theatre companies in Anchorage and the Lower 48. Scarlet is currently not working full-time but is writing a compilation of stories based on her adventures. Contact for Scarlet is scarlet-alaska@ak.net.



PAUL BRAVERMAN

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



ROBYN GINSBURG BRAVERMAN

Robyn Ginsburg Braverman has been a voiceover actor for over 30 years, currently residing in the San Francisco Bay Area. In addition to once playing Carmen Sandiego, Robyn works with name clients such as OpenTable, Cisco, Google, and Pennzoil. Since its inception, Robyn has supported the Mountain View-based theatre company, Pear Avenue Theatre, from co-founding through board membership and beyond; in addition to her ongoing

involvement with the Pear's annual short play festival, she serves as co-coordinator of the Pear's Developmental Reading Series. Reach Robyn via www.RobynBraverman.com.



CARL BRIGHT

Carl Bright has been doing theatre since he was 13, and is delighted to return to the Conference. He was a Play Lab reader in Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die* a few years ago, and then reprised his performance when the show was featured the following year at the Conference, and then again at Cyrano's Playhouse. His play *Awkward* was performed here as part of TBA Theatre's evening of one-acts in 2013. He directed his first show last season at Anchorage Community Theatre, and has done several light and sound designs around town. He works in real estate in Anchorage, because theatre will always be a passion, but rarely is it work.



JEFF BRION

Jeff Brion is a student at UAA majoring in Theatre and Music, minoring in Dance. He has studied and performed various styles of acting including improv, musicals, and puppeteering. His previous roles include Manuel Toulon in *M. Butterfly*, Roustabout #1 in *Carnival*, and Whitey the Rat in UAA's original production of *Bring Back the Sunshine*. He has completed his first season of singing with UAA's Glee Club, and looks forward to performing with them again. Among the many musical instruments he wants to learn and master, the voice is his primary area of study in his classical training, but that doesn't stop from trying all the other ones in his spare time.



SARAH BROOKE

Sarah Brooke's theatre credits include: Susan in *The Heidi Chronicles*, Janice in *The Understanding*, Mrs. Linde in *A Doll's House*, Mrs. Marchmont in *An Ideal Husband*, originated the role of Nurse Edna in *The Cider House Rules* (Seattle Repertory Theatre); *Roman Fever*, *Why I Live at the P.O.*, *Raymond Carver* (Book-It Repertory Theatre); *End of the World*, *Betty the Yeti* (ACT Theatre); Sybil in *Private Lives* (Intiman Theatre); Lillian in *The Idyllic World of Lillian Cortesi*, Diane in *Family Planning*, Anna Wellershaus in *Birdbrain*, Mel in *Loyalties*, Mother in *Fata Morgana*, Major Stone in *Happy End* (Ovation Award) (Pacific Repertory Theatre); *Shel Silverstein/Uncensored*, Fiona in *How The Other Half Loves* (The Odyssey Theatre); Mrs. Tarleton in *Misalliance* (Old Globe); Sue Bayliss in *All My Sons* (South Coast Repertory); *Design for Living* (The MaCarter Theatre). Television and film credits include *Frasier*, *The Gilmore Girls*, *Crossing Jordan*, *Path to War* (HBO), *Born to be Wild*, and *Carolina*.



TYLER BROWNING

Tyler Browning has been taking to the stage since he was ten years old. At a young age he began appearing in a wide spectrum of plays and became passionately involved in both music and improvisational theatre. He is an active member of TBA Theatre Company where he has enjoyed performing in such plays as *A Christmas Carol*, *Shadow Hour*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *A Midsummer Nights Dream* and most recently *Mother Goose's Maritime Mayhem*. LFTC audiences will remember him for his performance in Arlitia Jones' *The Boy with The Daffodils*. He is a veteran actor at the Three Baron's Fair where he performs magic for the Blue Court. This summer he will be returning as a teacher and stage manager in the TBA Summer Performing Arts Academy both in Anchorage and Valdez.



RYAN BUEN

Ryan Buen is a 28-year-old actor, director, and playwright. He holds a BA in Theatre from the University of Alaska Anchorage, and his Master's in Acting from the Birmingham School of Acting in England. Ryan grew up in Valdez, and is proud to have been a part of the vibrant Alaskan theatre community. He has worked with numerous theatre companies in Alaska, including TBA Theatre, Three Wise Moose, Cyrano's, UAA Theatre, Anchorage Opera, Out North, and PWSCC. His most recent roles include Phil in William Missouri Downs' *Cockeyed*, and Valere in *La Bete*. Other favorite roles include Jonathan Harker in *Dracula*, Justin in *Dolly West's Kitchen*, and Witwoud in *The Way of the World* (BSA); Romeo in *Romeo and Juliet*, Robin Hood in *Robin Hood and the Lady of Sherwood* (TBA Theatre), and Raleigh in *Last Train to Nibroc* (TBA Theatre); Jacques in *As You Like It* and Buddy Layman in *The Diviners* (UAA Theatre); Miles in *The Drawer Boy* (Cyrano's Theatre Company), Jasper in Craig Pospisil's *Somewhere in Between* and Eric Benson in Rand Higbee's *Past Perfect* (PWSCC). His plays that have been presented at the Conference include *Riding Towards Bethlehem*, *The Pigeon Play*, *Hey Judae*, and *Now Boarding*.



DANIELS CALVIN

Daniels Calvin is a computer engineering major at the University of Alaska Fairbanks. This is Daniels' second year as an actress at Conference. She has performed with various companies in her hometown, including the University theater department, The UAF Student Drama Association, The Green Room and Fairbanks Shakespeare Theater. Most recently she played a forensic technician on Investigation Discovery's *Ice Cold Killers*, performed in a music video

for Bad Boy recording artist French Montana, modeled for the Gesundheit Institute, and signed on as a member of the American Performance Alliance's *Hidden Side Players* theater company in Los Angeles. She is especially looking forward to immersing in the contributions from the other devoted artists here in Valdez.



TAYLOR CAMPBELL

Taylor Campbell is an Environmental Conservation major at UAA, hoping to pursue marine animal conservation and advocacy programs. She has been actively involved in the theatre for nearly a decade, appearing in shows around town. Her most recent appearances include Marianne Dashwood in *Sense and Sensibility* and Jenny in *Gravidity*. She is thrilled to be able to participate in the Conference this year.



JARON CARLSON

Jaron Carlson has been acting consistently since 2007 in Anchorage. He has received a Bachelor's in theatre from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 2012. You may have recently seen him in Synarts' *Flowers For Algernon*, *Cyranos' 4000 Miles* and *All The Great Books*. Several favorite credits include Mrs. Galahad/Bedevere/Concord in *Spamalot*, Tom Sullivan in *Fat Pig*, George Gibbs in *Our Town*, Eben in *The Language of Trees*, Juror 4 in *12 Angry Jurors*, and Ken in *Red*. He intends on enrolling in his graduate school to receive a Master Degree in Acting.



Taylor Campbell and Jamie Nelson in Ashley Rose Wellman's *Gravidity*



LAURA CARPENTER

Laura Carpenter survives Alaska winters by sledding, running in studded shoes, and drinking chai lattes. She works too hard for the largest museum in the state and plays just as hard with her daughter and (now legal!) wife. She returned to the stage this spring after a decade absence with the

West Coast premiere of *Perfect Arrangement* by Topher Payne at Out North Contemporary Art House. She also has performed at Cyrano's Off-Center Playhouse and with the Alaska Overnights and is glad to read again in Valdez.



NANCY CHASTAIN

Nancy Chastain still pursues things theatrical, writing, acting, etc. in Homer, Alaska. In 2013, she played Virginia in *The Clean House*, and read in Jack Dalton's initial *Ada* libretto. In early 2014, she performed an original song and directed her original short play (911: *Where Help Is On The*

Way!) in *Stepping Out*, a variety show, later producing *Under Construction: Readings from New Works*. She played Dan(ielle) in *The Man from Earth*, and directed 4Play, an evening of 4 short plays at Pier One Theatre. She is a trustee of Pier One. She reprises the role of medical transcriptionist with regularity.



BOSTIN CHRISTOPHER

Bostin Christopher (*bio in featured artists section*)



FRANK COLLISON

Frank Collison (*bio in featured artists section*)



BEN CORBETT

Ben Corbett (*bio in featured artists section*)



JULIA COSSMAN

Julia Cossman is a trained singer and holds degrees from University of Oregon and CSU Humboldt. She has performed extensively in the Anchorage area with most of the City's music and musical theatre organizations since 1986. She taught voice at UAA for many years. At Cyrano's, Julia

was seen as Lane in *The Clean House*, Kate in *Sylvia*, Sarah Bernhardt in *Ladies of the Camellias*, and Mother/Witch in the opera *Hansel and Gretel*. Other favorite roles include Desiree in *A Little Night Music*, Eva Peron in *Evita*, Philia in *A Funny Thing...*, Emma in *Song and Dance*, Narrator in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dream Coat*, Anna in *The King and I*, Magenta/Janet in *The Rocky Horror Show*, Kate/Nora in *Working*, and Nurse Ratched from *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*. With Anchorage Opera she has performed Johanna in *Sweeney Todd*, 1st Lady in *The Magic Flute*, Narrator in *Sweet Betsy from Pike*, Inez in *Il Trovatore*, and Juno in *Orpheus in the Underworld*. Julia continues to coach singers and conduct master classes in vocal performance.



ALISON CRANE

Alison Crane received her BA in Theatre Arts from the University of Central Oklahoma. She was a regular on the Oklahoma City theatre scene including eight seasons with Oklahoma Shakespeare in the Park. Alison went on to receive her MFA in Acting from The Actors Studio Drama School

at The New School. Of her many New York and regional credits, favorites include *Proof*, *Sylvia*, *Mud*, *Whiskey and Murphy*, *Poor Hearts*, *Turkey Day*, *Richard III*, *As You Like It* and *A Winter's Tale*. Alison is also a playwright and founding member of the play development organization, Route 66 Rodeo. She is the co-creator of the upcoming podcast, *Uncanny County*. Alison is a member of Actors' Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and The Dramatists Guild.



Frank Collison and Jason Martin improv during class



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 LFTC may remember her celebrated productions of *The Rendering of Conor McShea*, *The Art of Love*, and *Bile in the Afterlife*. Her productions of Arlitia Jones' *Grand Central* and 42nd 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 LFTC's evening shows where some favored performance's include roles in Schatzie Shaffer's *Sabatron*, Edward Albee's *Counting the Ways*, P. Shane Mitchell's *Straight-line*, and Rand Higbee's *The Head That Wouldn't Die*. A frequent participant in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival she will, once again, be traveling to Scotland this summer to remount the production of *Soapy Smith's Alaskan Extravaganza* which won acclaim as part of the 2000 Olympics Arts Festival in Sydney Australia.



CHRISTINE A. EAGLESON

An interchangeable artist, Christine A. Eagleson's vast experience in the fashion, media, and arts performance industry lends her talent in innovative endeavors and entrepreneurial work. Christine is a creative director, editorial/fashion stylist, and visual artist living in Anchorage, Alaska, and is the Art & Fashion Director for Vo Studio, as well as the Visual Director for Circular. A fierce advocate for the arts, she has served as Director of Events, Development, Marketing, Production Manager, and Designer; and is active in abundant projects including Executive Director for project concept-company Arts Alaska; Associate Artistic Director, West Coast Opera, and performs in select operatic, musical theatre, fine art, and film. With over 20 years of performance the Soprano has appeared with Eugene Opera, Eugene Symphony, Oregon Gilbert & Sullivan Festival, Pacific Repertory Opera, Pentacle Theatre, Opera San Luis Obispo, Willamette Concert Opera, Working Title Opera, and Anchorage Opera in works including *MacBeth*, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *Eugene Oniegin*, *Madama Butterfly*, *Le Nozze di Figaro*, *Fidelio*, *Traviata*, *Der Fliegende Hollander*, *Un Ballo in Maschera*, *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 credits include *South Pacific*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Mikado*, *West Side Story*, and *Guys & Dolls*. Instagram @Xpressionista



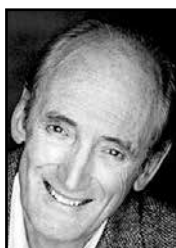
SHONTI ELDER

Shonti Elder is a professional musician who has hosted a radio show on public radio KSKA in Anchorage since 1977. Her most recent CD of original songs and tunes is *Bow Drawn*, which includes twenty-four other talented folk musicians in a variety of styles from Celtic to swing. For Valley Performing Arts in Wasilla, she was music director for *Cotton Patch Gospel*, and was in community theatre for several years in Minnesota. Her bands have toured Alaska and beyond.



JOYCE ERIKSEN

Joyce Eriksen has been involved in theatre for over 20 years. In the Orange County area, she was a member of the Vanguard Theatre Ensemble in Fullerton along with husband Stu for 11 years. She credits her "late" entry into theatre to all the great shows her church produced. Stu never passed up a role, and she decided to keep the family together. She worked with Karen Henzel at South Coast Repertory's Professional Conservatory in Costa Mesa over several years. Favorite productions she's appeared in include *The Gin Game*, *The Diviners*, and *After the Fall*, to name a few. She especially enjoyed working with Stu in *Foxfire*, *The Four Poster*, *On Golden Pond*, and *Love Letters*. She has credits in film, regional and national work. She has been a reader at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference for the past twelve years and is delighted to be back.



STU ERIKSEN

Stu Eriksen has been active in California and Orange County Theaters for more years than he cares to admit, both in musical comedy and drama. He has had great roles in some of his favorite plays: Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*, Moliere's *Imaginary Invalid*, G.B. Shaw's *Heartbreak House* and *You Can't Take It With You*. Stu has also appeared in such classics as *The Real Inspector Hound*, *Holiday*, *After the Fall*, *Love Letters*, and then as Sir Thomas More in *A Man for All Seasons*, as well as twice in *The Crucible*. He has also appeared in such musicals as *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Gypsy*, *Crazy For You*, *The King and I*, *The Music Man*, *Oliver* and *My Fair Lady*, but is particularly pleased to have appeared with wife Joyce in Hume Cronyn's *Foxfire* and again with her as the Thayers in *On Golden Pond*. Most recently he has appeared in *My Three Angels*, *The Philadelphia Lawyer*, *Guys and Dolls*, and *Bell Book and Candle*.



ISAAC FANNIN

Isaac Fannin was born and raised in Valdez. He has been an active participant in the community's theatre program, and has done many plays with TBA Theater's summer academy since he was eight. Some of his more prominent roles include The Prince in *La Bete*, directed by Dawson Moore, and Mirth in TBA Theatre's production of *The Shadow Hour*, directed by Ryan Buen. He also sang the Alaska State Flag Song at the Governors Inaugural Gala. This is his second Conference, and he is excited to broaden his horizons.



CLINT JEFFERSON FARR

Clint Jefferson Farr's acting mostly involves affecting competence at his day job. Clint has yet to be fired so his acting must be amazing. Clint does not dwell on this. Formally, Clint has staggered through a few stage performances. Clint defended Santa's honor as Comet in a Second Stage production of *The Reindeer Monologues* at Perseverance Theatre in Juneau. Clint mourned for the loss of his son in *A Cure for the Common Cold* as part of for the Juneau Douglas Little Theatre's production of one-acts. Clint has performed and written for Juneau Douglas Little Theatre's *24 Hour Miracle*. Clint has also performed a number of his own monologues as part of Juneau's Mudrooms storytelling event. As part of the 2014 Fringe Festival, Clint balanced a rock on his nose. And a few years back, Clint somehow managed to score a small part in a credit union commercial – a performance to evoke great pathos airing exactly 1.5 seconds.



HAROLD FERGUS

Harold Fergus has performed extensively throughout Washington County with the Center Stage Players, Little Lake Theatre, Washington & Jefferson College, and the Washington Community Theatre. His roles have included such diverse portrayals as Homer (at a younger age) and David (later) in *Mornings at Seven*, Harry Brock in *Born Yesterday*, Snout in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Murray Burns in *A Thousand Clowns*, Teddy Brewster in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, Mr. Lundee in *Brigadoon*, and most recently the Stage Manager in *Our Town*. He has retired after being a workers compensation appellate judge for 30 years in Pennsylvania. Now, his day is his law office from 9 to 12, lunch with cronies, nap, and the hard decision, where to go to dinner with his wife, Jane. The Valdez experience is one of the highlights of his year.



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, New York and this summer she will be participating in the Fringe Festival in Edinburgh, Scotland. Conference audiences will remember her from performances in P. Shane Mitchell's *The Memento*, Arlitia Jones *The W Dream*, and the world premier of Rand Higbee's *The Head the Wouldn't Die*. In addition to performance she is also a critically acclaimed choreographer having done celebrated works for Cyranos 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 has been acting since he moved to Anchorage at the age of eight. Since then he has acted in such roles the Stanley in *A Streetcar Named Desire*, McMurphy in *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, Lenny in *Of Mice and Men*, Tybalt in *Romeo and Juliet*, Harlan in *Heathen Valley*, and the Tin Man in *The Wizard of Oz*. Matt's also a former member of Scared Scriptless Improv. Matt directed William Inge's *Bus Stop*, which was featured at the 2004 Conference. He has since worked in films such as Tyler Perry's *Madea Goes to Jail* and *My Fake Fiancé*. Matt is currently working at becoming a published author of young adult novels and children's books, as well as playwriting and screenwriting.



GABBY FRANKLIN

Gabby Franklin is a 16 year old Sophomore at Valdez High School. She has been acting since she was in the 6th grade. She is a lover of music and making people laugh. Gabby has been learning music since she was 7 and wishes to pursue a career as a Music and English teacher. She was recently seen in the high school's production of The Reduced Shakespeare Company's *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*.



DEVIN FREY

Devin Frey is currently a Theatre major at UAA who plans on graduating next semester. A lifelong Alaskan, Devin enjoys acting, writing, composing, and performing around Anchorage. He was most recently seen as Henry in UAA's *The Fantasticks*, directed by David Block. This is

his sixth year at the conference.



LAURA GARDNER

Laura Gardner (bio in featured artists section)



JULIE GARRETT

Julie Garrett got her start in theatre by saying "what could possibly go wrong?" when her advisor suggested a class called Theatrical Production Techniques in 2011. She has dipped her hand into virtually every aspect of theatre since, from Assistant Stage Managing for *Sense and Sensibility*, to

brief appearances on stage in *Playboy of the Western World* and UAA's Student Directing Scenes, as well as some props and costume designing in between. She's happy to be a part of this year's Conference, her the first time ever!



MARISA GARRIGUES

Marisa Garrigues has been involved in the Anchorage theatre community for two-and-a-half years. She originated the role of Jenny Taylor at ACT in P. Shane Mitchell's *Christmas on the Yukon*, narrated the adventures of Wilbur in *Charlotte's Web*, haunted audiences as Jeepers Creepers in

Jeepers Creepers Glee! Halloween sing-off, and played Mrs Gloop in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*. She's also worked as stage manager and props master for several productions, the most recent being *Speakeasy* with TBA After Dark and *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, also with TBA.



JEREMY GAUNT

A recent graduate of University of Alaska Anchorage, Jeremy Gaunt finished off his last year on their stage with *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *William Shakespeare's Land of the Dead*, and starred as Malvolio in *Twelfth Night*. He also performed his first film role in Nichole Kruger's *Sins of Our Mothers* as Skylar

Renolds. Last summer, he spent six weeks in the greater London area enjoying the sites of England while training with the British Academy of Stage and Screen Combat, and is happy to return to the Conference for his fifth year running.



REBECCA GILMAN

Rebecca Gilman has been a theatre lover ever since she first saw her grandmother play Yente in *Fiddler on the Roof*. She divides her time between acting, stage managing, and costume design. 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] and *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* at Cyrano's Off-Center Playhouse. Rebecca is also one of the founding members of the UAA Theatre on the Rocks improv troupe The Ad-Lib Alchemists. She is thrilled to return to the Conference after a much too short visit last year.



KERIANN GILSON

Keriann Gilson grew up in Valdez and is currently getting her teaching certification. Keriann has participated in the Conference for a number of years and has read in plays including Barry Levine's *A Cosmic Touchdown*, Leslie Powell's *The 'A' Word*, Merridawn Duckler's *The Relatives*, as well

as performing in the Monologue Workshop. Some of her favorite past roles include Charlene in *A Tuna Christmas*, Queen of Hearts in *Alice in Wonderland*, Bert in *Cacophony Amore*, and Molly in *The Mousetrap*. She hopes to continue participating in the Conference and acting in plays.



CODY GOULDER

Cody Goulder could not be more thrilled to be back at this year's Conference reading such wonderful scripts for the Play Lab. Goulder's previous acting credits include: *Fools*, *The Crucible*, *Twelfth Night*, *Mr. Burns: A Post-Electric Play*, *Tartuffe*, *The Underpants*, *King Lear*, *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *bobrauschenbergamerica*, *Atypical Boy*, *Love's Labour's Lost*, *The Narrow World*, *Stop Kiss*, *Cash on Delivery*, *Shipwrecked*, and *Richard II*. Goulder would like to thank Dawson and everyone at the conference for every bit of magic they do... thanks for letting him be a part of this wonderful thing.



KODY GRASSETT

Kody Grasset is a current MFA Acting candidate at the University of Central Florida and a graduate of the University of Vermont where he received Bachelor's degrees in Theatre and English. *The Woods* is his first play and was developed as part of his undergraduate thesis, for which he received College Honors. Kody's theatrical pursuits have led him to a variety of different roles: director of *The Woods*, co-scenic designer for the University of Vermont's production of *The Mousetrap*, and actor in various productions. Recent roles include Bobby Gould in the Orlando International Fringe Festival's *Speed-the-Plow*, Henry V/Dauphin (Understudy) in the Orlando Shakespeare Theatre's *Henry V*, Bob in the Vermont Stage Company's *Beyond Therapy* and Mr. Paravacini in the UVM's *The Mousetrap*. He has also studied Commedia dell'Arte and Grotowski at Routalibero Teatro in Rome, and has participated in several workshops with the Royal Shakespeare Company in Stratford-upon-Avon.



ZOEY GRENIER

Zoey Grenier has worked on the stage for over a decade and is thrilled to be back in Valdez for the Conference! Last year, she had the honor of appearing in both *Our Bridge Place* and *Boy With Daffodils* through TBA Theatre. Other credits include Puck in *a Midsummer Night's Dream*, Millamant in *The Way of the World*, and the Ghost of Christmas Past in *A Christmas Carol*. She's also performed in the Fringe Festival as Little Red Riding Hood (*Rockin' Red Riding Hood*, 2013). When not onstage, Zoey can be found coaching both biathlon and cross country skiing for the Nordic Ski Association of Anchorage and training towards her own goals in the sport.



KAMERON HAGGER

Kameron Hagger lives in Los Angeles, but she is originally from Texas. She is a college student working on getting her Bachelor's degree in criminal justice. In addition to going to school, she is a singer and acts in films, television, web series, and music videos. She has most recently been in a film called *G.B.F.* as Pesephone, which was FilmOut Audience Award winner for best screenplay and comedy. She is very excited for her first time in Alaska and her first time at the Conference!



MEGAN HARTY

Megan Harty is originally from Anchorage, but currently lives in Los Angeles. She moved to LA a two years ago to pursue acting and music. Her most recent works include the lead role as Abby in the short film *Fatty* (7 time award winning, not to brag ;)) and various student films and background work (Whoo! Living the life, yo!). She also recently got into playwriting with a class taught by the fabulous Dawson and wrote for the Alaska Overnights this past January. If she is not acting or making music you can find her working as a nanny or as a dog sitter. She is very excited to be at her fourth Conference.



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.



GRACE HAWKINS

Locally trained, Grace Hawkins has played a span of roles varying between the somber scripts of Tennessee Williams to the slapstick comedy of Ken Ludwig; she is a founder of the new UAA improv troupe, the Ad-Lib Alchemists, and dabbled in the dark comedy of Noah Haidle, also the beautifully crafted script of *Sense and Sensibility* by Jon

Jory, not to mention a regular featured comic in local sketch comedy troupes. Grace has trained with Tom Skore, Jessica Jacobs, Fran Lautenberger, Elizabeth Ware, and Steven Hunt, with specified Meisner and Stanislavsky training in her time at the University of Alaska Anchorage and looks forward to expanding her experience in Valdez!



DAVID HAYNES

David Haynes has been active in Alaska theatre for two-score years, working with a plethora of performing arts groups in such classics as *Cabaret*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *The Rocky Horror Show*, *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 has been a frequent participant in the Alaska Overnights, *Fourplay*, and at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference. His fondest memories of the Conference include performing Tom Moran's *The Big Guy*, Godzilla's existential monologue about his life razing Tokyo and his love for Mothra, sharing a scene in *The Trip To Bountiful* with Jean Stapleton, and a pizza in the dorms with Ben Stiller. David and his lovely wife, the emphatic brunette Ann Reddig, are partners in Once A Year Productions.



TARAN HAYNES

Taran Haynes, a student-actor studying theatre at the University of Alaska Anchorage, has enjoyed his most recent involvement in two of UAA's student films; *Hydration Man* as the title character Hydration Man, and *Sports Cat-ster* as Co-Director of Photography. Though relatively

new to the theatre community, Taran is eager to learn and has taken every opportunity to expand his knowledge and experience in acting. This drive has earned him several roles at UAA, such as Tom Sawyer in *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn* and Not-Dead-Fred in *Spamalot*, as well as roles in the Anchorage community, such as the Apostle Andrew in the Theater Artists United production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* and as Anthony in the Synesthesia Artist Collectives' production of *The House of Yes*.



NICHOLAS WALKER HERBERT

Nicholas Walker Herbert is thrilled to return to the Conference. He is a California-born, Brooklyn-based theatre artist. 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 country. While not in the theatre, he writes and draws the comics *The Uh Oh Landscape*, *Brand Comix!* and *The Stickmen*. He graduated with honors from the University of California at Santa Cruz with a BA in Theatre Arts.



KATHERINE HITCHCOCK-BURRILL

After a long hiatus from the world of acting, Katherine Hitchcock-Burrill, like a fine wine, is ready to uncork her life experiences and pour them into scripted characters. Katy's acting credits in the 80s and 90s include several Shakespearean ladies and

various colorful contemporary characters, including May in *Fool for Love*. She also enjoyed a few years of musical notoriety touring as the vocalist for the Disastronauts. While a student at UAA, Katy received the North West Regional Irene Ryan acting award and, with her partner Bostin Christopher, performed on stage at the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C. She is thrilled and grateful to Dawson Moore for this unique opportunity.



Julia Cossman and Taran Haynes in
Dick Reichman's *The Audition*



JACQUELINE HOFFMAN

Jacqueline Hoffman is an actor from Anchorage. She is very privileged to be performing at the Last Frontier Theatre Conference for the third time and finds it to be the perfect way to instill the creative energy she needs to start another prosperous season in Alaskan theatre.

Her recent projects include *I Hate Hamlet* (Anchorage Community Theatre), *Shadow Hour* (TBA Theatre), *Crimes of the Heart* (Anchorage Community Theatre), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (TBA Theatre).



MICHAEL HOOD

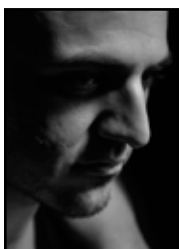
Michael Hood (*bio in the featured artists section*)



THEODORE C. HOOKER II

Theodore C Hooker II is a tech theatre major and film minor coming down from UAF. Though most of his time is spent backstage, every now and then he will hop into a production. His most recent stage roles include *When All Else Fails*, *Saucy*

Jacks, *A Little Hotel on the Side*, *The 13 Clocks*, and *The Pillowman*. This is his fourth year attending the Conference.



NATHAN HUEY

After a few years of grown up life getting in the way, Nathan Huey is thrilled to once again be participating in the Conference. Nathan is a graduate of the UAA Department of Theatre and Dance. He has been acting consistently in Anchorage for the last seven years with companies including

UAA, TBA, VPA, Anchorage Opera, Theatre on the Rocks, and *Cyrano's*. His favorite credits include *Godspell*, *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, *The Lion in Winter*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Wonder of the World*, *Terra Nova*, *The Diviners*, and, most recently, *Bare: A Pop Opera*.



TEANNA HUTCHISON

Teanna Hutchison just finished her second year as a double major in Theatre and International Studies at the University of Alaska Anchorage. While there, she has performed in the ensemble for *Big River: The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, worked backstage for *Night of the Iguana*,

participated in the student directing scenes as Jillian in *I Hate Hamlet*, took part in a UAA independent film

Hooked, performed the role of the priest in *Twelfth Night*, and has acted in the Alaska Overnights for two years in a row. Throughout her teenage years growing up in Valdez, she appeared in numerous productions in town. Roles included Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Princess Saralinda in *The 13 Clocks*, Lucy in *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe*, Violet in *A Little Hotel on the Side*, a cop in *Arsenic and Old Lace*, and Molly in *Where There's a Will, There's a Murder*. She has also interned for TBA Theatre Company, taking on the role of Aunt Sponge in *James and the Giant Peach*. This is her fourth time participating in the Conference, and she is very excited to be back acting on her home turf!



WILLIAM JACKSON

William Jackson was born in Belleville, Illinois. Being an army brat, he was raised all over the United States. He currently serves active duty in the Air Force and credits the friends he made moving around so much and his family as motivation for his performances. Since discovering theatre

in his senior year of high school, he has work both stage and film productions ranging from TV commercials to feature films (*Broken Faith*, *Awful Nice*, *Moose Movie*, etc) to performing comedy improv currently as a troupe member of Scared Scriptless Improv.



REAGAN JAMES

After living the past year in Houston, Texas, Reagan James could not be more thrilled to be back in the Great North for the summer and at the Conference for her fifth year. Maybe this year she won't lose her voice. Some of her favorite roles include Joan in *Sexual Perversity in Chicago*, The Cat in

the Hat in *Seussical the Musical*, and Lizzie in *Killers and Other Family*. Not to mention any and every Overnights experience in Anchorage. She plans to move permanently to Chicago with Kalli Randall in the coming year, where they plan to eat, drink, and breathe only theatre and alcohol. Hopefully they don't end up on the run from Knox and Crowe.



Michael Hood and Frank Delaney demonstrating correct stage combat techniques during class



JAMES JENSEN

James Jensen spent more than a decade studying art as a single unifying concept from every point of view available such as writing, directing, acting, film editing, painting, music, dance, sculpture, psychology, etc. His theatre experience includes work as a director, stage manager, and set designer, as well as an actor in roles such as the leads in *A Thousand Clowns*, *Big, Bad Mouse*, *The Prisoner of Second Avenue*, and *The Odd Couple*. Other roles include *The Audition* (Harold) and *bobrauschenbergamerica* (Wilson). James has also been in a music video and several short films, one of which won second place in its category at the Bi-national Independent Film Festival in El Paso, Texas, garnering him a miniscule listing on IMBD.com.



JEREMY JOHNSON

Jeremy Johnson is thrilled to be a part of the Theatre Conference! Jeremy is fairly new to the theatre world. He started acting in 2013 (but has been practicing on the soccer field for years) and has been seen in Anchorage Community Theatre's productions of *I Hate Hamlet* and *Crimes of the Heart*. Jeremy is an athletic facility manager, soccer coach and radio DJ in the real world. Jeremy would like to thank his friends and family (miss you G&G) for all their support and is thrilled to be a part of the Alaska Theatre Community! Live it UpsoM!!



RHIANNON JOHNSON

Rhiannon Johnson, a frequent performer with TBA Theatre, is excited to return to the conference for her third year. She is currently studying Theatre and Visual Arts at UAA. When she isn't performing in a production, she can usually be found behind the scenes working as a scenic painter.



TAI YEN KIM

Tai Yen Kim is thrilled to be at his first Conference. His first performance took place at West Anchorage High School where he played various minor roles as well as Curley in *Of Mice and Men* and Duke Orsino in *Twelfth Night*. After graduating from West High, he enrolled at the University of Alaska Anchorage where he's majoring in Justice and Theatre. Since then he's played Calvin in Cyrano's Theatre Company's production of *A Wrinkle In Time*, Gander the Goose in TBA's production of *Charlotte's Web*, and a Devil's Player in TBA's *Shadow Hour*.



MELODY KNUDSON

Melody Knudson's love for acting began at age 3 as The Littlest Star in a backyard Christmas play. After an eight-year hiatus, she returned to the stage in 2013 and hasn't looked back. Favorite roles include Lenya in *Fools*, Abigail in *The Crucible*, and Kate Keller in *The Miracle Worker*. After winning the 2009 Arizona Young Artists Competition, she was privileged to support other young artists by performing as the Professional Talent at the 2014 Young Artists Competition. Offstage, Melody works as a Cultivation Specialist for Brelby Theatre Company in Glendale, Arizona, creating partnerships with schools and community groups to expand the impact of Brelby and the theatre arts on the surrounding community.



LISA KONOPLISKY

A graduate of Lafayette College, Lisa Konoplisky (*Nebraska Rapture*) 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); 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. A monologue from a recently completed novel of hers appears in *Monologues by Women For Women* (Heinemann, 2005).



KATE DAKOTA KREMER

Kate Dakota Kremer is a playwright, actor, and director. She has appeared onstage in productions and readings for the Endangered Species Project (*The Traveling Lady*, *Lady Windermere's Fan*, *The Lucky Chance*, *A Marriage Proposal*), Great River Shakespeare Festival (*Hamlet*, u/s *Love's Labour's Lost*), New Ground Theatre (*This Side Up*, *1953 Farnam*), and Augustana College (*The Mongoose*). Kate graduated from Kenyon College, where she appeared in numerous roles, earning the Joanne Woodward award for Best Actress for her work as Nancy in *Frozen* (Lavery).



MALCOLM KUNTZ

Malcolm Kuntz is a singer, multi-instrumentalist and songwriter currently studying music at UAA. He started his life on stage playing in rock and metal bands as a teenager in Fairbanks, Alaska. He began acting in 2013 with Theatre Artists United in *Jesus Christ Superstar*, as the high priest Annas. His most recent role was playing

Richard Burbage in *William Shakespeare's Land of the Dead*. He has worked as a union carpenter since 2007. This past semester he scored two student films. He is currently writing and recording his first solo album and plans to write a short rock opera this summer.



ROB LECRONE

Rob Lecrone is an Alaskan living in Los Angeles. In 1989, he worked on the cleanup of the Exxon Valdez oil spill. He is excited to be back at the Conference again this year, where it will be his first year joining Janna Shaw in hosting and co-coordination of the Fringe Festival and his second year assisting

Laura Gardner and Frank Collison in the Monologue Workshop. In Los Angeles, Lecrone studies at the Howard Fine Acting Studio with Laura Gardner and Howard Fine. He also studies improv at the Upright Citizens Brigade and commercial technique at Keep It Real Acting. Among his favorite roles, Rob is still fond of one he originated 15 years ago, Bile in *Bile in the Afterlife*, a play by Conference Coordinator Dawson Moore.



BARRY LEVINE

Barry Levine grew up in New York City and did theater in high-school and college. After college, he worked at Circle Rep. and was made a Lab Member in the mid-1990s. Since coming to LA, 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 House of Blues in West Hollywood, the Viper Room, Busby's, and DiPiazza's in Long Beach. He also hosts the long running radio show "The Bear's Den" on KXSC, USC's radio station. He's a long-time reader for the LFTC and enjoys every Conference.



TOM LUCIDO

Like a lot of actors, Tom Lucido's roots are in high school and college drama where he performed Tommy Albright in *Brigadoon*, Billy Bigelow in *Carousel*, and Harold Hill in *The Music Man*. While at UCLA Westwood he landed a Gillette Foamy and Tang commercial. From there he enjoyed

a short run on *Mary Hartman Mary Hartman* in a repeat minor role. He served as a summer intern on the writing staff of the *Carol Burnett Show*. Family and education took center stage early on and Dr. Lucido did not return to the stage for another thirty years. While in Houston, Texas, he joined two local theatre groups as Charley in *Death of a Salesman* and George in *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*. In 2002, he wrote and directed the successful Alaskan traveling venue *Alaskan Leopard Comedy Tours*, ending its run in 2010. Tom's 2014 return to community theatre includes *Bob: A Life in Five Acts* as Gunther, stellar reviews of his Barrymore portrayal in *I Hate Hamlet*, and as the sheriff in *The Trip to Bountiful*. In his spare time, he enjoys volunteer work with the Anchorage Community Theater, Mabel T. Caverly Senior Center, and world travel. He is grateful to his wife, Bobbie, for her continued supporting role in his "theatre of life."



GIGI LYNCH

Gigi Lynch returned to community theatre in Anchorage with her role as the Mother, Mrs. Who, and Aunt Beast in *Cyrano's* production of *A Wrinkle in Time*. Other local performances include Synthesia Artist's Collective production of *Flowers for Algernon*, where she played Dr. Strauss,

Mrs. Donner, and the (Crazy Mama!) Mother. Other favorite roles include Aunt Julia in *Hedda Gabler* and Theatre Artists United production of *Jesus Christ Superstar* as well as *Pippin* in which she appeared as Berthe, the martini-swilling, pot-smoking, fun-loving grandmother—a role near and dear to her heart! She recently helped produce the premiere of the multi-cultural, multi-media *Spirit-The 7th Fire of Alaska*. She is an accomplished flutist and was a high school band and choir director, in addition to directing youth musical theatre and developing choreography for many award-winning show choirs in Florida. She is a member of the Board of Directors for Theatre Artists United and secretary of the Board of Directors for Alaska Dance Theatre.



DAVID MACGREGOR

While David MacGregor generally prefers to spend his time hidden underground writing plays and screenplays, the occasional plague or natural disaster has sometimes compelled him to bring his prodigious acting talents before the unsuspecting public. He has essayed a variety of roles, including the

Angel Gabriel, Sherlock Holmes, the Antichrist, and lovable outdoor host Marty Springfield. When his 12-year-old daughter saw his feature film, *Vino Veritas*, she asked him, "Which one of the characters is most like you?" He leaned down and whispered into her elf-like ear, "I'm all of the characters." Suitably terrified, she no longer asks him questions about his work.



KIM MACINNES-GREEN

Kim MacInnes-Green has been active in theatre her whole life. She has traveled and performed mostly in the Midwest. Kim has been a student of Marcel Marceau and Colleen Dewhurst. In her more recent theatre experience, Rev. Kim has played Gertrude Blum in *The Sea Horse*; Big Mama

in *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*; Marilla in *Anne of Green Gables*; Bloody Mary in *South Pacific*; Rheba in *You Can't Take It With You*; and Mary in the musical *Gateway*. Kim holds a BA in Theatre/Religion with minor in Music from Luther College in Decorah, Iowa, and a Master of Divinity from University of Dubuque Theological Seminary.



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.



DEBRIANNA MANSINI

Debrianna Mansini is a New Mexico resident, where she produced theatre with a company she started called Tin Roof Productions. That company was folded into Santa Fe Performing Arts, where she continued to act and produce theatre. She was a company member for ten years,

performing on the main stage and touring children's theatre throughout northern New Mexico. Ms. Mansini has trained with such greats as Kim Stanley, Jose Quintero, Edward Albee and, most recently, Alan Arkin. She has worked Off-Broadway in New York City at the Soho Rep. Her most recent stage appearances have been as a company member with the For Giving Ensemble: The NM premiere of *Good People* (Margie), *Motherhood Out Loud*, *Love Loss and What I Wore* (touring NM and CO), and *Imagining Brad* (Dana) and *Rapture, Blister, Burn* (Catherine), both of which are slated for another run later this year. Ms. Mansini just closed the role of Patty in *Kimberly Akimbo*, and in March she will star in Ron Bloomberg's One-Acts *Seriously Funny* at WH21. Ms. Mansini has had supporting roles on numerous television movies and mini-series, including a recurring role in ABC Family's *The Lying Game*. She has worked on numerous TV series, including guest roles on *The Lost Room*, *Longmire*, *Breaking Bad*, *Wild Fire*, and *In Plain Sight*. Her most recent film credits include the Golden Globe winning film *Crazy Heart*, opposite Academy Award winner Jeff Bridges, *The War Boys*, *the Burning Plain*, and most recently has enjoyed great success in *Drunktown's Finest*. Ms. Mansini will be playing the role of Georgia O'Keeffe in the upcoming PBS film *Awakening in Taos*. Ms. Mansini also has collaborated with her husband David Forlano on several successful video projects. They won the \$5,000 Earth Keepers Award for Best Sustainable video. Their documentary short on the Earth Ships of Taos was selected to be shown at the Downtown L.A. Film Festival, and several other documentary shorts have aired on Al Gore's cable network, Current TV. Her children's short *Picking Up Feets* (animated by David Forlano) was selected for the Santa Fe 3 Minute Film Festival and was the selection for New Mexico International Women In Film Competition in 2010.



ALEXANDRA MCCALL

Alexandra McCall is excited to be participating in the Conference for the first time! Since moving to Anchorage from the Mat-Su Valley in 2013 to study theatre at UAA, Alexandra has appeared in *Big River* at UAA (2013), *Pippin* with TAU (2014), as Sister James in *Doubt* with

Theatre on the Rocks (2014), and as Viola in *Twelfth Night* at UAA (2014). Most recently, Alexandra has acted in films with the UAA Student Film Club and with No Big Deal Productions for the 24-Hour Film Royal. In her time spent away from the limelight, Alexandra enjoys singing, cooking, and talking to the cat - sometimes all at once.



GORDON MCCONNELL

Gordon McConnell's work as an actor, teacher, director and producer has taken him from Los Angeles to London to Amsterdam, to New York, where he was a member of Geraldine Page's famed Mirror Rep, and into regional theatres across the county. Recent appearances include work at Curious Theatre in Denver, Flat Rock Playhouse in NC, the Kennedy Center in Washington, DC, West Virginia's Greenbrier Valley Theatre, and Alpine Theatre Project in Montana, in addition to his work in Florida, where he was awarded the Frank Prize as an Outstanding Performing Artist for his nearly thirty years of work. Gordon is a three-time nominee (*The Guys*, *Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf*, and the world premiere of *Dirty Business*) and winner (*Frozen*) of South Florida's Carbonell Award, and the recipient of the *New Times* Best Actor nod for his work in *Wrecks*. He has extensive experience with new and developing works, including productions, workshops, and readings for playwrights such as William Mastrosimone, Israel Horovitz, Steven Dietz, Lee Blessing, and Carter W. Lewis, and has coached and taught students and professionals, most recently for the Kennedy Center's American College Theater Festival and Burt Reynolds Institute for Film and Television.



JERRY DALE MCDONNELL

Jerry Dale McDonnell is a writer, an actor and a retired wilderness, fishing, hunting and bear viewing guide and a teacher in native villages of Alaska. His published short stories, non-fiction, plays and poems are of the north and the west, many can be found in *The South Dakota Review*, *Over the Transom*, *Cirque* & www.cirquejournal.com, www.mungbeing.com, and others. His stage work spans many years— from Marco in *View From the Bridge* to Norman in *On Golden Pond*. Movie roles: *Santa and Death*, *Christmas With a Capital "C,"* and *Everybody Loves Whales*. This spring he played four roles in *Macbeth* touring the state of Alaska after a month run in Anchorage. He currently lives in downtown Alaska— Anchorage—but in the summer he spends as much of the temperate months as he can in the bush of the far north either in a canoe or afoot.



ROD MEHRTENS

Rod Mehrtens grew up as a Navy brat in California, Louisiana, Alaska, and Hawaii. After graduating from San Diego State, he taught English (and drama from time to time) for twenty years; then he moved to Wasilla, Alaska, in 1996. He finally earned his Master's at Bread Loaf, becoming a certified egg-head at 49—always an awkward age. Since then he has been active onstage and off, acting, directing, designing and rigging. Over the last nineteen years Rod has been part of 118 productions in one capacity or another. He

performed at the Conference in 1997 as the five-character Other Men in A.R. Gurney's *Later Life*, in 2010 as Bert in Judd Lear Silverman's *Heart*, and in 2012 as the Savage in Dawson Moore's *Living With the Savage*.



REES MILLER

Rees Miller is happy to be back in Valdez and working with such amazing and talented people! Rees resides in Anchorage, and has most recently been seen on stage with TBA Theatre, where he played the role of Willy Wonka in *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, and Theseus in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Rees has also appeared in *Fox on the Fairway* (ACT), *A Christmas Carol*, *Macbeth*, *Frankenstein*, *Little Women*, and *Dracula*. By day Rees teaches Chemistry at West Anchorage High School. He is currently in the middle of getting a master of Theatre Arts Education degree through Alaska Pacific University. Rees is starting to build a resume for scenic design. He most recently designed the set for West Anchorage High School's production *Shrek the Musical*.



STACY STIMSON MILLER

Stacy Stimson Miller attended the Last Frontier Theatre Conference last year for the first time and was hooked. She and her husband are excited to return and be more involved this year. She most recently appeared in *Mother Goose Maritime Mayhem* (TBA) and performed in a flurry of popcorn as Carmen Gedditt in the campy *Fur Rondy Melodrama* (ASC). She is a member of Alaska Sound Celebration, a nationally ranked female barbershop chorus, and has appeared in *Jeepers Creepers Gleeeful Halloween Sing Off* (TBA), *Charlotte's Web* (TBA), *Fiddler on the Roof* (TBA), *A Christmas Carol* (TBA), and *The Adventures of Peter Rabbit* (TBA). In addition, she was honored to play Truvy in ACT's production of *Steel Magnolias* and appeared in ACT's production of *Little Women*.



Rod Mehrtens and Danielle Rabinovitch
in Dawson Moore's *Living with the Savage*



SHANE MITCHELL

Shane Mitchell is the founding Artistic Director for TBA Theatre in Anchorage. He holds a Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alaska Anchorage and a Masters in Theatre Communication from Wichita State University. As a performer, Shane is the veteran of over 200 productions. He is the recipient of two Patricia Neal Acting Awards, holds a Presidential Citation for Drama, and was named in 2015 as Anchorage's Best Actor by readers of the Anchorage Press. He has toured nationally and internationally and was an American Arts Representative to the 2000 Olympics and World Voices Concert in Australia. He made his New York debut in Arlitia Jones' *Grand Central and 42nd*. Some favored performances have been roles in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *The Sound Of Music*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *Faith Healer*, *Waiting for Godot*, *The Drawer Boy* and *A Shayna Maidel*. LFTC audiences will recall his memorable performances in *The Rendering of Conor McShea*, *Dirge for A Failed Bris*, *Magic Valley*, *Happiness Hunting*, and *The Art of Love*. This summer he will be travelling to Scotland to participate in the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Fans of middle aged men screaming in their underwear will be delighted to check out his performance in the feature motion picture *Moose: The Movie*.



MORGAN MITCHELL

Morgan Mitchell has been performing for many years around Alaska and Michigan. Recent roles include Rosencrantz in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, Puck in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* and Laura in *Christmas Eve with Laura Ingalls*. Past Conference credits include Lubov in *A Gulag Mouse* and Loretta Lucky in *The Bodice Rippers*. Morgan is ever so stoked to be returning to the Conference this year.



TOM MORAN

What a piece of work is Tom Moran. How noble in reason, how infinite in faculty. In form and moving how express and admirable, in action how like an angel, in apprehension how like a god.



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*; and *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 has just completed the pilot for a television dramedy, *Bad Cop, Bad Cop*. As always, Mark is delighted to be here in Valdez for this year's Conference.



JAMIE NELSON

Jamie Nelson is honored to make the trek from Soldotna for his third Conference. He's downright bewildered that his loving wife supports his nomadic acting lifestyle. He must really love acting to leave such a resplendent woman and adorable son home when he stays with friends in Anchorage for auditions, rehearsals, filming, and performances. Last year, he was overwhelmed with pride at the flattering feedback his Vadezian peers drenched him in for his portrayal of George Verendt in *Gravidity*. This year, he's had the tremendous privilege of sharing many Alaskan stages with some of the finest Shakespearean performers and crew for *Macbeth*. He will play Ross in that production here Thursday night, concluding the tour which began at Cyranos in April. Jamie recently played Bob Cratchit in *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance Theatre), and George Tesman in *Hedda Gabler* (CTC). Other favorite roles have included Felix Ungar in *The Odd Couple* (Triumvirate Theatre), Russ/Dan in *Clybourne Park* (CTC), and George Bailey in *It's A Wonderful Life: A Live Radio Play* (CTC). This spring, he filmed his national television debut playing two roles for Destination America Channel and The History Channel.



MICHAEL NOBLE

Originally from the Florida Panhandle, Michael Noble got his start in the Anchorage theatre as the props master for *The House of Yes*. He transitioned into acting this year playing Mr. Biddle in *Debbie Does Dallas: The Musical* at Mad Myrmas. Michael is a senior at the University of Alaska Anchorage. He studies Film, Theatre, and Journalism.



Shane Mitchell and Aaron Wiseman
in Eoin Carney's *The Rendering of Conor McShea*



JUSTIN OLLER

Justin Oller graduated in May from the University of Alaska Anchorage with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre Performance, having also studied at the University of Southern Oregon in Ashland and the University of East Anglia in Norwich, UK. This is his fifth year at the Conference.

Past performances here include *I Want to Believe* and the title role in *The Rendering of Conor McShea*, both produced by TBA Theatre. Other credits include Fyedka in *Fiddler on the Roof* (TBA), Enfield in *Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde* (UEA), Malcolm in *Macbeth* (TBA), The Player in *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead* (UAA), and Demetrius in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (TBA), as well as *The White Rose*, and Anouilh's *Antigone* which he directed at Dimond High School. In 2009, he performed *All in the Timing* at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival and received a four star rating for his work. He returned to the Festival in 2012 where he assistant directed an original P. Shane Mitchell work, *The Cactus Gulch Opry House*. He received first film credit, *Trial By Fire*, earlier this year in the United Kingdom.

RANDALL PARKER II

Randall Parker II is an actor and theatre technician living in Valdez. He has been a part of the Play Lab cast, and has acted locally in productions of *The Crucible*, *The Master Builder*, and *La Bete*, among others. He has assisted on tech for many of the college's productions, and directed *All I Really Needed to Know I Learned in Kindergarten* in 2007.



MIA PASSARELLA

Mia Passarella is an Arizona State University graduate with her BA in Theatre. Mia is currently a company member with the Brelby Theatre Company in downtown Glendale, Arizona, working also as staff in outreach and development. Her most recent acting credits include Amy March in *Little*

Women the Musical, George Topax in *Revenge of the Space Pandas or Binky Rudich and the Two Speed Clock*, and Lilith in *She Kills Monsters*. At ASU, she was most recognized for her work in the devising ensemble for the immersive piece *The Seven Layers of Bastian Bachman*, and as Cassie in *The Halfway House*, which happens to have been written by one of the chosen playwrights in the Play Lab (shout out to you Cody!).



JEANNE PASSIN

Like a bad penny, Jeanne Passin continues to show up in Valdez and the Theatre Conference. A fair weather resident of Valdez for the past 32 years, when not at home, Jeanne can be found in the mountains of Myanmar (Burma) or on the beaches of Cambodia. She has been involved with the

Theater Conference since its inception.



NANCY PEARSON

Nancy Pearson graduated from the University of Alaska Anchorage in 1994 with a degree in Theatre. She also spent a year at Southern Oregon State College in Ashland, Oregon, studying theatre and taking Meisner-technique acting classes on the weekends. She has acted in college, community, and dinner theatre. Nancy impersonated Charlie Chaplin at the Apple Computer Fair at the Sheraton in Anchorage for an acting gig. After being away from theatre for several years, Nancy made her way back to the 2014 Conference as a reader. In March of 2015, Nancy was thrilled to play the role of Carrie Watts in *The Trip to Bountiful* for 16 performances at Anchorage Community Theatre.



ALEXANDER POWELL

Alexander "Lex" Powell is very happy to be appearing in his first Last Frontier Theater Conference. He has appeared in productions from coast to coast, including *Table Manners* (Norman); *Julius Caesar* (Julius Caesar); *Patience* (Colonel Calverly); *Bones* (Beck); *Troilus and Cressida* (Troilus); *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio); *The Time of Your Life* (Dudley Bostwick); and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour), among others. A recent law school graduate from New York City, Lex spends his free time studying for various state bar examinations and works at the Brother Francis Homeless Shelter in Anchorage.



KALLI RANDALL

Kalli Randall is a 25-year-old graduate from the University of Alaska Anchorage's Theatre Department. This will be Kalli's fifth Conference, and she couldn't be more excited to be here. She finds this week to be rejuvenating and inspiring, to be in workshop with so many talented actors, writers, and artists alike. Kalli is most proud of her directing work on *Gravidity* by Ashley Rose Wellman which was performed in an evening slot at last year's Conference. Who knows what this year will hold but she says cheers to it all and here is to a good Conference.



DOREEN RANSOM

Doreen Ransom got the theatre bug when she was allowed to write, direct and star in *Rumpelstiltskin* in 4th grade. She has performed in a Jerome Kern musical in Connecticut and an Anchorage production of *Camelot*. A former news host/producer for the Alaska Public Radio Network and KSKA-FM and film and theatre reviewer, she has had several public readings of her plays, two of them in this Conference, and an Alaska Overnights production *Love in Darkest Suburbia*. Recently, she was a principle in a local dinner theater production, and at this writing, she is honing her tiny fangs for her May appearance in *Moonlight Lady*. This is her 13th year as a Conference reader.



DICK REICHMAN

Dick Reichman is a playwright who also acts and directs, mostly at Cyrano's Theater in Anchorage. His play about acting, *The Audition*, played at Cyrano's and this Conference last year. His plays *The Big One*, about the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill, and *Bruckner's Last Finale*, about classical composer Anton Bruckner, are recent Anchorage productions he is especially proud of. His newest, *Two Used Governors: an imaginary dialogue between Jay Hammond and Wally Hickel*, is scheduled to open in January of 2016.



KATE RICH

Kate Rich lives in Homer, Alaska, for most of the year, spending parts of her winters in disparate places like Cleveland and Mexico. As an active member of Pier One Theater and Homer Council on the Arts, she enjoys Homer's eclectic community of both new and seasoned actors, playwrights, artists and performers. This summer she is taking on a small role in a locally produced film, while continuing to work on her first full-length play. Kate has participated as a reader in the Conference since 2008, and has had two of her plays in the play lab.



MARTHA ROBINSON

Martha Robinson is so happy to participate in the Conference this year. She previously had the pleasure of playing Lillian in *I Hate Hamlet* at ACT and Hermia/Other Woman in *Dead Man's Cell Phone* at Cyrano's. She also enjoyed performing in the Alaska Overnights in 2015 and the 1st Alaska One-Minute Play Festival in 2014. In addition, Martha has the on-going role of a lifetime as "Mom" to her two wonderful teenage daughters. No matter the season, she enjoys being in the Alaskan outdoors, whether it's hiking, biking, running or skiing. But it is the love and support of family and friends that Martha treasures the most.



MARK ROBOKOFF

Mark Robokoff will perform in this year's Conference as the title role in Edgeware's production of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*. A frequent contributor, he 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, most recently with his beautiful and talented ku'uipo Sarah Bethany Baird in David Rambo's *The Ice-Breaker*. (Also *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 Cyrano's *Clybourne Park* in 2012. Mark lives and works as a freelance Marketing Consultant in Anchorage as *RoboMark Creative*. He also stacks rocks.



MORGAN ROWE

Morgan Rowe is a professional actress based in Seattle. Favorite shows include *The Pitman Painters*, *Female of the Species*, Queen Elizabeth in *The BFG*, *The Last Schwartz*, *Honus and Me* and 9 years of *A Christmas Carol*. She just finished playing Mae in *Cat on A Hot Tin Roof* at ACT Theatre, where she is also developing her first solo show, *Part of the Fiasco*. As well as working on the stage for over 30 years, she is currently working on her first full-length feature documentary currently title *The Home Is _____ Project* (www.homeisproject.com). She is a proud graduate of The Theater School at DePaul University.



NAVA SARRACINO

Nava Sarracino grew up in South Africa and has been in Alaska the last 5 years. It is Alaska that has given her the vision and understanding of her calling as an actress. Last year she performed in *The Syringa Tree*, a one-women show about South Africa. This was a 5-year dream that became a reality. She tours her own one-women show about Tahirih, the martyr-poet of Iran, and has started doing story-telling. She aims to carry on using theatre as a tool for educating, inspiring and transforming people and herself.



GABRIELLE SAVRONE

Gabrielle Savrone is a Melbourne-based director, actor, and visual artist. Working as the co-artistic director for The Owl and Cat Theatre in Melbourne and having recently taken over the ownership of the venue, she is flat out doing what she loves with her creative partner Thomas Ian Doyle.

Previous acting credits include *a bunch of Australian TV shows you won't know, so she won't bore you with the names!* Gabrielle is currently starring in Wendy Harmer's one-woman play *What is the matter with Mary Jane?* in Sydney at the Seymour Centre. From the last year's Conference, Gabrielle produced Amy Toft's *Flesh Eating Tiger*, and she can't wait to source more scripts for Aus! She is beyond ecstatic to be back in Valdez and with her creative partner here to boot! :)



JOSHUA SCHMIDTLEIN

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

directed shows at the University of Puget Sound.



TAMAR SHAI

Tamar Shai 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. She performed her last two roles at Cyrano's, playing Veronica in *Miss Witherspoon* and Evelyn in *Come to Me, Leopards*, written by Arlitia Jones and directed by Jayne Wenger. She is very much looking forward to meeting up with old friends and finding new ones in Valdez this summer.



JANNA SHAW

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

venture every year, not only because of the many amazing scripts, but because of the intriguing people involved. She is incredibly happy to be returning to her role in helping make the beloved Fringe Festival happen! Other projects

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



CYNTHIA LEE SIMS

Cynthia Lee Sims, a published poet and nonfiction writer and award-winning photographer, has an MA in English Literature with a published thesis on Jewish/English WWI poetry and a BA in Journalism. As an adjunct instructor for several years, she assisted with editing

and layout for *Understory*, UAA's creative arts journal and joined as an associate editor for *Cirque*. She has read Poetry Parlay as well as four seasons of the Conference, including one Monologue Workshop. She currently teaches umpteen sections of English 111 and works at Lowes where she acts like an electrical guru.



JILL SOWERWINE

Jill Sowerwine is cofounder of TossPot Productions and a graduate of the UAA Theatre Department. Her most recent roles include Peppin in *A Christmas Carol* (Perseverance Theatre), Mrs. Elvsted in *Hedda Gabler* (Cyrano's), and Elena Verendt in *Gravidity* (Theatre on the

Rocks). Past stage roles include *A Gulag Mouse* (TossPot Productions); *Love, Loss and What I Wore*; *Come to Me, Leopards*; *Miss Witherspoon*; *Superior Donuts* and *The Time of Your Life* (Cyrano's); *Well and Sweet* (Out North); *Cikiuteklluku* (Alaska Native Heritage Center); *The Odd Couple* (Brown Eyed Girls); *Landscape of the Body, A Man for All Seasons*, and *Top Girls* (UAA); *The Mousetrap*, *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*, and *Ladyhouse Blues* (ACT); *Hair* and *The Rocky Horror Show* (TAU); *Private Eyes* (TTR); and three different editions of *Fourplay* (Three Wise Moose). Her film credits include *The Ruthless Rhymers*, *Truth or ... Consequences* and *For the Rights of All: Ending Jim Crow in Alaska*.



ANDREA STAATS

Andrea Staats is an Anchorage actor and playwright. She studied theatre at UAA, and most recently appeared as Meg in Anchorage Community Theatre's production of *Crimes of the Heart*. She has made recent forays into film as an actor, assistant director, screenwriter, and cat

wrangler. She feels that any director who complains about difficult actors should try directing a cat.



JAY STEVENS

Jay Stevens has appeared in PWSCC Drama Department productions of Aoise Stratford's *Love and a Wide Moon*, *The Master Builder*, *Greater Tuna*, P. Shane Mitchell's *The Strange Case of Dr. Jekyll & Mr. Hyde*, Jonathon Brady's *Heroes*, Tara Meddaugh's *Free Space*, and Lisa D'Amour's *Detroit*, as well as several productions of the *Alaska Overnights*. Jay has attended the Conference as both a reader in the Play Lab and as an Assistant to the Conference Coordinator, sporadically, over the past ten years. He obtained his Bachelor's in Geological Engineering from UAF last spring.



GLYKA STOIOUS

Glyka Stoious comes from Greece and it's her first time in Alaska. She has studied journalism and mass media, the performing arts and cultural management. She works as an actress and as a video journalist, she directs and produces theatre plays and documentaries, she likes writing, travelling and going for long walks. As a self-motivated artist, she has contributed to a number of cultural institutes, seeking out interesting ideas to produce compelling projects.



JANET STONEBURNER

Janet Stoneburner is a long-standing participant in the Conference. She has appeared on or backstage with almost every theatre company in Anchorage. Some of her favorite roles include Dinah in *The Afterlife of the Mind* (TAO Productions), Kitty in *Taking Steps* (Brown Eyed Girls Theatre Co.) Beline in *The Imaginary Invalid* (Cyrano's Theatre Co.) and Miss Shields in *A Christmas Story* (Alaska Theatre of Youth). Janet is Production Manager for Cyrano's Theatre Company and the resident stage manager for VivaVoom Brr-lesque, where she also performs as a Talking Woman. When not on stage, Janet skates as Buster Good, part of the Derby Intelligence Compliance Squad (the DICS) with the Rage City Rollergirls. She would like to thank her husband, Mark Stoneburner, for everything.



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 years 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.



JESSICA SULLIVAN

Jessica Sullivan is an incoming Junior at UAA, studying Journalism and Theatre. She's been acting since the age of 12 and has since then participated in multiple plays with roles including a 1950's high-schooler dating a zombie, a Shakespearean duchess, and an insane asylum patient who thinks she's a fairy. Most recently, she was in *A Trip to Bountiful* with her favorite director, David Block, at Anchorage Community Theatre, as well as *The Five Year Plan*, a short film for the UAA film festival. She has a love for adventure and travel and has never had the opportunity to come to Valdez before, so she's thrilled to be here and to partake in the Conference for the first time!



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 play, *Big River*. From there she fell in love with theatre. She has had the opportunity to stay busy acting in musicals and straight plays for multiple companies around town (UAA, TAU, Cyrano's, Mad Myrna's). Her first lead role was Debbie Benton in Mad Myrna's production of *Debbie Does Dallas: The Musical*. Recent credits include: Chiffon in Mad Myrna's *Little Shop of Horrors*, Brunnhilde in Cyrano's *Das Barbecue*, and Captain in UAA's *Twelfth Night*.



JESSICA TAYLOR

Jessica Taylor was born and raised in Anchorage, Alaska. She has found many passions that make her kind of a nerd, but her biggest are comedy and acting, making taking this bio seriously a challenge for her. She performs stand up around Anchorage and has recently acted in the 1-Minute Play Festival and in *The Ravens Gift*, a Readers Theater performance. Jessica loves the local community and is trying her best to be a part of it.



AMY TOFTE

Amy Tofte has acted professionally for the stage and screen for more than 20 years. Her stage credits include everything from the experimental LaMAMA, Etc. in NYC to touring the Deep South with New Stage Theatre Children's Company as Tigger, as well as several regional theater roles from Shakespeare to transgender musicals. She studied acting with her mentor Trish Hawkins before training at Bill Esper Studio, Circle Rep Lab and studying voice with Shane Ann-Younts (all in NYC). She now lives in Los Angeles where she's studied Stanislavski with Jack Stehlin and has regularly participated in new play development with various LA theater companies. Amy is SAG/AFTRA.



ERIN TRIPP

Erin Tripp graduated from the University of Alaska Southeast in May 2013 with a Bachelor of Liberal Arts degree in Theatre and Tlingit language, having the distinction of being named the Outstanding Graduate of the Liberal Arts. She followed this up with an artistic internship at Perseverance Theatre for the 2013-14 season. As an actor, she has previously worked on such plays as *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike* by Christopher Durang, *Treasure Island* adapted by Ken Ludwig, and the world premiere of *the road weeps, the well runs dry* by Marcus Gardley. Most recently, she completed the Alaska tour of *A Midsummer Night's Dream* with Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre. Find her online at erintripp.com



ALI VITERBI

Ali Viterbi is thrilled and honored to participate in the Last Frontier Theatre Conference as both an actor and playwright. A recent graduate of Yale, Ali currently lives in New York City and divides her time between these two great passions. Favorite roles include Hero (*Much Ado About Nothing*; For Love and Duty Players), Camillo (*The Winter's Tale*; Hudson Shakespeare Co.), Cleopatra (*Antony and Cleopatra*; Yale), Lady (*Ladies and Gentlemen, the Rain*; Williamstown Theatre Festival) and Baker's Wife (*Into the Woods*; Yale). Ali recently assistant directed The Old Globe's *Two Gentlemen of Verona*, directed by Mark Lamos, and her solo show, *Them Lonesome Blues*, had its New York debut at the Emerging Artists Theatre.



JULIE VOSS

Julie Voss has a BA in Theatre from UAA. Her Anchorage credits include *Wonder of the World*, *As You Like It*, and *Our Town*. Julie now lives in Los Angeles where she is the Executive Producer and star of the web series *Fake Geek Girls*.



DONNA WARFIELD

Donna Warfield worked as an actress in NYC, appearing on stage, in movies, soap operas and commercials for almost 20 years before taking a break to raise her family. She has trained in the Meisner Technique with both Bill Esper and Larry Silverman. She also studied and taught acting at the Michael Howard studio in NY. In addition to acting she has also directed and produced. She is a recent transplant to South Florida and has been involved with several theater playgroups and classes as an actress, reader, and playwright, with two of her recent plays accepted by festivals for production.



HANNAH WASSEL

Hannah Wassel is heading into her senior year at Valdez High School (VHS). She has been active in the theatre for four years, starting when she was in school in Pennsylvania where she played Fruma Sarah in *Fiddler on the Roof*. She continued in Valdez, where she has worked with TBA Theatre (*Shadow Hour*), VHS Theatre (*The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)*, *Hickory Dickory Dead, Fools*), and Prince William Sound Community College (*La Bete*). She intends to attend film school after graduation.



HENRY WEAVER

Henry Weaver graduated from the University of Missouri, Columbia, with a BA in Vocal Performance, where he minored in Theatre and Dance. While there, he appeared in productions of *Cabaret*, *Pippin*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *A School for Scandal*, and *Toys in the Attic*. After receiving an Associate's Degree in Liberal Arts from St. Louis Community College, he moved to Los Angeles, where he studied under the late Phil Moore. During this period, he did several dinner shows at Marla's Memory Lane and The Rose Tattoo. He worked for seven years with Orange County Black Actors Theatre as a performer, costumer, make-up artist, choreographer, and assistant stage manager in productions including *Eubie*, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, and *Lady Day at Emersons*. He has appeared in Theatre Artists United productions of *The Who's Tommy*, *Pippin*, *RENT*, and the 2013 production of *Jesus Christ Superstar*, along with his most recent performances in *bobrauschenbergamerica* and *American Night: Ballad of Juan Jose* at Cyrano's. Henry has also worked as an extra on such films as *Baby Geniuses*, *Big Miracle*, and *The Frozen Ground*.



BRÍAN WESCOTT

Brían Wescott [pronounced Bree-un] was born and raised in Fairbanks and studies acting with Laura Gardner at the Howard Fine Acting Studio in L.A. In 2015, he has played Peter Quince and Ulevleruyaq (a Yup'ik fairy in Titania's service) in the Fairbanks Shakespeare Theatre's statewide tour of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*; an angry student and a calm astronaut in the 2nd annual *Short Stories for a Dark Winter* (for Dark Winter Prods. and the Perseverance Theatre); Sidney Huntington in the southwest Alaska tour of Anne Hanley's *The Winter Bear Project* (original direction by Jayne Wenger); and the Minister in Frank Katasse's *They Don't Talk Back* at the 17th Annual Festival of New Plays (at the Autry National Center and La Jolla Playhouse). Film credits include *The Four Quarters* (2014), *It's Dark Here*, and *Christmas in the Clouds*.



CAROLYNNE WILCOX

Carolynne Wilcox is a slash-artist (actor/playwright/producer/graphic designer) from Seattle, Washington, who has performed a great deal of her own work over the last several years (including a recent production of her Play Lab selection)! Favorite "hired gun" acting credits include

Don Quixote & Sancho Panza: Homeless in Seattle at Milagro Theatre in Portland; *eSe Oro*, *eSe Amor* and *Electricidad* with eSe Teatro at A Contemporary Theatre; *Hamlet*, *Oedipus Rex* and *The Trojan Women* with Ghost Light Theatricals; *The Maids* at Freehold Theatre in Seattle; *Leaves With A Name* at the Baltimore Creative Alliance; and *Save Me* with Fells Point Corner Theatre in Baltimore. She holds an MFA in Original Works from Towson University. More info & a complete portfolio can be found at www.carolynnewilcox.com.



AARON WISEMAN

Aaron Wiseman has had some of his career highlights at the Conference, including performances in *A Gulag Mouse* by Arthur M. Jolly (TossPot), *The Rendering of Conor McShea* by Eoin Carney (TBA Theatre), *Rounding Third* by Richard Dresser (Three Wise Moose), as well as Edward Albee's *Seascape* (TOAST), with accolades from the playwright himself. He has been co-Technical Director of the evening performances alongside the legendary Jim Cucurull for several years and designed and built sets for productions such as Schatzie Schaefer's *Fourplay* (3WM) and Arlitia Jones' *Sway Me, Moon* (3WM & Out North). He has been privileged to be at or near the ground level in formation of Three Wise Moose Productions as well as Toss Pot Productions, both of Anchorage. At the regional level, he has performed with Perseverance Theatre in both Juneau and Anchorage for Harold Pinter's *Betrayal* (thanks for thinking of me, Bostin Christopher). He has also been

known to officiate NCAA volleyball, document U.S. Coast Guard search and rescue operations, and remodel a bathroom here and there.



LOU ANNE WRIGHT

Professor Lou Anne Wright holds an MFA in Voice, Speech and Dialects from the National Theatre Conservatory. In addition she was trained by the internationally acclaimed voice teacher Catherine Fitzmaurice and is a certified Fitzmaurice Voicework teacher. She has served as voice/dialect coach for several theatre companies, including the Colorado Shakespeare Festival, the Denver Center for the Performing Arts, Playmakers Repertory, and the Sierra Repertory Company. Some of her recent acting credits include Boo in *The Last Night Of Ballyhoo* at the Fox Theatre in Denver, Amanda in *The Glass Menagerie* at the Bolder Repertory Company, and Judy Shepard in the HBO film *The Laramie Project*. Lou Anne co-wrote the play *Kabuki Medea*, which was produced in the U.S. and internationally, including the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts, the Wisdom Bridge Theatre in Chicago, the Durban Performing Arts Center in South Africa, The International Theatre Festival in Israel and The Berkeley Rep. *Kabuki Medea* won the Bay Area Critics Award for Best Production in San Francisco.



ANNIA WYNDHAM

After 16 years of worldly adventure, Annia Wyndham has returned home to Stockholm, Sweden. Her time abroad was a priceless experience, pursuing new friends, new routines, and new acting opportunities wherever she landed. She was schooled in the dramatic arts in Sweden and Switzerland. Some of her stage credits include *Hedda Gabler*, *God of Carnage*, *A Gulag Mouse*, *Love Loss and What I Wore*, *Absurd Person Singular*, and *Miss Julie*. She works as a freelance graphic artist.



CARL YOUNG

Born in Los Angeles and raised in Texas, Carl Young has been involved in theatre practically his whole life. His various productions include Nazi Karl Heinz in *Edith Stein*, award winning role Nicholas in *The Boy Who Stole the Stars*, Claude Frolo in *Quazimodo*, the Father in *Meet Me 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 most recently Rat in *A Wind in the Willows*. Carl is excited to be participating in the Conference and plans on being a part of the Valdez community for a long time.

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