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THE THANKS GIVING PLAY

GOOD INTENTIONS COLLIDE WITH ABSURD ASSUMPTIONS

WRITTEN BY
LARISSA FASTHORSE

DIRECTED BY
DANIEL JÁQUEZ



PRODUCTION SPONSOR:
KATIE KELLER



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OCT 4 – NOV 3, 2024

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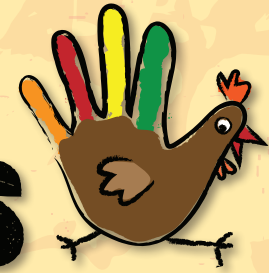
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THE THANKS GIVING PLAY



GOOD INTENTIONS COLLIDE WITH ABSURD ASSUMPTIONS

WRITTEN BY
LARISSA FASTHORSE

DIRECTED BY
DANIEL JÁQUEZ

CAST

Jaxton KENNY BORDIERI
Logan SAMANTHA GINN
Caden AJ KNOX
Alicia ERICA MARIE WEISZ
Male Swing CONNOR BOYD
Female Swing KAY MARIAN MCNELLEN

CREATIVE TEAM

Director DANIEL JÁQUEZ
Stage Manager BECCA MOORE
Scenic Designer MICHAEL WOGULIS
Costume Designer SANDRA RUIZ
Lighting Designer ANELISE SALAZAR
Sound Designer EVAN EASON
Fight Choreographer FREDY GOMEZ CRUZ
Props Designer & Assistant Stage Manager JOSEFF PAZ
Costume Assistant MARYKATE REEVES-HOCHE
Marketing Consultant AVELAKA MACARRO

SETTING: A High School Drama Room anywhere but the Los Angeles area.

APPROXIMATE RUN TIME: 90 Minutes with no Intermission.

PRODUCTION SPONSOR: KATIE KELLER

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com.

Broadway Premiere Produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York, 2023

Carole Rothman, Artistic Director; Khady Kamara, Executive Director.

Playwrights Horizons, Inc., New York City, produced the World Premiere of THE THANKSGIVING PLAY in 2018.

THE THANKSGIVING PLAY was commissioned and originally produced by Artists Repertory Theatre Damaso Rodriguez, Artistic Director Sarah Horton, Managing Director Portland, Oregon.

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FOUNDER & EXECUTIVE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

KALI BOSTON (she/her)
ARTISTIC PRODUCER

BRE EUGENIO (she/her)
PATRON SERVICES & DEVELOPMENT
MANAGER

OLIVIA PENCE (she/her)
MANAGER OF MARKETING &
COMMUNICATIONS

KIARA HUDLIN (she/her)
EDUCATION & FELLOWSHIP MANAGER

MARCUS RICO (he/him)
TECHNICAL MANAGER

LANETTE GRANGER (she/her)
BOOKKEEPER

SIDNEY SIEMANN (she/her)
SOCIAL MEDIA MARKETING ASSISTANT

TOM AGOSTA (he/him)
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PAIGE OBERHOLTZER (she/her)
DAYTIME BOX OFFICE REPRESENTATIVE

PUG LEE (they/them)
NEXT STAGE SOUND ENGINEER

JOAN CUMMING (she/her)
EXECUTIVE CONSULTANT

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BELLE DEVINS
ANAMARIE EVANS
RENEE FEGAN
MCKENNA FOOTE
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please contact
Kristianne Kurner,
Founder and Executive
Artistic Director at
[kristianne@
newvillagearts.org](mailto:kristianne@newvillagearts.org)

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Thank you for being here! I invite you to take a deep breath, get ready to laugh, and dive into a world that feels both familiar and full of surprises.

Growing up in Mexico, all I knew about Thanksgiving was turkey and that kids in El Paso didn't have to go to school. My mom brought her traditions from Kentucky, which meant watching the Macy's Parade and dealing with those terrible canned cranberries. Nothing about Native Americans, though—did you know that in 2020, the parade finally included a native land acknowledgment and tribal blessing? It was a first!

Working on this play with such talented artists has been a true joy. Each of us has delved into historical facts and personal

stories in our pursuit of authenticity, truth, and joy.

Theater is often described as a mirror to society. At the end of Cabaret, a mirror is lowered, allowing the audience to see themselves reflected in the story. While we don't have a mirror tonight, we do have this open space—a canvas ready for your engagement.

I invite you to trust the artists, just as I did during rehearsals. They'll take you on a journey that feels both familiar and absurd, hitting close to home.

Feel free to keep your phones on and react however you like—laugh, groan, yell "hallelujah!" We all belong here.

Enjoy the show!



DANIEL JÁQUEZ
DIRECTOR

UP NEXT

THE THANKS GIVING PLAY

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We acknowledge that The Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center operates on the unceded land of the Payómkawichum (Pye-om-ko-wi-chom) (Luiseño) and Kumeyaay peoples. We further acknowledge that NVA was founded upon exclusions and erasures of many Indigenous peoples, including those who are the traditional Custodians and First people of the land on which we work, play, gather, share, and learn. New Village Arts honors the over 20,000 current tribal members living in the San Diego area, and promises to create a safe space for the local Native Communities to share the art, accomplishments, and history of their peoples. This is a starting point in our efforts to be more active in our local communities and we acknowledge that we have much further to go.

CAST



KENNY BORDIERI (he/him), Jaxton

Kenny is a native San Diego actor, he's been working professionally since 2016 after first training at PCPA: The Pacific Conservatory Theatre and then ultimately graduating with a BFA from Utah State University. You may have seen him earlier this year in NVA's production of *The 39 Steps* or as Perchik in *Fiddler on the Roof* (San Diego Musical Theatre). Other local credits include: Vinnie in *Lucky Stiff* (Scripps Ranch Theatre), Eddie in *Lost in Yonkers* (Scripps Ranch Theatre), and Clifford in *Deathtrap* (Oceanside Theatre Company). Some regional favorites are Harry in *Mamma Mia!* (Lyric Rep), Jim/Tom in *Clybourne Park* (Lyric Rep). Kenny is thrilled to be returning to New Village Arts in this poignant piece with this wonderful group of artists. Instagram: @kennybordieriofficial.



SAMANTHA GINN (she/her), Logan

Samantha is an actress, director, writer, and inclusion specialist who is thrilled to be back onstage at NVA! Samantha graduated from Sonoma State University with her Bachelor's in Theatre Arts. Some acting credits at NVA include: *One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *The Miss Firecracker Contest*, *Sylvia*, *The Weir*, *Men on Boats*, *The Servant of Two Masters* (co-writer). Other credits include: *Hand to God* (The Roustabouts), *The Mineola Twins*, *The Revolutionists*, *Hickorydickory* (Critics Circle Award), *Trouble in Mind* (Moxie Theatre), *How High The Moon*, *The Car Plays* (La Jolla Playhouse WOW Festival), *Well, Scrooge in Rouge* (Diversionary Theatre), *She-Rantulas From Outer Space in 3D!* (New York Fringe Festival), *The North Plan* (ion theatre), *Seminar*, *Dog Sees God* (InnerMission Productions). Samantha has also directed *The Roommate*, and *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown* (New Village Arts), *Falling* (InnerMission Productions), and a school tour production of *Stellaluna* starring all actors with neurodiversity. There will be a documentary about the Stellaluna school tour coming out this fall called "Extraordinary Characters". I would like to dedicate this performance to my mom who always goes above and beyond cooking Thanksgiving dinner! Apologies, Twila, for knowing how to be on a stage, but never in a kitchen.

Graciously Sponsored by William Willis and Sally Willis.

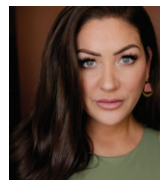


AJ KNOX (he/him), Caden

AJ is thrilled to be returning to the NVA stage with this biting satire. Acting credits at NVA include *Doubt: A Parable*, *Around the World in 80 Days*, and *The 1940s Radio Hour*. Directing: *Singin' in the Rain*, *Murder for Two*, *The Toxic Avenger: The Musical* (concert reading), *Little Shop of Horrors*, *The Servant of Two Masters* (co-written with Samantha Ginn), and *Avenue Q* (Craig Noel Award Nominee). AJ also serves as the President of NVA's Board of Directors. When he's not doing theatre, AJ is an illustrator, writer, storyteller, and educator. Endless love to his wife Jenna for always supporting, encouraging,

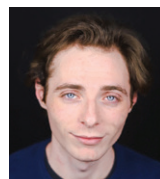
and occasionally collaborating on his creative endeavors, and to his rambunctious and possibly feral daughter Lincoln (3), AKA "Princess Hurricane". IG: @atothej83 | www.DrAJKnox.com.

Graciously Sponsored by The Young Family and Jacques and Tiffany Spitzer.



ERICA MARIE WEISZ (she/her), Alicia

A Portuguese San Diego native, Erica Marie has graced stages including Moonlight, Welk Resort Theatre, Performance Riverside, Cygnet, and is so happy to be returning to New Village Arts! Credits include *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical* (Marilyn Wald), *Guys and Dolls* (Adelaide), *Grease* (Rizzo), *Hello Dolly* (Irene Molloy), *Lucky Stiff* (Rita), and most notably, *Addams Family* (Morticia). With a passion for big band/jazz music, Erica shined (quite literally in sequins!) as emcee/vocalist for Performance Riverside's "A Night with the Big Bands" concert, was the vocalist for Moonlight's "Casino Night", and sang at New Village Arts' gala this year! Post quarantine, Erica Marie produced her one-woman-show, "I Can Cook, Too!" with much success, and then a remount! Erica enjoys cooking, trivia, is a registered dental assistant, and adores her long-haired dachshunds. "A cornucopia of gratitude to KK and everyone at NVA for welcoming me back, and to YOU reading this—thank YOU for supporting live theatre!" Instagram: @ericamarieweisz.



CONNOR BOYD (he/him), Swing

Connor is thrilled to be making his debut at New Village Arts. Over the past 20 years he's performed all around San Diego, and has served the last 3 years as Associate Artistic Director for Trinity Theatre Company. Performing Credits: Sky in *Mamma Mia*, Boland in *Dogfight*, Seymour in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Coronado Playhouse), Tom in *Murder Ballad* (10th Ave Theatre) Austin in *I love You Because*, Charlie in *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*, Judas in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* (Trinity Theatre). Producing Credits: *Ride the Cyclone*, *35mm: A Musical Exhibition*, *The Cocktail Hour*, *Tuesday's with Morrie*, *New Works Festival 2023 & 2024* (Trinity Theatre). Thank you for supporting live theatre! Instagram: @connorpalooza.



KAY MARIAN MCNELLEN (she/her), Swing

Kay Marian McNellen is very happy to be returning for her second production with New Village Arts. You may have seen her previously on stage with us as the Adult Female Understudy in *Fun Home*. She has also appeared at *Backyard Renaissance* as Karen Weston (August Osage County), Katie (*Bachelorette*), and Shannon (*Witchland*). She is also co-directing NVA's upcoming production of *Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play* this winter with Faith Carrion. Kay would like to thank her partner of 6 years for their unconditional love and support, and her sister for being a constant example of the perfect comic timing. Enjoy the show!

CREATIVES

DANIEL JÁQUEZ (he/him), Director

Daniel is an award-winning director, translator and theatre-maker, has directed and produced shows in New York, regionally, and internationally. Jáquez premiered work by renowned playwrights Charise Castro Smith, Karen Zacarías, Marisela Treviño, Migdalia Cruz, Magdalena Gómez and has developed plays by visionaries Andrea Thome, Quiara Hudes, Virginia Grise, among others. In San Diego, Jáquez is Founder and Director of Camino23, a Latinx theater collective; co-Founder of TuYo, a company producing theatre from a Latinx perspective. He is Associate Artist with Bocón Arts where he recently directed the well-received, dual-language production of *Mía* in Barrio Logan. For The Old Globe, Jáquez directed *The Winter's Tale* and devised *La Muerte R.I.P. and Hermanas for Arts Engagement*. He is a Classical Directing Fellow. In New York he worked as Director and co-Founder of Unit52 (Intar Theatre's collective), Director of Intar/Jerome Foundation's NewWorks Lab, co-Founder and Artistic Director of Calpulli Mexican Dance and Advisor for the Lark's U.S./México Word Exchange. In Oregon, he served as Interim Artistic Director of Milagro Theatre. Jáquez is a member of SDC and the

Latinx Theatre Commons. His teaching experience includes: UCSD, Manhattanville College, Harvard University, Columbia University, and Sarah Lawrence College. Jáquez earned a Directing MFA from the ART/MXAT Institute at Harvard University and a BS in Mathematics from the University of Texas.

BECCA MOORE (she/her), Stage Manager

Becca received her B.A. in Theatre from UC San Diego in June 2024. UC San Diego credits: *Orlando* (PA), *Winterworks24* (ASM), *The Half-Sibling Play* (ASM). Other credits: *All in the Timing* (PSM; Grossmont Community College).

MICHAEL WOGULIS (he/him), Scenic Designer

Michael is a scenic and projections designer based in Southern California. Local scenic design credits include: *Clyde's* (Moxie Theatre), *The Glass Menagerie* (Diversionary Theatre), *The Four Note Opera* (Kallisti Ensemble), *Ariodante* (Opera Neo), *blu*, *Machinal*, *Hells Canyon*, *Napoli*, and *Much Ado About Nothing* (UCSD Theatre and Dance). Other credits: *Cleopatra* (projection design, Moxie Theatre), *La Lucha* (scenic artisan,



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CREATIVES

WOW Festival/Optika Moderna), *Here There Are Blueberries* (assistant scenic resident, La Jolla Playhouse). Michael is a double alumnus of UC San Diego, having earned both a BA and an MFA in scenic design from the university. Find more information at michaelwogulis.com.

SANDRA RUIZ (she/her), Costume Designer

Sandra Ruiz has been a theatre artist in San Diego for over 20 years. Born and raised in San Diego, Sandra received her BAs in Theatre and Human Development from the University of California- San Diego. Sandra has worked in the theatre as an actor, costume designer, playwright, director, casting associate and a teaching artist. In her last project, Sandra directed a bilingual version of *Romeo y Julieta* at Southwestern College where she composed the Spanish script along with Shakespeare's original text. As a costume designer & assistant costume designer, some of her favorite credits include: *The Other Place*, *A Bright New Boise*, *Blue Period*, *Sheepdog*, *Cabaret & Once on this Island*.

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ANNELISE SALAZAR (he/him), Lighting Designer

Annelise is a San Diego based Theatre and Festival Lighting Designer. Her past theatre credits include *Desert Rock Garden*, *The Ferryman*, *The Roommate*, and *Singin' in the Rain* (NVA); *TL;DR*, *Irma Vep*, *The High Table*, and *Dragon Mama* (Diversonary); *Clyde's and Mother of the Maid* (MOXIE); *Water by the Spoonful* (Cygnet Theatre, ALD); *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* (The Old Globe, ALD). Annelise has previously worked at The Old Globe Theatre, Bay Street Theatre, and Tuyo Theatre. Annelise invites you to check out her website to keep up with her past, current, and future projects: annelisesalazardesigns.com. As Always, Love to my partner Emily for standing beside me as I pursue this incredible career! Graciously Sponsored by Nishi-Cashour Trust.

EVAN EASON (he/him), Sound Designer

Evan is thrilled to be returning to New Village Arts! Some of his previous work includes: *Into the Woods*, *Beehive: The 60s Musical* (New Village Arts), *Intimate Apparel*, *The Cherry Orchard* (North Coast Repertory), *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, *Evita* (Cygnet), *The Two Gentlemen of Verona*, *Measure for Measure* (USD/The Old Globe), *Eighty- Sixed*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep* (Diversonary), *Pick Me Last*, *Emily Driver's Great Race Through Time and Space* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Good Trouble* (Blindspot Collective). Evan has also worked as an associate/assistant sound designer on: *The Women's Project* (Clubbed Thumb), *Aubergine*, *The Humans* (San Diego Repertory), *Twelfth Night* (USD/The Old Globe).

FREDY GOMEZ CRUZ (he/him), Fight Choreography

Fredy is thrilled to contribute to *The Thanksgiving Play* as the Fight Choreographer. He holds a third-degree black belt in Traditional Okinawan Karate and Okinawan weapons. His studies have equipped him to incorporate swords, clubs, bones, turkey legs, and hand-to-hand combat into stage performances. His fight choreography was recently seen in Camino 23's *This Bitch*. Previous credits include *STEW* (Scripps Ranch Theatre), and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Coronado Playhouse). With over 15 years of fight experience, he

strongly emphasizes crafting compelling narratives through safe and authentic movement.

JOSEFF PAZ (he/him), Props Designer & Assistant Stage Manager

Joseff holds a B.A. in Theatre and a B.S. in Education Studies from UC San Diego. Credits: *Heathers: The Musical* (PSM, Zorina Productions), *NVA* credits: *The Color Purple* (SM), *8-TRACK: The Sounds of the '70s* (ASM), *The 39 Steps* (ASM), *A Weekend with Pablo Picasso* (ASM), *1222 Oceanfront: A Black Family Christmas* (ASM). SD Jewish Arts Festival credits: *Woman of Valor*, *The Red Beads*, *Chagall*, *Hereville: A New Jewish Musical*, *Neshama: Music of the Soul*. UCSD credits: *Hells Canyon* (ASM), *In the Red and Brown Water* (ASM), *Prepared* (ASM), *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (ASM), *Much Ado About Nothing* (PA).

MARYKATE REEVES-HOCHE (she/her), Costume Assistant

Volunteer in her second season within the costume team permanently assigned to the theater. A retired scientist with a passion for textiles.

LARISSA FASTHORSE (she/her), Writer

Larissa FastHorse (Sicangu Lakota Nation) is a 2020 MacArthur Fellow, award winning writer/choreographer, and co-founder of Indigenous Direction, the nation's leading consulting company for Indigenous arts and audiences. Larissa will be represented across the country in the 2023-2024 season with a revised book of the beloved Jerome Robbins Broadway musical, *Peter Pan*. She made her Broadway debut in the 2022-2023 season with her satirical comedy, *The Thanksgiving Play* making her the first known female, Native playwright to be produced on Broadway (second only to the great Lynne Riggs in the 1930s). *The Thanksgiving Play* has been one of the top ten most produced plays in America for the last two seasons. She is the first Native American playwright in the history of American theater on that list. Larissa is also one of the top twenty most produced playwrights of last season. Additional produced plays include *For The People*, *The Democracy Project*, *What Would Crazy Horse Do?*, *Landless and Cow Pie Bingo*, *Average Family*, *Teaching Disco Squaredancing to Our Elders: a Class Presentation*, *Vanishing Point and Cherokee Family Reunion*. In the Fall of 2023, Larissa is a professor of practice (literature) at Arizona State University's Department of English.

PLAYWRIGHTS HORIZONS

Playwrights Horizons is dedicated to cultivating the most important American playwrights, composers, and lyricists, as well as developing and producing their bold new plays and musicals. Tim Sanford became Artistic Director in 1996 and Leslie Marcus has been Managing Director since 1993. Under their decades of leadership, Playwrights builds upon its diverse and renowned body of work, counting 400 writers among its artistic roster. In addition to its onstage work each season, Playwrights' singular commitment to nurturing American theater artists guides all of the institution's multifaceted initiatives: our acclaimed New Works Lab, a robust commissioning program, an innovative curriculum at its Theater School, and more. Robert Moss founded Playwrights

in 1971 and cemented the mission that continues to guide the institution today. André Bishop served as Artistic Director from 1981-1992. Don Scardino succeeded him and served until 1996. Over its 47-year history, Playwrights has been recognized with numerous awards and honors, including six Pulitzer Prizes, 13 Tony Awards, and 39 Obie Awards.

SECOND STAGE THEATRE

Under the artistic direction of Carole Rothman, Second Stage Theater operates three New York City venues, exclusively dedicated to producing living American playwrights. Second Stage recently completed its 43rd season, which included the Tony Award-winning revival of Richard Greenberg's *Take Me Out* and the New York premiere production of Lynn Nottage's Tony nominated play *Clyde's*, as well as the world premieres of Rajiv Joseph's *Letters of Suresh* and JC Lee's *To My Girls*. The company's 2021-22 productions received several nominations and awards including Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Play (*Take Me Out*) and Best Featured Actor in a Play (Jesse Tyler Ferguson, *Take Me Out*); the Outer Critics Circle Awards for Outstanding Revival of a Play (*Take Me Out*), Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play (Jesse Tyler Ferguson, *Take Me Out*) and Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play (Uzo Aduba, *Clyde's*); the Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Projection Design (Shawn Duan, *Letters of Suresh*); and the Drama Desk Award for Outstanding Costume Design for a Play (Jennifer Moeller, *Clyde's*). Second Stage's first season on

CREATIVES

Broadway at The Hayes Theater included *Lobby Hero* by Kenneth Lonergan, directed by Trip Cullman (Tony nominee for Best Revival of Play, Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role, Michael Cera and Brian Tyree Henry) and *Straight White Men* by Young Jean Lee, directed by Anna D. Shapiro. Among Second Stage's 180 productions are the 2015 Pulitzer Prize winner *Between Riverside and Crazy* by Stephen Adly Guirgis; the 2010 Pulitzer Prize winner *Next to Normal* by Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey; the 2012 Pulitzer Prize winner *Water by the Spoonful* by Quiara Alegria Hudes; *Mary Page Marlowe* by Tracy Letts; *The Last Five Years* by Jason Robert Brown; *Dogfight* by Benj Pasek, Justin Paul and Peter Duchan; *Dear Evan Hansen* by Benj Pasek, Justin Paul and Steven Levenson; *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* by Lynn Nottage; *Trust and Lonely, I'm Not* by Paul Weitz; *Grand Horizons* by Bess Wohl; *The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity* by Kristoffer Diaz; *Everyday Rapture* and *Whorl Inside a Loop* by Dick Scanlan and Sherie Rene Scott; *Let Me Down Easy* and *Notes From the Field* by Anna Deavere Smith; *Becky Shaw* by Gina Gionfriddo; *Torch Song* by Harvey Fierstein; *Eurydice* by Sarah Ruhl; *The Little Dog Laughed* by Douglas Carter Beane; *Metamorphoses* by Mary Zimmerman; *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* by William Finn and Rachel Sheinkin; *Jitney* by August Wilson; *Crowns* by Regina Taylor; *Saturday Night* by Stephen Sondheim; *Afterbirth: Kathy & Mo's Greatest Hits* by Mo Gaffney and Kathy Najimy; *This Is Our Youth* by Kenneth Lonergan; *Coastal Disturbances* by Tina Howe; *A Soldier's Play* by Charles Fuller; *The Good Times Are Killing Me* by Lynda Barry; and *Tiny Alice and*

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The advertisement features a background image of a theater interior with red seats and a red carpet. In the foreground, there are two large ice cream cones. The top cone is a pinkish-red color with chocolate chips, and the bottom cone is a white vanilla color with chocolate chips. The text 'HANDEELS' is written in a large, white, serif font with a red outline, and 'HOMEMADE ICE CREAM SINCE 1945' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font below it. The text 'Supports NEW VILLAGE ARTS' is written in a white, cursive font, and 'Made Fresh Daily!' is written in a white, cursive font inside a red circular logo.

Peter and Jerry by Edward Albee. The company's more than 170 citations include six 2017 Tony Awards for *Dear Evan Hansen* (Best Musical; Best Lead Actor in a Musical, Ben Platt; Best Featured Actress in a Musical, Rachel Bay Jones; Best Book of a Musical; Best Original Score; Best Orchestrations); the 2009 Tony Awards for Best Lead Actress in a Musical (Alice Ripley, *Next to Normal*), Best Score (Tom Kitt and Brian Yorkey, *Next to Normal*), and Best Orchestrations (Tom Kitt and Michael Starobin, *Next to Normal*); the 2007 Tony Award for Best Actress in a Play (Julie White, *The Little Dog Laughed*); the 2005 Tony Award for Best Book of a Musical (Rachel Sheinkin, ... *Spelling Bee*) and Best Featured Actor in a Musical (Dan Fogler, ... *Spelling Bee*); the 2002 Tony Award for Best Director of a Play (Mary Zimmerman for *Metamorphoses*); the 2002 Lucille Lortel Award for Outstanding Body of Work, 29 Obie Awards, 11 Outer Critics Circle Awards, four Clarence Derwent Awards, 17 Drama Desk Awards, 11 Theatre World Awards, one Dorothy Louden Award, 20 Lucille Lortel Awards, the Drama Critics Circle Award and 23 AUDELCO Awards. In 1999, Second Stage Theater opened The Tony Kiser Theater, its state-of-the-art, 296-seat theater, designed by renowned Dutch architect Rem Koolhaas. In 2002, Second Stage launched Second Stage Theater Uptown to showcase the work of up-and-coming artists at the 99-seat McGinn/Cazale Theater. The Theater supports artists through several programs that include residencies, fellowships and commissions, and engages students and community members through education and outreach programs. In 2018, Second Stage began producing at its 581-seat Broadway home, The Hayes Theater. Originally named The Little Theater and built in 1912, the city landmark has been remodeled by David Rockwell of Rockwell Group. For more information, please visit www.2ST.com.

KRISTIANNE KURNER (she/her), Founder & Executive Artistic Director

Kristianne founded New Village Arts in 2001, and she has grown the organization from a starting budget of \$2,500 with two employees to a current budget of \$1.6 million with over 20 employees. Trained as an actor and director, she has worked on every NVA theatrical production. Her directing credits include *Awake & Sing! The Weir*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *True West*, *Sailor's Song*, *The Waverly Gallery*, *A Lie of the Mind*, and the premiere outside of Broadway and London of Jez Butterworth's *The Ferryman*. Her work has received numerous awards, including San Diego Theatre Critics Circle and KPBS Awards for Theatre Excellence. She is the recipient of the Clare Rose Sabbatical Award from Fieldstone Leadership Network and serves on the Board of the Carlsbad Chamber of Commerce. Education: BFA Theatre, College of William & Mary; MFA Acting, the Actors Studio/New School.

KALI BOSTON (she/her), Artistic Producer

Originally from Massachusetts, Kali moved to California to pursue her passion in producing and directing. After graduating from the University of California, San Diego last year with a BA in Theatre, Kali has been a part of many different theaters and festivals including: *In Every Generation* (Assistant Director, JFEST's The Whole Megillah), *8-TRAC: The Sounds of the '70s*, *The Color Purple* (NVA), *The 39 Steps* (Producer, NVA), Jewish Arts Festival 2024 (Production Manager), *Fun Home* (Producer, NVA), *1222 OceanFront: A Black Family Christmas* (Producer, NVA), *Doubt* (Production Manager, NVA), *A Weekend with Pablo Picasso* (Assistant Director, NVA), *Heathers: The Musical* (Producer/Director, Zorina Productions), Production Assistant (*Dishwasher Dreams*, *The Old Globe*).

Please take a moment in our lobby to experience the **Milena (Sellers) Phillips Gallery**, in celebration of Jonathan Sellers & Charlie Keever, as well as the **Judi Sheppard Missett and Jack Missett Gallery**, in honor and celebration of Brendan John Sheppard-Missett, located in the New Village Arts Art Gallery.



ERIC TIPPECONNIC

CONNECTED

Eric is an enrolled member of the Comanche Nation. He is the son of Norman Tippeconnic Sr. and Kirsten Tippeconnic (from Copenhagen Denmark). Eric's work in painting is influenced from living on numerous reservations and Native communities and working with diverse Native nations his entire professional career. Using bright, rich and vibrant color combinations, Eric utilizes his artwork to capture movement that serves as a metaphor and boldly states that Native American cultures, while intimately connected to their history, are in fact contemporary, alive, and constantly evolving. Eric holds a Bachelor's Degree from Colorado State University, a Master's Degree from the University of Colorado at Denver, and when he completed his Ph.D. at the University of New Mexico, he became the first Comanche to receive a Ph.D. in that field. Eric is a tenured track professor of American Indian Studies at California State University San Marcos.

Also located in our lobby is the beautiful work of *Ericka Lopez* and *Alexis Munoa Dyer*, both members of the Pechanga Band of Luiseno Indians, as well as *Casse Kihúut*, Payómkawish of Pechanga Band of Indians.

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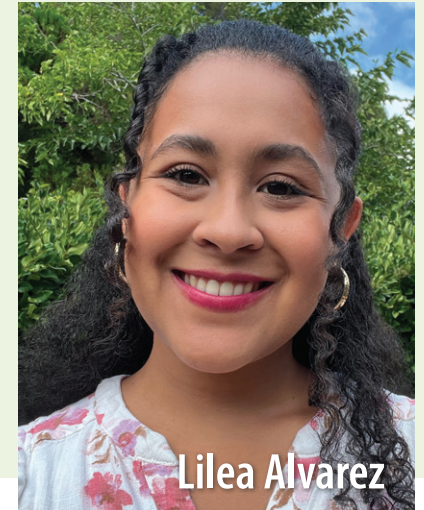
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Miss Dea, as she was affectionately known by our staff, was one of the strongest and most inspirational women we've ever known. The world has lost an incredible light. She had an indelible impact in the San Diego theatre community: mentoring, encouraging, supporting, loving, and always, telling her truth. We feel so fortunate to have shared in Dea's extraordinary life.



The Dea Hurston Fellowship was created to address the lack of paid opportunities for women, BIPOC, and other underserved theater administrators, artists, and students in our region.

As a young girl, Dea was denied access to dance lessons and other artistic ventures due to the prevailing racist attitudes, politics, and laws. The Dea Hurston Fellowship has been her way to ensure that young Black women not only have access to the arts, but paid training, mentorship, and exposure to all aspects and vocations within the arts industry.

To Learn More about the Dea Hurston Fellowship, please visit the link in our QR Code:



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Photos are from NVA's school tour of Stellaluna.

Photography: Jason Sullivan/Dupla

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• Our new performing arts are blossoming on the White Family Next Stage.
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