



# NEW VILLAGE ARTS

MEDIA ALERT

## New Village Arts Honors 25 San Diego-based Female Scientists with ILLUMINATING WOMEN IN SCIENCE

**For Immediate Release: February 7th, 2025**

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**February 6, 2025. Carlsbad, CA:** New Village Arts has recently opened its highly lauded production of Lauren Gunderson's [THE HALF-LIFE OF MARIE CURIE](#), a play exploring the friendship between two accomplished female scientists from the early twentieth century: Marie Curie and Hertha Ayrton. Inspired by the work of these trailblazing women, New Village Arts (NVA) decided to learn more about the women in science and engineering in San Diego.

NVA reached out to local biotech & health science organizations such as Scripps Health, QuidelOrtho, Sanford Burnham Prebys, Tri-City Medical Center and many other institutions, and asked for nominations of women who are doing groundbreaking work in science and engineering. The result is a list of 25 women from all areas of San Diego making incredible impacts in our community.

The honored scientists answered two questions which NVA is sharing via email and social media as well as in our lobby. The first, "Tell us about your work" recognizes the vast variety of scientific work happening in our community. The second, "How did you learn about Marie Curie and how has her work impacted your own" speaks so much to the importance of representation and the impact of Madam Curie in our world.

Honored scientists have received two free tickets to THE HALF-LIFE OF MARIE CURIE. Many of the scientists will be attending a talk-back, led by NVA's Executive Artistic Director Kristianne Kurner, on Sunday, February 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:45pm. Tickets for the performance that day are sold out, but members of the public are welcome to join NVA for this free event.

THE HALF-LIFE OF MARIE CURIE runs through February 23<sup>rd</sup> at the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center, 2787 State Street, Carlsbad Village. For more information, visit [newvillagearts.org](http://newvillagearts.org) or call the box office at (760) 433-3245.



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For a full list of the scientists and their enlightening answers:

<https://newvillagearts.org/illuminating-women-in-science/>

### **Full list of recipients and the organizations they work with:**

Emerald Adeyan, Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute

Paula Aristizabal, UCSD and Rady's Children's Hospital San Diego

Melissa Carter, Scripps Institution of Oceanography; UCSD

Rosie Cash, QuidelOrtho

Elizabeth Dominguez, QuidelOrtho

Tara Eagle, Tri-City Medical Center

Tanja Eisemann, Sanford Burnham Prebys

Stephanie Fraley, UCSD Moores Cancer Center

Yazmin Hatch, QuidelOrtho

Evelyn Sanchez Hernandez, Sanford Burnham Prebys

Rachel Khoury, Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute

Bridget Kohnhofer, Aspen Neuroscience

Jasmine LeFlore, Greater Than Tech & Collins Aerospace

Alicia Llorente, Sanford Burnham Prebys Medical Discovery Institute

Sally Magaña, Gemological Institute of America (GIA)

Queralt Vallmajó Martín, Salk Institute for Biological Studies

Katya Masrchetti, SBP Discovery

Laura Nicholson, Scripps Research

Chiara Nicoletti, Sanford Burnham Prebys

Ksenia Palke, Nvidia

Sara Przetocka, Salk Institute

Mary Kate Reeves-Hoche, Sanofi Pasteur

Alejandra Solis, QuidelOrtho

Jackie Trischman, The College of STEM at CSUSM

Daniela Valdez-Jasso, UCSD

### **ABOUT THE PLAY:**

THE HALF-LIFE OF MARIE CURIE by Lauren Gunderson revels in the power of female friendship as it explores the relationship between two brilliant women, both of whom are mothers, widows, and fearless champions of scientific inquiry. In 1911, Marie Curie won the Nobel Prize



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in Chemistry for her discovery of the elements radium and polonium. By 1912, she was the object of ruthless gossip over an alleged affair with the married Frenchman Paul Langevin, all but erasing her achievements from public memory. Weakened and demoralized by the press lambasting her as a “foreign” Jewish temptress and a homewrecking traitor, Marie agrees to join her friend and colleague Hertha Ayrton, an electromechanical engineer and suffragette, and recover from the scandal at Hertha’s seaside retreat on the British coast.

### **ABOUT NEW VILLAGE ARTS**

Celebrating 23 years of award-winning professional theatre and thriving education and outreach programs, New Village Arts (NVA) has truly become the cultural hub of North County San Diego. NVA attracts more than 30,000 patrons each year to experience professional theatre, music and art events in the heart of Carlsbad Village. In addition to full seasons of plays and musicals featuring some of the best artistic talent in Southern California, NVA hosts talkback discussions and other supplementary events designed to create conversation and cultivate community. New this year, the White Family Next Stage in the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center presents a series of music, comedy, and spoken word events throughout the year. NVA offers robust theatre programs in partnership with local schools and strongly believes that theatre and arts experiences should be accessible to all people, becoming a recognized leader in equity, diversity, and inclusion in San Diego. NVA has been fortunate to receive support from the City of Carlsbad and other local businesses, who recognize the importance of a resident professional theatre company as a crucial component of an inclusive and creative community. In turn NVA prioritizes serving its community by presenting works that respect its diversity, engaging every citizen with relevant and inspiring stories.

New Village Arts is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization listed under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS.

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