



NEW VILLAGE ARTS

MEDIA ALERT

**New Village Arts Announces the First Musical of
24th Season ...and yes, that's really the title!**

[TITLE OF SHOW]

An Original Broadway Musical

Music & Lyrics by Jeff Bowen | Book by Hunter Bell

Directed by Desireé Clarke Miller | Music Direction by Erin Vanderhyde |

Movement by Kevin 'Blax' Burroughs

Performances August 8th through September 21, 2025

Previews August 8th through 15th, 2025

Opening Night August 16th, 2025

Dea Hurston Industry Night September 15th, 2025

For immediate release: June 11th, 2025

Contact Olivia Pence, Manager of Marketing & Communications: olivia@newvillagearts.org

Carlsbad, CA – New Village Arts (NVA) kicks off a dynamic 24th season with the delightfully quirky and self-referential musical ***[title of show]***. This one-act musical, with music and lyrics by Jeff Bowen and book by Hunter Bell, is a love letter to musical theatre and the creative process itself. Performances on the Ray Charles Stage will run August 8th through September 21st at the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center in Carlsbad Village. Previews are August 8th through 15th, with an Opening Night champagne reception and Handel's Ice Cream on August 16th, 2025.

Chronicling its own creation, ***[title of show]*** follows two best friends, Jeff and Hunter, who decide to write a musical about... writing a musical. With the help of their friends Heidi and Susan, the result is a hilarious, heartwarming, and refreshingly honest look at friendship, artistic ambition, and the highs and lows of making something original. Moxie Theatre's Artistic Director, Desireé Clarke Miller will direct this quirky musical. Miller returns to NVA after working on the inaugural production of the late Dea Hurston's *1222 Oceanfront: A Black Family Christmas* in 2021. We are thrilled to have her unique vision at the helm of this production:



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"[title of show] is a quirky and fun musical about the big dreams we all have and asks us what we are willing to sacrifice to achieve them. But at the end of the day the focus here is all about friendship and how we are all stronger when we stand together. I think these are the stories that I'm excited to tell right now, and I'm elated that NVA is giving me the opportunity to tell one in North County." says Desiree Clarke Miller, director of [title of show].

The creative team brings together a powerhouse of San Diego talent to deliver a production that's as inventive as the show itself. Alongside Miller is music director **Erin Vanderhyde**, who brings the show's vibrant score to life. Vanderhyde was last seen onstage in NVA's production of **THE COLOR PURPLE** in 2024. The world of the show is shaped by scenic designers **Atria Pirouzmand** and **Ali Roustaei**, enhanced by lighting design from **Sammy Webster**, and sound design by **Evan Eason**, with **Marcus Rico** engineering. **Janelle Arnold** lends her flair to the costume design, while **Kevin "Blax" Burroughs** (Artistic Director at Oceanside Theatre Company) will support the production as movement consultant. Also working on the production are **Nathan Waits** as Stage Manager, **Kendra Baros** as Assistant Stage Manager and Props Designer, **Vanessa Duron** as Intimacy Coordinator, and **Zach Elliot** as set painter and **Greg Ertel** on Set Construction.

Together, this innovative and collaborative creative team lays the foundation for a production full of creativity, brought to life by a standout cast of performers who will infuse the show with heart, humor, and undeniable charm. We are excited to welcome three NVA debuts within the four person cast: **Becca Myers** as Susan Blackwell, **Tommy Tran** as Jeff Bowen, and **Caleb Wohlgemuth** as Hunter Bell, with **Kylie Young** (**SINGIN' IN THE RAIN**, 2023) completing the cast as Heidi Blickenstaff. **Christian Duarte** and **Esmé Birndorf** will also be making their NVA debuts as swings.

*"I am insanely excited to play Heidi in [title of show]. This role speaks to me on a personal level. This show gives a peek behind the curtain of what it's like to be, not only the actors in a musical, but the creators as well. It portrays real issues and struggles that all actors face, but in a very original, fun, and creative way. AND being able to be in this show at NVA is a dream come true. The last time I was on the NVA stage was for **SINGIN' IN THE RAIN**, which was such a magical experience and will always be one of fondest theatrical memories." says Kylie Young (Heidi Blickenstaff).*



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With its clever concept, and deeply human core, *[title of show]* is a celebration of creativity, friendship, and the sheer joy of putting on a musical. This production promises an unforgettable night at the theatre, whether you're a theatre lover, an artist in the making, or just in need of a good laugh. Witness the magic that happens when you dare to dream big... with a blank page and a dangerously close deadline.

[title of show] fun fact!

This production brings together the talents of three San Diego Artistic Directors: Desireé Clarke Miller ([MOXIE Theatre](#)), Kristianne Kurner ([New Village Arts](#)), and Kevin “Blax” Burroughs ([Oceanside Theatre Company](#)), each contributing their unique vision and leadership to the collaboration.

Corporate and Individual Sponsorships for *[title of show]* are available. Please email Bre Eugenio, Patron Services & Development Manager at bre@newvillagearts.org to inquire.

[title of show] COMPANY

| | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| BECCA MYERS | Susan Blackwell |
| TOMMY TRAN | Jeff Bowen |
| CALEB WOHLGEMUTH | Hunter Bell |
| KYLIE YOUNG | Heidi Blickenstaff |
| CHRISTIAN DUARTE | Male Swing |
| ESME BIRNDORF | Female Swing |

[title of show] CREATIVES

| | |
|------------------------|--|
| DESIREÉ CLARKE MILLER | Director |
| ERIN VANDERHYDE | Music Director |
| KEVIN ‘BLAX’ BURROUGHS | Movement Consultant |
| NATHAN WAITS | Stage Manager & Larry |
| ATRIA PIROUZMAND | Scenic Designer |
| ALI ROUSTAEI | Scenic Designer |
| JANELLE ARNOLD | Costume Designer |
| SAMMY WEBSTER | Lighting Designer |
| KENDRA BAROS | Assistant Stage Manager & Props Designer |
| VANESSA DURON | Intimacy Coordinator |
| QUINN MILLER | Production Intern |



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|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| EVAN EASON | Sound Designer |
| MARCUS RICO | Sound Engineer |
| ROBERT JOHNSON | Rehearsal Accompanist |
| ZACH ELLIOT | Scenic Painter |
| GREG ERTEL | Master Carpenter |

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Musical Direction by Erin Vanderhyde

Movement by Kevin “Blax” Burroughs

Previews: August 8-15, 2025

Opening Night: August 16, 2025

Dea Hurston Industry Night: September 15th, 2025

August 8-September 21, 2025

[TITLE OF SHOW] is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

NEW VILLAGE ARTS 24th SEASON 2025-2026

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RENT

Book, Music and Lyrics by Jonathan Larson

Directed by Kym Pappas

Musical Direction by Elena Correia



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Choreography by Tamara Rodriguez

Previews: October 31-November 7, 2025

Opening Night: November 8, 2025

Dea Hurston Industry Night: December 8, 2025

October 31-December 24, 2025

The Apiary

Written by Kate Douglas

Directed by Founder and Executive Artistic Director, Kristianne Kurner

Previews: January 23-30, 2026

Opening Night: January 31, 2026

Dea Hurston Industry Night: February 16th, 2026

January 23-February 22, 2026

Matt & Ben

Written by Mindy Kaling & Brenda Withers

Directed by Patrice Amon, Dea Hurston Professional Fellow

Previews: March 27-April 3, 2026

Opening Night: April 4, 2026

Dea Hurston Industry Night: April 20, 2026

March 27-April 26, 2026

Hairspray

Book By Thomas Meehan and Mark O'Donnell

Music By Marc Shaiman

Lyrics By Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman

Based on the New Line Cinema film, written and directed by John Waters

Directed by Artistic Producer, Kali Boston

Choreography by Kevin "Blax" Burroughs

Previews: June 5-12, 2026

Opening Night: June 13, 2026

Dea Hurston Industry Night: July 13, 2026

June 5-July 19, 2026

Performance Days and Times

Friday, Saturday and Sunday Matinees at 2:00pm



NEW VILLAGE ARTS

Thursday, Friday and Saturday Evenings at 7:30pm

Tickets and Subscriptions

Subscriptions for the season range from \$135 to \$342, with 3, 4, and 5-Show Subscriptions available. Single tickets range from \$30 to \$70 for plays and \$35 to \$80 for musicals. Tickets are now available online or through our Box Office.

About New Village Arts

Celebrating 24 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. The White Family Next Stage in the Dea Hurston New Village Arts Center presents a series of music, comedy, and improv 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.

New Village Arts, Inc.
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