



NEW
VILLAGE
ARTS



hairspray

MUSIC BY **Marc Shaiman**

BOOK BY **Thomas Meehan and Mark O'Donnell**

LYRICS BY **Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman**

BASED ON THE NEW LINE CINEMA FILM,
WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY **John Waters**

DIRECTED BY **Kali Boston**

MUSICAL DIRECTED BY **Erin Vanderhyde-Gross**

CHOREOGRAPHED BY **Kara Mack**

JUN 5–JUL 19 / 2026

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THE RECORD ROOM



PRESENTS



hairspray

HAIRSPRAY COMPANY

LINSEY SCHRECK	Tracy Turnblad
LUXE THE DRAG QUEEN	Edna Turnblad
DENNIS PETERS	Corny Collins
ALYSSA ANNE SCHECHTER	Velma VonTussel
EBONI MUSE	Motormouth Maybelle
MAX CADILLAC	Wilbur Turnblad & Others
JONNI GARRO	Prudy Pingleton & Others
IRELYNN TERRANAMI	Penny Pingleton
MAX LEADLEY	Link Larkin
MIKAYLA KELLEY	Amber VonTussel
ALEXANDER J. BROWN	Seaweed J. Stubbs
KEANNA PYE**	Little Inez
DESTINY DENNY	Kamilah (Dynamite) & Little Inez U/S
NIKKI ANTOINE	Judine (Dynamite)
XANTIA GRANT	Shayna (Dynamite)
LA'SHAWN WARE	Ensemble & Seaweed U/S
JACK STUHLEY	Ensemble & Link U/S
SANDY CAMERON	Ensemble & Amber U/S
AARON MI'KAEL REAVES	Ensemble
WES JENSEN	Ensemble
IDA JACKSON	Ensemble & Dance Captain
SHANNON GERRITY	U/S Corny Collins & Ensemble
AIDEN MEYNDERT	U/S Edna & Wilbur Turnblad
CHLOE CHENFELD	U/S Penny, Prudy, Velma, Ensemble
AARIN WILSON	U/S Dynamites & Ensemble

HAIRSPRAY CREATIVES

KALI BOSTON	Director
ERIN VANDERHYDE-GROSS	Music Director
KARA MACK	Choreographer
JESUS HURTADO *	Scenic & Projections Designer
JAEONNIE DAVIS-CRAWFORD	Props Designer
MARICELA ALANIZ	Costume Designer
AMBER ST JAMES	Make-up & Wigs Designer
SALISHA CARR	Lighting Designer
MALICK CEESAY	Sound Designer
KATE VYDOS	Stage Manager
EMMA GARCIA+	Assistant Stage Manager
VICTORIA HUA	Assistant Stage Manager
BIL WRIGHT	Dramaturg
SARAH JANE SALONGA	Intimacy Coordinator
MARYKATE REEVES-HOCHE	Costume Assistant
JACOB ALVAREZ-ALABA	Rehearsal Accompanist
ZACHARY ELLIOT	Scenic Painter
MARCUS RICO	Audio Engineer
CHRIS RENDA	Master Carpenter

BOOK BY

Thomas Meehan and Mark O'Donnell

MUSIC BY

Marc Shaiman

LYRICS BY

Marc Shaiman and Scott Wittman

ORCHESTRATIONS BY

Harold Wheeler

ARRANGEMENTS BY

Marc Shaiman

Based on the New Line Cinema film,
written and directed by **JOHN WATERS**

ARTIST ADVOCATES

Todd Salovey
David and Joyce O'Connell
Cindy and Tom Stuhley

RUN TIME

**2 hours and 30 minutes with
one 15-minute intermission.**

Hairspray is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. 423 West 55th Street, New York, NY 10019 (p) 212-541-4684 | (f) 212-397-4684 | www.MTIShows.com

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** Dea Hurston College Fellow

+ Phifer-Collins Stage Management Fellow

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GENERAL MANAGER

KALI BOSTON (she/her)
ARTISTIC PRODUCER

OLIVIA PENCE (she/her)
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MASTER ELECTRICIAN & MASTER RIGGER

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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.

DIRECTOR'S NOTE

Hairspray is often remembered for its joy. The dancing, the laughter, the bright colors, and the infectious energy that fills the stage. Those things are all here, and they should be. Joy matters.

But beneath that joy is a story about people demanding to be seen.

At its heart, *Hairspray* asks a simple question: What happens when people stop performing the version of themselves that the world expects and begin embracing who they truly are?

Set in 1962 Baltimore, the story reminds us how systems of exclusion operate, not only through laws and institutions, but through everyday choices about who is welcomed, who is celebrated, and who is allowed to dream. While the world has changed since 1962, these questions remain with us.

As a queer, multicultural, plus-size woman directing this production, I found myself deeply connected to Tracy's refusal to become smaller to make others comfortable. Throughout this process, we have explored the show through many lenses: race, body image, queerness, class, and the courage it takes to take up space in a world that often asks us not to.

At the center of it all is love. The love of the Turnblad family is the beating heart of this story. Edna, Wilbur, and Tracy are far from perfect, but they choose one another again and again. In a world that constantly tells people they are too much, too different, or not enough, the Turnblads offer something radical: acceptance, joy, and unwavering support.

But the story's vision of love does not end there. It lives in the Black families and communities at the heart of this movement. In *Motormouth* Maybelle's determination to protect her children while refusing to accept injustice. In *Seaweed*'s refusal to let hatred steal his joy. In the young people who dare to imagine a future bigger than the one they were handed. Too often, stories about the Civil Rights Movement focus solely on struggle. While struggle is present here, so too is Black joy, Black love,



KALI BOSTON, DIRECTOR

Black creativity, and Black resistance.

For me, *Motormouth* is not simply the moral center of the story, she is its engine. She carries the weight of generations who have fought for dignity and equality. *Seaweed* reminds us that joy can be a form of protest. His confidence, humor, and openness are evidence of a young man refusing to let the world define him.

This production embraces the show's camp and theatricality, but we have rooted ourselves first in the humanity of these characters. The comedy lands because the stakes are real. The celebration matters because the struggle matters.

Most importantly, *Hairspray* reminds us that progress has never been the work of one extraordinary person. It is the work of communities. Of people showing up for one another. Of individuals willing to imagine a world larger than the one they inherited.

Thank you for joining us. We hope you laugh loudly, clap often, and leave reminded that joy can be an act of resistance, love can be transformative, and meaningful change happens when people come together and choose to see one another fully.

Welcome to *Hairspray*.

— Kali Boston



hairspray



LINSEY SCHRECK
as Tracy Turnblad



LUXE THE DRAG QUEEN
as Edna Turnblad



DENNIS PETERS
as Cory Collins



ALYSSA ANNE SCHECHTER
as Velma VonTussel



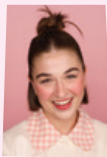
EBONI MUSE
as Motormouth Maybelle



MAX CADILLAC
as Wilbur Turnblad & Others



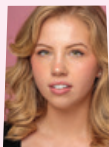
JONNI GARRO
as Prudy Pingleton & Others



IRELYNN TERRANAMI
as Penny Pingleton



MAX LEADLEY
as Link Larkin



MIKAYLA KELLEY
as Amber VonTussel



ALEXANDER J. BROWN
as Seaweed J. Stubbs



KEANNA PYE**
as Little Inez



DESTINY DENNY
as Kamilah (Dynamite) &
Little Inez U/S



NIKKI ANTOINE
as Judine (Dynamite)



XANTIA GRANT
as Shayna (Dynamite)



LA'SHAWN WARE
as Ensemble &
Seaweed U/S



JACK STUHLEY
as Ensemble & Link U/S



SANDY CAMERON
as Ensemble & Amber U/S



AARON M'KAEL REAVES
as Ensemble



WES JENSEN
as Ensemble



IDA JACKSON
as Ensemble &
Dance Captain



SHANNON GERRITY
as U/S Cory Collins
& Ensemble



AIDEN MEYNDERT
as U/S Edna &
Wilbur Turnblad



CHLOE CHENFELD
as U/S Penny, Prudy,
Velma, Ensemble



AARIN WILSON
as U/S Dynamites &
Ensemble

CAST

LINSEY SCHRECK (she/her)

Tracy Turnblad

Linsey is so excited to be making her NVA debut as Tracy in *Hairspray*, showing that dreams (and hair) can reach new heights! Select Favorite Credits: Rose in *Dogfight* (VSPI), Fiona in *Shrek* (TH8R), Principal Quartet in *Polar Express Train Ride* (SoCal Railway), Ensemble in *The Prom* (SDMT), and Delta Nu & Serena u/s in *Legally Blonde* (SDMT). Linsey is deeply grateful to her mom and family, as well as her amazing friends, voice teacher, and the best partner in the world, Jeffrey, for their unwavering encouragement and words of wisdom; she couldn't have done this without them. This has been a dream come true, and she hopes you enjoy the show! @linsey.schreck

LUXE THE DRAG QUEEN (she/her)

Edna Turnblad

LUXE the Drag Queen is a performer, host and nightlife personality known for her work in Peaches Christ's *Return of the Living Drag* (*Midsummer Scream*) and guest appearances around Southern California night life and it's underground "haunt scene" (Sasha Velour's *The Big Reveal Tour*, Queen Mary Dark Harbor's *Pride Night*, American Junkie Drag Bingo, Dragstravaganza 201–2022 at SDSU). This production is a return to the theatrical stage having previously played Hunter in *[title of show]* (Tenth Avenue Arts Center), Ursula in *The Little Mermaid* (PHAME Center) and graduated from SDSU Theatrical Arts Program in 2021. No stranger to being behind the curtain, LUXE is also the co-founder and one of the producers behind Sisters of St. James Productions, responsible for *Scream, Qweenz!:* *Halfway to Halloween* and *Phat Gurl Magic*. LUXE is ecstatic and grateful to be joining the production and amazing cast in the role of a lifetime!

DENNIS PETERS

Corny Collins

Dennis is ecstatic to be making his NVA debut with *Hairspray!* Select regional credits include Sam in *Fully Committed*, Jerry in *Lend Me a Soprano* (Scripps Ranch Theatre), Stevie in *Good People*, Ichabod Crane in *Welcome to Sleepy Hollow* (Oceanside Theatre Company), Agent Johnny Dollar in *Catch Me if You Can* (SDMT), and Zach in the world premier of *Eighty-Sixed* (Diversionary Theatre). Dennis holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from CWU, and

teaches improv and acting at Project Performer in Encinitas. Lots of love to the family and his beautiful bride, Kayla.

ALYSSA ANNE SCHECHTER (she/her)

Velma VonTussel

Alyssa is excited to be making her sassy debut at NVA! She most recently lent her sass to Riot's staged reading of *Reservoir Dolls* (Riot at Moxie). Some favorite roles include choreographing and portraying Anne Boleyn in *SIX* (Riot), Gwen Verdon in the original staged concert *Too Darn Hot* (The Old Globe Theatre—360 program), Adelaide in *Guys and Dolls* and Anytime Annie in *42nd Street* (Coronado Playhouse). But her most special role yet—being a mama to a mini redheaded firecracker! Alyssa holds a BA in Theatre Arts from UCSD and is an alumni of The British American Drama Academy in Oxford, England. Much LOVE to her MVPs and family for their undying support.

EBONI MUSE (she/her)

Motormouth Maybelle

Eboni is a Pacific Conservatory for the Performing Arts alumni. Craig Noel Award: Outstanding Featured Performance in a Musical for Motormouth Maybelle in *Hairspray!*, SDMT. Broadway World 2020 San Diego Award: Vocalist of the Decade; Audrey Two, *Little Shop of Horrors*, New Village Arts. Best of 2020 Black San Diego Magazine: Best Singer. Broadway World 2022 San Diego Award: Best Cabaret/Concert/Solo Performance; *A4BLSD*, Clark Cabaret. Some Credits: Joanne in *RENT* (New Village Arts), Sofia in *The Color Purple* (New Village Arts), Calliope in *Xanadu* (Sacramento Theatre Company), Lady in Red in *For Colored Girls Who Have Considered Suicide When the Rainbow Is Enuf* (La Jolla Theatre Ensemble), Leader in *Father Comes Home from the War* (Intrepid Theatre), Pharaoh in *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (California Center for the Arts, Escondido), Featured Vocalist in *Smokey Joe's Café* (New Village Arts). Female Vocalist in *Shamu Christmas Miracles, O' Wondrous Night*, and *A Stocking Full of Soul*, SeaWorld San Diego. Featured Vocalist in The Original USA Gospel Singers & Band Tour (Frank Serr Showservice International).

MAX CADILLAC (he/him)

Wilbur Turnblad & Others

Max is overjoyed and grateful to be making his NVA

debut in *Hairspray!* He was last spotted surfacing as Mr. Narwhal in *Elf: The Musical* at the beloved Lawrence Welk Theater. Other regional credits include; Lillas Pastia in *The Tragedy Of Carmen* with The San Diego Opera, Carmen Ghia in *The Producers*, Frankenfruter in *Rocky Horror Picture Show*, *The Bodyguard*, *Hello, Dolly*, *Pageant*, *Gypsy*, *Big Fish*, *Music Man*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *CATS*, *Man of La Mancha*, *Sound of Music*, *West Side Story*, and all 5 years of the holiday classic Irving Berlin's *White Christmas*. Television appearances include *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *The Deuce*, *Younger*, *Succession*, *VIDA*, *Pitch*, *Blue Bloods*, *Law & Order: SVU*. BFA in Musical Theatre from AMDA. Sincerest gratitude to our fabulous cast and crew, and most importantly our audience. Thank you for supporting live theater and embracing this show's much needed message. Finally, the most heartfelt thanks to my parents and my Grammy. @MaxCad

JONNI GARRO (she/her)

Prudy Pingleton & Others

Jonni is thrilled to be back at New Village Arts! She was last seen as the Swing for Marie/Hertha in *The Half-Life of Marie Curie* (New Village Arts). Favorites include Kipper in *My One and Only* (Welk Theater) and Miss Benson in *Of Thee I Sing* (Pope Theater). Jonni can also be seen as Sonya in *Charmed and Cheated* on Lifetime Movie Network.

IRELYNN TERRANAMI (she/her)

Penny Pingleton

Ohmigod! It's a dream of a lifetime!" Irelynn TerraNami is over the moon for her debut at New Village Arts. Originally a Colorado Native, Irelynn made her Southern California debut last year in *Hairspray!* (5-Star Theatricals) directed by Tony Award Winner, Marissa Jaret Winokur. Recent credits include *A Christmas Story* (SDMT), Brooke Wyndham in *Legally Blonde*, Jester in *Once Upon A Mattress*, and *Bye, Bye, Birdie*. She extends her largest thanks to New Village Arts, Elijah, and her mother, Lynette, who support her endlessly. See more of her on the 'gram @iterranami

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CAST

MAX LEADLEY (he/him)

Link Larkin

Max is from San Diego, California, and is a sophomore at the University of Michigan studying Musical Theatre. He is so excited to be making his New Village Arts debut! Regional: Harry Tate in *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate* (Lambs Player's Theatre). Other recent roles include Rapunzel's Prince, Baker u/s in *Into The Woods* (UM MUSKET), and Steven Kodaly in *She Loves Me* (Raymond Center for the Performing Arts). Max would like to shout out his family, friends, and mentors with love and gratitude. Thank you to the cast and creative team here at NVA, and enjoy *Hairspray!*
@max.leadley

MIKAYLA KELLEY (she/her)

Amber VonTussel

Mikayla is a recent graduate of UC San Diego, where she earned her degree in Theatre. Some of her favorite roles include Heather McNamara in *Heathers*, Chloe Valentine in *Be More Chill*, Sophie Sheridan in *Mamma Mia!*, and Sue Snell in *Carrie*. Additionally, she also performs at Legoland California Resort and with Royal Entertainers. Mikayla is so thrilled to be making her New Village Arts debut and to work alongside such a talented cast and creative team. She would like to thank her friends and family for their unwavering support and hopes you enjoy the show.
@mikaylamkelley

ALEXANDER J. BROWN (he/him)

Seaweed J. Stubbs

Alexander, also known as Jordane, is a Jamaican-born artist and multi-hyphenate performer from Philadelphia, now based in Los Angeles. He graduated from the American Musical and Dramatic Academy with a BFA in Musical Theatre Performing Arts, and was most recently seen in *Hairspray* with 5 Star Theatrics as Seaweed J. Stubbs. Alexander is grateful for the experiences that have led him to this amazing show and is excited about his promising future. He gives thanks to God, his family, and friends. IG: @J.ordan.e

KEANNA PYE (she/her)**

Little Inez

Keanna is so excited to make her debut performance at New Village Arts playing the role of Little Inez. She is

originally from Corona, California, and currently resides in San Diego to pursue her dream of becoming a theater creative. She is graduating this June from the University of California, San Diego, as a theater major. She loves singing and dancing and is open to anything creative. She is so happy to finish her degree while also being a part of such a wonderful production here at NVA. Credits include: Queen Anne in *The Three Musketeers* (UC San Diego), Swing/Wendla understudy in *Spring Awakening* (San Diego City College), Goldie in *The Diviners* (Riverside City College), and Ensemble in *Grease* (Riverside City College).

**** Dea Hurston College Fellow**

DESTINY DENNY (she/her)

Kamilah (Dynamite) & Little Inez U/S

Destiny is thrilled to be returning to NVA! She was born and raised in San Diego and graduated from SDSU with a BA in Theatre Arts with an Emphasis in Performance. Some of her recent credits include, Meekah in *Blippi Join the Band* (National Tour), Pilar in *Legally Blonde* (Sierra Rep), Rapunzel in *Into the Woods* (Sierra Rep), Ensemble in *Hair!* (Sierra Rep), and Church Lady/Ensemble/Dance Captain in *The Color Purple* (NVA). Destiny can't wait to welcome you to the 60s!

NIKKI ANTOINE (she/her)

Judine (Dynamite)

Nikki is a New Orleans-born, classically trained dancer whose artistry is rooted in both tradition and personal transformation. She began dancing at the age of three and received formal training at the New Orleans Center for Creative Arts (NOCCA), later continuing her studies at Tulane University. Nikki performed the role of Clara in *The Nutcracker* with the New Orleans Ballet Theatre, a standout moment in her classical foundation. While in college, an ankle injury led her to explore more grounded forms of movement. During this transition, she was introduced to African dance—an experience that shifted her artistic path and revealed her true calling. Through African dance, Nikki found a deeper connection to rhythm, storytelling, and cultural expression. She has performed with the Nkiruka Dance and Drum Company in New Orleans and is currently an active member of the Teye Sa Thoisanne Dance Company. Nikki was also a featured dancer in a music video for NLE The Great, expanding her performance experience

into commercial and visual media. A proud Navy wife and mother, she continues to balance family life with a lifelong dedication to dance, heritage, and artistic growth.

XANTIA GRANT (she/her)

Shayna (Dynamite)

Xantia is a musician, composer, performer, and cultural artist specializing in West African drum and dance traditions. A graduate of Columbia College Chicago with a Bachelor of Arts in Music, she has performed with Daansekou Cultural Arts & Wellness Collective and Ayodele Drum and Dance. Through performance, composition, and cultural education, her work celebrates the rich traditions of the African diaspora. Xantia is honored to make her New Village Arts debut in *Hairspray* and thanks her family and community for their continued support.

LA'SHAWN WARE (he/him)

Ensemble & Seaweed U/S

La'Shawn is a former athlete turned artist originally from Spring Valley, studied at Hamilton College in Upstate

New York, and currently resides here in San Diego. He has over 10 years of social dance experience (mostly in Salsa/Bachata with several others) and is pioneering a new R&B social dance called R&Body. La'Shawn is also a voice actor currently working in audio books and previously did work with kNOW MORE—a human trafficking awareness program serving at-risk youth. He is happy to be making his New Village Arts debut. @wareameye.

JACK STUHLEY (he/him)

Ensemble & Link U/S

Jack is excited to be making his New Village Arts debut this summer! He is a recent graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles, where he earned a Bachelor of Arts in Theater. Select credits include *Pippin* (Pippin), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Swing), *Phantom of the Opera* (Raoul), *Natasha, Pierre & the Great Comet of 1812* (Dolokhov), and *Twelfth Night* (Malvolio). Jack would like to thank his family, friends and the New Village Arts Team for their unwavering support. /jackstuhley.com

Jack Stuhley is graciously sponsored by Artist Advocate, Cindy and Tom Stuhley.

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CAST

SANDY CAMERON (she/her)

Ensemble & Amber U/S

Sandy is delighted to doo-wop all summer long in one of her dream shows! As a recent graduate from the Institute for American Musical Theatre in New York City, she is extremely grateful to make her NVA debut as the next step in her professional career. Her favorite credits include: *Beauty and the Beast* (Moonlight Stage Productions), Elle Woods in *Legally Blonde* (IAMT), and Val in *A Chorus Line* (IAMT). She thanks her family for their unwavering love and support, and the NVA team for the opportunity to be part of a show that celebrates individuality, courage, and giving every voice a chance to be heard! Glory to God!
@sandydcameron

AARON MI'KAEL REAVES (he/him)

Ensemble

Aaron Mi'Kael was born and raised in Chicago and has participated in many stage productions in his early acting years, such as Benny (*In The Heights*), Prouvaire (*Les Miserables*), The Plant/Seymour (*Little Shop of Horrors*), Max (*Lend Me A Tenor*), and being a Knight at *Medieval Times* (Live Show). Aaron has now moved to Television and Film, appearing in TV Series *Power Book Force*, *Chicago Fire* (Dope Unit); Film *What Is Love* (Writerboyfilms), *The Year Between* (Lizard boy), *The Family Business* (Netflix), *Fargo* (Netflix), and an unreleased Netflix show coming out in November, plus many more. Aaron has also made appearances in *GQ Magazine* and on the *Jennifer Hudson Show*. While Aaron also strives to create his own content



THE WHITE FAMILY NEXT STAGE is New Village Arts' hub for dynamic events that go beyond traditional theatre. Named in honor of the White family's generous support, this space is designed to inspire creativity, connection, and lifelong learning. From improv nights to educational workshops, the Next Stage brings people together through the power of shared experiences.

**SCAN CODE TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE
FOR EVENT DATES & TIMES!**

THE WHITE FAMILY
**NEXT
STAGE**
at the Dee Hunsbun New Village Arts Center



and his own path, he is excited that Director Kali Boston has brought him back to his roots! "The show must go on!"

WES JENSEN (he/him)

Ensemble

Wes is a UCSD alum making his New Village Arts debut! Credits include: Director, Playwright, Composer, Puppeteer in *Dinner Is The Show* (UCSD), Georg in *She Loves Me* (UCSD), Satan/Antonio Understudy in *The Rogue's Trial* (UCSD), Nostradamus in *Something Rotten!* (UCSD), Hector in "SHSH" (La Jolla Playhouse WOW), Rochefort in *Three Musketeers* (UCSD), *No Singing In The Navy* (UCSD), *Orlando* (UCSD).

IDA JACKSON (she/her)

Ensemble & Dance Captain

Ida is thrilled to be making her New Village Arts debut in *Hairspray!* Recent credits include Rosie in *Cabaret* (Loyola Marymount University), Ginger Rogers in *Too Darn Hot* (360 Project, The Old Globe Theatre), and Star-to-Be in *Annie* (Star Theatre Company). Ida has her B.A. in Education with a Concentration in Dance from LMU and is a dance educator and choreographer here in San Diego. Ida would like to thank her parents, sister, and friends for their infinite love and support! Enjoy the show!

SHANNON GERRITY (she/they)

U/S Corny Collins & Ensemble

Shannon has spent her life dancing up and down the coast of California. Favorite shows: *42nd Street* (twice!), *Anything Goes*, *Memphis the Musical*, *Grease!*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Peter Pan*, *Miracle on 34th Street*, *Urinetown*, and *Thoroughly Modern Millie*. She enjoys her current role as Ms. Shannon, teaching her chickens (students) and building community through the joy of TAP! at Georgia's School of Dance Escondido and North County Academy of Dance Bonsall/Oceanside. Thank you for supporting local artists and live theatre!

AIDEN MEYNDERT (he/him)

U/S Edna & Wilbur Turnblad

Aiden is a San Diego-transplant performer working across Southern California. Select Regional: *Karaoke Dreams*, *Another Day in Paradise*, *The Sound of Music*, *Seussical*, and *Dogfight*. This summer, Aiden taught at La

Jolla Playhouse's conservatory for middle and high school students. B.A. from UC San Diego. Upcoming: *Dear Evan Hansen* at Cynet Theatre.

CHLOE CHENFELD (she/her)

U/S Penny, Prudy, Velma, Ensemble

Chloe is a performer, choreographer and educator based in San Diego, California. She is thrilled to make her NVA debut with the cast of *Hairspray*. Some of her favorite performance credits include *A Christmas Story* (Ensemble), *White Christmas* (Ensemble), and *Beauty and the Beast* (Silly Girl). As a choreographer, she has enjoyed working on productions such as *Anything Goes*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. When she's not performing or building choreography, Chloe is teaching dance and sharing her love of the performing arts with students of all ages. She has also performed at Legoland CA, as well as the San Diego Zoo and Safari Park. She would like to thank her family, friends and partner Joshua for their endless love and support.

AARIN WILSON (they/them)

U/S Dynamites & Ensemble

Aarin is thrilled to make their NVA debut in *Hairspray* as a Dynamite (and Black male presenting U/S)! Since starting their performing career in 2025, Aarin has portrayed Annelle in *Steel Magnolias* (Lamplighter's Theatre), Ronette in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Point Loma Playhouse), and Marcy in *The 25th Annual Putnam Spelling Bee* (Lamplighter's Theatre). Aarin is eternally grateful for all the love and support they have received from their friends, family, and community. To the moon!

CREATIVES

KALI BOSTON (she/her)

Director & 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 with a BA in Theatre, Kali has been a part of many different theaters and festivals including: *Matt & Ben*, *The Apiary*, *RENT*, [title of show], *The Mountaintop*, *La Havana Madrid*, *The Half-Life of Marie Curie*, *Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play*, *8-TRACK: The Sounds of*

CREATIVES

the '70s, The Color Purple, The 39 Steps, Fun Home, 1222 OceanFront: A Black Family Christmas (Artistic Producer, NVA), *Jewish Arts Festival 2024* (Production Manager), *Doubt* (Production Manager), *A Weekend with Pablo Picasso* (Assistant Director, NVA), *Heathers: The Musical* (Producer/Director, Zorina Productions).

Kali Boston is graciously sponsored by Artist Advocates: Todd Salovey, and David & Joyce O'Connell.

ERIN VANDERHYDE-GROSS (she/her)

Music Director

Erin is excited to be back at New Village Arts wearing a different hat! She graduated from SDSU with a bachelors in Theater and Music. She is extremely grateful to New Village Arts for giving a lot of her firsts, such as her first professional show as Enid/Kate in *Legally Blonde the Musical* and her first regional musical direction production credit earlier this season with *[title of show]*. Her most recent performance at NVA was in *The Color Purple* as a church lady/Sophia understudy where she got to go on and perform that role. She would like to give a huge shout out to her husband, Chris, and her children. I love you so much.

KARA MACK (she/her)

Choreographer

Kara is a multidisciplinary performing artist, educator, theologian, and founder of the trademarked brand Africa in America®. A true Southern gal from Columbia, South Carolina, she began her artistic journey performing/choreographing for schools, and conferences as a singer/songwriter, dancer, and actress. Since relocating to Los Angeles, Kara has built a dynamic career; with performance credits includes the Grammys, NAACP Image Awards, BET Awards, Billboard Music Awards, American Idol, The Voice, Coachella, SNL, and major film productions such as *Coming to America 2, Black Panther: Wakanda Forever, and The Color Purple: The Musical*. An accomplished educator, she has taught nationwide, and lectures at UC San Diego. Grounded in lineage and propelled by innovation, Kara has developed a signature movement language that merges polyrhythmic precision, grounded physicality, and theatrical storytelling. Her work honors ancestral traditions while expanding them

into bold, contemporary performance experience—creating work that is visually striking, rhythmically powerful, and performance-ready. Kara's choreography adapts seamlessly from proscenium theaters to concert stages, award shows, and touring productions.

JESUS HURTADO* (he/him)

Scenic & Projections Designer

Jesus is a Scenic and Projection Designer for theater, film, and live events. He received his Bachelor's of Fine Arts in Theater Design from The University of Southern California, class of 2022. Some of his recent works includes NVA's Silver Gala, *Matt & Ben* (New Village Arts), *The Young Dolphins Chapter 2* (Inner City Arts), *Pasale Pasale* (WOW Festival, LJP), *La Llorona on the Blue Line* (TUYO Theater Co.), *The Red Suitcase* (The Broadwater), and *A Chorus Line* (USC Bing Theater). Jesus has recently completed his 2025 Projection Design Fellowship with Black Theater Coalition (BTC) and has assisted on projections for the following productions: *Real Women Have Curves* (Broadway), *Redwood* (Broadway), *SUMO* (The Public Theater). See more at Jesushurtadodesigns.com.

***Dea Hurston Professional Fellow**

JAEONNIE DAVIS-CRAWFORD (she/they)

Props Designer

Jaeonnie is a theatre artist who was born and raised in San Diego and has a BA in Theatre Arts from SDSU. Having worked with varying types of theatre companies around the county for over a decade—from the beloved community forum theatre work of Imagine Brave Spaces, to the nationally renowned Old Globe Theatre—she has developed a multi-hyphenate skillset. From directing, to props, to acting, the thing that makes her the happiest is working with her artistic community.

MARICELA ALANIZ (she/her)

Costume Designer

Maricela is an MFA costume design student at UC San Diego with a passion for blending technical precision and imaginative storytelling to create visually dynamic productions. Recent work includes *The Wiz*, directed by Yvette Hartley. UC San Diego credits include *The Three Musketeers, People, Places & Things, and Baby Shower Katie*. She holds a BFA in Theatre

Design from The University of Kansas. View more of her work at maricelaalaniz.com

AMBER ST JAMES (she/her)

Make-up & Wigs Designer

Amber is the African Bearded, death dropping & dipping, cartwheeling, split Drag Queen known for her revolutionary activist work in and out of drag and her entertaining high energy performances. She is also the First Ever San Diego Mx. Gay and the first ever Mx. International Pride, both of which being gender neutral titles in the International Imperial Court System and the Imperial Court De San Diego. Outside of performing, Amber has been recognized for her amazing work building and sustaining the drag community at San Diego State University along with many other colleges across Southern California alongside her many years of LGBTQIA+ Advocacy. She also most recently starred in *Velour, a Drag Spectacular* produced and performed by Sasha Velour, which made its world debut at the La Jolla Playhouse in the summer of 2024.

SALISHA CARR (she/her)

Lighting Designer

Salisha makes her New Village Arts debut with *Hairspray!* Her lighting design philosophy is simple: read the choreography, feel the music, make it land. A lighting designer for the Carlsbad High School Drama Department, her recent work includes *Hadestown* and *Something Rotten!* —where "bright, bold, and broody" is a job requirement. She holds an A.A. from Mira Costa College and a B.A. from Cal State San Marcos. She hopes the light finds you tonight.

MALICK CEESAY (he/him)

Sound Designer

Malick is a sound designer and playwright with intention on multidimensional storytelling for the stage. His composition, design, and mixing credits include *Snow in Atlantis, Def Poetics, Still Harvey Still, Antigone, Tell Me I'm Gorgeous at the End of the World, FAIRVIEW, We The People, Little Shop of Horrors, Greenwood 1964, Rites of Passage,*

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CREATIVES

and *Bat Boy*. Nationally, Malick has worked with theaters and other institutions such as Ambiance Theatre, AMDA, Celebration Theatre, Full Circle Theatre, The Playwrights' Center, REDCAT, Red Eye Theater, UCLA, and WACO Theater Company. Malick holds an MFA in Playwriting from UCLA and a BA in Theater from Augsburg University.

KATE VYDOS (she/her)

Stage Manager

Kate is a multifaceted theatre artist based in San Diego. She received her BFA in Theatre from NYU Tisch School of the Arts. She aspires to continue developing her theatrical skills onstage and behind the scenes alongside her incredibly talented partner, Tanner Vidos. ASM highlights: *The Great Khan* (SD Rep), *Witnesses*, *Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night Time*, *Sunday in the Park with George* (CCAETheatricals), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (MSP). PSM highlights: *Mary Poppins*, *Seussical* (MYT), *Every Brilliant Thing* (CCAETheatricals), *Constellations* (Chalk Circle Collective), *A Christmas Story* (SDMT).

EMMA GARCIA+ (she/her)

Assistant Stage Manager

Emma is thrilled to be making her New Village Arts production debut as Assistant Stage Manager for *Hairspray*. She's currently a student at San Diego State University, focused on pursuing stage management, where she recently worked on the world premiere of the new musical *Tomorrow, The Island Die*. Her previous credits include *Head Over Heels*, *Carrie*, and *Little Women*. Emma began interning with New Village Arts last August and is incredibly excited to now be part of the production team for this show. She's deeply grateful to work alongside such a talented cast, crew, and creative team, and sends special thanks to Kali for the opportunity and to Kate for her guidance and support throughout the process. Most of all, she sends love and gratitude to her family and friends for always supporting her. Enjoy the show! @emma.mgarcia
+Phifer-Collins Stage Management Fellow

VICTORIA HUA (she/they),

Assistant Stage Manager

Victoria has worked in various shows over 5 years in production and stage management positions. She is excited to return to New Village Arts to work on this

wonderful production. They are currently working in the San Diego and North County area. Previous productions include: *The Little Fellow* (Cynet); *On Her Shoulders We Stand* (TuYo); *Beehive - The 60's Musical* (New Village Arts); *Tartuffe*, *Camelot*, *The Heart Sellers*, *Birthday Candles*, and *Beside Myself* (North Coast Rep).

BIL WRIGHT (he/him)

Dramaturg

BIL WRIGHT (Lambda Literary Award, American Library Association Stonewall Award, Junior Library Guild Award Selection), Sunday You Learn How to Box: published as both an adult novel and a YA novel, (New York Public Library Choice for Young Readers) Playwright: Off-Broadway/This One Girl's Story (GLAAD nominee), Without Walls New Works Festival, La Jolla Playhouse. Opera Libretto: Refuge. Published play: *Mother, Father, Lover, Man* (Alamo Press) Also, Jerome Fellowship (Awarded twice) Millay Fellowship, Albee Fellowship, La MaMa Playwriting Award. Graduate of New York University Tisch School of the Arts. Artistic Programming Director, Tribeca Performing Arts Center (Emeritus), Professor Emeritus, City University of New York (Contemporary Literature).

SARAH JANE SALONGA (she/her)

Intimacy Coordinator

Sarah is thrilled to be back at NVA collaborating with the actors and creative team. She is a multihyphenate theatre artist and educator dedicated to cultivating the next generation of performers. Sarah holds an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre from SDSU (Outstanding Graduate Award) and has completed over 50 hours of intimacy training with Theatrical Intimacy Education. Her interdisciplinary background includes a BA Education, BSc Biochemistry, Registered Dental Hygienist and currently serves as Adjunct Faculty at SD College of Continuing Education. Recent intimacy directing/choreographing credits: *La Havana Madrid* (NVA), *Into the Woods* (JCompany), *Spring Awakening* (USD). Favorite directing credits: *The Drowsy Chaperone* (CPH), *Where the Mountain Meets the Moon* (SDJT), *Disney's Moana Jr.* (JCompany), *Joseph...* *Dreamcoat* (MYT), and *Chasing Fear* (Blindspot Collective). Favorite acting credits: *The Mountain Song* (CPH), *The 25th...Spelling Bee* (SDSU & OTC), and *High Fidelity* (Canadian Premiere). www.sarahjanesalonga.com

MARYKATE REEVES HOCHÉ (she/her)

Costume Assistant

MaryKate is a volunteer within the costume team permanently assigned to the theater. She enjoys working with each of the costume designers on each show as an ongoing learning opportunity. She is a retired scientist with a passion for textiles.

JACOB ALVAREZ-ALABA (he/him)

Rehearsal Accompanist

Jacob is excited to come back to the theater world after a four year hiatus. Previous credits include rehearsal accompanist for *RENT* (New Village Arts), 1st Keyboard for *Hairspray* (Muir Musical), 2nd Keyboard for *Songs for a New World* (Muir Musical), Assistant Music Director for *Pippin* (Muir Musical), Music Director for *Big Fish* (Muir Musical), and Orchestra Director for *A Chorus Line* (Muir Musical).

ZACHARY ELLIOT (he/him)

Scenic Painter

Zachary is an award winning scenic artist whose work has been seen throughout San Diego county for 15 years. He is always delighted to work alongside such a wonderful and dedicated team here at New Village Arts.

MARCUS RICO (he/him)

Audio Engineer

Marcus graduated from Mt. San Jacinto College with an AA in Audio Technology. Recent NVA productions as Sound Engineer include *RENT*, *La Havana Madrid*, *I Can Cook, Too!*, *Love, Linda*, *Miracle on 34th Street: A Live Musical Radio Play*, *The Color Purple*, *Fun Home*, *Doubt*, *Leonard Bernstein's New York* (also Sound Designer/Sound Engineer), *Into the Woods* (Sound Engineer), *1222 Oceanfront: A Black Family Christmas* (Sound



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Engineer), *Beehive* (Sound Engineer), *Murder for Two* (Sound Engineer), *Around the World in 80 Days* (Sound Engineer), *Little Shop of Horrors* (Sound Engineer), and *The Roommate* (Co-Sound Designer).

CHRIS RENDA (he/him)

Master Carpenter

NVA: *Matt & Ben, The Apiary, 8-Track: The Sounds of the '70s, Servant of Two Masters, Smokey's Joe's Café, Avenue Q, American Hero, Awake and Swing, Oklahoma, Forbidden Planet, Sylvia, The Wier, Lord of the Flies, Stage Kiss, Trip to Bountiful* (Critics Circle Nomination), *Death of a Salesman, Suds, Circle Mirror Transformation, Wait Until Dark, Same Time Next Year, Much Ado About Nothing, Brilliant Mistake, Buried Child, Comedy of Errors, Santaland Diaries, Ah Wilderness!, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest, Sweet Storm, Waving Goodbye*. Christopher is the Technical Director at Mesa College. He also teaches lecture series and designs lighting at Mira Costa College. Design credits include: *Our Last of Kabebo, The Diary of Anne Frank, The Kid Thing, The Intelligence of Watson, Enron, A Modern Discourse with the Invisible World, The Crucible* (Moxie), *Much Ado About Nothing, Enemy of the People, Romeo and Juliet, King John, Taming of the Shrew, Quality of Life* (Intrepid), *The Little Dog Laughed, As Much As You Can, Bent* (Patté Award) (Diversionsary Theater), *Welcome Home* (Playwrights Project). Live microphone mixing: *A Little Night Music, It's A Wonderful Life: The Radio Play* (Cynet). He wants to thank his wife and two little kids for their constant love and support.

THOMAS MEEHAN (he/him)

Book

Thomas received the Tony Award for co-writing the book for *The Producers* in 2001 and in 2003 for co-writing the book for *Hairspray*. He received his first Tony Award in 1977 for writing the book of *Annie*, which was his first Broadway show, and has written the books for the musicals *Rocky, Elf the Musical, Cry-Baby, Young Frankenstein, Chaplin, Bombay Dreams, I Remember Mama, Ain't Broadway Grand, and Annie Warbucks*. In addition, he was a long-time contributor of humor to *The New Yorker*, an Emmy-Award winning writer of television comedy, and a collaborator on a number of screenplays,

including Mel Brooks' *Spaceballs* and *To Be Or Not To Be*. Mr. Meehan was also a member of the Council of the Dramatists Guild. He and his wife, Carolyn, divided their time between a home in Nantucket and an apartment in Greenwich Village, near which, on Hudson Street, she owned and presided over the long-running and near-legendary children's store *Peanut Butter & Jane*.

MARK O'DONNELL (he/him)

Book

Mark's plays include *That's It, Folks!, Fables for Friends, and The Nice and the Nasty* (all produced at Playwrights Horizons), and *Strangers on Earth and Vertigo Park* (both produced by Zena Group Theatre). He wrote the book and lyrics for the musical *Tots in Tinseltown*. Mr. O'Donnell collaborated with Bill Irwin on an adaptation of *Moliere's Scapin*. and he co-authored a translation of *Feydeau's A Flea in Her Ear*, both for the Roundabout. For Manhattan Theatre Club he translated Jean Claude Carriere's *La Terrasse*. He has published two collections of comic stories *Elementary Education and Vertigo Park and Other Tall Tales* (both Knopf) as well as two recent novels *Getting Over Homer* and *Let Nothing You Dismay* (both now in Vintage paperback). His humor, cartoons, and poetry have appeared in *The New Yorker, The New York Times, The Atlantic, Spy, The New Republic, and Esquire*, among many others. He has received a Guggenheim Fellowship, the Lecomte du Nuoy Prize, and the George S. Kaufman Award.

MARC SHAIMAN (he/him)

Music & Lyrics

Marc is an award-winning lyricist, composer, orchestrator and performer, who has successfully created music and lyrics for TV, films, recordings, and theater since entering show business at the age of 16 in 1976. Shaiman has been OSCAR® nominated seven times (for "*Mary Poppins Returns*," "*Sleepless In Seattle*," "*Patch Adams*," "*The First Wives Club*," "*The American President*," and "*South Park: Bigger, Longer & Uncut*"). He has received three TONY® Award nominations (winning one for co-writing the score to *Hairspray* with co-lyricist Scott Wittman), eight GRAMMY® Award nominations (winning two for *The Original Cast Recordings of Hairspray* and "*Some Like It Hot*"), thirteen EMMY® Award nominations (winning two,

for his work on Billy Crystal's Academy Award hosting and for co-writing—with Wittman and Pasek & Paul—"Which Of The Pickwick Triplets Did It?" for "*Only Murders In The Building*"), two Golden Globe nominations (for the song "*The Star*" (co-written with Mariah Carey) and his score for "*Mary Poppins Returns*"), and two BAFTA nominations (for "*Sleepless In Seattle*" and "*Mary Poppins Returns*"). Shaiman's other film work includes "*Beaches*," "*When Harry Met Sally*," "*Misery*," "*City Slickers*," "*The Addams Family*," "*Addams Family Values*," "*A Few Good Men*," "*Sister Act*" (1 & 2), "*George of the Jungle*," "*In and Out*," "*Hocus Pocus*" (1 & 2), "*The Bucket List*," "*Parental Guidance*," and "*Bros*." He served as an Executive Producer of the successful film adaptation of his Broadway musical *Hairspray*. The original musicals he has co-written for Broadway and the West End are *Hairspray* (Tony and Olivier Award winner for Best Musical), the Tony-nominated *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*, the Tony-winning *Catch Me If You Can*, the Olivier Award-winning *Charlie & The Chocolate Factory*, and most recently, the Tony and Grammy Award-winning *Some Like It Hot*. Other Broadway credits are composing incidental music for revivals of *The Odd Couple* (with Nathan Lane & Matthew Broderick) and *Plaza Suite* (starring Sarah Jessica Parker & Matthew Broderick). Broadway concert credits are *Peter Allen: Up In One*, *Bette Midler's Divine Madness*, *Ellie Greenwich's Leader Of The Pack*, and *Patti LuPone On Broadway*. In 2014, Shaiman & Wittman were celebrated by the New York Pops with a spectacular concert at Carnegie Hall. Marc was honored with the Ambassador Award by the Society of Composers and Lyricists in December 2018, the Icon Award at the Guild of Music Supervisors Awards in February 2019, and an Outstanding Career Achievement Award from The Hollywood Music in Media Awards.

SCOTT WITTMAN (he/him),

Lyricist, Director, Writer, Conceiver

Tony, Emmy, two time Grammy, and Olivier Award winning lyricist, director, writer, and conceiver, Scott Wittman co-wrote the lyrics for the hit musical *Hairspray* (Tony, Grammy, Olivier Award winner) with creative partner Marc Shaiman. Wittman also served as an executive producer on the hit film starring John Travolta. Scott was nominated for a Golden Globe, Grammy, and two Emmy Awards for the original songs on NBC's

musical drama *Smash*. While working on the show, he co-wrote songs for Jennifer Hudson, Uma Thurman, Bernadette Peters, and Liza Minnelli. Shaiman and Wittman's original score for the Marilyn Monroe musical *Bombshell* was released by Sony Records. Scott's Broadway credits include *Martin Short: Fame Becomes Me*, which he also directed, *Catch Me If You Can* (Tony nom. for Best Musical), *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* on Broadway and the West End. *Some Like it Hot* (13 Tony nominations) and *Smash* on Broadway. Scott has created and directed two Broadway shows, and four sold-out Carnegie Hall concerts for Patti LuPone. Scott also co-wrote the score to Disney's *Mary Poppins Returns* starring Emily Blunt, Lin Manuel Miranda, and Meryl Streep. Directed by Rob Marshall. The song, "The Place Where Lost Things Go" was nominated for an Oscar. He joined the Marvel Universe with his song cowritten with Marc Shaiman for "Rodgers: The Musical" in *Hawkeye*. Also, for *Only Murders in the Building*, he co-wrote The Pickwick Triplets for Steve Martin which recently won an Emmy. The notorious and legendary Downtown shows he directed are in the permanent collection of the Museum of Modern Art in New York.

KRISTIANNE KURNER (she/her)

Director, 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. She concluded her 40th directorial achievement with *The Apiary* earlier this season. Her other directing highlights 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.



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"The Dea Hurston Fellowship was transformative to my art practice. I appreciated the time and space the fellowship provided that allowed me to learn and focus on my craft. NVA staff was very supportive, offering the tools and freedom to collaborate and explore new ideas. 10 out of 10 experience!"

—MIKI VALE (2024-2025 HURSTON FELLOW)



"The professional fellowship granted me the opportunity to cultivate my artistry on my own time as well as working within the theatre. I am grateful for how much it grew me and for the chance NVA gave me to create and put up work at their theatre."

—LILEA ALVAREZ (2024-2025 HURSTON FELLOW)

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