

WE WILL ROCK YOU



AUG 7—SEP 20 2026



MUSIC & LYRICS BY QUEEN

STORY & SCRIPT BY BEN ELTON

DIRECTED BY SHELDON GOMABON

MUSICAL DIRECTED BY ERIN VANDERHYDE GROSS

CHOREOGRAPHY BY ERICA KAHN

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WE WILL ROCK YOU

MUSIC & LYRICS BY QUEEN
STORY & SCRIPT BY BEN ELTON

WE WILL ROCK YOU COMPANY

SAMY BERMAN.....	Killer Queen & U/S Scaramouche
SARAH LEDESMA.....	Scaramouche
OSVALDO MENDOZA	Brit & U/S Galileo
COOPER ORIO	Galileo
GABY RITTER.....	Oz
JUWAN STANFORD	Buddy
AUDREY WARD.....	Khashoggi
VANESSA FLORES CABRERA	U/S Killer Queen & Oz
CARLY O'REAR	U/S Brit/Khashoggi/Buddy
CHRIS GROSS.....	Freddie Mercury (Audio)

WE WILL ROCK YOU CREATIVES

SHELDON GOMABON.....	Director
ERIN VANDERHYDE GROSS	Music Director
ERICA KAHN	Choreographer
HOLDEN FOX.....	Stage Manager
JESUS HURTADO	Scenic & Projections Designer
JAEONNIE DAVIS-CRAWFORD	Props Designer
MARICELA ALANIZ	Costume Designer
STEPHANIE MA'ALONA	Lighting Designer
MIA KARVOUNIS	Wig Designer
ROSE LONA	Makeup Designer
MALICK CEESAY	Sound Designer
SARAH JANE SALONGA.....	Intimacy Director
ASTRID PETT	Assistant Stage Manager
MARYKATE REEVES-HOCHE	Costume Assistant
ALEXIS ORDONEZ	Second Costume Assistant
JACOB ALVAREZ-ALABA.....	Rehearsal Accompanist
ELIJAH HOWLETT	Videography
SAMY BERMAN.....	Dance Captain
ZACHARY ELLIOT	Scenic Painter
MARCUS RICO	Sound Engineer
CHRIS RENDA	Master Carpenter

RUN TIME

2 hours and 15 minutes,
including one 15-minute
intermission.

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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.

● FOUNDER'S NOTE

BY KRISTIANNE KURNER

Welcome to the 25th Anniversary Season of New Village Arts!

What a season we have planned for you: four thrilling musicals and one ground-breaking play. This season is all about building community, or as we like to say, building your VILLAGE. Who are the people you turn to when you most want to celebrate? When you need support? When you want to have a good laugh? We are always looking for ways to expand our Village and we are thrilled that you have joined us today.

This 25th Anniversary Season will also be my final year with New Village Arts. I'm so proud of everything we have created over the years and I'm absolutely full of gratitude for the incredible Village we have. Thank you for being part of that Village, some of you for the first time, and some who have been here since the very beginning. I'm honored to be able to pass the leadership along to the next generation and I can't wait to see what New Village Arts will be able to accomplish in the coming years. I'll be returning to New York City in the Fall of 2027, but I'll be back often to cheer on NVA!

WE WILL ROCK YOU is first and foremost, FUN! We wanted to kick off the season with great music, incredible performers, and talented artisans and we have been able to do so with this show! Special thanks to the fabulous team of Sheldon, Erin and Erica for leading the way and the most amazing cast, creative team, and crew.

If you have not yet, please consider becoming a season subscriber and joining NVA for the entire glorious season! We'd love to have you with us on this celebration of community. If you are interested in becoming a donor and having a direct impact on the work we do, please reach out! I love talking about all things NVA and I'm happy to meet for lunch or coffee.

As Freddie Mercury said, "The most important thing is to live a fabulous life." Have a blast today and rock on!

With love and gratitude,
Kristianne Kurner
kristianne@newvillagearts.org



● DIRECTOR'S NOTE

FROM SHELDON GOMABON

The music of Queen is simply iconic. Whether you grew up listening to their songs on a transistor radio or discovered them for the first time on YouTube, their music has a remarkable ability to transport us to a time when rules were meant to be challenged, individuality was celebrated, and rock-and-roll was more than a genre, it was a way of life.

Set 300 years in the future, *We Will Rock You* introduces us to a society stripped of originality and self-expression. Ruled by the all-powerful Killer Queen, history has been erased, and with it the rebellious spirit of rock-and-roll. In its place is a world of conformity, where identity has been replaced by algorithms, technology dictates thought, and people exist as brainwashed followers rather than independent individuals.

Into this world steps a whistleblower determined to uncover the truth, a young dreamer guided by something greater than himself, and a band of Bohemians searching for hope in a forgotten past. Together, they challenge a system built on fear and control, rediscover the power of music, and ignite a revolution that reminds humanity what it means to think, create, and live freely.

We Will Rock You first premiered in London's West End in 2002 and has since enjoyed numerous productions around the world, including a Las Vegas residency in 2004, a U.S. national tour in 2013, and its current home aboard Royal Caribbean cruise ships. Nearly 25 years after its debut, the show's dystopian vision feels less like fantasy and more like a reflection of the world we live in today.

Our production explores the intersection of politics, technology, and human connection, asking the timeless question: "Is this the real life? Is this just fantasy?" In an age where algorithms shape our opinions, breaking news arrives through social media feeds, and artificial intelligence continues to redefine our everyday lives, it is worth asking how much of our humanity we are willing to surrender for convenience. As technology evolves, the challenge is not simply keeping pace with innovation, but ensuring that creativity, authenticity, and genuine connection are not left behind.

At its heart, our story is about community. No hero succeeds alone. Galileo's journey is only possible because of the people who choose to believe in one another, who stand together against impossible odds, and fight for something greater than themselves. That spirit extends beyond the stage. This production has been built by a community of actors, designers, technicians, artistic teams, volunteers, and supporters who have poured their talent, passion, and heart into bringing this story to life. I am indebted to them for their generosity and am reminded that theatre does not exist without artists, and art does not exist without community.

Thank you for joining us tonight. As the lights dim and the music swells, I invite you to celebrate not only the extraordinary catalogue of Queen, but also the enduring power of ingenuity, individuality, and human connection. Because in a world that often encourages us to fit in, perhaps the greatest act of rebellion is simply to be yourself.

Rock on. —Sheldon Gomabon

● SONG LIST

ACT ONE

INNUENDO	(Ensemble)
RADIO GA GA	(Ensemble)
I WANT TO BREAK FREE	(Galileo & Scaramouche)
SOMEBODY TO LOVE	(Scaramouche & Ensemble)
KILLER QUEEN	(Killer Queen & Ensemble)
UNDER PRESSURE	(Galileo & Scaramouche)
A KIND OF MAGIC	(Killer Queen, Khashoggi, Ensemble)
I WANT IT ALL	(Oz, Britney, Ensemble)
HEADLONG	(Oz, Scaramouche, Britney, Galileo, Ensemble)
NO ONE BUT YOU	(Oz & Ensemble)
CRAZY LITTLE THING CALLED LOVE	(Oz, Scaramouche, Britney, Galileo, Ensemble)

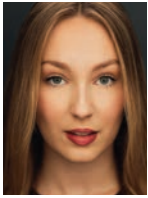
ACT TWO

ONE VISION.....	(Ensemble)
FLASH	(Ensemble)
SEVEN SEAS OF RHYE	(Khashoggi & Ensemble)
WHO WANTS TO LIVE FOREVER.....	(Scaramouche & Galileo)
FAT BOTTOMED GIRLS.....	(Queen, Killer Queen, Ensemble)
DON'T STOP ME NOW	(Killer Queen)
ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	(Killer Queen)
HAMMER TO FALL	(Galileo & Scaramouche)
THESE ARE THE DAYS OF OUR LIVES.....	(Buddy & Ensemble)
HEADLONG - REPRISE.....	(Scaramouche, Galileo, Buddy, Ensemble)
WE WILL ROCK YOU.....	(Galileo, Scaramouche, Buddy, Ensemble)
WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS	(Company)
BOHEMIAN RHAPSODY	(Company)

● QUEEN FACTS

1. **Queen has sold over 300 million records worldwide**, making them one of the best-selling bands in music history.
2. **The band's legendary lineup never changed** after bassist John Deacon joined in 1971: Freddie Mercury, Brian May, Roger Taylor, and John Deacon remained together until Mercury's passing in 1991.
3. **Brian May built his famous guitar, the "Red Special,"** with his father when he was a teenager—and he still performs with it today.
4. **Brian May is also an astrophysicist** who earned a Ph.D. and even has an asteroid named after him.
5. **"Bohemian Rhapsody" has no chorus**, yet it became one of the most celebrated and successful songs in rock history.
6. **The iconic "stomp-stomp-clap" rhythm in "We Will Rock You"** was created using the band members' feet and hands to sound like a stadium full of fans.
7. **Queen was one of the first major rock bands to embrace music videos** as a key part of promoting their songs, helping shape the MTV era.
8. **Queen's 1985 Live Aid performance** is widely regarded as one of the greatest live performances in the history of rock music.
9. **Freddie Mercury designed Queen's official crest**, incorporating the zodiac signs of all four band members into the band's iconic logo.
10. ***We Will Rock You* has been seen by more than 20 million people worldwide** since its 2002 premiere, making it one of the most successful jukebox musicals ever created.





SAMY BERMAN (she/her),
Killer Queen, U/S Scaramouche,
Dance Captain

Samy is thrilled to be making her NVA debut with this killer cast in *We Will Rock You*. Born and raised in Los Angeles, Samy made New York City her second home after graduating from Syracuse University with a BFA in Musical Theatre ('25), launching her journey as a bicoastal actor. Her training includes the Tepper Semester (NYC), as well as Shakespeare's Globe Theatre in London. Regional credit: Brenda Strong in *Catch Me If You Can* (Slow Burn Theatre Company). Samy is grateful for the unwavering love and support of her friends and family, who make every adventure possible. She encourages you to enjoy the magic! @samyb_talents



SARAH LEDESMA (she/her),
Scaramouche

Sarah is a graduate of Wagner College in NY where she earned a B.A. in Theatre Performance and Spanish. Some of her favorite roles include Bella Fox in *Jagged Little Pill* (Landmark Theatre), Vanessa in *In The Heights* (Electric Company Theatre), Mimi Marquez in *Rent* (Z Playhouse), Janet Weiss in *The Rocky Horror Show* (Cabrillo Playhouse), Veronica Sawyer in *Heathers* (Top Hat 8 Repertory), Wendla/Thea in *Spring Awakening* (TH8R), Alice in *Alice By Heart* (TH8R) and Heather/Extraordinary Girl in *American Idiot* (TH8R). She would like to thank the incredible cast and creative team for their talents, hard work and for being so welcoming. She is also very grateful for the constant love and support from her family and friends! @sarahll.812



OSVALDO MENDOZA (he/him),
Brit & U/S Galileo

Osvaldo is ready to break free with his debut at New Village Arts! He is a proud Chicano actor that carries a BA in Stage Performance from CSULB. Regional Credits: *Prom* (Swing) at SDMT, *Fiddler on the Roof* (Bottle Dancer) at Montana TheatreWorks, *Elf*

(Ensemble) at The Welk, *West Side Story* (Indio), *In the Heights* (Ensemble) both at Palos Verdes Performing Arts, *Rocky Horror Show* (Rocky) at CalRep, and more. In the past, he performed for Disneyland Resort Entertainment and Disney Paris Entertainment. When not on stage he is an educator for today's youth. Thank you to the creative team for this wonderful opportunity! He would also like to dedicate this show to his parents and brother for making him the person he is today. ¡Muchas gracias a mi familia, novio, y amigos por el apoyo! Let's rock! Insta: @Oz_waddle



COOPER ORIO (he/they),
Galileo

Cooper Orio is excited to rock out in his first professional role as Galileo Figaro! He's no stranger to the stage, though - his previous credits include, but are not limited to: Chip Tolentino in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Looking Glass Theatre); Moritz Stiefel in *Spring Awakening* (Columbia Musical Theatre Society [CMTS]), Mischa Bachinski in *Ride The Cyclone* (CMTS), Professor Callahan in *Legally Blonde the Musical* (CMTS); Hedwig in *Hedwig and The Angry Inch* (University of Rochester International Theatre Program). He hopes you get your lighters ready (in spirit, of course), and enjoy the show!



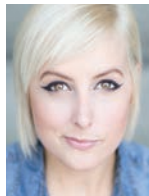
GABY RITTER (she/her),
Oz

Gaby Ritter is thrilled to make her New Village Arts debut in *We Will Rock You*. A Los Angeles native, Gaby moved to San Diego to work as a Board-Certified Music Therapist and preschool teacher with the most remarkable kiddos around. She recently appeared as Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Point Loma Playhouse), Catherine in *Pippin* (The Star Theatre), and has also performed in The Old Globe's 360 Project. Gaby is having the time of her life sharing the stage with such an incredible cast and creative team and is deeply thankful to her family and friends, whose support means the world to her. She hopes you enjoy the show!



JUWAN STANFORD (he/him),
Buddy

Juwan Stanford is a tenor vocalist and actor whose recent credits include Benny in *RENT* (NVA) and roles such as Sebastian and Simba in *Once Upon a Disney*. His operatic work includes performances with CSUN and Mission Opera, including the Commissioner in *Dialogues of the Carmelites* and the Priest in *The Magic Flute*. Juwan holds a Master of Music from California State University, Northridge, and performs across musical theater, opera, and contemporary styles including pop and R&B. He is also an independent artist, composer, and songwriter, and is grateful to be part of the *We Will Rock You* company.



AUDREY WARD (she/her),
Khashoggi

Audrey Ward is absolutely Ga Ga to be returning to New Village Arts! She was last seen on the Ray Charles stage as Lina Lamont in *Singin' in the Rain* where she was awarded the 2023 Craig Noel Award for Best Featured Performer in a Musical. Favorite past credits include: Helene in *Sweet Charity* (OTC), Passepartout in *Around the World in 80 Days* (NVA), Val in *A Chorus Line* (CPH), Lucy in *Avenue Q* (OBP), Columbia in *Rocky Horror Show* (OBP), *Sister Act* (SDMT), and *Lucky Stiff* (SRT/OTC). Thanks and love to this incredible cast and crew of champions, her family for supporting her 'Under Pressure' and most of all to her Supersonic Dood whose unwavering support and willingness to take the lead at home with Jules, make this Kind of Magic possible.

Audrey Ward is graciously sponsored by the Barter Family.



VANESSA FLORES CABRERA
(she/her),

U/S Killer Queen & Oz

NVA Debut! Vanessa Flores Cabrera is a bi-national theatre artist, born in San Diego and raised in Tijuana, Mexico. Recent credits include performing at sea with Disney Cruise Line, La Llorona in *La Llorona In The Blue*

Line (TuYo Theatre), Jojo in *Stoneheart* (Camino23 Collective/LATC's "Encuentro 2024"), Lucha in *La Lucha* (Optika Moderna/La Jolla Playhouse WOW Festival), Milli in *Our Lady Of The San Diego Convention Center* (TuYo Theatre/The Old Globe's 360 Project), and dancer at *Trolley Dances* (San Diego Dance Theatre). Vanessa has a Double Bachelor's Degree in Theatre and Dance from the University of California San Diego. When she is not performing, she is producing at TuYo Theatre! Gracias a toda mi familia y amistades que siempre están conmigo y continúan alimentándose como humana y artista.



CARLY O'REAR (she/her),
U/S Brit/Khashoggi/Buddy

Carly O'Rear is thrilled to be making her NVA debut in *We Will Rock You!* Recent credits include Olive Ostrovsky in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Oceanside Theatre Company), Franca/Clara US in *The Light in the Piazza* (St. Bart's), Siobhan in *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Nighttime* (USD), Molly Aster in *Peter and the Starcatcher* (USD), and #00 in *The Wolves* (USD). Carly is a recent graduate of USD where she studied Music and Theatre. Known as Miss Carly to many in North County, she is a voice teacher at Coastal Music Studios and music instructor for North County Children's Choir. She would like to thank her family and the Carl Fan Club for their unwavering support!



CHRIS GROSS (he/him),
Freddie Mercury (Audio)

Chris Gross is excited to have his voice used for such an epic musical! Chris performs around San Diego as a saxophonist in many farmers markets and for special events, as well as sings for a variety of different groups and churches. He performs in the Explorers A Capella group at the San Diego Zoo during the summer and with the Holiday Hipsters in the winter. He also has performed with his original bands "Stay for the Fireworks" and "Mishy" as the lead vocalist. Chris is so grateful for this opportunity and would like to thank his wife Erin and his two kiddos for their support!

SHELDON GOMABON (he/him),

Director

Sheldon Gomabon is a director, educator, and actor born and raised in Honolulu and based in San Diego. He recently returned after serving as the Manager for *The Phantom of the Opera*. Previously, he served as Artistic Director of Teatro San Diego for two seasons, producing acclaimed works including *West Side Story* at the City Heights Annex and *The Wiz* in partnership with Diversionary Theatre. As an assistant director, Sheldon has worked locally with Stafford Arima at The Old Globe on *Dial M for Murder* and with Steven Brotebeck at Diversionary Theatre on *Midnight at the Never Get*. He has toured internationally with *Disney Live*, performed as an Equity/AGVA actor at Walt Disney World and the Disneyland Resort, and partnered with Disney Live Entertainment to lead audition workshops in San Diego. Sheldon is passionate about developing new work that centers culturally specific narratives

and amplifies underrepresented voices. He is committed to creating collaborative spaces where artists can explore, develop, and share stories that broaden representation and create more theatrical accessibility to marginalized communities. MFA San Diego State University.

ERIN VANDERHYDE GROSS (she/her),

Music Director

Erin Vanderhyde Gross is having the best time Music Directing around San Diego. She is not only working in the regional scene but also with the youth at theatre's like YAT, CSP, Carlsbad Community Theatre and El Capitan High school. Her most recent projects at NVA are *Hairspray* and *[Title of Show]*. She is always grateful and appreciative to New Village Arts for all the opportunities they have and continue to give her. Erin wants to give a shout out to her husband Chris for making it possible for her to do this and her kids August and Ozzy. She loves you! You can catch

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● CREATIVES

Erin performing in *Come From Away* at Moonlight this September and check out her music direction in *Cabaret* at Point Loma Players. If you want more information about upcoming projects for Erin follow her @SilenceAutumn on Instagram.

ERICA KAHN (she/her),

Choreographer

Erica Kahn is a San Diego-based choreographer, director, and teaching artist with a passion for musical theatre. She holds a double bachelor's degree in Theatre and Dance from UCSD with an emphasis in directing and choreography and is excited to be working with New Village Arts! Erica has been choreographing for over 12 years and currently works with various theatre companies across San Diego including La Jolla Playhouse, The Old Globe, SDMT, Moonlight, Mosaic Theatricals, and more. Select credits include *13: The Musical* (Choreographer, SDMT, BroadwayWorld San Diego award for Best Dance Production), *Matilda* (Associate Choreographer, SDMT), *The Untitled Unauthorized Hunter S. Thompson Musical Workshop* (Assistant Director, La Jolla Playhouse), *Big Fish* (Choreographer, Coronado Playhouse, Aubrey Award for Best Choreography), *Most Happy Fella* (Associate Choreographer, North Coast Rep); www.ericakahn.com

HOLDEN FOX (he/him),

Stage Manager

Holden Fox is excited to be making his New Village Arts debut with this fabulous company. Upcoming Projects: *Candide*, *Turandot*, *The Marriage of Figaro* (Los Angeles Opera); *Rigoletto*, *Susannah* (San Diego Opera). Recent Credits: *Fellow Travelers* –10th Anniversary Tour (Up Until Now Collective/San Diego Opera); *The Magic Flute* (Los Angeles Opera); *Carmen*, *Pagliacci* (San Diego Opera); *Little Women* (SDSU Opera Theatre); *The Barber of Seville*, *The Knock*, *Once Upon a Mattress* (Central City Opera); *The Little Mermaid*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *The Music Man* (Summer Stock Austin). He is a Texas State University alum and proud AGMA union member.

JESUS HURTADO (he/him),

Scenic & Projections Designer

Jesus Hurtado is a Scenic and Projection Designer for theater, film, and live events. He was a 2026 Dea Hurston Professional Fellow at New Village Arts and a 2025 Projection Design Fellow with Black Theater Coalition. He assisted on Broadway's *Real Women Have Curves* and *Redwood*, as well as *SUMO* at The Public Theater. He earned his BFA in Theater Design from the University of Southern California (2022). Recent design credits include *Hairspray* and *Matt & Ben* (New Village Arts), *¡Si Se Puede!* (Center Theater Group), *Pasale Pasale* (WOW Festival, La Jolla Playhouse), and *The Young Dolphins* (Rosenthal Theater). More information and portfolio: Jesushurtadodesigns.com.

JAEONNIE DAVIS-CRAWFORD (she/they),

Props Designer

Jaenonnie Davis-Crawford 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 Alaniz is an MFA Costume Design candidate at the University of California San Diego whose work is driven by a passion for imaginative storytelling and creating visually dynamic productions. Recent design credits include *Hairspray* at New Village Arts and *The Wiz* at the San Diego School of Creative and Performing Arts. UC San Diego design credits include *Fancy Jungle*, *The Three Musketeers*, *People, Places & Things*, and *Baby Shower Katie*. She earned her BFA in Theatre Design from the University of Kansas. View more of her work at maricelaalaniz.com

STEPHANIE MA'ALONA (she/her),

Lighting Designer

Stephanie Ma'alona enjoys working at NVA and is excited to be a part of this production. For the love of Music, Theatre and *QUEEN*! She is a Candidate at SDSU earning her MFA in Theatre Design and Technology, emphasis in Lighting Design. Earned her BA in Theatre Arts Studies at BYU. Some of her credits include *La Llorona On The Blue Line* (TuYo Theatre/National City Depot), *Matt and Ben* (NVA), *House of Desires* (Studio Theatre), *Urinetown* (Horseshoe Theatre), and *Merrily We Roll Along* (SDSU Main Stage). She loves lights, they bring her so much joy. Come watch what she is doing next at *Our Lady Of The San Diego Convention Center* at The Old Globe with TuYo Theatre this September. She hopes you enjoy the show.

MIA KARVOUNIS (she/her),

Wig Designer

Mia Karvounis is a local actor and designer who is thrilled to make her designing debut at New Village Arts! She previously designed hair and makeup at MiraCosta College for their production of *Native Gardens* and is so excited to step back into that creative role. She is so grateful to New Village Arts and this team for believing in her and giving her this opportunity. Thank you for coming and enjoy the show!

ROSE LONA (she/her),

Makeup Designer

Rose Lona is a Professional Makeup Artist and Beauty Consultant based out of the UK. While living in the North of England for a little under 2 years, she was blessed with multiple makeup opportunities ranging from Theater Drag Makeup in a 100 year old theater, entering 2 Editorial Makeup Competition's; both receiving 2nd place awards, and building up her clients' self-confidence through Facial Waxing, Brow Tinting & Laminations. Since moving back to San Diego she's been fortunate to work on two local Fashion Shows, ranging from shimmering golden lids, to sultry smokey eyeshadow! She's

excited to use her passion for art and creativity to create something that will perfectly capture the essence of *We Will Rock You*! Thank you for reading a little bit about me :)

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 *Hairspray*, *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*, *Bat Boy*, and *Hairspray*. Nationally, Malick has worked with many 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. For more of his work, visit his website at mahlick.com.

SARAH JANE SALONGA (she/her),

Intimacy Director

Sarah Jane Salonga 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), *Hairspray* (NVA), *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*



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Song (CPH), *The 25th...Spelling Bee* (SDSU & OTC), and *High Fidelity* (Canadian Premiere). Sarah will be directing NVA's *Cabaret* later this Season! www.sarahjanesalonga.com.

ASTRID PETT (she/he/they),

Assistant Stage Manager

Astrid Pett is thrilled to be working on her first show with NVA alongside this team of absolute rock stars! She started her stage managing journey in 2017, and has been parkouring both sides of the production table ever since. Recent Stage Management credits include *The Drowsy Chaperone*, *Pippin*, *Curtains* (CPH), *Seussical the Musical*, *Mean Girls*, and *Little Shop of Horrors* (YAT).

MARYKATE REEVES-HOCHE (she/her),

Costume Assistant

MaryKate has been the resident volunteer costume assistant at NVA since season 22. Her first show was *Fun Home* in which she designed and made the costumes for the Ken dolls used as props in the play. She has enjoyed working and learning with each costume designer, some favorites include making cardboard turkeys for *The Thanksgiving Play* (Sandra Ruiz), the magic skirt for Susan Walker in *Miracle on 34th Street* (Janet Pitcher), and Tracy Turnblad's iconic school uniform in *Hairspray* (Maricela Alaniz). MaryKate is a retired scientist with a passion for textiles.

ALEXIS ORDONEZ (he/him),

Second Costume Assistant

Alexis is a UC San Diego alum making his New Village Arts debut as assistant costume designer. He is a multidisciplinary theatre artist whose

"Carrie" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com



MUSIC BY MICHAEL GORE
LYRICS BY DEAN PITCHFORD

BOOK BY LAWRENCE D. COHEN
BASED ON THE NOVEL BY STEPHEN KING

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY
KEVIN BLAX BURROUGHS

MUSICAL DIRECTION BY
BENJAMIN GONIEA

OCTOBER 17TH, 2026 - NOVEMBER 1ST, 2026
PREVIEW OCTOBER 16, 2026



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work spans costume design, stage managing, and playwriting. His selected credits include costume designer for *Shattered Dream* (UCSD) and *Dirty Martini* (UCSD), assistant costume designer for *The Three Musketeers* (UCSD), and playwright of *Small World* (UCSD). He earned degrees in Theatre and Human Biology from UCSD, where he developed a design practice grounded in character, storytelling, and close collaboration. Alexis approaches each production with equal attention to imaginative detail and the practical craft required to bring a design from concept to stage. He currently works in the SeaWorld costume shop, continuing to expand his experience in costume construction and live performance while building a career as a designer and theatre maker. He is grateful to join this production and creative community!

JACOB ALVAREZ-ALABA (he/him),
Rehearsal Accompanist

Jacob Alvarez-Alaba is honored to serve as the accompanist for this production and is incredibly grateful to work alongside such an amazing and talented group of musicians. He would like to extend his heartfelt thanks to his family for their unwavering love and support, as well as to his wonderful friends—Constance, Luke, Sam, and Nia—for their constant encouragement. A very special thank you goes to his loyal dog, Legend, whose companionship has been a source of comfort throughout the journey. Jacob hopes you enjoy the performance!

ZACHARY ELLIOT (he/him),
Scenic Painter

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

MARCUS RICO (he/him),
Sound Engineer

Marcus graduated from Mt. San Jacinto College with

an AA in Audio Technology. Recent NVA productions as Sound Engineer include *Hairspray*, *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 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: *Hairspray*, *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) (Diversionary 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.

QUEEN,

Music & Lyrics

Formed in London in 1970, Queen is one of the most influential and successful rock bands in music history. The legendary lineup of Freddie Mercury, Brian May, Roger Taylor, and John Deacon redefined popular music with their groundbreaking blend of rock, opera, pop, and theatrical performance. Their catalogue includes some of the world's most recognizable songs, including "Bohemian Rhapsody," "We Will Rock You," "We Are the Champions," "Somebody to Love," "Don't Stop Me Now," and "Another One Bites the Dust." With more than 300 million records sold worldwide, Queen has earned countless awards and accolades while inspiring generations of artists and audiences. Their unforgettable performance at Live Aid in 1985 is widely regarded as one of the greatest live performances in rock history. Today, Queen's music continues to captivate audiences around the globe through recordings, concerts, film, and musical theatre, ensuring their extraordinary legacy lives on for new generations.

BEN ELTON (he/him),

Script & Story

Ben Elton is a multi-award-winning novelist, playwright, television writer, screenwriter and lyricist. He is also a theatre, screen and TV Director, a Stand-Up Comedian and a very occasional actor. Born in Catford, South East London in 1959, Ben was state educated and studied drama at Manchester University, where he now holds an honorary Doctorate. He began his professional career in 1981. Ben married Australian musician Sophie Gare in 1994 and became an Australian citizen in 2004. He and Sophie have three children and live in Fremantle Western Australia.

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. She concluded her 40th directorial achievement with *The Apiary* earlier this year. 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.

KALI BOSTON (she/her),

Artistic Producer

Kali Boston recently concluded her professional directing debut with NVA's *HAIRSPRAY* earlier this summer. 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 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 will be directing the San Diego Regional Premiere of a.k. payne's *Furlough's Paradise* later this season.



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ADAPTED BY Shaina Taub & Laurie Woolery
MUSIC & LYRICS BY Shaina Taub
DIRECTED BY Kristianne Kurner, Founder & Executive Artistic Director
CHOREOGRAPHY BY Nikki Antoine

show dates
**OCT 16 —
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show dates
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BOOK BY Joe Masteroff
BASED ON THE PLAY BY John Van Druten
STORIES BY Christopher Isherwood
MUSIC BY John Kander
LYRICS BY Fred Ebb
DIRECTED BY Sarah Jane Salonga

BOOK BY a.k. payne
DIRECTED BY Kali Boston, Artistic Producer
CHOREOGRAPHY BY Kara Mack

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show dates
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