

SISTER
Act

FORD'S

THEATRE

March 14-May 17, 2025

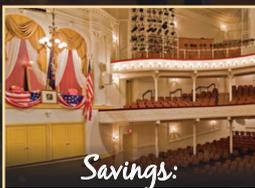
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- Ticket sales will open to the general public on Monday, April 28.



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Set design by Paige Hathaway.

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**Large print playbills available.
Please ask an usher.**

Ford's Theatre



Ford's Theatre explores the legacy of President Abraham Lincoln and celebrates the American experience through theatre and education. A working theatre, historical monument, culturally-significant museum and learning center, Ford's Theatre is the premier destination in Washington, D.C. to explore and celebrate Lincoln's ideals and leadership principles.

Ford's Theatre History

In 1861, theatre manager John T. Ford leased out the abandoned First Baptist Church on Tenth Street to create Ford's Theatre. Over the next few years, the venue became a popular stage for theatrical and musical productions. On April 14, 1865, Abraham Lincoln visited Ford's for a performance of *Our American Cousin*. At this performance, Lincoln was shot by John Wilkes Booth, a Confederate sympathizer and white supremacist. Lincoln died the next morning in the Petersen House, a boarding house located across the street. Ford's Theatre remained dark for more than 100 years, officially reopening in 1968 as a national historic site and working theatre. It is operated through a public-private partnership between the National Park Service and Ford's Theatre Society.

Ford's Theatre Today

Through its inspiring theatrical productions, live historic interpretation and engaging education programs, Ford's Theatre offers visitors the opportunity to immerse themselves in America's past while revealing meaningful connections to today.

As a working theatre, Ford's produces renowned plays, vibrant musicals and newly commissioned works that captivate and entertain while examining political and social issues related to Lincoln's legacy. With works from the Tony-nominated *Come From Away* and the nationally acclaimed *Big River* to the world premieres of *Meet John Doe*, *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*, *Liberty Smith*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *The Widow Lincoln*, *The Guard*, *Grace* and *Something Moving: A Meditation on Maynard*, Ford's Theatre is making its mark on the American theatre landscape. With the opening of the Aftermath Exhibits at the Center for Education and Leadership, Ford's Theatre has become a major center for learning, where people of all ages can examine Lincoln's multi-faceted legacy through exhibits, workshops and educational programs.

For more information about Ford's Theatre and Ford's Theatre Society, please visit www.fords.org.

Welcome

Welcome to Ford's Theatre and our spring production of *Sister Act*! Following last year's wildly successful production of *Little Shop of Horrors*, we are pleased to present another Alan Menken musical with a hilarious blend of danger, comedy, courage, friendship and self-discovery — all against the backdrop of electrifying Disco-era inspired music that will have you wanting to jump to your feet!

Many of us remember the 1992 hit movie that inspired this musical, but what might surprise you is that the movie itself was inspired by the true story of Sister Delores Hart, a successful Hollywood actress. I invite you to learn more about the interesting backstory of both the film and the musical on pages 6-7.

Sister Act will tug at your heartstrings through laughter as you watch Deloris Van Cartier become a nun-in-hiding. When she and her new sisters are brought together by outrageous circumstances, their friendship grows as they bond over their collective love of music. In the process, they begin to discover their true voices.

Spring is a busy time at Ford's, as we welcome students and visitors from around the world. On April 14, we'll mark the anniversary of President Abraham Lincoln's assassination. I encourage you to visit the museum before the show and during intermission or consider returning to see *One Destiny* or participating in our *History on Foot* tour *Investigation: Detective McDevitt* — two programs that explore Lincoln's assassination.

And stay tuned for our 2025-2026 season announcement — a season that will coincide with the semiquincentennial anniversary of the United States.

Thank you for joining us as we continue to honor President Abraham Lincoln's love of the performing arts!

Enjoy *Sister Act* and I hope to see you again soon!



Paul R. Tetreault
Director
Ford's Theatre



“The look and function of the *Sister Act* set design hinged largely around the need for 14 unique locations in 25 scenes — how do you design a set that can be a cathedral as well as an alley, a disco club, a dive bar and a police station? Additionally, I wanted to show the contrast between the more intimate public spaces like the disco club or police station and the vastness and beauty of the cathedral — no easy task. I took inspiration from Philadelphia area cathedrals (particularly St. Patrick’s Roman Catholic Church) and theatrical scenic conventions like pivoting walls and tracking furniture to create a design that is able to transport us to the world of *Sister Act*.”

-Paige Hathaway, Scenic Designer

Love the show?

Share your thoughts on social media.

Photos can be taken before the show. No photos are allowed during the show or cast bows.

Please credit scenic designer Paige Hathaway by tagging her on Instagram @paigehathawaydesign, tagging @FordsTheatre and using #FordsSisterAct.

Ford's Theatre Rules of Engagement

We are glad that you are joining us at Ford's Theatre today. This is a welcoming and interactive community. Whether you are here to visit our historic site or to see a show, we invite you to be your authentic self.

At Ford's Theatre:

- We are allowed to be human, in all the ways that make us unique.
- We are allowed to be human together. We encourage you to find moments of respectful connection and engagement with other members of the community.
- We are on common ground. We are all here to enjoy a shared experience and though our reactions and responses may vary, we will remain respectful.
- We are creating a live theatrical experience together; audible reactions and responses are welcome. The actors need you to engage with what you see but not to distract them from their performances.
- We also welcome the use of personal communication devices if they help you to better experience the show, but we encourage you to respect the actors' work and the other audience members around you. **Please note that the taking of photographs, video or sound recordings of the performance is not permitted.**

Let's create something beautiful together.



Photo by Maxwell MacKenzie.

The Origin Story of Sister Mary Clarence (Deloris Van Cartier)

By José Carrasquillo, Director of Artistic Programming

Sister Act is based on the 1992 comedy film starring Whoopi Goldberg. The film was wildly successful grossing more than \$230 million worldwide and becoming the most rented video title in the United States in 1993. The film is responsible for spawning a franchise consisting of the 1993 sequel, *Sister Act 2: Back in the Habit*, a musical adaptation produced in cities all over the world, and *Sister Act 3* currently in production.

The journey of *Sister Act* begins with Paul Rudnick's desire to bring to the screen the story of Dolores Hart — a Hollywood starlet who became a nun. Born Dolores Hicks in Chicago in 1938, Hart made her film debut in *Loving You* (1957), starring Elvis Presley. For the next five years she appeared in several popular films including *Wild is the Wind* (1957) and *Where the Boys Are* (1960). But in 1963, at the age of 24, she purportedly closed the door on a lucrative film career in favor of life in a convent under the Rule of Saint Benedict. In 1991, Rudnick traveled to the Abbey of Regina Laudis in Bethlehem, Connecticut to meet with Hart. (Today at 86, she's still a resident of the Abbey.) He learned that Hart had been solely responsible for expanding the Abbey's connection to the region through her love of the performing arts. The Gary-Olivia Theater at the Abbey, an open-air theater that was built in 1982 owes its existence to Reverend Mother Dolores Hart. Hart has said:

"The link between drama and monastic life is an ancient one. Far from putting an end to my acting career, I discovered that monastic life transcended my acting vocation. Obviously, a cloistered monastery is not the conventional place that one goes to realize one's potential as an actress. And yet, in my case, my vocation as an actress could only have reached its fullest expression, its fullest expansion because I was fortunate enough to have been called to a monastic way of life."

Rudnick's visit made him eager to explore how Hart's actions had transformed an entire community. As the script began to take shape, Bette Midler, who had been offered the starring role, exited the project believing that audiences wouldn't buy her as a Benedictine nun in a habit. Enter Whoopi Goldberg.

As the film entered its pre-production phase, several script doctors including Carrie Fisher and Nancy Meyers were tasked with re-fashioning the film for Goldberg. Hart had been the initial inspiration, but the team of writers favored a fish-out-of-water story — a lounge singer from Reno is forced to flee to California and hide in a convent under a witness protection program after witnessing a fatal shooting committed by her mob-boss boyfriend. This is how Dolores Hart became Deloris Van Cartier (and Sister Mary Clarence inside the convent).

The stage musical version of *Sister Act* was written by Bill and Cheri Steinkellner, with music by Alan Menken and lyrics by Glenn Slater and additional material by Douglas Carter Beane. Although the musical adaptation kept many plot points from the film, the Steinkellner team





changed the setting and the decade of the film, going from the West coast in the 90s to Philadelphia in the 70s. The change fleshed out Deloris' story as a musician by giving her drive and ambition to become a defining act of the Disco era. Going with Philadelphia made perfect sense as some of the characteristics of Disco — the soul sound and the drum patterns of drummer Earl Young (*Disco Inferno*) came from Philadelphia. Several up-tempo soul records from the Philadelphia International Label — Disco's original label, included Lou Rawls' *You'll Never Find Another Love Like Mine* and Patti Labelle's *The Spirit's in It*. These and other early Disco songs from the label had been playing before the 1977 release of the film *Saturday Night Fever*.

Sister Act — the stage musical had its world premiere at the Pasadena Playhouse in 2006, becoming the highest grossing show in that theatre's history to that point. A second regional production followed at the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta. In 2009, *Sister Act* opened in London's West End. In that production, Patina Miller who had understudied the role of Deloris in the previous regional

productions, played Deloris. A newly revised adaptation by Douglas Carter Beane opened on Broadway in April of 2011. Jerry Zaks, who had previously collaborated with Alan Menken in *Little Shop of Horrors*, became the director. Patina Miller made her Broadway debut and earned a Tony nomination for best actress in a musical for playing Deloris.

Did You Know?

In 2012, Mother Dolores Hart was the subject of the short documentary, *God is the Bigger Elvis*. The film was nominated for the 2012 Academy Award for Best Documentary Short Subject. Her autobiography, *The Ear of the Heart: An Actress' Journey from Hollywood to Holy Vows* (Ignatius Press), co-authored with Richard DeNeut, was published in 2013.

Paul Rudnick is an American writer best known for his plays *I Hate Hamlet* and *Jeffrey*. Millions of readers believe that Rudnick is the writer behind America's most beloved and irresponsible critic — Libby Gelman-Waxner. Libby's essays have appeared in *Premiere*, *Entertainment Weekly* and *The New Yorker*. His best-selling novel *Farrell Covington and the Limits of Style* was published in 2023 by Atria Books.

In 2011, Deloris Blakely, a nun, sued Disney and Sony Pictures for "misappropriation of likeness and unjust enrichment." Blakely claimed that her 1987 memoir, *The Harlem Street Nun*, was turned into *Sister Act* without permission. Blakely dropped the initial suit to serve the studios with a new lawsuit asking for \$1 billion in damages. In February 2013, the New York State Supreme Court dismissed the lawsuit.

After the London and Broadway productions, *Sister Act* has become a popular title for regional theatres across the country. Many credit the accessible storyline, likeable characters and the upbeat music for its popularity. Three of the songs from the musical — *Take Me to Heaven*, *Fabulous, Baby*, and *The Life I Never Led*, climbed the music charts and became popular songs.

Whoopi Goldberg achieved EGOT status in 2002. *Sister Act* turned Goldberg into the biggest movie star of the 90's. She earned \$10-12 million for the film sequel making her the highest paid actress of that decade. She is one of the producers of *Sister Act's* West End and Broadway productions. Goldberg is seen weekly by millions of television viewers on *The View*. She will return as Deloris Van Cartier in *Sister Act 3*.

Bette Midler biggest professional regret? Turning down *Sister Act*. She has said: "I didn't think filmgoers and fans would buy me as a nun. Whoopi wore the habit all the way to the bank!"

Ford's Theatre Underwriters

Performances of *Sister Act* are made possible by generous corporate support from:

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-Ryan Lance, Chairman and CEO

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-Billy Gifford, Chief Executive Officer



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-Ted Decker, Chair, President and Chief Executive Officer



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-Steven G. Barry, National Partner in Charge, Regulatory and Quality Monitoring

Ford's Theatre Underwriters (cont.)



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-Barbara Humpton, Chief Executive Officer, Siemens USA

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-Michael K. Wirth, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer



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-James D. Taiclet, Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer

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-Scott Kirby, Chief Executive Officer

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UNITED

STAR ALLIANCE 

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Title Page

Ford's Theatre Society
under the direction of Paul R. Tetreault
presents

SISTER *Act*

Music By
Alan Menken

Lyrics By
Glenn Slater

Book By
Cheri Steinkellner and
Bill Steinkellner

Additional Book Materials By
Douglas Carter Beane

Based on the Touchstone Pictures Motion Picture "Sister Act" written by Joseph Howard

with

Dylan Arredondo	Trenton McKenzie Beavers	Caitlin Brooke	Simone Brown
Sarah Corey	Lauren Davis	Kecia Deroly	Sheri L. Edelen
Ayanna Hardy	Troy Hopper	Joe Mallon	Jimmy Mavrikes
Debbie Mobley	Justine "Icy" Moral	Christopher Mueller	Lawrence Redmond
Nia Savoy-Dock	Ryan Sellers	Derrick D. Truby Jr.	Karen Vincent
	Kanysha Williams	Sumié Yotsukura	

Scenic Designer
Paige Hathaway

Costume Designer
Ivania Stack

Lighting Designer
Max Doolittle

Sound Designer
David Budries

Hair and Make-up Designer
Kelley Jordan

Orchestrator
Kim Scharnberg

Dialects and Voice Director
Rachel Hirshorn-Johnston

Production Stage Manager
Craig A. Horness

Assistant Stage Managers
Taryn Friend
Genevieve Dornemann

Deputy Director and Director of Programming
Kristin Fox-Siegmund

Music Director
William Yanesh

Director and Choreographer
Jeff Calhoun

Orchestrations by Doug Besterman; Vocal and Incidental Music Arrangements by Michael Kosarin; Dance Music Arrangements by Mark Hummel;
Produced on Broadway by Whoopi Goldberg & Stage Entertainment in association with The Shubert Organization and Disney Theatrical Productions;
Originally Production Developed in Association with Peter Schneider & Michael Reno and Produced by Stage Entertainment

Season Sponsors: Chevron and Lockheed Martin Corporation

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World Premiere produced by Pasadena Playhouse, Pasadena, CA (Sheldon Epps, Artistic Director; Lyla White, Executive Director; Tom Ware, Producing Director)
and Alliance Theatre, Atlanta, GA (Susan V. Booth, Artistic Director; Tom Pechar, Managing Director)

Sister Act is presented through special arrangement with and all authorized performance materials are supplied by
Music Theatre International, 421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019. Tel: (212) 541-4684. Fax: (212) 397-4684. www.MTIShows.com

Cast

Cast (in alphabetical order)

Pablo	Dylan Arredondo
TJ.....	Trenton McKenzie Beavers
Sister Mary Patrick.....	Caitlin Brooke
Michelle.....	Simone Brown
Sister Mary Martin Of Tours	Sarah Corey
Tina.....	Kecia Deroly
Mother Superior.....	Sherri L. Edelen
Nun	Ayanna Hardy
Eddie Souther	Joe Mallon
Joey.....	Jimmy Mavrikes
Sister Mary Lazarus.....	Debbie Mobley
Nun.....	Justine "Icy" Moral
Monsignor O'Hara.....	Lawrence Redmond
Deloris Van Cartier.....	Nia Savoy-Dock
Ernie	Ryan Sellers
Curtis Jackson.....	Derrick D. Truby Jr.
Sister Mary Theresa.....	Karen Vincent
Sister Mary Robert.....	Kanysha Williams
Swings.....	Lauren Davis, Troy Hopper, Christopher Mueller, Sumié Yotsukura
Dance Captain	Justine "Icy" Moral
Fight Captain.....	Ryan Sellers

Understudies:

Dylan Arredondo (for Lawrence Redmond), Sarah Corey (for Caitlin Brooke), Lauren Davis (for Simone Brown, Kecia Deroly, Ayanna Hardy, Debby Mobley), Kecia Deroly (for Nia Savoy-Dock), Troy Hopper (for Dylan Arredondo, Trenton McKenzie Beavers, Derrick D. Truby Jr.), Christopher Mueller (for Joe Mallon, Jimmy Mavrikes, Ryan Sellers), Karen Vincent (for Sherri L. Edelen), Sumié Yotsukura (for Sarah Corey, Justine "Icy" Moral, Karen Vincent, Kanysha Williams).

Understudies never substitute for listed players unless a specific announcement is made at the time of performance.

Setting: Philadelphia, 1977; apex of the "Disco" era

This performance of *Sister Act* will be performed with one 15-minute intermission.

WARNING: The photographing, videotaping and sound-recording of any performance is prohibited by law and union regulations. Please turn off all wireless phones, pagers and chiming watches prior to the beginning of the performance.

The actors and stage managers in this production are members of the Actor's Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers.

Ford's Theatre is a member of the League of Resident Theatres, The Dramatists Guild and the National Alliance for Musical Theatre.

Band

Band

Keys I/Conductor	William Yanesh
Keys II	Jacob Kidder
Reeds: Flute/Alto Flute/Clarinet/Alto Sax	Ben Bokor
Trumpet/Flugelhorn	Craig Taylor
Trombone	Christopher Steele
Acoustic Guitar/Electric Guitar	Gerry Kunkel
Acoustic Bass/Electric Bass	Eliot Seppa
Drums	Carroll "CV" Dashiell III

Musical Numbers

Act One

<i>Take Me To Heaven</i>	Deloris, Michelle, Tina
<i>Fabulous, Baby!</i>	Deloris, Michelle, Tina
<i>Here Within These Walls</i>	Mother Superior, Deloris
<i>It's Good to Be a Nun</i>	Deloris, Nuns
<i>When I Find My Baby</i>	Curtis, Joey, Pablo, TJ
<i>I Could Be That Guy</i>	Eddie, Fantasy Dancers
<i>Here Within These Walls (reprise)</i>	Mother Superior
<i>Raise Your Voice</i>	Deloris, Nuns
<i>Take Me To Heaven (reprise)</i>	Deloris, Mother Superior, Monsignor O'Hara, Nuns

Act Two

<i>Sunday Morning Fever</i>	Deloris, Mother Superior, Monsignor O'Hara, Eddie, Mary Patrick, Mary Robert, Mary Lazarus, Nuns, Altar Boys
<i>Lady in the Long Black Dress</i>	Joey, Pablo, TJ
<i>I Haven't Got a Prayer</i>	Mother Superior
<i>Bless Our Show</i>	Deloris, Nuns
<i>The Life I Never Led</i>	Mary Robert
<i>Fabulous, Baby! (reprise)</i>	Deloris, Eddie, Nuns, Fantasy Dancers
<i>Sister Act</i>	Deloris
<i>When I Find My Baby (reprise)</i>	Curtis
<i>The Life I Never Led (reprise)</i>	Mary Robert
<i>Sister Act (reprise)</i>	Deloris, Mother Superior, Mary Patrick, Mary Robert, Mary Lazarus, Nuns
<i>Spread the Love Around</i>	Company

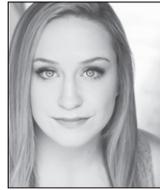
Cast Photos



Dylan Arredondo



Trenton McKenzie
Beavers



Caitlin Brooke



Simone Brown



Sarah Corey



Lauren Davis



Kecia Deroly



Sherri L. Edelen



Ayanna Hardy



Troy Hopper



Joe Mallon

Cast Photos (cont.)



Jimmy Mavrikes



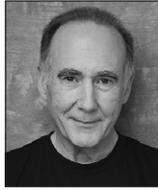
Debbie Mobley



Justine "Icy" Moral



Christopher Mueller



Lawrence Redmond



Nia Savoy-Dock



Ryan Sellers



Derrick D. Truby Jr.



Karen Vincent



Kanysha Williams



Sumié Yotsukura

Cast Bios

Dylan Arredondo

Ford's debut. Regional: Signature: *A Funny Thing...Forum, Daphne's Dive*; Round House: *Quixote Nuevo*; Rep Stage: *The Glass Menagerie, Falsettos*. D.C.-Area: Olney: *Lend Me a Soprano, Fiddler on the Roof, Beauty & the Beast, The Great Gatsby, Alice in Wonderland, Othello*; Kennedy Center: *Mortification of Fovea Munson*; Constellation: *School for Lies, White Snake*; 1st Stage: *The Nance*; Spooky Action: *Frontières Sans Frontières, Lady...Falling Flowers*; Chesapeake Shakespeare: *Merry Wives of Windsor, As You Like It, Much Ado About Nothing*. @dmarredondo. www.DylanArredondo.com

Trenton McKenzie Beavers

Ford's debut. Regional: Signature: *Ragtime*. D.C.-Area: Adventure: *Knuffle Bunny*; Creative Cauldron: *Sondheim Revue, The Bubbly Black Girl...*; Keegan: *Merrily We Roll Along*; Monumental: *Spring Awakening*; Toby's: *Spongebob Squarepants: The Musical* (Helen Hayes nom.). TV/Film: PBS: *Black Broadway: A Proud History, A Limitless Future, How Great Thou Art: A Sacred Celebration*; Other: American Pops: *The Bodyguard - feat. Deborah Cox*. Training: BFA, Howard University.

Caitlin Brooke

Ford's debut. Regional: Portland Center Stage: *Rent*. Other: San Francisco Playhouse: *Dogfight*; National Theatre of Romania: *The Electra Project*; Texas Shakespeare Festival: *The Winter's Tale*; Clair Trevor Theatre: *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*; OC Theatre: *The Spitfire Grill*; Anonymous Theatre: *Spelling Bee*. Film: *Emma*. Training: MFA, UC Irvine; BFA, Otterbein College. @cbrookecreative

Simone Brown

Ford's: *A First Look, Elysian Fields*. Regional: Signature: *Into The Woods* (Helen Hayes nom.). D.C.-Area: Olney: *Beautiful, The Carol*

King Musical, Fela! (Helen Hayes award, Ensemble); Studio: *Good Bones*; Toby's: *Rocky, The Bodyguard*; Keegan: *Good People, Women on Fire Festival*; Unexpected Stage: *Nothing to Lose*; Adventure: *Snowy Day*; Opus Concert: *Carmen*; Howard Community College: *Heathers, The Musical*; Kensington Arts: *Sweeney Todd*. Other: Charlottesville Opera: *The Sound of Music, The Merry Widow, La Boheme*; Opera in The Park; Broadway at Belfield; Chicago Summer Opera: *Die Zauberflöte*. Training: BM, Xavier University of Louisiana; MM, Peabody Conservatory of John Hopkins. @simoneami @blackprincessdmv

Sarah Corey

Ford's debut. Off-Broadway: *A Letter to Harvey Milk, Love & Real Estate, Illyria*. Regional: Shakespeare: *Leopoldstadt, Much Ado About Nothing*; Arena: *A Thousand Splendid Suns*. Alabama Shakespeare: *In the Book Of*; Gulfshore Playhouse: *The Refugees*; Huntington: *Leopoldstadt, The Band's Visit*; D.C.-Area: Kennedy Center: *Shear Madness*; Theater J: *The Chameleon, Love/Sick, Nathan the Wise*; Rep Stage: *Falsettos, Songs for a New World*; Olney: *Oil*; Other: Commonwealth Shakespeare: *Much Ado About Nothing*; The Gamm: *Bad Jews*. Tantrum Theater: *Rhinoceros*; TheatreSquared: *A Christmas Carol*. TV/Film: *Lady in the Lake, Swagger, We Own This City*. Training: Princeton University. @sscoreyny.

Lauren Davis

Ford's: *A Christmas Carol*. Regional: Guthrie/Pillsbury House: *Marcus; or the Secret of Sweet*. D.C.-Area: Chesapeake Shakespeare: *Joe Turner's Come and Gone, As You Like It*, Spooky Action: *Frontières Sans Frontières*; Kennedy Center: *Acoustic Rooster, Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* Other: Children's Theatre Company: *Corduroy*. Directing: Shakespeare and Co: Inaugural Directing Fellow; Chesapeake Shakespeare: *MacBeth*,

Cast Bios (cont.)

Romeo & Juliet; Rapid Lemon: *Book of Grace*. Training: MFA Catholic University.

Kecia Deroly

Ford's debut. Off-Broadway: *The Yoke*. D.C.-Area: The Essential Theatre: *Zora*; Maryland Ensemble: *Head Over Heels*, *Intimate Apparel*. Other: Dutchess Community College: *A Chorus Line*, *State Fair*; Trinity Players: *Rocky Horror Show*; PAC Rhinebeck: *Man of La Mancha*; 90 Miles Off-Broadway: *The Sound of Music*; Country Players: *Dreamcoat*; Forestburgh Playhouse: *Showboat*; Tri-Arts Playhouse: *AIDA*.

Sherri L. Edelen

Ford's: *A Christmas Carol*. Regional: Signature: *Les Misérables* (Helen Hayes award), *Side Show* (Helen Hayes award), more than 30 productions; Philadelphia Theatre: *The Light in the Piazza* (Barrymore award); Arena: *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*, *Dave, Ann*; Shakespeare, Round House. D.C.-Area: Olney: *The Humans*; Theatre J: *Copenhagen and Gloria: A Life*; Folger: *Romeo & Juliet*; Rep Stage. Other: Fusion Theatre: *Outside Mullingar*, *Gary: A Sequel to Titus Andronicus*; Stages St. Louis. National Tours. Directing: Riverside Center: *Steel Magnolias*, *On Golden Pond*. Teaching: Theatre Lab, University of Mary Washington.

Ayanna Hardy

Ford's: *A Christmas Carol*. Off-Broadway: New Victory Theatre: *Bob Marley's Three Little Birds*. Regional: Signature: *Xanadu*. D.C.-Area: Kennedy Center: *Earthrise*; 1st Stage: *A Civil War Christmas*; Imagination: *101 Dalmatians*, *Seussical*, *Mulan*; Adventure: *Bob Marley's Three Little Birds* (Helen Hayes nom.), *Mirandy and Brother Wind*, *BIG*; Theater Alliance: *Black Nativity*. International: Singapore Rep: *Just A Dream*. Training: BFA, Musical Theatre, Howard University.

Troy Hopper

Ford's: *Elysian Fields* (Workshop), *1776* (Workshop), *A Christmas Carol*, *SHOUT SISTER SHOUT!*, *Violet*. New York: Reginald: *From Baltimore to Billionaire*. Regional: Signature: *Dreamgirls*. D.C.-Area: Olney: *The Joint* (Workshop), *The Little Mermaid*; Discovery Theatre: *Black Diamond*; Vagabond Players: *Company*; Spotlighters Theatre: *A New Brain*, *Angels in America: Perestroika*; Winters Lane Productions: *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Once on This Island*, *Smokey Joe's Café*; Laurel Mill Playhouse: *The Actor's Nightmare*; Fells Point Corner Theatre: *The Spitfire Grill*. Training: Towson University.

Joe Mallon

Ford's: (Associate Artist) *Little Shop of Horrors*, *SHOUT SISTER SHOUT!*, *One Destiny*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Death of a Salesman*. Regional: Arena: *Fiddler on the Roof*; Round House: *Beauty Queen of Leenane*; Shakespeare: *Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Wallenstein*, *Coriolanus*; Studio: *Translations*. D.C.-Area: Imagination: *Charlie Brown* (Helen Hayes award, TYA Production); Kennedy Center TYA: *Earthrise*, *Elephant and Piggie*; Woolly Mammoth: *Kiss*; Kennedy Center: *Shear Madness*; No Rules: *Sketch!*; Folger: *Romeo & Juliet*. Other: Virginia Shakes: *Hamlet*; Act II Playhouse: *Greater Tuna*; Montgomery Theater: *Picnic*, *Last Night of Ballyhoo*; Azuka: *KidSimple*; Kimmel Center: *The Fantasticks*. Training: New York University.

Jimmy Mavrikes

Ford's: *A Christmas Carol*. Regional: Signature: *Girlfriend* (Will) (Helen Hayes award, Lead Actor), *Sweeney Todd*, *Rent*, *Cabaret*; Arena: *Fiddler*, *Oliver*. D.C.-Area: Olney: *My Fair Lady*; Imagination: *Miss Nelson Is Missing*; Constellation: *Wild Party* (Burr) (Helen Hayes nom., Lead Actor); 1st Stage: *Bat Boy* (Bat Boy) (Helen

Cast Bios (cont.)

Hayes nom., Lead Actor); Other: Lyric Theatre: *Newsies* (Davey). Monumental: Co-Artistic Director. Training: BM, Musical Theatre, Catholic University.

Debbie Mobley

Ford's debut. D.C.-Area: Silhouette: *Calendar Girls* (Chris), *Wedding Singer* (Grandma Rose) (WATCH nom.), *My Other Mother* (Terri); Annapolis Summer Garden: *Sister Act* (Mother Superior); Golden Iris: *Niagara Musical* (Annie Edson Taylor); Heritage: *Titanic the Musical* (Ida Strauss), *Urinetown* (Josephine). Directing: Silhouette: *Spongebob Musical*, *Spamalot*, *Spelling Bee*, *Chicago*, *Full Monty*; September Song: *Little Mermaid*, *Mary Poppins*, *Anastasia*; Heritage: *Deathtrap*.

Justine "Icy" Moral

Ford's: (Associate Artist) *Ragtime*, *Into the Woods*, *A Christmas Carol*. Off-Broadway: *Elephant and Piggie*. D.C.-Area: Kennedy Center: *NSO Goldilocks*, *Fovea*. Olney: *Brothers Paranormal*, *King and I*. Rep Stage: *Songs for a New World*, *Sweeney Todd*; Constellation: *Avenue Q* (Helen Hayes nom.), *Journey To The West* (Helen Hayes nom.); Imagination: *Mu Lan*. Other: Dallas Summer Musicals: *King and I*; Colorado Springs FAC: *Working*; Flatrock: *Miss Saigon*; Wheelock: *Beauty and the Beast* (IRNE nom.). Touring: *South Pacific*, *Elephant and Piggie*, *Les Misérables*. Training: BM, Peabody Conservatory at Johns Hopkins University. @JustineIcyMoral

Christopher Mueller

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Into the Woods*, *Ragtime*; Regional: Signature: *Soft Power*, *Pacific Overtures*, *She Loves Me*, *Simply Sondheim*, *Assassins*, *Blackbeard*, *Titanic*, *The Fix*, *Crossing*, *Miss Saigon*, *Spin*, *Brother Russia*, *Chess*,

Sweeney Todd, *The Hollow*, *The Boy Detective Fails*, *Giant*, *Kiss of the Spider Woman*; Shakespeare: *Two Gents* (A Rock Opera); Arena: *Redhand Guitar* (Workshop), *Skindiver* (Reading). D.C.-Area: Olney: *My Fair Lady*, *Carousel*, *Godspell*, *Spring Awakening*; Kennedy Center: *Camelot in Concert*, *My Fair Lady in Concert*; Keegan: *Spelling Bee*, *RENT*. Instagram: @christopher_mueller

Lawrence Redmond

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*; *Twelve Angry Men*. Regional: Arena: *Great Society*, *Intelligence*, *All The Way*, *Music Man*, *Damn Yankees*, *Passion Play*, *South Pacific*; Shakespeare: *Much Ado About Nothing*, *A Midsummer's Night's Dream*, *Government Inspector*; Signature: *Ragtime*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Into the Woods*, *She Loves Me*, *Assassins*, *Blackbeard*, *Grand Hotel*, *Passion*, *Titanic*, *The Fix*, *Elmer Gantry*; Cincinnati Playhouse: *Prayer for Owen Meany*; Round House: *Permanent Collection*, *Trip to Bountiful*. D.C.-Area: Olney: *Miss You Like Hell*, *My Fair Lady*, *How to Succeed*; Washington Stage Guild: *Inventing Van Gogh*, *Widower's Houses*, *All Save One*. Awards: 2023 Lunt-Fontanne Fellow, 2023 Anderson-Hopkins Award, two Helen Hayes awards, seven additional noms.

Nia Savoy-Dock

Ford's: (Associate Artist) *Little Shop of Horrors*, *SHOUT SISTER SHOUT!* Regional: Signature: *The Color Purple*. D.C.-Area: Theater Alliance: *Day of Absence*; Constellation: *Aida*, *Mysticism and Music*; Toby's: *Grease*, *Mamma Mia!* Other: Ocala Civic Theatre: *Crowns*; StageCenter: *Ragtime*. Awards: 1st-American Pops NextGen: Finding the Voice of Tomorrow, The Great American Songbook Academy Inspiration

Cast Bios (cont.)

Award.Training: BFA Musical Theatre, Howard University. @nsavoydock

Ryan Sellers

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*. Regional: Signature: *A Funny Thing...;* Round House: *The Tempest* (Helen Hayes award, Supporting Performer); Studio: *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*; Shakespeare: *Romeo & Juliet, A Midsummer Night's Dream*; Signature: *West Side Story, The Threepenny Opera, Miss Saigon, Pacific Overtures*. D.C.-Area: Folger: *The Merry Wives of Windsor, The Second Shepherds' Play*; Constellation: *White Snake, School for Lies*; Keegan: *The Undeniable Sound of Right Now, Shakespeare in Love*.

Derrick D. Truby Jr.

Ford's: (Associate Artist) *A Christmas*

Carol (Mr. Fezziwig); *Little Shop of Horrors* (Seymour). Regional: Great Lakes Center for the Arts: *Godspell* (Jesus). D.C.-Area: Folger Theatre: *The Merry Wives of Windsor* (Simple); Adventure Theatre: *Elephant and Piggie's We Are in a Play!* (Elephant), *Winnie the Pooh* (Pooh); Monumental: *Be More Chill*; Imagination: *You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown*; ArtsCentric: *Smokey Joe's Café, Memphis the Musical* (Bobby); ArtsCentric Company Member. @derricktrubyjr

Karen Vincent

Ford's: *Into the Woods, Ragtime* (Helen Hayes award). D.C.-Area: Olney: *The World Goes Round*; Imagination: *A Year With Frog And Toad* (Helen Hayes nom.); Adventure: *Elephant & Piggy: We Are*



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View from the stage of the President's Box at Ford's Theatre. © Maxwell MacKenzie.



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Cast Bios (cont.)

In A Play (Helen Hayes nom.). Training: Eastman School of Music; New England Conservatory; Aspen Music Festival.

Kanysha Williams

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*. Regional: Arena: *American Prophet: Frederick Douglass in His Own Words*. Signature: *Gun and Powder, Ain't Misbehavin'*. Shakespeare: *Macbeth in Stride*. D.C.-Area: Olney: *FELA!, A.D. 16*. Kennedy Center: *Acoustic Rooster's Barnyard Boogie: Starring Indigo Bloom*. Other: Arrow Rock Lyceum Theatre: *Sister Act*. Training: Duke Ellington School of the Arts, Washington National Opera Institute, San Francisco Conservatory of Music, George Mason University. Socials: Instagram: @StrawberrySings; TikTok: @StrawberrySingsMusic;

Youtube: @StrawberrySingsMusic.
Podcast: Downstage Center Podcast.
Recording Artist: KANYSHA.

Sumié Yotsukura

Ford's debut. Regional: Arena: *Death on the Nile, Unknown Soldier*; Signature: *Soft Power, King of the Yees*; Round House: *Jennifer, Who Is Leaving*. D.C.-Area: Keegan: *Merrily We Roll Along*; Olney: *Fiddler on the Roof, Beauty & the Beast*; Creative Cauldron: *Sondheim Tribute Revue*; Kennedy Center: *The Mortification of Fovea Munson*; Other: Transcendence Theatre Company: *The Full Monty*. Training: BA, Theatre and Asian & Pacific Islander American Studies, William & Mary. Instagram: @sumie.yotsukura

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Production Bios

Alan Menken

Composer

Theater: *God Bless You Mr Rosewater*, *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *Real Life Funnies*, *Atina: Evil Queen Of The Galaxy*, *Kicks*, *The Apprenticeship Of Duddy Kravitz*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Weird Romance*, *King David*, *Der Glöckner Von Notre Dame*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Sister Act*, *Leap Of Faith*, *Aladdin* and *Newsies*. Film: *Little Shop Of Horrors*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Beauty And The Beast*, *Newsies*, *Aladdin*, *Pocahontas*, *The Hunchback Of Notre Dame*, *Hercules*, *Life With Mikey*, *Lincoln*, *Home On The Range*, *Noel*, *Enchanted*, *Shaggy Dog*, *Tangled*, *Mirror Mirror*. Songs: *Rocky V*, *Home Alone 2*, *Captain America*. Awards: 8 Oscars (19 nominations), 11 Grammys (including Song of the Year), 7 Golden Globes, Tony® (plus 4 nominations), Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle, New York Drama Critics, Olivier and London's Evening Standard Award, Drama League. Honors: Songwriter's Hall of Fame, Doctorates from New York University and University of North Carolina School of the Arts.

Glenn Slater

Lyrics

Co-created Disney's *Tangled* (Grammy, Oscar and Golden Globe nom.), *Sister Act* (Tony nom.), *The Little Mermaid* (Tony nom., Grammy nom.), and *School of Rock*. Executive Producer/Lyricist: *Galavant*, Songs: *Home On The Range* (Disney), *Leap of Faith* (Tony nom.). West End: Book/lyrics: Andrew Lloyd Webber's *Love Never Dies* (Olivier nom.). Other work includes: an Emmy-nominated song *The Neighbors* (2013), *Newyorkers* [Manhattan Theatre Club (Lucille Lortel, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle noms.)]. Honors: Kleban Award for Lyrics, ASCAP/Richard Rogers New Horizons Award, Jonathan Larson Award.

Training: BMI Musical Theatre Workshop.

Membership: ASCAP, Dramatists' Guild.

Cheri Steinkellner

Book

Winner of four Emmy Awards, two Golden Globes, People's Choice, BAFTA, Writers Guild Award, Parents Choice, TV-Land Legend Awards, for writing and producing *Cheers*, *The Jeffersons*, *Facts of Life*, *Family Ties*, *Who's The Boss*, *Teacher's Pet*. A 2011 Tony-nominee for *Sister Act*; Cheri has also written *Princesses*; and book and lyrics for *Mosaic* and *Jailbirds*. Other stage includes: *Our Place*, *Instaplay*, *Hello! My Baby* (Indy Award, Ovation nom.). Teaching: Stanford, UCSB.

Bill Steinkellner

Book

Award-winning television and screen writer: *Cheers*, Disney's *Teacher's Pet* (Emmys, Golden Globes, BAFTAs, Writers Guild, People's Choice Awards). Book writer (with wife, Cheri): *Sister Act* (London Palladium, Hamburg, Broadway), *Princesses* (Goodspeed, 5th Avenue). Writer/director: the original *Pee-wee Herman Show* (Groundlings, Roxy Theatre, HBO). Creator/director: *Instaplay*, L.A.'s first all-improvised musical-comedy. Author: the L.A. Times bestseller *Postcards From the Moon*.

Douglas Carter Beane

Additional Book Materials

Plays: *The Nance* (3 Tony Awards; Live from Lincoln Center); *The Little Dog Laughed* (Tony and Olivier nom., Best Play), *Fairycakes*, *Shows for Days*, *The Country Club*, *Mr. & Mrs. Fitch*, *Music From a Sparkling Planet*, *As Bees in Honey Drown*. His first play *Advice From A Caterpillar* (Outer Critics Circle nom.) was made into a film and received the Aspen Comedy Festival Best Feature award. Film: *To Wong Foo, Thanks*

Production Bios (cont.)

for *Everything*, Julie Newmar. Musicals: *Rodgers + Hammerstein's Cinderella* (Adaptor, 2 Tony noms.), *Xanadu* (Book, Drama Desk Award, Outer Critics Circle Award, 2 Tony noms.), *Sister Act* (2 Tony noms.), *Lysistrata Jones* (Book, Tony and Drama Desk noms.) Other: *The Bandwagon* (Book), Rockettes, Radio City Music Hall, *Die Fledermaus* (Libretto, Met Opera).

Jeff Calhoun

Director and Choreographer

Ford's (Associate Artist): *Big River*, *Shenandoah*, *The Civil War*, *Violet*, *Freedom's Song*. Regional: Goodspeed: *The Boy who Loved Batman*, *A Complicated Woman*; Asolo Rep/La Jolla: *Bonnie & Clyde*. Broadway: *Newsies*, *Bonnie & Clyde*, *Grey Gardens*, Deaf West's *Big, Brooklyn*, *Bells Are Ringing*, *Annie Get Your Gun*, *Jekyll and Hyde*, *Grease*, *Tommy Tune Tonite!*, *The Will Rogers Follies*. Off-Broadway: *Between the Lines* (Tony Kiser Theater). Other: West End: Dolly Parton's *9 to 5: The Musical*; Old Globe: Jane Austen's *Emma: A Musical Romantic Comedy*; Deaf West's *Pippin*, *Oliver!* UK Tours: *High School Musical 2* (On Stage), Dolly Parton's *9 to 5: The Musical*.

William Yanesh

Music Director

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Guys and Dolls*; *Into the Woods* (Helen Hayes award, Music Direction). Regional: Signature: *Jesus Christ Superstar*; *The Last Five Years*. Arena: *Snow Child*; Round House: *Ordinary Days*. D.C.-Area: Labor Heritage Foundation: *Working in DC*. 1st Stage: *Floyd Collins*. Music and Lyrics: Flying V: *Vanishing Girl*. Adventure Theatre: *Make Way for Ducklings*; *Blueberries for Sal*; *Caps for Sale*. Training: Carnegie Mellon University.
williamyanesh.squarespace.com
@barbershopraga

Paige Hathaway

Scenic Designer

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*. Regional: Round House: *Sojourners*, *The Mountaintop*; Signature: *Hair*, *Penelope*, *No Place to Go*, *RENT*; Everyman: *Primary Trust*, *And Then There Were None*; Arden: *Assassins*. Other: Village Theatre: *Dial M for Murder*; Santa Fe Play House: *On Clover Road*; Barrington Stage: *A New Brain*; Amphibian Stage: *Juan Garcia*, *Miss Molly*; Writer's Theatre: *A Distinct Society*. MFA: University of Maryland, College Park. BFA: University of Oklahoma. www.paigehathawaydesign.com
Instagram:@paigehathawaydesign

Ivania Stack

Costume Designer

Ford's: (Associate Artist) *Something Moving*, *The Trip to Bountiful*, *Silent Sky*, *Jefferson's Garden*. Regional: Arena, Round House, McCarter Theatre, Gulf Shore Playhouse, Asolo Repertory, The Wilma, Seattle Repertory, Philadelphia Theatre Company, TFANA, Signature; D.C.-Area: Olney, Woolly Mammoth (Company Member), Baltimore Center Stage, Everyman Theatre, Contemporary American Theatre Festival, Theatre J, Imagination Stage, Studio, Synetic, Kennedy Center, Gala Hispanic Theatre, dog & pony dc. Education: MFA, University of Maryland College Park.

Max Doolittle

Lighting Designer

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *My Lord, What a Night*. Regional: Signature, Round House, Geffen. D.C.-Area: Woolly Mammoth, Folger, Olney, Mosaic, Theatre Alliance, Baltimore Center Stage, Theatre J, Rep Stage, Kennedy Center/Second City, Imagination Stage, Forum, Adventure, ArtsCentric, Constellation, Shakespeare Theatre Academy for Classical Acting, Pointless Theatre Co, NextStop Theatre. NYC

Production Bios (cont.)

includes *Ars Nova*, Juilliard School, Theatre Row, New Ohio Theatre, New World Stages, Signature Theater Center. Other: Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Kitchen Theatre Company, Santa Fe Playhouse, Great Lakes Center for the Arts, Pennsylvania Shakespeare, Fulton Theatre. TV: *Anderson Cooper 360*, *Piers Morgan Live*. BFA, Ithaca College. MFA, University of Maryland.

David Budries

Sound Designer

Ford's (Associate Artist): *Little Shop of Horrors* (2010, 2023), *Grace*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Into the Woods*, *The Wiz*, *Ragtime*, *110 in the Shade*, *Freedom's Song*, *The Widow Lincoln*, *Spelling Bee*, *Violet*, *Hello, Dolly!*, *Our Town*, *1776*, *Parade*, *Liberty Smith*, *The Civil War*, *Meet John Doe*,

Shenandoah. New York: 11 productions on and off-Broadway. Regional: Hartford Stage, Center Stage, Dallas Theatre Center, La Jolla Playhouse, South Coast Repertory, Yale Repertory Theatre. Teaching: Professor Emeritus of Design, David Geffen School of Drama at Yale.

Kelley Jordan

Hair and Make-up Designer

A seasoned wig, hair, and make-up designer with over 40 years of experience, most recently seen in *Frozen* (TUTS); *Rock & Roll Man* (New York); *The Little Mermaid*, *The Wiz* (5th Avenue Theatre); *Mary Poppins*, *Rock of Ages* (TUTS); *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Sister Act*, *The Color Purple*, *Joseph* (The Muny); *An Officer and a Gentleman* (National Tour). She is

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Production Bios (cont.)

the first African American Female Wig Designer & Supervisor to work at The Muny and credits her talents and love of hair to her mother, Clara “Mickey” Wings. IATSE Local 805. k.jordantheatrical.com @k.jordantheatrical

Kim Scharnberg

Orchestrator

Ford's (Associate Artist): *Into the Woods, Ragtime, Freedom's Song, Hello, Dolly!, 1776, The Civil War*; orchestration, music direction and music supervision for several Annual Galas. Broadway: *The Great Gatsby, Jekyll & Hyde* (original and revival), *Scarlet Pimpernel, The Civil War, Little Women* (Drama Desk nom.), *Wonderland*. International: *No Longer Human, The Legend of 1900, Phantom* (Yeston), *Doctor Dolittle, Rudolf, Carmen, The Count of Monte Cristo*. Composer/Arranger for the Pageant of the Masters, Laguna Beach, CA (2009 to present). www.KimScharnberg.com

Rachel Hirshorn-Johnston

Dialects and Voice Director

Assoc. Professor of Voice & Speech and Head of Acting & Directing at Texas Tech, Assoc. Teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework®. Rachel coaches regionally in professional theatre, with private clients (corporate, government) on presentation skills and dialect modification, performs regularly around the country and internationally, and is an active member of VASTA, PAVA, and AEA. Training: MFA, Acting and Directing, University of Missouri, Kansas City; BFA, Acting, University of Maryland, Baltimore County.

Craig A. Horness

Production Stage Manager

Ford's: *Little Shop of Horrors* (2024); *Grace; Into the Woods; The Wiz; Ragtime; 110 In The Shade; Freedom's Song; Hello Dolly!*;

1776; Liberty Smith; Little Shop of Horrors (2010); *A Christmas Carol* (2004-2019, 2021-2024); *The Civil War; One Destiny; Meet John Doe; Leading Ladies; State of the Union; Big River; The Member of the Wedding*. Other: Broadway Sacramento/ Music Circus, Center Stage, Chicago Symphony Orchestra, Dallas Opera, New York City Opera, North Shore Music Theatre, Opera/Omega, Portland Opera, Theatre Under the Stars.

Taryn Friend

Assistant Stage Manager

Ford's: *A Christmas Carol; Little Shop of Horrors; SHOUT SISTER SHOUT!*; *Grace; Guys and Dolls; Into the Woods; The Wiz; Ragtime; 110 In The Shade; Freedom's Song; Spelling Bee; Hello Dolly!; 1776; Liberty Smith; One Destiny*. Arena: *Oklahoma!* Signature: *Soft Power; Ragtime; The Bridges of Madison County; The Color Purple; Assassins; Passion; A Little Night Music; Jelly's Last Jam; Sunday in the Park; Miss Saigon; Spin; Hairspray; The Visit; Kiss of the Spider Woman*. Kennedy Center: *50th Anniversary Concert; Unleashed!; Bud, Not Buddy*.

Genevieve Dornemann

Assistant Stage Manager

Ford's debut. Regional: Signature: *A Funny Thing Happened...Forum, HAIR, Sweeney Todd*; Shakespeare: *Evita, Macbeth in Stride*. D.C.-Area: Folger: *Where We Belong*; Kennedy Center TYA: *The Mortification of Fovea Munson*; Rep Stage: *Songs for a New World; Woolly Mammoth; Teenage Dick*; Imagination: *Óyeme, the beautiful, Inside Out*; Syntetic: *The Tempest*. Other: The Barnstormers Theatre: *Pride and Prejudice, Into the Breeches!*; Lookingglass Theatre Company: *Lookingglass Alice*. Training: Imagination Stage Apprentice Class 2017-2018: Production.

Production Bios (cont.)

Kristin Fox-Siegmund

*Deputy Director and
Director of Programming*

Since joining Ford's in 2006, Fox-Siegmund has overseen the creation of the Center for Education and Leadership and the renovation of the historic theatre and museum, as well as the world premiere productions of *The Guard*, *The Widow Lincoln*, *Necessary Sacrifices*, *Liberty Smith*, *Meet John Doe* and *The Heavens Are Hung In Black*. Prior to Ford's, she spent 11 years at the Alley Theatre in Houston, Texas. Her tenure as Production Manager included premieres of Horton Foote's *The Carpetbagger's Children*, Ken Ludwig's *Be My Baby* and *Leading Ladies* and Edward Albee's *The Play About the Baby* and *The Goat, or Who Is Sylvia?*,

as well as Michael Wilson's production of *A Christmas Carol*. She oversaw the design and relocation of the theatre's new production facilities in 2002 and the renovation of its Neuhaus Stage after the destruction of Tropical Storm Allison in 2001. Other work includes Santa Fe Opera and Houston Grand Opera.

Paul R. Tetreault

Director

Since joining Ford's in 2004, Tetreault has enhanced the quality of the institution's artistic programming and expanded its mission to include a stronger focus on education. He led a \$50+ million capital campaign, the most extensive renovation to the theatre and museum since the building reopened to the

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Production Bios (cont.)

public in 1968, and the creation of the Center for Education and Leadership, which seeks to further explore Lincoln's legacy. Tetreault served as managing director of the Alley Theatre for 10 years, producing more than 100 productions and working with artists such as Edward Albee, Tony Kushner, Trevor Nunn, Nicky Silver, Frank Wildhorn and August Wilson, among others. He has held senior management positions with Crossroads Theatre Company, New Jersey; Berkeley Repertory Theatre, California; and Circle Repertory Company, New York City. He served as director of finance at Madison Square Garden and as a vice president with C.W. Shaver and Company, Inc., a New York management and fundraising consulting firm. He has served as a panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts and has taught and guest lectured at Brooklyn College, Columbia University, New York University, the University of Houston and Rice University. He is a graduate of Emerson College and received his MFA from the City University of New York-Brooklyn College. He serves on the Board of the Downtown DC BID.

Staff for *Sister Act*

Associate DirectorClancey Yovanovich
 Fight and Intimacy Consultant Sierra Young
 Firearms CoordinatorRobb Hunter
 Prop Designer/
 CoordinatorMarie Schneggenburger
 Assistant Costume Designer Bailey Hammett-Colwell
 Costume Design AssistantRegan McKay
 Associate Lighting Designer.....Malory Hartman
 Drapers..... Denise Aitchison, Molly Klemm,
 Marianne Krostyne, Kristin Patrick
 StitchersTaylor Burke, Sam Eisen-Bond,
 James Nordeen, Katie Stomps
 MillinerCathy Gayer-Roubie
 Musical Contractor..... Craig Taylor
 Keyboard Programmers Christopher Youstra,
 Steve Hudgins

Scenery built by F&D Scene Changes Ltd.
 Props built by Elizabeth Baldwin, Dan
 Covey, Felysia Furnary, Dre Moore, Justin
 Nepomuceno, Jonathan Dahm Robertson



The actors and stage managers employed in this production are members of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States.



United Scenic Artists represents the designers and scenic painters for the American Theatre.



The technicians at Ford's Theatre are represented by Locals 22, 772 and 798, IATSE, AFL-CIO, the professional union of theatrical technicians.



The director and choreographer are members of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, an independent national labor union.



The musicians of the orchestra are represented by the D.C. Federation of Musicians, Local 161-710.

Ford's Theatre Associate Artists

The Ford's Theatre Associate Artists are composed of highly skilled theatre artists, across all disciplines, who possess a profound commitment to promoting the values and ideals of Abraham Lincoln. They serve as ambassadors of Ford's Theatre by using their artistic craft to support the Ford's mission of celebrating the legacy of Abraham Lincoln and exploring the American experience through theatre and education.

Clint Allen	Jeff Calhoun	Tracy Lynn Olivera	Kimberly Schraf
Jonathan Atkinson	Felicia Curry	Milagros Ponce de León	Ivania Stack
David Budries	Peter Flynn	Mark Ramont	Derrick D. Truby Jr.
Michael Bunce	Richard Hellesen	Nia Savoy-Dock	Holly Twyford
Ashley D. Buster	Joe Mallon	Kim Scharnberg	Craig Wallace
	Justine "Icy" Moral	Stephen F. Schmidt	

Sister Act Student Guide

Sister Act the musical tells the story of Deloris Van Cartier, a disco diva who is witness to a murder. To protect her, the police decide to hide her in the last place anyone would think to look: a convent! Disguised as a nun, Deloris is confronted by a rigid lifestyle and the stern Mother Superior who maintains the order. However, Deloris soon discovers that her talent for music inspires the convent choir to find their voices.

Did you know??

Sister Act the musical is a show that was adapted from the movie of the same name starring Whoopi Goldberg. Did you know that four of the films Goldberg has been a part of have been adapted into Broadway musicals, including *Sister Act*?

The other films are:

- *The Lion King* — she originated the voice of Shenzi the Hyena
- *Ghost* — she won an Oscar for her role as Oda Mae Brown
- *The Color Purple* — she portrayed the titular character Celie

Let's adapt or make our own film into musical!

Think about your favorite movie and what makes it special. Fill in the blank below with your chosen film:

Movie name: _____, the Musical!

Now, think of at least three main characters in that movie. Which actors would you cast in those roles? Ready? Go ahead...

Characters

Actors

There is a genre of shows called "jukebox musical" where existing popular songs are used to create the score and support the storytelling. A few examples are: *Juliet*, *Moulin Rouge* and *Mamma Mia!* Think about the beginning, the climax (the point in the show with the highest conflict) and the finale of the show. For each moment, brainstorm a popular song that you believe would perfectly capture the mood and enhance the theatrical experience. Consider how the song's lyrics, melody and overall style would contribute to the storytelling and resonate with the audience.

Opening Song: _____

Climatic Song: _____

Finale Song: _____

CONGRATS!!! You have started to create a new musical!

Sister Act Student Guide

Sister ActLIBS!

Remake a song from *Sister Act* in your own words!

Fill in the Blanks: Players provide a series of words (nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc.) to fill in blanks in a pre-written song.

The Funny Results: Once all the blanks are filled, read the song aloud. The combination of unexpected and often nonsensical sentences creates hilarious and unpredictable results.

“Raise your _____!”

First rule of 1) _____ —
verb ending in “ing”

Get the 2) _____ 3) _____ !
noun verb ending in “ing”

Toss everything in —

4) _____ down deep inside.
adverb

When you've got a 5) _____ worth hearin'.
noun

There's 6) _____ thing to do —
number

just keep your 7) _____ from interferin',
noun

and let the 8) _____ burst through!
animal

Raise your 9) _____ !
noun

Lift it up to heaven!

Raise your 10) _____ !
noun

Come on, don't be 11) _____ !
adjective

If you feel it, why conceal it'

Let your soul rejoice!

12) _____ the stakes!
verb

13) _____ your game!
verb

14) _____ your voice!
verb

Education Resources Online and On Demand

Ford's Theatre Education offers a myriad of ways in which to engage with the history of our site and learn about the assassination of President Abraham Lincoln. Each pathway offers a unique exploration and varies in its form and content.

Learn about Lincoln's Assassination on Ford's Website

Dive deeper into the story of Lincoln's murder at the hands of John Wilkes Booth. Take a closer look at artifacts from the fateful night in this richly curated online exhibit filled with high resolution photographs and insightful information to prompt classroom discussions. Each page on the site offers new information including a timeline of the day's events, first-person eyewitness accounts from the theatre and evidence used in the trial of the conspirators. Ask and answer questions about the impact of Lincoln's death on America and the legacy that continues to live on today.

Visit the Lincoln's Assassination pages at www.fords.org to begin your exploration.

One Destiny: On Demand

Ford's Theatre presents *One Destiny: On Demand*, available to stream from your home or your classroom. The 40-minute play explores the fateful night of Abraham Lincoln's assassination told from the perspectives of Ford's Theatre owner Harry Ford and actor Harry Hawk. As they reconstruct the sequence of events, they grapple with the question: Could John Wilkes Booth have been stopped?

The recorded performance features performers Michael Bunce and Stephen F. Schmidt and is a wonderful complement to a historic site visit or classroom curriculum. A lesson plan and educational resources are available for download on our website.

One Destiny: On Demand is generously supported by Southwest Airlines Co.

Information about *One Destiny: On Demand* can be found on the Visit Us page of Ford's website: www.fords.org.



Michael Bunce and Stephen F. Schmidt in *One Destiny* by Gary Erskine.

Public Programs

Ford's Theatre offers expansive public programs designed for the historically curious. Our initiatives provide rich opportunities for learning, connecting you to the history of our iconic site and offering deeper insights into our onstage productions. We delve into the intersection of theatre arts, history and civics, fostering a dynamic environment for public discourse.

Cabinet Conversation: AI >> The Algorithm of Change

Date: April 22, 2025

Time: 4:30 p.m. ET

Join us for an online conversation with experts in the field as we explore the intersection of the arts, history and technology.

The Civil War was a period of tremendous technological advancement, and Lincoln was deeply fascinated by such innovations like the telegraph, which revolutionized communication during the Civil War. Today, we find ourselves in another era of rapid technological change, with Artificial Intelligence influencing nearly every aspect of our lives – from communication and education to historical preservation and artistic creation. This episode will draw a line from Lincoln's embrace of technology to today's AI revolution, exploring the opportunities and challenges of this new technological frontier. Panelists include Jason Jamerson, Miriam Vogel and Allison Wickens.

This project is made possible by a grant from the U.S. Institute of Museum and Library Services

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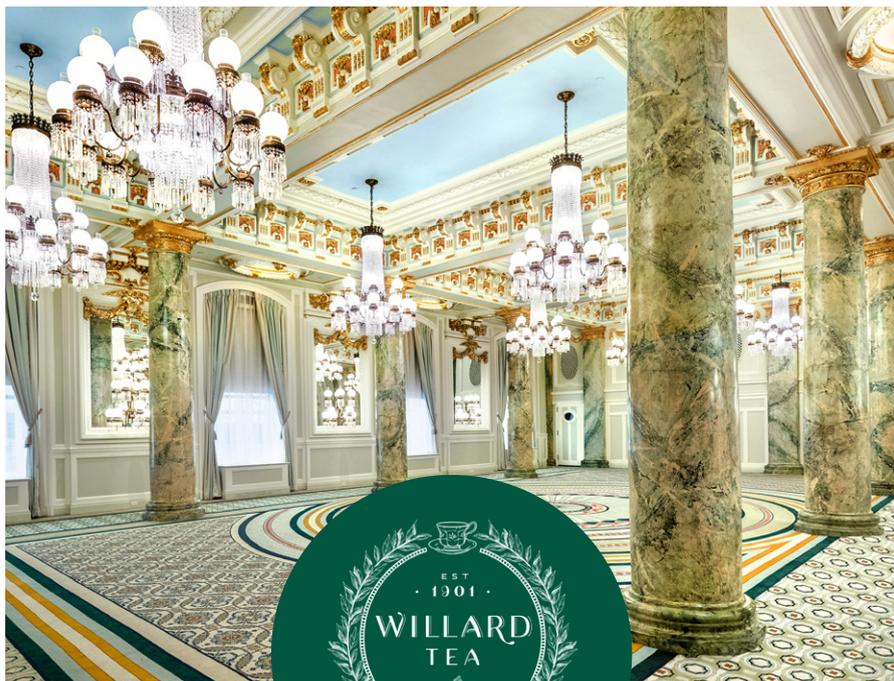
Date: May 5, 2025

Time: 3:30 p.m. ET

Join us for an afternoon of powerful speeches from our National Oratory Fellows and student delegates from across the country.

Hear from today's and tomorrow's leaders as they recite texts that have made history. Students can also choose to share speeches they have written themselves about topics that are important to them. This yearly event features educators and students from across the country voicing their diverse experiences, perspectives and visions for a brighter future.

Find out more information about these events by visiting the Public Programs page on our website: www.fords.org.



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Celebrate Mom in the iconic Crystal Room with an elegant Afternoon Tea, featuring breakfast favorites, delicate tea sandwiches, pastries, and bottomless Mimosas & Bellinis



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LOCKHEED MARTIN 

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The Lincoln Medal

The Lincoln Medal is an award given by Ford's Theatre Society to a person (or people) who, through their body of work, accomplishments or personal attributes, exemplifies the lasting legacy and mettle of character embodied by the most beloved president in our nation's history, President Abraham Lincoln.

LINCOLN MEDAL RECIPIENTS

2024	The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Stephen A. Schwarzman	2006	Dr. David Herbert Donald, Doris Kearns Goodwin, Zoe Dell Lantis Nutter, Nicholas D. Chabraja
2023	Marlene A. Malek, Rita Moreno	2005	Robert A. Iger, Carl Lindner
2022	The Honorable James E. Clyburn, Clive J. Davis	2004	Laura Bush
2019	General Colin L. Powell (Ret.) and Alma J. Powell, Mark Russell	2003	Donald J. Carty
2018	Sheila C. Johnson, Jack Nicklaus	2002	The Honorable Walter J. Hickel, The Honorable Ronald H. Walker
2017	Peyton W. Manning, Ronald O. Perelman	2001	James Whitmore
2015	Diane Nash	1999	Tricia Lott
2014	The Honorable John D. Dingell, James Earl Jones	1998	The Honorable Hillary Rodham Clinton
2013	Dr. Condoleezza Rice, Bill Russell	1997	Robert G. Stanton
2012	Morgan Freeman, Elie Wiesel, Wayne R. Reynolds, Hon. Rex W. Tillerson	1995	Edward P. Faberman
2011	Lee Kuan Yew, Kareem Abdul-Jabbar, Julie Andrews	1994	Mrs. Fritz Hollings, Mrs. Alan Simpson
2010	Justice Albie Sachs, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu, Dr. John R. Sellers	1993	Lady Bird Johnson, Joseph Cates
2009	Aretha Franklin, George Lucas, Sir Sidney Poitier	1992	Barbara Bush
2008	Dr. Maya Angelou, Ruby Dee, Dr. Benjamin Carson, Jr. The Honorable Sandra Day O'Connor	1991	The Honorable William F. McSweeney
2007	The Honorable John Lewis, Dr. James M. McPherson	1990	The Honorable Sidney Yates
		1989	Frankie Hewitt, Tommy Berra
		1988	The Honorable Stewart Udall
		1987	Nancy Reagan
		1986	Gerald Freed
		1985	Joy Dirksen Baker
		1984	Mrs. Thomas P. O'Neill, Jr.
		1983	Clyde Wheeler
		1982	The Honorable C. William Verity, Jr.
		1981	The Honorable Milton Young



Audience Services

Historic Site Visits

A visit to Ford's Theatre traces the story of Abraham Lincoln's presidency, assassination and legacy. Whether for a brief visit or for the full experience, Ford's will deepen your appreciation and understanding of America's 16th president. Admission is free; advance tickets have a convenience fee. The Ford's Theatre campus traditionally includes:

- **Museum:** Learn about Lincoln's presidency from his inauguration to his arrival at Ford's Theatre the night of April 14, 1865. See artifacts related to his presidency and assassination.
- **Theatre:** See the recreated historic theatre and learn the key facts of the assassination from National Park Service Rangers.
- **Petersen House:** Explore Lincoln's final moments in the house where Lincoln died.
- **Center for Education and Leadership:** See the Aftermath Exhibits exploring what happened following Lincoln's assassination, the hunt for John Wilkes Booth and the lasting impact of Lincoln's legacy.

Our visitation schedule varies. Parts of the campus may not be available at the time of your visit.

Box Office Hours

- When there is an evening performance: 8:30 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- When there is no evening performance: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- When there is a *History on Foot* walking tour: 8:30 a.m. until the tour begins.

Groups

Groups (10 or more people) save on mainstage performance tickets, have priority access to the best seats in the house and have flexible payment options. Contact groups@fords.org or (202) 638-2367.

Accessibility



Accessible seating is offered in both the rear orchestra and the balcony sections.



An audio-enhancement system is available for all performances. Devices are available on a first-come, first-served basis. Please check with an usher.



Audio-described performances of *Sister Act* are Thursday, April 10 at 7 p.m. and Saturday, May 3 at 2 p.m.



Sign-interpreted performances of *Sister Act* are Saturday, April 5 at 2 p.m. and Thursday, April 17 at 7 p.m.



A sensory-friendly performance of *Sister Act* is Saturday, April 26 at 2 p.m.

Learn more about accessible performances at bit.ly/fords-accessibility.

Staff

Director.....**Paul R. Tetreault**

Deputy Director and

Director of Programming.....**Kristin Fox-Siegmund**

PROGRAMMING

Director of Artistic Programming.....**José Carrasquillo**

Irani Foundation Director of Education.....**Tricia Patrick**

Senior Artistic Advisor**Sheldon Epps**

Deputy Director of Education Jake Flack

Associate Director of Education

and Public ProgramsAlexandria Wood

Company ManagerMarlita Slayden-Robinson

Program Operations and Music Manager Sarah R. Hewitt

Artistic Programming Manager.....Erika Scott

Manager of Arts Education Axel R. Cruz

Interpretive Programs Manager..... Daiya Malone

Arts Education and Outreach Coordinator Jack Pritt

Teaching Artists Ashley D. Buster-Ogunwuyi,

W. Ellington Felton, Heidi Fortune Picker,

ChelseaDee Harrison, Tamekia Jackson,

Max Johnson, Kiersten Morgan, Mary Myers,

Kirsten Noetzel, Victoria Reinsel, Eliseo Valerio

Education Program Artists Jonathan Atkinson, Michael Glenn,

Joe Mallon, Eric M. Messner,

Ryan Sellers, Chris Stinson

ADMINISTRATION

Director of Finance **Joshua Drew**

Director of Accessibility and Engagement **Teela P. Foxworth**

Director of Operations **Jason Shadle**

Associate Director of Finance Sheila H. Davis

Accounting, Payroll and

Office Services Manager Darnell Swinton

Executive Assistant to the Director Rachel Ryan

Human Resources Manager Lindsey Madsen

IT Manager Akinola Ojo

IT Support Specialist..... Kwame Poku

CRM and Analytics Manager Tim Helmer

DEVELOPMENT

Director of Development **Tamara Turoff Keough**

Deputy Director of Development RuthAnn Clark

Associate Director, Corporate Relations Katie Burns-Yocum

Associate Director, Foundation

and Government Relations Heather Cipu

Associate Director, Special Events Spencer Fogel

Special Events Manager Regan R. Lear

Corporate Relations Manager Lainie Richards

Individual Giving and Membership Manager Ruthie Miller

Development Associate Megan Ortman

COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING

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and Marketing **Leah Yoon Frelinghuysen**

Associate Director of

Communications and Marketing Sam Zein

Digital Content Manager Andrew Buchsbaum

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Ticket Services Manager Morgan Vaughan

Assistant Ticket Services Managers Robbie Duncan, Josie Filask

Ticket Services Associates Kyle Bailey, Jan Cameron, Anthony De Souza

Rome Kapen, Steve Langley, Felicia Mayfield,

James McClam, Cat Moreschi, Charlotte Newton,

Cynthia Perdue, Chad Rabago, Jada Sills

Group Sales Manager Heather Williams

PRODUCTION

Production Supervisor Carey Lawless

Head Carpenter Andrew Fox

Props Head Tess Wagner

Head Flyperson Craig Arnold

Costume Manager/Design Assistant Veronica Stevens

Wardrobe Supervisor Constance Harris

Hair and Make-Up Supervisor Danna Rosedahl

Head Electrician C.C. Gould

Sound Engineer Brian Keating

Assistant Stagehands Dre Jones, Lawrence Rasco,

Autumn Smith

Resident Production Stage Manager Brandon Prendergast

Production Assistant Safiya Muthaliff

PATRON SERVICES

Associate Director of Patron Services Rajhaan Piranti

Manager, Theatre Operations

and Volunteer Engagement Jeron Amoroso

Patron Services Associates Marie Althaus, Schuyler Baylor,

Allison Farrall, Harry Greenberg,

Rico Jones, Nadia Lee, Emily Loughman,

Emmaline Moye, Elinor Reed,

Isaiah Robinson, Alana Stolnitz

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Secretary of the Interior **Hon. Doug Burghum**

Acting Director, National Park Service Jessica Bowron

National Capital Area Director Kym Hall

Superintendent,

National Mall and Memorial Parks Dr. Kevin Griess

Site Manager Tim Moore

Ford's Theatre Society properties are managed by

Lincoln Property Company.

Custodial Services by Red Coats, Inc.



**WE PROUDLY SUPPORT
FORD'S THEATRE**

and its commitment to carrying forward
the legacy of President Abraham Lincoln
through education and the arts.

GENERAL DYNAMICS



A Bold New Chapter!

Ford's Theatre Society
proudly announces the grand opening of the

Frances and Craig Lindner Center for Culture and Leadership

and the expansion of our campus!

This exciting new era enhances our commitment to preserving history,
inspiring creativity and enriching the community.



512 Tenth Street, NW | Washington, DC 20004 | campaign.fords.org



Rendering courtesy of OTJ Architects



FORD'S THEATRE
Lincoln's Legacy. Our Legacy.

Ford's Theatre Society | 514 Tenth Street, NW | Washington, DC 20004

*Where Lincoln's
Legacy Lives*