

PLAYWRIGHTS'  
CENTER

THE 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL  
**PLAYLABS**  
FESTIVAL



OCTOBER 19–25, 2020

THE 37<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL

# PLAYLABS FESTIVAL

## ROOM ENOUGH (FOR US ALL)

by Daaimah Mubashshir

Monday, Oct. 19 at 7 p.m. & Friday, Oct. 23 at 8 p.m.

Fatimah, a recently widowed matriarch, is determined to have it all. She wants the opportunity to set right a 10-year mistake by inviting Jamillah, her queer daughter, to return home after a long forced absence. Can she have it all when Abdullah, her son, is driven to fight against this decision even though he loves his mother deeply? *Room Enough (For Us All)* is centered on a contemporary African-American Muslim Family coming to terms with how to treat queerness up against long-standing ideals and faith.

## MOTHER OF EXILES

by Jessica Huang

Wednesday, Oct. 21 at 7 p.m. & Saturday, Oct. 24 at 8 p.m.

In 1898 California, a pregnant Eddie Loi faces deportation. In 1998 Miami, her grandson Braulio accidentally summons her spirit while patrolling the border. In 2063 somewhere on the ocean, their descendants try to survive the climate crisis. An epic multigenerational tale of sacrifice, love, and survival that spans 150 years in 90 minutes.

## PLAYWRITING FELLOWS SHOWCASE

Friday, Oct. 23 at 5 p.m.

Join us for an evening of scenes from plays in progress by our 2020-21 Playwrights' Center fellows and mentees: **Cristina Florencia Castro, Gracie Gardner, Marvin González De León, JuCoby Johnson, Candrice Jones, Shannon TL Kearns, Nora Montañez, Savannah Reich, Tylie Shider, and Katie Ka Vang.**

## we are continuous

by Harrison David Rivers

Tuesday, Oct. 20 at 7 p.m. & Saturday, Oct. 24 at 1 p.m.

When a son reveals that he is HIV positive, his mother must decide how far her unconditional love extends. In this tender autobiographical play, Harrison David Rivers explores how people can change and how love can evolve.

## BEGIN, BEGIN, BEGIN AGAIN

by Erin Courtney

Thursday, Oct. 22 at 7 p.m. & Sunday, Oct. 25 at 1 p.m.

In a re-imagining of *The Oresteia* set in an art museum in the near future, an audio tour guide voice artist is haunted by the desire to kill her husband. Is it possible to seek justice instead of revenge? In this formally inventive work, Erin Courtney invites us to see the horror behind the brutality of our current justice system and to invite change through collective imagination.

# Welcome And Thank You For Joining Us For Our 37th Annual Playlabs Festival!

We are embracing what it means to create theater during a pandemic and moving the entire process online. While we will miss those personal moments of connection by being in space together—from the warm greetings in the lobby to that collective gasp at a play’s surprise moment in the theater—we’re grateful that this year, geography will no longer limit who can experience the festival. Whether you’re joining us from across the country, around the world, or just down the street in the Twin Cities, we’re excited you’re here with us to celebrate these powerful new stories.

At Playwrights’ Center, we lead with our values, and this year we are creating even more paid artist jobs by expanding the festival. Four playwrights are currently developing their new work, partnering with the creative team of their choosing, receiving two full weeks of writing and rehearsal time, and—as always at Playwrights’ Center—being equitably compensated for their time and their artistry. Over the course of the festival, nearly 70 paid opportunities for theatermakers are being created.



**Jeremy B. Cohen**  
Producing Artistic Director



**Robert Chelimsky**  
Managing Director

At the heart of PlayLabs is the holistic incubation of new work, and this year is no exception. We are thrilled to bring you these incredible new plays by Erin Courtney, Jessica Huang, Daaimah Mubashshir, and Harrison David Rivers. Whether beautifully written family dramas or relevant reimaginations of classic tales, each story told is both unique and universal. You may see yourself in people you’ve never met or find new laughter and understanding in characters you’ve known.

These stunning plays accomplish what all good stories seek to do: bring us closer to our human connection with one another and guide our path to a more equitable, empathetic, and imaginative world.

So gather your friends or family (if you’re able to in a socially distanced way) around the Zoom screen. Sit back. Get comfortable. And experience these new plays along with the rest of the world for the very first time.

On behalf of the PlayLabs artists, the Playwrights’ Center staff and board, and the 2,200+ playwright members we serve each year, thank you and enjoy!





# Begin, Begin, Begin Again

by **Erin Courtney**

Director

**Hayley Finn\*\***

Sound Design Consultant

**Daniel Ison**

Stage Manager

**snem DeSellier**

Apprentice Stage Manager

**Kaitlyn Boyer**

Festival Producer

**Hayley Finn**

Associate Producer

**Julia Brown**

Actors

**Chloe Armao** / Chorus A

**Sun Mee Chomet\*** / Museum Guard

**Carolina ĐỒ\*** / Chorus B

**Arcadia German** / Stage Directions

**Rachel Leslie\*** / Chorus Y

**Tyler Michaels King\*** / Pre-Verbal Tour Guide

**Miriam Schwartz** / Sister

**Sandra Struthers\*** / Audio Recording Voice Actor

**Sally Wingert\*** / Chorus X

"I began this play with rage, and the question: 'When a system is broken and injustice is rampant, how can rage be channeled into creating systemic change?'"

—Erin Courtney

\*Appearing through an Agreement between this theatre, the Playwrights' Center, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.

\*\*Member, Stage Directors and Choreographers Society





**Erin Courtney** (playwright) is writing a musical, *The Tattooed Lady*, with Max Vernon. Her play *Ann, Fran, Mary Ann* is a commission from Playwrights Horizons. Her Obie award-winning play, *A Map Of Virtue*, produced by 13P and directed by Ken Rus Schmoll, was described by the *New York Times* as “one of the most terrifying plays of the past decade.” Her play *I Will Be Gone*, directed by

Kip Fagan, premiered at ATL. She is a member of New Dramatists, a MacDowell Colony fellow, and a Guggenheim Fellow. She is the Program Director of MFA Playwriting at Brooklyn College.



**Hayley Finn\*\*** (director) is the Associate Artistic Director at the Playwrights’ Center, where she works with some of the nation’s leading and emerging playwrights and in her tenure has produced close to 1,000 workshops. Hayley is a director, writer, producer, and advocate for playwrights and new work. She has directed and developed work nationally and internationally

including at Cherry Lane Theatre, Curious Theatre Company, Edinburgh Fringe, Ellis Island, Guthrie Theatre, HERE Arts Center, History Theatre, Flea Theater, The Kitchen, Labyrinth Theater Company, Marin Theater Company, Minnesota Jewish Theater, People’s Light, New Dramatists, O’Neill Theater Center, Pillsbury House, People’s Light, Public Theater, Playwrights’ Horizons, Red Eye Theater, South Coast Repertory Theater, and the Nine Gates Festival in Prague. Hayley is a recipient of the Ruth Easton Fellowship, TCG Future Leader Grant, National Endowment for the Arts support, and a Minnesota State Arts Board Artist Initiative Grant. She received her BA and MA from Brown University and is a co-artistic director of Red Eye Theater.



**Chloe Armao** (Chorus A) is a Minneapolis-based actor. Some of her credits include: *Significant Other* (Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company); *Swede Hollow Ghost Sonata* (Sod House Theater & Black Label Movement); *The Wolves* (Jungle Theater); *Trouble in Mind*, *The Crucible* (Guthrie Theater); *While You Were Out* (Red Eye Theater); *Skin Deep Sea* (Workhaus Collective); *King*

*Lear*, *Merry Wives of Windsor* (Nebraska Shakespeare); *Romeo and Juliet*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *The Tempest* (Nebraska Shakespeare – On Tour); *Fully Committed* (St. Croix Festival Theater); and *Inconvenient Truths* (Edinburgh Fringe Festival). Chloe is a graduate of the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program and a proud teaching artist.



**Kaitlyn Boyer** (apprentice stage manager) is a performer and teaching artist who was born and raised in the Twin Cities. She most recently performed in Actors Theatre of Louisville’s 44th Annual Humana Festival of New American Plays as a member of their Professional Training Company. She is currently a teaching artist with NorCal SOTA School of the Arts, a Sacramento-

based theater company. Some of her credits include: *Deux Femmes on the Edge de la Revolution* at the Playwrights’ Center; *Cyrano de Bergerac* at the Guthrie Theater; *FLEX*, *Are You There?*, and *A Christmas Carol* at Actors Theatre of Louisville; *Seven Guitars*, *Titus Andronicus*, and *In The Blood* at the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater BFA Actor Training Program. For more information, visit [kaitlynboyer.com](http://kaitlynboyer.com).



**Sun Mee Chomet\*** (Museum Guard) is a Twin Cities-based actor. She is proud to call the Playwrights’ Center one of her artistic homes. Sun Mee has worked at Lincoln Center’s LCT3, Hartford Stage, Cincinnati Playhouse, Kansas City Repertory, Syracuse Stage, Guthrie Theater, Ten Thousand Things Theater, Penumbra Theatre, Jungle Theater, Theater

Mu, Mixed Blood Theater, Pillsbury House Theatre, Park Square Theater, among others. Recognition includes 2019 McKnight Theater Artist Fellowship, 2019 Decades Awards (*Star Tribune*, *City Pages*), 2015 TCG Fox Fellowship, and 2015 Lucille Lortel nomination for Outstanding Featured Actress. Sun Mee is thrilled to be one of the many actors ushering new voices into the canon and sustaining the continued creation of theater during this challenging time.



**snem DeSellier** (stage manager) is a multi-modal maker: deviser, designer, dramaturg, writer-poet, dancer, manager, and facilitator. They were born, raised, and graduated Hampshire College on Nipmuc and Pocumtuc land and are now based on the Dakota lands of Wahpekute and Anishinabewaki. snem has presented work in the Twin Cities with 20% Theatre

Company, 9x22 Dance/Lab, Lightning Rod, Fresh Oysters Performance Research, Theatre Mu, Mixed Precipitation, as well as with the Playwrights’ Center where they served as an artistic and administrative apprentice 2019-20.



# THE RUTH EASTON NEW PLAY SERIES

December, 2020–April, 2021



Dec. 9, 2020

**No Cure**  
Jake Jeppson

Jan. 13, 2021

**Getting There**  
Dipika Guha

Feb. 3, 2021

**This Much I Know**  
Jonathan Spector

Mar. 3, 2021

**Pulp Vérité**  
Crystal Skillman

Apr. 7, 2021

**Nancy**  
Rhiana Yazzie

For Information And Tickets  
[pwcenter.org/ruth-easton-series](http://pwcenter.org/ruth-easton-series)

Meghan Kreidler as Volina in Betty Shamieh's *Malvolio*, during the February 2020 Ruth Easton New Play Series. Photo by Paula Keller



**Carolina Đổ\*** (Chorus B) is an actor, playwright, producer, and proud daughter of Vietnamese freedom fighters and refugees. She's a community organizer and advocate for art that facilitates healing in marginalized communities. Her acting credits: Broadway: *Linda Vista* (u/s), *Grand Horizons* (u/s). NYC theater: Loading Dock, The Tank, New Dramatists, Naked Angels, The

Flea. TV/Film: *FBI: Most Wanted*, *Law & Order: SVU*, *Sideways Smile*, *Catfight*, *Queens The Series*. Her play, *My Mother's Daughter*, was a semifinalist for Space on Ryder Farm and a 2020 finalist for BRICLab. Co-founder of The Sóng Collective. BFA: Brooklyn College. Currently, she has projects screening at Austin Film Festival, Outfest, NewFest, and SXSW. @carolinakaydo; www.carolinado.com



**Arcadia German** (stage directions) is a California native and a recent graduate from the University of Minnesota/Guthrie BFA Actor Training program where some favorite roles include Masha (*The Three Sisters*), Clytemnestra (*Electra*), and Monica/Jesus (*The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*). Arcadia has also had the pleasure to be a Tap Dancing Bear/Ensemble (*Cinderella*-STC), Baby

Blue (*Marvelous Miss Marvel*-Open Eye), Mary Bennet (*Pride and Prejudice*-STC), and many more. When not on the stage Arcadia loves photography, Dance, and writing plays of her own. She is ecstatic to join PlayLabs and continue to grow and learn about the magic world of playmaking.



**Daniel Ison** (sound design consultant) Off Broadway: *Hot Wing King*, assistant sound designer (Signature Theatre). Regional: *Gem of the Ocean*, *Streetcar Named Desire* (Arden Theatre); *Wilde Tales*, *Frankenstein*, *Julius Caesar*, *Aesop's Fables* (Quintessence); *Box Clever*, *Our Few*, and *Evil Days* (Inis Nua); *The Audience Disturbs Marcel* (Tiny Dynamite); *Collected Stories* (Act II

Playhouse); *Ready Steady Yeti* (Azuka Theatre); *Othello*, *All My Sons* (Curio Theatre); *Tartuffe* (Mauckingbird). Film/Television: *Howard* (Zorinah Juan). Education: BA Music Composition (Eastern University). Awards: Barrymore Winner Sound Design, *Gem of the Ocean*. Barrymore Nominee Sound Design, *Untitled*. Barrymore Nominee Original Music, *Art of Swimming*.



**Rachel Leslie\*** (Chorus Y) is a New York City based actor. Most recently she was in *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child* and is hoping to return whenever we get back to live theater! Rachel has done numerous shows in New York City and regionally. Some of her film and television credits include *Billions*, *Difficult People*, *Alpha House*, *The Ticket*, and *Unforgettable*. Rachel is a member

of Quick Silver Theater Company and The Actor's Center.



Actors' Equity Association ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers. Equity fosters the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and

advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, improving working conditions and providing a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. #EquityWorks



The Director is a Member of the **STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.





**Tyler Michaels King\*** (Pre-Verbal Tour Guide) is a Twin Cities-based theater artist and improviser and is the Founding Artistic Director of Trademark Theater. He has worked and played with the Guthrie Theater, The Ordway, Theater Latté Da, Children’s Theater Company, Hennepin Theater Trust, History Theatre, Chanhassen Dinner Theatres, Illusion Theater, Live Action Set, and Artistry, among many others. Tyler is also a founding member of The Bearded Company. He holds the 2014 Emerging Artist Ivey Award, the Mark Twain Prize for Comic Performance from the Kennedy Center National ACT Festival, and was named “Artist of the Year” by City Pages. [tylermichaels.com](http://tylermichaels.com)



**Miriam Schwartz** (Sister) is a Seattle native and graduate of the University of Minnesota /Guthrie Theatre BFA Actor Training Program. Although she now resides in Portland, Oregon, she has been seen on many Twin Cities stages including the Guthrie Theater, Mixed Blood Theater, Minnesota Jewish Theatre Company, Artistry MN, and The One-and-Only Playwrights’ Center. PlayLabs is her very favorite, and she’s thrilled to be a part of it.

ly Playwrights’ Center. PlayLabs is her very favorite, and she’s thrilled to be a part of it.



**Sandra Struthers\*** (Audio Recording Voice Actor) (she/her or they/them) has performed locally with The Guthrie, Ten Thousand Things, CTC, Frank, Mixed Blood, and Pillsbury House, and regionally at Mint Theater, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, and Actor’s Theater of Louisville. Sandra also works as playwright, director, and teacher and holds an MFA from ART/Harvard.

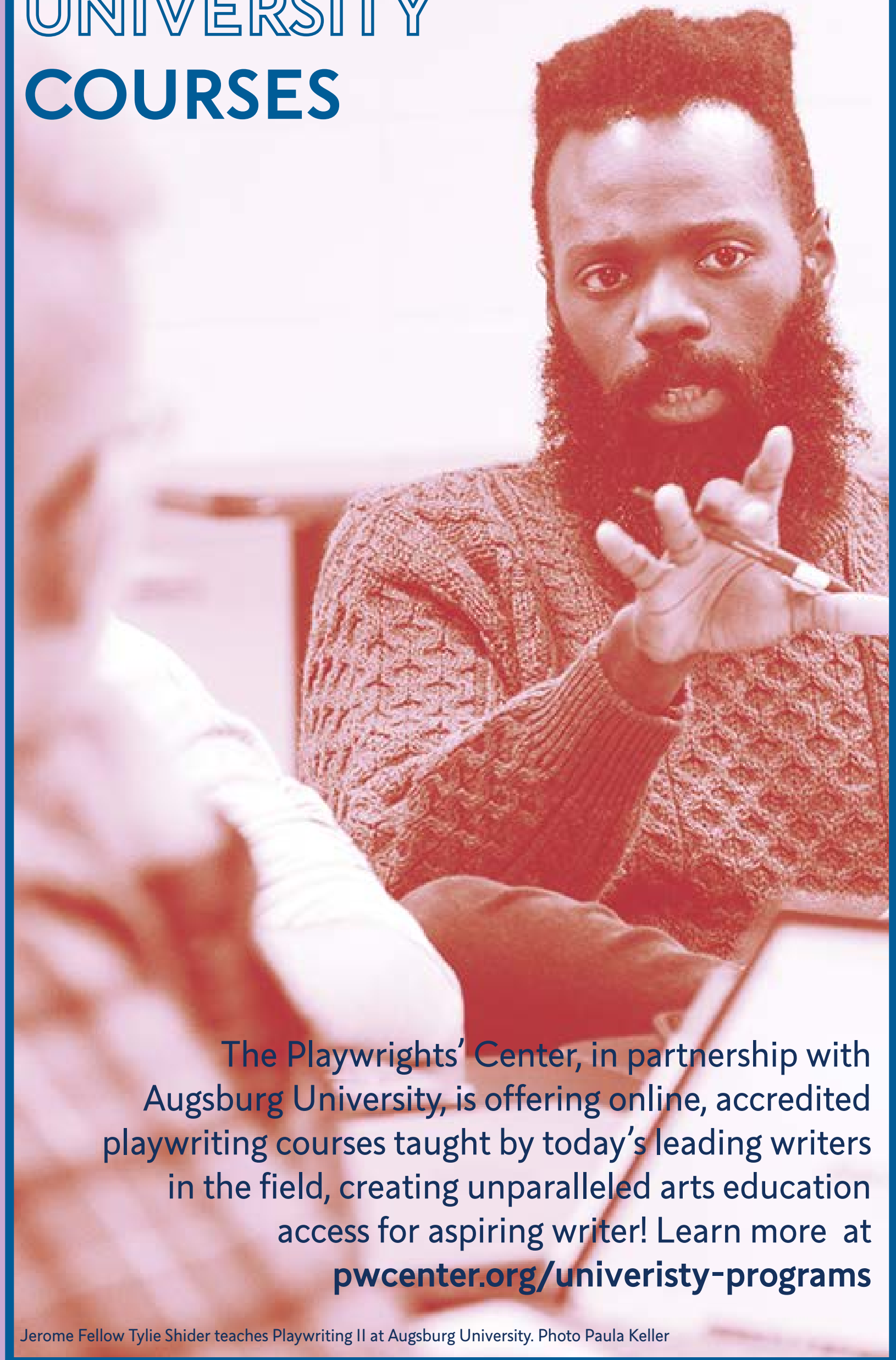


**Sally Wingert\*** (Chorus X) is an actor home-based in the Twin Cities. Over her nearly 40 years in the profession she has worked at numerous theaters here and across the country, the Guthrie, Theater Latté Da, Mixed Blood, Ten Thousand Things, Broadway, Yale Rep, ART, Asolo Rep, among others. New play development is one of the most thrilling things an actor can be a part of. It has never seemed more vital than now. Thank you, Playwrights’ Center.

actor can be a part of. It has never seemed more vital than now. Thank you, Playwrights’ Center.

Presenting

# UNIVERSITY COURSES



The Playwrights’ Center, in partnership with Augsburg University, is offering online, accredited playwriting courses taught by today’s leading writers in the field, creating unparalleled arts education access for aspiring writer! Learn more at [pwcenter.org/univeristy-programs](http://pwcenter.org/univeristy-programs)

Jerome Fellow Tylie Shider teaches Playwriting II at Augsburg University. Photo Paula Keller



## PLAYWRIGHTS' CENTER MEMBERSHIP



We serve a worldwide network of over 2,250 member playwrights through a collection of robust and ever-expanding resources, including:

- Seminars and multi-week classes on craft and the industry
- Access to experienced actors for private new play development readings
- One-on-one dramaturgical support
- Member-centered play readings and feedback sessions
- Connection to the world's largest and most curated database of play submission opportunities.

Learn more at  
[pwcenter.org/join](https://pwcenter.org/join)

# THANK YOU DONORS

The Playwrights' Center gratefully acknowledges the following individuals and organizations who have financially supported our work. The following names represent gifts given between August 1, 2019 and October 15, 2020.

## GOVERNMENT, FOUNDATIONS, AND ORGANIZATIONS

\$100,000

**MCKNIGHT FOUNDATION**

\$50,000–\$99,000



\$25,000–\$49,999

The Harold & Mimi Steinberg  
Charitable Trust



\$2,500–\$24,999

ArtSpace Projects, Inc.  
Boss Foundation  
Bush Foundation  
Patrick & Aimee Butler Family Foundation  
Dual Citizen Brewing Co.  
France 44 Wines & Spirits  
The Head Family Foundation  
KNOCK, Inc.  
Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC)  
Piper Sandler & Co  
City of St. Paul (Cultural STAR)  
Tides Foundation

\$1,000 - \$2,499

Faegre Drinker Foundation  
Securian Financial Foundation  
Whole Lotta Future Foundation

Up to \$999

Actors' Equity Foundation, Inc.  
AmazonSmile  
The Benevity Community Impact Fund  
GiveMN.org  
Jamf  
Network for Good  
Seagate Technology LLC  
US Bank Foundation  
YourCause

In-Kind

Alma  
Trader Joe's

INDIVIDUALS

\$10,000+

Eric Anderson and Roger Beck  
Barry Berg and Walter Tambor  
Lee Blessing and Melanie Marnich  
Jeffrey Bores\* and Michael Hawkins  
Mary Beidler Gearen\*  
Christina Ham  
MaryAnn Lippay Kanee and Stephen Kanee Family Fund  
Jennifer Melin Miller and David Miller  
Wayne Zink and Christopher Schout\*  
Dana and Stephen Strand

\*denotes Playwrights' Center Board Member



# THANK YOU DONORS

## INDIVIDUALS (CONTINUED)

### \$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous  
David Chelimsky and Flor Pinho  
Barbara Davis  
Robert P. Englund  
Barbara Field  
Larissa Kokernot and Karl Gajdusek•  
John Geelan and Megan Feeney  
Elizabeth Grant  
Jeff Hedlund• and Amy Apperson  
David and Leni Moore Family Foundation  
Peter and Carla• Paulson Family Fund  
Diane and Mark• Perlberg  
The Racciatti Family Fund  
Marcia and John Stout  
John Sullivan  
Margaret VB Wurtele

### \$2,500 - \$4,999

Harrison David Rivers and Christopher R. Bineham  
James and Julie Chosy  
Geoffrey M. Curley• and Associates  
Fran Davis  
Polly Brown Grose Fund of the Minneapolis Foundation.  
Jodi Grundyson•  
Tessa Gunther and Scott Hagg  
Lili Hall and Andrea Scarpa  
Bruce and Jean Johnson  
Patrick Kennedy  
Rebecca Krull Kraling• and James Kraling  
Mr. and Mrs. Chad M. Larsen/Larsen Fund  
Annie Lebedoff•  
Heather and John Leiviska  
James Empson and Cheryl Olseth  
Randall and Gail Ross  
Mary and Adam Sellke  
Mary Anne Ebert and Paul Stembler•  
Harry Waters, Jr.• and Tom Borrup  
Ginger Wilhelmi•

### \$1,000 - \$2,499

Anonymous  
dik Bolger and Carmen Gutierrez-Bolger  
Peter and Maura• Brew  
Jeremy Cohen and Michael Elyanow  
Jeanne Corwin  
Dan Dietz  
Nancy Engh  
Chelle and Mike Gonzo  
Dan Hedlund and Robin Preble  
Charlyne Hovi•  
Marlon James  
Janet Jones and Rob Reul  
Miriam and Erwin Kelen  
Anita Kunin  
Firouzeh Mostashari  
Wendy Nelson  
Kira Obolensky and Irve Dell  
George Steitz  
Weiser Family Foundation

### \$500 - \$999

Elissa Adams and Michael Margulies  
Toni Nebal Bjorklund and Lee Bjorklund  
Jane Blanch  
Susan Conley De Castro  
Erika and Nathan Eklund  
Beth Gaede  
Greg Giles and Teresa West  
Karen Grabow and Keith Halperin  
Katie Hey  
Suzanne Joyce  
Dr. Art Kaemmer  
Faye Knowles and Douglas Muirhead  
Jon Newman and Brooks Christensen  
JoAnne Pastel  
James A. Payne  
Charlie Quimby and Susan Cushman  
Shannon Robinson  
Donald and Linda Silpe  
Merrie and Aaron Sjogren  
Ed McConaghay and Margaret Telfer

Michelle Vaught  
Barbara Weber  
Suzanne Weinstein and Danny Levey  
Joan and Scott Wilensky  
Jamie Wilson and David Ericson

### \$250 - \$499

Patricia Barrier  
George Brant and Laura Kepley  
Carlyle Brown• and Barbara Rose-Brown  
Sarah and Matt Chaplin  
Sarah Cooke and Adam Lowe  
Mary Dolan  
Adam Rao and Elizabeth Emery  
Liz Engelman  
Lesley Ferris  
Jeffrey Grover  
Kathleen Hansen  
Ross Johnson  
Willard Kitchen  
Sally and Jonathan Lebedoff  
Doug and Mary Logeland  
Karen Hartman and Todd London  
Beth MacDonald  
Ron and Mary Mattson  
Robert and Lucy Mitchell  
Amy Muse  
Amy Noble Seitz  
Tonja Orr  
Timothy J. Pabst and Dana Lindsay  
Kendra Plant  
Audray Rees  
Carl Atiya Swanson and Stacy Schwartz  
Jane E Zilch  
Laura Zimmermann

### \$100 - \$249

Monika Albrecht  
Howard Ansel  
Karen Bachman and Robert Fisch  
James Ball  
Jeannette and Jeffrey Bineham

Peter Brosius and Rosanna Staffa  
Robert P. and Debbie A. Brown  
Mary and Mike Burke  
Bob and Carolyn Bye  
Allene Cohen  
Robert Dorfman  
Marilyn J. Doyle  
Robert C Droddy  
Bonnie S. Dudovitz and Jean K. Quam  
Paul Eiding  
Scott Elyanow  
Nancy Finn  
Tiffa Foster  
Seth Freeman  
Robin Gillette  
Carol Grady  
Josh and Pamela Gruber  
Rossi and Penelope Snipper  
Scott Halle  
Craig Harris and Candy Kuehn  
W. Blake and Erin Herron  
Thang and Randy Holt  
Harriet Horwitz  
Jessie Houlihan•  
Robert Hybben  
J. Lynn Jackson  
Margaret Johnson  
Bobbi and Louis Kaplan  
Daisuke Kawachi  
Martine Kei Green-Rogers  
Mary Louise Klas  
David Koehser and Nancy Dunnigan  
Katherine Kohl  
Aaron and Eric Komo  
Neal and Abigail Kreitzer  
Joseph Kuznik  
Sigrun Leonhard  
Seth Levin and Mia Nosanow  
Edith Leyasmeyer  
David Manderson  
Jeff Masco  
Timothy Mason



# THANK YOU DONORS

## INDIVIDUALS (CONTINUED)

David McNeil  
Kelly Miller  
Patricia Mitchell  
Silas Morgan  
Sarah Myers  
Rebecca Noon, in honor of Daisuke Kawachi  
Anne L. Paape  
James and Susan Peterson  
Beth and Wes Pfeifer  
Eric Polizer  
Barbara Pratt  
Denise Prosek and Milton Ferris  
Daniel Rech and Nicole DeBace-Rech  
Lawrence Redmond and Eddie Ellington  
Christopher Reeves and MaryAnn Nord  
Melissa and Scott Rockman  
Charlene K. Roise  
Erika Schwichtenberg  
Dan and Margaret Shulman  
Emily Simon and Nathan Lucero  
Jerrie Steele  
David Odenbach and John Stefany  
Carol Stoddart  
Seema Sueko  
Virginia Sundberg  
Megan Erlandson and Merritt Swain  
Elizabeth Thimmesh and Matthew Johnson  
William Underwood and Christopher Everett  
Adrian Walker  
Eryn Warne  
Wendy Weckwerth  
Barbara Weissberger  
Joan Heule Wright and Jeffrey Wright  
Scott and Pam Wright  
Laura Zabel and Levi Weinhagen  
Deborah Zanish and Daniel Danielson

### \$99 & Under

Valetta Anderson  
Linda Anderson Willette and Jan Willette  
Mark Armstrong  
Carol Barnett  
In memory of Susan Barton  
Angela and George Bernhardt  
Ann M. Biggar  
Kate Brennan  
Harriet Chessman  
Todd Clasen  
Marvin Gonzalez De Leon  
John DeLaire  
Sheila DeSellier  
Andrew Dominus  
Denise Dreher  
Mary Easter  
Jill Engeswick  
Diane Faissler  
Leigh Flayton  
Peter Fleck and Mary Weber  
Annette Gavens  
Ain Gordon  
Donna Gordon  
Judy Goss  
Rachel Greene and Victor Perazzoli  
Janet Allen and Joel Grynheim  
Matt Haar  
Peter Heeringa  
Stephanie Melissande  
John Humphrey  
Ivan Idland  
Walt Jacobs  
Laura Jacqmin  
Andrew and Amy Jendrzewski  
Rachel Jendrzewski and Theo Goodell

Jake Johansen  
Lauren Johnson  
Jaclyn Johnson  
Pat Johnston  
Jeremy Jones  
Mervyn Kaufman  
Anne-Lynn Kettles  
Adeeb Khalid and Cheryl Duncan  
Mary T. Kokernot  
Jonna Kosalko and Dan Rabin  
Jennifer Kranz  
Carson Kreitzer  
Jessica Kubzansky  
Jim Larson  
Carol Lichterman  
Mark Lutwak and Y York  
Bruce Manning and Tricia Cornell  
Susan Marrash-Minnerly  
Judy McConnell  
Linda McDonald  
Chaz Mena  
Lynne Menturweck  
Ellen Merlin  
Meg Miroshnik  
Lacey Morgan  
Joseph Moses  
Miriam Must  
Jon Neuse and K.C. Foley  
Douglas Nopar  
Jennifer and Joe Novak  
Kemi Ojelade  
William Parry  
Barb and Rick Person  
Daniel Pinkerton  
Shelli Place  
Marilynn Pyatigorets

Noël Raymond and Amy Finch  
Sara Richardson  
Julie Robbins  
Cliff Robinette  
Susie Rowland  
Whitney Rowland  
Candyce Rusk  
Christina Saunders  
Jill Schafer  
Kate Schwartz  
Maureen Siliman  
Nancy Simon  
Christopher G. Smith  
Philip Spensley  
Joseph H Stanley  
Sandra Struthers  
Melissa A. Thone Rn  
Doug Tiede  
Andrew Troth  
Stephen Troutman  
Ken Urban  
Ryan Volna  
Daniel Weiner and Carl Roller  
Dawn Williams  
Sarah Woessner  
Robert Young  
Jared Zeigler  
Susan Zwickey

### AMPLIFY VITAL STORYTELLING THROUGH GIVING

Social justice is at the heart of the Playwrights' Center's work. We strive for it by actively supporting equitable theater-making practices that shift the paradigm, uplifting unheard stories and sharing them with the world. With your support, the Center can provide the greatest diversity of artists with the time, tools, and space to tell their truths and reshape audiences' perspectives.

**Make a gift and amplify vital storytellers today! [pwcenter.org/donate](https://pwcenter.org/donate)**



## STAFF

Jeremy B. Cohen, *Producing Artistic Director*  
Robert Chelimsky, *Managing Director*  
May Adrales, *Artistic Associate*  
Alayna Barnes, *Membership Programs Associate*  
Julia Brown, *Artistic Programs Manager*  
Hayley Finn, *Associate Artistic Director*  
Martine Kei Green-Rogers, *Fellowship Associate*  
H. Adam Harris, *Engagement Associate*  
Katie Hey, *Director of Development*  
Jasmine Johnson, *General Manager*  
Hannah Joyce, *Director of Membership Programs*  
Emily Mathees, *Executive Staff Administrator*  
Sarah Myers, *Director of University Programs and Partnerships*  
Daniel Rech, *Director of Marketing and Communications*  
Whitney Rowland, *Institutional Development Manager*  
Teri Schafer, *Development Assistant*  
Sonitha Tep, *Marketing Communications Graphic and Media Designer*  
Kaitlyn Boyer, *Artistic and Administrative Apprentice*  
Roshni Desai, *Artistic and Administrative Apprentice*  
Ashe Jaafaru, *Artistic and Administrative Apprentice*  
Isabella Star LaBlanc, *Artistic and Administrative Apprentice*

## BOARD

Carla Paulson, *President*  
Harrison David Rivers, *Vice President*  
Maura Brew, *Secretary*  
Adam Rao, *Treasurer*  
Jeffrey Bores  
Carlyle Brown  
Geoffrey Curley  
Karl Gajdusek  
Mary Beidler Gearen  
Jodi Grundyson  
Jeff Hedlund  
Jessie Houlihan  
Charlyne Hovi  
Jonathan Jensen  
David Kim  
Rebecca Krull Kraling  
Annie Lebedoff  
Mark Perlberg  
Christopher Schout  
Leah Spinosa de Vega  
Cecilia Stanton Adams  
Paul Stembler  
Harry Waters Jr.  
Ginger Wilhelmi  
Michael Winn  
Jeremy B. Cohen, *ex officio*  
Robert Chelimsky, *ex officio*

## THE 2020-21

## FELLOWS AND CORE WRITERS

Kelly Renee Armstrong	Sofya Levitsky-Weitz
Lee Blessing	Nora Montañez
Sharon Bridgforth	Daaimah Mubashshir
Carlyle Brown	Kira Obolensky
Darren Canady	John Olive
Cristina Florencia Castro	Marisela Treviño Orta
Erin Courtney	Savannah Reich
Mashuq Mushtaq Deen	Stacey Rose
Emily Feldman	Andrew Rosendorf
Gina Femia	Riti Sachdeva
Barbara Field	Tylie Shider
Gracie Gardner	Charly Evon Simpson
Marvin González De León	Crystal Skillman
Jeffrey Hatcher	Jonathan Spector
Rachel Jendrzewski	Ariel Stess
Jake Jeppson	James Anthony Tyler
JuCoby Johnson	Katie Ka Vang
Candrice Jones	Abbee Warmboe
Nicholas Kaidoo	Talvin Wilks
Shannon TL Kearns	Ray Yamanouchi
Keyanna Khatiblou	Stefanie Zadravec
Kurt Kwan	



# THEATER BEGINS HERE

"Stories give us chances to see ourselves and what we could hope to be."

—2020–21 Jerome Fellow, Candrice Jones

**We start with the storytellers.  
The playwrights.  
The artists.**

As we continue to meet the challenges of these times, the Playwrights' Center seeks to reimagine what is possible in theater; both in this moment and beyond. Throughout our 2020–21 Season we are intensifying our efforts, investing even more deeply in creative process, arts education, and access to opportunity. We are working to amplify unheard voices and promote equitable spaces, allowing for the greatest diversity of artists to make plays around the world. Through additional fellowships and increased public programming, we are creating new channels of support for thousands of writers—from paid opportunities that will sustain playwrights and theatermakers, to expanded educational resources that will enhance online learning tools and connect university students from around the world. We are inspiring a whole new generation of theater artists. It all begins here.

**Join us!**

## ARTISTS IN CONVERSATION

Building on our sold-out Public Discussion series from past seasons, *Artists in Conversation* offers a uniquely intimate look at playwrights and their process. Unlike the Center's many scripted events throughout the year, these conversations offer audiences a chance to connect directly with writers, hearing artists' thoughts on craft, the field, and the world through their own unfiltered words. Past conversations have featured acclaimed theater artists, including Migdalia Cruz, Lisa D'Amour, Daniel Alexander Jones, José Rivera, and Paula Vogel, among others.

**Specific participants, topics, and dates will be announced throughout the year. Stay tuned!**



## IN THE LAB

**New worlds require new ways.**

And the Playwrights' Center is stepping up our support to meet this moment, launching a brand new online development and performance project called *In the Lab*.

Through this innovative program, three writers will develop wildly experimental new works, pushing the boundaries of form and content, and revolutionizing the way we experience stories.

**TOMORROW  
WILL BE SUNDAY**  
by Heather Raffo

**CELL SURFACE**  
by Dominic Taylor

**VAPOR TRAIL**  
by Ken Urban

Dates and times to be announced soon.  
Visit [pwcenter.org](http://pwcenter.org) for more information.

Meiyin Wang, Producing Director at The Ronald O. Perelman Performing Arts Center joins Philip Bither, McGuire Director and Senior Curator, Performing Arts at Walker Art Center for a sold-out Public Discussion. Photo by Josh Olson