

The background of the poster is a deep purple. At the top, a silhouette of an aerial performer is suspended in a circular hoop. Below the performer, several bright, multi-colored light rays (in shades of blue, green, and yellow) fan out across the purple field. At the bottom, a dark silhouette of a city skyline is visible. A white rectangular border frames the central text.

THE GREAT BALANCING ACT

ANNUAL CONFERENCE
JANUARY 3-5, 2019
NEW YORK UNIVERSITY

MTEA
MUSICAL THEATRE
EDUCATORS' ALLIANCE

The Loewe Theatre | 35 W. 4th Street, New York, NY

PRESIDENT'S WELCOME

It is my honor and pleasure to welcome you to our 2019 conference here in New York City at MTEA's "home" at Steinhardt. As always, Meg Bussert has done an extraordinary job as site host, working in conjunction with Stacy Alley to put together a very thrilling and rich program of events, which you will see on the pages that follow.

It's been a packed 365 days since we last convened in Orlando, and I am eager to share some of the many initiatives MTEA has been engaged in behind the scenes. I look forward to that opportunity in my "State of the (MTEA) Union" address on Thursday.



As your current Executive Board begins the last year of our three-year term, I would like to encourage engagement from the membership. We made the choice to expand our board a couple of years ago, adding a Marketing Director and a Director of Communications, as well as 3 "At-Large" members, who have been instrumental in taking on ad-hoc committee work to revise our by-laws. As MTEA continues to grow, we are also adding a Vice President for Recruitment (a position that was dormant in the by-laws). Consider what MTEA means to you and how you might be able to serve the Alliance as it continues to expand. We will be reaching out for nominations in the coming weeks and holding elections so that the new slate of officers is ready to take over at the close of the 2020 conference. I hope you will be interested in serving and continuing this outstanding organization in the years to come.

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jonathan Flom'.

Jonathan Flom
President, Musical Theatre Educators Alliance



Executive Board

President | Jonathan Flom, El Camino College, Los Angeles, CA

Immediate Past President | Lara Teeter, Webster Conservatory, St. Louis, MO

Vice President for Conferences | Stacy Alley, The University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa, AL

International Vice President | Thomas Agerholm, Den Danske Scenekunstskolen,
Musicalakademi, Fredericia, Denmark

Treasurer | Stephen Brotebeck, San Diego State University, San Diego, CA

Secretary | Matt Edwards, Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA

Director of Communications | Jacob Brent, Shenandoah Conservatory, Winchester, VA

Marketing Director | Natalie Pitchford, The Lovett School, Atlanta, GA

REGIONAL DIRECTORS

Northeast US | Kikau Alvaro, Virginia Commonwealth University, Richmond, VA

Southeast US | Amanda Wansa Morgan, Kennesaw State University, Kennesaw, GA

Midwest US | Cody Walker, Artisan Center Theatre, Hurst, TX

Western US | Andrew Barratt Lewis, Weber State University, Orem, UT

AT-LARGE BOARD MEMBERS

Nathan Balser, Brigham Young University, Provo, UT

Matty Miller, Chico State University, Chico, CA

Tara Snyder, University of Central Florida, Orlando, FL

Special Thanks to site host MEG BUSSERT and NYU Steinhardt.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, 3 January 2019

8:30-9:00am | Check-in and Light Breakfast

9:00-10:00am | Conference Kick-Off!

Vice President's Welcome & Announcements/Introduction of MTEA Executive Board

10:00-11:20am | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Teaching Contemporary Musical Theatre"

Laura Josepher & David Sisco

*Loewe Theatre

"Body Mapping for Performing Artists"

Jan Prokop

*Room 303

11:20-11:30am | Short Break

11:30am-1:00pm | "State of the (MTEA) Union" with President Jonathan Flom

*Loewe Theatre

1:00-2:00pm | Lunch Provided

*Room 303

2:00-3:20pm | "The Busy Educator's Guide to Online/Offline"

Special Guest Tony Howell, Digital Strategist for Artists

*Loewe Theatre

3:20-3:30pm | Short Break

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Thursday, 3 January 2019 (Continued...)

3:30-4:30pm | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Balancing Curriculum -- Strategies for Integrating "Side Hustles" into the Major"

Alan Patrick Kenny

*Room 303

"Current Trends in Musical Theatre Education"

Scott Harrison & Jessica O'Bryan

*Loewe Theatre

4:30-4:40pm | Short Break

4:40-6:00pm | KEYNOTE SPEAKER, LYNN AHRENS

Moderator: Meg Bussert

*Loewe Theatre

Friday, 4 January 2019

8:30-9:00am | Light Breakfast and Announcements

9:00-10:20am | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Balancing Enrollment: DEI & Student Opportunity"

Julio Agustin, Christie Kerr, & Amy Uhl with Moderator Scott Susong

*Loewe Theatre

"SAVI Cards -- The Singing Actor's New Secret Weapon"

Charlie Gilbert

*Room 303

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, 4 January 2019 (Continued...)

10:20-10:30am | Short Break

10:30-11:50am | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Educating Students in Trying Times Using the Alexander Technique
and Current Neuroscience"

Gwendolyn Walker

*Room 303

"Balance This: The Realities of the Tenure and Promotion Process"

Valerie Accetta, Amanda Wansa Morgan, Tara Snyder,
Steven Chicurel-Stein

*Loewe Theatre

11:50am-12:00pm | Short Break

12:00-1:00pm | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"I'll Relax in Summer! -- How to Spoil Your Inner Teacher Now"

Meghan Cornett-Mayes & Sean Mayes

*Loewe Theatre

"Teaching and the Brain"

Simon Ward

*Room 303

1:00-2:00pm | Lunch Provided

*Set-up in Room 304, Eat in Room 303

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Friday, 4 January 2019 (Continued...)

2:00-3:00pm | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"The Resilient Actor: How to Kick Ass in the Biz without it Kicking Your Ass"

Debra Wanger

*Room 303

"Shifting the Voice Study Paradigm: Balancing Art(s) & Craft(s)"

Jeremy Ryan Mossman & Corinne Ness

*Loewe Theatre

3:00-3:10pm | Short Break

3:10-4:30pm | Special Guest Panel: "How Broadway Dance Center Can Prepare Our Students to Work"

April P. Cook, Diane King, Reese Snow, Emily Collin, & Lizzie Smith

*Loewe Theatre

4:30-4:40 | Short Break

4:40-5:40 | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Developing Entrepreneurship: A Panel Discussion"

Jay Berkow & Gregory Harrell with Joe Abraham, Brenda Braxton, Scott Coulter, Franz Jones, Sam Scalamoni, Justin Stoney, Shorey Walker, & Bruce Winant

*Loewe Theatre

"Singers Self-Care -- Tension Release Methods for the Voice"

CJ Greer & Christine Schneider

*Room 303

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Saturday, 5 January 2019

8:30-9:00am | Light Breakfast

9:00-10:00am | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Bridging the Gap: Academic Curriculum and the Realities of the Industry"

David Coolidge & Valerie Maze

*Loewe Theatre

"Balancing Responsibilities when Relocating from Metropolis to Small Town"

Elizabeth Benson, Jeremiah Downes, & Andre Garner

*Room 303

10:00-10:10am | Short Break

10:10-11:30am | "Open Mic" followed by Group Photo, Moderated by Stacy Alley

*Loewe Theatre

11:30-11:40am | Short Break

11:40am-1:00pm | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"Pop/Rock Technique on All Musical Theatre Material"

Sheri Sanders

*Loewe Theatre

"The Fit for Broadway Workshop"

Jane Jourdan

*Room 303

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Saturday, 5 January 2019 (Continued...)

1:00-2:00pm | Lunch Provided

* Set-up in Room 304, Eat in Room 303

2:00-3:00pm | Regional Break-Out Sessions

*Loewe Theatre

3:00-3:10pm | Short Break

3:10-4:10pm | CONCURRENT SESSIONS

"What's to Become of Me? -- Mentoring for Uncertain Futures"

Steven Sparling

*Room 303

"The Struggle is Real: Finding Balance in a Demanding Life"

Stacy Alley, Thomas Gregg, Andrew Barratt Lewis, Joe Mason,
Amanda Wansa-Morgan, Geoffrey Reynolds, & Tim Threlfall

*Room 779

"Put Your Back Into It: The Back-Line Posterior Chain and Belting"

Kimberly Moller

*Loewe Theatre

4:10-5:00pm | Wrap-up and Proposal of Regional Conference 2020

*Loewe Theatre

5:00pm | END OF CONFERENCE & SOCIAL GATHERING

*Location TBA

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Joe Abraham has been living his dream on stage and screen for the past 20 years and counting. He has appeared on Broadway and around the country in shows such as *HAIRSPRAY*, *THE LITTLE MERMAID*, *SHREK THE MUSICAL*, *CATS*, *CRAZY FOR YOU*, and others. On screen Joe has appeared in shows such as *S.W.A.T.*, *AMERICAN CRIME STORY: PEOPLE VS OJ SIMPSON*, *REVENGE*, *HOW TO GET AWAY WITH MURDER*, and also made his feature film debut in *JERSEY BOYS* working with Clint Eastwood. Joe has a passion for teaching actors and artists everywhere about the importance of personal finances and entrepreneurship as part of a successful career. His first book on the topic is titled *The Thriving Artists* and Joe is humbled that it is now required reading at several universities around the country. *The Thriving Artists* is all about living an inspired life, an empowered career, and also having plenty of money in the bank while doing it! Joe is thrilled to be spreading this message of “can-do” along with “how-to” to young professionals everywhere. Life is good.

Valerie Accetta is the Head of Musical Theatre at the University of Alabama at Birmingham. She is a member of Actor’s Equity Association and an Estill Master Trainer. Valerie played Margy in the First National Tour of Rodgers and Hammerstein’s *State Fair*. Other performance credits include *Cinderella*, *The Sound of Music*, and *Once Upon a Mattress*, and she performs regularly in concerts and cabarets. She holds a BA in Musical Theatre Pedagogy from Otterbein University and an MFA in Theatre Pedagogy from Virginia Commonwealth University. She was the Head of Drama at Campion School, an international school in Athens, Greece, directing *Godspell*, which toured to the Edinburgh Fringe Festival. Valerie’s directing credits include *Oklahoma!*, *South Pacific*, and *Pippin* at the Weathervane Playhouse.

Julio Agustin is an assistant professor of theatre at the University of Miami. He has performed in six Broadway shows (*Chicago*, *Fosse*, *Steel Pier*) and runs a monthly audition studio in New York City, *The Transition Workshop* (JulioAgustin.com). His book *The Professional Actor’s Handbook: From Casting Call to Curtain Call* was released in February 2017 and is available through Rowman and Littlefield. Member: AEA, SAG-AFTRA, SDC, VASTA, ATHE.

Stacy Alley is Head of Musical Theatre and an Associate Professor of Musical Theatre/Dance at the University of Alabama. She is a professional director and choreographer whose teaching/artistic credits include work in Denmark, Tanzania, Norway, Scotland, and Chile and in theatres throughout the U.S. She is the Vice-President of the Musical Theatre Educators Alliance, and a member of the Southeastern Theatre Conference and SDC. Stacy received an MFA in Acting from The University of Alabama, a BA in Theatre from the University of Southern California, and is a Certified Movement Analyst through The Laban/Bartenieff Institute of Movement Studies. Stacy was recently awarded the Outstanding Commitment to Teaching Award from the University of Alabama’s National Alumni Association.

Elizabeth Ann Benson is recognized as a dynamic and versatile artist and has performed opera at Carnegie Hall, and musical theatre at Chicago’s Symphony Center. Her solo cabaret show, *Weaving Stories*, features

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songs drawn from classical art song, musical theatre, and contemporary pop/rock. At Auburn University, she is assistant professor of music theatre singing and serves as music and vocal director for the theatre department. She has published in the Journal of Singing and American Music Teacher and has presented at national conferences for The Voice Foundation, NATS, and APME. Her first book, Training Contemporary Commercial Singers, will be released by Compton Publishing in 2019.

Jay Berkow has served as Director of Music Theatre Performance at Western Michigan University since 2004. He is the co-author and director/choreographer of the Off-Broadway hit JOLSON & CO. published by Samuel French, Inc. His internationally produced musical, WHAT A GLORIOUS FEELING is published by Playscripts, Inc. In collaboration with composer David Ogrin, Jay is developing a musical based on the life of Mata Hari. Jay directed the Off-Broadway revival of THE RINK, as well as, RED HOT MAMA and THE LADY IN PENTHOUSE B. Regional credits include Florida Studio Theatre, Indiana Repertory, Playhouse on the Square, Adirondack Theatre Festival, Gateway Playhouse, Virginia Repertory, Connecticut Repertory, Coconut Grove Playhouse, American Stage, Florida Rep, the Burt Reynolds Theatre, Riverside Theatre, Circa '21, and many others.

Brenda Braxton starred as Velma Kelly opposite Usher in Broadway's hit musical Chicago. Prior to that, she was featured on Broadway in the musical revue Smokey Joe's Cafe, that earned her a 1995 Tony Award nomination, the NAACP Theater Award, the city of Chicago's Jefferson Award and a Grammy Award for Best Cast Album. Other Broadway credits include Jelly's Last Jam, Cats, Legs Diamond and the original production of Dreamgirls. She received the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s Living the Dream Award given by New York Gov. George Pataki and the Josephine Baker Award from the National Council of Negro Women for her work as founder of Leading Ladies Just for Teens, seminars geared to empowering teenage girls. Brenda is the author of "The Little Black Book of Broadway Etiquette."

Marc Bruni who helmed Broadway's Beautiful: The Carole King Musical will be directing The Music Man at The Kennedy Center. Bruni's directing credits include well received revivals of Pipe Dream and Fanny for the NY City Center Encores! series, The Explorers Club (Manhattan Theater Club), The Sound of Music (Lyric Opera of Chicago), Old Jews Telling Jokes (Westside Theatre and Royal George in Chicago), Ordinary Days (Roundabout Underground), Nerds (NC Theatre), Irving Berlin's White Christmas (Paper Mill Playhouse), The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Paper Mill Playhouse and Philadelphia Theatre Company), and many shows for the St. Louis MUNY including The Music Man and The Sound of Music (Kevin Kline Nominations). He has been associate director on numerous Broadway productions and tours.

Meg Bussert is a Music Associate Professor at NYU Steinhardt teaching acting and musical theatre studies. Meg is a founding member of MTEA, former officer and site host for NYC conferences. She is an active member of Actors Equity Association, a Tony Nominee, a Theatre World Award winner. As a specialist in the Michael Chekhov approach to acting. Meg presents a series of workshops on focused on these tools and the singing actor.

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David Chase is a Broadway Music Supervisor, Music Director, Conductor, and Arranger. His most recent Broadway Dance Arrangements include Tootsie, Kiss Me, Kate, Carousel, Frozen, Anastasia, Hello, Dolly!, and Tuck Everlasting. Broadway (Music Director/Supervisor): How To Succeed...Business, Billy Elliot, The Pajama Game, Flower Drum Song, The Music Man, Side Show, Little Me, Damn Yankees. London (Dance Arranger): Evita, Guys and Dolls. Additional credits include Conductor at the Lyric Opera of Chicago (Carousel, The King & I, and My Fair Lady), arrangements for the Boston Pops, The Kennedy Center Honors, and Radio City. Chase's television and film credits include Beyond the Sea, Peter Pan Live!, and The Sound of Music Live! David has a degree in Biology from Harvard.

David Coolidge (AEA): Associate Professor, Director of Musical Theatre at Anderson University (IN), certified Master Teacher in Archetypes for Singers and Actors, specializations in New Works and Acting Through Song. Freelance Content Creator and Script Writer with SPASIGMA, providing cutting edge business training by combining education and entertainment. Former Assistant Artistic Director, TheatreworksUSA, director of six national tours. Performer: Broadway National tour: Parade; Regional: Milwaukee Repertory Theatre, Deaf West Theatre, St. Louis MUNY, Huntington Theatre, Triad Stage, Abingdon Theatre Company, Stamford Theatreworks, Clinton Showboat Theatre and Musical Theatre West. BFA in Musical Theatre, Cincinnati Conservatory of Music (CCM); MFA in Acting, University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Meghan Cornett-Mayes is a NYC based professional flautist, music educator, and yoga instructor. She currently teaches in public schools in Queens through the non-profit organization Education Through Music, which seeks to bring music programs into under-privileged schools. Meghan is also a Yoga Alliance certified vinyasa yoga instructor. She teaches private and group yoga, as well as children's yoga. With a passion for helping other artists create balance and peace in their lives, Meghan advocates a variety of methods for achieving balance through mindfulness, spirituality, and yoga. www.spiritandsounds.com
[@spiritandsounds](https://www.instagram.com/spiritandsounds)

Katie Donovan is an Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre and Head of the Musical Theatre Major at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia. She is a proud graduate of San Diego State University's MFA in Musical Theatre program, an alumnus of Villanova University (MA in Theatre, dramaturgy focus) and The University of the Arts (BFA in Musical Theatre).

Jeremiah Downes currently serves as Assistant Professor of Theatre and Head of Voice for Musical Theatre, and is the Director of Theatre at Summer at Sem: Creative Arts on the campus of Wyoming Seminary in Northeastern, Pennsylvania. He spent over 15 years as a professional singing actor appearing on stage in leading roles, world premieres and alongside some of Broadway's finest both in New York and regionally. A sought-after teacher, master class clinician and coach of vocal technique, song interpretation and performance, he continues to maintain a studio in New York City and Philadelphia where his clients have

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found success on Broadway, in film and on television, in opera houses and recording studios. For more, www.jeremiahdownes.com.

Timothy Ellis is a Lecturer in Musical Theatre Dance at University of Miami. He served as a Visiting Professor at University of Central Florida and Guest Artist at LaGrange College (GA). He appeared on Broadway in *Annie Get Your Gun*; the national tours of *Show Boat* and *Best Little Whorehouse in Texas*; and a European tour of *Evita*.

Jonathan Flom was Head of Musical Theatre at Shenandoah Conservatory for 9 years. He also spent 18 months living in Northern Europe in 2016-17, where he served as Head of Acting at Oslo's Bårdar Akademiet for a year and as a guest lecturer and educational consultant at The Danish Academy of Musical Theatre in Fredericia, Denmark. While living in Norway, he and a partner created Lampelys Produksjoner (Lamplight Productions) a musical theatre production company dedicated to developing new works for the Norwegian market. He is the author of two books, *Get the Callback: The Art of Auditioning for Musical Theatre* and *Act Like It's Your Business: Branding and Marketing Strategies for Actors*. He currently lives in Los Angeles where he teaches at El Camino College, coaches high school students who are preparing to audition for college, and performs as the Hogwarts Express Conductor at Universal Studios Hollywood's Wizarding World of Harry Potter.

André Garner is currently an Assistant Professor of Acting at Ball State University. As an actor, André has performed on stages all over the world. His Broadway credits include *How The Grinch Stole Christmas*, *The Music Man* (Susan Stroman, dir.), *Marie Christine* (starring Audra McDonald), and *Grease* (Teen Angel). Off-Broadway, he starred as the title character in Langston Hughes' *Little Ham*, as well as *From My Hometown*. André appeared in the national touring productions of *The Color Purple*, *Dreamgirls*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, and *Miss Saigon*. Internationally, he toured with the European and Asian companies of *A Chorus Line*. André's article, *Reality TV Takes Broadway Down A Discordant Path*, was published by the Voice and Speech Review in 2016.

Charles Gilbert is an composer, director, writer and educator who has spent over forty years making provocative original work for the musical stage and training young artists for professional careers in musical theater. He headed the Musical Theater Program at The University of the Arts in Philadelphia from its inception in 1990 until 2008, and served from 2008 to 2013 as Director of Theater Arts at UArts. One of the original founders of MTEA, he has served as President and Treasurer of the organization and has previously presented in conferences at WAAPA (Perth), Bardar (Oslo) and Wright State (Dayton OH). His book *The SAVI Singing Actor* will be published this summer. www.savisingingactor.com

Thomas Gregg has been a member of MTEA since 2015. He has appeared as tenor soloist with many opera, orchestral and choral groups, and as chorister with several distinguished ensembles. He has performed with professional early music ensembles, and enjoys an active career in recitals and chamber music. He has

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worked closely with a number of composers to present new vocal works. He has won numerous performance and academic awards and holds voice degrees from The Ohio State University (DMA), the University of Michigan (MM), and Capital University (BM). He is a Professor of voice at the Boston Conservatory at Berklee, and his former students have careers as professional singers, actors, voice teachers, and music educators.

Gregory Harrell is an Associate Professor of Voice at Baldwin Wallace Conservatory and has run a successful private voice studio for 25+ years. His students have performed in over three dozen Broadway shows and in as many National Tours. As an operatic baritone, he sang at New York City Opera, Carnegie Hall, Avery Fisher Hall, Kennedy Center, Opera Orchestra of New York, and Washington National Opera. As a musical theatre artist, Greg has performed Off-Broadway at the Vineyard Theatre, Playwrights Horizons, and York Theatre and in cabarets at Joe's Pub, the Producers Club, and Don't Tell Mama. Greg was also Senior Director of Operations for Nickelodeon's, Nick @ Nite's, and TV Land's internal advertising department for a dozen years and has run his own web design company.

Franz Jones is an actor/director/writer currently living in Brooklyn, New York. He was on Broadway in the original production of Roger Miller's "Big River" as Bill. Off-Broadway he has appeared at such theatres as Cafe LaMaMa, Playwrights Horizons, Soho Rep in "Hamlet" as The Player King, New Media Repertory in "The Seagull" as Medvedenko, The Shakespeare Project in "Coriolanus" as Menenius and the Lion Theatre. He appeared in two premieres, "Jumpin' At The Oval Office" as Thomas "Fats" Waller, and the "modern" world premiere of "Cardenio" as The Stormtrooper. He has worked in a great number of regional theatres as well including The Rep at Delaware, Tulsa Rep, the Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival, and Barrington Stage Company. Mr. Jones was resident teaching artist/guest artist at Cornell University and also taught acting for two years in a program through The New York State Council for the Arts at the Alpha/Omega Theatrical Dance Company.

Laura Josepher is a director, audition coach, and author. With partner David Sisco, she runs ContemporaryMusicalTheatre.com. Directing credits: GODSPELL and THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE for the American Musical Theatre Academy, SEARCHING FOR ROMEO at NYMF, Tom Gualtieri and David Sisco's FALLING TO EARTH at Syracuse University. At Stages in Houston: DIRTY BLONDE, THE TURN OF THE SCREW and I LOVE YOU, YOU'RE PERFECT, NOW CHANGE. For Rattlestick: WINNING and CAR POOL. She has been a Guest Artist/Adjunct Faculty at Marymount Manhattan College, Syracuse University, and Fordham University. Laura has a Master of Arts in Educational Theatre, and a Bachelor of Music, both from New York University. She is a member of SDC and the Lincoln Center Directors Lab. www.laurajosepher.com

Jane Jourdan is the founder of Fit for Broadway, a lifestyle brand which focuses on the unique combination of fitness, health & Broadway. Fit for Broadway has expanded from online content to Events & Workshops, Apparel, and a growing community online and in New York City. Fit for Broadway has featured hundreds

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of Broadway performers who each endorse the Fit for Broadway lifestyle in unique ways, offering inspiration for positive and healthy living. Jane loves being a catalyst for meaningful conversations to inspire the next generation of performers and artists. Bridging the gap between the industry's top professionals and aspiring performers as well as creating a dialogue about wellness is Jane's greatest mission through Fit for Broadway. www.fitforbroadway.com

Alan Patrick Kenny is a theatre director, musician, producer, and educator. He is serving his first year as the Head of Musical Theater at Ohio University, and is leading the creation and development of OHIO's new BFA in Performance – Musical Theater track in the Division of Theater, which begins its first cohort of students in the Fall of 2019. He also served as musical director and electronic music designer for OHIO's recent production of Cabaret. Alan comes to OHIO with a distinguished record, most recently serving as the BFA Musical Theatre program Coordinator and tenured Associate Professor at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, where he directed *Metamorphoses*, *Dogfight*, *On the Twentieth Century*, *Carousel*, and *The Producers*, and music directed *Monty Python's Spamalot*, *How to Succeed...*, *...Spelling Bee*, *Next to Normal*, and *Lucky Stiff*. alanpatrickkenny.com

Christie Kerr is an Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre at The University of Arizona in Tucson. Prior to this, she lived in Chicago, IL where she was Adjunct Professor at Columbia College, Chicago. She has worked throughout the country as a Director, Choreographer, Teacher and Performer. A graduate of The University of Michigan, Christie holds a BFA Degree in Musical Theatre Performance and is a member of SDC.

Brian Kremer (he/him) is Assistant Professor of Voice and Music Theatre at Elon University. He vocal coaches musical productions and teaches courses in voice, specializing in contemporary singing and performance styles including music theatre, rock, pop, jazz, country, R&B, and Hip-Hop. Mr. Kremer is co-author of "The Singing Teacher's Guide to Transgender Voices", the first comprehensive resource developed for the training of transgender and nonbinary singers. www.kremervoice.design.com

Andrew Barratt Lewis is an Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre at Weber State University where he specializes in Musical Theatre Acting, Voice, and History. He earned an MFA in Musical Theatre from the University of Central Florida and has previously taught at West Texas A&M University and Northwestern State University of Louisiana. He served for five years as the Musical Theatre Initiative Coordinator and as a member of the Region VI Committee for the Kennedy Center American College Theatre Festival. He is currently on the Executive Board for the Musical Theatre Educators' Alliance. In 2017, his production of *Brooklyn: the musical* received six National KCACTF Awards including Distinguished Director of a Musical and Distinguished Production of a Musical. www.andrewbarrattlewis.com

Joe Mason is an Assistant Professor in Theatre/Musical Theatre Voice at Valdosta State University. He has been active as an actor, vocal director, music director, and educator throughout the country. Joe has been

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fortunate to work with such theatres and companies as Jackson Hole Playhouse, Lagoon Theme Park, Busch Gardens Entertainment, Tuacahn Amphitheatre, Robert Redford's Sundance, Disney Theatricals (The Lion King), Boston Theatre Marathon, Walnut Hill School, and North Shore Music Theatre. He has most recently participated as an actor and vocal director for Peach State Summer Theatre during their last few repertory seasons.

Sean Mayes is a New York & Toronto-based musical director, educator, performer and academic. He is a proud Teaching Artist with Disney Theatrical Group, as well as with the New York Pops & New York City Center. In higher education, Sean frequents at Sheridan College in Canada (incubator of new musicals such as Come From Away) and the Randolph Academy for Performing Arts. Sean serves as Director of Music at the Fourth Universalist Society of New York City, and additionally enjoys a schedule of vocal coaching, arranging, orchestrating and publishing. Past work includes time on London's West End. Upcoming work includes work as conductor of the Canadian premiere of The Color Purple, as well as publication in an upcoming book through Palgrave Macmillan in the UK. www.seanmayesmusic.com @SeanMayesMD

Valerie Maze (AFM), Music Director/Conductor, Elon University. Music Theatre Initiative Lyric Opera of Chicago: Assistant Conductor, Carousel, Showboat, My Fair Lady, The King & I, The Sound of Music; Chorus Master/Assistant Conductor, Oklahoma! Chicago credits: Goodman Theatre (Brigadoon), Chicago Shakespeare Theater (Gypsy, Follies, The Little Mermaid), Writer's Theatre (A Little Night Music, Jeff Award nomination), Drury Lane Theatre (White Christmas), Apple Tree Theatre, Theater at the Center (Cat's, After Dark Award). Regional: Peninsula Players, Wagon Wheel Theatre, Portland Opera, Indianapolis Opera, Harrisburg Opera Association, Utah Festival Opera and Musical Theatre and California Opera. She is a graduate of Anderson University and the Cincinnati College Conservatory of Music.

Kimberly Moller earned her M.M. in Vocal Performance/Pedagogy from Boston University, and her MFA at San Diego State University in Musical Theatre. Recent music directing credits include Bring it On with San Diego Musical Theatre, and San Diego's Off-Broadway Theater Company's Heathers, and she co-directed a production of Edges at SDSU. Career highlights include performing with various northeast regional theatre and opera companies and touring as a soloist with the Boston Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Keith Lockhart, and performing with Kristin Chenoweth this year at The Music Box in San Diego. She has been teaching voice professionally for 10 years. See kimberlymoller.com for more information.

Amanda Wansa Morgan serves as Coordinator of Musical Theatre & Assistant Professor at Kennesaw State University where she teaches classes in musical theatre performance, voice, MT history and literature. She previously taught at The University of Mississippi (Ole Miss). Amanda has an MFA in Acting from the University of Central Florida, undergraduate degrees from Florida State, and is a 2018 Suzi Bass Award winner for her music direction of The Color Purple. She has professionally music directed at The Alliance Theatre, Six Flags Over Georgia, Atlanta Lyric Theater, Actors Express, Synchronicity Theater, Charleston Stage, Post Playhouse, and Osceola Center for the Arts. www.amandawansamorgan.com.

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Geoffrey Reynolds is as an actor and director/choreographer of musical theatre whose professional credits revolve around both the commercial and nonprofit sectors. His artistic work has been seen on both coasts as well as internationally. Prior to graduate studies and position at Valdosta State University, Geoffrey worked for five years as program director in secondary education and for ten years of directing community musical theatre programming. Geoffrey has a BFA in Musical Theatre and a BA in Theatre Education from Brigham Young University and an MFA in Musical Theatre from The Boston Conservatory. He is currently working on writing and developing new musical theatre content and is a proud member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society.

Sheri Sanders wrote the first book on the new relationship between popular music and Musical Theatre (Hal Leonard books). This book, *Rock the Audition: How to Prepare for and Get Cast in Musicals*, brought her to 69 Musical Theatre programs in 7 years providing the skills to successfully research, prepare and perform all styles of popular music currently represented on Broadway. 2 1/2 years ago, Sheri created an Online Pop/Rock Musical Theatre Training Program, which makes it possible for individual professional performers and coaches, entire Musical Theatre programs, and now teens-to study directly with Sheri. She arranges audition cuts on Musicnotes and her Second Edition will be self-published and out Summer 2019! www.rock-the-audition.com

Sam Scalamoni is a director who is inspired to tell great stories that move audiences. He is based in New York and his work has been seen by audiences across the United States and worldwide. Sam is the director of the critically acclaimed National Tours of *Elf the Musical* which has had thirteen companies across seven years playing The Theatre at Madison Square Garden and the Kennedy Center. Sam is currently developing a new musical, *A Thousand Faces*, based on the life of film legend Lon Chaney, the musical *Unbelievable*, about American baseball legend Jackie Mitchell and a stage adaptation of the MGM musical *Summer Stock*. In 2018 Sam directed the world premiere national tour of the new musical *Noel* with book by best-selling author of the *Artemis Fowl* book series, Eoin Colfer. He is a founding member and currently serves as the Artistic Director of Skyline Theatre Company, a professional non-profit theatre company in New Jersey.

David Sisco is a freelance voice teacher, who lectures nationally and internationally. He has presented at NATS, MTEA, and ICVT Conferences and most recently was a keynote speaker at the ANATS Conference in Leura, Australia. With collaborators Tom Gualtieri and Michael Zam ("Feud"), David is working on a musical adaptation of Henry James' *Wings of the Dove*. He also musical directs, is a commissioned composer, and every once in a while takes the stage himself. He is the Founder and President of ContemporaryMusical-Theatre.com, the largest online database of contemporary writers and songs. David co-authored "Mastering College Musical Auditions" with business partner Laura Josepher. davidsisco.com

Tara Snyder is a MT Voice Specialist and Associate Professor for Theatre UCF. Her area of expertise is musical theatre, with an emphasis on the singing voice and related research in vocal health and stage violence. Tara has presented on these topics at conferences from New York City to Harvard University to Styria,

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Austria. Recent favorite roles include directing, producing, and singing in a ReuKnighted: UCF Sings 50 Years of Hits at the internationally known Feinstein's/54 Below in New York City, Rose in Gypsy, and Miss Knag/Mrs. Wittiterly in only the 7th production of the stage epic The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby at the Orlando Shakespeare Theater. Tara is one of only 35 Estill Mentor & Course Instructors in the world with Estill Voice International. Tara is also an Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors' holding certifications in 5 weapons. www.tarasnyderonline.com, Instagram/Twitter: taradsnyder

Steven Sparling is a Canadian/British performer, teacher and academic. As a performer, he has appeared in London's West End and off-West End as well as at regional theatres across the UK and Canada. He was on the faculty of the London College of Music from 2010-2018 and was the Head of the Musical Theatre program from 2015-2018. Besides teaching in Canada and the UK, he has been invited to deliver masterclasses and guest lectures in Holland, Lithuania and South Africa. Currently, he is an adjunct professor at Sheridan College and is completing his PhD at Goldsmiths, University of London looking at barriers to sustainability in creative careers.

Ryan Stana was named one of the top fifty entrepreneurs in New York City and is the Founder and CEO of EMMY® Award winning RWS Entertainment Group, creating memorable entertainment, events and brand experiences since 2003. RWS has produced award-winning productions and brand experiences for top resorts, cruise lines, theme parks and NYC fashion events while sustaining an impressive roster of clients that include Hard Rock Resorts, Prada, Cedar Fair, Hershey Entertainment and Resorts, Westfield, Macy's, Vera Wang, Mattel, and more. The company has also recently acquired 12 time Artios Award-winning, Binder Casting, a top Broadway, film and TV casting firm. Ryan holds a BFA from the prestigious University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music and Point Park University where he serves on the Board of Trustees.

Justin Stoney is the Founder of New York Vocal Coaching and is one of leading Voice Teachers in today's music industry. He has worked with thousands of singers in New York along with students from over 60 countries. Justin's pop/rock/R&B clients have reached #1 on Billboard Charts, have had international radio airplay, and have signed with major record labels including Universal, Sony, EMI, and Disney Records. Justin's clients have included Tony-Winning, Emmy-Winning, and Oscar-Nominated artists. Justin has made numerous media appearances including NBC Today Show, ABC, CBS, MTV, Fox News, and Huffington Post Live. His teaching has been featured in publications such as Esquire Magazine, Newsweek/The Daily Beast, SELF, NME, Fox News Magazine, Discovery News, Medical Daily, UK's Daily Mail, Tech Times, and Backstage Magazine.

Tim Threlfall is currently in rehearsal for the regional/university premiere of Frank Wildhorn's WONDERLAND. BYU's Music Dance Theatre program that Tim heads, has an on-going relationship with Mr. Wildhorn and Frank has once again been a part of the rehearsal process for WONDERLAND at BYU

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with a newly re-worked script and additional songs. This coming summer season, Tim will direct his 14th production at Tuacahn Amphitheatre in St. George, UT. Last year, Tim directed the US premiere of the stage version of CHARIOTS OF FIRE.

Amy Uhl is an Associate Professor & Coordinator of the Musical Theatre Program at Columbia College Chicago. She has also taught at Ithaca, Wagner College, and numerous studios nationwide. She spent 20 years in NYC working in musical theatre and continues to work nationally as a Director/Choreographer. Recent credits: Associate Director, National Tour of Amazing Grace; Assistant for the Broadway/Chicago production. AEA/SDC member www.amyuhl.com.

Shorey Walker Since 2009 her work as a Career Coach has led hundreds of actors to secure auditions, book work, and freelance or sign with a Talent Agent or Personal Manager. Over the years, Shorey produced NYC College Senior Showcases and Workshops for over 30 different Universities from the US and UK. Shorey is also a working actor in Theatre, Commercials, Hosting, Industrials, TV & Film. Pursuing a career in New York City since 1992, Shorey performed in 8 Broadway National Tours, 13 years in a row of summer stock, 20+ regional theatre productions, 10+ Off-Broadway credits including the 2018 production of Tchaikovsky: None But the Lonely Heart at the Signature Theatre and can be heard as The Cat In the Hat on the revival recording of Seussical. Recent TV appearances include White Collar, Diabolical, Redrum, One Life To Live, The Eric Andrew Show, Sprout TV and Deadly Sins.

Debra Wanger is a teacher, singing actor, certified wellness coach, and best-selling author. She facilitates actors' health & wellness workshops at universities around the country. Debra attended CCM, has a BA from Tufts and MFA in musical theatre from San Diego State. She taught at SDSU and began a drama program at The Children's School in La Jolla, CA. As a talent manager and at CAA under super-agent Michael Ovitz, she helped to guide the careers of such talents as Donald Sutherland, Jane Alexander, and Antonio Banderas. Debra has won Billie, Pate, and AASD Festival Awards for her one-woman show, My Nights with George, Kurt & Cole. She is a Resident Artist at Cygnet Theatre where she will appear next in Angels in America. Her CD and books are available on Amazon and iTunes. www.DebraWanger.com

Simon Ward is an actor, singer and psychologist. He trained in Musical Theatre & voice at the Royal Academy of Music & with the Actors Centre Australia. He has performed in London's West End & throughout Australia. Simon is a Member of the Australian Psychological Society, a Chartered Psychologist & Associate Fellow of the British Psychological Society, a Fellow of the Royal Society for the Arts, a member of the Australian National Association of Teachers of Singing, of the Music Theatre Educators Alliance, Equity UK & MEAA Equity Australia. Simon is also a member of the MEAA Equity Wellness Committee. He worked as a Clinical Psychologist in the NSW Health Department & in private practice. Simon taught on Federation University's Music Theatre degree in Sydney, teaches on the music programs at TAFENSW & on the Bachelor Degree programs in musical theatre/dance at AMPA & has a private singing studio. www.nomiz.org

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Bruce Winant is an actor/singer/educator/voice casting director working in the NYC area. Bruce has appeared in 9 Broadway shows, *An American In Paris*, *Chicago*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *Ragtime*, *La Cage Aux Folles*, *Fiddler on the Roof*, *Les Miserables*, *Miss Saigon*, and *My Favorite Year* as well as countless regional and Off-Broadway productions. As a voice over artist, Bruce can be heard in films such as “Ice Age”, “Robots”, “Underdogs”, “The Guardian Brothers”, “Arabian Knight” and more. As a teacher, Bruce has taught master classes and workshops in schools and colleges across the country. Bruce is also co-owner of *Loopers Unlimited*, an ADR Voice Casting company, which does the casting of all talent, coordination and directing of post-production voice performance in feature films and television productions.

Scott Coulter has received five MAC Awards, five Bistro Awards and two Nightlife Awards for Outstanding Vocalist and was director/star of *A Christmas Carol: The Concert* in its world premiere with the Baltimore Symphony, reprising his performer role in the Emmy-nominated PBS production. He’s an Emmy nominee himself for *American Song* on PBS and regularly performs in concert around the world with legendary artists including Stephen Schwartz and Sheena Easton. He’s the creator/director of several touring shows including *Music of the Knights*, *Blockbuster Broadway!*, and, for The ASCAP Foundation, *Jerry Herman: The Broadway Legacy Concert*. Along with Michael Kerker and ASCAP, he’s a regular producer/director of *Michael Feinstein’s Standard Time* at Carnegie Hall. Scott is founder/owner of *Spot-On Entertainment* (www.Spot-OnEntertainment.com) and a resident director of programming at *54 Below*. He was recently named artistic director of the *Pocono Mountain Music Festival* and is a graduate of the *Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music*.

Diane King graduated university in South Africa, majoring in Marketing and Psychology. Shortly after moving to New York 20 years ago, Diane began her career as an administrator at Broadway Dance Center. Her educational background has served her well in marrying the business of running a dance studio and honoring art and education. In 2017, Diane was excited to open a second Broadway Dance Center for children and teens.

Reese Snow is originally from West Hartford, CT. He fell in love with musical theater and dance when he took his first tap and acrobatics class at the age of five. He went on to study engineering, architecture, and dance at Cornell and Harvard Universities, where he was also actively involved with the dance and theater departments, as well as co-ed a cappella singing group, and performed in more than 30 student productions and concerts. Reese came to Broadway Dance Center after being awarded the prestigious *Richard Ellner Dance Scholarship* and has been serving as BDC's Assoc. Executive Director since 2007. Prior to joining the BDC staff, he was a Project Manager for an inter-faculty think tank at Harvard University. He has been a proud member of the Actor's Equity Association since 1998.

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Emily Collin began her dance training in all styles at a young age in her hometown of Paducah, Kentucky. She eventually furthered her dance education by graduating from Arizona State University with a BFA in Dance Performance and was lucky to perform with Aaron McGloin dance, Conder/dance, and teach for Universal Dance Association during her time there. Emily is currently the Director of Education at Broadway Dance Center as well as a NASM certified personal trainer at a boutique fitness studio in New York.

Lizzie Smith received a Master of Arts in Musical Theatre from the Guildford School of Acting at the University of Surrey, and a BFA in Theater Arts Performance from Hofstra University. She is currently the Marketing Manager for Broadway Dance Center, where she also enjoys teaching Lastics, a stretch technique created by Donna Flagg.

April Cook received a BA in both Journalism and Psychology from The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. During her years there, she earned varsity letters for crew and fencing and was an active member of several UNC dance organizations. She later went on to study tap dance with Gene Medler at Duke University. April joined the staff of Broadway Dance Center in 2002, and is currently the Director of Public Relations as well as a full-time member of BDC's tap faculty.

Tony Howell is a brand strategist for Emmy, Grammy, Tony, Oscar, and Olivier award-winning artists. His work has been featured by Google, Squarespace, SAG-AFTRA, Actors' Equity Association, and more. Before becoming an entrepreneur, he was an actor for 20+ years—performing on Broadway, Off-Broadway, National Tours, and more. In addition weekly free content and scholarships to his quarterly programs, Tony donates a percentage of profits to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and 100% of all the profits from his book, Artists to Artist to the ACLU. Learn more at TonyHowell.me.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

LYNN AHRENS

Lynn Ahrens won Tony, Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle Awards and received two Grammy nominations for the score of Broadway's Ragtime. For Twentieth Century Fox's animated feature film Anastasia, she was nominated for two Academy Awards and two Golden Globes. In 2014, she and longtime collaborator Stephen Flaherty received the Oscar Hammerstein Award for Lifetime Achievement, and in 2015 they were inducted into the Theater Hall of Fame. She is currently represented on Broadway by two hit shows- the revival of Once On This Island, for which she wrote both book and lyrics, and the stage adaptation of Anastasia. Other Broadway and off-Broadway credits include Seussical (Grammy nomination, one of the most performed shows in America); My Favorite Year; Chita Rivera-The Dancer's Life; Rocky; Lincoln Center Theater's Dessa Rose, The Glorious Ones (both Drama Desk-nominated) and A Man of No Importance (Outer Critics Circle Award, Best Musical); Lucky Stiff; Little Dancer (Kennedy Center); and Madison Square Garden's A Christmas Carol, with composer Alan Menken. Film and television credits include A Christmas Carol (teleplay, NBC-TV); Camp (IFC films); Lucky Stiff; Schoolhouse Rock (ABC-TV). Emmy Award and four Emmy nominations, Lilly Award for Lyrics. Council, Dramatists Guild of America; co-founder, Dramatists Guild Fellows Program. www.ahrensandflaherty.com

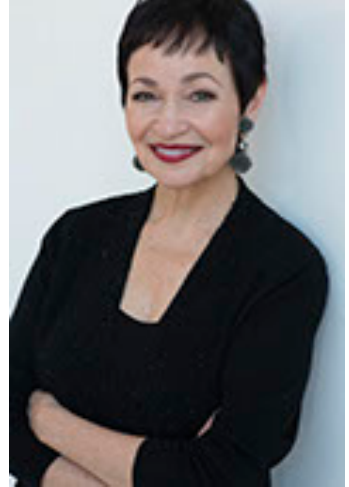


Photo: Nathan Johnson