

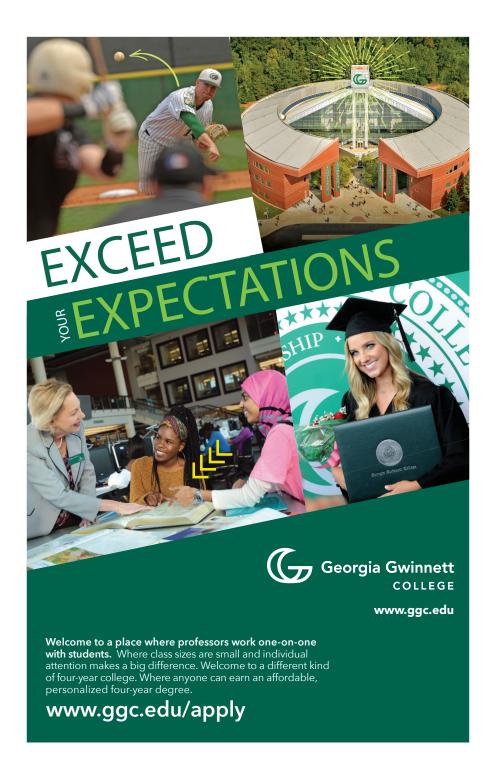
SEPTEMBER 19 - OCTOBER 20

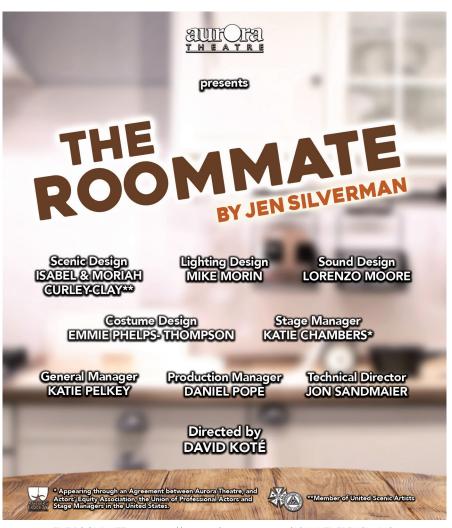
ROGMATE BY JEN SILVERMAN DIRECTED BY DAVID KOTÉ



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THE ROOMMATE is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

THE ROOMMATE was produced by Williamstown Theatre Festival in July 2017 Mandy Greenfield, Artistic Director

World Premiere in the 2015 Humana Festival of New American Plays at ACTORS THEATRE OF LOUISVILLE. THE ROOMMATE was developed in part with assistance from SPACE on Ryder Farm (spaceonryderfarm.com)





























Aurora Theatre, Inc. is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and receives support through grants and/or membership opportunities from the above organizations.

WHAT ARE YOU?

TEACHER? GARDENER? ACCOUNTANT? POTTER? NEIGHBOR? MOTHER? ROOMMATE?

The Roommate explores the specific words people choose to label themselves "...because it's easier than not having words." But as Robyn explains to Sharon, "It doesn't mean those words are all accurate all the time."

Surrounded by a vibrant company of artists, and an energetic Apprentice Company, I often just define myself as OLD. We encourage each of our staff members to be fearless leaders - EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY. We expect excellence all the time. We need each person who works here to solve a multitude of problems every day. After all, Anthony and I founded Aurora Theatre when we were 30 years old. and as many of us know, when we are in our thirties, we have time, we have energy, we have NO LIMITS.

Believe me, when you ask young people to lead, they will. Justin Anderson, our Associate Artistic Director, is a great leader. He is an avid reader. He is a professor. He is an incredible director - quite possibly the best in the region. Yet, he chooses Aurora Theatre as his theatrical home. Katie Pelkey, our General Manager, has been preparing for this job for over 10 years. She began her professional career at Aurora Theatre as a stage manager, moved to Company Manager, and never batted an eye when we promoted her to General Manager a month ago. But she's not just a GM. She is a mom. She is a wife. She is frugal. And although Katie is NOT a hugger, she is thoughtful, loving and kind. As we make artistic space for David Koté, director of *The Roommate* and new to our staff, I wonder how he defines himself. And I look forward to the great art he will create both at Aurora Theatre and on stages all over the world.

So... we ask again: WHAT ARE YOU?

When Anthony defines himself, he says: producer, connector, partner, artist, Bella's daddy, colleague, and friend. And when I define myself, I say: musician, woman, mentor, only child, outspoken, advocate....and tired. I am so thankful there is a playwright like Jen Silverman who gives me hope that my story is worth telling.

A Million Thanks, Anthony & Ann-Carol

Anthony Rodriguez
Producing Artistic Director/Co-Founder

Ann-Carol Pence
Associate Producer/Co-Founder

Bella Rodriguez Barx Office Manager



THANK YOU!

to those who have made very special contributions to our production:

Letha Kelly • Richard Kennedy • Aurora Theatre Volunteer Guild

CAST

Sharon	. TERRY BURRELL*
RobynMEG	AN MCFARLAND*

PRODUCTION STAFF

1 110 2 0 0 1 1 0 11	
Producing Artistic Director/Co-Founder	ANN-CAROL PENCE
Resident Stage Manager	KATIE ERIN CHAMBERS*
Assistant Technical Director	SARAH THOMSON
Technical Theatre Apprentice	NICOLE KISS

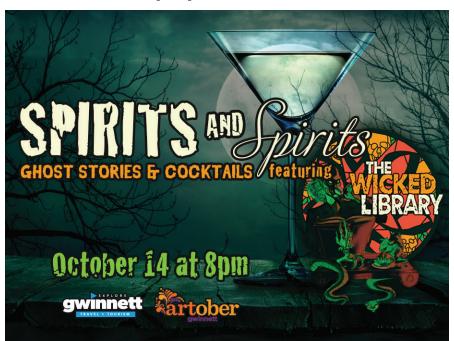
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*Appreating through and agreement between Aurora Theatre, and Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the US.



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U P T H E H I L L

PRODUCTIONS



CAST BIOGRAPHIES



TERRY BURRELL* (Sharon) is looking forward to making her debut with the Aurora Theatre. Atlanta credits include: Ethel, A Christmas Carol, Jar the Floor, Women of Brewster Place, Hospice/Pointing at the Moon, Cinderella and Fella, Candide, Ever After, Angry Raucous and Shamelessly Gorgeous (Alliance) Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill, Brownie Points (Theatrical Outfit) Crowns, Black Nativity

(Southwest Arts) Da Kink in My Hair (Horizon) Broadway Credit: Thoroughly Modern Millie, Three Penny Opera, Swinging on a Star, Into the Woods, Honky Tonk Nights, Dreamgirls, Eubie. Off Broadway: Almost Heaven (Promendade) The World Goes Round (West Side Arts) Other Credits: Newsies, The Wiz (Sacramento Music Circus) Oklahoma! (Goodspeed) Thunder Knocking at the Door (Cincinnati Playhouse) Mahalia (Cleveland Playhouse) Showboat (London) Copacabana (Pittsburgh Civic). Dedicated to the memories of Jim and Sybil Burrell and Janet Moses.



MEGAN MCFARLAND* (Robyn) was Gladys in Aurora Theatre and Theatrical Outfit's *Memphis*, for which she won the Suzi Bass Award, Outstanding Supporting Actress in a Musical. She has performed with The Alliance, Theatrical Outfit, Georgia Ensemble, Georgia Shakespeare, The Shakespeare Tavern, Coconut Grove Playhouse, Virginia Stage, Theatre Emory, and ages ago at Showcase

Cabaret and Upstairs Gene and Gabes. Most recently, Megan was Aunt Edith for the Georgia Lottery; as Aunt Edith, she has an EP, performed at the Hawks Arena, Mercedes Benz Stadium and the Atlanta Winterfest. Her film/tv/web series credits include: BLIND TRUST, THE OFFSPRING, NIGHT ON THE LAM, "Macgyver", "Skin Deep", (and two films she's not sure she can talk about yet). For Converse Opera's Suor Angelica, Dido and Aneas, Così fan Tutte, and The Mikado, Megan was the scenic artist.

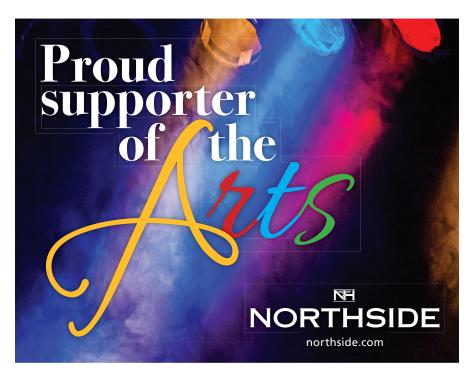


LUNA MANELA (Robyn u/s) is thrilled to be making her Aurora Theatre debut as a member of this year's apprentice company. A proud graduate of New York University's Tisch School of the Arts, she recently returned to Atlanta after living and learning abroad. Thank you for supporting an environment where creativity and the arts can thrive.



SARAH NATHANSON (Sharon u/s) is a graduate of Oberlin College & Conservatory where she earned a B.A. in Theatre with a concentration in Acting and a minor in Dance. She spent a semester at the LaMama Experimental Theatre Club in Manhattan, where she studied devised performance art and developed her own original work. She also trained at the British American Drama Academy in London

and was a Core Company member at The Orchard Project in Saratoga Springs. Her favorite theatre credits include *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Olive Ostrovsky), *Dancing at Lughnasa* (Michael), *Fly By Night* (Miriam), and *What We Look Like* (Zoey Beckons). Sarah is thrilled to be joining AppCo 20 this season.





PRODUCTION STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

JEN SILVERMAN (Playwright) is a New York-based writer. Born in the U.S., she was raised across the U.S., Europe and Asia. Her theatre work includes The Moors (Yale Repertory Theatre premiere, off-Broadway with The Playwrights Realm, Susan Smith Blackburn finalist); The Roommate (Actor's Theatre of Louisville Humana world premiere, multiple regional productions including South Coast Rep, SF Playhouse and Williamstown Theatre Festival, upcoming at Steppenwolf); Phoebe in Winter (Off-off Broadway with Clubbed Thumb); Collective Rage: A Play in 5 Betties (Woolly Mammoth premiere); and All the Roads Home, a play with songs (Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park premiere). Jen is a member of New Dramatists, a Core Writer at the Playwrights Center in Minneapolis, an affiliated artist with SPACE on Ryder Farm, and has developed work with the O'Neill, New York Theatre Workshop, Playpenn, Portland Center Stage, The Ground Floor Residency at Berkeley Rep, and the Royal Court in London among other places. She's a two-time MacDowell fellow, recipient of a New York Foundation for the Arts grant, the Helen Merrill Award, an LMCC Fellowship, and the Yale Drama Series Award. She was the 2016-2017 Playwrights of New York (PoNY) Fellow at the Lark. Jen has a two-book deal with Random House for a collection of stories (The Island Dwellers, pub date May 1, 2018) and a novel. Education: Brown, Iowa Playwrights Workshop, Juilliard. More info: www.jensilverman.com

DAVID KOTÉ (Director of Education/Director) See Aurora Theatre Staff Biographies

KATIE ERIN CHAMBERS* (Resident Stage Manager) See Aurora Theatre Staff Biographies

ISABEL AND MORIAH CURLEY-CLAY ** (Scenic Designers) work can be seen on stages around Atlanta as well as on several regional stages. Recent designs at Aurora include: Native Gardens, Be Here Now, Maytag Virgin, I'm not Rappaport, Abigail/1702, and Clybourne Park. Other recent Atlanta area designs include: Book of Will, I Love To Eat and Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill (Theatrical Outfit), A Dolls House Part 2 (Co-Pro with Aurora), Little Shop of Horrors, Appropriate and Murder Ballad (Actors Express), The Magic Negro and Other Blackity Blackness As Told By An African American Man Who Also Happened To Be Black (Alliance Theatre), Skeleton Crew, Dot, Between Riverside and Crazy, American Buffalo, Exit, Smart People (Kenny Leon's True Colors), Nomad Motel, Citizens Market, The Cake, The Wolves, Pipeline, (Horizon Theatre). Recent Regional favorites include Two Trains Running (Triad Stage), Lumberjacks in Love, Elf, Beauty and the Beast (Penobscot Theatre Co), Top Dog/Underdog (North Carolina Black Rep.), Honor Killing, A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder, Wednesday's Child, One Man Two Guvnors, Butler (Florida Studio Theatre), Dot (The Billy Holiday Theatre NYC) Isabel and Moriah are the recipients of multiple Suzi Bass Awards and Critics' awards, Resident Scenic Designers at Horizon Theatre, Artistic Associates at Theatrical Outfit, and members of IATSE, United Scenic Artists 829.

MIKE MORIN (Lighting Designer) is a lighting designer based out of Atlanta. He is excited to be returning to the Aurora after designing this past Christmas' production of This Wonderful Life. Off-Broadway design credits include Here I Sit Broken Hearted: A Bathroom Odyssey as well as Alcestis Ascending, which also performed in Havana, Cuba. Favorite design credits include The Phantom of The Opera, Parade, Urinetown, and Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson. He is a graduate of The University of Alabama holding his MFA in Lighting Design and Technical Production. In 2014 he was selected to participate in USITT's Young Designer Forum. Currently he serves as the Technical Director and Resident Designer at Holy Innocents' Episcopal School. Website: www.MikeTMorin.com

LORENZO MOORE (Sound Designer) is a 22 year old composer, musician and actor from Atlanta, Georgia. He is an alum of Morehouse College, where he got his Bachelors Degree in Fine Arts and graduated in 2018. His love for music began at a very young age and music served as his number one medium of expression. He started producing his own music and began to release music online. His vision for music is to be able to tell stories and make statements theatrically, about where he is as a person, as well as his views on society as a whole.

EMMIE PHELPS-THOMPSON (Costume Designer) is an Atlanta-based Costume Designer who got her MFA in Costume Design from Indiana University. Her most recent design credits include *Alice in Wonderland* at Birmingham Children's Theatre, *Shenandoah* at Serenbe Playhouse, and *The Wedding Singer* with the Atlanta Lyric Theatre. In addition to Costume Design, Emmie also designs specialty projects on the costume creation and styling team at Stray Cat Strut, Atlanta (straycatstrutatl. com). More of her design work can be seen at EmmiePhelpsThompson.com

SARAH THOMSON (Scenic Painter) loves to paint and has enjoyed over 20 seasons with Aurora Theatre. In a previous life, she was the scenic artist for Casa Mañana Theatre, Casa on the Square, Fort Worth Ballet, Dallas Shakespeare in the Park, Dallas Summer Musicals and Six Flags. She has worked with Southwest Studios and Stageworks where she served as scenic artist. She is accompanied by her man of the North, Ian.

LENA ARMAS (Stage Management Apprentice) is thrilled to be making her Atlanta debut in Aurora Theatre's AppCo 2020! She is a recent graduate of Western Carolina University in North Carolina with a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Theatre with a concentration in Musical Theatre. During her time at WCU, she participated both on the stage and backstage. Most recently, she was Chip in *Beauty and the Beast*, directed by Hunter Foster, as well as the Stage Manager for *God Save Gertrude*,



directed by Ashlee Wasmund. Lena is excited to delve into another passion of hers while being surrounded by a great team of artists. She would love to thank her family, friends, Phi Mu sisters, and mentors at WCU for constantly believing in her and pushing her to be the best version of herself.

ANSLEIGH HARRISON (Costume Apprentice) is a Lawrenceville native and a recent graduate of Piedmont College with a BA in Theatre Arts. She began working with costumes during her time at Piedmont and designed several shows there, including The Shadow Box and Crimes of the Heart, as well as A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum at North Georgia Theatre. When she's not sewing or designing, Ansleigh enjoys performing, reading and watching movies. Ansleigh is very excited to join AppCo19!

NICOLE KISS (Technical Theatre Apprentice) is excited to be joining this year's Apprentice Company. She is a recent graduate from the University of West Georgia where she earned her BA in Theatre. During her time there she took on several projects including Lighting Design, and Stage Management. Some of her most recent credits include Lighting Design of *She Kills Monsters* and *Speech and Debate*.

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION ("Equity"), founded in 1913, is the U.S. labor union that represents more than 50,000 actors and stage managers. Equity seeks to foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of society and advances the careers of its members by negotiating wages, 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



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See Website for Additional Locations Throughout Gwinnett

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AURORA THEATRE STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ (Producing Artistic Director/Co-Founder) Aurora Theatre opened in the summer of 1996 and Anthony Rodriguez and Ann-Carol Pence established Aurora Theatre, Inc. as a non-profit organization in 1999. Under their leadership, the theatre grew from 120 season subscribers to the 5100 subscribers Aurora Theatre currently boasts. Aurora's success led to an ABBY Award nomination in 2002 for Arts Professional of the Year. Mr. Rodriguez's greatest accomplishment to date was the successful negotiation to relocate Aurora Theatre to downtown Lawrenceville, Georgia where it serves as the cornerstone for their revitalization. This nearly \$7.5 million complex houses 2 theatres, rehearsal space and offices and opened in the spring of 2007. Aurora's accomplishments include: Learning Library, an Educational Theatre Program, Aurora's Apprenticeship for recent college graduates, Aurora Academy and Conservatory where students learn about theatre from working professionals, Aurora's Musicals by Moonlight an annual outdoor summer concert, Cabaret and Comedy Series musical and stand-up comedy evenings between mainstage events, and Teatro Aurora, a professional Spanish-language theatre company that was created to highlight Latino cultural heritage and to help build social bridges in our community. Anthony is past Chair of Partnership Gwinnett and past Chair of the Gwinnett Chamber of Commerce, where he was the first Latino and Arts leader to serve in that position. Mr. Rodriguez is a member of Screen Actor's Guild, Duluth Rotary Club, is on the boards of NAMT (National Alliance for Musical Theatre) and TCG (Theatre Communications Group), and serves on the national steering committee for the Latinx Theatre Commons. Mr. Rodriguez is a graduate of Marist High School, the University of Georgia with a BFA in theatre, the Atlanta Regional Commission's Regional Leadership Institute



and the National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures' Leadership Institute and Advocacy Institute. Mr. Rodriguez is a Cancer Survivor and has been cancer free for 28 years.

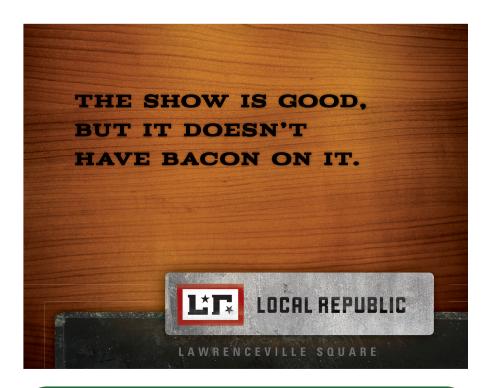
ANN-CAROL PENCE (Associate Producer/Co-Founder) arranged the music for Aurora's first Christmas Canteen in 1996 and was hired full-time in September of 1998 as Resident Musical Director. An education major at James Madison University, she used her background to develop Learning Library (or L2). As a musician, she created Aurora's Musicals by Moonlight, and Aurora's New Musical Initiative. She has performed as pianist and/or music director both nationally (Goodspeed Opera House, Pasadena Playhouse, The Cleveland Playhouse, The Kennedy Center) and locally (The Alliance, Theatrical Outfit, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, The Horizon). As a passionate citizen of Gwinnett, Ann-Carol is most proud of Aurora Theatre winning the first ever Pinnacle Award for Large Non-Profit and the first ever Moxie Award (for women led businesses). These go well with her 5 Suzi Awards for Outstanding Music Direction for The Bridges of Madison County, Les Misérables, Mary Poppins, Aurora's world premiere of Clyde 'n Bonnie: A Folktale, and A Catered Affair and multiple past nominations. Currently, Ann-Carol is a member of the National Alliance for Musical Theatre Selection Committee, reading 40-50 new musicals each year. She was a proud participant in the 2016 Atlanta Regional Leadership Institute and member of the "Best Class Ever!"

KATIE PELKEY (General Manager) is celebrating twelve seasons with Aurora! In 2013, Katie transitioned to the role of Company Manager, having previously served as Resident Stage Manager. She also created the highly-successful Stage Management and Costume Apprentice programs that operate simultaneously with Aurora's Acting Apprentice Company program. For five seasons, she worked







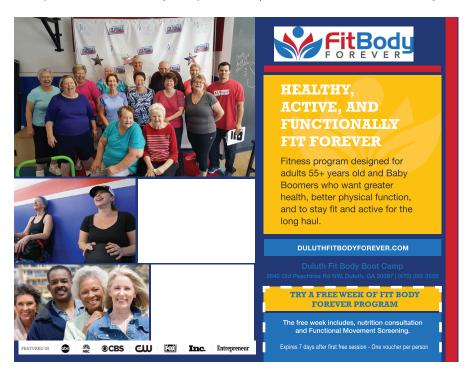




as Aurora's Educational Resources Associate developing educational curriculum for teachers to use in conjunction with Aurora's TYA Learning Library offerings. And for over a decade, Katie served as Production Stage Manager for New Plays for Young Audiences, a prestigious TYA summer staged reading series based at New York University. She received her BA in Educational Theatre from New York University with a minor in Dramatic Literature. Many thanks to Michael, Maxwell, and Alexander for their love and support!

JUSTIN ANDERSON (Associate Artistic Director) has served as Aurora Theatre's Associate Artistic Director since 2014. His directorial work has earned Ten Suzi Bass Award Nominations for Outstanding Direction (Winner for *The Bridges of Madison County* and *Les Misérables* at Aurora Theatre, in 2017 and 2013 respectively). He is also an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Theatre and Performance Studies at Kennesaw State University in Kennesaw, Georgia where he directs and teaches courses in acting and musical theatre. He holds a B.A. in Theatre Arts from Campbell University and an M.A. in Theatre Studies from Regent University, with additional course study at Rutgers.

DAVID KOTÉ (Director of Education/Artistic Associate) is an award winning theatre director, actor, and educator. He began at Tri-Cities High School of Visual and Performing Arts and the acclaimed Freddie Hendricks Youth Ensemble of Atlanta. Koté earned a B.A. degree in speech and theatre arts from Dillard University and M.F.A. in directing from Indiana University. His theatre credits include *Jitney, Pill Hill, In the Red and Brown Water, Purlie, Flyin' West, Once on this Island, Times, The Last Season, Joe Turner's Come and Gone, My Children! My Africa!*, and Macbeth. He has also appeared in HBO's A LESSON BEFORE DYING, CBS's "Mama Flora's Family" and TNT's "Passing Glory". He has performed in South Africa, Belgium,



Amsterdam and all over the United States. Koté served as Director of Theatre Arts at Tri-Cities High School Visual and Performing Arts Magnet where he received many awards for his work including The Charles Loridans Foundation for excellence and leadership in theatre education. Koté's production of *The Color Purple* at Actor's Express is the 2018 Suzi Bass Award winner for Outstanding Production Musical and Outstanding Direction Musical.

JUAN CARLOS UNZUETA (Director of Cross-Cultural Programs) has been with Aurora since December 2016. He spent the previous decade in Jacksonville, FL as the Education Director at Theatre Jacksonville, where he also handled the design of all marketing collateral and general marketing for the theatre's education programming. He served as a grant panelist for the Cultural Council of Greater Jacksonville, was a member of ACE (Arts and Continuing Education) Jacksonville, and founder of Theatre Jacksonville/Cathedral Arts Project/The Kennedy Center's Any Given Child Program's Autism Outreach in the Performing Arts. Most recently he is so honored to have served as an Endowment Panelist for the National Endowment for the Arts. In addition to his work in education, he has spent much of the last decade performing and directing. Notable credits include Into the Woods (The Baker), The Light in the Piazza (Fabrizio), In the Heights (Piragua Guy), Pippin (Pippin), The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (Mitch), Tick, Tick, BOOM! (Jonathan), guest artist roles with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and First Coast Opera, and most recently in BUICEntennial Productions' Songs for a New World.

RENITA JAMES (Education Coordinator) is a proud graduate of AppCo 2013. It was during that year that she furthered her love of educational theatre while performing in *Unnecessary Monsters* and teaching several classes and workshops. Upon completion of her apprenticeship Renita performed with theatres across the country. She also completed a teaching artist fellowship with Metro Theater Company, before returning home Atlanta. Renita currently heads up Teen Nation, Aurora's program exclusively for teens, and works closely with our educational partners. Some of her favorite acting credits include: *FML: How Carson McCullers Saved My Life* (7 stages), *Once Upon A Mattress* (Stage Door Players), and *The 12 Dates Of Christmas* (Aurora).

KELLY CRISS (Director of Corporate & Individual Giving) has been working in Atlanta for a little over a decade as an Arts Administrator, Actor, Director, Producer, and Teaching Artist. She joins the Aurora Theatre team after serving as Manager of Special Projects at the High Museum of Art. Before the High, she worked at Horizon Theatre in various capacities including artistic support, mentoring the apprentice company, and as the primary coordinator for the Young Playwrights Festival. Kelly currently teaches beginning acting courses for teens at the Alliance Theatre. She also taught elementary aged children through adult professionals here at the Aurora Theatre with both the after school and summer drama academy programs. Additionally, Kelly is a founding member and former producer with the Weird Sisters Theatre Project, where she currently serves on the Board of Directors

SHELLI DELGADO (Development Coordinator) graduated Magna Cum Laude from the University of Georgia with BA degrees in both Theatre and English Studies. Shortly after, she joined the 2013-14 Aurora Theatre Apprentice Company and has since worked as a professional actor and education artist in and around the metro-Atlanta area. Since 2014, Shelli has worked directly with the Alliance Theatre as a resident teaching artist and script/curriculum writer. In 2016, she co-produced, developed and wrote Quarter Life*, an Atlanta-based web series which became an official selection for the Acme Comedy Film Festival, the New Haven International Film Festival and the Atlanta Underground Film Festival, among others. Shelli



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has spent the last two years serving as co-producer for the Weird Sisters Theatre Project, a local theatre company who seeks to create "theatre by women, for everyone". She is thrilled to join her Aurora family with this new position.

DANIEL POPE (Production Manager) is proud to be a member of the team at Aurora Theatre as Production Manager. Daniel has been a sound designer and engineer in the Atlanta area for the past eight years. He's had the pleasure of designing sound for the Aurora Theatre on many occasions on shows such as: Into the Woods, Christmas Canteen, Sweep, and most recently The Bridges of Madison County. Additionally, he's worked on countless other productions in the Atlanta theatre community including: Evita and A Streetcar Named Desire as Sound Designer and Production Manager at Serenbe Playhouse. Daniel received a Bachelors in Marketing with a specialization in sales and a minor in Music from The University of West Georgia in 2010.

JON SANDMAIER (Technical Director) joins our staff after a year of working as an over-hire. After graduating from IPFW at the end of the last millennium, Jon spent most of his time designing and building sets for various arts organizations in and around Fort Wayne Indiana. He and his wife relocated to Georgia in the summer of 2016.

ASHLEY HOGAN (Assistant Technical Director) is excited to officially join Aurora's family as a staff member. She has enjoyed working her summers at Aurora the past few years while pursuing her degree at Georgia State University. After graduating summer of '18, she has spent the past year expanding her skill craft as an over-hire carpenter at Aurora.

KATIE ERIN CHAMBERS* (Resident Stage Manager) is excited to be in her 7th season with Aurora Theatre. She is a graduate of the University of Georgia, a member of Actor's Equity, and a proud alumna of Aurora's 2013-14 Apprentice Company. She has previously stage managed in Atlanta for Horizon Theatre Company, Theatrical Outfit, Synchronicity Theatre and Habima Theatre. She has also served as coordinator for the New South Young Playwrights' Festival, production manager for the Atlanta Musical Theatre Festival, and coordinator for the Atlanta Unified Auditions.

AL STILO (Director of Sales & Marketing), now in his 15th season at Aurora Theatre, is proud to be a part of the fastest-growing theatre the region. During his tenure, Aurora Theatre has tripled its season ticket base, expanded programming to over 800 annual events, and become one of the most decorated arts organizations in the region. Al shares his knowledge and expertise both locally and nationally with presentations for organizations like ArtWorks! Gwinnett and the Americans for the Arts National Arts Marketing Project Conference. Al has received multiple professional distinctions for marketing from the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau, served three years on the executive committee of Atlanta Performs and two on the Board of Directors for Georgia Arts Network, your advocate for the arts in Georgia. Al has been a professional actor for 30 years, onstage at Aurora he has appeared in *The Explorers Club*, Les Misérables, Chicago, The Last of the Red Hot Lovers and several others. Al started his arts administration career with Soul-stice Repertory Ensemble from 1995–2001 before serving as Sales Manager for Georgia Shakespeare from 2000–2004. All my love to my wife Holly and son Dominic.

EB HOOYER (Marketing & Retention Manager) has been with Aurora Theatre since 2011, working as a Stage Manager, Props Designer, and Box Office Manager before transitioning to Marketing in 2017. EB is proud to have created Aurora's Need a Little Christmas Giveaway, which has provided theatre tickets and dinner

to families in need since 2013. She initiated Aurora's TIXSTER program for patrons age 16-35 and previously served on the board of Hoosier Shakes, a theatre company based out of her alma mater, Indiana Wesleyan University. EB loves laughing, tacos, her husband Jared, and their two rambunctious boys.

ARÍ MCBRIDE (Graphic Designer/Marketing Associate) is excited to start a fifth season with Aurora. Arí spent the previous 18 years working as Art Director in the Atlanta advertising industry. At Clockwork Advertising she had a blast as an instrumental part to the launch of Don Julio Tequila in the US (which came with its own perks). After starting a family, Arí went on her own to develop BoyMeetsGirl Creative, an 11-year marketing & design partnership servicing clients in the corporate world from Suntrust to local manufacturers like Biolab and the occasional startup looking to find their spot in the marketplace. Ari is a graduate of The Atlanta College of Art & Design with a degree in Advertising Design—but has always had a deep love for the performing arts. Now at Aurora, Ari handles all branding, print and web design—adding a fresh and colorful perspective to all our programming. Arí, along with Aurora's savvy marketing, team helps promote our broad range of now more than 800 events a year, creating memorable campaigns and eye-catching visuals that make Aurora one of a kind. She's blessed with a testosterone-heavy household, a messy house and lots of loving hugs before bedtime!

JENNIFER OWENS (Box Office Manager) is proud to be embarking on her 6th season at Aurora Theatre! After receiving her BFA in Acting from Brenau University in 2014, she set her sights on Aurora where she successfully became a part of the family in 2014. With a one-year-old in tow, she began as a part time Box Office Associate, later transitioning to Front of House Coordinator and Teaching Artist in 2016 and then finally the Box Office Manager and Marketing team member in June of 2017. You may have also seen her occasionally step out of the Box Office to perform in Prelude to the 4th Celebrations, Aurora's Musicals by Moonlight, or as an Improviser in Reindeer Games. A huge THANK YOU for the constant love and support of the Aurora Staff, Box Office team, Mom, and my little man, Truett.

DAISIE AKKASHA (Front of House Manager) is happy to be joining Aurora Theatre's staff as their first ever Front of House Manager. This is her fifth season with Aurora, having begun working with the Theatre in 2015 as a Box Office Associate. Aurora has become a home for her and she is thrilled to have the opportunity to help make magic happen with them. On her days off she enjoys spending time with her best friend, her German Shepherd, Goliath.

BOX OFFICE & FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF......Elliott Folds, Nikki Greenfield,

Aaliyah Heyward, Molly Huntington, Meg Johns, Conner Kocks, Robby Owenby, and Jackelyn Segui

2019-20 AURORA THEATRE APPRENTICE COMPANY

Lena Armas Torreke Evans Ansleigh Harrison Meg Johns Niole Kiss Connor Kocks Andrew Lampley Luna Manela Sarah Nathanson Jackelyn Segui Miche' Smith Kristin Talley Brandon M. Webber



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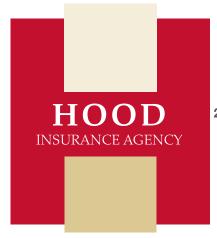
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