

SWINDLERS is a co-production between Aurora Theatre and Broadway Factor.

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FROM THE FOUNDERS

YOU HAVE TO TAKE RISKS. YOU HAVE TO THINK OUTSIDE THE BOX! YOU EITHER SHOOT TO THE TOP OR YOU LOSE IT ALL. THAT'S WHAT SEPARATES WINNERS FROM LOSERS.

- JEREMIAH CLIVE Swindlers

You are about to meet a zany cast of characters from every walk of life - all of them in search of a diamond the size of your fist. The diamond in question is worth \$300 million so you can only imagine the extremes you are about to witness from playwright Chris Anthony Ferrer.

It's Aurora's first foray working with Tony award-winning Broadway producers. We think outside the box. Although it is thrilling to be the first theatre in Georgia to produce a blockbuster hit, we dream of the day when a new show will get its world premiere at the Lawrenceville Arts Center before it heads to Broadway. This is the first step in that journey.

We dream big. LAC is the culmination of one such BIG DREAM! Anthony & I are thankful every day that the city took a risk to DREAM BIG with us! LAC has been open less than a year and already the phones are ringing off the hook because our community wants to be a part of that dream. They want to dance here, to host their film festival here, to hang their art here, to host their meeting here, to get married here. There is room enough for everyone's dream under this roof.

A BIG DREAM is contagious. Buckhead wanted to take a big risk, just like Lawrenceville, so there was only one man for the job. Join me in congratulating Anthony, who will soon be heading up a project called HUB404. Buckhead recognized that Anthony is a transformational leader, which we at Aurora have known for 27 years. You will barely even notice he isn't in the trenches day in and day out. He will still be giving curtain speeches, hanging out in the lobby on any given night, and at Christmas, he will dust off Ebenezer Scrooge for the 15th year.

Anthony's new job shatters the belief that the ARTS are extra. Anthony says it best, "Arts leaders bring creative solutions to complex problems." Aurora takes the

smallest of budgets and we stretch that budget for miles. Aurora's winning staff juggles multiple jobs at any given time. Thanks to the work of Jacky Segui, our Director of Community Impact, we are reaching new audiences, amplifying under-represented cultures, which will surely shoot Lawrenceville to the top, making us a true community of belonging.

Thank you for always taking a risk on us.

antend Proce

Ann-Carol Pence
Co-Founder/Producing Artistic Director

Anthony Rodriguez Co-Founder/President & CEO

CAST

Jerry	RENÉ GRANADO*
Miles	
Jenna	KRYSTAL MOSLEY*
Marisleidy	ROSE BIANCO
Bertica	IRINA VAZQUEZ
Marcus	CRISTIAN GONZALEZ
Yasser	MARCUS HOPKINS-TURNER*
Awadi Hassan	
Joromiah Cliva	CHDIC K AVCED*
Jerry U/S	JOEY FLOREZ
Miles U/S	COLE FERGUSON
Jenna U/S	SARAH ELAINE
Marisleidy U/S	SYLVIA CASTRO

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION STAFF	
Co-Founder, President & CEO	ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ ANN-CAROL PENCE KATIE PELKEY WILLIAM FERNANDEZ JIM KIERSTEAD
Assistant Stage Manager2nd Assistant Stage Manager	
Associate Technical Director Scenic Artist Master Electrician Assistant Sound Designer	KARLEY DENE SANDERS
Fight Captain	TAMIL PERIASAMY*
Costume Shop Manager Lead Stitcher/Draper Volunteer Stitcher	ALICE NEFF JENNIFER ACKLAND GWEN FULSANG, BONNIE HAGAN
Assistant Properties Designer	JAQUELINE MORENO
COVID Safety Manager	CAMERON SMITH

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CAST BIOGRAPHIES



ROSE BIANCO (she/her - Marisleidy) is so thrilled to be working at the Aurora Theatre again, and is grateful to Chris and Ivan for allowing her to create the epic role of Marisleidy. Creating roles in original plays is the best! She last worked at the Aurora ten years ago in Teatro del Sol production of El insolito caso de Miss Piña Colada. Rose previously performed in world premieres including City Preacher at San Francisco's Magic Theatre and Christina, Darling at

The Process Theatre. Locally she's played varied roles including Mrs. Gibbs in *Our Town*, Madame Arcati in *Blithe Spirit* and Silda in *Other Desert Cities*. Rose works in film and television here in Atlanta, and credits include a recurring role in "Cobra Kai," the Netflix movie PROJECT POWER, and guest starring role in "Doom Patrol", among many others. She will be seen this summer in the premiere of McNamara-Brookwell's original story, MOONRISE on the Pureflix streaming service.



CRISTIAN GONZALEZ (he/him - Marcus) is a classically trained stage and screen actor, writer and improviser. Recent credits include "Vacation Friends" (HULU), "Woke" (HULU), "Raising Dion" (NETFLIX), "Creepshow" (SHUDDER/AMC), and "NCIS: New Orleans" (CBS). Theatre Credits include Citizen's Market (Horizon Theatre), The Constitution (Saudade Theatre), Native Gardens (Aurora Theatre), Between Riverside and Crazy (True Colors Theatre), and Greetings

Friends, Your Kind Assistance is Required (Georgia Ensemble Theatre). The sky is the limit with a wife like Anna. Thank you, my love.



RENÉ GRANADO* (he/him - Jerry) is a Cuban-American actor from Miami, FL. He's thrilled to be working with Aurora Theatre. Pre-pandemic credits include an impressive 8 month run starring as Ramón Arechabala in The Real Havana Club's Miami production of *Amparo* and as Uncle Pepe on the world premiere of *The Cubans*. He recently completed the world premiere of *Not Ready for Primetime* portraying Bill Murray. Film/TV/Commercial credits: "Burn Notice",

"Graceland", "Bloodline", Amazon and Volkswagen. Miami is currently home where he enjoys spending time with his loved ones. He'd like to express his gratitude and love to his family, friends and beautiful girlfriend for all their support. They will never understand how much they mean to him. A huge thank you to Broadway Factor for this amazing opportunity. www.renegranado.com IG: @renegranado_official



MARK HERNANDEZ (he/him - Miles) Hernandez is grateful to be making his Aurora debut in the world premiere of Swindlers. Recent credits include: Fully Committed, Promises Promises, Seussical: The Musical. Special thanks to Angie, Randall, Ryan, Kat, and many more. You know who you are! Love to all.



MARCUS HOPKINS-TURNER* (he/him - Yasser) is an Atlanta native, a proud father of two and Morehouse College graduate. Regional Credits: *Prince of Egypt* (Tuacahn), *Fences* (Springer Opera House), and *Porgy and Bess* (Red Mountain Theatre). Atlanta Credits: *Hands Up* and *A Christmas Carol* (Alliance Theatre), *Julius Caesar* (The Shakespeare Tavern), *Tarzan the Musical* (Atlanta Lyric Theatre), *Once on this Island* (GET), *I'm Not Rappaport* (Aurora Theatre), *Father*

Comes Home and Intimate Apparel (Actors Express), Black Nativity (Dominion Ent.), and 1776 (The Legacy Theatre).

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CHRIS KAYSER* (he/him - Jeremiah Clive) is thrilled to be back in Lawrenceville at the Aurora Theatre in their beautiful new home! Previous Aurora credits include The Explorer's Club, Wit, and Mamma Mia!.



KRYSTAL MOSLEY* (she/her - Jenna) is Midwestern at heart, Krystal comes all the way from Los Angeles and is happy to be in Lawerenceville, Georgia. Classically trained, Krystal's favorite stage performances to date include Intimate Apparel (Palmbeach Dramaworks), 10 Virgins (Chicago Dramatist), Orpheus and Eurydice (Chicago Opera Theater), Ruined (Eclipse Theatre), A Doll's House (Definition Theatre Company) and MacBeth (Polarity Ensemble

Theatre). Krystal has a Bachelor of Fine Arts Degree in Theatre from the University of Illinois at Chicago. She also recently graduated from the conservatory program at Second City Comedy, as well as Upright Citizen's Brigade. Krystal can currently be seen on CBS's "Young and the Restless" as well as the upcoming Indie Feature THE NEON HIGHWAY starring Beau Bridges. Krystal is looking forward to working on the next Emmy Award comedy series or anything opposite Quinta Brunson.



TAMIL PERIASAMY* (he/him - Awadi Hassan, Fight Captain) is exhilarated to finally be debuting with Aurora and with such a zany world premiere too! Select Atlanta credits include: The Crucible (Actor's Express - Suzi Bass Best Supporting Actor nominee); Vanity Fair (Georgia Ensemble); Othello, The Alchemist (Resurgens); Chekhov's The Bear, Outlying Islands (Aris Theatre); King Lear, Love's Labour Lost (Atlanta Shakespeare); Citizen's Market (Horizon); Water By the

Spoonful (Pinch n' Ouch). Select Regional credits: Importance of Being Earnest, Indian Ink (Austin Shakespeare); Going Up! (Mixed Blood). TV/Film: VENDETTA (premiering 2022); "Dopesick" (Hulu); "Dynasty" (CW); "Covenant" (AMC). Super thanks to Tony and Ann-Carol for supporting me and cheering me on ever since I was a wee lil' Apprentice. Much love to the cast and crew! www.tamilperiasamy.com



IRINA VAZQUEZ (she/her - Bertica) was born in the musical city of Matanzas, Cuba, grew up surrounded by music. Her uncle, a symphonic violinist, inspired her early enthusiasm for classical music, particularly on the violin. A precocious child, she attended the National Music School in Havana, and studied with some of Cuba's most renowned teachers. All these experiences served her well when she left Cuba for Mexico. Following family members north, she spent a

few years in Florida, and has now settled in Atlanta, where she serves as Principal 2nd Violinist in the Alpharetta Symphony Orchestra. In addition to being a performer of note, Irina is also a gifted teacher, meeting students where they are to help them progress toward where they would like to be. She is experienced and particularly loves working with children with different abilities, and is certified in teaching children with autism.



SYLVIA CASTRO (she/her - Marisleidy U/S) is excited to work on Swindlers. She is equally excited to be working with Aurora Theatre again. Sylvia began her acting career in New York. She received a BA in Drama from The City College of New York, where she studied under Omar Shapli; an original member of the storied Second City Comedy Club. She can be seen as Selina in " Mad Money"; Marianne Winterpock in "The Fat Boy Chronicles; Officer in "Dead Beat"; Dr. Maria Lopez in "Blossoms for Clara"; and Marie in "The Therapist". Sylvia can also be seen as Easton Maid in "The Game".



SARAH ELAINE (she/her - Jenna U/S) is glad to finally be back with her home theatre. Sarah was a member of Aurora's AppCo18 and appeared in shows such as *The Hunchback of Notre Dame & Mamma Mia!* Since graduating from the Apprenticeship Program, Sarah toured around the United States performing shows such as *Mamma Mia!* and *The Legend of Sleepy Hollow*. Following her return, Sarah has put a lot of focus on the film scene and has appeared in many TV

shows and commercials. As a Native American woman, Sarah is also focusing on works from Native artists trying to elevate voices from her tribe. If you are ever in need of Native Artists please reach out to sarahelainestratton@gmail.com and she will connect you with an amazing indigenous artist within her network.



COLE FERGUSON (he/him - Miles U/S) is excited to be a member of AppCo22. Cole is a recent graduate of the Gainesville Theatre Alliance at Brenau University, earning his B.F.A in Acting. You might have also seen Cole in Aurora's *Cinderella* as Lord Pinkleton. Some of Cole's other recent credits include: *Christmas Canteen* 2021, *Cabaret* (Cliff), and *The Bra and Panty Club* (Rob). Cole would like to thank Anthony, AC, and Ivan for their support and mentorship. As well as

his parents, sisters, friends, and Katie for their unending love and inspiration.





JOEY FLOREZ (he/him - Jerry U/S) is thrilled to be back at Aurora, sharing a space with artists and audience members...in person! He holds a BA in English from Georgia Gwinnett College (Go Grizzlies) and is currently pursuing his MFA in writing for the Stage and Screen at Lesley University in Cambridge, MA.

THANK YOU!

to those who have made very special contributions to our production: Aurora Theatre Volunteer Guild • Letha Kelly • Dick Kennedy

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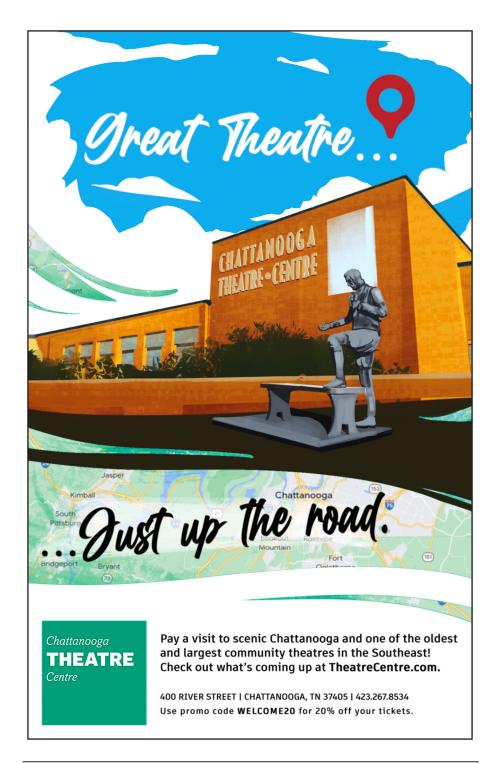
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PRODUCTION STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

CHRIS ANTHONY FERRER (he/him - Playwright) is a proud Latinx first generation American of Cuban descent whose family immigrated to Miami, FL in the late 60's. Swindlers is Ferrer's first full-length play and professional playwriting debut with 2 plays currently in development. Ferrer is also an actor who recently starred as Lorne Michaels in a production of a new play, Not Ready For Primetime in Miami, FL. Member: The Dramatists Guild of America. Ferrer earned a BFA from New World School of the Arts in Miami, FL. Ferrer would like to express the utmost gratitude to Broadway Factor and Aurora Theatre for giving an unknown kid from humble beginnings the opportunity to express his voice.

WILLIAM FERNANDEZ (he/him - Broadway Factor Producer) is a Tony Award, Drama Desk Award and Pulitzer Prize winner. A journalist turned theater producer, he has co-produced such critical Broadway hits as The Inheritance (Tony Award), Frankie and Johnny (Tony nominee), American Son and the current Mrs. Doubtfire. He is also executive producing the cast album for Caroline, or Change, Broadway's newest sensation. He has invested in many Broadway plays. As a producer, Fernandez has worked off-Broadway and in London, Chicago and Miami. In Miami, he was the executive producer of the city's longest-running hit, The Amparo Experience. On television, Fernandez currently is co-executive producing Season 2 of the Emmy-winning Amazon Prime series "After Forever". Fernandez was the senior editor on the team that won the 2013 Pulitzer Prize for Public Service. He is also the recipient of three Emmy nominations.

JIM KIERSTEAD (he/him - Broadway Factor Producer) is an Emmy, Olivier, and four-time Tony Award-winning producer of the Broadway, touring, Toronto, and London productions of Kinky Boots, the revival of Pippin, Hadestown, and The Inheritance. He is currently represented on Broadway as a co-producer of Company, The Lehman Trilogy, Mrs. Doubtfire, and The Minutes. In addition, he has been a coproducer of 25 Broadway productions. Off-Broadway projects include Unexpected Joy, Yank! (Drama Desk and Lucille Lortel Nominees), Bright Colors and Bold Patterns, and Thrill Me (Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Nominees). He has also produced extensively in London's West End. Jim is on the Board of Directors of The York Theatre Company and The Abingdon Theatre Company and is the founder of the digital theatre content creation company Broadway Virtual.

DEBORAH RAMIREZ (she/her - Broadway Factor Producer) is a theater and concert producer, media consultant, writer and former journalist. She is a founding partner of Broadway Factor, the production team behind The Amparo Experience, Miami's longest-running immersive musical. Ms. Ramirez recently promoted Not Ready For Prime Time, a new play about the early years of Saturday Night Live, at Miami's Westchester Cultural Arts Center. And she has written about and promoted artists such as Grammy Award winners Gonzalo Rubalcaba and Aymee Nuviola, Yotuel (Patria y Vida), Los Lobos and Gilberto Santa Rosa, to name a few. Ms. Ramirez is a former editor for South Florida's Sun Sentinel and El Sentinel, and has served on the SS Editorial Board.

IVAN R. LOPEZ (he/him - Director) is a Cuban-American theatre director, actor, and writer thrilled to be making his Aurora Theatre directing debut. Previous directing credits include Right You Are, If You Think You Are (FIU Theatre), The Pot (Main Street Players), Occupy Hallmark (City Theatre), Willow (White Rose Miami), El Odio de Un Pais (New Theatre), The Era of No Time and The Position (Microteatro). Ivan is on the Theatre faculty at Florida International University in Miami. He is also proud to work for Healthy Humor as a therapeutic healthcare clown using classic clowning, improvisation, and magic to create moments of joy and laughter for hospitalized children and their families at Nicklaus Children's Hospital. He has an MFA from the National Theatre Conservatory.

KATIE CHAMBERS (she/her - Director of Production) see Staff Biographies

LILLY BAXLEY * (she/her - Stage Manager) is a Georgia native and has been stage managing in Atlanta for seven years. She worked primarily as the Resident Assistant Stage Manager at the Shakespeare Tavern Playhouse, some of her favorites being *Much Ado About Nothing, Comedy of Errors*, and *Love's Labour's Lost*. She most recently worked on Aurora's production of *Cinderella*.

JULIE RAY** (she/her - Scenic Designer) is a scenic designer for theatre, film, and television, and Associate Professor of Scenic Design at UGA. For the Aurora Theatre, Julie's had the honor of designing *Christmas Canteen* since 2015. Other Aurora designs include *The Bridges of Madison County, Mamma Mia!* and *Men With Money.* Julie is currently designing *As You Like It* for The Hippodrome theatre in Gainesville, Fl. She has held various roles in multiple art departments, including Production Designer, Art Director, and Set Designer. TV and film credits include Netflix's "Mindhunter", "The X Files", "Babylon 5", NEIGHBORS 2, ABDUCTION, LOVE & OTHER DRUGS, and 13 DAYS. Julie holds a BFA from Cal Arts, and a MFA from the University of California, Irvine. www.jraydesign.com

KEVIN FRAZIER (he/him - Lighting Designer) Favorite Aurora credits include *Mamma Mia!* (2018) and *W;t* (2016). Atlanta credits include: Actors Express, 7 Stages, Fabrefaction, Pinch N' Ouch, Georgia Ensemble Theatre, Synchronicity and Serenbe Playhouse. Other credits include Cleveland Playhouse (OH), Merrimack Rep and Stoneham Theatre (MA), The Peterborough Players (NH), Glow Lyric Theatre and The Warehouse Theatre (SC), and both the New York and DC Fringe Festivals. International credits include Teatro Metripol (Tirana, Albania). Educational credits include Furman University (SC), Case Western Reserve University (OH), Lafayette College (PA), The Gainesville Theatre Alliance (GA), and Wake Forest University (NC). Kevin is an Assistant Professor at Wake Forest University, and the recipient of the Suzi Bass Award for Outstanding Lighting Design of a Musical for *The Bridges of Madison County* in 2017. Thanks to his family for their love and support. www. kevinfrazier.net

AYANNA G. COLEMAN (she/her - Assistant Sound Designer) is a 2021 Graduate of SCAD with a Bachelors in Sound Design. Ayanna got into sound because of her love of Film and TV. Sound brings everything to life, and her craft allows her to mold and manipulate that sensory element of the human experience with art. *Swindlers* is the first production she's designed out of college. It has been a wonderful experience being a part of this production.

IVAN INGERMANN** (he/him - Costume Designer) Theatre: Approval Junkie (Minetta Lane Theatre NYC); Approval Junkie, Start Down, Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls (Alliance Theatre); Angels in America Part I&II, (Actors Express); Film: SUITS, RULES OF THE GAME, ESCAPE TO LIFE, 2x4 (Sundance Winner); Theme: Disney On Ice: Dare to Dream (National and International tour), Electric Ocean (SeaWorld San Diego), Ultimate Energy (Wanda Movie Park Wuhan, China); Awards: 2012 Suzi Bass Award for Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls, Costume Designers Guild Excellence in Commercial Design (nomination). Ivan is Head of Design at UGA's Department of Theatre and Film Studies. He received his MFA from NYU's Design for Stage and Film, Tisch School of the Arts and is a proud member of the USA Local 829.

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**MEMBER OF UNITED SCENIC ARTISTS

RYAN BRADBURN (he/him - Properties Designer) is excited to be working with Aurora again, having most recently designed puppets and props for *Cinderella*! Recent theatrical work includes Theatre Emory's *Tatischeff Cafe*, South Carolina Children's Theatre's *Spookley*, *The Square Pumpkin*, and Greenville Theatre's *The Producers*. Ryan would like to thank Aurora for all their love and support!

JAQUELINE MORENO (Assistant Properties Designer) is excited and grateful to be a part of this production of *Swindlers* at Aurora Theatre, after having recently designed for *Feeding Beatrice*. Jaqueline attended Georgia State University and graduated with a B.I.S in Theatre with a concentration in Performance Studies. Lastly, she would like to thank those who came out tonight to support live theatre and for keeping this magical industry alive. Enjoy the show!

ALICE NEFF (she/her - Costume Shop Manager) moved to Lawrenceville in 2017, and is delighted to be designing costumes at the Aurora. She has designed for Seven Stages in Atlanta, The Florida Repertory Theatre in Fort Myers, Georgia Gwinnett College Honors Program's production of *The Addams Family*, Ballet Austin, Blowing Rock Stage Company, Lees McRae Summer Theatre, the outdoor drama *Horn in the West*, Davidson College, Western Carolina University, and the Appalachian State University Opera Program. She worked on the costume construction for *Mamma Mia!* at the Aurora, and has built costumes for Glimmerglass Opera, some of which are now in stock for the Metropolitan Opera, and for the Hallmark channel miniseries "True Women." She managed the ASU Theatre & Dance Department costume shop for several years, and mentored many students who went on to graduate schools and professional careers. She holds a BFA in costume design and construction from UT-Austin. She and her husband enjoy riding their motorcycle cross-country, raising money for theatre-based charities.

LINDSEY EWING (she/her - Wig Designer) is a graduate of The University of North Carolina School of the Arts, where she received her Bachelor's in Fine Arts degree (concentration in Wig and Makeup Design) in 2008. Included in Lindsey's work experience are such companies as Sarasota Opera Co., Opera Carolina, Piedmont Opera, Utah Shakespeare Festival, The Spoleto Festival, Playmaker's Rep, The University of Maryland, The Aurora Theatre, Kennesaw State University, Oglethorpe University, The Atlanta Opera, Jennie T. Anderson Theatre, and Serenbe Playhouse. Currently, she is the resident Wigmaster at The Alliance Theatre, and does free-lance film wig-making. www.LEHairandMakeupArtistry.com

EMILY GRACE BLACKSTONE (she/her - Wig Designer) is excited to be back with Aurora for another season. Her previous shows at Aurora include *The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Men with Money,* and *Newsies.* She has also worked with the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta as well as Arena Stage and the Shakespeare Theater in Washington, DC. She thanks her family and Patty for all their support.

STEPHAN JONES (he/him - Fight Choreography) has worked for decades as a fight director, staging everything from comedic shtick, to blood and gore, to highflying wire acts. He's also enjoyed nearly thirty years as a professional actor, appearing across the country, including here at Aurora in the 2018 production of *Disney's Newsies*. www.Stephan-Jones.com

KRISTIN STORLA (Intimacy Coordinator) is an Atlanta-based Intimacy Director, Fight Director, Actor, and Puppeteer. Kristin's work has been seen at Actor's Express, Synchronicity, Atlanta Shakespeare Co., Havoc Movement Co., Capitol City Opera, Oglethorpe University, Out of Box, Center for Puppetry Arts, and more. Next Up? Desire Under the Elms with AE. Keep up at www.KristinStorla.com

ISAAC BURRIER (he/him - Master Electrician) is a lighting designer and master electrician based out of Northwest Georgia. He is excited to have recently joined the Aurora team as an overhire electrician. Isaac has worked on numerous events with Aurora including this year's *Christmas Canteen* as the Master Electrician. Before working with Aurora, Isaac worked in Nashville, TN as a lighting and scenic designer as well as a lighting tech in Raleigh, NC. Some of his professional credits include: *Ordinary Days* (Georgia Gwinnett College), *Giant Squid* (Woven Theatre Company), *Lungs* (Woven Theatre Company), *The Whale* (Verge Theater Company), *Beneatha's Place* (Verge Theater Company) and several dance recitals with Rejoice School of Ballet. Isaac is a graduate of Belmont University with a BFA in Production Design in Theatre. www.isaacburriercreative.com

KARLEY DENÉ SANDERS (Scenic Artist) is a visual and performing artist who was bitten by the theatre bug at a young age. A recent graduate of the University of Georgia with a B.F.A. in Sculpture and Minor in Theatre, she enjoys working for Aurora as a set carpenter. Karley is now thrilled to add a paintbrush to her toolbox as she offers her skills as a scenic painter to the Aurora stage. After Song and Dance, she had the pleasure of working on the Lawrenceville Arts Center's inaugural production of Christmas Canteen. She has served as scenic artist and constructor for The Bartow Schoolhouse Players, Prince Avenue Christian School, Brightstone Productions, and UGA's Ballroom Performance Group. Karley's other artistic endeavors have granted her a featured exhibition at the Lyndon House Art Center and an SFx Certificate from Kryolan Professional Make-Up NYC. She is endlessly grateful to "Pheeny", Kailie, and David for their incredible love and support and sends a big thanks to the carps and volunteers who help make the magic happen!

JACKIE LENZ' (she/her - Assistant Stage Manager) has been Stage Managing in the Atlanta Area since 2018 and is thrilled to be making her Aurora Theatre debut! Previous credits include: The Pretty Pants Bandit, Summer Surf Party (Georgia Ensemble Theatre), Newsies, Jekyll and Hyde, The Addams Family (Atlanta Lyric Theatre), The Last Five Years and Home for The Holidays (Jennie T. Anderson Theatre). She would like to thank her parents for their unending support and dedicate every show she does to her Grandma and Pop-Pop. El amor todo lo puede. IG: @ jackielenz16

JANHAVI SHIVALKAR (she/her - 2nd Assistant Stage Manager) is an actor and stage manager from Atlanta. She recently graduated from Georgia State University and is super excited to be a part of the Aurora AppCo22. Previous Atlanta credits include: *Safety Net* (Theatrical Outfit), *Bull in a China Shop* (Out Front Theatre Company), and *Tome* (House of Five Productions).

CAMERON SMITH (COVID Safety Manager) is a character actor/singer in Atlanta, GA. He got his BFA in Musical Theatre from Reinhardt University and he's been spreading his talents across the country ever since. He's performed with Cleveland Playhouse, Virginia Repertory Theatre, Hampstead Stage Company in New Hampshire to name a few. Working with AppCo22 is his first opportunity to work with Aurora Theatre and he's having a lot of fun and extremely grateful and blessed to be working with an excellent group of people.

2021-22 AURORA THEATRE APPRENTICE COMPANY

Cole Ferguson-he/him Kymberli Green-she/her Isa Martinez-they/them RJ Owens-they/them Janhavi Shivalkar-she/her Cameron Smith-he/him Brie Wolfe-she/her

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LAC & AURORA THEATRE STAFF BIOGRAPHIES

ANTHONY RODRIGUEZ (he/him - Co-Founder/President & CEO) 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. 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. Anthony is a member of Screen Actor's Guild, Theatre Communications Group, Duluth Rotary Club, and serves on the national steering committee for the Latinx Theatre Commons. He is a graduate of Marist High School, the University of Georgia, the Atlanta Regional Commission's Regional Leadership Institute, National Association of Latino Arts and Cultures' Leadership & Advocacy Institutes. Currently, Anthony is a member of Leadership Atlanta Class of 2022 #twoclasses. He is a Cancer Survivor and has been cancer free for 30 years.

ANN-CAROLPENCE(she/her-Co-Founder/Producing Artistic Director) 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 Aurora's 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 music director both nationally (Goodspeed Opera House, Pasadena Playhouse, The Cleveland Playhouse, The Kennedy Center) and locally (The Alliance, Theatrical Outfit, Horizon Theatre, Georgia Ensemble Theatre). As a proud 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 woman-led businesses) for Aurora Theatre. These distinctions go well with her 5 Suzi Awards for Outstanding Music Direction. She was a participant in the 2016 Atlanta Regional Commission's Regional Leadership Institute and member of the "Best Class Ever!"

KATIE PELKEY (she/her - Managing Director) is celebrating fourteen seasons with Aurora and has served in many roles, including Resident Stage Manager and Company Manager. She also created the highly-successful Stage Management and Costume Apprentice Company program that operates 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 Maxwell and Alexander for their love and support!

THOMAS J. CARTO, D.M. (he/him-Interim General Manager/Project Consultant) joined the Aurora/LAC staff earlier this fall to assist in developing an operating

structure for the new Lawrenceville Arts Center with Aurora Theatre as operator. He has more than 30 years of experience as the CEO of various Performing Arts Centers around the country, including Ohio, New Jersey, and Wisconsin. Earning a Doctorate in Music from Indiana University, Tom also has University experience as Division Director of the Theatre Arts/Arts Administration Division at the University of Cincinnati College-Conservatory of Music (CCM). Currently a project consultant for the Arts Consulting Group out of Boston, Tom resides in Cincinnati with his wife and two teenage boys.

NIKKI TOOMBS (she/her - Director of Education) is a notable American playwright, director, actress, and producer who hails from the "Magic City" of Birmingham, Alabama. She has authored eight plays, has directed 40+ productions, and is a nationally commissioned presenter and curriculum specialist. With over 14 years in public education, Toombs is no stranger to the classroom. From teaching Gifted Language Arts to Stage Craft and Advanced Theatre, and more, she has shaped the minds of her students warranting Teacher of the Year honors in two school districts. Currently, she serves as an adjunct professor at Emory University in Atlanta, Georgia. As an arts educator, Toombs has created original programming such as Act Like a Lady and Page to the Stage (Toombstone Productions and True Colors Theatre Company), S.T.A.R. Arts Camps (for East Metro Health) and D.I.M.E. by Design for the (Fred and Mattie Jackson Foundation). She has curated curriculum design work for the National Endowment for the Arts, Educational Theatre Association and the August Wilson House to mention a few. Prior to her new role as Director of Education at the Aurora Theatre, she proudly served as the Director of Education at Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre Company, where she was the producer and director of the Annual August Wilson Monologue Competition. Her innovative approach, artistic impact, and undeniable connection with youth in the arts have earned her national recognition and deemed her as one of the most sought-after arts educators in the country.

KATIE CHAMBERS (she/her - Director of Production & Resident Stage Manager) is excited to be starting her 8th season with Aurora Theatre and stepping into the new role of Director of Production. 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.

JACKY SEGUÍ (she/ella - Director of Community Impact), former 2020 Apprentice, feels honored to be rejoining the Aurora Theatre family as Director of Community Impact. Born and raised in the Caribbean Island of Puerto Rico, Jacky is part of the arts community as a singer, actor, writer, and arts administrator. She holds a Masters in Arts Presenting and Live Entertainment Management from the University of Miami, and a Masters in Performing Arts from Savannah College of Art and Design. As part of her thesis, she created a verbatim theatre piece called *Puerto Rico Goes Dark: Stories of My People*. In the last few years, Jacky has explored the stage in productions like *Rock the Presidents, On Your Feet!* (Aurora), and *In the Heights* (SCAD). As Director of Community Impact, she is dedicated to connecting with Gwinnett stakeholders to strengthen partnerships while simultaneously educating others about communities we do not know as much about in order to gain understanding and empathy. It is her hope to continue helping Aurora Theatre be one of inclusion, acceptance, and opportunity to our diverse communities.

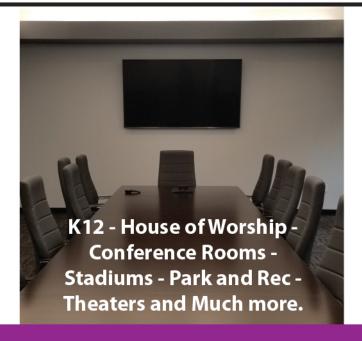
SKYLAR RESNA JACKSON (she/her - Development Manager & Grant Writer) is originally from New Orleans, Louisiana but raised right here in Lawrenceville. She is a product of the Gwinnett County Public School system, as a student, a substitute teacher, and a substitute coordinator for Phoenix High School. During her last two years as a Central Gwinnett student, she interned as a teaching assistant for Aurora's Summer Camp. She received her Bachelors in Theatre and Performance Studies with a minor in African and African Diaspora Studies from Kennesaw State University. While attending Kennesaw State, she became a proud member of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. and served on their executive board as well as the Kennesaw State chapter of the National Pan-Hellenic Council executive board for two years. She has supported her local community as the Performing Arts Director of Reverent Sound Music, Inc. and a long-term volunteer with Mending the Gap, Inc. As a storyteller, she created Resna Productions LLC to share and support stories from underrepresented communities. Currently, she is the host of Stories Retold Podcast, where she retells books and other works from marginalized peoples. After earning her Masters in Arts and Culture Management from the University of Denver, she







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transitioned to Aurora to support the Development department in the artistic mission to create something amazing together that we cannot build on our own.

JON CARR (he/him - Interim Director of Marketing) is excited to be a part of the Aurora family and step into his new role as Interim Director of Marketing. A proud graduate of Georgia State University, he has worked in the Georgia theatre community for 20+ years. He has served as Dad's Garage Marketing Director and Artistic Director. He has written and performed in several plays here in Georgia, including Wrath of Con and Black Nerd, and won the Suzi Bass Gene-Gabriel Moore award for Playwriting. Most recently, he was the Executive Producer for The Second City.

AL STILO (he/him - Director of Sales & Programming) During his 17 years with Aurora Theatre Al has been a leader that has helped the organization achieve tremendous growth, highlighted by the opening of the \$35 million expansion of the Lawrenceville Arts Center in fall of 2021. In his time, Aurora Theatre has received numerous accolades and awards including the 2009 Pinnacle Award for Large Non-Profit and the 2016 Governor's Award for the Arts & Humanities. Al served three years on the executive committee of Atlanta Performs, two on the board of directors for Georgia Arts Network, your advocate for the arts in Georgia, and two on the steering committee for the Arthur M. Blank Family Foundation Audience Building Roundtable. Al has received multiple professional distinctions for marketing from the Gwinnett Convention and Visitors Bureau. Al has been a professional actor for 30 years. Onstage at Aurora he has appeared in Newsies, Les Misérables, Chicago, and several others. All my love to my wife Holly and son Dominic.

DANIEL SUMMERS JR. (they/them - Facilities Sales & Booking Manager) is an altruistic leader with more than 15 years of experience successfully directing market-

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ing and sales efforts for artists, nonprofits, and educational destinations, as well as running their own consultancy. Daniel loves building relationships between venues and audiences with a key focus on producing inclusive and diverse, community-oriented experiences. An inaugural board member of the Atlanta Airport District Convention and Visitors Bureau, Daniel understands the importance of regional tourism and the economic impact of entertainment. Previously, Daniel was the Marketing Director at the Center for Puppetry Arts and at Actor's Express, programmed and produced festivals including the College Park KidsFest, and ran a freelance nonprofit administration and marketing consultancy helping others do good, betters. Daniel earned a BA in Theatre Studies at Guilford College before achieving a Masters in Art Administration and Cultural Policy at Goldsmiths College, University of London. Daniel is known for old-world charm combined with newworld ideas, irreverently relevant humor, and cat memes.

EB HOOYER (she/her - Marketing Coordinator) has been with Aurora Theatre since 2011, working as a Stage Manager, Props Designer, and Box Office Manager before transitioning to Marketing in 2017. After a brief hiatus pursuing other passions, she is elated to return to her favorite people on earth, making a difference and coming up with as many fun & ridiculous ideas as they'll let her get away with (0.5k, anyone?). EB loves laughing, tacos, her husband Jared, and their two energetic boys.

JENNIFER OWENS (she/her - Director of Patron Relations) is thrilled to embark on her 8th season at Aurora Theatre! After receiving her BFA from Brenau University, she set her sights on Aurora where she was welcomed to the family in 2014. Her job experiences run the gamut from customer service at a marina, to donning a Bucky the Beaver costume at Lake Lanier Islands to traveling all the way to Crawford, Nebraska to embark on her first Summer Stock at Post Playhouse as a wildly inexperienced Box Office Manager, and then to her most important job of all, becoming a mother. THANK YOU to our patrons who supported us through the thick and thin of the last two years. We wouldn't be here without our community and will be forever grateful for your support and trust.

JUAN CARLOS UNZUETA (he/él - Graphic Designer & Marketing Associate) comes to Aurora after having spent a decade plus in Jacksonville, FL as Education Director at Theatre Jacksonville. While working in NE Florida, he created innovative programming for his young actors as well as partnered with local and national organizations to provide arts-integrated learning opportunities to students in Duval County. Additionally, he handled the design and layout of all marketing collateral and general marketing for the theatre's education programming. Aside from his work in Arts Administration Juan is also an actor and director. Notable credits include: Into the Woods (The Baker), The Light in the Piazza (Fabrizio), In the Heights (Piragua Guy), Pippin (Pippin), Little Shop of Horrors (Seymour), Chess (Freddie), Nine (Guido), guest artist roles with the Jacksonville Symphony Orchestra and First Coast Opera, and most recently as a featured performer in Aurora's Christmas Canteen.

MAXWELL BREAUX (he/him - Marketing Associate) is honored to join the Aurora team as a Marketing Associate. Born and raised in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Maxwell is excited to help create theatre in Georgia. Maxwell received his Bachelors of Fine Arts in Acting from The University of Oklahoma in 2021.

TYLER BARRETT (he/him - Facilities Maintenance Supervisor) is happy to return to Aurora Theatre as the Facility Maintenance Supervisor. Previously working as the Assistant Technical Director in 2019, he is excited to bring his experience into this new role.

DANIEL POPE (he/him - 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 nine 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.

TAYLOR BROYLES (he/him - Technical Director) is so excited to be joining the staff at Aurora Theatre! Worked at Alabama Shakespeare Festival (2015-2022) starting out as a carpenter moving into the Technical Director (2018-2022). A few favorite credits include: Cinderella, Macbeth, Little Shop of Horrors, All is Calm, Pipeline, Romeo and Juliet, Sound of Music, Steel Magnolias, Into the Breeches, Buzz, The Agitators, Every Brilliant Thing, Annie, Twelfth Night, and Miracle Worker. I wouldn't be able to do any of this with out the support of my wife, Tory, and son, Jack.

ASHLEY HOGAN (she/her - Associate Technical Director) is excited to be part of 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 spent time expanding her skill craft as an over-hire carpenter at Aurora, before joining the staff full time.

NICK GRIEVER (he/him - Head of Stage Operations) graduated from Kennesaw State University with a Bachelor's in Lighting Design. He worked at the Cobb Energy Performing Arts Centre for 7 years, working local and touring shows ranging from the Atlanta Ballet, the Atlanta Opera, Rock and Roll, Jazz, Comedians, Broadway, and even ESports competitions. In 2017, Nick joined the US Marine Corps as a Small Arms Repair Technician until 2021 when Honorably discharged. Nick worked on Aurora's Cinderella as the head flyman and now excited to join the staff.

DAISIE MARIE (she/her - Front of House Manager) is honored to be rejoining the Aurora Staff as the Front of House Manager. She has been with the company for 6 years starting as a Box Office Associate in 2015, then making her way to being the Front of House Coordinator in 2017, and now Front of House Manager. She is happy to welcome patrons as we embark on the adventure that is the Lawrenceville Arts Center

GENESIS GATES (she/her - Box Office Manager) is excited to join the Aurora family for her first season as Box Office Manager. She graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre. During her time at Florida State University, she excelled in the acting, writing, and management sectors of the theatre program. She values the relationships she has made already with our loyal patrons, hardworking associates, and passionate co-workers. She looks forward to creating more memories in the upcoming seasons ahead and feels honored to be a part of Aurora Theatre as they continue to cultivate a community of belonging for all.

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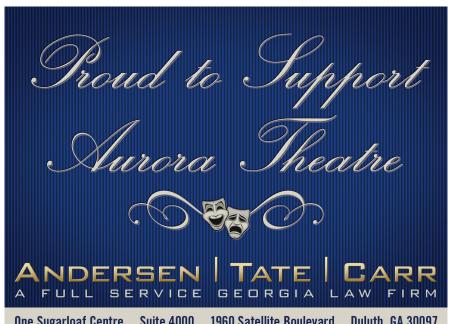
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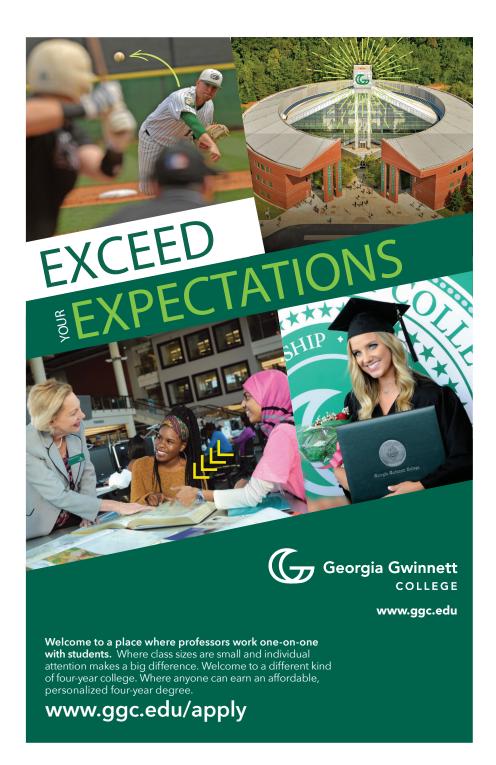
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