



GEVA THEATRE'S 25/26 SEASON SPONSOR

# THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

**SEPTEMBER 9 - OCTOBER 12, 2025**

By **Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shields**

Co-Production with **Indiana Repertory Theatre**

Directed by **Benjamin Hanna**

Remount Directed by **cara hinh**

**Geva**  
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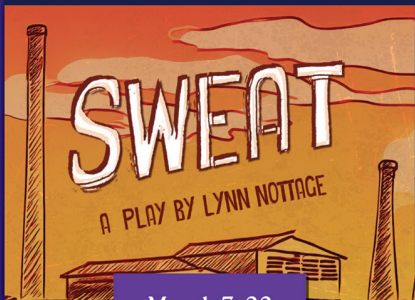
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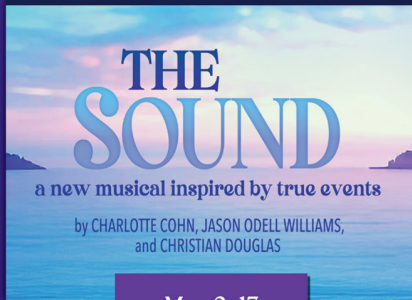
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# WELCOME

- 7 A Message from Geva's Leadership  
– A message from James Haskins, Executive Director
- 8 Production Credits
- 13 *Geva Insights* – Dive Deeper
- 14 An Extremely Brief History of Farce  
By Richard J Roberts, Resident Dramaturg, Indiana Repertory Theatre
- 16 The Playwrights  
Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shield
- 19 Who's Who
- 27 About Geva Theatre
- 29 Mission, Vision, and Values
- 32 Thank You to Our Supporters

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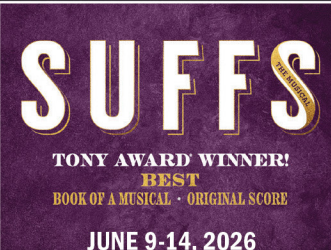
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\*Indicates Former Board Chair

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Tickets can be purchased online at [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org), or by phone at 585-232-4382.

### Box Office Hours:

#### Performance Weeks:

Monday: CLOSED

Tuesday-Saturday: Noon-8:00PM

Sunday: Noon - 7:00pm

#### Non-performance Weeks:

Sunday & Monday: CLOSED

Tuesday-Saturday: Noon-6:00PM

## GROUP RATES

Savings of up to 35% off regular ticket prices.

Available for groups of 10 or more.

Call our Sales Manager at (585) 420-2090, or email [Groups@GevaTheatre.org](mailto:Groups@GevaTheatre.org) for more information.

## STUDENT RUSH TICKETS

Available from \$20 for all non-sold out performances, beginning 2 hours prior to curtain time. Students must present valid ID. One ticket per person.

## COMEDY TONIGHT!

As theatre lore tells us, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* was struggling during out-of-town tryouts in New Haven. Audiences simply didn't know what to make of the Roman comedy mash-up. When the musical moved to Washington, DC, it was on the verge of closing when Stephen Sondheim was inspired to write the now iconic opening number, "Comedy Tonight", which provided the perfect set-up for the spirited frolic the audiences were about to experience.



And so dear playgoers, with our production of the Broadway smash *The Play That Goes Wrong*, "I bid you welcome! Tonight, I am pleased to announce a Comedy. We shall employ every device in our power to divert you." As with last season's *Young Frankenstein*, theatre has the power to divert us from the complexities of the world around us. During the course of a season, we strive to take our audiences on a journey of varied human experiences. Today, we invite you to come together as a community for much needed laughter.

*The Play That Goes Wrong* is produced in partnership with our friends at Indiana Rep in Indianapolis. With much gratitude to Indiana Rep's Artistic Director Benjamin Hanna, who originally directed this production, and Managing Director Suzanne Sweeney, we are pleased to share this production with audiences in multiple cities. In fact, Geva's Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson and I have spearheaded an effort through our national service organization, Theatre Communications Group, to enhance the field's commitment to co-productions with more than 70 theatres across the country.

As we commence our 2025-26 Season with a bit of frivolity, we sincerely wish to express our gratitude to our Season Sponsor ESL Federal Credit Union, Honorary Season Producer Dr. Dawn Lipson, Media Sponsors iHeart Media and 13WHAM, Opening Night Sponsor Madeline's Catering, Official Storage Space Sponsor Buckingham Properties, and Official Vehicle Sponsor Vision Automotive Group.

As stated in the first tenet of our Invitation to Play: We invite you to come as you are – Enter the theatre as you are. Laugh when you feel like laughing. Cry when you feel like crying. React and respond how you need to.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James Haskins". The signature is fluid and stylized, with a long, sweeping horizontal line extending to the right.

James Haskins  
Executive Director



# PRODUCTION CREDITS



**ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON**  
*Artistic Director*

**JAMES HASKINS**  
*Executive Director*

Presents

## THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

By **HENRY LEWIS, HENRY SHIELDS**  
& **JONATHAN SAYER**

Directed by **BENJAMIN HANNA<sup>‡</sup>**

Remount Directed by **CARA HINH<sup>‡</sup>**

*Scenic Design*  
**CHRISTOPHER &  
JUSTIN SWADER<sup>†</sup>**

*Costume Design*  
**IZUMI INABA<sup>†</sup>**

*Lighting Design*  
**JASON LYNCH<sup>†</sup>**

*Sound Design*  
**UPTOWNWORKS<sup>†</sup>**

*Fights, Intimacy & Movement*  
**LERALDO ANZALDUA<sup>‡</sup>**

*Dialect Coach*  
**THOM MILLER**

*Production Stage Manager*  
**JULIA BREGY<sup>\*</sup>**

*Assistant Stage Manager*  
**KEVIN GREGORY  
DWYER<sup>\*</sup>**

*Associate Producer*  
**JASMINE B. GUNTER<sup>‡</sup>**

*Production Manager*  
**JOSEPH BIAGINI**

*General Manager*  
**THALIA SCHRAMM**

### ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Geva Theatre presents *The Play That Goes Wrong* with Indiana Repertory Theater.

Presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service under license from Mischief Worldwide Ltd.

The Mischief Production of *The Play That Goes Wrong* was originally produced on the West End Stage by Kenny Wax & Stage Presence and on Broadway by Kevin McCollum, J.J. Abrams, Kenny Wax & Stage Presence.

*The Play That Goes Wrong* is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service imprint. ([www.dramatists.com](http://www.dramatists.com))



Geva is a proud partner of  in the Geva-Brockport Alliance.

A Spanish-language version of this program is available at the Box Office and online at [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org).  
Translator: Marisol Galarza-Ruiz.



# PRODUCTION CREDITS

## THE CAST

(In alphabetical order)

Annie Twilloil .....	China Brickey*
Trevor Watson .....	Nate Cheeseman*
Jonathan Harris .....	Rob Johansen*
Max Bennett .....	Dominique Lawson*
Robert Grove .....	Brett Mutter*
Sandra Wilkinson .....	Natasia Lucia Reinhardt*
Chris Bean .....	Eric Sharp*
Dennis Tyde .....	Claire Wilcher*

## UNDERSTUDIES

Understudy for Sandra, Annie, and Dennis .....	Sophia Benny
Understudy for Trevor, Max, and Jonathan .....	Parker Howland
Understudy for Chris and Robert .....	Evan Miller Watelet

## SETTING

*The Play That Goes Wrong* goes wrong tonight at a small theatre in an English village.

## APPROXIMATE RUN TIME

2 hours, including one 15-minute intermission

## ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION CREDITS

Substitute Stage Manager .....	Katherine Duprey
Production Assistant .....	Isabella Smith
Associate Lighting Design .....	Madeleine Reid
Associate Sound Design .....	Joe Krempetz
Sign Interpretation Coordinator .....	Luane Davis Haggerty, Ph.D.
Director of Artistic Sign Language .....	Eddie Swayze
Sign Interpreters .....	Anthony Bizzarro and Christopher Coles
Open Captioner .....	Samantha Geffen
Audio Descriptor Program Coordinator and Consultant .....	Rene Latorre
Audio Descriptor .....	Christine Corrado

## ADDITIONAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

*THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG* was first presented by Mischief Theatre under the title *The Murder Before Christmas* on December 4th, 2012, at the Old Red Lion Theatre in London.

*THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG* by Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer & Henry Shields © 2012, 2014 Mischief Worldwide Ltd. All rights reserved.

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This production is presented by arrangement with Dramatists Play Service under license from Mischief Worldwide Ltd.

For Mischief Worldwide Ltd.:

Directors: Mark Bentley, Jonathan Burke, Hendy Lewis, Kenny Wax

Executive Director: Jo Danvers

Marketing Manager: Henry Lockyear

Production & Administrative Assistant: Minoli De Silva

Exclusive Agent for Literary Rights: Nicki Stoddart, United Agents LLP, London

For information about all Mischief works, please visit [www.mischiefcomedy.com](http://www.mischiefcomedy.com)

# PRODUCTION CREDITS

## AFFILIATIONS



\* Members of Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.



† Indicates members of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, an independent national labor union.



† The scenic, costume, lighting and sound designers in LORT Theatres are represented by the United Scenic Artists, Local USA-829 of the IATSE.



Geva Theatre operates under agreements between the League of Resident Theatres (LORT), a consortium of regional theatres throughout the nation; Actors Equity Association (AEA), the union of professional actors and stage managers in the United States; the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society (SDC), an independent national labor union; and United Scenic Artists (USA), a union of scenic, costume, lighting and sound designers.

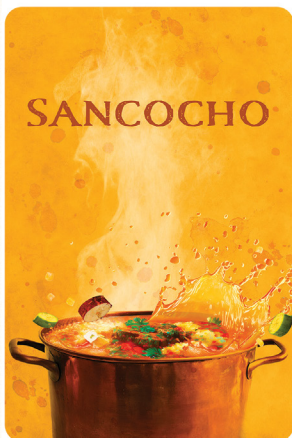


Geva Theatre is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for the American Theatre.



Please note that the taking of photographs or use of recording devices during the performance is not permitted. Cell phones and all other electronic devices are strictly prohibited in the theatre.

## UP NEXT ON GEVA'S FIELDING STAGE



OCT 14 - NOV 23, 2025

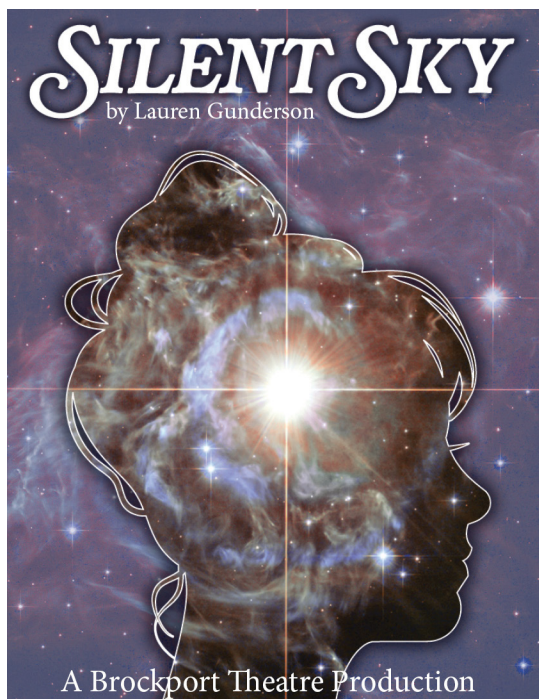
### *Sancocho*

**TWO SISTERS, ONE RECIPE,  
AND THE TRUTH**

Caridad is determined to teach her younger sister to cook the family recipe for the traditional beef stew, *sancocho* - but Renata only wants her to review their father's will. Simmering between the two Puerto Rican sisters is a family tension that finally comes to a boil as their father enters hospice care. Christin Eve Cato's *Sancocho* explores family secrets, generational divides, and the healing that can only come from a meal made with love.

**LEARN  
MORE**





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Tower Black Box Theatre

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**The Kitchen!**



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*The bar and café are always open at  
least 2 hours ahead of performances.  
Visit [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org) for full details.*





# ANNOUNCING GEVA THEATRE'S 2025/2026 STUDENT MATINEE SERIES!

**Teachers:** Bring your students to an exceptional, professional school-day performance; we'll make it easy, enriching, and fun. When you make a Student Matinee reservation, you're buying more than a ticket; you're choosing a complete educational journey for your students.



## Every Student Matinee reservation includes:

- A teacher preview ticket
- A Discovery Guide (available in both English and Spanish) curated by Geva artist-educators, packed with information about the play, relevant context, suggested discussion questions, and related activities
- A post-show talkback with members of the cast

The Passport Program provides free tickets to RCSD groups and charter schools within the city limits of Rochester. Passport tickets are limited and available on a first come, first served basis.

Visit [www.gevatheatre.org/education/](http://www.gevatheatre.org/education/) for complete details!

"I find that teaching hard subjects is made easier by coming to it through the arts first. The Discovery guide was incredible. We used it, almost in its entirety. It provided the perfect background information to discuss and prepare them for what they would see. Geva does a phenomenal job of helping to convey the emotional and intellectual accessibility and stimulation of Geva's productions for young people."



**"My students were mesmerized and blown away! They are still talking about it days later - particularly the use of movement in storytelling."**

"We are a social justice school and having opportunities to bring our students to Geva's shows fits with our mission. Some of our students have been to a live theater production. At the talkback with the cast, the first three hands raised were from my school! This was an invaluable experience."



Geva Theatre's Student Matinees are supported by: William & Sheila Konar Foundation, ESL Charitable Foundation, Daisy Marquis Jones Foundation, Donald F. & Maxine B. Davison Foundation, Rubens Family Foundation, Joseph & Irene Skalny Charitable Trust, Guido & Ellen Palma Foundation, Robert and Susan Toussaint, Richard & Joan Fenton, Elizabeth Rennert, Cornell/Weinstein Family Foundation, Dr. Tomás C. Hernandez & Dr. Keith S. Reas, and Kathleen and Alfred Laitenberg.

## GEVA INSIGHTS DIVE DEEPER

Geva *Insights* is a series of post-performance conversations with thought leaders, experts, and members of the community who contextualize or explore more in deeper consideration of each play's themes. Geva *Insights* was created as a unique opportunity to strengthen our connectivity to new and existing communities in our region and provide a chance for everyone to engage thoughtfully with each show.

# GEVA INSIGHTS

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 27<sup>th</sup>**

**Following the 3:00pm Performance**



Literary Manager & Artistic Associate Fiona Kyle will be joined in Geva's lobby by local Dramaturg and Arts Administrator, Claudia Nolan, for a discussion about *The Play that Goes Wrong* and how place plays a role in farce.

Claudia Nolan is a dramaturg and theater-maker particularly interested in new play development, as well as multicultural and international theater. She received her MFA in Dramaturgy at the University of Massachusetts Amherst, where her thesis focused on

cross-cultural fairytales and the importance of place in performance. She has worked at Geva Theatre, Premiere Stages, McCarter Theatre, New Georges, HERE, MuCCC, and Bread and Water Theatre. She currently works with The Classics Company and the Artist Communities Alliance.

This talkback is **FREE** and open to the public. Discussion begins roughly at 5pm, depending on the performance runtime. Tickets to the September 27<sup>th</sup> performance of *The Play That Goes Wrong* are recommended, but not required. For tickets, visit [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org)

## SAVE THE DATE

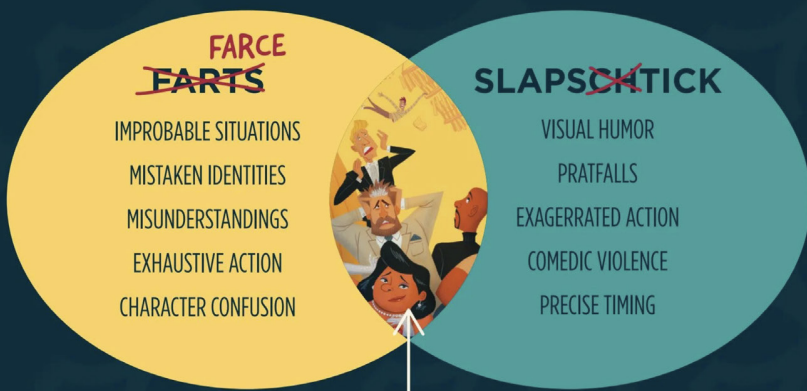
Mark your calendars for future Geva *Insights* discussions for our 25/26 season! Visit [GevaTheatre.org/Events/#GevaInsights](http://GevaTheatre.org/Events/#GevaInsights) for more info.



# AN EXTREMELY BRIEF HISTORY OF ~~F~~ARCE

By Richard J Roberts, Resident Dramaturg, Indiana Repertory Theatre

## FARCE & SLAPSTICK: A HILARIOUS COMBINATION!



## THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG

Farce places exaggerated characters in improbable situations where they face outrageous obstacles. In the fifth century BCE, Aristophanes entertained the audiences of Ancient Greece with larger-than-life characters, ridiculous situations, and lots of bawdy humor. Aristophanes combined his uproarious comedy with serious social messages: In *Lysistrata*, the women of Athens and Sparta go on a sex strike until their husbands stop the war. Two centuries later, Roman playwright Plautus became the first great genius of farce, mastering the art of mistaken identity.

The genre got its name from the Old French *farce*, “to stuff,” when irreverent

actors in fifteenth century France stuffed comic improvisations between the scenes of religious dramas. Soon, plays that focused exclusively on such gags were popular throughout Europe. Sixteenth century Italy developed its own particular brand of farce, *commedia dell’arte*, with its stock characters and situations enlivened by improvised *lazzi* (what today we call “bits” or “shtick”). The great French playwright Molière got his start in *commedia dell’arte*, later folding its farcical elements into the more refined strictures of French comedy to create such masterpieces as *Tartuffe* and *The Miser*. Shakespeare went all the way



back to Plautus's *Menaechmi*, with its two pairs of mismatched twins, for the plot of his *Comedy of Errors*.

Today when we hear the term farce, we usually think of bedroom farce, best exemplified by the work of Georges Feydeau (1862-1921). Feydeau wrote more than sixty plays, most of them big hits in Paris and around Europe, including *13 Rue de L'Amour* and *Ladies Man*. Feydeau was the king of the bedroom farce, plays that focused on the comic possibilities in attempted love affairs. The settings for Feydeau's plays often feature a single room with several doors, and much of the fun comes from the characters chasing each other through those doors, often just missing each other.

Meanwhile in London and on Broadway, *Charley's Aunt* by Brandon Thomas was rolling them in the aisles and racking up long runs. The new technology of cinema quickly embraced farce, making stars of the Keystone Kops, Charlie Chaplin, and the Marx Brothers. More recently, films like *Some Like It Hot* (1959), the Pink Panther series, and *A Fish Called Wanda* (1988) have become classics, while television has given us *I Love Lucy* and *Fawlty Towers*.

Farce returned to its French roots in 1960 with Marc Camoletti's *Boeing Boeing*. The 1962 hit musical *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*

by Larry Gelbart, Bert Shevelove, and Stephen Sondheim returned once again to the Roman master Plautus, stirring together a cocktail of plot lines from several of his greatest hits with a big splash of vaudevillian slapstick. In the 1980s, two very popular stage farces focused on performers: *Noises Off* by British playwright Michael Frayn is set in the theatre, while *Lend Me a Tenor* by American playwright Ken Ludwig focuses on the world of opera. Continuing in this vein, *The Play That Goes Wrong*, a 2012 farce by Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer, and Henry Shields of London's Mischief Theatre company, has been going wrong in London for twelve years and in New York City for six. For more than two millennia, farce has kept us laughing by showing us just how ridiculous the human species can be.



Rob Johansen, Brett Mutter, Claire Wilcher, and Eric Sharp in *The Play That Goes Wrong*, IRT 2025. Photo by Zach Rosing



# THE PLAY RIGHTS

**Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer, & Henry Shield**



Henry Shield as Inspector Carter, Jonathan Sayer as Perkins, and Henry Lewis as Thomas Colley Moore in *The Play That Goes Wrong* on Broadway.

Henry Lewis, Jonathan Sayer, and Henry Shield founded Mischief Theatre when they were students at the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art in West London. The group's first productions, *Let's See What Happens* (2008) and *Lights! Camera! Improvise!* (2009), were improvised comedy shows, but eventually they expanded into comedic theatrical performances that include choreographed routines, jokes, and stunts. In 2012 the three writers and performers devised *The Play That Goes Wrong*. In 2014 the production moved to the Duchess Theatre in the West End, winning Best New Comedy at the 2015 Laurence Olivier Awards. It continues to run

there today. A Broadway production ran from 2017 to 2019 and then moved Off-Broadway to New World Stages, where it still performs today. The play has also had five tours in the United Kingdom and a national tour in the United States. Mischief Theatre's other plays include *Peter Pan Goes Wrong* (2013), *The Comedy about a Bank Robbery* (2016), *Mischief Movie Night* (2017), and *Groan Ups* (2019). They collaborated with Penn & Teller for *Magic Goes Wrong* (2019). For television they have created *A Christmas Carol Goes Wrong* (2017) and a six-part series called *The Goes Wrong Show* (2019). Their newest production, *The Comedy about Spies*, opened in London in April 2025.

# The Cornley Drama Society

Chris Dean, President

proudly presents

## <sup>97</sup> ~~at~~ The Mystery of Haversham Manor

A Mystery in Two Acts

by Susie H. K. Brideswell

Director	Chris Bean
Scenery	Cole Lapsed
Costumes	Eve Saint LaWrong
Lighting & Sound	Trevor Watson
Dramaturgy	Chris Bean
Dialect Coach	Chris Bean
Fight Choreography	Chris Bean
Stage Manager	Annie Twilloil
Box Office Manager	Chris Bean
Press & PR	Chris Bean
Program	Chris Bean

### Cast (in order of ~~dis~~appearance)

Jonathan Harris  
Robert Grove  
George Spelvin  
Max Bennet  
Sandra Wilkinson  
Chris Bean  
Max Bennet  
Winston  
Understudy

CHARLES HAVERSHAM, the deceased  
THOMAS COLLEYMOORE, Charles's old school friend  
PERKINS, Charles's butler  
CECIL HAVERSHAM, Charles's brother  
FLORENCE COLLEYMOORE, Charles's fiancée and Thomas's sister  
INSPECTOR CARTER, an esteemed local inspector  
ARTHUR, the gardener at Haversham Manor  
WINSTON, the guard dog  
DENNIS TYDE

*The action takes place in Charles's private rooms at Haversham Manor  
on the evening of Charles and Florence's engagement party in the Winter of 1922.*

**Tell the world what you thought of the show!**

*At a loss for words? We're here to help!*

#### Words to Use:

good • best • awesome • exciting • inspiring • lovely • important • worthwhile  
tasty • professional • rare • well done • like a warm bath

#### Words Not to use:

bad • worst • awful • excreting • perspiring • icky • impotent • worthless  
tasteless • amateur • error • overdone • moist

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## CAST

### CHINA BRICKEY (*Annie Twilloil*) (she/her)



has been so looking forward to returning to this cast and this rollercoaster of a play! China is currently based in the Twin Cities. Selected Regional: Guthrie Theater: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *A Christmas Carol*,

*Murder on the Orient Express*; Theater Latté Da: *Hello Dolly!*; Cincinnati Playhouse: *Murder on the Orient Express*; Jungle Theater: *Redwood*; Theater Mu: *Today Is My Birthday*; Park Square Theater: *Pride and Prejudice*, *Romeo and Juliet*; The Ordway: *Smokey Joe's Cafe*, *Mamma Mia*; Children's Theatre Company (Minneapolis): *Milo Imagines the World*, *Matilda*, *The Wiz*, *A Snowy Day*; Seattle Children's Theater: *A Snowy Day*; Penumbra Theater: *Girl Shakes Loose*. ChinaBrickey.com

### NATE CHEESEMAN (*Trevor Watson*) (he/



him) Geva Theatre: Debut. Regional Theater credits include: *Bernhardt/Hamlet* (Goodman Theater); *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *Twelfth Night*, *Juno and the Paycock*, *Cyrano*

*de Bergerac* (Guthrie Theater); *Sense and Sensibility* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival); *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *Sense and Sensibility* (Illinois Shakespeare Festival); *Lone Star Spirits*, *The Wickhams*, *Stinkers* (Jungle Theater); *Romeo and Juliet*, *Macbeth*, *Twelfth Night*, *Comedy of Errors*, *You Never Can Tell*, *Richard III*, *As You Like It* (Montana Shakespeare in the Parks). Education: BFA in Acting from the University of Minnesota.

### ROB JOHANSEN (*Jonathan Harris*) (he/

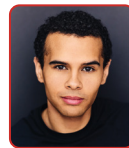


him) Originally from New York, Rob has made his acting career predominantly in the Midwest. He has appeared in 56 productions at the Indiana Repertory Theatre. Some highlights at IRT include The

Clown in *39 Steps*, *The Mystery of Irma Vep*, Jim Casy in *The Grapes of Wrath* (which he also did at Syracuse Stage), 12 years as Bob Cratchit and entering his fifth year as Scrooge in *A Christmas Carol*, and last but not least,

the Puppet in *Little Shop of Horrors*! Rob has done 5 shows with Syracuse Stage, and one at Geva a LONG time ago: *Camelot* in 2004! Rob and his wife, Jen were both honored with the Lunt/Fontaine Ten Chimney Fellowship in 2022. Rob is a passionate volunteer at the Indianapolis Humane Society, working with special needs dogs to help them on the path to adoption. Rob asks you to consider your local shelters before breeders if you are looking to add a loved one to your home!

### DOMINIQUE LAWSON (*Max Bennett*) (he/



him) is honored to get to revisit Max Bennett in his Geva Theatre debut. Off-Broadway: *Shedding Load* (59E59). Regional: *Play That Goes Wrong*, *25<sup>th</sup> Annual... Spelling Bee*, *Little Shop of*

*Horrors* (Indiana Repertory Theatre), *Once on this Island* (Oregon Shakespeare Festival), *Spring Awakening* (Hangar Theatre), *Rent* (Theatre Aspen). Television: *FBI*, *Bull* (CBS), *Younger* (TV Land), *High Maintenance* (HBO), *Hit & Run* (Netflix), *The Blacklist* (NBC), *Lisey's Story* (Apple TV+), *Dr. Death* (Peacock). Film: *Happiest Season* (Hulu), *Down Low* (Netflix). B.F.A. from University of Central Florida. "Thanks to IcyHot and Epsom Salts, my family, and my reps at Entertainment Lab / BWA!" Instagram: @DominiqueAllenLawson

### BRETT MUTTER (*Robert Grove*) (he/him) is



honored to be rejoining this all-star team and thrilled to share some laughter with Rochester audiences this fall! Geva debut! Originally from Dayton, Ohio, Brett spent the last decade performing around

the country before making Indianapolis, IN home base in 2022, where he serves on the casting team for Beef & Boards Dinner Theatre. Brett spent the summer playing Ogie in *Waitress*, directed/choreographed by OBC member, Stephanie Torn. Other favorite credits: *42<sup>nd</sup> Street/The Wizard of Oz* (Beef & Boards), *Ripcord* (Sierra Rep), *Into the Breeches* (St. Michael's Playhouse), *The Music Man* (Circa 21), *Titanic/She Loves Me* (Actors Theatre of Indiana), *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Indiana Rep). BGSU MT Alum. "All my love to Joey, Mom, Dad, Lindsey, and Peggy!" IG: @b\_mutt\_er



# WHO'S WHO

## NATASIA LUCIA REINHARDT (*Sandra Wilkinson*) (all pronouns)



is pleased to have their Geva debut and return to Rochester where they intimacy choreographed *Collective Rage: A Play in Five Betties*.

Natasia is a low vision actor whose regional credits include Indiana Repertory Theater, The American Shakespeare Center, Trustus Theater, Ensemble Theater of Cincinnati, and Richmond Shakespeare Theater. Natasia is also an intimacy choreographer who pioneered the Resident Intimacy Choreographer position at the American Shakespeare Center. Natasia is forever grateful to their family and partner for their never ending love and support.

## ERIC SHARP (*Chris Bean*) (he/him) is thrilled



to be making his Geva debut! Eric is a '24-'25 McKnight Theater Artist Fellow based in Minneapolis. Recent projects include *The Herds* (European Tour), *The Play That Goes Wrong* at Indiana Rep, *The*

*History Plays* (*Richard II*, *Henry IV*, *Henry V*) at the Guthrie Theater, *What You Can't Keep* with Trademark Theater, and *The Chinese Lady* (director) at Open Eye Theatre. A Theater Mu Associate Artist, Eric has appeared in *Cambodian Rock Band*, *Hot Asian Doctor Husband*, *Two Mile Hollow*, and *Middle Brother* (NNPN Showcase Finalist). He directed the YouTube series *The Remix with Theater Mu*, and *You Shall Hear Me: Stories From Beyond*. Other credits: Jungle Theater, Ten Thousand Things, Alliance Theatre, MN/Toronto/Edinburgh Fringe Festivals. Eric's voiceover work can be heard on Metropolitan Opera HD, Netflix, HBO Max, & Penguin Random House Audio. Workshop.org

## CLAIRE WILCHER (*Dennis Tyde*) (she/her) is



an actor, intimacy director, and educator based in Indianapolis, IN. Favorite roles include Mrs. Peacock in *Clue* (Indiana Repertory Theatre), Bottom in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Phebe in *As You Like*

*It* (Indianapolis Shakespeare Company), Storyteller in *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, Trekkie Monster/Lucy in *Avenue Q* (Phoenix Theatre). Claire has directed for the Phoenix Theatre, Booth Tarkington Civic Theatre, and Michigan State University, from whom

she holds an MFA. Claire is also a certified intimacy director with IDC Professionals and serves as the resident intimacy director at IRT.

## SOPHIA BENNY (*Understudy for Annie/Dennis/Sandra*) (she/her) is



thrilled to be back at Geva! She was previously in *A Christmas Carol* 2024 (Ensemble, U/S Belle, Martha Cratchit) at Geva. She recently spent her summer in the Musical Theatre

Conservatory at Barrington Stage Company, and she graduated from SUNY Geneseo with a degree in Musical Theatre in 2024. Some of her favorite Geneseo credits include *Lucky Stiff* (Annabel Glick), *Tuck Everlasting* (Mae Tuck), and *The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual...Spelling Bee* (Schwarzzy). She thanks her friends, family, and mentors for their constant support. Fingers crossed the show goes right tonight! Instagram: @sophiabenny

## PARKER HOWLAND (*Understudy for Max/Jonathan/Trevor*) (he/him)



is overjoyed to be making his Geva debut! Parker is an actor/singer/stagehand and holds a B.A. in Acting from SUNY New Paltz. Previous credits include: *The Flick* at

RedHouse Arts Center, *Picasso* at the Lapin Agile at Chenango River Theatre, Junie B. Jones in *Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!* at Theatre of Youth, *A Christmas Carol* at Cider Mill Stage, and *Auntie Mortem's Abattoir* at Hersheypark. He thanks his friends and family for always supporting him and encouraging him to chase his dreams. As well as cara, the cast, and crew for constantly inspiring him! @parkerhowland\_ or parkerhowland.com

## EVAN MILLER WATELET (*Understudy for Chris/Robert*) (he/him) is a



singer/songwriter in Rochester, NY last seen onstage as Dewey Finn in JCC Centerstage Theatre's production of *School of Rock*. Evan came to theatre late. His first role out of high

school was at the age of 23, as Henry in *Next to Normal* at Blackfriars Theatre in 2020. Since then - and the resurgence of live theater - he has barely taken a break from the stage. From Shakespeare (Claudio, *Much Ado About Nothing*, Rochester Community Players) to Rodgers and Hammerstein (Jud Fry, *Oklahoma*, Webster Theatre Guild), Evan has played a

wide range of roles. He is particularly drawn to roles that require larger than life energy, but also loves digging into smaller, more vulnerable moments. Evan is deeply honored to be working with Geva Theatre for the first time. He hopes that everything goes wrong in the right way, and looks forward to his next turn on the Wilson Stage.

## CREATIVE & ARTISTIC TEAM

### **BENJAMIN HANNA** (*Director*) (he/him)

As a director, educator, and community engagement specialist, Ben is guided by the belief that access to high-quality theatre helps build creative, empathetic people and healthy communities. Across his career, he has focused on building the next generation of artists and audiences by creating and advocating for multigenerational, multi-cultural, and family-oriented programming. Ben is in his third season as Indiana Repertory Theatre's Margot Lacy Eccles Artistic Director, following six years as the company's Associate Artistic Director. He has worked throughout the country at Berkeley Repertory Theatre, Penumbra Theatre Company, Bay Area Children's Theatre, and Children's Theatre Company prior to his role at IRT. He is the recipient of the Theatre Communications Group Leadership University Award funded by the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. Ben holds a degree in theatre arts from the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. He fell in love with telling stories at the age of eleven at the Prairie Wind Players community theatre in rural Minnesota.

### **CARA HINH** (*Remount Director*) (they/she)

cara is a queer, fat, Việt theatre maker and hoosier. They are the Associate Artistic Director at Indiana Repertory Theatre. cara has worked with theatres around the country as a director and educator. Select theatres: Arena Stage, Atlantic Theatre Company, Ars Nova, Berkeley Rep, Breaking the Binary, Hangar Theatre, Ma-Yi, MCC, The Movement, Perseverance Theatre, Playwrights Realm, The Sóng Collective, Village Theatre, Working Theatre and more. cara has been a Drama League Fellow, member of the '20-22 Roundabout Directors Group, a Directing Apprentice at Actors Theatre of Louisville, SDC Observer on *Hadestown* with Rachel Chavkin and a Fellow at Baltimore Center Stage. carahinh.com

### **CHRISTOPHER & JUSTIN SWADER** (*Scenic Design*) (he/him & he/him)

Geva: *Little Women*, *Dial M for Murder*. NYC & Off Broadway credits include: Primary Stages, Red Bull Theater, Fiasco Theater, Tectonic Theater Project, The New Victory Theatre, The Mint Theater, Classical Theatre of Harlem, Lincoln Center Education, York Theatre Company, Trusty Sidekick, Mason Holdings. Regional credits include designs at: Hartford Stage, The Old Globe, Children's Theatre Company, Goodspeed Musicals, Signature Theatre, Dallas Theater Center, George Street Playhouse, Two River Theatre, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Everyman Theatre, Miami New Drama, People's Light, Resident Ensemble Players at UD, Dorset Theatre Festival, Weston Theater Company, SpeakEasy Stage Co. Other projects include designs for A\$AP Rocky, Sotheby's, 2020 Summer Olympics, Big Apple Circus, National Geographic. Graduates of Ball State University. cjswaderdesign.com

### **IZUMI INABA** (*Costume Design*) (she/her)

is excited to work with Geva Theatre for the first time. Recent credits include *Cats* and *Come From Away* (Paramount Theatre), *Empty Ride* and *Noises Off* (The Old Globe), *Rocky Horror Picture Show* (Penobscot Theatre Company). Upcoming productions include *Sanctuary City* (Next Act Theatre), and *Happy Birthday Mars Rover* (University of Chicago). Izumi is a member of United Scenic Artists Local USA 829 and represented by Gersh.

### **JASON LYNCH** (*Lighting Design*) (he/him)

returns to Geva, where previous design credits include *The Color Purple* and *How to Catch Creation*. OFF BROADWAY: Audible Theatre/Minetta Lane Theatre: *You Are Here: An Evening with Solea Pfeiffer*. REGIONAL: Select: Alley Theatre, Court Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Denver Center Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, Huntington Theatre Company, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Kansas City Repertory Theatre, Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Steppenwolf Theatre, The Old Globe. AWARDS: 1 Joseph Jefferson, 2 Black Theater Alliance/Ira Aldridge, Michael Maggio Emerging Designer, Outstanding Achievement in Lighting Design (International Black Theatre Festival). UPCOMING: Goodman Theatre: *Ashland Avenue*; Guthrie Theater: *Primary Trust*; Repertory Theatre of St. Louis: *Emma* and *Primary Trust*. jasondlynch.com, @jasonlynch.design on IG.

# WHO'S WHO

**BAILEY TRIERWEILER** (he/him), **DANIELA HART** (she/they), **NOEL NICHOLS** (they/she) & **UPTOWNWORKS** (*Sound Design*) UptownWorks is a collaborative design team specializing in theater, film, podcasts installations and other media. Select sound design highlights include *You Are Cordially Invited* (SCR); *Becoming Eve* (NYTW); *Laughs in Spanish* (Hartford Stage); *Grandiloquent* (Lortell); *Franklinland* (EST); *I'm Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter* (DCPA); *Blood of the Lamb* (59E59); *Tiny Father* (Geffen Playhouse); *Problems Between Sisters* (Studio Theatre DC); *Dangerous Days* (Miami New Drama); *Las Borinqueñas* (EST); *Murder on the Orient Express* (Syracuse Stage); *FIVE The Parody Musical* (Visceral Entertainment); *Lady Day* (Baltimore Center Stage); *Avaz* (South Coast Rep); *Black Odyssey* (Classic Stage); *Espejos:Clean* (Hartford Stage); *the ripple, the wave...* (Berkeley Rep/Goodman). This design was led by Bailey Trierweiler (btsounddesign.com), Daniela Hart (uptownworksnyc.com) and Noel Nichols (noelnicholsdesign.com).

**LERALDO ANZALDUA** (*Fights, Intimacy & Movement*) (he/him) is a Fight Master, Fight Director, Certified Teacher with Society of American Fight Directors; an Intimacy Directory with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators; and a Fight Choreographer with Stage Directors & Choreographers. Theaters: Prague Shakespeare Company, Actor's Theatre of Louisville, Indiana Repertory Theatre, Alley Theatre, Cincinnati Shakespeare Company, Houston Grand Opera, Colorado Shakespeare Festival, Lake Tahoe Shakespeare Festival, Cleveland Playhouse and more. He has a Master's Degree in Acting from University of Houston. Currently an Assistant Professor of Movement and Stage Combat with the Department of Theatre & Dance at Indiana University. leraldoanzaldua.com.

**THOM MILLER** (*Dialect Coach*) (he/him) is an actor, text/dialect coach, and Associate Professor at Syracuse University. As a dialect coach, Miller has worked on Off-Broadway, regional productions, and film sets with internationally acclaimed performers. A proud member of AEA and SAG/AFTRA, Miller has acted Off-Broadway and in some of the best regional theaters across the country as well as in independent films and commercials. He received a BFA from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and an MFA from the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign.

**MADELEINE REID** (*Associate Lighting Design*) (she/her) is a Chicago based Lighting Designer for theatre, opera, dance, and live events. Recent Design credits include: *No Such Thing* (Rivendell Theatre); *Dial M For Murder* (Penobscot Theatre Company); *Guys & Dolls* (Harper College); *Puffs* (Cape Fear Regional Theatre); *9 To 5: The Musical* (MPAC); *I & You* (Elgin Community College); *Potus* (Stages Houston); *Hurricane Diane* (Rec Room); *The Chinese Lady* (Kitchen Theatre/ Geva Theatre). Assistant/Associate Design credits include productions with Goodman Theatre, The Alley Theatre, Lookingglass Theatre, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Utah Shakespeare Festival, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Dallas Opera, and Repertory Theatre St. Louis. madeleinegreid.com

**JULIA BREGY** (*Production Stage Manager*) (she/her) is thrilled to return back for her fourth season here at Geva. She would like to thank her family and friends for all of their support. New York: *The Dark Lady* (Evan Bernardin Productions), *DiscOasis* NYC (Constellation Immersive), *Proud Ladies* (James Williams Productions). Regional: *Always...Patsy Cline* (Geva Theatre), *Pure Native* (Geva Theatre), *Little Women* (Geva Theatre), *Young Frankenstein* (Geva Theatre/Bay Street Theater/Berkshire Theatre Group), *Frida...A Self Portrait* (Geva Theatre), *Measure for Measure* (Fiasco Theatre/Actors Theatre of Louisville), *Fun Home* (Speakeasy Boston), *Little Women* (Perseverance Theatre). International: *Little Mermaid* (Metta Theatre London/Underbelly). For her parents.

**KEVIN GREGORY DWYER** (*Assistant Stage Manager*) (he/him) Let's kick off his third season at Geva Theatre by going off the rails. Previous Geva favorites: *Always... Patsy Cline*, *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*, *Pure Native*, *August Wilson's How I Learned What I Learned*, *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill*, and *FRIDA...A Self Portrait*. Regional highlights: *Bandstand*, *Jersey Boys*, *A Chorus Line*, *EVITA* (The REV Theatre Co). National Tours: *The Book of Mormon*. Chicago: *An American in Paris*, Disney and Cameron Macintosh's *Mary Poppins*, *The Color Purple*, *Mamma Mia!*, Disney's *Beauty and the Beast*, and *Little Shop of Horrors* (Drury Lane Theatre); *Macbeth*, *Q Brothers Christmas Carol*, *King Charles III*, and *Othello* (Chicago Shakespeare Theater); *This Is Our Youth* and *Lord of the Flies* (Steppenwolf Theatre Company). Proud AEA Member and Emerson College Alum. For my parents, for instilling love and laughter.

**ISABELLA SMITH (*Production Assistant*)** is excited to be making her professional debut on *The Play That Goes Wrong*, having previously worked on *Little Women* and *Pure Native* as a stage management intern. As a recent graduate of SUNY Brockport, she has earned management and production credits on *POTUS*, *Ordinary Days* and *Festival of 10 XIV* while earning her BS in media production, theatre and film.

## STAFF LEADERSHIP

**ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON (*Artistic Director*)**



(she/her) joined Geva as Artistic Director in 2022, to launch the theatre's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Season. An Obie Award-winning director, Williamson is known internationally for her work as a dramaturg, director, adapter, and producer. Broadway: Matthew López' *The Inheritance* (Tony, Olivier, Critics Circle, Evening Standard, GLAAD, and Drama Desk Awards for Best Play, Outer Critics Circle Honoree), *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Tony Award for Best Musical), *Anastasia*. West End: *The Inheritance*. Off-Broadway: Sarah Gancher's *Russian Troll Farm*, Dan O'Brien's *The Body of an American*. Regional: About Face Theatre, ACT, the Alley, Cal Shakes, Court, Hartford Stage, the La Jolla Playhouse, Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Pioneer Theatre, Steppenwolf, Theatre de La Jeune Lune, TheaterWorks Hartford, TheatreSquared, the Westport Country Playhouse, Williamstown Theatre Festival. Williamson previously served as Associate Artistic Director and Literary Manager at Pioneer Theatre Company in Salt Lake City and as Associate Artistic Director and Director of New Play Development at Hartford Stage. She received a 2007 NEA Fellowship in Literary Translation and is a member of SDC and LMDA. Education: M.St., Oxford University; B.A., Bennington College; trained at the École Internationale de Théâtre Jacques Lecoq.

**JAMES HASKINS (*Executive Director*)** (he/



him) is honored to serve as Geva Theatre's Executive Director alongside Artistic Director Elizabeth Williamson, and Geva's Board and staff. Prior to coming to Geva, James served as Managing Director

of the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis after having completed a twelve-year tenure as Managing Director of The Wilma Theater in Philadelphia in partnership with Artistic Director Blanka Zizka. James began his work in theater administration at Circle Repertory Company and went on to work with a variety of theaters in New York and Seattle, most notably the Seattle Group Theatre. Upon moving to Philadelphia, he first worked as Managing Director of InterAct Theatre Company, while also serving on the Board of the Theatre Alliance of Greater Philadelphia as Chair of the Barrymore Awards Oversight Committee. He subsequently moved into the Executive Director position of the Theatre Alliance before joining the Wilma. As a theater artist, James acted in many productions before turning to theater administration and is most proud of his directorial and dramaturgical work on the plays of his husband Michael Whistler. James holds an MFA from the University of Washington and a BA from The College of Wooster in Ohio, where he previously served on the alumni board. Following the pandemic shutdown, James joined committees of the Minnesota Arts and Culture Coalition and the Professional Non-profit Theatre Coalition to help build support and funding for arts and culture. In Philadelphia, he served on the Cultural Advisory Committee under former Mayor Michael Nutter, who officiated his wedding ceremony. James currently serves on the Board of the Rochester Downtown Development Corporation.



# MAGIC STARTS HERE

## Musical Theatre Camps Grades 4-6



Photo of Geva's 2025 February Break Camp by Ron Heekens Jr.

**Geva's Musical Theatre camps focus on helping students explore theatre and discover their place in it through acting, dance, and vocal classes. Throughout the week, they also build collaboration skills as they work together to put on a show.**



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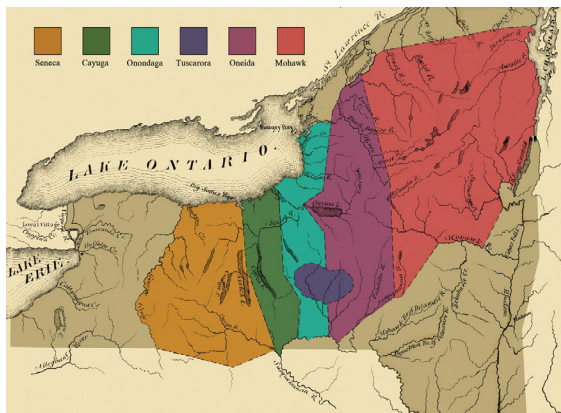
\*Membership subject to eligibility. Offer valid until September 30, 2025. Use promo code GEVA25. To qualify for a youth account, you must be 15 years or younger and be accompanied by a parent or guardian. See website for details. Federally insured by NCUA.

# ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND

A land acknowledgement creates a more accurate picture of the history of the lands and waterways we call home and pays respect to the Indigenous People who have stewarded them from time immemorial. At Geva, we offer this statement as part of our anti-racist values and to help us all unlearn and relearn the history that has brought us here to the land we call the United States. With this understanding, we can envision a new path forward, led by the principles of equity and justice.

American society as it exists today owes its identity and vitality to generations from around the world who contributed their hopes, dreams and resources to making the history that led to this moment. Some were stolen and enslaved here against their will, some were drawn to leave their distant homes in search of a better life, and some have stewarded this land for more generations than can be counted. Acknowledging the hardships and atrocities that many peoples have suffered on American soil is critical to building mutual respect and connection across all barriers of heritage and difference. By honoring this truth, we begin this effort to acknowledge what has been purposefully buried.

There are 567 federally recognized Indian Nations (variously called tribes, nations, bands, pueblos, communities and Native villages) in the United States. Additionally, there are tribes located throughout the United States who are recognized by their respective state governments.



Graphic by Eric E. Doxtator

## Geva's Acknowledgment

We are gathered in the ancestral and unceded territory of the Onöndowa'ga, or "the people of the Great Hill." In English, they are known as Seneca people, "the keeper of the western door." Together, with the Mohawk, Cayuga, Onondaga, Oneida, and Tuscarora, the Seneca make up the sovereign Haudenosaunee Confederacy. We pay respects to their elders, past and present. Please take a moment to consider the many legacies of violence, displacement, genocide and migration that bring us together here today. And please join us in uncovering such truths at any and all public events.

To learn more about the Native people in our region and the Canandaigua Treaty of 1794, visit [ganondagan.org](http://ganondagan.org).

# ABOUT GEVA THEATRE



Geva Theatre is a not-for-profit theatre company dedicated to creating and producing singular theatre productions and programs that serve the Rochester region and beyond, by illuminating the fullness of our many human experiences.

Founded in 1972 by William Selden and Cynthia Mason Selden, Geva was originally housed in the Rochester Business Institute building on South Clinton Avenue. In 1982, Geva purchased and converted its current space – formerly a NYS Arsenal designed by noted Rochester architect Andrew J Warner and built in 1868 – and opened its new home at the Richard Pine Theatre in March 1985. Geva operates two venues – the 516-seat Elaine P. Wilson Stage, and the 180-seat Ron & Donna Fielding Stage.

As one of the country's leading theatre companies and a member of the national League of Resident Theatres, Geva produces a varied contemporary repertoire from musicals to world premieres celebrating the rich tapestry of our diverse community. We draw upon the talents of some of the country's top actors, directors, designers, and writers who are shaping the American Theatre scene.

Geva's Education Department serves thousands of students annually through student matinees, in-school workshops, the acclaimed Summer Academy training program, and other programs. Geva's New Play Development Programming offers new and established writers a nurturing environment from which to take their work to the next level. Geva has presented approximately 400 play readings and workshops since its inception. Nearly 70 Geva-developed plays have had subsequent productions around the country. Geva's Literary Department produces multifaceted programs such as Geva *Insights* that deepen the appreciation of the work on our stages, provide opportunities for regional dialogues, and help fulfill Geva's anti-racism commitments through collaborative programming.

An active member of the Rochester community, Geva offers a multitude of opportunities for our audience and community members to engage with live theatre and the country's best artists. Since the breadth of Geva's programming cannot be sustained on ticket sales alone, this contribution to the region's cultural, social and economic vitality is recognized by grants and charitable contributions from federal, state and local government agencies, national and local foundations, and businesses and individuals from throughout the region.

For more information: [GevaTheatre.org](http://GevaTheatre.org).





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# MISSION, VISION, AND VALUES

## Our Mission

To create and produce singular theatre productions and programs that serve the Rochester region and beyond, by illuminating the fullness of our many human experiences.

## Vision

To work in collaboration with the most exhilarating creatives and organizations in the field – locally, nationally and internationally. To produce and present vital live theatre and multi-disciplinary experiences, and essential education and engagement programs, involving a diverse array of perspectives, for and with the communities that comprise the greater Rochester, NY region.

## Values

Geva values artistic courage, sustainability, excellence, boundless hospitality, empathy, and anti-racism and inclusion.

### Artistic Courage

We foster a culture that invites us to dream up new worlds. We challenge ourselves and our audiences to embrace theatre-making that makes the seemingly impossible possible.

### Sustainability

The decisions we make in the present are decisions that ensure our future. We care for our organization, our resources – human, financial, and natural – and our communities in a way that will sustain Geva for future generations.

### Excellence

We hold ourselves and each other to the highest standards. We approach our work as lifelong students: always striving to learn, evolving our craft, and deepening our practice.

### Anti-Racism & Inclusion

We strive to overcome systemic inequities through active inclusivity, equity, accountability, anti-discrimination and anti-racism practices as defined by Geva.

### Boundless Hospitality

All are welcome at Geva regardless of ability, where they come from, or how they identify. We endeavor to make our productions, programs, and space accessible and inclusive to cultivate a true sense of belonging.

### Empathy & Transparency

An organization is best when all individuals are at their best. We center empathy, compassion, and transparency in our practices, ensuring that our artists and staff thrive in a workplace environment of mutual respect, trust and kindness.

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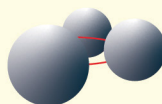
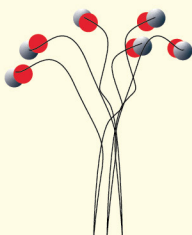
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**dir. Mark Cuddy**

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*General Manager*

DELANNA STUDI (she/her)  
*2024/2026 Artist in Residence*

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