



GEVA THEATRE'S 25/26 SEASON SPONSOR

SANCOCHO

OCTOBER 14 - NOVEMBER 23, 2025

By **Christin Eve Cato**
Directed by **Rebecca Martinez**

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THEATRE

Honorary Season
Producer





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WELCOME

- 7 A Message from Geva's Leadership
– A message from Elizabeth Williamson, Artistic Director
- 8 Production Credits
- 11 Upcoming Events
- 13 Ingredients and More
- 17 Who's Who
- 23 About Geva Theatre
- 25 Mission, Vision, and Values
- 28 Thank You to Our Supporters

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Please relax and be at home at Geva. Our space is here to welcome you and everyone in our community.

WE INVITE YOU TO
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DISCOMFORT.

Theatre can entertain; however, theatre can also explore larger issues and questions. Challenge your perspective here at Geva.

WE INVITE YOU TO
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Join us in challenging assumptions and amplifying marginalized voices. Let's create theatre that reflects the diverse experiences of our world, our country, and our region.

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TICKETS

Tickets can be purchased online at 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 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.

A MESSAGE FROM GEVA'S LEADERSHIP

When Christin Eve Cato was here as dramaturg for *Somewhere* three years ago, she told me about a play she was writing about two sisters coming together over a family recipe, and it's such a joy to have her back this season with the beautiful play that resulted, *Sancocho*! We're also welcoming back director Rebecca Martinez, who was here four seasons ago with *Somewhere Over the Border*. Rebecca's put together a wonderful team on the show, including scenic designer Raul Abrego, who designed the gorgeous set for Geva's production of *Ain't Misbehavin'*.



Sancocho is a meal meant to be shared, and we are so grateful to be working with Annette Ramos, everyone at IBERO, Chef La Flaca, and more on a number of events here at Geva and around Rochester where we'll all be able to share both Christin's beautiful story and some wonderful stew! For those of you who joined us at the Latin American Festival at International Plaza on Sunday, October 5 for a special preview of *Sancocho* with the actors and a sancocho cook-off, thank you! It was thrilling to be there and eat everyone's delicious food.

We hope you'll join us for our free-to-the-public *Mondays at Geva* event on Monday, November 10 with Chef La Flaca for a cooking demonstration in our lobby. We have some other great conversations with members from Chef La Flaca's team following the 2pm performance on Sunday, October 26, on Saturday, November 1 following the 3pm performance, and for our Latine Affinity Performance on Sunday, November 9 following the 2pm performance with Annette Ramos.

As always, we are grateful to Season Sponsor ESL Federal Credit Union and Dr. Dawn Lipson, our Special Season Producer, for their support on our 2025-26 season at Geva. We are also thankful for our Media Sponsor WXXI, and Opening Night Sponsor Rochester Area Community Foundation. *Sancocho* reminds us of the importance of family and community, and we are grateful to be in community with our sponsors and all of you in our audience.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth K. Williamson".

Elizabeth Williamson
Artistic Director



PRODUCTION CREDITS



ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON
Artistic Director

JAMES HASKINS
Executive Director

Presents

SANCOCHO

By **CHRISTIN EVE CATO**

Directed by **REBECCA MARTÍNEZ†**

Scenic Design
RAUL ABREGO†

Costume Design
HARRY NADAL†

Lighting Design
**CAROLINA ORTIZ
HERRERA†**

Sound Design & Composition
JULIAN MESRI†

Cultural Consultant
ANNETTE RAMOS

Production Stage Manager
CHARLES K. BAYANG*

Production Assistant
MEGHAN CLARK

Casting Director
CALLERI JENSEN DAVIS

Associate Producer
JASMINE B. GUNTER†

Production Manager
JOSEPH BIAGINI

General Manager
THALIA SCHRAMM

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Sancocho is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc.
www.concordtheatricals.com

The Off-Broadway Premiere of *Sancocho* was presented in March 2023 by Latinx Playwrights Circle, WP Theater, and The Sol Project at WP Theater in Manhattan.

Midwest Premiere by Visión Latino Theatre Company, Chicago, IL.

Sancocho was originally developed by the Latinx Playwrights Circle.



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.
Translator: Marisol Galarza-Ruiz.

PRODUCTION CREDITS

THE CAST

(In alphabetical order)

Renata.....Ashley Alvarez*
Caridad.....Cindy Peralta*

UNDERSTUDY

Understudy for Renata..... Ashley Ricci Garcia

SETTING

New York City, El Barrio. A pre-war apartment building.

APPROXIMATE RUN TIME

1 hours, 40 minutes (no intermission)

ADDITIONAL PRODUCTION CREDITS

Culinary Consultants..... Chef La Flaca (Madelin Castillo & Wilson Castillo)
Sign Interpretation Coordinator Luane Davis Haggerty, Ph.D
Director of Artistic Sign LanguageElisa Velez
Sign Interpreters.....Jabriel Parham and Elliana Soto
Open Captioner..... Samantha Geffen
Audio Descriptor Program Coordinator and Consultant..... Rene Latorre
Audio Descriptor.....Bob Parshall

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.

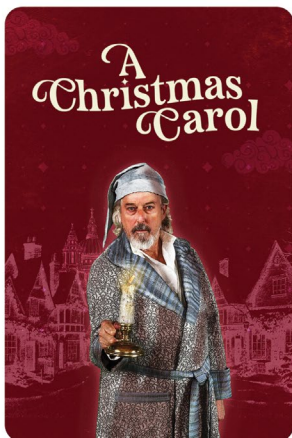


Geva Theatre is a member of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national service organization for the American Theatre.



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 WILSON STAGE



NOV 22 - DEC 28

A Christmas Carol

A Tale of Hope, Humor, and Heart

Rochester's favorite holiday tradition returns with an adaptation of Charles Dickens' classic story that begins with a wish made by young Tim Cratchit. Over the course of one night, notorious grump Ebenezer Scrooge is visited by four ghosts. But will their intervention prompt him to change his "humbug" ways? *A Christmas Carol* reminds us that it is never too late to have a change of heart.

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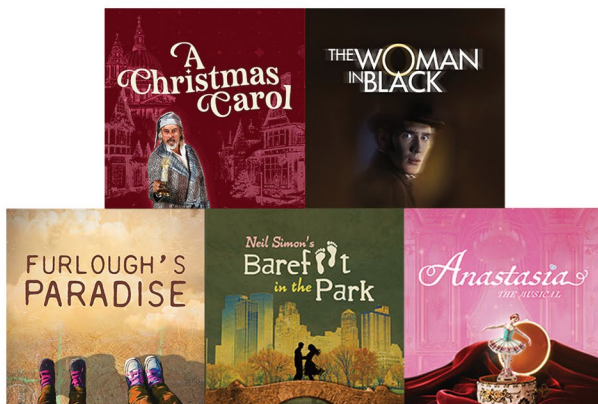


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ANNOUNCING GEVA THEATRE'S 2025/2026 STUDENT MATINEE SERIES!

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/ 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

MONDAYS AT GEVA



Monday, November 10th

From 6–8pm

Chef La Flaca, *Sancocho's* Culinary Consultants, will be doing a live cooking demonstration for this special Mondays at Geva event. Our lobby will be filled with the aromas of Caribbean cooking as Chefs Madelin Castillo and Wilson Castillo share the history and preparation of certain vegetables as well as culinary tips and tricks. This is a free-to-the-public event, to RSVP, visit GevaTheatre.org/Engagement/

GEVA INSIGHTS

Post-Performance Talkbacks

Sunday, October 26, post-2pm performance: Chef La Flaca will be joining us for a post-show discussion, where they'll talk specifically about their work as Culinary Consultants and what that means for our production of *Sancocho*.

Saturday, November 1, post-3pm performance: Geva Insights will be featuring a member of the Rochester community who will talk about their response to the show, in discussion moderated by a member of Geva's staff.

Sunday, November 9, post-2pm performance: Join us for our Latine Affinity performance with Annette Ramos, *Sancocho's* Cultural Consultant, who will talk about her work on the production and shine a light on Latine history in Rochester during Puerto Rican Heritage Month.



LEARN MORE!

Sancocho includes words in both English and Spanish. Playwright Christin Eve Cato shared the following translations in her Concord Theatricals' Acting Edition that includes some key terms to help you follow along.



Ajo - Garlic

Ay - pronounced like "I"; is an expression often used for sighing (Ex. "Ugh," "Oh my," "Oy vey")

Bemba - big lips (slang)

Bendito - to be blessed; a term used for expressing empathy and often pity; it is also often used sarcastically

Bolitas - mini balls

Boricua - the Indigenous Taino word for a person born in the island of Borikén (original name of Puerto Rico)

Borrachos - drunk people

Carajo - an expression/interjection that denotes anger and/or frustration; it is also commonly used to send someone to go to hell - "vete pal carajo" (go to hell)

Carajo - fuck (slang)

Cáscara - skin; peel

Cualquiera - any (feminine); any woman/any strange woman

Cubito - little cube (slang)

Desgraciá - shortened version of desgraciada; ungrateful/miserable girl

Estúpida - stupid (feminine); this term is widely used to offend someone or to playfully undermine someone

Finca - farm

Gracias - thank you

Iglesia - church

Jíbaro/Jíbara - hick (masculine feminine); hillbilly; country person

Las noticias - the news

Limpieza - a cleanse; a spiritual/energetic cleansing

Locura - craziness

Malcriá - shortened version of malcriada; a spoiled brat (feminine)

Mija - my daughter; often arbitrarily used by elders as an endearing way to address a younger person they are close to

Mijo - my son; often arbitrarily used by elders as an endearing way to address a younger person they are close to

Mira - look

Misa - church mass

Negrita - a Black girl; often used endearingly towards a loved one who is of darker skin, or condescendingly towards a person of darker skin

Nena - an endearing pronoun for a girl/young woman

Pelitos - little hairs

Pendeja - asshole (feminine); stupid girl; this term is widely used to offend someone or to playfully undermine someone

Pilón - an Indigenous/traditional Puerto Rican mortar and pestle

Plátano - plantain fruit

Porquería - bullshit; filth

Puñeta - damn; damnit (slang)

Rabitos - oxtails

Sala - living room

Sancocho - a traditional Puerto Rican stew made with oxtail and root vegetables

Sofrito - a Latino-Caribbean seasoning made from fresh vegetables and ingredients

Sucia - dirty (feminine); a woman who is dirty-minded

Timbre - doorbell; buzzer

Verdad - truth; right

Viejo - old man

Ya - an expression for "enough," "that's it," "already"

Why Sancocho?

By Christin Eve Cato

Because it's a stew that can nourish a full home for days. It's packed with pieces of our diasporic history –

Yuca, our Taino root
Guineo, a gift from Mother Africa
Oxtails, a symbol of our resilience; the leftover meat scraps that our colonizers thought were garbage that we turned into a delicious delicacy...

This stew is not only our history, but it's symbolic of our innovation and resistance. It takes all day to make because it's a laborious process. We put all these ingredients into one big pot because that's how we preserved what we had. Each step of the process is carried out by a pair of hands filled with dedication and care. Because only someone who has a connection to these root vegetables is willing to withstand the work. It's an ultimate symbol of love and survival. It's an ultimate symbol of love and survival... and it always heals something in our soul when we consume it.



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At ESL, we believe in the worth of our collective strength — to uplift the whole community and help you thrive where you belong.

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CAST

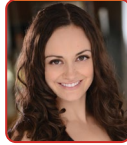
ASHLEY ALVAREZ (*Renata*) (she/her) is a Cuban-American actress and screenwriter. Theater credits include: *Derecho* (La Jolla Playhouse), *The Cubans* (Miami New Drama), *Anna in the Tropics* (Colorado Springs Fine Arts), and *Sweet Goats and Blueberry Señoritas* (Portland Stage). She's an avid collaborator in new play development, appearing in works at New York Theatre Workshop, Williamstown Theatre Festival, LAByrnith, Women's Project, and INTAR. TV credits: *Search Party* (HBO), *Law & Order* (NBC), and *Law & Order SVU* (NBC). She co-wrote and stars in *Crabs in a Barrel*, which won the HBO Latinx Short Film Competition and is streaming on HBO MAX. She's a 2022 Sundance Screenwriting Fellow, recipient of the Sundance Comedy & Latine Fellowship, and currently developing the feature version of *Crabs in a Barrel*, supported by the Sundance Institute. All my love to my creative partner & life partner Michael León. ashleyalvarez.com



CINDY PERALTA (*Caridad*) (she/they) was born and raised in NYC. An Afro-Taina writer, playwright, and actor descended from the Dominican Republic, has been writing and acting since the age of 19. She began her career as a Spoken Word Artist at the age of 25. Shortly after she became a mother of two. Since then, she continued to explore the world of acting by starting with small roles in short films such as *Mangú Aquí 2* and *Toda La Verdad* by age 40. From those humble beginnings, she has worked her way up to multiple staged readings such as *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao* by Marco Antonio Rodriguez at the Goodman Theatre in San Diego, starring as La Inca. Also, a lead role such as the critically acclaimed Off Broadway show *Vámonos* that debuted at INTAR Theatre in 2023, starring as Juana the matriarch. Nominated Best Actress in a Play 2019 (Broadway NJ) for playing 2 distinguishing roles simultaneously.



ASHLEY RICCI GARCIA (*Understudy for Renata*) (she/her) is thrilled



to be a part of this gorgeous production at Geva Theatre. Based in NYC, Ashley was most recently seen as Sarah Brown in *Guys and Dolls* at Halifax Repertory Theatre in Florida. Her favorite NYC/regional credits include *West Side Story* at OFC Creations (Francisca, Anita u/s, dialect captain), *Disney's Encanto* (Mirabel/Swing), *A Christmas Carol* (Belle), *Into the Woods* (Baker's Wife), *I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change* (Swing) and *Bright Star* (ensemble, Lucy u/s). Ashley starred in the acclaimed *An Evening with Sir Tim Rice* (Eva Peron, Svetlana) during her two years aboard Seabourn Cruise Line. In addition to performing, Ashley teaches private voice lessons and loves sharing her passion for theatre with her students. She would like to thank her husband Brett and son Benton for all the love and support throughout this journey. IG: @ashriccigarcia

CREATIVE & ARTISTIC TEAM

CHRISTIN EVE CATO (*Playwright*) a luminary playwright, dramaturg, poet, educator, lyricist, songwriter and performing artist, emerges from the vibrant streets of the Bronx, bringing with her a profound artistic narrative steeped in the rich tapestry of her Puerto Rican and Jamaican roots. Armed with an MFA in Playwriting from Indiana University and a BA in Political Science and Philosophy from Fordham University, Cato's voice is often distinguished for her ability to create universal stories grounded in advocacy for human rights and social justice. Cato's artistic voice harmonizes with the rhythms of Caribbean culture and the Afro-Latinx diaspora. Her journey in song and lyric writing was ignited during her formative years at Fiorello H. LaGuardia High School for Music and Art and the Performing Arts, where she was classically trained in vocal music. Immersed in the pulsating heart of New York City's theatrical landscape, Cato has become an indispensable thread in the cultural fabric. She holds esteemed positions such as ensemble member and former Resident Dramaturg at Pregones/PRTT, a founding UNIT 52 ensemble

WHO'S WHO

member at INTAR Theatre, and a playwright in the WP Theater 2022-2024 Pipeline Lab. Additionally, she is a former Core Apprentice and current educator at the Playwrights' Center, a member and affiliated playwright of The LatinX Playwrights Circle, an associated artist with The Sol Project, and a seasonal roundtable dramaturg at the Musical Theatre Factory. As a prolific playwright, Cato's recent off-Broadway production *Sancocho* at the WP Theatre (March 2023; co-produced by the Latinx Playwrights Circle, WP Theatre, and The Sol Project) garnered high acclaim, selling out for weeks in a row and culminating in two extensions by popular demand. *The New York Times* called *Sancocho* a recipe for forgiveness: "*Sancocho*, with the stew as its central metaphor, is a meditation on inheritance and family, how its members might eat and celebrate together, but suffer apart. With savory scents, sights, hand towels with a weave you can practically feel... this attention to detail is the best." Before *Sancocho* made its off-Broadway debut in NYC, it graced the Chicago theatre scene for the Chicago Latino Theater Alliance's 2022 Destinos Theater Festival (produced by Visión Latino Theatre Company). The *Chicago Tribune* and *Chicago Reader* lauded the play, emphasizing its resonant family dynamics and critiques on generational trauma. The *Chicago Tribune* celebrated *Sancocho* as "a multi-sensory experience," and the *Chicago Reader* declared it as "rich family fare." As a performer, Cato is explosive on the stage and periodically performs throughout New York City and across America, entertaining audiences of all kinds. She originated roles in productions at Pregones/PRIT and INTAR Theatre, working alongside legendary playwrights like Migdalia Cruz and Octavio Solis. Her versatility extends to dramaturgy, with recent credits including contributions to *Somewhere* at Geva Theatre and *The Comedy of Errors* at The Public. Beyond the stage, Cato's impact extends to film, where she has produced, starred in, and written award-winning independent short films that have been showcased at prestigious festivals including the Chicago Latino Film Festival, the New York Latino Film Festival and the Las Cruces International Film Festival. Her latest short film *American Made*, an adaptation of her original short play (which was a finalist for the 2022 Samuel French Off Off Broadway Short Play Festival), reached international

audiences as an official selection of the 2023 Toronto Lift-Off Film Festival. An advocate for diversity and inclusion, Cato's efforts have earned her recognition from celebrities like John Leguizamo. You can find Cato making a cameo appearance on the MSNBC docuseries *Leguizamo Does America*, commenting about the importance of amplifying Latiné stories and writers in both the film and theatre industries. Cato prides herself in being a cultural archivist, writing stories that define our shared human experience. Her literary footprint solidifies her place as a thought leader in the industry and extends to publications like *We Are Not Neutral: Reset Series 2020* (Conchshell Press), an anthology of short plays about Black social justice, and *Latinx Actor Training* (Routledge) an academic textbook that provides guidance and wisdom for Latinx students studying theater and/or majoring in acting in colleges and universities. Christin Eve Cato is more than an artist; she is a trailblazer shaping the narratives of today and tomorrow. She is represented by WME Agency and 3 Arts Entertainment and is a proud member of The Dramatists Guild and Actors' Equity Association.

REBECCA MARTÍNEZ (Director) (she/her) is a theater director living in Brooklyn, NY. Recent projects include: *In Her Bones* (Fine Arts Center), *Dirty Laundry* (WP Theater / Spark Theatricals), *Bite Me* (WP Theater / Colt Coeur), *It Happened in Key West* (Fulton Theatre), *Sancocho* (Latinx Playwrights Circle / Sol Project / WP Theater), *Living and Breathing* (Two River), *Songs About Trains* (Working Theater / Radical Evolution), *Somewhere Over the Border* (Syracuse Stage & Geva Theatre). For the Public Theater's Mobile Unit, Rebecca co-adapted and directed the 2023 and 2024 bilingual musical production of *The Comedy of Errors* (Drama Desk Nomination) and 2025's *Much Ado About Nothing*. Affiliations: Member of the Obie Award winning Sol Project Collective, INTAR's Unit52, Drama League Directing Fellow. Awards: Two LATA Awards, Henry Award, Four Drammy Awards; Lilla Jewel Award for Women Artists. rebeccamartinez.org

RAUL ABREGO (Scenic Design) (he/him) is a set designer for Opera, Theater, and Television. His work has been seen at The

Juilliard Opera Center, The Manhattan School of Music, The Spoleto Opera Festival in Italy, The Rattlestick, Cherry Lane Theater and Intar. Noted Recent projects: *The Irrepressible Magic of the Tropics* by Julián Mesri directed by Kathleen Capdesuñer, *Fiddler on the Roof* for Cleveland Playhouse directed by Michael Barakiva, *What the Constitution Means to Me* by Heidi Schreck for Cleveland Playhouse directed by Lindsay Firman, *Dirty Laundry* by Mathilde Dratwa for WP Theater directed by Rebecca Martinez, *Ain't Misbehavin'* for Barrington Stage and Geva Theater, directed by Jeffrey L. Page. Television/Film Credits: Assistant Art Director for *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel* Season 3 & 4, *Ghost* (Power Book 2), Art Director for *Falling Water* (pilot), and Production Designer for 2009 film *Cruzando*.

HARRY NADAL (Costume Design) (he/him) Geva Theatre debut. New York based designer, originally from San Juan, PR. NEW YORK: Lincoln Center Institute, Atlantic Theater Co., Brooklyn Academy of Music, LAByrinth Theater Co., INTAR, Pregones/PRTT, WP Theater, Juilliard, and Spanish Repertory Theatre, among others. REGIONAL: Arena Stage, Hartford Stage, Seattle Opera, Baltimore Center Stage, TheaterWorks Hartford, ZACH Theatre, Chicago Opera Theatre, Des Moines Metro Opera, George Street Playhouse, Fulton Theatre, Boise Contemporary Theater, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center, People's Light Theater, and Florida Studio Theatre; among many others. Upcoming: *Lucky Stiff* at Florida Studio Theater among many. Faculty member at Pratt Institute. MFA: New York University, Tisch School of the Arts. WEBSITE: harrynadal.com

CAROLINA ORTIZ HERRERA (Lighting Design) (she/her) is a Mexican-born and New York-based Lighting Designer for theater, opera, and dance. Broadway: *Good Night, Oscar* (Goodman Theatre & UK); Regional: *Private Lives*, *December*, *American Mariachi* (Alley Theatre); VOS! (Two River Theatre); *La Tempestad* (Trinity Rep); *Death of A Salesman* (Playmakers Repertory); *Born with Teeth* (Guthrie, OSF & Alley Theatre); *Native Gardens* (Dallas Theatre Center); *Everything Rises* (BAM & Royce Hall); *4000 Miles* (Westport Country Playhouse); *I & You* (Bristol Riverside Theatre); *Macbeth* (Merrimack Theatre Repertory); *All's Well That Ends Well*

(Oregon Shakespeare Festival); *The Railroad Children* (Northern Stage); *Seven Guitars* (Yale Repertory Theatre). Off-Broadway: *Amerikin* (Primary Stages); *La Paloma Prisoner* (Chelsea Factory); *Hedda Gabler* and *Winter's Tale* (Bedlam Theatre Company). MFA, Yale School of Drama. www.carolinaortiz.com

JULIÁN MESRI (Sound Design & Composition) (he/him) is a New York-based Argentinean-American composer, playwright, and sound designer. At Geva: music directing and co-orchestrating Brian Quijada's *Somewhere Over the Border* (Syracuse Stage, Geva Theater). He is also the co-adaptor and composer/lyricist for the Mobile Unit bilingual production of the Drama Desk nominated and LATA award winning *Comedy of Errors* at the Public Theater, as well as *Much Ado About Nothing*. He is currently the Judith Champion Musical Theater Launchpad Resident at Signature Theater. Recent work includes composing the live score of *Henry 6* at The Old Globe, and sound designing *The River Bride*, *Water by the Spoonful* (Stages Theater), and *Randy Dandy's Coaster Castle* (Egg and Spoon).

ANNETTE RAMOS (Cultural Consultant), born in New York City and raised in Los Angeles, embodies a relentless passion for community engagement and advocacy. With over three decades of storytelling mastery, she leads the charge at the Rochester Latino Theatre Company, infusing her leadership with a collaborative spirit and unwavering commitment to Latinx arts. Serving on prominent boards such as the City of Rochester's AC3 Arts Commission and the National Smithsonian Latino Museum Advisory Committee, Annette's leadership style is characterized by inclusivity and amplification of underrepresented voices. Her illustrious career, punctuated by accolades like the National Hispanicize 2014 Positive Impact Award, reflects her tireless dedication to equity and empowerment. Annette's boundless energy and visionary leadership continue to shape a brighter, more inclusive future for Latinx Arts in Monroe County.

MADELIN CASTILLO/CHEF LA FLACA (Culinary Consultant) (she/her) New York-born with Puerto Rican roots, brings 20+ years of professional experience to the kitchen.

WHO'S WHO

Specializing in comfort food, she blends family recipes with innovative fusions of Latin, Soul, Asian, and Italian American food. Every dish reflects her passion, and commitment to making meals enjoyable. Her goal as a caterer is to offer food that not only tastes unforgettable but helps to create moments of connection and lasting memory, while allowing hosts to celebrate fully alongside their guests.

WILSON CASTILLO/CHEF LA FLACA (Culinary Consultant) With over 20 years of experience in the food industry, I am passionate about sharing knowledge, mentoring others, and being of service to my community. My love for travel, especially time spent in Ghana and Puerto Rico, has deepened my appreciation for cultural foods and strengthened my sense of identity and pride. Family and food are at the heart of who I am. I love how they bring people together, create connections, and keep our traditions strong.

CHARLES K. BAYANG (Production Stage Manager) (he/him) is pleased to be making his Geva Theatre debut. His work in stage management has been seen at numerous theatres including PlayMakers Repertory Company, Virginia Stage Company, Virginia Theatre Festival, Studio Arena Theatre, Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Dallas Theatre Center, Dallas Children's Theater, Huntington Theatre Company, and Hartford Stage. Charles holds an MFA from University of Alabama/Alabama Shakespeare Festival and has been a member of Actors' Equity since 1997.

MEGHAN CLARK (Production Assistant) (she/her) Geva: *Young Frankenstein*, *A Christmas Carol*, *Little Women*, *Beautiful: The Carole King Musical*. RCP: *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. Bay Street Theater: *Young Frankenstein*, *Mike Birbiglia: Please Stop The Ride*. URITP: *The African Company Presents King Richard III*, *Our Town*, *Othello*. Thank you to my family for allowing me to follow my dreams, and to my friends for being there every step of the way. I am nothing without all of you.

CALLERI JENSEN DAVIS (Casting) is the collaborative casting partnership of James Calleri, Erica Jensen, and Paul Davis. Broadway credits include Tony-winning *Purpose*, *Topdog/Underdog*, *The Piano Lesson*, *For Colored Girls...*, *Thoughts of a Colored Man*, *Burn This*, *Fool for Love*, *Venus in Fur*, *Hedwig & The Angry Inch*, *The Elephant Man*, *Of Mice and Men*, *33 Variations*, *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Chicago*, *The Dead*. Select TV credits include: *Love Life*, *Dickinson*, *The Path*, *Lipstick Jungle*. www.callerijensendavis.com

STAFF LEADERSHIP

ELIZABETH WILLIAMSON (Artistic Director)



(she/her) joined Geva as Artistic Director in 2022, to launch the theatre's 50th 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.

WHO'S WHO

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 is a member of the City of Rochester's Arts and Creative Community Committee (AC³) and serves on the Board of the Rochester Downtown Development Corporation. James currently serves on the Board of the Rochester Downtown Development Corporation.

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ONE GEVA SUBSCRIPTION

- Includes tickets to all 5 remaining shows this season (excludes *A Christmas Carol*).
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SAVE THE DATE!

ENCORE

THE 25/26 SEASON SUMMER SOIREE

Saturday, June 13, 2026

Geva Theatre

Join us in celebrating the 25/26 season, featuring performances from stars across the season, students from our 2025 Summer Academy program, an exclusive peek of a show from the upcoming season, and the presentation of the Linda Cornell Weinstein Legacy Award.

Suggested Dress: Dress in your favorite Summer Chic Attire, or step into the spotlight in an outfit inspired by one of our 25/26 Season Shows! Prizes for Best Dressed will be given out during the event.

For more information visit gevatheatre.org/encore

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.

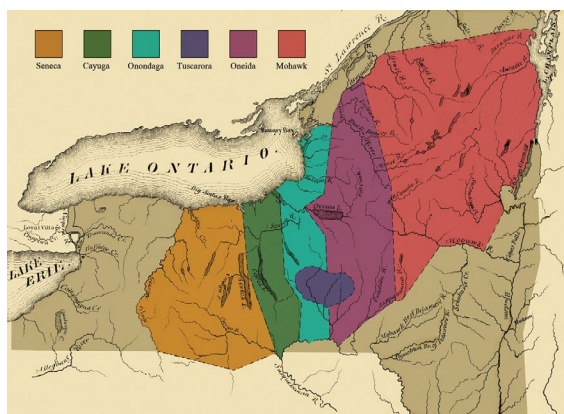
For more information: GevaTheatre.org.

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.

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.

MAGIC STARTS HERE

Musical Theatre Camps Grades 3-6



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 showcase.



**FAIRYTALES AND
MAGICAL REALMS CAMP**
February 16 - 20, 2026

HEROES VS VILLAINS CAMP
March 30 - April 3, 2026



**For more information or to register visit
GevaTheatre.org/Education/#Camps**

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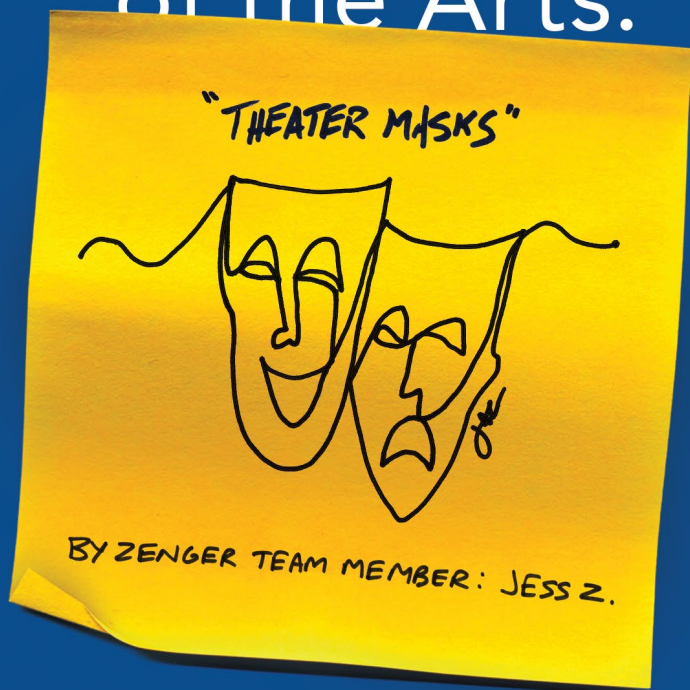


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