
ACT I

NOWADAYS/HOT HONEY RAG

From *Chicago*

Music and Lyrics by..... John Kander and Fred Ebb

Original Choreography by.....Bob Fosse

Performed by.....Laura Bagdziunas and Chris Brick

Faculty & Alumna

Faculty

CONTENT

First performed in 1998 by Susan Dodge, former LIHSA Dance Faculty (2002-2008)

Music by.....J. S. Bach

Choreographed and performed by.....Michael Trusnovec

Alumnus

COUPLES THERAPY

Written by.....Bryan Kennedy

Performed by.....Bryan Kennedy and Jeannie Kennedy

Alumnus

Alumna

RAINBOW

Music and Lyrics by.....Kacey Musgraves

Accompanist.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Performed by.....Christopher Hlinka

Alumnus

MOMENTS IN THE WOODS

From *Into The Woods*

Music and lyrics by.....Stephen Sondheim

Accompanist.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Performed by.....Melissa Rapelje

Alumna

POP

Music.....La Vie en Rose by Louis Armstrong

Choreographed by.....Marlee Fleisher

Performed by.....Jared Stern

Alumnus

THE OTHER SIDE

Music and Lyrics by.....Dan Kiernan

Performed by.....Dan Kiernan

Alumnus

MY ONE AND ONLY LOVE

Music.....My One and Only Love by John Coltrane

Choreographed and performed by.....David Lee Parker

Alumnus

ANYWAY

Music and Lyrics by.....Jackie Romeo

Performed by.....Sylvia MacCalla and Jackie Romeo

Alumna

THERE WILL BE A BRIEF TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION

ACT II

WHAT I DID FOR LOVE

From *A Chorus Line*

Music by.....Marvin Hamlisch

Lyrics by.....Edward Kleban

Accompanist.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Performed by.....Jeannie Kennedy

Alumna

COMPANY B (excerpt: I Can Dream, Can't I)

Music.....Songs Sung by The Andrew Sisters

Choreographed by.....Paul Taylor

Costume Design by.....Santo Loquasto

Performed by.....Madeline Kuhlke

Alumna

The Taylor School is delighted to have been in residence at Long Island High School of the Arts as part of our expansive outreach program. It is our mission to provide students with dance training and opportunities for creative expression through the lens of Paul Taylor's varied repertory. This section from Company B captures a moment in the dance that tells of the personal impact of a country at war. Madeline Kuhlke is a teaching artist at the Taylor School and a member of the Taylor Outreach Ensemble.

MORPHO

Music.....Morpho by Aaron J. Derwin II and Kassandra Cruz

Choreographed and Performed by.....Jared Alequin

Alumnus

THE WIZARD AND I

From *Wicked*

Music and Lyrics by.....Stephen Schwartz

Accompanist.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Performed by.....Elora Von Rosch

Alumna

WHAT'S NEW

Composed by.....Bob Haggard and Johnny Burke

Accompanist.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Trumpet.....Haneef N. Nelson

Alumnus

TICO TICO

Composed by.....Zequinha de Abreu

Piano.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Drums.....Jerry Nobile

Faculty

Bass.....Alex Vietheer

Faculty

Guitar.....Vincent Raniolo

Alumnus

THANK YOU FOR THE MUSIC

Music and Lyrics by.....ABBA

Piano.....Francis Lees

Faculty

Drums.....Jerry Nobile

Faculty

Guitar.....Alex Vietheer

Faculty

Performed by.....Kimberly Larkin

Faculty

Dancer.....Heather Conn

Alumna

PLEASE JOIN US IN THE B BUILDING FOR A CAFÉ RECEPTION AFTER THE SHOW

PERFORMER BIOGRAPHIES

JARED ALEQUIN is a Sophomore at The Juilliard School and an alumni of Long Island High School for the Arts. He grew up training at Mossa Dance Academy under the direction of Natalie Mossa Wright, where he was trained in an array of styles including ballet, modern, contemporary, jazz, acro, hip hop, lyrical, tap and musical theater. He is currently a 2nd year student at The Juilliard School and will be receiving his BFA in Dance in 2026. Throughout his time at Juilliard he has had the pleasure of working with many world renowned choreographers including Hope Boykin, Jamar Roberts and Chanel DaSilva. In March 2024, Jared preformed in Kyle Abraham's "Studies on a Farewell" for Juilliard's Spring Dances. Jared has had many choreographic opportunities throughout his career. He has choreographed three pieces while being a student at LIHSA and has choreographed two new works so far during his time at The Juilliard School. Jared is very passionate about choreographing and sharing his love for dance with everyone. He is very honored to be performing at LIHSA! @jaredalequin

LAURA BAGDZIUNAS is a versatile performer with a BFA in dance from Marymount Manhattan College and a graduate of Long Island High School for the Arts. She has performed in works by Twyla Tharp, Larry Keigwin, Mark Morris, Pascal Rioult, Cherice Barton, Jeff Shade and numerous others. Beyond dance, Laura studied acting at the historic HB Studio under Jim Boerlin and Sam Groom. She went on to become a member of the Hamptons HITFest Theater Company as well as ShakespeArts where she performed in productions such as *The Tempest* and *12th(ish) Night*. Workshops and Readings include *Revival* (National Dance Institute, dir. Christopher d'Amboise), *Eco* (Guild Hall, dir. Jenna Mate). Other credits include a production of *Our Town* at the Long Wharf Theatre (dir. Gordon Edelstein). She was a member of Yellow Brick Road Theatrical INC, Mad Cap Dance Company and Peconic Ballet Theatre Company. Beyond the stage, Laura extends her passion for the arts to teaching, sharing her experiences and knowledge across Long Island and the City. She has been on faculty at American Theatre Dance Workshop (dir. Michelle Vivona, Jerome Vivona), CPSM Queens College (dir. Kimberly Larkin), Studio Three (dir. Diane Shumway) and Peconic Ballet Theatre (dir. Christiana Bitonti-Fisher). Currently, she teaches at Variations, a dancer's studio (dir. Erin Lopez, John Lopez) and serves as an instructor in the dance department at Long Island High School for the Arts. Laura strives to continue to foster and inspire her students' passion for the arts and support them on their own unique journey.

CHRIS BRICK is a graduate of Pace University's B.F.A in Musical Theater where he minored in Dance. Chris grew up on Long Island and has been performing from an early age. Off-Broadway credits include *Ensemble in Chautauqua!* (The Public Theater) and originating the role of Anthony in *Judy & Me* (St. Luke's Theater). National tours include *Jojo* in *Seussical* directed by Tony-nominee Marcia Milgrom Dodge. Some regional credits include *Barnaby* in *Hello, Dolly!* (Maltz Jupiter Theater) starring television and Broadway notables Vicki Lewis and Gary Beach, *Robertson Ay* in *Mary Poppins* (Kansas City Starlight) and *Freddie* in *The Will Rogers Follies* (Gateway Playhouse). Workshops and Readings include *Frederick* in *Admissions*, *Nibs* in *Darling* and *George McFly* in a musical adaptation of *Back to the Future*. Other credits include *Chip* in the 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, *Emcee* in *Cabaret*, *Arpad* in *She Loves Me* and *Alan* in *Bare*. Chris has choreographed productions of *Cats*, *In the Heights*, *Hairspray*, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown*, *The Wild Party* and *Little Shop of Horrors*. He has taught numerous dance workshops and masterclasses over the past 10 years. Chris is a member of Actors Equity Association.

HEATHER CONN attended the Long Island High School for the Arts as a dance major and upon graduating was awarded the "Seymour Weiner Scholarship" for outstanding achievement in performing arts. She holds a BFA in dance from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Heather has performed professionally across the United States and internationally, in contemporary dance, musical theater, film, and live production art. She has performed in such notable venues as Radio City Music Hall, the Kennedy Center, the Apollo Theater, Jacob's Pillow, the Joyce Theater and on stages throughout the world. Heather is currently dancing and touring with the internationally acclaimed dance company MOMIX, as an original cast member of their show *Alice*. Heather is featured in the published photography book *Dance Across the USA* by Jonathan Givens, as a dancer representing the state of New York. She is a certified Yoga teacher, a certified Animal Flow® instructor, and an Essential Oil Specialist. Heather has immense gratitude for LIHSA and would not be who nor where she is today without it.

CHRISTOPHER HLINKA is a proud LIHSA alumni. He received his BA from Marymount Manhattan college. Thanks to the family he made at LIHSA, he has performed in Off-Broadway shows like *Most Likely Too* and *Awesome 80's Prom*. He has since traveled nationally and internationally performing in a variety of musicals. Recent tv credits include *Blue Bloods* and *Gogo The Series*. Some of his commercial work includes *Wendys*, *Jenga*, *Tetris*, *Tubi*, and *Brooklinen*. Christopher co-wrote a musical called *Bradical* and the *Pink Socks* which was workshopped in London last fall. He can be seen singing in cabaret clubs around Manhattan and most recently performing stand-up comedy. Instagram @chlinka

BRYAN KENNEDY graduated from the Long Island High School for the Arts in 1996 as a Musical Theatre major and received his Bachelors of Music Degree from The Catholic University of America. He went on to study acting at The Neighborhood Playhouse in NYC. Bryan has worked as an actor, writer, director, producer and comedian. He has hosted and produced many long-running shows such as *New Class Clowns*, *Broadway Laughs*, *The World Series of Stand-Up* and *March Comedy Madness*, at Caroline's on Broadway, Comix and Governor's Comedy Clubs. Bryan is proud to be a member of the Friars Club where he roasted Omarosa from *The Apprentice*. He was a cast member of the web show *The Patrice O'Neal Show—Coming Soon!* and has performed in numerous theater productions, voiceovers, commercials, and audio books. His nearly 100 audiobooks on Audible.com includes James Paterson's *Middle School* and *Treasure Hunters* series. His voice has been heard on Saturday Night Live's – *TV Funhouse*, as well as *Word Girl* and *Daniel Tiger's Neighborhood* on PBS. He has also been heard on Sirius and XM Radio and has been featured in Time Out NY, The NY Daily News, and the NY Times. Bryan is currently the host of The No Filtr Comedy Show (nofiltrcomedy.com) and has written a feature film he is currently directing and producing called *I Am Maurice*. He will be publishing his first children's book soon, that he wrote with illustrations by Maria Favara (Class of '98), called *Finding Your Heaven*. Love to his family and friends, his wife Jeannie (Class of '96), son Jack and daughter Kayla! Congratulations to Ava on this much deserved honor! Thank you for creating a life changing school we all love and cherish! (Yes, I married my principal's daughter)

JEANNIE KENNEDY is so excited to share the stage again with her husband, Bryan who is also a LIHSA graduate! Jeannie graduated from LIHSA '96 in Musical Theatre. She continued her education at The Catholic University of America in Washington, DC where she graduated with a Bachelor of Music '2000. Some of her favorite roles include: Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady*, Sally Bowles in *Cabaret* and *Lady #2* in *Songs for a New World*. Jeannie earned her Masters Degree in School Counseling ('04) and her Advanced Professional Certificate in

School Administration (2011) at Hunter College. Jeannie is currently a School Counselor at Garden City High School where she began her career 17 years ago. She enjoys advocating for all of her students; especially those passionate about pursuing a career in the Arts. Jeannie is a proud mother of her two children, Jack and Kayla and is overwhelmed with joy for this celebration for her mother, Ava this evening. Thank you, Mom, for setting such a wonderful example as an educator and a mother. You are truly an inspiration in every way and mean the world to all of us!

DAN KIERNAN Born & raised in New York, Kiernan is an emerging queer pop-soul singer & songwriter. After performing in over 30 countries, KIERNAN broke into the NYC music scene in 2018. His debut live album, “Dan Kiernan: LIVE + UNPLUGGED”, recorded at the iconic Bitter End has over 100,00 streams and charted in the LGBTQ music charts in the UK. This past June, KIERNAN completed his first PRIDE tour headlining in 6 different cities across the country. In addition to performing, he produces a monthly music festival in NYC highlighting LGBTQIA+ artists that has been featured in GLAAD & Time Out NY. @JustKiernan

MADLINE KUHLKE is from Long Island, New York, and attended The Long Island High School for the Arts. In 2020 she graduated Summa Cum Laude from Adelphi University with a BFA in Dance. While at Adelphi, she performed works by Frederick Earl Mosley, Paul Taylor, and Martha Graham. After college, Madeline furthered her dance training by studying in the Advanced Studies Program with a focus on Performance at The Martha Graham School. Most recently, she danced as a soloist with Alison Cook Beatty Dance. She is currently a scholarship student at The Taylor School and recently performed with The Taylor Outreach Ensemble and continues to teach students across New York through the Taylor Outreach ensemble. Madeline is an ABT® Certified Teacher who has completed the ABT® Teacher Training Intensive in Pre-Primary through Level 3 of the ABT® National Training Curriculum and is currently a teacher at Pure Barre.

KIMBERLY LARKIN is a faculty member of both the Theatre & Music departments at LIHSA. She holds a MA in Vocal Performance: Concentration in Musical Theatre from NYU and a BA in Music Education from the Aaron Copland School of Music at Queens College, where she studied both voice and piano. Ms. Larkin directs the ECPSM Musical Theatre Summer Workshop at Queens College, now in its 24th year. Ms. Larkin's voice students have won numerous competitions, performed lead roles on Broadway, in National Tours and Regional Theatres. She studied voice with renowned Broadway actress/singer Judith Blazer. Recent NYC theatre credits include: Christmas Rappings, Christine in *Mile Marker 117* (2018 Strawberry One Act Festival Semi-Finalist), Archon in the new musical *Float* (Dream Up Festival), Miss Bunny in the new musical *Molly Bloom-Lately* (New York Children's Theatre Festival) and Claire Simmonds in *Bare: A Pop Opera* at The York Theatre. In 2014, she created the title role in the new musical *Evangeline, a Curious Journey* at Adelphi University PAC. Ms.Larkin performed as Sarah Lincoln in the off-Broadway musical *Honestly Abe* at the Actor's Temple Theatre in NYC for over 2 years and performed in the final performance on November 2nd, 2014.

FRANCIS LEES As LIHSA's longest-serving staff member, this is Francis' 35th year at LIHSA (Long Island High School for the Arts). Francis earned a B.A. in Music from Queens College, a performance degree from The Julliard School of Music, and an M.S. from St. John's University.

Regionally, he has musically directed Broadway musicals such as *West Side Story*, *Godspell*, *The Lightning Thief*, and *Anything Goes*. Additionally, he has performed with Cabaret groups and solo featured performers at Don't Tell Mama, 54 Below, and The Cinema Arts Center. Most nights Francis can be found doing what he loves—playing. As a pianist, Francis has performed with various bands and ensembles in many locales—from local pubs to Carnegie Hall. Francis typically spends 200 nights a year performing. An in-demand vocal accompanist, with perfect pitch, he boasts a large repertoire of music from the Great American Songbook and Broadway music. His keyboard knowledge, strong technical skill, affable personality, and warm disposition make him a favorite with his fellow musicians. It is noteworthy to mention that Mr. Lees is the son of Francis Lees Sr., who has been an Economics professor at St John's University, and Fordham University. As the Chairman of the department for many years, Francis senior bestowed an avid interest in Economics, fostered in many thought-provoking conversations over the years.

HANEEF N. NELSON Born in Brooklyn, NY and raised in Uniondale, NY, Haneef N. Nelson has been a lifelong lover of music. His early music education continued at the famed Jazzmobile Program where he studied trumpet, music theory, as well as played in ensembles taught by jazz luminaries such as Eddie Preston, Cecil Bridgewater, Dr. Donald Byrd; John Stubblefield; Frank Foster; Charles Davis; Roland Guerrero as well as several others. Donald Byrd became a mentor outside of Jazzmobile along with his high school music teachers Cedric J. Lemmie from Uniondale High School and Dave Burns from the Long Island High School of the Arts. These 3 mentors encouraged Haneef to apply for and attend the African-American Music Department at the Hartt School to be taught by its founder Jackie McLean. Along with Jackie McLean, Haneef studied with Steve Davis, Nat Reeves, Raymond Williams, Chris Casey, Mary DiPaola, and Roger Murtha. Years later he went on to study Jazz Composition and Arranging at UMASS Amherst where he studied with Jeff Holmes, Felipe Salles, Sal Macchia, Eric Berlin, and Fumi Tomita. He's been fortunate enough to perform with the likes of Yoron Israel, Avery Sharpe, George Cables, Craig Handy, Bill Saxton, Paul Brown, Feya Faku, Joe Ford, Charles Tolliver, Valery Ponomarev, Jesse Hameen, Wayne Escoffrey, Bill Lowe, Musiq Soulchild, Doobie Powell, and several others. His original music and Big Band arrangements have been featured around the world and on the records of the New London Big Band as well as Dr. Emmett Goods album *Another Level*. Haneef holds a Bachelor of Music in African-American Music Study from the University of Hartford, a Master's Degree in Jazz Composition and Arranging from UMASS Amherst and will receive his Doctor of Musical Arts Degree in Composition from the Hartt School in December 2024.

JERRY NOBILE has been a musician, teacher, and audio technician for over twenty-five years. Having a musical background and experience as a disc jockey, has helped Jerry to intuitively understand the needs of various performance contexts. Jerry has experience with both analog and digital mixing consoles that includes: Mackie, Allen and Heath and PreSonus. He uses both passive and active speakers such as: JBL, Electro-Voice, and QSC. Jerry chooses to use a variety of microphones from industry standard choices to specialized microphones. He has run sound in several settings from theaters to outdoor festivals and mobile sound. Through pre-production elements such as creating soundtracks and music editing, Jerry creates sonic environments to enhance and elevate the visual counterpart to the projects he works on using production techniques and state of the art software. As a drummer/percussionist, Jerry started performing professionally at age 16. He has performed at various venues and with numerous artists. He has taught and mentored hundreds of students. Jerry is currently the owner of L & S

Entertainment, Inc. and the band leader of Moonstruck, which has been performing at concerts, weddings, corporate events, and other social gatherings for the past 30 years.

DAVID LEE PARKER is a native from Long Island, New York. He started his dance training at Long Island High school for the Arts and continued his studies at Mason Gross School of the Arts where he graduated class of 2018 with honors and received his B.F.A. in dance performance. David has trained at the Alvin Ailey Summer Intensive, American Ballet Theater Summer Collegiate Program, Gibney Summer Contemporary Dance Program, and has had the privilege to study abroad for a year in Israel at the Jerusalem Academy of Music and Dance. He has performed works by Stefanie Batten Bland, Antonio Brown, Camille A. Brown, Netta Yerushalmy, Ohad Naharin, Noa Zuk, Reggie Wilson, Darrell Grand Moultrie, Noa Wertheim, and Maxine Doyle along with many others. He has also had the special opportunity to perform at the Suzanne Dellal Theatre in Tel Aviv, the Joyce Theatre, and NYU Skirball to name a few. David was an apprentice for Ronald K. Brown and has danced for Brian Brooks Moving Company, *Visual Artist* Carrie Mae Weems, QBC Company, Kyle Marshall, Kinesis Project Dance Theater, and the award-winning immersive show *Sleep No More*. David is now currently a dancer for a new opera titled *El Niño* at the Metropolitan Opera.

VINCENT RANIOLO As a touring guitar musician, performer, and educator, Vinny Raniolo is best known for his accompanying skills and is a very high demand rhythm guitarist. His dynamic playing has brought him to 17 countries on three continents – and still growing – having performed in some of the world’s most illustrious venues, including the Sydney Opera House in Australia, The Palace of Fine Arts in San Francisco, New York’s Lincoln Center, and the world’s oldest indoor concert hall, Teatro Olimpico in Vicenza, Italy. While keeping a busy touring schedule in a variety of musical settings, Vinny has also become a familiar figure on Public Television. Featured previously on three popular shows, including the heavily programmed Tommy Emmanuel and Friends, in Frank Vignola’s Four Generations of Guitar as the youngest generation in the lineage of jazz guitarists with veteran Bucky Pizzarelli and in the Music Gone Public series. Recording credits include soundtracks for HBO’s “Boardwalk Empire,” Amazon Prime’s “Marvelous Mrs. Maisel”, Hulu’s “Fued: Capote vs. The Swans”, Woody Allen’s film “Café Society,” and Martin Scorsese’s “Killers of the Flower Moon.”

MELISSA RAPELJE is honored to be back on the Long Island High School for the Arts’ stage honoring Ava Favara, who was the principal of LIHSA when Melissa graduated with the class of 2008. She thanks Ava and LIHSA for all of the support, guidance, and experience that undoubtedly made her the artist she is today. Melissa is a musical theatre actor, singer, dancer, choreographer, & teaching artist. Since graduating LIHSA, Melissa attended NYU & has performed professionally Off-Broadway, in National Tours, at venues including the Dolby Theatre in LA, the Beacon Theatre in NYC, & numerous professional regional theatres across the country in shows including *Saturday Night Fever*, *A Chorus Line*, *Sweet Charity*, *West Side Story*, *Evita*, *The Awesome ‘80s Prom*, *Scooby-Doo LIVE* produced by Warner Bros, among many others. Among her favorite roles, Melissa has landed her favorite yet- being a Mommy! Lately, she has been focusing on music theatre choreography, a passion she discovered and started crafting over 15 years ago right here at LIHSA & LIHSA Summer Arts Academy. Melissa currently choreographs and teaches at the John W. Engeman Theater in Northport & has choreographed at various theatres and schools including NYU, CM Performing Arts Center, The John W. Engeman Theatre, among others. Choreography credits include *A Chorus Line*, *The Prom*, *Bye*

Bye Birdie, *West Side Story*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Chicago*, *The Wizard of Oz*, *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Little Mermaid*, *Once on this Island*, *Violet*, *Something Rotten*, *Murder Ballad*, *Children of Eden*, among many others. In addition to performing & choreographing, Melissa also enjoys teaching young aspiring artists & absolutely loves coming back to LIHSA for masterclasses. Endless thanks to LIHSA, my family, & all supporters of the arts & young artists!
@melissatetarapelje

JACKIE ROMEO is a 20 year old Songwriter and Vocalist from Massapequa, NY. Jackie is currently on this season of *The Voice* and just released her newest single ***Anyway***. Jackie graduated from Long Island High School of the Performing Arts in the summer of 2021 and has since been seen on stages all across LA, NYC and Long Island including the legendary **Apollo**, where she was an **Amateur Night** semi-finalist in 2022. That same summer Long Island legend and mentor to Jackie, Debbie Gibson, invited Jackie to be a featured performer on her ‘The Body Remembers Tour.’ There, Jackie performed a song that was written specifically for her by Debbie, which later became her debut single entitled ***Pretty Girls***.

ELORA VON ROSCH I’m a professional performer and teacher that currently resides in the New York City area. I’m a graduate of The Boston Conservatory, The British American Drama Academy with an emphasis in Shakespearean acting and The Manhattan School of Music (Pre-College) Program, with an emphasis in classical voice. I’ve worked professionally Off-Broadway, regionally and in tv/film. My most recent credits include: *Ragtime (STAGES St. Louis-Upcoming)*, *Fiddler on the Roof (North Shore Music Theatre – Upcoming)* *The Wizard of Oz (Ocean City Theatre Company)*, *Kinky Boots (North Shore Music Theatre)*, *Kinky Boots (Theatre By The Sea)*, Michael Bubl  (Featured/Backup Singer) at *Madison Square Garden*, Josh Groban Harmony Tour (Featured/Backup Singer) at *Radio City Music Hall and Jones Beach Amphitheatre*, America’s Got Talent (Season 16) Contestant, Man of La Mancha (*Hampton Theatre Company*) and *Hunchback of Notre Dame (Regional Premiere)* at *White Plains Performing Arts Center*. I’ve also, worked at Goodspeed Opera House, The Landmark Theater, and the Waterville Opera House, along with performing a variety of shows on two different (world renowned) international cruise ships traveling the world. TV/Film credits include: *The Kill Room (Upcoming Samuel Jackson and Uma Thurman)*, “Law and Order SVU/Criminal Intent”, “Sex and The City”, Ted, Kinsey, and Here Comes the Boom.

JARED STERN is a proud alumni of the LIHSA dance department class of 2017, under the direction of Dina Denis. While at LIHSA he served as the founding president of the Dance Honor Society, performed with the LIHSA Dance Company, and was the recipient of the 2017 Seymour Weiner Scholarship. He continued his education at Adelphi University, under the direction of Frank Augustyn and Orion Duckstein, on a full talent scholarship where he earned his BFA in dance in 2020. After graduation he spent three seasons performing with the second company of Martha Graham Dance and is currently in his first season with the Carolyn Dorfman Dance Company. Outside of performing Jared also works as a dance educator, choreographer, and tours domestically as a judge with Legacy Dance Championships and StarQuest Dance Competition. He is thrilled to be coming home and performing again on the LIHSA stage where he grew up.

50th Scholarship Gala Performers

MICHAEL TRUSNOVEC Hailed by the New York Times as “one of the world’s most luminous dancers,” Michael Trusnovец grew up dancing on Long Island, graduated from the Long Island High School for the Performing Arts, and earned a BFA in Dance Performance from Southern Methodist University. For over two decades, he was a Principal Dancer with the Paul Taylor Dance Company performing in works by Mr. Taylor, as well as by Pam Tanowitz, Brian Arias, Margie Gillis, Doug Varone and more. Additionally, he was Associate Rehearsal Director and served as the Director of Worldwide Licensing. Michael received a 2018 Dance Magazine Award, a 2006 Bessie Award, and was a 1992 *YoungArts* awardee and Presidential Scholar in the Arts. He is co-founder of the *Asbury Park Dance Festival* and continues to stage Mr. Taylor’s dances, teach, choreograph, and perform, most recently in the 2021 Joyce Theater presentation of Molissa Fenley’s *State of Darkness* and in New York City Ballet’s 2020 Lincoln Center performances of George Balanchine’s *Episodes*. Michael currently serves as the Dance Co-Director for The Metropolitan Opera.

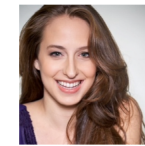
ALEX VIETHEER studied Jazz/Commercial Music and Audio Engineering at Five Towns College. He graduated with honors and received the departmental award for his major. This education helped Alex acquire the skills, knowledge, and experience to write, arrange, perform, and record music. This versatility has helped him become marketable in the competitive music industry. Alex also received a master’s degree in jazz guitar performance from Five Towns College and an advanced certificate in music education from Brooklyn College. He was showcased at the 2018 Jazz Education Network convention in Dallas, TX performing in the jazz guitar ensemble. After teaching music production at The Academy for Language and Technology, Alex was invited to join the LIHSA team. When he is not teaching at LIHSA, Alex performs around Long Island and Manhattan, instructs private music lessons, and produces music. He is also an Adobe Certified Professional in graphic and video design. It is Alex’s goal to draw upon all of his experience in the industry to create engaging lessons that focus on real-world applications to provide students an opportunity to practice the skills needed to be marketable in their future industries.

PRODUCTION CREW

Production Coordinator Jerry Nobile
 Stage Manager Erik Chocianowski
 Assistant Stage Manager Evelyn Engels
 Lighting Design..... Alex Dollin & Juliette Kealy
 Sound Design Doug Rowand
 Café Set Design, Decorations Erik Chocianowski



Jared Alequin



Laura Bagdzianas



Chris Brick



Heather Conn



Christopher Hlinka



Jeannie Kennedy



Bryan Kennedy



Dan Kiernan



Madeline Kuhlke



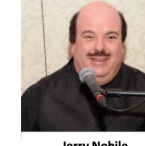
Kimberly Larkin



Francis Lees



Haneef N. Nelson



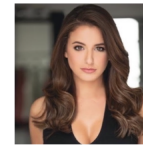
Jerry Nobile



David Lee Parker



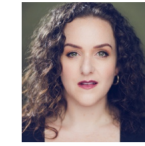
Vincent Raniolo



Melissa Rapelje



Jackie Romeo



Elora Von Rosch



Jared Stern



Michael Trusnovец



Alex Vietheer

