

### **Bellamie Bachleda**

Bellamie Bachleda is a creative talent who has been writing, directing and acting for over ten years. She worked in numerous video and film productions and taught drama and storytelling workshops and classes at the schools, camps, and festivals. In 2017, she and a group of splendid #deaftalent co-founded a non-profit theatre company, Deaf Austin Theatre, where she is currently a co-artistic director.

### **Michelle A. Banks**

Michelle A. Banks, a native of Washington, DC, is an award-winning actress, writer, director, producer, choreographer, motivational speaker, and teacher. After Michelle received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Drama Studies from the State University of New York at Purchase, she founded Onyx Theatre Company in New York City, the first deaf theatre company in the United States for people of color. Her work with Onyx for eleven years earned the Cultural Enrichment Award from Gallaudet University and the Distinguished Service Award from New York Deaf Theatre. Michelle's most recent producing/directing credits: Gallaudet University's *A Raisin in the Sun*, *Look Through My Eyes*, *Silent Scream*, *Z: A Christmas Story*, *What It's Like?* (One Man Show) and *In Sight and Sound: De(A)F Poetry I, II, & III*. Her acting appearances include *Sole*, *The C.A. Lyons Project*, *Soul Food*, *Girlfriends*, and *Big River*. Received the Laurent Clerc Award from Gallaudet University in 2017.

### **Fred Michael Beam**

Fred Michael Beam is the outreach coordinator for Sunshine 2.0. He is an experienced performer with acting credits that include Nicholas in *By the Music of the Spheres* at the Goodman Theater, *Harry in Harry the Dirty Dog* at the Bethesda Academy of Performing Arts; Witness in *Miracle Workers* and Stranger in *Mad Dancer* at the Arena Stage in Washington, DC; *Fall Out Shelter*, *The Dirt Maker*, and *The Underachiever* at the Kennedy Center; the title character in *Othello* at Gallaudet University; and Steve in *A Streetcar Named Desire* at SignRise Cultural Arts in Washington, DC. He also performs in his one-man shows, *Fred Michael Beam: Sign Me a Story* and *Black, Deaf Male: Who Am I?*, which toured nationwide. He was a member of *I Didn't Hear That Color*, the first black deaf play ever produced. His television and film credits include *If You Could Hear My Own Tune*, *The West Wing*, *Secret Dream*, *Little Lonely Monster*, *Deaf Mosaic*, and *The New Captain Kangaroo*, for which he won the 2000 Media Access Award.

A dancer, producer, director and choreographer, Beam has worked with the many dance companies and theater companies around the world. He is also Executive Director of Invisible Hands, International, a performing arts organization which promote Deaf

Awareness through Arts.

### **Sarah Bowden**

Sarah Bowden's plays have been produced in Chicago, New York, Philadelphia, Toronto, and Stockholm. Her work has been developed and presented by the Greenhouse Theatre Center, MPAACT, The Arc Theatre, the Pittsburgh Irish & Classical Theatre, the Nylon Fusion Theatre, Monkeyman Productions, Southern Illinois University, and Ohio University. Her full-length *Lively Stones* was produced as part of 20% Theatre Chicago's ReFocus 20/20 season. Her full-length *The Magnificent Masked Hearing Aid* has been listed as a semi-finalist in several theatre festivals, including the Capital Repertory Next Act! New Play Summit, the Actor's Theatre of Charlotte's nuVoices Festival, the Activate Midwest New Play Festival and the Elgin Cultural Commission Page to Stage Program. The script received Honorable Mention in the American Blues Theater Blue Ink Playwriting Award. Her full-length *Tin Noses* was a finalist in the Route 66 Theatre Test Drive Workshop, a semi-finalist for the Stage Left Theatre Playwright Residency, and was featured in the 2017 Chicago Theatre Marathon. Sarah has won the White-Howells English Prize for Drama and the Margaret W. Baker Prize for Fiction.

### **Jill Marie Bradbury**

Jill Bradbury is Professor of English at Gallaudet University. In 2016, Bradbury received a grant from the National Endowment for the Arts for a DeafBlind Theater Initiative. She served as project director for the DC stop of *First Folio! The Book That Gave Us Shakespeare* national traveling exhibition sponsored by the Folger Shakespeare Library (2016). With Tyrone Giordano, she is co-creator of the short film "Digit(al) Shakespeares" (2015). Bradbury was also featured recently in a Folger Shakespeare Library podcast on Shakespeare in Sign Language (2016).

### **Joey Caverly**

James Caverly has recent credits that include performing in *Children of a Lesser God* (U/S) at Studio 54; *I Was Most Alive With You* at Huntington Theatre Company; *Tribes* at SpeakEasy Stage Company, Studio Theatre, and Berkeley Repertory Theatre; *Beertown* and *Squares* with Dog & Pony DC; *Tales of Honor and Anchovies* and *Tales of Courage and Poultry* with Faction of Fools Theatre Company; and numerous works at his alma mater, Gallaudet University. He was involved with National Theatre of the Deaf, performing in *Journey of Identity*, *A Child's Christmas in Wales*, and a number of shows for young audiences. His recent directing work includes *Romeo & Juliet*, *Cloud 9* (assistant), *Dr. Faustus*, *The Philadelphia*, and *Noises Off* (which gained recognition

from The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival). He received his BA in Theatre Arts from Gallaudet University.

### **Chase Chambers**

Deaf filmmaker and editor that aspires to be a director someday. Worked on several television and film sets, and won an College Emmy in 2016 for my project, "Deaf Code."

### **Brian Andrew Cheslik**

Prior to graduating from Gallaudet University in 2014 with a BA in English Lit & a minor in Theatre Arts, Brian performed in various theatres all around Columbus, Ohio. He served on the board of directors of Emerald City Players for seven years, specializing in marketing and publicity. After Graduating from Gallaudet, he moved to Louisiana to begin his teaching career at Louisiana School for the Deaf, teaching fifth grade. In 2015, Brian moved to Austin, TX to begin his current career as a high school theatre teacher at Texas School for the Deaf and has serviced in this role ever since, developing a strong academic theatre program, while co-directing the TSD Performing Arts Program shows. He has obtained a Masters in Deaf Education and is currently working on his Doctorate in Deaf Studies & Deaf Education. In addition to teaching, Brian works as a Deaf interpreter, interpreting theatre for Deaf audiences all around Austin, and serves as Co-Artistic Director for Deaf Austin Theatre (DAT), a new company that began operations in 2018.

### **Aimee Chou**

Aimee's theatrical experience includes Deaf Spotlight's *God of Carnage* mainstage production and understudying for Oregon Shakespeare Festival's 2018 season. She recently penned a short play, *Humanly Possible*, which is slated for production at the ACT Theater for Deaf Spotlight's Short Play Festival in February. An alumna of the University of Washington (Business Administration and Journalism), her background includes copywriting, marketing, and interning for several news outlets.

### **Richard Costes**

Richard Costes is an actor, director, and disability and accessibility advocate based out of Chicago. He can currently be seen in *In the Blood* at Red Tape Theatre as Reverend D/Baby. His most recent credits include Snout in *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Chicago Shakespeare Theatre), Arjun in *Opportunities of Extinction* (Broken Nose Theatre), the Stage Manager in *Our Town* (Redtwist Theatre), and Astrov in *VANYA (or, "That's Life!")* at Rasaka Theatre. He has also been fortunate enough to perform in roles in *1776* (Porchlight Music Theatre) *Battleaxe Betty* (American Theatre Company – CORE); *Lively Stones* (20% Theatre Company); *Wastwater* (Steep Theatre Company); *The*

*Tempest* (The Cuckoo's Theater Project), and many others throughout Chicago, Ohio, and New York. He is a graduate of Kent State University and a 2017 recipient of a 3Arts Make a Wave grant. He is also part of the ADA25 Advancing Leadership Fellows Class of 2019. Richard is represented by Gray Talent.

### **Jules Dameron**

Jules Dameron is an award-winning director who's directed a TV series, "Møkkakaffe" in Norway, as well as creating numerous ASL music videos such as "Different Colors," "Rolling in the Deep," "Lazy Song," "Somebody I Used to Know." She's directed short films and web series such as *Crazy Town*, *Don't Shoot the Messenger*, and *Reverse Polarity*. Jules has worked with many well-known talents such as Marlee Matlin, Sean Young, Sean Berdy and many more. Jules has also delved into theatre direction with New York Deaf Theatre's *Maple & Vine* (Written by Jordan Harrison) and two short plays produced by Deaf Spotlight, in Seattle. On top of directing, Jules gave herself a taste of acting by playing the role of Capulet in Ophelia's Jump's *Romeo & Juliet* and the role of Defloria in *Middle 8* at the Stella Adler Theatre in Hollywood. Jules coined the hashtag #DeafTalent, which has supported and continues to support many deaf and hard of hearing actors in getting opportunities in the film & entertainment industries. Also having graduated from Gallaudet University with a BA in Television/Cinema, Jules trained at the University of Southern California with an MFA degree in Film Production. As a woman of many talents across various styles in film and theatre, Jules continues to direct, act and write without a break.

### **Sabina England**

I am a filmmaker, playwright, and performance artist. I studied at both London Film Academy and University of Missouri. I wrote a few plays which were produced and performed in London, UK. I had just recently finished performing my solo show *Allah Earth: The Cycle of Life* at New York International Fringe Festival in New York City. I was just given an award (Jury Award) at Lady Filmmakers Film Festival in Los Angeles for my short sign-language poetry film, "Deaf Brown Gurl," which I wrote, directed, produced, performed, filmed, and edited.

### **Kalen Feeney**

Kalen Feeney is an actor, writer, teacher, and ASL consultant and has worked for Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Deaf West Theatre, Deaf Spotlight, National Theatre of the Deaf, Deaffest (UK), Toronto International Deaf Film and Arts Festival, and Camp Mark 7's first Deaf Film Camp. She has taught playwriting, screenwriting, and story development workshops to Deaf participants in the USA, Canada, and England. Kalen has a Masters in Screenwriting from Leeds Beckett University (England) and a

Certificate in Television Writing from UCLA Extensions (Los Angeles). She is a member of SAG-AFTRA, WGA, and has been involved in the WGA's Writers with Disabilities Committee.

### **Jamie Gahlon**

Jamie is the Director and a co-founder of HowlRound. She is a co-creator of the World Theatre Map and New Play Map, oversees the HowlRound Journal and HowlRound TV, supports the work of the Latinx Theatre Commons, and co-administers The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation's National Playwright Residency Program, and regularly produces theatre convenings around urgent field-wide issues. Prior to her work at HowlRound, Jamie helped launch the American Voices New Play Institute and the NEA New Play Development Program at Arena Stage. Jamie has also worked for New York Stage & Film, and the New Victory Theatre. She is a proud member of the Latinx Theatre Commons Steering Committee, the Committee of the Jubilee, and a Think Tank Member for the Laboratory for Global Performance and Politics. Jamie holds a Bachelor of Science in Foreign Service with a focus on Culture & Politics from the School of Foreign Service at Georgetown University. She originally hails from Minnesota, the land of 10,000 lakes, and likes to dabble.

### **Tyrone Giordano**

Tyrone Giordano is a DC-based theatremaker, translator, educator, and instigator, often taking on multiple roles in any single production. Most prominent is his work with Deaf West Theatre as Huckleberry Finn in the Tony-honored *Big River* on Broadway in 2003, earning him a Drama Desk nomination for Outstanding Actor in a Musical. Tyrone has also acted on television and film, notably in *The Family Stone*, *A Lot Like Love*, *The Next Three Days*, and *CSI*. Other Deaf West: *Pippin*, *At Home at the Zoo*. Dog & pony dc: *Toast*, *Squares*. Tyrone now works as a Manager of Corporate Communications and Community Engagement for CSD, Inc.

### **Kala Granger**

Kala graduated with a degree in Theatre at Gallaudet University in 2016. They have experience in stage managing, acting, costume design, and light design, and love to learn about all areas of theatre. Kala believes theatre can be a tool for social change. They have worked with dog & pony dc and Mosaic Theater company of DC, and are passionate about Deaf Theatre. Kala wants to see more ASL on stage nationally and locally, and more Deaf people working in backstage, design, and administration. When not doing theatre, you can find Kala working as a barista at Qualia Coffee.

### **Rachel Grossman**

Rachel Grossman is an artist, producer, facilitator, and yogi based in Washington, DC. She co-founded and is the Ensemble Director of dog & pony dc, a mixed hearing and Deaf devised theatre ensemble. Rachel's also an executive core producer of the JUBILEE, a mentor with Arts Marketers Association UK's Audience Diversity Academy, and was an artistic advisor for the ProTacticle Theatre Institute.

### **JW Guido**

JW Guido is an actor, director, and the Artistic Director for New York Deaf Theatre (NYDT). Since joining NYDT as the Artistic Director in 2012, JW has been focused on creating opportunities for Deaf artists through productions, play development, and other performance/community events. In addition to leading the artistic direction of NYDT, JW is committed to providing accessible performances for both Deaf and hearing audiences. JW has a passion for acting/directing (most recently seen in *Twelfth Night* at Shakespeare in the Park.) Other than theatre world, he have been teaching American Sign Language in various locations and published Learn American Sign Language. He uses these experiences, along with what he will gain from his Ed.D in theatre education at NYU, to work with TDF as a teaching artist, providing workshops to Deaf students who are preparing to attend Broadway shows.

### **Amelia Hensley**

Amelia Hensley, a professional Deaf actress, best known for her role in Deaf West Theatre's Revival of Duncan Sheik and Steven Sater's Tony-winning *Spring Awakening* that was on Broadway. She studied acting at Gallaudet University before moving to Los Angeles for Deaf West Theatre, she also took acting class called "Acting with Jules", taught by Jules Dameron. After her Broadway debut, She landed a Queer role as SAMMY in *Skin*, written by Crystal Mae, under Deaf Spotlight. She was also in *Reverse Polarity*, produced by DpanTV, as MADDIE, another Queer role. She just finished her most challenging role as "Shadow" for Pleasant in *I Was Most Alive With You*, directed by Craig Lucas, under Off-Broadway Playwright Horizons.

### **Monique Holt**

Monique Holt, Director. She received her MFA in Theatre from Towson University and BFA in Acting from New York University/Tisch School of the Arts. She wears many theatre hats. She directs the plays, acts the characters, dances Butoh, choreographs the movements, translates the script from text to sign, develops the basic protocol for Director of Artistic Sign Language (DASL) and directs the actors and/or interpreters for theatre settings. She also teaches, mentors, and coaches anything theatre related. But nothing technical. Her thesis was focused on creating an 'Universal Design in Theatrical Presentation.'

**EJ Joseph**

I started my acting career when I was thirteen and my passion and dream is to transform lives and inspire the world through my craft. I am professional actor who is funny, good hearted, smart and passionate. I believe success is found in collaboration, desire for personal growth and constant pursuit of new opportunities.

**Aaron W. Kelstone**

Aaron Kelstone attended the Kansas School for the Deaf (KSD) where he was fortunate to have a strong performing arts program available and that has instilled a lifelong love for the arts and literature. He has found his teaching experiences at RIT/NTID in the Department of Cultural and Creative Studies to be an enriching experience as an artist, teacher, and individual. In addition to twenty years of teaching Performing Arts and Deaf Studies at NTID he has been involved in performing arts as an actor, director, playwright, an artistic director with Cleveland Signstage Theatre and the National Theatre of the Deaf. He has also been active in social services as the executive director of Valley Center of the Deaf in Phoenix, Arizona. He lives in Rochester, NY.

**David Kurs**

Artistic Director of Deaf West Theatre

**Patty Liang**

Patty Liang is the Executive Director of Deaf Spotlight, which oversees artistic and cultural programming to support Deaf artists and their work. Throughout her career, Patty has pursued opportunities that encourage the Deaf community to embrace and celebrate the arts. She has a BFA in Ceramics from the University of Washington, and an MA in Nonprofit Management for the Arts from New York University. She believes that everyone has the ability to create and express their story through the arts.

**Vijay Mathew**

Vijay Mathew is the Cultural Strategist and a co-founder of HowlRound Theatre Commons, based at Emerson College, Boston, USA and is privileged to assist a talented team by leading HowlRound's development of commons-based online knowledge sharing platforms and the organization's notions of cultural innovation. Prior to his current position, he was the Coordinator for the National Endowment for the Arts (USA) New Play Development Program, as well as a Theater Communication Group (USA) New Generations Future Leader grant recipient in new work at Arena Stage in Washington, DC. Vijay has a MFA from New School University, New York, a BA from University of Chicago, and an artistic background as an ensemble-based filmmaker and

theatremaker. He is a board member of Double Edge Theatre located in rural Ashfield, Massachusetts, USA.

### **Andrew Morrill**

Andrew Morrill is a current MFA Acting candidate at University of Illinois Champaign-Urbana. He had played roles from Shakespeare to contemporary works during his undergraduate career at Gallaudet University. With his professional credits, he involved with several devised projects and workshops for theatre companies in Washington, DC and New York City: Sing & Sign, Dog & Pony DC, and Mosaic Theatre Company. He's also an advocate for #DeafTalent movement pushing authentic representation of Deaf character(s) on the screen and stage.

### **Jasper Norman**

Jasper Norman, originally from New York. He is first American-born in his family who came to the USA from South America. Jasper is a DeafBlind Latino with his hearing sighted family. Jasper is a co founder of ProTactile Theatre "PTT" and he also work as a ProTactile PT trainer since 2013. He traveled around here in USA and in the international countries and provided PT trainings and presentations related to DB culture to educate as well about my DB journey. Jasper is an avid traveler!

### **Natasha Ofili**

Entering 2019 for Natasha Ofili is to BE THE FORCE. This is her story riding on this journey that she has been on and still on as an actress and aspiring writer. She never thought she would be riding on that bus and she is full of gratitude to be on it. Natasha has acted in several films, such a *You and Me*, which was featured in CINEQUEST film festival March 2018 and a lead role in *Mather*, starring Obba Babatunde and commercials including Apple, Inc and 7-up. She started her new journey starring in two TV shows for Amazon ad Netflix (release dates TBA). Natasha debuted her first theatre play at Pasadena Playhouse, *Our Town*, and co-directed her first monologue play *Reflection: What Do You See?* February 2018. The monologue play is being debuted again in 2019 at California State University of Northridge. Natasha is a person who is constantly pushing the boundaries to show the fire she has. This fire is her token – a token that she use to break down the barriers people of color and Deaf and Hard of hearing youth and adults experience in their everyday life. While she taming her fire, she have a love for hiking, nature, writing, working on Illustrator, and reading drama/fantasy fiction novels. Member: SAG/AFTRA @niofili; natashaofili.com

### **Ramona Ostrowski**

Ramona Ostrowski is the Producer of HowlRound at Emerson College. Previously, Ramona worked as HowlRound's Associate Producer, the Literary Manager at Company One Theatre, the Executive and Development Assistant at ArtsBoston, and the Literary Associate at the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center. An advocate for new plays, Ramona is a freelance dramaturg, reads scripts for multiple companies, and was a founding editor of the New England New Play Alliance's weekly newsletter. Ramona is a member of LMDA, and has a BA in English and Theatre from Boston University and a Masters Certificate in Gender, Leadership, and Public Policy from UMass Boston.

### **Mervin Primeaux-O'Bryant**

Mervin is a native creole professional deaf dancer born and raised in Lafayette, Louisiana, alumni of Philadelphia's University of the Arts with an associate degree in Modern Dance. He has since broadened his horizons attained outstanding credentials as an actor, director, co-director, choreographer, assistant director and occasional American Sign Language consultant in theatre, music videos, ASL Coach, mentor, and deaf-rights advocate. Mervin Primeaux-O'Bryant has given inspiring presentations on his journey living with HIV for over twenty years. Among his numerous creative endeavors is writing an autobiography based on honest and personal insights into the life experience of a Black Deaf who have overcome obstacles. He recently founded BigMerv HIV Foundation and is currently Chief Operating Officer for Teddyboy film Entertainment.

### **Deborah Reed**

I have worked in theatre for over twenty-five years, starting as an actor and director, then a producer, and now an arts manager. I was born in Boston, lived in Chicago for eight years, and since 2002 have lived in Los Angeles. I am a graduate of Smith College, and in 2017. I earned my Masters in Arts Management from Claremont Graduate University. For ten years, I worked at Center Theatre Group, and did some freelance consulting work before joining the staff of Deaf West last year.

Deaf West has been a wonderful place to work! I came to the company as a fan, knowing very little about Deaf Culture, and absolutely no ASL. Now I am studying ASL and learning more about Deaf Culture every day, and enjoying the richness it brings to my experience.

### **Yash Romilus**

Yashaira Romilus is a DeafBlind Latinx, born in West Chester, PA. She is the only DeafBlind person in a hearing family and fluent in several languages. As a student at Gallaudet, she participated in many organizations and experienced stage spotlights. Her biggest deaf theatre role was the wife of Andrew Foster with Invisible Hands, Inc. For

many years, Yash has been actively involved in DeafBlind communities and believes in the ProTactile (PT) philosophy. She graduated from Tactile Communications, LLC in Seattle, WA and co-founded ProTactile Theatre (PTT) with Jasper Norman on 20 October 2017. PTT translated *The Gift of the Magi* into PT and brought a new perspective to theatre arts. PTT's perspective was carried to ProTactile Theatre Institute funded by the NEA in *Romeo & Juliet* workshop on 3 August 2018. Yash envisions PTT to perform in more DeafBlind communities to share theatre arts in an inclusive tactile experience.

### **Nicki Runge**

Nicki Runge is fast becoming a sought-after performer all around America. Her visual language, gesturing skills, and engaging storytelling abilities delight audiences of all ages and diverse backgrounds. Nicki has toured nationally with Rocky Mountain Deaf Theatre (RMDT), joining other renowned Deaf performers on stage across America. Theatre attendees and aspiring theatre students from all over America are talking about this amazing performer!

Nicki Runge, one of several generations of fine artists and actors from Europe, has extensive experience in all things related to theatre and art. Nicki has been involved in a variety of artistic positions (artist, performer, actor, comedian, director, producer, teacher, and consultant) as well as participating in a variety of performances (storytelling, poetry, Master of Ceremonies, skits, and comedy) all across the nation. As well, Nicki has taught many workshops/courses nationwide.

Nicki originally launched Rocky Mountain Deaf Theatre, LLC, in January of 2011. In 2016, RMDT officially became a non profit organization known as ImaginASL Performing Arts as a way to provide services to those who want to learn more about theatre through deaf eyes.

### **Ryan Schlecht**

Eighteen years as professional artist in theatre industry (actor, director, ASL master and producer). Acting credits include Deaf West Theatre's *Big River* (Tony® Honor for Excellence in Theatre) and *Oliver!* (LA Ovation Award for Best Revival of a Musical), Azeotrope Theatre's *Sound* (Gypsy Rose Lee Award nominee for Excellence in Performance as Supporting Actor) and Sound Theatre Company's *ASL Midsummer Night's Dream* (Gregory Award nominee for Best Supporting Actor in a Play). Directing credits include Book-It Repertory's *El Deafo* and Deaf Spotlight's *Broken Spokes* and *God of Carnage*. Served as Deaf Spotlight's Artistic Director and also, ASL master for multiple productions within Seattle theatre community.

## **Robert Sirvage**

Coming from an interdisciplinary background, Robert T. Sirvage works as design research consultant with special focus on process for sensory based research and design. Currently he works at Carleton University, Ottawa.

## **Ethan Sinnott**

Ethan Sinnott is a DC-based Deaf scenic designer and theatre artist, the director of Gallaudet University's Theatre and Dance program, and an associate professor. His passions are connected to theatre as a visual storytelling tradition: directing and the design of stage worlds. His Deaf identity has always influenced and informed his approach to unit sets as environments with the ability to seemingly transform themselves through scenic elements manipulated by actors, lighting, and/or machinery, resulting in theatrical experiences that are intended to be visual navigations indifferent to the presence of sound. Scenic design credits: Mosaic Theatre Company: *Native Son*, *Les Deux Noirs*, *Hooded*; Theatre Alliance: *for colored girls who have considered suicide/when the rainbow is enuf*, *Word Becomes Flesh* (Helen Hayes Award winner, Outstanding Production of a Play); The Welders: *Not Enuf Lifetimes*; Rorschach Theatre: *She Kills Monsters*; Faction of Fools: *Our Town*, *Titus Andronicus*, *A Commedia Christmas Carol*, *Hamleccchino*; Constellation Theatre Company: *Gilgamesh*; Imagination Stage: *Cinderella: The Remix*, *P. Nokio: A Hip-Hop Musical*, *Junie B. Jones: Jingle Bells*, *Batman Smells!*, *Mulan*, *Zomo the Rabbit: A Hip-Hop Creation Myth*, *The Jungle Book*, *Junebug and the Reverend*, *Hip-Hop Anansi*, *Huck Finn's Story*; Gallaudet University: *Medea* (2017), *Doctor Faustus*, *Broken Spokes*, *Goya en la Quinta del Sordo*; Signature Theatre: *The Diaries*; Washington Shakespeare Company: *Love's Labor's Lost*. Gallaudet University (in capacities as director and scenic designer): *Candide* (2017), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Julius Caesar*, *Lysistrata*, *Hamlet*, *L'Abbe de L'Epee: A Satire*, *Corpus Christi*, *Spoon River Anthology*, *Fences*, *The Oresteia*, *A Streetcar Named Desire*. He also played the title role in NextStop Theatre Company's *Richard III*. He holds a MFA in scenic design from Boston University.

## **Shanna Sorrells**

Shanna Sorrells, a native third generation Washingtonian, teaches ASL at two different high schools in Arlington, VA. As an actress, she brings to her schools her love of theatre and incorporates it as much in the classroom as she can. She is currently pursuing her Master's degree in Theatre Education at the University of Northern Colorado. She also occasionally works as a Teaching Artist at Imagination Stage and has been helping with Creative Captions in DC, which strives to provide accessibility for Deaf and Hard-of-hearing theatre patrons in the DMV region. And she recently

completed a fellowship with 1st Stage Theater in Tysons, VA as their Education & Accessibility Fellow. She was most recently onstage in LA with Deaf West in *Flowers for Algernon*, and on-screen in ASL Films' "Beyond the Embers."

### **JD Stokely**

JD Stokely is a trickster-in-training who creates and curates lectures, workshops, and performances around Queerness, nostalgia, the Black body, and home. Stokely is an associate producer of HowlRound Theatre Commons, and a co-founder of Unbound Bodies Collective, a multidisciplinary arts lab for QTBIPOC creatives in the Greater Boston area. Stokely received an MA in Advanced Theatre Practice from Royal Central School of Speech & Drama in 2014, and a BA from Hampshire College in 2011.

### **Abigail Vega**

Abigail is a producer, director, actor, and theatremaker who is honored to be working alongside and serving the artists in the Latinx Theatre Commons as the LTC Producer. A proud graduate of Emerson College in Boston, MA, Abigail previously served as the Director of the Artistic Collective and an Ensemble Member of Teatro Luna—America's Pan Latina Theatre Company, with whom she performed with and worked in over twenty-five cities in thirteen states and four countries. Originally from San Antonio, TX, she is passionate about providing access, visibility and opportunities for emerging women of color playwrights and theatre artists, and is excited to continue this work with the Latinx Theatre Commons.

### **Alexandria Wailes**

Alexandria Wailes is an educator at The Jewish Museum, the Lower East Side Tenement Museum, and the Whitney Museum of Art. She was the director of Artistic Sign Language (DASL) for the Broadway revival of *Children of a Lesser God* and is currently working on *King Lear*. Fun Fact: Performed at Super Bowl LII with Leslie Odom Jr. and P!nk. She also has a great deal of stage, television, and film experience as an actor, a director, consultant and DASL.

### **Annie Wiegand**

ANNIE WIEGAND is a professional Lighting Designer who happens to be Deaf. Regional Credits: *Steel Magnolias*, *Under the Breeches* (Alabama Shakespeare Festival); *Steel Magnolias* (Dallas Theater Center); *The Who and The What* (Huntington Theatre Company). Off-Broadway: *I Was Most Alive With You* (Playwrights Horizons). Further Select Credits: *Small Mouth Sounds*, *The Bridges of Madison County* (IRNE Nominee for Best Lighting Design), and *Tribes* (Speakeasy Stage Company); *Matt and Ben*, *Brahman/I* (Kitchen Theatre Company); *Follies* (NYIT Nominee for Best Lighting

Design) (Astoria Performing Arts Center); *Fast Company* (Lyric Stage of Boston).  
Assistant Professor, Theatre Arts Program, Gallaudet University. Producing Director,  
New York Deaf Theatre. Teaching Artist, Roundabout Theatre Company.

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