



IN THE HEIGHTS



**SOUTH BAY
MUSICAL THEATRE**

May 16 - June 6, 2026

Enjoy this digital program before the show, and then please turn your phone off when the orchestra begins to play.

TOO SMALL TO READ?

To increase the size of the text, just turn your phone sideways.



DIRECTOR'S NOTE



CAST OF CHARACTERS



SONGS & SCENES



PRODUCTION STAFF



ORCHESTRA



MEET THE CAST



MEET THE STAFF



SUPPORTERS



EXTERNAL LINKS



LOOKING AHEAD



introduction

SOUTH BAY MUSICAL THEATRE

proudly presents

In The Heights

Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Book by Quiara Alegría Hudes

Concept by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Development of *In The Heights* was supported by the Eugene O'Neill Theater Center during a residency at the Music Theater Conference of 2005. Initially developed by Back House Productions.

Originally produced on Broadway by Kevin McCollum, Jeffrey Seller, Jill Furman, Sander Jacobs, Goodman/Grossman, Peter Fine, Everett/Skipper

Rehearsal tracks and software are provided by Right on Cue Services (rightoncueservices.com).

In The Heights is presented by special arrangement with Concord Theatricals.

www.concordtheatricals.com

housekeeping notes

ANY VIDEO AND/OR AUDIO RECORDING OF THIS PRODUCTION IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED.

Electronic devices:

Please enjoy this program before the show and during intermission, but turn off your phones during the show.

Concessions:

Except for bottled water & lidded beverages, food and drinks are not allowed in the theater. Please consume anything purchased during intermission before returning to your seat.

Show length:

The show runs **2 hours and 25 minutes** including a 15-minute intermission.
Act I runs approximately 80 minutes.
Act II runs approximately 50 minutes.

Safety:

Please note the location of all exits.

Restrooms:

If the lines for lobby restrooms are long, you may use the restrooms in the Senior Center next door.

**“When you have a problem, you come home.
As long as we’re alive, you’re never on your own.”**

— Camila Rosario, *In The Heights*

Welcome to Washington Heights!

The theme of how one defines “home” is explored throughout *In The Heights* using the lens of a community of immigrants who came, as they sing, “from miles away.” In Washington Heights, people struggle with financial worries, love, family conflicts, and finding their place in the world.

The stories of the residents of Washington Heights are told through a pulse-pounding score written by Lin-Manuel Miranda. It’s at once joyous, introspective, raucous, and celebratory, using multiple styles of music from reggaeton to salsa to songs in the traditional Broadway song-and-dance idiom. If this is your first time seeing the show, you are going to hear some styles of music you have never heard in a musical, and you are in for a treat.

In The Heights showcases a community sorely underrepresented onstage until this show came along. That these characters are Latine provides both representation and normalization: despite their immigrant status, they

really are just like everyone else. They are workaday people trying to make it from today to tomorrow, wrestling with everyday problems and celebrating everyday accomplishments, however small. As a result, *In The Heights* is not just an immigrant story. Much in the vein of *Fiddler on the Roof*, one does

not need to be a member of the community depicted onstage to relate to their struggles and triumphs.

As a former denizen of Washington Heights (and by that I mean I’ve been in two prior Bay Area productions of the show), I hold *In*

The Heights very close to my heart. I am proud to say that this entire company – cast, crew, staff, and orchestra – has given their passion, their hard work, and their hearts in service to this story, and has more than done justice to the authors, the characters, and our community.

I was honored to work with these wonderful souls, and I hope you derive some much-needed joy from what you are about to see.

iWepa!
Dave Leon
Director



cast of characters

Usnavi de la Vega	
<i>owner of de la Vega Bodega</i>	Alexander Reyes
Nina Rosario	
<i>a freshman at Stanford University</i>	Corinna Ruiz Laskin
Kevin Rosario	
<i>Nina's father, owner of Rosario's Car Service</i>	John Ramirez
Camila Rosario	
<i>Nina's mother</i>	Evalina Maas-Espinoza
Benny	
<i>employee of Rosario's Car Service</i>	Wesley Barker
Vanessa	
<i>works at Daniela's Salon</i>	Allison Taylor
Sonny	
<i>Usnavi's cousin</i>	Mateo Alejandro Lovato
Abuela Claudia	
<i>who raised both Usnavi & Sonny</i>	Angie Alvarez
Daniela	
<i>owner of Daniela's Salon</i>	Liliana Cristina Marcoida
Carla	
<i>works at Daniela's Salon</i>	Sierra Rose Albright
Graffiti Pete	
<i>graffiti artist</i>	Oswaldo Mora
Piragüero	
<i>street vendor selling shaved ice treats</i>	Juan Moyoli

Understudies

Usnavi de la Vega	.....	Oswaldo Mora
Nina Rosario	.....	Eva Huertas Colliou
Camila Rosario	.....	América Bautista Barcenás
Vanessa	.....	Kristen Dabu
Sonny; Piragüero	.....	Alberto Haro
Abuela Claudia	.....	Vilma Huertas-Colliou
Daniela	.....	Vanesa Barrios
Carla	.....	Mose Yoloye
Graffiti Pete	.....	Mimi Jiron del Llano

Ensemble

Vanessa Barrios • América Bautista Barcenás
Eva Huertas Colliou • Kristen Dabu • Nique Eagen
Timothy Ford • Ivann Gelico • Adriana Hokk
Alberto Haro • Vilma Huertas-Colliou • Mimi Jiron del Llano
Kaylie Moniz • Miranda Rojas Aguilar • Christian Romero
Robert Summers • Angelo Valenzuela Tobia
Mose Yoloye • Jennifer Yuan

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songs & scenes

SETTING

All the action takes place in a one-block area of Washington Heights, Manhattan, Thurs., July 3 through Sat., July 5, 2008.

ACT ONE

Scene 1: Washington Heights — Thursday at sunrise

In The Heights..... Usnavi, Company

Scene 2: The Street

Breathe..... Nina, Company

Scene 3: Rosario's Car Service

Benny's Dispatch Benny, Nina

Scene 4: The Street

It Won't Be Long Now Vanessa, Usnavi, Sonny

Scene 5: The Dispatch Booth

Inútil Kevin

Scene 6: The Salon

No Me Diga Daniela, Carla, Vanessa, Nina

Scene 7: The Street

96,000 ... Usnavi, Benny, Sonny, Vanessa, Daniela, Carla, Company

Scene 8: The Street

Paciencia y Fe..... Abuela Claudia, Company

Scene 9: Abuela Claudia's Stoop — early Thursday evening

When You're Home Nina, Benny, Company

Scene 10: The Street — dusk

Piragua Piragüero

Scene 11: The Rosario Household

Siempre..... Camila, Bolero Singer

Scene 12: The Club; On the Street

The Club / Blackout..... Company



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songs & scenes (continued)

INTERMISSION

There will be a 15-minute intermission between acts, when refreshments will be available at our Concessions Table. Only bottled water and lidded drinks are allowed in the theater, so please consume all snacks before returning to your seat.

ACT TWO

Scene 1: Benny's Fire Escape — Friday morning

Sunrise.....Nina, Benny, Company

Scene 2: In front of the Dispatch Booth

Scene 3: Interior of Usnavi and Abuela's Apartment

Hundreds of Stories..... Abuela Claudia, Usnavi

Scene 4: Outside the Dispatch Booth

Enough..... Camila

Scene 5: The Street

Carnaval del Barrio..... Daniela, Company

Scene 6: The Dispatch Booth

AtenciónKevin

Scene 7: The Street

Alabanza.....Usnavi, Nina, Company

Scene 8: Abuela Claudia's Stoop — later Friday afternoon

Everything I Know.....Nina

Scene 9: Outside the Salon

No Me Diga (Reprise).....Daniela, Carla, Vanessa

Scene 10: The Street

Piragua (Reprise)..... Piragüero

Scene 11: The Bodega

Champagne..... Vanessa, Usnavi

Scene 12: Outside the Dispatch Booth

When The Sun Goes DownNina, Benny

Scene 13: A Shady Alleyway — late Friday night

Scene 14: The Street — Saturday morning, sunrise

Finale..... Usnavi, Company

Check out our
selection of treats
at the concession
table in the lobby!



production staff

Director & Vocal Director	Dave Leon
Assistant Director	Vanessa Alvarez
Musical Director	Tony Gaitan
Choreographer	Michael Saenz
Assistant Choreographer	Christine Baker
Dance Captain	Adriana Hokk
Stage Manager	Carla McCreight
Assistant Stage Managers	Alex Hsiung, Kat Swanson
Costume Designer	Barbara Griswold
Costume Supervisors	Kelly Matchett-Morris Melissa Robinson
Costume Assistant	Chris Pasetta
Hair & Makeup Designer	Aishy Panwar
Lighting Designer	Ed Hunter
Light Board Operator	Theo Littlestone
Follow Spot Operators	Donna Le, Don Masuda, Nita Rabe-Uyeno, Barbara Weissman
Props Designer	Olivia Downey
Props Runner	Joanna Pena
Set Designer, Builder, & Scenic Painter	Kalyn McKenzie
Painters	Emily Fountain, Caleb Matheson, Melissa Robinson, Emily Tao
Carpenters	Chris Higareda, Kyle Langdon, Emily Tao
Deck Crew	Yenny Ortez
Sound Designer	Jonah Phan
Sound Support	Chris Beer
Sound Crew	Aya Furuta, Tina Vo
Truck Drivers	Michael Paul Hirsch, Qian Zhang
Video Effects	Don Nguyen
Rehearsal Pianists	Eric Kong, Molly Anderson, Anita Carey
Cast Deputy, Intimacy Coordinator	Nique Eagen
Hospitality Chairs	Adriana Hokk, Kaylie Moniz, Evalina Maas-Espinoza
Social Media Assistance	Corinna Laskin
ASL Interpreters	Stephanie Foisy, Dane Lentz
Lobby Display	Barbara Heninger
Photographer	Dave Lepori
Program Designer	Doug Hughes
Program Proofreaders	David Mister, Jennifer Yuan
Promo Videos	Jared McDaniel, Aishy Panwar, Lex Rosenberg

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sbmt staff

Executive Director	Michael Paul Hirsch
Artistic Director	Walter M. Mayes
Box Office Manager	Diane Hughes
Business Manager	Lori Wood
Chief Technical Officer	Dan Singletary
Historian	Barbara Heninger
Marketing Director.....	Doug Hughes
Marketing Assistant.....	Lex Rosenberg
Patron Manager	Kama Belloni
Production Manager	Emily Tao

orchestra

Conductor

Reed 1	Keyboard 1	Drums
Jerry Holmes	Matt Mattei	Christine Lovejoy
Reed 2	Keyboard 2	Percussion
Richard Krishnan	Eric Kong	Tony Gaitan
Trumpet	Guitar	
Ricky Martinez	Dylan Escudero	
Trombone	Bass	
Randy Chase	Gabriel Perez	



Seated, L to R: Matthew Mattei, Gabriel Perez, Eric Kong, Jerry Holmes, Christine Lovejoy, Dylan Escudero. Standing: Randy Chase, Tony Gaitan.

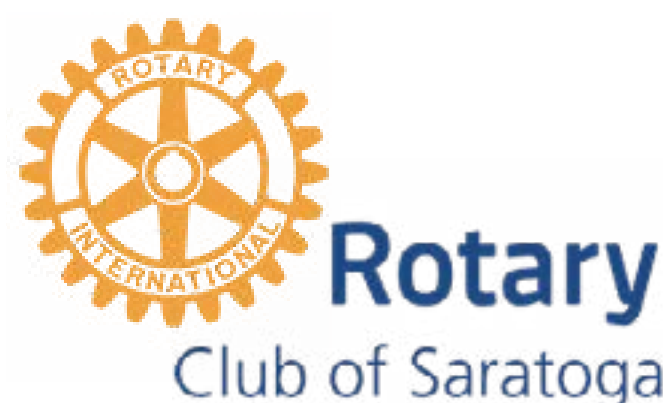
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land acknowledgment

South Bay Musical Theatre acknowledges that its theater, rehearsal studio, and set shop are located on the ancestral home of the Muwekma Ohlone peoples of the Tamien Tribe who are the original inhabitants of the South Bay Area. We recognize that we benefit from living and working on their traditional homeland, and we send our appreciation.

acknowledgements

Many thanks to Palo Alto Players, Venture Christian Church, Charlie's Cheesecake Works, Guglielmo Winery, and all our donors, volunteers, and grant providers, including SVCcreates and the County of Santa Clara, the Saratoga Rotary Charitable Foundation, and the City of Saratoga.



donor recognition

Donors to South Bay Musical Theatre over the past several years have generously kept our group afloat at a time when other arts groups have sadly succumbed to a perfect storm of challenges. More than 300 individuals and corporations gave to ensure the longevity of the arts here in Saratoga.

Please consider joining the donor family by making either a [monthly](#) contribution or a [one-time](#) donation. We also welcome all types of [volunteers](#) (especially if your employer provides matching funds for your donated hours), in-kind donations, sponsorships, IRA distributions, and legacy gifts. [See our list of donors here.](#)

board of directors

Tipu Purkayastha, Chair
Ann Lucena, Vice Chair
Andy Switky, Secretary
Ray Smith, CFO
Marcy Bates

Lashonda Eagels
Doug Hughes
Caroline Kondo Moore
Dick Robbins
Steve Sammonds
Cathie Thermond

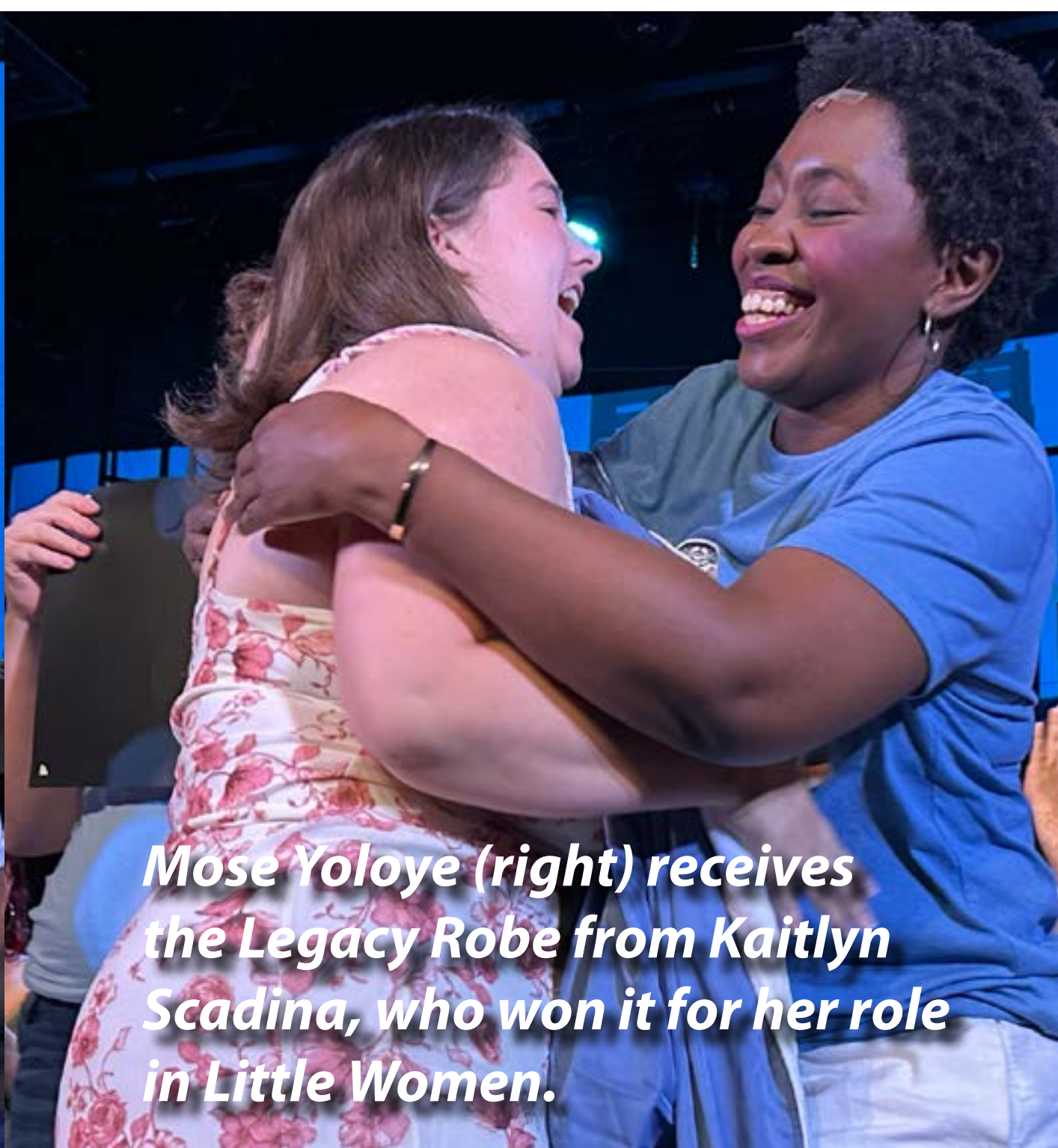
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recognition

Congratulations to these team members who were honored for their contributions on Preview Night.



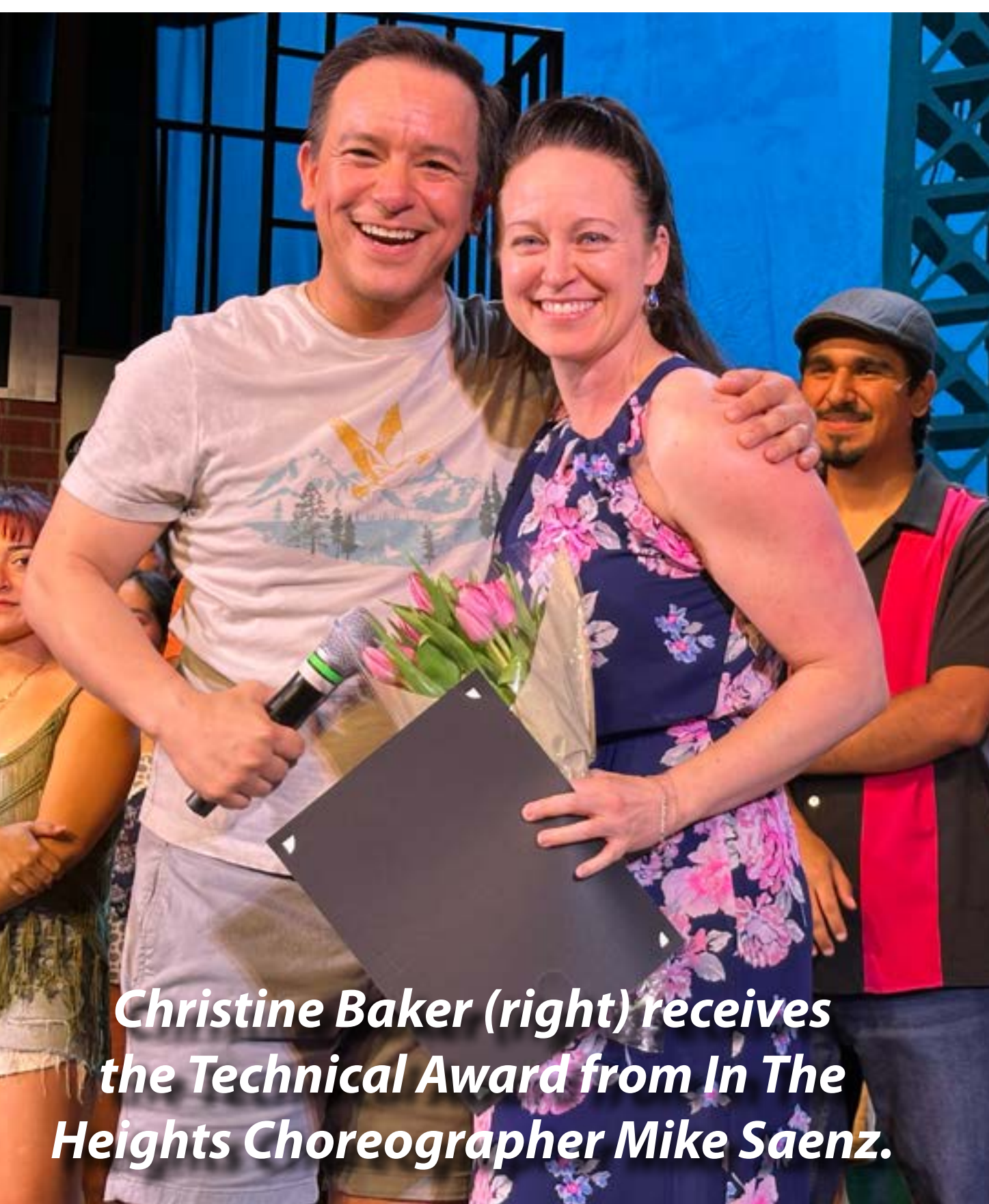
Ivann Gelico (left) receives the Newcomer Award from In The Heights Director Dave Leon.



Mose Yoloye (right) receives the Legacy Robe from Kaitlyn Scadina, who won it for her role in Little Women.

Newcomer Award:
Ivann Gelico

Legacy Robe Award:
Mose Yoloye



Christine Baker (right) receives the Technical Award from In The Heights Choreographer Mike Saenz.



Technical Award:
Christine Baker
Assistant Choreographer

Bless Your Heart Award:
Doug & Diane Hughes
Marketing Dir. & Box Office Mgr.



Kama Belloni is honored for six years of service as Patron Manager by Executive Director Michael Hirsch.

SBMT Ovation Award:
Kama Belloni
Patron Manager

meet the cast



Sierra Rose Albright (*Carla*) is thrilled to be making her SBMT debut after an eight-year hiatus from the stage. Sierra discovered her love for musical theatre at the age of eight and has been passionate about storytelling through performance ever since. She went on to study Musical Theatre at California State University, East Bay. After stepping away from performing to focus on her career in property management, she is incredibly grateful and excited to return to the stage and reconnect with her first love. Sierra would like to thank her family, friends, and loved ones for their unwavering support and encouragement. She is especially grateful for the opportunity to be part of this production and hopes you enjoy the show as much as she has enjoyed being a part of it.

Angie Alvarez (*Abuela Claudia*) is grateful to be part of *In The Heights* as Abuela Claudia. She holds a Bachelor of Music in Vocal Performance from SJSU and a Master's in Teaching from the University of San Francisco. Her favorite roles include Erzulie in *Once on This Island* (TPT), Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof* (LTSJ), and Dr. Charlotte in *Falsettos* (TPT). Angie is passionate about storytelling, music, and community, and has also worked as a vocal director for numerous youth productions. By day, she is a middle school teacher in San Francisco, and she is deeply grateful to share this story on stage.



América Bautista Barcenas (*Ensemble/ Camila u/s*) (she/ella) is thrilled to make her SBMT debut! She participated in her first ever musical, *In The Heights* (Ensemble), with SCP two summers ago. She's elated and honored to revisit this beautiful show again! Her Bay Area theatre journey began with Teatro Alebrijes, a Latinx community theatre company in San José, her hometown. Recent credits include *The Prince of Egypt* (Vocal Ensemble) (SCP) and *Richard III* (Rivers/Oxford/Dance Hall Girl) and *A Christmas Carol* (Spirit Guide), both with SVS. Many thanks to the cast/crew for a wonderful, enriching experience! ¡Gracias también a mi familia y amigos por su amor y su apoyo! "They tried to bury us. They didn't know we were seeds." <3

Wesley Barker (*Benny*) is thrilled to make his SBMT debut as Benny. Growing up in East Palo Alto, Wesley has worked with multiple Bay Area theaters, most recently seen as Cliff Bradshaw in *Cabaret* at PSP; as Sammy in *The Wedding Singer* and as Apostle in *Jesus Christ Superstar* with WMT; and as Patrick Bateman in B.A.D. Musical Theatre's *American Psycho*. Along with theatre, Wes has dabbled in films such as *LoveFool* and *Scream: The Parody*. He would like to thank his inner circle of friends and his amazing family for keeping him grounded!



Vanesa Barrios (*Ensemble / Daniela u/s*) is a Bay Area-based dancer and instructor at MKC Project, and a graduate of SJSU. Credits with Ohlone College Summerfest include *Hairspray* (Ensemble, 2018), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Ballet Dancer, 2019), *Rent* (Choreographer, 2022), and *Grease* (Cha Cha, 2024). *In The Heights*

is her first show as a mom, and she is thrilled to return to the stage and share this story with the community. IG: @chacha_asenav

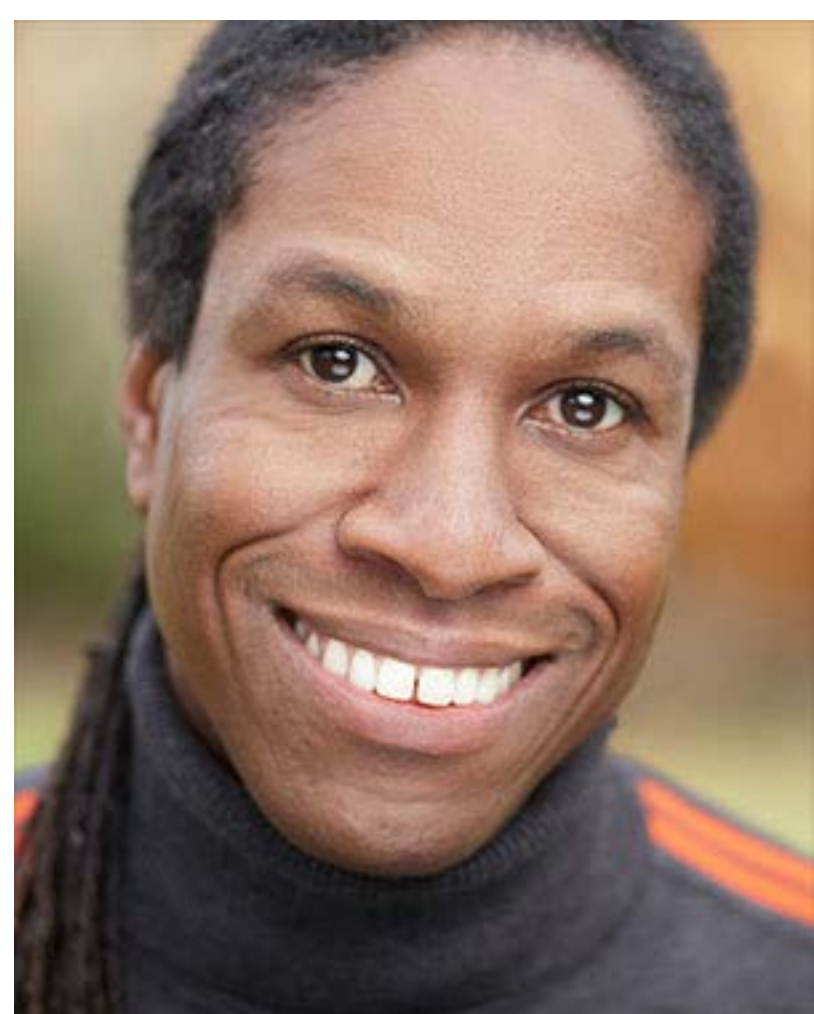
Eva Huertas Colliou (*Ensemble / Nina u/s*) is beyond thrilled to be making her SBMT debut with this incredible team in one of her favorite shows! She is especially proud to be part of *In The Heights* as a half Puerto Rican—this story and community make her feel deeply connected to her roots and proud to be Boricua. Eva was last seen in the ensemble of *Head Over Heels* at CLTC. Some favorite past roles include Johanna in *Sweeney Todd* (Moonbox Productions, Boston), Audrey in *Little Shop of Horrors* (Upstage Theatre), Brooke Wyndham in *Legally Blonde* (SCP), the Witch in *Into the Woods* (SA's Dream Team), and Young Cosette in *Les Misérables* (BBB). She has also enjoyed working behind the scenes as a stage manager. Outside of theatre, Eva loves dancing to all kinds of music, exploring different artforms, especially watercolor, and making new friends. She is currently on a gap year and plans to return to The Boston Conservatory as a senior in the Musical Theatre BFA program. She thanks her family for always believing in her. *In The Heights* carries many meaningful messages, and she hopes you take away something that resonates with your own life, even if it's simply the joy of being alive. "As long as we're alive, you're never on your own."





Kristen Dabu (*Ensemble / Vanessa u/s*) is a performer, recording artist, and vocal coach, and the founder of Faith Music Studio, where she mentors and trains singers of all ages. She has had the joy of playing several of her dream roles, including Belle in *Beauty and the Beast*, Éponine in *Les Misérables*, Maria in *West Side Story*, and Lady Larken in *Once Upon a Mattress*. In 2022, Kristen toured with Maverick City Music alongside Chandler Moore and Naomi Raine, and in 2024 she toured with Phil Wickham and TAYA. She is so thrilled to be part of one of her favorite shows and grateful for the opportunity to bring this story to life with this amazing cast. IG: @kristenfcapistrano & @faithmusicstudio

Nique Eagen (*Ensemble*) is grateful to be back at SBMT fulfilling another one of her “bucket list” shows, *In The Heights*. She is a versatile and passionate performer with a BFA in Musical Theatre from Point Park University. Last year she was seen as Alice Beane in SBMT’s *Titanic: In Concert*, and in 2024 she assistant-directed SBMT’s *A Little Night Music*. Other notable musical theatre roles include Asaka in *Once on This Island* (TPT), Deloris in *Sister Act* (WVLO), and Sarah’s Friend in *Ragtime* (Saratoga Drama Group). Nique would like to thank our amazing production team for this opportunity, and dedicate this show to her dear “Mama Stella” Tafoya from her “Mija”. Te extrañaré para siempre.



Timothy Ford (*Ensemble*) is delighted to make his SBMT debut in this production of *In The Heights*. This will mark his 10th musical theatre production since moving to the Bay Area. Past performances include *Irene*, *A Chorus Line*, *Catch Me If You Can*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Once Upon a Mattress*, and *Pippin* (WVLO); *Billy Elliot* (CMT); *9 to 5* (FMT); and *Pippin* (LASC). Prior to musical theatre ventures, Timothy was a member of Los Angeles based dance companies Lula Washington Dance Theatre and Jazzantiqua Dance and Music Ensemble. He also gained acceptance into the Alvin Ailey American Dance Center’s Certificate Program. He is a graduate of UC San Diego (Go Tritons!) When not on stage or playing vinyl records, Timothy works as an admission advisor for UC Merced. Love and thanks to husband and local cult-figure Steve, family, friends, and this wonderful staff for the support. Viva La Pachanga!!

Ivann Gelico (*Ensemble*) (He/They) is ecstatic to be making his SBMT debut, in a show that he's so passionate about! He graduated from UCSB with a degree in Sociology and from Ohlone College with a degree in Fine Arts with a focus on acting. He'd like to thank his family and mentors for their endless support. Favorite credits include Scab/Brooklyn Newsie in *Newsies* (HTC), Ensemble in *The SpongeBob Musical* (PAP), and Daryl Ames in *Bright Star* (TMC Arts). Maraming salamat sa inyong lahat!



Alberto Haro (*Ensemble / Sonny & Piragüero u/s*) is excited to make his SBMT debut. He's had roles at WVC that include *Midsummer Night's Dream* (Demetrius), *Violet* (Monty), and *Rocky Horror* (Riff Raff). He's been performing for almost a decade and is thrilled to be a part of *In The Heights*. He'd like to thank his family and friends for their support. Alberto likes to skateboard, play guitar, and play strategy games in his free time.

Adriana Hokk (*Ensemble/Dance Captain*) After recently appearing as Emily in *On the Twentieth Century: In Concert*, Adriana returns to this stage for her first feature production with SBMT. She has also had the privilege of working with TPT (*The Art of Murder*), PAP (*Noises Off* — SFBATCC nominated), SVS (*The Comedy of Errors*, *Richard III*), CLTC (*Truce*), and WVLO (*Pippin*, *The Drowsy Chaperone*). Thank you for supporting live theatre! Wepa!



Vilma Huertas-Colliou (*Ensemble / Abuela u/s*) is thrilled to be making her SBMT and musical theatre debut, a childhood and lifetime sueño come true. As a born and raised Boricua who grew up with these sounds, this show is dear to her heart. To be sharing the experience with her daughter Eva is just incredible. She is grateful to SBMT for the opportunity and for the support of her family and this incredible cast. Previous acting stints date to over 30 years ago: Vladimir in *Waiting for Godot* (Swarthmore College) and Alice in *Alice in Wonderland* (Academia San Jose). In loving memory of her Abuela who taught her how to savor the sweetness and joy of life and who lives in her memory para siempre. WEPA!!!



Mimi Jiron del Llano (*Ensemble / Graffiti Pete u/s*) was raised in San Francisco and started learning all genres of dance from Hip Hop to traditional cultural dances from a young age. Her passion is mainly in Femme dance styles (Waacking, Vogue, etc.) She has competed in competitions such as Prelude Norcal, Collaboration, and World of Dance: Bay Area, Los Angeles, and Finals. She then moved on to performing with the Tribe Dance Company from San Carlos in events like SF Hip Hop Dance Festival as well as performing in productions such as *Hip Hop Cinderella* and *The Hip Hop Nutcracker*. Now teaching youth and adult hip hop classes at Dance Academy USA, she continues to train, perform and push her artistry while passing down her knowledge and experience to the next generation of dancer. She's excited to be part of *In The Heights*, a production that celebrates culture, community, and identity, all of which are values that strongly influence both her artistry and teaching.



Corinna Ruiz Laskin (*Nina*) (she/her) is so excited to be back at SBMT, where she previously appeared in *The Spitfire Grill*. She graduated from AMDA LA with a BFA in musical theatre. Previous roles include Eliza Doolittle in *My Fair Lady* (TPT), Miss Sandra in *All Shook Up* (WVLO), Jovie in *Elf the Musical* (LASC), Hannah Campbell in *Allegiance* (PAP), and Lulu in *Cabaret* (LASC). Para Gladys, Norma, y Edna. Gracias por todo lo que me han enseñado. @corinnalaskin

Mateo Alejandro Lovato (*Sonny*) is thrilled to be making his SBMT debut in *In The Heights*. A sophomore at Live Oak High School, Mateo has previously appeared in several productions with CMT, including Chip Tolentino in *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*, Drew Boley in *Rock of Ages*, and Moose in *Crazy for You*. He is proud to be venturing into the world of community theatre with this production. Mateo is grateful to his family for their constant support and would like to thank the wonderful team at SBMT for making this such a memorable experience.



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Evalina Maas-Espinoza (*Camila*) is overjoyed to make her musical debut with SBMT as Camila. She is incredibly grateful to everyone who helped bring this production to life and make it a dream come true. Reprising the role of Camila is a true honor and sharing this story means so much to her. Evalina's recent credits include Camila in *In The Heights* (SCP), Guest Artist for *A Night on Broadway* (SCP), Miss Honey understudy in *Matilda* (PAP), and Chorus member for Sarah Brightman's *Christmas Symphony Tour*. She sends heartfelt thanks to her family, friends, and partner for their love and endless support. She thanks you for supporting live theatre and hopes you enjoy the show! Keep up with Evalina on TikTok and Instagram @evalina_espi.

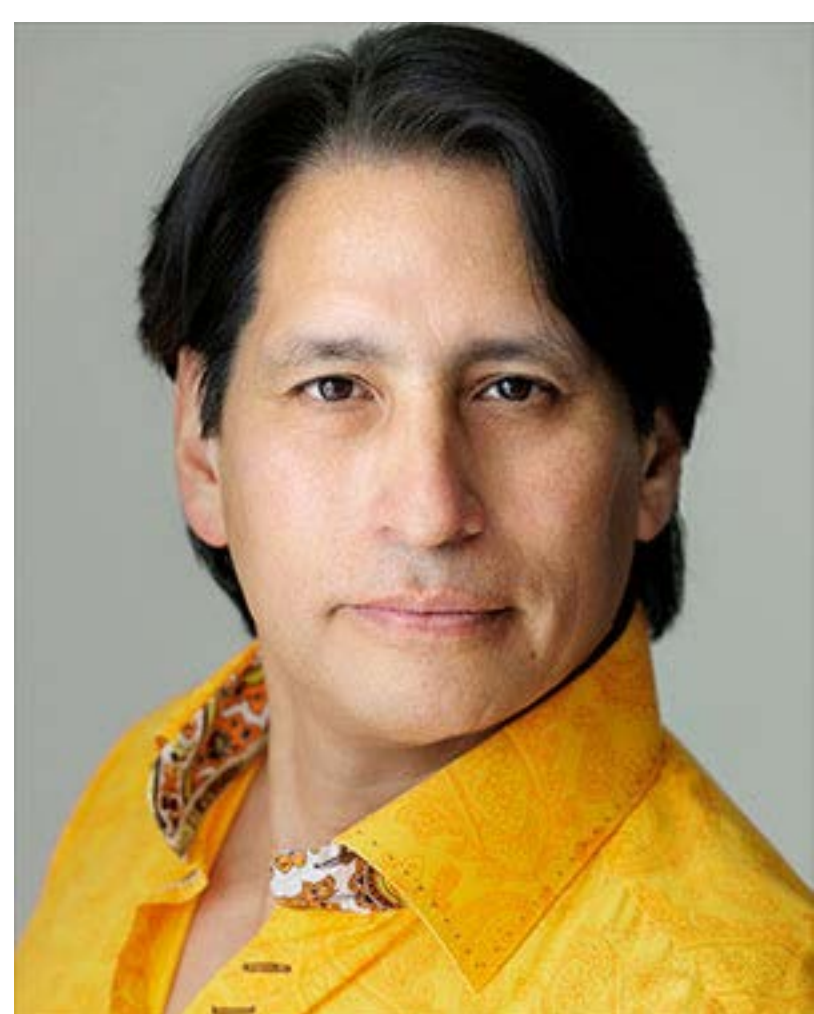
Liliana Cristina Marcoida (*Daniela*) (she/they) is making her SBMT debut with *In The Heights*! She is currently a fifth year Theatre Arts Major in her graduating semester at SJSU. Her past credits include Mrs. Gibbs in *Our Town* (SJSU) and Daniela in *In The Heights* (SCP). Even though this is the second time doing this show in this role, Liliana is ever so happy to be given the opportunity to continue to share Latino stories on stage! She can't thank the production team enough for making this a wonderful experience to be a part of. A big thank you to all who believed in me ¡Wepa!



Kaylie Moniz (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be making her SBMT debut with *In The Heights*! She has been performing onstage since she was six years old, and some of her favorite past roles include Cady in *Mean Girls* (CMT), Katherine in *Newsies* (CYT Santa Cruz), and in the Ensemble of *Head Over Heels* (CLTC). Outside of performing, Kaylie works as a ballet teacher and assistant stage manager. In her free time she enjoys tap dancing, thrift shopping, and making at-home lattes. She hopes you have a wonderful time at the theater, and enjoy the show!

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Oswaldo Mora (*Graffiti Pete / Usnavi u/s*) is a spirited spontaneous cowboy who's excited to welcome you into the world of *In The Heights*! Fueled by Saturday morning cartoons and cereal, his passion for storytelling has taken him from *Newsies*, *Something Rotten*, and *Legally Blonde* at Tri-Valley Repertory Theatre, to *High Fidelity* at Las Positas College, and *In The Heights* and *West Side Story* with SCP. A proud alumni of The Actors Conservatory at Las Positas, he loves watching live performances, boot scootin' at honky tonk nights, and peaceful days aboard his boat. Though he's grown as an artist, his heart still beats with childlike wonder...ready for the next big adventure! @omora3243



Juan Moyoli (*Piragüero*) is thrilled to be performing his SBMT debut with this particular musical since last summer in NYC he was able to see Lin-Manuel Miranda in person and meet the actress who played Abuela Claudia in the movie. Juan's introduction to musical theatre was at Washington Open Elementary School's parent/teacher/staff casts where he played Captain Hook (*Peter Pan*), Rooster (*Annie*), and Prince Eric (*The Little Mermaid*). However, he's been performing as a professional flamenco dancer for over 30 years, having studied with Rosa Montoya and Omayra Amaya in the US; with flamenco greats Domingo Ortega, Manuel Reyes, and Ciro in Madrid; and Rafael Campallo, Javier LaTorre, Jose Galvan, and Juana Amaya in Seville. He's performed as a soloist in over half the country and been featured as Piquillo in *La Traviata* for San Francisco Opera and San Diego Opera, and as principal dancer for San Diego Opera in *Don Quichotte* and in March's performance of *Carmen*. He enjoys tickling piano keys and going out salsa dancing when not listening to audio books while walking his dog, Luna. He'd like to thank his parents, brother, and sister for their support. Much love to his kids Mateo and Ilaria for always bringing a smile to his face.

John Ramirez (*Kevin*) (he/they) is so excited to return to SBMT after an eight-year hiatus. He last appeared here as Alf in *Peter and the Starcatcher* back in 2018. He's a local Bay Area actor, children's theatre director, and vocal director. John has been on the other side of the table as a director / vocal director for shows such



as *The Lion King Jr* (Norcal Academy of Performing Arts), *Moana Jr* and *Seussical Jr* (Milpitas Community Theatre), *Into The Woods Jr* (PP), *Willy Wonka Jr* (SA), and *Alice in Wonderland Jr* (BACT). He has taught classes and camps with such companies as CMT, SA, and BACT. As an actor, John has had the privilege of playing roles such as The Voice of Audrey II in *Little Shop of Horrors* (SCP), Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys and Dolls* (SCP), Lefou in Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (PAP), Piragüero in *In The Heights* (PP), Papa Ge in *Once on this Island* (TPT and PP), and William Barfée in *Spelling Bee* (Clayton Theatre Company). John saw *In The Heights* on Broadway in high school, with Corbin Bleu as Usnavi, and it made such an impression on him that he KNEW he had to be in this show one day. He's blessed to say that this is his second time in the Barrio. ¡WEPA!



Alexander Reyes (*Usnavi*) is beyond stoked to be a part of this production of *In The Heights*. He has been obsessed with this show for years now, and is grateful to be working with such a talented and experienced cast—not to mention a phenomenal creative team. His recent productions include *Spelling Bee* (FMT, Mitch u/s), *Annie* (PAP, Ensemble), *Sanctuary City* (More Mas Marami, Henry u/s), and more. This show, *In The Heights*, means a lot to him, as it represents the culture in which he grew up. Having this representation in musical theatre speaks volumes for Alex and countless others. He'd like to thank everyone involved in the production, and most importantly you, the audience, for coming to see this story.

Miranda Rojas Aguilar (*Ensemble*) is thrilled to be returning to the theater and making her SBMT debut with *In The Heights*. Past shows include *Matilda* (Matilda), *Shakespeare in Love*, and *The Music Man* at Lincoln Performing Arts, and *Oliver!* (Oliver) at Shoestring Theatre. She is a member of Sweet Adelines International singing with Mission Valley Chorus and enjoys dancing lindy hop & tap, playing guitar & bass, figure skating, and climbing. She thanks her family for all their encouragement and support!

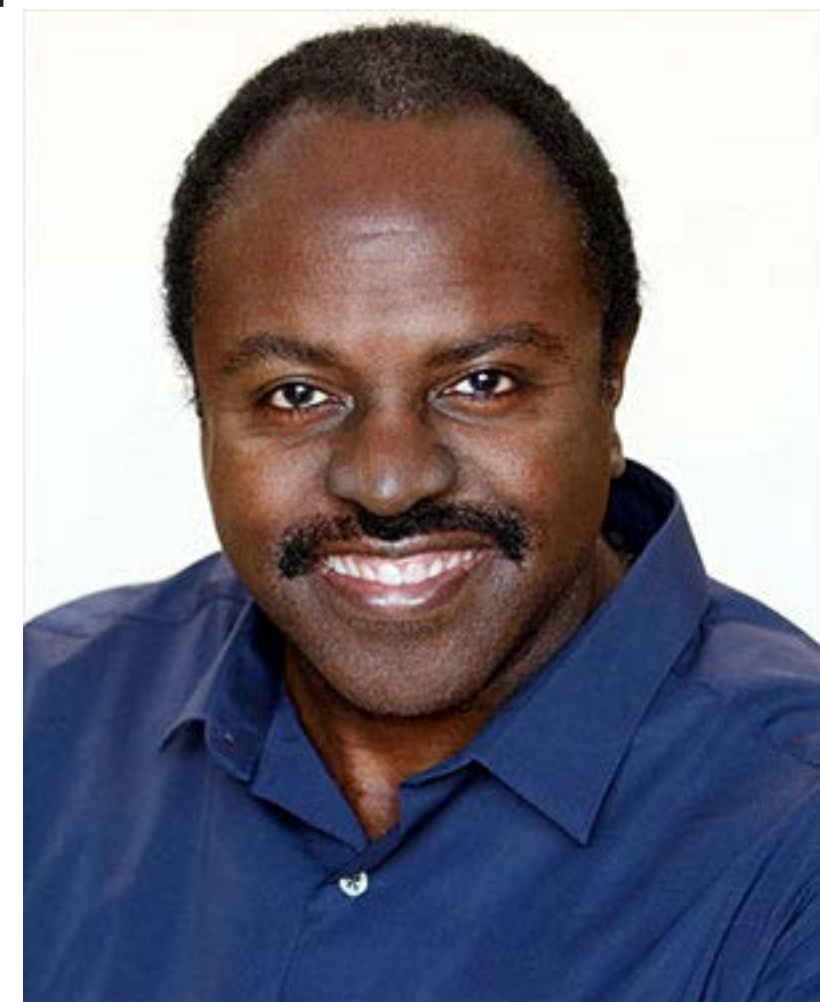


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Christian Romero (*Ensemble*) is honored to make his SBMT debut with the cast of *In The Heights*. He has previously performed as Nicely-Nicely Johnson in *Guys & Dolls* (Woodbury High School), and has directed his own original musical, *Sobrevivencia*, while a student at the University of Chicago. He is very excited to venture out into the world of community theatre. Christian is a bilingual teacher with experience in Spanish Immersion and mathematics in K-12. His interests include reading and board games.

Robert Summers (*Ensemble*) returns for his second production with SBMT. Other credits on our stage include *Little Me*. Robert has also performed with WVLO in *60th Diamond Celebration* (Prince),

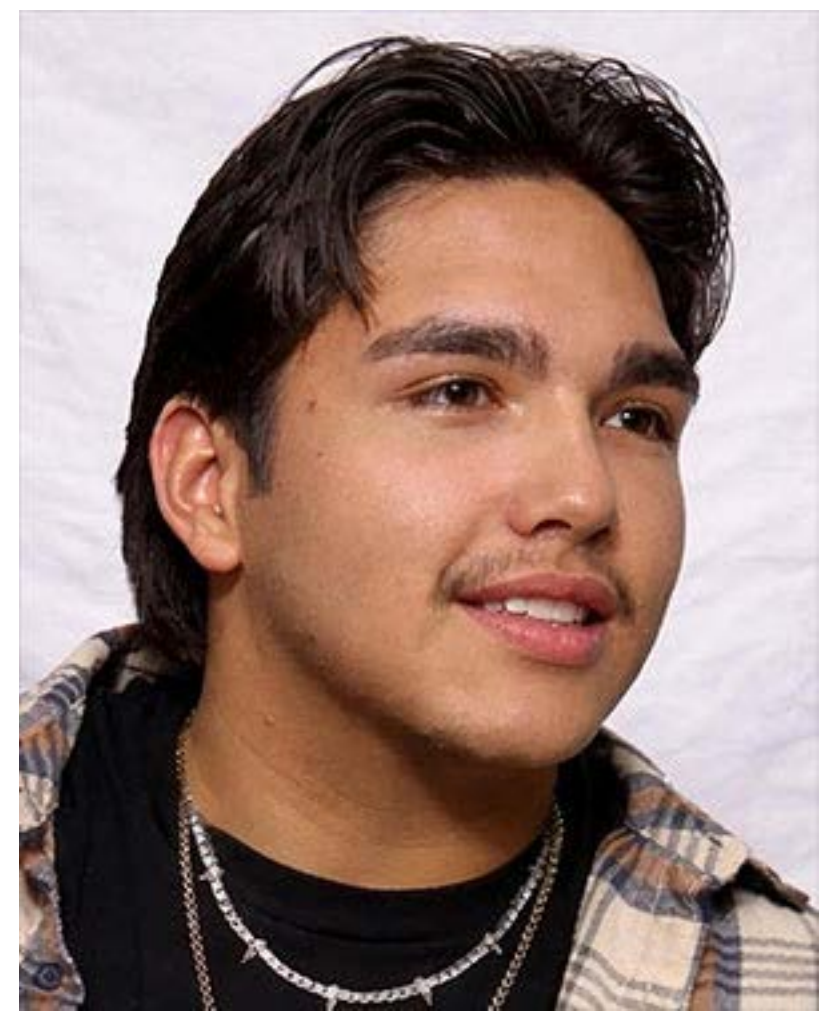


Something Rotten, *Big River* (Jim – ERMA Best Supporting Actor), *42nd Street* (Mac), *Bullets Over Broadway*, *A Chorus Line* (Roy), *In The Heights*, *Dames at Sea*, *Jesus Christ Superstar* (Thomas), *Cats* (Mungojerrie), *Aida* (Amonasro), *Damn Yankees*, *Will Rogers Follies* (Wranglers/Guitarist), *How To Succeed...Trying*, *Camelot* (Sir Sagramore), *King & I* (Captain Orton), *Man of La Mancha* (The Barber/Guitarist), and *South Pacific* (Cpt Hamilton Steeves). Other credits include *Little Shop of Horrors* with Pintello Comedy Theater, *Into the Woods* (Steward) with SCP, *Evita & Les Misérables* (Convict/Army Officer/Sailor/Thernadier Gang) with Monterey Peninsula College, and *A Change Of Heart* (Simon) with 8 Tens at 8 in Santa Cruz. Robert has also performed with the San Benito Stage Company in *Les Misérables* (Convict/Army Officer/Thernadier Gang), *Spamalot* (Minstrel), and *Big River* (Jim). He enjoys magic, guitar, and Aikido. By day, Robert is a software developer for Unicom Systems.



Allison Taylor (*Vanessa*) is excited to be making her SBMT debut as Vanessa in *In The Heights* after a six-year break from musical theatre. Some of her past theatre credits include Golde in *Fiddler on the Roof*, Big Jule in *Guys and Dolls*, and Ensemble in *Children of Eden*. When she's not channeling Vanessa's downtown daydreams, Allison works as a legal assistant by day and performs locally with the bands Late at Last, Decoy, Misspent Youth, and Hella Doubtful by night. Keep up with Allison @ [allisonvtaylor](https://www.instagram.com/allisonvtaylor) on Instagram and TikTok. Website linktr.ee/allisonvtaylor

Angelo Valenzuela Tobia (*Ensemble*) gives all the glory to his family, friends, and god for the opportunity he's received from SBMT! Due to owning his own clothing brand, Certified Fieles, and being a four-sport athlete throughout high school, he hasn't established much theatre credibility. Now a 17-year-old senior at Arroyo High School, aspiring to be an actor and director, he's excited to finally take the first step into his theatre career debuting in *In The Heights*! He can't wait to start off his journey strong working and learning from this talented cast and group of wise directors. You can visit him on IG: @crtfd.avt or @crtfdfieles



Mose Yolo (*Ensemble / Carla u/s*) is excited to be making her community theatre debut in *In The Heights*, one of her favorite musicals! In her spare time, she enjoys watching basketball, baking, and tinkering with computers. She is honored to get to work with such a wonderful cast, crew, and staff, and thanks her family and friends for all their support!

Jennifer Yuan (*Ensemble*) started doing theatre four years ago because of her obsession with *Hamilton*, and could not be more thrilled to be in *In The Heights*, also created by Lin-Manuel Miranda. She previously performed with SBMT in *On The Twentieth Century* (Porter); *No, No, Nanette* (Ensemble); *Singin' in the Rain* (Ensemble); and *On the Town* (Ensemble, u/s Ivy Smith). Other shows include *Twelfth Night* (LASC), *All Shook Up* (WVLO), and *Seussical* (Woodside Musical Theatre). She takes dance classes with Zohar Dance Company and Groovitude Dance in Palo Alto. In her day job, she works in communications at the Lucile Packard Foundation for Children's Health. Hugs to her family, friends, and coworkers who provide support and laughs through good and bad.



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meet the staff



Vanessa Alvarez (*Assistant Director*) returns to SBMT, but this time behind the table. A performer in the Bay Area for over 20 years, she has had the privilege to work with LASC, TPT, SVS, FMT, CSC, SJ Rep, CMT Marquee, and PAP. Vanessa is grateful for this opportunity to share *In The Heights* with you all, a show that she had

the honor of performing in as Daniela at PAP with director, Dave Leon, as Kevin. Special thanks to her husband, Bryan Moriarty, for his continued support during this production and taking extra care of their new addition to the family, Cara, while mom was away at rehearsals.

Christine Baker (*Asst. Choreographer*) is absolutely thrilled to be part of this wonderful production of *In The Heights*! She is returning to SBMT after performing in the ensemble of *On The Town* back in 2022. Past choreography credits include *The Prom* (PSP) and *Big Fish* (SCP).



Performance highlights include *Something Rotten*, *The Producers*, *West Side Story*, and the TBA-Award winning production of *Cabaret* (HTC); and *Sister Act* (BBB). Christine also performs with an adult hip hop team, Side Piece Dance, in Oakland at In the Groove Studios, and seasonally teaches her Pop Grooves class at Zohar Dance Company in Palo Alto. Most recently, she choreographed for and performed in *Circus Freaks*, a circus act/dance variety show in Las Vegas, led by Christopher Childers.



Olivia Downey (*Props Designer*) is an SJSU graduate with a B.A. in Theatre, (technical production emphasis), and is honored to be working with SBMT on her first professional designing role. While at SJSU, she was the main student theater sound designer, working on shows like *Yoga Play* and *Thanksgiving Play*. When

she isn't knitting scarves or giving her dog scratches, she's working as one of TW's on-call electricians and helping out as a carpenter with PAP. She would love to thank Walter and Michael for letting her have this opportunity, and her parents for not only their continued support, but their patience letting her use their garage as a props closet.

Tony Gaitan (*Musical Director*) is a seasoned musical director known for his talent in bringing stories to life through music. He has led numerous productions, guiding performers all over the Bay Area for companies such as PAP, SCP, SA, and PYT. Thrilled to be on the podium with SBMT for the first time, Tony was most recently



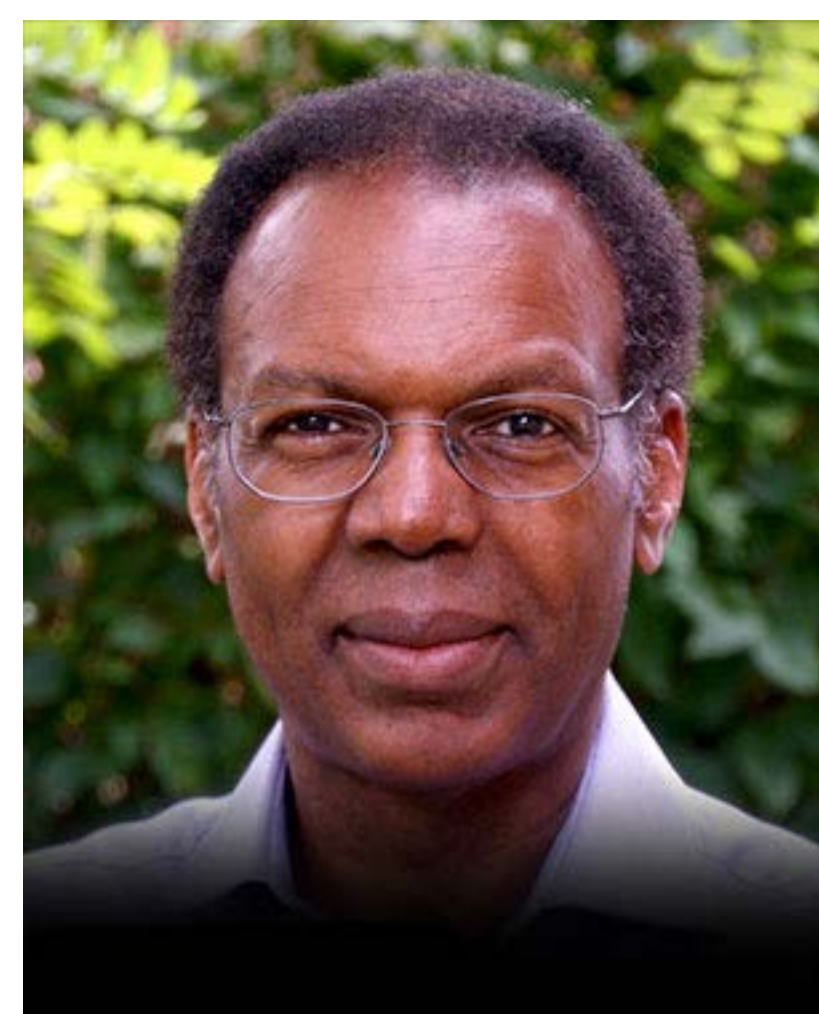
the MD for SA's overwhelmingly successful production of *Hadestown*. He's also worked as a musician in pit orchestras up and down the Bay Area including HTC, BBB, PAP, and others. Beyond his work in the theater, Tony has also been seen in the percussion sections of the Palo Alto Philharmonic, Nova Vista Symphony, and the Winchester Orchestra.



Barbara Griswold (*Costume Designer*) brings decades of experience designing costumes for theatre groups all over the South Bay. Recently she costumed shows for Santa Clara Players, including *Barefoot in the Park*. She previously designed costumes for Campbell Children's Theatre for *Les Misérables*, *Once on This Island*,

and *Damn Yankees*. Over the course of nine years she designed costumes for 16 musicals and dramas at Del Mar High School in San Jose, including large-cast shows like *Hunchback of Notre Dame*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *Thoroughly Modern Millie*, *Grease*, *Cinderella*, *Hairspray*, and *Into the Woods*.

Ed Hunter (*Lighting Designer*) has worked with many companies in the South Bay including PAP, LTSJ, SCP, TW, PYT, and TPT. Recent designs: *12 Angry Jurors* (WVC); *Newsies* (PYT); *Annie*, *DaVinci Code*, *Frozen* (PAP); *Beetlejuice Jr.* (SA); *In Love and Warcraft* (CLTC); *Brigadoon* (SBMT); *Wait Until Dark* (HTC); *Shrek Jr.*



Bilingual (River Glenn School), *Shrek Jr.* (SCP); *Ada and the Engine* (TPT). Additionally, Ed has been helping at some local high schools coaching their students on lighting design and technical theater.

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Dave Leon (*Director/Vocal Director*) returns to SBMT for his first production since 2018, when he directed *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. A Bay Area native, Dave has worked at various theaters throughout the region, including several shows at SBMT. Dave lives in Santa Clara with his cats Oscar and Felix.

Lots of love to Allison and Nikki, and a big “o hai!” to the SIP Social Club. This is for Ma, Nana Rosa, and Nana Carmen.

Carla McCreight (*Stage Manager*)

welcomes the opportunity to return as stage manager for *In The Heights*. Carla has worked with SBMT on many shows as both a cast and staff member since her performing debut here in *Fiddler on the Roof* over 20 years ago. She’s a real “theatre kid” who saw her first CMT show



at 13, auditioned and got cast in the next one, and has never looked back. In addition to her many performing credits, she has stage managed at LASC and crewed all over the area. Carla dedicates her work on this production to her sister, Caren. In the face of adversity or loss, finding reasons to give thanks can provide solace and strength. Alabanza.



Kalyn McKenzie (*Set Designer*) is excited to be returning to SBMT for her second time designing. She previously worked with SBMT as the Set Designer for *Urinetown*, Production Manager for *Rent*, and as a performer in *Singin’ In The Rain*. She’s worked as a Stage Manager on projects including *A Christmas Story*

with LASC, and *Maryam: Woman of Bethlehem* and *The Dreamer Project* at SJSU. She has also Assistant Stage Managed *American Night* at SJSU and *Cabaret* at WVC, as well as working pretty much every tech crew job possible in her career. She wants to give a special shout-out to her former teachers Andrea Bechert (SJSU) and Gerald Carter (WVC) for taking her under their wings and teaching her. Big thanks to her parents for all the love and support they have given Kalyn over the years. Special shout-out to her loving partner and fur baby.

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Aishy Panwar (*Hair & Makeup Designer*) (she/her) is excited to be back at SBMT as a member of the staff. She last designed hair and makeup for the first show of the 2025-2026 season, *The Sound of Music*. Most recently, though, you may have seen her on stage as Meg March in the winter production of *Little Women*. Other onstage credits include Pippin in *Pippin* (WVLO), Johanna in *Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street* (SCP), Kate Murphey in *Titanic* (SBMT), and Bulda in *Frozen* (PAP).

Jonah Phan (*Sound Designer*) is doing sound design with SBMT for the first time. A big supporter of SBMT shows because of his girlfriend, Aishy, Jonah has commuted from Southern California to work on *In The Heights*. He has designed sound for *Hello, Dolly* and a stage adaptation of *Fight Club* as well as *School of Rock* and *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*.



Michael Saenz (*Choreographer*) has choreography credits that include *Gypsy* (PAP, SFBATCC Award winner); *Legally Blonde*, *Young Frankenstein*, and *Something Rotten* (WVLO); *Company* (SBMT); and *Oh Coward!* (TPT). He has also served as assistant choreographer to Janie Scott and Lee Ann Payne on productions such as *Anything Goes* and *The Full Monty* (HTC), *Chicago* (PAP), *Mary Poppins* (CSC), and *Gypsy* (SBMT). In addition to his choreography work, he is a frequent performer on Bay Area stages, with roles including Harry Beaton in *Brigadoon*, Cosmo Brown in *Singin' in the Rain*, and Chip in *On the Town* (SBMT); George in *Drowsy Chaperone* and Paul in *A Chorus Line* (SCP); Rexy/Jason in *The Legend of Georgia McBride* (LASC); and LeFou in *Beauty and the Beast* (CSC). #loveyoumeanit



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creative team



Lin-Manuel Miranda is a Pulitzer Prize, Grammy, Emmy and Tony award-winning songwriter, actor, director and producer. He is the creator and original star of Broadway's Tony-winning *Hamilton* and *In The Heights*, and the co-writer of *Warriors*, a new concept album with Eisa Davis, based on the 1979 film.

Additional Broadway: *All In*, *New York, New York*, *Freestyle Love Supreme*, *Bring It On: The Musical* and *West Side Story* (2009 revival, Spanish translations). Miranda is the recipient of the 2015 MacArthur Foundation Award, the 2018 Kennedy Center Honors, and the 2019 Portrait of a Nation Prize. He has received stars on both the Puerto Rico Walk of Fame and the Hollywood Walk of Fame. TV/Film: *Mufasa: The Lion King*, *tick, tick... BOOM!*, *Vivo*, *In The Heights*, *Hamilton* (Emmy Award), *Percy Jackson & The Olympians*, *His Dark Materials*, *Fosse/Verdon*, *Brooklyn Nine-Nine*, *Curb Your Enthusiasm* (Emmy nomination), *Saturday Night Live* (Emmy nomination), *Bluey*, *DuckTales*, *Big Mouth*, *Mary Poppins Returns*, *The Little Mermaid*, (live action), *Moana* (Oscar nomination; Grammy Award), and *Encanto* (Oscar nomination; two Grammy Awards). Miranda, and The Miranda Family, are active supporters of initiatives that increase the representation of people of color throughout the arts and government, ensure access to women's reproductive health, and promote resilience in Puerto Rico. He lives with his family in New York. www.linmanuel.com

Quiara Alegría Hudes has written for the stage, page, voice and screen. Quiara's debut novel, *The White Hot*, was named a best book of 2025 by Kirkus, NPR, and *Ms. Magazine*. Her 2021 memoir, *My Broken Language*, was longlisted for the Andrew Carnegie Medal and was One Book, One Philadelphia's citywide read. Her plays include *Water by the Spoonful*, recipient of the Pulitzer Prize; *In The Heights*, winner of the Tony Award for Best Musical and a Pulitzer finalist; and *Elliot, A Soldier's Fugue*, another Pulitzer finalist. Hudes has also written two feature films: the animated *Vivo* and the screen adaptation of *In The Heights*. She has contributed essays for *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times*, *The Cut*, *The Nation* and *American Theater Magazine*.



With her cousin Sean, she co-founded a prison writing program: Emancipated Stories. A daughter of the Puerto Rican diaspora, she was born and raised in West Philly and now lives in New York. ON MUSIC: Originally trained as a composer and pianist, Hudes naturally incorporates music into her writing process. She has collaborated with renowned musicians, including Nelson Gonzalez, Michel Camilo, Lin-Manuel Miranda, Erin McKeown, Alex Lacamoire, Elio Villafranca, The Cleveland Orchestra, and Bill Sherman. ON MENTORS: Hudes inherits teachings from matrilineal mentors, including her aunt Linda Hudes, who composed music for the Big Apple Circus for 20 years, taught her piano, and introduced her to a wide swath of arts and music; Paula Vogel, that monster of mischievous theatrical form, who taught her playwriting; and Virginia Sanchez, her mom and a recognized Santera and shaman who taught her about the spiritual legacy of a Taína-Lukumí-Boricua. Are music, writing, and spirit teachable? Yes, just like lungs are born knowing how to breathe, but can learn new ways to integrate breath through musculature, observation and practice.

list of abbreviations

BACT = Bay Area Children's Theatre; BBB = Broadway by the Bay; CLTC = City Lights Theater Company; CMT = Children's Musical Theater San Jose; CSC = Cabrillo Stage Company; FMT = Foothill Music Theatre; HTC = Hillbarn Theatre Company; LASC = Los Altos Stage Company; LTSJ = Lyric Theatre of San Jose; PAP = Palo Alto Players; PP = Plethos Productions; PSP = Pacifica Spindrift Players; PYT = Peninsula Youth Theatre; SA = Starting Arts; SBMT = South Bay Musical Theatre; SCP = Sunnyvale Community Players; SJSU = San Jose State University; SVS = Silicon Valley Shakespeare; TPT = The Pear Theatre; TW = TheatreWorks; WVC = West Valley College; WVLO = WVLO Musical Theatre Company.

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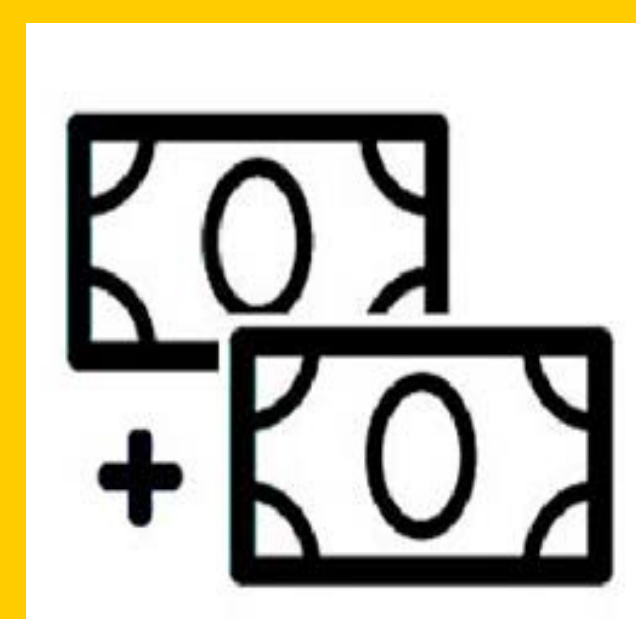
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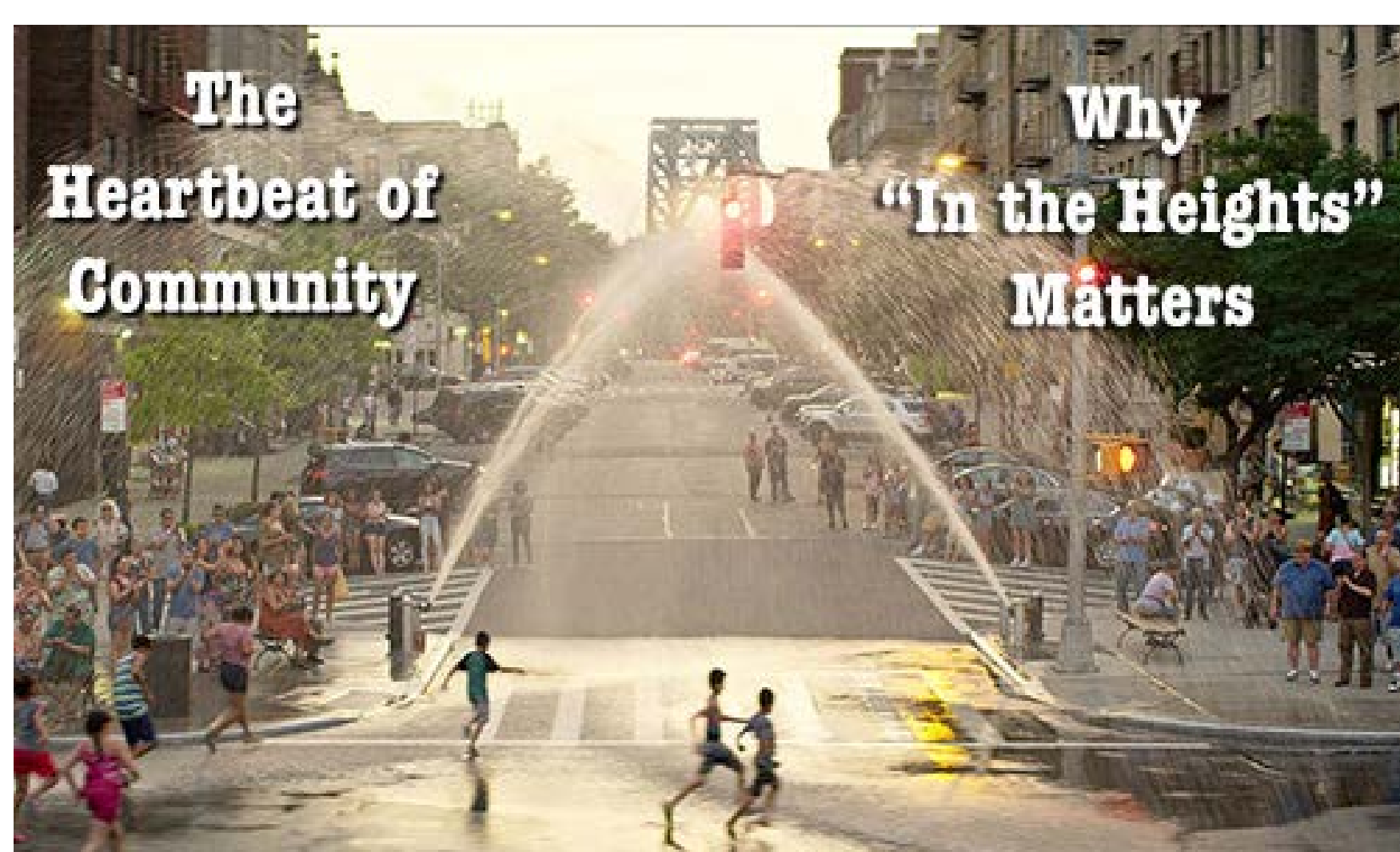
external links

Want to know more about SBMT or this production?
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HISTORY: Formerly called Saratoga Drama Group, SBMT has been staging musicals in this community since 1963. Read about [how it all started](#) on our website.



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INDEX

Multimedia links. Learn more about *In The Heights* from the team that created it. **Note: these links contain audio, so please do not access them while seated inside the theater.**



VIDEO: Corinna Ruiz Laskin (Nina) tells us what drives her character and how her journey of self-belief unfolds from the start of the production. Corinna shares her personal experience seeing the original national tour, why representation

matters, and how the story explores the central themes of home, roots, and community. (3 minutes)



VIDEO: Allison Taylor (Vanessa) reflects on her character's determination, independence, and courage to pursue a better future despite difficulties. She shares her first experience discovering *In The Heights* as a child through a perfor-

mance of the song, "96,000," and explains how the show became deeply meaningful to her as the daughter of a Filipino immigrant family. (4 minutes)



VIDEO: Alexander Reyes (Usnavi) reflects on his character's role as a trusted presence within the Washington Heights community and how he values connection, openness, and camaraderie. Alex shares his first experience

seeing *In The Heights* through a Woodminster production and explains how his appreciation for the show deepened after discovering the film adaptation. Alex also talks about the collaborative spirit of the cast, the authenticity that comes from building real community within the company, and the emotional impact of telling stories rooted in lived experiences. (4 minutes)

looking ahead

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main stage musicals

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Book by **Jay Thompson, Dean Fuller, and Marshall Barer**

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Irene Sankoff and David Hein

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Music by **Richard Rodgers**
Lyrics by **Oscar Hammerstein II**
Book by **Oscar Hammerstein II** and **Joshua Logan**
Adapted from the Pulitzer Prize-winning novel
Tales of the South Pacific by **James A. Michener**

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In the spirit of last year's
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& **Walter M. Mayes**



February 7, 2027

MUSIC COMEDY *with Brad Handshy*

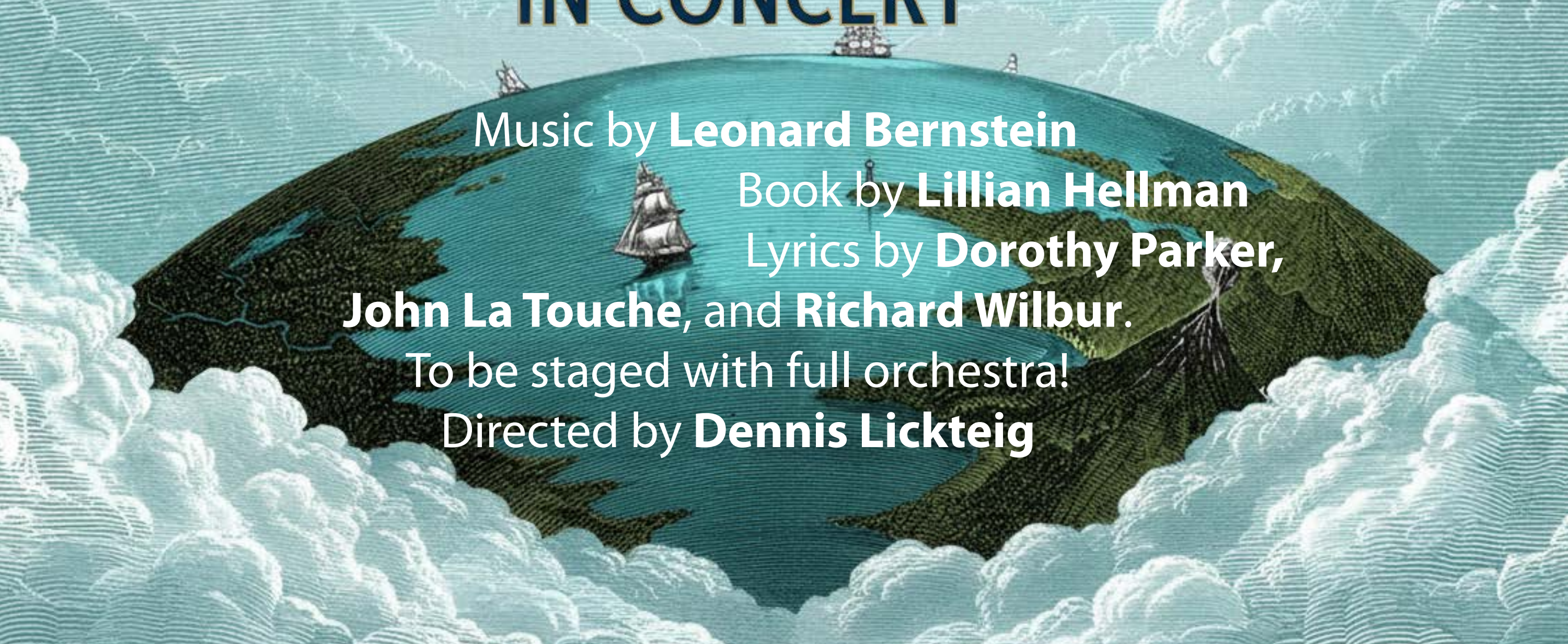
Brad Handshy is back
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series of popular concerts.
But this one is 100%
comedy gold



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The West Coast Premiere of Jonathan Tunick's expanded orchestration for full symphonic orchestra.

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