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¹ 2019 Barron’s Top 1,200 Advisors. Source: Barron’s “Top 1,200 Advisors,” March 11, 2019. 3. 2019 Barron’s Top 100 Financial Advisors. As identified by Barron’s magazine, rankings based on data provided by thousands of advisors. Factors included in rankings were assets under management, revenue produced for firm, regulatory record, length of service, quality of practice and client retention.
² 2020 Forbes Best In State Wealth Advisors. Source: Forbes.com (February 2020). Best-in-State Wealth Advisors ranking was developed by SHOOK Research and is based on in-person and telephone due diligence meetings and a ranking algorithm that includes: client retention, industry experience, review of compliance records, firm nominations; and quantitative criteria, including: assets under management and revenue generated for their firms. Investment performance is not a criterion. Rankings based on the opinions of SHOOK Research, LLC and not indicative of future performance or representative of any one client’s experience. Neither HLM nor its Financial Advisors pay a fee to Forbes or SHOOKResearch in exchange for the ranking. For more information: www.SHOOKresearch.com.
³ Investment products and services are offered through Wells Fargo Advisors Financial Network LLC (WFAFN), Member SIPC. HLM Capital Management is a separate entity from WFAFN. CAR #: 0220-00076
THE LAST MATCH

WRITTEN BY ANNA ZIEGLER
CHOREOGRAPHED BY STEPH PAUL
DIRECTED BY KEIRA FROMM

Featuring Kayla Carter*, Heather Chrisler*, Christopher Sheard* and Luigi Sottile*

Scenic Designer  William Boles, USA
Costume Designer  Noël Huntzinger
Lighting Designer  Christine Binder
Sound Designer and Composer  Pornchanok Kanchanabanca, USA
Properties Master  Rachel Watson
Dialect Coach  Eva Breneman
Intimacy Director  Kristina Fluty
Dramaturg  Bobby Kennedy
Casting Director  Geoff Button
Production Stage Manager  Becky Pechter*

*Denotes Members of Actors’ Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers

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FOUNDATION SUPPORT
The Elizabeth F. Cheney Foundation

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The Last Match is presented by special arrangement with SAMUEL FRENCH, INC.

The Last Match was originally produced in New York City by Roundabout Theatre Company (Todd Haimes, Artistic Director; Julia C. Levy, Executive Director; Sydney Beers, General Manager) at the Harold and Miriam Steinberg Center for Theatre/Laura Pels Theatre on October 24, 2017. The Last Match had its world premiere at The Old Globe Theatre in San Diego, California (Barry Edelstein, Artistic Director; Michael G. Murphy, Managing Director). A workshop production of The Last Match was presented at New York Stage and Film & Vassar at Powerhouse Theater, Summer 2015.

This program is partially supported by a grant from the Illinois Arts Council, a state agency.

Use of cameras, video recorders, audio recorders and/or any other type of recording device during a performance is strictly prohibited.
**CAST (IN ORDER OF APPEARANCE)**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Actor</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tim</td>
<td>Luigi Sottile*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergei</td>
<td>Christopher Sheard*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mallory</td>
<td>Kayla Carter*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galina</td>
<td>Heather Chrisler*</td>
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**UNDERSTUDIES**

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<tr>
<th>Role</th>
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<tr>
<td>Tim</td>
<td>James Knight*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sergei</td>
<td>Alejandro Tey</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mallory</td>
<td>Brianna Buckley</td>
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<tr>
<td>Galina</td>
<td>Carley Cornelius</td>
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**SETTING**

The U.S. Open Semi-Final Match, a series of scenes that take place inside the match and memories outside of it.

**PRODUCTION STAFF**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Role</th>
<th>Name</th>
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<tr>
<td>Director</td>
<td>Keira Fromm, SDC</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage Manager</td>
<td>Becky Pechter*</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scenic Designer</td>
<td>William Boles, USA</td>
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<td>Costume Designer</td>
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<td>Lighting Designer</td>
<td>Christine Binder</td>
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<td>Sound Designer and Composer</td>
<td>Pornchanok Kanchanabanca, USA</td>
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<td>Choreographer</td>
<td>Steph Paul, SDC</td>
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<td>Dialect Coach</td>
<td>Eva Breneman</td>
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<td>Intimacy Director</td>
<td>Kristina Fluty</td>
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<td>Dramaturg</td>
<td>Bobby Kennedy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Choreographer</td>
<td>Cassandra Porter</td>
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<td>Assistant Director</td>
<td>Lauren Katz</td>
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<td>Assistant Lighting Designer</td>
<td>Jo Clavell</td>
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<tr>
<td>Stage Management Intern/Deck Crew</td>
<td>Natalie Cohen</td>
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<tr>
<td>Assistant Stage Manager</td>
<td>Hai Alvarez-Millard</td>
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<tr>
<td>Light Board Programmer</td>
<td>Aaron Lorenz</td>
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<td>Sound Board Operator</td>
<td>Brittany Cowgill</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wardrobe Crew</td>
<td>Shelby Brand</td>
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<td>Scene Shop/Scenic Construction</td>
<td>Means of Production</td>
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<td>Casting Director</td>
<td>Geoff Button</td>
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<td>Technical Supervisor</td>
<td>Adam Veness</td>
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<td>Wardrobe Supervisor</td>
<td>Jane Heuer</td>
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<td>Co-Interim Costume Supervisors</td>
<td>Virginia Varland, Melissa Perkins</td>
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<tr>
<td>Master Electrician</td>
<td>Raphael Grimes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sound Engineer</td>
<td>Amanda Hosking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Properties Master</td>
<td>Rachel Watson</td>
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</table>

**SPECIAL THANKS**


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A SPECIAL SALUTE TO SPONSORS OF THE LAST MATCH

Writers Theatre extends a sincere thank you to the following individuals and organizations for their sponsorship support of The Last Match:

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Writers Theatre is thrilled to welcome back ComEd as its Official Lighting Sponsor for the 2019/20 Season. ComEd is a longtime supporter of the arts in Chicagoland, and Writers Theatre is honored to partner with a company that acknowledges the power of theatre to contribute to the health and vitality of our community by bringing us together. The 2019/20 Season marks ComEd’s fifth season as Official Lighting Sponsor, and Writers Theatre is extremely grateful to once again have ComEd’s partnership.
At Writers Theatre, we always invite our audiences to “lean forward and engage” and that’s because we want you to immerse yourself in the work on our stages. We not only welcome it, we encourage it, and we recognize that that engagement looks and means something different for everyone. In your own way, please feel welcome to join in—laugh if so moved, cry if so moved, applaud if so moved, exclaim appropriately if so moved. We want you to bring your full self into this space and to understand that all your fellow audience members are free to do the same in their own way. Indeed, our best nights are the ones when the artists and audience are perfectly tuned, firing and feeding off of each other.

We get it—when the lights go down, excitement goes up! A theatre is a charged space, full of energy and anticipation. Your best reaction is an honest reaction. So remember, don’t sit back and relax. Do Lean Forward and Engage.

And remember, if you need anything during your visit, please don’t hesitate to ask a Writers Theatre audience services associate. They’re on hand to help make sure your experience is exceptional.

Enjoy the show!

THE LAST MATCH PROFILES

Kayla Carter (Mallory) returns to Writers Theatre where she previously appeared in Smart People. Chicago credits include Roe, How to Catch Creation (Goodman), Mansfield Park (Northlight) and work with the Shakespeare Project of Chicago. Regional credits: River City (NNPN World Premiere, Actor’s Theatre of Charlotte, Phoenix Theatre Indianapolis), the World Premiere of The Patron Saint of Losing Sleep and Passing Strange (Actor’s Theatre of Charlotte), Film/TV: Next (Fox), Knives and Skin (IFC Midnight), Chicago Med (NBC) and APB (Fox). She is a graduate of University of North Carolina School of the Arts. Instagram: @kaylacrater.

Heather Chrisler (Galina) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Heather Chrisler has recently been seen in Chicago in Howards End (Remy Bumppo), Twilight Bowl (Goodman Theatre, Jeff Nomination Best Ensemble, Chris Jones’ Top Ten Performances of 2019, Honorable Mention), Mies Julie (Victory Gardens, Chris Jones’ Top Ten Performances of 2018), Small Mouth Sounds (A Red Orchid, Jeff Nomination—Best Ensemble), Machinal (Greenhouse, Jeff Nomination—Best Performer, Chris Jones’ Top Ten Performances of 2017) and good friday (Oracle Productions, Jeff Nomination Ensemble). Chrisler is an Artistic Associate at First Folio Theatre where she has been seen in Mary’s Wedding, Captain Blood and The Madness of Edgar Allan Poe. First Folio is also producing Chrisler’s adaptation of Little Women in their 2019/20 Season. Regionally, she has been seen at The Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park, Door Shakespeare, Riverside Theatre and Portland Center Stage. Television credits include Chicago P.D. (NBC). Chrisler holds an MFA from Ohio University and she is represented by DDO Chicago.

Christopher Sheard (Sergei) returns to Writers Theatre where he previously appeared in Arcadia. Chicago credits include The Winters Tale, A Christmas Carol (Goodman Theatre), Nell Gwynn, Short Shakes! A Midsummer Night’s Dream, Short Shakes! Macbeth, Short
THE LAST MATCH PROFILES

Shakes! Romeo and Juliet (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), An Octoroon, A Doll’s House (Definition Theatre Company, where he is an Ensemble Member), Puff: Believe It or Not (Remy Bumppo), The Columnist (American Blues Theater), Spill (TimeLine Theatre Company), Steppenwolf Theatre and Windy City Playhouse. Regionally, he has performed with Third Avenue Playhouse, Great River Shakespeare Festival and four seasons with American Player’s Theatre, where some favorite roles include Romeo, Konstantin and Loud Stone. TV/Film credits include Blame it on Toby (Fox on a Hill Productions). Chris is represented by Grossman and Jack Talent. He received his MFA from The University of Illinois and his BA from Florida State.


Brianna Buckley (u/s Mallory) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Brianna Buckley stems from Michigan, but has had the honor of calling Chicago home the past 5 years. Chicago credits include: The One and Only Ivan tour (Lifeline Theatre), Romeo & Juliet (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), The Color Purple (Associate Director, Drury Lane), Queen of the Mist (Firebrand Theatre), Othello (Babes with Blades Theatre Company), Fantastic Mr. Fox (Emerald City), Crumbs From The Table of Joy (Raven Theatre), The Light Fantastic (Jackalope Theatre) and Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea (First Floor Theatre). Bri obtained a BFA Theatre from Michigan State University. Her awards include Hot New Faces 2018 (Chicago Tribune) and Jeff Award for Best Supporting Actor (Crumbs…). Represented by Gray Talent.

Carley Cornelius (u/s Galina) makes her Writers Theatre debut. In Chicago Carley has worked with Goodman Theatre, Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Windy City Playhouse, The House Theatre of Chicago, Victory Gardens Theater and is an ensemble of Definition Theatre Company. Regionally she has performed with Montana, Door, Texas and Great River Shakespeare Festivals, Urbanite Theatre, Colorado Springs Fine Arts Center and Colorado Theatreworks, where she received Henry Award nominations for her work in Venus In Fur and Constellations. TV credits include Chicago Fire (NBC) and The Whole Body (The Onion). Carley holds degrees from Ball State University (BA), and the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (MFA). #stayinit
James Knight (u/s Tim) returns to Writers Theatre where he previously understudied Smart People. He is an ensemble member of Williams Street Rep, where he recently played the role of Merrick in The Elephant Man. New York Theater: Theater for New Audience, The Mint Theater Company, New York Classical Theater, TACT, West Side Theatre and others. Regional Theater: The Old Globe, Denver Center, Portland Center Stage, Pioneer Theater Company, Two River Theater Company, Shakespeare Theater of New Jersey, Hartford Stage, Milwaukee Rep, Utah Shakespearean Festival, The Cape Playhouse, Kansas City Rep and others. James has extensive experience in new play development, helping to found the WSRep Reading Series, as well as participating in the Colorado New Play Summit, The Eugene O’Neill Theater Center and working for a number of years to produce and manage the WordBRIDGE Playwrights Laboratory as a member of Generous Company. TV/Film: Guiding Light, Chicago PD (NBC), Person of Interest (CBS), Now You See Me, Company K and others. Member AEA, SAG-AFTRA. BA Western Michigan University. MFA University of Missouri – Kansas City.

Alejandro Tey (u/s Sergei) makes his Writers Theatre debut. Alejandro Tey is a Chicago-based director, writer, actor and teaching artist. He is a Resident Artist at Filament Theatre as well as an Artistic Associate with Sojourn Theatre. Some favorite Chicago acting credits include: The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane (Filament Theatre), The Elaborate Entrance of Chad Deity (Red Theater) and The Compass (Steppenwolf). Tey is the creator of The Isle of Sugar, an RPG/Theatre event about his grandparent’s experience of the Cuban Revolution produced by Red Theater and Sojourn Theatre. Alex also does video game performance capture for NetherRealm Studios, for whom he’s had the pleasure of playing evil kung-fu wizards, angry fire ninjas, genocidal tentacle robots and psychic talking gorillas, among others.

Anna Ziegler (Playwright)’s play Photograph 51, produced on the West End starring Nicole Kidman and directed by Michael Grandage, won London’s 2016 WhatsOnStage award for Best New Play. It has been produced around the country and the world, most recently in Hamburg, Rome, and Stockholm. Her play The Last Match premiered at The Old Globe Theatre and was nominated for the 2016 San Diego Theatre Critics Circle Outstanding New Play award. Boy, which premiered off-Broadway in a Keen Company/Ensemble Studio Theatre co-production, was nominated for the 2016 Outer Critics Circle John Gassner Award. A Delicate Ship was produced at Cincinnati Playhouse in the Park and the Playwrights Realm and was a New York Times and Time Out Critic’s Pick. Anna holds commissions from Second Stage Theatre, The Geffen Playhouse and Seattle Rep. Oberon Books has published a collection of her work entitled Anna Ziegler: Plays One. She holds a BA from Yale and an MFA from NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts.

Keira Fromm (Director) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Kiera is a Jeff Award-nominated director, as well as a casting director and teacher based in Chicago. Current directing projects include: Top Girls by Caryl Churchill (Remy Bumppo Theatre Company) and A Doll’s House by Ibsen, translated by Simon Stephens (American Players Theatre). Favorite recent directing credits: Miss Bennet: Christmas at Pemberley by Lauren Gunderson (TheatreSquared), the Chicago premieres of Dada Woof Papa Hot by Peter Parnell, Bull in a China Shop by Bryna Turner, Significant Other by Joshua Harmon, Bright Half Life by Tanya Barfield and A Kid Like Jake by Daniel Pearle (all at About Face Theatre), the U.S premiere of hang by debbie tucker green (Remy Bumppo), A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Gynecologic Oncology Unit at Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center of New York City by Halley...
Feiffer (Route 66 Theatre Company), The Columnist by David Auburn (American Blues Theater), How the World Began by Catherine Treischmann (Rivendell Theatre Ensemble), Luce by J.C Lee (Next Theatre), Charles Ives Take Me Home by Jessica Dickey (Strawdog), The Columnist by David Auburn (American Blues Theater), How the World Began by Catherine Treischmann (Rivendell Theatre Ensemble), Luce by J.C Lee (Next Theatre), Charles Ives Take Me Home by Jessica Dickey (Strawdog), The How and the Why by Sarah Treem (TimeLine Theatre), Broadsway by Marco Ramirez (Gift Theatre), Fallow by Kenneth Lin (Steep Theatre) and Lobby Hero by Kenneth Lonergan (Redtwist Theatre.) Keira is an Artistic Associate with About Face Theatre. She received her MFA from DePaul University, BFA from Boston University, is an alumna of Lincoln Center Theater Directors Lab, and a proud member of SDC, the professional director's union. Keira is also a frequent guest director at DePaul, as well as Roosevelt University.

Steph Paul (Choreographer) makes her Writers Theatre debut. She is a Haitian-American Choreographer, Director, Performer and Educator. Chicago credits include: How to Defend Yourself (Victory Gardens Theater), Learning Curve (Albany Park Theater Project, Third Rail Projects), Ofrenda, Feast, Home/Land (Albany Park Theater Project), Mansfield Park (Northlight Theatre), Short Shakes! Romeo and Juliet, Romeo and Juliet (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Last Stop on Market Street (Chicago Children's Theatre), The Royale (Jeff Award Nomination, Artistic Specialization; American Theater Company), In the Red and Brown Water and Jane Eyre (Northwestern University). Regional: Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Studio Theatre, City Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company (Helen Hayes Award Nomination, Outstanding Choreography in a Play) and Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (St. Louis Theater Circle Award Nomination, Outstanding Choreographer). International: National Theatre of Scotland and Royal Opera House Muscat. Awards: Helen Hayes, Outstanding Choreography in a Play (The Wolves, Studio Theatre).Steph Paul (Choreographer) makes her Writers Theatre debut. She is a Haitian-American Choreographer, Director, Performer and Educator. Chicago credits include: How to Defend Yourself (Victory Gardens Theater), Learning Curve (Albany Park Theater Project, Third Rail Projects), Ofrenda, Feast, Home/Land (Albany Park Theater Project), Mansfield Park (Northlight Theatre), Short Shakes! Romeo and Juliet, Romeo and Juliet (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Last Stop on Market Street (Chicago Children's Theatre), The Royale (Jeff Award Nomination, Artistic Specialization; American Theater Company), In the Red and Brown Water and Jane Eyre (Northwestern University). Regional: Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Studio Theatre, City Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company (Helen Hayes Award Nomination, Outstanding Choreography in a Play) and Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (St. Louis Theater Circle Award Nomination, Outstanding Choreographer). International: National Theatre of Scotland and Royal Opera House Muscat. Awards: Helen Hayes, Outstanding Choreography in a Play (The Wolves, Studio Theatre).Steph Paul (Choreographer) makes her Writers Theatre debut. She is a Haitian-American Choreographer, Director, Performer and Educator. Chicago credits include: How to Defend Yourself (Victory Gardens Theater), Learning Curve (Albany Park Theater Project, Third Rail Projects), Ofrenda, Feast, Home/Land (Albany Park Theater Project), Mansfield Park (Northlight Theatre), Short Shakes! Romeo and Juliet, Romeo and Juliet (Chicago Shakespeare Theater), Last Stop on Market Street (Chicago Children's Theatre), The Royale (Jeff Award Nomination, Artistic Specialization; American Theater Company), In the Red and Brown Water and Jane Eyre (Northwestern University). Regional: Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville, Studio Theatre, City Theatre Company, Shakespeare Theatre Company (Helen Hayes Award Nomination, Outstanding Choreography in a Play) and Repertory Theatre of St. Louis (St. Louis Theater Circle Award Nomination, Outstanding Choreographer). International: National Theatre of Scotland and Royal Opera House Muscat. Awards: Helen Hayes, Outstanding Choreography in a Play (The Wolves, Studio Theatre). Steph is a Resident Director of Albany Park Theater Project and an Artistic Associate of Chicago Dance Crash. Next, she will be at American Players Theatre choreographing Sense and Sensibility and The River Bride. She is a proud member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society and Serena Williams’ biggest fan. stephpaul.com.


Noël Huntzinger (Costume Designer) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Noël is a Chicago based freelance designer. She is a Sideshow Artistic Associate and a resident artist at Filament Theatre. Favorite theatre design projects include The Goodman Theatre, Chicago Lyric Opera Unlimited, Boise Contemporary Theatre, Filament Theatre, About Face Theatre, Pride Arts Theatre, Interrobang Theatre Ensemble, A-Squared, Muse of Fire, Shattered Globe Theatre, Interroband Theatre and Collective Theatre Ensemble. Noël is a design advisor at The DePaul Theatre School. In addition to theatre, she has designed pieces for choreographers such as Ginny Sykes, Wendy Clinard, the George Balanchine Trust and the Antony Tudor Trust. Film design credits include Olympia and Cliff. Noël is a graduate of Oklahoma University. For more, visit noelhuntzinger.com.

Christine Binder (Lighting Design) returns to Writers Theatre where she previously designed Parade, Hedda Gabler and The
Letters. Ms. Binder is a Chicago-based designer and has designed lighting for Chicago Shakespeare Theater, Victory Gardens Theater, Court Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Goodman Theatre, Seattle Repertory Theatre and Oregon Shakespeare Festival. Her opera designs include work with the Lyric Opera of Chicago, Chicago Opera Theatre, San Francisco Opera, Pittsburgh Opera, New York City Opera, Seiji Ozawa Music Festival (Matsumoto, Japan), Grand Genève Opera, Theatre an der Wien and Houston Grand Opera. Recent designs include Mother of the Maid and The Wickhams: Christmas at Pemberley (Northlight Theatre), The Agitators (Alabama Shakespeare Festival) and Her Honor Jane Byrne (Lookingglass Theatre Company). She is the Head of Lighting Design at The Theatre School at DePaul University.

Pornchanok Kanchanabanca (Sound Designer and Composer) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Pornchanok (Nok) Kanchanabanca is a Thai artist, sound designer, musician and composer. Recent productions include Skylight (McCarter Theater), Cymbeline (Yale Rep), The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (Steppenwolf Theatre Company), As You Like It (OSF), Be Here Now (Cincinnati Playhouse) and Frontières sans Frontières (The Bushwick Starr). Nok has worked with theatre companies across the United States including Lincoln Center, Rattlestick, Geva Theatre and Milwaukee Repertory Theater, among many others. She has also collaborated with performing groups and theatre companies in Thailand including B-Floor Theatre, Babymime, Crescent Moon and Democracy Theatre Studio since 2008. Nok graduated from the Yale School of Drama and is a member of the Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Associate (TSDCA) and of USA Local 829. www.wishnok-music.com.


Kristina Fluty (Intimacy Director) makes her Writers Theatre debut. She has worked as an intimacy director/choreographer/consultant
at Steppenwolf, Victory Gardens, TimeLine, Remy Bumppo and Center Theatre Group (LA). Kristina’s main creative home since 2003 is Molly Shanahan/Mad Shak, a dance company based in Chicago and celebrating 25 years of against-the-grain modern dance. She is also an Assistant Professor of Movement for Actors at The Theatre School at DePaul University, and teaches at the Lou Conte Dance Studio of Hubbard Street Dance Chicago and Dovetail Studios. Kristina holds a Masters in Dance/Movement Therapy and Counseling, a graduate certificate in Laban Movement Analysis, and is a registered Movement Pattern Analyst.

Bobby Kennedy (Dramaturg) is the Director of New Work & Dramaturgy at Writers Theatre. In addition to his dramaturgy work at WT, his credits also include the world premieres of Give It All Back (SideShow Theatre Company), Body and Blood (The Gift Theatre), Ibsen is Dead (Interrobang Theatre Project) and The Peacock (Jackalope Theatre Company), as well as the Midwest premiere of The Luck of the Irish (Next Theatre Company). Kennedy co-founded The Spontaneous Theater Project in Boston and has also worked with Huntington Theatre Company and New Repertory Theatre. He is an alumnus of Boston University.

Lauren Katz (Assistant Director) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Lauren is a freelance director, dramaturg and teaching artist. She served as the Artistic Apprentice at Steppenwolf Theatre Company for their 2016/17 Season and as a fellow in the 2018/19 Directors Inclusion Initiative at Victory Gardens Theater. Recent directing projects include: Hershel and the Hanukkah Goblins (Strawdog Theatre), This is a Chair (Haven Theatre) and Women of 4G (Babes with Blades Theatre). Recent assistant directing and dramaturgy credits include: The Santaland Diaries (Goodman Theatre), Indecent (Victory Gardens Theater), Caroline, or Change (Firebrand Theatre/TimeLine Theatre), Women Laughing Alone with Salad (Theater Wit), The Crucible, Hir (Steppenwolf Theatre), Dada Woof Papa Hot, Bull in a China Shop, Significant Other, Bright Half Life (About Face Theatre) and Apartment 3A (Windy City Playhouse). As a teaching artist, Lauren works with Lookingglass Theatre, Mudlark Theatre and Steppenwolf Theatre.

Rebecca Pechter (Stage Manager) returns to Writers Theatre where she previously stage managed A Doll’s House, Next to Normal, August Wilson’s Ma Rainey’s Black Bottom, Smart People, Quixote: On the Conquest of Self, The Mystery of Love & Sex, East Texas Hot Links, Death of a Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody, The Dance of Death, Yellow Moon, The Letters, The Blonde, the Brunette and the Vengeful Redhead, The Caretaker, The Detective’s Wife, Travels with My Aunt, A Streetcar Named Desire, The Old Settler, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, A Minister’s Wife, Old Glory and Picnic. Previous credits include Death Tax (Lookingglass Theatre Company) and stage management apprentice for The Crucible, Good Boys and True, Carter’s Way and Superior Donuts (Steppenwolf Theatre Company). She is a proud member of Actors’ Equity Association. Love to A, C & G.

Hai Alvarez-Millard (Assistant Stage Manager) makes her Writers Theatre debut. Past Chicago credits include: Sunset Boulevard, Call Me Madam (ASM, Porchlight), Hedwig and the Angry Inch and The Bridges of Madison County (Jeff Award, Best Musical) (PSM, Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre). NYC credits include: Ben, Virginia, and Me and Icon the Musical (ASM, New York Musical Festival). Full Monty and Beauty and the Beast (ASM, Timber Lake Playhouse). All my love to my family, cast and crew!

Michael Halberstam (Artistic Director) is the co-founder of Writers Theatre. He has directed over thirty-five productions for the company, including Not About Heroes (starring Nicholas Pennell), Private Lives, Look Back In Anger, Candida, The Father, Crime and Punishment, Benefactors, The Seagull, The Duchess of Malfi, Othello, The Savannah Disputation, the world premiere musical A Minister’s Wife, Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead, She Loves Me, The Real Thing, Hamlet, Sweet Charity, Days Like Today, Isaac’s Eye, Arcadia, Death of a
Streetcar Named Virginia Woolf: A Parody (which he co-directed with Stuart Carden), Julius Caesar (which he co-adapted and directed with Scott Parkinson), The Importance of Being Earnest, and Twelfth Night. Elsewhere he directed The Gamester (Northlight Theatre), A Man for All Seasons (Peninsula Players Theatre), Hamlet (Illinois Shakespeare Festival), Candida (Jean Cocteau Repertory in New York), Ten Little Indians (Drury Lane Theatre), a highly acclaimed revival of Crime and Punishment, which Writers Theatre produced Off-Broadway at 59E59 Theaters in New York City, Enchanted April and State of the Union (Milwaukee Repertory Theater). In 2011 he directed A Minister’s Wife at Lincoln Center Theater, and also directed the west coast premiere at San Jose Repertory Theatre in 2013. His forays into opera have included The Rape of Lucretia (Chicago Opera Theater), Francesca da Rimini featuring the Chicago Symphony Orchestra conducted by Christoph Eschenbach and Le Freyshutz, a Berlioz adaptation of the Weber opera conducted by Christoph Eschenbach in its North American Premiere (Ravinia Festival). He spent two and a half years teaching Shakespeare at The Theatre School at DePaul University and has received awards for excellence in theater management and artistic achievement from The Chicago Drama League, The Arts & Business Council, Chicago Lawyers for the Creative Arts and The Chicago Associates of the Stratford Festival. He also received the 2010 Zelda Fichandler Award, the 2013 Artistic Achievement Award from the League of Chicago Theatres, was named Chicago Tribune’s 2013 “Chicagoan of the Year” for Theater; received the 2016 Award of Honor for Outstanding Contributions to the Field from the Illinois Theatre Association; a special award for 2016 from the Joseph Jefferson Award Committee for outstanding theatrical accomplishments and contributions to Chicagoland theatre for the past 25 years; and a distinguished Alumnus Award from the University of Illinois. He currently serves on the board of the Arts Club of Chicago.

Kathryn M. Lipuma (Executive Director) has served as the Executive Director of Writers Theatre since March 2007 where she is responsible for overseeing all management, administration and operations for the company. Most recently, she led the planning and construction of WT’s new state-of-the-art theater complex, designed by internationally renowned architect and MacArthur Fellow and “Genius” grant recipient Jeanne Gang of Studio Gang Architects, which opened in February 2016. Prior to Writers, Lipuma spent nine seasons as Executive Director at the Tony Award winning Signature Theatre Company in New York. At Signature, she produced award-winning revivals of Horton Foote’s The Trip to Bountiful, August Wilson’s Seven Guitars and Lanford Wilson’s Burn This and worked with such acclaimed writers as Edward Albee, Lee Blessing, Horton Foote, Maria Irene Fornés, John Guare, Bill Irwin, Romulus Linney, Paula Vogel, August Wilson and Lanford Wilson. During her tenure, the organization enjoyed consistent growth and recognition as well as the launch of Signature Theatre Company’s successful $15 Ticket Program. Prior to her time at Signature, she spent six years with Chicago’s Goodman Theatre. Lipuma is the Chair of the Board of Directors of Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre and a board member and the immediate past Chair of the Board of Directors of the League of Chicago Theatres, an alliance representing more than 200 Chicago area theater companies and producers. She is a member of The Economic Club of Chicago and The Chicago Network, an organization of 400 leading women of Chicago business, professional, cultural, nonprofit and educational communities and serves as an Advisory Council Member for The Actors Fund. She is also the co-creator of DoNorth, an umbrella organization joining four cultural neighbors—Chicago Botanic Garden, Kohl Children’s Museum, Ravinia Festival and Writers Theatre—to attract new audiences to the cultural, environmental and community activities of the North Shore. She is a graduate of The George Washington University in Washington, D.C.
EDUCATION OUTREACH & AUDIENCE ENGAGEMENT

WT Education reaches 11,000 students a year throughout Chicagoland. Our programs include Write On!, a customizable artist-in-residence program that pairs teaching artists with schools and community organizations to explore performance and text with a focus on encouraging young people to find their creative voices; The Novel Series, a cutting-edge theatre and literary arts curriculum designed to allow students to explore literature and the art of bringing text to life; The MLK Project: The Fight for Civil Rights, a touring performance written by Yolanda Androzzo that chronicles a student's journey as she learns about the Civil Rights Movement; a student matinee series; ACTIVATE, a wrap-around in-school residency in conjunction with matinees, designed to deepen students’ experience with plays on our stages; and the WT Youth Council, an artistic leadership advisory board for motivated, passionate high school students interested in hands-on, in-depth exposure to arts administration.

Our audience engagement programming includes: Sunday Spotlight, featuring an expert in a field relating to the themes or setting of our productions; From Page to Stage, a public collaboration between Writers Theatre and select North Shore libraries and community partners that explores the literary and theatrical themes of our stage productions; The Making of… series that provides access to the process behind crafting our productions; Pre-Show Conversation: Up Close, pre-show discussion designed to provide context for the production; and Post-Show Conversation: The Word and The Artist, a facilitated post-show discussion of the play. All of these events are free and open to the public. For more information, visit writerstheatre.org/events.

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For more information on any of these programs visit writerstheatre.org/education
WRITERS THEATRE MISSION STATEMENT

Writers Theatre was founded to explore productions in which the word on the page and the artists that bring the word to life hold primary importance. Central to this mission are three important core values: valuing text, both classic and contemporary, as the fundamental source of inspiration; creating deliberately intimate performances where audiences are face-to-face with powerful stories; and honoring the time and commitment of our artists by remaining at the forefront of industry compensation. With a reputation for consistent artistic excellence, innovative educational programming and strong ties to our community, Writers Theatre has built an award-winning repertoire and today, serves as a vital and highly-regarded company in the Chicago theatre community.

WRITERS THEATRE HISTORY

In 1992, Writers Theatre was founded in order to create an environment where the written word and the nurturing of artists were the foundation of all productions. We opened our first venue that year in the anteroom of a newly opened bookstore in Glencoe on the North Shore of Chicago. The limited space available gave way to a new aesthetic that has been a company hallmark ever since—intimacy.

Under the artistic leadership of Founding Artistic Director Michael Halberstam, who continues in that role to this day, WT became a welcome addition to the already vibrant Chicago arts community. The Theatre quickly garnered significant critical acclaim and established a reputation as a home for world-class art and artists, opening a second performance space in 2003. Our inviting 108-seat Tudor Court space continued the company’s trademark level of intimacy while allowing for a new scale of production and affording the opportunity to expand audiences, programming and educational outreach.

Acclaimed by The Wall Street Journal as “America’s number one theatre company” in 2016, Writers has offered more than 100 productions, including 27 world premieres. We have garnered numerous awards and accolades, including 133 Joseph Jefferson Award nominations and 26 Awards, as well as multiple citations of Artistic Director Michael Halberstam for excellence and contributions to the field, including The 2010 Zelda Fichandler Award and the 2013 “Chicagoan of the Year in Theater” Award from the Chicago Tribune. In 2007, Writers debuted nationally with a New York premiere of Crime and Punishment, followed in 2011 by a Lincoln Center Theater production of A Minister’s Wife—the musical adaptation of George Bernard Shaw’s Candida, conceived and directed by Halberstam.

In February 2016, Writers Theatre opened a new, state-of-the-art facility. This established the company’s first permanent home in a new theatre center in downtown Glencoe, designed by the award-winning, internationally renowned Studio Gang Architects, led by Founder and Design Principal Jeanne Gang, FAIA, in collaboration with Theatre Consultant Auerbach Pollock Friedlander. The new facility has allowed the Theatre to continue to grow to accommodate its audience, while maintaining its trademark intimacy. The new facility resonates with and complements the Theatre’s neighboring Glencoe community, adding tremendous value to Chicagoland and helping to establish the North Shore as a premier cultural destination.
George Trois
64 Green Bay Road
georgetroisgroup.com/george-trois

Grateful Bites
899 Green Bay Road
gratefulbites.com

Once Upon a Bagel
1050 Gage Street
onceuponabagel.com

Reprise Coffee Roasters
950 Green Bay Road
repriseroasters.com

Tocco
507 Chestnut Street
tocconorth.com
The Woman’s Library Club of Glencoe shares the space at the theatre center holding meetings, luncheons, book clubs, bridge and other events at the building.

- The Woman’s Library Club of Glencoe, a 501(c)(3) organization, was incorporated on April 18, 1872. The WLC owns the land on which the WT theatre center sits and has provided use of the land to WT without charge.
- WLC is the third oldest woman’s club in Illinois for philanthropic, educational and social endeavors. The WLC book collection was donated to Glencoe to form the nucleus of the original library for Glencoe. WLC’s first building was used as a library until the current Glencoe Public Library was built.
- WLC members meet regularly to pursue the Club’s philanthropic, intellectual and social activities. For a full list of WLC activities and a current calendar, check wlcglencoe.com.
- Club members also staff the North Shore Exchange (an upscale consignment shop). This 501(c)(3) shop is a charitable arm of WLC and is located at 372 Hazel Avenue in Glencoe, 847-835-0026.

Membership in the Woman’s Library Club of Glencoe is open to all women interested in furthering the club’s goals. The current membership consists of over 120 women living in 10 area suburbs. If you are interested in becoming a member, pick up an application in the Writers Theatre lobby, email wlcglencoe@gmail.com or visit the website at wlcglencoe.com.
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ARTISTS COUNCIL

The Artists Council is a select group of our most devoted supporters, whose extraordinary annual contributions sustain the Theatre and enable it to realize ambitious artistic and institutional goals. Members of the Artists Council are granted unparalleled access to the creative process as well as the unique opportunity to forge a personal connection with our art. We gratefully acknowledge our Writers Theatre Artists Council members who made commitments in the period between November 1, 2018 and February 1, 2020.

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The Director’s Society of Writers Theatre is a group of dedicated patrons who share our passion for the written word. They provide the financial foundation that allows us to create a nurturing artistic home for world-class artists while producing nationally acclaimed productions. Writers Theatre extends privileges of membership to individuals who provide an annual gift of $1,000 or more. Director’s Society members enjoy opportunities to share in the creative process through exclusive events that provide unique access to the artistic process. We are proud to acknowledge our Director’s Society members for gifts received in the period between November 1, 2018 and February 1, 2020.

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The annual WordPlay Gala is Writers Theatre’s most important fundraising event of the year. The 2019 Gala took place on April 13th at the exquisite Four Seasons Hotel Chicago. Writers Theatre would like to thank the following patrons who so generously supported the 2019 WordPlay Gala.

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