



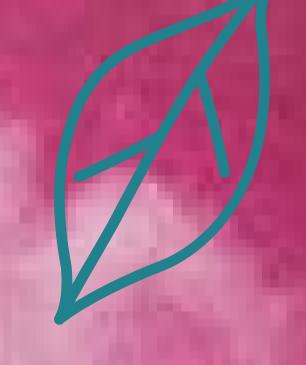


Stars Come Out to Support Healing TREE
6th Annual (Un)Gala

Saturday, October 9th, 2021 | Virtual | 8PM EST







PROGRAM

MAHALET DEJENE

(New Amsterdam)
Welcome

weicome

MARISSA GHAVAMI

(CEO, Founder)

Healing TREE's Story

N'KENGE

(Emmy Nom; Broadway's: Caroline,

or Change)

Performer

DANA ALYIA LEVINSON

(American Gods)

Pandemic

TAYLOR A. PURDEE

(Killian & the Comeback Kids)

Relationships; Performer

CHARLES BAKER

(Breaking Bad)

EMDR Therapy Training

POOYA MOHSENI

(Outfest Best Performance

Award, See You Then)
Approved Care Network

CHRISTOPHER HENRY YOUNG

(Hamilton (And Peggy Company))

Performer

TAYLOR MILLER

(FBI)

The Arts

CRISTA MARIE JACKSON

(The Greatest Showman)

Silk Screenings + Workshops

FRAN KRANZ

(The Cabin in the Woods)

Mass

MIA TRETTA

School Shooting Survivor

Speaker

REN DARA SANTIAGO

(Let The Right One In,

Staff-Writer)

Arts Partnerships

KEVIN KILNER

(Theatre World Award (Best

Broadway Debut); Acapulco)

Auction

CHRISTINA BIANCO

(2x Drama Desk Nom; Funny Girl)

Performer

MAHALET DEJENE

(New Amsterdam)

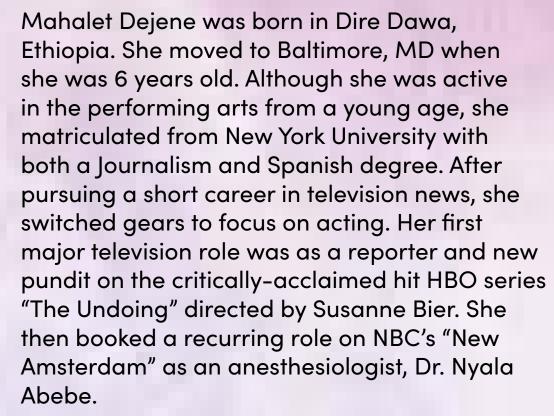
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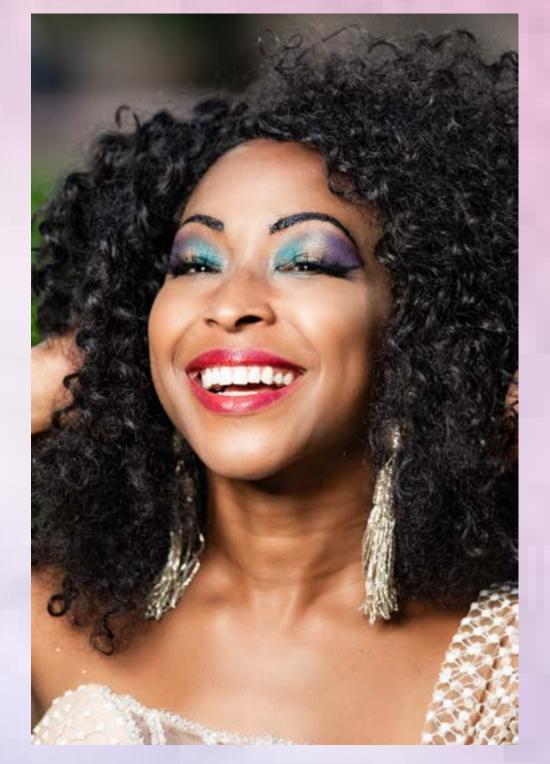




MAHALET DEJENE
New Amsterdam
she/her







N'KENGE Emmy Nom; Broadway's Caroline, or Change she/her

Heralded by the New York Times as "a classically trained diva that can stretch from Broadway, Pop, Soul to Opera", this Emmy nominated songstress N'Kenge slayed the game on Broadway originating the role of Mary Wells in Motown: The Musical which garnered a Grammy Nomination for Best Musical Theater Album. Motown Founder Berry Gordy describes N'Kenge as "the most versatile artist I know" and NY Post called her performance of Mary Wells "ELECTRIFYING." N'Kenge's unique, genre-crossing vocal stylings and five-octave range have wowed audiences from New York to Paris to Monte Carlo. This international award winning singer has sung for Presidents and Dignitaries around the globe including President Obama's historical Commander-in-Chief Inaugural Ball. N'Kenge is currently in Broadway's Caroline, or Change Musical and is slated to star in the role of Jazz in Broadway bound musical DANGEROUS written by John Introcaso and Michael Colby. N'Kenge is the writer and creator of "Forever Summer- a Tribute to Donna Summer" that she will perform at Carnegie Hall in 2022. N'Kenge is thrilled to have TV producer Gina Goff helming her TV musical series BLACK BUTTERFLY that she created as well as co-wrote with award winning writer Mary McCallum.

www.nkengemusic.com





MARISSA GHAVAMI Founder & CEO

she/her

Marissa Ghavami is an Iranian-American, queer artist, advocate and creator based in New York City. She founded Healing TREE in 2014 and serves as the nonprofit's Chief Executive Officer. Her advocacy work led her to giving educational and inspirational public speaking engagements on abuse, trauma and healing across the country. These engagements span post show talk-backs, workshops, breakout speeches, keynotes and Continuing Education Units (to doctors, nurses, psychologists, therapists and social workers). She led a virtual event for The Mighty, a popular mental health community with a Facebook following of nearly 1.5 million. She is also a healing trauma-focused coach and consultant, providing individual coaching, as well as consulting for arts professionals and organizations.

As an actor, Marissa's film and television highlights include starring in the feature film The Gift of Christmas alongside Academy Award Nominee Bruce Davison and Dee Wallace (E.T.), as well as roles in Paramount's theatrically released feature film Not Fade Away, directed by David Chase and starring James Gandolfini, and on CBS's Without A Trace. She first gained national attention singing on NBC's legendary It's Showtime at the Apollo. She was seen on stage as the lead in the Off-Broadway staged reading of They Told Me To Use It at the Broadway Bound Theatre Festival directed by Ren Dara Santiago. Regionally, she has played Belle in Beauty and the Beast opposite Ross Lekites. She has sung at NYC hotspots Joe's Pub, Birdland (alongside Tony Nominee Ariana DeBose) and 54 Below. She has done voice over, commercial and print for such widely known brands as Audible (narrating Dr. Jamie Marich's Trauma and the 12 Steps), McDonald's, Ford, JCPenney, Belvedere, PepsiCo's AMP Energy Drink, Girl Scout Cookies and Kentucky Fried Chicken. Marissa trained as an actor at the William Esper Studio under the renowned, late Bill Esper.

Marissa co-produced the feature film Mass which premiered at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival, was acquired by Bleecker Street Films and hit theatres October 8, 2021. She co-wrote and was the lead producer on Healing TREE's short film Silk, which was directed by John Magaro (The Many Saints of Newark, The Umbrella Academy, Carol, The Big Short). She was a Director's Pick for a 2020 (postponed to 2021 due to COVID-19) Queer Writer Fellowship at the Martha's Vineyard Institute of Creative Writing. She is a 2015/2016 ASTEP (Artists Striving To End Poverty) Fellow and participant in the 2015 Artist As Citizen Conference at Juilliard. She is passionate about meditating, reading, veganism and fitness, and is a cat mom to her two rescue Bengal mixes, Sebastian and Viola.

www.marissaghavami.com | @marissaghavami









Dana Aliya Levinson (they/she) is an actor, writer, and musician. Favorite acting credits, television: Toni Rykener in American Gods (Starz), Sadie Lipton in The Good Fight (CBS All Access), film: Hazel in Adam (dir. Rhys Ernst, Sundance, 2019), Jess in The Dress You Have On (dir. Courtney Hope Thérond, OutFest 2018), theatre: Grace in the world premiere of Ballast. Dana's visual album, FALLING, directed by Zen Pace and supported by Eve Ensler and One Billion Rising, premiered with PAPER magazine. Dana was a Dramatists Guild Fellow and their TV pilot script FRAUD was a finalist for the Sundance Episodic Lab. Dana is a proud member of the Buchwald Family where she is represented across the board.

www.danaaliyalevinson.com



Taylor is an a director, actor, and writer. He has appeared on popular series like Gotham and Marvel's Ironfist. He recently served as the curator of the first virtual repertory series, 20th Century Woman: The Documentary Films of Lee Grant. He is the writer, director, and composer of the film Killian & the Comeback Kids, now in theatres.

DANA ALIYA LEVINSON

American Gods they/she

TAYLOR A. PURDEE
Killian & the Comeback Kids
he/him





Charles Baker left his mark in Hollywood and the homes of fans across the world as 'Skinny Pete,' on the hit AMC show Breaking Bad, which has been nominated for 151 awards and has won 48. Before stepping on Hollywood soil, Baker already had 37 credits to his name and now has moved to Los Angeles permanently with his wife and three children to pursue his craft, which he has been studying for over 20 years. Notable film projects for Baker include To The Wonder, a Terrence Malick film, opposite Ben Affleck, Rachel McAdams, and Javier Bardem, Ain't Them Bodies Saints opposite Rooney Mara, Casey Affleck and Ben Foster, Wild opposite Reese Witherspoon, and Nicholas Winding Refn's Neon Demon with Elle Fanning and Keanu Reeves.



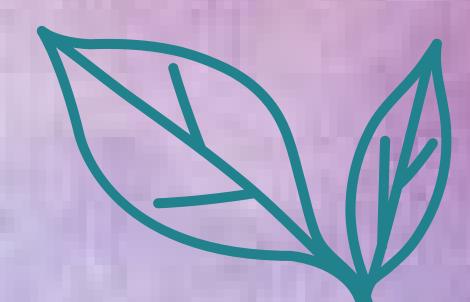
POOYA MOHSENI
Outfest Best Performance
Award, See You Then
she/her

Pooya Mohseni is an Iranian–American actor, writer, filmmaker & Transgender activist. She's coproducer/star/writer of "Transit", a short film about love between a trans woman and a cis man, coming out in 2021.

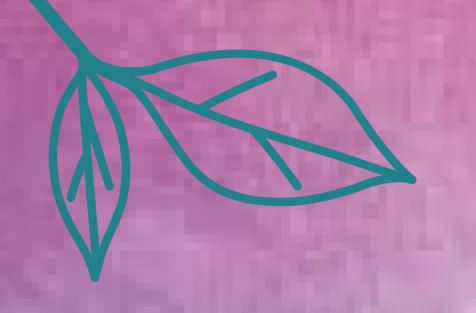
Her stage performances include "She,He,Me" by Raphael Aime Khouri, for National Queer Theater, dir Sivan Battat, "Our Town" in Pride Plays, dir Jenna Worsham, "Hamlet" in Play On Shakespeare festival, dir Ellen McLaughlin, an award winning one woman show "One Woman", in the United Solo festival at The Theatre Row, dir Joan Kane, "Galatea", dir Mo Zhou for the WP Pipeline festival and "The Good Muslim" dir William Carden at EST.

She has guest starred on the latest season of "Law & Order: SVU" dir Mariska Hargitay, "Falling Water" on USA, "Madam Secretary" and a recurring guest star on the crime drama "Big Dogs" on Amazon Prime. Her newest feature film "See You Then" dir Mari Walker will make its premiere in 2021. She is a member of the advisory council for Ackerman Institute's Gender and Family Project.

Represented by Headline Talent Agency



CHARLES BAKER
Breaking Bad
he/him







Perhaps best known for his performances on Broadway in "A Bronx Tale The Musical," Christopher has been part of the San Francisco cast of the award-winning show "Hamilton." The Pennsylvania native has also performed in "The Wiz," "The Winter's Tale," and "Guys and Dolls" (Oregon Shakespeare Festival), and has workshopped "Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of The Temptations." Young conducts workshops, seminars and master classes all over the United States, bringing his experiences and life story to the next generation of theater artists!



TAYLOR MILLER
FBI
he/him

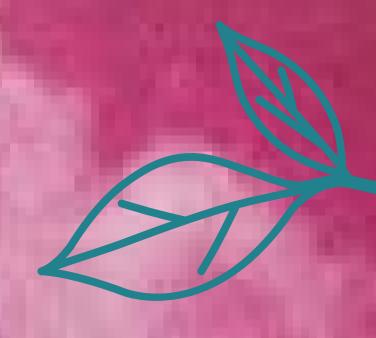
Taylor was born into a film family. Born in Los Angeles, he grew up in South Florida, and now calls New York City home. Taylor has appeared on "Magic City", "Chicago Fire", and "Burn Notice", to name a few. He currently plays Kelly Moran on CBS's "FBI". He lives in Brooklyn with his wife, Rachel, and their dog Harry.



CHRISTOPHER HENRY YOUNG
Hamilton (And Peggy Company)
he/him







Francis Elliott "Fran" Kranz is an American film,

television and Broadway actor. Kranz was born and

raised in Los Angeles, California. He started acting

young age that he wanted to become an actor. He

graduated from Harvard-Westlake School in 1999

was a member of the improve comedy group The

Ex!t Players. He is best known for his portrayal of

Dollhouse. He had prominent roles in the films The

Cabin in the Woods and Much Ado About Nothing.

In 2012, he played Bernard in Death of a Salesman

beginning a career on Broadway that continued

with 2014's You Can't Take It with You.

Topher Brink in the science fiction drama series

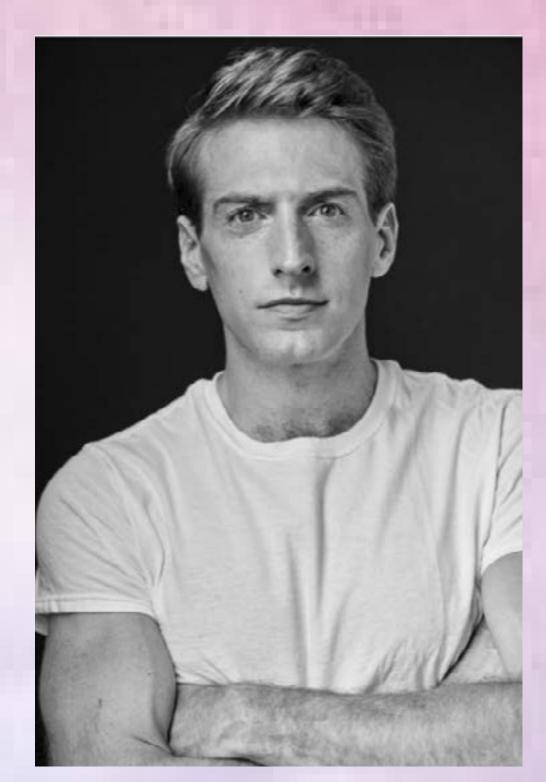
and later from Yale University in 2004, where he

in third and fourth grade, and knew from a very



Crista Marie is an accomplished aerialist, actress, stunt woman and choreographer. She believes in using her art to inspire activism and change. She holds a BFA from Hofstra University. She started her career working with Words of Choice, touring nationally to advocate for women's rights and is honored to have been able to utilize her skills as an actress, aerialist and choreographer in SILK. She recently finished touring as the Assistant Artistic Director of Alegria by Cirque du Soleil. Her work has been featured in major motion pictures (THE GREATEST SHOWMAN - ENDERS GAME), off-Broadway houses (The Lynn Redgrave, The Pearl, The Sheen Center), television shows (LAST WEEK TONIGHT WITH JOHN OLIVER) national and international tours, cruise ships and corporate venues. Her work has been featured in The Metropolitan Opera House, LA Opera, Beyonce's FORMATION World Tour, TIFF, NYC summer-stage, Broadway Bares, Cirque de la Mer, Radio City Music Hall, KCD Worldwide and the CFDA Awards.

www.cristamariejackson.com @crista_marie



FRAN KRANZ
The Cabin in the Woods
he/him

CRISTA MARIE
JACKSON

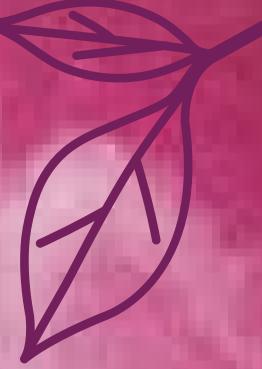
The Greatest Showman

she/her











REN DARA SANTIAGO Let The Right One In, Staff-Writer she/her

Ren Dara Santiago is a Fili-Rican nurturer and storyteller; a Native NY-er from the X, Yonkers and Harlem. Ren is the inaugural recipient of Rising Phoenix Rep's Cornelia Street American Playwriting Award: recognizing an emerging playwright of exceptional work ethic, character, and talent. Ren is one of the recipients of the TOW Foundation's 2019-2020 Fellowships. THE SIBLINGS PLAY was closed before premiering at Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, produced in partnership with Rising Phoenix Rep and Piece by Piece Productions in March 2020 due to COVID-19. Plays: All the Time (Drama Club NYC commission through NEA); I'll Write You Down in Brick & Mortar (Commissioned by The Theater Co.: Co-Artistic Directors Jen Rowe and Brandon Woolley); The Siblings Play (Cherry Lane Theatre: Mentor Project 2017; Ojai Playwrights Conference 2017; TOW Fellowship Recipient 2020), Something in the Balete Tree (Winner: Playwright's Week 2019 at The Lark Play Development Center. Finalist: National Playwright's Conference 2019); SUBLIMINAL (SUNY College commission). Shorts: Building Models; Hard as You Can (En Garde Arts commission); Heard You; In the Shit; Love & Animation; Same Shadow (Second Generation Productions commission); Someone's Family; Where We At (NY Rep commission). Affiliated Companies: Cherry Lane Theatre, Clubbed Thumb, En Garde Arts, The Lark, Labyrinth Theater, MCC, Ojai Playwrights Conference, Rattlestick Playwrights Theater, Rising Phoenix Rep, SPACE on Ryder Farm, The Theatre Co. Teaching: Carnegie Mellon, The Eugene O'Neill Theater Center, Lincoln Center Theater, MCC Theater, Williams College University, Williamstown Theater Festival's Community Works, Yale School of Drama, The Young Women's Leadership School. Residencies: The Lark, Rising Phoenix Rep, C-19 Writers Group.





Raising Helen (with Joan Cusack, Kate Hudson) A Cinderella Story, (with Hillary Duff, Chad Michael Murray), American Pie II and Home Alone III.

He starred on Broadway in the 50th anniversary production of The Glass Menagerie with Julie Harris, Calista Flockhart and Zeljko Ivanek, directed by Frank Galati for which he won a Theatre World Award and was nominated for the Drama Desk and Outer Critics Circle Awards. Off-Broadway credits include Dinner With Friends (2000 Pulitzer Prize), directed by Daniel Sullivan and Lemon Sky, directed by Jonathan Silverstein. Regional theatre credits include Bucks County Playhouse's Other Desert Cities, Adobe Rose Theatre's Time Stands Still, Denver Center For the Performing Arts' The Christians, Baltimore Centerstage's An Enemy Of The People, NY Stage & Film's Ninety and Pasadena Playhouse's Defiance.





CHRISTINA BIANCO
2x Drama Desk Nom; Funny Girl
she/her

From stage to screen, Christina Bianco's singular voice and comedic charm have brought audiences around the world to their feet. Bianco captured international acclaim as a YouTube sensation with her 'diva' impression videos, gaining over 25 million views. Dubbed 'the girl of a thousand voices,' Christina has performed on major television programs such as The Ellen Degeneres Show and The Today Show, in the US, and The Paul O'Grady Show and This Morning, in the UK.

A Two-Time Drama Desk Award nominee, Christina made her West End debut starring in The Menier Chocolate Factory's hailed production of Forbidden Broadway at the Vaudeville Theatre in London. Most recently, Christina played the iconic role of Fanny Brice at the Theatre Marigny's celebrated production of Funny Girl in Paris, earning unanimous rave reviews. Christina was awarded the Trophee De Le Comedie Musicale for her performance. Beginning March 2022, Christina will play LV in the new UK tour of The Rise And Fall of Little Voice.

New York credits include Forbidden Broadway; Goes To Rehab (Drama Desk Award Nomination), the one-woman, multi-character comedy, Application Pending (Drama Desk Award Nomination), The Marvelous Wonderettes (Missy), and Newsical the Musical. Other theatre credits include: Hello Dolly (Minnie Fay/Indianapolis Symphony), Rent (Maureen/Weston Playhouse), Beehive (Riverside Theatre) and Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat (Narrator/Drury Lane Theatre).

Television credits include the iTV's The Imitation Game, POP TV sitcom Impress Me, Hallmark's, Signed, Sealed, Delivered and frequent voice work for RuPaul's Drag Race.

Christina has performed her critically acclaimed concerts to sold out crowds in NYC and across the U.S. In the UK, she's enjoyed extended runs headlining at London's Hippodrome, Royal Albert Hall's Elgar Room, Live at Zedel's, The Charing Cross Theatre, The Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and completed her second UK tour, titled, First Impressions in 2019. She recently made concert debuts in Switzerland, Spain and South Africa and in Australia, at The Sydney Opera House. Christina frequently performs with major US and Canadian symphonies and performs her solo symphony show under the direction of Maestro Jack Everly. Her debut live album, Life Of The Party, is available on iTunes and other major music platforms.



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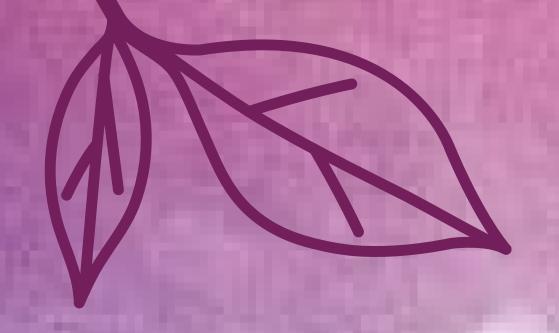
Jessica Mastro





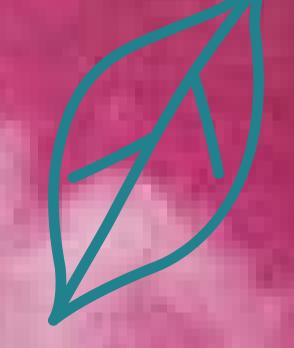








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