

PROGRAM

LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE

THE FELLOWSHIP PLAYS

SEVEN 10-MINUTE PLAYS FROM
NYC PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL
PLAYWRIGHTS



The Lucille Lortel Theatre
121 Christopher Street, New York NY 10014
Executive Director George Forbes

The Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation

presents

THE FELLOWSHIP PLAYS

A Presentation of Plays

written by

The 2020 Lucille Lortel NYC Public High School
Playwriting Fellows

I Have A Dream by Joseph Di Girolamo

Divination by Anya Jiminez

The Interview of Wyetta Sims by Zanieka Nembhard

The Love I Meant to Say by Helene Quinola

Circumstances by Marcus Rosario

Caught In A Storm by Rommy Sasson

Snowed In by Katherine Sciortino

Featuring

Name1 • Name2 • Name3 •

Name4 • Name5 • Name6

Stage Manager

Nyderia Hall

Directed by Kimille Howard

The Lucille Lortel NYC Public High School Playwriting Fellowship
is a program of the Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation

Special Thanks to Peter Avery, Director of Theater for the NYC Department of Education

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ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE FOUNDATION

The Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation's mission is to sustain and advance Off-Broadway by creating awareness, appreciation, and encouraging the continued growth of Off-Broadway; assisting with theatrical infrastructure and capacity building; and developing educational programs fostering the next generation of theatre makers. The Foundation has several major programs, including the Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway, Internet Off-Broadway Database (IOBDB.com), Non-Profit Theatre Strategic and Management Services, Live at the Lortel podcast, NYC Public High School Playwriting Fellowship, Subsidized Theatre Space, Playwrights' Sidewalk, and Fellowships in Theatre with Bennington College. For more information, please visit www.lortel.org.

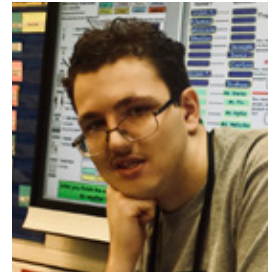
ABOUT THE NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

The NYC Department of Education is the largest system of public schools in the United States, serving about 1.1 million students in approximately 1,800 schools. The Department of Education supports universal access to arts education through the ArtsCount initiative, which tracks and reports student participation in arts education and tracks progress at the school and city-wide levels for meeting New York State Instructional Requirements for the Arts. For more information, visit NYC DOE Office of Arts and Special Projects.

Special Thanks

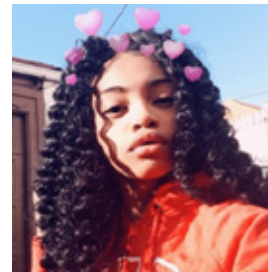
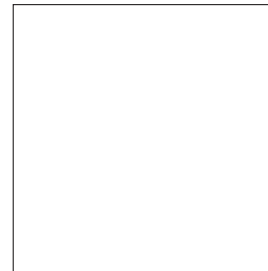
James King (Harlem Stage), Rachel Routh (Dramatists Guild Foundation), Niegel Smith and Carol Ostrow (The Flea Theater), Nicholas Viselli (Theater Breaking Through Barriers)

FELLOWS

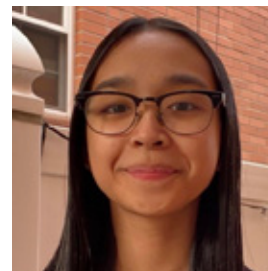


Joseph DiGirolamo is a high school senior and will be graduating from P721K this June. At 721K, Joseph is noted for spearheading the World Language Concert in 2016, performing Polish and Italian songs to pay tribute to his heritage, and performing with a rock band for the 721K annual Fashion Show. Joseph aspires to be a television performer. He would like to thank his parents Ben and Teresa, sister Camille, and his teacher Ms. Pia for all their support over the years.

Anya Jiménez



Zanieka Nembhard (*The Interview of Wyetta Sims*) is happy to be writing her first play. She is a student at Pathways to Graduation.

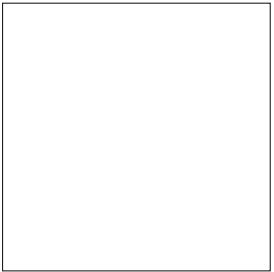


Helene Quinola (*The Love I Meant To Say*) attends The Queens School of Inquiry and is making her writing debut. She is an actor, singer, and writer. Recent roles include Ferdinand (*Forever & Now*) and Amber (*To Be A Superhero*). Thanks to Jeffrey, Matthew, Rehana, Kimille, Mr. Nadel, friends, and family.

FELLOWS continued



Marcus Rosario (*Circumstances*) attends World View High School and is honored to be able to represent the Bronx with his first ever play. He is a lover of many art forms, and is an aspiring playwright and musician.



Rommy Sasson



Katherine Sciortino (*Snowed In*) attends Susan E. Wagner High School on Staten Island. She is mainly an actress. Her recent credits include *Chicago* (Mama Morton). Love to Ruth and Leonardo Sciortino for their endless support.

CAST

DIRECTOR



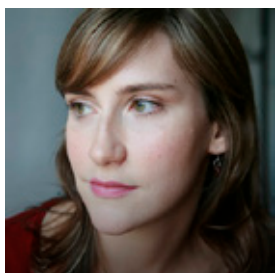
Kimille Howard is a New York based director, producer, writer, and filmmaker. She is currently a NYTW 2050 Directing Fellow, a Jonathan Alper Directing Fellow at Manhattan Theatre Club, and a resident director at The Flea Theater. She is also an Assistant Stage Director at the Metropolitan Opera where she recently worked on the new James Robinson production of *Porgy and Bess*.

Kimille recently directed *A Light Staggering* by Jeeseun Choi at Ensemble Studio Theater and *Tidwell: or the Plantation Play* by Rodney Witherspoon II in the Samuel French OOB Short Play Festival which was one of six plays in the festival selected to be published by Samuel French. Other recent directing credits include: *Low Power* by Jon Kern (EST's Marathon '19), *Black Girls Are From Outer Space* by Emana Rachelle (National Black Theatre), *Skeleton Crew* by Dominique Morisseau at TheatreSquared, and *Triggered* by Gabriel Jason Dean (Cherry Lane Theatre). Kimille was awarded Best Director at the 2016 Thespis Festival for *It's All About Lorrie* by Joseph Krawczyk at the Hudson Theater and remounted the production for a commercial run at The American Theater of Actors in 2017. Her work has also been seen at The Fire This Time Festival, The Circle in the Square Theatre Circle Series, The Flea, The Lark, JAGFest, NYU, Sea Dog Theater, Atlantic Acting School, and the Producers' Club among others. Kimille was the assistant director to Des McAnuff on *Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations* on Broadway. She has worked with Ruben Santiago Hudson, Emily Mann, Stephen Wadsworth, Jessica Stone, Jade King Carroll, Nigel Smith, Lorca Peress, and Melissa Maxwell. She has produced shows at the HERE Arts Center, FIAF, and more. Current Project: Assistant Director to Rebecca Frecknall on *Sanctuary City* by Martyna Majok at NYTW.

MENTORS



Joshua Harmon's plays include *Bad Jews* (Roundabout Underground; Roundabout/Laura Pels; West End), *Significant Other* (Roundabout; Broadway/Booth Theatre), *Admissions* (Lincoln Center Theater; West End), and *Skintight* (Roundabout). His plays have been produced across the country at Geffen Playhouse, Studio Theatre, Speakeasy, Magic, Theater Wit and Actor's Express, among others, and internationally in Australia, Canada, Germany, Israel, Russia, South Africa, and throughout the U.K. Fellowships include MacDowell, Atlantic Center for the Arts, and NNPN/Actor's Express. He is under commission from Manhattan Theatre Club and an Associate Artist at Roundabout. Education: Juilliard.



Kait Kerrigan is an award-winning lyricist, bookwriter, and playwright. Off-Broadway: *The Mad Ones* (fka *The Unauthorized Autobiography of Samantha Brown*), *Henry & Mudge*. She has written book and lyrics for *The Bad Years*, *Republic*, *Unbound*, *Irena*, and lyrics for *Rosie Revere*, *Engineer & Friends*, and *Earthrise*. Her plays include *Father/Daughter*, *Disaster Relief*, *Imaginary Love*, and *Transit*. Her work has been

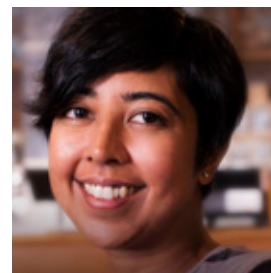
developed by La Jolla, Kennedy Center, Theatreworks/Silicon Valley, Primary Stages, Goodspeed, and others. Awards: Kleban, Larson, Theatre Hall of Fame Most Promising Lyricist. Alumna of Dramatists Guild Fellowship, Page 73's I-73, Barnard College, BMI Musical Theatre Writing Workshop.



Sylvia Khoury is a New York-born writer of French and Lebanese descent. Her plays include *Selling Kabul* (Williamstown Theater Festival and upcoming at Playwrights Horizons), *Power Strip* (LCT3), *Against the Hillside* (Ensemble Studio Theater) and *The Place Women Go*. She is currently under commission from Lincoln Center and Williamstown Theater Festival. Awards include the L. Arnold Weissberger Award and Jay Harris Commission

and a Citation of Excellence from the Laurents/Hatcher Awards. She is a member of EST/Youngblood and a previous member of the 2018-2019 Rita Goldberg Playwrights' Workshop at The Lark and the 2016-2018 WP

Lab. Her plays have been developed at Playwrights Horizons, Williamstown Theater Festival, Eugene O'Neill Playwrights' Conference, Roundabout Theater Underground, Lark Playwrights' Week, EST/Youngblood, and WP Theater. She holds a BA from Columbia University and an MFA from the New School for Drama. She is a fourth-year student at the Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai.



Rehana Lew Mirza's plays include: *Hatefuck* (Colt Coeur/WP; upcoming at Round House Theatre); *A People's Guide to History in the Time of Here and Now* (Primary Stages Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation's Women Playwrights Commission; AADA workshop production); *Soldier X* (Ma-Yi; Brooklyn College; NYSCA/Lark commission); *Tomorrow*, *Inshallah* (Living Room Theater, Kansas City; Storyworks/HuffPost commission); *Neighborhood Watch* (NNPN/

InterAct commission) and *Barriers* (Desipina, Asian American Theater Company.) With her husband Mike Lew, she shares a Mellon Foundation National Playwright residency administered in partnership with Howlround at Ma-Yi Theater, as well as a commission at La Jolla Playhouse for *The Colonialism Project* after previously being their 2018 artists-in-residence. They've co-written the book, in partnership with Sam Willmott, to the musical *Bhangin' It* (2019 Richard Rodgers Award; upcoming productions at La Jolla Playhouse and McCarter Theater; previously developed at The Orchard Project, Rhinebeck Writers Retreat and their 3R program, Goodspeed, and Project Springboard.) They were recently awarded the 2020 Kleban for most promising librettist. Additional honors include: NYFA Fellow, Colt Coeur Company member, HBO Access Fellow, Lilly Award (Stacey Mindich "Go Write A Play"), E.S.T. Sloan commission, and a TCG/New Georges Fellowship. MFA: Columbia University; BFA: NYU Tisch. www.rehanamirza.com

SELECTION COMMITTEE



Kareem Fahmy is a Canadian-born director and playwright of Egyptian descent. He has directed a number of world premiere productions including James Scraggs's *3/Fifths* (3LD, *New York Times* Top 5 Must-See Shows), Sevan K. Greene's *This Time* (Sheen Center, *New York Times* Critics' Pick), Bess Welden's *Refuge*Malja* (Portland Stage), Adam Kraar's *Alternating Currents* (Working Theater), Nikkole Salter's *Indian Head* (Luna

Stage), and Victor Lesniewski's *Couriers and Contrabands* (TBG Theatre, also co-creator). Kareem's plays, which include *A Distinct Society*, *The Triumphant*, *Pareidolia*, *The In-Between*, and an adaptation of the acclaimed Egyptian novel *The Yacoubian Building*, have been developed or presented at The Atlantic Theater Company, Target Margin Theater, New York Stage & Film, The Lark, Fault Line Theater, and Noor Theater. He has been a fellow or resident artist at the Sundance Theatre Lab, Oregon Shakespeare Festival (Phil Killian Directing Fellow), Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center (National Directors Fellow), Second Stage (Van Lier Directing Fellow), Soho Rep (Writer/Director Lab), Lincoln Center (Directors Lab), The New Museum (Artist-in-Residence), and New York Theater Workshop (Emerging Artist Fellow & Usual Suspect). He has developed new plays at theaters around the country, including MCC, Ensemble Studio Theatre, New Dramatists, The Civilians, Geva Theatre, Pioneer Theatre, Silk Road Rising, and Berkeley Rep. Kareem is the co-founder of the Middle Eastern American Writers Lab at The Lark and a co-founder of Maia Directors, a consulting group for organizations and artists engaging with stories from the Middle East and beyond. MFA: Columbia University. www.KareemFahmy.com



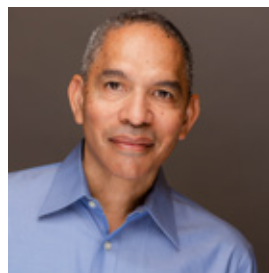
Seri Lawrence is the Artistic Director of Cherry Lane Alternative and has been a proud member of the Cherry Lane family since 2002, having previously held the position of literary manager and associate producer. Through Cherry Lane's Obie Award-winning Mentor Project program, she has helped to develop the work of now more than 40 early-career playwrights. She is a graduate of New York University and holds an M.A. in

Comparative Literature from CUNY's Graduate Center, where she is currently a Ph.D. candidate.



Cori Thomas' Plays include: *Lockdown*, *When January Feels Like Summer*, *Citizens Market*, *The Liberian Legacy Trilogy*. Produced and Developed at includes: Rattlestick, EST, Playwrights Horizons, Page 73, Women's Project, The Goodman Theater, Pillsbury House Theater, Mixed Blood, Going To The River, and more. Residencies, Fellowships, Honors include: New Dramatists Resident, O'Neill National

Playwrights Conference, Sundance Theater Lab, MacDowell, Bogliasco, Baryshnikov Arts Center, ATCA Osborn Award, Finalist The Horton Foote Prize, Theodore Ward Prize, and more. TV and Series include: JuVee Productions, and AUDIBLE. Screen: She is presently writing an original screenplay about Nelson Mandela for HBO Films. Other: Co-Founder of The Pa's Hat Foundation, a 501c(3) organization focused on helping former child soldiers marginalized citizens of Liberia with educational and work related assistance. For the last 3 years, Cori has been working with Lonnie Morris, who is in his 42nd year of Incarceration at San Quentin State Prison, they are writing a play together to be presented at the prison by No More Tears, a Non-Profit Lonnie co-founded geared towards preventing recidivism and helping with re-entry. Cori sits on the board of No More Tears.



Mark Wade is Artistic Director, Assistant Professor and Head of the Theater Arts Program at Arcadia University. Mark is a graduate of The Yale School of Drama in Acting, and The Neighborhood Playhouse (where he studied with Sanford Meisner). Acting and directing credits include work for The Westport Country Playhouse, The Long Wharf Theater, and Trinity Repertory Theater. He spent five years as a creative consultant for Joanne

Woodward, and produced with her two television movies for the "Hallmark Hall of Fame." In addition, Mark collaborated closely with Ms. Woodward during her time as Artistic Director of The Westport Country Playhouse, serving as an education consultant and as her assistant director on *The Constant Wife* by Somerset Maugham and *Three Days of Rain* by Richard Greenberg. Mark served as assistant director to Lloyd Richards on the Hallmark Hall of Fame's television adaptation of *The Piano Lesson* by August Wilson. He directed the New York premiere of *The Sirens* by Darrah Cloud.

At Arcadia, Mark has directed *The Laramie Project*, *Keely and Du*, *Hearsay* (a world premiere written by Kathryn Petersen), *The Love of the Nightingale*, *The Wind in the Willows*, *Home* (a regional finalist and recipient of multiple awards including Outstanding Direction and Outstanding Ensemble Acting by the Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival), an all-female version of Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*, *The Swing of the Sea* (a world premiere written by Molly Hagan, an invited production to the KCACTF's regional festival and winner of the Harold and Mimi Steinberg National Playwriting Award and now published by Samuel French), *Meshuggah-nuns!*, he co-directed with Kathryn Petersen *The House of Bernarda Alba* and most recently directed a production of *As You Like It* by William Shakespeare. Mark has taught classes at The Wilma Theater Studio, and The University of the Arts. Prior to working at Arcadia, Mark taught acting for ten years at Wesleyan University in Middletown Connecticut.



Cary Wong's play *Mirrors Remembered* was commissioned by Manhattan Theatre Club through his Van Lier Fellowship. It was produced by New York Stage and Film and is available in print. His plays have had readings at Queens Theater in the Park, New York Shakespeare Festival, East West Players, New Dramatists, Edinburgh Fringe Festival, and the Mark Taper Forum. He was a founding member of the Asian American Playwrights Lab at the Public and the inaugural playwriting group at Queens Theater. He received his MFA from Columbia University in Playwriting and is a member of the Dramatists Guild. Cary also writes about theater and film and is a member of GALECA, a LGBT+ film critics group, and the Lucille Lortel Awards Nominating Committee for Off-Broadway excellence.

MENTOR'S QUOTES

Rehana Lew Mirza:

"Rommy is clearly a deep and thoughtful writer with a unique perspective. I was thankful for her generosity and insightfulness in the conversations surrounding her play, and wish her the best in all that she does!"

"I feel honored to have gotten the opportunity to meet and work with Helene on her play. She has incredible instincts, an interesting voice, and impressive rewriting ability — all things that point to a very bright future ahead!"

Kait Kerrigan:

"Joey D was enthusiastic and passionate. His vision was singular and absolutely wacky in all the best ways."

"Zanieka's play was full of heart and history. I was excited to see how deeply she wanted to explore her characters' stories."
