



PORCHLIGHT **ONLINE**

2022

JOIN AWARD-WINNING PORCHLIGHT MUSIC THEATRE FOR THE REST OF OUR MUST-SEE 2021-22 SEASON!

MAINSTAGE

The "Best Musical" Tony Award-winner filled
with power, poignancy and passion.

DIRECTED & CHOREOGRAPHED BY
BRENDA DIDIER

SPRING AWAKENING

MUSIC DIRECTED BY
JUSTIN AKIRA KONO

APRIL 23 - MAY 29

PORCHLIGHT REVISITS

"Call it a rock concert with
a story to tell... Or call it a sprawling work of
performance art... I'll just call it wonderful!"
- The New York Times

PORCHLIGHT REVISITS PASSING STRANGE



DIRECTED BY
DONTERRIO
MUSIC DIRECTED BY
JUSTIN AKIRA KONO
CHOREOGRAPHED BY
TERRI K WOODALL

MAY 18 AT 7 PM, MAY 19 AT 1:30 & 7 PM

SPECIAL EVENT

AN EVENING OF COLOR AND LIGHT

CHICAGO SINGS

Stephen Sondheim

THE ANNUAL FUNDRAISING CONCERT

MONDAY, MAY 23

THE MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART, 220 E. CHICAGO AVE.

NEW WORK READING

A STAGED READING OF A NEW WORK! ONE NIGHT ONLY!

BOOK, MUSIC & LYRICS BY
PAUL OAKLEY STOVALL
"George Washington,"
national tour of *Hamilton*



A NEW MUSICAL EXPERIENCE

DIRECTED BY
RENEISHA JENKINS

TUESDAY, MAY 31 AT 7 PM

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MUSIC THEATRE**

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theater
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ABOUT PORCHLIGHT

Porchlight Music Theatre is the award-winning center for music theatre in Chicago. Through live performance, youth education and community outreach we impact tens of thousands of lives each season, bringing the magic of musicals to our theatre home at the Ruth Page Center for the Arts in the Gold Coast and to neighborhoods across the city. Porchlight has built a national reputation for boldly reimagining classic musicals, supporting new works and young performers, and showcasing Chicago's most notable music theatre artists, all through the intimate and powerful theatrical lens of the "Chicago Style."

Porchlight Music Theatre is proud to be a member of the vibrant Ruth Page Center for the Arts community and an Artist In-Residence. Central to the Ruth Page Center for the Arts' programming is the Artists In-Residence program, which is designed to serve organizations looking for a home base while they grow or expand their artistic and organizational capabilities. The Center is committed to nurturing and assisting dance and other performing artists, allowing for exchange and collaborative relationships to develop within the artistic community. The Ruth Page Center for the Arts is a destination for quality performing arts, accessible to a wide community regardless of race, gender, age, education or disability. An incubator of artistic energy and excellence, the Ruth Page Center for the Arts carries forward the vision of its founder, legendary dance icon Ruth Page, to be a platform for developing great artists and connecting them with audiences and community.

Now in its 27th season, Porchlight's production history includes more than 70 mainstage works with 15 Chicago premieres and five world premieres. Porchlight's commitment to the past, present and future of music theatre led the company to develop the Porchlight Revisits and New Faces Sing Broadway program series; both are quickly becoming audience favorites.

Porchlight's education and outreach programs serve schools, youth of all ages and skill levels and community organizations, most notably the ongoing collaboration with Chicago Youth Centers. Porchlight annually awards dozens of full scholarships and hundreds of free tickets to ensure accessibility and real engagement with this uniquely American art form.

The company's many honors include 178 Joseph Jefferson Award (Jeff) nominations and 45 Jeff awards, as well as 33 Black Theatre Alliance (BTA) nominations and 12 BTA awards. In 2019, Porchlight graduated to the Large Theatre tier of the Equity Jeff Awards, and was honored with eight nominations in both technical and artistic categories and won three awards in its inaugural year in this tier, most notably Best Ensemble for Duke Ellington's *Sophisticated Ladies*.

Through the global pandemic, Porchlight emerged as one of Chicago's leaders in virtual programming, quickly launching a host of free offerings like *Sondheim @ 90 Roundtables*, *Movie Musical Mondays*, *Porchlight by Request: Command Performances* and *WPMT: Classic Musicals from the Golden Age of Radio*. For the 2020-2021 season, Porchlight's fall schedule included all-new ticketed virtual programs including *Broadway by the Decade*, *New Faces Sing Broadway 1987*, *Chicago Sings Rock & Roll Broadway*, *New Faces Sing Broadway 1961* and the return of *The Ruffians' Burning Bluebeard* as well as collaborations with Hershey Felder and L.A. Theatre Works. Porchlight recently launched its first summer performance schedule including a sold-out performance of *New Faces Sing Broadway 1979* at the North Shore Center for the Performing Arts in Skokie, the premiere of its outdoor music series *Broadway in your Backyard*, performed throughout Chicagoland this summer and special appearances at Sundays on State, Navy Pier's Chicago Live Again and the Ambassador Chicago's Terrace rooftop.

PORCHLIGHT^{ONLINE}

MICHAEL WEBER[†]
Artistic Director

JEANNIE LUKOW[‡]
Executive Director

presents

NEW FACES SING BROADWAY 1947

Hosted by
ROBIN DaSILVA[‡]

Starring
**SAMANTHA BEHEN[‡], ANNA BROCKMAN[‡], JONAH COCHIN[‡], BREANNA
GHOSTONE[‡], NATHAN KARNIK[‡], AUSTIN NELSON JR.[‡], OLIVER SCHILLING[‡],
DESTINY STROTHERS[‡], CIARRA STROUD[‡] & AUSTIN WINTER^{†/‡}**

Director	ADRIAN ABEL AZEVEDO[‡]
Music Director & Arrangements	LINDA MADONIA[‡]
Director of Production	ALEX RHYAN[‡]
Producing Artistic Associate	FRANKIE LEO BENNETT[†]
Videographer	AUSTIN CROWLEY[‡]
Assistant Videographer	ALEX GROESCH[‡]
Video Editor	OREL CHOLLETTE[‡]
Audio Engineer	MATTHEW CHASE[‡]
Lighting Technician	MARK BROWN[‡]
Additional Orchestrations	MICHAEL MCBRIDE[‡]

Filmed at The Ruth Page Center for the Arts

Porchlight Music Theatre acknowledges the generosity of Allstate, the Bayless Family Foundation, DCASE Chicago, the Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, James P. and Brenda S. Grusecki Family Foundation, Illinois Arts Council Agency, The MacArthur Fund for Culture, Equity, and the Arts at Prince, the Dr. Scholl Foundation, the City of Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events, and all our donors who make our work possible.

† (he/him/his); ‡ (she/her/hers); † (they, them, theirs); † (any, with respect)

**NEW FACES
SING BROADWAY**

2021/2022 Season Sponsors
**ELAINE COHEN &
ARLEN D. RUBIN**



MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

- Act One -

"That Great Come-and-Get-It Day" (<i>Finian's Rainbow</i>)	Robin DaSilva & The New Faces
"Old Devil Moon" (<i>Finian's Rainbow</i>)	Oliver Schilling
"Pages in a Book" (<i>Park Avenue</i>)	Nathan Karnik
"Papa, Won't You Dance with Me?" (<i>High Button Shoes</i>)	Anna Brockman & Austin Nelson Jr.
Sing-Along "Louise" (as performed by Maurice Chevalier)	The New Faces
"What Good Would the Moon Be?" (<i>Street Scene</i>)	Breanna Ghostone
"Tomorrow Mountain" (<i>Beggar's Holiday</i>)	Destiny Strothers
"Call Me Mister" (<i>Call Me Mister</i>)	Jonah Cochin, Oliver Schilling & Austin Winter
"Come Rain or Come Shine" (<i>St. Louis Woman</i>)	Ciarra Stroud
"Anywhere I Hang My Hat is Home" (<i>St. Louis Woman</i>)	Robin DaSilva

Trivia Break: The History of The Ruth Page Center

- Act Two -

"You Are Never Away" (<i>Allegro</i>)	Austin Nelson Jr.
"So Far" (<i>Allegro</i>)	Jonah Cochin
"South America Take It Away" (<i>Call Me Mister</i>)	Breanna Ghostone, Destiny Strothers & Ciarra Stroud
Sing-Along "La Vie en Rose" (as performed by Edith Piaf)	The New Faces
"For the Life of Me" (<i>Park Avenue</i>)	Austin Winter
"Right as Rain" (<i>Bloomer Girl</i>)	Samantha Behen
"The Love of My Life" (<i>Brigadoon</i>)	Anna Brockman
"Almost Like Being in Love" (<i>Brigadoon</i>)	Nathan Karnik & Samantha Behen
"There's No Business Like Show Business" (<i>Annie Get Your Gun</i>)	Robin DaSilva & The New Faces

LAND RECOGNITION

Porchlight recognizes the history of oppression and injustice that has resulted in ongoing disparities for those who were brought here against their will or migrated from their homeland, as well as for those who have lived on this land for centuries. Truth and acknowledgment are critical in building mutual respect and authentic connections across all barriers of heritage and difference. This statement is one small step in acknowledging the history that brought us to this place and time, and to help us seek understanding of our place within that history:

"With humility and respect for the original caretakers of the land, we recognize that at its performance home at The Ruth Page Center for the Arts, Porchlight Music Theatre inhabits the land of the Council of the Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi Nations, and many other tribes such as the Miami, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Sac and Fox who also call this land their home. We honor the sacred lands of all indigenous American Indian, Alaska Native, Native Hawaiian and First Nations peoples."

- BLACK LIVES MATTER -

Porchlight believes Black Lives Matter and stands with others in denouncing racism, bigotry, hate and intolerance, and in reaffirming our total commitment to **equity, diversity, inclusion and access (EDI)** as we advance our mission both on and off the stage. We are dedicated to the education and work necessary to make positive change within our organization and in our industry. In 2020, using the "We See You White American Theatre" as our guide, we completed an audit of all company materials, practices, policies and procedures to identify ways we can be a more equitable and inclusive company. The result is a multi-year EDI action plan that will be shared on our website soon. We also engaged in general EDI learning for staff and board, and this year have begun specific anti-racist training that will result in an anti-racism plan for the company. Additionally, we have formed an EDI Advisory Committee to provide feedback and recommendations on our work in this area. We encourage you to follow our goals and progress and how you may get involved at **PorchlightMusicTheatre.org**.

BIOS



ROBIN K. DaSILVA[‡] (Host) is a multi-award winner whose regional credits include: Mercury Theater Chicago (*Women Of Soul*), Porchlight Music Theater (*Ain't Misbehavin'*), Theater at the Center (*A Christmas Memory*), Theo Ubique (*Smokey Joe's*

Café), NIETF Foundation (*Ragtime*), Penumbra Theater (*Joe Turner's Come and Gone*), Mixed Blood Theater (*A... My Name Is Alice*), Black Ensemble Theatre (*Feel Good Music Review*, *Holiday Extravaganza*, *The Other Cinderella*, *Women of Soul*, *Mahalia Jackson: Moving Through the Light*). For her role in *Mahalia*, she won the 2019 Joseph Jefferson and the BTAA Awards for Performer in A Revue. As a vocal arranger, who has arranged for many churches, recording artists, commercials, tv shows and musical theater productions. TV: T-Mobile's "Home for the Holidays Surprise" and HBO's "Southside." She sends love to her family and church for all of their support. Heb 11:1, Phil 4:13. @robinkdasilva



SAMANTHA BEHEN[‡] is so incredibly grateful to work with such a talented group of theatre artists! She was last seen as the "Narrator" in *Joseph and the Amazing...*, *Lerner & Loewe's Greatest Hits*, *How To Succeed In Business* and in the choir of *The*

Hunchback of Notre Dame at Music Theatre Works. Recent credits include *Oklahoma* Shakespeare in the Park's *You Never Can Tell* (Gloria), Theatre Three's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses* (Cécile), Theatre Three's *She Kills Monsters*, Dallas Shakespeare's *Quixote*, Metropolis' *A Christmas Carol*, Casa Mañana's *Joseph and the Amazing...* and Lyric Stage's *The Hunchback of Notre Dame*. Sam is a proud graduate of Oklahoma City University and is represented by BMG Talent. @samanthasb & Samantha-Behen.com



ANNA BROCKMAN[‡] is excited to be back at The Ruth Page Center where she was previously seen in *Sunset Boulevard* with Porchlight Music Theatre. Other Chicago credits include: *Cinderella* and *Wizard of Oz* (Paramount Theatre), *Mamma Mia!*

and *Pirates of Penzance* (Music Theatre Works) and *Baked!* (Chicago Music Theatre Festival). Anna holds a BFA in Musical Theatre from Millikin University. All the love and thanks to her family, friends and little pup Grommet. anna-brockman.com IG: @annabrockman



JONAH COCHIN[‡] is a graduate of the Chicago College of Performing Arts. Some past favorite roles include "Matt" in *The Fantasticks* (Citadel Theatre), "Dennis" in *All Shook Up* (Williams Street Rep) and "Medvedenko" in *The Seagull* (CCPA),

among many others. When not performing for

adults, Jonah can be found performing for toddlers with the nonprofit Stages Chicago. Thanks to his family for all their help and support!



BREANNA GHOSTONE[‡] is currently represented by Gray Talent Group. Breanna is a classically trained singer, actor and dancer who graduated with her Masters in Opera and Musical Theatre Performance from Arizona State University.

Previously, Breanna attended The University of Michigan, where she received her Bachelor Degree in Opera Performance. A few of her favorite musical performance credits include "Little Inez" in *Hairspray* (Power Center for Performing Arts), "Serena" in *Legally Blonde The Musical* (Evelyn Smith Theatre), "Francisca" in *West Side Story* (The Phoenix Theatre Company) and "Ensemble" in *Ragtime* (Music Theater Works). Breanna has also grown extremely passionate about on-camera work as well having completed a collaborative project with Verizon Wireless on their Innovative Learning Program, a short film spin-off of the 90's comedy TV Show "Martin" and a 60's short film titled "THE FUNNEL." More recently, she has appeared in commercials for Gatorade, AutoZone, Chicago REIA Real Estate and the National Restaurant Association. Breanna is beyond filled to be apart of *New Faces Sing Broadway 1947*. She can also currently be seen as a part of the musical revue *Sing Out, Second City* at Second City Theatre Chicago. Breanna would like to thank both her Mom and Dad as well Gray Talent Group for all of their support and ultimately, making all of this possible!



NATHAN KARNIK[‡] is making his Porchlight debut. Regional Credits: "Anthony" in *Sweeney Todd* (Hangar Theatre-Ithaca). Chicago Credits: "Neville Landless" in *Drood* (Blank Theatre Company). Northwestern Credits: "Charlemagne" in *Pippin* (Dolphin Show), "Lancelot" in *Spamalot*, "Dr. Madden" in *Next to Normal*. Nathan is a proud graduate of Northwestern University. Represented by LG Talent Management. IG @Naykay13 | nathankarnik.com



AUSTIN NELSON JR.[‡] is so excited to be joining the Porchlight family with this show! Previous regional credits include: *Bachelor: The Unauthorized Parody Musical* (Apollo Theater Chicago); *Sister Act* (Mercury Theater Chicago); *My Way: A Musical Tribute*

to Frank Sinatra, *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story*, *A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum* (Metropolis Performing Arts Centre); *Elf the Musical*, *Snowy Day and Other Stories* (First Stage Theatre); *Seussical the Musical* (Marriott Theatre); *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (Brightside Theatre). Austin is proudly represented by Shirley

BIOS (CONT.)

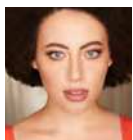
Hamilton Talent. Much love to his family and friends for their undying support. Instagram: @austinnelsonjr



OLIVER SCHILLING[†] appeared in Porchlight's *Chicago Sings Rock & Roll Broadway*. Chicago: "Pepper" in *Mamma Mia!* (Music Theater Works). Columbia College Chicago: "Victor" in *Tales of Berlin: A Devised Work* and "Thalia" in *Xanadu*. Oliver will be graduating in 2022 with a BFA in Musical Theatre Performance. oliverschilling.net | @oliver.schilling00



DESTINY STROTHERS[‡] is making her Porchlight debut. Recent credits: *Countess Dracula* (Otherworld Theatre), *Swamp Baby* (MPAACT), *Dontrell, Who Kissed the Sea* (First Floor Theater). She has also been featured at Eclipse Theatre, Silk Road Rising, Pegasus Theatre and The Goodman Theatre. She holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from the University of Illinois at Chicago and is a graduate of the ACADEMY at Black Box Acting.



CIARRA STROUD[‡] is thrilled to be joining Porchlight Music Theatre for this virtual production! Recently graduated from the University of California, Irvine with a B.F.A in Music Theatre, some of Ciarra's past credits include "Mimi" in *RENT*, "Catherine" in *Pippin*, and "Armelia" in *Ain't Misbehavin'*. You can also find her onstage performing in Black Ensemble Theatre's current production of *Just Like Coming to Church*. In addition to her theatrical pursuits, she has also worked as an audio editor for several podcasts and radio news shows and has a passion for Greek and Roman drama and mythology. @ciarrastroud_



AUSTIN WINTER^{†/‡} is a Chicago based actor, educator and designer. Past performance credits include *Hedwig, A Christmas Carol, West Side Story*, (Milwaukee Rep) *Matilda, Romeo and Juliet* and *A Midnight Cry* (First Stage) *The Wiz, Godspell* (Hope Summer Repertory Theater) and *Chicago* (Broadway Theater Project). They have originated roles in *A Seat at the Table* (by Regina Taylor) *The Breath Of Stars* (by Caridad Svitch) and *Wherever You've Been* (by Caitlin DiGiacomo). Austin holds their MM in Music Theater Pedagogy from Carthage College and is a proud member of the teaching staff at The Voice Lab Chicago. He sends love and thanks to mom and dad. www.austinwinter.com @austwintermint

ADRIAN ABEL AZEVEDO[†] (Director), originally from Southern California, is a director, producer and teaching artist. He is an alumni of Columbia College Chicago and has directed, produced and taught for Chicagoland theatre companies including Goodman

Theatre, Porchlight Music Theatre, Steppenwolf Theatre, Steep Theatre, Northlight Theatre, Kokandy Productions, Teatro Vista and Music Theatre Works.

LINDA MADONIA[‡] (Music Director, Piano) has been music directing in the Chicago area for more than 25 years including Porchlight's recent *New Faces Sing Broadway 1979* and *Chicago Sings Rock & Roll Broadway* and for the 2019 critically-acclaimed production of *A Chorus Line*. Other credits include *Holiday Inn* at Drury Lane Oakbrook, *Pirates of Penzance* and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* for Music Theater Works and *Forbidden Broadway: SVU* at The Royal George Theater. Other credits include *Grand Hotel* and *Nunsensations* at Drury Lane Water Tower Place and *Gigi, She Loves Me* and *Me and My Girl* at Theater at the Center. Madonia has also been the music director for Chicago's Equity and non-union Joseph Jefferson Awards numerous times. She owns American Eagle Productions, an educational theatre that has presented 300 shows and workshops a year in Chicago area schools for almost 30 years.

AUSTIN CROWLEY[†] (Videographer) is a filmmaker and photographer hailing from Chicago.. He began his career in fine art school, where he realized he loved the camera and shifted over to filmmaking. At this point, Austin has shot a number of projects and award winning films, including *Shaded Smiles*, winner of a best indie film award. Austin's focus is on visuals for music and fashion films.

ALEX GROESCH[†] (Assistant Videographer) after graduating from the University of Notre Dame with degrees in Finance and Chinese, founded Butterfly Productions LLC, a video production company focused on promoting businesses, nonprofits and individuals with powerful missions. Aside from video production, Alex enjoys playing cello in the Symphony of Oak Park and River Forest and composing classical music. His work has been performed by orchestras, chamber groups and soloists.

OREL CHOLLETTE[†] (Video Editor) is a Chicago-based director, photographer and cinematographer providing brands big and small with exciting visuals that consistently take them to the next level.

MATTHEW R. CHASE[†] (Audio Engineer) is a Chicago-based theatrical Production Manager and Sound Designer. Recent credits include: sound design of *Who's Holiday* (Theater Wit) *Anyone Can Whistle*, *Cooking with Bubbie & Veronica's Room* (Skokie Theatre), *Gigi's Party* (Yellow Rose Theatre), *9 to 5* and *Mamma Mia!* (Golden Ticket Productions); assistant sound designer for *Sophisticated Ladies*, *Sunset Boulevard*, *A Chorus Line* and *A Gentleman's Guide to Love and Murder* (Porchlight Music Theatre) *Hedwig and the Angry Inch* (Theo Ubique), *The Ballad of Lefty & Crabbe* (Underscore

BIOS (CONT.)

Theatre Company). Matthew is the resident production manager at Theater Wit (*Who's Holiday, Mr. Burns* a post-electric play).

MARK BROWN[†] (*Lighting Technician*) is an electrician based in the Chicago area. He was the lighting supervisor on TimeLine Theatre Company's *Relentless*. He is also the lighting supervisor on TimeLine's upcoming show *The Chinese Lady* and Theater Wit's upcoming production of *Hurricane Diane*.

ALEX RHYAN[†] (*Production and Operations Director*) is originally from the northwest suburbs of Chicago and moved to the city in 2011 to attend college. In 2015, Alex received a B.A. in Theater with a concentration in Stage Management from Columbia College Chicago. After graduating, he freelanced as a Technical Director and Production Manager for more than a dozen productions at Chicago theaters including American Theater Company, About Face Theater, Steep Theater, Porchlight Music Theatre, and more. Prior to becoming the Production and Operations Director at Porchlight in 2019, Alex worked alongside the leadership team as the Production Manager at Windy City Playhouse where he helped bring to life 11 productions including the Playhouse's most acclaimed immersive production, *Southern Gothic*, which ran for more than 500 performances.

FRANKIE LEO BENNETT[†] (*Producing Artistic Associate*) has been a Chicago-based Music Theatre creator since 2015, after graduating from Northwestern University with a B.S. in Theatre (Music Theatre Certificate). Regional Acting Credits: Porchlight Music Theatre, Theo Ubique Cabaret Theatre, Kokandy Productions, Hell in a Handbag Productions. He has also served as teaching artist for The School at Porchlight. Bennett actively works in new music theatre development with Chicago Dramatists and Underscore Theatre and composed his first original work *Resident Services: A Crossed-up Animal Musical*. Bennett worked in administration with Broadway in Chicago for five years and served as Workshop Coordinator, building original curriculum for music theatre courses. He serves as Chair of the Porchlight Music Theatre EDI Advisory Committee, furthering the advancement of underrepresented voices within the theatre community.

MICHAEL WEBER[†] (*Artistic Director*) Michael previously served as artistic director for the inaugural season of Drury Lane Theatre Water Tower Place (now The Broadway Playhouse) and at Theatre at the Center (1998-2004). His productions of *Sunset Boulevard*, *Sweeney Todd*, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, *Pal Joey*, *Assassins* and

Side Show at Porchlight Music Theatre, *Grand Hotel* at Drury Lane Theatre Water Tower Place and *She Loves Me* at Theatre at the Center were each nominated for the Joseph Jefferson Award for Best Production-Musical. Directing credits include *Living the History-125 Years of The Auditorium Theatre* starring Patti LuPone and John Mahoney, *Fifth of July* and *Talley's Folly* at the Oak Park Festival Theatre, *The Petrified Forest* at Theatre at the Center, *Beauty and the Beast* at Marriott Theatre, *Over the River and Through the Woods* at The Mercury Theater, *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum* at Pheasant Run Theatre, and *Cirque du Symphony* at Sears Center Arena. The recipient of two Joseph Jefferson Awards, he wrote and directed nine Joseph Jefferson Awards ceremonies (2009-2018). Weber's regional acting credits include *Annie Get Your Gun* and *Gypsy* (both starring Patti LuPone) at Ravinia, Disney's *My Son Pinocchio* at First Stage Milwaukee, *Around the World in 80 Days* at Cleveland Playhouse, *The Winter's Tale* and *Henry V* at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, *It Had To Be You* (starring Cindy Williams and Eddie Mekka) at Little Theatre on the Square, *Angel Street* at First Folio Shakespeare, and *The Gifts of the Magi* at Indiana Repertory. Weber is proud to serve as a pledge host on WTTW, Channel 11, and is author of the play, *War of the Well(s)*.

JEANNIE LUKOW[†] (*Executive Director*) took the helm as Porchlight's first Executive Director in September 2014. She is a founding member of Porchlight's board of directors, and served as president for six of her many years on the board. An integral member of the company since its inception, Jeannie held the positions of marketing director, grant writer and managing director in the early all-volunteer-staff years. She has helped lead Porchlight from this unique perspective of both the staff and board sides, continuing to drive organizational growth, brand expansion and fiscal sustainability. Prior to joining the staff at Porchlight, Jeannie co-founded Bespoke Cuisine, one of Chicago's leading boutique catering and cooking party venues, which she co-owned for 12 years before selling in 2014. Prior to Bespoke, Jeannie built a 15-year career in marketing communications, much of it spent in association management. Her most recent position in that field was as Managing Director of Marketing Communications for the National Association of Realtors, with over 1 million members. Jeannie holds a Certified Nonprofit Accounting Professional designation through FMA. She is a native Michigander and graduate of Michigan State University, and an extensive world traveler, avid foodie and dog lover.

† (he/him/his); ‡ (she/her/hers); † (they, them, theirs); ‡ (any, with respect); * (Actors' Equity Assoc.);

** (Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union);

*** (Denotes members of the United Scenic Artists IATSE, the Union and Professional Association of Designers, Artists, and Craftspeople)

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† (he/him/his); ‡ (she/her/hers); † (they, them, theirs); † (any, with respect); * (Actors' Equity Assoc.)

** (Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, a national theatrical labor union.)

*** (Denotes members of the United Scenic Artists IATSE, the Union and Professional Association of Designers, Artists, and Craftspeople)

EDUCATION

Camps & Classes for Youth, Professionals, Enthusiasts & Schools!

Porchlight's Exciting Education Programming for Young Actors and Enthusiasts of All Ages!



SUMMER CAMP 2022



Mini MUSICALS

Ages 4 - 6

June 27 - July 1, 2022

Budding actors join us for a week of songs, games, making new friends, and having a blast on stage! Our youngest campers stretch their creative muscles and create an original musical story to share with family and friends on the last day of camp!

Broadway BASICS

Ages 7 - 10 years

July 11 - July 22, 2022

Music, drama, dance, writing, teamwork, communication and problem-solving; Actors will be introduced to these tools while playing games and making new friends. At the end of the session, family and friends are invited to join us for a final performance to celebrate all your young actors' work!

Musical THEATRE BOOTCAMP

Ages 11 - 13 years

July 25 - August 5, 2022

Intermediate actors build on the basics to learn about building an ensemble, singing in harmony and creating more challenging characters. Actors will write their own story paired with musical theatre classics and new hits to share with family and friends at the end of the term!

Advanced MUSIC THEATRE PERFORMANCE

Ages 14 - 17 years

August 1 - August 19, 2022

Tackle challenging choreography, music and scene work to create a final showcase that highlights both ensemble and individual work. Actors set their individual goals and learn how a musical is constructed from first rehearsal to final performance.

All summer camps meet at the Holtschneider Performance Center at the DePaul School of Music, 2330 N. Halsted St. in Lincoln Park.

Go to porchlightmusictheatre.org/events/summercamp/ for more information! Scholarships, financial aid, and payment plans are available.

Adult ENTHUSIAST

Head Back to School with Top of Their Class: from *Bye Bye Birdie* to *The Prom*
with Cheri Coons & Frankie Leo Bennett
April 24 - May 22 (No class May 8)
Sundays, 1 - 3 PM via Zoom
<https://porchlightmusictheatre.org/enthusiast/>

This fun, interactive 4-week class celebrates 8 great musicals set in high school. Fueled by the boundless energy of youth, these shows embrace both the joys and challenges of coming of age. Each week we'll explore two contrasting musicals, one blockbuster from the past and one present-day hit, and discover how they're in dialogue with one another.

Class will meet via Zoom for the first three weeks and end with an in person discussion following a performance of *Spring Awakening* on Sunday, May 22nd at 2pm along with a backstage tour at the Ruth Page Center for the Arts.

For more information or to register for any of these programs go to PorchlightMusicTheatre.org/school or reach out to Education Director **Rebecca Singer** at rebecca@porchlightmusictheatre.org

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SONDHEIM @ 90 ROUNDTABLE WITH HOST ARTISTIC DIRECTOR MICHAEL WEBER

FREE! Porchlight's YouTube channel and a variety of podcast forums.

With 18 episodes, Sondheim @ 90 celebrates **Stephen Sondheim's** 90th birthday year and his storied career. Each episode focuses on one of Sondheim's musicals with a lively discussion hosted by Artistic Director **Michael Weber** and featuring special guests from the worlds of Chicago's theater scene, Broadway and national music theatre presenters.



MOVIE MUSICAL MONDAY

FREE! Every Other Monday at 7 p.m.

This spring, Porchlight added another free virtual offering to its LIVE Movie Musical Monday zoom events, it's Movie Musical Monday: The Podcast! Join Porchlight in the "Zoom where it happens," live, or enjoy previous conversations on all major platforms.

RSVP to the live events on PorchlightMusicTheatre.org.

April 11 - Movie Musical Monday: The Podcast: **Mamma Mia**

April 25 - LIVE - **Seven Brides for Seven Brothers**

May 9 - Movie Musical Monday: The Podcast: **The Sound of Music**

June 11 - Movie Musical Monday: The Podcast: **Annie Get Your Gun**

June 27 - LIVE - **In The Heights**

July 11 - Movie Musical Monday: The Podcast: **Gypsy**

July 25 - LIVE - **West Side Story**

August 29 - LIVE - **An American in Paris**



WPMT: CLASSIC MUSICALS FROM THE GOLDEN AGE OF RADIO

FREE! Every Tuesday at 1 p.m. CT

Debuting this past summer and continuing into fall is Porchlight's WPMT PRESENTS: Classic Musicals from the Golden Age of Radio. Artistic Director Weber introduces musicals from the early to mid 20th century as they were heard on network radio programs such as **The Lux Radio Theatre** and **The Theatre Guild on the Air**, often featuring members of the original Broadway casts. A bonus feature to some of the series' episodes are special guests joining Weber in conversation about that day's broadcast. Past guests include **Mitchell J. Fain** (discussing **Strike Up the Band**), **Christie Chiles Twillie** (discussing **Carmen Jones**), **Stephen Cole** (discussing **Girl Crazy**) and **Tom Mula** (discussing **Phantom of the Opera**).

OUR CONTRIBUTORS

Porchlight Music Theatre gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, corporations and foundations who generously gave gifts of \$100 or more to The Annual Fund, The Rachel Rockwell Memorial Fund for Fierce Women Behind the Table, The George K. Sargent III Cash Reserve Fund and The Christopher N. Tisone Memorial Stage Management Fund during the period: April 1, 2021 through April 1, 2022. For a full list of all contributions for FY21, please consult our website at PorchlightMusicTheatre.org/Our-Contributors.

For information about the multiple ways of supporting Porchlight or to update any information on the following donor list, please contact **Kellie Buffington** at kellie@porchlightmusictheatre.org.

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The Ruth Page Center for the Arts

The Ruth Page
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Kicks Off Ravinia's
Summer Season with
Two World Premiere
Performances!



"Dreaming with Ruth Page: The Expanding Universe," choreographed by Nejla Yarkin. Costume Designs by Karin Schnabl. Photo by Michelle Reid.

The Ruth Page Center's 50th Anniversary continues with two very special programs:

Ruth Page Civic Ballet

Friday, May 20 at 7:30 p.m.

This evening features the Ruth Page Civic Ballet performing contemporary and neoclassical works by renowned international choreographers, including a dance commissioned from Nejla Yarkin that reimagines "Expanding Universe," Ruth Page's groundbreaking 1932 collaboration with artist Isamu Noguchi.

Ruth Page Civic Ballet & Special Guests

Saturday, May 21 at 7:30 p.m.

This evening is a stunning showcase of dance and theater by leading Chicago artists, all of whom are in residence at The Ruth Page Center. Sharing the stage with the Ruth Page Civic Ballet in this mixed program are Giordano Dance Chicago, Hedwig Dances, DanceWorks Chicago, and Porchlight Music Theatre.

For tickets and more information go to RUTHPAGE.ORG

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