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Diana	
Gabe	Jaylen Baham
Natalie	Angie Chavez
Henry	Jared Machado
Dr. Madden	Ron Hastings
Natalie Understudy	Jessica James

PRODUCTION TEAM

Director	Matthew McCray
Music Director/Piano/Conductor	Stephen Hulsey
Scenic Designer	Joe Holbrook
Lighting Designer	Matt Schleicher
Costume Designer	Christina Perez
Sound Designer	Ryan Brodkin
Stage Manager/Booth Operator	Wade Williamson*
Dramaturg	Sophie Hall Cripe
Assistant Director	Miguel Cardenas*
FOH Mix	Hannah Jepsen
Load-In Crew	Andrea Alday, Trevor Calyton, Gary DeVault,
	Hannah Jepsen, Sam Moss, Chris Powers,
	Marc Sanford*, Chase Thayer, and Jennie White
Master Electrician	Gary DeVault
Scenic Painters	Kyle Baumbusch, Danthi Tran
Musicians	Sho Fujieda, Drums/Percussion
	Jacob Gonzalez, Guitars
	Jimmy Beall, Bass

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The Director is a Member of the STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS

Original Broadway Production Produced by David Stone,

James L. Nederlander, Barbara Whitman, Patrick Catullo and Second Stage Theatre,

New York Premiere Produced by Second Stage Theatre, New York. February 2008

Carole Rothman, Artistic Director Ellen Richard, Executive Director

'Next to Normal' was subsequently produced by Arena Stage in November 2008.

Developed at Village Theatre, Issaguah, WA (Robb Hunt, Executive Producer, Steve Tomkins, Artistic Director).

An earlier version was presented in the 2005 New York Musical Theatre Festival.

Support for the development of "Next to Normal" was provided by the Jonathan Larson Foundation.

"Next to Normal" is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI. www.MTIshows.com

Any video and/or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

* Chance Theater Resident Artist



The cast of Next to Normal -- Jaylen Baham, Ron Hastings, Jocelyn A. Brown, Tym Brown, Angie Chavez, and Jared Machado -- at their first read/sing-thru of the show. Photo by Casey Long.

THOUGHTS ON NEXT TO NORMAL

It's so wonderful to return to Chance Theater with Next to Normal. This is the third time I've directed a play that explores the subject of mental illness. While researching for these productions I benefitted from friends and colleagues who were willing to share their personal experiences rebuilding their mental health. It helped me appreciate, once again, my responsibility as a director when engaging with complex subject matter.

Next to Normal is as stunning as I remember when I saw the original production over

a decade ago. The incredible lyrics and music, the moving book, the beautiful story... some musicals have songs that stick in your head and get your toes tapping. This show does all of that and more.

Thank you for being here and helping us "bring some light."

-- Matthew McCray, director

CAST



JAYLEN BAHAM (GABE) is thrilled to be making his Chance Theater debut with one of his favorite musicals! Some of his past credits include Benny (In the Heights), Seymour (Little Shop of Horrors), Jack (Into the Woods) and Sweaty Eddie (Sister Act). He would like to thank his friends and family for their constant and unwavering love and support, and he would like to thank the Chance

creative team for giving him this wonderful opportunity. Enjoy the show!



Chance Theater's Associate Artistic Director since 2011 and a Chance Resident Artist since 2001. Some of her favorite acting credits include portraying the Witch in *Into The Woods (Back Stage West* Critic's Pick), Cathy in *The Last 5 Years (Back Stage West* Garland Award Honorable Mention for Best Actor), Leigh Fondakowski in *The Laramie*

Project & Ten Years Later (Ovation Recommended), Ann in Goodnight Children Everywhere (OC Weekly Award for Best Female Lead Performance), and Jo in Little Women. Directing highlights include: Lizzie, The Musical (Ovation Award Winner: Best Musical – Intimate Theatre, Ovation nomination for Best Direction of a Musical, OC Weekly Best of OC 2019 – Best Musical Production), Good People (Ovation Recommended), in a word (Best in OC by The Orange Curtain Review), The Big Meal, Never In My Lifetime (Back Stage Critic's Pick), The Cherry Orchard (OC Weekly nomination for Best Direction), Big Love, and In The Next Room (or the vibrator play). Jocelyn teaches at Laguna Hills High School; she was an honoree for the California League of High Schools "Teacher of the Year" in 2012 for Orange County. M.Ed: Vanguard University, B.A. & B.S.: University of California San Diego.

** Sponsored by Rachelle Menaker & Eddie Schuller



TYM BROWN (DAN), an AMDA grad, hails from Milwaukee, Wisconsin and makes his Chance Theater debut. He has toured professionally as both an actor and singer. Some of his credits include Benny in *Rent*, Walter Lee Younger in *A Raisin In The Sun*, Curtis in *Sister Act*, Aistulf in *Pope Joan*, Dan in *Return*, Vox Lumiere's national tours of *Phantom* and *Metropolis*, opening act for Smokey

Robinson, and many shows with 3DT, DOMA, MTW and other companies. Tym most recently arranged shows at Disneyland's Festival of Holidays and Knott's Merry Farm. He is also the co-writer of the original musical, *Reunion of the Bells*. "I'm totally fine with not being normal. It's more fun on the other side."



ANGIE CHAVEZ (NATALIE) is ecstatic to make her debut at Chance Theater as Natalie Goodman! Next to Normal will be Angie's first live theater production since the pandemic and she couldn't be more thrilled to share the stage with such an amazing group of individuals! Her previous theater credits include Caitlyn in Edges: A Song Cycle, Emma in Emma: A Pop Musical, and Nina Rosario

from *In The Heights*. Angie also had the amazing opportunity to train in New York City with Taylor Louderman, Leslie Kritzer and others with Broadway Workshop over the summer! Lastly she would love to thank her family for their endless support and a huge shoutout to Jef McClure and Kyle Puccia for always keeping her voice in shape!



RON HASTINGS (DR. MADDEN) is delighted to be back at the Chance – and back on stage, period! He last appeared here as Bruce in *Fun Home*, earning an L.A. Stage Alliance Ovation Award nomination for 'Best Actor' (*Fun Home* won 'Best Musical'). Previously, Ron appeared here as Father in *Ragtime* and Ian in *The Other Place* (also directed by Matt McCray). He just appeared as Mr. Winslow

in A Surprise for Santa at the Candlelight Pavilion. Other recent credits include Frollo in The Hunchback of Notre Dame, Callahan in Legally Blonde, Herod in Jesus Christ Superstar, Toddy in Victor/Victoria, Harry in Company, and the title role in Willy Wonka. "The price of love is loss. But still we pay. We love anyway."



JARED MACHADO (HENRY) After two years in Arizona, playing roles in Shakespeare and Chekov, Jared is excited to be back home in Southern California and making his Chance Theater debut. His previous credits include The Prince of Morocco in *The Merchant of Venice*, Trofímov in *The Cherry Orchard*, Georg in *Spring Awakening*, and Ernie in *Sister Act*. Jared started his training at the Orange

County School of the Arts (Class of '17), training under professionals such as Krysta Rodriguez, Susan Egan, Ali Stroker, and more! When he's not acting, Jared spends his time composing cinematic themes and creating new worlds as a Dungeon Master in his D&D group.



JESSICA JAMES (NATALIE UNDERSTUDY) feels so lucky to be joining the stellar cast of *Next to Normal* for her debut at the Chance! Hailing from Eden, Utah, Jess is attending Chapman University as a Sophomore and pursuing a BFA in Theatre Performance. Previous credits include the 2017 Jimmy Awards, Alice Murphy in *Bright Star*, Ariel in *The Little Mermaid*, Velma Kelly in *Chicago*,

and Martha Bessell in *Spring Awakening*. She'd like to thank her best friend, her boyfriend, and her parents for their love and support.



THE WRITERS

TOM KITT (Music) received the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama as well as two Tony Awards for Best Score and Best Orchestrations for Next to Normal. Next to Normal also received the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Score. He is also the composer of If/Then (Tony Nom., Outer Critics Nom.); High Fidelity (Broadway); Bring it On, The Musical (co-composer with Lin-Manuel Miranda, Broadway); Superhero (2nd Stage); Disney's Freaky Friday (Stage Production and Original Disney Channel Movie Musical); Dave (Arena Stage); The Winter's Tale, All's Well That Ends Well, and Cymbeline (The Public's NYSF); From Up Here and The Madrid (MTC); Orphans (Broadway) The Retributionists (Playwrights Horizons) and As You Like It (Toho Co., Japan).

BRIAN YORKEY (Book & Lyrics) received the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, as well as the 2009 Tony Award for Best Score, for Next to Normal. Brian was the Executive Producer and Showrunner of 13 Reasons Why for Netflix, Paramount Television and Anonymous Content.Brian was also nominated for the Tony for Best Musical and Best Book of a Musical for Next to Normal, and his work on the show earned him the Outer Critics Circle Award for Best Score. He partnered again with the Next to Normal team on If/Then (Tony nominee for Best Score) starring Idina Menzel. Brian co-wrote the libretto for *The Last Ship* (Outer Critic's Nomination, with John Logan), with a score by Sting. His musical adaptation of Freaky Friday for Disney Theatricals enjoyed a National Tour before being adapted into a Disney Channel Original Movie.

DRAMATURGICAL NOTE

Next to Normal began in 1998 as a ten-minute piece called Feeling Electric. Recent college graduates Brian Yorkey and Tom Kitt wrote it after being inspired by a segment about electroconvulsive therapy they saw on Dateline NBC.

Next to Normal was first produced Off-Broadway at the Second Stage Theatre in 2008. Although it won the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding New Score and received Drama Desk Award nominations, the critics found the show internally confused. They said, "What is most glaringly out of sync is an impulse to jazz up the story with comic songs and glitzy production numbers."

The team decided to make major changes in both the book and score. The re-written version was given a regional theatre production at Arena Stage in November 2008 under the direction of Michael Greif and received rave reviews, with critics noting that

"comic songs and glitzy production numbers" had been replaced by songs that complemented the emotional content.

Next to Normal opened on Broadway at the Booth Theatre on April 15, 2009. It was nominated for eleven Tony Awards and won three. It also won the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama. The Pulitzer Board called the show "a powerful rock musical that grapples with mental illness in a suburban family and expands the scope of subject matter for musicals."

As librettist and lyricist Brian Yorkey stated, "Exposing the stigma of mental illness is one of the reasons we wrote the show...why we pursued telling this story. We both feel that an awful lot of people try to live up to a standard of what they consider 'normal' and that actually can be as destructive as anything."

-- Sophie Hall Cripe, Dramaturg

PRODUCTION TEAM



with Chance Theater on productions such as Claudio Quest, A Chorus Line, Lysistrata Jones, Maple & Vine, Triassic Parq, The Laramie Project, She Loves Me, In The Heights, Loch Ness: A New Musical, After The Revolution and Dogfight. Ryan has also worked extensively in the L.A. area as a sound designer, including the world premiere

productions of *Alceste, Eat The Runt*, and *Holy Ghost*. Outside of the theater, Ryan is a part-time web developer and full-time coffee addict.



MA in Speech and Theater from the University of Illinois and she taught theater at the high school level. She has also been an actor/dancer and director/choreographer. She served as Board President of the Laguna Playhouse and South Coast Repertory. She is a Member of the National Council of the American Theater and the Literary Managers

and Dramaturges of America. This is Sophie's 14th play to dramaturg for the Chance. She thanks her family for their ongoing support and dedicates her work to the memory of the first actor she saw on the Chance stage... Karen Webster!



JOE HOLBROOK (SCENIC DESIGNER) has designed scenery at the Chance for *The Vandal, The Big Meal, Maple & Vine, Triassic Parq: The Musical* and *Rooms: A Rock Romance* (Ovation Award nomination) as well as projections for *The Laramie Project* and *The Laramie Project: 10 Years Later.* As a design consultant, Joe has served as an Art Director, Draftsman, and Associate

Designer for several organizations including Walt Disney Imagineering, Disney Parks Live Entertainment, and The LA Philharmonic. Joe also teaches technical theater workshops at The Disneyland Resort in Anaheim as part of the Disney Performing Arts program. A Kennedy Center National Award Winner in Set Design, Joe continues to design scenery and projections for several theatres throughout the Orange County and LA areas where he has received multiple awards and nominations. Joe received his Master in Fine Arts in Theatrical Design & Production from Cal State Fullerton and is currently a full-time faculty member in the Visual and Performing Arts Department at Citrus College.



STEPHEN HULSEY (MUSIC DIRECTOR) Thrilled to be making his Chance debut, Stephen has served as musical director/conductor/director throughout Northern/ Southern California. Past productions include, Sweeney Todd, A Little Night Music, Into The Woods, Chess, Ragtime, Titanic, Les Miserables, Assassins, The Secret Garden, Little Shop of Horrors, Avenue Q, The Toxic

Avenger, Sister Act!, Hedwig & the Angry Inch, Falsettos, Evil Dead: The Musical, and A New Brain, to name a few. Also a performer, favorite roles include Hinckley & Czolgosz (Assassins), Carl Magnus (A Little Night Music), Gordon (A New Brain), Sparky & Smudge (Forever Plaid), Enjolras (Les Miserables), Floyd (Floyd Collins), Joseph (Joseph & the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat), Riff Raff (Rocky Horror Show), and Rutledge (1776).



matthew mccray (DIRECTOR) has directed productions, workshops and concerts at Center Theatre Group, StudioSCR at South Coast Repertory, the LA Philharmonic @ Disney Concert Hall, Deaf West Theatre, Chance Theater, Lewis Family Playhouse, Theatre @ Boston Court, Muse/ique, REDCAT, Son of Semele, Circle X, Moving Arts, Rogue Machine, among others. Awards for

directing include LA Drama Critics Circle and the Sage Awards, as well as nominations from the Ovation Awards and *LA Weekly* Theatre Awards. Founding Artistic Director of Son of Semele Ensemble (19 seasons and going). As a performer, credits include REDCAT, Disney, REPRISE!, Overtone Industries, Theatre @ Boston Court, Musical Theatre West, Shakespeare Orange County, as well as on the TV shows *Parenthood, New Girl, Will & Grace, Boston Legal*, and the feature *The Commission* (w/ Martin Sheen). President, Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles. BFA, Chapman University. Member: SDC, AEA & SAG/AFTRA. @matthewmccray WEB: http://www.matthewmccray.com



CHRISTINA PEREZ (COSTUME DESIGNER) is very excited to be a part of this fun show! Since graduating from San Diego State University, she has worked for Long Beach Opera, The Western Stage in Salinas, PCPA Theaterfest in Santa Maria, and Orange Coast College in Costa Mesa. In addition to designing for various theatres, she is currently working towards her Masters of Fine Arts degree at

California State University Fullerton. Some of Christina's design work includes Real Women Have Curves, Little Shop of Horrors, Bugsy Malone Jr., and One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest at The Western Stage, Legally Blonde and The Merry Widow at Cal State Fullerton, and In the Heights at the Chance. Christina would like to give a BIG thank you to her amazing family for all their love and support. Without it, she would not be able to follow her bliss.



MATT SCHLEICHER (LIGHTING DESIGNER) is

excited to be designing again with Chance Theater.

Designs with TACFA's Broadway in the Park series include The Little Mermaid, Annie, Disney's Beauty & The Beast, and Kiss Me Kate. Designs at Chance Theater include Claudio Quest, Hairspray, and Triassic Parq (Ovation Award for Best Musical). Other designs include the World

Premiere of John Glore's *Night Fairy* at South Coast Repertory TYA Series, *Spring Awakening* at Chapman University's Waltmar Theater, *Altar Boyz* at the Celebration Theater, and *Follies, Urinetown* and *Jekyll & Hyde* at Cypress College. Matt has recently joined the faculty at Rio Hondo College in the Theatre Arts Department, where he is head of Technical Theatre and Design.



WADE WILLIAMSON (STAGE MANAGER) is a Chance Resident Artist. He has been active in the local Orange County theater scene for the past 30 years. He has stage managed the staged "singing" of *L.A. Vida* and the mainstage productions of *Seminar, Tribes, Violet*, and *Good People*. A graduate of Cal State Fullerton's acclaimed School of the Arts Department of Theatre & Dance, he has

served as an actor, stage manager, director, technician, designer, producer, and even artistic director. He has directed plays at Modjeska Playhouse, STAGEStheatre, and Vanguard Theater Ensemble.

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11

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We've been attending plays since one of our first dates more than 60 years ago. We not only like attending plays, we appreciate the entire process of creating a play—the how and why of a playwright, a director, an actor, and all the others involved in turning an idea into a reality on stage. The Chance gives us the opportunity as Executive Producers to go behind the curtain to learn so much about the creative process. Being an Executive Producer is both inspiring and a lot of fun. We have been Executive Producers for multiple other shows here. We love living on the bay in Newport. Linda grew up in Long Beach, Tod on Balboa Island. We met at Long Beach State, moved to Minneapolis for 4 winters, then to Princeton, NJ for 30 years before moving back to Newport 26 years ago. Linda is a painter. We both are tennis players, sailors and actively support a variety of non-profit organizations.

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SEASON PRODUCERS

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Bette is a community, civic and arts leader, recently featured in the Orange County Business Journal's Giving Guide as one of the Top Philanthropists in Orange County. Bette first happened upon Chance Theater a few years ago and has been at the forefront of its growth and expansion ever since, and now is serving on its board. In January of 2014, Chance Theater became part of the Bette Aitken theater arts Center. Wylie, better known as Bette's husband, is a nationally recognized civil trial lawyer and founding partner of the firm Aitken Aitken Cohn in Santa Ana, representing individuals and companies harmed by the bad conduct of others. An avid supporter of the arts, he was a past chairman of the State of California's Arts Council and serves on various theater and film boards and chair emeritus of Chapman University's Board of Trustees. By supporting the 2021 Season, Anaheim residents Wylie and Bette, joined by their daughter Ashleigh Aitken, are excited to contribute to the growing impact Chance Theater makes in the community at large both in Anaheim and all over Southern California and beyond.

ASSOCIATE SEASON PRODUCERS
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The following friends were instrumental in us moving into our "Bold New Home" at the Bette Aitken *theater arts* Center. We wouldn't be here without them!

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16 ❖ Next to Normal 2022 Season ❖ 17



Next to Normal Associate Producers Freddie Greenfield & Susan Bowman, star Jocelyn A. Brown, and Executive Producers Linda & Tod White. Photo by Casey Long.

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We're so grateful to these Circle Members who have committed to supporting Chance Theater for generations to come by making a Deferrred Gift to a special endowment fund. The interest generated will directly support artists, students, and our community.

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

We recognize that Chance Theater sits on the traditional lands of the Tongva, Kizh, and Acjachemen people. Although for over 200 years Native Nations have been forcibly removed from this territory, we must acknowledge that this land continues to be a site of gathering and healing for more than 30 Tribal Nations and remains home to over 300,000 tribal members in the state of California.

Here are some websites for more information:

- Native-land.ca/
- nativegov.org/a-guide-to-indigenous-land-acknowledgment

CHANCE THEATER @ Bette Aitken theater arts Center

MISSION

Our mission is to contribute to a more connected, compassionate, and creative community.

Chance Theater is dedicated to the creation of exciting theatrical experiences, taking artistic risks, and collaborating with gifted and diverse artists on passionate and provocative plays and musicals.

We accomplish our mission by:

- · producing powerful, socially-conscious, provocative, intimate theater experiences
- generating participation and dialogue between our diverse communities

Named official "Resident Theater of Anaheim" by Mayor and City Council

- nurturing and supporting local artists
- inspiring and empowering creative young minds
- promoting anti-racist and anti-oppression practices to ensure equity, diversity, and inclusion

RECENT HONORS / AWARDS

Recipient of American Theatre Wing's 2016 National Theatre Company Grant
Recipient of National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) Grant
Two "Outstanding Arts Organization" Awards from Arts Orange County
Winner of 2021 Ovation Award for Best Musical - Intimate Theatre (Fun Home)
Winner of 7 additional Ovation Awards, including 3 for Best Musical, and 40 nominations
Winner of 5 LADCC Awards, including Polly Warfield Award for Excellence for Outstanding Season
OC Weekly's Best of OC - Best Musical -- Lizzie (2019) and Parade (2017)
15 LADCC Award nominations

STAFF

Oanh Nguyen, Executive Artistic Director
Casey Long, Managing Director
Erika C. Miller, Development Director
Masako Tobaru, Technical Director
Bebe Herrera, Production Manager
Teodora Ramos-Fantone, Master Carpenter
Jeff Hellebrand, Box Office Associate
Jocelyn A. Brown, Associate Artistic Director
James Michael McHale, Literary Manager
Nicole Schlitt, Company Manager
Karen O'Hanlon, Education & Community Programs Director
Darryl B. Hovis, TYA Producing Associate
Marc Sanford, Associate House Manager

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Mary Kay Fyda-Mar, member emeritus

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Courtny Greenough, emeritus David McCormick, emeritus Myrna Niles, emeritus Karen Webster, emeritus

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Georgia Leigh Davis Ben Green

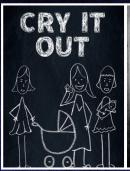
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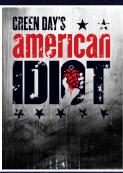
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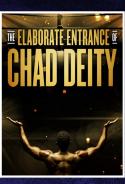
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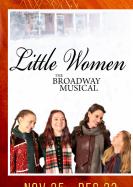
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CAMINO REAL PLAYHOUSE, San Juan Capistrano, www.caminorealplayhouse.org
BLITHE SPIRIT (February 4 - 20)

THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT (Feb. 25 - Mar. 13)

CHANCE THEATER, Anaheim, www.chancetheater.com NEXT TO NORMAL, (January 28 - February 27)

P3 THEATRE COMPANY, Hermosa Beach (2nd Story Theater), www.p3theatre.biz LOVE, VALOUR, COMPASSION (February 25 - March 6th)

SOUTH COAST REPERTORY, Santa Ana, www.scr.org WHAT I LEARNED IN PARIS (February 12 - March 12)

NO CURRENT SHOWS. VISIT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

ALCHEMY THEATRE COMPANY, www.alchemytheatre.com

AMERICAN COAST THEATER, Costa Mesa, www.americancoasttheater.org

THE ATTIC COMMUNITY THEATRE, www.ocact.com

BOLD THEATRE, www.boldtheatre.org

COSTA MESA PLAYHOUSE, www.costamesaplayhouse.co

CURTIS THEATRE, www.curtistheatre.com

LAGUNA PLAYHOUSE, www.lagunaplayhouse.com

LONG BEACH LANDMARK, www.lblandmark.org

OC-CENTRIC, www.oc-centric.com

MAVERICK THEATER, www.mavericktheater.com

PROJECT LA FEMME, www.projectlafemme.com

UNNAMED THEATRE COMPANY, www.unnamedtheater.com

STAGEStheatre, www.stagesoc.org

THE WAYWARD ARTIST, www.thewaywardartist.org



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