

CHANCE THEATER PROUDLY PRESENTS

The Orange County premiere of



EDGES

Music & Lyrics by

BENJ PASEK & JUSTIN PAUL

*The Award-winning Songwriters of "Dear Evan Hansen,"
"La La Land," and "The Greatest Showman"*

DIRECTED BY JAMES MICHAEL MCHALE
MUSIC DIRECTION BY ROBYN MANION

July 9 - August 8, 2021
on the Cripe Stage

CHANCE
THEATER @ Bette Aitken theater arts Center

(888) 455-4212
ChanceTheater.com
5522 E. LA PALMA AVE. ANAHEIM

SEASON
23

Chance Theater proudly presents the
Orange County Premiere of

Edges

Music & Lyrics by **Benj Pasek & Justin Paul**

Directed by **James Michael McHale***

Music Direction by **Robyn Manion***

Scenic Designer **Bradley Kaye**

Lighting Designer **Chris Henrriquez**

Costume Designer **Christina Perez**

Sound Designer **Hunter Moody**

Stage Manager **Nicole Schlitt***

CAST

Woman #1Sarah Pierce

Woman #2Elizabeth Curtin

Man #1.....Jewell Holloway

Man #2.....Tyler Marshall

Running Time: 1 hour, 20 minutes with no intermission

Executive Producer

ELIZABETH JONES

Season Producers

BETTE & WYLIE AITKEN

Associate Season Producers

THE FAMILY OF MARY KAY FYDA-MAR

World Premiere of EDGES

Produced by Capital Repertory Theatre, Albany, NY

Maggie Mancinelli-Cahill, Producing Artistic Director

Elizabeth Doran, Managing Director

EDGES

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

MUSICAL NUMBERS

“Become” -- *Man 1, Woman 1, Man 2, Woman 2*

“Girl With Dreams” -- *Woman 1*

“Monticello” -- *Man 1*

“Lying There” -- *Woman 2*

“I Hmm You” -- *Man 1, Man 2*

“Along the Way” -- *Man 2*

“Perfect” -- *Woman 1*

“Better” -- *Woman 2, Man 2*

“Coasting” -- *Woman 1, Woman 2, Man 1, Man 2*

“In Short” -- *Woman 1*

“Dispensable” -- *Man 2, Woman 1*

“I’ve Gotta Run” -- *Woman 2*

“I Once Knew” -- *Man 1*

“Part of a Painting” -- *Man 2*

“Ready to Be Loved” -- *Woman 1, Woman 2*

“Like Breathing” -- *Woman 1, Woman 2, Man 1, Man 2*

MUSICIANS

Keyboard Robyn Manion*

Bass Jimmy Beall

Drums Jorge Zuniga

Additional Production Credits

Scenic Painters Danthi Tran, Antonio Beach

Props Master Bebe Herrera*

Front of House Mix Samuel Moss

Load-In Crew Cody Baker, Gary DeVault, Bebe Herrera*, Sam Moss,
Chris Powers, Marc Sanford*, Masako Tobaru*

Booth Operator Nicole Schlitt*

Special Thanks

Frome Enterprises, The City of Anaheim, and, of course, Jim Book.

* Chance Theater Resident Artist

Building Bridges of Reconnection with *Edges*

by Jessica Johnson

In a span of a little over a decade, Benj Pasek and Justin Paul have had a meteoric rise to musical stardom that spans the mediums of theater, film, and television. Be it their renowned Tony Award-winning musical *Dear Evan Hansen*, their Oscar-nominated songs in the films *La La Land* or *The Greatest Showman*, or their lauded Off-Broadway hit *Dogfight*, Pasek and Paul have quickly become household names amongst the musical theater community. *Edges* takes us back to the beginnings of this already-iconic duo, their very first collaboration penned at the age of nineteen while attending the musical theater program at the University of Michigan in 2005. The musical garnered the pair the American Theatre Wing's 2007 Jonathan Larson Grant, and they continue to hold the record for the youngest recipients to have ever won the award.

The show is a song cycle; a series of musical performances connected in sequence by a common theme. Its flexibility in its structure, cast, and staging possibilities have proven ideal for college theatre departments, having been staged in over thirty U.S. universities. Its first professional production was at the Capital Repertory Theatre in Albany, New York. The show has since been performed over one hundred times and has been staged internationally, including Australia, Canada, England, France, the Philippines, and South Africa.

Though Pasek and Paul wrote *Edges* primarily as a response to their dissatisfaction with the roles they were assigned in musical theater productions while in college, this coming-of-age show encompasses a vast array of experiences that are profoundly relatable. With its witty and emotional songs, it remains representative of specific moments



Benj Pasek & Justin Paul singing "Edges"
Photo by MTI Shows

in adulthood and young adulthood where one finds themselves teetering on the "edge" between various aspects of identity – whether it be figuring out who we become, how we relate to others, how we express affection, or who we truly are at our core.

One of the foremost themes of the play is centered around human connection. This is visible in the pains of shifting sisterly bonds in the song "Caitlyn and Haley," as well as the struggles of knowing when it's appropriate to say the big "L" word in "I Hmm You." It is also present in the anthems dedicated to ditching small talk and embracing living the fullest life imaginable in the songs "Coasting" and "Ready to be Loved."

In reflecting how the past year forced all of us to find innovative new ways to connect with one another via new and existing means of social media despite widespread isolation, there is perhaps no better show to celebrate the strength of human connection in this show, which marks the Chance's return to live, in-person theater. I can't think of a better narrative to be sharing with our Orange County community right now as a part of a season of theater dedicated to welcoming us back into a space of shared experience. So here's to figuring out what we have yet to become, and here's to reconnection!

Artist Biographies



Sarah Pierce (Woman #1) is so excited to be returning to live performance, especially at the Chance! Sarah has appeared in numerous Chance productions over the years, most recently as Evelyn Nesbit in *Ragtime* and Penny in *Hairspray*. Sarah holds a BFA in Theatre Performance from Chapman University and her favorite university credits include Iago in *Othello* and Mrs. Walker in *The Who's Tommy*. Sarah would like to thank the wonderful creative team, fellow cast and crew members, and her Chance family for the opportunity to get back onstage and for their work on this production. Sarah would also like to thank her family, circle of friends, and Angel Jill for their constant love and support. sarahpierceonline.com



Elizabeth Curtin (Woman #2) is an actor and music director/pianist originally from Houston, TX. She is unspeakably thrilled to be back on stage for the first time since the theater industry closed down in 2020, and to be in her first Chance Theater production. Thank you for being here and supporting local theater and local artists. Special thanks to the incredible *Edges* production team, crew, and cast. CA Credits Include: *Newsies* (Katherine) at Candlelight Pavilion [StageSceneLA Breakout Performance – 2019], *Evita* (Eva, u/s) at P3 Theatre Co., *Paderewski in America* (Antonia) at The Geffen Playhouse, *The Tale of Turandot* (Music Director) at Imagine Theater. TX Credits include: *Children of Eden* (Eve), *Bonnie & Clyde* (Bonnie) [BWW Houston Best Actress – 2018], *The Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Rosa) [Houston Press Best Musical – 2018], *Next To Normal* (Natalie), and *The Wild Party* (Queenie).



Jewell Holloway (Man #1) Jewell Holloway is a graduate of AMDA, Los Angeles with a BFA in Performing Arts. This is his first show with Chance Theater and he could not be happier to be a part of this amazing community and production. He can be seen in many other works with the Arts and Learning Conservatory such as *The Wiz*, *Into the Woods*, *Hairspray*, *Shrek*, and *Annie*.



Tyler Marshall (Man #2) Tyler is so excited to be back at Chance Theater, and to be doing live theater again! Tyler has recently been seen onstage at Chance Theater in *James and the Giant Peach* (Ladahlord), *Disney's*

The Little Mermaid (Scuttle), and *Annie*. Tyler is an alumni of The Orange County High School of the Arts Musical Theater Conservatory, and the University of

California, Irvine's Claire Trevor School of the Arts. Other favorite credits include: Honors Performance Series – Carnegie Hall (2012 & 2017), *Little Women: The Musical* (Professor Bhaer), *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Leaf Coneycbear), *A Carol Channing Christmas*, *Spring Awakening* (Ernst), *Parade*, *Emma: The Musical* (Robert Martin), and *Oklahoma!* (Will Parker). Thank you to the Chance Theater family, the wonderful creative team and artists of Edges, Garrett, Nana, Mom, Dad, The Engle Family, and Skye! www.tylerbmarshall.com

Playwright, Director, and Designers



Benj Pasek & Justin Paul (Music & Lyrics) Oscar, Grammy, Tony, and Golden Globe Award-winning songwriters Benj Pasek & Justin Paul are best known for their work on *Dear Evan Hansen*, *La La Land*, and *The Greatest Showman*. Their songs "City of Stars" and "Audition (The Fools Who Dream)" from *La La Land* (with collaborator Justin Hurwitz) were both nominated for the Academy Award for Best Original Song, and "City of Stars" garnered both the Academy Award and Golden Globe for Best Original Song in a Motion Picture. Pasek & Paul won the 2018 Golden Globe for Best Original Song for "This Is Me" from *The Greatest Showman*, which was also nominated for the 2018 Academy Award for Best Original Song and most recently for the 2019 Grammy Award for Best Song Written for Visual Media. Upcoming projects include the live-action movie musicals *Aladdin* and *Snow White* at Disney, and an original animated musical at Fox Animation/Blue Sky Studios. On Broadway they composed the score for the six-time Tony Award-winning *Dear Evan Hansen*, their highly acclaimed original musical for which they received an Obie Award, a Drama Desk Award, and the Tony Award for Best Score. The *Dear Evan Hansen* Original Broadway Cast Recording won the 2018 Grammy Award for Best Musical Theater Album, and *The Greatest Showman* Original Motion Picture Soundtrack, which was recently nominated for the 2019 Grammy Award for Best Compilation Soundtrack for Visual Media, is certified Platinum in over a dozen countries, including Double Platinum in the US, Australia, and Taiwan, Triple Platinum in Ireland and Singapore, and Quadruple Platinum in the UK and Korea. Pasek & Paul had their Broadway debut in 2012 with their Tony-nominated score for the Broadway musical *A Christmas Story*, an adaptation of the classic holiday film, further adapted into a live telecast for FOX in 2017. Their new song written for the telecast, "In the Market for a Miracle," was nominated for the 2018 Emmy for Outstanding Original Music and Lyrics. In 2013, they contributed several songs to NBC's *Smash*, and received great acclaim for their musical *Dogfight* which was awarded Off-Broadway's highest honor, the



Elizabeth Jones (Executive Producer) is a retired attorney and mediator. As we open our doors again, she is looking forward to painting sets for our terrific productions. Liz is currently the Vice President of the Chance Board and is looking forward to the opening of the theater and returning to excellent productions in both of our stages. I look forward to welcoming back old friends to the theater and greeting and meeting new patrons as they return to the stages of the Chance.

Lucille Lortel Award for Best New Musical. Their earlier theater credits include the children's musical *James and the Giant Peach* and the popular song cycle *Edges*. In 2017, the songwriting duo composed a song for the CW's musical episode of *The Flash*, and also wrote "Get Back Up Again" for the DreamWorks animated film *Trolls*. Among their numerous honors, in 2007 they became the youngest winners ever of the famed Jonathan Larson Award for most promising musical theater songwriters. Both are graduates of the University of Michigan Musical Theatre Program and currently serve on the Board of Directors for the Dramatists Guild Foundation.



James Michael McHale (Director, Literary Manager) is honored to be a Resident Artist at Chance Theater where his previous directing credits include *A Charlie Brown Christmas*, *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*, and *A Wrinkle In Time*. James directed the premiere of *Comedy of ERRORS* at American Coast Theater Company, and has written and directed a number of storytelling concerts presented at Segerstrom Concert Hall with Pacific Symphony including, *Beethoven: Trials to Triumph*, *A Dream of Tchaikovsky*, and most recently *Pacific Symphony and the Curious Case of the Vanishing Violin*. As an actor, James' Regional Theater credits include *Once* at Lamb's Players' Theater (San Diego Theatre Critics Circle Awards for Best Musical and Best Ensemble), *Much Ado About Nothing* at The Old Globe, and *Middletown* at Chance Theater (Stage Scene LA Award for Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role), and he appeared in the World Premiere and National Tour of *APOLLO 11*. James also co-created the web series "Chance Encounters" for the Chance. See more at jamesmichaelmchale.com



Robyn Manion (Music Director) is a proud Resident Artist here at Chance Theater. Past productions with this company include *West Side Story*, *Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson*, *In The Heights*, *Hairspray*, *Fancy Nancy*, *Parade* (Ovation nominated), *Violet* (LA Times Critics' Pick), *Big Fish*, and *Lizzie* (Ovation winner, Best Musical-Intimate Theater), and most recently, *Ragtime*. She has also done musical direction at Chapman University (*Cabaret*, *The Who's Tommy*, and *9-5*), Saddleback College (*Spitfire Grill*), and on numerous shows with Orange County Children's Theater. In addition to musical direction, Robyn works full time as a private piano teacher, and is the proud owner of Heavenly Voices Productions, a vocal entertainment company consisting of trios of women who provide professional vocal entertainment for the winter holidays (The Christmas Belles Carolers), 1940's style and patriotic events (The Nightingals), and the Halloween season (The Boo Belles). Robyn considers herself incredibly blessed to be able to make music her livelihood, and is so very thankful to this theater company for giving her the opportunity to continuously create meaningful art. www.heavenlyvoicesproductions.com



Bradley Kaye (Scenic Designer) In addition to Chance shows, Brad also designed the marquee out front of the Bette Aitken theater arts Center, as well as the lobby. Stage productions elsewhere include shows throughout Southern California at the Hollywood Bowl, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, Laguna Playhouse, Reprise Theatre Company, and the Interact, Tiffany, Coronet, and Colony theaters. In New York City, his work includes *Forbidden Broadway* and *Forbidden Hollywood*. As the principal art director for Disney Parks and Resorts Anaheim- creative Entertainment, his parade and various entertainment designs are seen daily at Disney resorts throughout the world including California, Florida, Hong Kong and Paris, along with all four ships in the Disney Cruise Line. He has been the recipient of various acknowledgements including the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Los Angeles Drama Critics Circle.



Chris Henriquez (Lighting Designer) is a lighting designer and stage manager from Orange County, CA. As a 27-year-old at a crossroads in his life, getting the opportunity to be the lighting designer for *Edges* is a dream come true! Just before the pandemic, you may have seen Chris's work in the Chance TYA production of *A Wrinkle in Time*. Other selected credits include The Wayward Artist's productions of *Corpus Christi* and *Next to Normal*, and *Follies* and *The Holiday Gem* at The Gem Theater. Chris holds a BA in Theatrical

Production & Design from California State University Fullerton and will begin working towards his MFA in Lighting Design this fall at the University of Maryland College Park. Previously, he has worked as the resident lighting designer at The Wayward Artist, lighting design mentor at Woodbridge H.S., and a stage technician at the Disneyland Resort in Anaheim. Here's to the return of live theatre in Orange County!



Christina Perez (Costume Director) 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



Hunter Moody (Sound Designer) is honored and excited to return to live theatre at the Chance! Before the pandemic, you may have heard some of his work next door on the Fyda-Mar Stage for *A Wrinkle in Time*. A

born-and-raised Arkansan, he headed to the west coast in 2017 and has called it home ever since. Hunter has also designed sound for productions by California Repertory Company, New Swan Shakespeare Festival, and Jenny Wiley Theatre in eastern Kentucky. MFA Drama, Sound Design – University of California, Irvine. www.mhmoody.xyz



Nicole Schlitt (Stage Manager, Company Manager) is a proud Resident Artist of the Chance. She was last seen as the stage manager of *Ragtime*, *The Little Mermaid* at Peppertree park, *in a word*, *The Little*

Prince, *A Chorus Line*, *Stinky Cheese Man*, *The Dragon Play* and *Loch Ness: the Musical* at the Chance; assistant stage manager for *In the Heights*, *Laramie Project/Laramie Project: Ten Years Later*, *Reborn*, and the Ovation Award-winning show *Jerry Springer: The Opera* at the Chance. She has also worked as an Assistant Stage Manager at the Disneyland Resort making magic behind the scenes for the resort's live entertainment.



Bette & Wylie Aitken

(Season Producers) 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.

Chance Theater Staff



Oanh Nguyen (Executive Artistic Director) has been serving as Chance Theater's founding Artistic Director since 1999. Oanh is a recipient of TCG's New Generations Grant and the TCG Nathan Cummings Young

Leaders of Color Fellowship. He was awarded the Outstanding Artist Award by Arts Orange County, profiled in Orange County Register's "Most Influential People" series and *OC Weekly's* People Issue, inducted into Anaheim High School's Hall of Fame and was a commencement speaker for Chapman University College of Performing Arts. Oanh was Producing Associate at South Coast Repertory for four years. He also served on the advisory board of the Anaheim High School Performing Arts Conservatory, the board of Network of Ensemble Theatres, LA's 99-seat Transitional Committee, and OC Theatre Guild, as well as panels and committees for Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, National Endowment for the Arts and Theatre Communications Group. Oanh is a proud member of SDC and SAG-AFTRA. His directing credits include productions at Chance Theater, East West Players, the J. Paul Getty Museum, Segerstrom Center for the Arts, South Coast Repertory, Chapman University, Azusa Pacific



Family of Mary Kay Fyda-Mar

(Associate Season Producers)

Mary Kay fell in love with Chance Theater after she attended *It's A Wonderful Life, The Musical* many years

ago. She soon became a Chance Member and later joined the Board of Directors. After retiring from The Boeing Company, where she worked for 27 years, Mary Kay happily devoted as much time as she could to the theater. Mary Kay was born in Pennsylvania, raised in Ohio, and moved to Orange County in 1977. She obtained Bachelor's and Master's degrees from Michigan State University and held a National Science Foundation Fellowship at Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Mary Kay served as a senior examiner for the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Program and a judge for the California Awards for Performance Excellence. She was an active member of Altrusa International of Anaheim, where she served on the Board and was the chairperson of the literacy committee. She was also a proud quilter for Project Linus, an organization that provides handmade security blankets to children in trauma. Sadly, Mary Kay passed away in October of 2017. She is survived by her daughter Christina, as well as her siblings, nieces, and nephews. We at the Chance will always treasure the all-too-brief time we had with Mary Kay, and we proudly honor her memory and carry on her legacy.

training, and the Fieldstone Foundation Leadership program. He would like to thank you all for being here to support local artists and the Chance's mission. For Dork. Always.



Erika C. Miller (Development Director) is a Chance Founding Artist alongside husband, Oanh Nguyen. She is a graduate of the Fieldstone Foundation's Emerging Leaders Group, a recipient of the Annie

Anaheim Accolades Award for her service to the community, and was a member of the Anaheim Arts Council Board of Directors from 2007-2012 (where she served as president for two years). She began singing professionally with The Los Angeles Children's Chorus where she was privileged to perform with Peabo Bryson, Barry Manilow, Andre Previn, Yo-yo Ma, Doc Severinsen, Luther Vandross, among others. She can be heard on the soundtracks of *Hero*, *The Dark Half* and *Merry Christmas* from Doc Severinsen and *The Tonight Show Orchestra*. Opera credits: *Die Frau Ohnne Schatten* and *El Gato Montez* with Placido Domingo at The Music Center, *Carmina Burana* at the Hollywood Bowl, and *The Magic Flute* at UCLA's Royce Hall. Ragtime soloist at Steamers Jazz Club, Old Town Music Hall, and the Muckenthaler Cultural Center. For two years, she was a backup singer for local Celtic band Craic in the Stone, and featured on their first two albums. Favorite Chance roles include: *She Loves Me* (LA Times Critic's Choice), *Little Women* (remounted at La Mirada Theatre in 2013), *The Laramie Project Cycle*, *Jerry Springer: The Opera* (Ovation Award for Best Musical, LA Times Critic's Choice), title role in *Evita*, *Into the Woods* (Back Stage Critic's Pick and Garland Award nominee), *Cabaret* (Garland Award nominee: Best Actress), *Closer Than Ever* (LA Times Critic's Choice), and *Lee Miller: The Angel and The Fiend* (OC Weekly Award). Erika is also the resident costume designer and has been nominated for two Ovation Awards for *The Who's Tommy* and *Hair: The American Tribal Love-Rock Musical*. In August of 2016, Erika and Oanh became the proud parents of twins. Life hasn't been the same for them since!

University, AMDA, CSU Fullerton, and served as the Associate Director for the international tour of David Henry Hwang's *Chinglish* (Berkeley Repertory, South Coast Repertory, Hong Kong Arts Festival). His selected film credits include *Two Brothers* directed by Jean-Jacques Annaude, *Rush Hour 3* directed by Brett Ratner, and *Lonely Boy* directed by Dale Fabrigar (Best First Feature Grand Jury Prize at the 2013 Louisiana International Film Festival and Audience Award Winner at the 2013 BolderLife Festival).



Casey Long (Managing Director) is proud to be a Chance Resident Artist and co-founder. Past directing credits at the Chance include *Anne of Green Gables*, *Little Women - The Broadway Musical*, *The Secret Garden*, and

Emma, The Musical. Chance acting credits include Theresa Rebeck's *Seminar*, Samuel Hunter's *A Bright New Boise*, the OC premiere of Sarah Ruhl's *Passion Play*, So Cal premiere of Zayd Dohrm's *Reborning*, and the West Coast premiere of Adam Szymkovicz's *Nerve*. Casey is a graduate of the Leadership Anaheim program, Annenberg Foundation's Alchemy



Masako Tobaru (Technical Director) has been with the Chance since 2003, and also serves as a resident stage manager and lighting designer. Her Chance Theater credits include *Parade*, *Little Women*, *Anne of Green Gables*, *Edward Albee's The Goat, or Who is Sylvia?*, *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*, and *Evita*, among others. Her credits outside the Chance include *Ganga... Life as a River*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, *Cabaret*, *Medea*, *Patient A* and *The Last Night of Ballyhoo*. Masako received her BA in Theater and Communications from Concordia University, Irvine.



Bebe Herrera (Production Manager) is delighted to be working with Chance Theater. Some previous stage management credits include Chance's *Maple and Vine*, the world premiere of Pat McGowan's *FILM*,

regional premiere *Holy Ghost* by Jon Tuttle, B. Walker Sampson's *Alceste*, and *The Pity of Things*, an evening of one-act plays. Hailing from the South Bay, she has worked with theatre companies from Hollywood to Anaheim and back including Rangeview Productions, the University Players, Movimiento Estudiantil de Teatro y Artes and Moveable Piece. She would like to thank Chance Theater for making every time working with them such memorable experiences.



Teodora Ramos-Fantone (Master Carpenter) is an architect of imaginary places; her hands realize dreams. When she first held lumber up to her ears, she heard the forest . . . she earned a BA in Theater - Technical

Production & Design from Cal State University, Fullerton and has worked as a freelance carpenter for multiple theatrical venues in Orange County. Outside of theater, she constructs custom pieces for high profile events. Her work has taken her to Nevada, Utah, Texas, New York, Alaska, and multiple locations within the state of California. Special thanks to Mr. Neubauer, Mrs. Seeley, and everyone and everything else that has lead her to this point. Lastly, thanks to Calvin, professional dreamer and wordifier, who writes stories . . . and edits bios.



Jeff Hellebrand (House Manager) co-founded Chance Theater in 1999 in his native Orange County. He received his degree from Cal State Fullerton and additional training at Cal State Chico and The Professional

Actors Conservatory. He has worked on both sides of the curtain in venues throughout California. He currently sits on the Stagecraft Technology advisory committee for North Orange County Regional Occupational Program. Chance Theater acting credits include *Anne of Green Gables*, *Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol* (Back Stage Critic's Pick), *The Stroop Report*, *Therese Raquin*, *The Diary of Anne Frank* (O.C. Register Best Ensembles), *Memories on the Wind* and the O.C. entry in *365 Days/365 Plays* by Suzan Lori-Parks. Script writing credits dear to his heart are *Is Pepperoni a Vegetable? And Other Mysteries of Love*, *But I Don't FEEL Grown Up*, and *The Beach...Without Leo*.



Jocelyn A. Brown (Associate Artistic Director) has been a Chance Resident Artist since 2001 and Associate Artistic Director since 2011. Chance directing highlights include: *Lizzie* (Ovation nomination: Best Direction of

a Musical, *Chancie Award for Outstanding Direction*), *Good People* (Ovation Recommended, *Chancie Award for Outstanding Direction*), *in a word* (Best in OC by *The Orange Curtain Review*), *The Big Meal*, various new works through Chance's OTR series, *Evita* (Chancie Award for Best Production), *Never In My Lifetime* (Back Stage Critic's Pick), *The Cherry Orchard* (OC Weekly nomination for Best Direction), and *Big Love*. Chance acting highlights include: writing and performing in *A Celtic Holiday with Craic in the Stone* (Best Special Event by Examiner.com), *The Laramie Project* and *Ten Years Later* (Ovation Recommended), *Blitzen in The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*, the Witch in *Into the Woods* (Back Stage Critic's Pick, *Chancie Award for Best Actress*), *Cathy in The Last 5 Years* (Back Stage Garland Award Nominee: Musical Performance), *Closer Than Ever* (L.A. Times Critic's Choice), *Ann in Goodnight Children Everywhere* (OC Weekly Theater Award Winner: Best Actress), and *Woman in Bash*. Jocelyn received an Outstanding Individual Artist nomination in 2003 by Arts Orange County. Outside of the Chance, Jocelyn teaches at Laguna Hills High School where she was an honoree for the California League of High Schools "Teacher of the Year" in 2012 for OC. Jocelyn double majored in Theatre and Biology at the Univ. of Cal. San Diego, further studied at the Univ. of East Anglia in England, and earned a Masters in Education from Vanguard University.



Karen O'Hanlon (Education & Community Programs Director) is delighted to be a Chance Resident Artist and Artistic Council Member. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Theater from East Stroudsburg

University. As the Education Director, she is incredibly proud of the Chance Theater's Youth and Teen programs that focus on building confident leaders, and the groundbreaking Speak Up program that uses theater arts to empower participants to find their voice through creative expression while building empathy. Through community support, the Speak Up program has grown into three branches: serving teens, veterans, and kids with developmental disorders. Additional career highlights include writing and directing *A Celtic Holiday with Craic in the Stone* (Best Special Event by Examiner.com), working as a debate coach with the Orange County Debate League, and teaching Theater and Debate at Fairmont Private Schools. She has previously appeared on the Chance Stage in the SoCal Premiere of *Middletown*, *The Laramie Project & Laramie Project: 10 years later* (LA Stage Times' Top Ten of 2013), *Passion Play* (Orange County Premiere), *Rare Birds* (OTR Workshop), and *The Eight: Reindeer Monologues*.



Darryl B. Hovis (TYA Producing Associate) earned his M.A. in Theatre Production at Central Washington University and studied acting at the Professional Conservatory at UCSD under Anna Shapiro (Steppenwolf) as well as South Coast Repertory under Karen Hensel. He is the co-founder and artistic director of the Culver City Academy of Visual and Performing Arts, where he developed an intensive arts program for high school students in theatre, film, music, and art, and has gone on to develop theatre programs at other Southern California high schools, as well as Theatre International at Leysin American School in Leysin, Switzerland. TYA productions include *Alice in Wonderland*, *The Legend(s) of Sleepy Hollow*, and *The Boy at the Edge of Everything*. Other favorites include *Therese Raquin* (Chance Theater), *Rent* and *The Threepenny Opera* (Samohi Theatre), *Machinal* and *Resurrecting Antigone* (UniTheatre), and *The Miracle Worker* and *Treehouses* (AVPA).



Marc Sanford (Associate House Manager) is very happy to be a Chance Theater Resident Artist and Associate House Manager. In 1994, Marc did a production of *Little Shop of Horrors* at Rancho Santiago College (now known as Santa Ana College), where he met future Chance founders Oanh Nguyen and Jeff Hellebrand. Marc first performed at the Chance in *A History of the American Film* as Mickey (plus 4 other characters) and soon became a resident artist. In 2004, Marc had to drop out of the company due to the discovery of a tumor about the size of a ping-pong ball on his optic nerve. His surgery was successful, but he

moved up to the Seattle area to stay with family to recuperate. While he was up there, he attended the Seattle Film Institute where he received a Filmmaking Certificate. Marc has been a resident artist since 2008.

Chance Theater is proud to be one of the leading ensemble-driven theatre companies in Southern California, having recently received the National Theatre Company grant from American Theatre Wing for "nurturing a community of artists in ways that strengthen and demonstrate the quality, diversity, and dynamism of American theatre." The Chance recently won the Ovation Award for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre) for their intimate production of *Fun Home*. Previously, the Chance had won seven Ovation Awards, including three others for Best Production of a Musical (Intimate Theatre) for its regional premiere of *Lizzie*, *The Musical*, the West Coast premiere of *Triassic Park – The Musical*, and Southern California premiere of *Jerry Springer – The Opera*, as well as four LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Outstanding Season. The Anaheim City Council named Chance Theater "the Official Resident Theater Company of Anaheim" in 2014, and Arts Orange County has twice named the Chance as "Outstanding Arts Organization." Known for using bold and personal storytelling to promote dialogue and connection within the Southern California theatrical landscape, the Chance is committed to contributing to a more compassionate, connected and creative community. As a constituent member of Theatre Communications Group, The Theatrical Producers League of Los Angeles, and OC Theatre Guild, Chance Theater continues to bring national attention to the Southern California and Orange County theater scenes.

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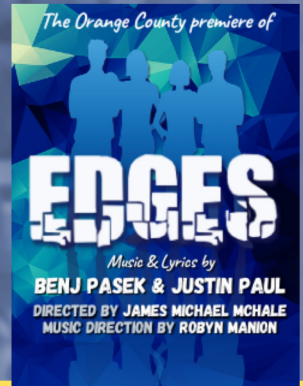
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ONE NIGHT ONLY!
Friday, August 13
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Chat with Chance Artists from "Edges" on a virtual call

**FREE
EVENT**

Register Now for a virtual chat with our artists at
www.ChanceTheater.com/cyberchat

SAVE THE DATE! | SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

Chance Gala 2021

Hosted by Bette & Wylie Aitken
at their beautiful Anaheim Hills home

Our Gala Fundraiser will feature Live Entertainment, Catered Dinner, 2022 Season Announcement, and much more!

All proceeds from this special event will directly support our artistic programs, education & outreach efforts, new play development, and incredible artists.

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Circle Members have committed to supporting Chance Theater for generations to come by making a Deferred Gift to a special endowment fund. The interest generated from this fund will go directly to support artists, students, and our community for many, many years to come. We are so grateful to these wonderful friends.

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- ¹In memory of Courtney Greenough
- ²In memory of Sister Barbara Murphy
- ³In memory of Henry Ong
- ⁴In memory of Jerry Palin
- ⁵In memory of Ralph & Mary Lou Griffin who raised me loving the arts

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- ⁶In honor of Jennifer Ruckman

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These sponsors have stepped forward to publicly affiliate their name with our theater company. While they enjoy one-of-a-kind VIP access, they are also providing vital support for the artists and our programs. We can't thank them enough.

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MISSION

Chance Theater seeks to create exciting theatrical experiences that will engage, surprise and unite our audiences, our artists, and our community.

The mission of the Chance is to contribute to a more connected, compassionate, and creative community.

We accomplish our mission by:

- producing powerful, socially-conscious, provocative, intimate theater experiences
- generating participation and dialogue between our diverse communities
- nurturing and supporting local artists
- inspiring and empowering creative young minds

RECENT HONORS / AWARDS

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

Winner of 2021 Ovation Award for Best Musical - Intimate Theatre (*Fun Home*)

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 7 additional Ovation Awards, including 3 for Best Musical (*Lizzie*, *Triassic Park*, and *Jerry Springer: The Opera*)

Winner of 5 LADCC Awards, including the Polly Warfield Award for Excellence for Outstanding Season

OC Weekly's Best of OC - Best Musical -- *Lizzie*, *The Musical* (2019) and *Parade* (2017)

40 Ovation Award nominations

15 LADCC Award nominations

STAFF

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Casey Long, *Managing Director*

Erika C. Miller, *Development Director*

Masako Tobaru, *Technical Director*

Bebe Herrera, *Production Manager*

Teodora Ramos-Fantone, *Master Carpenter*

Jeff Hellebrand, *House Manager*

Jocelyn A. Brown, *Associate Artistic Director*

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MORE LOCAL THEATRE

CABRILLO PLAYHOUSE, San Clemente, www.cabrilloplayhouse.org

LOVE LETTERS (July 8 - 11)

COMPLETE WORKS OF WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE (ABRIDGED) (July 29 - August 1)

CHANCE THEATER, Anaheim, www.chancetheater.com

SWEAT (June 20 - July 18)

EDGES (July 9 - August 8)

MAVERICK THEATER, Fullerton, www.mavericktheater.com

THE CRUCIBLE (June 25 - August 1)

KING KONG (August 1 - September 11)

P3 THEATRE COMPANY, www.p3theatre.biz

FUNNY BONZ, THE HUMERUS SOLUTION (August TBD)

MGM IN CONCERT, A GOLDEN ERA MUSICAL REVUE (August 15)

THE WAYWARD ARTIST, Santa Ana, www.thewaywardartist.org

ORDINARY DAYS (July 24)

COLLECTIVE STORIES (August 8)

NO CURRENT SHOWS. VISIT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION

ALCHEMY THEATRE COMPANY, www.alchemytheatre.com

AMERICAN COAST THEATER, www.americancoasttheater.com

THE ATTIC COMMUNITY THEATRE, www.ocact.com

CAMINO REAL PLAYHOUSE, www.caminorealplayhouse.org

COSTA MESA PLAYHOUSE, www.costamesaplayhouse.com

CURTIS THEATRE, www.curtistheatre.com

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