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By Dominique Morisseau

NICHELLE ALEXANDER

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Pipeline

By Dominique Morisseau

"Pipeline" is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals on behalf of Samuel French, Inc. www.concordtheatricals.com

Originally Produced by Lincoln Center Theatre in 2017, New York City "PIPELINE" was commissioned by Steppenwolf Theatre Company, Chicago; Martha Lavey, Artistic Director, David Hawkanson, Executive Director. "We Real Cool" by Gwendolyn Brooks. Used by Consent of Brooks Permissions.

SCENIC DESIGN

COSTUME DESIGN Nia S. Banks

Brian Barker

PROJECTION DESIGN Dasia Gregg

SOUND DESIGN

Steven Koehler

Kelsey Cordrey

STAGE MANAGEMENT

Justin Janke*

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT ARTS

DIRECTION Katrinah Carol Lewis

SEASON SPONSORS



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SARA BELLE AND NEIL NOVEMBER THEATRE / MARJORIE ARENSTEIN STAGE

CAST

Nya	Sasha Wakefield*
Omari	Trevor Lawson*
Jasmine	Jessie Jordan
Xavier	Iman Shabazz
Laurie	Laine Satterfield*
Dun	Todd Patterson
Voiceover	. Desirèe Dabney
Xavier Understudy	William Anderson
Jasmine Understudy	. Khadijah Franks

FOR THIS PRODUCTION

	Shawanna Hall Lydia Hundley
Deck Crew Courtney H	lolmes, Amber Hooper, Sam Shahinian
Wardrobe Supervisors	. Sheridan Parkinson, Emmaline Soyars
Audio Engineer	Jacob Mishler
Light Board Operator	Griffin Hardy
House Managers	Joel Kimling, Aubrey Mitten
Photographers	Double Image Studio, Jay Paul
Videographer	Austin Lewis

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*Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers in the U.S.A.

TIME AND PLACE

Here. 2019.

There will be no intermission.

Please note: This play contains adult themes and language authentic to the story and characters.

DEDICATION

Martha Norris Gilbert and Tony Cosby



With great respect and affection, this production of *Pipeline* is dedicated to the memories of **Martha Norris Gilbert** and **Tony Cosby**.

In the 1980s, Martha was recruited by Governor Chuck Robb to serve as the first Director of the Virginia Dept. for Children. In that capacity, she worked with Theatre IV, a precursor of Virginia Rep, on our productions of *Hugs and Kisses* (child sexual abuse prevention/early intervention), *Runners* (runaway and delinquency prevention), *Walking the Line* (alcohol and other drug use prevention), and *Dancing in the Dark* (adolescent pregnancy prevention and sexual responsibility). In 1990 she joined the Theatre IV Board of Directors. In 1997, she was elected Board Chair, becoming the first African American to be elected to the top leadership position of a major Virginia nonprofit arts organization.

Tony joined Theatre IV in 1980, playing Walter Lee Younger in *A Raisin in the Sun*, the second show in our inaugural season for adult audiences. We created our touring production of *I Have a Dream* in response to Tony's passion for education and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tony toured as Dr. King with us for years, and performed in many other productions.

Both Martha and Tony moved mountains and made history. Their hard work and commitment are a part of our DNA today. We treasure them both, and miss them, and will remember them forever.

SPECIAL THANKS



Sasha Wakefield (Nya) is an actress from Richmond, VA. She is super excited to be back on stage and making her Virginia Rep debut in the role of Nya. Some recent roles include Adrianna in the feature film *Liam White*, Janice in the short film *One Nation*, and Charlie in the short film

Redlining. Sasha has worked in commercials with GRTC, Virginia Lottery, and the Virginia Department of Health.



Trevor Lawson (Omari) is a class of 2021 Graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University with a BFA in Theater Performance. Hailing from Newport News, VA, Trevor followed his passion to Richmond to focus on his craft. His first professional show was *The Last Days of Judas*

Iscariot at Dogtown Dance Theater. Trevor was also in a VCU Mainstage production of The Three Musketeers as a few ensemble characters. Cutting his teeth in as many theatre opportunities as he could, he did a lot of S.A.L.T. (Shafer Alliance Laboratory Theater) performances where he honed his craft. Trevor has also helped co-found a start-up production company in Richmond called F.A.D.E.D. Productions with his friends Darren M. Johnson, Matthew Wixted, Rashaad Martin, and Emily Rose Madigan. This company works on short films, sketches, and does videography for plays in Richmond. Their goal is to continue to become a fully running production studio reminiscent of A24 and other household production studios. With the aid of community, Trevor has found that all his dreams of creating meaningful art that touches people can, and have come true. "It is such a blessing to exist in a community that fosters our talent and pushes us to explore the deepest recesses of our self to find who we really are."



Laine Satterfield (Laurie) is an award-winning theatre artist who has performed in, taught, choreographed, directed and devised theatre nationally and internationally. She holds a BFA from NYU's TSOA and is Director of Education at Cadence Theatre. Recent roles include: RTP:

Cloud 9, Cadence/Virginia Rep: Gloria, Sight Unseen, Detroit, In the Next Room, Virginia Rep: The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time, 5th Wall: Gidion's Knot (Best Ensemble, RTCC), FTP: Who's Afraid of Virginia Woolf (Best Actress, RTCC), Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Eurydice. Recent Direction: Cadence/Virginia Rep: Small Mouth Sounds, The Mountaintop (Best Director, RTCC), Virginia Rep: Airline Highway, Cinderella.



Iman Shabazz (Xavier) is an actor, director and student of the late Ernie McClintock. He is thrilled to return to Virginia Rep as a member of the *Pipeline* cast! Some of Iman's most enjoyed stage credits include: *A Raisin in the Sun* as Walter Lee Younger, *The Tragedy of Othello, the Moor of*

Venice as Othello, and Hedley in August Wilson's *Seven Guitars*. It is Iman's belief that sharing our stories is an important step in community healing, and he is delighted that this familiar narrative in the Black experience is being shared as a part of Richmond's contemporary theatrical moment.



Jessie Jordan (Jasmine) is a professional actress in Richmond, VA. She received a BFA in Theatre Performance from Virginia Commonwealth University. Theatre credits include *The Submission* (Emilie) with Stage B Theatre Company, *Death Valley DQ* (Luna) with McLean Drama Company,

and *Ohio State Murders* (Young Suzanne) at Firehouse Theatre. She's been in the TV shows *Primal Instincts* and *I Am Homicide*. She's also known for her role (Kimberly) in the horror film *Soul to Keep*. Jessie is incredibly grateful to be in this production and would like to thank her family, Virginia Rep, and the entire cast and crew.



Todd Patterson (Dun) Hailing from Glen Allen, VA Todd holds a BA in Drama from the University of Virginia and is glad to be back at Virginia Rep! He was last seen in *4000 Days* at RTP and has worked with Virginia Repertory Theatre, Firehouse Theater, The Conciliation Lab, Quill Theater,

Sycamore Rouge, Know Theater of Cincinnati, and Oklahoma Shakespearean Festival. He thanks the tireless Katrinah and all involved, for eyeballing six feet, conveying humanity through half-covered faces, and the constant work involved in bringing their unvarnished, imperfect selves to this process, amidst our many challenges. LOVE is in the doing, so let's get it DUN!



Desirèe Dabney (Voiceover) is a professional actor, singer, director, and teacher in Richmond, VA. She has recently been seen in a national commercial for Google, *Times Square Angel* at Richmond Triangle Players, *Warm* (Ensemble) at Firehouse Theatre, *Taming of the Shrew*

(Hortensio) at Quill Theatre, *Caroline or Change* (Caroline) at University Of Richmond, *Red Velvet* (Connie) at Quill Theatre, and *Pinkalicious* (Dr. Wink) with Virginia Rep. She received her BFA in Acting from Shenandoah Conservatory in 2014. She is currently a Richmond Public Schools Theatre Arts teacher at Boushall Middle School, Board Member of Virginia Theatre Association, Academic Architect (Theatre) Richmond Public Schools, Adjunct teacher at SPARC, and on the board for Fine Arts Education (Theatre) at the Virginia Department of Education. Desirèe is currently pursuing her Doctorate from University of Richmond in Theatre Education.



William Anderson (Xavier understudy) is originally from Bowling Green, KY and is now a Richmond-based teacher/singer/actor/director. He is blessed to be on the stage again. He attended Western Kentucky University and The University of Kentucky where he received a BM in

Vocal Performance. Favorite shows at Riverside Center include Grumpy Old Men the Musical (Chuck Barrels), The Color Purple (Preacher/Ole Mister), and Disney's Beauty and the Beast (Monsieur D'Argue). For Virginia Rep, he was in The Wiz (Gatekeeper), Akeelah and the Bee (Dr. Larabee), The Color Purple (ensemble)(Best Musical, RTCC), South Pacific (Henry); for TheatreLAB, Sweeney Todd (Judge Turpin)(Best Musical, RTCC); for Cadence/Virginia Rep, Caroline or Change (Dryer/Bus)(Best Musical, RTCC); and for 5th Wall, The Toxic Avenger (Black Dude) (Best Supporting Actor in a Musical nominee, RTCC). Sending much love to each and every one of you for your support.



Khadijah Franks (Jasmine understudy) is happy to be returning to the Virginia Rep stage for its production of Pipeline. A recent graduate of Virginia Commonwealth University, Khadijah's recent credits include VCU's production of Spring Awakening, as well as The Blacklist with The

Conciliation Lab, and Santa's Enchanted Workshop here at Virginia Rep. She would like to thank her family for their constant support as well as the entire *Pipeline* team for making this such a great experience, and she hopes you all enjoy the show!

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Katrinah Carol Lewis, she/her (Director) Katrinah is an awardwinning actress, singer, director, playwright, historical interpreter, activist, and teacher connecting with others through the power of theatre, music, and collective breath. Directing credits with Virginia Rep: Ella and Her Fella Frank, Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad, and Once (Associate Direction). Directing credits also include Fires in the Mirror with Firehouse Theatre, Blood at the *Root* with University of Richmond, and *Topdog/Underdog* with TheatreLAB, earning an Artsie nomination for Best Direction and Best Play. Katrinah has been nominated for 7 acting awards by the Richmond Theatre Critics Circle, winning Best Actress in a Musical in 2016 for her portrayal of Billie Holiday in TheatreLAB's Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill. Katrinah has served as Associate Artistic Director for TheatreLAB and Interim Co-Artistic Director for Virginia Rep. and she is currently the Artistic Director of Museum Theatre at Colonial Williamsburg, a Board member at Large for RVA OnStage, and an Arts and Activism board member for The Conciliation Lab. Namaste.

Brian C. Barker (Scenic Design) is a Production Designer specializing in entertainment design and owns and operates Barker Designs, a small design firm based in Richmond, VA. He has designed productions for NBA Half-time shows, network television, national marketing events, and political events in Washington, D.C.. Notable projects include Emily's List Annual Conference, Nick Sports 90's Throwback Tour and Double Dare Halftime Show, The American Express Experience at the US Open, and a drone maze that he can't tell you any more about... shhhh. He holds an MFA from the University of Tennessee. His theatre design work represented the U.S. at the 2007 Prague Quadrennial. Favorite theatre designs include Spring Awakening at Virginia Rep. The Full Monty at Riverside Theatre; The Pillowman at Cadence/ Virginia Rep. The Velveteen Rabbit at Virginia Rep. and Big River at The Clarence Brown Theatre (LORT D). He would like to extend many thanks to all his friends and family (Nicole, Jack and Grace); your support means the world. See more of his work at Barker-Designs.com.

Nia Safarr Banks (Costume Design) is a Costume Designer from Richmond, VA. She graduated from Virginia Commonwealth University with a BFA and is currently pursuing her Master of Fine Arts at Boston University. She was nominated in 2019 for Richmond Theatre Critics Circle award for Outstanding Achievement in Costume Design in a Play for *An Octoroon* (TheatreLAB). Her credits include: *Imaginary Invalid* (Firehouse Theatre), *Fences* (Virginia Repertory Theatre), and 4000 Days (Richmond Triangle Players).

Steven Koehler (Lighting Design) is thrilled to be back at Virginia Rep. Previous design credits at Virginia Rep include *Peter Pan* (2001 and 2008), *Having Our Say, The Song of Mulan, The Laramie Project, Gross Indecency.* Steven's work has also been seen at The Company of Fools in Hailey Idaho including *The Syringa Tree*, and *The Woman in Black.* Steven is also the Managing Director at Swift Creek Mill Theatre.



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Dasia Gregg (Projection Design) is based in Richmond, VA, having graduated from TheatreVCU in 2018 with a BFA in Theatre with concentration in Scenic Design. Recent credits include Scenic Designer for *The Revolutionists* (TheatreLAB), Scenic/Projection Designer for *Level 4* (TheatreLAB), and Associate Projection Designer for *Live Art: Family* (SPARC), and Co-Scenic Designer for *The Pink Unicorn* (Richmond Triangle Players). She is very excited to be designing with Virginia Rep for the first time!

Kelsey Cordrey (Sound Design) is an actor, director, and designer based in Richmond. Sound design credits: *The Niceties* (The Conciliation Lab); *The Revolutionists* (Outstanding Sound Design nominee, RTCC), *Admissions, An Octoroon, Pretty Fire, Golda's Balcony, Bad Dates, Topdog/Underdog, Constellations, I'm Gonna Pray For You So Hard; Grounded; Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992; My Name is Rachel Corrie; Mother Courage and Her Children* (Outstanding Sound Design nominee, RTCC); *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill, Cock,* and Oblivion (TheatreLAB); American Buffalo (Quill Theatre)(Outstanding Sound Design nominee, RTCC). Training: NYU Tisch New Studio on Broadway, Appomattox Regional Governor's School.

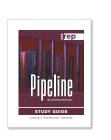


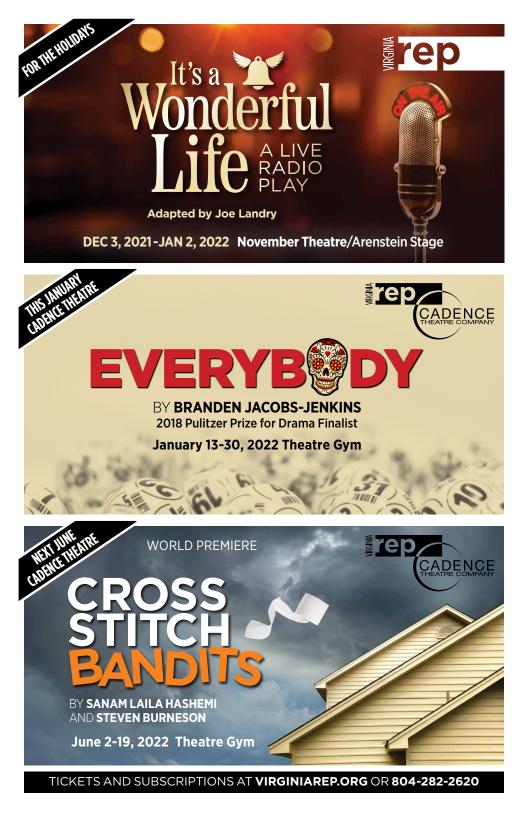
Justin Janke (Stage Management) is delighted to be returning to Virginia Rep after an 18 month pandemic-induced hiatus. Justin has been working with Virginia Rep since 2016 and is a 2018 graduate of VCU with a BFA in Theatre; Stage Management and Technical Production. Professional Stage Management credits include: *Harriet Tubman and the Underground Railroad, Tuck Everlasting, The Wiz, Pinocchio, Huck and Tom and the Mighty Mississippi, Mr. Popper's Penguins,* and *Brighton Beach Memoirs* with Virginia Rep; Yank! with Richmond Triangle Players; Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill with TheatreLAB; and A Midsummer Night's Dream with Synetic Theatre. He'd like to thank his husband, Austin, for his constant love and support.

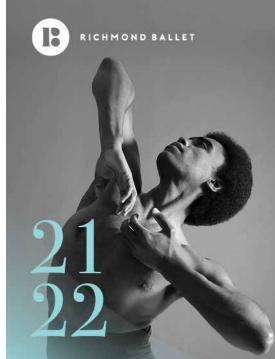
Shawanna Hall (Assistant Stage Management) Shawanna's tenyear professional career includes a variety of productions, from intimate one-person dramas with social impact to large scale spectacles with, on occasion, more than fifty artists onstage (not to mention those working behind-the-scenes). Small cast straight plays are probably her favorite genre to stage manage, but right now she enjoys working on a diverse range of projects throughout the year. Recent credits include being the COVID Safety Manager for *Ella and Her Fella Frank* at Virginia Rep, a Production Coordinator for Virginia Arts Festival, Production Stage Manager for William & Mary's productions of *Dance of the Orcas* and *Gem of the Ocean*, as well as an Adjunct Professor for William & Mary.

Pipeline Study Guide

Virginia Rep's Education Department creates Study Guides for many of our shows that educators and patrons can use to learn more. Click to download the Study Guide pdf. <u>https://bit.ly/pipeline-guide</u>







STUDIO ONE SEPTEMBER 14-23, 2021

STUDIO TWO OCTOBER 26-31, 2021

THE NUTCRACKER DECEMBER 11-23, 2021

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TEEN COMMUNITY RESOURCES

According to the National Education Association, "The schoolto-prison pipeline disproportionately places students of color, including those who identify as LGBTQ, have disabilities, and/ or are English Language Learners, into the criminal justice system for minor school infractions and disciplinary matters, subjecting them to harsher punishments than their white peers for the same behaviors." Virginia Rep is glad to share this list of local organizations which use arts, education, and mentoring to empower children and teens to succeed in life. Please reach out to them if you are interested in helping or learning more.

Art 180

art180.org

ART 180 offers arts programming at no cost to young people in Richmond. We partner with schools and community centers to provide programs to students ages 8-18 years old. We also have an art gallery and teen center downtown called Atlas, where our programs are available to high school students.

Big Brothers Big Sisters

bigbrobigsis.com

Big Brothers Big Sisters is accountable for youth building social skills, increasing academic achievement, and creating healthy lifestyles. Individual youth have goals, developed with the mentor and parent/guardian, that are based on Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets.

Boys & Girls Club of Metro Richmond bgcmr.org

Five Clubs in Four Neighborhoods, 1,200 Youth Served Annually, 60+ Community Partners. Our mission is to empower young people, especially those from historically marginalized communities, to succeed in life. Stateof-the-Art Teen and Community Center opened in the fall of 2021.

Cadence Theatre's STAGE WRITE cadencetheatre.org

Cadence Theatre Company's STAGE WRITE student leadership and workforce readiness program provides Richmond and regional high school students with an opportunity to gain experience in critical thinking, problem solving, communication skills, and teamwork through writing and performing narratives that are directly relevant to the issues they face in their own lives. The program is based on pedagogy that demonstrates that performing arts training builds workforce readiness skills and lifelong personal strengths. Now in its 8th year, STAGE WRITE is led by professional teaching artists versed in the creation of original curriculum, including creative writing, oral presentation, and essential soft skills. Students work with professionals to create work inspired by themes explored in class and in their community.

MENTOR Virginia

mentorva.org

For over 25 years, MENTOR Virginia has been serving as the catalyst and leader for the expansion of youth mentoring across Virginia. We work closely with mentoring programs to help them build their capacity to provide high-quality mentoring relationships to young people ages 5-24 and provide training for new mentors. We believe that our communities, families, schools, and workplaces all benefit when young people have access to a caring adult mentor who empowers, encourages, and elevates them to reach their full potential.

The Hive

thehivemovement.org

Building a more just future for the next generation. The Hive is a new youth-centered community in Richmond that holistically supports young people as they transition into adulthood. Their Youth Ambassador Squad (YAS) is a reentry program that supports Richmond City youth ages 15-21 who have navigated the justice system, in an effort to keep them free from incarceration. More info at www.thehivemovement.org or on social media @thehivemovement

TEEN COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Peter Paul Development Center

Our mission is to support the neighbors of the East End and educate its students, equipping them to serve as positive contributors to their families, community, and society.

Podium RVA

Podium provides weekly writing and communication workshops, publications, and showcase opportunities for youth ages 10-19 across Greater Richmond. Communication is a critical skill we all need to shape the futures we seek, and writing helps us reflect, de-stress, organize our thoughts, and share our innermost feelings. We prepare youth for high school, college, career, and for their adult lives.

Richmond Youth Peace Project (RYPP)

Through our teen programs, the Peace Center engages with Richmond's youth and nurtures developing community leaders. Our teen programs provide peaceful alternatives to teen violence, empower youth to promote peace and justice in their own communities, and provide guidance and opportunities for teens to express themselves in dynamic ways.

Saving Our Youth

savingouryouthva.org

At Saving Our Youth VA, we assist youth with post education planning which could include planning for college, trade school or other opportunities. Our after-school program offers a support system, leadership training, and personal reflections to help them reach their post education goals and become future leaders.

podiumrva.org

peterpaulrva.org

www.rpec.org

We Are the Youth Outreach

wearetheyouthoutreach.com

Our mission is to provide today's youth and young adults with life-affirming resources utilizing our personalized mentorship, finance, and education programs. We pledge to help increase their personal growth opportunities as well as their mentality for a brighter future and financial stability all while reducing computer illiteracy, the rate of youth opioid and opiate addiction, child hunger and recidivism rates.

Virginia Dept. of Juvenile Justice

djj.virginia.gov

Our mission is to provide excellence in public safety through a diverse and highly skilled workforce that provides interventions that strengthen and transform the lives of the youth, families, and communities we serve. To explore volunteer opportunities at one of our Court Service Units or Facility, call (804) 971-3973. We also partner with the Family and Children's Trust (FACT) of Virginia on an emergency funds project, specifically for youth who have received DJJ services, to provide flexible funding for critical supports. Please go to fact.virginia.gov and write "DJJ project" in the section on the page that says "In honor of."

Youth Life Foundation of Richmond ylfr.org

The Youth Life Foundation of Richmond operates learning centers to develop leaders by making long-term investments in children from atrisk communities. By supporting students academically, developing their character from a young age, raising expectations, and investing in their lives through committed mentoring relationships, these youth will rise above their circumstances to become tomorrow's leaders. "In a real-life version of 'Roots,' Gayle Jessup White's compelling exploration of her family ties to
Thomas Jefferson and Sally Hemings' family demonstrates that
America's complex racial history is written in our DNA."
HENRY LOUIS GATES, JR.

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SALLY HEMINGS,

THOMAS JEFFERSON,

and a DESCENDANT'S SEARCH for HER

FAMILY'S LASTING LEGACY

LEADERSHIP



PHIL WHITEWAY

Managing Director

Phil is a key leader in Virginia's nonprofit arts management community. He co-founded Theatre IV in 1975 with Bruce Miller as Virginia's first professional theatre for young audiences. In 2001, he assumed the role of Managing Director of Barksdale Theatre. In 2012, he provided staff

leadership as Theatre IV and Barksdale merged to form Virginia Rep, Central Virginia's flagship professional theatre. Under his management, Phil's companies have received the first *Excellence in Instruction Award* from the Virginia Board of Education, the *Dominion Shining Star Award* from Virginians for the Arts, and the *50 for 50 Arts Inspiration Award* from the Virginia Commission for the Arts.

Phil was a founding member of the boards of the Richmond Arts Consortium and the Broad Street Association. Under his staff leadership, Theatre IV purchased and renovated our historic November Theatre, receiving the *Community Builders Award* from the Central Richmond Association for its contribution to downtown revitalization. Phil is a graduate and past board member of Leadership Metro Richmond. He has served on the Governance Board of Partners in the Arts and as treasurer of Virginians for the Arts.

Phil has received the *Voice of the University Award* from his alma mater (University of Richmond), the *Teresa Pollak Lifetime Achievement Award* from *Richmond Magazine*, and the *Governor's Award for the Arts* from Tim Kaine. In 2000, Phil was included by *Style Weekly* among the "100 Most Influential Richmonders of the 20th Century."

Phil consults on arts management both locally and nationally. He is forever grateful for the love and support of his wife, Donna, and their four adult children—PJ, Jennings, Alex, and Gordon.

OUR MISSION

Our Mission: To entertain, challenge and uplift our communities through the power of live theatre.

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Virginia Repertory Theatre's Anti-Racism Commitment & Accountability Statement

Virginia Repertory Theatre aspires to become an artistic home that is multicultural in representation and where everyone is welcomed and included. We acknowledge that white supremacy and racism have permeated our national culture and are pervasive in our society. It is systemic. We stand against this and commit to doing our part to dismantle systems of oppression, not only in the theater community, but everywhere it is present.

As we look inward, we examine our own conscious and unconscious biases. We hold ourselves accountable for the ways in which our organization has caused harm to our artists and to the theater community. By not acknowledging this and the national reckoning, we caused further pain. Following the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, and so many others, there has been a call for social justice. We at Virginia Repertory Theatre acknowledge this, we accept the call for social justice, and understand how and where we need to change as an organization as we move forward.

Our Commitment

We commit to examining our organizational culture to assure that we are an artistic home centered on anti-racist and anti-oppression practices. We will actively pursue and embrace inclusion, diversity, equity, and access in all aspects of art, business, and life in our community.

We will intentionally make space for the diverse voices of our board, staff, artists, and theatre community.

We will seek to include and reflect on the varied experiences of our community to ensure everyone has access to live theatre that entertains, inspires, and challenges. We will be mindful of Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color (BIPOC); Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI); People with Disabilities, Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Queer+ (LGBTQ+), and other marginalized communities in our efforts and we will actively seek to learn from them.

We make these commitments to the theater community and to the c ommunity at large and we ask that they take this journey with us and hold us accountable.

We will commit to implement our action plan so that we can honestly say:

At Virginia Repertory Theatre, everyone has a voice.

At our theatre, everyone is welcomed and included.

THANK YOU DONORS!

We thank the many individuals and institutional funders who have made charitable contributions in the past year. The following lists reflect contributions to our annual operating fund between October 1, 2020 through September 15, 2021. If you would like to join these supporters by donating to our nonprofit theatre, please visit www.virginiarep.org to **DONATE NOW** or mail your contribution check to Virginia Repertory Theatre, 114 West Broad Street, Richmond, VA 23220. Corrections to this list or questions about donating should be directed to Phil Whiteway (804) 783-1688 ext. 1116 or pwhiteway@virginiarep.org.

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Richmond Theatre's Proud History of Developmental Theatre



Desirée Roots and Scott Wichmann in Ella and Her Fella Frank

All Richmond theatregoers have every right to be proud of *your* history of contributing to the ever-expanding canon of American theatre. Working together, RVA artists and audiences may not yet

have grabbed the gold ring an original script that transfers to Broadway — but there's every reason to believe we're closer now than ever.

Virginia Rep and its leaders have been making strides in this area. We've produced major productions of 114 new plays and musicals, many written by a diverse roster of professional Virginia playwrights. After their Virginia Rep premieres, approximately 20 of these plays have been chosen for productions by other professional theatres nationwide.



Eva DeVirgilis in In My Chair

RVA's success in developmental theatre isn't limited to Virginia Rep alone. Cadence Theatre, Conciliation LAB, Firehouse, Heritage Theatre Ensemble, Quill Theatre, Richmond Triangle Players, Swift Creek Mill and others, have all been involved in the exciting commitment to new play development.

Our last production of *Ella* and Her Fella Frank had its world premiere at Barksdale Theatre (a precursor to Virginia Rep) in 1999. Last summer's update of *Ella* featured a new book by Richmond playwright Bo Wilson, author of five other plays that originated with us. When we're able to begin producing again at Hanover Tavern, we'll stage our seventh Wilson premiere, *Bonnie* and Claire.

Under the leadership of Dr. Tawnya Pettiford-Wates and in partnership with Conciliation LAB, we're working on a reimagining of the classic American musical, *Ain't Misbehavin'*, updating this masterwork in partnership with its original creator, Broadway legend Richard Maltby. Look for more exciting news about this project in the coming weeks.



Alexander Sapp in Croaker



The cast of End of War.



Valet in with us.

Dine with us.

Stroll.

Take your seat.

Bravo!

Nightcap.

Valet out with us.

Tarrant's, Max's, and Bar Solita make theatre easy.











