2019 Winter

Broadway Musical Theater

Week-long intensive

Designed and led by Amy Weinstein, Artistic Director of StudentsLive and Passport to Broadway exclusively for Brooklyn College Preparatory Center for the Performing Arts

January 14-18, 2019
Brooklyn College

Prepare Audition Materials and Build Repertoire

Improve Acting, Movement and Vocal Techniques

Receive One-on-One Instruction for Individual Performance Pieces

Enhance Improvisation Technique and Scene Work

Experience the “Putting-It-all-together” Broadway Rehearsal Process

Perform in a Final Showcase that features each student in uniquely customized Broadway Musical Theater material

For registration:
718.951.4111 bcpc@brooklyn.cuny.edu www.BCPrepCenter.org

For additional information:
212-220-6000 info@studentslive.net www.passporttobroadway.com

All classes will be held at Brooklyn College
2900 Bedford Avenue, Brooklyn, NY 11210
Letter from Amy Weinstein, Artistic Director of StudentsLive Passport to Broadway:

It is very nice to meet you and thank you for taking a moment to read about the very unique mission and purpose of this Brooklyn College Musical Theater Intensive.

I am so pleased to be able to bring my professional background, long held respect and contacts in the theater community on Broadway, across the country and world, and expertise in theater history, methods and philosophies of theater education to help inspire and increase your skill sets at every level and instill confidence in your own unique talents.

I believe that the best theater studies should prepare students for all kinds of careers that will enrich and transform the human experience in a rich, incandescent, diverse and highly multi-disciplinary environment.

These last eighteen years have been a powerful experience for myself and my creative and production team travelling to 7 countries and hosting seven more here direct on Broadway in New York City with our Passport to Broadway Program. The thousands of serious aspiring students involved in this rigorous process grew beyond our wildest imagination with a passion and dedication for learning and performing this very challenging art form in almost impossible short windows of time; What would normally require a Broadway professional at least 6 to 8 weeks of rehearsals is taught and learned eloquently in 10 short days with our exceptional Broadway Artists faculty and students. They made the virtually impossible, possible. And that is a testament to both their talents and hard work, as well as the collaboration and individual expression great Musical Theater evokes.

In our own preparation for this exciting journey, we will be selecting some of the widest and most challenging range of Broadway material, in order for you to have access to and be exposed to an opportunity for growth and a true sense of confidence and accomplishment in this intensive experience. Our greatest wish is that this experience will inspire you to continue taking risks, grow in this challenging art form that requires mastery of all three disciplines simultaneously, learn form the best, meet and network with all kinds of important colleagues we have the pleasure of knowing and introducing out students to, meet personal and professional challenges and pursue your own unique dreams and goals fearlessly. I can guarantee that the confidence that comes from doing this type of unique theater experience with the passionate rigor and hard work it requires, will ultimately enhance and support whatever career you may decide to go into.

With that said, it is my pleasure to be part of your very special community for even a short time, and to help share some of the joy and love that we have for Broadway musical theater. Thank you, Dean Conelli, for allowing us the opportunity to be a part of your very special artistic community and thank you to the staff and students who choose and/or are selected to participate, for lending us the commitment, heart, talent and courage it takes to be a part of this exceptional experience. We hope to see you on Broadway someday, and to see you in Winter 2019 to help inspire more lives through the power of great theater.

All My Best,
Amy Weinstein
CEO/Founder/Artistic Director
StudentsLive, A Global Broadway Education Company and Passport to Broadway International
**Information About the Program**

- The program is One Week, from January 14 – 18, 2019 at Brooklyn College.
- This program is targeted for ages 17 and up (exceptions are made on a case by case basis).
- No specific skill level is required – this program is designed for beginners, intermediate and advanced level.
- The course will include professional level study and work on four Broadway production numbers, audition songs and monologues, cold read scenes, acting, movement and vocal technique classes.

**Required for First Day**

- 16 to 32 bars of both an up tempo and ballad preferably from a Broadway show but not required. Memorized.
- 2 One Minute Monologues – One Comedic and One Dramatic. Memorized.

**Preparing an Audition Monologue**

- Bring two prepared memorized one-minute monologues. The two monologues should differ in style, one comedic and one dramatic.
- All monologues should be published. No original student writing or internet monologue material.
- Monologue should be age-appropriate.
- No classical theater or verse.
- Please focus on dramatic understanding, characterization, beats, beginning, middle and end of story, super intention, environment, relationship of person your character is speaking to and make clear, concise, specific choices. Please do not include costumes or prop pieces.
- Audition monologues are available from a variety of print and published sources. Please select either an independent monologue or a monologue taken directly from a play and edited for your purposes. If you select a monologue from a play, please be aware of the entire play from which the monologue is taken. You should read the play and be familiar with the character you are portraying.
- Please type out a hard copy of you monologue/s on one sheet of paper each with your title of play, author, your name and character at top.
Preparing an Audition Song
Please prepare two song cuts of 16 or 32 bars each. The songs should be contrasting: one ballad and one up-tempo, from different time periods in musical theatre. For each cut:

- Please bring (and learn) the entire song, even though you are singing only a portion. We might explore different cuts.
- Make sure your cut has a beginning, middle, and end—that is, it tells a story. Don’t just blindly use the last section or first section. It is awkward to start a cut with “And” or “Because” as those words imply the continuation of a story of which your audience won’t have heard a beginning.
- The words are the most important part of the song. Make sure you sing as if making up the lyrics spontaneously every time you perform it, so that the story remains fresh and organic.
- Any musical “event” in the accompaniment (such as an accented downbeat or a flourish) needs to be justified by your performance. You as an actor “make” the event happen.
- Similarly, any long melisma you sing (a single syllable stretching over many notes, which happens more in pop music than theatre music) needs to be justified by your intent and emotion.
- Please copy your sheet music double-sided (if possible), punch holes in it, and put it in a three-ring binder. (Exception: If your cut is only two pages, make the copy single-sided and insert the pages facing each other.) If you prefer, bring two versions, one of the full song and one of your cut.
- Do not put the music in plastic sheet protectors as doing so makes it difficult to mark the music and see it through the glare.
- Mark “Start,” “End,” and any intermediate cuts clearly.
- Make sure the music is in the key in which you wish to sing it.
- Make sure the music has a piano part. Vocal books sent with rentals for performance often have the voice parts only, with no piano part.
- Don’t stress over whether you go slightly over 16 or 32 bars. The timing and what the cut “feels” like are what matter. As a general rule, a 16-bar cut should be about 30 to 45 seconds, and a 32-bar cut should be about a minute to a minute and a half.
- We are eager to work with you and make music together!

What to Wear
- Dancewear or comfortable clothes to move in (leotard, tights, loose fitting pants, jazz pants or skirts with t-shirts or comfortable top).
- Character, jazz, ballet shoes, sneakers or rubber soled comfortable shoes.

More Information About the Program
- There will be a one-hour lunch each day. You will be required to bring your lunch or buy your own lunch.
- Materials will be required to be memorized on all taught often by the next day. Please be prepared to work on the materials in the evenings to be best prepared for the following day progress.
- All other materials including music, scripts and cold readings will be provided on the first day.
Arrival time suggested between 8:15am and no later than 8:45am to warm up and be prepared to start at 9:00am sharp.

The Final Showcase will be a combination of various works In-Studio decided on by instructors.

The audience will be an invited audience of Brooklyn College Staff, Students, Family, Friends and Broadway Artists.

Final Showcase time and date are TBD. Invitations will be sent the first week of the Program.

This Program Includes
Learn all aspects of; Auditioning, Preparing Audition Materials, Building Audition Repertoire, Broadway Dance/Choreography-Broadway Vocal Techniques directly sourced from the widest Classical and Contemporary range of Hit Broadway Musicals, One-on-One Coaching for Individual Performance Pieces, Acting-Singing- Dance- Improvisation Technique and Scene Work, "Putting-it-All-Together" Broadway Rehearsal Process, Final Showcase featuring each student in uniquely customized Broadway Musical Theater Material for invited Broadway Guests and VIP's In –Studio.

MATERIALS INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, THE FOLLOWING:
- Scripts.
- Music
- Vocal CDS
- Supplementary Lesson Materials.
- Broadway Certificates.

TUITION AND DEADLINE INFORMATION
- Program Tuition: CUNY students and alumni: $500.00. Non-CUNY students: $750.00.
- Brooklyn College is offering eight $250 scholarships for Brooklyn College/CUNY students on a first come first serve basis only through Monday November 26, 2018.
- The Final Registration Deadline is Monday December 10, 2018 or when the Workshop is full.
- Non-refundable deposit of $250 is due with application and balance is due on or before Monday December 10, 2018.
- All payments will be refunded in full if the student is cast in a Brooklyn College Theater Department production and is scheduled to rehearse between January 14 – 18, 2019, or in case of under-enrollment to the workshop.

For Registration Information:
Call 718-951-4111 e-mail bpec@brooklyn.cuny.ecu or visit www.BCPrepCenter.org

For More Information about the Program
Call 212-220-6000 e-mail info@studentslive.net or visit www.passporttobroadway.com
Amy Weinstein is the CEO and Founder of *StudentsLive, A Global Broadway Education Company* for the past 18 years and more recently Artistic Director of Sister Company, *Passport to Broadway International*. Starting literally with just an idea, StudentsLive grew into one of the world’s most significant theater education programs attracting over 250,000 students worldwide with an annual budget of over 1 million dollars and annual international programs engaging organizations from Brazil, South Korea, Italy, China, Guatemala, Indonesia and Japan. After 18 years of growth, it now boasts partnerships with virtually every single hit Broadway show, endorsements from America’s political, cultural, and artistic leaders, alliances with foreign governments and arts education programs, and a proven track record of financial sustainability. Most importantly, tens of thousands of young people and lifelong learners across the globe have been touched by StudentsLive programs – the ultimate measure of success.

Amy Weinstein has been developing, creating, marketing and producing education programs in partnership with some of the finest Broadway Artists, Producers and Creative Teams since 1990. A leader and pioneer in curriculum based standards and exciting and educational custom designed workshops and presentations, she has been recognized as a cutting edge and highly effective creative presence within public and private schools, colleges, universities and organizations nationwide. She has been dedicated to arts and education for the past thirty years. Graduating from New York University with a degree in theater and communication, she began her work early on as a theatrical talent agent and casting director in Hollywood. Due to her expertise and comprehensive focus on education, she was asked to teach acting to at-risk teenagers with Jean Stapleton's foundation, *The Academy of Performing and Visual Arts* in East Los Angeles.

Out of her work with these artistically talented and gifted young people, she co-wrote with Annette Cardona (Cha Cha in the movie Grease) and directed a musical play entitled *Second Chance*, which toured as an Equity TYA contract to over 350,000 students in California and surrounding states.
National mental health experts recognized the play as an inspirational arts model for crisis intervention, and interpersonal issues amongst teenagers at risk throughout the country. WGBH/PBS was so impressed with the play they commissioned it for adaptation to teleplay in 1996. Ms. Weinstein served as a producer on the project. She also traveled and spoke internationally to world class competitive athletes, teaching presentation and interpretative performance skills. Ms. Weinstein continued her work in the New York area as an improvisation and acting teacher at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy as a senior member of the faculty, directing graduation showcases for international musical theater students from around the world. She was soon after hired as education director by Tony Randall's Not-For-Profit Broadway Tony Award Nominated National Actors Theater.

With NAT for eight years, Ms. Weinstein created study guides, workshops and led professional development training for Applied Theater majors in conjunction with NAT's Broadway shows for 46 New York City Public Schools specially selected to receive, free of cost, NAT's education programs and to experience the classics on Broadway. Recent shows included, The Resistible Rise of Arturo Ui, starring Al Pacino Judgment at Nuremberg, starring Maximillian Schell, The Gin Game, starring Charles Durning and Julie Harris and Night Must Fall starring Matthew Broderick. She hired, trained and developed programs with and for experienced teaching artists and professionals in the theater, education and film communities and built bridges for students in underserved New York to experience the comprehensive, interdisciplinary, social, cultural, political and personal values of theater.

She currently works full time overseeing both StudentsLive and Passport to Broadway wearing multiple hats as Producer, Director and CEO travelling internationally with her creative teams to ensure the workshops reflect the finest standards and vision from the top down. She also continues writing, directing and producing both On and Off-Broadway and created StudentsLive Inc. for the sole purpose of facilitating the large demand for her programs and services. Her talented staff consists of two or three program directors, college and high school interns, and a large cadre of volunteers in the theater and education communities. She has designed implemented, supervised and trained teachers and artists in educational programming curricula worldwide from theatre and dance academy students in Rimini Italy, to elementary school theatre curricula programs in the Bronx, New York. to MFA students and teachers here in New York and San Diego to International Broadway Theater Summer Camps for international students and families both outbound and inbound traveling to the United States. Her programs have gained national print and electronic press attention including Court TV, CNN, The New York Times, ABC, NBC, CBS and various local media outlets for their educational, entertaining and artistic value. Her excellent relationship with leaders in the cultural, social and political communities has helped tie the Broadway community into new audiences, greater revenue and inspire a greater understanding of the importance of theater arts in young people's lives.

Amy also offers private audition coaching and she has taught notable professionals including Jesse Tyler Ferguson from TV’s “Modern Family”, Christopher Jackson from Broadway’s Lion King, In The Heights and Hamilton and TV’s “Bull”, Lala Karmela a well-known film star in Indonesia and members of the sensational world renowned pop group AKB48 from Japan. She has also collaborated with top Broadway, theater, film and television professionals such as Al Pacino, Charles Durning, Billy Crudup, Reba McIntyre and more. Amy’s education work has been recognized by social and political leaders such as the Mayors of New York and Los Angeles, Former President Bill Clinton and Former Secretary of State Hilary Clinton, and highly reputable top social and civic leaders throughout the world. Amy has also worked closely with top Broadway Producers of Broadway Hits such as Rent, Chicago, Annie Get Your Gun, Peter Pan, Matilda and Wicked.
Seth Weinstein was the musical director and composer of the Off-Broadway musical How to Save the World and Find True Love in 90 Minutes (New World Stages, 2006). He has toured internationally with Fosse and Ivan Jacobs’s The Phantom of the Opera and in the USA with Almost Heaven: Songs of John Denver. Regionally, he has been the musical director of Black House (Zagreb, Croatia), Do I Hear a Waltz? (Arvada Center), Smokey Joe’s Cafe (Connecticut Repertory Theatre), and Chick Flick (Loft 227 and Millbrook Playhouse), among other shows. Seth also wrote and recorded “The Chagall Suite” (an eight-movement piano piece based on themes of Marc Chagall’s artworks) and “Conversations” (a musical meeting between Chagall and Elvis Presley), and he has played the pieces in France, Germany, and the USA. He performs monthly with L’Opera Burlesque and he is the pianist for the MAC and Bistro Award–winning Screen Gems: Songs of Old Hollywood (featuring Sarah Rice) and Operation Opera (baritone Adelmo Guidarelli’s amusing tribute to opera, a participant in the 2011 Edinburgh Festival Fringe).
Past Program
Sample Broadway Guest Artists

CHRISTOPHER JACKSON - HAMILTON

Christopher Jackson- Hamilton – original Off Broadway and Broadway Company, Tony Award nomination; In the Heights - original Co. B'way: Orig. Co. and Simba in Disney's The Lion King. Regional: Comfortable Shoes, Beggar's Holiday. TV credits: "White Collar," "Nurse Jackie," "Gossip Girl," "Fringe," "Oz." Co-music director for the hit PBS Show "The Electric Company" ('08-'09.) Has written songs for will.i.am, Sean Kingston, LL Cool J, Mario and many others. Currently writing and composing for "Sesame Street." Solo album - In The Name of LOVE.

CELIA MEI RUBIN – GREAT COMET/MATILDA

Celia lived in England for a decade and has worked extensively on the West End in London and across the UK on national tours. West End credits: Essie/Dance Captain in the OLC of PARADE (Donmar Warehouse, directed by Rob Ashford). Celia is very happy to be back in New York and making her Broadway debut in MATILDA.

CHAD SEIB - ALADDIN
Chad Seib currently appears on Broadway in *Aladdin* and was previously in *Mary Poppins* and in Encores! *No, No, Nanette*. Regional/tours: *Lone Star Love, West Side Story, 42nd Street, Sophisticated Ladies*, among others.

**ALICIA ALBRIGHT - WICKED**

Alicia Albright is the current DC/swing and the Nessarose understudy of the Broadway company of Wicked. She also co-produced the current Broadway production of *Waitress*. She has also been in the 2nd national tour and the Chicago companies of Wicked. Other credits include *All Shook Up* She has also danced in Donald McKayles Étude Ensemble. She has been teaching dance, yoga and Broadway workshops for many years and has also assisted such choreographers as Baayork Lee, Sergio Trujillo, Donald McKayle, Dontee Keihn and Michael Mindlen.

**SELOANE NKHELA – THE LION KING**

**Selloane A. Nkhela** was born in Welkom, South Africa, she won the “Shell Road to Fame” competition for best soloist of the year 1995. She has released two personal CD’s: Thel’u moya and Vuma. Selloane was a featured soloist on Sony Joyous Celebration 2 and 8. Original cast member, The Lion King Los Angeles; also *The Lion King* Toronto, London and Gazelle National Tour.

**STEPHANIE KLEMMONS - HAMILTON**

Stephanie Klemons was raised in Colts Neck, NJ. She has a BA in genetics and microbio research and a BA in modern dance from Rutgers University. She is the Dance Captain for Hamilton (Tony Award, Grammy Award). She holds a Drama Desk Award along with the rest of the original cast of *In The Heights* for Outstanding Ensemble Performance in a Musical. National tours: Bombay Dreams (1st nat’l). Off-Bway: *Tea With Chachaji* (Amma), *Automatic Superstar, Repo: the genetic opera, In the Heights*. Workshops; *Bring It On- The Musical* (Assistant Choreographer). Film: Jaaneman.
StudentsLive High-Profile Key Note Speakers

JUDGE JUDITH SHEINDLIN

Judge Judith Sheindlin’s career in family court began in 1972 when she began prosecuting juvenile delinquency cases for the state of New York, quickly developing a reputation as a sharp, no-nonsense lawyer. In 1982, New York’s then-Mayor, Edward Koch, appointed Judge Sheindlin to the bench as a Judge in the Family Court. Four years later, she was appointed the Supervising Judge in Manhattan and since then, has heard over 20,000 cases in her career. Judge Sheindlin earned a reputation as one of New York’s toughest judges.

As one of the most outspoken judges in the country, Judge Sheindlin became the subject of a Los Angeles Times article in February of 1993. The piece caught the attention of 60 Minutes, leading to a segment on the popular newsmagazine show, which brought her national recognition. She was approached by Larry Lyttle, President, Big Ticket Television, about the possibility of presiding over real cases with real consequences in a courtroom on television. Intrigued by the notion of bringing her no-nonsense message to a national audience, she agreed. Shortly thereafter, JUDGE JUDY became a reality, premiering in national syndication on September 16, 1996.

JOHNNIE L. COCHRAN, JR.

Johnnie L. Cochran, Jr. (October 2, 1937 – March 29, 2005) was an American lawyer best known for his leadership role in the defense and criminal acquittal of O. J. Simpson for the alleged murder of his former wife Nicole Simpson and her friend Ronald Goldman. Cochran also represented Sean Combs (during his trial on gun and bribery charges), Michael Jackson, rapper Tupac Shakur, actor Todd Bridges, football player Jim Brown, rapper Snoop Dogg, former heavyweight Champion Riddick Bowe, and 1992 Los Angeles riot beating victim Reginald Oliver Denny. He also represented athlete Marion Jones when she faced charges of doping during her high school track career. Cochran was known for his skill in the courtroom and his prominence as an early advocate for victims of police brutality.
**KATHIE LEE GIFFORD**

Kathie Lee Gifford is an American television host, singer, songwriter and actress, best known for her 15-year run (1985–2000) on the talk show Live with Regis and Kathie Lee, which she co-hosted with Regis Philbin. She has received 11 Emmy nominations. Before her long stint in talk shows, Gifford's first television exposure was that of Tom Kennedy's singer/sidekick on Name That Tune, from 1974-78. On April 7, 2008, Gifford began co-hosting the fourth hour of NBC's Today Show, alongside Hoda Kotb.

**GERALDINE ANNE FERRARO**

Geraldine Anne Ferraro (August 26, 1935 – March 26, 2011) was an American attorney, a Democratic Party politician, and a member of the United States House of Representatives. She was the first female Vice Presidential candidate representing a major American political party.

**SUSAN LUCCI**

Susan Lucci is an American actress, best known for portraying Erica Kane on the daytime drama All My Children. The character is considered an icon, and Lucci has been called "Daytime's Leading Lady" by TV Guide[citation needed], with New York Times and Los Angeles Times citing her as the highest-paid actor in daytime television.
Tommy Hilfiger started out in the retail business in upstate New York in 1969. In the late 1970s he moved to New York City, and in 1982 landed financial backing to start Tommy Hilfiger, Inc. In 1984 he launched his first signature collection of jeans and men's sportswear, and by the mid-1990s had expanded into women's clothing, eyewear, jewelry, fragrances and home products. His simple designs, emphasizing his name as the brand, were not considered high fashion, but Hilfiger's marketing savvy put him at the top of the industry, and by the end of the 1990s his company had revenues of nearly $2 billion a year. In recent years Hilfiger has suffered somewhat from overexposure, but the brand is still one of the biggest in the world. In 2004 CBS television announced plans to air a "reality" show in cooperation with Hilfiger, called The Cut, in which contestants would vie for a chance to design their own line of clothing.

Reba McEntire is an American country music artist and actress. She began her career in the music industry singing with her siblings on local radio shows and at rodeos. As a solo act, she was invited to perform at a rodeo in Oklahoma City, which caught the attention of country artist Red Steagall. She released her first solo album in 1977 and released five additional studio albums under the label until 1983. Her album, My Kind of Country, brought her breakthrough success, bringing her a series of successful albums and number one singles in the 1980s and 1990s. McEntire has since released 26 studio albums, acquired 35 #1 singles, and 28 albums have been certified Gold, Platinum or Multi-Platinum in sales by the Recording Industry Association of America. In the early 1990s, McEntire branched into film starting with 1990's Tremors. She has since starred in the Broadway revival of Annie Get Your Gun and starred in her television sitcom, Reba (2001–2007) for which she was nominated for the Golden Globe Award for Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series–Musical or Comedy. She has sometimes been referred to as "The Queen of Country", having sold 41 million records in the United States and more than 56 million worldwide. In the United States, she ranks as both the seventh best-selling female artist in all genres and the seventh best-selling country artist, and the second best-selling female country artist of all time, behind Shania Twain.
Calogero Lorenzo "Chazz" Palminteri is an American actor and writer, best known for his performances in *The Usual Suspects*, *A Bronx Tale*, *Mulholland Falls* and his Academy Award nominated role for *Best Supporting Actor* in *Bullets Over Broadway*.

Susan Hilferty has designed over 300 productions from Broadway to the Bay area and internationally including Japan, London, Australia, Germany and South Africa. Recent designs include *Wicked* (2004 Tony, Outer Critics Circle, and Drama Desk awards and Olivier nominations), *Spring Awakening* (Tony nomination) August Wilson’s *Radio Golf* and *Jitney*, *Lestat* (Tony nomination) *Assassins*, *Into the Woods* (Tony and Drama Desk nominations; Hewes Award), *Manon* at LA opera and Berlin Staatsoper, Richard Nelson’s *Conversations in Tuscumum*, Frank Wildhorn's *Wonderland*. She works with such well-known directors as Joe Mantello, James Lapine, Michael Mayer, Walter Bobbie, Robert Falls, Tony Kushner, Robert Woodruff, JoAnne Akalaitis, the late Garland Wright, James MacDonald, Bart Sher, Mark Lamos, Frank Galati, Des McAnuff, Christopher Ashley, Emily Mann, David Jones, Marion McClinton, Rebecca Taichman, Laurie Anderson, Doug Wright, Carole Rothman, Garry Hynes, Richard Nelson and Athol Fugard (the South African writer with whom she works as set and costume designer and often as co-director since 1980). Hilferty also designs for opera, film, and dance, and chairs the Department of Design for Stage and Film at NYU’s Tisch School of the Arts. Many awards include a 2000 OBIE for Sustained Excellence in Design.
Twyla Tharp is one of the most accomplished and versatile artists working today, creating groundbreaking work in ballet, modern dance and on Broadway, in addition to her successes in film and television. She is also the author of three books. Since graduating from Barnard College in 1963, Ms. Tharp has choreographed more than 135 dances, five Hollywood movies and directed and choreographed four Broadway shows. She received one Tony Award, two Emmy Awards, 19 honorary doctorates, the Vietnam Veterans of America President’s Award, the 2004 National Medal of the Arts, the 2008 Jerome Robbins Prize, a 2008 Kennedy Center Honor. Her many grants include the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Fellowship. She is a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences and an Honorary Member of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In 1965 Ms. Tharp founded her dance company, Twyla Tharp Dance. In addition to choreographing for her own company, she has created dances for the Joffrey Ballet, American Ballet Theatre, the Paris Opera Ballet, the Royal Ballet, New York City Ballet, the Boston Ballet, Hubbard Street Dance, the Martha Graham Dance Company, Miami City Ballet and Pacific Northwest Ballet. Ms. Tharp’s work first appeared on Broadway in 1980 with When We Were Very Young, followed in 1981 by her collaboration with David Byrne on The Catherine Wheel at the Winter Garden. Her 1985 production of Singin’ in the Rain played at the Gershwin and was followed by an extensive national tour. In 2002, Ms. Tharp’s award-winning dance musical Movin’ Out, set to the music and lyrics of Billy Joel, premiered at the Richard Rodgers, where it ran for three years. A national tour opened in 2004 and also ran for three years. For Movin’ Out Ms. Tharp received the 2003 Tony Award, the 2003 Astaire Award, the Drama League Award for Sustained Achievement in Musical Theatre and both the Drama Desk Award and the Outer Critics Circle Award for Outstanding Choreography. For the London production Ms. Tharp won the Best Choreography (Musical Theatre) Award of the UK’s Critics Circle National Dance Awards 2006. In 2006 Ms. Tharp worked with Bob Dylan's music and lyrics to create The Times They Are A-Changin’ which played at the Brooks Atkinson. In film Ms. Tharp has collaborated with director Milos Forman on Hair in 1978, Ragtime in 1980 and Amadeus in 1984; with Taylor Hackford on White Nights in 1985; and with James Brooks on I’ll Do Anything in 1994.

StudentsLive Sample Behind The Scenes Broadway Guest Artists

Duncan Stewart (Guest Artist- Casting) is responsible for casting the current Broadway, London (star/celebrity) and National touring companies of CHICAGO THE MUSICAL, the current national tour of the Tony Award® winning musical, LA CAGE AUX FOLLES starring George Hamilton, and the new musical YANK! directed by David Cromer. Recently he has taken on the U.S. casting for London’s prestigious Menier Chocolate Factory (TERRIBLE ADVICE directed by Frank Oz, starring Scott Bakula) as well as U.S. casting for UK's Stanhope Productions (JACQUES BREL, HEDDA GABBLER) and in 2011 Duncan partnered with Royal Caribbean Cruise Lines as their Broadway Casting Consultant for HAIRSPRAY, SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER and CHICAGO THE MUSICAL.
In the past, Duncan was the Executive Director of his own company, Southgate Productions and for many years acted as the Director of Casting for National Artists Management Company (NAMCO) where he cast numerous projects for legendary Broadway producers, Barry and Fran Weissler. Other credits include: the 2010 Broadway production of LA CAGE AUX FOLLES (starring Kelsey Grammer and Douglas Hodge), West End production of THRILLER LIVE (US casting), New York's RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR, West End premiere of Neil LaBute's FAT PIG (ATG co-production), numerous productions at Playwrights Horizons, Huntington Theater, Long Wharf, Coconut Grove, The Old Globe and North Shore Music Theatre. Duncan has also been a guest judge and panelist for Broadway TV's "Next Broadway Star" and for "The Great White Way", a reality-based TV show produced by Osaka Television. He has also provided talent consultation on numerous television projects for Cineflix International, a London based company. Mr. Stewart is a proud member of the Casting Society of America (CSA).

“As a Casting Director I get to do what I do best – create opportunities for people. Whether this be getting someone an audition, letting an actor know that he or she has ‘got’ the part, or simply arranging a creative meeting between producer and client - on a daily basis I get to share the wealth around. Holding true to this paradigm brings me enormous joy and satisfaction.”

Benton Whitley (Guest Artist- Casting) is a partner at Duncan Stewart and Company and currently responsible for casting the Broadway, London (star/celebrity) and National touring companies of CHICAGO THE MUSICAL, the national tour of the Tony Award® winning musical LA CAGE AUX FOLLES starring George Hamilton, and the new musical YANK! directed by David Cromer, now in development. Prior to this, he was the Associate Casting Director at National Artists Management Company (NAMCO) where he cast the 2010 Revival of LA CAGE AUX FOLLES, and other projects in development for Barry and Fran Weissler. Additional stage productions include New York's RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR, the West End production of THRILLER LIVE (US Casting), NYMF/Fringe, as well as working on the 2009 Revival of RAGTIME, Terrence McNally's GOLDEN AGE (World Premiere), Randy Newman's HARPS AND ANGELS (Mark Taper Forum) and productions at The Kennedy Center, Alley Theatre, Mark Taper Forum, Wilma, Philadelphia Theatre Company, The Cape Playhouse, Forestburgh Playhouse, and consultation for The Old Globe, and North Shore Music Theatre. Benton is a proud graduate of North Carolina School of the Arts and the University of Michigan Musical Theatre Department.

Frank DiLella (Guest Artist- Producer/TV Anchor) is a broadcast journalist for NY1, a 24-hour news station in New York City owned and operated by Time Warner Cable. Having been with the station since 2004, Frank currently produces and reports for NY1’s weekly half-hour theater program, ON STAGE. While working the entertainment beat for the station, Frank has interviewed hundreds of artists including Edward Albee, Vanessa Redgrave, Bono, August Wilson, Elton John, Liza Minnelli, Patti LuPone, Bette Midler, Hugh Jackman, Tom Stoppard, Carol Channing, James Earl Jones, Chita Rivera, Jane Fonda, Elaine Stritch, Angela Lansbury, Lady Gaga, Tony Kushner, Andrew Lloyd Webber, and Ben Vereen. In September of 2010, Frank made his Broadway debut on television in Mary Poppins. Aside from filing reports on the Broadway and off-Broadway scenes, Frank has traveled internationally with the news station, covering theatre in Japan, England, Scotland, and Canada. In the fall of 2009, Frank and his ON STAGE team were honored by the New York Musical Theatre Festival for their weekly coverage of NYC theatre. In addition to his work at NY1, Frank is a contributing correspondent for PLAYBILL (The National Theatre Magazine) and has given lectures on theatre and journalism at Hofstra University and The American Theatre Wing. Frank has appeared as a theater correspondent for the BBC, Sirius XM, The Early Show on CBS, CTV, and Al Jazeera TV. Frank can be seen in the 2010 documentary – Pitmen Painters - A Brush With Broadway. Prior to NY1, Frank worked commercially as a print model for Coca-Cola and VH1. He received a B.A in communications/journalism with a minor in theatre from Fordham University at Lincoln Center.
Alecia Parker (Guest Artist- Producer) Broadway: PRISCILLA: Queen of the Desert, The Scottsboro Boys, La Cage Aux Folles, Sweet Charity, Wonderful Town, Annie Get Your Gun and Chicago. She has been associated with the Weisslers on productions including Zorba (associate producer/general manager), Othello, Medea, Your Arm’s Too Short to Box with God, and the international tours of My One & Only, Gypsy and Bye Bye Birdie (general manager). She was the associate producer of Cat on a Hot Tin Roof, Fiddler on the Roof, Falsettos and Grease!

Kevin Woodworth (Guest Artist- Costume Designer) has been working on the Broadway musical Chicago for the past 10 years and doesn’t remember where he worked before that! Some of his past Costume Designer credits include The Wiz, Les Liaisons Dangereux, Crimes of the Heart, Falsettos, Nicholas Nickleby, Amadeus, Grease and Cabaret.


Kat Ventura (Guest Artist- Hair/Make-Up Artist) has worked on many Broadway productions such as Chicago, Spring Awakening, Young Frankenstein, and Guys & Dolls. Kat has designed various BC/EFA events: Broadway Bares, Easter Bonnet and Gypsy of the Year Competitions. Her work can also be seen in Burberry print campaigns and L’uomo Vogue. Marquee artwork for August: Osage County and In The Heights to name a few. Kat has also had the pleasure of working with Broadway’s top actors and actresses for the Tony Awards, The View and many other press events and magazine shoots. Kat is also an accomplished performer and proud member of AEA, SAG and AFTRA.

Donyale Werle (Guest Artist- Set Design) lives in Brooklyn, NY. Her work includes: Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson (The Public Theater), Broke-ology (Lincoln Center, Williamstown Theater Festival), Jollyship the Whizbang (Ars Nova), Dance Dance Revolution (Les Freres Corbusier), Picasso at the Lapin Agile & Mary’s Wedding (Two River Theater), Lower Ninth (Flea), and Princess of Burgundy (Julliard). Upcoming shows include Peter and the Starcatchers (New York Theater Workshop). Other: NYU, PS 122, Magic Theater, Marin Theater Company, A.C.T. Conservatory, San Francisco Shakespeare Festival, San Francisco Mime Troupe. Associate/Asst. Set Designer: (B’way/tours) In the Heights, High Fidelity, White Christmas, Avenue Q. Outer Critics Circle nomination for Bloody Bloody Andrew Jackson. Co-chair of The Broadway Green Alliance’s Pre/Post production Committee.


Nick Pramik (Guest Artist- Marketing Director) manages day-to-day marketing and partnership operations for SpotCo in addition to creating and executing strategic partnerships with media outlets, retail partners, non-profits, airline and travel companies, luxury goods, and wine and spirits companies for SpotCo’s Broadway and touring clients. Nick prides himself on cultivating long-term, outside-the-box marketing programs. He holds a B.F.A. and an M.S. in Corporate Communication from New York University and is a proud member of the Association of Theatrical Press Agents and Managers.

Julie Wechsler (Guest Artist- Marketing) works in the marketing department at SpotCo on Broadway. The shows she works on include: Sister Act, Once, One Man, Two Guvnors, End Of The Rainbow, and Zarkana. Previously, Julie worked at bdb marketing under Betsy Bernstein on the Broadway show Wicked, and interned at Boneau/Bryan-Brown, Broadway Across America-Boston, and aka London. She graduated from Boston University with a BS in communications. Julie holds the record at SpotCo for speedwalking, and is looking forward to great upcoming Broadway seasons.