

**VINEYARD  
THEATRE**

# 2024 GALA

HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED WORK OF ACTOR

**JESSE TYLER FERGUSON**



*ROCKWELL GROUP  
CELEBRATES THE  
SHOWSTOPPING WORK OF*

**JESSE TYLER FERGUSON  
CHRISTINA POON  
ROSEMARIE BRAY**

and our **VINEYARD THEATRE** neighbors

**rockwellgroup**

**VINEYARD  
THEATRE**

**CELEBRATING  
41 YEARS  
OF FEARLESSLY  
MADE THEATRE**



**HONORING JESSE TYLER FERGUSON AND TOASTING  
CHRISTINA POON AND ROSEMARIE BRAY**

**VINEYARD  
THEATRE**

# **2024 GALA PERFORMANCE PROGRAM**

**MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2024  
EDISON BALLROOM**

HOSTED BY **LOGAINNE SCHWARTZANDGRUBENAIRRE**

DIRECTED BY **LEIGH SILVERMAN AND COLIN HANLON**

MUSIC DIRECTION **VADIM FEICHTNER**

AUCTIONEER **MEAGHAN STEELE**

LIGHTING DESIGNER **VICTORIA BAIN**

LINE PRODUCER **JASON AGUIRRE**

DIRECTOR OF PRODUCTION **CORRINE LIVINGSTON**

PRODUCTION TECHNICIAN **REBECCA SCHAFER**

STAGE MANAGER **CLARISSA MARIE LIGON**

ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER **KALEN SIERRA HUGHES**

We wish to express our gratitude to the Performers' Unions:

ACTORS' EQUITY ASSOCIATION

AMERICAN GUILD OF MUSICAL ARTISTS

AMERICAN GUILD OF VARIETY ARTISTS

SAG-AFTRA

through Theatre Authority, Inc. for their cooperation



TONIGHT

**SARAH STERN**, ARTISTIC DIRECTOR  
**SUZANNE APPEL**, MANAGING DIRECTOR

A TOAST TO **CHRISTINA POON**, GENERAL MANAGER, W NEW YORK - UNION SQUARE

A TOAST TO **ROSEMARIE BRAY**, EDUCATOR AT UNION SQUARE ACADEMY FOR HEALTH AND SCIENCES

WELCOME!

**LOGAINNE SCHWARTZANDGRUBENAIRRE**

PERFORMANCE FROM **THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE**

**ALLY BONINO, LILA COOGAN, AARON MICHAEL RAY**  
AND **SARAH SALTZBERG**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY WILLIAM FINN

A TRIBUTE

**CRYSTAL DICKINSON, BRANDON DIRDEN,**  
**HIRAM DELGADO, BILL HECK, KEN MARKS, MICHAEL OBERHOLTZER AND EDUARDO RAMOS**

**“I CAN COOK TOO”**

**LEA DeLARIA**

FROM *ON THE TOWN*,

MUSIC BY LEONARD BERNSTEIN

BOOK AND LYRICS BY BETTY COMDEN AND ADOLPH GREEN

**“BRAVE”**

**SARA BAREILLES AND ROSIE’S THEATER KIDS**  
INTRODUCED BY **CHELSEA CLINTON**

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY SARA BAREILLES AND JACK ANTONOFF

ACCOMPANIED BY STEVEN JAMAIL

LIVE AUCTION

**MEAGHAN STEELE**, SOTHEBY’S  
INTRODUCED BY **ROLONDA WATTS**

**“LITTLE FISH”**

**CELIA KEENAN-BOLGER**

FROM *LITTLE FISH*

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY MICHAEL JOHN LACHIUSA

INTRODUCED BY **KEVIN CAHOON AND MONTEGO GLOVER**

WHERE DO WE LIVE

**CHRISTOPHER SHINN, EMILY BERGL AND LUKE MACFARLANE**

**“I DIDN’T KNOW WHAT TIME IT WAS” AND “TIME AFTER TIME”**

**PATTI LuPONE**

MUSIC BY RICHARD RODGERS, LYRICS BY LORENZ HART

MUSIC AND LYRICS BY CYNDI LAUPER AND BOB HYMAN

ACCOMPANIED BY JOSEPH THAIKEN

INTRODUCED BY **MICHAEL R. JACKSON**

A TOAST TO JESSE TYLER FERGUSON

**SARAH STERN**

THANK YOU AND GOOD NIGHT!

**LOGAINNE SCHWARTZANDGRUBENAIRRE\***

*\*Special thanks to Sarah Saltzberg.*

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# WELCOME TO VINEYARD THEATRE'S 2024 GALA

## DEAR FRIENDS,

Thank you for joining us to celebrate the Vineyard Theatre's incredible work and to honor actor and activist Jesse Tyler Ferguson, who made his Vineyard debut 20 years ago in Christopher Shinn's *Where Do We Live*.

We are thrilled to be toasting educator Rosemarie Bray, who has created a multi-pronged arts program for high school students at Washington Irving High School and Union Square Academy of Health Sciences. Our Education Program is proud to have partnered with Rosemarie for over 25 years.

We also are raising a glass to Christina Poon, the General Manager of the W New York - Union Square. Christina has overseen the full renovation of the W Hotel, designed by architect and theatre designer David Rockwell.

I would like to thank our Gala Committee and all our incredible board and team members for making this evening possible.

I cannot imagine a world without the theatre that launched *Three Tall Women*, *How I Learned to Drive*, *Avenue Q*, *The Scottsboro Boys*, *Indecent*, *Dana H.*, *Is This a Room* and *Fully Committed*, to name just eight of our more than 100 New York premieres.

But it will come as a surprise to no one in this room that even for theatres like the Vineyard that marry artistic achievement with impressive cost consciousness are facing challenging times – audiences still lagging pre-pandemic levels, a shrinking donor base, vanishing corporate support, and reduced or delayed government funding. Yet none of this stands in the way of Vineyard Theatre and our mission: Fearlessly Made in New York.

Many of you know we are in the quiet phase of a campaign that has three core aims: 1) supporting the artists who work at the Vineyard with a living wage and benefits through our Fair Pay Initiative; 2) enabling us to continue to provide free and low-cost tickets to students, artists, and community members through our Good Neighbor Program; and 3) making our longtime home at Union Square accessible and welcoming to audiences, and more flexible for productions of all kinds.

Thank you for being here with us – and for raising your hands and opening your hearts and your wallets to generously support The Vineyard's continued contributions to the theatre and our community. Enjoy the performances and guest speakers tonight!



**Annette Stover**  
Board Chair

# A NOTE

## FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

**DEAR FRIENDS,**

Welcome to Vineyard Theatre's Annual Gala!

It is always exciting, and never taken for granted, to be able to gather our incredible community together. Whether you are a longtime friend or new to The Vineyard, we are so happy you are here.

For 41 years, The Vineyard has been devoted to developing and producing new plays and musicals that push the boundaries of what theatre can be and do, and to nurturing a daring community of artists and audiences.

Tonight we honor a beloved artist, activist, and human, **Jesse Tyler Ferguson**. Jesse made his Vineyard debut in 2002 in Christopher Shinn's play *Where Do We Live*. In 2016, he starred on Broadway in Becky Mode's one-man comedy, *Fully Committed*, which originally had its world-premiere at The Vineyard. In the years between, we have been fortunate to collaborate with Jesse to develop new projects and have experienced first hand not only his talent, but his dedication to his craft, his kindness, and his support of his collaborators. With his husband Justin Mikita, he founded Tie the Knot and Pronoun, organizations dedicated to championing LGBTQ+ rights around the country and the world. We celebrate his activism and his memorable and multi-faceted work on stage and screen tonight, in plays and musicals, comedies and dramas, including eleven seasons on the groundbreaking ABC show *Modern Family*, and the 2022 Tony Award® for Broadway's *Take Me Out*.

We're also delighted to toast two inspiring individuals who contribute so much to our Union Square community: **Rosemarie Bray**, a NYC public school educator who has been the anchor of the Vineyard's education programs for more than two decades; and **Christina Poon**, General Manager of the W Hotel - Union Square, who is overseeing the renovation of this iconic property two blocks from the theatre.

We are in the midst of an ambitious season at The Vineyard, including two acclaimed new plays: John J. Caswell's *Scene Partners*, directed by Rachel Chavkin and starring Dianne Wiest, and Sarah Gancher's *Russian Troll Farm: A Workplace Comedy*. In a few weeks, our production of David Cale's *Harry Clarke*, directed by Leigh Silverman and starring Billy Crudup, will open on the West End. This spring, we'll bring audiences into the process of making new plays and musicals through our **Works in Progress Series**, featuring new work by our 2023-24 artists-in-residence.

THANK YOU for believing in and supporting the work of The Vineyard. All the funds raised tonight directly support our season and artists, and our efforts to make theatre accessible. With your support, we will continue to nurture the work of daring artists whose voices resonate far beyond our stage.

I hope you have a wonderful time tonight!



**Sarah Stern**  
Artistic Director

# NEW YORK, NEW WORK

**Vineyard Theatre is an Off-Broadway theatre company dedicated to developing and producing new plays and musicals that push the boundaries of what theatre can be and do. We seek to nurture a daring community of theatre makers and audiences, and to lift up voices that resonate far beyond our stage.**





## WHO WE ARE

We are a community of theatre makers working together to astonish, entertain and challenge audiences. At the Vineyard, artists are encouraged to trust their voice, to dare and to dream. In our theatre, audiences can see the work artists most want to make.

## HOW WE WORK

We get to know the work of theatre artists at all stages of their careers. When we dedicate resources to a new work in progress, our process is shaped to the artists and their needs, providing time, space and support to help them realize their vision and to bring it to fruition. We seek to build ongoing relationships with our collaborators, to learn from each other, and grow together.

## WHAT WE DO

The Vineyard opened its doors in 1982 as a multi-art chamber theatre on East 26th Street, with theatre, opera, jazz, and children's programming. Seven years later, we moved to our current home in Union Square, focusing our mission exclusively on theatre, while retaining the spirit of our early days, infusing theatre with collaborations across art forms. We premiere three new works each season and develop many more. We invite all who want to experience fearlessly made theatre to step into The Vineyard and to be part of our community.

OUR CORE VALUES ARE:

**CREATIVE RISK TAKING.**

**INTEGRITY.**

**NURTURING A DIVERSE COMMUNITY.**



HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED WORK OF ACTOR

# JESSE TYLER FERGUSON



**J**esse Tyler Ferguson is a Tony Award®-winning actor, author, producer, and host known not only for his creative work but for his ongoing advocacy in the LGBTQIA+ community.

Ferguson starred in the revival of playwright Richard Greenberg's Tony Award®-winning play, *Take Me Out*. He earned his Tony Award® in the category of Best Performance by an Actor in a Featured Role in a Play, for his role as accountant Mason Marzac. He also received an Outer Critics Circle Award, as well as a Drama League Distinguished Performance Award nomination for this role.

He was recently seen in Universal's *Cocaine Bear* directed by Elizabeth Banks opposite Keri Russell, O'Shea Jackson and Ray Liotta and was nominated for an MTV Movie Award for Most Frightened Performance.

In May 2023, he launched his newest podcast *Dinner's On Me* where he breaks bread with big-name friends—old and new—for a delicious meal and candid convos that can only happen over a glass of wine. Shot in some of his favorite restaurants across Los Angeles and New York City. His scripted podcast *Gay Pride & Prejudice* was released exclusively on Spotify in May 2022. This is a modern adaptation of Jane Austen's *Pride and Prejudice* from Spotify and Gimlet.

Ferguson produced the documentary *Broadway Rising* which premiered at the Tribeca Film Festival and tells the inspiring journey back to the stage and the toll of the pandemic on the Broadway community after a historic closure. Ferguson served as an executive producer on David France's BAFTA-winning documentary, *Welcome to Chechnya*, based on the anti-gay purges in Chechnya of the late 2010s. The film was also nominated for an Emmy Award and took home the Grand Jury Prize at the 2021 Sundance Film Festival as well as the Panorama Audience Award at the Berlin International Film Festival. The documentary made the shortlist in the 'Documentary Feature' category for the 93rd Academy Awards and received a prestigious Peabody Nomination.

In March 2021, Ferguson and co-author Julie Tanous released his first cookbook, *Food Between Friends*. Published by Clarkson Potter, the cookbook pays homage to their hometowns as they whip up modern California food with Southern and Southwestern spins.





Ferguson starred as the widely beloved character Mitchell Pritchett on the award-winning ABC comedy *Modern Family*, which ran for an impressive 11 seasons. Ferguson received five Emmy Award nominations and four People's Choice Award nominations on behalf of the show.

Ferguson made his Broadway debut at the age of 21 as Chip in George C. Wolfe's revival of *On the Town*. He later went on to originate the role of Leaf Coneybear in the Tony Award®-winning Broadway musical *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Drama Desk Award, Outstanding Ensemble Performance, Distinguished Performance nominee, Drama League Awards). In 2017, Ferguson won the Drama Desk Award for Best Solo Performance for his outrageous 40-character turn in the Broadway production of *Fully Committed*. The show also earned him a Drama League nomination for Distinguished Performance.

Above: Jesse Tyler Ferguson in *Fully Committed*. Photo by Joan Marcus

Top Right: Jesse Tyler Ferguson in *Spelling Bee*. Photo by Joan Marcus

Bottom Right: Emily Gergl, Luke Macfarlane, Jesse Tyler Ferguson, Jacob Pitts in *Where Do We Live* at The Vineyard. Photo by Carol Rosegg



Other theater credits include The New York Public Theatre's Shakespeare in the Park: *The Merchant of Venice*, *The Tempest*, *The Winter's Tale*, *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Distinguished Performance nominee, Drama League Awards), *The Comedy Of Errors* (Distinguished Performance nominee, Drama League Awards); *Grand Horizons* (Williamstown Theatre Festival); *Log Cabin* (Playwrights Horizons); *Where Do We Live* (Vineyard Theatre); *Little Fish* (Second Stage); *Spamalot* and *The Producers*, both at The Hollywood Bowl.

A long-standing advocate for marriage equality and LGBTQIA+ rights, Ferguson co-founded Pronoun, previously known as Tie The Knot, in 2012 with his husband Justin Mikita. Since 2012, Tie The Knot has released a collection of products - in collaboration with some of their favorite fashion and design partners - inspired by their favorite art, fashion, and more - with all proceeds benefitting LGBTQ organizations and causes worldwide. In 2021, after years of progressive awakening in racial, gender and queer movements and beyond, and recognizing the inevitability of intersectionality necessary to equality's progress, Pronoun was born. The organization has proudly raised over 1.5 million dollars and has supported important and impactful LGBTQIA+ orgs across the nation.





# A TOAST TO CHRISTINA POON



**CHRISTINA POON** brings a distinguished 25-year career in the hospitality sector and currently spearheads the transformative initiatives at W New York Union Square, showcasing a relentless pursuit of excellence and innovation within the industry. As a Board Member for the Union Square Partnership, Christina shares the Vineyard Theatre’s active commitment to community engagement as well as the economic impact of the vibrant Union Square neighborhood as a destination location.

“

*Christina is a powerful leader and a tireless champion of Union Square. Under her stewardship, the W New York - Union Square has undergone a spectacular transformation that integrates our iconic park and vibrant neighborhood into every special detail of its unique hospitality experience.*

– **JULIE STEIN**

Executive Director, Union Square Partnership

# A TOAST TO ROSEMARIE BRAY



**ROSEMARIE BRAY** has been a longtime supporter of the arts, teaching music and English to students and creating a multi-pronged arts program for high school students first at Washington Irving High School and continuing at Union Square Academy for Health Sciences. The Vineyard's Education Program is proud to have partnered with Rosemarie for the past twenty years offering students free performances of plays, musicals, talk-backs and discussions.

“

*Bono said, “Music can change the world because it can change people,” and Rosemarie is a testament to the power of arts education for our students. One of my favorite things about teaching on the 5th floor has been how music floats down the hall from her classroom. Her commitment to her students throughout her career is an inspiration and proof that teaching is a labor of love.*

— **MEREDITH TOWNE**

Educator at Academy for Software Engineering

“

*The Vineyard gives  
you everything  
you need to fly.*

— COLMAN DOMINGO

# NEW PLAY DEVELOPMENT AT THE VINEYARD

**E**ach season, Vineyard Theatre creates opportunities for more than 150 playwrights, directors, composers, and actors to create new plays and musicals and develop artistic skills. We work with artists at all stages of their careers, tailoring support and resources to best serve the needs of their work and process. All of our world-premiere productions in our 2023–2024 season were nurtured through these programs.



On December 1, 2023 The Vineyard held its annual Emerging Artist Celebration at the National Arts Club. Paula Vogel, Susan Stroman, and Colman Domingo personally presented our 2023–24 awards: the Paula Vogel Playwriting Award to **Mara Nelson-Greenberg**, Susan Stroman Directing Award to **Josiah Davis**, and Colman Domingo Award to **Rudi Goblen**.

Josiah Davis, Mara Nelson-Greenberg, and Rudi Goblen at this year's Emerging Artists Celebration.  
Photo by Bronwen Sharp



# ARTIST RESIDENCIES AND COMMISSIONS

## STUDIO RESIDENCIES

In 2022, we expanded our artist residencies from five to seven. Residences enable us to provide artists with ongoing access to space, collaborators, and resources over a longer period of time than a single workshop or reading. **The Commissary's Lessons in Survival** and **Lessons in Survival: 1971** were created in their two-year residency. Pulitzer Prize winner **Michael R. Jackson's** new musical, **White Girl in Danger**, was developed as part of his multi-year residency and will premiere this spring. 2022-23 resident artists include **Martha Clarke**, **Lightning Rod Special**, **Michael R. Jackson**, and the recipients of our artists awards, detailed below.

## PAULA VOGEL PLAYWRITING AWARD

The cornerstone of Artistic Development at The Vineyard is the **Paula Vogel Playwriting Award**, given annually to an exceptionally promising early career writer. The award includes a cash prize, a yearlong residency to develop new work, as well as writing space, readings, workshops, and ongoing dramaturgical support. Previous recipients include **Tarell Alvin McCraney**, **Rajiv Joseph**, **Kara Lee Corthron**, **Branden Jacobs-Jenkins**, **Erika Sheffer**, **Christopher Chen**, **Clare Barron**, **Boo Killebrew**, **Kate Tarker**, **Antoinette Nwandu**, **Jeremy O. Harris**, **Charly Evon Simpson**, **John Caswell, Jr.**, **Ryan J. Haddad**, and **T. Adamson**. The current recipient, **Mara Nelson-Greenberg's** play *Do You Feel Anger?* was produced by The Vineyard in 2019, following a world premiere at the 2018 Humana Festival at Actors Theatre of Louisville. Her work has been developed at Playwrights Horizons, Clubbed Thumb, SPACE on Ryder Farm, Berkeley Rep, and ACT Theatre.

## SUSAN STROMAN DIRECTING AWARD

The Vineyard grants the **Susan Stroman Directing Award** biennially to a gifted early-career director. Resources for this two-year residency include a cash prize, the opportunity to initiate and develop new projects, and to work intensively with actors and designers. Previous recipients include **Liesl Tommy**

(2014), **Lee Sunday Evans** (2016), and **Whitney White** (2018). The current recipient is **Josiah Davis**, a director, choreographer, performer, and designer, and the Associate Artistic Director of On the Verge Theatre Company in California. Recent directing credits include *Mary Gets Hers* at Playwrights Realm, *Clyde's* at Alabama Shakes and Arkansas Rep, *AMANI* at National Black Theatre and Rattlestick, and *The Lightning Thief* for TheatreWorks USA.

## COLMAN DOMINGO AWARD

Seeded in 2019 from the longtime collaboration between The Vineyard and actor/playwright/director Colman Domingo, the **Colman Domingo Award** is bestowed annually to a multi-faceted Black male or male-identifying theatre artist to provide support and resources to create new work. Recipients are selected directly by The Vineyard and Mr. Domingo and receive a cash stipend, workshops and other developmental opportunities, access to writing and studio space, mentorship, and the ongoing support of The Vineyard. Previous recipients include **York Walker** and **Reggie D. White**. The current recipient is **Rudi Goblen**, a playwright, poet, educator and performer who creates solo theater and devised theater work. As an acclaimed dancer, he has toured nationally, and internationally. Rudi is a three-time recipient of playwriting awards from the Kennedy Center.

## ROTH/VOGEL NEW PLAY COMMISSION

In 2022, The Vineyard created the Roth-Vogel New Play Commission, awarded annually to a mid- or late-career playwright, to provide time, support, and inspiration for a new play they have wished but not yet dared to write. The award seeks to recognize artists whose voices are important to hear in our changing world, and who will be able to attempt something with the award that they may not have otherwise. The commission is launched in partnership with Tony-winning producer Daryl Roth and Pulitzer Prize-winning playwright Paula Vogel, and dedicated to Daryl Roth's late mother, Sylvia Connie Atkins, in the spirit of inspiring and supporting artists to be curious, brave and creative. The inaugural recipient is Eisa Davis.

# EDUCATION AT THE VINEYARD

The Vineyard's education programs expand access to the arts and empower underrepresented voices as future arts workers and audiences.



## PROGRAMS FOR PUBLIC HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

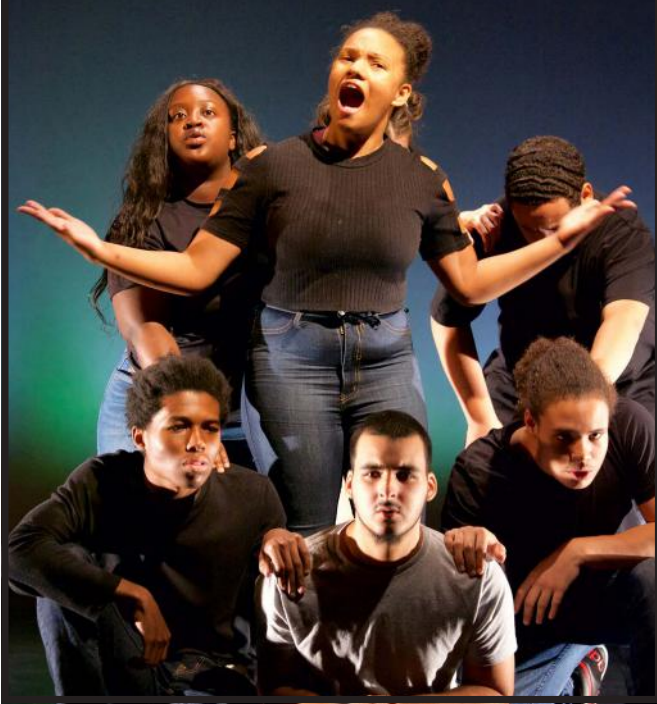
The Vineyard partners with five public high schools to provide curricular and after-school arts education programming for 700+ students annually. Each program offers opportunities for deeper engagement, creating a path from first-time play attendees to stars of our youth festival, performing alongside professional artists

- **STUDENT MATINEE PERFORMANCES** of our mainstage season bookended by in-class contextualizing lessons with a teaching artist.
- Three-day **THEATRE INTENSIVES** during school breaks that explore techniques including writing, ensemble building, auditioning, clowning, activism in the arts, and more.
- The **VINEYARD THEATRE STUDENT ENSEMBLE (VTSE)** in which students meet twice weekly after school to collaboratively write and perform original plays.
- We partner with Developing Artists to provide training and performance opportunities for our VTSE and 75+ local young artists through the **REBEL VERSES YOUTH ARTS FESTIVAL (2017-2019)** and **ARTISTS IN EVOLUTION (2020-2021)** a series of online master classes. We are planning for **REBEL VERSES** to return this summer.

This work teaches students that their voices can move and inspire others. Compared against other students at the same schools, **participants in The Vineyard's programs are nearly 30% more likely to enroll in college.**



**ANNETTE STOVER & RICHARD FEINER  
CELEBRATE THE VINEYARD'S  
EDUCATION PROGRAMS**



**We congratulate  
The Vineyard on  
another great  
season!**

**-John Barrie and  
Betsy Smith**



# FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM SCHOOL TO CAREER TRANSITION

Vineyard's **Fellowship Program** offers early-career professionals a bridge between college and the workforce. We currently offer annual Fellowships in Development and Artistic Producing, and will expand the program by 2024 to offer year-long positions in Marketing, Finance and Management, and Production Management. Each professional Fellowship provides a salary, access to health care benefits, mentorship by Vineyard staff, professional development opportunities, and post-Fellowship job placement assistance.

This year, **Matthew B. Cullen** joins us as the Miranda Family General Management Fellow.



*"The industry is in a time of transformation. By providing me the space to develop the hard and soft skills necessary for a theatre administrator, this fellowship is equipping me to be a part of that transformation towards a healthier, more equitable industry. This wouldn't be possible without The Vineyard, the Miranda Family, and my mentor here, Alma Malabanan-McGrath."*

**— MATTHEW B. CULLEN,**  
Miranda Family General Management Fellow

# ARTISTS & AUDIENCE

## FAIR WAGE INITIATIVE

The Vineyard prides itself on the artistic teams and staff we join together as collaborators, finding just the right alchemy of unique voices and creative interpreters to bring new plays and musicals boldly to life for the first time. Our ability to do this depends in part on the competitive wages we offer, which have increased by over 30% since 2021. These increases have resulted in bringing our payments to AEA actors well above our union negotiated minimums for a theatre our size. Our commitment has also resulted in similarly significant wage increases to union and non-union design assistants, assistant directors and backstage technicians -- for some positions by as much as 50% in a single season. Our goal with these increased rates has been to meet or exceed the MIT Living Wage Calculator rate for New York City, and attempt to keep pace with wages paid by Off-Broadway theatres four to ten times our annual budget size (\$3.4M this season). Providing a livable wage in New York City is the only way to attract and retain staff, artists and technicians. In addition, the goal of The Vineyard's Fellowship program is to eliminate the need for uncompensated internships and to attract underrepresented populations to begin a career in arts administration. The Vineyard's compensation to all full-time personnel and fellows includes the full cost of health insurance. For additional information on the Fair Wage Initiative, contact Managing Director, Suzanne Appel, at [sappel@vineyardtheatre.org](mailto:sappel@vineyardtheatre.org).



Haskell King, John Lavelle, and Renata Friedman in *Russian Troll Farm*  
Photo by Carol Rosegg



# GOOD NEIGHBOR PROGRAM

Our **Good Neighbor Program** is dedicated to providing low-cost or free tickets to students, artists, and any New Yorker for whom cost may be a barrier to seeing our productions. Donations to the Good Neighbor Program support a number of initiatives that provide thousands of accessible tickets to New Yorkers each season:

- **Community Supported Tickets** – 10% of tickets to all Vineyard performances are made available for \$35.
- **Community and Affinity Nights** – Each production includes performances for which tickets are substantially subsidized for affinity groups and community organizations whose missions align with the values of The Vineyard.
- **40 Under 40 & Theatre Artist Memberships** – For just \$40, patrons 40 and under or working in theatre can get access to \$20 tickets to every performance of the season (subject to availability).
- **Housewarming Ticket Initiative** – In fall 2021, our Housewarming Ticket Initiative enabled more than 450 arts workers and nearly 300 students to attend our Broadway productions of *Is This A Room* and *Dana H.* free of charge. We've continued this program for all Vineyard preview performances.
- **Student Matinees** – In collaboration with our education programs, funds raised by the Good Neighbor Program allow us to offer free tickets to NYC public high school students to attend special school-day matinees of Vineyard productions.

Ticket sales for our productions cover approximately 30% of our annual budget. **With the help of donors like you, we are able to push the boundaries of not only what theatre can be and do, but who has access to it. Your support for our Good Neighbor Program** will ensure that our commitment to access, outreach, and inclusivity can sustain and expand each season, and that more New Yorkers – including the artists and audiences of the future – will be able to experience the transformative power of live theatre.





**VINEYARD**  
**THEATRE**  
**WORKS IN**  
**PROGRESS:**  
**FEARLESSLY MADE**  
**IN NEW YORK!**

## **THIS SPRING AT VINEYARD THEATRE**

Each season, we offer opportunities for more than 150 playwrights, directors, composers, and actors to create new work and develop their artistry. Through readings, workshops, residences, and developmental lab productions we tailor our support to realize artists' visions.

From April 8 to June 3, join us on (most) Monday evenings to hear new plays in development at Vineyard Theatre and to learn about the process of making them. Be the first to hear new work by 2023-24 artists-in-residence **T. Adamson, Rudi Goblen, Mara Nelson-Greenberg, Nazareth Hassan, a.k. payne**, and more!



**SCAN HERE FOR MORE INFO**  
OR VISIT **[VINEYARDTHEATRE.ORG/SHOWS/WIP-SERIES](https://vineyardtheatre.org/shows/wip-series)**



VINEYARD  
THEATRE

# PRG SUPPORTS FEARLESSLY MADE THEATRE IN NEW YORK



**Congrats on selling  
me this ad.**

**CHRISTOPHER LLOYD**



# VINEYARD ON BROADWAY

**U**nder the artistic leadership of Douglas Aibel and Sarah Stern, Vineyard Theatre has nurtured a community of fearless theatre makers whose work has expanded the form, the field, and the larger culture. **Vineyard Theatre has transferred 11 shows to Broadway**, seven directly after their acclaimed Vineyard premieres: Lucas Hnath's *Dana H.* and Tina Satter's *Is This A Room* (both NYT Best Theatre of 2021); Paula Vogel's *Indecent*; Nicky Silver's *The Lyons*; Kander, Ebb and Thompson's *The Scottsboro Boys*; Bell and Bowen's *[title of show]*; and *Avenue Q* by Marx, Lopez and Whitty (Tony Award, Best Musical).



In recent years, four additional shows launched at The Vineyard have been revived in their first Broadway productions: Paula Vogel's Pulitzer Prize-winning *How I Learned to Drive*; Lanie Robertson's *Lady Day At Emerson's Bar and Grill*; Becky Mode's *Fully Committed*; and Edward Albee's Pulitzer Prize-winning *Three Tall Women*.



Audra McDonald in *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar and Grill* on Broadway  
Photo by Marc Brenner

From our home in NYC's Union Square, The Vineyard develops and premieres new plays and musicals which go on to be seen around the country and the world. Recently, Jeremy O. Harris' play "*Daddy*" (2019) received its London premiere at the Almeida; Ngozi Anyanwu's *Good Grief* (2018) and David Cale's *Harry Clarke* (2017) were recorded by Audible; Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' *Gloria* (2014), a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize, transferred to Chicago's Goodman Theatre; Paula Vogel's Tony Award-winning *Indecent* (2016) aired on PBS's "Great Performances" and was one of the most-produced plays nationwide in 2019; Colman Domingo's *Dot* (2016) is being adapted into an AMC series; and *Is This A Room* is now HBO's *Reality*. The Vineyard's first major digital work, *Lessons in Survival*, was named one of the top theatrical experiences of 2020 by *The New York Times* and has been viewed by audiences in more than 40 countries, and our recent world-premiere production of John J. Caswell, Jr.'s *Scene Partners*, starring Dianne Wiest, was live-streamed around the world.

Our work and artists have been honored with numerous awards including Pulitzer Prizes and Tony Awards, and the company is proud to be the recipient of special Drama Desk, Obie, and Lucille Lortel Awards for artistic excellence and support of artists.

# SPECIAL THANKS TO OUR GALA SUPPORTERS

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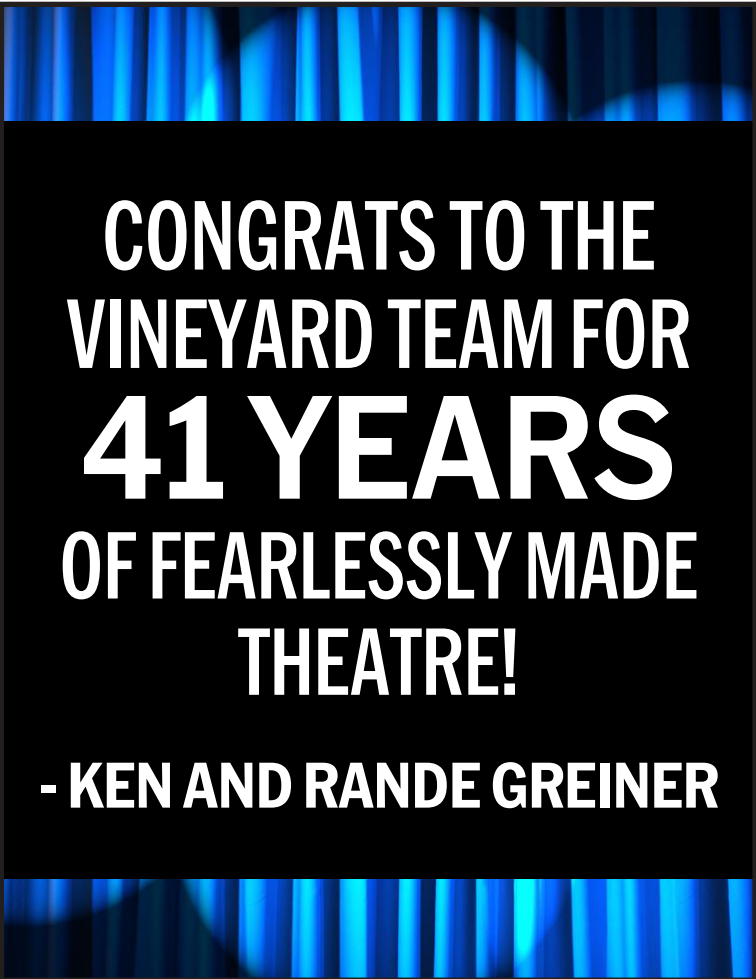
Vineyard Theatre staff at opening night of *Russian Troll Farm*  
Photo by Bruce Glikas

## A very special thank you

Thank you to our creative team and all of tonight's performers and presenters who so generously donated their time and talent.

Thank you to all of our gala volunteers for their help with tonight's event.

Sarah, Doug and Suzanne would also like to thank The Vineyard staff for all of their hard work, and for putting their hearts into this event and into everything we do.



**CONGRATS TO THE  
VINEYARD TEAM FOR  
41 YEARS  
OF FEARLESSLY MADE  
THEATRE!**

**- KEN AND RANDE GREINER**



**Sending love  
to all at The  
Vineyard!**

**-Kathy and  
Henry Chalfant**



**We are a MODERN FAMILY and  
we are FULLY COMMITTED to  
the Vineyard Theatre.**

**We salute Jesse Tyler Ferguson  
and raise a glass to Christina  
Poon and Rosemarie Bray.**

**-Mark Lerner and Steven  
Frank**



**Congratulations  
on committing to  
new plays for 41  
years!**

**-David Schwartz  
and Trudy Zohn**



# Congratulations, Jesse!

– The Sony Music  
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# To The Vineyard

# Mr. Coneybear Mr. Lapine

**-James Lapine**

# To The Vineyard

Keep giving us joy -  
creating and  
inspiring all of us  
with your art!

**-Sunny Sessa**

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We congratulate The Vineyard on  
another great season!

-John Barrie and Betsy Smith



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**Congratulations  
to Jesse Tyler  
Ferguson!**

**-Barry Feirstein**



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**When we laugh at a play, or when our eyes brim with tears, theatre touches our souls, reminding us of our shared humanity. Sometimes, it raises a fist, and challenges our beliefs. Sometimes, it holds up a mirror, forcing us to confront truths we'd rather deny. Through art, we are often led down paths of introspection, to feel, to question, to rebel, to evolve.**

**For over 40 years we've been creating bold art. Fearlessly made in New York, but impacting lives and communities beyond our zip codes.**

**Thank you for joining us at our Annual Gala.**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sue Marks', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Sue Marks  
Vineyard Theatre Board President

## Synopsis

A design agency in London plans to make an Off-Broadway theatre infamous by employing convention-defying creativity. What happens next is incredibly entertaining...



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# NB



**Blavatnik Family  
Foundation is  
proud to support  
the Vineyard Theatre  
and its fearless  
community  
of artists.**

**BLAVATNIK**  
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