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MAESTRA AMPLIFY

2024

A CONCERT AMPLIFYING
THE **WOMEN AND NONBINARY**
MUSICIANS
IN MUSICAL THEATRE

MARCH 25, 2024



Dear Artistic Director,

I just wanted to send you a quick note about my little musical.

~~I think you might like it.~~ It definitely aligns with your theatre's mission.

I KNOW ~~perfect fit~~
Maybe it would be a ~~good option~~ for your upcoming season.



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AND THE COMMUNITY OF
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PEOPLE WHO MAKE THE
MUSIC IN THE MUSICAL
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to all Maestras!
Thank you for
making theatre
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Welcome Letter

AMPLIFY
2024



Hello, friends, and welcome to Amplify 2024!

This evening is our fourth annual concert and fundraising event which celebrates and highlights Maestra members and their music. Every year on the last Monday in March, we gather to amplify the voices of the women and nonbinary people who make the music in the musical theater industry. Thank you for joining us. Just by being here, you are acknowledging how much talent and power there is in this astounding community!

Maestra began in 2017 as a party for 22 female composers and lyricists who worked in the theater industry but didn't really know each other. I music directed SWEET CHARITY Off-Broadway that year, and after having a hard time finding the female musicians the production requested, I hired web designers to build an online directory and make those players more visible to the producers and contractors who had told me they didn't exist. That Directory still lives at the center of the MaestraMusic.org website and now has **over 2200 members**. We maintain 14 Regional Groups across six countries, five Affinity Groups (including Maestra Pride, Maestra Moms, and Student Maestras), a weekly newsletter with over 7000 readers, a robust six-month Mentorship program, a jobs board, annual DEIA trainings, over 100 online technical workshop videos, and monthly community-building and networking meetings both in New York City and virtually. Maestra officially became a nonprofit organization in 2019, which means we will turn five this summer.

Like many small organizations born just before the pandemic, we have moved out of infancy but are still finding our footing as a toddler. Our newest program, RISE Theatre, expands the idea of the Maestra Directory and aims to **create a more equitable and inclusive theatre industry** overall, not just for musicians. Everything you contribute tonight or in the year ahead will go to support this vital and transformative work and the people who make it. Your financial gifts, your informed hiring practices, your in-kind donations, your personal connections, and your positive word of mouth are all crucial to the success of our organization and its members. We are building a network, and now you are part of it! As you take the Maestra mission with you back out into the world, please don't let anyone tell you they'd love to hire someone different if they just knew where to find them. **You know where to find them.**

Thank you for being here. Enjoy Amplify!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Georgia Stitt".

Georgia Stitt

Composer, Lyricist, Music Director
Founder and President of Maestra Music

MAESTRA

STAFF

Chief Program Officer
Judy Yin-Chi Lee

Director of Operations & Events
Carrie Caffrey

Director of Marketing & Communications
Amy Pastrana

Director of Development
Casey Berner

RISE Project Manager
Victoria Detres

Development Consultant
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Marketing & Communications Intern
Jane Mirvis

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MAESTRA

presents

AMPLIFY

2024

HOSTED BY
BONNIE MILLIGAN & J. HARRISON GHEE

FEATURING

RHEANNA ATENDIDO	SANTINO FONTANA	AMANDA GREEN	BROOKE ISHIBASHI	JAY ARMSTRONG JOHNSON
MARY KATE MORRISSEY	LIAM PEARCE	JASMINE AMY ROGERS	SUSHMA SAHA	ARIELLA SERUR
	JORDAN TYSON	JOY WOODS	NICOLE ZURAITIS	

COMPOSERS/LYRICISTS

CLARE FUYUKO BIERMAN	SUSAN BIRKENHEAD	DAVID FOSTER	AMANDA GREEN	BRANDY HOANG-COLIER
ERIKA JI	KAIT KERRIGAN	CHRISTINE LAVIN	MELISSA LI	
BOBBY LOPEZ	KRISTEN ANDERSON-LOPEZ	BREE LOWDERMILK	REBEKAH GREER MELOCIK	INGRID MICHAELSON
	CURTIS MOORE	LYNNE SHANKEL	KIT YAN	JACOB YANDURA

MAESTRA HOUSE BAND

MONICA DAVIS Violin	CLERIDA ELTIMÉ Cello	ANN KLEIN Guitar	MARY ANN MCSWEENEY Bass
JULIANNE B. MERRILL Music Director/Keys	NOELLE RUESCHMAN Reeds	SHIRAZETTE TINNIN Drums	

DIRECTED BY
JESSICA RYAN

PR BY KATIE ROSIN GREEN, KAMPFIRE FILMS PR	PRODUCED BY GEORGIA STITT KATE BALDWIN CARRIE CAFFREY LAURA IVEY WHITNEY BRITT	VISUAL DESIGN BY SARAH GOODMAN
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Amplify is presented in partnership with All Together Now and PatchMaster Productions and supported by MusicalWriters.com, Playbill, Concord Theatricals, TodayTix, and the Miranda Family Fund.

Tonight's Program

AMPLIFY²⁰²⁴

Amplify.....	Mary Kate Morrissey
Music, Lyrics, and Orchestration by Lynne Shankel	
● Get In from YOKO'S HUSBAND'S KILLER'S JAPANESE WIFE, GLORIA.....	Brooke Ishibashi
By Brandy Hoang Collier, Clare Fuyuko Bierman, and Erika Ji	
Orchestration by Erika Ji and Steven Tran	
Keyboard Programming by Steven Tran	
Additional Arrangement by Julianne B. Merrill	
I Wanna Go Back from THE NOTEBOOK.....	Joy Woods and Jordan Tyson
Music and Lyrics by Ingrid Michaelson	
Orchestration by John Clancy and Carmel Dean	
Building Momentum from HOW TO DANCE IN OHIO.....	Liam Pearce
Music by Jacob Yandura, Lyrics by Rebekah Greer Melocik	
Orchestration by Bruce Coughlin	
Run Away with Me from THE MAD ONES.....	Jay Armstrong Johnson
Music by Bree Lowdermilk, Lyrics by Kait Kerrigan	
Orchestration by Bree Lowdermilk	
Additional Arrangement by Julianne B. Merrill	
● How Long (In 1810)? from FEMALE TROUBLES.....	Amanda Green
Music by Curtis Moore, Lyrics by Amanda Green	
Orchestration by Curtis Moore	
● I Want to Be Lonely Again from InunDATED.....	Nicole Zuraitis
Music and Lyrics by Christine Lavin	
Orchestration by Julianne B. Merrill	
● I Don't Look from INTERSTATE.....	Sushma Saha
Music and Lyrics by Melissa Li	
Additional Lyrics and Poetry by Kit Yan	
Orchestration by Macy Schmidt	
Love is an Open Door from FROZEN.....	Santino Fontana
Music and Lyrics by Bobby Lopez and Kristen Anderson-Lopez	
Orchestration by Dave Metzger	
Where I Wanna Be from BOOP! THE MUSICAL.....	Jasmine Amy Rogers
Music by David Foster, Lyrics by Susan Birkenhead	
Orchestration by Doug Besterman	
● Additional vocals by Rheanna Atendido and Ariella Serur	

Who's Who

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Rheanna Atendido

Rheanna (she/her) is a queer Filipino-American singer-songwriter. Acting credits include: *Ring of Fire*, *Monstress*, *Teenage Dick*, *We've Battled Monsters Before*, *Wonder Boy*, *Daddy Long Legs*, *Head Over Heels*, *Dance Nation*, *Yoko's Husband's Killer's Japanese Wife*, *Gloria*, and *The Last Five Years*. Playwright/composing credits include: *Breakup Bench*, *Cultural Essay*, *Unstable Connection*, *Inside Out and Back Again*, *Payphones* (Prospect Theatre), and *Pabitin* (co-commissioned by The 5th Avenue & Village Theatre).



Santino Fontana

received the Tony Award, two Drama Desks, an Outer Critics Circle, a Lortel, an Obie, and the Clarence Derwent Award for his work in both plays and musicals. Most recently seen on Broadway in his virtuosic Tony-winning turn as "Michael/Dorsey" in *Tootsie*. The NY Times wrote, "Santino Fontana [is] one of the most promising actors to emerge in the New York theater." He is widely known for lending his voice to the villainous 'Prince Hans' in Disney's Academy Award-winning animated feature, *Frozen*.



J. Harrison Ghee

J. Harrison made history as the first non binary actor to win a Tony Award in a leading individual performance category for creating the role of "Daphne/Jerry" in *SOME LIKE IT HOT* (Grammy win, Drama Desk, and Outer Critics Circle awards). An outspoken advocate for the LGBTQIA+ community, Ghee has been involved with many organizations, including Broadway Cares, GLAAD, and God's Love We Deliver. J. hopes to create roles and conversations that reach beyond what was and into a realm of infinite possibilities.



Brooke Ishibashi

(pronouns: she / her /hers). Brooke originated *Florinda* in the *Into the Woods* revival with Neil Patrick Harris, Sara Bareilles and Broadway's greatest luminaries. She originated and developed *Neary/Sothea* in Cambodian Rock Band and passionately develops new work that celebrates AAPI joy and fosters

transgenerational healing. Brooke co-founded Be An Arts Hero, lobbying Congress for arts & culture relief and garnering the first ever Congressional hearing on the power, peril and promise of the creative economy. BeAnArtsHero.com



Jay Armstrong Johnson

Jay (he/him) is a performer, creative producer, director, choreographer, and educator known for his roles on Broadway and in TV/Film. Broadway: *PARADE*, *The Phantom of the Opera*, *On the Town*, *Hands on a Hardbody*, *Catch Me If You*

Can, *HAIR*. Jay has over a decade of experience as a masterclass teacher at arts institutions worldwide. Jay launched a private acting studio and a training/mentorship program called Bridge Arts Project, which aims to cultivate the potential of emerging artists nationwide.



Bonnie Milligan

received the 2023 Tony Award for Best Actress in a Featured Role, the 2022 Lucille Lortel Award, and Drama Desk, Outer Critics Circle and Drama League award nominations for her performance as Debra in *Kimberly Akimbo*. Broadway: *Head Over Heels* (Theatre World award winner, OCC and Drama league nominations). Tour: *Kinky Boots* (original Pat). Off-Broadway: *Promenade*, *God Bless You Mr. Rosewater* (Encore!); *Jasper in Deadland* (Prospect); *Gigantic* (Vineyard). IG @beltingbonds.



Mary Kate Morrissey

is honored to be the 25th woman to play Elphaba full time on Broadway. She believes in the transformative power of musical theater and its capacity to change lives for good. MK spent a decade touring with *Wicked* (Elphaba), *Mean Girls* (Janis), and *Hair* (Sheila) before making her Broadway Debut last year as the Elphaba Standby. She has had the opportunity to pursue her passion for developing new work at The Public, Signature Theatre, Portland Center Stage, Syracuse Stage, Sundance Lab, Vineyard Arts, The O'Neill, Theatreworks Palo Alto, and Colorado New Play Summit.

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Liam Pearce
(He/Him/His) Charlotte, NC born and raised actor /musician! Broadway: *How to Dance in Ohio*. Regional: *Rent* at Papermill Playhouse, *Legally Blonde* at The Muny. All the love in the world to his chosen family of friends here in NYC and the country. Graduate of Pace Musical Theatre. Work hard! Play harder! Get a treat! Love you! IG: @liam.pearce



Jasmine Amy Rogers
(she/her) recently finished a run as the titular role of "Betty Boop" in the World Premiere of *Boop! The Musical* at Chicago's CIBC Theatre, directed by Jerry Mitchell. Prior to that she was seen as "Gretchen Wieners" in the

First National Tour of *Mean Girls*, "Melody Green" in Paper Mill Playhouse's production of *The Wanderer*, and as "Francis Bassey" in the world premiere of *Becoming Nancy*, also directed by Jerry Mitchell, at the Alliance Theatre. On television she has appeared in *Evil* on Paramount+.



Sushma Saha
(pronoun inclusive) is a queer Indian-American artist based in NYC. They are a multi-hyphenate who got a B.F.A. in musical theatre from Ithaca College (Class of 2021). Notable works include playing Judge James

Wilson, PA in the Broadway rival of *1776* and winning 'Outstanding Performance in a Leading Role' at New York Musical Festival for playing Henry in *Interstate*. They are working on their first EP *This Isn't About You*, to be released on all music-streaming platforms.



Ariella Serur
Ariella (they/she) is a composer, writer, and Broadway performer. In 2023, *We Start In Manhattan: A New Queer Musical*, co-written with partner Sav Souza, sold out 54 Below, had developments with Powerhouse

Theater at Vassar College and *Live and In Color* (awarded a NAMT 2024 Writers Residency Grant), and had its first NYC reading presented by Powerhouse Theater. Select performance credits: Broadway: *1776*. Regional: *1776*, A.R.T.; *RENT*, The RedHouse. AriellaSerur.com, WeStartInManhattan.com.



Jordan Tyson
Broadway debut. Theatre: *Bulrusher* (McCarter/Berkeley Rep), *Into the Woods* (PCLO), *The Notebook* (Chicago Shakespeare), *Lempicka* (La Jolla Playhouse), *Streets of New York* (Irish Repertory), *Folk Wandering* (A.R.T./NY), *I and You* (Weston Playhouse). Television: *The Chair* (Netflix/recurring guest star). Film: *Vampires vs. the Bronx* (Netflix). Readings: *Hearts Beat Loud* (MCC), *Learned Ladies*. 2017 AUDELCO Rising Star Award, 2018 Yes-Broadway 40 Under 40. Debut EP coming soon. For my teachers. @curlybroad www.jordantyson.com



Joy Woods
Broadway: *SIX*. Off-Broadway: *Little Shop of Horrors*, *I Can Get It for You Wholesale*. She is the recipient of The Joseph Jefferson Award for Performer in a Supporting Role—Musical for her performance as Middle Allie in *The Notebook* at Chicago Shakespeare Theater. @joywoods



Nicole Zuraitis
is a GRAMMY® Award-winning (2024) jazz singer-songwriter, pianist and arranger, New York-based bandleader, and winner of the prestigious 2021 American Traditions Vocal Competition Gold Medal. Her sixth album, *How Love Begins*, co-produced with eight-time GRAMMY-winner Christian McBride (2023), features all original music and was awarded the GRAMMY for BEST JAZZ VOCAL ALBUM. Nicole is the premier vocalist for the Birdland Big Band and headlines iconic NYC jazz clubs. Visit www.nicolezmusic.com.



Clare Fuyuko Bierman
Clare is a playwright and lyricist raised in a Japanese-Jewish home in Los Angeles. Her work has been supported and developed by the Eugene O'Neill New Musical Theater Conference, NAMT, The Orchard Project, *The Civilians*, The Johnny Mercer Songwriter Project, the Samuel French Off-Off Broadway Play Festival, American Opera Projects, and the Bret Adams and Paul Reich Foundation. She has a degree in Environmental Studies, and an MFA in Musical Theater Writing from NYU.

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Susan Birkenhead

Susan received a Tony Nomination, a Grammy nomination and a Drama Desk Award for her lyrics for *Jelly's Last Jam*. She was nominated for a Drama Desk Award for *Triumph of Love* and a Tony award for *Working*. She won an Outer Critics Circle award for *What About Luv*, and an L.A. Drama Critics Award for *Minsky's*. She wrote additional songs for Cole Porter's *High Society* for Broadway and was one of several writers for *Stars of David* and *A...My Name Is Alice* Off Broadway.



David Foster

David is one of the most illustrious composers/producers of our time, with 16 Grammy Awards and 47 nominations; and Emmy Award, Golden Globe, and three Oscar nominations. He played a key role in the discovery of Celine Dion, Josh Groban, Michael Bublé, and others. His hit songs include *Hard to Say I'm Sorry*, *You're the Inspiration* (Chicago), *I Have Nothing* and *I Will Always Love You* (Whitney Houston), *The Power of Love* and *All By Myself* (Celine Dion), and *The Prayer* Celine Dion/Andrea Bocelli.



Amanda Green

is a two-time Tony Award-nominated, Grammy-nominated lyricist/composer, and award-winning performer. *Female Troubles: A Period Piece*, an original musical comedy she co-conceived about reproductive rights, will premiere in 2025. She received Tony, Drama Desk Award and Grammy nominations for her lyrics for *Mr. Saturday Night*. She received a Tony Award nomination and two Drama Desk Award nominations for *Hands On A Hardbody*. Green serves as the first woman President of The Dramatists Guild of America.



Brandy Hoang-Collier

Brandy Hoang Collier is a writer, composer, and theatre-maker from deep in the heart of Texas. She is best known as the bookwriter of *Yoko's Husband's Killer's Japanese Wife*, *Gloria* which won the Vivace Award in 2023. She also has other interests that do not

qualify her for awards, such as trying on clothes and watching basketball.



Erika Ji

Erika is a cross-genre composer-storyteller. Her work has premiered at places like Lincoln Center and the Public Theater, and been supported by the National Music Theater Conference, the National Alliance for Musical Theater, and the New York Foundation for the Arts. Recent projects: *Yoko's Husband's Killer's Japanese Wife*, *Gloria* (NAMT Grant 2023, Orchard Project 2023, O'Neill NMTC 2023, NAMT Festival 2023). As a conductor, pianist, and vocalist, Erika has performed on Broadway with Kimberly Akimbo.



Kait Kerrigan

Kait is an award-winning lyricist, bookwriter, and playwright. Broadway: Book for *THE GREAT GATSBY*. West End: Additional Lyrics for *THE TIME TRAVELLER'S WIFE*. Off-Broadway: Book and lyrics for *THE MAD ONES*, *HENRY AND MUDGE*, both written by composer Bree Lowdermilk. Other musicals and plays include *INDIGO*; *JUSTICE*; *ADA TWIST, SCIENTIST & FRIENDS*; *A KILLER PARTY*; *IMAGINARY LOVE*; *FATHER / DAUGHTER*. Her work has been developed by the Kennedy Center, Goodspeed, La Jolla, Aurora, Theatreworks/Silicon Valley, Lark Play Development, Primary Stages, and others. Awards: Kleban (libretto-writing), Larson (lyric-writing), and Theatre Hall of Fame Most Promising Lyricist.



Christine Lavin

Christine started her professional life in 1975 where she met Dave Van Ronk who encouraged her to study guitar with him in NYC. Her latest solo album includes ten new songs and one reworked song, *Ramblin' Waltz*, a re-telling of her time as an entourage driver for Bob Dylan's Rolling Thunder Revue tour. In 2023, she released *The Seasons Project*, an 80-song seasonal compilation that features the work of 63 American, Canadian, British, and Irish singer/songwriters. In 2024 she is completing her 26th solo album, *DRUM SCHOOL DROPOUT*.

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Melissa Li

Melissa is a composer, lyricist, performer, and writer. She is a recipient of the Jonathan Larson Award, a Dramatists Guild Foundation Fellow, a 2019 Lincoln Center Theater Writer-in-Residence, a 2019 Musical Theater Factory Maker, and a former Queer|Art|Mentorship Fellow. Musicals include *Interstate* (New York Musical Festival, Winner "Outstanding Lyrics"), *Surviving the Nian* (The Theater Offensive, IRNE Award Winner for "Best New Play" 2007), and *99% Stone* (The Theater Offensive).



Bobby Lopez

Tony, Grammy, Emmy, and Oscar-winning co-creator/writer of *The Book of Mormon* (nine Tony Awards including Best Book, Best Original Score, and Best Musical), co-creator/songwriter of *Avenue Q* (three Tony Awards including Best Original Score and Best Musical). Film: Pixar's *Coco* (Oscar® Best Original Song win for "Remember Me," *Frozen* (Oscar Best Original Song win for "Let It Go"). Lopez, a Yale College graduate, lives in Brooklyn with his wife and their two daughters.



Kristen Anderson-Lopez

Kristen is an Oscar and Grammy Award-winning songwriter. She is the co-writer of *Frozen* on Broadway, Disney's *Frozen*, and "Remember Me" from Pixar's *Coco*. She is the co-writer of *In Transit*, *Finding Nemo* the Musical, and Emmy-nominated songs for TV's 87th Academy Awards and *The Comedians*. A recipient of the BMI Harrington Award and the 2014 Lilly Award, she serves on the Council for the Dramatists Guild and on the Advisory Board for the Brooklyn Children's Theatre.



Bree Lowdermilk

Bree is a queer, gender non-conforming musical theater writer, YouTube creator, songwriter, and dramatist. Off-Broadway: *The Mad Ones* and *Henry and Mudge* toured the country for over a decade with longtime collaborator Kait Kerrigan. Awards: the Larson Award, Alan Menken Award, Richard Rodgers Award, and a Dramatists Guild Fellowship. They held residencies at MacDowell, Johnny Mercer, and Theatreworks/Palo Alto. They

are a founder of the start-up NewMusical-Theatre.com and a member of the Dramatists Guild and ASCAP.



Rebekah Greer Melocik

Rebekah's projects with composer-collaborator Jacob Yandura include *THE LAST QUEEN OF CANAAN* (book by Harrison David Rivers), *WRINGER*, based on the novel by Jerry Spinelli, and *HOW TO DANCE IN OHIO*, based on the award-winning documentary. Rebekah holds a B.A. in Poetry from the University of Southern California and an MFA from the Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program at NYU. She wrote curriculum stories for the award-winning early childhood chess company Chess at Three.



Ingrid Michaelson

is a force in the music industry, known for her distinctively soulful folk-pop style. Her music is released on the label she founded, Cabin 24 Records, including her gold and platinum hits *The Way I Am*, *Girls Chase Boys*, and *You and I*. She's scored songs for television, including *Little Fires Everywhere* (Emmy nomination) and *Tiny Beautiful Things* both for Hulu, and was executive music producer for *Slumberkins* for AppleTV+, creating original songs for the series. Michaelson made her Broadway on stage debut in ... *The Great Comet of 1812*. *The Notebook* marks her Broadway debut as composer. [@ingridmichaelson / \[www.ingridmichaelson.com\]\(http://www.ingridmichaelson.com\)](mailto:@ingridmichaelson)



Curtis Moore

Curtis Moore is a multiple Emmy-nominated, award-winning musician, composer, songwriter, and producer. Currently, Curtis is working on three commissions from Scott Sanders Productions, Universal Pictures, and Michael Cassell Group, as well as a new musical *Female Troubles* with Amanda Green (*Hands on a Hard Body*, *Bring It On*), Jen Crittenden, and Gabby Allan (*Veep*). In addition to composing, he is an orchestrator, arranger, conductor, music supervisor, music producer, and occasional performer.

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Lynne Shankel

Lynne is a composer, lyricist, orchestrator, arranger and educator. Lynne was music supervisor/arranger/orchestrator for *Allegiance* and was the first woman to solely orchestrate a new musical on Broadway. She was music director/arranger for the B'way production of *Cry-Baby*, as well as the resident music supervisor for the Tony-award winning revival of *Company*. Lynne teaches Musical Theatre Composition at the University of Michigan, is a member of Maestra, and is a voting member of the Recording Academy.



Kit Yan

Kit Yan is a recipient of the 2023 Helen Merrill Award, 2022 ASCAP Harold Adamson Lyric Award, 2021 Jonathan Larson Grant, 2021 Kleban Prize, and the 2019 Vivace Award. Fellowships and residencies include Sundance, MacDowell, Hermitage, The Dramatists Guild Foundation, The Playwright's Center, and Lincoln Center. Their work has been produced at Lincoln Center, The American Repertory Theater, East West Players, and The Smithsonian. Kit is developing work for TV and film with their writing partner, Melissa Li.



Jacob Yandura

Jacob Yandura is a New York City-based composer. Most recently, Jacob and his lyricist-collaborator Rebekah Greer Melocik worked together on the Broadway musical *How to Dance in Ohio* from the 2015 Peabody Award-winning documentary. His other projects include *The Last Queen of Canaan* (book by Harrison David Rivers), *The Coup*, and *Wringer*, a commission by New York City Children's Theater based on the novel by Jerry Spinelli (Off-Broadway; New York City Center Stage II; directed by Stephen Bratt).



Monica Davis

Violin

A member of The New York Pops and Novus NY, Monica can be seen in venues throughout the city performing with The Orchestra of St Lukes, The Knights, Mark Morris Ensemble, and Simone Dinnerstein's Baroklyn. Monica

performed or recorded with artists ranging from Bruce Springsteen and Solange to Frank Ocean and Lizzo. Monica has played for over 15 Broadway and off-Broadway shows and has been the string doubler for the Tony Awards orchestra since 2015. She is a member of the band of Hamilton on Broadway.



Clerida Eltimé

Cello

Clerida has made her mark in classical, pop, and hip-hop music, performing with artists including Frank Ocean, J. Cole, Nas, and the legendary Stevie Wonder.

She has performed at prestigious venues such as Madison Square Garden, NPR Tiny Desk Office, The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Carnegie Hall, Central Park's SummerStage, and The Museum of Modern Art. Her primary studies were with Julia Lichten of the Orpheus Chamber Orchestra, a graduate of Purchase College (BM - Cello Performance).



Ann Klein

Guitar

Ann plays guitar, mandolin and other string things. Also a singer/songwriter/composer with worldwide credits, Ann wrote the theme song for Maestra's *Seat At The Table* video featuring

Aisha De Haas/vocals, Dena Tauriello/drums and Ann on guitars/bass. Ann held the guitar/mandolin chairs at *Head Over Heels*, *Almost Famous* and *Superhero*. She has lent her skills in *Grease*, *9 to 5*, *Baby It's You*, *Kinky Boots*, *Waitress*, *Jagged Little Pill*, *Sweet Charity* and other shows. She was the first female guitarist to play in a Broadway show, as a sub! www.annkleinmusic.biz



Mary Ann McSweeney

Bass

Mary Ann has played for renowned conductors Leonard Bernstein, Lalo Schifrin and John Williams and has toured with six-time Tony award-winning vocalist Audra McDonald. She has played in

over 40 Broadway shows and continues to compose for her Urban Fado Band and McSweeney Plays Mingus projects. She has been performing *Some Like it Hot* on Broadway, which just won a Grammy in 2024 for Best Cast Album. McSweeney

*Maestra Member

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currently plays bass for the Broadway show *Water for Elephants* at the Imperial Theater.



Julianne B. Merrill
Music Director/Keys
she/her (Music Director/Playback Engineer). Broadway: *A Strange Loop*, *Some Like it Hot*, *Harmony*, *How to Dance in Ohio*. Off-Broadway: *White Girl in Danger*. Regional: *Hippie Trip - The Soul Train Musical*. NY Concerts: *Maestra Amplify*, *Ring of Keys Queering the Canon*, *SuperYou* at Carnegie Hall. A recent graduate and now professor of Live Music Production and Design and Writing and Design for Musical Theater at BerkleeNYC, Julianne uses the artist name "PatchMaster." @juliannebmerrill



Noelle Rueschman
Reeds
An NYC-based musician specializing in woodwind instruments. She played the Reed 3 chair at *Some Like it Hot* on Broadway. Substitute work includes *How to Dance in Ohio*, *Bob Fosse's Dancin'*, Radio City Music Hall Christmas Spectacular, and Paper Mill Playhouse productions of *Sister Act* and *On Your Feet!* Noelle has held chairs on *JOY* and *Last Days of Summer* at George Street Playhouse. She holds an MM in Multiple Woodwind Performance from NJCU, where she taught undergraduate Woodwind Method classes.



Shirazette Tinnin
Drums

Shirazette is a recent 2022 Latin Grammy Nominee for Afro-Andean Funk *The Sacred Leaf*, 18th St. Make Jazz Fellow, Fulbright Scholar recipient, published author, health coach, music director, drummer, composer, and bandleader. She is a full time Associate Professor of percussion at Berklee College of Music where she directs The Dee Dee Bridgewater Ensemble and teaches Private Instruction. Shirazette has a background in marching percussion, classical percussion, world percussion, and her primary instrument is drum set.



Jessica Ryan
Director

Jessica Ryan is an award-winning director, entrepreneur and mad scientist at the intersection of tech and the arts. Her groundbreaking work has been featured at Talks at Google, The New York Times, and more, and she has directed nearly every major live theatrical broadcast to date including Clyde's, Between Riverside and Crazy, Freestyle Love Supreme+ Live at the Waldorf, Miscast, and Amplify. Other theatre: Goodspeed, Berkshire Theatre Group. Proud Maestradjacent Advisory Board Member @jessicaryannyala

*Maestra Member

OTHER CREDITS

A Seat at the Table Video Segment

Hosted by Kate Baldwin

Featuring November Christine, Nicole D'Angelo, PJ Ju, and Victoria Detres

"A Seat at the Table"

Music and Lyrics by Ann Klein

Performed by Aisha deHaas

Ann Klein, Guitar/Bass-Inklne
Engineer -Tim Hatfield

Produced by Tim Hatfield and Ann Klein

Shot on Location at Starchild,
The Civilian Hotel, NYC

Directed by Jessica Ryan

Produced by Greg Kamp

Director of Photography - Gregg Monteith

Sound Engineer - Gregg Monteith

Camera Operator - Mer Morran

Amplify Production from All Together Now

Executive Producer - Greg Kamp

Camera Operator - Gregg Monteith

Voice of God - Stephanie J. Block

Music Coordinators - Kristy Norter,

Sara Jacovino

Music Assistant - Lexi Vollero

Piano provided by Boulevard Carroll

MAESTRA

provides support, visibility, and community for the women and nonbinary people who make the music in the musical theater industry.



MAESTRA IS A MOVEMENT.

We value relationships.

- We practice radical collegiality to champion each other as individual professionals and nurture connectedness among us.

We value transparency.

- We share our knowledge to help each other thrive.

We value collaboration.

- We encourage participation from our members and respond to new ideas and initiatives.

We value partnership.

- We coordinate with other groundbreaking leaders and organizations because this movement is larger than us.

We value solutions.

- We take practical steps to support individual members while driving toward cultural and systemic changes that benefit our entire global community.

OUR PLATFORM



MAESTRA DIRECTORY

We built and maintain a global database of over 1,900 women and nonbinary people who are skilled and ready to work in theatrical music departments. This free tool and its listings have helped industry music supervisors, contractors, general managers, and producers find and hire more Maestras.



MAESTRA MENTORSHIP & EDUCATION

We pair mentors and mentees to provide support for early-career Maestras with access, information, and training opportunities. In 2022-23, Maestra paired 65 mentor/mentee teams. Maestra also provides DEIA Training within the mentor/mentee community and actively works to find and promote opportunities for Maestras of color.



AMPLIFY

Amplify is our annual spring concert and community event. It began as a virtual event in 2021 in collaboration with Broadway Unlocked, with attendees from 26 countries. Amplify showcases songs, arrangements, and music direction by members of Maestra.



REGIONAL & AFFINITY GROUPS

Maestra's 19 Regional and Affinity Groups serve members that share a particular identity, skill set, or geographic location. Maestra has regional networks blooming throughout the United States as well as in Australia, Canada, the UK, and German-speaking Europe. Affinity Groups include Maestra Moms, Maestra MDs, Student Maestras, Maestra Composers and Lyricists, and Maestra Pride (LGBTQIA+).



Between 2012-2021,

8%
of Broadway scores were composed by women

75%
of pits were entirely male

22%
of Broadway musicians were female.

Between 2012-2021,
2/98 drum chairs
on Broadway were
held by women.



CONNECT WITH US



www.maestramusic.org



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Thank you to the following donors for
their support of this year's Amplify:

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Special thanks to **Playbill** and **Sony Hall** for their generous in-kind support.

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*Denotes Maestra Board Member
Donor listings as of March 6, 2024

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The logo for the Miranda Family Fund, featuring a red wavy line above the text "MIRANDA FAMILY" in red, with "fund" in black below it, all within a white box with red borders.

MAESTRA

AMPLIFY
AUCTIONS



SCAN THE QR CODE
AND BID TODAY!

MAESTRA AMPLIFY²⁰²⁴

TO **SUPPORT MAESTRA**
SCAN THE QR CODE



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