## Boston Arts Academy

Boston's only public high school for the visual and performing arts



An All-Star Student Performance, Shrek brings all the beloved characters you know from the film to life on stage and proves there's more to the story than meets the ears.

**MARCH 16 - 18, 2023** 

Boston Arts Academy | Main Stage Theatre 174 | Ipswich Street | Boston, MA 02215 | PRESENTING SPONSOR









**JERRY WHEELOCK & ELIZABETH WOOD** 

## Congratulations!

Congratulations to the entire cast of Shrek and to the musicians, production team, technical crews and teachers for their amazing energy and dedication!



**DAWN M. SIMMONS** 



**BOSTON** UNIVERSITY

Adapted by REGINALD ANDRÉ JACKSON

Based on the novel by **CHRISTOPHER PAUL CURTIS** 



**Qate** APRIL 14 - MAY 14, 2023



Dear friends,

Thank you for joining us for the 2023 Champion Reception and all-star student production of *Shrek The Musical!* 

We are ecstatic to celebrate our BAA Champions during Women's History Month - City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu and former Mayor Kim Janey, our city's first two female mayors - and to enjoy the first major student production performed in Boston Arts Academy's beautiful new school building.

Musicals provide a unique experience for our students to showcase their talents and explore other art forms beyond their areas of primary study: every actor sings, every dancer acts, and so on. These opportunities for creative exploration build a sense of community and collaboration. We specifically chose to produce *Shrek The Musical* because it asks students to demonstrate a range of acting ability, vocal skill, and technical understanding by using all of the great, new equipment in our thoughtfully designed new facility.

The theme of *Shrek The Musical* also represents our school's core values, with a focus on building community with social responsibility and supporting and believing in diversity with respect. We hope, after you watch the show, you leave with a clearer understanding of what Boston Arts Academy stands for, the importance of expression and education through the arts, and our emphasis on diversity with respect.

As we continue to celebrate our 25th Anniversary of providing transformative public arts education to the youth of Boston, we want to thank you for making the magic of Boston Arts Academy's arts-intensive and college-preparatory education possible. Because of your contributions to BAA Foundation, which help to close the multi-million-dollar funding gap to provide the arts programming and resources our students need and deserve, our students can draw on their artistic strengths to learn valuable skills within a school and community that believes, respects, and supports them, and achieve success as they become graduates of BAA.

Thank you for supporting the people and programs at Boston Arts Academy, our city's only public high school for the visual and performing arts. We invite you to visit bostonartsacademy.org/foundation/donate and make your best gift to support our community's brightest artists, scholars, and global citizens.

Gratefully,

Denella J. Clark

President, Boston Arts Academy Foundation

/ ')

Anne R. Clark Head of School, Boston Arts Academy

## 2023 BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY FOUNDATION CHAMPION AWARD RECIPIENT

## CITY OF BOSTON MAYOR MICHELLE WU



Boston Arts Academy Foundation is delighted to honor City of Boston Mayor Michelle Wu with this year's Champion Award.

Michelle Wu is the Mayor of Boston. She is a daughter of immigrants, Boston Public Schools mom to two boys, MBTA commuter, and fierce believer that we can solve our deepest challenges through building community. As Mayor, Michelle is working in coalition to deliver bold, systemic change and make Boston a city for everyone. Mayor Wu has been a voice for accessibility, transparency, and community engagement in city leadership. First elected to the Boston City Council in November 2013 at the age of 28, Wu is the first Asian-American woman to serve on the Council. In January 2016, she was elected President of the City Council by her colleagues in a unanimous vote, becoming the first woman of color to serve as Council President.

As a Councilor, Mayor Wu was the lead sponsor of Boston's Paid Parental Leave ordinance and Healthcare Equity ordinance prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity — both of which passed unanimously through the Council and were signed into law by former Mayor Martin J. Walsh. She also authored Boston's Communications Access ordinance, which guarantees translation, interpretation and assistive technology for access to City services regardless of English language proficiency or communications disability. Wu got her start in City Hall working for Mayor Thomas M. Menino as a Rappaport Fellow in Law and Public Policy, where she created the city's first guide to the restaurant permitting process from start to finish, and was also a driving force to launch Boston's food truck program. She later served as statewide Constituency Director in the U.S. Senate campaign of her former law professor, Flizabeth Warren

As a former restaurant owner, legal services attorney, and legal guardian of her younger sister, Wu understands firsthand the barriers that families and communities face. She has a background in community advocacy, having worked at the WilmerHale Legal Services Center in Jamaica Plain, providing legal advice to low-income small business owners, as well as at the Medical-Legal Partnership at Boston Medical Center on immigration law cases for survivors of domestic violence. In 2016, Councilor Wu was honored as one of Ten Outstanding Young Leaders by the Greater Boston Chamber of Commerce and as part of Marie Claire magazine's New Guard: The 50 Most Influential Women in America.

Mayor Wu graduated from Harvard College and Harvard Law School. She is fluent in Mandarin and Spanish, and lives in Roslindale with her husband Conor and her sons Blaise and Cass.

## 2023 BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY FOUNDATION CHAMPION AWARD RECIPIENT

## FORMER CITY OF BOSTON MAYOR KIM JANEY



Boston Arts Academy Foundation is delighted to honor Former Mayor and President and CEO of Economic Mobility Pathways (EMPath) Kim Janey with this year's Champion Award.

Kim Michelle Janey was the 55th Mayor of the City of Boston and has been at the center of the City's history — the bad and the good. At 11 years old, she was on the front lines of the battle to desegregate the City's schools, facing rocks and racial slurs during Boston's tumultuous busing era in the 1970s. Forty-five years later, she made history when she was sworn in as Boston's first woman and first Black mayor, successfully leading the City through a multitude of unprecedented challenges, including the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Janey began her tenure with a citywide agenda of recovery, reopening, and renewal to address systemic inequities exposed and exacerbated by the Covid-19 pandemic. Janey re-opened Boston's economy and its public schools by centering equity and prioritizing health and wellness. She invested millions to support small businesses, expanded protections for renters and homeowners, and launched fare-free public transit. Under Mayor Janey's leadership, Boston experienced its safest summer in 5 years and became one of the most vaccinated big cities in America.

Prior to becoming Mayor, Janey made history in 2017 when she was elected to the Boston City Council as the first woman to represent District 7. In 2020, she was elected by her peers to serve as President of the most diverse City Council in Boston's history. Devoting her life to public service, Janey has 25 years of experience in the non-profit sector. In her role at Massachusetts Advocates for Children, Janey championed systemic policy reforms to increase equity, excellence, access, and opportunity in Boston Public Schools. Prior to that, Janey worked as a Community Organizer, advocating for affordable, quality child care.

Most recently, Ms. Janey served as a Spring 2022 Resident Fellow at the Institute of Politics at the Harvard Kennedy School where she designed and led a study group entitled Racial Justice and Recovery: Leading American Cities to a More Equitable Future. She also served as an Inaugural Fellow at the Berry Institute of Politics at Salem State University. Kim Janey has been recognized for her years of service with a number of awards, including the Boston NAACP Difference Maker Award in 2015, the Sapphire Award in 2017, a Community Leadership Award in 2018, and the Hubie Jones Award in 2020. In 2021 Janey was named one of Boston's Most Impactful Black Women and listed in Boston Magazine's 100 Most Influential Bostonians. A proud fourth generation Roxbury resident, Janey comes from a long line of educators, entrepreneurs, artists, and advocates. Janey was raised with values that guide her to this day: the importance of education, the power of community organizing, and the fundamental principles of equity and justice.



BASED ON THE DREAMWORKS MOTION PICTURE AND THE BOOK BY WILLIAM STEIG

#### BOOK AND LYRICS BY DAVID LINDSAY ABAIRE

#### MUSIC BY JEANINE TESORI

## Originally produced on Broadway by DreamWorks Theatricals and Neal Street Productions

#### **Directed By**

Maura Tighe
Original Production directed by Jason Moore and Rob Ashford

#### **Musical Direction by**

Michael Bradley

#### Choreography by

Carla Martinez

#### Set Design by

Jenna McFarland Lord

#### **Lighting Design by**

Karen Perlow



Costume Design by Katie Touart

**Sound Design by**James Cannon

**Puppet Design by** Barrington Edwards

Assistant to the Director
Armani Barrantes

**Production Stage Manager**Mariah Febo

**Dramaturg** Layla Arrango

This production is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI). All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.

www.mtishows.com



#### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

ShrekDeurick GomesFionaAlyeiha Morales

**Donkey** Pam Sheets

Lord FarquaadLeo RuckensteinDragonMecca WilliamsPinocchioAdrian Potter

PinocchioAdrian PotterGingySadie YoungWhite RabbitLuna Liriano

Big Bad WolfKyre AmbrosePeter PanBrenny O'BrienSugar Plum FairyIndigo Diagne

Fairy Godmother Marianna McCallum

Papa Bear Kevin Thomas
Mama Bear Nearah Sanon

Baby BearEmily GuererroUgly DucklingCattina Miller

Wicked Witch Penelope Vonswitz

Humpty Dumpty Leinad Tineo

Elf Iolanthe Demos
Little Red Riding Hood Ila Karp Albenberg

Three Little Pigs Madden Fuoco
Alanna Cooks Beeks

Three Blind Mice Breanna Gerard
Indigo Diagne

Leinad Tineo Mecca Williams

**Duloc Greeter** Breanna Gerard



#### **CAST OF CHARACTERS**

**Child Fiona** Evelyn Albenberg

**Guards/Knights** Kevin Thomas, Cattina

Miller

Ila Karp Albenberg,

Alana Cooks Beeks, Armani

Barrantes

Breanna Gerard

Madden Fuoco, Iolanthe Demos.

Indigo Diagne, Mecca

William

**Duloc Performers** Kyre Ambrose,

Ila Karp Albenburg,

Madden Fuoco,

**Emily Guerrero** 

Alana Cooks Beeks,

Iolanthe Demos,

Marianna McCallum, Cattina Miller, Brenny

O'Brien, Leinad Tineo

Breanna Gerard

Armani Barrantes

**Tyrone Sutton** 

Christina Rodriguez

Sean Patrick Gibbons

Emily Melo

Laylah Arrango

**Happy People** 

Thelonius, Pied Piper

**Bishop** 

Papa Ogre

Mama Ogre **King Harold** 

Queen Lilliam

**Dwarf** 



#### **MUSICAL NUMBERS - ACT I**

1. Overture

2. Big Bright Beautiful World Shrek, Company

**3. Story of My Life** Pinnochio and Fairy

Tale Characters

**4. The Goodbye Song** Fairy Tale Characters

**5. Don't Let Me Go** Donkey, Shrek

**6. What's Up Duloc?** Farquaad, Duloc

Performers

**7. I Know It's Today** Child Fiona, Teen Fiona,

Fiona

**8. Travel Song** Donkey, Shrek

**9. Forever** Dragon, Donkey,

Knights

10. This is How a Dream Comes True Fiona, Shrek, Donkey,

Dragon

11. Who I'd Be Shrek, Donkey, Fiona



#### **MUSICAL NUMBERS - ACT II**

**1. Morning Person** Fiona, Ensemble

2. I Think I Got You Beat Fiona, Shrek

3. Ballad of Farquaard Farquaad, Knights/

Guards

**4. Make a Move** Donkey, Three Blind

Mice

5. When Words Fail Shrek

6. Build a Wall Shrek

**7. Freak Flag** Fairy Tale Characters

8. Big Bright Beautiful World Reprise Shrek

**9. Finale** Fiona, Shrek, Ensemble

**10. I'm A Believer** Fiona, Shrek, Ensemble

There will be one 15 minute Intermission.
Please no food or drink allowed in the theatre.
Thank you.



#### **ORCHESTRA**

Conductor

**Rhythm Section Coordinator** 

**Brass and Wind Coordinator** 

**Orchestra Administrator** 

**Keyboard 1** 

**Keyboard 2** 

Guitar

**Guitar 2** 

Bass

**Drums** 

Percussion

Violin

Violin 2

Cello

Reed 1

Reed 2

Horn

**Trumpet 1** 

**Trumpet 2** 

**Trombone 1** 

**Trombone 2** 

Cello

**Pit Singers** 

Michael Bradley

Christopher Rivelli

**Brian Paulding** 

Eniya Villari

Pelin "Su" Yavuz\*

Yusaku Yoshimura

Colin Sapp

Romero Mehta\*

Kamari Lindsey\*

Kemoni Cartwright\*

Marvin Ripert\*

Ivonne Luna

Ciimone Phillips

Macauley Whitlock

Melanie Brooks

Kenji Kikuchi

Paxton Dichele

Joe Casano

Jordan Volel\*

**Brian Paulding** 

Cha'Ya Grant\*

Macauley Whitlock

Max Innes\*, Liany Cruz\*

Ari Long-Sinott\*, Armani

Castillo\*, Khamoni

Bryant\*, Patrick Ondzi\*



#### SPECIAL THANKS

Wheelock Family Theatre and Nick Vargas Jerry Wheelock Paul Melone Brian McLaughlin **Ned McGrath** Carolyn Meadows Marquez **Scott Bothwell** Stanley Rhodes **Edgar Vasquez** Anne R. Clark Denella J. Clark Rahit Rick Datta Caitlin (Fisher) Durkin **Drew Lord** Sean Patrick Gibbons High Output, McCoy Audio

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#### **PRODUCTION TEAM**

Production Stage Manager Mariah Febo Assistant Stage Managers Alashay Clark

Zaira Leal

**Technical Director** Dan Jentzen

**Properties** Melanie Fernandez

Castrellon

Properties Manager Wakina Oscar Fly Captain Alashay Clark

Fly Crew Nicole Castillo, Mychell

Merritt

**Light Board Operator** Blue

Follow Spot Operators Francesca Dejo Moore,

Rain Collins

**Set Run Crew** Brooklyn Lewis, Angel

Marcelo,

Yepes Henei, Imani

Christoufuller

Set Carpenters Connor Imhoff

Jim Goslin

Jerry Wheelock

Rigging Specialist Paul Melone

Audio Engineering/EquipmentMcCoy AudioWardrobe HeadSonia Ejiogu

Wardrobe Crew Dayanara Pena, Amy

Zonkger

VideographyDave JamrogPoster DesignMargaretta Olton



**Evelyn Karp Albenberg** (Young Fiona) is a ten year old Boston resident who loves musical theater. She has been involved with Riverside Theatre Works and joined the ensemble cast for *Elf Jr, Sussical Jr, and Mary Poppins Jr.* She is honored and excited to be joining her sister, Ila and the rest of the BAA cast for Shrek. She also enjoys drawing, playing the fiddle, skiing, and ice hockey. She plans to audition for BAA when she gets to high school in four years - look out!

**Ila Karp Albenberg** (*Little Red, Duloc Performer, Guard, Rat*) is a Freshman dance major. She loves musical theater and has been performing her whole life. In addition to musical theater she loves skiing, playing cello, and ice skating. She is thrilled to perform with her sister, Evelyn for the first time! Previous productions that she has performed include *The Music Man* (Amaryllis) and Mamma Mia (Ensemble). Ila is delighted to be a part of the *Shrek* cast in her first major production at BAA!

**Kyre Ambrose** (*Big Bad Wolf, Duloc Performer, Rat*) is a Senior Dance major. He has been dancing and performing since he was very young. Kyre has performed for the Celtics and even competes across the country with his dance team, Unknown Hype. Kyre has been involved in multiple dance shows at BAA, but this will be his first major BAA Musical Production. Kyre loves dancing and getting to show off his personality and can't wait to perform. When he graduates he plans on attending a conservatory dance program in college in Los Angeles.

Laylah Arango (Dramaturgy, Dwarf) is a senior theatre major. She found her love for acting by watching TV. The show that started it all for Laylah was the 90s tv show, Charmed. She would go over scenes and reenacting certain scenes. She took workshops in elementary school through middle school with Wheelock Family Theatre. Throughout the years, Wheelock has taught her the basics for acting, acting on the stage and acting for the camera. During these workshops, she performed two small plays for family and friends. One of the plays was a children's book Chrysanthemum, turned into a play. She played the mouse Lilly. The Crucible is the third play she was in and she played Francis Nurse. Because of covid The Crucible was the first production she has been in since quarantine. After BAA, she hopes to star in multiple films and TV.



Armani Barrantes, He/Him (Assistant Director, Guard, Bishop) is a Junior Theatre major. Armani made his first theatrical appearance as Aladdin in the play Aladdin during his 5th grade year. He has been interested in diving deeper in the aspects of screen and playwriting. Armani also has participated in multiple main stage plays such as Maricela de la Luz Lights the World (Cyclops), and The Crucible (John Proctor) at the Boston Arts Academy. Also for television, Send Help (Extra/Background) for AMC Networks. He hopes to pursue acting in the bright future and major in acting for college. Armani is grateful to participate in his first musical and has had a joyful experience.

Alana Cooks Beeks (Little Pig, Duloc Performer, Guard/Knight) Lala is a Junior acting major. She has been in Fame Jr. The Musical (Miss Esther Sherman), Maricela De La Luz Lights The World (Hercules), Men On Boats (OG Howland) at Stagedoor Manor. She has participated in August Wilson Monologue Competition 2021 and was a national finalist of Next Narrative's Monologue Competition in 2022. When she graduates from BAA, she hopes to continue acting in college and professionally.

**Iolanthe Demos** (Teen Fiona, Elf, Duloc Performer) is a Sophomore vocal major. She started off performing around the age of eight with her previous choir Voices Boston. It was there that she first found her passion and played roles in operas and musicals such as *Pirates of Penzance*, Sound of Music, La Boheme, and even got to perform in Tosca with Boston Lyric Opera at the Cutler Majestic. Last summer, she played the role of Kitty in GBSC's production of Chicago. Iolanthe is currently a member of BAA's Spiritual Ensemble, and her most recent event was performing the National Anthem for Governor Maura Healey's Inauguration Celebration at TD Garden. She is grateful for all the amazing opportunities BAA has given her, and looking forward to working hard for whatever awaits her next.

Indigo Diagne (Sugar Plum Fairy, Three Blind Mice, Knight, Happy Person) is a non-binary 16 year old Junior Vocal major, and has been singing and performing for over 13 years. They were in Boston City Singers from when they were three until they were 15. They performed at many places like the Strand Theatre, and San Juan, Puerto Rico. They performed for Governor Maura Healey, Mayor Michelle Wu, Sandeep Das, The honorable Marty Walsh, Trey McLaughlin, and others. They have also performed in Dead Man Walking at the Boston Conservatory. In the future, they plan on taking their music career further, but they have no idea what that would look like. You should probably give them time with that.



Madden Fuoco (Little pig, Bluebird, Duloc Performer) is a Vocal major at Boston Arts Academy. Madden has participated in many theatrical productions such as Annie (Grace), A Christmas Carol (Ghost Of Christmas Present), Wizard Of Oz (Scarecrow), and many more theatrical and musical performances. Madden is excited to be a part of this production of Shrek.

**Mariah Febo** (Production Stage Manager) is a Senior theater major - tech concentration. She always loved theatre and performing but she found her true passion when she was the assistant director for 'How We Live Now' her Junior year and was asked to stage manage for the Senior showcase as a Junior. Since then she loved working behind the scenes and putting everything together.

**Breanna Gerard** (Thelonius, Pied Piper, Pig) is a 17-year-old Junior theatre major. She started to have a passion for theater in 8th grade. She had always loved theater and films, and she is also planning on pursuing Theater/Acting in the future. Shrek will be her third live play she will be doing. Last year, she was in the play Maricela de la Luz Lights the World playing Hunaphu and recently she played Tituba in The Crucible.

**Deurick Gomes** (Shrek) is a Junior vocalist and is excited for his first musical ever. He grew up singing since he was five back at his home country Cape Verde. His love of music led him to apply for BAA. At BAA he is part of the Spirituals group where he and his classmates perform around the city. While playing the lead Shrek he truly loves exploring a deeper part of the arts that is inside him. He has never acted before so he is excited to explore and do something that he is not used to - something that is new and different. He also truly loves building relationships with new people and learning from everyone in the cast. He makes music on his own, so after BAA he wants to continue his music career and hopes to go to Berklee College of Music to expand his learning and knowledge on music and use that in the real world with his career.

**Emily Guerrrero** (Baby Bear) is a 17 year-old theatre major and has loved performing since the fifth grade. She has performed in The Lion King Jr. (Young Nala), The Still Life of Iris (Iris), Maricela De la Luz Lights The World (Maricela), Little Shop of Horrors (Ronette), and The Crucible (Governor Danforth). She won an award for her acting of two characters on The



Paper Bag Bandit Rides Again, and another award at Stagedoor Manor for Most Improved. After performing for so long, she plans to continue to act in her future or study creative writing in college. She loves plays, but being in musicals is her guilty pleasure.

**Luna Liriano** (White Rabbit, Knight 2) is a Junior studio art major. Art has always been the centerpiece of her life since she was born. She has performed in smaller productions before, such as The Secret Garden (servant), Magic Treehouse: Knight at Dawn (Duchess, Prisoner), Frozen Jr (Elsa), Once on This Island (Young Ti Moune), Alice in Wonderland (Queen of Hearts), and much more. Luna has also participated in band gigs since the summer of 2021 and took part in the creation of the new Mozart Park mural in Jamaica Plain, Massachusetts. Luna strives to attend college for the arts, and law school later on.

Marianna Noel McCallum (Fairy Godmother, Dance Ensemble) is a 9th grade theater major. Mari has been studying dance at The Dance Center in Dedham for 13 years, and vocal at the Sharon Music Academy with Miss Nicole for seven years. She performed with the All-State Treble Choir for three years and was awarded a full scholarship to the Stadium Theater Teen Intensive at only 13 yrs old. Mari's had a love of the stage since she was four years old. Some of her favorite performances include Annie (Annie), Cinderella (Cinderella), Alice in Wonderland (Queen of Hearts), Main-stage Annie (Featured adult ensemble, Boylin Sister), Secret Garden (Martha), Pirates of Penzance (Major-General), and many more. After BAA she plans to attend college for musical theater and pursue her dream of Broadway. She's very excited to add Shrek to her resume and grateful to be a part of this amazing cast.

Cattina Miller (Ugly Duckling, Duloc Performer, Rat, Guard, Bird, Dance Captain) is a Junior dance major. She's always had a passion for musical theater and has been dancing since 7th grade at Origination Cultural Arts Center. She is thrilled to do Shrek The Musical as her first theatrical performance! She hopes to pursue stage acting or musical theater in college. She wants to dedicate her first musical show to her Aunt who passed in July 2021, who was her first and only audience member when her passion started.

**Alyieha Morales Ayala** (Fiona) is a Senior vocal major. She applied to BAA because she has been singing since she was four in church, and wanted to study music. She is a proud member of the Spirituals Ensemble. This is her first role in theatre and she is excited to challenge herself. When she graduates, she wants to continue to expand her knowledge of music and work on her music. "I want to thank my mom for her support." - Alyieha Morales



Brenny O'Brien, She/They (Peter Pan/Duloc Performer/Dance Captain/Swing) is a Sophomore theatre major and has been performing since the age of four. This is her first BAA mainstage production and she cannot wait to perform in future productions throughout her BAA career. Brenny has performed at Wheelock Family Theatre @ BU in James and the Giant Peach (James) and Willy Wonka (Oompa Loompa). Other favorite Boston credits include Merrily We Roll Along (IRNE Nomination, Huntington Theatre Company), Richard III (Commonwealth Shakespeare Company), and appropriate (SpeakEasy Stage Company). Brenny would like to thank the cast and crew of *Shrek* for an amazing first BAA experience and all their family and friends for their love and support always.

**Adrian Potter** (*Pinocchio*) is a Freshman theatre major. He's been acting his whole life and has been in shows such as Beauty and the Beast, Mamma Mia, Madagascar Jr, and A Christmas Carol. He's very excited to be in Shrek the Musical this year!

Christina J. Rodríguez is the Director of Admissions at Boston Arts Academy. Ms. Rodríguez has been a member of the BAA community since 2004, first attending as a student in the Vocal Music department, and later returning as Admissions Coordinator in 2016. In 2019, she was promoted to the role of Admissions Director. A musician in her own right, Ms. Rodríguez, is a graduate of Berklee College of Music, where she attended on full scholarship, graduating with a bachelor's degree in Professional Music with a concentration in Music Business and a minor in Latin Music Studies. Christina was selected to perform as a soloist for two EGOTS, Marvin Hamlisch and Rita Moreno, at Symphony Hall as a Top 12 finalist in the Boston Pops statewide competition, and at the Agganis Arena for the Berklee Commencement Concert. and Tye Tribbett among others. Ms. Rodríguez also loves all things salsa (food, dancing and music) and has performed with and for many Latin music artists including Issac Delgado and the Estefans. Ms. Rodríguez has toured in North and South America and also owns her own music publishing company, DOMITILA.

Leo Ruckenstein (Lord Farquaad) is a Sophomore theatre major. Credits include Matilda (Michael,) Willy Wonka (Mike Teavee,) Stuart Little (Ensemble,) Ranked (Francis,) Urinetown (Hot Blades Harry,) School of Rock (Billy,) 13 (Archie,) he Urban Nutcracker (Omar,) Ben's Trumpet (Ben,) and more. An avid theatre lover, Leo has studied dance with the Boston Ballet, All That Jazz and Tony Williams Dance Company. Leo is grateful for the opportunity to work with this amazing cast and crew and would like to dedicate this performance to his Grandfather, who always shared his love for the theatre.



**Nearah Sanon** (Mama Bear) is a Sophomore instrumentalist at Boston Arts Academy. She started playing music at the young age of five years old. Starting on piano, then violin, then viola and finally settled in on Bassoon. This is her first time doing something outside of her major at BAA. She sings at church and is a very active member in her communities. After high school she would like to go to college for neuroscience, psychology, and/or musical theater.

**Pam Sheets** (*Donkey*) is a Senior and a multi-creative artist. Her major is Theatre, but she is now in the film concentration. She loves acting and was in last year's production of *The Colored Museum* (Lady in Plaid). Pam has always let her imagination run free. They are so excited to play the donkey.

**Leinad Tineo** (Humpty Dumpty, 3 Blind Mice, Duloc Performer) is a Sophomore vocalist who has been singing since she was young. Her passion for performing began in elementary and middle school during class dances and presentations, but this is her first full musical. She sang in Winterfest 2021 and 2022, and in Springfest 2022.

**Penelope Vonswitz** (*Wicked Witch*) is a 17 year old fashion major, and has been performing since middle school and up. They were involved in a fashion show and play outside of BAA and their first time actually performing while also modeling at BAA, their first being a play called Grease, where they played the high school teacher. Most recently they were in black empowerment group called Blood and Fashion, where they modeled and acted as one of the children in that production. They truly love every aspect of art and cannot wait to perform in future plays throughout BAA, career, and onwards.

**Sadie Young** (Little Shrek, Gingy) is a 17-year-old Junior theatre major. She has had a passion for theater since she was a kid and has enjoyed developing her skills even more at BAA. Her past performances at BAA included Orpheus in Maricela de la Luz Lights the World, and Reverend Parris in The Crucible. In the future, Sadie hopes to continue refining her musical theater and acting skills at BAA and (when the time comes) in college as well!



**DAVID LINDSAY-ABAIRE** (Book/Lyrics) is a Pulitzer Prize winning playwright, screenwriter, lyricist and librettist. His most recent play, Ripcord, opens this fall at Manhattan Theatre Club. His previous play Good People premiered on Broadway, was awarded the New York Drama Critics Circle Award for Best Play, The Horton Foote Prize, The Edgerton Foundation New American Play Award, and two Tony nominations. His play Rabbit Hole received the Pulitzer Prize for Drama, five Tony nominations, and the Spirit of America Award. David also wrote the book and lyrics for Shrek the Musical, which was nominated for eight Tonys, four Oliviers, a Grammy, and earned David the Ed Kleban Award as America's most promising musical theatre lyricist. David's other plays include Fuddy Meers, Kimberly Akimbo, Wonder of the World and A Devil Inside, among others. In addition to his work in theatre, David's screen credits include his film adaptation of Rabbit Hole, DreamWorks' Rise of the Guardians, and the upcoming Family Fang, starring Nicole Kidman, Christopher Walken and Jason Bateman.

**JEANINE TESORI** (Composer) won the Tony Award for Best Original Score with Lisa Kron for the musical Fun Home. She has also written Tony-nominated scores for Twelfth Night at Lincoln Center; Thoroughly Modern Millie (lyrics, Dick Scanlan); Caroline, or Change (lyrics, Tony Kushner); and Shrek The Musical (lyrics, David Lindsay-Abaire). The production of Caroline, or Change at the National Theatre in London received the Olivier Award for Best New Musical. Her 1997 Off-Broadway musical Violet (lyrics, Brian Crawley) opened on Broadway in 2014 and garnered four Tony nominations, including Best Musical Revival. Opera: A Blizzard on Marblehead Neck (libretto, Tony Kushner; Glimmerglass) and The Lion, The Unicorn, and Me (libretto, J. D. McClatchy, Kennedy Center). Music for plays: Mother Courage (dir. George C. Wolfe, with Meryl Streep and Kevin Kline), John Guare's A Free Man of Color (Lincoln Center Theater, dir. George C. Wolfe), and Romeo and Juliet (Delacorte Gala). Film scores: Nights in Rodanthe, Every Day, and You're Not You. Ms. Tesori is a member of the Dramatists Guild and was cited by the ASCAP as the first female composer to have two new musicals running concurrently on Broadway. She was the founding artistic director of Encores! Off-Center at New York City Center, and a lecturer in music at Yale University. Most of all, she is the proud parent of Siena Rafter.



Michael W. Bradley (Music Director) has been an active member of the arts community both locally and abroad for over ten years. Mr. Bradley attended Berklee College of Music in Boston, Massachusetts where he graduated with a B.M. in Music Education. Mr. Bradley currently serves as the Co-Chair of the Music Department of Boston Arts Academy where he teaches Vocal Technique, Music Theory, Contemporary Vocal Ensembles and the award winning "Spirituals" Ensemble. He continues to maintain an active schedule as a composer, arranger, performer and director in the fields of Choral and Gospel music respectively. Prior to his work at the Boston Arts Academy, Mr. Bradley worked as a General Music & Choral Director in Boston and Cambridge Public Schools respectively and the Director of Secondary Choral and Instrumental Education and Theater Studies for the Gill-Montague Regional School District. Mr. Bradley's choirs have had the opportunity to compete and place in national competitions and perform for such prominent figures as Yo-Yo Ma, Damien Woetzel, and at the White House for First Lady Michelle Obama. In addition to his work in public education, Mr. Bradley faithfully serves as the Minister of Worship & Arts at Morning Star Baptist Church in Boston, Massachusetts.

James Cannon (Sound Designer) is a freelance audio engineer, sound designer, composer, and music producer from Chicago, IL, and currently based in Watertown, MA. Recent theatrical credits include: The View Upstairs (Speakeasy Stage), Well, Straight White Men (Hovey Players), The Rocky Horror Show, Passing Strange (Moonbox Productions), The Last Wide Open, The Old Man & The Old Moon, Head Over Heels, The Colored Museum, Dracula, Rent (The Umbrella Stage Company), NIGHTTOWN: An Operatic Reimagining of James Joyce's Ulysses (Lowell House Opera), and Spring Awakening (Wellesley Theater Project).

Barrington Edwards (Puppet Designer) has lived and worked in the city of Boston as an artist and community activist for over four decades. He attended Hampton University in Virginia for one year then transferred to the Massachusetts College of Art & Design where he earned both a BFA in Communication Design and an MSAE in Art Education. He has since worked in the worlds of art and design, education and community development. Barrington has worked with organizations in Dorchester and Roxbury for years. He is a Massachusetts State Universities Educator Alumni Award 2019 winner, a Surdna and an Expressing Boston fellow, and a recipient of a NEFA Spatial Justice grant.



Barrington is a publisher of comics and graphic media and works as a freelance artist and consultant. Barrington is a member of the Boston Comics Roundtable, a co-founder of Comics in Color (an affinity group for nerds of color enthusiastic about comics and comics culture), active with the Design Studio for Social Intervention and the Black Speculative Arts Movement. He currently teaches illustration as an assistant professor at the Massachusetts College of Art and Design where he continues to help develop young artists. Barrington consistently works to develop his practice as an art maker and social practice developer in concert with his teaching practice.

Sean Patrick Gibbons, he/him/his, (King Harold) is a teacher here at BAA in the theater department where he teaches Acting and Voice and Movement for the Actor. Outside of BAA, Sean is a certified Intimacy Director with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators and is in process of becoming a certified teacher of the Michael Chekhov Acting Technique with GLMCC through Kent State. He has performed Off-Broadway and in various regional theaters across the country including BPT, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Bridge Repertory Theatre, and many more. A member of Actor's Equity, and SAG-AFTRA eligible, he has also worked and taught at AMDA, EmersonStage, Brandeis University, Wellesley College, AIC, FAU, Harvard, and Boston Theatre Company. He holds an MFA in Acting from Florida Atlantic University, and two undergraduate degrees in Acting and Theatre Education from MU and is grateful to be a member of the BAA community.



Jenna McFarland Lord (Set Designer) is a professional scenic designer and artist in the greater Boston area. Over the past 22 years Ms. McFarland Lord has designed for several professional companies in Boston such as; BLKS (Outstanding Design 2022 Elliot Norton Award), Men On Boats, Shakespeare In Love (IRNE award nomination for Best Set Design), Grand Concourse, Bootycandy, Big Fish, The Color Purple, In The Heights, The Drowsy Chaperone (IRNE award nomination for Best Set Design), The Great American Trailer Park Musical, The Mystery of Edwin Drood, Theatre District, and Moonlight Room (SpeakEasy Stage Company) Grand Horizon, Between the Sheets, Gloucester Blue, New Electric Ballroom, North Shore Fish, Spring Awakening, Living Together, Table Manners, Trying, Breath of Life, Sins of the Mother, Doubt: A Parable, The Widow's Blind Date, The Belle of Amherst, My Old Lady, Dinner with Friends, LifeX3, Spinning into Butter, The Loman Family Picnic. (Gloucester Stage Co.); Calendar Girls, Something's Afoot, Distant Music (both IRNE award nominations for Best Set Design), Steel Magnolias, The Porch, Guys on Ice, The Mousetrap (Greater Boston Stage); Paradise, The Convert (Elliot Norton for Best Production 2016) (Central SquareTheatre); In The Heights (Elliot Norton Nomination for Outstanding Design 2017) (Wheelock Family Theatre)Collected Stories, Cherry Docs (both IRNE award nominations for Best Set Design) (New Repertory Theatre); Fabulation, Last 5 Years, The Roommate, Warrior Class, Groundswell, November (Lyric Stage Company of Boston); Twelfth Night, The Merry Wives of Windsor, Macbeth (Actors Shakespeare Project); Urinetown, Middletown, Vinegar Tom (Northeastern University) The Machinal, The Frogs, Cabaret, Three Penny Opera, The Full Monty, Twelfth Night, Cosi Fan Tutte (The Boston Conservatory )Don Giovanni (New England Conservatory); A View from the Bridge, Escape From Happiness (Brandeis University). Off-Broadway: The Secret of Mme. Bonnard's Bath (New York Playwrights' Lab) Man in Snow (La Mama). Ms. McFarland Lord has also worked as a designer outside of the Theatre world. She created the interior industrial design for Station1, a program where exceptional undergraduate students carried out exciting socially-directed STEM research projects. She was the production coordinator for the scenic elements for the Boston Winter Festival in The Government Center Plaza in 2017, Jenna McFarland Lord was the production designer on the upcoming movie YE!, written and directed by John ADEkoje.



Karen Perlow (Lighting Designer) Based in Boston for over 25 years, Karen has designed the lighting for over 200 productions. Her work has been seen at Boston Symphony Orchestra, Merrimack Repertory Theater, Speakeasy Stage Company, Lyric Stage Company, Actors' Shakespeare Project, Central Square Theater, New Rep, Boston Playwrights' Theater, Boston Midsummer Opera, Odyssey Opera, and Shakespeare & Company. Karen has taught Lighting Design at MIT and Northeastern University, and has been a guest designer at Boston Conservatory, Boston College, Brandeis University, and Emerson College. She is proud to serve as the treasurer of the Theater Community Benevolent Fund (TCBF.org) and is a member of the United Scenic Artists' Union 829.

Maura Tighe (Director) is Artistic Director at Boston Arts Academy. She has directed many productions at BAA (In the Heights, The Wiz, Memphis, A Doll's House, Blood at the Root, Facing our Truth) and at New England area theaters. She has directing credits from NYC (Off and Off Broadway), and regional theaters. Her most recent directing credit was Sister School, an original musical written by David Coleman, produced by Moonbox Productions. She has also worked in film and television as a Casting Director and started her own highly successful company - Maura Tighe Casting. Her professional casting credits include many feature films and independent, local projects such as the original Queer Eye, and shows for PBS/WGBH, Bravo, Oxygen, ABC Family and others. She is proud to be a part of the BAA community.

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### **OPPORTUNITY HIGHLIGHT:**Masterclass by Ruth E. Carter

On September 16, 2022 Ruth E. Carter, Black Panther Costume Design Academy Award Winner and BAAF Board member, led Fashion students in a Masterclass.





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We support BAA because we believe in creating opportunities that would not otherwise be available for students who are passionate about the arts.

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The Advisory Council is a volunteer group of arts, community, education and business leaders who work with BAA Foundation to broaden and deepen the visibility and network of supporters of BAA, and contribute to the overall strategic interests of the school.

The Advisory Council is always looking for new members who can contribute time, treasure, and talent to BAA Foundation.

Contact Grace Baljon, VP of Philanthropy, at gbaljon@baafdn.org to get involved!









## THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 CHAMPION'S COMMITTEE

For your time, treasure, and dedication to being champions of BAA Foundation's mission to provide access to opportunity and a transformative public arts education for Boston Arts Academy's talented students!

Thank you for supporting our Artists, Scholars, and Global Citizens! Victoria Dozier (Co-Chair)
John Dozier (Co-Chair)
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"Arts education is important because it helps students develop creativity, critical thinking, and problem-solving skills. It also allows students (and the audiences that experience their work) to express themselves and gain a deeper understanding of the world around them. As such, there has never been a more important time for our investment in arts education. And that is done uniquely well at the Boston Arts Academy."

- John Dozier

"I am excited to be a part of a community that will enable Boston students to achieve a high quality visual and performing arts education. Educational spaces like Boston Arts Academy will help break the barriers that bind and divide us as human beings."

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## CONGRATULATIONS

# To our son Adrian (Pinocchio) and the entire cast and crew of Shrek The Musical! Bravo!

Jen and Mike Potter



A diamonds gotta shine

Keep shining bright, Madden. We are so proud of you.



Mom, Dad, Malala, & Basil

## CONGRATULATIONS

## To the cast and crew of Shrek. Break a leg, Brenny!

*Love,* Mom, Dad and Ash

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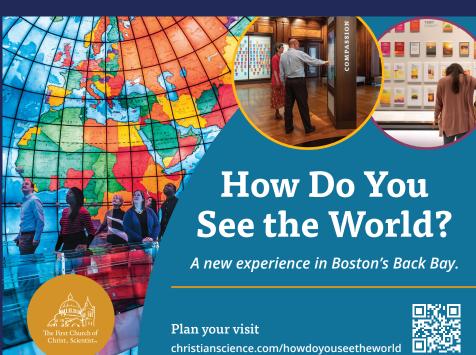




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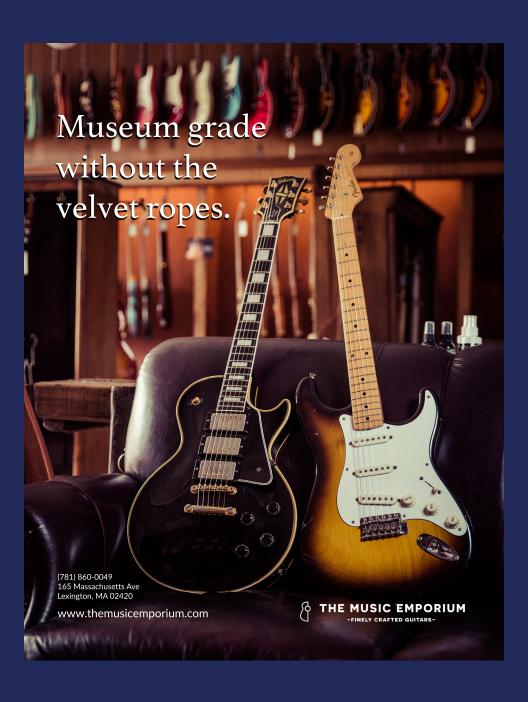
# Congratulations!

BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY FOR YOUR ALL-STAR PRODUCTION OF SHREK THE MUSICAL, AND TO BOSTON ARTS ACADEMY FOUNDATION'S 2023 CHAMPIONS, MAYOR MICHELLE WU AND FORMER MAYOR KIM JANEY!



Sincerely,

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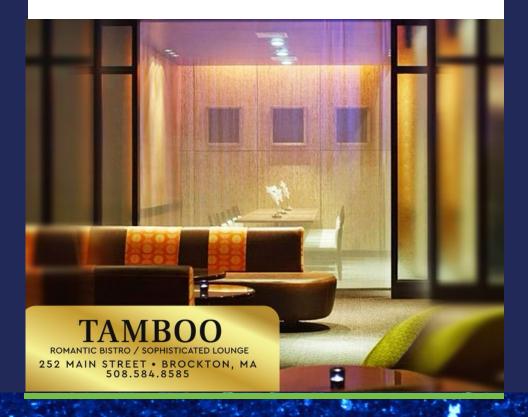
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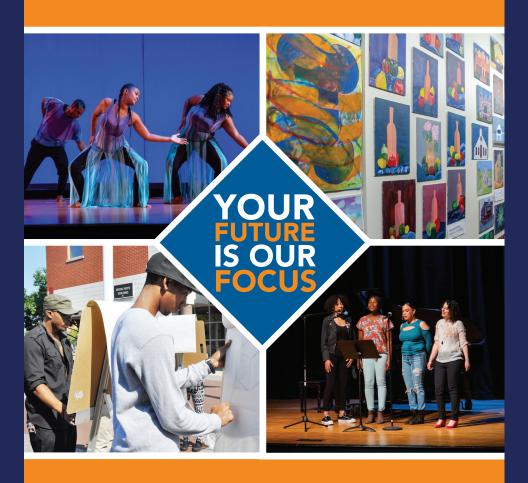
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Congratulations to tonight's honorees, Mayor Michelle Wu and Former Mayor Kim Janey!

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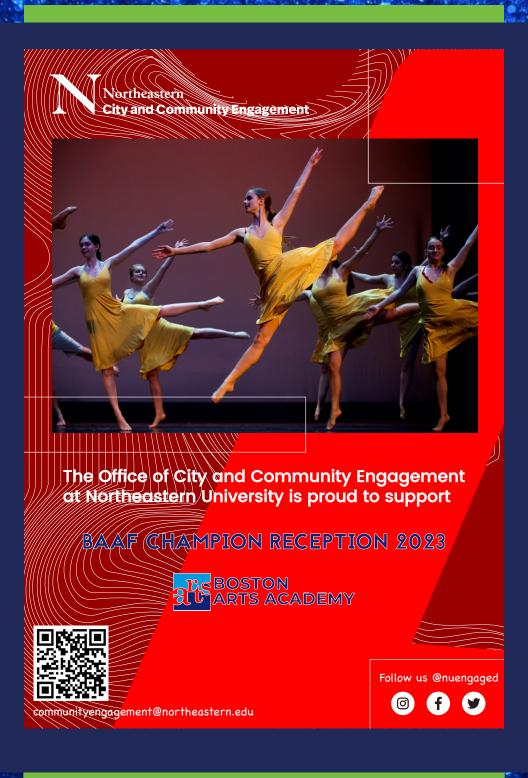


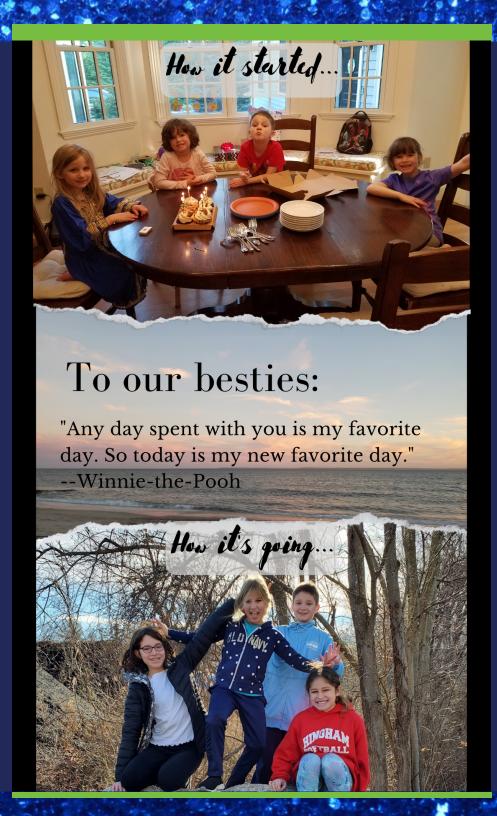
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BAA uses a public-private funding model, which means that Boston Arts Academy Foundation helps to bridge the gap between the school's allocation from Boston Public Schools and the true cost of a high-quality arts education through philanthropic support from generous donors.

The city's first full-inclusion high school, BAA accepts students based on the commitment to and passion for their art through an arts audition or portfolio submission, rather than on their academic records. The school's curriculum is structured around students' interests, which helps them to find their voice and perform at higher levels.

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Interested in getting involved in the BAAF Anniversary Club? You still have an opportunity to celebrate and join today with a gift of \$25, \$250, \$2500, or any amount to show your support and to be recognized.

Visit HappyBirthdayBAA.org









# **2023 ANNUAL MEETING** WEDNESDAY, MAY 24, 2023 5:00 - 8:00 PM

### **SAVE THE DATE!**

Save the date and join us for our second Annual Meeting as we celebrate the past year and look ahead to Boston Arts Academy and Boston Arts Academy Foundation's exciting future.



### 2023 KEYNOTE SPEAKER DR. M. LEE PELTON

Dr. Pelton is President and CEO of The Boston Foundation, BAA and BAAF Board Chairman Emeritus, and Former Chair, BAAF Building Our Future Campaign.

Stay tuned for memorable moments and announcements you don't want to miss.





SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14, 2023, 6:00 - MIDNIGHT SUNDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2023, 11:00 AM - 2:00 PM

#### INTERCONTINENTAL, 510 ATLANTIC AVE, BOSTON, MA 02210

BAA Honors is Boston Arts Academy Foundation's signature annual event and largest single source of unrestricted funding for Boston Arts Academy. Save the date and join us on October 14th to celebrate with honoree awards, special guest appearances, student and alumni performances, dinner, dancing and an exciting live auction!





#### BAA Honors 2023 Co-Chairs BAA Honors 2023 Honorees

Katherine Chapman Stemberg & William J. Schnoor, Jr. Esq. Lifetime Achievement MA State Treasurer Deborah Goldberg

Plus! Join us the next day on October 15th for a lively brunch featuring a series of special guest musical performances.

**VISIT BAAFDN.ORG FOR UPDATES!** 







# LOVE WHAT YOU SAW? LEARN MORE, GET INVOLVED & STAY IN TOUCH!



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