AHMANSON THEATRE | 2023/24 SEASON

BONUS PRODUCTION

HADESTOWN
Music, Lyrics & Book by Anais Mitchell (she/her)
Developed with & Directed by Rachel Chavkin (she/her)

OCTOBER 3–15, 2023

A CHRISTMAS STORY, THE MUSICAL
Book by Joseph Robinette
Music and Lyrics by Benj Pasek and Justin Paul
Original Direction on Broadway by John Rando
Choreography by Warren Carlyle
Directed by Matt Lenz

DECEMBER 5–31, 2023

MATTHEW BOURNE’S ROMEO + JULIET
Music by Terry Davies based on the original score by Sergei Prokofiev
Directed and Choreographed by Matthew Bourne
In collaboration with the New Adventures artistic team
North American Premiere

JANUARY 28–FEBRUARY 25, 2024

FUNNY GIRL
Music by Jule Styne
Lyrics by Bob Merrill
Book by Isobel Lennart

APRIL 2-28, 2024

A STRANGE LOOP
Book, Music, And Lyrics by Michael R. Jackson
Choreography by Raja Feather Kelly
Directed by Stephen Brackett
A co-production with American Conservatory Theatre

JUNE 5-30, 2024

CLUE
Written by Sandy Rustin
Additional Material by Hunter Foster and Eric Price
Based on the screenplay by Jonathan Lynn
Original Music by Michael Holland
Based on the 1985 Paramount movie and the classic Hasbro board game

JULY 30–AUGUST 25, 2024
As a nonprofit organization, Center Theatre Group relies on the support of generous theatre-lovers like you. Become a member with a tax-deductible contribution of $100—or just $10 per month—and make a vital difference for our future following the most challenging period in Center Theatre Group’s history. Your gift will enable us to continue to produce and present the highest caliber theatre, nurture new artists, and provide transformative arts education programs.

Plus, your gift will unlock membership benefits to enhance your theatregoing experience, from priority ticket access to members-only events and more!

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**friends**
Friends get first access to tickets before the general public plus invitations to members-only events, including tours and rehearsals. Join today with a gift of $100 or more—or just $10 per month.

**insiders**
Insiders enjoy a year-round VIP experience with access to the best seats for our shows, concierge service for house seats at New York and London productions, and special behind-the-scenes events. Join today with a gift of $2,500 or more.

**visionaries**
Visionaries have the ultimate access to our artists, shows, programs, and staff, with premium seating for our productions, including use of The Founders’ Room at the Ahmanson, and invitations to private salon-style artist events. Join today with a gift of $15,000 or more.
Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones and watch alarms. The use of any recording device, either audio or video, and the taking of photographs, with or without flash, are strictly prohibited.

Latecomers will be seated at the discretion of management. Patrons with disabilities: wheelchair seating is available in a variety of theatre locations. When ordering tickets, please indicate any special needs. For our hearing-impaired guests, the theatre is equipped with listening devices; please contact an usher for assistance.
CAST

STEVEN-JOAA
AGEPPA
ZENE
BENNIE
ADOLPHIE
BURNS
CHRIS
CARSTEN
JACK
CASEY
JORDAN
COATES

KAI
EDGAR
GABRIE
FRIED
ANDREW
GE
JULIANE
GOFFREY
JULLY
HARNETT
MICHAEL
JAMES

GREG REBECCA
KLEINMAN
KAYDEN ALEXANDER
KOSHELEV
TRENT
MILLS
KYLE
MONTGOMERY
GABRIEL
NAVARRO
EMILIE
ONG

JANE
PAPAGEORGE
ERIC
PETERSEN
JACOB
PHEACH
IZZY
PIKE
SHELLEY
REGNER
SABRINA
SLOAN

CHARLIE
STOVER
HENRY
WITCHEER

SCENES AND MUSICAL NUMBERS

ACT I

Overture.................................................................................................................................................. Orchestra

Prologue: Outside radio station WOR, New York City/the radio studio desk — Christmas Eve, Several Years Ago

Scene 1: The Parker Family House and Higbee's Department Store — December 1, 1940
“It All Comes Down to Christmas” ................................................................. Ralphie, The Parkers, Ensemble
“Red Ryder Carbine Action BB Gun” ........................................................................ Ralphie, Jean
“It All Comes Down to Christmas (Reprise)” .................................................. Ralphie, Ensemble

Scene 2: The Parker Family House — The Next Day
“The Genius on Cleveland Street” ............................................................................. The Old Man, Mother

Scene 3: A Path Leading to School — Soon Afterward
“When You’re A Wimp” ................................................................................................. Kids

Scene 4: The Classroom — A Few Minutes Later
“Ralphie to the Rescue!”............................................................ Ralphie, Miss Shields, The Old Man, Mother, Randy, Ensemble

Scene 5: The Parker Family House — A Week Later
“What a Mother Does” .............................................................................................................. Mother
“A Major Award” ....................................................................................................................... The Old Man, Mother, Neighbors

Scene 6: The Parker Family House — Early Evening of December 13, 1940

Scene 7: On the Road — Immediately Following
“Parker Family Singalong” ..................................................................................... The Parkers

Scene 8: The Parker Family House — Late That Night
“Act I Finale” .............................................................. Ralphie, Mother, Old Man, Randy, Ensemble

ACT II

Entr’Acte. .............................................................................................................................................. Orchestra

Scene 1: The Schoolyard and The Classroom
“Sticky Situation” .............................................................................................. Ralphie, Flick, Schwartz, Kids, Miss Shields, Nurse, Flick’s Mom, Fireman, Policeman, Doctor
Scene 2: Fantasy 1930’s Speakeasy
“You’ll Shoot Your Eye Out” ......................................................... Miss Shields, Kids

Scene 3: A Path From School — Immediately Following
Scene 4: The Parker Family House — A Few Minutes Later
“Just Like That” .................................................................Mother

Scene 5: Santa’s Station at Higbee’s — Christmas Eve
“At Higbee’s” ............................................................................ Elves
“Up on Santa’s Lap” ........................................... Santa Clause, Elves, Ralphie, Randy, Kids

Scene 6: The Parker Family House — Christmas Eve
“Before The Old Man Comes Home” ....................................... The Parkers

Scene 7: The Boys’ Bedroom
“Somewhere Hovering Over Indiana” ......................................Ralphie, Randy, Kids

Scene 8: The Parker Family House — Christmas Morning
“It’s Christmas” .......................................................................Ralphie, Randy
“Ralphie to the Rescue (Reprise)” ........................................Ralphie, Ensemble

Scene 9: A Chinese Restaurant and the Town - Christmas Evening
“A Christmas Story” ................................................................. The Parkers and Full Company

WHO’S WHO

STEVEN-ADAM AGDEPPA (Swing: he/his). Steven is excited to make their Ahmanson stage debut! Credits: On This Side of the World, Mamma Mia! (East West Players); Grease, Cats, Newsies, In the Heights (La Mirada); Invincible: The Pat Benatar and Neil Giraldo Musical; The Music Man (Musical Theater West). Gratitude to the creative team, Go2Talent, and Nicky!

ZEKE BERNIER (Grover Dill, U/S Randy, Ensemble, he/him). Zeke is excited to be a part of A Christmas Story at the Ahmanson. Zeke loves performing and began in musical theatre at age 5. He has worked on film, television, commercials, print/internet projects, theatre, and hosted events. Zeke enjoys making videos, martial arts, dance parties, and being with his friends.

ADDIE BURNS (Esther Jane, Tap Specialist, she/her). Addie is delighted to be making her CTGLA debut! Credits: Music Man (Amarillo); Music Man (Broadway at Music Circus), Carnaval (Broadway at Music Circus), the National Philharmonic, American Pops Orchestra, Birdland Jazz Club, New York Theatre Workshop. “Thank you Luke Hawkins, Noah J. Ricketts, Annette Tannen/ Broadway Dreams Foundation.” IG: @at琵ninpaddons

CHRIS CARSTEN (Jean Shepherd, he/him). Mr. Carsten is a relatively unknown commodity who is absolutely dedicated to continue a long tradition of portraying Jean Shepherd over the holidays! Since 2014, he has performed for audiences across the country as the iconic non-disembodied narrator of the musical version of this beloved Christmas classic, perhaps more than any other actor to date! Over the years he has appeared in touring productions spanning the globe. Some of his favorite roles include John Adams in 1776, Henry Higgins in My Fair Lady, and the title role in William Shakespeare’s Hamlet. He would like to thank Marise, Evangeline, and Finley for their love and support.

JACK CASEY (Flick, Ensemble, U/S Scut Farkus; he/him). Jack has appeared on Broadway as The Little Boy Edgar in Ragtime’s 25th Anniversary Concert. Rufus in the world premiere of the Ahrens/Flaherty musical, Knivaille at Asolo Rep, directed by the late Frank Galati. Original Cast Album of Knivaille. TV/Film: Dylan Shakes, Amazon Prime’s Invincible: The Pat Benatar & Neil Giraldo Musical. Jack is honored to make his Ahmanson debut, and thanks his brother Finn Douglas, his mother Annie, his dad, Miss Bev, Jackie Reid, everyone in his Christmas Story Family, and the magic of Christmas. @jjackcaseyactor

JORDAN COATES (Scut Farkus, Ensemble). Jordan is thrilled to be telling this story again at the Ahmanson! Theatre: Evita ACT, Billy Elliot (Michael) Rhinebeck Theater, A Christmas Story (Schwartz) Tuacahn and Engeman Theater. TV/VO: Invasion (Jack), Apple TV+, Mr. Robot (Kyle), USA, Akwafina’s Nora Is From Queens (Team Cpt #2), Comedy Central, Paw Patrol (Rubble), Nick Jr. Mom, Dad, Jack, this is for you. @jordancoates

KAI EDGAR (Ralphie, he/him). Excited for this bucket list role! Favorite credits: Charlie & the Chocolate Factory (National Tour), The Hours (Metropolitan Opera), The Secret Garden (Broadway at Music Circus), Pelléas et Mélisande (LA Opera, Santa Fe Opera), Chicago Fire, Firebuds, Santiago of the Seas. Thanks to the creative team, DDO Kids, Station 3, and his amazing coaches. @kaijosephedgar

GABBIE FRIED (Ensemble, she/her). Center Theatre Group: debut. Regional: End Crush, Legally Blonde, Hair (Starlight), Footloose (Cotull Reig), Spring Awakening (Hangar Theatre), Le Miserables, The Little Mermaid (Sharon Playhouse), TV. Drew Barrymore Show: Gabbie’s a Jewish Comedian from Kansas City, she now performs comedy around L.A. Education: NYU Tisch (Atlantic), UCSD, and Groundlings. @goobiefried

ANDREW GE (Walter, Ensemble, he/him). Theatre: Mama Mia! (East West Players), Cinderella (5-Star Theatricals), Shanghai’s World Emporium (Huntington Library), Arcane (Secret Cinema/Riot Games). TV/Film, The Slumber Party (Yo Firsts), Blue Surf (Wong Fu Presents), Beneath the Banyan Tree (VOD). Voice: The Devil’s Plan (Netflix), Dream (Netflix), Girl From Nowhere (Netflix). Certified matcha snob. @thisisage

JULIANE GODFREY (Ensemble, U/S Mother; she/her). Broadway: SpongeBob SquarePants: The Musical (OBC Dance Captain/Swing), National Tours: Beetlejuice: Lincoln Center’s My Fair Lady, Something Rotten! Regional: Goodspeed, Paper Mill Playhouse, Arena Stage, Sacramento Music Circus, and more. Solo Show: I Won’t Dance (Don’t Make Me Sing) (Bourbon Room). Arts educator, Maker of Art + Heart, UCLA alum. @julianegodfrey

JULIANA HARNETT (Ensemble, she/her). Recently seen in Guys & Dolls At The Kennedy Center and Cabaret at Barrington Stage. Selected Theatre Credits: Chicago (Fulton Theatre), In The Heights (Arts Club). Selected Television/Film Credits: Schmigadoon (AppleTV+ Season’s 1 & 2), FBI (CBS), Billions (Showtime), Power (Starz), The Other Two (Comedy Central), Psych (USA), In The Heights (Warner Bros.), and Christmas Waltz (Hallmark). Thank you: Tyler, Jaelen, Cocoa, JimmyD., Gmo, DGRW crew, Mariza, Melissa. @juliaharnett

MICHAEL JAMES (Elf, Ensemble, he/him). CTG debut! Regional: Musical Theater West (The Wizard of Oz), Goodspeed Opera House (Bye Bye Birdie), Pittsburgh CLO (Altar Boyz, Newsies, Mamma Mia!), Maltz Jupiter Theater (West Side Story), How to Succeed… (Chicago), Sacramento Music Circus (Mamma Mia!), and McCoy Rigby Entertainment (Newsies, Mamma Mia!). Up next: Mystic Pizza, Television: The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel. @heytsmichaeljamesbrown

PERFORMANCES MAGAZINE
JANE PAPAGEORGE (Swing, U/S Miss Shields, she/her). Recently: Val - A Christmas Carol, Sarah Palin - 44, The Obama Musical. Past credits: Hollywood Bowl's HAIR and A Christmas Carol: Jamie Leigh Lee - Scary Musical the Musical!, Princess Anna - Frozen. Live at the Hyperion; Anytime Annie - 42nd Street, April -- Company, Cabaret, Spamalot; General Hospital; Butterflies of Love. KMR Talent @ janepapageorge

ERIC PETERSEN (The Old Man, he/him). Eric Petersen has worked extensively on television and the Broadway stage. TV: Kevin Can F*** Himself (Kevin), High Desert, Kibbie, Madagascar: A Little Wild (Emmy nomination for his role as Ant'ney), Guest Stars: The Big Bang Theory, Modern Family, Chicago Fire, and many more. Film: Oscar Nominated Coen Bros. Ballad of Buster Scruggs, Broadway: Shrek The Musical, School of Rock, Escape to Margaritaville, and Peter and the Starcatcher. Co-host of the #1 Christmas podcast: Christmas Countdown Show. Love to Lisa, Sophie, and Miles. Graduate of Bradley University. @epicete Insta @theophragillaman Fashion Insta.

JACOB PHAM (Ensemble, Swing, U/S Flick, U/S Randy, U/S Grover Dill, U/S Walter; he/him) is a vibrant young actor, singer, dancer, and pianist. Theatre: All My Sons (Bert) Tampa Repertory Theatre; The Lion King, Jr. (Young Simba) Deltaville Theatre; TV: Sesame Street: Voiceover; Disney Jr. and Nick Jr. Special thanks to Lisa Calli, DDO artists agency, Orlando Pena, Emilia Sargent, and his family for believing in him. @JacobPhamOfficial

IZZY PIKE (Mary Beth, Ensemble, she/her). is thrilled to be part of A Christmas Story! Special thanks to my family for their endless support and encouragement! Credits: ANNIE NATIONAL TOUR. Thank you to by Artists Management, DDO Artists Agency, Valerie Gould, and John and Bonnie Ryerson. ‘Never give up on your dreams!’ @HeizyBiz

SHELLEY REGNER (Miss Shields, Ensemble, she/her). CTG’s Ahmanson Theatre debut! Film/TV: Pitch Perfect franchise (Universal), Underdeveloped (Tubi). Nat’l Tour: Disney DCappella (debut album). Regional Credits: Brothers! (world premiere), Company (5 Star Theatricals), Cruel Intentions Musical, Tick, Tick…Boom! (5th Hours Theatre Co.), Beauty and the Beast in Concert (Hollywood Bowl). @shelleystagram

SABRINA SLOAN (Mother, she/her). Most recently starred in King Liz at the Geffen following a four-year run as Angelica Schuyler in Hamilton (opposite Lin Manuel Miranda). NBC: Hairspray, Catch Me If You Can, Motown the Musical, 1st National Tour: In the Heights. TV/Film: Hack’s, All Rise, Ode to Joy. Blindsight, Mysteries of Laara, Boston Legal. Graduate of Northwestern University. Merry Merry and Love to Q+J.

CHARLIE STOVER (U/S Ralphie, Ensemble, U/S Others; he/him). Charlie recently completed a 6-month run as Charlie Bucket in Charlie and the Chocolate Factory at Taftacan. Offstage, he has returned on Yellowstone, and recently made his Cannes Film Festival debut in Riddle of Fire. Charlie would like to thank CTG, his parents, family, and friends for their endless support. @charliestover

HENRY WITCHER (Randy) is excited to make his Ahmanson debut! TV Credits: Lone Star: 9-1-1, Kindred, and Hulu’s The New Man. Voiceover: Netflix’s Gabby’s Dollhouse, Disney’s Finding Nemo, and Robogroo. Henry is a session singer and member of the Los Angeles Children’s Chorus. Thanks to my family, Baraka May, DDOKids, DPN, and Sherry Kayne!

JILL GOLD (Production Stage Manager, she/her) began her career at the Taper in 1983 and is happy to be back at CTG 40 years later! In between, she stage managed over 250 productions, including 6 national tours. Jill teaches at Occidental, UCL, and USC, using her book Stage Management by Lawrence Stern and Jill Gold.

MICHELLE BLAIR (Stage Manager, she/her) has enjoyed a long history of stage managing in Los Angeles and has worked extensively with Center Theatre Group on over forty productions at their three theatres. Other favorites include A Christmas Carol, First National Tour, The Pee-Wee Herman Show at Club Nokia, A Long Bridge Over Deep Waters with Cornerstone Theatre Company, Henry IV with Shakespeare Center Los Angeles, Jersey Boys in Las Vegas, and Eurydice and La Traviata with the Los Angeles Opera. Graduate of the University of Southern California and the University of Amsterdam. Mom to fifteen-year-old Liam and eleven-year-old Imogen. For Susie Walsh.

EDWARD KRIS FERNANDEZ (Stage Manager, he/him). Regional: The Engagement Party at The Geffen Playhouse, On This Side of the World, Interstate, Vietgone at East West Players; Clyde’s at The Mark Taper Forum; Clyde’s at The Goodman Theatre; In The Heights, Songs From The Border at The Colorado Fine Arts Center; The Garden at Lila Playhouse.

JOSEPH ROBINETTE (Book) is a 2013 Tony Award nominee and Drama Desk Award nominee and the award-winning author of fifty-five published plays and musicals. His works have been produced in all fifty states and in seventeen foreign countries. Twelve of his plays have been translated into foreign languages. His plays have been produced by Lincoln Center, Pittsburgh Playhouse, Barter Theatre, Laguna Playhouse, Goodman Theatre and the BBC, among others. Robinette collaborated with E.B.White on the authorized stage version of Charlotte’s Web, and he wrote the musical version with composer Charles Strouse.


BROOKE MARTINO (Associate Choreographer, he/him). Choreography Credits: A Christmas Story (National Tour), Happy Days the Musical (Broadway World Award. Best Choreography), Marvelous Wonderettes, Grease, and Batilloned. Performer Credits: A Christmas Story, Jersey Boys, Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, The Great American Trailer Park Musical, Catch Me If You Can, A Chorus Line, Hairspray, 42nd Street, and RENT. #brookemartino #ballbiche.

MICHAEL RADER (Associate Director). A New York City based director who has served as Artistic Director for Cirque du Soleil, Producing Artistic Director for the historic Cape Playhouse, and Executive Producer for Theatre Aspen. Highlights as a director or associate include the Off-Broadway production of Stalking The Bogeyman (Outer Critics Circle Nomination), Varekai (Cirque du Soleil), and productions with Sacramento Music Circus, Theatre Aspen, The Cape Playhouse, The York Theatre Company, the Forestburgh Playhouse, the Human Race Theatre, The Dramatist Guild, The Actors Studio and the critically acclaimed Off-Broadway benefit of William Finn’s Elegies: A Song Cycle. michaelrader.com

WALT SPANGLER (Original Broadway Scenic Design). Walt designed the original Broadway production of A Christmas Story. The Musical: Recent/upcoming projects include the Broadway premieres of Escape To Margaritaville, directed by Christopher Ashley and the Broadway premieres of Tuck Everlasting, directed by Casey Nicholaw. Please visit: waltspangler.com.

B R O O K E E R I C H S I E D (Sound (Designer, he/him). Broadway). UA/QMT, JLP, FNL, SM – TOOT, (Prog). CATCF, (ASD), YF, P.Q, etc. National Tours: (ASD) CATCF, FNL, YF. LCAC. Sound: Finder of Blasts; IMM, Regional, SD HPR, SOM, etc. One of these days, Brian also hopes to figure out what all the acronyms stand for.

WILLIAM BERLONI (Animal Director and Trainer). In 2011 Tony Honorore for Excellence in Entertainment. William found and adopted the original Sandy for the original production of Annie. Since then, all the animals he trains are rescues. Broadway: Twenty six shows which include The Ferryman; The Crucible; Bolivar; The River; The People’s Prince; The Little Foxes; Ink; Our Lady Ann; Evita; Kiss of the Spider Woman; King and Gentleman. From the Spider Woman. 2006 Henry Hewes Design Award for Jersey Boys. 2016 Henry Hewes Design Award for Hamilton.


ALISON FRANCK, C.S.A. (Casting, she/her) has been a casting director in NYC for over 25 years. This is her 8th cast of A Christmas Story, The Musical. She started as an assistant for many Broadway Productions, then she worked in film/TV for several years, then from 2000–2010, she was the Resident Casting Director at Paper Mill Playhouse. In 2011, she joined the team at Liu Lewis Casting Partners, where she cast commercials, voiceovers, film/TV, and theatre. Alison now runs her own company, Franck Casting, where she has cast several tours of well-known musicals including Legally Blonde, Dreamgirls, An American in Paris, A Chorus Line, The Simon and Garfunkel Story Live and the upcoming The Cher Show and Little Women, the Musical. Franckcasting.com

ANDREW SMITHSON (Musical Supervisor; Music Director; he/him). Tours: A Christmas Story, The Musical; Joseph… Dreamcoat (starring Diana DeGarmo and Ace Young); Gypsy, Aida, Legally Blonde; Jesus Christ Superstar. Off-Broadway: The Wonderful Wizard of Oz, Flanagan’s Wake. Music Director and Orchestrator for A Christmas Carol (Trinity Rep), POPart: the musical (NYMF Festival), and Hard Times (First Irish Theatre Festival). Previous adjunct instructor at the University of Cincinnati-College Conservatory of Music, vocal coach at PACE University in New York City, and Vocal Director at Celebrity Cruises Entertainment.

JAMES BOOK (Technical Supervisor) is a multi-faceted theatre technician heading from Fullerton, CA. James most recently served as the Head Carpenter on the National Tour of Legally Blonde with Big League Productions. Favorite credits include Electrical and Assistant TD on Ryan Murphy’s Rent, etc. On A Chorus Line, and the Head Props on the 2021 National Tour of A Christmas Story, The Musical! All my love to Sophie and Hazel.

B I G L E A G U E PRODUCTIONS/DANIEL SHER (Executive Producer and General Management) is celebrating its 30th season of producing and general managing Broadway tours of shows and attractions throughout the world. Early highlights were collaborations with Disney on Elton John and Tim Rice’s Aida (North America, Taiwan, and China) and with Cameron Mackintosh on a new production of Miss Saigon. Also, the Tony® Award-winning Broadway revival of 42nd Street and Susan Stroman’s Broadway production of Meredith Wilson’s The Music Man. Others: Footloose (Las Vegas, U.S.A), Titanic, 1776, Peter Pan, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum starring Rip Taylor, Blast!, The Who’s Tommy (North America, South America, Europe, and Japan), Ain’t Misbehavin’ with Ruben Studdard, and the First National Tour of Chitty Chitty Bang Bang—flying car and all. More recently, in 2019, The Producers (Susan Stroman’s original work); Hello, Dolly! with Sally Struthers; Guys and Dolls; My Fair Lady (U.S. and China premiere); original hip-hop dance show GrooveAl (Off-Broadway); Dr. Seuss’ How the Grinch Stole Christmas! (The Musical! (10 USA tours, Grand Ole Opry, and Madison Square Garden); Dreamgirls (U.S., China premiere); Hair (U.S. and Japan); Bring It On: The Musical(U.S. and Japan); and Legally Blonde (US, China premiere, Singapore).

THE PRODUCERS, MAN OF LA MAISON, WALT SPANGLER, ELIZABETH HOPE CLANCY, and WILSON BERLONI.
More recently, A Chorus Line toured the U.S.A, Japan and was seen in China for the first time. Post-pandemic, Big League remounted its acclaimed tour of An American in Paris, a new production of South Pacific, Legally Blonde, and continued touring its flagship production of A Christmas Story, The Musical. Current and future work includes The Cher Show (First National Tour); Little Women, A Christmas Story, The Musical at the Ahmanson Theatre; and The Addams Family.

**BENJAMIN "BOB" CLARK** (Motion Picture Director/Co-Screenwriter) was an actor, director, screenwriter and producer. Mr. Clark directed a diverse collection of both blockbuster and cult hits including Black Christmas, Murder by Degree, Tribute and Porky’s. Working from Jean Shepherd’s book, In God We Trust, All Others Pay Cash, Mr. Clark directed, and co-wrote with Shepherd and Leigh Brown, the motion picture A Christmas Story: Films that followed included Rhinestone, Turk 182!, From the Hip, Loose Cannons, and Baby Geniuses.

**WENDY J. CONNOR/ DONNA FIEGEL** (Press and Marketing) is a graduate of the Yale School of Drama/Yale School of Management and serves as a mentor in the Theater Management program. Meghan has served as the Vice-Chair for the Theatre Communications Group Board of Directors and is a member of the Broadway League.

**GORDON DAVIDSON** (Founding Artistic Director) led the Taper through its first 38 seasons, guiding over 300 productions to its stage and winning countless awards for himself and the theatre—including the Tony Award for theatrical excellence, Margo Jones Award, The Governor’s Award for the Arts, and a Guggenheim fellowship. The Kentucky Cycle and Angels in America (Part One) won the Pulitzer in consecutive years and, in 1994, three of the four plays nominated for the Tony Award for Best Play were from the Taper (Angels in America won). In 1989, Gordon took over the Ahmanson and, in 2004, he produced the inaugural season in the Kirk Douglas Theatre.

**CENTER THEATRE GROUP**, one of the nation’s preeminent arts and cultural organizations, is Los Angeles’ leading not-for-profit theatre company, which, under the leadership of Artistic Director Snehal Desai, Managing Director/CEO Meghan Pressman, and Producing Director Douglas C. Baker, programs seasons at the 736-seat Mark Taper Forum and 1,600 to 2,100-seat Ahmanson Theatre at The Music Center in Downtown Los Angeles, and the 317-seat Kirk Douglas Theatre in Culver City. In addition to presenting and producing the broadest range of theatrical entertainment in the country, Center Theatre Group is one of the country’s leading producers of ambitious new works through commissions and world premiere productions and a leader in interactive community engagement and education programs that reach across generations, demographics, and circumstances to serve Los Angeles. Founded in 1967, Center Theatre Group was led by Founding Artistic Director Gordon Davidson until 2005 when Michael Ritchie became artistic director until his retirement in 2021; Snehal Desai was appointed the organization’s next artistic director in 2023. Center Theatre Group has produced more than 700 productions across its three stages, including such iconic shows as Zoot Suit; Angels in America: The Kentucky Cycle; Biloxi Blues; Twilight: Los Angeles, 1992; Children of a Lesser God; Curtains; The Drowsy Chaperone; 9 to 5; The Musical; and Bengal Tiger at the Baghdad Zoo. CenterTheatreGroup.org
As part of our commitment to supporting new plays and playwrights, we foster and develop ARTISTIC DEVELOPMENT & COMMISSIONS. Connect local playwrights with fellow writers and artistic staff as part of our L.A. Writers’ Workshop. Click on CTGLA.org/Artists. On staff for 10+ years.