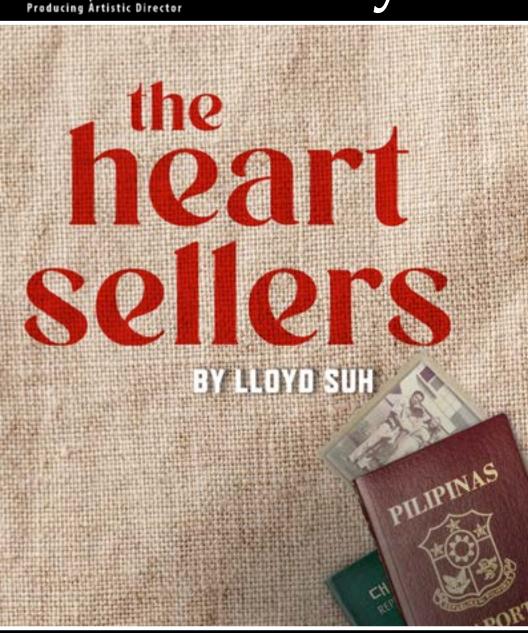


Mainstage Playbill











THE HEART SELLERS

by Lloyd Suh

CAST

Luna	Rona Figueroa*
	Michelle Heera Kim*

Directed by Kate Alexander

Scenic Designers

Costume Designer

Isabel A. & Moriah Curley-Clay

Anthony Tran

Lighting DesignerAndrew Gray

Sound Designer

Nicholas Christensen

Stage Manager: Emilia Ciotti Hernández*
Stage Management Intern: Madison Harosky

Platinum Underwriters

Gaele Barthold, Georgia Court, Bob & Wendy Grady, Dennis & Graci McGillicuddy, Patrick & Mary Mulva, Anne H.S. Nethercott

Underwriters

Joan & Larry Castellani, Sydney E. Goldstein & Elster Foundation, Gulf Coast Community Foundation,
Robert & Bonny Israeloff, Carlene LeBous & Harris Haston,
Muriel O'Neill Fund for the Performing Arts of Community Foundation of Sarasota County,
Gail & Skip Sack, Dorothy Waldron, John & Mary Lou Toal

Co-Producers

Jane Baisley, Elaine M. Keating Lois Schottenstein; In Loving Memory of Alan Schottenstein, Lois Stulberg, Don & Susan Ullmann, FST Endowment Fund

THE HEART SELLERS was commissioned by Milwaukee Repertory Theater as part of the John (Jack) D. Lewis New Play Development Program.

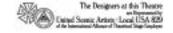
Mark Clements, Artistic Director; Chad Bauman, Executive Director; and received its first public performance on February 7, 2023.

THE HEART SELLERS is presented through special arrangement with TRW PLAYS 1180 Avenue of the Americas, Suite 640, New York, NY 10036. www.trwplays.com

* Denotes member Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers in the United States.







ARTIST PROFILES



RONA FIGUEROA

(Luna) FST debut! Broadway: Miss Saigon, Les Miserables, Nine (Revival), Lennon. Off-Broadway: Plays for the Plague Year, Dogeaters, Caucasian Chalk Circle. Regional: Rhinoceros (A.C.T.), The King and I (Chicago Lyric), We Will Rock You (Vegas),

Wild Goose Dreams (La Jolla), Jacques Brel is... (Two River Theater). TV: Madam Secretary, Elementary, The Mysteries of Laura, Gossip Girl. Audio Books: Toxicology and Dream Jungle by Jessica Hagedorn. Original rock albums: Quasilulu, Quasilulu2. Figueroa has an MFA in writing. RonaFigueroa.com



MICHELLE HEERA KIM

(Jane) Is delighted to be joining Florida Studio Theatre for their 2024-2025 Season. This NYC-based Los Angeles native is thrilled to bask under the Sarasota sun this Winter. Off-Broadway: Somebody's Daughter (Second Stage

Theater). TV/FILM: The Best Man: The Final Chapters (Peacock), Awkwafina is Nora from Queens (Comedy Central). @michelleheerakim

KATE ALEXANDER

(Director) is the Associate Director At-Large of FST and the Founder of the FST Theatre School with its acting method of training. Ms. Alexander has directed numerous productions and premieres on the FST stages, including, but not limited to: The Outsider; Troubadour; Pictures From Home; Black Pearl Sings!; The Last Match; What the Constitution Means to Me; Maytag Virgin; The Legend of Georgia McBride; America in One Room; Bright Star; Ethel Waters: His Eye is on the Sparrow; Wednesday's Child; Cherry Docs; Straight White Men; Always...Patsy Cline; The Things They Carried; Native Gardens; Heisenberg; The Absolute Brightness of Leonard Pelkev; and brownsville sona (b-side for tray). Ms. Alexander has also been a resident actress for over 25 years. Some of her leading roles were in the plays: Edward Albee's The Goat; Filumena; Master Class; Edward Albee's Three Tall Women; The Occupant; The Play About the Baby; Golda's Balcony; and Taking Shakespeare. Ms. Alexander is the recipient of numerous acting, directing, and public service awards, including

FAER, She Knows Where She's Going Award (Girls, Inc.), The Woman of Light Award, National Council of Jewish Women Award, The Woman of Power Award, the Sarasota County Arts Leadership Award, Education Award, Sarasota Manatee Jewish Federation, The Unity Award, and, most recently, the Suncoast Woman of Action Award. Ms. Alexander leads the FST Forums Series and developed the Blue Butterfly Theatre Program, a program for teens suffering from grief or loss. She created the Art of The Gesture program at Ringling College of Animation and is the co-author of *The Animated Short* with Karen Sullivan, now in its 2nd edition.

ISABEL A. & MORIAH CURLEY-CLAY

(Scenic Designers) Past FST designs include: Waitress; The Outsider; Dear Jack, Dear Louise; The World Goes 'Round; Troubadour; The Lehman Trilogy; Pictures From Home; Little Shop of Horrors; A Comedy of Tenors; Black Pearl Sings!; Shear Madness; Visit Joe Whitefeather; Network; What the Constitution Means to Me; Something Rotten!; The Legend of Georgia McBride; The Play That Goes Wrong; America in One Room; My Lord, What a Night; American Son: Handle With Care: Bright Star: The Marvelous Wonderettes: and many more. Recent work includes scenic designs for Alliance Theatre, Triad Stage, Actors Theatre of Louisville, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, Kenny Leon's True Colors Theatre and The Billie Holiday Theatre (2020 AUDELCO award for Reparations). Isabel and Moriah were featured in American Theatre Magazine's Inaugural Roll Call, Theatrical People To Watch. Members USA 829. axisstudiosdesign.com

ANTHONY TRAN

(Costume Designer) is a Los Angeles based Costume Designer. With a diverse body of work ranging from contemporary, period to sci-fi, he is well versed in designing for all genres/mediums. Recent credits include designing the upcoming season of *Star Trek: Discovery* (Paramount+) and the first season of *How I Met Your Father* (Hulu/20th TV).

ANDREW GRAY

(Lighting Designer) Originally from Scotland, Andrew graduated from the Liverpool Institute for Performing Arts (LIPA) in 2012 and has been designing/programming professionally for over a decade. Notable credits include: Giant Spectacular (Liverpool Capital of Culture), Mamma

ARTIST PROFILES

Mia! (Surflight Theatre), Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story (Beobe Productions), To Kill a Mockingbird (Parker Snell Productions), and Lost & Found (BP productions). Select FST credits include: 59th Street Bridge, Off The Charts, The Flip Side, Ugly Lies the Bone, Pictures From Home, Take It To The Limit, Up On The Roof, Creedence Clearwater Remixed!, Divas Three, The Surfer Boys, Shear Madness, Paralyzed, Reel Music, The Last Match, and A Place in the Sun.

NICHOLAS CHRISTENSEN

(Sound Designer) Credits include: 59th Street Bridge, Off The Charts, The Outsider, Dear Jack, Dear Louise, The Music of Laurel Canyon, The World Goes 'Round, Rhinestone Cowgirls, Troubadour, The Flip Side, The Lehman Trilogy, Ugly Lies the Bone, Pictures From Home, Little Shop of Horrors, Take It To The Limit, Up On The Roof, Creedence Clearwater Remixed!, New York State of Mind, Singin' in the Rain, Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story, and Ring of Fire.

EMILIA CIOTTI HERNÁNDEZ

(Stage Manager) is a New York City native and an experienced stage manager. Recent credits include *Life and Trust*, an immersive off-Broadway production, and *Shear Madness* at Florida Studio Theatre (FST). Additional stage management and technical theatre credits include *Les Misérables*, 42nd Street, August: Osage County, Pippin, Little Shop of Horrors, and The Marriage of Figaro. Emilia thrives on creating seamless productions and fostering

collaboration in all her work.

MADISON HAROSKY (Stage Management Intern) is a recent graduate from Emory & Henry College where she obtained a B.F.A. in Stage Management and Directing. Throughout her time in college, she had the joy of Stage Managing works such as *Violet, Songs For A New World*, and most recently, *Built On Shadows*. She is excited to be pursuing her career at Florida Studio Theatre and is thankful for the opportunity to continue exploring and creating theatre. FST credit: *The Music of Laurel Canyon*.

LLOYD SUH

(Playwright) is the author of plays including The Far Country (2023 Pulitzer Prize Finalist), The Heart Sellers, The Chinese Lady, Franklinland, Bina's Six Apples, American Hwangap, and many others. His work has been produced across the country. including at Atlantic Theater Company, The Public, Alliance, Huntington, Berkeley Rep, and with Ma-Yi Theatre Company and Ensemble Studio Theatre among others, and internationally at the Cultural Center of the Philippines and with PCPA at the Guerilla Theatre in Seoul, Korea. Awards include the Steinberg Playwright Award, the Horton Foote Prize, the Herb Alpert Award in the Arts, and the Guggenheim Fellowship. He was elected in 2016 to the Dramatists Guild Council, and serves as a Professor of the Practice at Princeton University.

EXECUTIVE STAFF

RICHARD HOPKINS

(Producing Artistic Director and CEO of Florida Studio Theatre). Mr. Hopkins has fostered the development of FST's Mainstage and Cabaret productions. His many Mainstage directing credits include: The Lehman Trilogy, Network, Sophie Tucker: The Last of the Red Hot Mamas, The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time, Honor Killing, Inspired Lunacy, The Best of Enemies, Next to Normal, Race, Ruined, The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Boleros for the Disenchanted, Permanent Collection, and Metamorphoses, among numerous other plays. This season, he served on the development teams for Off The Charts, 59th Street Bridge, and Divas: *Time After Time*. Mr. Hopkins led the development of FST's past Cabaret productions of Take It To The Limit, Reel Music, The Wanderers, Outlaws and

Angels, Guitar Girls, Mack the Knife, Older than Dirt, Piano Men, and The Prima Donnettes. Mr. Hopkins also serves as the Chief Executive Officer of Florida Studio Theatre. This includes overseeing the creation and implementation of all FST programming, including Mainstage, Cabaret, Stage III, New Play Development, Education, and Touring. Since his arrival at FST in 1980, Mr. Hopkins has guided the theatre from a small touring company to a nationally recognized regional theatre, which impacts over 220,000 adults and children annually. He created the New Play Development program, the Cabaret Series, FST's award-winning WRITE A PLAY program, and has directed the design and renovation of all FST's theatres. Mr. Hopkins has a Bachelor of Fine Arts from Virginia Commonwealth University. He has served as a Theatre Specialist for the U.S. Department of State

EXECUTIVE STAFF

to Cairo and Amman, and taught at the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey Clown College. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the Arts Leadership Award from the former Sarasota Arts Council, the Richard G. Fallon Award for Artistic Excellence from the Florida Professional Theatres Association, and the 2012 Cultural Champion Award from the Arts and Cultural Alliance of Sarasota County. In 2016, Mr. Hopkins was awarded the Luminaire Award, honoring excellence in creativity, philanthropy, advocacy, and all elements that are key to future growth of the arts in Sarasota. In 2017, Mr. Hopkins was awarded the Florida Theatre Conference Lifetime Achievement Award for contributing to the rich cultural fabric of the Sarasota community and the state of Florida, and his dedication to developing future artists, educators, and advocates.

REBECCA HOPKINS

(Managing Director and Chief Operations Officer). Mrs. Hopkins is responsible for oversight of FST's Administration, including the Business Office, Development, Marketing, Box Office, Front of House,

Restaurant, Budgeting, and maintaining the overall quality of FST's internal management. Mrs. Hopkins is Vice President of the League of Resident Theatres and Executive Board Member of the Sarasota Arts & Cultural Alliance. She is also a former Board Member of the Theatre Communications Group and former President of the National New Play Network. Mrs. Hopkins has been actively involved in development of FST's Cabaret productions since her arrival in 1998. She has served as Lead Developer for 59th Street Bridge, Off The Charts, Up On The Roof, Reel Music, The '70s: More Than A Decade, and others. In addition, she is the Founder and Producer of FST Improv and the Sarasota Improv Festival. In 2012, the Arts & Cultural Alliance awarded Mrs. Hopkins the Cultural Champion Award in recognition of her many years of accomplishment and growth with Florida Studio Theatre. In 2016, Mrs. Hopkins was awarded the Luminaire Award, honoring excellence in creativity, philanthropy, advocacy, and all elements that are keys to future growth of the arts in Sarasota.

PLATINUM UNDERWRITERS

GAELE BARTHOLD

FST is family and an integral part of my life. Its quality and diverse stage productions at affordable prices are a model of theatrical excellence. Educational programs for adults and children, community forums, and a strong commitment to New Play Development makes FST a gem that warrants our widespread financial and artistic support. I am proud to serve on FST's board and to support it financially and otherwise.

GEORGIA COURT

I love great theatre and FST delivers that. FST is among the best theatre companies I have seen, but it is more than a theatre company. It is an organization that recognizes it is part of the greater community—and it reaches out to that community in positive, productive ways. As the owner of Bookstore1Sarasota, I have been proud to partner with FST in the creation and celebration of contemporary literary works. Having FST so accessible adds to the joy of living in the fabulous arts community that is Sarasota.

BOB & WENDY GRADY

Now, more than ever we need a place where people can forget, even for the moment, and enjoy the company of others while being entertained. Staffed by dedicated and caring people; staged by the most creative and talented, and committed to bringing the theatre to as many people as possible, FST fulfills the need. That's why we underwrite all of the season programs and especially the children's programs—because the earlier they learn what the theatre teaches, the better our world will be.

DENNIS & GRACI MCGILLICUDDY

FST is important to us because we believe so strongly in the transformative power of the arts. For more than 40 years now, we have experienced first-hand how that transformative power works its magic in the hands of an organization that is so highly skilled in their craft. The values of the theatre and its leadership are reflected in its mission and manifested in its work. It has been and continues to be such a privilege to be supportive of FST and the meaningful & wonderful impact the theatre has on our community.

PLATINUM UNDERWRITERS

PATRICK & MARY MULVA

FST continues to provide challenging, thoughtprovoking, and always entertaining performances for a wide range of audiences. We are so fortunate to have such quality theatre here in our community. We hope you enjoy this performance and many others this season.

ANNE H.S. NETHERCOTT (1926-2019)

When asked to define giving, Anne said: "My mother used to say the best way to find you is to lose yourself, by focusing on the needs of others rather than on oneself." So giving has always been an important family value, which in childhood was reinforced by the community experience of surviving The Depression. Anne was proud to be a supporter of FST.

UNDERWRITERS

JOAN & LARRY CASTELLANI

We have been attending Florida Studio Theatre for many years, and we have found so much to enjoy. We love the diversity of the art FST offers and are consistently impressed at the talent showcased on their many stages. We appreciate that Richard, Rebecca, and the rest of the FST staff show a true dedication to their craft. And most importantly, we are grateful that a theatre of this caliber exists in our city. We are proud to be supporters of this Sarasota treasure.

SYDNEY E. GOLDSTEIN & ELSTER FOUNDATION

FST is important to me because I have always enjoyed the theatre and it provides a good, thought-provoking play. Its productions are unique to our community. I generally like the dramas, which make us think and touch our emotions. FST has many facets, all of them worthwhile. It is my pleasure to support these efforts!

GULF COAST COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

Gulf Coast Community Foundation has transformed the region through bold and proactive philanthropy for over 25 years. As a partner and a leader in community initiatives, Gulf Coast has surpassed granting \$510 million in the areas of: Health and human services, Civic and economic development, Education, Arts and Culture, and the Environment. To learn more visit GulfCoastCF.org and follow us on Facebook at @GulfCoastCommFnd.

ROBERT & BONNY ISRAELOFF

FST is thought provoking, Broadway-worthy theatre. We believe FST is important because it enriches our community and helps make Sarasota a cultural gem. That is why we have proudly contributed to

past expansions and continue to support its current mission of being even more accessible to the public.

CARLENE LEBOUS & HARRIS HASTON

We are pleased to support Florida Studio Theatre because it is consistently professional entertainment and is a valued contributor to our Sarasota Community.

MURIEL O'NEIL FUND FOR THE PERFORMING ARTS OF COMMUNITY FOUNDATION OF SARASOTA COUNTY (1923-2013) **

With a gift from The Muriel O'Neil Fund For The Performing Arts of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, an endowed fund was established to help underwrite FST's Winter Mainstage Series for many years to come. Muriel's sister, Dr. Gertrude Hight, established this gift with the Community Foundation of Sarasota County to ensure Muriel's legacy would live on and support an area of the community she deeply cherished.

GAIL & SKIP SACK

Thought-provoking plays, with incredibly professional casts, performed within close proximity of the audience are very rare, but Florida Studio Theatre does it hundreds of times a year in their small intimate theatres. The quality of the productions, professionalism of the actors, expert casting, and extraordinary management of the entire process makes FST one of the most successful theatre companies in the country. We're honored to support this amazingly talented organization.

DOROTHY WALDRON

I support FST for its diversity of programming: Mainstage, Cabaret, Improv, WRITE A PLAY children's program, summer camp, adult education classes, and the VIP program for special needs children. It is truly a wonderful community asset.

UNDERWRITERS

JOHN & MARY LOU TOAL

We are pleased to support FST. It is truly a wonderful organization providing a broad spectrum of theatre with something of interest and education for all groups at a reasonable cost. Our community is

blessed to have had Richard Hopkins at the helm for more than forty years. His vision and leadership supported by a dedicated staff and excellent board of trustees has guided FST'S significant growth and gained national recognition.

CO-PRODUCERS

JANE BAISLEY

I have been coming to Sarasota since 1959 when my husband's parents retired here. In 1996 Bill and I moved to Siesta Key and became active in Sarasota's community life. I have remained active in the community and am especially interested in FST — reading plays for the literary department as part of the theatre's "Readers Circle," attending Children's Theatre productions, and becoming a faithful supporter.

ELAINE M. KEATING

Ed Keating retired to Sarasota about the same time that Richard Hopkins and Kate Alexander started the tiny theatre group that eventually grew into the exquisite five theatre complex we have here today. He was so impressed with Richard and with the wonderful plays being produced on "a shoestring." I remember how surprised Ed was to learn that the Mainstage was to be called the Keating Theatre. Ed is gone now. I'm certain he would be so proud of how you have evolved. Great theatre! Accessible to everyone!

LOIS SCHOTTENSTEIN

We are proud to support FST and lucky to have such great theatre in Sarasota. FST reaches out to the community and provides wonderful affordable productions at the Broadway level.

DON & SUSAN ULLMANN

We are delighted to be Co-Producing another play at Florida Studio Theatre—particularly a show with the current relevance of "The Heart Sellers." We have been enjoying theatre here for several years, and last year became more involved and learned so much more about all the programs FST offers that support the broader community. FST has proven its resilience, and we are proud to be contributing to its future.

FST ARTISTIC ENDOWMENT

Fiscal responsibility is a hallmark of Florida Studio Theatre. Every year the Endowment Fund makes a contribution to the theatre that consists of some portion of the interest generated by the fund. Our Endowment for general operating provides a stream of funding for the many artistic needs of the theatre. This year's funds will provide support for actor salaries and designer positions needed for this production.

** Recognizes our Gold Circle Underwriters for their commitment to the Art of FST, establishing an endowed fund to support cherished programs for life.

THE IMMIGRATION ACT OF 1965

The This bill that we will sign today is not a revolutionary bill. It does not affect the lives of millions. . . . This bill says simply that from this day forth those wishing to immigrate to America shall be admitted on the basis of their skills and their close relationship to those already here. . . .

The fairness of this standard is so self-evident ... for over four decades the immigration policy of the United States has been twisted ... by the harsh injustice of the national origins quota system ... Only 3 countries were allowed to supply 70 percent of all the immigrants ... Our beautiful America was built by a nation of strangers ... Those who do come will come because of what they are, and not because of the land from which they sprung.

-President Lyndon Johnson, upon signing the Hart-Celler Act of 1965.

FST COMPANY

BOARD OF TRUSTEES		FACILITIES		
President		Facilities Manager		James Handley
Vice-President		Facilities Assistant		
Secretary/Treasurer	Patricia Courtois	Maintenance Technician		Todd Bechtel
Trustee		Cleaner		Loida Mata
Trustee				
Trustee		E	DUCATION & TOU	DC
Trustee		Director of Children's Theatre		
Trustee		Children's Theatre Associate		
Trustee		Director of Education/Associate Artist		
Trustee		Lead Teaching Artist		
TrusteeHonorable Charles Williams		Education Administrator		
	PV-P 0-779-V-P 079-1 PP		Teaching Artist	
EXECUTIVE				
Producing Artistic Director	_	COMMUNITY RESOURCE GROUP		
Managing Director	Rebecca Hopkins			Craci McCilliandd
		Larry Coleman	Bonny Israeloff Valerie Joels	Graci McGillicuddy Jill Ross
ARTISTIC	STAFF	Shirley Fein Maddy Freshwater	Patricia Kordis	Lois Schottenstein
Associate Director At-Large		Carol Gilbert	Marie Kropp	Lois Stulberg
Resident Pianist	Iim Prosser	Sy Goldblatt	Susan Landau	
Associate Artist/Literary Manag		Robert Grady	Frank Malickson	Charlie Ann Sypret Martin Taffel
Associate Artist		Wendy Grady	Matty Matheson	Martin faller
Associate Artist		Welldy Grady	Matty Matheson	
Casting and Hiring Coordinator		AUDIENCE ENRICHMENT GROUP		
Assistant to the Artistic Director		TATULE OF		
Resident Artist	Sarah Durham	Hon. Larry L. Eger		Charles Shaw
		Trevor Harvey Gilbert King		Howard Tevlowitz
PRODUCTIO	N STAFF	Michele D. Redwine	e Honorah	le Charles Williams
Director of Production		Dr. Eddy Regnier	1101101410	Rose Chapman
Associate Production Manager		Renée James Gilmo	re	
Stage Manager			on of Sarasota-Manate	PP
Production Stage Manager		The jewion rederan	on or our about 171anac	
Assistant Stage Manager		OUTSIDE ASSISTANCE		
Costume Shop Manager		House Counsel Michael E. Siegel		
Costume Shop Assistant			S	hutts & Bowen LLP
Lighting Supervisor	Andrew Gray	DDOEECCI	ONAL TRAINING D	DOCDAM
Technical Director		PROFESSIONAL TRAINING PROGRAM		
Assistant Technical Director		Acting Apprentice		
Properties & Paint Supervisor				
Sound Supervisor		Acting Apprentice		
Company Manager	Julie Wells			
ADMINISTRAT	TIME CTARE			
General Manager				
Director of IT	Clarke Weigle			
Director of Finance				
Business Office Associate		Acting Apprentice		
Management Assistant		Acting Apprentice		Evan Souza
Receptionist/Volunteer Coordinate		Acting Apprentice		Cory Sweat
Director of Marketing				
Events Coor. & Digital Marketin				
Marketing Associate			ntern	
Digital & Media Relations Assoc	iateWendy Kiesewetter		k Education Intern	
Director of Development	Matthew Glover		nent Intern	
Development Manager		Costume Intern		
Development Associate		General Manageme	nt Intern	Krista Hagans
Grant Writer	Abby Jimison	Lighting Intern		Kate Landry
Development Assistant	Hailey Hogan	Literary Intern		Nicole Crivelli
Development Assistant		Literary Intern		Tyler Lemiey
Director of Patron Services				
Box Office Manager				
Asst. Box Office Manager			ement Fellow	
Asst. Box Office Manager			Eallan	
Box Office Supervisor			Fellow	
Restaurant Manager			InternIntern	
Restaurant Manager			InternIntern	
Restaurant Manager			Intern	
Kitchen Manager			Intern	

Mailroom Technician.....Ryan Stanley

Stage Management Intern...... Amoreena Tillman