# SONOMA STATE UNIVERSITY

Departments of Music & Theatre Arts & Dance present

# IN THE HEIGHTS

# Music and Lyrics by Lin-Manuel Miranda Book by Quiara Alegría Hudes Conceived by Lin-Manuel Miranda

Stage Direction by Marie Ramirez Downing Music Direction by Lynne Morrow Choreography by Anakarina Swanson

# FEBRUARY 9-11, 2024 FEBRUARY 16-18, 2024

# Evert B. Person Theatre

IN THE HEIGHTS is presented by arrangement with Concord Theatricals. www.concordtheatricals.com

# Land and Labor Acknowledgement

We acknowledge that SSU's Department of Theatre Arts and Dance stands on the unceded ancestral homeland of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo tribes, now known as the Federated Indians of Graton Rancheria, whom are the original inhabitants of Cotati and Rohnert Park in Sonoma County and an integral and active community in the Bay Area and beyond.

We affirm their sovereign rights as First Peoples and pay our respects to the ancestors, elders and relatives of the Coast Miwok and Southern Pomo Communities. We honor these ancestral grounds we are gathered upon, the strength, wisdom, and artistry of these communities, and the many indigenous people who have paved a way for artists, cultural workers, and changemakers.

We also acknowledge the forced enslavement of Africans and their descendants whose unpaid labor built much of the wealth of the United States. We honor the vast cultural, creative, intellectual, embodied wisdom and knowledge of the African diaspora and the many ways these lineages have shaped our understanding of transformative art-making, and liberatory practice.

We also recognize that words are not enough, so we invite you to join us in learning more about Sogorea Te Land Trust, the land back movement, and reparations for people of African descent.

As audience members, you are collaborators and co-creators in tonight's experience, so we invite you to participate in ways that feel authentic and agency-full, for you. We invite you to say hello to your neighbor, to move your body, breathe in and out freely in this shared space, hoot and holler when you feel called to, and to engage in the transformative and community-building experience of live performance!





Music and Lyrics by Book by Lin-Manuel Quiara Alegría Miranda Hudes

IN THE

Lin-Manuel Miranda

Music Direction Lynne Morrow

> Choreography Anakarina Swanson

Stage Direction Marie Ramirez Downing



Friday, February 9 & 16 at 7:30pm Saturday, February 10 & 17 at 7:30pm Sunday, February 11 & 18 at 2:00pm





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# **SPRING 2024 CONCERTS**

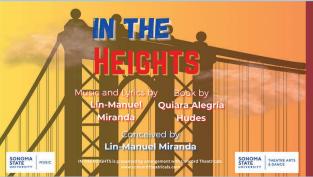
Tickets \$12 SSU Students Free

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Box Office:

<b>JAN</b> 28	2:00 PM	Navarro Trio	Schroeder
<b>FEB</b> 9	ALL DAY	SSU/Redwood Empire Jazz Festival	Weill
FEB 9, 10 FEB 11	7:30PM 2:00 PM	In the Heights	Evert B. Person Theatre
FEB 13	6:30 PM	Bassoon Masterclass with Jeff Robinson	Schroeder
FEB 16, 17 FEB 18	7:30 PM 2:00 PM	In the Heights	Evert B. Person Theatre
FEB 24	ALL DAY	2024 NATS Vocal Festival	Schroeder
FEB 27	7:30 PM	An Evening of Saxophone Chamber Music	Schroeder
FEB 28	1:00 PM	Vocal Repertory Recital	Schroeder
<b>MAR</b> 5	7:30 PM	SSU Jazz Combos	Schroeder
MAR 6	1:00 PM	Department Repertory Recital	Schroeder
MAR 7	7:30 PM	SSU Jazz Orchestra	Weill
MAR 11	7:30 PM	SSU Concert Band	Weill
MAR 13-15	ALL DAY	Sonoma Invitational Wind Band & Orchestra Fest	Weill
<b>APRIL</b> 7	7:30 PM	SSU Concerto Competition	Schroeder
APRIL 9	7:30 PM	Faculty Recital featuring Ian Carey	Schroeder
APRIL 17	1:00 PM	Department Repertory Recital	Schroeder
APRIL 19	7:30 PM	Concert Choir & SonoVoce	Schroeder
APRIL 20	7:30 PM	Brass Ensemble: Full Fathom Five	Schroeder
APRIL 21	2:00 PM	Navarro Trio	Schroeder
APRIL 26	ALL DAY	CMEA State Choral Festival	Green Music Center
APRIL 27	7:30 PM	Symphony Orchestra Season Finale	Weill
<b>MAY</b> 1	7:30 PM	Concert Band & Diablo Valley Winds	Weill
MAY 2	7:30 PM	SSU Jazz Combos	Schroeder
MAY 3	7:30 PM	Chamber Music Ensembles	Schroeder
MAY 4	7:30 PM	SSU Wind Ensemble and CSU Fullerton	Weill
MAY 6	7:30 PM	SSU Jazz Orchestra	Weill
MAY 7	7:30 PM	SSU Guitar Ensemble	Schroeder
MAY 8	1:00 PM	Instrumental Repertory Recital	Schroeder
MAY 9	7:30 PM	Music Theatre Scenes	Schroeder
MAY 11	7:30 PM	Rock Collegium	Schroeder
MAY 12	2:00 PM	Student Composers	Schroeder
MAY 15	7:30 PM	Vocal Repertory Recital	Schroeder

# **Department of Theatre Arts & Dance presents**



In the Heights February 9-11, 16-18 Evert B. Person Theatre

Power Lines New Play Festival & Senior Projects April 4-7 Ives Hall 119

Sonoma State University Department of Theatre Arts & Dance SPRING DANCE Student Choreographers



Spring Dance: Student Choreographers May 2-5 Evert B. Person Theatre

SENIC

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120



# SPECIAL POST-SHOW EVENTS

# Friday, February 16th (Stick around after the show for a Post-Show Q&A with the directors and cast)

# Sunday, February 18th (Meet the cast and directors and enjoy some delicious food after the show!)

# Special Thanks

To Spreckels Performing Arts Center for additional audio support. To Reilly Milton for assisting Anakarina Swanson with choreography for the show. To Sierra Reid for choreographing the machismo section of "It Won't Be Long Now". To muralists Rei Riviera and Mathilda Meas.

We would like to honor Dr. Lynne Morrow and her time here at Sonoma State University. This will be her twenty-third and final musical at SSU. Dr. Morrow has been an integral part in maintaining the Music Theatre program in the Department of Music and has served as a true inspiration in both Music and Theatre Arts & Dance. We thank her for her tenure here and wish her well on the journey ahead.

# Artistic & Production

**STAGE DIRECTOR** Marie Ramirez Downing MUSIC & VOCAL DIRECTOR Lynne Morrow **CHOREOGRAPHER** Anakarina Swanson STAGE MANAGER lessica Johnson **PERFORMANCE STAGE MANAGER** Dianne Harrison ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER Jack Kelly SCENIC DESIGNER Carmen Gomez **COSTUME DESIGNER** Special Consultants LIGHTING DESIGNER Theo Bridant SOUND COORDINATOR/RECORDINGS/SOUND CUE DESIGNER Enrique Rojas SOUND ENGINEER Jessica Johnson AUDIO TECHNICIAN Alex Lopez WARDROBE SUPERVISOR Carly Bozeman WARDROBE CREW Sabrina Hick, Miranda Ostwald, Theo Reece LIGHT BOARD OPERATOR Dianne Harrison MASTER ELECTRICIAN Theo Bridant **PROP COORDINATOR** Dianne Harrison ASSISTANT PROP COORDINATOR Mia Staraci TECHNICAL CREW Viviano Cunningham, Allison DeStasio, Patrick Rimlinger, Arjan Sidhu **DIALECT CONSULTANT** Cynthia Santos-Decure DRAMATURG Rakeen Mazumder **TECHNICAL DIRECTOR** Theo Bridant **TECHNICAL FACULTY MENTOR** Jeffrey Hamby **COSTUME SHOP COORDINATOR** Teresa Kopaz YOUTH PERFORMER SUPERVISOR Teresa Kopaz

# **Characters**

**Usnavi de la Vega** is the owner of a small bodega in Washington Heights called De La Vega Bodega.

**Nina Rosario** is the first in her family to go to college. She is admired in the community.

**Benny** works at the taxi dispatch of Nina's father, Kevin. He dreams of opening his own business.

Vanessa Morales works at Daniela's salon. She dreams of getting out of the barrio and getting an apartment downtown.

**Abuela Claudia** ("abuela" means "grandmother") is the loving grandmother to all in the barrio. She looked after Usnavi when his parents died. She and her mother moved from Cuba to New York in 1943 when she was a child.

**Sonny de la Vega** is Usnavi's younger cousin and works with Usnavi in the bodega. He has a thoughtful side that yearns for social justice.

**Daniela** is the owner of the salon where the neighborhood women come to gossip. She is very bold and loves the community.

Carla works at Daniela's salon and is her close friend.

Kevin Rosario is Nina's father, who owns the taxi cab service: Rosario's.

Camila Rosario is Nina's mother, who co-owns the taxi cab service.

**Piragua Guy (Piragüero)** is the owner of a small piragua stand that competes with a soft-serve truck.

Graffiti Pete is a graffiti artist. He is good friends with Sonny.

# Cast

**USNAVI** Nico Alva **NINA** Kathryn Rodriguez BENNY Malik-Charles D. Wade I VANESSA Emily Bousquet ABUELA CLAUDIA Reilly Milton **SONNY** Angelo Recacho **DANIELA** Iyanna Lowry **CARLA** Yanni Lowry **KEVIN** Matthew Quezada-Cortes CAMILA Sydnie Crumrine-Thomsen PIRAGUA GUY Maick Poroj **GRAFFITI PETE** James Marchbanks YOUNG ABUELA CLAUDIA Gina Hurtado ABUELA CLAUDIA'S MOM Rosa Reynoza YOUNG KEVIN Declan Joseph Downing **KEVIN'S FATHER** Dan Villalva

#### ENSEMBLE

Hope Beckmann Leah Bostic Sarah Cambra Ella Jay Maggie Millard Sierra Reid (Dance Captain) Corwin James Wilson

# ORCHESTRA

MUSIC DIRECTOR Dr. Lynne Morrow PIANO Yvonne Wormer KEYBOARD Chris Alexander ELECTRIC GUITAR Enrique Rojas BASS (ACOUSTIC/ELECTRIC) Steve Hoffman REEDS William Berg TRUMPET Konstantin Jemeljanovs TROMBONE Steve Weaver DRUMS Allen Daniel Rivera PERCUSSION Jennifer Wilsey

#### DANCERS

Matilda Bowen Ally Liberty (Dance Captain) Maya Sarinana

# PROGRAM

ACT I "In the Heights" – Usnavi and Company "Breathe" – Nina and Company "Benny's Dispatch" – Benny and Nina "It Won't Be Long Now" – Vanessa, Usnavi, and Sonny "Inútil (Useless)" – Kevin "No Me Diga (You Don't Say)" – Daniela, Carla, Vanessa, and Nina "96,000" – Usnavi, Benny, Sonny, Vanessa, Daniela, Carla, Graffiti Pete, and Company "Paciencia y Fe (Patience and Faith)" – Abuela Claudia and Company "When You're Home" – Nina, Benny, and Company "Piragua" – Piragua Guy "Siempre (Always)" – Camila and Bolero Singer † "The Club" – Company "Blackout" – Company

#### ACT II

"Sunrise" – Nina, Benny, and Ensemble
"Hundreds of Stories" – Abuela Claudia and Usnavi
"Enough" – Camila
"Carnaval del Barrio" – Daniela and Company
"Atención" – Kevin
"Alabanza" – Usnavi, Nina, and Company
"Everything I Know" – Nina
"No Me Diga (Reprise)" – Daniela, Carla, and Vanessa †
"Piragua (Reprise)" – Piragua Guy
"Champagne" – Vanessa and Usnavi
"When the Sun Goes Down" – Nina and Benny
"Finale" – Usnavi and Company

# **Marie Ramirez Downing**

# **Stage Director**

When I began rehearsal for *In The Heights*, I was invigorated! I believed we had a very talented and diverse cast and an artistic team that not only had positive energy and were ready to work, but I had a sense that the play really meant something to them personally. As I got to know them, that was confirmed as they started telling personal stories of their connection to the show that included what family meant to them and who in the play they most identified with. Some mentioned the character Usnavi searching for answers from his ancestors in the Dominican Republic seeking to return to his native country. Others mentioned Abuela Claudia a Cuban immigrant brought to the United States for a "better" life. Everyone had a character that inspired them, and they truly saw themselves in the story we were to tell. That's what makes doing this show with this special cast so much more powerful.

Getting to opening night was not an easy feat. Lynne and I would hear, "It's such a large musical!", "It will take a lot resources!", "Do we have the actors for that?", "Will we do the Latinx community justice?". These were just some of the questions that many of us committed to producing Heights had to face. But I kept saying to myself, I am a part of this community. I know how to tell this story, I have lived it! I am still living it as a Mexican American woman who went through many of the things the characters are struggling with or dreaming about. Through, education, planning, tears, and even despair we finally found so much joy, and we fought to tell this important story in the way the creators of the musical thought it should be told. Through music and dance, this multicultural, multi-generational, and bilingual play is the heart of the Hispanic and Latinx community here at Sonoma State (an HSI) and the larger Sonoma County area. This show was always meant to be a celebration of the diversity of people. I had a vision for representation from many groups on campus and beyond. We have criminology, nursing, psychology, history, business, music, and theatre majors in the show. We also have SSU alumni, a high school senior from Petaluma, 5th graders from Cali Calmecac Language Academy in Windsor and Hidden Valley Elementary School in Santa Rosa and members from the Sonoma County Theatre Community. Our cast represents America. We are finally here and this story will be told! Lin-Manuel Miranda said in an interview, "There's a song in Heights called "Hundreds of Stories," but there's millions of stories — from the cultural specificities of the Puerto Rican American experience, the Dominican American experience, the Cuban American experience." For me, it's the Mexican American experience. I am first generation college student like the character of Nina, and the first in my family to attend college and graduate with a college degree. That comes with a lot of pressure for many students who relate to balancing expectations from those "Back home" and the reality of the present. A Central Valley native, growing up in a bilingual home, always communing with my large family this story is the song in my heart and the pain in my soul from those that have left this earth and left me a legacy, and a history to uphold and shine light on. This show is one way I am doing that for those that have paved the way for many of us that are privileged to do what we love so freely.

As you watch the show, please ask yourself, "What is home to me?" Is it a place like a city or a country? Could it be wherever you feel like you can be yourself without judgement? A place where your close friends and family are? The characters in this play are searching for home, seeking a better life and following their dreams, and like many dreams, they do not come without challenges, hard decisions, and hard-work. Enjoy the show!

#### Special Thanks

Special Thanks to Lynne Morrow for her collaboration and dedication to the music direction in the show. Thank you Lynne- for your passion and commitment to producing this show and your mentorship and solidarity. Thank you to Anakarina Swanson, our amazingly talented choreographer for your friendship, partnership, and professionalism throughout this process. *Heights* would not be *Heights*, without your energy, creativity, and ideas. There were many who listened, championed, supported, and came to the rescue on many occasions since we announced we were going to do this play, you know who you are, and words can't express how much I appreciate your kind words and advisement. Just noting a few: Christine Cali, Jim Downing, Micha Espinosa, Cynthia Santos-DeCure, Matthew Paolucci, Sheila Bandyopadhyay, Laura Alamillo and the rest of the President's Hispanic Serving Institution Council Members, Natalia Nieves, Sylvia Soto, and the underrepresented faculty here at Sonoma State.

#### Lynne Morrow

#### **Music Director**

The very first musical sound heard in this show is a clave: CLACK-CLACK-CLACK CLACK. CLACK. CLACK. That's Africa, knocking on the door of the Americas.

The show's community in Washington Heights is from many places in the Afro-Caribbean: Puerto Rico, Cuba and the Dominican Republic, even relatives from Chile.

These friends, shop owners on the same block in el barrio, are the life-blood of the community. The music that supports the surprising, twisting story is thrilling. Afro-Cuban rhythms like, the martillo and tumbao, play along with Dominican rhythms like the merengue and bachata. More Afro-Cuban rhythms, guaguanco and rhumba, liven up the whole score.

This show, Lin-Manuel Miranda's first, is a love song to the Community.

As my last show here at Sonoma State University, In the Heights is my love song to this Community.

Dr. Lynne Morrow Music Director January 2024

#### Anakarina Swanson

#### Choreographer

Creating movement and choreography for this show was an absolute thrill and a huge undertaking. With over half of the musical numbers being full blown dance sequences, I had my work cut out for me. Luckily, the music, the cast and the story gave me so much inspiration to pull from.

The bright, cultural representation of this show is refreshing and comfortable. As a proud Latina myself it was so wonderful to hear music familiar to what I heard in my childhood, to hear vernacular that I am familiar with and, to quote the song *Pacencia Y Fe*, "to see faces the same as mine."

The characters in this show seem so real and relatable and the stories that these characters have to share are universal of immigrant people, of first, second and third generation immigrants.

My goal for this project was to bring to life the colors of these cultures, the sense of community and the mixing of the old and the new. Traditional dances like Danza and the contemporary styles of Hip Hop, the social ambiance of Salsa and Bachata. The music and the cultures represented in this show really helped me influence the flavors and textures of the movement and the cast inspired me every day to challenge them and myself. I believe we have created a well-rounded experience for you to enjoy.

# Want to learn more about the cast and crew of In the Heights?

You can find their pictures and biographies by scaning the QR code below or visiting *In the Heights Cast & Crew* under the tab, *On Stage* on the Theatre Arts & Dance website





EVERT B. PERSON THEATRE AND IVES HALL are an extraordinary learning laboratory, fully-equipped live performance spaces containing professionally staffed costume and scene shops, where SSU students learn skills essential to the art of live dance, music and theater performance. For today's show, through performance-related coursework, the students have spent weeks in rehearsals, singing, acting, memorizing, dancing and more, under the mentorship of professional staff, designers, and faculty. We hope you enjoy the product of the students' learning and skill-building process.

# 2023-24 EVERT B. PERSON SCHOLARSHIPS

**MUSIC** Matthew Adkins, Hector Altamirano, Diego Borges, Bruce Bruchler, Moses Bryant, Ezra Costa, Leif Dering, Ethan Dierauf, Sofia Fichera, Charles Gomez, Ruby Goshert, Theo Hayse, Ella Hoffman, Emma Hofhenke, Gadiel Perez, Alexander Pletkin, Hunter Richison, Sharlene Whitaker, Jason Whitney

ACTING Sabrina Blais, Bucky Brynjegard-Bialik, Ally Buechler, Jarrett Galante, Sierra Reid

DANCE Jennifer Borges-Ortiz, Madyline Jaramillo-Schommer, Olivia Keydeniers, Zara Labbe, Jennifer Martuscelli, Sydnie Obergfell

TECHNICAL THEATRE Noah Hewitt, Sabrina Hick, Alma Pasillas, Aissa Simbulan

# **MUSIC FACULTY**

Dr. Andy Collinsworth, Department Chair Edward Beebout, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities

# **BRASS AND PERCUSSION**

Daniel Gianola-Norris Trumpet David Ridge Trombone Jonathan Seiberlich Tuba Jennifer Wilsey Timpani, Percussion Alicia Mastromonaco Horn

# JAZZ

Dr. Douglas Leibinger\* Jazz History, Arranging, Improvisation, Trombone Raffi Garabedian Saxophone Ian Carey Trumpet Ken Cook Piano Randy Vincent Guitar Andrew Emer Bass George Marsh Drums

# **KEYBOARD**

Marilyn Thompson\* Piano, Chamber Music Ken Cook Jazz Piano Dan Cromeenes Collaborative Pianist Jonathan Dimmock Organ, Harpsichord Yvonne Wormer Collaborative Pianist

#### **MUSIC EDUCATION**

Dr. Kim Mieder\* Elementary Methods, Instrumental Methods and Pedagogy
Dr. Andy Collinsworth Instrumental Conducting and Pedagogy
Dr. Jenny Bent Choral Conducting and Pedagogy
Eric Cabalo Guitar Pedagogy
Dr. Alexander Kahn Instrumental Conducting
Dr. Lynne Morrow Vocal Pedagogy

# MUSICOLOGY AND ETHNOMUSICOLOGY

Dr. John R. Palmer Musicology Dr. Alexander Kahn Frehsman Learning Community Dr. Thom Limbert World Music Beth Ann Turner SYRCE

# STRINGS

Jill Brindel Cello Eric Cabalo Classical Guitar Gail Hernández Rosa Violin Dan Levitan Harp Mark Wallace Bass Aaron Westman Violin & Viola

# THEORY, COMPOSITION AND MUSICIANSHIP

Dr. Thom Limbert\* Composition, Orchestration, 20th Century Analysis Will Johnson, Emeritus Composition Dr. Douglas Leibinger Jazz Theory Dr. John R. Palmer Musicianship Program Dr. Brian S. Wilson Theory Program

# **VOICE, OPERA & MUSIC THEATRE**

Dr. Lynne Morrow<sup>\*</sup> Voice, Diction M. Jane Erwin Voice Mark Kratz Voice Lee Steward Voice Krista Wigle Voice

# WOODWINDS

Dr. Andrew Harrison Saxophone Jeff Robinson Bassoon Kathleen Reynolds Flute Laura Reynolds Oboe Roy Zajac Clarinet

#### ENSEMBLES

Dr. Jenny Bent\* Symphonic Chorus, Concert Choir, SonoVoce Dr. Alexander Kahn\* Symphony Orchestra Dr. Douglas Leibinger\* Jazz Orchestra, Concert Jazz Ensemble Dr. Andy Collinsworth\* Wind Ensemble, Concert Band Dr. Lynne Morrow Music Theatre Scenes and Music Theatre Production Eric Cabalo Guitar Ensemble Daniel Gianola-Norris Brass Ensemble Dr. John R. Palmer Rock Collegium Kendrick Freeman Latin Band

# FACULTY ENSEMBLES

Faculty Jazz Ensemble | Dr. Douglas Leibinger & George Marsh, Directors Sonoma Musica Viva | Dr. Brian S. Wilson, Director Navarro Trio | Victor Romasevich (Violin), Jill Brindel (Cello), Marilyn Thompson (Piano)

\*Program Director

Christine Cali, Department Chair Scott Horstein, Acting Department Chair Fall '23 Edward Beebout, Dean, School of Arts and Humanities ACTING Marie Ramirez Downing Program Director Introduction to Acting, Advanced Scene Study, Voice, Movement, Devised Theatre Workshop Danielle Cain Voice, Scene Study, Comedy of Manners, Shakespeare, Audition, Drama Ensemble Laura Odeh Beginning Acting, Career Prep and Planning, Physical Theatre Doyle Ott Critical Thinking, Children's Theater, Humanities Learning Community, Commedia dell'Arte, Feldenkrais, Theatre History Paul Draper Professor Emeritus

#### DANCE

Christine Cali and Kristen Daley Dance Program Co-Directors Christine Cali Contemporary Dance Forms, Choreography, Global Perspectives in Dance, Improvisation/Somatic Practices, Theatre in Action, Critical Thinking, Actor/Dancer Collaboration, Dance Ensemble, Spring Dance Choreography, Dance for Everybody Kristen Daley Contemporary Dance Forms, Anatomy for Dance, Choreography, Dance History & Criticism, Yoga, Dance Conditioning, Actor/Dancer Collaboration, Dance Ensemble, Spring Dance Choreography, Global Perspectives in Dance Jennifer Jaffe Ballet, Global Perspectives in Dance Nancy Lyons Professor Emeritus Farrah McAdam Dance Ensemble, Dance for Everybody, Hip Hop, Choreography

# **TECHNICAL THEATRE**

Anthony Bish Program Director Scenic Design, Light Design, Prop Design, Stage Managemnt, Portfolio Jeffrey Hamby Making Theatre, Costume Design, Technical Theater Workshop Peter Crompton Stagecraft, Design Projects Hannah-Jane Dakin: Stage Management

# THEATRE STUDIES

Scott Horstein Program Director Dramaturgy, Contemporary Theatre, Playwriting, Research Methods, Theatre History, Humanities Learning Community Judy Navas Professor Emeritus

# **GUEST SPEAKERS**

Philip Agyapong	Osvaldo Ramirez
Sheila Bandyopadhyay	Elia Saldana
Stephanie Emmanuela Da Silva	Taraneh Sarrafzadeh
Rogelio Lopez	Joti Singh
Farrah McAdam	Rulan Tangen
Jamie Nakama	Nzinga Woods

# Center for Performing Arts Professional Staff

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