

# PLAYBILL®

GREATER NEW YORK REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL AWARDS

Sunday, May 22, 2022



## THE ROGER REES AWARDS

FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN STUDENT PERFORMANCE





# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

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THE ROGER REES AWARDS

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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

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**ALL FINALISTS AND  
WINNERS OF THE  
2021-2022  
ROGER REES AWARDS**

**FOR EXCELLENCE IN  
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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS



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**Congratulations to all of  
the 2022 Nominees!**



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

THE  
ROGER  
REES  
AWARDS

FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN STUDENT PERFORMANCE

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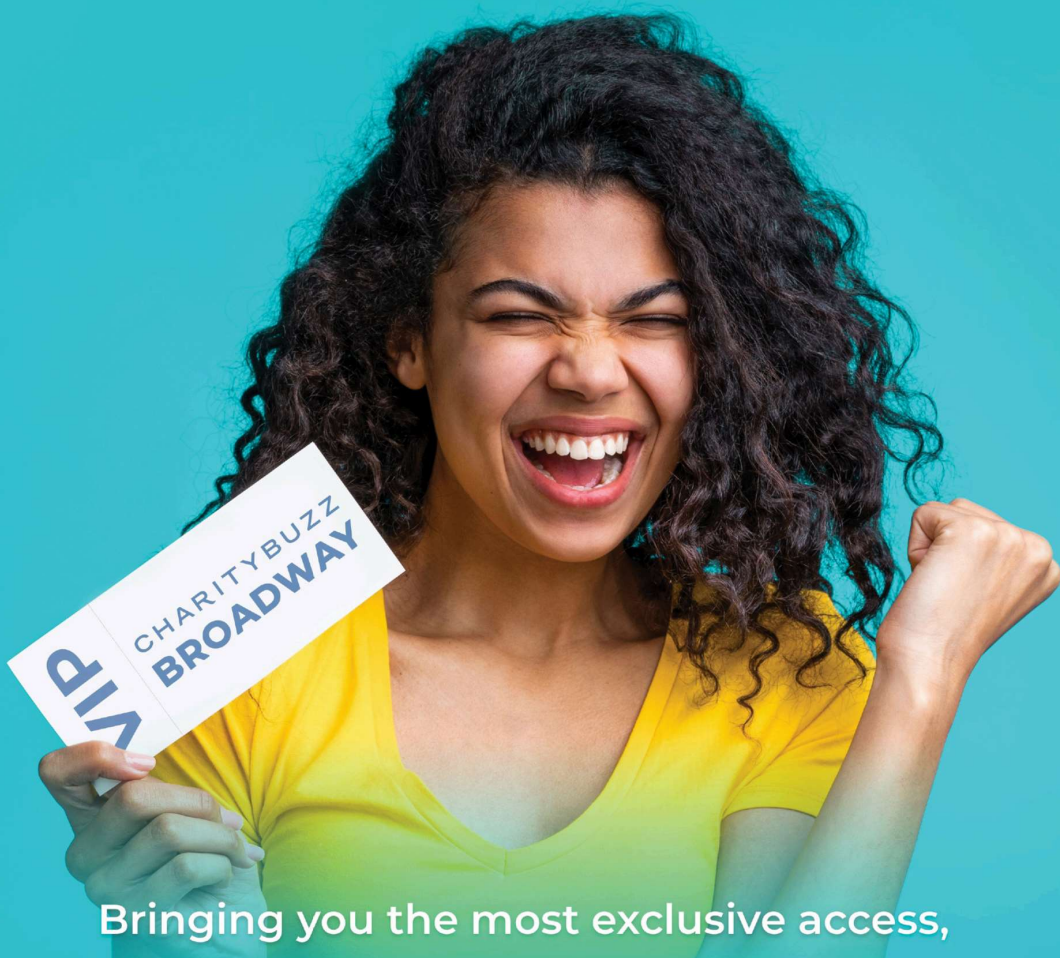
**Our Congratulations to  
All the Nominees!**

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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

Congratulations to all the talented students  
participating in the 2021–2022 Rees Awards.

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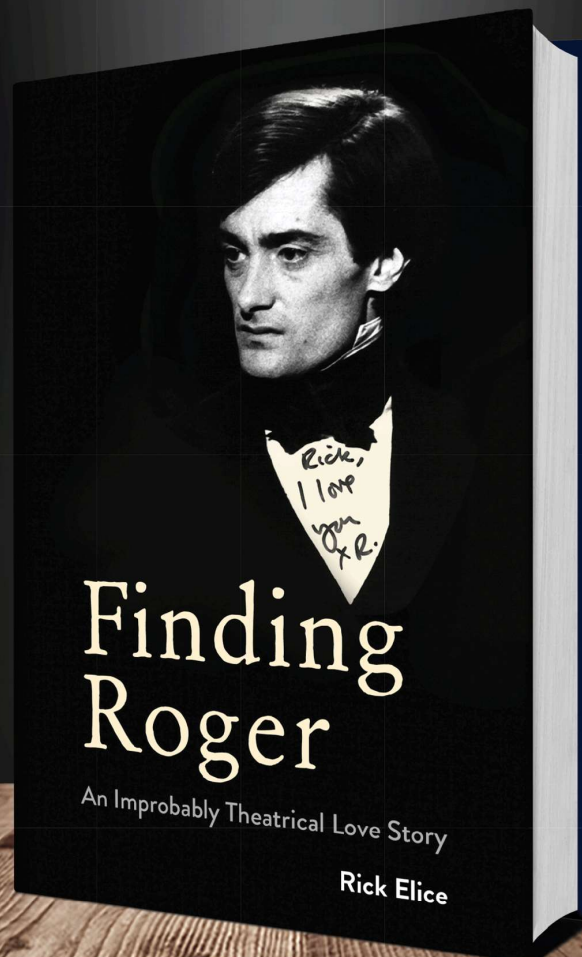
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Roger Rees Awards for Excellence in Student Performance



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

Finding Roger  
is a story of  
*profound loss*  
but also a  
*love story*  
for the ages.

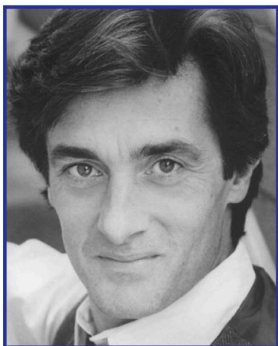




# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## THE ROGER REES AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN STUDENT PERFORMANCE

celebrates the exceptional life and career-long artistic excellence of the beloved actor, artist and teacher, Roger Rees.



Roger Rees was born in Aberystwyth, Wales on May 5, 1944, and grew up in South London. He began his career in the theater as a scenery painter. While working backstage, the theater manager called upon him to replace an injured cast-member. He never painted scenery again.

He spent 22 years as a member of the Royal Shakespeare Company with whom he received the Olivier® and Tony® Awards for his performance in the title role in *The Life and Adventures of Nicholas Nickleby*. Roger continued as an Associate Artist of the RSC for the rest

of his life. Over the course of his career Roger starred in dozens of plays and musicals produced on Broadway and the West End of London. Broadway audiences cheered his performance of Gomez opposite the Morticia played by Bebe Neuwirth and Brooke Shields in *The Addams Family*, and raved about his portrayal of Anton Schell starring opposite Chita Rivera in *The Visit*. Television audiences know him from recurring roles on *The West Wing*, *Cheers* and *Grey's Anatomy*; and guest appearances on dozens of other shows.

Roger was also a prolific director whose work graced the stages of many world-class theater companies including the Williamstown Theatre Festival where he served as the artistic director. A new generation of theatergoers were introduced to his extraordinary artistry when he teamed with Alex Timbers to direct *Peter and the Starcatcher* by Rick Elice, for which he won the Obie Award for Outstanding Direction Off-Broadway and then garnered nine Tony nominations, including one for Best Direction of a Play.

Throughout his life, Roger was a committed educator and generous mentor to young artists. From his earliest days as a fledgling with the Royal Shakespeare Company when he traveled to schools in the Cotswolds on Sundays, to the master-craftsman courses at Columbia University (adjunct professor), Williams College (Honorary Doctor of Fine Arts, 2006) and Florida State University (Hoffman Chair); from community outreach he began as Artistic Director of the Bristol Old Vic to the Leap-Frog internships he pioneered as Artistic Director of Williamstown Theater Festival, Roger spent countless hours in rehearsals and classrooms coaching aspiring writers, directors and performers on character, craft, collaboration and the vast cannon of theatrical works. The Roger Rees Award for Excellence in Student Performance continues his work.

Roger Rees passed away in July 2015 after a year-long battle with brain cancer. He was posthumously inducted into the American Theater Hall of Fame in November 2015. To read more about Rogers' life and legacy, please visit [RogerReesAwards.com](http://RogerReesAwards.com) where you will find a detailed account of his accomplishments written by his partner, Rick Elice.



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## 77 WABC

SENDING A RESOUNDING CONGRATULATIONS TO  
ALL THE ROGER REES AWARDS NOMINEES!

IT IS THROUGH YOUR HARDWORK AND DEDICATION  
TO THE CRAFT THAT CONTINUES THE AMAZING  
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WE LOOK FORWARD TO WATCHING YOU ALL TAKE  
YOUR TALENTS TO THE STAGE AND BEYOND



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

THE  
ROGER  
REES  
AWARDS

RECOGNIZING OUR TALENT ROSTER  
OF BEST ACTRESS & BEST ACTORS  
WINNERS

2021



KATRIANA  
KOPPE



MATEO  
LIZCANO



MEREDITH  
HELLER



JAKE  
SCHAUDER

2020

2019



EKELE  
UKEGBU



JEREMY  
FUENTES

2018



ALYSSA  
MCDONALD



ANDREW BARTH  
FELDMAN

2017

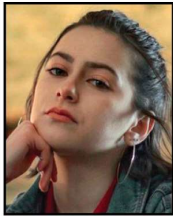


MADDIE  
RUBIN



DEAN  
KLEBONAS

2016



SOPHIA  
CONDON



ZANDER  
PACELLA

2015



MARLA  
LOUISSAINT



RYAN  
KOERBER

2014



SARAH  
LIDDY



STEVEN  
TELSEY

2013



HALLE  
MASTROBERARDINO



ERIC  
HAROLD

2012



KYRA  
LEEDS



JOSHUA  
SCHWARTZ

2011



EMILY  
LOEWUS



KEVIN W.  
CROWLEY

Stay connected with The Roger Rees Awards at [www.RogerReesAwards.com](http://www.RogerReesAwards.com).



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS



## CULTIVATING A NEW GENERATION OF GREAT PERFORMERS

Congratulations to all the past winners,  
today's aspiring arts professionals and the educators  
who inspire future artists and audiences.

**We are proud to support**

## THE ROGER REES AWARDS

FOR EXCELLENCE  
IN STUDENT PERFORMANCE



THE ROGER REES AWARDS IS THE PROUD WINNER OF THE  
**2019-2020 New York Emmy® Award**  
EDUCATION/SCHOOLS - LONG FORM CONTENT (LONGER THAN 10 MINUTES)

Hosted by Andrew Barth Feldman and Frank DiLella  
Produced by Cody Williams and Susan E. Lee

[BEAlliance.org](http://BEAlliance.org)

To help further theatre arts education throughout  
the Greater New York area:

- Make a tax deductible donation to the Broadway Education Alliance  
at [RogerReesAwards.com](http://RogerReesAwards.com)
- Select the Broadway Education Alliance when you shop on AmazonSmile.com
- Follow us and help spread the word about the importance of theatre arts education





# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

The Broadway Education Alliance thanks the companies, civic organizations, industry professionals, artists, and friends who give their time, talents and financial resources to the presentation of  
The Roger Rees Awards for Excellence in Student Performance.

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Danielle Pretsfelder Demchick  
Catherine Herzog  
Stephanie Klapper

Uma McCrosson  
Keturah Shapiro  
Erin Porvaznik

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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

The Roger Rees Awards for Excellence in Student Performance promotes the value of formal theatre arts education in high schools located throughout the Greater New York area. The Broadway Education Alliance would like to congratulate the dedicated educators who have worked tirelessly throughout the year to keep their students singing and dancing!

## 2021–2022 GREATER NEW YORK COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL PARTICIPANTS

### BRONX

Laura Desmond  
Riverdale Country Day School  
  
Elizabeth Healy  
Cardinal Spellman High School  
  
Thomas O'Sullivan  
Fordham Preparatory School

### BROOKLYN

Daniel Doughty  
Poly Prep Country Day School

### MANHATTAN

Kary Haddad  
Columbia Grammar and Preparatory  
  
Liane Byrne  
Hunter College High School  
  
Nicole DiMarco  
Xavier High School

### NASSAU

Michael Limone  
Carle Place High School  
  
Michael Bruno  
Chaminade High School  
  
Benjamin Pesenti  
Elmont Memorial High School  
  
Jessica Mischke  
Farmingdale High School  
  
John Smykowski  
Floral Park Memorial High School  
  
Lisa Levenberg  
General Douglas MacArthur High School  
  
Catherine Wright  
H. Frank Carey High School  
  
Mary Espina  
Holy Trinity High School  
  
Theone Rinaudo  
Jericho High School

Dr. Pamela Levy  
John L. Miller Great Neck North HS  
  
Tasha Partee  
Lawrence Woodmere Academy  
  
Dolores Mazzilli  
Manhasset High School  
  
Cynthia Feinman  
Roslyn High School  
  
Ilana Meredith  
William A. Shine Great Neck South HS  
  
Gregory Krajci  
W.T. Clarke High School  
  
Lauren Foster-Holzer  
Paul D. Schreiber High School  
  
Ryan Lane  
Plainedge High School  
  
Christopher Doherty  
Sewanhaka High School  
  
Kimberly Davis  
Wantagh High School

### ORANGE

Natalie Arneson  
James I O'Neill High School

### PUTNAM

Meghan Cabral  
Carmel Central Schools

### QUEENS

Jamie Cacciola-Price  
Frank Sinatra School of the Arts

### ROCKLAND

Tim Reid  
Clarkstown High School North  
  
Casey Leibesberger  
North Rockland High School

Lisa Demarest  
Nyack High School  
  
Thomas Hoetzel  
Pearl River High School  
  
Randy Schwartz  
Suffern High School  
  
Melissa Wilkison  
Tappan Zee High School

### SUFFOLK

Christopher Bilella  
Bay Shore Senior High School  
  
Karen Malone  
Commack High School  
  
Philip Iconis  
Half Hollow Hills High School East  
  
Susan Lyons  
Huntington High School  
  
Bethany Dellapolla  
Pierson High School  
  
Lisa Drance  
North Babylon High School  
  
Mary Ann Cafiero  
West Babylon Senior High School

### WESTCHESTER

Frank Portanova  
Archbishop Stepinac High School  
  
Thomas Beck  
Pelham Memorial High School  
  
Nadia Rizzo  
Pleasantville High School  
  
Micah Sprague  
Sleepy Hollow High School  
  
Emily Denler  
Westlake High School

Borough representation in the awards program changes annually.  
To register your school for the 2022 – 2023 Roger Rees Awards, please visit [RogerReesAwards.com](https://www.RogerReesAwards.com).



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

On behalf of the participating schools, the Broadway Education Alliance wants to thank the educators, professional artists, and industry executives who have donated their time to adjudicate the performances of the many students who are eligible for the  
2021 – 2022 Roger Rees Award for Outstanding Performer

## ROGER REES AWARD ADJUDICATORS FOR OUTSTANDING PERFORMER

Isabella Abbatiello	Zach Frank	Tyler Mason-Draffen	David Stedje
Shannon Abramovitz	Andrew Frey-Gould	Brendan McCann	Marissa Stellato
Christian Amato	Aaron Gaines	Alfred Menna	Charles Sullivan
Zachary Baer	Ymani Garcia	Andrew Mericle	Elizabeth Swansen
Rob Bartlett	Adrienne Garvey	Gerard Micera	Jennifer Szilagy
Glen Beck	Jordan Gelber	Jesse Michels	Kathryn Tauches
Jean Beckerle	Erica Giglio Pac	Meghan Miles	Kelly Tesar
Kelly Beyrer	Tracey Gilbert	Linda Milne Speciale	Antionette Timm
Catherine Birke	Rochelle Goldberg	Brent Morden	Jacquelyn Tomlet
Casey Brehm	Clara Goldman	Bradley Morrison	Sandia Tosky
Samuel Brownstein	Aaron Goldschmidt	KeriAnne Murphy	Victoria Trifiletti
Clare Carey	Thomas Gordon	Heather Naughton	Sheryl Turk
Wilson Chin	Robert Graham	Rene ONeal	Korliss Uecker
Angela Christoforou	Amy Graves	Joseph Ortloff	Myrlin Valerio
Katy Cocovinis	Jillian Harding	Nicole Pagnotta	Michael Verre
Amanda Corbo	Jennifer Hart	Dylan Passman	Andrew Wagner
Austin Costello	Peter Head	Benjamin Pesenti	Suzanne Walsh
Jeanmarie Craane	Abigail Hesselton	Ilona Pierce	Shereen Way
James Crichton	Shauna Hicks	Samuel Plotkin	Matthew Westerby
Alexandra Curnyn	Lindsay Hinojosa	Tiffany Radovich	Justin Wingenroth
Phil Cutrone	Jim Hoare	Shannon Rakow	Margaret Young
Mara Davi Gaines	Joshua Huff	Faith Reifsnyder	
Veronica Decker	Graham Johnson	Xavier Rodriguez	
Stephanie DeJoseph	Mary Claire King	Lisa Sabin	
Margaret Sam DeMarino	Vanessa Krywe	Barry Sabino	
Sarah DeMarino	Joni Lanza	Rita Sarli	
Valerie DiLorenzo	Geraldine LaPenne	Jacqueline Saunier	
Joshua Dixon	Ayn Lauren	Alex Schechter	
Tracy Dobelle	La Toya Lewis	Regina Schneider	
Chakira Doherty	Arlene Linke	Sari Schulman	
Kathleen	Nina Louis	Elena Shaddow	
Donovan-Warren	Jessica Lynady	Irene Shik	
Lisa Drance	Jennifer Lynde	Allison Shindler	
Tim Eliot	Emily Madison	Charlie Siedenburgh	
Russell Feder	Shidan Majidi	Karl Siewertsen	
Erika Felker	Barbara Malecki	Christine Cornish Smith	
Tom Fenninger	Jenna Margiasso	Juliet Soricelli	
Carl Ferrara	Jennie Marino	Susan Sprague	
Brenda Festo	Andrea Martin	Jason Springer	

To learn more about the qualifications to become an adjudicator for The Roger Rees Awards, visit [RogerReesAwards.com](http://RogerReesAwards.com) or contact [Barb@CampBroadway.com](mailto:Barb@CampBroadway.com)



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

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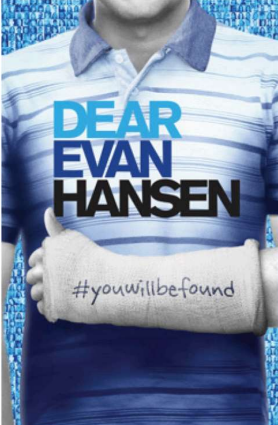
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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## NATIONAL ESSAY CONTEST



**DEAREVANHANSEN** ACT 1, SCENE 7

HEIDI  
Hey you. I have some very exciting news. Look what I found online today.

*Evan leafs through the pages.  
He's not nearly as excited as Heidi is.*

College scholarship essay contests. Have you heard of these?

EVAN  
I think so.

HEIDI  
NPR did a whole thing about it this morning. There are a million different ones you can do. A million different topics. I spent my whole lunch break looking these up.

*She skims through them.*

The John F. Kennedy Profile in Courage Scholarship—three thousand dollars, college of your choice. Henry David Thoreau Society, five thousand dollars...

EVAN  
Wow.

HEIDI  
College is going to be so great for you, honey. How many times in life do you get the chance to just...start all over again?

EVAN  
No, I know.

**DEAR EVAN HANSEN'S  
FOURTH-ANNUAL  
"YOU WILL BE FOUND"  
COLLEGE ESSAY  
WRITING CHALLENGE**

In the Tony Award-winning musical *Dear Evan Hansen*, overstretched single mother Heidi speaks this line to her son Evan, the show's titular high school senior. Variations of this exchange undoubtedly take place at breakfast tables across America and beyond, as students and their families look with anticipation towards the formative experience of a college education, while also carefully considering its costs.

Inspired by this moment within the show, *Dear Evan Hansen* lead producer Stacey Mindich first had the idea for the production to sponsor an essay contest of its own and offer financial support to students in a similar stage of life to Evan and his peers.

"*Dear Evan Hansen* is a show rooted in authenticity," says Mindich. "Evan's Mom's struggle to afford college for her son is a very real issue. So it seemed like an important gesture from the show to sponsor this contest. And it gives the entire company such pleasure when a winner is chosen each year."

Launched in 2019 in collaboration with the Broadway Education Alliance and Gotham Writers Workshop, the *Dear Evan Hansen* College Essay Writing Challenge began as a program for the greater New York area. Having continued to expand in subsequent years, the 2022 contest extended eligibility to 11th and 12th grade students across North America, and the grand prize now totals \$10,000.

Since its inception, the contest has inspired more than 4,100 original student essays, engaging with themes relevant to the production ranging from reinvention to connection and mental wellbeing. While much has changed for the contest in its four years of growth, one thing has remained consistent—the staggering quality of the work shared by student participants.

"I thought to myself this year, 'maybe you're getting used to these raw, honest, beautiful stories from these smart, good-hearted kids,'" remarked contest facilitator Kelly Caldwell (Dean of Faculty, Gotham Writers) shortly after the 2022 contest went live. "Nope! It's day one and I'm already into the Kleenex!"

Caldwell also serves as a final round judge for the contest, reading entries alongside a cross-industry panel that features professionals from theater, film, publishing, journalism, medicine, and education.

Prior winners of the *Dear Evan Hansen* College Essay Writing Challenge have used their scholarships to attend institutions such as Princeton, Rice, and the Boston Conservatory, pursuing degrees in Economics, Architecture, Musical Theatre, and more. These past winners have also assumed roles as online contest ambassadors, seeking out prospective participants to offer advice and inspiration.



**DEAR 2021**  
**ROGER REES**  
**AWARDS**  
**NOMINEES**

Congratulations on your  
acclaimed performances.

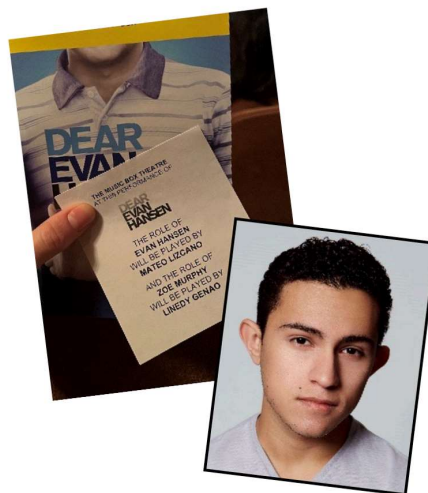
Tonight, we're all  
waving back at you.

Sincerely,  
**DEAR EVAN HANSEN**

#YouWillBeFound



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS



## 2021 BEST ACTOR, MATEO LIZCANO SHINES LIGHT ON UNDERSTUDIES ON BROADWAY

In 2021, I asked my musical theater teacher to enter my school's virtual production of *Songs For A New World* (where I played Man 1) into the Roger Rees Awards. I figured it couldn't hurt to go for it! The journey that followed was such an unexpected and amazing experience. After winning Best Actor in RRA, I went onto the Jimmy Awards, in which I competed with and met multiple insanely talented performers my age from all across the country. Of course because this all took place during the ongoing pandemic, everything was virtual. So, right after I finished the virtual aspect of the Jimmy Awards, I had gotten a callback for *Dear Evan Hansen*. Even crazier, the callback was the day before the full Jimmy Awards broadcast. It was an eventful week to say the least, but definitely worth all the craziness, because I was a finalist in the Jimmy Awards, and was cast as an understudy in *Dear Evan Hansen*!

When I officially joined the *Dear Evan Hansen* company and started rehearsals, I quickly learned about the true importance of understudies. First off, when a new member joins the

cast, understudies are used to rehearse them. Whether it's a new lead or a new understudy, we're there to help them as they learn the roles. In addition to this, many of us cover more than one role, meaning we have to learn multiple tracks. We are always backstage, ready to go on at all times, and that's not an exaggeration. I've seen my coworkers go on with a decent amount of notice, short notice, and very short notice. I've even seen them go on in the middle of shows. The role of an understudy is extremely important. We are vital to keeping a show running, especially in the ongoing pandemic. I'm very fortunate to have joined this company, and even more fortunate to get the chance to learn from all these amazing performers and be a part of the understudy family. It has been an incredible journey. I've learned many important lessons and have truly grown so much as a person and a performer, and it's all thanks to where it started, the Roger Rees Awards!

— Mateo Lizcano,  
2021 Best Actor,  
*Dear Evan Hansen* Cast



## THE ROGER REES AWARDS

# ROGER REES ALUMNI ARE PLAYING EXCITING NEW ROLES ON AND OFF THE STAGE



I'm currently the Director of Experiences with a wine startup company—Lifetime Vintage. While working as an actor, I moved up the restaurant food chain from server to bartender to lead sommelier. I received my certifications from the Court of Master Sommeliers and the Wine and Spirits Educational Trust. Wine is all about storytelling, whether about the wine-maker specifically or the political, religious, and/or anthropological events that led to the wine itself being created. In my current role, I continue to innovate how sommeliers and beverage professionals can better share the stories of different farmers, regions, and styles through curated experiences. I head our current sommelier team and help each of them find their unique voice. I also still lead tastings which allows me to scratch that performance itch. So many skills I'd gained working in the theater, served me very well in a corporate, start-up environment. I am forever grateful for the experience I had at the Roger Rees awards!

– Emily Loewus, 2011 Best Actress

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At the start of the pandemic, I appeared in two episodes of Search Party on HBO Max as "Scotty." The following year, I wrote, directed, and produced a half-hour animated comedy television pilot, titled *Daddydelphia*, which is now available on Amazon Prime. Currently, I am developing a new musical, with initial readings scheduled for later this summer.

– Eric Harold, 2013 Best Actor

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Photo: Julieta Cervantes

I just completed an Off-Broadway run as "Lesh" in *Harmony: A New Musical*, which received eight Outer Critics Circle nominations, including Outstanding New Off-Broadway Musical.

– Steven Telsey, 2014 Best Actor



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS



After a fantastic run and soon to be released cast recording of *The Visitor* at The Public Theater, I am creating new works with the likes of Tina Landau, Idina Menzel, Larry Owens and more. While I'm performing at Little Island this summer, I will continue to steer the work within my abolitionist organization Claim Our Space Now to ritualize community action and care to dismantle white supremacy and save all Black lives! (Follow @marlalou\_ on socials for more details)

– Marla Louissaint, 2015 Best Actress

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I've has traveled the world on the international tour of *A Chorus Line* and recently performed in *True Crime Obsessed* on Broadway at the Helen Hayes Theatre.

– Ryan Manuel Rodiño (Koerber), 2015 Best Actor

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My new, completely original musical, *Alone*, will premiere in concert at Feinstein's/54 Below on June 28th! We can pass hundreds of people in a day, and every one of them has a story that we will never know.

– Dean Tyler K, 2017 Best Actor

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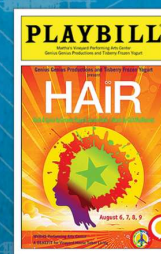
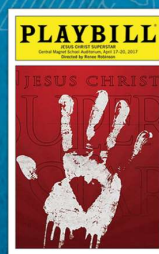
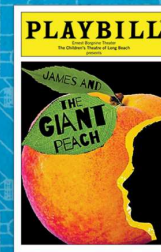
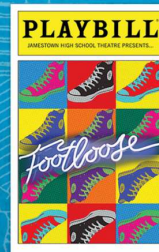
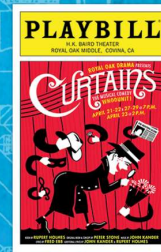
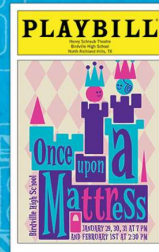
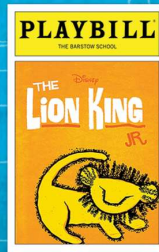
I just finished my sophomore year at Manhattan School of Music where I am working toward by BFA in Musical Theatre. I was recently in the school production of *Sunday in the Park with George* as Frieda/Betty!

– Meredith Heller, 2020 Best Actress



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## THE PLAYBILLDER AWARD FOR MARKETING

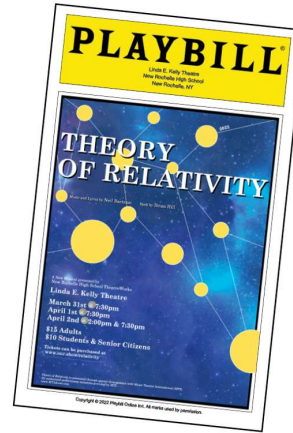
New Rochelle High School  
Linda E. Kelly Theatre  
New Rochelle, NY



REBECCA PLOSKI



SERENA RICHMOND



"What an absolute honor! This brought a huge smile to my face. Our Stage Managers, Rebecca and Serena (currently Juniors) were key to bringing our program for *Theory of Relativity* to life. This year, we created a show about community, reestablishing personal connection and bringing people together after a year of isolation. Playbillder was an amazing tool that allowed us to create a professional and interactive program that invited the audience to become part of the show. The students worked together to create a finished product that chronicles this very special moment in their lives and is a lasting commemorative of their school production they can be proud of."

– Anthony Stirpe

New Rochelle High School  
ELA/Theatre/Film Teacher



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Eva Price and Maximum Entertainment Productions



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THIS YEAR'S ROGER REES AWARDS NOMINEES

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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

The Broadway Education Alliance and Disney Theatrical Productions

Proudly Present



Hosted by

**SARAH ALICE LIDDY AND STEVEN TELSEY**

Starring

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Vita Augugliaro Cassidy Baltazar Mack Brunner Zackary Doran Devin Eichel Davey Fried  
Liam Ginsburg Saydie Grossman Maureen Henshaw Jack Jozefowski Sophia O'Brien Oliver Tam

Starring

## **ROGER REES AWARDS NOMINEES**

Precious Ademokun Jared Balcacer Antonio Batista Angela Berg Kayla Blackman Tulah Chatterton  
Sophia Cimmino Matthew Cruz Madison DeMaio Colin DeMatteo James Duffy Emily Faint  
Ronan Flynn Reagan Govaert Joseph Huber Celine Jean Henry Koegh Meagan Lipsman Alex Louis  
Gregory Luzzatto Majella Maltempi Layla Milza Fiona O'Brien Natalia Perez Athina Petkanas  
Makayla Quinn David Reina Stephanie Robinson Owen Roubeni Aidan Schroh Katie Scott  
Raphael Sirjue Jaden Smith Fiona Stephenson Frankie Tinelli  
Meah Turnier Ezekiel Wise Scott Wysocki

Award Judges

**DARILYN CASTILLO KIARA BROWN-CLARK T. OLIVER REID MERRI SUGARMAN RICK ELICE**

Featuring

## **PLAYBILLDER® AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MARKETING**

Rebecca Ploski and Serena Richmond, New Rochelle High School

## **ROGER REES AWARDS NEW FACES 2022**

Samantha Becker Trinity Bokelmann Brooke Bregman Dylan Brenner Jack Brenner Cooper Brown  
Samantha Darr Shriya Desai Elysena DeStefano Sienna Feldman Haylee Fox Ziyu Gao  
Clara Goldman Riley Greenwald Leah Kelly Kamila Kudela Max Lamberg Leanne Lilly Lazo  
Milena Manocchia Evangeline McGinley Zoe Jia Rui Pan Giuliana Ruocco Sabina Sadiq  
Kwesi Samuels Riley Smith Maverick Williams Alyssa Wong

## **HARMONY HELPER® AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHORAL GROUP PERFORMANCE**

Royal Crown Players, Roslyn High School • Cyndi Feinman, Director  
Joseph Chen Rebecca Fein Max Rubrum Alexa Weinberger

## **ROGER REES AWARDS AMBASSADORS**

Harold Eric Meredith Heller Dean Tyler K Katriana Koppe Marla Louissaint Zander Pacella Jake Schauder

Video Producer

**CODY WILLIAMS**

Program Manager

**DANIELLE DE VITO**

Executive Producer

**SUSAN E. LEE**

Music Director

**CHRISTINE RILEY**

Director/Choreographer

**THEO LENCICKI**



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## ROGER REES AWARDS HOSTS



SARAH ALICE LIDDY



STEVEN TELSEY

**SARAH ALICE LIDDY** (Host) is thrilled to be hosting the 2022 Roger Rees Awards! Sarah won the award back in 2014 and has remained close to the RRA family ever since. Sarah recently graduated with her BFA in Music Theatre from Elon University. She spent last summer performing at Wagon Wheel Center for the Arts. Her favorite credit from the summer was playing Mrs. Bennet in *Pride & Prejudice*. Recently, Sarah has taken her performance career down a new path by co-founding the podcast & Tik Tok *Completely F\*cking Clueless*. Since launching two months ago, the podcast has gained over 12,000 Tik Tok followers. Sarah would like to thank everyone at the RRAs. Without this program, she would never be where she is today. You can find Sarah at @sarahalideliddy, @salthetheatregal, and @completelyfckingclueless!

**STEVEN TELSEY** (Host) is very glad to be part of the Roger Rees family, having won the award for Best Actor in 2014. He recently completed the Off-Broadway run of the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene playing the role of Lesh in *Harmony: A New Musical*, directed and choreographed by Warren Carlyle, with music by Barry Manilow, and book by Bruce Sussman. Previously, Steven was ringing doorbells all across the USA with the National Tour of *The Book of Mormon*. Select Regional: *West Side Story* (Tony), *Rock of Ages* (Franz), *Titanic* (Barrett), *Funny Girl* (Ziegfeld Tenor). Graduate of Elon University Music Theatre. Thank you for supporting arts education. A special thanks to the Roger Rees Awards for having me back! IG: @steven\_telsey | steventelsey.com



THEO LENCICKI

**THEO LENCICKI** (Director) is a professional actor and arts educator based in New York City. A graduate of Penn State University, he has performed in various regional and international venues, and across the United States on four National Broadway Tours including *Hairspray*, *A Chorus Line*, *Young Frankenstein* and as Riff in *West Side Story*. In addition to performing, Theo is a musical theatre instructor, director, and choreographer for numerous workshop classes and educational and professional productions. He is a rostered artist with the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts and was named Artist of the Year in 2017. Theo is the assistant choreographer for the National High School Musical Theatre Awards (The Jimmy's) sponsored by the Broadway League and works with the Broadway Education Alliance/Camp Broadway on numerous performance opportunities for young artists including the MACY's Thanksgiving Day Parade, Before Broadway Cabaret at 54 Below, The NY POPS Gala at Carnegie Hall and *Rocktopia* on Broadway!



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A MUSICAL



**PRECIOUS ADEMOKUN**  
Mama Euralie,  
*Once On This Island*  
Elmont Memorial HS



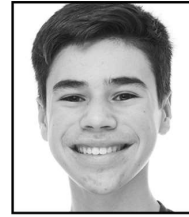
**VITA AUGUGLIARO**  
Miss Sandra,  
*All Shook Up*  
Sewanhaka High School



**JARED BALCACER**  
Daniel,  
*Once On This Island*  
Cardinal Spellman High School



**CASSIDY BALTAZAR**  
Roxie Hart,  
*Chicago: High School Edition*  
MacArthur High School



**ANTONIO BATISTA**  
Nathan Detroit,  
*Guys and Dolls*  
Suffern High School



**ANGELA BERG**  
Mayzie LaBird,  
*Seussical*  
Pleasantville High School



**KAYLA BLACKMAN**  
Sylvia,  
*All Shook Up*  
Sewanhaka High School



**MACK BRUNNER**  
Billy,  
*42nd Street*  
Huntington High School



**TULAH CHATTERTON**  
Annie,  
*Annie*  
Floral Park Memorial HS



**SOPHIA CIMMINO**  
Georgia Hendricks,  
*Curtains*  
Poly Prep Country Day HS



**MATTHEW CRUZ**  
Chad,  
*All Shook Up*  
Sewanhaka High School



**MADISON DEMAIO**  
Natalie,  
*All Shook Up*  
Sewanhaka High School



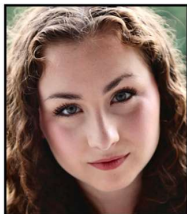
**COLIN DEMATTEO**  
Leaf Conebear, *25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee*  
Xavier High School



**ZACHARY DORAN**  
Finch,  
*How to Succeed...*  
Archbishop Stepinac HS



**JAMES DUFFY**  
Jean Valjean,  
*Les Misérables*  
Fordham Preparatory HS



**DEVIN EICHEL**  
Leading Player,  
*Pippin*  
Carle Place High School



**EMILY FAINT**  
Alice Beineke,  
*The Addams Family*  
James I O'Neill High School



**RONAN FLYNN**  
Lumiere,  
*Beauty and the Beast*  
West Babylon Senior HS



**DAVEY FRIED**  
Edward Bloom,  
*Big Fish*  
Roslyn High School



**LIAM GINSBURG**  
Billy Cane,  
*Bright Star*  
Pelham Memorial High School



**REAGAN GOVAERT**  
Elle Woods,  
*Legally Blonde*  
H Frank Carey HS



**SAYDIE GROSSMAN**  
Sandra Bloom,  
*Big Fish*  
Roslyn High School



**MAUREEN HENSHAW**  
Donna Sheridan,  
*Mamma Mia*  
Carmel High School



**JOSEPH HUBER**  
Billy Lawlor,  
*42nd Street*  
Manhasset High School



**CELINE JEAN**  
Papa Gee,  
*Once On This Island*  
Elmont Memorial



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING PERFORMER IN A MUSICAL



**JACK JOZEFOWSKI**

Bobby Child,  
*Crazy for You*  
Chaminade High School



**HENRY KEOGH**

Julian Marsh,  
*42nd Street*  
Manhasset High School



**MEAGAN LIPSMAN**

Peggy Sawyer,  
*42nd Street*  
Manhasset High School



**ALEX LOUIS**

Seymour Krelborn,  
*Little Shop of Horrors*  
Sleepy Hollow High School



**GREGORY LUZZATTO**

Lucas,  
*The Addams Family*  
James I. O'Neill High School



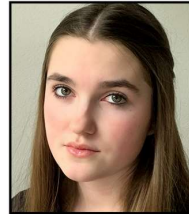
**MAJELLA MALTEMPI**

Velma Kelly,  
*Chicago: HS Edition*  
Pearl River High School



**LAYLA MILZA**

Diana Morales,  
*A Chorus Line*  
Bay Shore High School



**FIONA O'BRIEN**

Miss Adelaide,  
*Guys and Dolls*  
Suffern High School



**SOPHIA O'BRIEN**

Eponine,  
*Les Misérables*  
Fordham Preparatory HS



**NATALIA PEREZ**

Paulette Buonofuonte,  
*Legally Blonde*  
Jericho High School



**ATHINA PETKANAS**

Maria Rainer,  
*The Sound of Music*  
W.T. Clarke High School



**MAKAYLA QUINN**

Cassie Ferguson,  
*A Chorus Line*  
Bay Shore High School



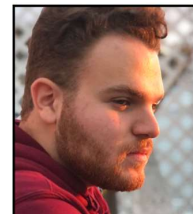
**DAVID REINA**

Lord Farquaad,  
*Shrek the Musical*  
Holy Trinity Diocesan HS



**STEPHANIE ROBINSON**

Ti Moune,  
*Once On This Island*  
Elmont Memorial High School



**OWEN ROUBENI**

The Baker,  
*Into the Woods*  
Great Neck North High School



**AIDAN SCHROH**

Bobby Child,  
*Crazy for You*  
Wantagh High School



**KATIE SCOTT**

Rosemary Pilkington,  
*How to Succeed...*  
Archbishop Stepinac HS



**RAPHAEL SIRJUE**

Dennis,  
*All Shook Up*  
Sewanhaka High School



**JADEN SMITH**

Oliver Warbucks,  
*Annie*  
Floral Park Memorial HS



**FIONA STEPHENSON**

Carmen,  
*Curtains*  
Poly Prep Country Day HS



**OLIVER TAM**

Jimmy Ray Dobbs,  
*Bright Star*  
Pelham Memorial HS



**FRANKIE TINELLI**

Nathan Detroit,  
*Guys and Dolls*  
Suffern High School



**MEAH TURNIER**

Asaka,  
*Once On This Island*  
Elmont Memorial High School



**EZEKIEL WISE**

Lt. Cioffi,  
*Curtains*  
Poly Prep Country Day HS



**SCOTT WYSOCKI**

Mike Costa,  
*A Chorus Line*  
Bay Shore Senior High School



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS



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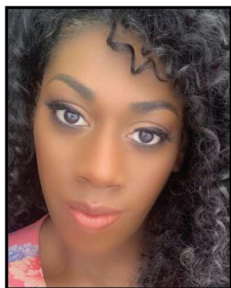
Session 2:  
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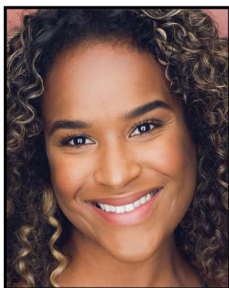


# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING PERFORMER JUDGES



KIARA BROWN-CLARK



DARILYN CASTILLO



T. OLIVER REID



MERRI SUGARMAN

**KIARA BROWN-CLARK** is an AEA/SAG-AFTRA professional Dancer, Singer, Actress, Educator, Choreographer, and Producer who hails from NYC. She holds a M.F.A. in Dance and Choreography with a concentration in Musical Theatre from Smith College, and a B.F.A. in International Relations from The State University of New York at Geneseo. As a performer, she has been seen on stage in NYC & throughout the world. Her credits include Disney's *Mary Poppins*, *Dreamgirls: The 25th Anniversary* with Jennifer Holliday, *Once on This Island*, *The Wiz*, *Cabaret*, *Hair*, *Violet*, *A Chorus Line*, and ABC's *Dancing with the Stars*. Kiara's passion for the arts goes beyond her experience as a performer. She is the Coordinator for the Education & Audience Engagement at Disney Theatrical Group, a Senior Teaching Artist, Choreographer, and sits as the co-chair of the African American/Black-Business Employee Resource Group (BERG). She is also the musical theatre program Director at St. Joseph's School-Yorkville in Manhattan, and a Consultant at the Brooklyn Children's Theatre (BCT). She has choreographed over 200 professional projects around the world throughout her career.

**DARILYN CASTILLO** is a born and bred New Yorker, Graduate of CCNY where she received her B.A. in Theater and is currently studying at John Jay College to receive her M.A. in International Criminal Justice. Most recently she has starred in the world premiere tour of a new play called *Dream House* at The Alliance Theater, Long Wharf Theater, and Baltimore Center Stage. Her other credits include original cast of *Hamilton* and the Peggy and Philip Company tours of *Hamilton* playing Peggy Schuyler & Maria Reynolds, *The Lion King* as Nala Cover, and *Beastgirl* at The Kennedy Center as the role of Cami. Her TV credits include *And Just like That*, *Law and Order: Organized Crime*, *74th Tony Awards*, and *Boardwalk Empire*. Darilyn is also a recording artist. You can find her EP called *Constellation* and her Spanish single, "Ella Y No Conmigo" on all streaming platforms. She has produced her own music videos for the songs "Still Calling" & "Ella Y No Conmigo". She is currently the host of a Podcast

called *Morenita*, where she dives deep on the Latinx culture and experience. (Available on all platforms) [www.darilyncastillo.com](http://www.darilyncastillo.com).

**T. OLIVER REID** has spent the past 20 years working on Broadway shows, (*Hadestown*; *Once On This Island*; *Sunset Boulevard*; *After Midnight*; *Sister Act*; *Mary Poppins*; *The Wedding Singer*; *Chicago*; *La Cage Aux Folles*; *Never Gonna Dance*; *Thoroughly Modern Millie*; *Follies*; *Kiss Me, Kate*), which have amassed more than 20 Tony Awards from the American Theatre Wing's Tony Awards. He is also an accomplished cabaret artist and multiple award winner for his solo show, "Drop Me Off In Harlem" which he directed, wrote and starred in. He has produced and directed concerts for Feinstein's 54 Below and continues to work in film and television. He is on faculty at NYU-Tisch's Grad Acting Program and Columbia University School of the Arts' Grad Acting program as well as Rider University. He sits on the Board of Visitors for the University of North Carolina School of the Arts. He is currently in the critically acclaimed, *Hadestown* on Broadway.

**MERRI SUGARMAN** (Casting Director, Tara Rubin Casting) began her career as an actress before moving into casting for television and film at Dreamworks Studios becoming the Director of Casting for Dramas and Movies at ABC Television where she oversaw *Alias*, *NYPD Blue*, *The Practice*, *Gilda Radner-It's Always Something* and *The Music Man*, starring Matthew Broderick. She cast the web series *Submission Only* and Broadway, touring and international productions including *Ain't Too Proud*, *Jersey Boys*, *The Phantom of The Opera*, *Les Misérables*, *School of Rock*, *Miss Saigon* and *A Bronx Tale*, as well as *Clueless* and *Trevor The Musical* Off-Broadway. She works for Paper Mill Playhouse, Dallas Theater Center, The Old Globe and LaJolla Playhouse. She is a coach, a Big Sister to Jenny through Big Brothers/Big Sisters, an alumni officer at Kappa Gamma Chi (BFA in Musical Theater -Emerson College), and a member of Who's Who in American Colleges and Universities, Casting Society of America, and a Tony Award® voter.



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## NEW FACES IN A SOLO PERFORMANCE



**SAMANTHA BECKER**  
Acting – John L. Miller  
Great Neck North HS



**TRINITY BOKELMANN**  
Acting  
Wantagh High School



**BROOKE BREGMAN**  
Dance  
Suffern High School



**DYLAN BRENNER**  
Dance – John L. Miller  
Great Neck North HS



**JACK BRENNER**  
Vocals – John L. Miller  
Great Neck North HS



**COOPER BROWN**  
Acting – William A. Shine  
Great Neck South HS



**SAMANTHA DARR**  
Acting  
Wantagh High School



**SHRIYA DESAI**  
Acting  
Jericho High School



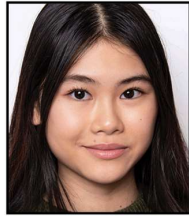
**ELYSENA DESTEFANO**  
Dance  
Commack High School



**SIENNA FELDMAN**  
Vocals  
Jericho High School



**HAYLEE FOX**  
Dance  
North Babylon High School



**ZIYU GAO**  
Acting – Columbia  
Grammar & Preparatory HS



**CLARA GOLDMAN**  
Acting – John L. Miller  
Great Neck North HS



**RILEY GREENWALD**  
Vocals  
Clarkstown HS North



**LEAH KELLY**  
Vocals  
Holy Trinity High School



**KAMILA KUDELA**  
Vocals, Acting  
Hunter College High School



**MAX LAMBERG**  
Vocals  
Commack High School



**LEANNE LILLY LAZO**  
Vocals  
Holy Trinity Diocesan HS



**MILENA MANOCCHIA**  
Vocals, Acting, Dance  
Riverdale Country Day HS



**EVANGELINE MCGINLEY**  
Dance  
Suffern High School



**ZOE JIA RUI PAN**  
Dance – William A. Shine  
Great Neck South HS



**GIULIANA RUOCCO**  
Dance  
St. Joseph Hill Academy HS



**SABINA SADIQ**  
Dance  
Hunter College HS



**KWESI SAMUELS**  
Acting  
Riverdale Country Day HS



**RILEY SMITH**  
Dance  
Wantagh High School



**MAVERICK WILLIAMS**  
Vocals – John L. Miller  
Great Neck North HS



**ALYSSA WONG**  
Vocals – William A. Shine  
Great Neck South HS



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## NEW FACES | 2022 ADJUDICATORS



HOLLY BUCZEK  
HBD Casting & Wojcik Casting



DAVID CAPARELLIOTIS  
MelCap Casting



ROBIN CARUS  
Robin Carus Casting



DARYL EISENBERG  
Eisenberg/Beans Casting



LIZ FRASER  
Jonathan Strauss Casting



RIKKI GIMELSTOB  
Rikki Gimelstob Casting



ROSALIE JOSEPH  
Rosalie Joseph Casting



BOB KALE  
MKA Casting



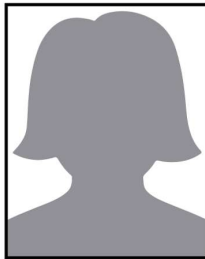
GAYLE KELLER  
Gayle Keller Casting



STEPHANIE KLAPPER  
Stephanie Klapper Casting



LAUREN KURNIT  
CBS Studios Casting, NY



MICHELLE LEVITT  
Talent at Nickelodeon



ELLEN LEWIS  
Ellen Lewis Casting



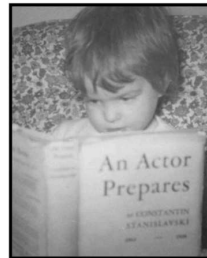
DIAKEIM LYLES  
DLylescast



BARBARA MCNARMARA  
Barbara McNamara Casting



JOHN ORT  
John Ort CSA



MARCI PHILLIPS  
ABC Entertainment Group



DANIELLE PRETSELDER  
DEMCHICK  
DPD Casting



JENNY RAVITZ  
Jonathan Strauss Casting



KATE SPRANCE  
Kate Sprance Casting



JOHANNE TACADE  
T Creatives Casting



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## GROUP PERFORMANCE AWARD FINALISTS



PRESENTS

### THE 2<sup>ND</sup> ANNUAL HARMONY HELPER AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN CHORAL GROUP PERFORMANCE 2021 - 2022 AWARD WINNER



**Royal Crown Players, Roslyn High School**  
Cyndi Feinman, Director

#### **FINALISTS**

*(in alphabetical order by school name)*

**The Chaminade Vocal Chamber Ensemble, Chaminade High School**  
Victoria Khoklova, Choir Director • Greg Gerner, Moderator

**Hunter College High School Chamber Choir, Hunter College High School**  
Robert Randall, Choir Director

**The Great Neck North High School Chamber Singers,  
John L. Miller Great Neck North High School**  
Dr. Pamela Levy, Director

**Onora le voci, Wantagh High School**  
Sameerah Cassidy, Director

**William A. Shine Great Neck South High School Broadway Group**  
William A. Shine Great Neck South High School  
Janine Robinson, Director

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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS



*Sophia O'Brien,*

*Congratulations on a beautiful performance!  
You blow us all away!  
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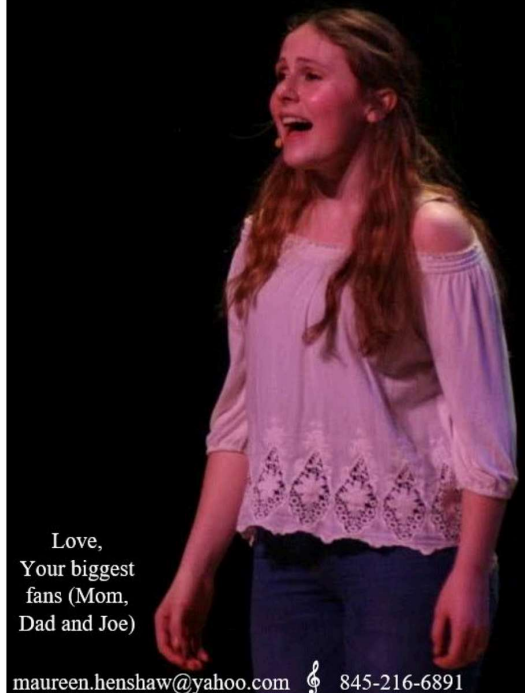
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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## GROUP PERFORMANCE AWARD ADJUDICATORS

The Broadway Education Alliance is proud to feature the Harmony Helper® Award for Excellence in Choral Group Performance in the Roger Rees Awards. This award recognizes the artistry, creativity, and diversity of choral groups from high schools in the Greater New York area. It also celebrates the talent, dedication, and teamwork essential in choral music.



ANDREW GOREN



AMANDA MORTON



JOSH TOTORA

**ANDREW GOREN** is the founder and CEO of Harmony Helper. As a passionate musical theatre actor, Andrew has been on a quest to develop the perfect way to learn and sharpen singing and harmonizing abilities. With over 10 years of singing and performing experience, his unique insights and vision have led to the creation of the amazing and elegant Harmony Helper app. With his leadership, Harmony Helper is helping singers of all kinds effectively practice and improve singing performance anywhere, anytime, removing traditional rehearsal barriers so singers can deliver their best performances. Learn more about Andrew—Instagram: @harmonyhelper or visit [www.harmonyhelper.com](http://www.harmonyhelper.com)

**AMANDA MORTON** is a Music Director based out of the NYC region. Upcoming, she will serve as Associate Conductor for *KPOP: The Broadway Musical*. Most recently, she was the Music Director/Conductor/Keys 1 for the first national tour of *Summer: The Donna Summer Musical*. She sits on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, and Access Committee of Maestra: an organization founded by composer/lyricist/music director Georgia Stitt, whose mission is rooted in uplifting “the women who make the music in the musical theater industry.” Select credits include: Hudson Valley Shakespeare Festival, Lightning Rod Special, Ars Nova, Philadelphia Theatre Company,

The Rev Theatre Co., Wilma Theater, and Theatre Horizon. She garnered Barrymore Awards for Best Music Direction on Theatre Horizon’s *The Color Purple* and *Into the Woods* as well as Wilma Theater’s *Passing Strange*. She has a B.F.A. in Musical Theatre Performance from Ithaca College.

**JOSH TOTORA** is the Music Supervisor for Harmony Helper in addition to being an actor, musician, and composer based out of the Philadelphia/NYC area. Performance credits include the Walnut Street Theater, Arden Theatre Co., the Wilma Theater, Delaware Theatre Co., and Pig Iron Theatre Co. among many others. As a multi-instrumentalist and composer, his works have been featured in productions all over the country with Experiential Theater Co; Florida Rep in Fort Myers, FL; Trike Theater in Bentonville, AR; and the Children’s Theatre of Charlotte in Charlotte, NC (including a world premiere of his musical *The Invisible Boy*). He is a Theatre Philadelphia multi-Barrymore Award nominee for his performances, and a winner for “Outstanding Original Music” for his score of *He Who Gets Slapped* at Philadelphia Artists’ Collective. Josh has also toured his work internationally across Ireland, including the Baboro International Arts Festival for Children in Galway. [www.joshtotora.com](http://www.joshtotora.com)



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING PERFORMER MUSIC DIRECTORS



SEAN MAYES



JULIANNE B. MERRILL



CHRISTINE RILEY



KEVIN B. WINEBOLD

**SEAN MAYES** is a New York and Toronto-based music director, conductor, educator, and academic who has worked productions in theatres and on stages across the United States, Canada, and the United Kingdom. Within the Broadway community, he is Associate Music Director of the Tony® Award winning musical *Hedestown* and Assistant Conductor of *MJ: The Musical*. Mr Mayes recently served as the Musical Supervisor of the Finnish Premiere of *Come From Away* and as Conductor & Music Director of the Canadian Regional Premiere of *The Color Purple* and is also Music Director for Broadway icon André De Shields. Mr. Mayes is co-author of *An Inconvenient Black History of British Musical Theatre*, released by Bloomsbury Publishing in September 2021, and is a frequent guest instructor at various musical theatre institutions, including the American Musical and Dramatic Academy, Marymount College Manhattan, Sheridan College and the Guildford School of Acting, UK.

**JULIANNE B. MERRILL** is originally from Indianapolis and works in New York City as a professional Music Director, Pianist, and Electronic Music Designer. She is currently pursuing a M.A. in Creative Media and Technology with a specialization in Live Experience Design at BerkleeNYC. In addition, she recently served as MD and Playback/Video Engineer for Maestra Music's *Amplify 2022* annual benefit concert, MD for Ring of Keys' *Queering the Canon: Sondheim* concert, Keyboard Programmer for Broadway's *A Strange Loop*, and Ableton Programmer for *Afterwords* at the 5th Avenue Theater in Seattle. She is the founder of PatchMaster Productions.

**CHRISTINE RILEY** is a Music Director and Vocal Coach in New York as well as an Assistant Professor of Musical Theatre at Marymount Manhattan College. New York and National Tour credits include: *My Vaudeville Man* (The York Theatre), *Thoroughly Modern Millie* (National tour), *Addy and Uno* (The Kirk), *Errol and Fidel*, *A Moment in Time: A New Musical*, *Gemini the Musical* (The Acorn), *Perfectly Victorian*, and *Flight of the Lawnchair Man* (37 Arts). She also served as the Music Director for *Bring It On: The Musical*, *The Who's Tommy*, *Pangaea*, *The Servant of Two Masters*, *Shout! The Mod Musical*, *Edges*, *Sweet Charity*, *Rags*, *Triumph of Love*, *Wonderland*, and *The Boys from Syracuse* at Marymount Manhattan and many shows around the country and for Camp Broadway. Recently, she published a book, *Music Fundamentals for Musical Theatre*, with Bloomsbury Press. Christine received her BM from Ithaca College and an MM from Arizona State University.

**KEVIN B. WINEBOLD.** Whether conducting a show, musically directing a cabaret, or playing a solo piano concert, Kevin has extensive experience in musical theatre. New York credits include *The Irish...and How They Got That Way*, *The Threepenny Opera*, and several years as a rehearsal accompanist for *Broadway Backwards*. Concert performances include *Camelot*, and *Oliver* (on Broadway), and *Jim Henson's Musical World*, and *The Wizard and I: The Musical Journey of Stephen Schwartz* (at Carnegie Hall). He toured with Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Circus as a keyboard player and was in the pit or conducting the national tours of *Footloose*, *All Shook Up*, and *The Wedding Singer*. As a teaching artist, he has had the incredible opportunity to teach thousands of students both at home and abroad, with considerable time spent giving workshops in Africa and Asia.



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## OUTSTANDING PERFORMER COACHES



CHRISTOPHER D. BETTS



MICHELLE MALLARDI



CYNTHIA THOLE



CORREY WEST

**CHRISTOPHER D. BETTS.** Credits: *Is God Is*, *School Girls*; *Or The African Mean Girls Play*, *We are Proud to Present...*, *littleboy/littleman*, *How Black Girls Get Over Fuckbois*, and *The Winter's Tale*, *The Cave: A Folk Opera* (NY Premiere) and *CARRIE* (2015 BroadwayWorld Best Musical nomination). He has worked with leading theatre companies including Rattlestick Theatre, PopArt Johannesburg/Market Theatre Lab, Kennedy Center/Alliance Theatre, Long Wharf and The Public. Betts is a recipient of the Julie Taymor World Theater Fellowship, the Richie Jackson Artist Fellowship, and a two-time recipient of the SDCF Observership. Betts received his BFA in drama with honors from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts and is now completing his MFA in Directing at Yale School of Drama. He is an Artist-in-Residence at Kampala International Theater Festival and Pop Art Johannesburg, a teaching artist at The Market Theatre Lab and a support team member for artEquity. christopherdbetts.com

**MICHELLE MALLARDI.** Broadway: Disney's *Beauty and the Beast* (Belle), *Les Misérables*; Off Broadway: *Chess*, *Internal Combustion*, *Astronauts*. Live soloist at Radio City Music Hall's Christmas Spectacular and with Liza Minelli at Rockefeller Center's tree lighting. Performed with Linda Eder at the Palace Theatre and Carnegie Hall. Michelle is on both recordings. National/European tours: *Les Misérables*, *Jekyll and Hyde* (Emma u/s), *A Chorus Line* (Morales), *West Side Story* (Maria). Regional: *Elf, the Musical* (Emily Hobbs), *Mamma Mia!* (Donna), *Evita* (Eva Peron), *West Side Story* (Maria/Anita), *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hodel), *The Phantom of the Opera* (Christine), *The Fantasticks* (Louisa) and Gina in the East Coast premiere of *One Last Ride* now a feature film. Directing/choreography credits: assisting John Carrafa in the Broadway revival of *Into The Woods* and, dir/choreo at various theatres in New York and Connecticut. Taught workshops with Deborah Gibson and Joan Lader and teaches voice at CW Post/LIU in the musical theatre department as well as from her own studio. Her one woman shows *Anything Can Happen* and *Love in Time* premiered in Europe and South

America and is scheduled in Alaska this May. Her solo album "Love In Time" can be found on iTunes. Please visit [www.michellemallardi.com](http://www.michellemallardi.com).

**CYNTHIA THOLE** is a veteran of the Broadway stage, having worked with theater legends—Agnes de Mille, Twyla Tharp, Susan Stroman, Leonard Bernstein, Arthur Laurents, and Mike Ockrent. Cynthia currently works as a Clinical Assistant professor of Musical Theater and Dance at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Madison, New Jersey. Her Broadway credits include: *Me and My Girl*, *Singin' In The Rain*, *42nd Street*, *Meet Me In St Louis*, *Nick and Nora*, the Madison Square Garden *A Christmas Carol*. National Tours include: *Oklahoma!*, and *Sugar Babies*. *The Producers*, the movie version. Regional director/choreographer credits include work for: Reagle Musical Theater, Theater Under the Stars, TheaterworksUSA, Allenberry Playhouse, Mill Mountain Theater, City College Theater, Penn State University and Camp Broadway.

**CORREY WEST** is a native of Dallas Texas and attended Northwestern State University. His credits include: Broadway—*Ain't Too Proud: The Life and Times of the Temptations* (Imperial Theatre), *Nice Work If You Can Get It* (Imperial Theatre), *South Pacific* (Lincoln Center); National Tours—*Love Never Dies* (1stNational-US Premiere), *Anything Goes* (1stNational), *42nd Street*, *The Radio City Christmas Spectacular* (Chicago/Toronto); NY Theatre—*The Right Girl* (Workshop-Susan Stroman), *Showboat* (NY Philharmonic/Live from Lincoln Center), *Lunch* (NY Music Festival), *An Evening With Jason Robert Brown* (The Cooper Union); Regional Credits include—Oliver (Virginia Stage Company), *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* (Arkansas Rep Theatre), *Shrek* (North Shore Music Theatre), *Smokey Joe's Cafe* (Capital Rep Theatre), *Kiss Me, Kate* (Cape Playhouse), *Guys and Dolls* (Barrington Stage Company), *Mary Poppins* (Arkansas Rep Theatre), *The Producers* (Riverside Theatre), *Paint Your Wagon* (Pioneer Theatre Company), *Hairspray* (Westchester Broadway Theatre), *Dreamgirls* (Prince Music Theater).



# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

## NEW FACES COACHES



NATHAN CLARIDAD



MICHELLE ROBINSON



CELESTE SIMON

**NATHANIEL P. CLARIDAD** is an NYC based actor and director. Directing credits include work at Southern Rep., Two River Theatre, PlayMakers Repertory Company, the One Minute Play Festival, New York Shakespeare Exchange, Peculiar Works Project, Out of the Box Theatrics, and a Drama League Resident in 2019 & 2016. He is also co-founder of *Broadway Twisted*, an annual event in North Carolina benefitting NCAA and BC/EFA. Acting credits include *Here Lies Love* (The Public Theater), *Taylor Mac's 24 Decade History...* (St. Ann's Warehouse), & many regional and international credits performing in venues from the Kennedy Center to the Sydney Opera House. Upcoming: Directing *Buyer & Cellar* (Weathervane Theatre), *Hookman* by Lauren Yee (University of Maryland, College Park) and *Mr. Popper's Penguins* (Imagination Stage).

**MICHELLE M. ROBINSON** began her training at The Dance Theatre of Harlem. She received the Harry Belafonte Performing Arts Scholarship, and has a BFA in Dance from SUNY Purchase. She has worked with Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, The Bucket Dance Theater, The Dance Theatre of Harlem and The Eleo Pomare Dance Company. Musical theater credits: *Ain't Misbehavin'*, *Can-Can*, *For Colored Girls...*, *Jelly's Last Jam*, *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, *Sophisticated Ladies*, *They're Playing Our Song*, *Sweet Charity*, *The Tempest*, and Broadway musical revival, *Chicago*. Television credits: *Law and Order*, *New York Undercover*, *Third Watch*, HBO's *Lackawanna Blues*, and *One Life to Live*. Film credits: Spike Lee's *Malcolm X*, *Flawless*. Most memorable show biz moment: becoming a Radio City Rockette. Nothing gave her as much joy as when she heard her mother say, "No matter where my child is on that kick line, I will be able to find her!"

**CELESTE SIMONE.** As a vocal teacher and coach Celeste has worked with Kristin Chenoweth, Chita Rivera, *Gossip Girls* Adam Chandler-Beret, Didi Conn, Sally Kellerman, Loni Ackermann, Elaine Joyce Simon, actress Amy Irving, composer David Shire, American Idol's Kimberly Locke, Dancing with the Stars' Mark Ballas, Dream Theater's Jordan Rudess, from the TV show Legacies Danielle Rose Russell, Broadway Empire's and Netflix's The Family Ben Rosenfeld, recording artist, Eleri Ward. She has worked alongside Andrew Lloyd Weber and director Joel Schumacher as the NY vocal coach on the movie *The Phantom of the Opera*. Celeste's voice students have appeared on Broadway in *Moulin Rouge*, *Hamilton*, *The Lion King*, *Chicago*, *Gypsy*, *Nine*, *Wicked*, *Spamalot*, *Tarzan*, *The Color Purple*, *The Book of Mormon*, *Jersey Boys*, *Hollywood Arms*, *The Grinch*, The Carnegie Hall concert version of *South Pacific* (starring Reba MacIntyre, Brian Stokes Mitchell and Alec Baldwin), *West Side Story*, *Baby It's You*, *Rent*, *Follies*, *Next to Normal*, *Billy Elliot*, *Peter and the Star Catcher*, *Shrek*, *Once*, *Les Misérables*, *Newies*, *Kinky Boots*, *Matilda*, *Beauty and The Beast*, *The Producers*, the 1st national of *The Band's Visit* and *Mean Girls*. Celeste is on the Faculty of Broadway Artists Alliance NYC, Bergen Community College, NJ, and frequently gives Master Classes at the Westchester Conservatory. She was the vocal coach for ABC's ALEX INC. starring Zach Braff, vocal and performance coach at St. Louis Cabaret Project, St Louis University and at the Kristin Chenoweth Broadway Boot Camp. Celeste received her BM in Voice from the Manhattan School of Music. [www.celestevoice.com](http://www.celestevoice.com)



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# THE ROGER REES AWARDS

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Production Advisor . . . . .	Barb Domue
Production Associate . . . . .	Geneva White
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