

# Presented by:

Frank and Joan Dawson ● Mary and Kyle Hulcher Michael J. and Mary Anne Freeman W.B. Philips, Jr. ● John & Dorinda Smith

The Sirote Theatre in the Alys Robinson Stephens Performing Arts Center

# **OVATION THEATRE UAB**

Opening nights at Theatre UAB are OVATION nights. OVATION UAB features refreshments and conversation with the director and designers before the show, as well as a post-performance meet & greet with the cast and crew.

But that's not all. OVATION's mission is to support and sponsor our students working backstage and performing in Theatre UAB productions. Membership dues ranging from \$50 - \$1500+ help off-set the cost of tuition for each student to participate in the productions.

Join us! Park early, socialize, learn about the show and enjoy hors d'oeuvres, desserts, and light refreshments before an evening of great theatre. OVATION THEATRE UAB is a perfect way to assist our talented students and have lots of fun!

OVATION THEATRE UAB Membership Forms are in our Theatre UAB Season Brochure or contact Program Manager, Mel Christian at 934-3237, cmel@uab.edu or through our website: https://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/alumni/give. We'd love to see you at our next OVATION!

# A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR CURRENT OVATION UAB MEMBERS

#### Founding Members

Russell Drummond, Col. Daniel D. Hall, Patty McDonald, Carol Odess, Chandler S. Smith, Jane Paris Smith, BBS Martha Moore Sykes Fund

#### 2018-2019 Members

John & Susan Atwood, Peter & Miriam Bellis, William & Mary Ellen Capps, Peggy Carlisle, Betsy & Joe Cooper, Don & Kathy Davis, Frank & Joan Dawson, Lauren Edwards, Ben & Ellen Erdreich, Mary Jane & Ray Faircloth, John R. & Linda Frawley, Michael J. & Mary Anne Freeman, Dr. Robert & Mrs. Barbara Glaze, Myrna Goldstein, Virginia & Boyce Guthrie, Dr. Ward & Mrs. Martha Haarbauer. Frank & Rona Harper, Emily Harris, Mary & Kyle Hulcher, Michael and Catherine Hulcher, Allen & Cele Montgomery, Patrick & Mary Morrissey, William & Patricia Moulton, Mark Nelson, James & Angela Owen, Steve & Laura Parker, W. B. Philips, Jr., Kayli Porter, Beverly & David Radford, James & Dawn Ribe, Leigh Robinson, John & Deborah Sellers, Arnold & Fran Singer, Olivia Skillern, Dorinda & John A. Smith, Phil & Beverly Stine, Charles Turnbough, Jr., Nancy Whitt



The Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival, part of the Rubenstein Arts Access Program, is generously funded by **David M. Rubenstein**.

Special thanks to The Harold and Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust for supporting the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts' Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival.

Additional support is provided by The Honorable Stuart Bernstein and Wilma E. Bernstein; and the Dr. Gerald and Paula McNichols Foundation.

Kennedy Center education and related artistic programming is made possible through the generosity of the National Committee for the Performing Arts.

This production is entered in the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival (KCACTF). The aims of this national theater education program are to identify and promote quality in college-level theater production. To this end, each production entered is eligible for a response by a regional KCACTF representative, and selected students and faculty are invited to participate in KCACTF programs involving scholarships, internships, grants and awards for actors, directors, dramaturgs, playwrights, designers, stage managers and critics at both the regional and national levels.

Productions entered on the Participating level are eligible for invitation to the KCACTF regional festival and may also be considered for national awards recognizing outstanding achievement in production, design, direction and performance.

Last year more than 1,500 productions were entered in the KCACTF involving more than 200,000 students nationwide. By entering this production, our theater department is sharing in the KCACTF goals to recognize, reward, and celebrate the exemplary work produced in college and university theaters across the nation.

# **Theatre UAB Faculty and Administrative Staff**

Kelly Dean Allison, Professor
Valerie Accetta, Assistant Professor
Adjunct FacultyIntro to DanceCarlon AlexandraIntro to DanceMonique GannonMusical Theatre for Non-MajorsTiffany HeimbachTap IJune MackIntermediate Narrative FilmmakingMary Margaret ScaliciBallet IIMel ChristianProgram Manager/Tour CoordinatorNora WhittenAdministrative Associate

# Theatre UAB is a proud member of...



The Kennedy Center







# SAVAGE

### An Original World Premiere Musical

Conceived and developed by Karla Koskinen Book and lyrics by Tommy Newman Music by Jaime Lozano & Tommy Newman Translations provided by Dr. Kazadi wa Mukuna & Albert Romain Mukuna

# Directors Valerie Accetta & Karla Koskinen

Musical Director Carolyn Violi

Choreographer **Roy Lightner** 

Stage Manager Addie Counts

Scenic Design Cliff Simon

Costume Design **Kimberly Schnormeier**  Lighting Design **Kelly Allison** 

Jay Tumminello

Sound Design/Engineer Video Projections Design **Stephanie Busing** 

Dialect Coach Marlene Johnson

Properties Design J. Marc Quattlebaum African Dance Consultant Kavin T. Grant

SAVAGE is sponsored by the Ruby Lloyd Apsey New Play Program.



This program has been made possible by grants from the Alabama State Council on the Arts and the National Endowment for the Arts. www.arts.state.al.us/





The National Alliance for Musical Theatre Frank Young Fund for New Musicals. www.namt.org

# THE CAST

OTA BENGA	Royzell D. Walker
SAMUEL VERNER	Caleb Clark, Guest Artist
STORYTELLER	
ANNE SPENCER/ENSEMBLE	Victoria Cruz
ELIMA/ENSEMBLE	Eboni Janaé
KALUBI/ENSEMBLE	Raiya Goodman
KASALA	Azalea Grace Martin
SOLOIST/BATWA WOMAN/ENSEMBLE	Khalia Reeder
HATTIE VERNER/ENSEMBLE	
MRS. GUGGENHEIM/ENSEMBLE	Kristen Hall
WOMAN/ENSEMBLE	Justine Nelson
SHAMBA/ENSEMBLE	Devin Franklin
MALENGO/REVEREND DR. JAMES GORDON/ENSEMB	LEGary Fuqua
KONDOLA/ENSEMBLE	Antonio Mitchell
KALAMMA/ENSEMBLE	
MCGEE/HORNADAY/BUMPUS/ENSEMBLE	Brian Wittenberg
MR. GUGGENHEIM/CARNIVAL BARKER/ENSEMBLE	
MAN/ZOO ATTENDANT/ENSEMBLE	Joe Condon
ENSEMBLENina Ballon, Briana Hernandez, N	
,	, 8

#### **UNDERSTUDIES:**

For Ota	Gary Fuqua
For Verner	Chance Novalis
For Storyteller	Brooke Payne
For Elima, Kalubi, Soloist/Batwa tracks	Jori Rutledge
For Hattie.	
For Mrs. Guggenheim, Woman tracks	Tess Lenzen
For McGee track	
For Guggenheim, Zoo Attendant, Carnival Barker tracks	Nick Linhardt

# TIME 1903-1916 LOCATIONS

The Congo, and various locations across the United States of America

There will be one fifteen minute intermission.

Opening Night: Wednesday, April 10, 2019, 7:30 p.m.

There will be a special talk-back following the Friday, April 12th performance.

A gunshot effect will be used in this production.

The videotaping or other video or audio recording of this production is strictly prohibited.

# THE ORCHESTRA Conductor - Carolyn Violi

Conductor - Carolyn violi		
Piano	Richard Byrd	
	Matt Baron	
Drums	Brett Huffman	
Percussion	Justin Wallace	
Guitar	Sam HermanCarlos Pino	
Bass	Abe Becker	
	Melanie Rodgers	
Cello	Nancy Lewis	
	,,,	
SONGS		
ACT I		
WHAT MAKES A MAN	Storyteller & Ensemble	
	Ota Benga, Elima & Ensemble	
TWO GOOD FRIENDS	Verner, Storyteller & Ensemble	
	McGee & Ensemble	
	Ota Benga	
	Hattie, Storyteller & Ensemble	
WHEN YOU'RE LOOKING AT ME	Ota Benga & M'buti Men & Ensemble	
	Samuel Verner, Storyteller & Ensemble	
WE ARE	Kondola, Ota Benga & M'buti Men	
THE FALLOUT AFTER THE FAIR	Ensemble	
DARLING I LOVE YOU	Hattie, Storyteller & Ensemble	
BACK WHERE WE STARTED	Ota Benga, Kalubi & Ensemble	
THE MIISTIM	Ota Benga	
ΔCT I FINΔI F	Ota Benga, Storyteller & Ensemble	
ACT I TIVALE	Ota beliga, storytener & Ensemble	
ACT II		
ACT II		
BARELY HUMANHornaday, Dr	. James Gordon, Zoo Crowd, Paperboys	
	& Congregation	
THE SONG OF THE FOREST REPRISE	Ota Benga & Elima	
WHAT WE DO	Storyteller	
FOLLOW ME OVER	Soloist & Congregation	
WHAT IS MY PLACE?	Hattie	
	eller, Guggenheims, McGee & Ensemble	
	Storyteller & Ensemble	
	Anne Spencer, Elima, Kalubi	
OTA'S DANCE	Ctowntollon O Engan-1-1	
UIA S DANCE	Storyteller & Ensemble	
I WO GOOD FRIENDS REPRISE	Verner, Storyteller & Ensemble	
ACT II FINALE	Ota Benga, Storyteller & Ensemble	

# The Journey of Savage

Collaboration is an essential component of the theatrical process. Savage has been a three-year journey of bringing together a group of artists who committed their talent, time and energy in service of this story. First, and foremost was the partnership with Tommy Newman who wrote the book, lyrics and co-wrote the music with the talented Jaime Lozano whose beautiful spirit informs this piece. Tommy's ability to crystalize a complex story that traverses two continents with multiple locations, explore several important historical figures, and delve into difficult subject matter that resonates in both the past and the present, is nothing short of astonishing. What a joy it has been to spend the last three years of my life pouring over every word, every idea, every possibility with this generous, gifted man. Valerie Accetta has been along for the ride from the beginning. From grant writing, to script consulting, and finally to bringing the show to life through her sensitive, insightful directing, she has helped shape the show in ways too numerous to mention. Roy Lightner's choreography is driven by the desire to enhance the story through innovative, imaginative movement and his contribution has opened up the play in exciting new ways. Carolyn Violi took on the difficult task of translating this new music to the cast and her dedication to bringing Newman and Lozano's innovative music to life has been inspiring. To all of my colleagues in the department of theatre, especially our chair, Kelly Allison whose support of this new work has never waivered, I owe a huge debt of gratitude. The designers, students, staff, technicians, and crew have made what you are about to see possible. I am blessed to work with such an amazing group of people. And finally, to you, the audience for choosing to learn about the beautiful spirit of Ota Benga. He is the man we celebrate tonight. May his difficult journey teach us all the importance of respect, equality and generosity. Thank you all.

- Karla Koskinen

# **Acknowledgements:**

Kerry Madden

Dr. Kathryn Morgan & DeReef Jamison

John Scalici of Get Rhythm Programs for use of African drums

The Center for Puppetry Arts

Amyna Price

Present & former Theatre UAB students that participated in the

This performance of *Savage* is dedicated to Kavin T. Grant. His beautiful spirit touched us all.

May he rest in peace.

### Notes on this production...

"In 1906, an African man was brought to America, put in a cage, and displayed in the monkey house of the Bronx Zoo."

In Savage, Tommy Newman crafts a poignant reminder and moving tribute to Ota Benga, a name that until recently, had been buried in the annals of history. The musical tells the story of Ota Benga, a Mbuti man living in the Congo, and Samuel Phillips Verner, an American missionary-turned-anthropologist who takes Ota from Africa to put on display during the 1904 St. Louis World's fair. Ota spends the next twelve years fighting to find the home that was ripped away from him as Verner, desperate to achieve renown in the face of a disapproving family and a belittling professional community, ships him from place to demeaning place, including the primate house of the Bronx Zoo.

Ota's story is not easy, but necessary. *Savage* closely examines America's exploitation and neglect of black men post-Emancipation, and prompts present America to condemn the mirror images of hate that remain today. After all, both the historical figure and fictionalized version of Verner exemplify an amendment to the platitude "History is written by the victors." Ultimately, Verner proves "History is written by the *privileged*."

Savage thoughtfully juxtaposes the transatlantic cultures as it asks "What Makes A Man?" Unlike the common misperception of early anthropologists like Verner, 'American' might not always correlate to 'Civilized.' Early anthropologists subscribed to Social Darwinism, a pseudotheory arguing that cultures, like species, are subject to the same Natural Selection, which allowed the largely white, educated scientific community to utilize the unbiased hand of science to justify the dehumanization of other races.

A warning is embedded in the pages of tribute in *Savage*. Ota Benga reminds us all that should we be so foolish as to continue to erase history to preserve a spotless reputation, that history is bound to repeat itself. According to the NAACP, African Americans are incarcerated at more than five times as whites. Though African Americans and Hispanics make up only 32% of the population, in 2015, they comprised 56% of all incarcerated people in America. In Alabama, the discrepancy is equally apparent: according to the 2010 census, African Americans make up 26% of the Alabama population, and 54% of the state's incarcerated population. America continues to put black men and women in cages, both societal and physical.

Savage asks its audience, "What Do We Do Today?" One might argue the only way to achieve real justice and atonement for past and current transgressions is through careful examination and transparency regarding these crimes, as opposed to denial and erasure. Through this powerful production, we step towards that goal by acknowledging, honoring, and celebrating the life of Ota Benga.

For more dramaturgical research on the play, visit https://cas.uab.edu/savagetheplay/savagedramaturgy-following-ota-bengas-journey/

- Jenn Palmieri, Dramaturg

# **Theatre UAB Production Staff**

duction Manager/Technical DirectorEd Zuckerman	Production
sistant Technical Director	Assistant To
sistant Technical Director	Costume Di
stume Studio SupervisorSharon Morgan	Costume St
ge Electrics Director Sean Doyle	Stage Electr
perties Master	Properties N
nic Studio Assistants Dustin Green, Mel McComber, Brian Wittenberg,	Scenic Stud
Amanda Waller, Lew Williams, Aliyah Zeigler	
ctrics AssistantsBailey Dumlao, Katherine Montgomery, Rita Pearson-Daley,	Electrics As
Spencer Webb, Alyssa Wilke	
stume AssistantsOlivia Bowles, Addie Counts, Marissa Hebson,	Costume As
Sam Mathews, Anna Medders, Madeline Pratt, Alyssa Wilke	
operties AssistantsAllie Nichols, Rita Pearson-Daley, Anna Whitlock	Properties
dia RelationsShannon Thomason	
leographyStacy Brannan	
C Manager of Patron ServicesJeremie Kirkwood	
C House ManagementNoah Andrews, Joel Corley	
C Associate House ManagersJohn Bryan, Terrie Entrup, Mary Washburn	ASC Associ

# **Staff for this Production**

Assistant Directors
Assistant ChoreographerDiego Villanueva
Assistant Musical Director
Assistant Stage ManagersLilly Bateh, Jenn Palmieri
Assistant Costume Design
Assistant Scenic Design
Properties Construction
Fabric Painter/Textile Artist
DramaturgDr. Amy Lehman, University of South Carolina
Student DramaturgsJenn Palmieri, Camilla Almond
Documentarian
Translations Technical & Logistical SupportTim Thornes, Boise State University
Production Branding Identity Design
Scenery/Lighting Construction/ElectricsIan Black, Kevin Bryant, Isabel Castro,
Demerius Coleman, Addie Counts, Mariah Gardner, Dustin Green,
Garrett Grubbs, Nadia Harden, Marissa Hebson, Caitlin Irelan,
Caleb Langford, Rachel-Kate McGee, Anna Medders, Malik Muhammad,
Joey Parker, Travis Roddy, Katie Strickland, Brian Wittenberg
Scenic PaintersIsabel Castro, Austin Helmers, Caitlin Irelan, Anna Medders,
Anna Shows, Brian Wittenberg
Scenery/Properties Running Crew Isah Ceesay, David Parker
Costume/Craft ConstructionBailey Dumlao, Anna Frey, Briana Hernandez,
Marissa Hilton, Joseph McKinley, Alyse Rosenblatt, Katelynn Schulte,
Briana Scott, Medina Sellers, Michaela Slocum, Amanda Waller
DressersLauren Macari, Anna Medders, Sunday Owens, Kierra Price
Light Board OperatorBriana Scott
Follow SpotBrett Everingham, David Parker, Akiera Wilson
Sound Deck
Projections Operator

Valerie Accetta (Director)

Home Town: Columbus, OH

Education: MFA - Virginia Commonwealth University

Recent Production Work: Directing: Hairspray, Working, A Little Night Music, Spring Awakening, Avenue Q, Urinetown: The Musical (UAB). Choreography/Musical Direction: Twelfth Night (UAB). Directing/Associate Directing: Gypsy (Campion School, Greece), South Pacific, Oklahoma (Weathervane Playhouse, OH), Phantom (Riverside Theatre, VA), Godspell (Edinburgh Fringe Festival). Associate Choreography: The Producers (Virginia Repertory Theatre), Annie (Pioneer Theatre, UT).

**Kelly Allison (Lighting Design)** 

Home Town: Litchfield, MN

Education: BFA-Stephens College, MFA-University of Minnesota.

Recent Production Work: Lighting Design: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches, A Little Night Music, Spring Awakening, Buried Child, Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird, Avenue Q, Urinetown: The Musical, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Macbeth, The Rocky Horror Show, Eurydice (UAB). Scenic Design: Silent Sky (UAB).

#### **Camilla Almond (Assistant Director)**

Home Town: Atlanta, GA

Education: Dunwoody High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 2018-19 Theatre UAB Puppeteers Touring Company, The 14th Festival of Ten Minute Plays, Hairspray, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Real Inspector Hound (UAB,) Into the Woods (The Performer's Warehouse), The Music Man, Oklahoma! (Dunwoody HS), Legally Blonde (ACDS). Directing: 2019 Festival of Ten Minutes Plays (UAB).

#### Nina Ballon (Ensemble)

Home Town: New Orleans, LA

Education: NOCCA (New Orleans Center for Creative Arts)

Recent Production Work: Assistant Choreography: Mary Poppins Jr. (JPAS). Acting: All Shook Up (MUNY). Dance Captain/Ensemble: Anyone Can Whistle (NOCCA).

#### Lilly Batch (Assistant Stage Manager)

Home Town: Jacksonville, FL

Education: The Bolles School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company, Hairspray, Working, 2017-18 Cabaret Touring Company, A Little Night Music (UAB), Grease, George Washington Slept Here (The Bolles School), The Wizard of Oz (FSCJ), Fiddler on the Roof (Providence School of Jacksonville). Assistant Directing: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB).

### Joe Condon (Man/Zoo Attendant/Ensemble/Understudy McGee Track)

Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL

Education: Pinellas County Center for the Arts

Recent Production Work: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB), Evita, Hunchback of Notre Dame, In the Heights, One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest (PCCA), Memphis (Saint Petersburg City Theater).

#### Victoria Cruz (Anne Spencer/Ensemble)

Home Town: Birmingham, AL

Education: B.A. Public Relations, UAB

Recent Production Work: Acting: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches, Ushuaia Blue Staged Reading, Silent Sky, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Fourteenth Festival of Ten Minute Plays, Black Lady Authority (UAB), Othello: Abridged (HurryUp Prod).

#### Addie Counts (Stage Manager)

Home Town: Chattanooga, TN

Education: Center for Creative Arts

Recent Production Work: Acting: 2018-19 Tom Sawyer Touring Company, Hairspray, 2017-18 Shakespeare Touring Company, The Real Inspector Hound, Spring Awakening, 2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company (UAB). Hello, Dolly!, Shrek, All Shook Up (CCA), 9 to 5, Xanadu (Chattanooga Theatre Centre). Stage

All Shook Up (CCA), 9 to 3, Xanadu (Chattanooga Theatre Centre). Stage Management: Savage (Workshop/Reading), Working, 2017 Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB). Assistant Stage Management: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Vinegar Tom (UAB). Light Board Operator: You Can't Take It With You (UAB).

#### Devin Franklin (Shamba/Ensemble)

Home Town: Birmingham, Alabama Education: McAdory High School

Recent Production. Work: Acting: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches, Hairspray (UAB), On Lock, In the Heights (McAdory HS).

# Gary Fuqua (Malengo/Reverend Dr. James Gordon/Ensemble/Understudy Ota Benga)

Home Town: Florence, AL Education: Florence High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB), Oklahoma! (Summerstock At The Ritz), The Addams Family (Falcon Theatre.) Lighting: A Murder Is Announced (Shoals Theatre). Film: Sally..., Therapeutic (Gary

Fuqua).

#### Raiya Goodman (Kalubi/Ensemble)

Home Town: Houston, TX

Education: The High School for the Performing and Visual Arts (HSPVA)

Recent Production Work: Acting: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches (UAB), Romeo and Juliet, The Colored Museum (HSPVA), Hairspray (Inspiration Stage).

# Kristen Hall (Mrs. Guggenheim/Ensemble)

Home Town: Atlanta, GA

Education: South Forsyth High School

Recent Production Work: Acting *The Maids* (UAB), *Leap of Faith, Fame* (South

Forsyth HS).

# **Austin Helmers (Assistant Scenic Design)**

Home Town: Montevallo, AL

Education: Kingwood Christian School

Recent Production Work: Acting: Peter Pan (Kingwood Christian School). Lighting Design: I'll Take Care of You - 15th Annual UAB Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB). Light Board Operator: Hay Fever (UAB) . Properties Construction Crew: A Midsummer's Night Dream, Working (UAB).

# Briana Hernandez (Ensemble)

Home Town: El Paso, TX

Education: North Gwinnett High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB), Jekyll & Hyde (Red Phoenix Theatre Company).

#### Eboni Janaé (Elima/Ensemble)

Home Town: Toney, AL

Education: Sparkman High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company, Hairspray, Working, The Real Inspector Hound, Spring Awakening (UAB), Aladdin Jr. (Huntsville Community Chorus Association), Roger's & Hammerstein's Cinderella (Sparkman High School). Scenic Painter: Buried Child (UAB). Dresser: Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird (UAB).

#### Marlene Johnson (Dialect Coach)

Home Town: Allentown, PA

Education: MFA, Virginia Commonwealth University

Recent Production Work: Voice & Text Coach: Hay Fever, Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches, Hairspray, Silent Sky, Working, A Midsummer Night's Dream (UAB). Vocal Coach: The Real Inspector Hound, You Can't Take It With You, Spring Awakening, Buried Child, Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird, Dancing at Lughnasa, Avenue Q, In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play), Women of War, Urinetown: The Musical, Twelfth Night, Big Love (UAB). Vocal Director: Vinegar Tom, On The Verge (UAB), Around The World in 80 Days, God of Carnage (Alabama Shakespeare Festival).

#### Matthew Kelly (Kalamma/Ensemble)

Home Town: Phenix City, AL Education: Central High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: I and You (UAB), Forbidden Broadway, Into The

Woods, Sister Act (CHS Encore Productions).

# Tess Lenzen (Understudy Mrs. Guggenheim/Woman Tracks)

Home Town: Madison, WI

Education: James Madison Memorial HS

Recent Production Work: Acting: *The Maids* (UAB), *Curtains* (Memorial HS.), *Nunsense* (Memorial HS), *Wizard of Oz* (Children's Theatre of Madison).

# Roy Lightner (Choreographer)

Home Town: Leawood, KS

Education: MFA - Goddard College; BM - Oklahoma City University.

Recent Production Work: Director/Choreographer: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Hairspray, Working (UAB), Newsies (New London Barn), 2018 Festival Producer (MTWichita), Legally Blonde (Lyric Opera Arizona - ASU), Lucky to Be Me (NYC Opera, asst. to Peggy Hickey), Hairspray, Miss Saigon (Sondheim Center), Bring It On (Music Theatre of Kansas City), Hound of the Baskervilles (Cape Playhouse), Little Shop of Horrors, Thoroughly Modern Millie (MTKC), Best of Broadway Under the Stars, Wine Country Speakeasy, This Magic Moment, Oh, What A Night! (Transcendence Theatre Company), Dogfight, A Chorus Line, H2\$, Legally Blonde (Ithaca College), Concert Dance Choreography: Oklahoma City Dance Project, NYC's Community Dance Project, NYC Jazz Enterprise, plus 2 full length original ballets: In Your Eyes and Under the Covers. Has performed in over 40 professional productions nationally and internationally.

#### Nick Linhardt (Ensemble/Understudy Guggenheim, Zoo Attendant, Carnival Barker tracks)

Home Town: Andover, KS

Education: Andover High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB), Aida (Andover HS), Newsies (Music Theatre Wichita), Beauty and the Beast (Music

Theatre Wichita), Xanadu (Andover HS).

#### Azalea "Zeli" Grace Martin (Kasala)

Home Town: Denver, CO Education: Pre-K Panda

Recent Production Work: This is Azalea's first production. She enjoys being a part of "Mommy and Me" reading sessions at her school, where she brings books to life through performance for younger audiences.

#### Antonio Mitchell (Kondola/Ensemble)

Home Town: Phenix City, AL

Education: Central High School/Faulkner University

Recent Production Work: Acting: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches, 2018-19 Tom Sawyer Touring Company, Hairspray, A Midsummer Night's Dream, 2017-18 Bookends Touring Company, The Real Inspector Hound, You Can't Take It With You, Buried Child (UAB), Washington & DuBois: Two Opinions, One Goal (Vulcan Park), Les Misérables, The Game's Afoot, Flight of the Lawnchair Man (Faulkner University), The Drowsy Chaperone, Zombie Prom (CHS Encore Productions).

### Justine Nelson (Woman/Ensemble/Understudy Hattie)

Home Town: St. Petersburg, FL

Education: Gibbs Senior High School/ Education: Pinellas County Center for the Arts (PCCA)

Recent Production Work: Acting: Hairspray, Working (UAB), Spring Awakening, Thoroughly Modern Millie (Eight O Clock Theatre).

#### Chance Novalis (Mr. Guggenheim/Carnival Barker/Ensemble/Understudy Verner) Home Town: Madison, AL

Education: Bob Jones High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches, 2018-19 Tom Sawyer Touring Company, Silent Sky, A Midsummer Night's Dream, 2017-18 Bookends Touring Company, The Real Inspector Hound, Vinegar Tom, Dancing at Lughnasa, 13th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB), Southern Baptist Sissies, The Explorer's Club (Theatre Downtown,) In the Heights, The Standard Deviation (Bob Jones). Directing: Off a Broken Road (Bob Jones).

# **Peyton Overstreet (Hattie Verner/Ensemble)**

Home Town: Tallahassee, FL

Education: Lawton Chiles High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company, Hairspray, A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom (UAB), How to Succeed In Business Without Really Trying, Into the Woods, Joni and the Wail (Young Actors Theatre).

#### **Brooke Payne (Understudy Storyteller)**

Home Town: Birmingham, AL

Education: Shades Valley High School/Alabama State University

Recent Production Work: Acting: Hairspray, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Real Inspector Hound (UAB), Black Nativity: A Heavenly Vision (ASU). The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Drowsy Chaperone (Shades Valley Theatre Academy).

### Jenn Palmieri (Assistant Stage Manager/Dramaturg)

Home Town: Alpharetta, GA

Education: Blessed Trinity High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 2018-19 Theatre UAB Puppeteers Touring Company, A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Real Inspector Hound, Vinegar Tom (UAB). 9 to 5, 12 Angry Men, Reckless, Pippin, Noises Off, How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying, Waiting for Lefty (Blessed Trinity Theatrical Alliance). Sondheim on Sondheim (Act3 Productions). Assistant Directing: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB).

#### Joey Parker (Assistant Music Director)

Home Town: Kansas City, MO

Education: Grandview Senior High School

Recent Production Work: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 2018-19 Tom Sawyer Touring Company, Hairspray, A Midsummer Night's Dream, 2017-18 Shakespeare Touring Company, A Little Night Music, You Can't Take It With You, 2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company, Spring Awakening (UAB), HONK!, John Lennon and Me, Beauty and the Beast (GHS Theatre).

# J. Marc Quattlebaum (Properties/Puppetry Design & Construction)

Home Town: Lexington, SC

Education: MFA Wayne State University 2009, BA Newberry College 2005 Recent Production Work: Scenic & Properties Design: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches (UAB). Properties Design: Hay Fever, Hairspray, Silent Sky, Working, A Midsummer Night's Dream, A Little Night Music, You Can't Take It With You, Vinegar Tom, The Real Inspector Hound, Spring Awakening, Buried Child, Dancing at Lughnasa, In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play), Clybourne Park (UAB).

# Khalia Reeder (Soloist/Batwa Woman/Ensemble)

Home Town: Florence, AL

Education: Florence High School

Recent Production Work: Light Board Op: Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches (UAB). Acting: Once on This Island (Florence High School), Steal Away Home (Shoals Gingerbread Theatre).

# Jori Rutledge (Ensemble/Understudy Elima, Kalubi, Soloist/Batwa Tracks)

Home Town: Mobile, AL

Education: S.S. Murphy High School

Recent Production Work: Hairspray, 12th Annual Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB), Westside Story (S.S. Murphy High School).

#### Kimberly Schnormeier (Costume Design)

Home Town: Gambier, OH

Education: MFA in Scenography from Northwestern University. BFA in Graphic

Design, Miami University

Recent Production Work: Costume Design: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Silent Sky, Working, A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom, Buried Child, Dancing at Lughnasa, In The Next Room (or, The Vibrator Play,) Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Don't Trifle With Love, Caucasian Chalk Circle (UAB). Beauty and the Beast, The Legend of Sleepy Hollow (Birmingham Children's Theatre).

#### Anna Shows (Assistant Scenic Design)

Home Town: Orlando, FL

Education: Mountain Brook High School

Recent Production Work: Wardrobe Crew: Putnam County Spelling Bee (UAB).

# Cliff Simon (Scenic Design)

Home Town: New York, NY

Education: MFA, University of Texas at Austin

Recent Production Work: Scenic Design: Tommy, Les Misérables, One Night With Janice Joplin, 33 Variations (Zach Theatre, Austin). Miss Saigon, Grease, Full Monty (Riverside Theatre, Vero Beach). Grease (Walnut Street, Philadelphia). Hairspray, A Little Night Music, You Can't Take It With You, Spring Awakening, Buried Child, Stupid F\*\*\*ing Bird, Avenue Q, Women of War, Clybourne Park, Urinetown: The Musical, Twelfth Night; or What You Will, Big Love, Charley's Aunt, Proof (UAB).

#### **Claire Stewart (Assistant Costume Design)**

Home Town: Fairhope, AL

Education: Fairhope High School

Recent Production Work: Stage Crew: A Little Night Music (UAB). Acting: Standing on Ceremony: The Gay Marriage Plays (UAB), Beauty and the Beast (Fairhope HS.) Beauty and the Beast (Southern Edge). Sweeney Todd (Fairhope Senior Fest).

#### Tyler Stidham (Assistant Director)

Home Town: Chelsea, AL

Education: Chelsea High School

Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Management: A Not So Silent Night (CAT), Hairspray (UAB). Stage Management: Hay Fever (UAB), Down the Yellow Brick Road (ArtPlay), Hairspray, Jr. (VST). Assistant Directing: Savage (UAB), Godspell (Chelsea High School). Directing: 2019 Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB). Acting: A Midsummer Night's Dream, The Fourteenth Festival of Ten Minute Plays (UAB).

#### Rachel-Marie Strazza (Documentarian)

Home Town: Bronx, NY

Education: Wilton High School (CT)

Recent Production Work: Assistant Stage Management: Hay Fever, Angels in America, Part I: Millennium Approaches (UAB). Stage Management: Annie! the Musical (Wiremill Academy), Bye Bye Birdie, (Summerstage), Law and Order: Fairy Tale Unit, Superhero's the Musical (WHS). Choreography: Bebop With Aesop, Frog and Toad, Annie! the Musical (Wiremill Academy). Lighting Design: Wizard of Oz, Mary Poppins Jr., Charlie and the Chocolate Factory (WCT), Xanadu (Carriage House Arts Center). Acting: Beauty and the Beast, The Man Who Came to Dinner, The Pajama Game (WHS), Little Women the Musical (Wilton Playshop).

#### Diego Villanueva (Assistant Choreographer)

Home Town: Katy, TX

Education: Cinco Ranch High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 2018-19 Theatre UAB Puppeteers Touring Company, Hairspray, A Midsummer Night's Dream (UAB), Footloose (HITS Theatre), Working (Theatre Under the Stars), Rock of Ages, Honk! (Cinco Ranch Theatre Company).

#### Carolyn Violi (Music Director/Conductor)

Home Town: Indiana, PA

Education: BS in Music Education, Indiana University of PA

Recent Production Work: Conductor/Musical Director: Disney's Beauty and the Beast National Tour US and Canada (NETworks Presentations./Disney Theatricals). Conductor: Goodbye Girl, Seven Brides for Seven Brothers (Mainstage Productions). Musical Director: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, Hairspray, Working, A Little Night Music, Vinegar Tom, Spring Awakening, Avenue Q (UAB). Peter and the Starcatcher (City Equity Theatre), West Side Story, Menken's Christmas Carol (Alabama Shakespeare Festival). Gypsy (Red Mountain Theatre Company). Producer: Chasing Rainbows: The Road to Oz, Hello Dolly (starring Bette Midler), Tootsie (Santino Fontana), A Taste of Things To Come (Broadway in Chicago).

#### Royzell D. Walker (Ota Benga)

Home Town: Cincinnati, OH Education: Colerain High School

Recent Production Work: Singer/Dancer: Lights, Camera, Action! (Cedar Point Theme Park). Acting: 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company, Hairspray, Working, A Little Night Music, Spring Awakening (UAB), Mamma Mia!, Beauty and The Beast (Red Mountain Theatre Company), A Not So Silent Night (Central Alabama Theatre), A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, Bat Boy The Musical, More Fun Than Bowling, Over the Horizon (SSU).

# Brian Wittenberg (McGee/Hornaday/Bumpus/Ensemble)

Home Town: Johns Creek, GA

Education: Chattahoochee High School

Recent Production Work: Acting: Mamma Mia!, Aladdin (Flat Rock Playhouse), The 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, The Jungle Book (Mill Mountain Theatre), 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee, 2018-19 Broadway Cabaret Touring Company, Hairspray, Working, 2017-18 Cabaret Touring Company, A Little Night Music, 2016-17 Kids on the Block Touring Company, Spring Awakening, Dancing at Lughnasa (UAB). Assistant Directing: Hairspray (UAB).

# The Creators of SAVAGE

Karla Koskinen (Director) is a member of SDC and has directed both professionally and in academic institutions for over 35 years. For twelve years she served as Artistic Director of Shakespeare on the Green, a Chicago-land summer Shakespeare festival, where she directed Two Gentlemen of Verona, The Tempest, Othello, King Lear, Macbeth, Romeo and Juliet, Twelfth Night, Hamlet, As You Like It, Much Ado About Nothing, Midsummer Night's Dream and Richard III. Phoenix Theatre: Light in the Piazza (AriZoni Award Best Direction), End of the Rainbow, Picnic, Our Town, Moonlight and Valentino, Morning's at Seven, The Glass Menagerie. Trinity Players: The Workroom. Theatre South Carolina: Measure for Measure, The Real Thing, Midsummer Night's Dream. Heritage Artists: Starting Here, Starting Now, Dames At Sea, Perfectly Frank, She Loves Me, Across The River (premiere). Music Theatre North: West Side Story, Pippin, A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum, They're Playing Our Song, 1776, Camelot, Cabaret, She Loves Me, The Fantastics, Starting Here, Starting Now, Jesus Christ Superstar, Damn Yankees, Over Here, I Do!, I Do!, My Fair Lady, Company, Godspell. New works: Women of War, The Butterfly Effect, Orpheus: An Experimental Myth (@lma @lter Theatre Sophia, Bulgaria), Another Day, The White Rose of Munich. Koskinen has also served as Artistic Director for Heritage Artists and Music Theatre North. In addition, she has held full-time academic appointments at Barat College, Western Michigan University, DePaul University, University of South Carolina and is currently a Professor of Directing at the University of Alabama, Birmingham. She has directed over 35 academic productions and has received several awards from KCACTF. She is co-author with professor Lesley Kordecki of Depaul University of the book *Re-Visioning Lear's* Daughters.

**Jaime Lozano (Composer)** Born in Monterrey, Mexico. Jaime is an accomplished musician, vocal coach, composer, arranger, orchestrator, musical producer and musical theatre director considered by Hamilton's Lin-Manuel Miranda as the "next big thing" on Broadway. Works: Tlatelolco, Myths, Lightning Strikes Twice (Off-Broadway), The Yellow Brick Road (Off-Broadway and National Tour), Carmen La Cubana (Théâtre du Châtelet in Paris, France), Children of Salt (New York Musical Festival 2016 "Best of Fest" Production), A Never-*Ending Line* (Comédie Nation in Paris, France and Off- Broadway). Albums: "Tlatelolco" (producer, composer, lyricist), "Carols for a Cure 2010" (arranger, orchestrator), R. Evolución Latina's "Dare to Go Beyond" (arranger, orchestrator, music director), Florencia Cuenca's "Aquí – Los Nuevos Standards" (producer, arranger, music director), Doreen Montalvo's "American Soul / Latin Heart" (producer, arranger, orchestrator, music director), "A Never-Ending Line" (producer, composer, arranger, orchestrator). Director: The Last Five Years (Spanish World Premiere), Into the Woods, Jesus Christ Superstar, The Fantasticks, Jekyll & Hyde (Mexican World Premiere), Songs for a New World (Spanish World Premiere), Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat; as well as his very own works *Tlatelolco* and *Myths*. He is a teacher and activist for the New York City based not-for-profit organization R.Evolución Latina. BFA: Music & Composition, Universidad Autónoma de Nuevo León; MFA: NYU/Tisch, Graduate Musical Theatre Writing Program; part of the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theatre Workshop. Mex-Am Cultural Foundation Grant recipient. Proud member of the Dramatists Guild of America, BMI and GRAMMY and Latin GRAMMY voting member. "A mi hermosa familia, Florencia (Mi Henrucha hermosa), mi inspiración. Alonzo, bienvenido a este mundo, y mi princesa Ely Aimé. Los amo, todo, siempre". www.jaimelozano.net Twitter/IG: @jaimelozano

# The Creators of SAVAGE

Tommy Newman (Music, Lyrics, and Book) is a published playwright, composer and lyricist from Alabama. 2013 ASCAP Foundation Cole Porter Award Winner. Three of his shows have participated in the annual NAMT Festival in New York. He is a recipient of an Anna Sosenko Assist Trust Grant. 2014 Kennedy Center ACTF National Musical Theatre Award Winner. Productions include: The Single Girls Guide with Gordon Greenberg (Developed at The 5th Avenue Theatre in Seattle (2016), The Village Theatre in WA (2015), Capital Repertory Theatre (2013), and NAMT (2013), Band Geeks! (Published by MTI, Goodspeed Musicals, Human Race Theatre Co., Red Mountain Theatre, NAMT Fest '09), Tinyard Hill with Mark Allen (Theatreworks Silicon Valley, Red Mountain Theatre, Human Race Theatre, Goodspeed, NAMT Fest '07). Off Broadway: We the People: America Rocks (Theatreworks, USA, NY Times Critic Pick, Lortel Nomination 2010), The Yellow Brick Road with Jaime Lozano (TheatreworksUSA, NY Times Critic Pick) and 29 with Gaby Alter (NYU Steinhart, Troy University). Recent works: The Teacher from the Black Lagoon and Other Stories (Theatreworks, USA), The Odyssey Suite, The House of the Rising Sun, Savage. He hold a BS in Music Education from Troy University and an MFA in Musical Theatre Writing from NYU Tisch. Tommy is currently a full-time professor with Troy University's Department of Theatre and Dance in Troy, AL. Read more about him at www.tommynewman.com.

#### **Guest Artists**

Stephanie Busing (Video Projections Design) is an environment and live performance designer currently based in Atlanta, GA, and is honored to be designing for UAB's Department of Theatre for the first time. She designs for musicals, museums, theatre, opera, dance, and symphonies. Video projection and scenic designs include: The Turn of the Screw (video, Texas State University Theatre), The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-Time (ZACH Theatre), Into the Wild: A New Musical (Encore Musical Theatre), Alice in Wonderland (Underbelly Theatre), Studio in the Museum (UMLAUF Sculpture Garden and Museum), With Great Difficulty Alice Sits (scenery, Salvage Vanguard Theatre), World at War (video, Texas Performing Arts Center), and Wanderlust Dance VC (video, Zorrozaurre Art Work In Progress, Bilbao). Busing is currently preparing to film a short documentary on site-specific dance in Puerto Rico, and designing video projections for Newsies at the Civic Theatre in Grand Rapids, MI and The Wiz at Broadway Sacramento, amongst other projects. She holds an M.F.A. from the University of Texas at Austin in Integrated Media for Live Performance.

Caleb Clark (Samuel Verner) is extremely grateful to be a part of this process at Theatre UAB. Favorite Birmingham credits include Alex More (Buyer and Cellar) and Bruce Bechdel (Fun Home) at Terrific New Theatre, Gaston (Beauty and the Beast) and Chef Louis (The Little Mermaid) at Red Mountain Theatre Company, Alf (Peter and the Starcatcher) at City Equity Theatre, Herr (Einstein is a Dummy) at Birmingham Children's Theatre. Regional credits include Ladahlord (James and the Giant Peach), Shrek (Shrek the Musical) at the Alliance Theatre; Algernon (The Importance of Being Earnest), Antonio (Illyria: A Twelfth Night Musical) and Demetrius (Midsummer Night's Dream) at Georgia Shakespeare; Jumpy Malachi (Happy Days) and Dr. Seward (Dracula) at Ohio's Schoenrunn Amphitheatre. Caleb is a tenor soloist at First United Methodist Church in Birmingham and has also enjoyed many appearances as a guest artist with sacred and secular ensembles in the area, including the Alabama Symphony Orchestra. Love and thanks to Mom, Dad, and Kathryn.

#### **Guest Artists**

Kavin T. Grant (African Dance Consultant) We are deeply saddened by the untimely passing of Kavin T. Grant. A native of Jacksonville, Florida, he received his MFA in Dance with a concentration in Choreography and Performance from Temple University in Philadelphia, PA, Grant was the 2012 recipient of the Rose Vernick Artistic Transformation Award. Mr. Grant trained with Kariamu and Company: Traditions, Cedar Lake Contemporary Ballet, Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater, Monsters of Hip-Hop, Florida Community College at Jacksonville and Jacksonville University where he earned a BFA in Dance with departmental honors and a minor in Sociology. He was a guest instructor at West Chester University, Temple University, Penn State University, The University of the Arts, The University of Akron, Rowan University, Muhlenberg College, Jacksonville University, and at various public/private schools and studios in Jacksonville, FL and Philadelphia, PA. Grant was the founder and artistic director for A Rhythm Nation (House of Nations, Inc.) in Jacksonville, Florida, and the founder and CEO of A Kavin Grant Productions and Entertainment, Inc. for the visual and performing arts. Two of his choreographic works were adjudicated and selected for the Gala program at both Northeast and Southeast Regions of the American College Dance Festival. In addition, he was a member of Kariamu and Company: Traditions for three years. Grant specialized in classical ballet (Vaganova), contemporary ballet, contemporary modern, hip-hop, jazz, African (Umfundalai), musical theater and step dance. The UAB Department of Theatre dedicates this performance of Savage to Kavin. He approached his work with our students with an open heart and generous spirit.

Toy Matthews (Storyteller) is a performer, songwriter, and recording artist who began performing as duo Lyrisis, opening for world-renowned R&B acts such as KEM, Anthony Hamilton, Frankie Beverly & Maze, and many more. Theatrically, Toy Matthews has worked closely with Robin Givens, Melba Moore, and Marion Mc Caffey of the Apollo Theatre, and, has featured in stage productions with Red Mountain Theatre Company and Birmingham Children's Theatre; The Hundred Dresses, Mamma Mia, Cinderella, and more. Toy Matthews currently works with Grammy winning music artists, Dr. Kevin 'Khao' Cates, and Speech Thomas of Arrested Development, featuring on the latest (AD) album, This Was Never Home, and the Megan Good movie drama, Video Girl. Hear Toy Matthews' new music, 'Easy' on Spotify, Google Music, Apple Music, and Lyrisis the Bizness on YouTube. http://www.facebook.com/toy.matthews.5 Toymatthews (Toy Arcane) Instagram

# Theatre UAB 2019-2020 Season

#### HAIR: THE AMERICAN TRIBAL LOVE-ROCK MUSICAL

Book and lyrics by Gerome Ragni & James Rado, music by Galt MacDermot
Directed & Choreographed by Roy Lightner
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
October 16-19 at 7:30pm
October 20 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

#### THE WOLVES

By Sarah DeLappe Directed by Camilla Almond November 13-16, 20-22 at 7:30pm November 23 at 2:00pm The Odess Theatre

#### THE GLASS MENAGERIE

by Tennessee Williams Directed by Dennis McLernon February 26-29 at 7:30pm March 1 at 2:00pm The Sirote Theatre

#### TELL ME SOMETHING GOOD

by Audrey Cefaly Directed by Jack Cannon March 9-13 at 7:30pm The Odess Theatre

#### THE SECRET GARDEN

Book and lyrics by Marsha Norman, music by Lucy Simon
Based on the novel by Frances Hodgson Burnett
Directed by Valerie Accetta
Musical Direction by Carolyn Violi
Choreography by Roy Lightner
April 15-18 at 7:30pm
April 19 at 2:00pm
The Sirote Theatre

Tickets on sale September, 2019
ASC Box Office: 975-ARTS
Show information at http://www.uab.edu/cas/theatre/productions