

COMEDY ON CUE

Alejandro Gómez

Camp Director



Alejandro is an Artie-nominated performer (*In The Heights*, *Desde El Puente: Musical Edition*, *West Side Story*, *Bloom*) from Buffalo, NY and an ensemble member of Raíces Theatre Company. He has worked at numerous professional theatres in the area including MusicalFare Theatre, Kavinoky Theatre, Irish Classical Theatre, Road Less Traveled Productions, and many more. Since 2021, Alejandro has been a lead teaching artist at Shea's Performing Arts Center and just completed a degree in Theatre with a minor in Television and Film Arts at Buffalo State University.

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Anika Pace

Director



Anika Pace (She/Her) is a Buffalo native and holds a BFA in Theatre Performance and a minor in American Sign Language and Deaf Studies from Niagara University. Some of her regional credits include: Nettie in *The Color Purple* at Shea's 710 Theatre, Ann Johnson in *African Company Presents Richard III* at Ujima Theatre, May in *Junie B. Jones* at Batman Smells at TOY Theatre and Zoe in *The Niceties* at Second Generation Theatre. Anika would like to thank God and her tribes for their endless love and support.

FB: Anika Pace , IG:theanikapace

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Christopher Kelly

Director



Chris has worked as an actor, director and educator for the last 30 years. Recent directing credits include ALLEY OF THE DOLLS (BUA), SOMETHING ROTTEN! (MusicalFare), THE HOBBIT (Theatre of Youth), DRACULA: A COMEDY OF TERRORS (Irish Classical Theatre) and ROMEO AND JULIET (Shakespeare in Delaware Park).

He holds two Buffalo Spree Best of Buffalo awards for his direction of THE DROWSY CHAPERONE (MusicalFare) and for acting in ICTC's THE BEAUTY QUEEN OF LEENANE. Chris has had the good fortune of winning Artie awards for directing, acting and writing. He has worked part time as the Drama teacher at Global Concepts Charter High School, and taught workshops classes at TOY, for the past 10 years.

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Anne Gerace

Stage Manager



Anne is a junior at Buffalo State University, majoring in Writing & Theatre Arts, and is the President of Casting Hall Productions. Over her 5+ years of theatre experience, Anne has worked both on and off stage as an actor, singer, set builder, and stage manager. She has worked with Shea's AE&E as a teaching artist for summer camps and creative assistant for the STAGE program. This December, she will be making her professional acting debut in CARRIE THE MUSICAL (Sue Snell) with Bellissima Productions.

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Todd Benzin

Improvisation Teacher



Todd is a Buffalo born and bred actor and improviser. In 2018, Todd was awarded the first-ever Artie for Outstanding Character Performance as Franz Liebkind in the Kavinoky Theatre's THE PRODUCERS. He has also appeared at Shakespeare in Delaware Park, Shea's 710 Main, the Irish Classical Theatre, Road Less Traveled Productions, the New Phoenix, the Ujima Theatre, Subversive Theatre, Theatre of Youth, and MusicalFare, where he was nominated for two Arties for Supporting Actor in a Musical. He has also appeared on film in The American Side and as a voiceover artist in several video games. Todd is a Conservatory graduate from Toronto's prestigious Second City and a member of improv duo BABUSHKA.

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Don Gervasi

Improvisation Teacher



A graduate of Toronto's Second City Conservatory Program, Don has been acting and improvising for over 25 years. He can be seen in the films MARSHALL, starring Chadwick Boseman and Josh Gad; and QUEEN CITY starring Vivica A. Fox and Peter Jason. He has performed on many Buffalo stages including Kavinoky Theatre, MusicalFare Theatre, Road Less Traveled Productions, and Jewish Repertory Theatre of WNY. He is a proud member of three unions: IATSE, SAG-AFTRA, and AEA where he has served as Equity Liaison for the Buffalo-Rochester Area since 2010.

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Charmagne Chi
Comedy Writing Teacher



Comedian, writer, actress, and director, Charmagne has been working in the Buffalo theater community for over twenty years. She's most recognizable from the decade she spent telling jokes as co-host of the Artie Awards. Her hilariously heartwarming cabaret 'Let Chi Entertain You' was well received by Buffalo audiences and critics during its six years of performances. The workshop of her original Christmas show for adults, Blue Christmas, enjoyed a nearly sold-out run at the Alleyway Theatre Cabaret, with the world-premier opening in December at the D'Youville Kavinoky Theatre.