



NEWS RELEASE

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35 Writers Head to Goodspeed Musicals for the First -Ever Writers Colony Dedicated to Musical Theatre *- Over 20 Brand New Musicals in-the-works will be part of The Johnny Mercer Writers Colony at Goodspeed this month-*

EAST HADDAM, CONN., JANUARY 11, 2013: A total of 35 established and emerging writers, composers and lyricists will converge on the Goodspeed campus this month to participate in the first-ever **Johnny Mercer Writers Colony at Goodspeed Musicals**. The writing teams, representing more than twenty new musicals, will populate the campus, creating a truly exciting environment for discovery and inspiration.

The Johnny Mercer Writers Colony at Goodspeed is an unparalleled, long-term residency program devoted exclusively to musical theatre writing. It will provide a sanctuary for composers, lyricists, and librettists to embark on new musical theatre work or to devote a substantial amount of time to a work-in-progress in an environment rich with creative energy. For four weeks, starting January 21, writers will be immersed in this stimulating environment with the singular purpose of allowing the writers to write. In partnership with the Johnny Mercer Foundation, Goodspeed will proudly offer established and emerging writers the unique opportunity to research, develop and create new musicals. Over the course of the four week program, numerous industry luminaries will be on campus serving as mentors for the many writing teams led by **Jonathan Brielle**, Writer/Producer in Residence and Vice President of the Johnny Mercer Foundation; **Bob Alwine**, Associate Producer and **Donna Lynn Cooper Hilton**, Line Producer for Goodspeed Musicals. Award-winning director **Michael Bush** will serve as Dramaturge/Mentor throughout the residency.

The outstanding writers who have been invited to participate in the inaugural colony have earned tremendous recognition in the industry with honors such as the Tony Award, Emmy Award, Lucille Lortel Award, Lorenz Hart Award, Kleban Award, ASCAP's Harold Arlen Award, Fred Ebb Award, Jonathan Larson Fellowship, ASCAP Frederick Loewe Award, ASCAP Cole Porter Award for Music and Lyrics and The National Art Song Award, as well as special grants from the NEA.

We are pleased to announce that the 2013 writing teams are (in alphabetical order) **Aron Accurso, Will Aronson, Arthur Lafrentz Bacon, Sean Barry, Neil Bartram, Rob Baumgartner Jr., Jonathan Brielle, Ben Clark, Sam Davis, Christopher Dimond, Harris Doran, Laura Eason, Jenny Giering, Adam Gwon, Christy Hall, Brian Hargrove, Laura Harrington, Mark Hollmann, Victor Kazan, Hannah Kohl, Michael Kooman, Greg Kotis, Patrick Lundquist, Jordan Mann, Daniel Maté, Thomas Mizer, Curtis Moore, Adam Overett, Kevin Purcell, Jason Schafer, Benjamin Scheuer, Peter Seibert, Jeff Thomson, Beth Turcotte and Sam Willmott.**

The start of the Writers Colony marks the realization of a long-held dream for Goodspeed Musicals. Thanks in part to the wonderful support of The Johnny Mercer Foundation, Goodspeed continues to be an incubator for the next generation of musical theatre artists and performers as well as the center for the American Musical.

Dedicated to the preservation and advancement of musical theatre, [Goodspeed Musicals](#) produces three musicals each season at the [Goodspeed Opera House](#) in East Haddam, Conn., and additional works at [The Norma Terris Theatre](#) in Chester, Conn., which was opened in 1984 for the development of new musicals. The first regional theatre to receive two Tony Awards (for outstanding achievement), Goodspeed celebrates another milestone - its 50th Anniversary - in 2013. In addition to the two theatres and production facilities, Goodspeed maintains [The Scherer Library of Musical Theatre](#) and The Max Showalter Center for Education in Musical Theatre. Goodspeed gratefully acknowledges the support of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.

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For more information, to schedule an interview, or to receive stock art, please contact Dan McMahon (ext. 324) or Elisa Hale (ext. 323) at 860.873.8664
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Who's Who: 2013 Johnny Mercer Writers Colony at Goodspeed Musicals Participants

Project: Untitled

Jonathan Brielle (*Book, Music, Lyrics*) Currently has four musicals in development including the critically acclaimed NYMF production of *Himself and Nora* opening April 24th at the brand new Hamilton Stage in New Jersey before its Broadway run; *40 Naked Women, A Monkey and Me* premiered last summer at The Eugene O'Neill Theater Conference starring Veanne Cox and Steve Blanchard; *Nightmare Alley* premiered at the Geffen Playhouse as the last project directed by the legendary Gil Gates; as well as a brand new unnamed musical at the Colony.

On Broadway, Jonathan wrote the songs for *Foxfire* starring theater legends Jessica Tandy and Hume Cronyn, and Off-Broadway served as Composer in Residence at Circle Rep in NY under Marshal Mason and Landford Wilson writing songs and scores for dozens of plays including a new version of *Fifth of July*, *The Great Grandson of Jedidiah Kohler*, and *Besides Herself*. Regionally, an earlier version of *Himself and Nora* earned a National Endowment Award at The Old Globe in San Diego and then at The James Joyce Center in Dublin earning the Joyce estate's seal of approval. His US and UK Tours include: *Ringling Brothers Barnum & Bailey Circus, Rugrats, & Goosebumps Live!*; Jonathan's Las Vegas shows include: *Enter The Night* (book, music, lyrics) which ran for 12 years at the Stardust Hotel, and a two year run of *Madhattan* (book, music, lyrics) which opened the New York, New York Hotel featuring 30 street performers from the streets of Manhattan.

Jonathan is serving his fourth year as Board Member of The Johnny Mercer Foundation and his second term as Vice-President overseeing the JMF Songwriting Project at Northwestern University, originating the Kaufman Lyric writing program in title one schools in New York, the NJPAC lyric writing program for title one schools in New Jersey, and is serving as the Writer Producer in Residence of the Writers Colony. He is also the former National Projects Director of the Songwriters Guild of America and is the founding member of Tritone Productions with partners director Michael Bush, and producer Aldo Scrofani. For more info go to: www.jonathanbrielle.com.

Project: Untitled

Mark Hollmann received the Tony® Award, the National Broadway Theatre Award, and the Obie Award for his score to *Urinetown the Musical*, which itself won Outer Critics Circle, Drama League, and Lucille Lortel Awards for best musical. Other shows as composer/lyricist: *Yeast Nation* (New York International Fringe Festival, Perseverance Theatre, and American Theatre Company), *Bigfoot and Other Lost Souls* (Perseverance Theatre and Atlantic Stage) *The Man in the White Suit* (New York Stage and Film), *The Girl, the Grouch, and the Goat* (University Theatre, U. of Kansas), *Alchemist the Musical* (Seattle Fringe Festival), *Jack the Chipper* (Greenview Arts Center, Chicago), *Kabooooom!* (University Theater, U. of Chicago), *I Think I Can and Deal with It!* (Berkshire Theatre Festival), and *Fare for All* (Mount Vernon Hotel Museum & Gardens, NYC). Actor/co-writer for *The Rack*, *Theater of Funny*, *The Mercy Ripper*, *LBJFKKK*, *Love Me, All Eight Die*, and *After Taste* (all at Cardiff Giant Theater, Chicago). TV: songs for Disney Channel's *Johnny and the Sprites*. Mark received his bachelor's degree in music from the University of Chicago, where he won the Louis Sudler Prize in the Creative and Performing Arts. He serves on the Tony Nominating Committee and the Council of the Dramatists Guild of America, and is a member of ASCAP.

Greg Kotis is the author of many plays and musicals including *Urinetown* (Book/Lyrics, for which he won an Obie Award and two Tony® Awards), *Michael von Siebenburg Melts Through the Floorboards*, *The Boring-est Poem in the World*, *Yeast Nation* (Book/Lyrics), *The Truth About Santa*, *Pig Farm*, *Eat the Taste*, and *Jobey and Katherine*. His work has been produced and developed in theaters across the country and around the world, including Actors Theatre of Louisville, American Conservatory Theater, American Theater Company, the Eugene O'Neill National Theater Conference, Henry Miller's Theatre (Broadway), Manhattan Theatre Club, New York Stage and Film, Perseverance Theatre, Roundabout Theatre Company, Soho Rep, South Coast Rep, and The Old Globe, among others. Greg is a member of the Neo-Futurists, the Cardiff Giant Theater Company, ASCAP, the Dramatists Guild, and was a 2010-11 Lark Play

Development Center Playwrights Workshop Fellow. He grew up in Wellfleet, Massachusetts and now lives in Brooklyn with his wife Ayun Halliday, his daughter India, and his son Milo.

SUMMERLAND

Sean Barry is a writer of fiction, poetry, and theatre. He wrote the book and lyrics for “Saint-Ex” (music by Jenny Giering), which was selected by the Sundance Institute for the 2008 Theatre Lab at White Oak, awarded the 2010 Weston Playhouse New Musical Award, and received a 2011 NEA grant and a NAMT New Musical Development award. “Saint-Ex” premiered in August, 2011 at the Weston Playhouse in Weston, VT. Sean’s work has appeared in numerous publications, including Boston Review and Mississippi Review. He is currently a writer-in-residence at CAP21 in New York. Sean is at work on a novel.

Laura Eason is the author of more than twenty full-length plays, original work and adaptations. Her plays have been produced at theaters all over the country including multiple productions at the Steppenwolf and Lookingglass Theatres in Chicago, the Humana Festival, Baltimore Centerstage, Kansas City Rep, Hartford Stage, Actors Theatre, Women’s Project, and 59E59 in NYC, among others. Her work is published by Smith and Kraus, Playscripts, and Broadway Play Publishing. She has received Chicago’s Jeff Award for New Work and Adaptation. In New York, she is an Affiliated Artist of the Obie-winning New Georges and an alumna of the Women’s Project Playwright’s Lab. She is an active ensemble member and former Artistic Director of Lookingglass Theatre Company, recipient of the 2011 Regional Theatre Tony Award. Laura is a graduate of the Performance Studies Department of Northwestern University. Originally from Chicago, she lives in Brooklyn, NY.

Jenny Giering’s scores include The Mistress Cycle (produced at Apple Tree Theater, New York Musical Theater Festival); Crossing Brooklyn (commissioned and by The Boston Music Theater Project, The Transport Group and the Beautiful Soup Theater Collective, 2008 Kleban Award); Alice Unwrapped (commissioned by Premieres, Inc. and produced at the Zipper Theater with Jennifer Damiano); Saint-Ex (2011 World Premiere at The Weston Playhouse Theater Company, Weston VT, 2010 Weston Playhouse New Musical Award). Her awards include The National Art Song Award, The Dramatists’ Guild Jonathan Larson Fellowship, the Constance Klinsky Prize from Second Stage Theatre Company, and the Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation Award. She was named the Clifton Artist in Residence at Harvard University and composer-in-residence at Sundance’s Ucross Residency. She’s at work on a new commission for Playwrights’ Horizons with Laura Harrington and Adam Gwon.
PLEASE NOTE: She is also working on *Alice Bliss*.

SWAN LAKE

Patrick Lundquist is a Singer/Songwriter residing in Los Angeles, CA. He began his career working for 7-Time Grammy Award winning singer Al Jarreau. Patrick’s talents intrigued Mr. Jarreau, and the two began sharing and writing music together. Soonafter, Patrick began singing backup for Al in studio and in concert. Mr. Jarreau has referred to Patrick’s music as “getting to the intricacies and sensitivities of what lyrics can bring to a piece of music.” In January 2011, Patrick branched away, co writing an EP for his vocal group Embassy Tide, with collaborator Pete Seibert. The EP debuted at #9 on the iTunes vocal charts. The CD came across the desk of jazz legend George Duke who has called it “A Huge Sound.” Patrick has performed these songs for audiences exceeding 20,000 in such venues as the American Airlines Arena in Miami and the Greensboro Coliseum Complex. Other significant performances include a small benefit for the Kennedys on Cape Cod, and at the Republican Party’s largest annual fundraiser, The President’s Dinner. His voice has been heard on numerous studio releases, including Adam Lambert’s Billboard Top Ten album For Your Entertainment, as well as the hit comedy Easy A. In addition to being a musical theatre actor, Patrick continues to write, demoing his work on the Sunset Strip in Hollywood, and singing both live and in studio sessions around Los Angeles

Peter Seibert is a composer, conductor, and pianist based in Los Angeles. Additional music and/or arrangement film credits include One for the Money, Footloose, Tim Burton's Alice in Wonderland, Justin Bieber: Never Say Never, Disney's Prom, FAME, and Dear John. Peter recently completed Paradise Lost, a tuba concerto commissioned by Seth Cook and the Charlottesville Symphony Orchestra. He was also one of 25 film composers to contribute music to Haiti: A Symphony of Hope. The collaborative piece debuted in Los Angeles on August 3, 2012 with the Hollywood Studio Symphony. A faculty member at the American Musical and Dramatic Academy of Los Angeles, Peter teaches Songwriting and accompanies the academy's esteemed gospel group, SONGBOOK. Peter is a recipient of ASCAP's Harold Arlen Award for Film & TV Music. He currently writes additional music for Lifetime's Drop Dead Diva and the FOX television series Mob Doctor.

Project:Untitled

Sam Willmott is an New York City-based composer/lyricist whose work has been performed at the Kennedy Center, Lincoln Center, the Walnut Street Theatre, 54 Below, Joe's Pub at the Public Theatre, The York Theatre Company, and other venues across the country. He is the recipient of the 2012 Fred Ebb Award, the 2012 John Wallowitch Award, and the 2009 Kennedy Center ACTF Musical Theater Award.

Sam's written work includes Standardized Testing - The Musical!!!! (published through Playscripts Inc., Emerson College's 2012-2013 fall mainstage musical), the mini-musical Scarlet Takes a Tumble(2011 Humana Festival Heideman Award Finalist), and Yo, Vikings!with lyricist Marcus Stevens (commissioned by Upper Darby Summer Stage, 2011 Richard Rodgers Award Finalist). He is currently at work on several new projects, including two collaborations with 2011 Kennedy Center Kenan Fellow Brian Sutow.

Mr. Willmott's is also an active a music director, arranger, orchestrator and pianist, and his work in these areas has taken him from Radio City Music Hall to Key West to Abu Dhabi, UAE. He has been fortunate enough to work with an exciting and eclectic assortment of distinguished artists such as five-time Tony-nominee Elizabeth Swados, Dan Goggin (the creator of Nunsense), recording artists Will and Anthony Nunziata, and singer/songwriter Shaina Taub. In May 2012, he made his Broadway debut subbing on the Key II book of Sister Act.

His's additional accolades include two featured songs ("I'm Sitting Next to Estella" and "Real Adventure") in the Directory of Contemporary Musical Theatre Writers "Top 25 Songs" list, a 2009 Music Theatre Fellowship at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center, a Tisch School of the Arts Trustee Scholarship, Interlochen Center for the Arts' prestigious Maddy Summer Artist Award, and two National Capital Area Cappie Awards. He is an alumnus of Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology, New York University and the 2011 Johnny Mercer Songwriters Project, and a member of the Dramatists Guild, Local 802 AFM, and the BMI Lehman Engel Advanced Musical Theatre Workshop.

HIS AND HERS

Sam Davis Broadway credits as arranger and/or conductor include Droid, Scandalous, Curtains, The Apple Tree, and the upcoming Big Fish. He was musical supervisor for Dreamgirls at the Apollo (also the national tour, Korea, and South Africa), plus orchestrator for The Trumpet of the Swan (Kennedy Center). As composer: Bunnica (Daryl Roth Theater), Love and Real Estate (59 E 59), and the album Love on a Summer Afternoon (P.S. Classics). Winner of the Jonathan Larson Award for composition and a graduate of the University of Michigan. For more information visit www.samdavismusic.com

Brian Hargrove (Book and Lyrics) was a writer/producer on the television shows "Dave's World", "Caroline in the City", "Holding The Baby", and "Maggie". He co-created and executive produced "Titus" on Fox, and was an executive producer for "Wanda at Large". He created the sit-com "Nora" for TBS, wrote the book My Life as a Dog a mock-ography of Frasier's Eddie, co-wrote a new narration for Camille Saint-Saëns' "Carnivale of the Animals" performed at the Hollywood Bowl and wrote the book and lyrics for "It Shoulda Been You", a new musical headed to New York next fall.

THE BRIDGE

Benjamin Scheuer (composer/lyricist) wrote music and co-wrote lyrics to *Jihad! The Musical*, which played sold-out runs in Edinburgh and London (dir Gordon Greenberg.) Scheuer's operetta *The Nightingale and the Rose* was produced NYC's Metropolitan Opera Project. A 2010 Johnny Mercer Songwriting fellow, Scheuer writes and performs with his band *Escapist Papers*, whose recently released their second album, "The Bridge." He gave the debut performance of "The Bridge" at Lincoln Center's Broadway's Future Series in January 2012. Scheuer composed songs for the Roundabout Theatre's reading of "What Would Nora Say" (dir Ted Sod). Scheuer has studied at the BMI workshop, was a member of the LABrynth Theatre's Intensive Ensemble, and holds an English degree from Harvard College. Diagnosed with, treated for, and cured of advanced-stage cancer at 28, Scheuer is alive and well at 30 years old. He lives in New York City.

THE MAPMAKER'S OPERA

Victor Kazan has worked in the entertainment industry for four and a half decades, and is equally at home in a theatre or on a film set. A native Londoner, he studied Modern Languages at University of London before training as an actor at Webber-Douglas Academy of Dramatic Art. He subsequently carved a distinguished reputation as a writer and director in British theatre and television before taking up permanent residency in Australia in 1980.

In his early London productions he was fortunate in having the opportunity of working with luminaries of the British Stage such as Margaret Lockwood, Richard Todd and Judi Dench – experiences that proved invaluable in his artistic development. Although during these latter years in Australia he has worked primarily as a screenwriter and lyricist, he still enjoys the occasional directing engagement. He recently staged a highly acclaimed production of *The Magic Flute*, which was conducted by legendary Glyndebourne maestro, Myer Fredman. Victor's latest screenplay, *The Dalkeith Sting*, is a sequel to his 2002 movie *Dalkeith*, which played at one particular Melbourne cinema for a record-breaking season lasting three years. Musical Theatre has been a significant part of Victor's world ever since 1955, when (at the age of eight) he played the role of Little Jake in a semi-professional production of *Annie Get Your Gun* at London's Scala Theatre. His writing partnership with composer Kevin Purcell began in the mid-1990s, and their new Musical, *The Mapmaker's Opera*, is their third collaboration.

Kevin Purcell is one of those rare creative artists whose entire passion and expertise is singularly focused on Music for the Theatre, whether for Musicals or Opera. An internationally award-winning conductor/musical director, Kevin is also increasingly sought after for his concert orchestrations and arrangements for some of the most respected names in the music business. Not unsurprisingly with these dual passions, Kevin is equally at home whether directing cast and orchestra from the pit, or on-stage in concert.

As a composer of Musicals, Kevin has collaborated with his long-time writing partner, Victor Kazan, on three Musicals, including their current project, *The Mapmaker's Opera* adapted from the 2005 novel of the same name by Toronto-based, Spanish author, Béa Gonzalez. This project has received support and encouragement for ongoing development from Goodspeed Opera House (courtesy of the Johnny Mercer Foundation) as well as a CAP21 Music Theatre Writers Residency in 2013, opportunities for which Kevin and Victor are immensely appreciative.

Kevin studied at the Moscow Conservatory of Music with Gennady Rozdhestvensky and Leonid Nikolaev prior to spending two years at Janáček Academy of Music (JAMU) in the Czech Republic to study with Maestro Otakar Trhlík as the inaugural recipient of the Sir Charles Mackerras Conductor Competition (London, 1994). He had previously won the Bellhouse Conducting Award (Sydney, 1993) and The Tait Memorial Trust Conductor's Award (London, 1994). In 2012, Kevin has contributed orchestrations to Ann Hampton Callaway's acclaimed 'Barbra Streisand Songbook' project, premiered by the Boston Pops Orchestra with additional forthcoming concerts throughout 2013 with the Detroit, Minneapolis, LA Philharmonic, Tucson, Knoxville and Colorado orchestras.

In April 2011, Kevin was asked to musically supervise and orchestrate New York City Opera's Annual Gala at the Lincoln Center. The concert, accompanied by the NYCO Orchestra, featured performances by Kristin Chenoweth, Raúl Esparza, Ann Hampton Callaway and Victor Garber. Kevin also assisted in the preparation of New York City Opera's production of Stephen Schwartz's much-acclaimed *Séance on a Wet Afternoon*, at David H. Koch Theatre. He is currently assisting Stephen in preparations for the recording of the opera, planned for 2013.

Kevin's introduction to London's West End came courtesy of Cameron Mackintosh and the Really Useful Group, when invited to take over musical direction of the long-running production of *CATS* at the New London Theatre in the mid-90s. In July 2003, Kevin renewed his association for RUG, as Musical Director for the South Korean premiere of this work.

In association with Michael A. Kerker, Director of Musical Theatre at ASCAP, Kevin is the Musical Director and Orchestrator for the Australian Festival of Broadway.

In 2013, the Festival will host songwriting legends, Alan and Marilyn Bergman, in once-in-a-lifetime concert events in Melbourne. In 2010, the Festival hosted Stephen Schwartz in two separate concerts: the first of these celebrating his extraordinary contribution to Broadway and, in the second concert, his equally successful film music collaborations. The inaugural Festival, in 2009, which performed in Sydney, Melbourne and Hobart, celebrated the achievements of Tony Award-winning writers Lynn Ahrens & Stephen Flaherty, including a rare solo performance by Lynn singing one of her own lyrics from *Lucky Stiff*.

MADAM FURY'S TRAVELING SHOW

Christy Hall (Bookwriter) Christy's writing for the stage includes her full-length play *YOURS, ISABEL*, a story inspired by actual letters from WWII. In August of 2011, the official world premiere of *YOURS, ISABEL* opened as an invited work of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe in Scotland. The production received five star reviews from *Broadway Baby* and *Edinburgh Guide*. The *Scotsman* responded in kind, "Beautifully crafted...playwright Christy Hall is electric."

In October of 2011, Christy's full length play *TO QUIET THE QUIET* had its first staged reading in Los Angeles as part of The Living Room Series at the Blank Theatre. The success of this reading quickly led to the world premiere of the play directed by Emmy award winning actress Barbara Bain, opening at the Elephant Theatre in Los Angeles on July 13, 2012. The play received rave reviews, earning Critics Pick from *Back Stage* stating, "Every once in a while a playwright as promising as Christy Hall surfaces, and nothing could be more exhilarating." Her collaboration alongside American Theatre Wing Jonathan Larson Award winners Jeff Thomson and Jordan Mann has led her to write the book (script) for their new musical *TRAILS* which participated in the Village Theatre's Festival of New Musicals in Seattle where it has been accepted into the next theatrical season, opening its official world premiere on March 13, 2013.

Jordan Mann (Lyricist) is a recipient of the Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation Award, as well as the Dramatist Guild Musical Theatre Writing Fellowship. His original musical *Trails* was performed at the 2010 Los Angeles Festival for New Americans Musicals as well as the New York Musical Theatre Festival where it received 2010 NYMF citation for excellence in lyric writing as well as the prestigious Stage Entertainment Development Award. *TRAILS* will be making its professional debut at the Village Theatre Seattle in Spring of 2013. Other projects include *Virtually Me!* for TheatreworksUSA, and a pop musical adaptation of the cult film *Jawbreaker* (book-writer Darren Stein). Jordan's adaptation of *LIAR* by Issac Asimov took top honors in the City Lit Theatre of Chicago's Art of Adaptation Festival. Jordan is also proud to have been a founding coordinator of the Johnny Mercer Songwriters Project at Northwestern University, which is now entering its 8th year! Proud graduate SUNY Buffalo and Northwestern.

Jeff Thomson (Composer) is a recipient of the Jonathan Larson Performing Arts Foundation Award, as well as the Dramatist Guild Musical Theatre Writing Fellowship. His songs have been featured in the York Theatre Company's N.E.O Concert Series; six sold out engagements at The Duplex and was a featured songwriter in the acclaimed "Songbook" series at Lincoln Center. His original musical *TRAILS* was performed at the 2010 Los Angeles Festival for New Americans Musicals as well as the New York Musical Theatre Festival winning him the 2010 NYMF award for excellence in music as well as the prestigious Stage Entertainment Development Award. Other projects include *VIRTUALLY ME!* for TheatreworksUSA, a

pop musical adaptation of the cult hit JAWBREAKER (book-writer Darren Stein), and a rock musical adaptation of Allan Moyle's PUMP UP THE VOLUME (Book and lyrics by Jeremy Desmon). Mr. Thomson is a proud member of the Dramatist Guild, ASCAP, The Humane Society and is an activist for Greyhound Rescue. He enjoys hiking, 80s rock and escaping to the Berkshires as often as possible.

THE THEORY OF RELATIVITY / SOMETHING WICKED THIS WAY COMES

Neil Bartram is the composer and lyricist of Broadway's The Story of My Life with book writer Brian Hill (four Drama Desk Award nominations including two for Neil - Outstanding Music and Outstanding Lyrics). Their adaptation of Carlo Collodi's The Adventures of Pinocchio was commissioned by Chicago Shakespeare Theater for their 2011 season. Neil and Brian's musical Not Wanted On The Voyage received a developmental production at Northwestern University's Barber Theatre as part of the American Music Theatre Project, and was part of Goodspeed Musicals' 2012 New Works Festival. Upcoming projects include Spin for Seoul Korea's OD Musical Company directed by Eric Schaeffer, an adaptation of Michel Tremblay's Les Belles-Soeurs, and a musical based on Ray Bradbury's Something Wicked This Way Comes all with book writer Brian Hill. Neil's awards include a Jonathan Larson Foundation Award and a Dramatists Guild Fellowship. Cast albums include Somewhere in the World and The Story of My Life (PS Classics). Neil is a member of the Dramatists Guild, ASCAP, and is an alumnus of the BMI Lehman Engel Music Theatre Workshop.

ALICE BLISS

Adam Gwon is a composer/lyricist whose musicals include Ordinary Days (Roundabout Theatre, London's West End), The Boy Detective Fails (with Joe Meno, Signature Theatre), Cloudlands (with Octavio Solis, South Coast Repertory), Bernice Bobs Her Hair (with Julia Jordan), and String (with Sarah Hammond). His songs have been performed at Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center, Joe's Pub, Ars Nova, and more, by such luminaries as Audra McDonald and Kelli O'Hara. Adam's honors include the Kleban, Ebb, and Loewe awards for excellence in musical theater writing, the Second Stage Theatre Donna Perret Rosen Award, the ASCAP Harold Adamson Award, the MAC John Wallowitch Award, and commissions from Playwrights Horizons, South Coast Repertory, Signature Theatre (Arlington), Broadway Across America, and the EST/Sloan Project. Recordings: Ordinary Days (Ghostlight Records), Over the Moon: The Broadway Lullaby Project (recorded by Brian D'Arcy James). Fellowships: MacDowell Colony, Dramatists Guild. Education: NYU/Tisch. Member: ASCAP, Dramatists Guild. www.adamgwon.com.

Laura Harrington is the 2008 Kleban Award winner for most promising librettist in American Musical Theatre. Harrington has twice won both the Massachusetts Cultural Council Award in playwriting and the Clauder Competition for best new play in New England. Additional awards include a Boston IRNE Award for Best New Play, a Bunting Institute Fellowship at Harvard/ Radcliffe, a Whiting Foundation Grant-in-Aid, the Joseph Kesselring Award for Drama, a New England Emmy, and a Quebec Cinemateque Award. Some recent credits include: Joan of Arc (music: Mel Marvin) Nautilus Music Theatre, MN 2011; Alice Unwrapped, (music: Jenny Giering), a Premieres, Inc Production at The Zipper Factory, NYC, 2008, Nautilus Music Theatre, MN, Spirit in the House Festival, MN, Minneapolis Fringe Festival, 2009; Crossing Brooklyn (music: Jenny Giering) Transport Group, NYC, 2007, Pace University, NYC, 2008, Bristol Riverside Theatre, PA, 2010; Resurrection, (music: Tod Machover) adapted from Tolstoy's last novel, Houston Grand Opera and Boston Lyric Opera. Available on CD from Albany Records. N (Bonaparte), a tragicomedy about Napoleon in exile, Pilgrim Theatre Company, Boston Center for the Arts and the KO Festival. N (Bonaparte) is available in the Spring 2007 issue of Theatre Forum. Hallowed Ground, Boston Playwrights' Theatre, winner of the IRNE Award for Best New play, Portland Stage Company, Tulane University, winner of a "Big Easy" Award. Martin Guerre (Music: Roger Ames), Hartford Stage Company, directed by Mark Lamos, nominated for 3 Connecticut Critics Circle Awards, including "Outstanding Musical." Marathon Dancing, (directed by Anne Bogart) En Garde Arts, NYC and Munich, Germany. The Perfect 36 (Music: Mel Marvin), Tennessee Repertory Theatre, the NAMT festival, NYC and the Hartt School of Music. Lucy's Lapses, (Music: Christopher Drobny), Portland Opera and Playwrights Horizons, NYC. The Book of Hours, New Harmony Project, Wellesley Summer Theatre; Einstein + The Angels, The

Heart of an Emperor, Dress Right, Universal Soldier, and Flag Girls, Boston Playwrights Theatre; Joan of Arc, (Music: Mel Marvin), Suffolk University Boston Music Theatre Project, Manhattan Theatre Club Workshop, Wellesley College; The Song of the Silkie, (music: Elena Ruehr) Rockport Chamber Music Festival, 2006 and 2010; Babes in Toyland, Houston Grand Opera, etc; and Sleeping Beauty, (Music: Roger Ames) North Shore Music Theatre.

Laura teaches playwriting at MIT where she was awarded the 2009 Levitan Prize for Excellence in Teaching. She has also been a frequent guest artist at Tufts, Harvard, Wellesley, and the University of Iowa.

BLEEDING LOVE

Harris Doran (lyricist) has worked at the O'Neill as an actor in *The Red Eye Of Love* (dir. Ted Sperling) for NMTC, and two seasons for CPC. As a writer Harris's work includes *Salvage* (aka *Higher*), which made the top 20 for NMTC selection and has been in development with NY producers, as well as the musicals *dTension* and *Oliver Button*, and the full length play *Beautiful*. Harris has written lyrics for the pop world, including a top ten single on the European charts, for recording artists Marion Raven, A Band Called Freddy, and Shane. He met his collaborator Arthur Lafrentz Bacon at the BMI Musical Theatre Writing Workshop and is a member of ASCAP. As an actor Harris's credits include, *NY: It Must Be Him*, *Reading Under The Influence*, *Hair*, *Love Jerry* (NYMF best actor award). Regionally: *I'm Connecticut* (world premiere), *Harry Connick Jr's The Happy Elf* (world premiere), *Amadeus*, *Dirty Rotten Scoundrels*, *Cabaret*, *Oliver* (Ovation Award Nom). Film & TV: "The Black Donnellys," "Malcolm In The Middle," "Any Day Now," and the upcoming films *Junction* and *My Best Day*. Training: The Juilliard School. www.harrisdorran.com

Arthur Lafrentz Bacon (composer) is a Top-20 pop composer and multiple Clio award-winner. He co-wrote "Stay Forever" for Joey Lawrence (Top-20 hit), "Falling Away" for Marion Raven (#1 European Billboards), was songwriter, arranger and keyboardist for Freddy and the Dials (Virgin Records), Kelli Price and SHANE. Arthur formed the band *The Erratics* (Touchwood/Zero Hour Records) and was a member of "Groovy Little Band" on *The Caroline Rhea Show*. He played keyboards on DJ Victor Calderone's remix of "I Don't Need Another Man" (#1 Billboard Dance Single), Hall & Oats' "Do It For Love" (#1 Billboard). He was MD of Hinton Battle's one man show, and MD/Arranger of *Saint Hollywood* (P.S. 122). Arthur has written music for over 100 national television and radio commercial spots and won 2 Clio Awards (Best Original music for Pepsi), formed *Chris & Arthur Music*, where he created music for Revlon, Lenscrafters, and Bank of America, among many others. He has studied piano with renowned jazz pianist Lou Stein, Olegna Fuschi (Juilliard Pre-College) and studied composition at SUNY Purchase with Anthony Newman. Arthur composed the musical *Billy Sleepyhead* (Center Stage, NYC) and is a member of the BMI Lehman Engel Advanced Musical Theatre Workshop. Most recently, Arthur composed the music for the Rock/R&B musical *Salvage*, which had a successful 29 hour reading at New World Stages. Broadway producers Debbie Bisno and Rebecca Milikowsky have signed on to the project.

Jason Schafer (book) wrote the acclaimed indie hit *Trick*, which premiered at the Sundance Film Festival and was distributed by Fine Line Features. In addition to being a staff writer/co-producer of the GLAAD Media Award winning first season of Showtime's *Queer as Folk*, Jason has written for Warner Bros., Paramount, ABC and Fox Television. He is currently at work on an original film project for director Carl Byrd. Works for the stage include *I Google Myself* ("Queer in the best sense of the word: self-consciously outside of the mainstream, looking in with intelligence and wit." – *The Village Voice*) and *Notes on the Land of Earthquake & Fire* ("Sharp and satisfying... more polished than most new plays opening Off-Broadway" – *The New York Times*). He is the recipient of the Paula Vogel Playwrighting Award and the FringeNYC Excellence in Playwrighting Award, a GLAAD Media Award nominee, a Goldberg Playwrighting Award finalist and a semi-finalist for the O'Neill Theater Conference and Geller Screenwriting Competition. Jason holds a BA in Music Theory & Composition from UCLA and an MFA from NYU's Department of Dramatic Writing.

Project: Untitled

Michael Kooman (music) and **Christopher Dimond** (book & lyrics) received the 2010 Jonathan Larson Grant and are the first recipients of the Lorenz Hart Award. Between them, they have received the Burton Lane Award, the Harold Adamson Award, the KC/ACTF Musical Theatre Award, an Anna Sosenko Grant, numerous ASCAP Plus awards, and have been three-time finalists for the Fred Ebb Award. Their musical DANI GIRL has been workshopped at the Kennedy Center, American Conservatory Theatre, Cherry Lane Theatre, the ASCAP/Disney Musical Theater Workshop, the Festival of New American Musicals, and was featured in the 2011 NAMT Festival of New Musicals. The show has seen recent productions in Toronto, Dallas, Boston, and Australia.

The duo's other works include GOLDEN GATE (Williamstown Theatre Festival), HOMEMADE FUSION (London's Ambassadors Theater, Edinburgh Fringe Festival), the family-friendly Christmas musical JUNIOR CLAUS and the short film FLOUR BABY.

Currently, they are working on the original musical THE NOTEWORTHY LIFE OF HOWARD BARNES, as well as two separate commissions.

Michael and Chris are proud members of the Dramatists Guild, ASCAP, and the BMI Lehman Engel Musical Theater Workshop. They were Dramatists Guild Fellows, received a fellowship at the O'Neill National Music Theater Conference, and attended the Johnny Mercer Songwriting workshop.

Their debut album, OUT OF OUR HEADS, featuring an all-star lineup of Broadway performers, is now available on iTunes.

STORY OF JO-BETH

(Originally created as devised musical at CAP 21 Conservatory)

Daniel Maté received a 2010 Jonathan Larson Foundation Grant and the ASCAP Foundation's 2010 Cole Porter Award for Music and Lyrics. He is the composer-lyricist of the song cycle The Longing and the Short Of It, which was presented at Barrington Stage Company in 2009, curated by William Finn, and at the 2010 Disney/ASCAP Musical Theatre Workshop, helmed by Stephen Schwartz; the piece is currently being developed with direction by Victoria Clark. Daniel also wrote the lyrics and co-wrote the book, with composer Will Aronson, for the Kafka-inspired musical The Trouble With Doug (2008 Goodspeed Festival of New Artists; workshop production, CAP 21, 2009; NAMT Festival 2010; workshop, Royal & Derngate, UK, 2011; developmental production, TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, Palo Alto CA, 2012.) He recently presented an evening of his work at the Kennedy Center in Washington, D.C..

Daniel is also an experienced music and theatre educator, having helped to pioneer NYU's popular "Second Avenue Songmakers" program. A highly effective teaching artist, he has created original musicals with students in middle school (Middle School Mysteries, Two River Theatre Company, Red Bank, NJ) and college (The Story of Jo-Beth, CAP 21 Conservatory, Manhattan.) He led a master class for musical theatre majors at Boston's Emerson College in March 2012. Daniel holds a B.A. in Psychology from McGill University and an M.F.A. in Musical Theatre Writing from NYU's Tisch School of the Arts. He was born and raised in Vancouver, BC and now lives in Brooklyn, New York.

NOTE: Also working with Will Aronson and Hannah Kohl on another project

Project: Untitled

Will Aronson's work includes the scores for the hit Korean musical Bungee Jump (Best Score, 2012 Korea Musical Awards), Mormons, Mothers, and Monsters (Barrington Stage; Boston Globe Critic's Pick), My Scary Girl (Best Musical, 2009 NY Musical Theatre Festival), and The Trouble With Doug (NAMT 2010, dir. Victoria Clark), for which he also co-wrote the book. Other work includes music for Mary Testa's Sleepless Variations and William Finn's Songs of Innocence and Experience, as well as arrangements and incidental music for the Finn/Lapine musical, Little Miss Sunshine (La Jolla Playhouse). Will is the recipient of a Fulbright grant, an ASCAP Frederick Loewe Award, and a Baryshnikov Fellowship; he holds a B.A. from Harvard University and an M.F.A. from Tisch/NYU.

Hannah Kohl has written the book, music, and lyrics for The Blackbird, Gardenia, Cake, and Tora Bora! and the book and lyrics for The Houdini Box (Chicago Children's Theatre, 2012), The Light And Leonardo Da Vinci and Cake!. Kohl is the Associate Creative Producer on the Broadway-bound musical Rocky, with a

score by Ahrens & Flaherty and book by Thomas Meehan. The show opened to rave reviews in Hamburg (2012) where she served as Script Supervisor. Based in New York City, Kohl also works as a translator in German and Spanish and travels as an educator and consultant, bringing art, music, and theatrical experiences to schools and organizations around the world. Her new company Showbox Theatricals hosts a collection of new original children's theatre titles for schools and professional theatres. Kohl's book, Great Composers for Kids, will be published by Bright Ring Publishing in 2013. Dramatists Guild Musical Theatre Fellow. MFA, Musical Theatre Writing, New York University. MS, International Education, SUNY-Buffalo. www.hannahkohl.com

ADAM LIVES

Rob Baumgartner Jr., hails from DC. Recent works include Adam Lives (NAMT Songwriters Showcase), Under Construction-with Heidi Heilig. The Hole-with Heidi Heilig and Joey Murray (St. Clements '09) Date of a Lifetime (NYMF '11 and Alone World (winner: Best Score, West Village Musical Theatre Festival-both with Carl Kissin. Radiant Ruby-with Dante Russo (Vital Theatre '05) and Lullabies-with Will Brumley. In addition to his work as a composer, Rob serves as an assistant to composers Galt MacDermot (Hair), Rob Reale (A Year With Frog and Toad) and Debra Barsha (Radiant Baby) Rob is a proud faculty member at Cap21/NYU.

CIRCUS IN WINTER

Ben Clark (Music/Lyrics, The Circus in Winter) hails from Floyds Knobs, IN. Ben has been writing music since 14 and The Circus in Winter marks his full length musical debut. He is a recent graduate of Ball State University ('11) with a degree in Musical Theatre Performance. Ben currently lives and works in Chicago as a recording artist/composer.

Beth Turcotte (Book, The Circus in Winter) is a Professor of Theatre at Ball State University and received her MFA from Southern Methodist University. During her tenure at Ball State University, Beth directed three productions (Company, Cabaret and Jesus Christ Superstar) for the American College Theatre Festival. This past January, The Circus in Winter was selected to participate in and honored by The American College Theatre Festival/The Kennedy Center with eleven awards including Outstanding New Work and Director of a New Work. Internationally, Beth has directed and taught throughout China, Korea and Japan.

GRETEL / TRINITY

Aron Accurso Composer/Additional Lyricist: Strega Nona (commissioned by The Weston Playhouse. Six productions including The Atlantic Theatre and a National Tour by Maximum Entertainment.) Composer: The Dogs of Pripyat (showcased at the 2011 NAMT Festival, Goodspeed's Festival of New Artists, Weston's New Musical Award, the University of Miami, and in Bound for Broadway at Merkin Hall.) Training: Dramatists Guild Fellow, BMI Workshop (Harrington Award). B'way: Sister Act (Associate Conductor), Little Mermaid (Keyboard 1), Billy Elliot (Casting, Rehearsal Pianist). Regional: Calvin Berger at George Street (Incidental Music/Music Director). Workshops: Aladdin, Up Here, Newsies, Addams Family, Hello My Baby, Red Clay. TV: Regis and Kelly, and Wendy Williams with American Idol Finalists. Education: BA in Music Composition with distinction from St. Olaf College. Upcoming: Nice Work if You Can Get It (B'way).

Adam Overett is a writer and performer living in New York City. He was a Musical Theater Fellow at the Dramatists Guild (2010-2011), and a Lucille Lortel Award nominee for his contribution to the score of the Off-Broadway musical WE THE PEOPLE (2011).

TRIANGLE

Thomas Mizer was the recipient of a 2009 Jonathan Larson Grant for his music theater collaborations with Curtis Moore. He wrote the book and lyrics for *The Legend of Stagecoach Mary* (NAMT Festival of New Musicals), *The House of the Seven Gables* (ASCAP Workshop) and *The Bus to Buenos Aires* (Ensemble Studio Theatre), and he co-wrote the book for the New York Fringe Festival hit *For the Love of Tiffany*. Commissioned by the Williamstown Theatre Festival, he wrote the lyrics and co-wrote the book for *Triangle*, which was subsequently presented at the Eugene O'Neill Center (directed by Robert Longbottom), the American Music Theatre Project and TheatreWorks Palo Alto. An honors graduate of Northwestern University, he has also completed the BMI Lehman Engel writing workshop and received an artist in residence grant from the National Music Theater Conference. In addition to his theater work, Thomas is a copywriter for Comedy Central, writes travel features for several national publications and is editor of thebroadwayblog.com, a website devoted to theater in New York and beyond. In a "prior" life as an actor, Thomas appeared in roles Off-Broadway and at regional theaters, including his starring role as "Steve" in the First National Tour of *Blue's Clues, Live!*. For more more information, go to www.thomasmizer.com.

Curtis Moore is a composer, songwriter, and musician whose work can be heard on the Broadway and international stage, T.V., film, and new media. He has worked for Playwrights Horizons, The Old Vic Theatre, Brooklyn Academy of Music, The Public Theater, and Lincoln Center. In collaboration with Thomas Mizer, lyricist, he was awarded the 2009 Jonathan Larson Grant. Together they have written the musicals *Triangle* (commissioned by Williamstown Theatre Festival, subsequently presented at the Eugene O'Neill Center and Theatreworks Palo Alto), *The Legend Of Stagecoach Mary* (National Alliance for Musical Theater), and *The Bus To Buenos Aires* (Ensemble Studio Theater, NY). Together, they teamed up with Amanda Green (*Bring It On*) and Matthew Brookshire on the critically acclaimed musical, *For The Love Of Tiffany*. His new stage musical *Venice*, written with Matt Sax and Eric Rosen, premiered as a joint production between The Center Theater Group in Los Angeles and The Kansas City Rep with a production planned for 2013 at The Public Theater. He recently returned from conducting and performing the music in The Bridge Project's acclaimed world tour of *Richard III*, directed by Sam Mendes and starring Kevin Spacey. This concluded three years of work with The Bridge Project (a joint production of BAM and The Old Vic) as Mark Bennett's associate composer and music supervisor for *The Cherry Orchard*, *The Winter's Tale*, *As You Like It*, *The Tempest*, and *Richard III*. For film, Curtis and Matthew Brookshire wrote and performed songs for the Todd Solondz' film *Palindromes* (*Venice*, Toronto, Telluride, New York film festivals.) Three of which were short-listed by Variety for the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences Best Original Song. Other film credits include composing for Industrial Light and Magic, MTV networks, the Miss America Pageant, and the CBS' Rose Bowl Celebration. Awards include "Best Composer Award" at the ASCAP/NYU Film Scoring Workshop, "Garland Award" for best score, and multiple grants from the Eugene O'Neill Music Theater Conference. He is a graduate of Northwestern University and a founding member of the Northwestern University Entertainment Alliance. Curtis is currently based in New York, NY and enjoys volunteering his time and talent to The Actors Fund, Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS, and the Ali Forney Center.

ABOUT THE JOHNNY MERCER FOUNDATION:

The mission of the Johnny Mercer Foundation (JMF) is to support the discipline of songwriting in the tradition of the Great American Songbook as exemplified by the life and work of Johnny Mercer: the most prolific lyricist, composer, performer, collaborator, and producer of the 20th Century. The Foundation continues Johnny's legacy by partnering with individuals and organizations dedicated to celebrating and nourishing the disciplines he mastered, and the causes he and Ginger Mercer championed.

JMF partners with several institutions including: [LyricNOTES™](#) with the [Kaufman Center](#) in New York City; [The Johnny Mercer Songwriters Project with Northwestern University \(The American Music Theatre Project\)](#) to nurture and encourage young talent in the field of songwriting and [The Johnny Mercer Collection at Georgia State University](#),

where Johnny's many works and memorabilia are housed. They also support Georgia State University in a [fellowship-type program](#) to facilitate music education through the development of an elementary and middle school curriculum that focuses on, but is not limited to, songwriting and the Great American Songbook.

ABOUT GOODSPEED MUSICALS:

Dedicated to the preservation and advancement of musical theatre, [Goodspeed Musicals](#) produces three musicals each season at the [Goodspeed Opera House](#) in East Haddam, Conn., and additional works at [The Norma Terris Theatre](#) in Chester, Conn., which was opened in 1984 for the development of new musicals. The first regional theatre to receive two Tony Awards (for outstanding achievement), Goodspeed celebrates another milestone, its 50th Anniversary, in 2013. In addition to the two theatres and production facilities, Goodspeed maintains [The Scherer Library of Musical Theatre](#) and The Max Showalter Center for Education in Musical Theatre. Goodspeed gratefully acknowledges the support of the Connecticut Commission on Culture and Tourism.

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