

2021/2022
SEASON

ST. LOUIS' PREMIER THEATER
FOR YOUNG AUDIENCES

ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI

"MY GRANNY IS
A SUPERHERO...
MY GRANNY
GROWS REAL FOOD!"



IN MY
GRANNY'S
GARDEN

MAY 13 - JUNE 26, 2022

A ROVING PRODUCTION

Metro Theater Company Studio – **MAY 13-16**

Better Family Life – **MAY 20-23**

EarthDance Farms – **JUNE 3-12**

Eckert's Belleville Farm – **JUNE 16-26**

Virtual production streaming – **JUNE 1-26** at metroplays.org

METROPLAYS.ORG

CREATED BY ALLIANCE THEATRE

**INSPIRED BY THE CHILDREN'S BOOK BY
PEARL CLEAGE AND ZARON W. BURNETT, JR.**

ILLUSTRATED BY RADCLIFFE BAILEY

DIRECTED BY ROSEMARY NEWCOTT

Originally developed and produced by the Alliance Theatre (Atlanta, GA) as part of the Kathy and Ken Bernhardt Theatre for the Very Young series, March, 2020. Produced through special arrangement with the Alliance Theatre, a division of the Robert W. Woodruff Arts Center, Inc., 1280 Peachtree Street NE, Atlanta, GA 30309

WELCOME TO METRO THEATER COMPANY'S PRODUCTION OF



IN MY GRANNY'S GARDEN

WELCOME TO OUR GARDEN!

In My Granny's Garden has been a very special collaboration. Our St. Louis-based actors, musicians, and technicians have worked with an artistic team from the Alliance Theatre in Atlanta to create something unique and special for the young people joining us today. At the heart of it all is the story told by Pearl Cleage and Zaron W. Burnett, Jr. about a child's early experiences in the garden with Granny. To plant a garden is to believe in the future. And learning about life on a shared project with a grandparent plants seeds to last a lifetime.

In addition to welcoming our youngest audiences into our own Grand Center home, we are excited to share this journey with our venue partners at Better Family Life, EarthDance Farms and Eckert's Farm in Belleville. Each place has its own magic and we are grateful to have met so many friends along the way. These many venues are part of our commitment to ensuring access for more audiences in more parts of our region, and this production is part of our commitment to ensuring our region's youngest audiences can enjoy meaningful theatrical experiences.

If this is the first theater experience for your young person, we are grateful for the opportunity to share it. Thank you. **ENJOY THE GROWING!**



JULIA FLOOD
Artistic Director



JOE GFALLER
Managing Director



**“MY GRANNY IS
A SUPERHERO...
MY GRANNY
GROWS REAL FOOD!”**

IN MY GRANNY'S GARDEN

THE CAST

(in alphabetical order)

ENSEMBLE/MUSICIAN

Syrhea Conaway

GRANNY

Alicia Revé Like

ENSEMBLE/MUSICIAN

Colin McLaughlin

UNDERSTUDY/ ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER

Camille Sharp

CHILD

Jenise Sheppard

DIRECTED BY

Rosemary Newcott

STAGE MANAGER

Jimmy Bernatowicz

DESIGN & PRODUCTION TEAM

COMPOSERS

Syrhea Conaway
Colin McLaughlin
Riley Schatz

SCENIC DESIGNER

Kat Conley

COSTUME DESIGNER

Sydney Roberts

SCENIC PAINTER

Cristie Johnston

COSTUME ASSISTANT

Nathan Lessly

METRO THEATER COMPANY PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCTION MANAGER

Jimmy Bernatowicz

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR

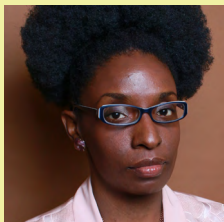
Erik Kuhn

FRONT OF HOUSE STAFF

HOUSE MANAGEMENT

Teresa West

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



SYRHEA CONAWAY (ENSEMBLE/MUSICIAN/COMPOSER) is a multi-instrumentalist, composer, producer, and music instructor in St. Louis. She has performed and spoke for TEDx Gateway Arch, the Arts and Education Council of St. Louis, moderated conversations with Damon Davis for USDAC and RAC's Culture/Shift 2016 as well as St. Louis Blues Society's Race and Blues series. She's produced live sound design for the Peabody Award-winning podcast "To the Best of Our Knowledge." Conaway, the DJ-in-residence of 2019 at the Contemporary Art Museum St. Louis, has returned to Metro Theater Company after making her acting debut in MTC's production of *Wonderland: Alice's Rock & Roll Adventure*. Currently, she composes original music for classical music organizations, local theater companies, and performs regularly in the region as Syna So Pro.



ALICIA REVÉ LIKE (GRANNY) returns to Metro Theater Company, where she was last seen in *Digging Up Dessa*, *Ghost*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Hundred Dresses*, and *Wonderland: Alice's Rock & Roll Adventure*. Like is a proud graduate of the University of Missouri in Columbia with a B.A. in music. Other regional credits include *Peter and the Wolf* (St. Louis Symphony Orchestra), *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Puss in Boots* (The Repertory Theatre of St. Louis), *Billy Elliot* (COCA), *Miss Julie*, *Clarissa and John* (The Black Rep), *The Wiz* (Coterie Theatre, Kansas City), and *The Gringo* (Fly North Theatricals). Like is currently the host of the St. Louis Symphony Orchestra's on-demand video series SLSO SoundLab, discussing how music can be heard, felt, and seen. aliciareve.com

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



COLIN McLAUGHLIN (ENSEMBLE/MUSICIAN/COMPOSER) is a St. Louis-based actor, musician, playwright, and teaching artist, who has worked with Bread and Roses Missouri, St. Louis Shakespeare Festival, A Call to Conscience: Interactive Theater for Social Change (C2C), Intersect Arts Center, and COCA. He was last on stage this spring as Charles Kettering in *Big Machine* at COCA. In the fall of 2022, he will portray Andrej in RS Theatrics' production of *Once*. Colin comes from a family of musicians and is an experienced songwriter well-versed in the traditions of jazz, blues, and folk music. He wrote the original jazz score for *Mrs. Palmer's Honey*, an 8-part audio play produced by Bread and Roses Missouri, premiering later this year. Colin is a resident teaching artist with St. Louis Shakespeare Festival at Sumner High School, a project assistant at CHIPs Health and Wellness Center, and a proud member of The Art Collaborative. He received his Bachelor of Science in social work from Saint Louis University in 2018.



CAMILLE SHARP (UNDERSTUDY / ASSISTANT STAGE MANAGER), a native of St. Louis, is elated to work with Metro Theater Company. This is her first time back working in the theater realm since before the pandemic, and her first time working behind the scenes. Her credits onstage include Margie in *Milk Like Sugar*, ensemble in *Don't Bother Me I Can't Cope*, Sweet Thang in *Nina Simone: Four Women*, and ensemble in *Spell #7* at the St. Louis Black Rep. Camille attended Harris-Stowe State University and has since taken an interest in writing.

CAST BIOGRAPHIES



JENISE SHEPPARD (CHILD) is a Chicago native who began acting at the age of 7. Now 21 years old, Jenise has taken the stage at Shakespeare's Globe Theater in London, England, ETA Creative Arts Foundation, Beverly Arts Center, Gallery 37, and more. In 2018, Jenise sang back-up for Jason Mraz at the Special Olympics 50th Anniversary Celebration Concert. Since studying drama and interdisciplinary environmental analysis at Washington University in St. Louis, where favorite credits include Lady in Blue in *for colored girls* and O.G. Howland in *Men on Boats*, Jenise made their professional debut with Invictus Theatre Company as Sophie in Lynn Nottage's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Ruined*. The "Jeff Recommended" production, directed by Ebby Offord, was named one of the city's top ten plays by T.I.C. Top List, and *Third Coast Review* dubbed "Sheppard [as] one to watch in the Chicago theater world."



DESIGN & PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

ROSEMARY NEWCOTT (DIRECTOR) spent 20 years as the Sally G. Tomlinson Artistic Director of Theatre for Youth and Families at Atlanta's Alliance Theatre. In addition to directing, and sometimes devising two TYA productions a season, Rosemary also mounted David Bell's lavish production of *A Christmas Carol*, featuring an all-Atlanta multicultural cast. Rosemary developed the Alliance Palefsky HS Collision Project and created its thriving Kathy and Ken Bernhardt Theatre for the Very Young program. On the national level, Rosemary has developed/directed two plays at New Visions/New Voices: *Einstein is a Dummy* with Karen Zacarias and Debbie Wicks La Puma and Pearl Cleage's *Tell Me My Dream*. She also directed the premieres of Mo Willem's *Knufflebunny: A Cautionary Musical* and Laurie Brook's *Jason Invisible* both at the Kennedy Center and Zacarias' and La Puma's *Frida Libre* at LaJolla Playhouse. Most recently, Rosemary devised/directed a new musical version of *Thumbelina* with Amanda Morgan and KSU students at Kennesaw University and directed the premiere of *Hans Christian Andersen* by Tim McDonald at Nashville Children's Theatre. Rosemary also recently directed the debut of Pearl Cleage's *In My Granny's Garden* at the Alliance, and is currently directing the play at Metro Theater Company. Earlier in her career, Rosemary acted/directed in nearly every Atlanta theater company, starting her path at the Academy Theatre.

Rosemary is a recipient of a Princess Grace Foundation Fellowship and also a Princess Grace Special Project Award for her adaptation and direction of André Benjamin's *Class of 3,000 LIVE* at the Alliance. She has received several Atlanta Suzi Awards for direction and the 2010 Spirit of Suzi award. In 2018 she received the Suzi Lifetime Achievement award and in 2019, the Harold Oaks Excellence in TYA award and the AATE Compton Bell Lifetime Achievement award. She is a member of the adjudicator/workshop leader team at Atlanta's Junior Theatre Festival. Throughout her career, she has served as guest artist at Augusta College, Emory University, Georgia State College, Hartwick College, Oglethorpe University, University of West Georgia, and Kennesaw University, as well as numerous high school programs, most notably as a 10-year theater director at the Georgia Governor's Honors Program. Rosemary has proudly served on the board of TYA/USA and is a member of AEA and SDC.

DESIGN & PRODUCTION BIOGRAPHIES

KAT CONLEY (SCENIC DESIGNER) is ecstatic to be joining Metro Theater Company for this delightful show. A scenic designer and artist based in Atlanta, Kat has designed scenery for the Alliance Theatre, Arena Stage, Orlando Shakes, the Kennedy Center, Georgia Shakespeare, Marin Theatre Company, Virginia Stage Company, Actor's Express Theatre Company, Atlanta Ballet, Center for Puppetry Arts, 7 Stages Theatre, Theatrical Outfit, Synchronicity Theatre, Marietta's Theatre in the Square, and Aurora Theatre. She is also the charge scenic artist for the Alliance Theatre.

SYDNEY ROBERTS (COSTUME DESIGNER) worked as a costume designer for 44 years, designing for professional and educational stages. Now she hangs out with chickens, goats, and donkeys in her garden with her husband, Mike. *In My Granny's Garden* was her last, and very fitting, design project.

NATHAN LESSLY (COSTUME ASSISTANT) is a recent St. Louis transplant and is excited to be returning to Metro Theater Company after serving as the costume assistant for *Last Stop on Market Street!* He spent his childhood in Spearfish, South Dakota, where he was involved in multiple productions at the historic Matthews Opera House, including *Clue: The Musical*, *Red*, and *Deadeye's Wild West*. He went on to study costuming and musical theatre at the University of Central Oklahoma, where he worked on *The Pirates of Penzance* and (appropriately) *Meet Me in St. Louis*. Currently, he utilizes his sewing skills by stitching for local clients and designers and sewing clothes for himself.

METRO THEATER COMPANY PRODUCTION STAFF

PRODUCTION MANAGER
Jimmy Bernatowicz

TECHNICAL DIRECTOR
Erik Kuhn

MEET THE CREATORS



PEARL CLEAGE is an Atlanta-based, award-winning playwright and bestselling author, whose works include eight novels and a dozen plays. In 1998, her novel, *What Looks Like Crazy On An Ordinary Day*, was an Oprah Book Club pick and spent nine weeks on the *New York Times* bestseller list. She is also a performance artist, collaborating frequently with her husband, Zaron W. Burnett, Jr., under the title *Live at Club Zebra*. Read more at pearlcleage.net



ZARON W. BURNETT, JR. is an American novelist, director, and performance artist. He is the creator of Club Zebra, Atlanta's only floating speakeasy, cabaret, and international center of bohemian Negritude. Zaron and Pearl regularly join forces as writers and performance artists for a variety of projects. *In My Granny's Garden* is based on a very special summer Zaron, as a five-year-old, spent learning about life with his great-grandmother.



RADCLIFFE BAILEY is a contemporary American artist noted for mixed-media, paint, and sculpture works that explore African American history. His work has been exhibited at many museums including Atlanta's High Museum of Art, and his work is held in many permanent collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, Smithsonian Museum of American Art, and the Art Institute of Chicago.

METRO THEATER COMPANY LEADERSHIP

JULIA FLOOD (ARTISTIC DIRECTOR) has directed *Digging Up Dessa*, *The Very Hungry Caterpillar Show*, *It's a Wonderful Life*, *The Girl Who Swallowed a Cactus*, *The Hundred Dresses*, *Frida Libre*, *Bud, Not Buddy*, *Hans Brinker and the Silver Skates*, *The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane*, *And In This Corner: Cassius Clay*, *Out of the Box*, *Talkin' Trash*, *Afflicted: Daughters of Salem*, *Unsorted*, and *Say Something, Do Something!* for Metro Theater Company since she moved to St. Louis to become artistic director in February 2014. Previously, Julia spent 16 years as artistic director of Eckerd Theater Company in Clearwater, Florida where she commissioned such plays as *Vote?*, by Eric Coble, provoked by Florida's role in the 2000 presidential election, and *Battledrum* by Doug Cooney with Lee Ahlin, a musical about the effects of war on young people through the lens of Civil War drummer boys, subsequently produced at Metro Theater Company. A graduate of Northwestern University, Julia spent seven years as a resident member of the Bloomsburg Theatre Ensemble in Pennsylvania, a unique artist-led ensemble founded under the guidance of legendary acting teacher Alvina Krause, before following a freelance career as actor/director/playwright/teacher. Julia served on the national board of directors of Theatre for Young Audiences/USA from 2011 to 2019, and brings more than 40 years of experience to her role as artistic director of Metro Theater Company.



JOE GFALLER (MANAGING DIRECTOR) joined the Metro Theater Company team in 2019. During his tenure to date, Metro Theater Company has seen dramatic growth in both its audience base and its donor base. In partnership with Artistic Director Julia Flood, he has co-led the company through its recent evolutions during the COVID-19 pandemic, from its virtual programming to its safe return to live performances. Prior to joining the MTC team, Joe received national recognition for his work in building young, diverse, and national audiences for Opera Theatre of Saint Louis during his tenure as director of marketing and public relations — and for expanding OTSL's civic footprint as the producer of the company's Opera Tastings series, through artist community tours, and the creation and growth of its Engagement + Inclusion Task Force. His career has also included roles with the American Repertory Theater, the Alliance Theater, and 7 Stages, and consulting projects for the National Blues Museum, the Utah Symphony, and the documentary film *Flint: The Poisoning of an American City*. He has directed over two dozen professional or university productions, including regional premieres by David Mamet, Caryl Churchill, and others. A graduate of Harvard University, he also serves as adjunct faculty at Webster University in the Arts Management and Leadership MFA program.



PRESENTING SPONSOR

**WHITAKER
FOUNDATION**

IN MY GRANNY'S GARDEN

GENEROUS ADDITIONAL SUPPORT IS PROVIDED BY

theSAIGHfoundation.org

**Guy B. Jaffe & Judy Schwartz Jaffe Charitable
Foundation of the St. Louis Community Foundation**

LEAD INSTITUTIONAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY



**STREAMING OF *IN MY GRANNY'S GARDEN* IS PART OF MTC
REMOTE, A NEW VIRTUAL INITIATIVE SUPPORTED BY**



SPECIAL THANKS TO

Bayer
Better Family Life
Be Well Farmer's Market
EarthDance Farms
Eckert's Belleville Farm

Jennifer A. Lin Photography
MetroMarket
MindsEye Radio
Missouri Botanical Garden

Music Together
Operation Food Search
St. Louis Symphony Orchestra
We Stories

FILMED BY



AT THE METRO THEATER COMPANY

CONTRIBUTIONS

We are grateful for the generous support of so many in our community. Without you, Metro Theater Company's work would not be possible. We include a list of all supporters who have made contributions or pledges between January 1, 2021 and April 15, 2022 or prior gifts in support of activities during that timeframe.

We regret any inadvertent omissions from this list. If you made a pledge or a gift and do not see your name listed here, please contact Managing Director Joe Gfaller at joe@metroplays.org.

THE CAROL NORTH NICHOLAS KRYAH SOCIETY

The Carol North and Nicholas Kryah Benefactor Society was established to honor four decades of leadership by Artistic Director Carol North and Resident Artist Nicholas Kryah.

Members of the Benefactor Society contribute a minimum of \$1000 annually to ensure that Carol and Nicholas' legacy of meaningful artistic work for young audiences continues to grow.

PLATINUM BENEFACTOR

(\$150,000+)

Small Business Administration
John D. and Anabeth C. Weil

(\$100,000-\$149,999)

Berges Family Foundation

(\$50,000 - \$99,999)

Emerson
Shuttered Venue Operators Grant
Whitaker Foundation

GOLD BENEFACTOR

(\$25,000-\$49,999)

Elizabeth Green
Kranzberg Arts Foundation
National Endowment for the Arts
PNC Arts Alive
Regional Arts Commission
The Shubert Foundation Inc.

SILVER BENEFACTOR

(\$10,000-\$24,999)

Centene Management Corporation
Crawford Taylor Foundation
John and Carolyn Peterson Foundation
Missouri Arts Council
The Saigh Foundation
The Edward D. Jones & Company
Foundation
The Opportunity Trust
The Trio Foundation of Saint Louis

BRONZE BENEFACTOR

(\$5,000-\$9,999)

Bayer
Des Lee Collaborative Vision
Mary Ellen Finch and John D. Finch
Gateway Foundation
Susan Z. and James P. Gamble
Joe Gfaller and Kraig Turner
Susan and Mike Gibbons
Guy B. Jaffe and Judy Schwartz Jaffe
Charitable Foundation
Jane and Ken Jones
Marcia Kerz
Nestle Purina Pet Care Company
Reinsurance Group of America
St. Louis Community Foundation
Ten Talent Foundation

BENEFACTOR

(\$1,000-\$4,999)

Joseph Albitar
Julius B. Anthony
Ameren Corporation
Arts and Education Council
Sara Yang Bosco and Joseph Bosco
Joan T. Briccetti and Kathy Greminger
Dr. Nicole and Nick Burkemper
Commerce Bancshares, Inc.
Deb and Lou DeSorbo
Enterprise Holdings Foundation
Julia Flood and Tom McCarthy
Susan Z. and James P. Gamble
Nancy and Tom Garvey and
the Garvey Family

Gazelle

Scott Giffen, Zeke and Laz
Karen and Lawrence Goering
Camille and Jim Greenwald
Kristin and Nicholas Guehlstorf
Amy Hoch Hogenson and
Andrew Hogenson
Josh Jaffe
Paul Jorjorian and Stacey Wehe
Josh and Tammie Knopp
Jennifer Lin and Tom Osborn
Ellen Livingston and Edward Levitt
Jason Paul McAdamis
Darci Madden
James and Anna McKelvey
Missouri Humanities Council
Mary and James R. Moog
Margaret O'Brien
Paule, Camazine & Blumenthal, PC
Pamela Perlmutter
Melissa Posten and Gregory Magarian
PricewaterhouseCoopers LLP
Sarah Richmond
St. Louis Black Authors of
Children's Literature
Melanie and Ben Schmicke
Mary Schoolman
Thomas P. and Beata Schunk
Robert Swingle
Nancy Tonkins
Deborah and Dr. Jacques S. Van Ryn
Jennifer Walton
Dr. Pam Washington
Colean and Stephen Williams
Erica M. and Aaron V. Wilson
Michael and Christina Williams

(\$500-\$999)

Marlene Ann Birkman
Sandy Blasingame
and Gary Hall
Terry and Gordon Bloomberg
Stacey Bregenzler
Julie George Carlson
and Bud Carlson
Vanessa Cooksey
Erick Creach
Judith A. Courtney
Rosalind Early
Lionelle H. and
James R. Elseesser
Stan Geiger and
Marilynn Stribling
Charles and
Hannah Grimshaw
Gerald M. Kowarsky
Carol North and Nick Kryah
Brett Lohmeyer
Susan W. Nall
Leslie Peters and
Daniel Rubright
Lynn L. and Robert Rubright
Wanda and William Salzman
Kenneth and Amber Simpson
Target
Phoebe Weil

(\$250-\$499)

David Bentzinger
and Michelle Donnelly
Boeing
Terry Crow
Kim and Tim Eberlein
Enterprise Bank & Trust
Kristin Fauss
MaryAlice and Stephen
Gallagher
J. Russell Jackson
Clare Kerz
Ward and Carol Klein
Mary Ann Lazarus
and Daniel G. Jay
R. William Morris
Barbara Pierce
Ronald and
Hattie Robinson Jackson
Tyrell Rodgers
Schnuck's
Jeffrey Stokes
Target
The Estelle W. and
Karen S. Kalish Fund of
the St. Louis Community
Foundation
Gaile Thoele
Mei Chen Welland

(\$100-\$249)

Shreya Ahuja
Amazon
Lillian Anthony
Carol Bonnefil
Jeff Buchek and
Marissa Strathearn
Sara Burke
Tracyne Caumartin
Mina Charepo
Christopher Collumb
Elizabeth Collumb
James Croft and Kolten Frey
Laurel Dantas
Diane and Roger Davenport
Adrienne Davis
Sara and Fred Epstein
Facebook
Alice Ferris
Michele Fontaine-Mosley
Beverly Foster
Valerie Goldston
David Gonzalez
Susan Meryl Greenberg
Judy and Scott Guerrero
Lynn Hackethal
LaVicki Hart
Anne and Patrick Henning
Maggie Glauber Horn
Toni Howell and
Jean Paul Pentecoteau
Joan and Thomas Isbell
Ronald and
Hattie Robinson Jackson
Virginia Jacobi
Gary and Julie Jaffe
Patti and Ron James
Kim Jones and Larry Marsh
Karen Kelsey
Dorothy and David Kemper
Anita Buie Lamont
Corena and Phillip Larimer
Denise and Bob LaRossa
Bill Larson
James and Annie Lin
Laurie Lock
Tony Maldonado
Marylen Mann and
Franklin Jacobs
Michele Marshall
Steve Martin
Merritt McCarthy
Nancy McCarthy
Diane McCullough
Lisa Medrano
Dan Mueller
Jo Oruwari
Krista Petrilli
Melissa Pilot

Cynthia Prost
Gaby Rodriguez
Jimmy Rohrbaugh and
Ignacio Costa-Lopez
Wanda Salzman
Laura Schmink
Tanya Seale
Ann Seeney
Karen Shoulders
Michael Silver
Lynn and Mark Smith
Liz Sondhaus
Mary N. St. Clair
Genevieve and
David Steidtmann
Shelley Stewart
Joanne Strathearn
Michelle Terrazas
The Cole and Kuhn Families
Thomas Urbom
Deborah and
Dr. Jacques S. Van Ryn
Pilar Vanderstelt
Vertex Pharmaceuticals
Nancy and Bob Wagoner
Molly Walsh and Kevin Farrell
Beverly Whittington

(\$1-\$99)

Elizabeth Alseth
American Family Insurance
Judith Anderson
FahRasa Anthony
Lou Asinger
Angela Banks
Elizabeth Behlke
Zoey Bergstrom
Gregory Beye
Jennifer Blevens
David Brinker
Lauren Brooks and
Austin Gentry
Mary Lynn Brophy
Barbara and Bill Brumfield
Rebecca Buffington
Louise C. Bullock
John S. Callahan and
Marjorie Williamson
Rebecca Carroll
Melissa Carter
Sherah Cheng
Katherine Claggett
Andrea Clardy
Edward Coffield
Kathy Conrad
Katherine Conti
Marty Dames
Vanessa and Gregory Davis
Janet Dayawon

Rosemary Donovan
Michael Dorn and Andrew
Hernandez
Lisa Drewel
Cynthia Dupureur
Tovah Edwards
Mary Eigel
Connie Emge
Linda Englert
Caroline Fan
Elizabeth M. Fathman
Mark Fernandez
Kacky Fetzter
Cristine Fischer
Justin Fix
Robyn B. Flatt
Barbara Fleming
Jean Flood
Laura Foughty
Laura Franz
Valerie Fuller
Joseph Garner
Ron Gibbs
David Golden
Elia Gonzalez Cedillo
Wendy Greenwood-Leveling
William Grivna
Roberta Gutwein
Fran Hamilton
Mary Ellen Helmkamp
Marietta E. and Gary W. Hess
Teresa Mayhew Hess
and Philip M. Hess
Betsy Holland
Leslie Hood
Caron House
Jacqueline Janus
Dakotah Jennifer
Dena Johnson
Kathryn Kaufman
Jessica Kennedy
Ward and Carol Klein
Maggie Klonsky
Emma Klues
Terry Knies
Jill Kogan
Karyn L. and
Christopher M. Koury
Linda Kram
Prudence Kramer
JoAnne LaSala and
Karen Tokarz
Ryan Lawson-Maeske
Karen Leonard
Jerri and
William Livingston, Jr.
Aary Locker
Tracy MacIntosh
Elisabeth Mackay

Sharon Margherio	Meleah Rush	Lizi Watt	Myseum
Diane Marshall	Jeremy and Ann Schaefer	Julie Weber	Narwhal's Crafted
Lynn Maupin and Dale Bilyeu	Robert Schmit	Barbara Weberman	Opera Theatre of Saint Louis
Kevin and Martha McCarthy	Joel S. Schwartz and	Darcy Wells	Pamela Perlmutter
James McKittrick	Barbara S. Schwartz	Patricia Wendling	PLNK STL
Debra Mein	Ellie Schwetye	Heidi and Peter Wheeler	Pure Barre Ladue and CWE
Brad Merten	Jeff Seale	Patricia and	Repertory Theatre St. Louis
Linda Mitchell	Jennifer Sebastian	Philip Wieolosinski	Sarah Thompson
Caroline Moll	Carrisa Sexton	Nan and Travist Wiggins	Schlafly Bottleworks
Amanda Mosley	Kristin Shantz	Jason Witte	St. Louis Art Museum
Meagan Mottl	Claire Shapleigh	Aimee Wittman	St. Louis Cardinals
Colleen Muther	Julie Shapleigh	Emily Woodruff	St. Louis Christmas
Catherine Neville	Mindy Shaw	Jessie Youngblood	Carols Association
Janice Niehaus	Alicia and Jack Sheehan	Kellie Zahler	St. Louis City Soccer Club
Linda Niemeier	Sherry Sissac		St. Louis Symphony
Tawaine Noah	Dennis Smith		Stages St. Louis
Catherine O'Malley	Margaret Solon		STL Style House
Michelle Ohle	Sharon Spinale Sienaski		Swing Around Fun
Jennifer Ohs	Spire		Town Fenton
Deborah Parks	Jocelyn Sprouse		Robert Swinger
Jason Parolin	Laura Stefacek		Switchgrass Spirits
Christopher Perillo	Carol Stephens		Tale to Table
Nicole Pingel	Sonya Stevenson		Taylored Tents
Joseph Portnoy	Mark Strothmann		The Ambassadors
Amelia Powell	Kendra Stuppi		of Harmony
Florence Pullen	Keith Thompson and		The Fabulous Fox St. Louis
Jamie Querciagrossa	Don Foster		The Hair Lab STL
Megan Ann Rasmussen	Marije Thorne		The London Tea Room
Tina Renard	Rachel Tibbetts		The Lumistella Company
Kristen Retter	Jim Timmerberg		The Magic House
Emily Riccio	Barbara and		The Munny
David Ries	Gregory Toumayan		Total Wine & More
Angelica Rigazio	Kathleen Uhler		Traveling Tea
Ruth K. Rochester	Lynn Ullman		Urban Chestnut
Abby Roetheli	Rachel Usprich		Brewing Company
Jacquelyn Ross-Hertel	Jenna Voss		Ultimate Ninjas St. Louis
Carrie Roy	Karen L. Wade		Upper Limits
Ann Marie Ruhlin	Carol A. Waide and		Wellbeing Brewing Co.
Sarah Ruiz	Stanley John Waide Jr.		Lauren Younger

IN-KIND CONTRIBUTIONS

Amp Up Action Park
 Bulrush STL
 Circus Flora
 Cyrano's
 Edelbrand Pure Distilling
 Dewey's Pizza
 Mary Engelbreit
Gazelle
 Joe Gfaller and Kraig Turner
 Jean LaChat Photography
 Ann Tygett Jones
 Kakao Chocolate
 Kranzberg Arts Foundation
 Les Bourgeois Vineyards
 Lifetime Fitness
 Jennifer Lin
 Ellen Livingston
 and Edward Levitt
 Loaded Elevated Nachos
 MADE Makerspace
 Metro Theater Company
 Missouri Botanical Garden

TRIBUTES AND MEMORIALS

In honor of friendship

Mary Lynn Brophy

In honor of MTC's Education Team

Jennifer Lin and Tom Osborn

In honor of Joan Briccetti

Scott Giffen, Zeke and Laz

In honor of Susan and Jim Gamble

Corena Larimer and Genevieve Nassif
 Jeffrey and Karen Stokes

In honor of Julia Flood and Joe Gfaller

Leslie Peters and Dan Rubright

In honor of Joe Gfaller

J. Russell Jackson

In honor of Marcia Kerz

Michele Marshall

In honor of Erik Kuhn

The Cole and Kuhn Families
 Jessie Youngblood

In honor of Jennifer Lin

Alice Ferris

In honor of Hailey Medrano

Linda Englert

In honor of Carol North and Nick Kryah

Stan Geiger and Marilyn Stribling

In honor of Peggy O'Brien

Jeff Buchek
 Kim Jones and Larry Marsh
 Marissa Stathearn

In honor of SQL

Joshua Feder

In honor of Mary Tonkin

Mary Schoolman

In honor of Denise Thimes

Marylen Mann and Franklin Jacobs

In memory of John Meehan

Steve and MaryAlice Gallagher

In memory of Earl Mueller

Dan Mueller



MISSION STATEMENT

Inspired by the intelligence and emotional wisdom of young people, we create professional theater, foster inclusive community, and nurture meaningful learning through the arts.

STAFF

Julia Flood Artistic Director

Joe Gfaller Managing Director

Karen Bain
Education Director

Erik Kuhn
Technical Director

Sarah Thompson
Director of Communications
and Media

Jennifer Lin
Content Marketing
Manager

Gen Zoufal
Resident Teaching
Artist

Jimmy Bernatowicz
Production Manager

Bailey Pashia
Individual Support and
Events Manager

Corey Mingo
Accounting Manager

Britni Eggers
Graphic Designer

McKinley Seale
Admin & Operations
Associate

Eleanor Marsh
School Bookings and
Audience Services
Manager

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Coleen Williams (President)

Julius B. Anthony

Amy Hoch Hogenson

Sarah Richmond

Erica Wilson (Vice President)

Julia Flood*

Josh Knopp

Jennifer Walton

Darci Madden (Secretary)

Joe Gfaller*

Josh Jaffe

Pamela Washington, Ph.D.

John D. Weil (CFO)

Mike Gibbons

Anatoli Lataria

Michael Williams

Joseph Albitar

Kristin Guehlstorf

Melissa Posten

*ex officio, non-voting

EMERITUS MEMBERS

David Bentzinger

Camille Greenwald

Susan W. Nall, Ph.D.

Zaro Weil

Marlene Birkman, Ph.D.

Marcia Kerz

Joseph M. Noelker

Lynn Rubright

Terry Bloomberg

Daniel Jay

Peggy O'Brien

Mary Ellen Finch, Ph.D.

Ken Jones

Mary Tonkin

Susan Gamble

Ellen Livingston

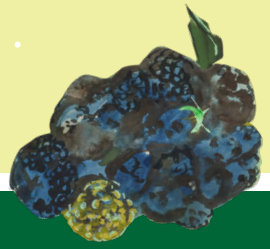
Anabeth C. Weil

Nancy Garvey

James R. Moog

FOUNDERS

Metro Theater Company is St. Louis' premier professional theater for youth and families and St. Louis' third-oldest professional theater company. Since 1973, Metro Theater Company has been creating productions that respect young people's intelligence, tell compelling stories, stimulate curiosity and provoke thoughtful reflection. The Company has reached a total audience of more than two million and has a national reputation for excellence in the field of professional theater for young audiences. Metro Theater Company has received major honors and awards, both locally and nationally. The Company is not-for-profit 501(c)3 organization and is a proud member of the Theatre Communications Group (the national service organization for non-profit professional theaters), Theatre for Young Audiences/USA (the U.S. chapter of the international association of theaters for young people), and Missouri Citizens for the Arts.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

These questions are great to use on the ride home or any time after you have watched the performance!

1. What would you plant in a garden?
2. How many of the items planted in Granny's garden can you remember?
3. What does a plant need to grow?
4. What do you think the garden in the play was made of?
5. What outdoor activities do you like to do with your grown-ups?



SETTING THE STAGE FOR MTC'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

After DARK

WITH
METRO
THEATER
COMPANY

JOIN US!

THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022

PALLADIUM SAINT LOUIS

2022 SPRING GALA

A SPECIAL NIGHT TO CELEBRATE AND SUPPORT Metro Theater Company, including a keynote address by *New York Times* bestselling, Newbery Medal-winning, and *Last Stop on Market Street* author Matt de la Peña.



**KEYNOTE
SPEAKER**
MATT DE LA PEÑA



EMCEE
JASMINE HUDA
Co-Anchor, FOX2 News

TICKETS & INFORMATION AT
METROPLAYS.ORG/AFTERDARK2022

SPOTLIGHT PATRON TABLE SPONSORS:



MARCIA KERZ &
KAREN AND LAWRENCE GOERING



Bayer Fund

GAZELLE

Edward Jones
MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

TABLE SPONSORS:



PAULE, CAMAZINE
& BLUMENTHAL, PC

SUSAN AND JAMES
GAMBLE

JANE AND KEN JONES &
ELLEN LIVINGSTON AND EDWARD LEVITT

LIVE MUSICAL PERFORMANCES

INCLUDING
Scenes from
*Last Stop on
Market Street*

FEATURING
DENISE THIMES



PLUS

A first look at a new
world premiere musical
making a splash in
MTC's 50th season!