

Starlight

BROADWAY

CAST BIOS



Shelby Acosta she/her (Charles Thomson, Secretary) - made her Broadway Debut in *1776* and is very excited to be on tour with the show. Broadway: *1776* (Standby) Off-Broadway: *Emojiland* (The Duke on 42nd) Regional: *Into The Woods* (Zach Scott Theatre), *Radiant Baby* (NYC Workshop). TV/ Film: National University. BFA, TX State University. A huge thank you to BEA, Camden Scifres, Kaitlin Hopkins and my Mom for their unwavering love and support. “Soy Una Mezcla” @_shelbyacosta_

GISELA ADISA she/her (John Adams, Massachusetts) - Broadway: *Beautiful* (Lucille). *1776* (Robert Livingston/John Adams cover.) 1st National Tour: *Sister Act* (Deloris Standby, Michelle). Regional: *Lights Out: Nat ‘King’ Cole* (Eartha Kitt), Geffen Playhouse - L.A. Stage Alliance nomination, Best Featured Actress. *Man of La Mancha* (Aldonza), Westport Country Playhouse - CT Critics Circle nomination, Best Actress. *Shoobox Picnic* (Odette), Alabama Shakespeare Festival. *Once on This Island* (Erzulie), Actors Theatre of Louisville. *Miss You Like Hell* (Officer), Baltimore Center Stage. Film/Television: Sundance winner *Nanny*. *Shield*, *Luther*, *Chasing Taste*. *FBI*, *Raising Kanan*, *Kaleidoscope*. Netflix’s *Ridley Jones* and *Dreamworks’ Dew Drop Diaries*. B.A in Arts, Fordham (Drama, African-American Studies). iamgisela.com IG: @imgisela

NANCY ANDERSON she/her (Thomas Jefferson, Virginia) - Broadway & West End: *1776*, *Sunset Boulevard* (u/s Glenn Close); *Wonderful Town* (Helen/Eileen); *A Class Act* (Mona); *Kiss Me, Kate* (Lois/Bianca; Olivier nomination, Helen Hayes nomination). Drama Desk nominations for *The Pen*, *Fanny Hill* and *Jolson & Co*. Helen Hayes nominations for *Billy Elliot* (Mrs. Wilkinson); *The Pajama Game* (Gladys); *Side by Side* by Sondheim; and *Kiss Me, Kate*. TV: *The Gilded Age*, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *The Other Two*, *Madam Secretary*. Film: *The Pen*. Album: *Ten Cents a Dance*.
www.nancyanderson.actor

TIFFANI BARBOUR she/her (Andrew McNair, Congressional Custodian) - is thrilled to be to making history with this production of *1776*. As a Baltimore native, she got her start at the Arena Players Inc. and continued her training at the University of the Arts in Philadelphia. Theatre credits include *Mamma Mia!* (North American tour), *How to Catch Creation* (Baltimore Center Stage/Philadelphia

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Company) and *Hit the Wall* (Barrow Street Theatre). TV/film: *Veep*, *The Leftovers*, *Rabbit*, *Law & Order* and *The Education of Max Bickford*. Thanks and love to my Mom, 25 year fam and Nicolosi & Co. Tiffanibarbour.com

DAWN CANTWELL she/her (Col. Thomas KcKean) - Select credits: Broadway: *1776* (Standby); *Sting's The Last Ship* (Young Meg); *Wicked* (Nessarose). Off-Broadway/National Tour/Regional: *Sistas: The Musical*, Actors Temple; *Music in the Air*, NY City Center Encores!; *Dogfight*, Second Stage; *Love's Labour's Lost*, 37 Arts; *F#%king Up Everything*, Elektra; *Les Misérables*, Theatre of the Stars, Tour; *The Master Class*, Long Beach Playhouse. Film: *The Train*, opposite Eli Wallach; *Save the Date*. TV: *Every Other Sunday*, Amazon. Dawn is also a multi-instrumentalist and is writing a musical alongside Addi McDaniel. BFA: NYU Tisch. Many thanks to my team at Avalon Artists and Vanguard, and to my loved ones. dawncantwell.com IG: @dawasong

JULIE CARDIA she/her (Stephen Hopkins) - National tours: *Les Misérables* (Wigmaker/u.s. MadameThenardier), *The Music Man: In Concert*, led by Shirley Jones; Madison Square Garden production of *Annie* (with Kathy Lee Gifford). Awards and nominations for *Guys and Dolls* (Adelaide) and *The Secret Garden* (Martha), Stages St. Louis, Kevin Kline Award nom.; *Anything Goes* (Reno) and *No No Nanette* (Lucille), The REV Theatre, S.A.L.T. Award nom. Other credits: *Frozen*, The Hyperion Theatre/Disneyland; *Wizard of Oz* national tour, regional, Sacramento Music Circus, TUTS, TOTS, Ogunquit, Boston Court. Proud Cal State University, Fullerton, MFA Grad. juliecardia.com

AMANDA DAYHOFF she/her (Standby) - is honored to be joining the tour of *1776* with such an amazing group of people. She is a recent B.F.A. graduate of Azusa Pacific University. Some of her favorite credits include *Little Women* (Jo), *Shrek the Musical* (Fiona) and *Tarzan* (Kala). She would like to thank her amazing family and friends, her grandmash Imelda, manager Ally Taylor, and Lindsay, Todd, and Robert at ATB. All thanks to God for paving the way. Proverbs 31:25 amandadayhoff.com IG: @amandadayhoff

KAROLE FOREMAN she/her (Robert Livingston, New York) - Theatre: *Lady Day at Emerson's Bar & Grill* (Ovation Award) freeFall, Ebony Rep, ICT, PCPA; *A Few Good Men* (La Mirada); *Blues in the Night* (ICT/ Ebony Rep/NC Rep); *Stupid F'ing Bird*, *A Little Night Music* (Cygnet, SD Theatre Critics Nomination); *Porgy and Bess*, *Sweeney Todd*, *Intimate Apparel* (ETC); *Mamma Mia!* (Vegas); *Caroline or Change*, *Fences*, (PCPA); *Next to Normal* (Cal Rep-OC Weekly Award); *Wedding Band* (Antaeus-Stage Raw Nomination); *Parade*, *Jelly's Last Jam* (Mark Taper/Alliance -Suzi Bass Award); *Minamata*, *The Illusion*, *The Crucible* (L.A.T.C.); *Cabaret*, *Good Body*, *Merchant of Venice*, *King Lear*, *Crowns* (S.D. Rep). Member L.A. Women's Shakespeare Company, two seasons at Oregon Shakespeare Festival, and numerous regional theatres.

Television: *Dahmer*, *The Conners*, *Magnum PI*, *The Resident*, *Broke*, *Good Trouble*, *Rebel*, *Black Lady Sketch Show*, *N.C.I.S.*, *Crazy Ex-Girlfriend*, *I'm Sorry*, *Lethal Weapon*, *Brooklyn 9-9*, *G.L.O.W.*, *How to Get Away with Murder*, *Young & the Restless*, *Bold & the Beautiful*, *Stitchers*. Film: *The American*, *Something About Mother*, *The Banality*, *I'll Be Next Door for Christmas*, *Rebirth*, *Buddy Solitaire*, *42*. www.karoleforeman.com Member Actor's Equity, SAG-AFTRA, and The Dramatists Guild.

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SARA GALLO she/her (Standby) - National tour debut! Broadway: *1776*. Regional: Muny, Tuacahn, TUTS, Ogunquit, Walnut Street Theatre, North Shore, Fulton Theatre, Theatre By The Sea, & Gateway. TV/Film: Sophia in *A Holiday Spectacular* (Hallmark Channel). Proud alumni of The Boston Conservatory. Many thanks to BLOC, my family, and Joe for their unwavering love and support. @sarajgallo

JOANNA GLUSHAK she/her (John Dickison, Pennsylvania) - joannaglushak.com for full bio. Highlight roles: Broadway: *A Gentleman's Guide to Love & Murder*, *Hairspray*, *Sunday in the Park With George*, *Les Misérables*, *Urinetown*, *War Paint*, etc. Off-Broadway: *Gloria: A Life*, *The Logan Family Picnic*, etc. Tours: *Finding Neverland*, *Young Frankenstein*, *Xanadu*, etc. Many roles on film and TV: recently, Mrs. O'Tool, *The Marvelous Mrs. Maisel*, *The Blacklist* and many more. Yale Drama School graduate.

ANISSA MARIE GRIEGO she/her (Roger Sherman, Connecticut) - National tour debut! Recent regional credits: *Spring Awakening* (Northern Stage), *The Hunchback of Notre Dame* (REV Theatre Co.), *Grease* (The Cape Playhouse). Thank you to her amazing team at DGRW, Brian and Amanda DeMaris, her friends, and her familia supporting her all the way across the country—love you to the moon and back! Sí se puede! @anissagriego

KASSANDRA HADDOCK she/her (Edward Rutledge, South Carolina) - Select regional: *Pippin*, *Seven Brides for Seven Brothers*, *Footloose*, The Phoenix Theatre Company; *On Your Feet* (Gloria Estefan), Arts Center of Coastal Carolina; *In The Heights* (Nina), Royal Caribbean International; *Grease* (Rizzo), The 5th Avenue Theatre; *Oklahoma!* Education/training: Brigham Young University. Thanks and love to my family and friends for their endless support! TikTok: @singwithkass IG: @kassandra_haddock

SHAWNA HAMIC she/her (Richard Henry Lee, Virginia) - Broadway: *1776*, *The Last Ship* (Mrs. Dees). Broadway national tours: *Les Misérables* (Madame Thénardier), *Kinky Boots* (Trish). Off-Broadway: *Miss You Like Hell*, The Public Theater. Regional: *My Paris*, *Goodspeed*. TV/film: *Orange Is the New Black*, *The Time Traveler's Wife*, *Halston*, *Russian Doll*, *New Amsterdam*, *That Damn Michael Che*, *Bull*, *Bruised* (dir. Halle Berry). Thanks to my reps at Clear Talent Group. As always, this is for my family & friends. Love you! ShawnaHamic.com @ShawnaHamic

LISA KARLIN she/her (Standby) - Broadway: *1776*, *The Addams Family*, *Ragtime*. Tours: *Pippin*, *Cats*. Selected Regional: Shakespeare Theatre Company, Papermill Playhouse, Pittsburgh Civic Light Opera, The 5th Avenue Theatre, The Muny, Sacramento Music Circus, The Arvada Center. Lisa is honored to be among this extraordinary group of artists sharing this story across our nation. www.lisakarlin.com IG @lizawithak

CONNOR LYON she/her (Matha Jefferson/Dr. Lyman Hall, Georgia) - is honored to share the stage with this iconic cast of *1776*. She was last seen as Lorraine and others in the national tour of *Jersey Boys*. Other credits include: *Rocky Horror* (Theatre Under the Stars), *Rock of Ages* (Norwegian Cruise Line), *Little Women* (A.D. Players). A million thanks to the team at Pantera/Murphy and endless love to Mom, Jude, Marissa and Cara! IG: @connorslyon

LIZ MIKEL she/her (Ben Franklin) - Broadway: *1776* (John Hancock), *Lysistrata Jones*. Off-Broadway:

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Lysistrata Jones, Transport Group; *Fruit Trilogy*, Abingdon Theatre. Regional: *V to the Tenth*, Louisiana Superdome; *Spring Awakening*, TUTS; *Seussical*, *Hairspray*, *All Shook Up!*, Muny; *Little Women*, Old Globe Theatre. International: *Blind Lemon Blues*, *Forum Meyrin* (Switzerland), *Maison des Cultures du Monde* (Paris). Resident company member, Dallas Theater Center. TV/film: *Friday Night Lights*, *Welcome Home Roscoe Jenkins*, *Get On Up!*, *Miss Juneteenth*. Ten Chimneys Lunt Fontanne Fellow. AEA and SAG. @miz_lyzz

NYKILA NORMAN she/her (Standby) - is from Greenville, SC, where she began performing at a very young age. Some of Nykila's favorite productions include in Theater: *Kunstler* (Kerry); *The Color Purple* (Squeak); *Da Classroom Ain't Enuf*, Centre Stage (Preschool); *Fences*, Magnetic Theater (Rose); *Greenwood: An American Dream Destroyed*, William Carey University (Vicki); *Essence of Acting Ensemble*; and *Ragtime*. On Screen: Accenture: AVEnues, Rachael Ray, and commercial work. In her free time, Nykila enjoys spending time with family, and writing/producing short films and scenes with friends. She has done voice training with Phillip Boykin and currently trains with Bear Fruit Conservatory.

ONEIKA PHILLIPS she/her (John Hancock, President of the Congress; Ass't Dance Captain) - Broadway: *1776*, Tony Award-winning *Fela!* (+ national/international tours), *SpongeBob SquarePants*, *Violet* (asst to choreographer); *Amazing Grace* (ensemble/ asst. choreographer). Off-Broadway: *Black No More* (TNG/Signature Theatre). International: 50th anniversary tour *West Side Story* (Anita). NY: Christopher Gattelli's *In Your Arms*; Jermaine Rowe's *Children From the Blue Mountains*; *Leonora*, a Caribbean interpretation of Ibsen's *A Doll's House*; Abdel Salaam's *Forces of Nature* Dance Theatre. Oneika is a proud ambassador of Caribbean representation in American arts. IG: @DragonPassionFruit.

LULU PICART she/her (Samuel Chase, Marlyand) - . Broadway: *1776*. Tours: R+H's *Cinderella*, *Madagascar Live!* (China). Off- Broadway: *Disenchanted!* (Lortel nomination). Selected: *Man of La Mancha*, *Mamma Mia!*, *Finding Nemo: the Musical*, *How to Succeed...*, *Wit*. Creative: Norwegian Creative Studios, *The Choir of Man*. Music direction: Walt Disney World, Universal Orlando, Orlando Shakespeare Theater, freeFall Theatre. TV/film: *Going in Style*, *Frozen* (Blu-ray), *Welcome to Flatch*. Faculty: Pace University. Co-host of comedy podcasts *10K Dollar Day*, *The Daily Happy*. Comedy Warehouse alumna. Grateful for my family! Just keep swimming. @lulupicart

KAYLA SAUNDERS she/her (Standby) - National tour debut! Thank you so my amazing team at DGRW, and of course my family, mom and to my uncle Bob for supporting me every step of the way! @kaylamsaunders

ARIELLA SERUR they/she (Judge James Wilson, Pennsylvania) - . Broadway: *1776*. Regional: *1776*, A.R.T.; *Rent*, The RedHouse; *Grand Concourse*, Theatre Horizon. Ariella is also a writer and composer dedicated to championing queer stories. They are currently developing *We Start in Manhattan: A New Queer Musical* with partner, Sav Souza. To those in my corner, Avalon, JWS, my family, Albie, Farah, Sav: Thank you. For Grandpa Sy. TikTok: @SavAndAriella, IG: @ariellaserur

BROOKE SIMPSON she/her (Courier) - Broadway: *1776*. Brooke is a powerhouse vocalist who is passionate about music, people and her culture. Brooke is full-blooded Native American and is a member of the Haliwa-Saponi Tribe. Brooke has had the opportunity to work with artists such as Miley Cyrus, Sia and even more recently was featured in a global Nike N7 campaign. She was a finalist on NBC's *The Voice* and a finalist on *America's Got Talent!* and has released multiple singles including her latest release, "Haliwa."

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SAV SOUZA they/them (Dr. Josiah Bartlett, New Hampshire) - Broadway: *1776*. Select regional credits: *1776*, A.R.T.; *Other World*, Delaware Theatre Company; *Lempicka*, WTF. Sav is also a musical theatre writer & lyricist, passionate about bringing joyful queer and trans stories to the stage. They are currently developing *We Start in Manhattan: A New Queer Musical* with their partner Ariella Serur. Love and infinite gratitude to family, community and Ariella. IG: @saaaavv, TikTok: @SavAndAriella, savsouza.com.

LILLIE ELIZA THOMAS she/her (Standby) - is incredibly excited to hit the road with this phenomenal cast! Regional: *Little Shop of Horrors* (Audrey), Orlando Shakespeare Theatre—Orlando Sentinel's Orlando Theatre Best: Leading Actress, Musical. *The Bodyguard* (Rachel Marron), Springer Opera House. *Once on this Island* (Erzulie), Slow Burn Theatre. *Matilda* (Miss Honey), Slow Burn Theatre—Carbonell Awards Nomination Outstanding Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Female Role, Musical. *MAMMA MIA!* (Donna Sheridan), Loessin Playhouse/ECU. *WORKING* (Housewife/Prostitute/Cleaning Woman), Actors Theatre of Indiana—Mitty Award for Most Impressive Ensemble in a Musical Professional Theatre Division. *Hello Dolly* (Irene Molloy), The Garden Theatre. B.S., M.S., UCF (Environmental Engineering). Thank you to my loving husband Larry, family, and friends. Thank you FSE! lillieelizathomas.com IG: @sillylillie1127

TIESHA THOMAS she/her (Abigail Adams/Rev. Jonathan Witherspoon, New Jersey) - Black. Fem. Artist and Storyteller hailing from NYC. National Tour: *Elf the Musical* (Jovie), Off Broadway: *Hercules* (Melpomene), *B-Boy Blues the Play* (Michi), *Chronicle X* (Knowledge), *Lost in the Disco* (Angelina), *Midnight Mugshot* (Principal Gordon), Virtual: *WILMAR* (Ugbad/Hamdi) *Getting There* (Tanaysha). Television: *Only Murders in the Building* (HULU), *Let the Right One In* (SHOWTIME), *Skully and the Mole Crack the Case* (NBC Peacock Kids). Teaching *While Black* Film: *B-Boy Blues* (BET+) , *Unlocked*, 'Istikhaara, New York', *Help Yourself "A woman's gifts will make room for her"* - Hattie McDaniel Instagram: @officialtieishathomas GOD Thank you, for without you I am nothing.

JILL MARIE VALLERY she/her (Caesar Rodney, Delaware; Dance Captain) - Broadway: *1776*, American Airlines Theatre; Tony Award Winning *FELA!* (Dance Captain: Drama Desk Nomination, Astaire Award, ACCA Actors Equity Award), Eugene O'Neil Theatre. Off-Broadway: *Fela! A New Musical*, 37 Arts Theatre; *CULLUD WATTAH* (Associate Movement Director), The Public Theatre; *LORDES* (Choreographer), New Ohio Theatre. Regional: *And My Name Ain't Peaches*, Theatre Outlet. Tours: *FELA!* (National + International). TV: *She Gotta Have It* (Jubilee Jones). Film: *Lifted* (directed by Randall Dottin) AEA and SAG. Much Love and Gratitude to the ones who came before me, my mentor Sylvia Turner and my family! I.G. @jillm.vallery

GWYNNE WOOD she/they (George Read, Delaware) - Broadway: *1776*. National Tour: *Oklahoma!* (U/S Ado Annie, Laurey Williams, Gertie Cummings). Regional: *Most Happy in Concert* (Williamstown Theatre Festival), *SUFFS* (The Public Theater development), *Sister Act* (Sister Mary Robert). Boston Conservatory '18 BFA in Musical Theatre; Emphasis in Directing. Thanks to DGRW, family, and my sweet friends. @gwynnelaurel

CANDICE MARIE WOODS they/them (Joseph Hewes, North Carolina) - This Texas native has most recently been seen in Broadway's *Ain't Too Proud* and Dallas Theatre Center's regional production of *Trouble In Mind*. Broadway: *Book of Mormon*, *Nice Work If You Can Get It*, *Catch Me If You Can*, and *Hairspray*. National Tours: *Legally Blonde* and *Dirty Dancing*. They send all the love to family and friends for their continued love and support.

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