



EXPLORING TODAY THROUGH THE LENS OF THE PAST

artistic director **PJ Powers** | executive director **Mica Cole**

CHICAGO PREMIERE

The Lifespan of a
FACT

by **Jeremy Kareken & David Murrell**
and **Gordon Farrell**

based on the book by **John D'Agata** and **Jim Fingal**

directed by **Mechelle Moe⁺**

scenic designer **Jeffrey D. Kmiec, U.S.A.**

costume designer **Kotryna Hilko**

lighting designer **Brandon Wardell, U.S.A.**

projections designers **Anthony Churchill, U.S.A.** and **Vija Lapp**

properties designer **Rowan Doe**

sound designer **Andrew Hansen[^]**

fight and intimacy choreographer **Micah Figueroa**

dramaturgs **Bryar Barborka** and **Maren Robinson⁺**

stage manager **Olivia Sullam^{*}**

featuring **Juliet Hart^{**}**, **PJ Powers^{**}**, and **Alex Benito Rodriguez**

November 9 - December 23, 2023 (previews 11/1 - 11/8)

The Lifespan of a Fact is supported in part by an anonymous donor.

The Lifespan of a Fact is presented by special arrangement with Dramatists Play Service, Inc., New York.



^{*} Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers

Those designers and scenic artists identified by U.S.A. are members of United Scenic Artists, IATSE Local 829, AFL-CIO

⁺ TimeLine Company Member [^] TimeLine Associate Artist

CAST

Juliet Hart**	Emily Penrose
PJ Powers**	John D'Agata
Alex Benito Rodriguez	Jim Fingal

UNDERSTUDIES: Christopher Hainsworth (*John D'Agata*), Jabari Khaliq (*Jim Fingal*), and Lynda Shadrake (*Emily Penrose*). Understudies will never substitute for a listed player unless an announcement is posted at the performance.

* Member of Actors' Equity Association, the union of professional actors and stage managers.

+ TimeLine Company Member

TimeLine dedicates this production to the memory of dear friends **Chris Nugent** and **Anne Stockton**.

SETTING

Manhattan, New York and Las Vegas, Nevada.

PRODUCTION STAFF

Assistant Director	Allison Cain
Assistant Director Intern	Camelia Patron
Production Assistant.....	Maurilio Rodriguez
Dramaturgical Display Designer	Dina Spoerl
Assistant Lighting Designer	Josiah Croegaert
Assistant Properties Designer	Camille Toshiko
Production Manager.....	Paul Cook
Assistant Production Manager	Eva Nyman
Scenic Supervisors	Emmanuel Jimenez and John Alonso McTaggart
Scenic Charge Artist	Jessica Kuehnau Wardell
Associate Scenic Charge Artist	José Alexander
Costume Supervisor	Lucy Elkin
Lighting Supervisor.....	Mark Brown
Projections Supervisor.....	Parker Molacek
Audio Supervisor	Averi Paulsen
Wardrobe Run Crew	Delaney Gosse

PLEASE NOTE

The videotaping or making of electronic or other audio and/or visual recordings (including photographs) of this production or distributing recordings on any medium, including the internet, is strictly prohibited, a violation of the author's rights and actionable under United States copyright law.

RESOURCES

988 SUICIDE & CRISIS
LIFELINE

If you or a loved one are struggling, please reach out to the National Suicide & Crisis Lifeline—call or text 988, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

CONVERSATION

TimeLine Theatre is dedicated to exploring today's social and political issues through the lens of the past. We share information and provide inspiration for conversation through this *Backstory* program book, the interactive lobby experience (with elements available in person at the theatre as well as online), discussion events (in-person and sometimes virtual), our blog Behind the 'Line, and more. Explore all the resources available at timelinetheatre.com/explore-lifespan.

VISIT THE ONLINE LOBBY FOR *THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT*



To supplement the lobby experience available at our theatre on Wellington Avenue, we've created additional resources for you to explore online! Scan the QR Code at left or visit timelinetheatre.com/lifespan-lobby to find additional content, including:

- Online versions of some of the materials displayed in the lobby, for further perusal
- Further reading and activities related to the play's topics and themes
- Plus photos, videos, and much more!

FIND US ON SOCIAL MEDIA

TimeLine Theatre is on Instagram, Facebook, X (formerly Twitter), and YouTube at @TimeLineTheatre. Don't forget to tag us and use the hashtag #LifespanOfAFact and/or #TimeLineTheatre.





JULIET HART (*Emily Penrose*) is a founding Company Member of TimeLine, where she has appeared in *OSLO*, *A DISAPPEARING NUMBER*, *THE APPLE FAMILY PLAYS: THAT HOPEY CHANGEY THING* and *SORRY* (Jeff Award nomination - Ensemble), *33 VARIATIONS* (Jeff Award - Production, Play, Midsize), *TO MASTER THE ART*, *ALL MY SONS*, *WEEKEND*, *HARMLESS*, *MARTIN FUREY'S SHOT*, *IT'S ALL TRUE* (Jeff Award nomination - Supporting Actress), and many others. Other Chicago credits include work with Chicago Shakespeare, Prop Thtr, *Zebra Crossing*, and *Collaboraction*. Television credits include *CHICAGO FIRE* and *PROVEN INNOCENT*. Film credits include *ONE YEAR LATER*, written and directed by Chicago's own Lucia Mauro. Juliet joyfully serves as Director of TimeLine's Living History Education Program, where she finds inspiration every day working with CPS students and teachers. She holds an MFA degree in Acting from The Theatre School at DePaul University and is represented by Gray Talent Group.

PJ POWERS (*John D'Agata, TimeLine Artistic Director*) was a co-founder of TimeLine in 1997 and became Artistic Director in 1999. He is delighted to return to the stage for this production, having previously appeared in 18 productions at TimeLine, most recently in *THE APPLE FAMILY PLAYS: THAT HOPEY CHANGEY THING* and *THE FRONT PAGE*. Other TimeLine credits include *THE FARNSWORTH INVENTION*, *FIORELLO!*, *ALL MY SONS*, *HAUPTMANN*, *NOT ABOUT NIGHTINGALES*, and *GASLIGHT*, among others, and he directed the Chicago premiere of J.T. Rogers' *ONE GIANT LEAP: THE APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING* in a one-night TimeLine event at the Broadway Playhouse. He has also appeared at *Writers*, *Northlight*, and *Shattered Globe*, among others. As Artistic Director, he has overseen the production of more than 85 plays, including 13 world premieres and 40 Chicago premieres. During his tenure, TimeLine has garnered 60 Jeff Awards, including 11 for Outstanding Production, as well as awards for excellence in arts management, including the 2016 MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions. PJ was instrumental in establishing TimeLine's longtime home

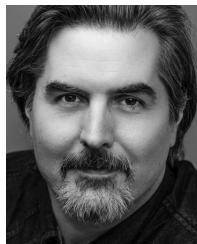


on Wellington Avenue in 1999; expanding the company's programming to include productions in numerous other venues, including the Broadway Playhouse; creating the TimePieces play reading series and First Draft Festival of new work; launching the Living History Education Program in Chicago Public Schools under the direction of TimeLine co-founder Juliet Hart; and planning for TimeLine's new home in Uptown. A graduate of The Theatre School at DePaul University, PJ has served on the Board of Directors for the League of Chicago Theatres and received a Goldman Sachs Senior Fellowship at the Smithsonian National Museum of American History. He is represented by Gray Talent Group

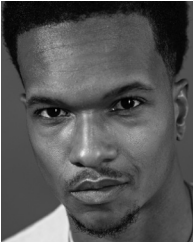
ALEX BENITO RODRIGUEZ (*Jim Fingal*) is making his TimeLine debut. Alex is a Chicago actor, theatre maker, and teaching artist. Chicago credits include *BOTTICELLI IN THE FIRE* (First Floor, Non-Equity Jeff Award Nomination - Performer in a Principal Role), *ANNA IN THE TROPICS* (Remy Bumppo), and *DORY FANTASMAGORY* (Young People's Theatre of Chicago). Regional credits include *GRUESOME PLAYGROUND INJURIES*, *THE CRUCIBLE*, *NOISES OFF*, *OUR TOWN*, and *A MID-SUMMER NIGHT'S DREAM* (Asolo Repertory). Television credits include *CHICAGO FIRE* (NBC). Alex received his BFA degree in Acting from the University of Illinois at Chicago and his MFA degree in Acting from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training in Sarasota, Florida. Special thanks to his loved ones for their endless support. For more, visit alexbenitorodriguez.com.



CHRISTOPHER HAINSWORTH (*John D'Agata U/S*) is making his TimeLine debut. Christopher is a Lifetime Theatre ensemble member, where his performance credits include *TREASURE ISLAND*, *NEVERWHERE*, *THE COUNT OF MONTE CRISTO*, *THE THREE MUSKETEERS*, *THE KILLER ANGELS*, *A TALE OF TWO CITIES*, *MISS HOLMES*, *FRANKENSTEIN*, and *MISS HOLMES RETURNS*, and where he has penned the adaptations of *HUNGER*, *MONSTROUS REGIMENT*, *MIDNIGHT COWBOY*, and *FABLEOUS!* He has also worked for The Gift, Remy Bumppo, Chicago Shakespeare, The Factory, Strawdog, and The House Theatre of Chicago, among others.



4 PROGRAM



JABARI KHALIQ (*Jim Fingal U/S*) is making his TimeLine debut. Jabari is a Chicago-based artist with a BFA degree in Acting from the University of Illinois at Chicago. Previous credits include *THE NACIREMA SOCIETY* and *TONI STONE* (Goodman), *WHAT TO SEND*

UP WHEN IT GOES DOWN (Congo Square), *BLACK MAGIC* (Perceptions), and *LEFTOVERS* (Something Marvelous). He is represented by Grossman & Jack Talent. For more, check out jabarikhaliq.com.



LYNDA SHADRAKE (*Emily Penrose U/S*) is thrilled to be making her TimeLine debut. She was last seen in *PARIS* (Steep). An ensemble member of Griffin Theatre, she has performed in *FOR SERVICES RENDERED*, *POCATELLO*, *BALM IN GILEAD*, *LETTERS HOME*, and *FRINDLE*. Other credits include *THE IMPORTANCE OF BEING EARNEST* and *PYGMALION* (Oak Park Festival Theatre), *CIRCLE MIRROR TRANSFORMATION* (Redtwist), *LATE NITE CATECHISM*, and *FLANAGAN'S WAKE*. Lynda is represented by Big Mouth Talent.

JEREMY KAREKEN (*Playwright*) is a playwright living in New York and Baltimore. His short plays *HOT ROD*, *BIG TRAIN*, and *80 CARDS* have been performed around the country and internationally. He served as a speech writer and policy analyst for two presidential campaigns. His awards include the Sewanee Conference's Dakin Fellowship for *FARBLONDIET*, and Guthrie/Playwrights Center's Two-Headed Challenge for *THE SWEET SWEET MOTHERHOOD*. The Hamptons Film Festival Screenwriters Conference selected Kareken and David Murrell for their horror-comedy script about haunted breast implants—*THESE!* *CONQUERED THE EARTH*. In 2018, PlayPenn shortlisted Kareken's new political satire about an illiterate king, *THE RED WOOL*. Born and raised in Rochester, New York, and a graduate of the University of Chicago, he has taught at NYU, NYIT, the Actors Studio Drama School, and currently teaches at The Acting Studio – New York. A lifetime member of The Actors Studio, Kareken occasionally acts and for 18 years served as the researcher for Bravo TV's *INSIDE THE ACTORS STUDIO*.

DAVID MURRELL (*Playwright*) was born and raised in New York City. He graduated from Stuyvesant High School and the University of Chicago, currently lives in Queens, and has written a sea chest's worth of TV and film treatments and spec scripts. Access Theater (NYC) and the Cleveland Public Theatre each produced his play *DUCTWORK*, and the Hamptons Film Festival Screenwriters Conference selected his and Jeremy Kareken's feature screenplay about haunted breast implants, *THESE!* *CONQUERED THE EARTH*. In 2019, the Outer Critics Circle co-awarded Murrell its John Gassner Playwriting Award for *THE LIFESPAN OF A FACT*.

GORDON FARRELL (*Playwright*) trained as a playwright at the Yale School of Drama, receiving an MFA in 1986 and going on to work with major Hollywood studios, initially as a story analyst for Warner Brothers and Columbia Pictures, and eventually as a screenwriter. He has written for hire and sold screenplays to Universal Pictures, Warner Brothers, MGM, and ITC. Farrell's first independent screenplay, *GIRLS WHO SMOKE*, premiered in 2011. It went on to be an official selection at more than a dozen film festivals, receiving the Audience Choice Award at Seattle's Post Alley Film Festival. As a playwright, from 2009 to 2013, Gordon worked with dozens of women on New York's Lower East Side who wanted to tell their personal stories on stage. The series of monologue plays that grew out of it was called *IN THE RED ROOM/EVERY WOMAN DANCES FOR SOMEONE*. His other plays have been produced in San Francisco, and at Alleyway Theatre, the Yale School of Drama, and New York's Primary Stages. He is the author of *THE POWER OF THE PLAYWRIGHT'S VISION*, published by Heinemann Press in 2001. It has been translated internationally and become a standard playwriting text at colleges and universities in North America, Europe, and Asia.

JOHN D'AGATA (*Author*) is the author of *Halls of Fame*, *About a Mountain*, and *The Lifespan of a Fact* (with Jim Fingal), as well as the editor of the 3-volume series *A New History of the Essay*, which includes the anthologies *The Next American Essay*, *The Making of the American Essay*, and *The Lost Origins of the Essay*. His work has been supported by a Guggenheim Fellowship, a Howard Foundation Fellowship, an NEA Literature Fellowship, and a Lannan Foundation Fellowship. He holds a BA degree from Hobart College and two MFA degrees from the University of Iowa, and recently his essays have appeared in *The Believer*, *Harper's*, *Gulf Coast*, and *Conjunctions*. D'Agata lives in Iowa City, where he teaches creative writing at the University of Iowa.

JIM FINGAL (*Author*) is co-writer of *The Lifespan of a Fact* (with John D'Agata) and the cofounder of *Logic* magazine, a print magazine about technology. He is the past Chief Technology Officer and now Principal Engineer and Chief Architect at Amino, whose mission is to create the clearest picture of the American healthcare system and connect everyone with the best care possible. He holds an AB degree in English and American Literature and Language from Harvard University.

MECHELLE MOE (*Director*) is a Company Member at TimeLine, where her credits include directing RUTHERFORD AND SON, CARDBOARD PIANO and IN THE NEXT ROOM, OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY. She also has appeared on stage in many TimeLine productions, including BOY, THE APPLE FAMILY PLAYS, MY KIND OF TOWN, THE FRONT PAGE, THE CHILDREN'S HOUR, NOT ENOUGH AIR, and PARADISE LOST. Other directing credits include MILK LIKE SUGAR, THE 4TH GRADERS PRESENT AN UNNAMED LOVE SUICIDE, and COLUMBINUS. Mechelle is a Jeff Award recipient for Actress in Principal Role for her performance in MACHINAL (The Hypocrites) and received a Jeff Award nomination for Actress in Principal Role for STAGE DOOR (Griffin). She is an artistic associate of Griffin Theatre. Mechelle graduated with honors from the University of Illinois Chicago with both a bachelor's degree in Theater as well as Anthropology.

JEFFREY D. KMIEC (*Scenic Designer*) returns to TimeLine, where he previously designed OSLO, CARDBOARD PIANO, THE AUDIENCE, and BAKERSFIELD MIST. Jeffrey is an award-winning New York-based production designer for theatre and television. His designs have been seen on NBC, Apple+, Comedy Central, and the CW as well as Norwegian Cruise Line, The Rev, Chicago Shakespeare, Lyric, Theatre Under the Stars, Paramount, Drury Lane, Marriott, American Players, Northlight, Porchlight, Raven, The Artistic Home, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, Arkansas Shakespeare Theatre, Heritage Theatre Festival, and The Children's Theatre of Charlotte. Jeffrey received his MFA degree from the University of Virginia and BA degree from Illinois State University, and is a member of USA 829.

KOTRYNA HILKO (*Costume Designer*) is a Chicago-based costume and set designer who's returning to TimeLine after assistant designing A SHAYNA MAIDEL and costume designing Firebrand's CAROLINE, OR CHANGE, in affiliation with TimeLine. Chicago credits also include TAMBO AND BONES (Refracted); HOW BLOOD GO (Congo Square); REVOLUTION, KILLING GAME, THE HAVEN PLACE, and THE ROOM (A Red Orchid); and KISS (Haven). She

recently received her MFA degree in stage design from Northwestern University. For more, visit kotrynahilko.com.

BRANDON WARDELL (*Lighting Designer*) is a Chicago-based lighting and scenic designer returning to TimeLine, having previously designed TROUBLE IN MIND, RUTHERFORD AND SON, CARDBOARD PIANO, and IN THE NEXT ROOM, OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY. He is an Ensemble Member of Steep Theatre Company, an Artistic Associate with Griffin Theatre Company, and Associate Professor of Lighting Design at Northern Illinois University's School of Theatre and Dance. Recent designs include TWO TRAINS RUNNING (Court); LIGHT FALLS, BIRDLAND, LELA & CO., and EARTHQUAKES IN LONDON (Steep); TWO TRAINS RUNNING and THE CURIOUS INCIDENT OF THE DOG IN THE NIGHT-TIME (Steppenwolf); A NUMBER (Writers); BLUES IN THE NIGHT (Porchlight); MEN ON BOATS (American Theatre Company); SOLARIS, TITANIC, LONDON WALL, and MEN SHOULD WEEP (Griffin); THE GAME OF LOVE AND CHANCE (American Players); and MILLION DOLLAR QUARTET (Finger Lakes Musical Theatre Festival). Brandon earned his MFA degree from Northwestern University. For more, visit brandonwardelldesign.com.

ANTHONY CHURCHILL (*Co-Projections Designer*) is overjoyed to return to working at TimeLine's home on Wellington. Previous TimeLine credits include THE LEHMAN TRILOGY; CAMPAIGNS, INC.; and the reading of ONE GIANT LEAP: THE APOLLO 11 MOON LANDING. Other collaborations include work with Marriott Theatre, Drury Lane, Chicago Opera Theatre, Shakespeare Theatre, Grand Rapids Civic Theatre, the U.S. State Department, Rivendell, THE CHER SHOW, Q Brothers, and the Museum of Broadcast Communications. Tony has been awarded one Jeff Award for Projection Design, and nominated for many more. When not working on plays, he enjoys sculpting tiny astronauts in peril, and exploring with his beautiful wife Sara and rescue pitbulls Cheetoh and Douglass. For more, visit artlabchicago.com.

VIJA LAPP (*Co-Projections Designer*) is excited to be working with TimeLine for the first time. Although this is her first projection design credit, her previous sound design credits include BRIGADOON (Music Theatre Works), MOTHERHOUSE (Rivendell), and THE MOLE HILL STORIES (The Theatre School at DePaul University). When not designing, you can find Vija working as crew at Goodman or Music Theatre Works. Vija will graduate in June with her BFA degree in Sound Design from The Theatre School.

ROWAN DOE (*Properties Designer*) is thrilled to be returning to TimeLine after previously designing THE CHI-NESE LADY and CAMPAIGNS, INC. Recent credits include Prop Shop Supervisor for A ROCK SAILS BY, BLITHE SPIRIT, DAMES AT SEA, and TRYING, and Puppet and Properties Designer for BASKERVILLE (Peninsula Players). Other design credits include ANNA IN THE TROPICS (Remy Bumpo), CABARET (Porchlight), and SPAY (Rivendell), as well as resident Props Designer for Niles West High School's 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons (A KID LIKE JAKE, ROMEO AND JULIET, , AKIKO AND THE UNKNOWN, and SPONGEBOB THE MUSICAL). Rowan is the former Props Assistant at The Theatre School at DePaul University, and recipient of the 2022 Michael Merritt Emerging Technical Collaborator Award.

ANDREW HANSEN (*Sound Designer*) is an Associate Artist at TimeLine Theatre, where he has designed 37 productions. Favorites include THE HISTORY BOYS; IN THE NEXT ROOM, OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY; PRAVDA; and NOT ABOUT NIGHTINGALES. Andy is the composer for Goodman's annual production of A CHRISTMAS CAROL. He has also worked for many years with Writers, Northlight, and American Players.

MICAH FIGUEROA (*Fight and Intimacy Choreographer*) is a queer, Latine, Chicago-based actor, director, choreographer, and teaching artist specializing in intimacy/violence, physical theatre, and circus arts, and is thrilled to be making his TimeLine debut! Recent Violence and Intimacy Director credits include EURYDICE (Writers) and ANNA IN THE TROPICS (Remy Bumpo). Other select productions include MIKE PENCE SEX DREAM, PLANO, and BOTTICELLI IN THE FIRE (First Floor); THE LEOPARD PLAY and LIGHT FALLS (Steep), THESE SHINING LIVES (University of North Carolina at Charlotte); and IN HIS HANDS, PEERLESS, BLOOD WEDDING, SWEAT, INDECENT, and EVERYBODY (Northwestern University). He holds a degree in Directing and Playwriting from Southern Methodist University.

BRYAR BARBORKA (*Co-Dramaturg*) is a proud nonbinary Tejanx theater artist. They are the Literary and Casting Associate at Steppenwolf, Literary Associate at Seven Devils New Play Foundry, and Literary Manager at Breaking the Binary Theatre Festival. Bryar has also worked with Second Stage, The Playwrights' Center, Goodman, Victory Gardens, Teatro Vista, Definition, Interrobang Theatre Project, and the Ojai Playwrights Conference, among others, in various capacities.

MAREN ROBINSON (*Co-Dramaturg*) is Resident Dramaturg and a Company Member at TimeLine, where she has been dramaturg for 35 productions. Favorite TimeLine projects include WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME; CAMPAIGNS, INC.; IN THE NEXT ROOM, OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY; A DISAPPEARING NUMBER; THE APPLE FAMILY PLAYS; THE NORMAL HEART; MY KIND OF TOWN; TO MASTER THE ART; IN DARFUR; THE HISTORY BOYS; and COPENHAGEN. Maren was an artistic intern at Steppenwolf and has worked with Court, Eclipse, Strawdog, Caffeine, Camenae, and Lifeline theaters. She holds a master's degree in Humanities from the University of Chicago. She is a lecturer at The Theatre School at DePaul University, Associate Director of the Master of Arts Program in Humanities at the University of Chicago and the Chicago Metro VP of the Literary Managers and Dramaturgs of the Americas.

OLIVIA SULLAM (*Stage Manager*) is delighted to be in the stage management role for the first time at TimeLine, after working as Props Assistant on BOULEVARD OF BOLD DREAMS. Olivia is a graduate of Loyola University Chicago with a BA degree in Theatre and a minor in English. Select Chicago credits include DISHWASHER DREAMS, WIFE OF A SALESMAN, TIGER STYLE!, MANUAL CINEMA'S CHRISTMAS CAROL and EURYDICE (Writers); THE DREAM KING and SOMEWHERE OVER THE BORDER (Teatro Vista); and AND NEITHER HAVE I WINGS TO FLY (First Folio).

ALLISON CAIN (*Assistant Director*) is a Chicago-based theater maker. Over the past 35 years, she has performed on stages in Chicago, Michigan, Los Angeles, New York, Connecticut, Pittsburgh, and Edinburgh. She was a proud member of the Factory Theater from 2000–2011 and also served as their Executive Director from 2001–2007. She served as the Managing Director of Lifeline Theatre from 2009–2021 and is currently working as their Interim Managing Director. Allison received her training at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, Penn., and Columbia College Chicago. Thanks to Mechelle for the opportunity to work on the other side of the table.

CAMELIA PATRON (*Assistant Director Intern*) is a graduate of The Second City Teen Ensemble and currently a Political Science and Theatre Arts Double Major at DePaul University. They have directed, head written, and acted in various sketch and improv shows at both The Second City and the Annoyance Theatre. Camelia also works in teaching artistry at both Creative Root and Raven Theatre.

BIOGRAPHIES

MAURILIO RODRIGUEZ (*Production Assistant*) is excited to return to TimeLine after previously working on WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME and BOULEVARD OF BOLD DREAMS. He was most recently a Dresser for JERSEY BOYS at Mason Street Warehouse in Saugatuck, Mich. Other Chicago credits include THE HERO WITHIN (Chicago Shakespeare), THE ISLAND (Court), and ENOUGH TO LET THE LIGHT IN and SOMEWHERE OVER THE BORDER (Teatro Vista).

DINA SPOERL (*Dramaturgical Display Designer*) returns to TimeLine, where her recent credits include WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME; BOULEVARD OF BOLD DREAMS; TROUBLE IN MIND; CAMPAIGNS, INC.; THE CHINESE LADY; and RELENTLESS; among many others since 2012. She has almost 20 years of graphic design and exhibit design experience. Past and current clients include the American Library Association, The National Museum of Natural History, The Newberry Library, Nextbook, National Building Museum, Children's Home & Aid, and Indiana State Museum. She is currently Exhibits Team Leader at Naper Settlement.

MICA COLE (*Executive Director*) was named TimeLine's Executive Director in April 2022. A Chicago native raised on the South Side, she has worked as an arts administrator and changemaker for nearly two decades. Most recently, she has been a national consultant providing executive

coaching and strategic planning for cultural institutions working to embrace an antiracist leadership paradigm. Mica is a consultant with artEquity, a nonprofit organization that provides tools, training, and resources for individuals and organizations working at the intersection of art and activism. She co-led its BIPOC Surviving Predominantly White Institutions Series and the BIPOC Leadership Circle—both aimed at providing resources and mentorship to leaders of color. Prior to her work as an organizational consultant, Mica served eight seasons as the Repertory Producer at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival. As a senior leader at OSF, she played a key role in guiding the company's equity, diversity, and inclusion initiatives, many of which now serve as foundational organizational models for institutions around the world. Mica has produced more than 80 shows, including a dozen transfers and national co-productions of new plays with theatres such as American Repertory, Seattle Repertory, South Coast Rep, Arena Stage, Portland Center Stage, and Berkeley Repertory. She worked in Chicago as the Executive Director of Free Street Theater and as the Director of Education and Engagement at Writers Theatre. Mica served on the advisory committee for the Latinx Theatre Commons and is a founding member of the Black Theatre Commons. She is a graduate of The Theatre School at DePaul University.

CREW

Carpenters	Grace Adams, Robert Barnett, Kayne Bowling, Joshua Clewis, Ollie Gillespie, Miranda Hernandez, Ashley Hutchison, Lucas Holeman, Roman Jones, Kirsten Krieman, Amelia Osborn, Ryan Pollock, Alex Rhyan
Painters	Shannon Evans, Ava Calabrese Grob, Rose Johnson, Niamh Sullivan
Stitchers/Costume Support	Delaney Gosse, Megan Pahlow
Electricians	Quinn Chisenhall, Josiah Croegaert, Savannah Selbach
Projections Crew	Andres Fiz
Audio Crew	Andres Fiz, Jessie Snyder

SPECIAL THANKS

THIS PRODUCTION OWES SPECIAL THANKS to numerous individuals and organizations for their time, talents and support, including The 4529 Prop Shop, Aria Music Designs, LLC (Stephanie Farina & Ray Nardelli), artLab Media, Franklin Barnes, Chabad of East Lakeview, The Chicago Green Theatre Alliance, Conscious Costume, Exposition Carpet and Flooring (Dena Isaacson & Juan Carlos), The Lyric Opera of Chicago (Mike Smallwood & Maria DeFabo Akin), Molly Maid, Northlight Theatre (Emily Kneer, Kirstin Johnson, Colleen Schuldeis & Matt Super), and The Theatre School at DePaul University (Amy Peter).

YOUR SUPPORT TODAY HELPS MAKE HISTORY TOMORROW!



TimeLine Theatre Company is Chicago's only theatre with a mission to present stories inspired by history that explore the issues that affect us today. We believe that live performance

intimately connects us by sparking dialogue and reflection in pursuit of a better tomorrow.

At the center of this mission is you.

Charitable contributions are the lifeblood of nonprofit theatres like TimeLine. With ticket sales covering only a portion of our annual income, donations from our community are vital to sustaining the work we do.

Your donation to TimeLine enables us to:

- Create impactful, high quality artistic experiences
- Spark the curiosity of young artists through our arts education programs
- Strengthen our infrastructure to support a growing organization

Scan the QR code at left or visit timelinetheatre.com/donate to make your tax-deductible donation today.

BECOME A HISTORY MAKER!

Deepen your connection to TimeLine and help us make history by becoming a member of The History Makers Society! Those who support us at this leadership level are offered unique opportunities to get closer to our work and meet others who share their passion for TimeLine.

To learn more, visit timelinetheatre.com/individual-giving or scan the QR code below.



ACCESSIBILITY SERVICES

TimeLine is working to make our productions accessible to all patrons. A few of the services we offer are listed below; we invite you to visit timelinetheatre.com/accessibility for a complete listing and more information.



Assistive Listening Devices

Ask the Box Office and provide an ID to check out an RF assistive listening device.



Accessible Seating

If you require accessible seating, please let us know when you place your reservation how we may assist in fitting your needs.



Open Captioning

Open captioning is a text display of words and sounds heard during an event. The display is positioned in such a way that it is open for anyone to see in a particular seating area. It is a service you may choose to use or ignore during the performance.



Audio Description

A live narrator gives verbal descriptions of actions, costumes, scenery, and other visual elements via a handheld device delivered to patrons upon request before the show.

Open Captioned performances for *The Lifespan of a Fact* are scheduled:

- Friday, December 8 at 8pm
- Saturday, December 9 at 4pm

The Audio Described performance for *The Lifespan of a Fact* is scheduled on Friday, December 15 at 8pm

If you have feedback or suggestions regarding accessibility, please contact Audience Services Manager Kellyn Henthorn at kellyn@timelinetheatre.com.

ABOUT TIMELINE

OUR MISSION

TimeLine Theatre Company presents stories inspired by history that connect with today's social and political issues. Our collaborative organization produces provocative theatre and educational programs that engage, entertain and enlighten.

From the moment in 1997 that six founders each pitched \$50 to launch this company, TimeLine has worked to become one of Chicago's leading cultural institutions by creating theatre that is more than just a few hours in a seat. Our team of Company Members works collaboratively to present riveting stories that link our past, present, and future—exploring today's social and political issues through the lens of the past and inspiring ourselves to re-imagine tomorrow.



Pat Tiedemann (from left), PJ Powers, and Juliet Hart in TimeLine's inaugural production *SUMMIT CONFERENCE*, 1998.

And the TimeLine experience extends well beyond the stage, encompassing meticulously researched and interactive lobby experiences, opportunities to discuss the show with artists, ways to take action on whatever the art inspires, and more.

It is a mission unique in Chicago, and beyond.

Now celebrating our 27th season, TimeLine has presented 89 productions, including 13 world premieres and 40 Chicago premieres.

Our work has been recognized in Chicago and beyond: TimeLine received the prestigious 2016 MacArthur Award for Creative and Effective Institutions and has been named "Company of the Year" in *The Wall Street Journal* (2010), one of the American Theatre Wing's top 10 emerging professional theatre companies nationwide (2011) and *Chicago* magazine's "Best Theatre" in the city (2011). And we have been honored with 60 Jeff Awards, including an award for Outstanding Production 11 times.



Ayanna Bria Bakari (left) and Jaye Ladymore in the world premiere of Tyla Abercrombie's *RELENTLESS*, 2022.

We work to match artistic excellence with sophisticated business management, and these efforts also have been recognized. TimeLine was the first arts organization to receive the Alford-Axelson Award for Nonprofit Managerial Excellence of a small company, and we have received the Association for Strategic Planning's Richard Goodman Strategic Planning Award in the Non-Profit category.

For more about TimeLine's history and programs, please visit timelinetheatre.com

TimeLine Theatre is a member of the League of Chicago Theatres, Chicago Cultural Alliance, Choose Chicago, the Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce, Uptown Chamber of Commerce, Lakeview's Belmont Theater District, the Chicago Green Theatre Alliance, and Theatre Communications Group (TCG), the national organization for the American theatre.

LIVING HISTORY PROGRAM



Living History students in the lobby at a matinee performance of CARDBOARD PIANO, 2019.

Learning and discovery have always been central to TimeLine's mission, driven by our belief that live performance can connect people and illuminate ideas.

Founded in 2006, TimeLine's Living History Education Program brings that mission to Chicago Public Schools, working with students on creative exercises related to historically inspired stories on TimeLine's stage and beyond.

Living History is an arts integration residency that features curriculum designed to teach theatre skills while fostering the capacity to think creatively, to make connections, and to provide new ways of understanding history and the world around us. Over six to 13 sessions, students explore connections between history, art, and their own lives, developing critical thinking and communication skills.

"It made me feel that I was part of that moment in history.

As if I was experiencing it firsthand. It made me understand it better."

During Living History residencies, TimeLine teaching artists and classroom teachers collaborate on lesson plans that illuminate the themes of the play and their connection to each classroom curriculum. Students work on several scenes from a TimeLine production and are provided with a study guide. They experience visits from the production's actors and dramaturg and attend a student matinee and post-show discussion with the cast.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Living History revised its play- and field trip-centered residencies to respond to the unique needs of students and teachers who are living through history and looking for ways to express their experiences. The need for partnership, collaboration, and creative problem-solving is more important than ever, and Living History has provided virtual and real-time opportunities to use theater-based exercises to amplify student voices, challenges, hopes, and dreams.

Since its inception, more than 9,000 students have actively explored history through Living History. TimeLine currently partners with nine schools to present the program.

TIMELINE SOUTH



Tiffany Fulson (right) with a TimeLine South ensemble member in 2019.

TimeLine South—a unique arts program that provides teens a safe space for self-expression, creativity, and ensemble building on the south side of Chicago—just celebrated its 6th anniversary, and two years in partnership with the Reva and David Logan Center for the Arts. Offered free of charge for six weeks during the summer, TimeLine South promotes leadership in the arts and introduces teens to the idea that theatre can also be a vehicle for social justice.

Major supporters of Living History include Crown Family Philanthropies, Joseph & Bessie Feinberg Foundation, Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, John and Jessica Fullerton, Robert and Eleanor Meyers, Stanley and Vivian Nitzberg, Polk Bros. Foundation, Walder Foundation, and multiple anonymous contributors, as well as the donors to TimeLine's Annual Fund and Step Into Time gala. The growth of TimeLine South was supported over multiple years by Anita Samen and David Follmer in memory of their son, Daniel Samen Follmer. TimeLine South is currently sponsored by Walder Foundation.

COMPANY MEMBERS



Company Members are the artistic leaders of TimeLine Theatre Company, working collaboratively together to shape the artistic vision and choose the programming for the organization.

Tyla Abercrombie | Will Allan | Nick Bowling | Janet Ulrich Brooks
Behzad Dabu | Charles Andrew Gardner | Lara Goetsch
Juliet Hart | Anish Jethmalani | Mildred Marie Langford | Mechelle Moe
David Parkes | Ron OJ Parson | PJ Powers | Maren Robinson

ASSOCIATE ARTISTS

TimeLine's Associate Artists have made enormous contributions to the work on TimeLine's stage, and they also have been leaders off stage, making the company a better place to work and serving as ambassadors in the community. The group plays an important role in shaping TimeLine's artistic growth.

Jared Bellot | Brian Sidney Bembridge | Eva Breneman | William Brown | Aaron Carter
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Kimberly Senior | Demetrios Troy | Mike Tutaj | Ann Wakefield | Alex Weisman

PLAYWRIGHTS COLLECTIVE

TimeLine has an ongoing commitment to developing the work of established as well as emerging playwrights. The Playwrights Collective, founded under the leadership of Ben Thiem, offers a supportive environment over multiple years for a group of Chicago-based playwrights to develop new plays that are inspired by history and explore the social and political events of today.

2013 - 2016 (Inaugural) Collective

Alice Austen | John Conroy | Emily Dendinger
Frances Limoncelli | Susan McLaughlin Karp | Brett Neveu

2017 - 2018 Collective

Tyla Abercrombie | Will Allan | Maureen Gallagher | Calamity West

2020 - 2021 Collective

Dolores Díaz | Kristin Idaszak | Osiris Khepera | David Rhee

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CREATING A NEW CULTURAL ASSET FOR CHICAGO, IN UPTOWN.

TimeLine is laying the foundation for our next era. After 25 years of adapting within rented facilities, we're establishing a theatrical hub in Chicago's vibrant Uptown neighborhood. Far more than just a theatre, this inviting and accessible facility will be a welcoming gathering space for entertainment, education, and community engagement.

Joining other venerable performance venues in the historic Uptown Entertainment District, TimeLine's new home will feature:

- An intimate and flexible 250-seat black box theatre that can be reimagined for every show
- Exhibit galleries that enhance the production experience
- A dedicated Education and Engagement room for student and community programming
- Expanded social spaces, including a bar and café open day and night
- Office, rehearsal, and production space for staff and artists
- Plus opportunities for future expansion, and much more!

Join us in taking this bold step together toward a new home, where everyone is welcomed and where great artistry collides with topics relevant to today's social and political issues.

**"It's Time to create a space to grow and innovate
... a space where past and present intersect and where collaboration
and togetherness will lead us to a better future."**

– Artistic Director PJ Powers

**IT'S
TIME**

MAKE HISTORY WITH US

This once-in-a-lifetime project is a private and public funding partnership. For more information about how you can support this special campaign, please contact Chelsea Phillips, Director of Major Gifts, at chelsea@timelinetheatre.com or 773.281.8463 x116.

Explore more about this thrilling project—including interior and exterior design renderings—online at timelinetheatre.com/its-time.

TimeLine is grateful for the support and confidence shown by the investors in the campaign for our new home.

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We are honored to recognize TimeLine's History Makers—supporters who make tax-deductible donations of \$1,000 and more annually to support TimeLine's general operations. History Makers help TimeLine continue the Chicago tradition of companies that started small, dreamed big, and developed into prominent arts organizations. Members of the History Makers Society receive exclusive privileges designed to bring our most generous individual supporters closer to the art they make possible at TimeLine. This list includes donations and pledges received October 10, 2022 through October 10, 2023.

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