

# **Production Crew**

## Annie Coffman — Choreography

Annie, a native of Northern Virginia, received a bachelors and master's degree in music from Towson University and the Cleveland Institute of Music, respectively. She has performed in a number of operas and musicals with various companies throughout DC, MD, and VA, and has sung with the National Philharmonic Chorale as well. She is a staff singer at St. John's Lafayette Square in Washington, DC. Annie is currently an Assistant Director and mentor with one of ArtStream's inclusive theater companies in Arlington, VA, and has also worked as Choreographer. She's extremely proud to have worked with ArtStream for the past eight years, helping to produce original musicals with, and on behalf of, people with intellectual disabilities.

## Orlando Cotto — Music Director

Orlando, originally from Puerto Rico, was raised in the traditions of Afro-Cuban and Puerto Rican music, is a Baltimore Percussion Specialist. His impressive performance list reads like a who's who in the music industry including the Telluride Jazz Festival and the Kennedy Center in Washington D.C.. He was the first marimbist to receive the Artist Diploma from the Peabody Conservatory of Music.

John Dalman – Bass Salem Kamalu - Keyboards

## Alex Diaz — Music Composer

Alex, grew up in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, where he learned to sing with the Alabama Choir School. He spent four years at the Alabama School of Fine Arts as a voice major. He went on to study Vocal Performance, Music Composition, and Japanese Language at Bennington College in Vermont, where he was involved in several operas, musicals, and staged song cycles. He also worked locally as a freelance pianist, vocalist, and music instructor. He spent a year teaching piano and voice privately in Seattle, and has been back in Alabama working for the Choir School as their Administrator, Assistant Conductor, and Composer-in-Residence since 2016. In addition to his Choir School dues, he composes pieces for choral and instrumental ensembles, and teaches privately. He

also directs and arranges music for his church's Handbell Choir, and is the Choral Instructor for the Sisterhood of Tuscaloosa Chinese School. He is looking forward to premiering his piece "This Holiday" with the Tuscaloosa Symphony Orchestra and a 200 voice choir in December 2018.

## **Beverly Henderson** — **Stage Manager**

Beverly, originally from Minnesota and mother of three is no stranger to behind-the-scenes stage. Beverly works with and assists the director. She was the Stage Manager for, The Civil War a musical Performed at the Schwartz Center, in Dover, DE and assisted the stage manager of "The 39 Steps" a Second Street Players, of Milford, DE production. She is the leader of a Christian puppet group called the Mop Squad (Ministry of Puppets) and has directed several Puppet productions. Beverly has also directed several children's Choirs as well as children's Christian Musicals. She is a co-director of Dover Christian Church Sanctuary Choir.

### **Don Lonski** — Stage Direction

Don, has been working in theatre, in one capacity or another, for over 30 years. He is a Delaware native but has lived many places in his lifetime. Don studied theatre in NYC in the early 90's and was active on the stand-up comedy circuit. He has portrayed a variety of characters in nearly 80 productions, has worked in touring companies, and has directed over 30 productions. Don is truly humbled to be working on this project and wishes to thank his wife, children, cast, and crew for making this possible.

## Joy Pritchett — Production Coordinator

Joy organized auditions throughout the state of Delaware. She was responsible for organizing the cast, scheduling rehearsals, reminding cast of rehearsals, cast rehearsal attendance and communications with the parents of young actors and more. Joy has a Master's degree in gerontology has been an advocate for care at home, for all—regardless of diagnosis for over thirty years.

#### Janelle Robinson — Performing Artist

Janelle, is on the faculty of the Greater Hartford Academy of the Arts and Hartt Community Division currently an adjunct instructor at Western Connecticut State University. She has numerous Broadway/nat'l tour credits: Mary Poppins, Thoroughly Modern Millie, Oklahoma!, Show Boat. Off-Broadway: Slag Heap (Cherry Lane). Regional: Cinderella (Paper Mill), Tin Pan Alley Rag (Cleveland Play House), Carousel (NSMT). TV/film: "Criminal Intent," Day Zero, Aftermath.

## George Purefoy Tilson — Playwright, Book and Lyrics

George is a Maryland-based playwright, librettist and composer whose 20 plays (including 3 musicals for which he also wrote lyrics) span all genres. His work has been presented by the New York Theatre Workshop, the Harlem Rep Company, Roy Arias Studios, Catonsville (MD) Community College, Spotlighters in Baltimore, and the Washington, DC Fringe Festival (2010). He has had readings of 4 plays at the Kennedy

Center's Page to Stage Festival, including "Holler" at the Millenium Stage. That play also received a staged reading at the famed Player's Club in NYC. "Rudy Doo"—a theatrical romp about a brain-injured hockey player, a writer with cerebral palsy and a runaway heiress — won first place production in the 2007 Baltimore Playwrights Festival. George wrote the words to "This Holiday" with composer Alex Diaz, a piece that will receive its world premiere by the Tuscaloosa Symphony and a 200-voice choir, in December 2018. George is a longtime teacher and advocate for people with disabilities and others who live in the margins of our communities. Their lives have impacted him greatly, as a person and as a creative artist. He is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America.