

Up Next!

UNFRAMED PRESENTS THE REVEAL PARTY

JOIN US, AS THE ASSOCIATES AND EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT REVEAL UNFRAMED'S 23-24 SEASON

Join us for our annual fundraiser and season reveal! It will be a night of food, drinks, and a grand announcement of New Stage's Unframed Series this year! Following our closing performance of Blues for an Alabama Sky, New Stage's Associates will announce the three remaining Unframed productions for this season. They will also be announcing audition and volunteer information. Whether you want to act, design, or just watch great theatre, this will be one party you don't want to miss.

New Stage's Warehouse Theatre | 1000 Monroe Street
Date and time will be posted on Instagram | Follow @newstage.unframed to learn more!
FREE ADMISSION

NEW STAGE THEATRE WHAT THE CONSTITUTION MEANS TO ME WRITTEN BY HEIDI SCHREK DIRECTED BY FRANCINE REYNOLDS

Fifteen-year-old Heidi earned her college tuition by winning Constitutional debate competitions held across the United States. In this hilarious, hopeful, and achingly human play, author Heidi Schreck resurrects her teenage self to trace the profound relationship between four generations of women and the founding document that shaped their lives. This powerful play is a love letter to our constitution, giving it new life and imagining how it will shape the next generations of Americans. What the Constitution Means to Me will be presented in the Hewes Room with general admission seating. Recommended ages 14 and up.

New Stage Theatre | 1100 Carlisle Street
October 24-28 & 31, November 2-4 | 7:00
October 25, 28-29 & November 1, 4-5 | 2:00

For more information on our 58th season, please visit newstagetheatre.com!

NEW STAGE
Theatre

**UN
FRAMED**
@ NEW STAGE THEATRE
NEW, DIFF. VIEW

Blues for an Alabama Sky

by
Pearl Cleage

DIRECTED BY XERRON MINGO

OCTOBER 13-15, 2023

NEW STAGE'S WAREHOUSE THEATRE | 1000 MONROE STREET

**Contains adult language and content. Mature audiences only.*

COSTUME DESIGNER
JADE DYER

LIGHTING DESIGNER
JAKOB MEYERS-HOLDT

SOUND DESIGNER
ASHIA BENFORD

PROPERTIES COORDINATOR
OLIVER MORGAN

STAGE MANAGER
VERN LEE

SET DESIGNER
ANTONIO JUAREZ

Commissioned by and World premiere at
ALLIANCE THEATRE COMPANY
Atlanta, Georgia
Kenny Leon Edith Love
Artistic Director Managing Director
With support from the Lila Wallace Reader's
Digest Fund's Resident Theatre Initiative.

BLUES FOR AN ALABAMA SKY is presented by special arrangement with Broadway Licensing, LLC, servicing the Dramatists Play Service Collection. (www.dramatists.com)

Creative Team

Director/Unframed Producing Director Xerron Mingo
Stage Manager Vern Lee*
Set Designer Antonio Juarez
Properties Coordinator Oliver Morgan
Costume Designer Jade Dyer*
Costume Consultant..... Ester Newell
Sound Designer Ashia Benford
Marketing Director Lizzy Delp
Lighting Designer Jakob Meyers-Heldt
House Manager Paul Pelletier*
Run Crew Morgan McKay*
Technical Director Richard Lawrence
Artistic Director Francine Reynolds

Cast

Guy Jacobs Cecil Hill
Angel Adams Jasmine Rivera
Delia Patterson Marquita Levy
Sam Thomas Baxter Evans III*
Leland Cunningham Timothy Magee

**Indicates that this member is one of New Stage's Acting or Directing Associates.*

Special Thanks!

Unframed would like to give a very special thanks to Alisa Price, Darby Frost, and Jakob Meyers-Heldt for helping with tech and production. We would also like to thank our photographer, Destin Benford, our graphic designer, Mattea Pierce, our volunteer Ushers, and CSI for allowing us to use their parking facilities.

Thank you to all who helped! Without you, this production would not have been possible.

Volunteer with us!



Are you interested in volunteering with New Stage's Unframed series this season? Scan the QR Code to get in touch with our Producing Director, Xerron Mingo! Give your name, contact information, and how you would like to get involved with us!

TRIGGER WARNING: A prop gun is used in this show.

Crew Bios

XERRON MINGO (DIRECTOR) is a Graduate of Florida A&M University. Born in St. Thomas, Virgin Islands, Mingo recently resided in New York City where he worked as a health and safety manager for productions on Apple TV and HGTV. He also worked as a testing secretary and production coordinator for television shows with LIONSGATE and Apple Music Reviews. For the past ten summers, Mingo has worked at Raquette Lake Camps teaching musical theatre to students from all across the world. He recently made a return to the stage and served as choreographer while playing the role of Fezziwig in **A Christmas Carol** at New Stage in 2021. Most recently, Mingo played the role of Gabriel in **Fences** at New Stage Theatre. He has worked professionally at a plethora of regional theatres in a handful of states. Mingo continues to live in the Light and could not be more blessed to do so as he continues to be the Producing Director of *Unframed* this season.

VERN ALLEN (STAGE MANAGER) Vernell Allen (He/him/his) is a New York based producer, director, writer, and stage manager originally born in Mississippi. Currently working as a directing associate for New Stage theatre, he's directed and managed two touring shows, Theatre for Young Audiences, community theatre, and collegiate plays, the most notable being **All American Boys** by Jody Alperin and Vicky Crouch. He also served as second second AD for Wes Miller's **A Day to Die** starring Bruce Willis and Dallas Jackson's **The System** starring Tyrese Gibson. Vern is an alumnus of Mississippi State University and the Mississippi School of the Arts, and remains a student of the game

ANTONIO JUAREZ (SCENIC DESIGNER) is very excited to be taking his first few steps in the world of theatre. He is a recent graduate of Hinds Community College where he studied stimulation and animation. He was raised in the Brandon area and first became involved with theatre at Northwest Rankin High School where he created costumes and set design for a production of **The Zombie Prom**. He found working in the theatre environment fulfilling and when he was offered an opportunity to work with New Stage Theatre in November 2021 making the phantom cloaks and working as the the sound board operator for **A Christmas Carol**, he didn't hesitate to accept to accept the offer. Juarez most recently designed the set for the *Unframed Series* at New Stage Theatre's production of **Sunset Baby**.

OLIVER MORGAN (PROPERTIES DESIGNER/SET DRESSER) Recently returning from attending the Savannah College of Art and Design, Morgan is thankful for the opportunity to be a part of this production. Other credits include **Small Mouth Sounds**, **Sunset Baby**, and **What Every Girl Should Know**.

LIZZY DELP (MARKETING DIRECTOR) is a graduate of Belhaven University where she received a BFA in acting, a B.A. in English, and a minor in vocal performance. Lizzy is very excited to be a part of *Unframed* this year, and appreciates the hard work of the cast and crew!

Cast Bios



CECIL HILL (GUY JACOBS) is thrilled and deeply grateful for the opportunity to return to *Unframed* and collaborate with this incredibly talented cast. His most recent appearance at New Stage Theatre was in the role of Miles/Shawn/Rashaad in Branden Jacobs-Jenkins' **Gloria**. Cecil is a proud graduate of THEE Jackson State University and an active Jackson Revival Center Church member. He extends heartfelt appreciation to his friends and family for their unwavering encouragement and support throughout his journey. Cecil offers a special thank you to director Xerron Mingo for inspiring him to return to the stage and continue refining his craft, and a very special thanks to God!



MARQUITA LEVY (DELIA PATTERSON) is excited to be returning to *Unframed* at New Stage to work with such an astounding cast. Levy last appeared at New Stage as Beverly in **Lend Me a Soprano**. She is a graduate of THEE Jackson State University with a BS in Mass Communications. Levy would like to thank her family and friends for their continuous love & support. She dedicates this performance in the loving memory of her mentor, N. Earlean Bogan.



JASMINE RIVERA (ANGEL ALLEN) is a graduate student at Jackson State University where she earned a B.A. in speech communication and theatre. Rivera's performance credits include shows such as, **A Christmas Carol**, **Hell in High Water**, **Steal Away**, and **The Color Purple**. Rivera is also a former intern at New Stage Theatre. Rivera is currently one of New Stage's instructors for Kids' Studio. Rivera is excited to return to the *Unframed Series* and looking forward to their upcoming season.

Cast Bios



BAXTER EVANS (SAM THOMAS) is an actor and combatant from Clinton, Miss where he went to Hinds Community College, and performed in shows called **Water Engine** and **Bus Stop**. Evans then moved to Hattiesburg, Miss to study theatre at the University of Southern Mississippi, performing in the shows **Once in a Lifetime**, **She Kills Monsters**, **The Addams Family**, and **Macbeth**. While at USM, Evans received a KCATCF nomination, allowing him to travel to the Alpha Psi Omega, Harlem (a BIPOC theatre club), and **Skip the Script** (an improv club). Evans is excited to come back home to learn more and to work for a professional theatre company and is excited for what comes!



TIMOTHY MAGEE (LELAND CUNNINGHAM) is a former associate artist who is currently at Hinds Community College and will be attending Jackson State University in the spring. A Murrah High School alumnus, he also attended the Mississippi School for the Arts in Brookhaven and was a long-time student in the theatre program at Wells APAC. He was the assistant acting instructor in the 2022 and 2023 Broadway Jr Day Camps at New Stage. He has been in Main Stage productions at New Stage including **Fences**, **A Christmas Carol**, **Beauty and the Beast**, and many more. He is a product of New Stage's Education Department and has also done many productions in the Broadway Jr Day Camps and New Stage's Youth Acting Troupe highlighted by **Aladdin, Jr.**, **Once on This Island Jr.**, and **As You Like It**. Magee would like to thank his parents and friends for their love and support, and gives New Stage his deepest gratitude for all of their guidance, support, and the opportunities to do meaningful work in such a special space.

Crew Bios

JADE KRystal DYER (COSTUME DESIGNER) is a 2023 graduate of Florida State University with a bachelor of arts in theatre on a performance track. Some of her performance experience includes **Hair the Musical**, **Julius Caesar**, **Sweet Charity**, and **The True Story of the Three Little Pigs**. When not on stage, Dyer also enjoys taking on other roles in entertainment, such as writing, producing, and directing an original Choreopoem titled **Dear, [BLANK]**; **Love, Anonymous** as well as acting as an associate producer and production coordinator on an indie television series called **Tri-County**. As an actor and a person, Dyer prioritizes kindness, respect, and enjoyment for all! @jade.krystall

ESTER NEWELL (COSTUME CONSULTANT) is glad to be involved with *Unframed* this year as a costume consultant! Previously at New Stage, she costume designed **All the Way** in 2014 and also stitched costumes for Caleb Blackwell and Lesley Raybon. Newell is a full time theatre teacher at Ida B. Wells APAC and a mother of two young children. She would like to thank her kids for being loving, their father for his support, her mother for her care, and her friends and family for their love. estersmithnewell.com

ASHIA BENFORD (SOUND DESIGNER) is excited to be back with *Unframed*! She holds a BA in sociology and theatre from Jackson State University. After graduating, Benford joined the professional acting internship at New Stage Theatre, where she was seen in **Race 9**, **Parts of Desire**, **The Cat in the Hat**, **Mahalia: A Gospel Musical**, and **Hairspray**. Currently, she is an acting instructor/director with local theatre companies, as well as a private audition coach. Last year Benford earned a MA in clinical mental health counseling and is a therapist at Progressive Movement Counseling. She enjoys working with children and integrates various theatre techniques into the counseling process. She has recently been seen as Ella Baker in **The Debate for Democracy**, a show commissioned by the Mississippi Civil Rights Museum. She would like to thank Destin and Audrey-Grace for their continuous love and support.

JAKOB MEYERS-HELDT (LIGHTING DESIGNER) is a Senior at Millsaps College from Albuquerque, New Mexico. He is majoring in both Greek and Roman Studies and Government and Politics. Jakob works as a junior consultant at Davaine where he focuses on AV system integration. He recently finished a five month stint on the road with Mississippi country-rock band Chapel Hart as their Lighting Designer and Production Manager. He has been in the theatrical lighting world since 2014. He works with many organizations, schools, churches, and theaters around Jackson to fulfill their AV and lighting needs. He is a former president of Lambda Chi Alpha and the current vice president.