



new stages festival_26



PROFESSIONALS WEEKEND GUIDE

schedule

Friday, January 16th, 2026

5:00 PM | Festival Registration / Check-in Opens | Main Lobby

5:30 PM | Kick-Off Cocktail Party | Alice Center

7:00 PM | *Pennies* – Staged Reading | Owen Theatre

9:00 PM | Post Show Salon | Alice Center

Saturday, January 17th, 2026

10:00 AM | Festival Registration / Check-in | Lobby

11:00 AM | Panel Discussion | Baskes Rotunda, Alice Center

12:00 PM | Industry Lunch w/ Breakout Rooms | Baskes Rotunda, Alice Center

2:00 PM | *FEAST!* – Staged Reading | Owen Theatre

7:00 PM | *The Audience Unseen* - Staged Reading | Owen Theatre

Sunday, January 18th, 2026

10:00 AM | Professionals Breakfast | Alice Center

11:00 AM | *This Part of His Life Blooms* – Staged Reading | Owen Theatre

3:00 PM | *The Audience Unseen* – Staged Reading | Owen Theatre

useful information

Welcome to the Goodman Theatre and the 2025-26 New Stages Festival Professionals Weekend! Please read below for useful information that will help you get the most out of your weekend.

tickets

Should you lose your tickets, the Goodman Theatre Box Office can issue reprints. Simply give the Box Office attendant your name and identify yourself as a Professionals Weekend attendee.

All performances and readings will take place in the **Owen Theatre**. These performances are general admission and open to the public. We anticipate a busy house and encourage you to arrive at the theatre early. **Please be sure to claim a seat at least 5 minutes prior to curtain.**

name badges

Please keep your festival badge with you for the entirety of Professionals Weekend. Your name badge will allow you access to **free water, coffee and tea, along with half-priced soft drinks, beer, wine, and snacks** at all Goodman lobby bars throughout the weekend.

guest services

Our Guest Services staff will assist you with questions and help you navigate the Goodman and the surrounding area. Guest Services staff are located at the information desk and can be found immediately as you enter the first-floor lobby.

food & drink

quick bites

Quick places for food and drinks within a 10-minute walk:

- **7 Eleven:** [200 N Dearborn St.](#)
- **Dunkin' Donuts:** [27 W Lake St.](#)

- **Potbelly Sandwiches:** [190 N State St.](#)
- **Subway:** [29 W Lake St.](#)
- **Walgreens:** [151 N State St.](#)
- **Wow Bao:** [1 W Wacker Dr.](#) (entrance is on the corner of State and Lake)
- **Sweetgreen:** [1 N Dearborn St.](#)
- **Chipotle:** [8 E Madison St.](#)
- **Roti, Modern Mediterranean:** [33 N Dearborn St.](#)
- **Mammoth Poke & Ramen:** [53 E Lake St.](#)
- **Urbanspace:** [14 W Washington St.](#)

restaurants nearby

During the Holiday Season these restaurants can be very busy. We recommend making a reservation in advance, if you are able.

- **Pepperino's:** Next door to the Goodman Theatre (show your Goodman badge for a discount). An eclectic menu with everything from steaks to seafood to classics. [150 N Dearborn St](#)
- **The Florentine:** Located on the second floor of the JW Marriott. Showcases modern, seasonal Italian cuisine, in a warm, inviting environment. [151 W Adams St](#)
- **STK Steakhouse:** Artfully blends a modern steakhouse and chic lounge for a unique asana vibe-driven dining experience. [9 Kinzie St](#)
- **The Dearborn:** Enjoy Chef Aaron Cuschieri's Midwest-focused cooking, with a twist on sophisticated classics. [145 N Dearborn St.](#)
- **Tortoise Supper Club:** A Metropolitan Supper Club featuring steaks, chops and fresh seafood from Chef Aaron Browning's Made from Scratch Kitchen. [350 N State St](#)
- *Link:* [Restaurants in the Loop](#)
- *Link:* [List of Chicago Restaurants](#)

late-night options

- **The Dearborn** (open until midnight): Enjoy Chef Aaron Cuschieri's Midwest-focused cooking, with a twist on sophisticated classics. [145 N Dearborn St.](#)
- **Emerald Loop Bar & Grill** (open until 2:00am - show your Goodman badge for a discount): Neighborhood Irish bar located in the Chicago Loop, steps away from the Chicago Riverwalk, with great food, craft beer and cocktails. [216 N Wabash Ave.](#)

- **Elephant & Castle** (open until 2:00am): Chain with a British pub feel serving beers on tap & classic fare, such as fish 'n' chips. [185 N Wabash Ave.](#)
- **State and Lake Chicago Tavern** (open until midnight): Stylish hotel restaurant with pub-style bar serving craft beer, an American wine list and cocktails. [201 N State St.](#)
- **Flight Club Chicago** (open until midnight): Entertainment venue featuring Social Darts with digital scoring, casual bite and a full bar. [111 W Wacker Dr.](#)

artist contacts

playwrights

CALAMITY WEST | FEAST!

Diana Glazer at CAA: diana.glazer@caa.com

CHRISTINA ANDERSON | THIS PART OF HIS LIFE BLOOMS

Olivier Sultan at CAA: olivier.sultan@caa.com

HANSOL JUNG | PENNIES

Kevin Lin at CAA: kevin.lin@caa.com

IKE HOLTER | THE AUDIENCE UNSEEN

Michael Finkle at WME: mfinkle@wmeagency.com

directors & dramaturgs

MALKIA STAMPLEY | THIS PART OF HIS LIFE BLOOMS

MalkiaStampley@goodmantheatre.org

PATRICIA MCGREGOR | PENNIES

Olivier Sultan at CAA: olivier.sultan@caa.com

SARAH SLIGHT | THE AUDIENCE UNSEEN (DRAMATURG)

Sarah@raventheatre.com

festival attendees

industry professionals

As of 1/8/26

* denotes Dramatists Exchange Playwright

AISHA HAMID*
Playwright

AJ LINKS
Casting Director; AJ Links Casting

ALEXANDER ATTEA
Artistic Director; Avalanche Theatre

ALVARO SAAR RIOS*
Playwright

AMAL SALEM
Production Manager Actor

AMANDA WATKINS
Director of New Work; Alliance Theatre

AMBER GRAY
Artistic Associate; Alley Theatre

AMELIA WORKMAN
Actor

AMY CARPENTER
Co-Founder; [producingbody]

ANA ORTIZ-MONASTERIO DRAA
Actor

ANELGA HAJJAR*
Playwright

ANNE VAN WART

ANNIKA PEREZ-KRIKORIAN
Literary Director; Milwaukee Rep

ARI STESS
Playwright

AYSETTE MUÑOZ
Actor/Director

BAILEY MCWILLIAMS-WOODS
Executive Director; The Village Theater

BEN LOCKE*
Ensemble Member; Bramble Theatre

BONNIE METZGAR
Director/Playwright

BRADLEY MICHALAKIS
Head of Dramaturgy; Alley Theatre

BREON ARZELL*
Actor/Direc-Choreographer/Playwright;
Hauz of Arzell

BRETT NEVEU
Playwright; A Red Orchid Theatre

BRI SUDIA

BRIGITTE ANDERSON
Women's Board member

CALAMITY WEST
Playwright

CAMILLE OSWALD
Associate Director of Marketing; Court
Theatre

CARLO ZENNER*
Community Programs Manager;
Goodman Theatre

CAROLINE MICHELE UY
Director of New Work; Rivendell Theatre
Ensemble

CATHERINE MILLER
Casting Director; About Face Theatre +
Raven Theatre

CATHERINE YU*
Playwright

CHERI JOHNSON

CHERYL GRAEFF
Actor

CHRISTOPHER PAZDERNIK
Producer/Director

CINDY MOELIS

COLIN MORGAN

COLIN SPHAR
Actor

CORI LANG
Dramaturg

CRUZ GONZALEZ-CADEL
Associate Artistic Director Dramaturg;
Teatro Vista Productions

DADO

DAN WASHELESKY
Director/Dramaturg; Bramble Theatre
Company

DAWN BLESS*
Playwright

DEVIN CHRISTOR
Producer director; Playground-Chicago

DEVON DE MAYO
Director

DILLON CHITTO
Playwright

DOLORES DIAZ
Playwright

EDUARDO CURLEY
Core Ensemble Member/Board
Member; Remy Bumpo

EILEEN TULL
Artistic Director; Fat Theatre Project

ELIZABETH LAIDLAW
Producer/Director/Actor

ELIZABETH SWANSON
Director

EMILY MORSE
Artistic Director; New Dramatists

ERIK ROLDAN
Communications

ERIK SHOOKMAN

ERIN KILMURRAY

EVAN JOHNSON-RANSOM

EXAL IRAHETA
Playwright

FELICIA ODUH*
Actor/Playwright

GABRIELA DIAZ
Development Director; Bramble Theatre
Company

GABRIELLA BONAMICI
Playwright/Director/Marketing

GARRETT ANDERSON
Director of Artistic Development;
Concord Theatricals

GEORGETTE KELLY
Playwright

GREG ALLEN
Director / Playwright

HAL BROOKS
Artistic Director; Cape Cod Theatre
Project

HUDSON
Accessibility Manager; Jackalope
Theatre Co

IKE HOLTER

IREON ROACH*
Actor/Writer

ISABELLE FERESHTEH SANATDAR STEVENS
Associate Artistic Director; New York
Stage and Film

J. ISABEL SALAZAR
Playwright/ Dramaturge; Playwright's
Center Many Voices Fellow

JAMAL HOWARD
Director

JANICE O'NEILL
Actor

JARRED WEBB

JAZZMA PRYOR
Ensemble/ Protégé Program Facilitator;
Shattered Globe Theatre

JEFFREY ALLMEN

JEN BOSWORTH-RAMIREZ*
Playwright

JENNIFER
Playwright

JERRELL L. HENDERSON
Director/Puppeteer

JESSICA DEAN TURNER

JO CATTELL
Director & Playwright

JON COHEN
Company Member; Jackalope/Taft
Drama

JONATHAN L. GREEN
Director of New Play Development;
Steppenwolf Theatre

JOHN STEBER
Director of the Playwrights' Lab;
NewDramatists

JULIA RAVENSCROFT
Theater Artist & Playwright

JULIET KANG HUNEKE*
Playwright/actor

KAELI MENO
Director Playwright

KARINA PATEL
Literary Associate; Chicago
Shakespeare Theater

KARISSA MURRELL MYERS
Artistic Director; Bramble Theatre
Company

KAT BLADE
Producer; Cottage Grove Productions

KEEGON SCHUETT*
Playwright

KRISTIN IDASZAK
Playwright

KRISTIN LEAHEY

KRYSTAL ORTIZ
Playwright & Producer

LANI T. MONTREAL
Playwright; CIRCA-Pintig

LAURA MATALON

LAUREL PROCTOR-MATTINGLY
Librettist Composer

LEO BARNARD
Playwright

LEXY LEUSZLER
Dramaturg/Producer; The Pack Theater
Company

LEXY MCAVINCHY
Associate Producer; Geffen Playhouse

LIBBY RAYMOND
Trustee

LILI-ANNE BROWN
Director

LIP LEWIS*
Playwright/Director

LISA DILLMAN

MADDY BROWN
Dramaturg/Actor/Literary Manager;
Avalanche Theatre

MADIE DOPPELT*
Playwright

MALLORY METOXEN
Co-Artistic Director; Seven Devils New
Play Foundry

MARIA SMITH*
Playwright

MELANIE COFFEY*
Playwright

MELISSA DUPREY*
Actor/Playwright/Producer; Teatro Vista/
Solo Artist

MIKAEL BURKE
Asst. Professor of Theatre Acting //
Freelance Director; Chicago College of
Performing Arts at Roosevelt University

MIKE FISCHER
Literary Manager; Forward Theater

MOLLIE STROMBERG
Patron

NAMBI E. KELLEY
Playwright-Producer; First Woman INC

NAT MARTINEZ-WHITE
Playwright

NATALIE SHOCH
Costume Designer

NATE WHELDEN

NETTA WALKER*
Actor/Playwright

NICOLE RICCIARDI
The Theatre School at DePaul

NICOLE MICHELLE HASKINS
Actor and Playwright

NIKKI CARPENTER
Playwright & Actor

NIKO KOURTIS

NJ DRAINE
Playwright

NOËL HUNTZINGER
Costume Designer

NORA CARROLL
Director of Education / Performer;
Chicago Shakespeare

OMAR FERNANDEZ*
Playwright / Artistic Director; Subtext
Studio TC

PAT WHALEN

PATRICIA COX
Life Trustee; Goodman Theatre Board of
Trustees

PATTY CORCORAN

PAUL MICHAEL THOMSON*
Playwright

PEDRO JIMENEZ
Actor

PHYLLIS WEZEMAN
South Bend Civic Theatre

PRESTON
Writer

RACHEL CHIN*
Playwright; Northwestern University

RACHEL DEWOSKIN
Author

RAQUEL TORRE
Director & Creator

ROB WILSON
Associate Artistic Director; Second City

ROBERT RIVKIN

ROCHELLE BAKER
Guest Service Associate; Smart Museum
of Art

SADIEH RIFAI*
Playwright; A Red Orchid Theatre

SARA K SCHNEIDER
Playwright/Director/Movement
Consultant

SARAH SLIGHT
Executive Artistic Director; Raven
Theatre

SCOTT CARTER COOPER
Playwright

SETH ROSEMAN

SHADE MURRAY
A Red Orchid

SHANNON TYO
Actor

SHELDON ZENNER
Goodman Trustee

TAYLOR DALTON
Co-Founder; [producingbody]

SKYLER TARNAS*
Playwright

THOMAS B. TRAN
Actor

SLICK BROOKS*
Playwright

TOCCARA CASTLEMAN*
Playwright/Actress; Goodman Theatre

SPENCER HUFFFMAN*
The New Theatre Project

TOMMY RIVERA-VEGA
Actor/Director

SPENCER WALLER

TREVOR DAWKINS

STEPHANIE DIAZ
The Chicago Inclusion Project

TYLA ABERCRUMBIE*
Playwright

TANYA FERNANDO*
Playwright

ZAYD DOHRN
Playwright

TANYA PALMER
Assistant Dean & Executive Artistic
Director; Northwestern University School
of Communication

ZOE SJGERMAN
Executive Director; Avalanche Theatre

***about dramatists exchange playwrights**

This year, we're piloting a new New Stages initiative called **Dramatists Exchange**—a cohort of 30 early-to mid-career Chicago playwrights invited to come together for community, conversation, and connection. Participants, indicated in the list above with an asterisk (*), were nominated by artistic leaders from across the city and will be in attendance during Professionals Weekend.

We'd love to offer them the opportunity to connect with you while you're here. If you're open to that, please let us know if we may share your email address with the Dramatists Exchange cohort, and we will share their information with you. From there, we encourage folks to connect organically and on their own time during the weekend.

Contact Michael Cotey (michaelcotey@goodmantheatre.org) if you are interested.

**goodman 2025-26 new stages
residents**

WILLIAM GLICK
New Stages Resident Playwright

LACHRISA GRANDBERRY
New Stages Resident Playwright

goodman staff

SUSAN BOOTH
Artistic Director

KAT ZUKAITIS
New Stages Festival Director
Director of New Works

LENA ROMANO
BOLD Producing Associate

ADAM BELCUORE
Managing Producer

MALKIA STAMPLEY
BOLD Artistic Producer

LAUREN PORT
Casting Director

SIERRA REYNOLDS
Casting Assistant

GRACE DOLEZAL-NG
Casting Coordinator

EMI SUAREZ
Artistic Coordinator

MICHAEL COTEY
Northwestern Directing Fellow

LO WILLIAMS
Maggio Directing Fellow

JARED BELLOT
Walter Director of Education and
Engagement

TYRA BULLOCK
Associate Director of Education

DEMI SMITH
Associate Director of Engagement

CARLO ZENNER
Community Programs Manager

ANNA ROGELIO JOAQUIN
School Programs Manager

CLARA ZUCKER
Literary and Dramaturgy Assistant

goodman trustee, new work committee

ALICE SABL

ANDREA WAINER

ANNE VAN WART

BOB & CHARLENE SHAW

BRAD KECK

CAROL PRINS

CATHERINE MOULY

CYNTHIA SCHOLL

DAEL ORLANDERSMITH

DAVE HARRIS

DHUANNE DODRILL

ELIZABETH BALTHROP

FRAN DEL BOCA

GABBY SAGERS

GENEVIEVE THIERS

HARRY HARCZAK

HENRY GODINEZ

INDIA RADFAR

IRENE SUDAC

JEFF HESSE

JOE LEARNER

JOHN PINTOZZI

JOHN ROBAK

JULIE DANIS

KATHLEEN COWIE

KRISTIN ANDERSON SCHEWE

LAURA MATALON

LIBBY RAYMOND

LINDA COBERLY

LORRAYNE WEISS

LUCY PARK

MELINDA MCMULLEN

MELISSA DONALDSON

MICHAEL BELSLEY

PATRICIA COX

RANDY WHITE

REBECCA FORD

SAM SCARCELLO

SHAWN DONNELLEY

STEVE SCOTT

SUKI DEWEY

SUSAN WISLOW

TERRI MASCHERIN