

BABES WITH BLADES
THEATRE COMPANY

PRESENTS

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE'S

RICHARD III





Disability Cultural Center



BWBTC's production of RICHARD III is supported by a collaboration with the University of Illinois Chicago (UIC) called "Making Inclusive Theatre: RICHARD III as Disability Art." Supported by a UIC Creative Activity Award, the collaboration brings Babes with Blades Theatre Company together with the UIC Disability Cultural Center, Department of Theatre, and Bodies of Work, a network of disability arts & culture. Our inquiry focuses around the questions: "What does it mean to do inclusive, disability-culture informed theater? How might a performance speak and even make an argument?"

BWBTC would like to especially thank Margaret Fink, PhD, Bianca Frazer, PhD, Keyana D. Robinson, Carrie Sandahl, PhD, Rachelle Palnick Tsachor and the students of the UIC theatre department for their insight and participation with this production.

BWBTC'S 2022 PROGRAMMING IS GENEROUSLY SUPPORTED IN PART BY

The Art Works Fund Arts for Illinois Emergency Relief Fund
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BABES WITH BLADES

THEATRE COMPANY

proudly presents William Shakespeare's

RICHARD III

Director	Richard Costes
Fight Director & Intimacy Designer	Maureen Yasko*
Scenic Designer.....	Sydney Lynne
Lighting Designer	Becca Venable
Costume Designer	kClare McKellaston
Props Design	AJ Morley
Music Director	Gail Gallagher
Sound Design	Jesse D. Irwin
Puppet Design	Kat Pleviak
Stage Manager	Gabrielle Owens
Technical Director	Line Bower
Production Manager.....	Rose Hamill
Text Coach	Carrie Hardin
Dramaturg	Claire Alston
Asst. Fight Director	Jillian Leff*
Asst. Stage Manager	Esau Andaleon
Accessibility Coordinator.....	Matt Lauterbach
Accessibility Rep.....	Margaret Fink
COVID Compliance Officer	Tab Mocherman

** Denotes BWBTC Ensemble Member*

This production uses realistic staged violence in the telling of the story.

**PHOTOGRAPHY AND VIDEO RECORDING OF ANY KIND IS
STRICTLY PROHIBITED**

CAST

(IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Lady Anne / Lord Hastings	Kristen Alesia
Catesby / King Edward IV	Kim Fukawa*
Richard, Earl of Gloucester	Azskara Gilchrist
Ratcliffe / Duke of York	Madison Hill
Grey / Duchess of York	Leah Nicole Huskey
Lovell / Archbishop of Canterbury	Kayla Marie Klammer
Duke of Buckingham	Jillian Leff*
Duke of Clarence / Stanley / Mayor	Jennifer L. Mickelson*
Rivers / Bishop of Ely / Messenger	Izis Mollinedo*
Queen Elizabeth	Lauren Paige
Queen Margaret / Brackenbury	Pat Roache
Richmond	Genesis Sanchez
Dorset / Prince Edward	Symonne Still
Understudies	Jo Hoch, Hazel Monson, Emma Norville, Xela Rosas Logan UhiwaiO'Alohamailani Rasmussen and Elizabeth McAnulty Quilter



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WHO'S WHO



KRISTEN ALESIA (she/they; Lady Anne/Lord Hastings) is incredibly excited to make their BWBTC debut! Previous Chicago credits include work with Midsommer Flight, Birch House Immersive, The Barrens, Strawdog, City Lit, Idle Muse, and Haven. Regionally, she has worked with The Virginia Shakespeare Festival. Kristen is a graduate of Indiana University where she received her BA in Theatre & Drama. In their free time they are a horror movie enthusiast and helicopter cat mom. They are proudly represented by BMG Talent.



KIM FUKAWA (she/her; Catesby/King Edward IV) is excited to be back with BWBTC again. She was last seen with them in *Othello*, and many times before that in several capacities, including Fight Designer. She has also been seen with such companies as Lifeline Theatre, TimeLine Theatre, The House Theatre, and The Gift Theatre .



ASZKARA GILCHRIST (she/her; Gloucester) is a Chicago-based, legally blind actor. Her recent credits include *Free Space* (Possibilities Theatre Company), *The Bone Harp* (Underscore Theatre Company), and *Moby Dick: A Musical* (Chicago Musical Theatre Festival). She holds a BA in Musical Theatre from Palm Beach Atlantic University. She is so excited to be making her BWBTC debut, and she has greatly enjoyed working with this company, cast, and crew.



MADISON HILL (they/them; Ratcliffe/York, Asst. Fight Captain) is pumped to be making their debut with BWBTC! You might recognize them from their work around Chicago with other companies such as: The Raven, The Plagiarists, Kerfuffle Theater for the Very Young, The Connecting Routes Project, and Theater Momentum. Madison is an Actor Combatant with the SAFD. During the pandemic fell in love with writing and devising and recently, they have joined the ensemble of Imagination Theater. Madison received a BFA in Drama from the University of Oklahoma, and has been in Chicago since 2018. Madison would like to thank their friends, family, partner, and cats for supporting their career.



JO HOCH (she/her; US Gloucester) is thrilled to be celebrating her BWBTC debut. She is an Oklahoma City University graduate and has most recently been seen as Onstage Foley Artist in Oil Lamp's *It's a Wonderful Life* and Beast in Theatre L'Acadie's production of *70 Scenes of Halloween*.



LEAH NICOLE HUSKEY (she/her; Grey/Duchess of York) is so excited to make her BWBTC debut! She received a BA in Theatre Performance from the University of Missouri and completed the Film and Television Intensive at the Stella Adler Art of Acting Studio in Los Angeles. Chicago credits include *Make/Believe* at Ghostlight Ensemble, *Death is so Much Worse* at Nealshow Productions, *Jane: Abortion and the Underground* and *Without a Choice* at Connective Theatre Company. Leah is also a founding ensemble member of Connective Theatre Company where she serves as Resident Intimacy Director. She is represented by Dream Team Talent. Outside of her career she is a devoted dog mom, an avid DIY decorator, and a volunteer at Awakenings Art. Check her out at leahhuskey.com!



KAYLA MARIE KLAMMER (she/her; Lovell/Archbishop of Canterbury) is thrilled to be performing her first show in Chicago with BWBTC! A bucket list opportunity to be in *Richard III*, checked off. She was born and raised in small town rural Nebraska, and graduated from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln in 2015. A Midwest gal, through and through. She completed an 11-month professional Acting Apprenticeship at Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati in July 2019. Recent credits include: Night Maiden in *The Frog Princess*, #13 in *The Wolves*, and Chorus #3/Amelia in *Bob: A Life in Five Acts* (Ensemble Theatre Cincinnati); Lucy B. Helm in *The Belle and Boone Helm* (2021 Cincinnati Fringe Festival Critic's Pick). Recently a new transplant to the windy city, she's looking forward to seeing what's in store for her adventurous spirit! Much love to my sweet family & friends. kaylamarieklammer.com



JILLIAN LEFF (she/her; Buckingham, Asst. Fight Director) is a BWBTC Ensemble Member who has previously appeared in *Women of 4G* (Pierce) and *The Good Fight* (Cicely). Previous credits include *Last Night in Karaoke Town* (Shawn) with The Factory Theater, *Missed Opportunities* (Playwright/Max), *She Kills Monsters* (Tilly), and *The Fairytale Lives of Russian Girls* (Annie) with TCTP, and *Twelfth Night* (Ensemble) with Midsommer Flight. As a playwright, her work has been produced by The New Coordinates (*Small World* – 2020 Jeff Nominee for New Work), Broken Nose Theatre (Bechdel Fest 7), and Random Acts Chicago

(Scary Stories: Are You Afraid?). She has a BFA in Acting from Ball State University and is an Advanced Actor Combatant with the SAFD. All the love and thanks to T.



JENNIFER L. MICKELSON (she/her; Clarence/Stanley/Mayor) was most recently seen onstage with Promethean Theatre Ensemble in *Gross Indecency: The Three Trials of Oscar Wilde* and an under-understudy for BWBTC's *Othello*. She is also an intimacy designer (Idle Muse, Promethean, Broken Nose, Citadel), and an occasional playwright (*Patchwork Drifter*, *Rites and Sacrifices*, *The Last Daughter of Oedipus*), as well as the literary manager at BWBTC, an alum of Illinois State University, and an SAFD Actor-Combatant.



IZIS MOLLINEDO (they/she; Rivers/Bishop of Ely/Messengers) is a queer Latinx actor, singer, and musician from Chicago. A graduate of University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign with a BFA in Acting, they have been an ensemble member with BWBTC since 2017 and performed in their productions of *Promise of a Rose Garden* and *Othello*. Additional previous credits include: Midsommer Flight, Pegasus Theatre, Strawdog Theatre Company, The Unrehearsed Shakespeare Company, The Hypocrites, and Signal Ensemble Theatre. Given the current state of the world, please remember to be gentle with yourself, be kind, and also continue to fight for what's right.

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HAZEL MONSON (they/she; US Margaret/Brackenbury, Ratcliffe/York, Catesby) has worked as an actor, writer, director, and administrator for such organizations as The Neo-Futurists, The House Theatre, Raven Theatre, The Artistic Home, Steppenwolf Theatre, Mercy Street Theatre Company, Pride Films & Plays, Illinois Shakespeare Festival, The League of Chicago Theatres, Lookingglass, and Spartan Theatre Company in addition to having worked as a staff writer for the podcast PleasureTown. A loving parent of two cats, they also moonlight as a professional wrestler, holding such accolades as being the first and only WFW triple champion. They are represented by the good people of Grossman & Jack Talent.



EMMA NORVILLE (she/her; US Clarence/Stanley/Lord Mayor, Anne/Hastings) is thrilled to be working with BWBTC for the first time! She was most recently seen in the Eclectic Full Contact Theatre's Patchwork Play Festival performing in a new work, *Wilcox Prom 2K13* by Cris Eli Blak. She received her BFA in acting at Shenandoah Conservatory in Virginia and studied comedy at The Second City. Some of her favorite theatre credits include *As You Like It*, *Julius Caesar*, *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot*, and *Peter and the Starcatcher*. She's been in various independent films, her most notable being *GetAWAY*, currently streaming on Amazon Prime. You can catch her on the gram @emmanorville_



LAUREN PAIGE (she/her; Queen Elizabeth) is a Las Vegas native, who is excited to put down the glitter and pick up a sword for BWBTC's production of *RIII*. She received her BFA in Classical Acting from Southern Utah University. Some credits include: *Julius Caesar*, *Twelfth Night*, and *The Tempest*. When she's not studying Shakespeare you can find her performing stand-up comedy to anyone who will listen around the city. She wants to thank her mom, stepdad, Axel and Collin for their constant love and support. IG:@rennpaige



ELIZABETH McANULTY QUILTER (she/they; US Lovell/Archbishop, Buckingham) is thrilled to be making her debut with BWBTC! Elizabeth received her MA from the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art in London. A classically trained actor and clown, Elizabeth writes and performs her own work including *The First Fox*, as well as her award-winning short film *Queen Mab*. Elizabeth is an SADF certified actor combatant, trained singer, and tap dancer. Favorite credits include: *Hamlet* (Mercury Hamlet), *Comedy of Errors* (Hampshire Shakespeare), *Richard III* (Back Room Shakespeare Project), *Three Sisters* (One Year Chekhov), and *Ayn Rand's It's a Wonderful Life* (The Conspirators). Catch her in the next Conspirators show this November.



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LOGAN UHIWAIO'ALOHAMAILANI RASMUSSEN

(she/her; US Queen Elizabeth/Richmond, Grey/Duchess of York) is a recent graduate from Northern Illinois University and is represented by Shirley Hamilton Talent Inc. She appeared most recently at Great River Shakespeare Festival as Patsy Cline (u/s) in *Always... Patsy Cline* and in their community-engaged project *All the Town's a Stage: A Winona Story*. She also appeared as Maria in Hawaii Shakespeare Festival's production of *Twelfth Night*. Some of her educational credits include Olivia in *Twelfth Night*, Annabel in *Bike America* and Multiple Roles in *Love and Information*. She is thrilled to be making her debut with BWBTC! IG: @logan.rasmussen.



PAT ROACHE (they/them; Queen Margaret/Brackenbury) is an interdisciplinary performance artist from Detroit, MI. They recently wrote and directed a queer adaptation of Donizetti's *Don Pasquale* with Detroit's Opera MODO and they regularly perform with Sofa Stories Detroit, which uses storytelling to help fight youth homelessness. BWBTC's Richard III is Pat's Chicago debut! www.pattyroache.com



XELA ROSAS (she/they; US Rivers/Ely/Messenger, Dorset/Prince Edward, King Edward IV) is so excited for their premiere with BWBTC! Recent credits include *The Wolves* at Roosevelt University. Lots of love to this cast, my family & friends for all the support!



GENESIS SANCHEZ (she/they; Richmond) is thrilled and honored to have her professional debut with BWBTC! She is beyond grateful for this opportunity and for the cast & crew, whose talent and kindness knows no bounds. Favorite credits include in *Macbeth*, *Rumors*, and *Romeo & Juliet*. So much love to mi familia loca and to my awesome roommate Jacque!



SYMONNE STILL (she/her; Dorset/Prince Edward) is a recent CCPA graduate from San Diego, California where she received her BFA in acting. She is excited to return to theatre and be in her first production with BWBTC! Her recent credits include *Walk Across America For Mother Earth* (CCPA) and *She Kills Monsters* (North Coast Rep). Symonne also works in circus arts and will be attending the Professional Training Program at Actor's Gymnasium in the fall.

PRODUCTION TEAM

CLAIRE ALSTON (she/her; Dramaturg) is working on her first BWBTC production, but her dramaturgy career has included workshops, world premieres, and various productions in NC, Chicago, and the Philippines. Her writing has been featured at Gallaudet University's Visual Shakespeare Symposium and The Elsinore Conference: Shakespeare - The NEXT 400 Years. Her approach to new play and production dramaturgy is shaped by neurodivergence and disability justice. Claire also runs the The Leftist Musical Theatre Anthology Twitter, @leftistmusicals.

ESAU ANDALEON (he/him; Assistant Stage Manager) is excited to be working with BWBTC for the first time! Esau is a Filipino-American raised in the Chicagoland area and a proud graduate from Columbia College Chicago. Stage Management credits include *Case Study: Contact*, *We Will Not Describe the Conversation*, *Mr. Burns: A*

Post-Electric Play, How I Learned to Drive, High Fidelity, The Wolves (Columbia College Chicago), *Collected Grimm Tales* (Bath Spa University), and *Killing Game* (A Red Orchid Theatre). Acting credits include *Sub-Thermal Nightmare* (Dungeon of Doom) and *Fright Fest - Bloodshed* at Six Flags Great America. Thanks to my family, friends, and BWBTC.

LINE BOWER (they/them; Technical Director) is a Chicago-based freelance technical director, carpenter, and scenic painter. They hold eight weapon proficiency certifications from the SAFD. A recent graduate of Columbia College Chicago, they were the college's first student technical director for a mainstage production, *Hortensia and the Museum of Dreams* (2022). Their most recent credit was as a stagehand on *Skates: A New Musical*. They are beyond contented to have brought BWBTC's inclusive visions into drafted, constructed reality. Love and thanks to their mentors, Kal Grissom and Grant Sabin. They're so excited to make their BWBTC debut!

RICHARD COSTES (he/him; Director) is an actor, director, and accessibility consultant and is thrilled to be working with BWBTC to bring the story of one of Shakespeare's most manipulative kings to this stage. Richard has previously directed productions of *Twelfth Night, As You Like It, King Stag, Kimberly Akimbo, Footfalls and Other Plays by Samuel Beckett* amongst others. In 2019, Richard was one of 10 recipients of a 3Arts Award and is also a member of Disability Lead. A graduate of Kent State University (B.A. Theatre) he has co-presented at Gallaudet University's symposium on Visual Shakespeare and was a panelist and member of the 2019 Deaf Theatre Action



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Planning Session hosted by HowlRound at Emerson College. He has consulted with National Disability Theatre, and currently sits on the board of the National Theatre of the Deaf.

MARGARET FINK (she/her; Accessibility Rep, Curator, Disability Cultural Center at UIC) is the Director of UIC's Disability Cultural Center, one of seven Centers for Cultural Understanding and Social Change. A cultural studies and literary scholar, she has taught courses on disability in American literature, reality television and anomalous embodiment, and narratives of the mind/body distinction in popular narratives of transgender and disability experience. She also has a professional background in writing support for academic and professional writers. After experiencing disability culture spaces at disability studies conferences, her work as a teacher blossomed into an interest in how our practices shape spaces for inclusion and belonging. More recently she has collaborated on pieces about accessible conference spaces and, with Dr. Frazer, she co-taught a course at UIC in conjunction with this production, "Making Inclusive Theatre: Richard III as Disability Art."

BIANCA FRAZER (she/her; UIC Partner) is a Postdoctoral Research Associate at the University of Illinois Chicago. She researches performance aesthetics and representations of non-apparently disabled people, specifically those with any form of diabetes. Her writing appears and is forthcoming in (Un)Doing Diabetes: Representation, Disability, Culture, The Routledge Handbook of Health and Media, Metanarratives of Disability: Culture, Assumed Authority, and the Normative Social Order, ArtsPraxis, and Theatre Journal. She has served as dramaturg for several seasons at Colorado Shakespeare Festival, as well as with Aurora Fox, Phamaly Theatre Company, and the Colorado

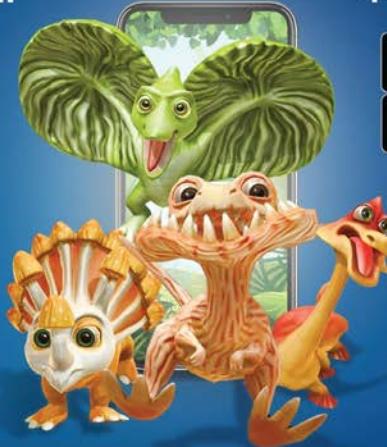


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GAIL GALLAGHER (she/her; Music Director) is a music director, singer-songwriter, composer, and music teacher. She has worked as a music director in the improv and theatre scene for nearly a decade and has composed original music for several musicals including Feathers: A Super Hero Musical which won "Best Underscore Throughout" at the 2017 Premiere Premieres Festival of New Musical Comedies at MCL Chicago. In 2020 she released her debut album Power of the Unnamed Passion which is available on all streaming platforms. You can find out more about her work at www.gailgallaghernetmusic.com.

ROSE HAMILL (she/her; Production Manager) is a freelance stage and production manager who has worked with multiple Chicago storefront theatres. Most recently she worked with both Factory Theater (HOA), and Redtwist Theater (Collected Stories.) She served as the Managing Director of Broken Nose Theatre for almost 4 years, where her production credits include *At The Table*, *Bechdel Fests 6-9*, *Labyrinth*, and *After the Blast* among others. She is very excited to be back at BWBTC again having previously served as the stage manager of *The Good Fight*. Rose is a member of the United States Institute for Theatre Technology and volunteers for the annual Conference Committee. Rose holds a BA in Technical Theatre from Columbia College Chicago, with a minor in Arts Administration and is pursuing a Certificate of Philanthropy and Nonprofit Management from Northwestern University.

CARRIE HARDIN (she/her; Text Coach) is pleased to be back with BWBTC after working on the dialects for *Henry V*, *The Good Fight*, and *The Lady Demands Satisfaction*. Some of her past coaching experiences include work with First Folio, Lifeline Theatre, Pegasus, CityLit, Idle Muse, (the dearly departed) Prologue Theatre Co, and Loyola University Chicago, where she also sometimes teaches. Many thanks to Richard, Hayley, Aszkara and this entire amazing cast. And to her family, for putting up with her near-constant quiet mumbling in different voices.

JESSE D. IRWIN (he/him; Sound Design) is a Chicago-based DJ and video artist. He has worked with bands such as Calculator Font, La Fea, Running, and Cmn ineed yr help. He also helped produce a number of virtual music festivals during the pandemic, including PRF Thundersnow. This is his first show as a theatrical sound designer. For this production, he is joined by the members of Chicago rock group [La Fea](#).

MATT LAUTERBACH (he/him; Accessibility Coordinator) is a filmmaker, educator, and accessibility advocate. He is the founder of All Senses Go, a consultancy that helps arts organizations to create cultural content that is accessible to as many audiences as possible. He is a co-director of ReelAbilities Film Festival Chicago and has a wide range of experience programming accessible events and media showings.

SYDNEY LYNNE (she/her; Scenic Designer) is a Chicago based installation and scenic



designer. Other credits include: *Campaigns Inc.* (TimeLine), *culled wattah* (Victory Gardens) *Queen of the Night* (Victory Gardens), *Pump Boys and Dinettes* (Porchlight Music Theatre), *The Last Pair of Earlies* (Raven Theatre), *The Snow Queen* (The House Theatre), *Hoodoo Love* (Jeff Nomination-Raven Theatre), *Sheepdog* (Shattered Globe), *Day of Absence* (Congo Square Theatre), *How to Catch Creation* (Geva Theatre Center). 2020 3Arts Award in Theatre. Sydney Lynne graduated from Northwestern University with a B.A. in Theatre. www.SydneyLynnedesign.com

kCLARE McKELLASTON (she/her; Costume Designer) is a versatile Chicago-based costume artist. Recent credits: Season 1 of AppleTV's *The Shining Girls* (Costumer), *The Woman in Black* (Associate Designer, US Tour), *We're All in This Room Together* (The Second City), *Curious George: The Golden Meatball* (NTYA), *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead*, *Spamalot*, *Young Frankenstein* (Metropolis PAC), *Don't Look Back/Must Look Back* (Pivot Arts). She is an Adjunct Faculty member at Dominican University and a proud member of IATSE Local 769. www.kClare.com

TAB MOCHERMAN (they/ them; COVID Compliance Officer) is from North Carolina and misses Southern cooking every day. They currently work full time as the COVID Safety Coordinator for Goodman Theatre. They have also worked with Pride Arts, Hubbard Street Dance Company, Grant Park Music Festival and Collaboration doing administrative work. They are excited to work with BWBTC again!

AJ MORELY (he/him; Props Design) is a Chicago based fine artist and props/set designer. He has a history of creating sculptures for nightlife acts and backdrops for

musical performances which have been displayed all over Milwaukee, WI. After receiving his degree in New Studio Practice from the Milwaukee Institute of Art and Design he has worked on a handful of productions as a props designer first at a conservatory in the Jefferson Park neighborhood of Chicago, Redtwist Theater, Broken Nose Theater, and is now very excited to be working with BWBTC!

GABRIELLE OWENS (she/they; Stage Manager) is excited to be returning to theatre work after a pandemic-induced hiatus, which she spent completing a Master's degree in Humanities. A huge thank you to everyone in *Richard III* and at BWBTC for making it such a fantastic production to come back with! Previous credits include: SM: *In the Next Room, Getting Out* (Middlebury College), *Isle of Sugar* and *Those Eyes Who Saw Death* workshop (Red Theater); ASM: *Language Rooms, Labyrinth* (Broken Nose Theatre), *Queen of the Mist* (Firebrand Theatre). Love to Mom and Dad, always.

KAT PLEVIAK (she/her; Puppet Design) has been a professional puppeteer and member of the Puppeteers of America since 2002 and has a MFA in Youth Theatre and Puppetry from the University of Hawaii Manoa. She is the founder and Artistic Director of Sea Beast Puppet Company, which is known for being a leader in puppetry excellence. Over the past 9 years Sea Beast has created a variety of original touring productions for both adult and youth audiences as well as offering workshops to students of all ages and professional development classes in areas of puppetry performance, design, construction, and writing. www.seabeastpuppetry.com

KEYANA D. ROBINSON (she/her; UIC Partner and Videographer) is a senior at UIC studying marketing and videography. She creates short documentaries committed to capturing life's beautiful and powerful moments. Other projects have explored urban decay, Black joy, and artists in their studio. Her film "Thoughts That Come To Mind...." was featured in the 2021 Milwaukee Film Festival. Gratitude to BWBTC for the opportunity to create, learn, and meet and work with other creatives working towards their dreams.

CARRIE SANDAHL (she/her; UIC Faculty Partner) is a Professor in the Department of Disability and Human Development at UIC. She co-directs Chicago's Bodies of Work, an organization that supports the development of disability arts and culture, through festivals, advocacy, and artist residency program. Her research and creative activity focus on disability identity in live performance and film. Sandahl's publications include a co-edited an anthology, *Bodies in Commotion: Disability and Performance*, which



garnered the Association for Theatre in Higher Education's award for Outstanding Book in Theatre Practice and Pedagogy (2006). Sandahl has spoken nationally and internationally about her research and arts advocacy initiatives. She collaborated on a documentary that premiered in 2020, *Code of the Freaks*, a critique of disability representations in cinema.



RACHELLE PALNICK TSACHOR (she/her; UIC Faculty Partner) is Associate Professor of Theatre Movement at UIC. Her research and artistic process focus on body-mind connections in movement, how function and expression intertwine to support people: our bodies, brains, emotions, health and learning. Tsachor co-authored studies bridging science and arts, such as "Emotion regulation through movement" (Frontiers in Psychology), A somatic movement approach to fostering emotional resiliency (Frontiers in Neuroscience), and the chapter on movement in *Integrative Rehabilitation Practice: The Foundations of Whole-Person Care for Health Professionals*. Her creative work ranges from "Bartenieff Fundamentals for Actors" in Movement for Actors 2nd Ed., to teaching workshops such as "Restoring Resiliency through Action" at the Association of Theatre in Higher Ed, corroborating essential action-based theatre techniques. At UIC, Tsachor's artistic contributions as movement specialist serve to support kinesthetic empathy for diverse peoples and cultures through embodied understanding.

BECCA VENABLE (she/her; Lighting Designer) is a Dallas, Texas native now living in Chicago where she was the technical director at the University of Illinois at Chicago for over three years. In May 2018, she was the recipient of the Michael Merritt Emerging Technical Collaborator Award. Becca also works as a technical director, sound designer, and lighting designer around the city. Some of Becca's credits include *A Year with Frog and Toad* (Chicago Children's Theatre), *The Nutcracker* (Ballet Lubbock), *The Gulf* (About Face Theatre), *Dying City* (The Comrades), *American Hero* (First Floor Theater), and *A Streetcar Named Desire* (University of Illinois at Chicago).

MAUREEN YASKO (she/her; Fight & Intimacy Director)* is a Jeff nominated Fight Director & BWBTC Affiliate Artist and has appeared onstage with BWBTC in *Julius Caesar*, *Bo Thomas..., L'Imbecile*, *Titus Andronicus*, and *The Promise of a Rose Garden*. She fight directed *Witch Slap!* and *Women of 4G*. Other Recent Projects: *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Midsommer Flight), *I Build Giants* (The Plagiarists), *The Secret Council* (First Folio). Maureen also serves as Resident Intimacy Director/Associate Fight Director of Midsommer Flight. Other Chicago-land choreo credits: The Factory Theater, Red Theatre, Citadel Theatre, Cor Theatre, The Conspirators, Aurora University. Maureen is a Certified Teacher with the SAFD; has received training from Intimacy Directors International and Intimacy Directors & Coordinators; and she is also a Certified Yoga Instructor.



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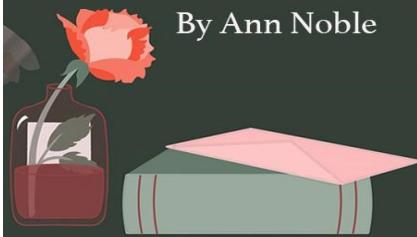
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OUR MISSION

Babes With Blades Theatre Company uses stage combat to tell stories that elevate the voices of underrepresented communities and dismantle the patriarchy. Through performance, script development, training and outreach, our ensemble creates theatre that explores the wide range of the human experience, and cultivates broader perspectives in the arts community and in society as a whole.

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Babes With Blades Theatre Company produces theatre in venues located on the traditional homelands of the Council of the Three Fires: the Ojibwe, Odawa, and Potawatomi Nations. Many other tribes such as the Miami, Ho-Chunk, Menominee, Sac, and Fox also called this area home. This region that we now commonly refer to as “The Chicagoland Area”, has long been a center for Indigenous people to gather, trade, and maintain kinship ties. Today, one of the largest urban Native American communities in the United States resides in Chicago. Members of this community continue to contribute to the life of this city and to celebrate their heritage, practice traditions, and care for the land and waterways. If you are originally from outside of Chicago, you can discover who's traditional homelands you inhabited by going to Whose.Land.



SPECIAL THANKS TO:

First Folio Theatre, MidSommer Flight, Dominican University
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BABES WITH BLADES

THEATRE COMPANY

ENSEMBLE

Samantha Barr	Jazmín Corona
Alison Dornheggen	Kim Fukawa
LaKecia Harris	Samantha Kaufman
Kelsey Kovacevich	Jillian Leff
Morgan Manasa	Jennifer L. Mickelson
Izis Mollinedo	Megan Schemmel
Hayley Rice	Avi Vodnoy Wolf
Kathrynné Wolf	

BOARD

Lata Balagangadharan	Melanie Bolen
Claire Johnson	Kelsey Kovacevich
Catherine Mallers	James Piche
Hayley Rice	

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dedicated to representing marginalized voices through storytelling,
*(and the only one who uses stage combat as a
consistent storytelling tool.)*

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