

SCHOOL OF THEA RE



Producer Mark Kenward

Co-directors

Mark Kenward, Rebecca Fisher, Wayne Harris & Mark McGoldrick

Featured Performers

Randy Carter, Algiin Ford, Precious Hicks, AJ Jefferson, Freddy Lee Johnson, Pamela Ann Keane, Pearl Louise, Al Sasser, Scott Schell & Tylon Sizemore

FIPPP Operations & Marketing Michelle Mitchell

Admin, Video & Management Support Patti Meyer's team at BizMagic

Video Artists Jim Granato, Shane King

FIPPP ENCORE! @ BERKELEY REP'S School of Theatre

Friday, February 24 at 8 PM

Tylon, Precious Hicks & Anthony Michael Jefferson "AJ"

Saturday, February 25 at 8 PM

Algiin Ford, Al Sasser, Scott Schell & Pearl Louise

Sunday, February 26 at 4 PM

Pamela Ann Keane, Freddy Lee Johnson, & Randy Carter



The use of any recording device, either audio or visual, and the taking of photographs, either with or without flash, is strictly prohibited. Please turn off all electronic devices such as cellular phones, beepers, & watches.



Due to Covid-19 precautions, the City of Berkeley requires audiences to be masked at indoor venues. Performers will be unmasked while onstage. Audience members must wear masks while inside the venue. Read more on the City of Berkeley's website.

Anthony Michael Jefferson"AJ"



FIPPP ENCORE! PERFORMERS



"AJ" is from Hermosa Beach CA. "I am a waterman since the tender age of two, (swimming, diving, surfing, sailing, and fishing. "A)" Le Cordon Bleu graduate. Executive Chef/ owner of Renegade Catering and private Chef. Budding storyteller and actor.

Precious is a life and wellness coach and mental health advocate. Born and raised in San Francisco she grew up in the Bay View witnessing what community looked like and cherishing the possibilities it provided. Unfortunately, she found herself in an abusive relationship that led her to incarceration after a failed attempt at leaving. While incarcerated she discovered that many people had trauma way before prison which led her to create her wellness business A Pocket of Sunshine. Now she has helped hundreds of people in their journey to heal and destress, including incarcerated women. She is now working on a community of healing and wellness.

Precious Hicks



Tylon



Why do you do what you do? As a formerly incarcerated woman from the Bay Area; a willing participant in the destruction of our communities (late 80's early 90's); a survivor of domestic violence; a survivor of alcohol/drug abuse; a survivor of the California Correctional Prison system; I now know and have been given knowledge and resources to no longer live a life of destruction. It is only right to pay it forward and be a participant in the healing process of our communities.

When I'm not at CW, I am being a foodie and enjoying really good delicious food from other cultures, or on a stage doing Stand-up Comedy; or somewhere exercising via a dancefloor and good music. I also love to volunteer at Juvenile Hall speaking with our youth.

FIPPP ENCORE! PERFORMERS



Algiin Ford



Algiin Ford is a Bay Area-based writer & actor with more than 20 yrs of stage and screen experience. Algiin's wideranging theater credits include classics like *Skin Of Our Teeth* & *Fences* as well as experimental plays & his original works.

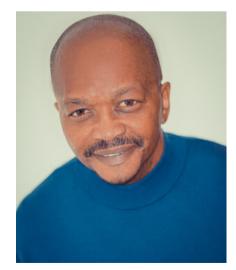
He is currently performing his own *I Want to Know the Mind of God*— a personal reflection of early childhood and a complicated relationship with the church and *Behold*, *I Make All Things New* — the inspiring story of his journey to sobriety. Algiin recently hopped on stage at the world-famous Nuyorican Poets Cafe in NYC to perform an original piece.

Additionally, Algiin has been cast in drama series "Queen Sugar" and "Underground", & the Academy Award-winning film, *What Dreams May Come*.

With over 20 yrs of experience as a yoga instructor and wellness professional, Algiin brings a unique physicality and performance to all of his work.

Born in South-Central Los Angeles, Al became involved in a subculture of gangs and criminality at age 13, which led to juvenile hall and eventually prison. At 19 years old he was sentenced to 15 years to life. His turning point came in 1989, when he was encouraged to enroll in school while in prison. He earned his high school diploma and an A.A. degree in Liberal Arts, and started to write poetry and short stories. He also became a certified paralegal and substance abuse counselor. In 2013 Al left Solano State Prison after serving 31 years. "I'm proud to be working to address the treatment needs of those who suffer from substance use disorder and mental health issues." Al is very active with Roots & Rebound, an organization working to empower those impacted by the criminal justice system. He's writing his first book, Suitable Placement, and is launching a t-shirt business called TeeVoices to employ formerly incarcerated people. He is currently a student at San Francisco State with a major in psychology and a minor in criminal justice.

Al Sasser



FIPPP ENCORE! PERFORMERS



Pearl Louise



Pearl is very happy and excited to be a part of this performance group and to share a different perspective on incarceration: that of the Families That Are Left Behind. When Pearl's teenage son was convicted and sentenced to serve 10 years in the California prison system, Pearl was thrown into the system too.

Pearl asks how many stories are told of those left behind: the wives, girlfriends, husbands, Baby Mamas, grandparents, children, significant others, parents, siblings? month old, but 10 years old? And so on.... Pearl hopes that through her performance with the mothers, they can all reach you to share their own experiences in the American Penal system.

Scott was born in Nantucket, MA. He got involved in drug use at a young age. In 1997 he moved to SF in part, as in recovery circles, what is referred to as a geographic. He got even deeper in his addiction and was arrested in 1998 for Grand Theft. He was housed in the San Francisco Sheriff's Dept. Resolve to Stop the Violence Project (RSVP). It was there that his journey of recovery and redemption began. Upon release he was admitted to a residential treatment program, relapsing after 2 months violating probation he was sent to prison. He was paroled in Jan 2000 and went back into treatment and became an intern with the Sheriff's Dept. He trained as a violence intervention and prevention facilitator. After a year, he was promoted to the RSVP Site Coordinator at the Sheriff's Dept. Post Release Facility a position he still holds to this day. In 2018 Scott accepted the RSVP Program Manager Position. He has a unique lived experience and his dedication to this very important work exemplifies his investment in the betterment of our communities. He believes shedding light on the stories of formerly incarcerated individuals is a must. These stories need to be told. He believes the stigma attached to formerly incarcerated people is unfair and takes away their humanity. The narrative needs to change.

Scott Schell



Freddy Lee Johnson



FIPPP ENCORE! PERFORMERS



Music has always been important to Fred – ever since he walked by a pawnshop at age 15, saw a beat-up trumpet in the window, and knew he had to have it. Sentenced to prison at age 18, a turning point for Fred was joining the San Quentin Stage Band, where he had the opportunity to play with a diverse ensemble and share the stage with legends such as Ella Fitzgerald and Sheila E. When Fred was paroled in 1995 he became involved with Harm Reduction Coalition, a national organization that promotes the health and dignity of individuals and communities impacted by drug use.

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Pamela Ann

Randy Carter



Randy Carter has worked as a mentor and a counselor and currently is a Certified Substance Abuse Counselor, with approximately 8 years of experience administering substance abuse treatment curriculum in addition to facilitating criminal offender self-help groups; Alcoholics and Narcotics Anonymous, Anger Management, Denial Management and Domestic Violence and Relapse Prevention groups.

Randy became a FIPPP Fellow in 2022. Randy is a producer of and featured in The 50, a feature-length documentary by Brenton Gieser that follows the lived experiences of 50 incarcerated men serving life or long-term sentences in California, and their journeys to become certified drug and alcohol counselors in a first-of-its-kind program at Solano State Prison. Randy is available for public speaking engagements.

Mark Kenward



DIRECTORS

Mark Kenward, a Marsh All-Star performer and two-time selection for the Best of San Francisco Solo Series, has performed his work in over 40 cities throughout the US and Canada, including a reception for The House of Representatives and several runs at The Marsh. He is the creator and performer of eight solo shows, receiving kudos as "a commanding storyteller" and "a master of the craft". Kenward is the director of over 35 full-length solo shows, including several that have won "Best of Fringe" honors and ten that have had runs at The Marsh. In 2018 he was the director of two solo shows nominated for the TBA award for Outstanding Solo Performance: Steve Budd's *What They Said About Love*, and Jill Vice's *A Fatal Step*. For more information about Mark, including other projects that he has directed, please visit **markkenward.com**

Rebecca Fisher has directed critically acclaimed shows in national and international fringe festivals, regional theaters, as well as several full-length runs at The Marsh. Rebecca is s coproducer of the monthly storytelling series *Tell it on Tuesday* soon to celebrate 18 years. She began her solo works as a writer and performer in a David Ford class at The Marsh in 2005. Her first show *The Magnificence of the Disaster* was described as "smart, challenging, and unmistakably affecting" by the *SF Chronicle* and her second piece *Memphis on my Mind* won a San Francisco Best of Fringe award. Before working in the solo world, she directed many youth theater camps with Julia Morgan Center for the Arts and The Marsh Youth Theater. When she isn't involved in solo work, Rebecca is a paraeducator at Wildwood Elementary and involved in family life with her husband and two middle school sons.

Rebecca Fisher



Wayne Harris



Wayne Harris is an award-winning solo performer, writer, educator, curriculum innovator & musician. A gifted artist with wide-ranging interests, he has accumulated an impressive body of work over the years that includes 5 full-length plays, presentations for schools, directing & designing for pageantry groups as well as various musical projects. Wayne is currently the Director of the Marsh Youth Theater in SF, CA & a Resident Teaching Artist for StageBridge (An intergenerational theater) in Oakland, CA. Wayne has coached and consulted with some of the country's finest pageantry groups, including the worldchampion Santa Clara Vanguard Drum and Bugle Corps, as well as with many other world-class pageantry groups throughout the nation. For more information on Wayne Harris, his work, and performances, please visit <u>waynethestoryteller.com</u>

Mark Kenward



DIRECTORS

Mark McGoldrick recently retired as an Assistant Public Defender for Alameda County where he defended people in the criminal courts for 27 years.

McGoldrick started performing publicly in the early 2000s with *A Public Defense*, a collection of short spoken-word pieces about the people who populate the world of indigent criminal defense. His first full-length show was *The Golden Hammer* which made its first appearance at The Marsh San Francisco in 2005, and reprised at The Berkeley Marsh in 2016. *The Golden Hammer* was followed with another critically acclaimed show, *Countercoup* in 2007, it was reprised in a four-part live-online version in 2021.

Mark is excited to be working with FIPPP and bringing together two of his passions: solo performance and criminal justice advocacy.

FIPPP is funded by generous support from the Ronald Whittier Family Foundation, the Armstrong-McKay Foundation, Mona Dale Lawrence, Victoria Podesta, the Alameda County Arts Fund, Theater Bay Area CA\$H grants, and individual donors like you!

Support the work and the people behind FIPPP with a tax-deductible donation today!



FIPPP ENCORE! @ BERKELEY REP'S School of theatre

"Hearing the voices of formerly incarcerated individuals is a must. The overall impact will continue to chip away at the inhumane injustices of the incarcerated and broader community. It is time,

AND SOCIETY AS A WHOLE BENEFITS."

- Freddy Lee Johnson, FIPPP Fellow

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Special thanks to Charlie Hinton, Tell It On Tuesday, The Marsh, East Bay Arts + Cultural Alliance, Alameda County Arts Fund, PianoFight Oakland, and Megan Armstrong.

