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Press Contact:
Chris Kanarick
chris@peakpublicity.com
O: 646.893.4777

39TH ANNUAL LUCILLE LORTEL AWARD RECIPIENTS ANNOUNCED

“(pray),” produced by Ars Nova and National Black Theatre, leads with 3 awards, including Outstanding Musical

Signature Theatre’s “The Comeuppance” awarded Outstanding Play

New York, NY (May 5, 2024) – The 2024 Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway were handed out this evening to recipients in 16 categories, with three honorary awards also bestowed. The Awards were distributed in a ceremony at NYU Skirball hosted by stars of stage and screen: **Rosalind Chao** (Atlantic Theater Company’s “What Became of Us”), **Jenn Colella** (“SUFFS”), **Michael Esper** (Drama Desk Award nominee, “Appropriate”), **Eden Espinosa** (Tony Award nominee, “Lempicka”), **Nikki M. James** (Tony & Lortel Award nominee, “SUFFS”), and **BD Wong** (Atlantic Theater Company’s “What Became of Us”). The Lucille Lortel Awards are produced by the Off-Broadway League and Lucille Lortel Theatre, with additional support provided by TDF.

Special honorees this year included *Lifetime Achievement Award* recipient **Ruben Santiago-Hudson**, presented by **Phylicia Rashad**; *Playwrights’ Sidewalk* inductee **Dominique Morisseau**, presented by **Kamilah Forbes**; and **Ars Nova**, honored for their *Outstanding Body of Work* with a presentation by award-winning director **Anne Kauffman**.

The Off-Broadway League’s Lortel Awards Producing & Administration Committee (Jeremy Adams, Alana Canty-Samuel, Tisa Chang, Carol Fishman, George Forbes, Kenneth Naanep, Ralph Peña, Catherine Russell, Michael Sag, Jonathan Whitton, Casey York, and Jeffrey Shubart, Chair) and the Lucille Lortel Theatre (George Forbes, Jeffrey Shubart, Nancy Hurvitz, Alana Canty-Samuel, Maura Le Viness, Karla Liriano, and Rascher Alcasid) produce the Lortel Awards Ceremony. Acclaimed writer/director Michael Heitzman directs the Lortel Awards with Terry Berliner as Co-Director. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors’ Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, United Scenic Artists, the Lucille Lortel Theatre, in addition to theatre journalists, academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee.

For updates and news visit www.LortelAwards.org. Follow the Lortel Awards (#LortelAwards) on X (<https://twitter.com/LortelTheatre>), Instagram (<https://www.instagram.com/lorteltheatre>), and Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LortelTheatre>). Subscribe to the Lortel Awards [YouTube](#) channel to watch clips from previous ceremonies.

NOMINEES AND RECIPIENTS OF THE 2024 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS

***Please note: all nominees are listed with the award recipient in BOLD.**

Outstanding Play

The Comeuppance

Produced by Signature Theatre

Written by Branden Jacobs-Jenkins

Plays For The Plague Year

Produced by The Public Theater

Written by Suzan-Lori Parks

Primary Trust

Produced by Roundabout Theatre Company

Written by Eboni Booth

Stereophonic

Produced by Playwrights Horizons

Written by David Adjmi and Will Butler

Wet Brain

Produced by Playwrights Horizons and MCC Theater

Written by John J. Caswell, Jr.

Outstanding Musical

(pray)

Produced by Ars Nova and National Black Theatre

Created by nicHi douglas, with music by S T A R R Busby and JJJJJerome Ellis

Buena Vista Social Club

Produced by Atlantic Theater Company

Book by Marco Ramirez, Music by Buena Vista Social Club

Dead Outlaw

Produced by Audible Theater

Music and Lyrics by David Yazbek & Erik Della Penna, Book by Itamar Moses, Conceived by David Yazbek

Hell's Kitchen

Produced by The Public Theater

Music and Lyrics by Alicia Keys, Book by Kristoffer Diaz

Teeth

Produced by Playwrights Horizons

Book and Music by Anna K. Jacobs, Book and Lyrics by Michael R. Jackson

Outstanding Revival

Danny and the Deep Blue Sea

Produced by Play Hooky Productions, Seaview, Sue Wagner, John Johnson, Jayne Baron Sherman, Stella La Rue, Roth-Manella Productions, Sony Music Masterworks, Jillian Robbins, David Binder, Folk Productions, Antonio Marion, Daniel Schwartz, Wessex Grove, Stephanie Choate, Hillary Wyatt

Written by John Patrick Shanley

I Can Get It for You Wholesale

Produced by Classic Stage Company

Book by Jerome Weidman (based on his novel), Music and Lyrics by Harold Rome, Book revisions by John Weidman

Philadelphia, Here I Come!
Produced by Irish Repertory Theatre
Written by Brian Friel

Sunset Baby
Produced by Signature Theatre
Written by Dominique Morisseau

Translations
Produced by Irish Repertory Theatre
Written by Brian Friel

Outstanding Solo Show

All The Devils Are Here - How Shakespeare Invented the Villain
Produced by Mara Isaacs, Thomas M. Neff, Willette and Manny Klausner, 42nd.Club, Daryl Roth
Written and Performed by Patrick Page

I Love You So Much I Could Die
Produced by New York Theatre Workshop
Written and Performed by Mona Pirnot

Make Me Gorgeous!
Produced by triangle productions!
Written by Donnie, Additional Material by Wade McCollum
Performed by Wade McCollum

Sorry For Your Loss
Produced by Audible
Written and Performed by Michael Cruz Kayne

Triple Threat
Produced by Brendan Gaul, Brett Henenberg, James T. Lane, and T32 Theatrical
Written and Performed by James T. Lane

Outstanding Director

Daniel Aukin – *Stereophonic*
David Cromer – *Dead Outlaw*
nicHi douglas – (pray)
Eric Ting – *The Comeuppance*
Dustin Wills – *Wet Brain*

Outstanding Choreographer

Camille A. Brown – *Hell's Kitchen*
Graciela Daniele and Alex Sanchez – *The Gardens of Anuncia*
Patricia Delgado and Justin Peck – Buena Vista Social Club
nicHi douglas – (pray)
Raja Feather Kelly – *Teeth*

Outstanding Lead Performer in a Play

Christopher Abbott – *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*
Gabby Beans – Jonah
William Jackson Harper – *Primary Trust*
Nicole Ari Parker – *The Refuge Plays*

Josh Radnor – *The Ally*
A.J. Shively – *Philadelphia, Here I Come!*
Paco Tolson – *The Knight of the Burning Pestle*

Outstanding Featured Performer in a Play

Arnie Burton – *Dracula, A Comedy of Terrors*
Eli Gelb – *Stereophonic*
Carmen M. Herlihy – *The Apiary*
Florencia Lozano – *Wet Brain*
Julio Monge – *Wet Brain*
Bubba Weiler – *Swing State*
Frank Wood – *Toros*

Outstanding Lead Performer in a Musical

Natalie Venetia Belcon – *Buena Vista Social Club*

Jeb Brown – *Dead Outlaw*
Andrew Durand – *Dead Outlaw*
Santino Fontana – *I Can Get It for You Wholesale*
Priscilla Lopez – *The Gardens of Anuncia*
Alyse Alan Louis – *Teeth*
Maleah Joi Moon – *Hell's Kitchen*

Outstanding Featured Performer in a Musical

Shoshana Bean – *Hell's Kitchen*
Rodrick Covington – *Rock & Roll Man*
Kecia Lewis – *Hell's Kitchen*
Jessica Molaskey – *The Connector*
Steven Pasquale – *Teeth*
Mel Semé – *Buena Vista Social Club*
Thom Sesma – *Dead Outlaw*

Outstanding Ensemble

(pray)

Ariel Kayla Blackwood, S T A R R Busby, Ashley De La Rosa, Tina Fabrique, Satori Folkes-Stone, Amara Granderson, Taylor Symone Jackson, Ziiomi Louise Law, Aigner Mizzelle, Gayle Turner, Darnell White, D. Woods

The Comeuppance

Brittany Bradford, Caleb Eberhardt, Susannah Flood, Bobby Moreno, Shannon Tyo

Flex

Brittany Bellizeare, Christiana Clark, Eboni Edwards, Renita Lewis, Erica Matthews, Ciara Monique, Tamera Tomakili

Outstanding Scenic Design

Jason Ardizzone-West – *shadow/land*
Arnulfo Maldonado – *Buena Vista Social Club*
Arnulfo Maldonado – *Dead Outlaw*
Kate Noll – *Wet Brain*
David Zinn – *Stereophonic*

Outstanding Costume Design

Dede Ayite – *Buena Vista Social Club*
Enver Chakartash – *Stereophonic*
Linda Cho – *The Half-God of Rainfall*
DeShon Elem – *(pray)*
Lux Haac – *Manahatta*

Outstanding Lighting Design

Amith Chandrashaker – *The Comeuppance*
Jiyoun Chang – *Stereophonic*
Jen Schriever – *Spain*
Cha See – *Wet Brain*
John Torres – *Danny and the Deep Blue Sea*

Outstanding Sound Design

Tei Blow & John Gasper – *Wet Brain*
Jonathan Deans – *Buena Vista Social Club*
Palmer Hefferan – *The Comeuppance*
Ryan Rumery – *Stereophonic*
Mikaal Sulaiman – *(pray)*

Outstanding Projection Design

59 Productions – *Corruption*
Nick Hussong – *Wet Brain*
Jared Mezzocchi – *Poor Yella Rednecks*
Jared Mezzocchi – *Russian Troll Farm*
Jeanette Oi-Suk Yew – *The Connector*

HONORARY AWARDS

Lifetime Achievement Award

Ruben Santiago-Hudson

Playwrights' Sidewalk Inductee

Dominique Morisseau

Outstanding Body of Work

Ars Nova

AWARD RECIPIENTS BY SHOW

(pray)	3
Buena Vista Social Club	2
The Comeuppance	2
Stereophonic	2
Wet Brain	2
All The Devils Are Here - How Shakespeare Invented the Villain	1
Hell's Kitchen	1
Jonah	1
Manahatta	1
Translations	1

ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS

The Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway were created in 1985 by the Off-Broadway League. The Lortel Awards recognize excellence in Off-Broadway by honoring the invaluable contribution of artists to the theatre community. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, United Scenic Artists, the Lucille Lortel Theatre, in addition to theatre journalists, academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee. Awards may be given in the following categories: Play, Musical, Solo Show, Revival, Alternative Theatrical Experience, Director, Choreographer, Lead Performer in a Play and Musical, Featured Performer in a Play and Musical, Ensemble, Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound, and Projection Design. The following honorary awards may also be given: Lifetime Achievement Award, Body of Work (awarded to an institution), Edith Oliver Service to Off-Broadway Award, and induction onto the Playwrights' Sidewalk in front of the historic Lucille Lortel Theatre in New York City. For more information, please see www.LortelAwards.org.

ABOUT THE OFF-BROADWAY LEAGUE

The Off-Broadway League was founded in 1959 to foster theatrical productions produced in Off-Broadway theatres (productions in Manhattan in venues with 76-499 seats), to assist in the voluntary exchange of information among its members, and to serve as a collective voice of its membership in pursuit of these goals. In recent years the League has grown to represent an average of 150 individual members and theatres and 100 non-for-profit and commercial shows per season.

ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE

Lucille Lortel Theatre's mission is to foster both new and established artists, increase awareness and appreciation of Off-Broadway, and uphold fair and equitable business and artistic practices in service of creating a larger, more diverse community of theatre makers and audiences. The Company builds on the legacy of its founder, Lucille Lortel (1900–1999) who was a champion of work by Samuel Beckett, Caryl Churchill, Athol Fugard, Jean Genet, Adrienne Kennedy, Larry Kramer, Terrence McNally, Marsha Norman, Sam Shepard, and Wendy Wasserstein. In addition to its Off-Broadway theatre, which has been in continuous operation since 1955, the Company is renovating a three-story carriage house in Chelsea that will act as the Company's new headquarters. Its programs include The Alcove at the Lortel, a commissioning and development program for early and mid-career playwrights; the 121 Project, a bespoke development program for new musicals; NYC Public High School Playwriting Fellowship, Fellowships in NYC Theatre at Bennington College, Dangerous Acts: A Series Uplifting Black Writers from Our Past (in partnership with HBCUs), Lucille Lortel Awards and Playwrights' Sidewalk, Internet Off-Broadway Database (IOBDB.com), and Non-Profit Theatre Strategic and Management Services. For more information, please visit www.lortel.org.

ABOUT TDF

Founded in 1968, TDF (formerly known as Theatre Development Fund) is a not-for-profit service organization dedicated to bringing the power of the performing arts to everyone. TDF's mission is to sustain live theatre and dance by engaging a broad and diverse audience and eliminating barriers to attendance. We fulfill our mission with a variety of programs that expand access, cultivate communities, and support the makers of the performing arts.

They are known for their theatergoing programs, including the **TKTS by TDF Discount Booths** (which celebrated 50 years in Times Square in 2023) and the **TDF Membership Program; TDF Accessibility Programs** (including open captioning, audio description, **Autism Friendly Performances** and the **Veterans Theatergoing Program**); **School programs** (serving more than 10,000 New York City students annually) and **Community programs** (serving 18,000 people in the tristate area); as well as the **TDF Costume Collection Rental and Research Programs**. TDF envisions a world where the transformative experience of attending live theatre and dance is essential, relevant, accessible, and inspirational. To learn more about TDF, go to tdf.org; Facebook/Instagram/Threads: @tdfnyc.

ABOUT NYU SKIRBALL

NYU Skirball, located in the heart of Greenwich Village, is one of New York City's major presenters of international work, and has been the premier venue for cultural and performing arts events in lower Manhattan since 2003. The 800-seat theater, led by **Director Jay Wegman**, provides a home for internationally renowned artists, innovators, and thinkers and presents ground-breaking events ranging from re-inventions of the classics to cutting-edge

premieres, in genres ranging from dance, theater and performance arts to comedy, music and film. NYU Skirball's unique position within New York University enables it to draw on the University's intellectual riches and resources to enhance its programming with dialogues, public forums and conversations with artists, philosophers, scientists, Nobel Laureates, and journalists. nyuskirball.org.

ABOUT THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMUNITY FUND

Supporting a life in the arts

The **Entertainment Community Fund**, formerly The Actors Fund, is a national human services organization that addresses the unique needs of people who work in performing arts and entertainment with services focused on health and wellness, career and life, and housing. Since 1882, the Fund has sought to ensure stability, encourage resiliency and be a safety net for those who shape our country's cultural vibrancy. Learn more at entertainmentcommunity.org.

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