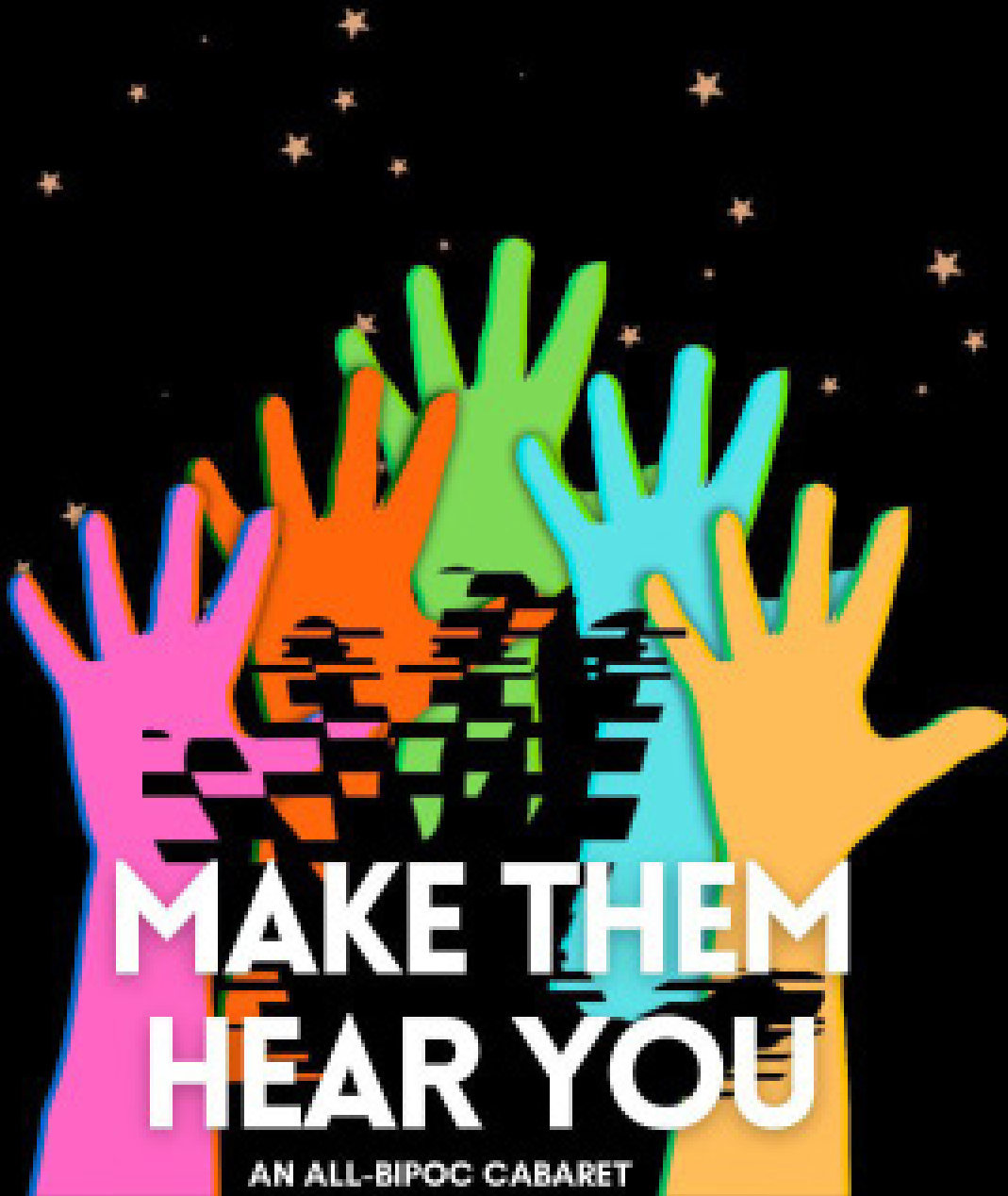


PLAYBILL

Stage One



**MAKE THEM
HEAR YOU**

AN ALL-BIPOC CABARET

FEATURING THE WAGNER BIPOC COMMUNITY

WORK IN PROGRESS PRESENTS...

Make Them Hear You: A Bipoc Cabaret of the Students of Wagner College

Gabriel Argate Leslie Baez Yasmeen Genie Joanna Gerald
Jaylen Grant Katrice Jackson Sarah Ledesma Nick Nunez
Joshua Piper Flor Roasles-Euceda Aubrie-Mei Rubel Hannah Sapitan
Viraj Shriwardhankar Riku Toyohara

Co-Directors and Co-Music Directors
Viraj Shriwardhankar & Flor Rosales

Production Assistant and Co-Lighting Designer
Kimberly Sanchez

Co-Lighting Designer
Mark Osgood

Guitar
Benjamin Sellers

Film Supervisor
Jason Barney

Artwork
Gabe Argate

Directors' Notes:

Viraj:

I remember when I first started to want to do musical theatre professionally. I was in a production of my favorite show EVER, Legally Blonde. A year later, I was convincing my parents to let me auditions for theatre schools. On a random day in November, I came to whatever they call the special Wagner Saturdays (I work for Admissions, I should know this). I remember standing in the gym talking to Theresa McCarthy and my mom. Theresa said it was an exciting time for theatre because more and more roles are finally being offered to actors of color. Two years later, Wagner had a season of all BIPOC female leads. I remember being so excited. This year, no BIPOC students took the Main Stage for more than one book musical while some of our white counterparts have been able to multiple times. I'm happy for them, and they have absolutely earned those roles. The question still remains: why haven't any of the students of color. While we comprise of a quarter of the department, rarely do we take up that much of the cast. Equity and Inclusion is not something you can turn on and off.

Before we left for winter break, Flo and I really felt that our school needed more celebration for our students of color. What we can seize control of, is doing what makes us happy. When we don't see the opportunities that we want, when we can't force ourselves to fit other's "visions", if what new dimension we can bring to characters is unwanted; we can make our own opportunities, we can fit our visions around ourselves, and we can make sure our stories are told. This cabaret is not just an opportunity to be heard, but more importantly: it is an expression of artistic joy.

While this past semester made me the most stressed I have ever been, I am glad that I stuck through with this, and I had Kim and Flor to make sure that what I dropped, they picked up. Being BIPOC in theatre puts up just one more barrier, but putting in the work will break them down. Hopefully, you will leave an easier path in your wake.

Make Them Hear You.

Flor:

Through Covid a lot of BIPOC identifying artists came out and spoke about their experiences within the theatre industry. I remember relating to a lot of their stories and was always thinking, "why don't I fit the vision of this show?" Was my hair too curly? Were my curves too curvy? Was my voice too loud? All the stereotypes of what the world makes a Latina woman to be, I began to believe those things too. Being always called back for the comedic relief or the sassy POC characters with the same BIPOC students made me realize I had to do more. So I opened my big Latina, sassy, curvy, mouth and I brought up the unfairness, the uncomfot, and the hurtful things professors, directors, and students had said to me and other BIPOC students.

I used to not understand a lot of theatre culture either and would find myself trying to, "white myself up." I thought if I do what the other white students did in my class then I'd be recognized, but there had to be moments where I spoke up because I could no longer hold my tongue back. Opening my mouth and using my voice was the best thing I did for myself. I've made them hear me, and I knew that a cabaret like this was necessary. If not one director could envision more than 1-2 BIPOC students, or at times not even one, in OUR main stage, black box, or student run shows, then someone had to. Viraj and Kim are two of my closest friends here at Wagner, and I'd like to thank them for being their constantly for me during the process.

All I wanted out of four years was to be celebrated and accepted for being who I am without having to change my roots and identity. In an educational setting, everyone deserves to be celebrated regardless of their identity and the color of their skin. Viraj, Kim, and the entire cast has helped me do that. So thank you for reminding me that I should never forget my roots because they've made me who I am. I'm not ashamed.



What's Cooking?

Tonight we are able to provide an assortment of Asian and C. American Food. Read more about them here.

INDIAN:

Dal: In Indian cuisine, dal are dried, split pulses (e.g., lentils, peas, and beans). The term is also used for various soups prepared from these pulses. These pulses are among the most important staple foods in South Asian countries, and form an important part of the cuisines of South Asia.

Bhindi Bhaji: This is an Indian dish based on okra. It is widely grown in India as well and a popular ingredient used in dishes. In this case it is actually the green seed pods that are the edible part of the plant.

C. AMERICAN

Arroz Con Polo: This is made in a pan with homemade adobo seasoned chicken, sofritos and vegetables. It's origin is Spanish and has been developed in different versions through other countries such as Honduras, Guatemala, Mexico, and Colombia.

FILIPINO

Chicken Adobo: Chicken Adobo made by braising chicken legs (thighs and/or drumsticks) in a sauce made up of vinegar, soy sauce, garlic, and black pepper. It's tangy, salty, garlicky, slightly sweet, and spicy. The chicken is slowly simmered in the sauce making it flavorful and incredibly tender.

Pancit Noodles: This is a general term referring to various traditional noodle dishes in Filipino cuisine. There are numerous types of pancit, often named based on the noodles used, method of cooking, place of origin, or the ingredients. Most pancit dishes are characteristically served with calamansi.

Lumpia: These are various types of spring rolls commonly found in Indonesia and the Philippines. Lumpia are made of thin paper-like or crepe-like pastry skin called "lumpia wrapper" enveloping savory or sweet fillings. It is often served as an appetizer or snack, and might be served deep fried or uncooked.

Musical Numbers

No Me Diga.....Leslie Baez, Yasmeen Genie, Joanna Geraldles, Sarah Ledesma
What Makes A Man.....Riku Toyohara
Love Look Away.....Hannah Sapitan
I Hate the Bus.....Flor Rosales-Euceda
Last Night of the World.....Joshua Piper, Aubrie-Mei Rubel
The Journey Home.....Viraj Shriwardhankar
Colored Women.....Katrice Jackson
My Favorite Love Story.....Hannah Sapitan, Riku Toyohara
What Would I Do If I Could Feel.....Jaylen Grant
A Boy Like That.....Sarah Ledesma, Flor Rosales-Euceda
We Don't Talk About Bruno.....Yasmeen Genie, Nick Nunez, Ben Sellers*
Make Them Hear You.....Gabriel Argate

*Ben Sellers appears through courtesey of White People™

Special Thanks to:

Dr, Thomas Juneau, our Advisor and Head of Music Dept.
Dr. Ange Conception, Dean of Campus Life
Dr. Tommy Tressler-Gelok, A. Dean of Campus Life
Theresa McCarhty, Head of Theatre Dept.
Miles Wilkie, WCT '21 allum
The Argate Family
The Shriwardhankar Family

While we are not charging admission tonight, we we are collecting donations and selling food to start a BIPOC performance student scholarship. No amount is too small.

Who's Who?

CAST

Gabriel Argate is a senior Theatre Performance major and is so thrilled to be a part of this special performance! As a proud Filipino, he cannot wait for everyone to see the striking talents of Wagner's BIPOC community and celebrate our presence. Gabe's past WCT credits include Ned (*Small Mouth Sounds*), Tap Quartet/Oscar US (*On the Twentieth Century*), Professor (*Our New Town*), and Gros-René (*The Flying Doctor*). Outside of theatre, he is a Resident Assistant and a member of Wagner's Asian Pacific Islander Association (APIA). Always sending love and gratitude to his family and friends for their support!
Instagram: @gabrielargate

Leslie Baez is a sophomore Theatre Performance major. She is so excited and grateful to represent her culture alongside the rest of her talented castmates in this cabaret! She is looking forward to being a part of *The Originals* this semester. Some of her favorite past roles include Mimi Marquez (*RENT*), and Anita (*West Side Story*).
Instagram:@lesliebxez

Yasmeen Genie is a freshman Theatre Performance Major from California. She is excited and grateful to be apart of the first ever BIPOC Cabaret! She was last seen in the *Halloween Cabaret!*

Some of her favorite past roles include Ursula in (*The Little Mermaid*), Gertrude McFuzz in (*Seussical*) and a Gargoyle in (*Hunchback of Norte Dame*). She would like to thank Flo, Viraj and Kimberly for this amazing opportunity!

Jovi Gerald is a sophomore DTM major from the Dominican Republic, and she is very excited to take part in the first BIPOC cabaret. I want to thank Flo, Viraj and Kimberly, for creating this cabaret and letting the BIPOC students of Wagner represent their cultures through musical theatre. Her previous works at Wagner include *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Stage Manager), *All Together Now*, amongst others.
@joviagv

Jaylen Gray is a Sophomore Vocal Performance major who is eager to showcase his talents in his first ever BIPOC cabaret. Most importantly, excited to promote the unity between fellow students of color and sharing love for performing and each other. He is part of the Wagner College Choir and is ready to explore more opportunities the college has to offer.

Katrice Jackson is a junior Theatre Performance major from South Carolina. She is ecstatic to be a part of this BIPOC Cabaret

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with these amazing humans! Katrice's past WCT credits include Hen, Harp, Sleeping Beauty, and Swing (*Into the Woods*), Sabine (Two x Molière), Cleo (Cleo and Tony: A Toxic Rock Opera), Isabella and Mary (Edward II). Katrice is also the junior representative for the Theatre Advisory Board and the President of Vocal Synergy, the all treble acapella group on campus.

Sarah Ledesma is a senior Theatre Performance major with a Spanish minor from Orange, California. She is incredibly grateful and excited to perform in the BIPOC cabaret alongside such talented, inspiring people! Her past WCT credits include Dance Concert 2022 (Dancer/Poet), Small Mouth Sounds (Joan U/S), Celebration (Reveler Swing) and The Other Shore (Zen Master/Plaster Seller). She looks forward to working on *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* later this semester! She would like to thank the creative team for all of their hard work and for making this experience so wonderful!
Instagram: @sarahll.812

Nick Nunez is a sophomore theatre performance major from Connecticut. His most recent credits include WCT Dance Project 2021, *The Other Shore* (Stable Keeper), *The Wedding Singer* (Prince/Ensemble), SOTO's *A Midsummer Night's*

Dream (Snug) and *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Mrs. Bumble). He couldn't be more grateful to be a part of this most inclusive BIPOC Cabaret and adores sharing the stage with his lovely talented castmates! Also catch Nick in *The Last Days of Judas Iscariot* in Stage One this May!

Flo Rosales-Euceda is a current senior Theatre Performance and Government & Politics minor here at Wagner College. They call Atlantic City, New Jersey home and are excited to be working with WIP again. They are so excited to be performing with their closest friends and doesn't have the words to express how thankful they are for the *Make Them Hear You Cabaret*. They hope that the community of Wagner College will hear all the BIPOC artists on this campus and continue creating an environment in which art can be made. They'd like to thank Anthony Turner and Cyril Ghosh for all their support in Flo's journey in the last four years.

Aubrie-Mei Rubel is very excited and grateful to be part of this BIPOC cabaret alongside all her talented friends. She is a junior Theater Performance major, and Holocaust and Human Rights Studies minor from Arlington, Massachusetts. Most recently, she was seen in Wagner's

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productions of Goblin Market (Lizzie), Go Please Go (Babysitter/Sage/Saul), and Small Mouth Sounds (Alicia U/S). She also looks forward to performing in the next Stage 1 show: The Last Days of Judas Isacariot. Favorite past roles include Marcy Park (25th...Spelling Bee), Featured Dancer (Crazy For You) and (Wonderful Town).

Hannah Sapitan is a senior Vocal Performance major and Theatre Minor from Portland, Oregon. They are elated to be a part of the BIPOC cabaret alongside such talented and wonderful people! Most recently, they were in SRMT's production of Hedwig and the Angry Inch (Yitzhak). They look forward to working on The Last Days of Judas Iscariot (Female Swing) later this semester at Stage One.

Viraj Shriwardhanakar is so excited to be performing in Stage One again, even if the only audience is a camera (or two). He is a senior Theatre Performance major hailing from Bellingham, Massachusetts. Past credits include Narrator/Mysterious Man (Into the Woods), Brian (Roanoke), and Male Dancer (Freeway of Love). This is his first time directing and music directing at Wagner, and his second time singing from Bombay Dreams. You can find him in his favorite black box theatre later this

semester as El-Fayoumy in The Last Days of Judas Iscariot.
@viraj.shri

Riku Toyohara is a sophomore Theatre Performance major and is excited to be part of such a wonderful production. He is grateful for the opportunity to be able to showcase so much incredible material with his fellow BIPOC students. Riku's past credits at Wagner College include Rodney understudy (Small Mouth Sounds), and Man 4 (This Time Tomorrow).
Instagram: @riku_toyohara_

Who's Who?

TECH

Mark Osgood (Co-Lighting Designer) is a junior Theatre Design, Technology, and Management major from Staten Island, New York. He is so grateful and honored to be a part of this beautiful celebration of BIPOC students. His previous WCT credits include On the Twentieth Century (Asst. Lighting Designer), So Let Us Go On (Props Master), Go. Please. Go. (Production Stage Manager), Urinetown (Asst. Stage Manager), and Socially Distant Dance Project (Asst. Stage Manager).

Kimberly Sanchez Garrido is a senior Theatre Design, Technology, and Management major from Altadena, Ca. Her recent credits include Small Mouth Sounds (Wagner College Theatre), WinterFest (Ensemble Studio Theatre), Always Running (Casa 0101 Theatre Company), and Mama Metal (IAMA Theatre Company). She would like to thank everyone who has worked on the show for their hard work.

Benjamin Sellers is a senior Theatre Performance major from Orange County, California. He's proud to be assisting a great organization and even greater group of people.

BE SURE TO JOIN US FOR...

Work In Progress'

pink moon
cabaret

gatehouse lounge
9:30 pm

celebrating
the divine feminine
& helping
sisters in need

directed by
jessica king,
katie cox,
&
li blanchard

Work in Progress Board

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Class Reps

Aaron Foreman, Paul Hogan

Katrice Jackson, Catherine Shelley

Have a piece you can't wait to bring to the world? Submit to Works in Progress! We have year long open submissions for projects of various sizes. We do everything from concerts and staged readings, to closed workshops, and even full productions of never produced works. Ask a Board Member how you can get involved.