

taxdeductible theatre

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demand **bold** theatre

We are dedicated to developing the uniquely theatrical voices of our community of collaborative artists. We choose to celebrate the theatrical event of sharing a physical space with the audience, we honor their impact from as soon as they enter our lobby until after the show is over and the last drink is served.

www.taxdeductibletheatre.org

taxdeductible theatre is a fully recognized 501(c)3 not-for-profit organization. All donations to **taxdeductible theatre** are, well...tax deductible.

The **DARE** Project

new ten-minute plays
written on a dare



An Actors' Equity Approved Showcase

The Wings Theatre

The Dare Project began in April 2006 when three members of **taxdeductible theatre** stumbled upon a method of inspiring new work: *dare* the writer.

That night, over shots of tequila, they each dared another to write a ten-minute play. They were free to write whatever they liked, so long as it was true to the dare. Two months later, these three plays were presented as the first Dare Project. Since that time, *The Dare Project* has grown into one of the fundamental ways in which we pursue our mission.

Here's how it works: Each writer is dared to write a ten-minute play. The dare can be anything—a genre, a line of dialogue, a character—as long as it challenges the writer. Once dared, a writer has a month to write, and then a month to rehearse. Then, ready or not, the play is presented in front of a packed house as a one-night-only event.

The Dare Project has become a laboratory for collaborative artists to develop a play from the raw idea all the way through a finished production. We expect everyone to put the play before themselves—to work collectively to pursue the dare.

Working this way is risky, it's bold, it's daring... and it's not always perfect. But it is worth a shot.



As we continue with *The Dare Project*, **taxdeductible theatre** will use the techniques discovered here, and expand our seasons to include new full-length plays developed in collaboration between writer, company and audience. We hope to continue to find new voices. We hope to create memorable experiences for all involved. Most importantly, we hope to challenge ourselves and our community to follow one basic rule:

demand bold theatre

Visit our website for more information on us, and what's next:
<http://www.taxdeductibletheatre.org/>



Actors' Equity Association (AEA), founded in 1913, is the labor union that represents more than 45,000 Actors and Stage Managers in the United States. Equity seeks to advance, promote and foster the art of live theatre as an essential component of our society. Equity negotiates wages and working conditions and provides a wide range of benefits, including health and pension plans, for its members. Actors' Equity is a member of the AFL-CIO, and is affiliated with FIA, an international organization of performing arts unions. The Equity emblem is our mark of excellence. www.actorsequity.org

taxdeductible theatre wishes to thank



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Jana Lancaster (stage manager, *Scooby-Doosical*): Jana is thrilled to be apart her first *Dare Project*. Previous Projects include *I Will Follow* (Stage Manager), *Freckleface Strawberry* (Stage Manager) and *In Security* (Assistant Stage Manager). Thanks for all your support Jeff and Steve!

Bryant Mason (Shepherd612, *Dear Hungry*): Bryant Mason is officially one of "The Most Influential People" in Portland, Maine.

Dan Matisa (Husband, *Dear Hungry*): *Dare Project* audiences may remember Dan from previous appearances in *Consuela*, *Allen Smith's 7A*, *Better Control Through Research*, *Chip Off the Old Block*, and *The General, in Repose*. He is a graduate of the FSU/Asolo Conservatory and Hofstra University, and a proud member of Actors' Equity Association. The doctor says I'm not supposed to get pudding in it.

Andrea McCullough (Ensemble, *Scooby-Doosical*): *A Christmas Carol*: PST; *The Spitfire Grill*: Fulton Opera House; *Far Out! - The Sci-Fi Musical*: 2009 Fringe; *That Other Woman's Child*: NYMF'08; *White Christmas*, *42nd Street*, *Much Ado*: Shakespeare Fest; *Law&Order*, *PBS' American Playhouse*. B.U., Actors Studio/NYU. AEA, SAG, AFTRA.

Kymerli McKanna (hair/makeup stylist, *Here Comes the Bride*) Kymerli is an actor/singer who enjoys working in many aspects of the arts. She is excited to be involved with *The Dare Project* for the first time. A big thank you to Bryn! Visit www.KymerliMcKanna.com for more info on her current and future projects!

Robert W. McMaster (director, *Troopas*): Mac never owned a Nintendo, and thanks Chris for this opportunity to pretend he did. He thanks Bridget for restaurant supplies, among other things.

Rebekah Nelson (asst. director, *Scooby-Doosical*): Rebekah is a born and raised New Yorker. She attended Marymount Manhattan College and received her B.A. in Theatre Arts. Currently, she is a resident writer/director for the Alternative Arts Association, an independent Astoria based arts group.

Michael Poignand (Ensemble, *Scooby-Doosical*): Michael is psyched to be back for this *Dare Project*. This marks his 11th show with Wargo, 9th show with "The Boice" and 5th Dare to date. Thank you "The Boice", Casper and Wargo.

Devin Sanchez (Bravo, *Troopas*): Devin is part of the improv troupe *Track Suit Mafia*. She is currently in "Stoop Sale" a new web series coming out soon! You can also watch Devin on the hit web series *Michael Stahl-David: Behind the Star* www.michaelstahldavid.biz. This is her first time as a Koopa Troopa.

Tim Sheridan (Alpha, *Troopas*): Tim has starred in masterpieces like *Twelfth Night*, *Richard III* and *The Importance of Being Earnest*. In Hollywood, he produced the award-winning sensation *Hamlet: The First Quarto* (featured in the new Arden edition of *Hamlet*), so it's no wonder that he is saddened and disappointed to be here tonight. www.ilovetimsheridan.com

Anna Stone (Bride, *Here Comes the Bride*): Anna is thrilled to be working with *The Dare Project* after being an avid audience member for many years! NY: *The Odyssey* (Handcart Ensemble), *Once Around the City* (Second Stage). Regional includes a range of queens, spinsters, and maids like the leads in *Midsummer*, *Shrew*, *Much Ado*, *Tartuffe*, *The Heiress*, *Doubt*, & *Proof*. TV: "Boardwalk Empire", "L&O: SVU". MFA, FSU/Asolo Conservatory. www.anna-stone.com.

Kate Vallee (choreographer, *Scooby-Doosical*): Kate Vallee most recently worked with Mr. Wargo on A Christmas Carol for Personal Space Theatrics. Other choreography credits include *On The Town* for The Staten Island Philharmonic, *The Mystery of Edwin Drood*, *Lapis and Stella*, *Silent Lives*, *Charlotte's Web*, and *The Sound of Music*. She has assistant choreographed the *42nd Street* National Tour, *Peter Pan*, and *The Sphinx Winx*.

Keith Varney (composer & lyricist, *Scooby-Doosical*): Keith wishes his parents had let him watch cartoons growing up. Screw you PBS. He has also written the music & lyrics to *Elway: The Musical*, *Joshua: The Musical* (as Theo Carver) & *I Got Fired: A Revenge Musical*. www.keithrvarney.com

Steve Wargo (librettist & director, *Scooby-Doosical*): Steve Wargo is pleased as punch to return, this time as a writer, to *The Dare Project*, where he directed *Three Needs* in 2007, and *Go Ahead...Touch me all you Want! (A Memoir)* last October. He is currently developing a new musical with a Shockheaded band from London, among other projects about which he has to keep his trap shut. You can follow his theatrical escapades and musings on Twitter at twitter.com/wargodirects.

Sasha Weiss (Ensemble, *Scooby-Doosical*): This is Sasha's first *Dare Project*! NY Credits: *Jerry Springer the Opera* (Carnegie Hall), *Carrie: the Musical* (NY Industry Reading), *I and Albert* (York Theatre), *The Grand Tour* (York Theatre). TV: ABC's "What Would You Do?"

THE DARE PROJECT

March 10, 2010

Tonight's writers received their dares on January 4th.

They had four weeks to write a ten-minute play and then had another month to choose a director, a cast, and rehearse. These are the results of their collaborative efforts.

PLEASE NOTE: Tonight's performance includes strobe lighting and fog effects.

Enjoy the show.

Dare: To make horizontal, vertical stripes, AND polka dots look goood!

Here Comes the Bride

written by Lesslie Dodge Crane
directed by Bryn Boice

Bride: Anna Stone*

Special thanks to Robert W. McMaster, Kendra Kay,
Laurie Schaefer/InProximity Theatre, and Kymerli McKanna

Dare: Write a play about leaving your sneakers during a one night stand.

Dear Hungry,

written and directed by Jimmie Galaites
developed by Bryant Mason, Dan Matisa, Jolie Curtsinger, and Jimmie Galaites

Hungry: Jolie Curtsinger*

Husband: Dan Matisa*

Shepherd612: Bryant Mason*

Dare: To write a comedy where every character dies. Twice.

Troopas

written by Christopher Catalano and Fred Goltz
directed by Robert W. McMaster

Alpha: Tim Sheridan

Bravo: Devin Sanchez

Charlie: Jimmie Galaites*

Dare: To use the theme, “My Dog is a Black Hole, My cat is the Angel of Death.”

What Comes Next

written and directed by Scott Casper
music by Aaron Kliner

She: Alix McEachern Jones*
He: Aaron Kliner

Dare: To write a play where the characters of Scooby Doo discover the cult (secret cult) that started the Smurfs.

Scooby-Doosical

music and lyrics by Keith Varney
book and direction by Steve Wargo[†]
choreography and musical staging by Kate Vallee
stage & production management by Jana Lancaster
sound design by David Horowitz assistant direction by Rebekah Nelson

Fred: Rich Fromm* **Daphne:** Kelly DeNicolo*
Velma: Bryn Boice* **Shaggy:** Christopher Catalano*
Scooby-Doo: Patrick Benedict **Voice of The Villain:** Hal Lublin
Ensemble: DeUndre C. James*; Kendra Kay; Andrea McCullough*;
Michael Poignand*; Sasha Weiss*

* denotes actor appears courtesy of Actor’s Equity Association

† denotes director is a member of Stage Directors and Choreographers Society

‡ denotes librettist is a member of the Dramatists Guild of America, Inc.

Front of House: Ursula Anderman, Maddie Burns, Leslie Dodge Crane
Lights: Robert W. McMaster Sound: Jana Lancaster, Mike Mihm

taxdeductible theatre also wishes to thank...

St. Patrick’s Church The Church of Immaculate Conception in Astoria
The Wings Theatre Tom Fazio Bob Choinere The Library Hotel

Kyle Groff Photography: headshots, productions, events and more
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The Director is a member of the
**STAGE DIRECTORS AND CHOREOGRAPHERS
SOCIETY**, a national theatrical labor union.

Who’s Who

Patrick Benedict (*Scooby-Doo*, *Scooby-Doosical*): Patrick is thrilled to be working with the men and women of *The Dare Project* and *Scooby-Doosical*! You have recently seen this redhead as a nerdy, rapping redhead in *Fantasy Football: The Musical?!* Thanks to all my friends, my family, and The Holly!

Bryn Boice (director, *Here Comes the Bride*; *Velma*, *Scooby-Doosical*): Bryn is one of the original three co-creators of *The Dare Project*. In all, she has either written, directed, and/or acted in over 20 Dare collaborations. MFA in Acting, Asolo Conservatory (FSU). Loves pancakes, Daph and lint-rollers.

Scott Casper (writer & director, *What Comes Next*): Scott is the Artistic Director of **taxdeductible theatre**, and has been involved as an actor, director or writer in every installment of *The Dare Project* to date. Thanks to everyone for coming out to the show tonight.

Christopher Catalano (writer, *Troopas*; *Shaggy*, *Scooby-Doosical*): Chris has played a kangaroo, a flamboyant bartender, and an alcoholic clown. He has written about dying children, aliens and icebergs. This time he plays a cartoon character and wrote a play about turtles. He is one of the minds behind www.itsasickness.com. Thanks to Fred for his help with *Troopas*. IFLT500YEK.

Leslie Dodge Crane (writer, *Here Comes the Bride*): Leslie has worked with **taxdeductible theatre** and *The Dare Project* as an actor, director, and playwright contributing *Sexy Time at the Holocaust* and *Jack and Jill on the Way Uphill*.

Jolie Curtsinger (*Hungry*, *Dear Hungry*): Jolie is so excited to be in her first *Dare Project* and hopes to do many more. Since moving to New York, she joined the Cockeyed Optimists and was seen in *Almost, Maine* and *One Thing I Like To Say Is*. As the founder and Co-Artistic Director of InProximity Theatre Company, she appeared in InProximity’s inaugural production of Craig Wright’s *Orange Flower Water* and played Libby in Nicky Silver’s *The Maiden’s Prayer* (both at Theatre 54). www.InProximityTheatre.org

Kelly DeNicolo (*Daphne*, *Scooby-Doosical*): Kelly is thrilled to join *The Dare Project*! Upcoming shows include a benefit cabaret and the Broadway debut of the new Sherman Brothers’ musical *MerryGoRound*. In her spare time she cooks, eats, and laughs. A lot.

Rich Fromm (*Fred*, *Scooby-Doosical*): Rich is thrilled to be a part of *Dare Project* 14. Originally from Florida, Rich holds a BFA and MFA from Florida State University. Rich fantasizes about being Don Draper and flying the Millennium Falcon. BEAN!

Jimmie Galaites (writer & director, *Dear Hungry*; *Charlie*, *Troopas*): Jimmie wants to thank his awesome girls for their awesomeness. He would also like to thank his cast for their brilliant collaboration on this project and **taxdeductible theatre** for the creative outlet.

David Horowitz (sound design, *Scooby-Doosical*): Dave is excited to be working on *Scooby-Doosical* and to be working with Steve Wargo again. Past credits include: Engineer: *Ave Q*, *New World Stages*; *The Singing Forest*, Public Theater; *This Beautiful City*, *Wig Out!*, & *The Slug Bearers of Kayroll Island*, The Vineyard Theater; Asst Sound Design, NYMF 2008; Sound Design, *The Duchess: a.k.a. Wallis Simpson*, directed by Steve Wargo. Dave would like to thank his friends and colleagues for all their support.

DeUndre C. James (Ensemble, *Scooby-Doosical*): DJ is happy to be working with such an amazingly talented cast. He is living out his lifelong dream of playing a Harlem Globetrotter! Next stop...BROADWAY! Enjoy the show, kids! Proud member of Actor’s Equity and native Texan!

Alix McEachern Jones (She, *What Comes Next*): Alix is delighted to be working with **taxdeductible theatre** and *The Dare Project*. Regional credits include: Joanne, *A Few Good Men*; Jane, *Pride and Prejudice*; Anne, *Richard III*; Sylvia, *Sylvia*; Deidre, *I Hate Hamlet*; Sophie, *Star Spangled Girl*; Geraldine, *What the Butler Saw*; Jane, *Jane Eyre*; and Dionya/Bawd, *Pericles*. Alix received her MFA from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory for Actor Training.

Kendra Kay (Ensemble, *Scooby-Doosical*): Kendra was very pleased to be in the last *Dare Project* and is so excited to be in the ensemble of *Scooby-Doosical*. Enjoy the show!

Aaron Kliner (He, *What Comes Next*): Aaron is very pleased to be collaborating once again with **taxdeductible theatre**. He has participated in several prior installments of *The Dare Project* as an actor and as a writer. Aaron is from West Virginia where he received his BA from Shepherd College; also, he was awarded an MFA from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory.