

taxdeductible theatre

taxdeductible theatre

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 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



Materials for the Arts, NYC Department of Cultural Affairs / NYC Department of Sanitation / NYC Department of Education.

NYC off and off-off Broadway stages for the last 15 years. Thanks to Steve and Rebekah for taking a chance on me.

Alix McEachern Jones*[†] (Patty, *Bed, Center*): A Florida native, Alix received her MFA in Acting from the FSU/Asolo Conservatory and her BA in Theatre from Florida State University. Favorite regional credits include: Richard III (Anne), Sylvia (Sylvia), I Hate Hamlet (Deidre), Star Spangled Girl (Sophie), Jane Eyre (Jane), What the Butler Saw (Geraldine), Pericles (Dionya/Bawd), A Few Good Men (Joanne), and Pride and Prejudice (Jane). She has been happily collaborating with **taxdeductible theatre** and *The Dare Project* for the past several years.

Amanda Ladd*[†] (Tara, *Bed, Center*; Reporter, *#hero*): This is Amanda's 4th *Dare Project*. She is delighted to be back! www.amandaladd.com

Robert Larkin[†] (writer/director, *Last Call*; Norman, *#hero*): Robert is proud to be part of **taxdeductible theatre**. He is a native of Boston, MA and was one of the original members of Industrial Theatre. Robert is an Irene Ryan Award winner and has received a Special Artistic Achievement Award for Outstanding Performance from the Kennedy Center for his role in William Donnelly's award winning play *Oswald's Case*. He hopes to create something good, true and lasting in his time with this group. Thanks to all my students for making me just crazy enough to keep motivated so I don't become a 21st Century Mr. Holland's Opus.

Marc LeVasseur* (Joseph, *Bed, Center*): Marc is thrilled to be a part of this production. He wants to dedicate this performance to his fiancée, Annie. She's the best.

Dan Matisa* (director/Bill, *Mraz*; Will, *Last Call*): Dan is thrilled to be a part of *The Dare Project* once again. He has performed in NYC at Joe's Pub, New Georges, American Globe, Abingdon, Dixon Place, and many more. Regionally, he has performed at Asolo, Tennessee Rep, Pennsylvania Centre Stage, American Stage, and at Shakespeare Festivals across the country. He has written and appeared in several *Dare Project* plays, including 'Clown Stop' and 'Sails'. 'MRAZ' is Dan's *Dare Project* directorial debut. Dan dedicates his performance tonight to the memory of his first acting teacher, Phylis Ravel. Rest in peace, and thank you. Love to Lemon Pie.

Katharine McLeod* (Wendy, *Tweeds*): Katharine is very excited to be a part *The Dare Project*! NYC credits include Persuasion, Wonder of the World, Dear Harvey (Best Ensemble Acting Award, FringeNYC), and readings for the Classical Theatre of Harlem, the Public Theater and Primary Stages. Regional credits include Pride and Prejudice (Actors Theatre of Louisville), Private Lives (Two River), and Comedy of Errors (Vermont Shakespeare). She holds a BA in Theatre from UC Berkeley, and an MFA in Acting from the University of Washington, and is a proud member of AEA. www.katharinemcleod.com

Robert W. McMaster[†] (director, *#hero*): Mac is the Associate Artistic Director of **taxdeductible theatre** and is even more grateful than usual to the artists and audience who have made this *Dare Project* happen. Blow, Sandy, and crack your cheeks... spout till you have drench'd our steeple. We're going to keep making new theatre.

Bethany McNamara (Eliza, *Bed, Center*): New York Credits: The Zeal of the Zealot (A Festival of Fools); God is an Atheist... (**taxdeductible theatre**); Butchering the Bard (Coffee Black Productions); One Night, Four Hearts (Equality Inc.); The Tracks Are Electrified (Looking Glass Theatre); Little Red Riding Hood (Manhattan Children's Theatre); Mythologie (The Secret Theatre). Education BFA Hofstra University

Nicholas Alexiy Moran* (John, *Last Call*; Reporter, *#hero*): Nicholas is grateful for the chance to participate in *The Dare Project* after watching and enjoying so many. For more info on his acting and directing credits, please visit NicholasMoran.com

Rebekah Nelson (director, *Tweeds*): Rebekah is excited to continue working with **taxdeductible theatre**. She has previously directed "Wise Men" for *The Dare Project* #20 and assistant directed "Scooby-Doosical" for #14. She'll be starring in the upcoming indie feature "American Bomber" and is producing the upcoming film "Living With The Dead".

Alex Pappas* (Ron, *Mraz*): After founding the Moscow Art Theatre with Konstantin Stanislavski, Alex received the Nobel Prize for Theatre for his portrayal of Stickybuns Magoo at the Steaks 'n' Starlets Dinner Theatre in Lump, Nebraska. He is currently developing his role of Magoo into a two-person drama with Fiona Shaw as Queen Wealthow of Beowulf. An inventor in his spare time, he owns patents on inventions such as meat glue, the numbers 1 and 0, and the wheel.

Paul Singleton* (Oscar, *Last Call*): Paul is pleased as punch to be in his first show with **taxdeductible theatre**, thanks to Bryn and Robert. Recent work includes staged concert performances of Measure for Measure (Angelo), The Winter's Tale (Leontes), and Julius Caesar (Brutus). MFA, Asolo Conservatory. Couldn't do it without Nina and Paul Christopher!

* indicates a member of Actors' Equity Association

† indicates a member of **taxdeductible theatre**

THE DARE PROJECT

November 14, 2012

Welcome to the 21st installment of world premiere ten minute plays, written on a dare. We never expected our series to be this successful when we began more than six years ago, but 95 plays later, here we are. And we're just getting started...

Tonight's program will include the opening scene from *#hero*, **taxdeductible theatre's** first ever full length play, which has been developed in collaboration with our company and community over our last season. The play will open later this winter, and we hope to see you all at the premiere performances.

Further, along with their dares, we've also had the writers of tonight's plays incorporate a line of dialogue from *#hero* into their own plays, to continue the collaboration. Keep an ear out for those as you watch tonight!

Thank you so much for coming, and we hope you enjoy the show.

DARE: To write a play that takes place in the same spot, in three different time periods, at the same time.

#hero: "...you don't need to be here tonight. You could be doing so much better."

Bed, Center

written by Lesslie Dodge Crane
directed by David Castro

Fitzwilliam: Joe Danbusky*
Eliza: Bethany McNamara
Joseph: Marc LeVasseur*
Patty: Alix McEachern Jones*
Tara: Amanda Ladd*
Cole: Christopher Catalano*

Special Thanks: TDF Costume Collection

DARE: A play about the ultimate backpack.

#hero: "...it all seems so easy from your distance."

Last Call

written & by Robert Larkin

John: Nicholas Alexiy Moran*
Oscar: Paul Singleton*
Will: Dan Matisa*

A tremendous thanks to Bryn as well as Billy, Kev, Jimmie, Rich, Nick, Paul, Dan, and of course...Amy.

DARE: To write about women who are addicted to men who are addicted to tweed.

#hero: "He's got to start over from scratch with you every time?"

Tweeds

written by Bryn Boice
directed by Rebekah Nelson

Chris: Jolie Curtsinger*
Wendy: Katharine McLeod*
Maggie: Carol Hickey*

Special thanks to Laurie Schaefer, Steve Wargo & Elizabeth Sweeney

DARE: White Noise and small government.

#hero: "You're a symbol for them to invest deeper in themselves."

Mraz

written by Christopher Catalano
directed by Dan Matisa

Bill: Dan Matisa* **Walt:** Kyle Groff*
Ron: Alex Pappas* **Derek:** De'Lon Grant*
Jake: Steve French* **Toby:** Christopher Catalano*

Special thanks to American Stage in St. Petersburg, Florida, for help with costuming.
www.americanstage.org

A sneak preview of our upcoming play, set to premiere later this winter.

#hero

written by Scott Casper, authored by **taxdeductible theatre**
directed by Robert W. McMaster

Reporters: Amanda Ladd*, Christopher Catalano*, Nicholas Alexiy Moran*,
Carol Hickey*, Joe Danbusky*
Grace: Wendy Bagger
Norman: Robert Larkin

* indicates a member of Actors' Equity Association

Front of House: Melissa Boatright, David Castro, Rich Fromm, Bridget Harvey, Desiree Maumus
Booth Operator: Robert W. McMaster

taxdeductible theatre also wishes to thank...

Abingdon Theatre, Shetler Studios, St. Patrick's Church of LIC

Robert Choiniere, Tom Fazio
Kyle Groff: www.kylegroffphoto.com
Martha



Wendy Bagger[†] (*Grace, #hero*): Wendy was born and raised in Las Vegas, Nevada where she earned her BFA in Theatre Arts at University of Nevada Las Vegas. (Go Rebels!) Wendy then earned her Masters in Acting at The Ohio State University. (Go Bucks!) Wendy has acted regionally in Columbus, St. Louis (Go Cardinals!), Sarasota, and St. Petersburg, Florida. Here in New York (Go Jets!), Wendy is a voice over artist, a communication skills trainer, and regular contributor to *The Dare Project* as a writer and actor. She regularly cheers her various hometown teams to victory the first year she lives there, and cheers them to mediocrity and/or shame the following year. Yes, she is the one to blame.

Bryn Boice[†] (writer, *Tweeds*): Bryn is one of the original three co-creators of *The Dare Project* and is ecstatic to be a part of #21. She is currently directing 'Speaking In Tongues' for Australian Made Entertainment at Theater 54, opening November 30th. Follow her for updates, theatrical and otherwise, on Twitter @brynboice and her new venture @anthemtheatre. Love to MP, friends, family, and Daphne.

Scott Casper[†] (writer, *#hero*): Scott is the Artistic Director of **taxdeductible theatre**, and has been involved as a writer, director or performer in every New York installment of *The Dare Project* to date. Thanks to all of you for coming out tonight, and hopefully we'll see you all at the world premiere of #hero later this season!

David Castro[†] (director, *Bed, Center*): David is happy to be working on his third show with *The Dare Project*. And he is very grateful for the support he has been given and is looking forward to more. A transplant from Chicago, David has been fortunate to work with The Artistic Home, The Playground, Theater Sports and PorchHigh Music Theater.

Christopher Catalano^{*†} (Cole, *Bed, Center*; writer/Toby, *Mraz*; Reporter, *#hero*): This is Christopher's 7th-ish Dare Project as a writer and his 20th-ish as an actor. He does other stuff too: www.christophercatalano.com And you can follow him on Twitter @lotterydude. IFLT500YEK.

Lesslie Dodge Crane[†] (writer, *Bed, Center*): "I want this bio- but in Swahili. Please put it into babble fish for me." As requested:

Lesslie ni muda mrefu mchangiaji kwenye ukumbi taxdeductible kama mwigizaji, mkurugenzi na mwandishi wa Muda Sexy katika Holocaust, Jack na Jill, Kusukuma na Kupigwa vikumbo, Hapa Comes Mchumba, na Kuna lakini Kwa ... katika DP # 19 - kukabiliana na hali 10 dakika ya kazi txd ya urefu kamili katika maendeleo. Shukrani kwa kila mtu ili kuja na kugawana kazi ya mwaka na sisi.

"If there are any other ways in which I can be difficult, please let me know, and I will consider it carefully and ignore it and buy shoes."

Jolie Curtsinger* (Chris, *Tweeds*): Jolie is thrilled to be a part of *The Dare Project* again. She was recently seen in InProximity Theatre Company's productions of The Fall to Earth at 59E59 Theaters and Navy Pier at Theater Row.

Joe Danbusky* (Fitzwilliam, *Bed, Center*; Reporter, *#hero*): Joe is excited to join forces with *The Dare Project* after most recently playing the title role in the Storm Theatre's critically acclaimed production of The President. Some additional credits include: International Tour - The Sound of Music (Franz). National Tours - My Fair Lady (Higgins), The Sound of Music (Franz), Crazy for You (Lank). Regional - Jekyll & Hyde (Lord Savage/Spider), Show Boat (Jim/Pete), It's a Wonderful Life (Mr. Hepner), The Sound of Music (Capt. Von Trapp). NY credits - The Howard Hughes Project (Snapple Theatre Center), Back Home (NYMF '07), The Flute Player's Song (NYMF '04), Shakedown Street (Fringe '05), First Kiss (TSI Playtime Series), American Nocturne (Wings Theatre), Orange (Center Stage).

Steve French* (Jake, *Mraz*): Steve is making his *Dare Project* debut and psyched to be working with a group he's admired for so long. In New York, Steve has had the pleasure of making theatre at Playwrights Horizons, Primary Stages, and Zootopia Theatre Co. Around the country he has appeared at Hartford Stage Co., Long Wharf Theatre, Alliance Theatre, Repertory Theatre of St. Louis, Goodspeed Musicals, and Milwaukee Rep.

De'Lon Grant* (Derek, *Mraz*): De'Lon makes his *Dare Project* debut. His Regional credits include Invisible Man at The Studio Theatre, Troilus and Cressida and Cymbeline at Actors' Shakespeare Project, Big River, Superior Donuts and 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee at The Lyric Stage Company of Boston, Passing Strange, Dessa Rose and The World Goes Round at New Repertory Theatre. Big River at The Barnstormers Theatre, Big River and Richard III at The Arkansas Shakespeare Festival, Rent and 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee at The Roxy Regional Theatre. Film credits include Surrogates and Silver Circle. delongrant.com

Kyle Groff* (Walt, *Mraz*): Kyle is no stranger to *The Dare Project*, most recently for one performance in Dan Matisa's *Sails*. When he's not onstage he is often taking pictures. Kyle is an alumni of Stephens College for Women (male apprenticeship program). Some recent roles include; Johnny in *Psychomachia*, Hal in *Proof*, Mr. Darcy in *Pride & Prejudice*, The Baker in *Into the Woods*, among others. Proud member of Actors Equity.

Carol Hickey* (Maggie, *Tweeds*; Reporter, *#hero*): This is Carol's first *Dare Project*, and she couldn't be more thrilled that it's working on a piece by the gorgeous and talented Bryn Boice. Carol's been seen on