

ARTSTREAM'S MARYLAND
CABARET COMPANY PRESENTS:
PANDEMIC CHAMPIONS

MONDAY, JANUARY 25, 2021 | 7:30PM

FEATURING RACHEL COATES, JONATHAN FEIFER, DENISE GREEN,
ADAM MCCRENSKY, LESLIE MOORE, CHARLIE OUTLAW, AND ELIAS TSAKIRIS



ArtStream, Inc. is a 501 (c)(3) nonprofit arts organization, supported by individual donors and by funding from the Montgomery County Government and the Arts and Humanities Council of Montgomery County, and by the Maryland State Arts Council, on the web at msac.org/recognizing-our-grants. Additional funding comes from The Morris and Gwendolyn Cafritz Foundation.

Additional funding for the Cabaret Companies comes from Ms. Kristen N. Chou, ArtStream Board of Directors, Ning Solutions Inc.





Theatre for an
Inclusive World

About ArtStream

ArtStream's classes, workshops, and performing companies fuel each student's imagination, creativity, and focus. And that's not all. Students improve communication and social skills and develop friendships. Newly discovered talents and capabilities improve self-esteem, poise, and confidence that extends into their daily lives. All ArtStreamers are valued for their creative contributions. ArtStream's demanding and very entertaining process encourages ArtStreamers to find their voices, discover their creativity and strengths, and perform with confidence!

"My son has many challenges with social situations and making new friends is very difficult. I see a really positive change in him since he began this ArtStream class! He looks forward to the class and feels comfortable with the teachers. They are fabulous."
— Parent of a 20-year-old ArtStream student since 2019

Take a Performing Class

ArtStream offers performing arts classes for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) — including autism. You do not need to have any acting experience to take a class.

Learn about our current classes or register for an upcoming class today.

Classes: www.art-stream.org/take-a-class

Join Our Monthly Super Social Saturdays

Practice being your best self in a group event setting. Show your skills, be silly, express yourself, practice positive social experiences, and dance!

Attend a Show



2021 PERFORMANCES

Winter 2021

Maryland Cabaret – Winter Company

📅 Mon, Jan 25, 2021

🕒 7:30 pm

📍 Zoom

Spring 2021

Alexandria Inclusive Theatre
Companies

📅 Fri, March 19, 2021

🕒 7:30 pm

📍 Zoom

Gaithersburg Inclusive Theatre
Companies

📅 Fri, May 7, 2021

🕒 7:30pm

📍 Zoom

Maryland Cabaret – Spring Company

📅 Mon, May 17, 2021

🕒 7:30pm

📍 Zoom

Virginia Cabaret – Spring Company

📅 Mon, April 5, 2021

🕒 7:30 pm

📍 Zoom

Silver Spring Inclusive Theatre
Companies

📅 Fri, June 18, 2021

🕒 7:30 pm

📍 Zoom

Get tickets by going to “Buy Tickets” at
www.art-stream.org



Get Involved
with ArtStream

Perform with **ArtStream**

Auditions for the Inclusive Theatre Companies occur in the fall for shows the following spring. Cabaret Companies hold auditions in the fall and winter.

Inclusive Theatre Companies

Actors develop and perform an original musical. The company votes on a theme, creates original characters, and improvises scenes. Scenes are then scripted to become an original one-act musical. Each performance presents two of these musicals in a double bill before a live audience.

Cabaret Companies

Actors agree on a theme for ensemble music and dance performances, and then each actor works with the choreographer and music director to develop solo and small group music, dance, or drama performances.



Requirements to perform

- Be 18 years of age or older
- Have participated in at least 8 weeks of ArtStream classes in the past 2 years

Reserve your spot

on the audition list by calling ArtStream at (301) 565-4567.

When there is space in the company, we will invite you to join us for an audition.



Bring ArtStream
to your Community

WORKSHOPS & Classes

ArtStream's talented teaching artists lead a variety of workshops and classes for groups, schools, and private organizations. Classes are designed for people of all ages with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs), including autism. Participation fosters social connections and allows participants to practice communication skills like eye contact, listening, and self-awareness. Through these classes, participants increase engagement and build confidence by making their own choices.

Programs include:

- ✓ Dance and movement
- ✓ Drama and storytelling
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Musical theatre
- ✓ Self-advocacy
- ✓ Workplace communication
- ✓ Public speaking

Contact ArtStream for more information and to design a class to fit your organization's needs.

"Thank you for a wonderful evening of music and rhythmic movement. It was a blast! It was so gratifying watching individuals perform and the audience engage. Your classes really make a difference."

— Jan Miller-Vogel, The Treatment and Learning Centers



Support ArtStream



Donate

Tuition and ticket sales cover less than half (46%) of the cost of ArtStream's programs. Your donations make it possible for actors with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDDs) — including autism — to perform on stage, feel empowered and respected, and actively engage in our communities.

- ☒ \$75 funds a full costume for one actor in an Inclusive Theatre Company show.
- ☒ \$300 underwrites a public speaking workshop for self-advocacy and pre-employment skills.
- ☒ \$1,000 sponsors an 8-week class in Broadway Song & Dance, Shakespeare, or Directing & Design.

Donate: www.art-stream.org/donate or mail a check to:
ArtStream | PO Box 75090 | Chicago, IL 60675-5090

Volunteer

Volunteers ages 13+ are needed to help in classes, backstage, and on stage.

Volunteers are eligible for SSL hours, and ArtStream looks great on college applications!

Groups and families are welcome.

Volunteer: www.art-stream.org/who-we-serve/volunteer/

Advertise

To include your ad in our programs, please contact ArtStream.

Advertise: www.art-stream.org/advertise-with-artstream

PANDEMIC CHAMPIONS

Director's Note

Well, we have finally made it into 2021. If you told me three years ago I would be writing Director's Notes from my home office in Boston for an ArtStream Maryland Cabaret, I'd probably have believed that would be wonderful but unlikely. 2020 seemed to be the year of unlikelyhoods. Many of us have found our lives looking entirely different than they did in January of last year. Regardless, we all championed through.

In all the ways that this year has sidelined us, I was fortunate to be asked to direct with ArtStream after a three-year gap, thanks to the necessity of virtual connection. It has been a welcome reminder of the resilience and strength of our ArtStream community. It was as if very little time had passed, and performers familiar and new welcomed me into their company. Although we had our own challenges to endure, their creativity and dedication to Cabaret made it clear that each week was an opportunity to connect with real champions.

Through the course of the process, each and every person brought their true selves. They showed up and used our time as an opportunity to share in great music, silliness, and inspiring creativity. You are all Pandemic Champions!

Our show speaks to many of our experiences these days, from feeling disconnected, to finding and spreading joy whenever and wherever we can. I am deeply honored and appreciative to reconnect with my ArtStream community, and hope you spread the joy.

Thanks,
Mehdi Raoufi , Director

Tonight's Performance



1. **We Are the Champions**

by Freddie Mercury
Company, featuring Elias Tsakiris,
Jonathan Feifer, and Denise Green

2. **Telephone Scene**

Denise Green and Adam McCrensky

3. **I'll Be There**

by Bob West, Hal Davis, Willie Hutch,
and Berry Gordy
Company, featuring Charles Outlaw
and Adam McCrensky

4. **Telephone Scene**

Company

5. **Ain't No Mountain High Enough**

by Nickolas Ashford and Valerie Simpson
Company, featuring Rachel Coates and Leslie Moore

Production Team

Director: Mehdi Raoufi

Music Director: Mark Andrist

Assistant Director/Choreographer:
Annetta Dexter Sawyer

Mentors: Ian Bannon,
Pat Kearns-Michaelsen

Video Editor: Sarah Sandifer

Theatre and Events

Manager: Sarah Sandifer

Cast

Zander Baldwin*

Ian Bannon*

Rachel Coates

Jonathan Feifer

Denise Green

Pat Kearns-
Michaelsen*

Adam McCrensky

Leslie Moore

Charlie Outlaw

Elias Tsakiris

**Indicates Mentor*



MEET THE CAST OF Pandemic Champions



Nadia Abouraya (Production Assistant)

Nadia lives in Rockville, Maryland, where she works for the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services. She was selected for The Arc of Maryland Partners in Policymaking 2020. Nadia joined ArtStream in 2013, first backstage, then onstage, and now with Cabaret. She can't wait to work again on sound and lights at Silver Spring Stage and usher at other theaters. Nadia plays tennis and loves reading and getting together with friends and family, who are very supportive of who she has become.



Mark Andrist (Music Director)

Mark Andrist has been a professional working musician since he was fourteen years old, and he is grateful for the opportunities he has had to perform, write, teach, and direct all over the world. His younger sister is the inspiration for his commitment to ArtStream, an individual who has lived her life refusing to allow her disabilities to steal her joy.



Ian Bannon (Mentor)

Ian began as a mentor at ArtStream in 2017. He is a Senior Docent at the Folger Shakespeare Library and works in various Folger education programs including Shakespeare School Festivals, and Shakespeare-in-Action Workshops. Ian also works with Raise the Voices, which focuses on human rights issues in the US and across the world. "It has been very rewarding to see our performers, staff and mentors working hard to overcome the challenges posed by the Pandemic. I am proud to be part of such a fun and creative group of people." Ian received the 2019 Scottish Rite – Valley of Washington's Knights of St. Andrew Outstanding Community Service Award for his work at ArtStream.



Rachel Coates (Actor)

Rachel is a 23-year-old actor living in Montgomery Village, Maryland. She joined ArtStream in 2019 with the Musical Theatre class. She performed in the 2014 22Q Beauty Pageant. Rachel earned the Girl Scout Gold Award advocating for 22Q deletion. Rachel is a member of TLC Outcomes, where she is in an educational program to help secure a job. She also enjoys singing, taking care of her dog, arts and crafts, and watching Marvel movies! "Thank you for everything!"



Annetta Dexter Sawyer (Assistant Director/Choreographer)

Annetta has taught for ArtStream on and off since its inception. She's been a movement and voice coach, taught poetry, drama, and even yoga! Much of her teaching has been with ArtStream community partner programs at Community Services for Autistic Adults and Children (CSAAC), the Forbush School, and The Treatment and Learning Centers (TLC). She co-teaches Theater & Improvisation classes at TLC/KTS. Annetta teaches Practicing Performance, works with the Jewish Foundation for Group Homes, and gives drama and storytelling classes at the DC Edlavitch JCC. She works as a freelance artist at several local theater companies. This is Annetta's fifth ArtStream Cabaret! "Thank you marvelous ArtStreamers for all your hard work, the fun, and your talents!"



Jonathan Feifer (Actor)

Jonathan is a 24-year-old from Rockville, Maryland, who has performed in ArtStream's Cabaret and Inclusive Theater Companies. He has sung solo and in duets in private recitals with other aspiring performers. He was a member of the chorus in the Walter Johnson High School production of *Les Misérables*. Jonathan currently lives on his own while taking classes, doing volunteer work, and looking for the right job. He enjoys musicals, movies and getting together with friends. "Hope everyone who comes to Cabaret loves our show!"



Denise Green (Actor)

Denise Monique Green is a 64-year-old actor (64 years young!) from Washington, DC. This is her third year with ArtStream! Previously, she took a class with Annetta where she got to play the roles of a student and a mentor. Denise has performed at the Inwood Coffee House for 12 years. She attended Sharpe Health School and sang at church from ages 10 to 18. Denise is active in her church, especially the group Handicap Encounter Christ (HEC). Denise has many hobbies, including oil painting, crocheting, cooking, bingo, bowling, and karaoke. But most of all, Denise loves helping others and making people laugh. "I only have praise for ArtStream. I've learned so much in the last few years, and I have a lot of respect for my coworkers and fellow actors. Please remember, when one door closes another one will open, which means anything is possible with a little confidence and ArtStream to guide you."



Pat Kearns-Michaelsen (Mentor)

Pat Kearns-Michaelsen first volunteered at ArtStream in 2015, working front of house for the Silver Spring productions. This is her fourth year as an onstage mentor with Maryland's Cabaret. Pat also acted at American Stage Theatre Company in St. Petersburg, Florida. "The person that you will spend the most time with is yourself, so be nice to them."



Adam McCrensky (Actor)

Adam is a 34-year-old actor from Bethesda, Maryland. He has acted with ArtStream for 14 years. Adam has also performed at Imagination Stage, Adventure Theater MTC, and with the Bannockburn Spring Show. He has regularly volunteered at WAMU, Fabrangen, VisArts, SPIRIT Club, and at the ArtStream office. He enjoys using the internet, especially researching music playlists like those from his favorite restaurant, Chipotle, or on a music platform like Spotify. Adam, when there is no pandemic, is an avid public transportation user and loves exploring new areas using the bus and metro. "Love to all my friends in the cast and audience!"



Leslie Moore (Actor)

Leslie Ellen Moore, 56, has been acting with ArtStream since its beginning and is a pioneer member of ArtStream's Maryland Cabaret. Leslie loves musicals: in Cabaret, she has performed "Impossible Dream" from *Man of La Mancha*, "Day by Day" from *Godspell* with her friend Denise Green, and "What I Did for Love," from *A Chorus Line*, with her brother Ken accompanying her on flute. "I love Cabaret because I'm good at it. I feel happy when my friends see my shows and cheer me on."



Charlie Outlaw (Actor)

Charlie Outlaw is a 33-year-old actor from Washington, DC. This is his third year with ArtStream's Maryland Cabaret Company! He previously acted with the ArtStream Inclusive Theatre Company from 2005 until 2009. Charlie performed at the Lincoln Theatre with the Art and Drama Therapy Inspirational Choir and Moroccan Ensemble from 2011 - 2016. In December, 2016, he performed at the White House for President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama. Charlie currently attends Bridgeway Community Services and is a member of the Bridgeway Choir. He enjoys singing, performing, and recording. "Peace!"



Mehdi Raoufi (Director)

Mehdi is a recent graduate of Lesley University in Boston, Massachusetts, and holds a M.A. in Mental Health Counseling with a concentration in Expressive Arts Therapy. He also has a B.A. in Theater with a concentration in Directing/Dramatic Literature from Christopher Newport University. Mehdi currently lives in Boston, where he is a Career Readiness Program Specialist for Partners for Youth with Disabilities, a non-profit organization whose goal is to create a world where young people with disabilities will be able to live with dignity and pride in who they are, and to lead self-determined lives filled with purpose. He teaches weekly workshops focusing on vocational skills and inclusion in the workplace. Prior to relocating to Boston, Mehdi worked for over a decade as a sound designer and teaching artist in the Washington, D.C. area, teaching with both Imagination Stage and ArtStream through 2017. Mehdi has also sound designed with many theatres in the DC area, including Constellation Theatre Company, Faction of Fools and Gallaudet University, just to name a few. In his free time, Mehdi loves live music and art, playing and creating music, and annoying his senior dog, Coltrane.



Elias Tsakiris (Actor)

Elias is a 24-year-old actor from Damascus, Maryland. This is his second performance with the ArtStream Maryland Cabaret! In early 2020, Elias was selected to play in the US World Cup Special Needs adult ice hockey team in Las Vegas! He is also an avid cook and enjoys trying out new recipes with his family.



THANK YOU

Thank You for coming to see our
Maryland Cabaret Company's performance!





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**THE BROWN FAMILY THANKS STAFF AND
TEACHERS FOR ALL THEIR AMAZING WORK!**

**The Barnes family salutes
ArtStream and all of its
amazing performers!**

**Thank you ArtStream for
all your hard work. We
love the program and
are so glad Chris can be
a part of it!**



- The Pagonis Family



**Alex is a proud member of
the creative, collaborative
ArtStream community!**

Congratulations!

**Congratulations to Rachel Coates, Jonathan Feifer, Denise Green,
Adam McCrensky, Leslie Moore, Charlie Outlaw, and Elias Tsakiris!**

**We know your talent and hard work will be rewarded
with great performances.**

GO ARTSTREAMERS!

Megan, Mike and Ellen Cooper

**Students with intellectual and developmental disabilities
— including autism — age 16-26 may receive 1 free ticket
for virtual performances. Register at art-stream.org.**



Alex:

You're not just a great friend



an intrepid explorer.....



a great communicator



..... adorable, and adored

..... you're definitely going places and taking us all along for the ride! Where will you and your Art-Streamers take us all this coming year? Wherever that is, we'll be right behind you. All of you.



ArtStream Directory

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2019-2020 INCLUSIVE THEATRE COMPANY AND CABARET ARTISTS

Sabrini Babu

Caroline Grabow

Nicholas Kramp

Conor

Suzan Basoglu

Denise Green

Mike Krempasky

O'Shaughnessy

Becky Birch

Melanie Gross

Ricky Kuron

Charles Outlaw

Ana Bradley

Jessica Grossman

Michael

Chris Pagonis

Tyler Brown

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Langston Caldwell

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Stella Rose Kalb

Amy Merrell

Christopher
Sudbrink

Adrian Forsythe y
Korzeniewicz

Laurie Ann Kehoe

Leslie Moore

Laura Sullivan

Andrea Geller

Nader Khalaf

Chelsea Murray

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Ivy Gilat

Tammy Kiser

Joe Myers

Nmandi Thompson

Zeev Gilat

Joey Kitchelt

Josef Newton

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Eric Niedringhaus

Justin Turner

Kerry O'Brien

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Pamela Bilik
Tonnia Boykins
Amy Creamer
Elizabeth Cronin
Annetta Dexter Sawyer
Rye Ellis
Shelley Fisher
Kia Folsom
Maren Gibb
Kathryn Hamilton-Lodge
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Becky Webb
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Pamela Young
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THANK YOU



Thank you to all of ArtStream's Teaching Artists for their creativity and dedication!
Your hard work helps our ArtStream students find their voices and excel!

—The Bradley Family



**Congratulations
to our favorite
ArtStream actor!**

**With love from
Frank, Molly,
and Jane Myers**



300

PERFORMANCES

since our
first show
in 2007



30

PARTNERS

offer ArtStream
classes to over
550 PEOPLE
WITH IDD's
of all ages



60

**ORIGINAL
MUSICALS**

created by
ArtStreamers
since 2007



800

CLASSES

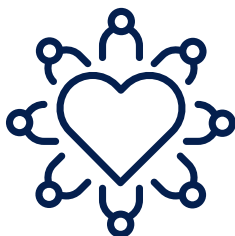
held annually



1,200

**PEOPLE
WITH IDD's**

empowered annually



4,711

**VOLUNTEER
HOURS**

completed annually

Save the Date



Alexandria Inclusive Theatre Company
March 19, 2021
7:30pm



Thanks for a great season!