



## American Repertory Theater

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PERFORMANCES OF WORLD PREMIERE  
*WILD: A MUSICAL BECOMING*  
TO BEGIN SUNDAY AT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER

CREATIVE TEAM AND CAST NOW ANNOUNCED

Concert Production to Run December 5, 2021 through January 2, 2022  
at the Loeb Drama Center

[Download Key Art and Cast Image](#) || [Download Rehearsal Images](#)

**Cambridge, MA—American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University** announced today the full creative team and cast for *WILD: A Musical Becoming*. The concert production begins performances at the Loeb Drama Center in Harvard Square in Cambridge, Massachusetts on Sunday, December 5, 2021, opens officially on Thursday, December 9, and runs through January 2, 2022.

*WILD: A Musical Becoming* is a new musical fable about a single mother struggling to hold on to her family farm and connect with her teenage daughter, whose determination to save the planet endows her and her friends with powers they never knew they had. Inspired by the show's theme of caring for the planet, this concert production embraces regenerative practice and invites audiences to use their imagination to set the scene.

*WILD: A Musical Becoming* features a book by Tony and Obie Award winner **V** (she/her - formerly Eve Ensler; *In the Body of the World*, *O.P.C*, *The Vagina Monologues*), music by Grammy and Golden Globe-nominated songwriter **Justin Tranter** (they/them - songs with/for Selena Gomez, Justin Bieber, Ariana Grande, and Imagine Dragons) and songwriter **Caroline Pennell** (she/her - Demi Lovato and Selena Gomez) with contributions by **Eren Cannata** (Jake Wesley Rogers, upcoming "Grease: Rise of the Pink Ladies"), and lyrics by **Tranter**, **Pennell**, and **V** (formerly Eve Ensler). Contributions are by **Idina Menzel** (*Rent*, *Wicked*, *Frozen*).

*WILD: A Musical Becoming* choreography is by **Chanel DaSilva** (she/her - *Moby-Dick*, *The Black Clown*). Direction is by Tony Award-winning A.R.T. Terrie and Bradley Bloom Artistic Director **Diane Paulus** (she/her - *Jagged Little Pill*, *Waitress*, *Pippin* at A.R.T. and on Broadway).

Tony Award winner **Idina Menzel** (she/her - *Rent*, *Wicked*, *Frozen*) and actor and musician **YDE** (she/her - @notyde on TikTok, "Stopped Buying Diamonds," "The Haunted Hathaways," "School of Rock") appear as mother Bea and daughter Sophia in the ensemble cast that includes **Brittany Campbell** (she/her - *The Civil War* and *A Christmas Carol* on Broadway; *Hamilton* in Chicago) as Oak, **Deborah S. Craig** (she/her - *The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* on Broadway, Drama Desk Award; upcoming films *The Tiger's Apprentice*, *Me Time*, and *Meet Cute*) as Mrs. Maybe, **Paravi Das** (she/her - @pxrxvi on TikTok) as Forte, **Luke Ferrari** (they/them - *Young Frankenstein*, *Annie*, and others at Smithtown Performing Arts Center) as Possible, **Josh Lamon** (he/him - *Finding Neverland* at A.R.T. and on Broadway, *The Prom* and *Hair* on Broadway) as Mr. Rail, **Kingsley Leggs** (he/him - *Fingersmith* at

A.R.T.; *Little Shop of Horrors* Off Broadway; *The Color Purple* on Broadway) as Mayor Maybe, **Javier Muñoz** (he/him - *Hamilton* and *In the Heights* on Broadway; “Shadowhunters,” “Blindspot”) as Mr. Custom, and **Michael Williams** (he/him - *The Secret Garden* at Beachmont Players, NBC’s “The Voice” Top 10) as Bicker Rail. **Sam Falkner** (he/they, *Billy Elliot*, *Hairspray Live!*) and **Kira Sarai Helper** (she/her, *Macbeth In Stride* at A.R.T.) are understudies.

The cast of ***WILD: A Musical Becoming*** will be joined in performance by members of the **Boston Children’s Chorus**.

Menzel will appear through December 23, 2021; casting for the role of Bea for performances from December 27, 2021 through January 2, 2022 will be announced at a later date. Casting for ***WILD: A Musical Becoming*** is by **Stewart/Whitley**.

***WILD*** orchestrations and arrangements are by **Daniel Crean** (he/him), music supervision is by **Eren Cannata** (he/him), and music direction is by **David Coleman** (he/him).

***WILD*** will be performed on the set of ***Macbeth In Stride***, designed by **Dan Soule** (he/him). **Jeanette Yew** (she/her) is the Lighting Designer; **Siigii** (they/them), **Roy Caires** (he/him), and **Tommy Cole** (he/him) are the Costume Designers; and **Alex Giorgetti** (he/him) is the Sound Designer. **Daniel Callahan** (he/him) is the Featured Visual Artist.

**Hope Villanueva** (she/her) is the PSM, **John Meredith** (they/them) is the ASM, and **Jamie Carty** (she/her) is the PA.

The band will include **Jordan Carter** (he/him) on drums; **David Coleman** on keyboards; and **Serena Jade Miller** (she/her) on guitar.

Production support of ***WILD: A Musical Becoming*** is provided by **Allison Johnson** through the Incubator Fund. Additional production support is provided by the **Edgerton Foundation New Play Awards**. American Repertory Theater 2021/22 programming support is provided by **Harvard University**, **The Barr Foundation**, **The Bob and Alison Murchison New Work Development Fund**, **The Shubert Foundation**, **National Endowment for the Arts**, **Massachusetts Cultural Council**, **Bank of America**, **Barton & Guestier**, **Meyer Sound**, and **JetBlue**. A.R.T. 2021/22 programming is dedicated to the memory of Karen Mueller in recognition of her many contributions to the theater.

## **TICKETING INFORMATION**

**Tickets from \$25** are available at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/WILD](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/WILD). Discounts are available to students and ticket-buyers under age 25, Blue Star families, EBT card holders, seniors, Harvard faculty and staff, and others. More information at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/PlanYourVisit).

**Audience, artist, and staff safety is A.R.T.’s top priority.** The theater is taking many steps to protect against COVID-19. Enhanced ventilation, universal masking, vaccination, and testing are critical cornerstones of our multi-layered mitigation efforts that prioritize the safety of our community. Visit A.R.T.’s website for a full list of current ticketing and attendance protocols and procedures: [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Covid19Protocols](https://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/Covid19Protocols).

## **PERFORMANCE DATES**

WILD						
IN PERSON: DEC 5, 2021 - JAN 2, 2022						
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
5 DEC	6	7	8	9	10	11
7:30PM		7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	2PM 7:30PM
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
2PM		7:30PM	11AM 7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	2PM 7:30PM
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
2PM 7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	2PM 7:30PM	2PM		
26	27	28	29	30	31	1 JAN
	7:30PM	2PM 7:30PM	7:30PM	7:30PM	2PM 7:30PM	
2						
2PM						

**Relaxed Performance:** Wednesday, December 18 at 2PM

**ASL Interpreted Performances:** Wednesday, December 22 at 7:30PM and Sunday, January 2 at 2PM  
Book seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300.

**Audio Described Performances:** Sunday, December 19 at 2PM and Friday, December 31 at 7:30PM  
Book seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300.

**Open Captioned Performances:** Sunday, December 19 at 2PM and Thursday, December 30 at 7:30PM  
Book seats online, by contacting [Access@amrep.org](mailto:Access@amrep.org), or calling 617.547.8300.

**Teacher Tuesday Performance Including Professional Development:** Tuesday, December 7 at 5:30PM / Performance at 7:30PM (Sold Out)  
Learn more about Teacher Tuesdays at [AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/TeacherTuesday](http://AmericanRepertoryTheater.org/TeacherTuesday)

## **ABOUT BOSTON CHILDREN'S CHORUS**

### **About Boston Children's Chorus**

Boston Children's Chorus (BCC) was founded in 2003 by Hubie Jones, a civic leader who has worked for six decades to address the social problems facing Boston's underserved children and communities. Named Boston's "Ambassadors of Harmony" by *The Boston Globe*, BCC harnesses the power of music to connect Boston's diverse communities, cultivate empathy, and inspire social inquiry. BCC choir programs include 13 choirs with singers from 110 different zip codes in and around Boston. BCC presents over 50 performances per season in a wide range of public and private events. They have performed in venues from Boston Symphony Hall, and Royal Albert Hall in London, to Sydney Opera House, and the White House. BCC is supported in part by grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, in part by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, and in part by a grant from the Boston Cultural Council, a local agency which is funded by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, administered by the Mayor's Office of Arts and Culture.

## **ABOUT AMERICAN REPERTORY THEATER**

The American Repertory Theater (A.R.T.) at Harvard University is a leading force in the American theater, producing groundbreaking work that is driven by risk-taking and passionate inquiry. A.R.T. was founded

in 1980 by Robert Brustein, who served as Artistic Director until 2002, when he was succeeded by Robert Woodruff. Diane Paulus began her tenure as Artistic Director in 2008.

*A.R.T. acknowledges that its theaters are situated on the traditional and ancestral homelands of the [Massachusetts Tribe](#).*

## **MISSION**

The American Repertory Theater is dedicated to expanding the boundaries of theater, always including the audience as a partner.

## **VISION**

We focus on the research and development of groundbreaking theatrical experiences that catalyze dialogue and transformation. We believe that by engaging our hearts, minds and bodies, theater has the power to heal and imagine collective pathways forward.

We commit to advancing public health in our practice and our programming, recognizing that racism in America is a national public health crisis. Our new home in Allston will be a breathable and healthy building envisioned as a town hall for the twenty-first century. Inspired by the model of a teaching hospital, the building will be a vibrant center for research, experiential pedagogy, and performance.

We build community with our audiences, artists, students, staff, and neighbors across Greater Boston, embracing theater's power to cultivate the full breadth and beauty of our shared humanity. We affirm and celebrate a multitude of perspectives and experiences that reflect the diversity of our country and world. We are dedicated to making a welcoming and accessible space for people of any identity, background, or ability.

## **VALUES**

We hold the institution and each other responsible and accountable for living our shared values. There is no hierarchy to these values; they are all equally important and interrelated. We acknowledge that as an institution we must devote time to implementing and sustaining these values:

We center anti-racism

*Habituate anti-racist practices in our policies, structure and culture.*

We lead with inquiry

*Ask questions in a spirit of brave curiosity in our never-ending journey of learning and growth*

We believe in collaboration

*Work together with trust and respect to unlock collective creativity*

We practice adaptability

*Challenge assumptions and create capacity to support "next" practices*

We embrace regenerative practice

*Promote the health and vitality of our planet, our organization, and each other*

## **HONORS & AWARDS**

Throughout its history, A.R.T. has been honored with many distinguished awards including the Tony Award for Best New Play for *All the Way* (2014); consecutive Tony Awards for Best Revival of a Musical for *Pippin* (2013) and *The Gershwins' Porgy and Bess* (2012), both of which Paulus directed, and sixteen other Tony Awards since 2012; a Pulitzer Prize; a Jujamcyn Prize for outstanding contribution to the development of creative talent; the Regional Theater Tony Award; and more than 100 Elliot Norton and IRNE Awards. Additional Broadway productions include *SIX*; *Jagged Little Pill*; *Waitress*; *Natasha*,

***Pierre & The Great Comet of 1812***; and ***Finding Neverland***. Since their premieres in Cambridge, A.R.T. productions have also [gone on](#) to reach audiences Off-Broadway, on US National Tour, and at partner theaters across the country, as well as in London's West End, Tokyo, and Sydney. Under Paulus's leadership, A.R.T.'s club theater, OBERON, has been recognized annually as a top performance venue in the Boston area, and has attracted national attention for its innovative programming and business models.

## **HARVARD UNIVERSITY**

As the professional theater on the campus of Harvard University, A.R.T. is committed to playing a central role in the cognitive life of the University, catalyzing discourse, interdisciplinary collaboration, and creative exchange among a wide range of academic departments, institutions, students, and faculty members. A.R.T. plays a central role in Harvard's undergraduate Theater, Dance & Media concentration, teaching courses in directing, dramatic literature, acting, voice, design, and dramaturgy. A.R.T. staff also mentor students in the Harvard Radcliffe Dramatic Club working at the Loeb Drama Center and OBERON.

A.R.T. is also engaged in a number of multi-year initiatives with partners at Harvard that explore some of the most pressing issues of our day. Current work includes collaborations with the Harvard University Center for the Environment (to commission and develop a series of new works that address climate change and the environment), the Healthy Buildings Program at the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health (to develop a [Roadmap for Recovery and Resilience for Theater](#)), and the Initiative for Racial Equity at Harvard Business School (to pilot the Program in Arts and Culture Organization Management).

## **ENGAGEMENT**

Dedicated to making great theater accessible, A.R.T. actively engages community members and local students annually in project-based partnerships, workshops, conversations with artists, and other enrichment activities both at the theater and across the Greater Boston area.

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#WILDmusical @AmericanRep