



## 1 TBH - THE TEEN ONE-ACT FESTIVAL The Teen Ensemble Completes Year One



**TBH: THE TRUTH PLAYS**  
 THE BI-ANNUAL TEEN ENSEMBLE  
 ONE-ACT PLAY FESTIVAL  
 JUNE 1 AND 2  
 THE FIVE ANGELS THEATER  
 AT THE 52ND STREET PROJECT

**THE DESIGN AND TECH TEAM**  
 Lara De Bruijn..... Costume Designer  
 Jennifer Fok..... Lighting Designer  
 Chayse Peña..... Sound Designer  
 Jenni Swan..... Stage Manager



Our current Teen Ensemble has just finished their first year (the program is two years long) by staging a festival of one-act plays written for them by the best and brightest adult playwrights we could find. The photos on this page feature some of the highlights of TBH (which is internet-speak for "To Be Honest.")

1. Joshua Gomez, Sofia Santoni, and Chyanne Peña used a Clue game instead of a Ouija board to contact an internet ghost in *Dear David*, written by Christopher Moncayo-Torres and directed by Rachel Pickup.
2. In *The Disruption*, by Chisa Hutchinson, Tiniyah Powell's character (far left) learned to be tolerant of Lambert Whitney's skirt with the help of enlightened student Jade Cuevas. Bryan Lopez was the exasperated teacher while interns Gus Reale and Vanessa Porras were students. Mikhela Mahony directed the show.
3. Genesis Hires, Tiffany Miller, and Kai Ceniza were teens preparing for a protest march in *Girls Fight More (Boys Fight Harder)* by Beto O'Byrne. In this shot, director Lynne Rosenberg is standing in for Tiffany, who had to miss the dress rehearsal. She was great during the rest of the run, though!
4. Jiehae Park's *The Undercovers* played with a clever conceit: the teens played grown-up undercover agents clumsily pretending to be teens. Karen Tineo, Kayla Ortiz, Damian Tineo, and adult vol Jose Duran played the inept agents. Sam Dash directed them all.
5. Sathya Sridharan's *The Youth* was a tense drama about a trio of kidnapped teens (Jayda Camacho, Justin Bannister, and Bamba Thiam) biding their time in a dark, unfurnished room. Marchánt Davis was the director.
6. Kayla Matos was the valedictorian who lost her speech and Wilhelmina Ohene-karikari and Sabrina Caldon were the friends who helped her get through the crisis in Melisa Tien's *Graduation Day*, which was directed by Ciana Proto.

TBH PHOTOS BY WINSTON RODNEY



Lucy DeVito and Alex J. Moreno found quirky love on a Hawaiian beach in *Smells Like Febreeze*. It was written by Nikolai Alvarez and directed by Michael Walkup.



Ronald Peet was a wayward boy and Amber Gray the teddy bear who led him into another reality in Kassandra Sinchi's *Fantasy Forest*, directed by Kel Haney.



Payton Rodriguez's *Nerd to the Word* had the U.S. President (Sheila Vand) and her top adviser (Jose Gamo) reliving their college days, when he was the boy who bullied her. Emma Ramos directed.

**DREAM BIG:**  
**THE POSSIBILITY PLAYS**  
*THE SPRING, 2018 PLAYMAKING SHOWS*

As most of you readers know, the first step for kids of The 52nd Street Project is Playmaking, in which our newest members take a class in playwriting and immediately have their work fully realized on our stage. On this page and the next are some glimpses of the performances March 23-25.

**THE DESIGN AND TECH TEAM**

Kim D. Sherman ..... Composer  
 Sarah Beck, Paula Cohen, & Hannah Dowdy ..... Costume Designers  
 Emmanuel Delgado ..... Lighting Designer  
 Brian Freeland ..... Sound Designer  
 Jenni Swan ..... Stage Manager

**THE BRIDGEHAMPTON HOSTS**

Alex Gersten-Vassilaros, Cathy Dantchik, and Laurie Becker



Firestar (Leta Renée-Alan) was the school misfit that befriended Zexolaquel (Jennifer Ikeda), a new student afflicted with fractured syntax, in Lanai Blake-Soden's *Grammar Girl*, directed by Grace Rex.



*The Fight Between Brother and Sister*, by Walter Olivares, fulfilled its title when Joe Tippett spoke too loudly and his sister Shirley Rumierk stole his treasures and sicced her hamsters on him. George Babiak directed.



In Hala Eldeeb's *Dreams*, a hippo (Jessica Savage) and an elephant (Rosa Gilmore) strove to find a waterhole where they could live together in peace. Director Rachel Dart herded them toward a blissful conclusion.



*Blue Leopard (aka Zack) vs. Red Whale (aka Jeff Bob, Jr.)*, by Christian Santoni, pitted two aliens (Alex Gould and Justin Walker White) against each other in an epic sword and spaceship battle. Vichet Chum directed.

SHOW PHOTOS BY WINSTON RODNEY; KID PIX BY GRB



Ka-Ling Cheung and Diego A. Gonzalez were an octopus and an otter who discovered that they shared parents. Quilvis Medina wrote the aptly titled *The Unknown Brother and Sister* and Brisa Muñoz directed.

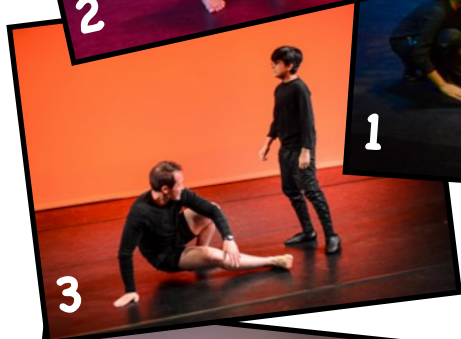


Sullivan Jones was good at basketball but Stephen Stocking was *Good At Basketball... NOT!* in the play of the same name. Korey Jackson directed young Daniel Henk's gripping sports drama.



A love built on doughnuts? You bet. We saw Flor De Liz Perez and Bhavesh Patel experience it in full force in *Krispy Kreme Dreams*, by Nyaliz Aviles. The play was directed by Anne Troup.

## DANCEMAKING 2018



Over nine weeks of classes led by Hannah Allen (who was assisted by Garrett Kim), 7 kids learned how to create and choreograph dance pieces. On April 27, the kids showed their stuff at the Five Angels with their adult partners. These photos offer but a glimpse of the dynamism on display that night. Here's the rundown of the pieces shown above:

1. *Particles* - The entire company in motion.
2. *My Jazz Party* - Morgan Smalls and Stephanie Linas.
3. *Ninja Art* - John Manolis and Ryan Billah.
4. *The Wild Ones* - Elli Brown and Kiara Figueroa.
5. *Friends* - Magalis Fabian and Margaret Odette.

6. *The Animals Dance* - Mitchell Winter and Amari DuBose.
7. *Eye of the Storm* - Aaron Ordinola and Ian Edlund.
8. *Fame* - Hayley Sherwood and Kimora Moore.

DANCEMAKING PHOTOGRAPHS BY WINSTON RODNEY

This Spring, we held a Stage Combat program in which 8 kids teamed up with adult partners to learn the fine art of fake fighting from Kerry Warren. The kids were then asked to choreograph the moves they learned and weave them into original plays featuring characters they developed. It all came together in a harmlessly brutal show called *Ready to Rumble*, which was presented at the Five Angels on Friday, June 15th. Garrett Kim supervised the whole melee and made everything right in the end.



▲ Young C.O.D., a rapper (Cody Wilson), got into a furious tussle with Mr. Money (better known as Carlos Jimenez) at a movie theater in Carlos' play *Bonus Features*.

► Rihana Poor (played by Alicia Moeller) and Nicky Rich (played by Kailey Caton) were twin sisters who came to blows over a cheating boyfriend in *The Twin Battle*.

▼ In *Lunch Massacre*, by Hannah Leon, Hannah was a unicorn at Fantasy High and Kendall Cafaro was a pirate at the same school. They kept bumping into each other and finally had it out in the school cafeteria.



▲ Love Jones taught Molly Carden serious lessons about personal grooming and taking things that don't belong to you in *Make-up Massacre*.



▲ Sevan Asencio's *A Dilapidated Rival* featured an epic, extended battle between two hitmen that included elaborate swordplay. Sevan's bitter opponent was Alex J. Gould.



▲ *Pizza Oven Love* by Faith Villanueva pitted Faith, a responsible pizza-maker, against her thieving sister, played by Annabelle Cousins.



▲ Sarah Quigley was an obstreperous child with an uncanny knowledge of swordmanship in the care of babysitter Jayla Alvarez in Jayla's *A Game of Guardians*.



▲ Never forget to put eggs in your cake! That was the lesson learned from Jayden Alvarado by Carlo Alban in Jayden's *Cheesy Toasted Cake*. Jayden, by the way, was a piece of cheese and Carlo was a toaster.

STAGE COMBAT PHOTOS BY JOHN SHEEHY AND ENRIQUE CABALLERO

# DON'T MISS OUR TWO SUMMER BLOCKBUSTERS!

## GOOD VIBRATIONS: PLAYS WITH SOUND FOUNDATIONS

THE 2018 BLOCK ISLAND  
ONE-ON-ONES

10 adult-written plays featuring  
kids and adults on stage together.

Friday, July 20 @ 7:30 p.m.

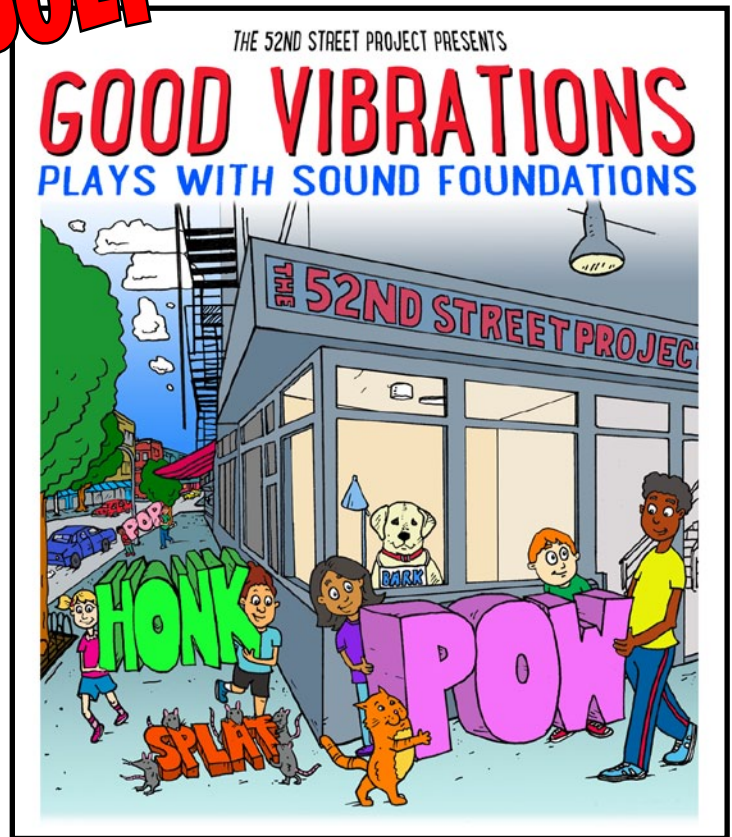
Saturday, July 21 @ 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, July 22 @ 3:00 p.m.

THE 52ND STREET PROJECT'S  
FIVE ANGELS THEATER  
789 10th Ave., between 52nd & 53rd St.

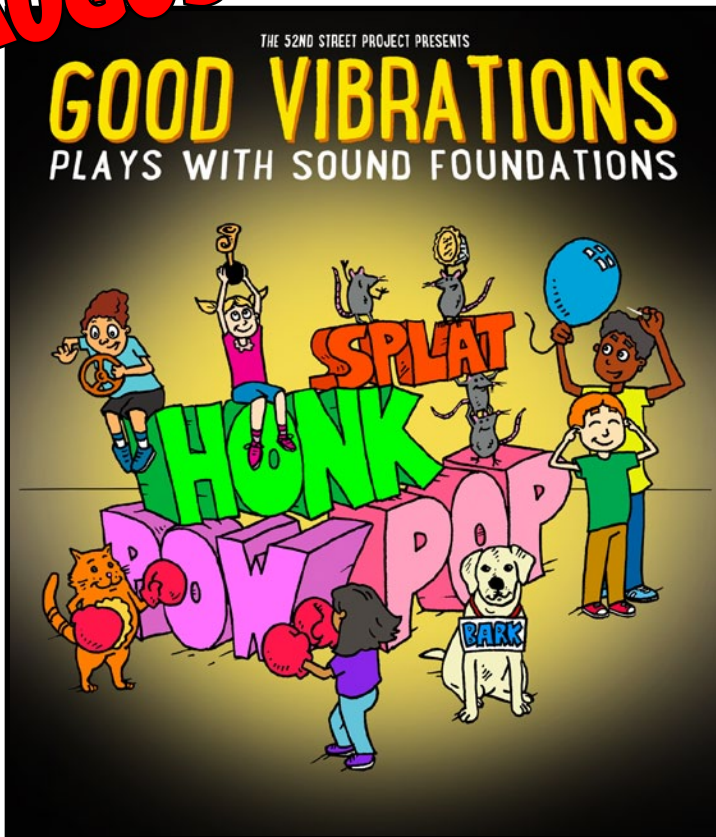
In both shows, watch each of the  
10 playwrights incorporate a sound or music cue  
randomly drawn from the Project collection!

# JULY



ARTWORK BY PATRICK JONES

# AUGUST



## GOOD VIBRATIONS: PLAYS WITH SOUND FOUNDATIONS 2!

THE 2018 COLD SPRING,  
PENNSYLVANIA ONE-ON-ONES  
10 **MORE** adult-written plays featuring  
kids and adults on stage together.

Friday, August 17 @ 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 18 @ 7:30 p.m.

Sunday, August 19 @ 3:00 p.m.

THE 52ND STREET PROJECT'S  
FIVE ANGELS THEATER  
789 10th Ave., between 52nd & 53rd St.

Tickets are free, but reservations are strongly  
recommended. Reserve at [www.52project.org](http://www.52project.org)

# BANANA BENEFIT BOX



A highlight of the Project season is the annual benefit, which takes place in the first week of May. This year's star- and kid-studded event was called *A Bunch of Bananas: An Evening with a Peel*. It took place at Capitale on May 7. The guest of honor was our pal **Edie Falco**, who did her first show with us in 2000. This was her 12th. She didn't perform this time, but she made a speech and accepted the gift of a snazzy "52nd Street Projacket." The songs were provided by five young tunesmiths from the Project and a host of talented performers who set the kids' lyrics to music and/or sang them. The composers were **Bryan Blaskie**, **Benedict Braxton-Smith**, **Emily Chiu**, **Alanya Bridge**, and **Patrick Thompson** and they were all musically directed by **Avi Amon** and performance-directed by **Gus Rogerson**. **Doug Derryberry** played guitar and **Chris Schultz** drummed.

1. A lot of friends from Edie's life showed up. From L to R: **Aida Turturro** (*The Sopranos*), **Merritt Wever** and **Stephen Wallem** (*Nurse Jackie*), **Edie** herself, **Liz Flahive** (a writer and executive producer on *Nurse Jackie*), and our own **Carol Ochs**.
2. **Jin Ha** sang **Ryan Billah's** *Jump Off*.
3. **Mitchell Winter** did **Andres Mendoza's** *Life*.
4. **Ellie Desautels** sang **Edelys Guerrero's** *Learning to Love Again*.
5. **Hannah Leon's** *Space* was sung by **Korey Jackson** and **Gizel Jimenez**.
6. **Auli'i Cravalho** did **Angel Mendoza's** *Bananas Forever*, which inspired the name of the entire wonderful evening. The most wonderful part was that it raised over \$380,000 to help us run our programs.

BENEFIT PHOTOS BY WINSTON RODNEY



Hi, P.U. Readers! The following foundations, corporations, and government agencies recently made generous grants to The 52nd Street Project. We are grateful to them for their support as well as to the many individuals who help sustain the Project's programs year-round.

\$60,000 .....	The CLAWS Foundation	\$10,000 .....	Community Foundation of Louisville
\$35,000 .....	Cantor Fitzgerald Relief Fund	\$8,000 .....	The Lotos Foundation
\$34,000 .....	The Horace W. Goldsmith Foundation	\$7,500 .....	Dawkins Family Foundation
\$25,000 .....	The Harold & Mimi Steinberg Charitable Trust	\$7,500 .....	Wolf Entertainment
\$20,000 .....	The Shubert Foundation	\$5,500 .....	Sterling Foundation
\$15,000 .....	Bloomberg Philanthropies	\$5,000 .....	Carol M. & Stephen E. Canter Family Foundation
\$15,000 .....	CBS Corporation	\$5,000 .....	Lambert Family Foundation
\$15,000 .....	HBO	\$3,750 .....	Netflix
\$15,000 .....	Susquehanna Foundation	\$2,400 .....	Carnegie Corporation of New York
\$14,500 .....	Yorke Construction	\$1,500 .....	Bull's Head Foundation
\$13,000 .....	The Beacon Group	\$1,000 .....	The Starker Family Foundation
\$10,000 .....	BTIG		

# FILMMAKING

2018 ● 2018 ● 2018 ● 2018 ● 2018 ● 2018 ● 2018 ● 2018

During the April school break this year, four budding auteurs spent a week at the Project creating original films with adult "cinematurses" and professional actors. The kids wrote screenplays, drew storyboards, handled the cameras, and did a lot of the editing. In addition, they also had to include a cameo appearance for themselves!

The kids, seen at right at their "Red Carpet Premiere" on April 13, were Darby O'Donnell, Gilbert Rosario, Karen Tineo, and Gage Simmons.

All of these films, by the way, can be viewed online. Just go to our website ([www.52project.org](http://www.52project.org)) and go to the "Kid's Stuff" menu.



## A STORY OF TWO FRIENDS



In Darby O'Donnell's buddy pic with supernatural overtones, Alexandra O'Daly was Octavia, a telekinetic skateboard coach, and Clea Alsip was Harper, a would-be skateboard champ. When Octavia's sister (played by Darby) and Harper compete against each other, there is great tension. Ultimately, they find friendship and Octavia starts working at the dog shelter with Harper. Darby's directing partner was Zsuzsa Mysak, an accomplished film professional AND a former Project Kid!

## THE CHASE



In Gilbert Rosario's film, Cece Fernandez was an office worker with severe anger management issues and Frankie Alvarez was her brother, the cop unwittingly sent to arrest her. Co-director Michael Stahl-David played Frankie's partner and Gilbert was the beleaguered employer forced to deal with Cece's wrath. The climactic scene had the two cops chasing Cece all over the Project Clubhouse and the sidewalks around it.

## THE JONES SISTERS



Karen Tineo is a big fan of "Law and Order," so she did her own version of a procedural drama with the help of partner Rachel James. Her film told the tale of four sisters who are a judge, a lawyer, a detective, and a cop. They were played by Selena Sanchez, Thiana Goode, (both Proj Kids) Olivia Gilliatt, and Carra Patterson (both adult actors). The four join forces to solve the cold case of their mother's murder with the help of a bribable evidence clerk played by Karen. We hope to see it as a series this fall.

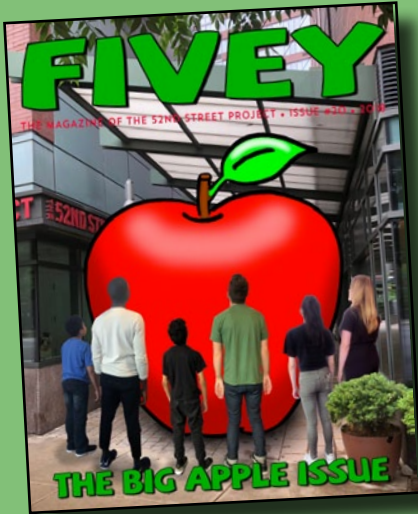
## OPENING NIGHT



Gage Simmons' film was a touching story of two men trying to realize dreams beyond their jobs. Joe Paulik was Bob, the lowly custodian with a golden throat, and Marchánt Davis was Jake, the lawyer who really wanted to be an "opera-writer." A coffeeshop conversation (Gage was the waiter) led to a partnership that helped them realize both their dreams. Chris Wendelken helped Gage bring their story to the screen.

## SMART PARTNER PICNIC PICS - JUNE 12, 2018

Smart Partners is our long-term mentorship program. During the school year, adult vols do all kinds of interesting things with a young pal at least once a week. We finished off the SP year in high style at the P.S. 111 playground just across the street from us. Here are shots from the event.



### BE A FIVEY FAN!

Hey, Projectiles! The 20th annual issue of *Fivey*, The 52nd Street Project kids' magazine is here! Most of it was done by Smart Partner pairs like the ones at right. You could come and see a show and pick up a free hard copy, but why wait? Download the full-color web edition at our website: [www.52project.org](http://www.52project.org). Do it now!



Lynne & Sarah L.



George, Alex, Johanna, & Payton



Ruffin & Ahmed



Jayleen & Daiva



Kiara & Kerry ride the Watermelon



Natasha & Arielle



Stevens & Sathya



Darby & Sarah J.



Ronald & Xavier

## THE 52ND STREET PROJECT'S ANNUAL GOLF OUTING, 2018

It takes a diehard golfer to hit the links when it's raining. Luckily, we have a huge contingent of sturdy duffers among the Project's supporters and volunteers, and many of them turned out for The 52nd Street Project's Annual Golf Outing on May 16.

This year's event happened at the beautiful Quaker Ridge Golf Course in Scarsdale, scant minutes from Executive Director Carol Ochs' childhood home (some of us staffers went on a pilgrimage there). The event was sponsored by Evercore, Flexis Capital, SIG Susquehanna, Yorke Construction, and Zubatkin Owner Representation.

Despite the inclement weather, 32 players on 8 teams had a great time. Everyone got a nifty cooler-style gift bag and a commemorative polo shirt. The golf carts supplied by Quaker Ridge kept everyone from getting too wet, and when the players came in from the links, they had a nice hot shower, cocktails, and a fine meal, which raised everyone's spirits even higher. To top it off there was a fund drive and an impromptu auction that benefited our Teen Leadership Programs.

All told, the event raised \$45,950. If you'd like to join next year's outing, contact Kali Crandall at [crandall@52project.org](mailto:crandall@52project.org). *GRB*



ProjPals (and fine actors) Mark Linn-Baker, David Costabile, and John Ellison Conlee head out to the swamp, er, the fairway.



Hanging out later in the dry and cozy clubhouse are ProjFounder Willie Reale, David C., and board co-chairs Cathy Dantchik and Louis Friedman.



# MEGABITS



Let's start this page with a wedding. Here are Brooke Smy and 52nd Street Project volunteer actor Jose Joaquin Perez. They were married on April 7th, 2018 at the Brooklyn Winery in Brooklyn, NY. We think they both look pretty sharp!



Virginia Dove came into Annie Purcell and Michael Salinas' lives on April 6, at Swedish Covenant Hospital in Chicago. Her hobbies include gumming her hands, listening to classical jazz and lovingly gazing into the souls of her Mom and Dad.



The wide-eyed gnome in this photo is Sean Frank Coffey, born March 30th at NYU Medical Center to our vol Paul Coffey and his wife Liz Hayes, who is an actor and a voice and speech teacher.



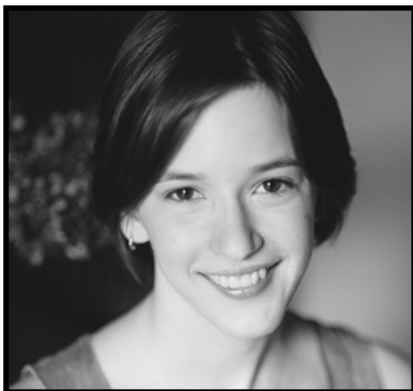
Henry Christopher Anderson was born March 31 in Brooklyn to proud parents Molly Coogan and Jon Anderson. Henry has been the happiest baby around since day one and Mom's addiction to striped clothing has fortunately been passed down to her son.



Introducing Semalu Penka Sincell! ProjVol Matt Sincell says of his daughter, "Semalu means hummingbird in either Mayan or Aztec...not 100% sure which. Corinne Penka, my wife, is half Mexican, so her name will hold on to part of her heritage." Semalu was born on June 13, 2018 at 10:16 a.m. at the University of Utah Hospital in Salt Lake City, UT.



Liz Bell keeps providing us with Megabit items! First there was her daughter Enza, then her son Tozzi, and now the acquisition of a new house for Liz, her hubby Andrew Stein, and their growing family in her home town of Sewickley, Pennsylvania. Liz moved out of her office at the Clubhouse months ago, but remains our off-site Clinical Consultant.



HOLLEMAN FAMILY

## JULIA HOLLEMAN

DECEMBER 1, 1982 - MAY 31, 2018

The Project would like to take a moment and express sadness with the news of Julia Holleman's passing on May 31, 2018 at the age of 35. A graduate of Yale College and NYU Tisch's Dramatic Writing Program, Julia's passion for social justice and for the power of expression through the arts are qualities the Project admires in its supporters and looks to instill in its young people. We are humbled by the generous donations received in Julia's memory through her friends and family.

# Flyer Bar Profile



*Patrick Jones*

**What he does for us-** When Patrick first came to us in 2006, he was an actor who appeared in many of our shows. He is also a talented cartoonist and since moving back to California has continued to volunteer for us by creating art for three flyers a year (See his work on page 5 of this newsletter).

**Occupation-** Front office manager at Alta Vista Middle School in San Francisco, CA.

**Why he does what he does-** "My wife Katie and I both work at the same school. She's the drama teacher. I like working with kids and following Katie around."

**Hobbies-** "Skateboarding, acting, drawing, cat pestering, reading, and pie baking."

**Last book read-** "I'm in the middle of reading 'Anna Karenina' by Tolstoy. It's so long I feel like it should have been the last book I read because I should have finished it already. I may finish it during my lifetime."

**Most recent accomplishment-** "I just wrote my second play. One of the main characters is a talking, singing, light-up miniature windmill."

**Best Project Memory-** "Can 'best memory' and 'most embarrassing memory' be the same thing? Once during a Playmaking dress rehearsal I had just finished my song and I was so elated and pumped up that I turned around and ran straight into the backdrop. Full speed. The backdrop sort of acted like a horizontal trampoline and bounced me back on to the stage and on to my butt."

**Credo-** "A scoop of ice cream should never cost more than one dollar."

**Advice to kids-** "All the things I love in life now I discovered when I was a kid. Try lots of stuff out! You never know what's gonna stick."

**Place of birth-** "Hamilton, Ontario, Canada."

**Habitat-** "An apartment in Emeryville, California with my wife Katie and my dog Junie and cat Tony. Fun fact #1: I live a block away from the Pixar headquarters. Fun fact #2: My apartment is so old that it has one of those toilets with a tank up high and a pull-chain, you know, like in 'The Godfather.'"

**Favorite thing about the Project-** "Oh gosh, it's hard to pick just one thing. I'm wearing a jacket with the Project's logo as I write this. That's how much of a fan I am. I love what the Project does for the kids. Almost equally, I love what the Project does for the volunteers. When I lived in New York, the Project really saved my life. As a volunteer they gave me such a strong sense of purpose and community and fun and artistic freedom. And they still do even from all the way out West!"

**On Flyer Bars-** "When it comes to flyers I usually draw them. When it comes to Flyer Bars, however, I eat them and I never regret it."

## SNAPZ!



Some time last year, a mysterious, motionless dog began occupying the sidewalk level box office of The 52nd Street Project Clubhouse. We don't know much about him except that his name is Tripod, he likes kids, and he enjoys dressing up for holidays.