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Presents

SEPTEMBER 26–OCTOBER 20



POTUS

*OR, BEHIND EVERY GREAT
DUMBASS ARE SEVEN WOMEN
TRYING TO KEEP HIM ALIVE*

BY SELINA FILLINGER



Presents



*OR, BEHIND EVERY GREAT
DUMBASS ARE SEVEN WOMEN
TRYING TO KEEP HIM ALIVE*

BY SELINA FILLINGER

Directed by Abigail Isaac Fine
September 26 -October 20, 2024

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The Cast

Rebecca Ballinger - Stephanie
Lisa Hill-Corley - Margaret
Sally Imbriano - Jean
Bess Kaye - Bernadette
Bianca Lipford - Chris
Lorraine Magee - Harriet
Graciela Rey - Dusty
Jackie Madejski - U/S Jean, Bernadette
Mallorie Stern - U/S Dusty, Stephanie
Eleanore Tapscott - U/S Harriet, Margarette

Creative Team

Abigail Isaac Fine - Director
Jack Golden - Scenic Designer
Hailey LaRoe - Lighting Designer
Imari Pyles - Costume Designer
Brandon Cook - Sound Designer
Martin Bernier - Properties Designer
James Finley - Fight/Intimacy Direction
Bess Kaye - Fight Captain
Eileen Mullee - Stage Manager
Megan Wave - Assistant Stage Manager
Jack Wilson - Technical Director
Mac Freeman - Carpenter
Suzy Alden - Scenic Artist, Charge
Sarah Usary - Scenic Artist
Ariel Kraje - Scenic Artist
Emma Smith - Lead Electrician
Taylor Stewart - Electrician Overhire

Audience Advisories

This production contains the following:

Auditory and Visual Effects:

Use of theatrical haze, Flashing lights, theatrical depiction of smoking and drug use, simulated vomiting

Violence:

Use of prop guns (non-firing)

Mature Content:

Strong, coarse language including profanity, lewd humor, discussion of sexual content and death

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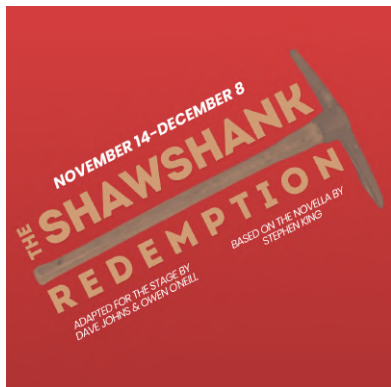
*POTUS, or Behind Every Great Dumbass
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When Andy Dufresne is convicted of murder and sentenced to life in Shawshank prison, he must use his wits and newly forged friendships to keep himself and his hope alive. But will he be able to survive the corruption and danger he faces within this notorious prison's walls? Based on the novella by Stephen King and popularized by the highly acclaimed movie, *The Shawshank Redemption* is a story of resilience and is sure to be a theatrical experience like no other.

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The Cast



Rebecca Ballinger (Stephanie) Previously with NextStop: *The 39 Steps*, *Every Christmas Story Ever Told*, and *Beehive*. Other credits include *The Honey Trap* (Helen Hayes Nominations for Supporting Performer and Ensemble) and *The Playboy of the Western World* with Solas Nua; *The Outsider* (Helen Hayes Award for Ensemble) and *Shakespeare in Love* at Keegan Theatre; *Desperate Measures* at Constellation Theatre; *The Moors* with Faction of Fools; *A Civil War Christmas* and *The Member of the Wedding* at 1st Stage; *Mouse on the Move* at Imagination Stage; and *Make Way for Ducklings* at Adventure Theatre. She also understudied *Problems Between Sisters* and *Heroes of the Fourth Turning* at Studio Theatre. Becca has a BA in Theatre from the University of Maryland. UPCOMING: *Summertime* with Solas Nua. www.RebeccaBallinger.com



Lisa Hill-Corley (Margaret) has appeared in over 50 shows throughout the region. Her acting credits include *Scorched* (Nawal 2) for ExPats Theatre, *The Nacirema Society...* (Grace Dunbar) for The Little Theatre of Alexandria, *Sophisticated New Ones* (Avery) for Unexpected Stage, *Much Ado About Nothing* (Don Pedro) for Grassroots Shakespeare DC, *Having Our Say* (Sadie) for Creative Cauldron, Antigone in *Antigone Reflected* for Capital Fringe Festival, Brave Spirits Theatre: History is 2020 Project (Mistress Quickly, Duchess of York, Worcester, Queen of France). *The Trojan Women Project* (Helen Hayes Nomination for Ensemble), *Henri IV*. For more information: www.lhcorley.com



Sally Imbriano (Jean) is grateful for another opportunity to perform at Nextstop Theatre after starring in *Lucky Stiff* (HH Nomination for Outstanding Lead Actor) and *Matilda*. Recent credits include *The Nance* (1st Stage); *Brothers Paranormal* (Olney Theatre Center); *Seussical* (Keegan, HH Award for Outstanding Ensemble); *Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin*, *Working, Always...Patsy Cline*, (Creative Cauldron); *The Mortification of Fovea Munson*, *Dragon King's Daughter*, *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus* (Kennedy Center TYA); *Knuffle Bunny* (Adventure Theatre MTC). She is composing a new musical *Leaplings* with her writing partner, Michelle Lynch. Look out for her next projects at Adventure Theatre, IStage and Kennedy Center! She is a proud Filipino-Australian American who grew up in Reston @sallyimbriano.



Bess Kaye (Bernadette/Fight Captain) is an actor, educator, and Fight and Intimacy Director based in DC. Previously with NextStop: *Frankenstein*, *The Giver*. Regional Acting Credits: *Macbeth*, *Much Ado About Nothing*, and *Twelfth Night* with Prince George's County Shakespeare in the Parks; *Henry V*, *Macbeth*, and *The Merry Wives of Windsor* with Chesapeake Shakespeare Company; *Don Juan* with Faction of Fools; *The Paper Game*, *Stone Tape Party* with Nu Sass Productions; *Julius Caesar* with HalfMad Theatre; *One Man, Two Guvnors* with 1st Stage. Bess is the Company Fight and Intimacy Director for Devil's Isle Shakespeare Co. and holds a BA in Theatre and an MFA in Classical Acting from STC's Academy where she teaches Theatrical Intimacy for the stage. www.thebesskayescenario.com



Bianca Lipford (Chris) is delighted to be making her NextStop Theatre debut. Other credits include: *The Bubbly Black Girl Sheds Her Chameleon Skin* (Creative Cauldron); *Once on This Island* (Constellation Theatre Company); *Shakespeare in Love, As You Like It - The Musical* (Keegan Theatre); *Flyin' West* (Everyman Theatre); *Queens Girl in Africa* (Mosaic Theater Company). Bianca is also a Washington D.C native and a proud graduate of American University with a BA in Musical Theatre.



Jackie Madejski (u/s Jean, u/s Bernadette) is thrilled to be working with NextStop. Recent credits include *Every Brilliant Thing*, *The Who's Tommy* (Workhouse Arts Center), *Mouse on the Move* (Imagination Stage), *Survivors* (CenterStage at JCC of Rochester) *Macbeth*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* (Prince George's Shakespeare in the Parks). Jackie is a proud Western New Yorker (go Bills), and in her spare time she enjoys talking loudly on the phone to her family, re-watching 30 Rock for the billionth time, and listening to true crime podcasts while soaking in the tub. Follow @daejeskee for the best memes you've ever seen.



Lorraine Magee (Harriet) is delighted to return to NextStop where she has previously appeared in *Fallen Angels* and *Deathtrap*. She also directed NextStop's *Love, Loss, and What I Wore*, directed and choreographed *Godspell*, choreographed *Into The Woods*, and served as Casting Director for the theater's first four seasons. It's been a joy working again with director Abigail Fine and to have the honor of sharing the stage with this cast of caring, supportive, hilarious, and amazingly talented women. Laughter truly is the best medicine.



Graciela Rey (Dusty) is thrilled to be back at NextStop after playing Vanessa in their production of *In The Heights* [HH Nomination for Outstanding Supporting Performer]. Other recent credits include *In The Heights* (Winnepesaukee Playhouse); *Fiddler on The Roof*, *Lend Me A Soprano*, *Beauty and the Beast*, *West Side Story in Concert* (Olney Theatre Center); *On Your Feet! ¡En español!* (GALA Hispanic Theatre); *Miss Nelson is Missing*, *Paper Dreams*, *The Snow Queen* (Imagination Stage); *Make Way For Ducklings* (Adventure Theatre) [HH Nomination for Outstanding Lead Performer in a Musical]; *Fitting In* (Arts on the Horizon). Regional: *Athena* (Gloucester Stage Company). Graciela has a BA in Musical Theatre from American University. Many thanks to my loving family for their support and to my mother for instilling me with radical feminist ideologies at the ripe old age of 7 yrs old. Visit her online at www.Gracielarey.com and on instagram @graci_rey.



Mallorie Stern (u/s Stephanie & Dusty) is thrilled to make her NextStop debut! She is a company member with the Maryland Ensemble Theatre (MET). Recent credits include *Miss Nelson is Missing*, *Mr. Popper's Penguins* (Imagination Stage); *The Honey Trap* (Solas Nua, HH Nomination for Outstanding Ensemble); *Head Over Heels*, *Elephant & Piggie: We're in a Play!*, *Inebriated Holiday*, *CraftTown*, *Miss Bennett: Christmas at Pemberley*, *The Rainbow Fish Musical*, *Meteor Shower*, *The Rocky Horror Show* (MET). Mallorie received a BA in Musical Theatre and Public Relations & Strategic Communication from American University.



Eleanore Tapscott (Harriet/Margaret Understudy) is a NOVA-based actor/director. Recent acting credits include Helen Hubbard in *Murder on the Orient Express* (LTA), Harriet in *Two on the Aisle, Three in the Van* (LTA), Mrs. Dickson in *Intimate Apparel* (MET)). Directing credits include *The Bluest Eye*, *The Nacirema Society* ..., *Playing Juliet*, *Casting Othello* and *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* (CP). Upcoming directing projects: *Alabama Story* January 2025, *Steal Away* March 2025.

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Creative Team

Marty Bernier (Properties Designer) DMV based Props Designer and Technical Director; George Mason University BA Design & Technical Theater, and Performing Arts. Marty is excited to be returning back to NextStop Theatre Company, and to be working on their 24-25 season! Prop Designs: *Dracula: A Comedy of Terrors* (Workhouse Arts Center), *School Girls; or the African Mean Girls Play* (NextStop Theatre Company), *Migraaaaaants or There's Too Many People on This Damn Boat!* (ExPats Theatre), *The Who's Tommy!* (Workhouse Art Center), *9-5!* (Co-Designed, George Mason University), *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Synetic Theatre). Future Prop Designs: *Shawshank Redemption* (NextStop Theatre Company.) Technical Directing: *Kill the Ripper* (We Happy Few), *Spongebob the Musical* and *Newsies Jr.* (Acting for Young People). Marty would like to thank everyone at NextStop Theatre Company for the opportunity to design with them again, a wonderful cast and production team, and their friends and family for their love and support.

Brandon Cook (Sound Designer) Local Washington DC Sound Designer is excited to return to NextStop Theatre with the amazing cast and crew of "POTUS". (Recent credits include: *Reefer Madness* Nextstop Theatre, *Webster's Bitch* Keegan Theatre, *Nonsense A-Men* Nextstop Theatre, *Tell Tale Heart* Synetic Theatre, *Look Both Ways* The Kennedy Center/Theatre Alliance, *You're A Good Man Charlie Brown* Adventure Theatre, *Seussical The Musical* Keegan Theatre, *This Girl Laughs, This Girl Cries, This Girl Does Nothing*. Theatre Alliance, *La Revoltosa* Gala Theatre, *'Tis Pity She's A Whore*, *The Winter's Tale*, *Hedda Gabler* Shakespeare Theatre Company ACA Rep)

Abigail Isaac Fine (Director) is thrilled to be back at NextStop Theatre after serving as Managing Director from 2018 - 2020. Her previous directing credits at NextStop include *Fallen Angels*, *Much Ado About Nothing* and *The Twelve Dates of Christmas*; *Stones in His Pockets*, *The Dealer of Ballynaveigh*, *A Midsummer Night's Riot*, *Cuchullain*, *Basra Boy*, and *Dancing at Lughnasa* at Keegan Theatre; *The Wedding Party* with Tenth Muse (Audience Pick of the Fringe Award for Best Comedy); *Love's Labour's Lost*, *As You Like It*, and *A Midsummer Night's Dream* for The Shakespeare Theatre of New Jersey's touring companies; and *Love's Labour's Lost* with Titan Theatre Company in NYC. Abbie has extensive assistant directing credits at companies including Milwaukee Repertory Theater, Folger Theatre, and Studio Theatre. Abbie is also a nonprofit consultant, author of fiction, Board member at Keegan Theatre, and mom to two great kiddos.

James Finley (Fight/Intimacy Direction) is an actor and fight and intimacy choreographer who has been working in the DC area for over 20 years. He and his work have been seen on many area stages, including with Elvis' Birthday Fight Club, AvantBard, NextStop, Keegan, Rorschach, Flying V, and Constellation Theatres. He is a company member at Flying V Theatre, achieved Advanced Actor-Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors, a member of the International Order of the Sword and the Pen, and licensed as a Professional Wrestler in MD, performing as "Dragonheart" Jim Finley.

Jack Golden (Scenic Designer) is a young, award winning, designer based out of Manhattan. Jack is delighted to be returning to Nextstop after having been a staff member and having designed over ten productions! Favorite Nextstop designs include: *Beehive*, *Urinetown*, *Bad Jews*, and *Crimes of the Heart*. Recent designs include: *Powerhouse* (Off-Broadway), *Winnie the Pooh* (Takeover, Chicago, Off-Broadway, Tour), *Driving Miss Daisy* (Bristol Valley Theatre), *End of the Rainbow* (Curtain Call Theatre), *Archies Weird Parody Musical* (Off-Broadway), *Life's Work* (Vivid Stage), and *The Incident at Our Lady of Perpetual Help* (Curtain Call). Assistant/Associate: *Fat Ham* (Upcoming Huntington/Alliance), *Sesame Street* (Off-Broadway), *On Your Feet* (National Tour), *Macbeth* (Merrimack Rep), *Art of Burning* (Huntington/Hartford Stage). Currently teaching at University of the Arts in Philadelphia and Ramapo College in New Jersey. MFA University of Maryland, College Park. www.jackcgolden.com.

Hailey LaRoe (Lighting designer) Is thrilled to return to Nextstop Theatre for her second year as resident lighting designer! Hailey is a Lighting and Projection designer, based in the DC area. Recent productions at Nextstop include; *Reefer Madness*, *School girls; or the African Mean Girls Play*, and *Ride the Cyclone*. Selected Lighting credits; *The 22+ Weddings of Hugo*, *Momia en el Closet*, *Las Hermanas Palacio* (Gala Theatre), *A Number* (Edge of the Universe Players), *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Crazy for you* (Classic Theatre of Maryland), *Human Museum* (Rorschach Theatre), *Golden Fish*, and *Cyrano de Bergerac* (Synetic Theatre). Selected Projection credits; *She Persisted*, and *Knuffle Bunny* (Adventure Theatre), *Poetry for the People* (Theatre Alliance), *Nancy* (Mosaic Theatre), *Bathing in Moonlight*, and *Kumanana* (Gala Theatre), *Monsters of the American Cinema* (Prologue Theatre, HHA nominated). Enjoy the show! www.haileylaroedesigns.com

Eileen Mullee (Stage Manager) - has been working with the Northern Virginia theater community since the mid 1980s as producer, stage manager, properties designer, running crew and more with an occasional onstage appearance. It has been a kick to work with these very talented women on this hilarious show. Enjoy.

Imari Pyles (Costume Designer) is a DC/Baltimore based theatre and film costume designer. Imari has always loved the language of clothing and its unique power to tell our stories without saying any words. She would like to thank the amazing cast and crew at NextStop Theatre Company for their hard work, creativity, and consistent warmth. Last, but certainly not least, she would like to thank her friends and family for their support and love!

Emma E. Smith (Lead Electrician) is excited for the 2024-2025 NextStop season! Lead Electrician credits include: *Reefer Madness* at NextStop Theatre Co; *The Comedy of Errors*, *Athena*, *Once*, *Moon Man Walk*, and *Footloose* at Baylor University. Lighting Design credits include: *Grease: School Edition* at NextStop Theatre Co; *Night of the Living Dead!* at Rorschach Theatre (DC); *God of Carnage* at The Theatre Lab's Breakout Theatre Company (DC); *Finding Nemo Jr.*, *Romeo & Juliet*, *13: the Musical* at The Young Actors Theatre (FL); *A Monster Calls*, *Airness* at Baylor University Theatre (TX), and *Patience* at Baylor Opera Theatre (TX). She'd like to thank the Nextstop Staff and Community for all their support! EDUCATION: BFA Baylor University. IG: @e.smith.design.

Megan Wave (Assistant Stage Manager) is elated to be joining NextStop for her first position in the professional theatre scene. She's grateful to Evan Hoffman for the opportunity, her friends and family for their support, and the wonderful women of this production for their guidance and humor. Education: The University of Mary Washington. IG: @meganwave

Jack Wilson (Technical Director) is a fine artist with vast experience as a carpenter who signed on as Technical Director in June of 2023. Since joining the NextStop staff and Working on the 23-24 season builds as well as the summer '24 production of *GREASE*. He is excited to be a part of the NextStop team as their Technical Director and looks forward to launching into an exciting 24-25 season!



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