

# Outspoken

Into the Light

Episode 1: May 7th

Episode 2: May 14th



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## Director's Note

As a theater, TV, and Film actor I have had the delight to be in front of the camera creating a fantasy of characters that can touch the masses. However, I am honored and delighted to be behind the scenes directing this special project of IDEAS Outspoken, Into the Light. A segment that includes all diverse backgrounds, intimately expressing their individual experiences of microaggressions, discriminations, and prejudices they have endured behind the stage. I am grateful and excited IDEAS chose me to direct this wonderful piece of expression. I am truly humbled that the talent themselves felt safe enough to share their experiences with me on such a public platform. Hopefully, this piece will inspire the masses to continue in our collective struggle to combat The Beast of Racism and White Supremacy, together. Thank you all so very much, from an actor with purpose.

## Production Staff

**Founder of IDEAs** - Lisa Young (she/her/hers)

**Director** - LaDios Muhammed (she/her/hers)

**Production Manager** - Bennie Palko (she/her/hers)

**Talent Management** - Noelia Berkes (she/her/hers)

**Marketing & Media** - Katelyn Skeen (she/her/hers)

**Videographers** - John Hauser (him/him/his) and Jenna Reyes (she/her/hers)

**Editor** - Ray Bailey (him/him/his)

**Poster Art** - Deb Flomberg (she/her/hers)

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## The Interviewees



Aliza Ciara

Born in the Philippines and raised in New York, Aliza's (she/her/hers) life has always centered around art. After finding Theatre and Film at a young age and discovering the endless cycle of the lack of diversity, she decided that, as an Asian-American Actress and Artist, she could inspire the next generation of artists like her and help to break that cycle. She is currently a player in the American Academy NY Theatre Company.



Samantha Kaufman

Samantha Kaufman (she/her/hers) is a fight director, intimacy director, and actor. She is based in the Midwest region and travels to perform in and fight/intimacy direct productions across the nation. Samantha is a certified Intimacy Director with Intimacy Directors and Coordinators. A Jeff Award Nominated Fight Choreographer. A Babes with Blades Theatre Ensemble Member. Samantha has an MFA from Florida Atlantic University.



Bailey McCoy

Bailey (they/them/their) found their start in theater on the stage as an actor 10 years ago but has been working in and around the world of technical theater for the past 5 years. They specialize as a scenic charge artist and welder, but occasionally work set construction. Bailey is outspoken because they believe in being the change you want to see in the world. They want to open the door to start conversations. Change never happens without communication.

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Michael J Duran

Michael Duran (he/him/his) has been the Producing Artistic Director at BDT Stage in Boulder for the past 17 1/2 years where he has produced/directed over 75 shows. Prior to coming to Boulder Michael had a successful 23 year career in NYC as an actor. He has also worked in Regional Theatre, concerts and television. Michael is the recipient of several awards including Denver Drama Critics Circle, Denver Post Ovation Awards, Top of The Rocky, Marlowe Awards, and the 2015 Dairy Center Honors for his contribution to the cultural life in Boulder through the arts. He is also a watercolor artist.



Izchel Hernandez

Izchel Hernandez (she/her/hers) studied Theatre Performance and Dance at Stephen F. Austin State University while simultaneously working at her Theatre department's costume shop. In the past decade she has shifted her attention to the opportunities in working behind the scenes in costumes, makeup, and more specifically the world of wigs/wig making. Having worked in both land and cruise ships, she has had the pleasure of working on a wide range of shows from classic stage productions to modern musicals. When she is not tediously knotting individual strands of hair to wig lace, she enjoys acting in various projects and swimming in her mermaid tails.

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Teri Wagner (she/her/hers) - Founder and Artistic Director of Spoke 'N' Motion Dance has been dancing (using a wheelchair) since age 11. She completed 3 years of training with The Dancing Wheels Company and School in Cleveland, OH. She also trained in Belgium in wheelchair ballroom dance. Teri is a company dancer with Ballet Arts Theater and Berthoud Dance Company and has enjoyed dancing on stages throughout metro Denver and public school programs that help to bring understanding of people with disabilities. She has also been a competitive Wheelchair Ballroom Dancer having a 4th place International standing and a 1st place State standing in Colorado.



Teri Wagner

Lawrence M. Jackson (he/him/his) is the Associate Chair, Associate Professor, Artistic Director of the Alabama Repertory Dance Theatre and Director of Graduate Studies in Dance at the University of Alabama. Jackson teaches both undergraduate and graduate Jazz, Contemporary, Dance History and Choreography. Professionally, he devoted several years with the internationally acclaimed modern dance company, Cleo Parker Robinson Dance Ensemble. Choreographically, Jackson has produced over 85 original choreographic works. Most recently, Lawrence choreographed an off-Broadway production, Separate and Equal, which was nominated for an AUDELCO Award for Best Choreography.



Lawrence Jackson

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Andrew Nicholas

Andrew KC Nicholas Cseresnyes (he/him/his) is a Denver native. He is a Colorado State University graduate with a degree in theatre, with a concentration in stage management. His credits include *When We Were Young* and *Unafraid* with Firehouse Theatre company, *Stella and Lou*, *Betrayal* and *Looped* with Vintage Theatre, along with *Misery*, *I'll Eat You Last: A Chat With Sue Mengers* and *Lucky Guy* at the Edge Theater.



Sheila Ivy Traister

Sheila Ivy Traister (she/her/hers) is a storyteller who has found her own voice in serving others to do the same. As a highly sought after coach, writer, critically acclaimed director and award winning actor with 40 years of experience in both theatre and film, she feels blessed to be born with the soul of an artist. "We have no choice as artists but to speak our truth. There is no room for manipulation, only honest revelations of the heart and spirit. To be naked and vulnerable that others may come to see and know themselves better is nothing less than honorable."

## Special thanks to:

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