

The CSJ Center for Reconciliation and Justice  
presents

# HIDDEN HEROES

Recognition Awards and  
Dramatized Narratives Performance

**SUNDAY, OCTOBER 29, 2023**

Virtual Performance

2 p.m.





*So that all may be one*

The CSJ CENTER FOR RECONCILIATION AND JUSTICE  
presents

# HIDDEN HEROES

Directed by  
**JUDITH ROYER, C.S.J.**

Script Edited by  
**DORIS BAIZLEY**

Original Music by  
**FRANK JANSEN**

Video Produced by  
**KEITH STEVENSON**

Production Manager  
**CLAIRE DAVIS**

Production Coordinator  
**MICHAEL McNAUGHT**

## INTRODUCTION

by THE COMPANY

### **GARY CRAIG**

Written by **BONNIE BANFIELD**

Performed by **JIM HOLMES & BONNIE BANFIELD**

### **DIANE GASPER**

Written and performed by **CATHARINE DADA**

### **SCHOENE MAHMOOD**

Written and performed by **MARY O'MALLEY**

### **JAMAL EPPERSON**

Written by **BONNIE BANFIELD & DAVID HALEY**

Performed by **DAVID HALEY**

### **MARIA ELENA PERALES**

Written and performed by **ROSE PORTILLO**

## MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO **NESTOR PEREIRA**

Performed by **THE COMPANY**

## CODA

by **THE COMPANY**

## AWARDS PRESENTATION

by **MARYANNE HUEPPER, C.S.J.**

## AWARD RECIPIENTS



**GARY CRAIG** is clinical professor of law and teaches civil litigation practice and courses in legal research and writing, ethical lawyering, and professional responsibility in the United States. Since joining the law school faculty in 2010, Gary has served in numerous leadership roles, including as associate dean for faculty from 2020-2023 and director of concentration programs from 2013-2020. Gary also has directed Loyola's Summer Institute Program and served as a faculty advisor for the Civil Litigation and Advocacy Concentration and the Young Lawyers Program. In 2013, 2015, and 2019, Gary received the Excellence in Teaching Award from the graduating class. In 2016, he received the David P. Leonard Memorial Faculty Service Award.

Prior to joining the Loyola faculty, Gary was a partner in the Los Angeles office of Sidley Austin LLP, where he practiced in all areas of litigation, with an emphasis on representing accounting firms and corporations in connection with securities fraud, professional liability, negligence, and breach of contract litigation. Gary also represented clients in connection with investigations conducted by the United States Department of Justice and the United States Securities and Exchange Commission's Division of Enforcement. He handled various pro bono matters, including the successful representation of clients seeking asylum in the United States, and he established an educational partnership between Sidley's Los Angeles office and Dorsey High School's Law Magnet Program. Through this partnership, Sidley facilitated numerous programs designed to augment the Law Magnet's curriculum with hands-on workshops and field trips that introduced the students to the wide variety of careers within the legal community. Gary is a graduate of Stanford Law School and Occidental College.



**JAMAL EPPERSON** (they/them) joined the LMU community in 2019 and joined the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) team in 2022. As the assistant director of DEI initiatives, Jamal works with various initiatives throughout DEI, such as implicit bias and the LMU Antiracism Workshop Series. In addition, Jamal serves as a liaison between the office for Human Resources and DEI by assisting with equitable recruitment and hiring practices for faculty and staff. Before this role, Jamal worked in various capacities in the Student Housing office and Student Affairs division, where they learned to center their work from a feminist abolitionist framework by promoting radical love. Jamal is currently a doctoral student at the University of San Francisco (USF) studying international multicultural education with a concentration in human rights education and a minor in organization and leadership.

Prior to their studies at USF, they received their M.Ed. in student affairs in higher education from Marquette University and a B.A. from Western Michigan University in music and psychology. Outside of work, Jamal volunteers at Centinela Youth Services as a restorative justice facilitator, is a Capricorn sun, rising Scorpio, and Aries moon, and enjoys writing music, playing video games, traveling, thrift shopping, and annoying their dog Nico.



**DIANE GASPER** is the director of faith formation for St. Monica Catholic Community, a recent transition from her position as program coordinator for faculty services in the LMU School of Education. A proud lion from the class of 1991, Diane earned her Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology. When one of her LMU mentors asked if she had considered working in Catholic schools, she realized that she could have a career doing the things she was most passionate about: teaching about faith, planning retreats, and sharing spiritual experiences with others. Diane began teaching religion and working in campus ministry at Bishop Alemany High School where, for 10 years, she sought to enrich the faith lives of young people.

In 1999 she married her love, Thom Gasper (M.A. '02, Ed.D. '22) who she met while both were serving at different Catholic high schools. Diane is happiest when they spend time with their two amazing children who are now adults. She is grateful for her time in the LMU School of Education as

## AWARD RECIPIENTS

program coordinator for faculty services where, from 2017 until August 2023, she was able to provide faculty with confidential support and guidance in the areas of recruitment, development, orientation, evaluation, contracts, service reports, merit processes, tenure, promotion, and sabbatical administration. As support for the associate dean, Diane was a liaison to the Office of the Provost and coordinated a variety of school meetings and committees.

In 2021, Diane participated in the nine-month Ignatian Spiritual Exercises in Everyday Life prayer process. This experience not only transformed her relationship with God, but renewed her call to ministry, which has taken her on a path to parish work. While working at LMU she began to coordinate her parish confirmation and youth ministry programs. Her ability to develop teams and organize catechetical processes led to St. Monica's recruiting her to serve as director of faith formation. Now, she is working to create enriching experiences for both ministers and those they accompany through all stages of faith formation from baptismal preparation through adult catechesis.



**SCHOENE MAHMOOD** brings 17 years of experience with restorative justice practices implementation to Loyola Marymount University. In her role as the program manager of the LMU Center for Urban Resilience (CUREs) Restorative Justice Project, Schoene oversees a multifaceted initiative dedicated to empowering individuals and communities through transformative restorative justice methods. Her responsibilities encompass providing the facilitation of restorative conferences, trainings, and skill-building workshops. Notably, the Restorative Justice Project achieved a significant milestone by securing a prestigious grant to establish the Southern California Restorative Justice Consortium to cultivate restorative justice leaders for scholarship, practice, and implementation, offering a regional model that can be replicated nationwide.

Before her tenure with CUREs, Schoene facilitated community conferences for over 400 juvenile expulsion, arrest, and court-diversion cases referred by the Maryland State Attorney Office, the Department of Juvenile Services, and the Baltimore City Police Department, while working at the Community Conferencing Center (now called Restorative Response Baltimore). Since her relocation to Los Angeles in 2011, Schoene has facilitated over 300 restorative conferences.



**MARIA ELENA PERALES** works for the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange as director of the St. Joseph Justice Center. She has been with the congregation for over 17 years. Her ministry engages religious congregations, community, and faith leaders at local and national levels in the areas of social and ecological justice. She always tries to find ways to collaborate with others to address the needs of the most vulnerable among us. She finds it an honor to work for and with the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange in their mission to strive to be mindful of the diverse and unmet needs of the “dear neighbor”.

Maria Elena is a proud mother to two young adults, Stephanie and Michael. She is a first-generation immigrant who was among the first to graduate from college in her family. She graduated from Mount St. Mary's University with a bachelor's degree in social work. She enjoys spending time with family, loves the outdoors, and looks forward to opportunities to read and listen to podcasts in her spare time.



## THE COMPANY



**DORIS BAIZLEY (Script Editor)** is a Los Angeles playwright and founding member of LA Theater Works. Her plays have been developed and produced by US regional theaters including The Mark Taper Forum, The Alley Theater, ACT Seattle, Alabama Shakespeare Festival, The National Theatre of the Deaf, History Theatre St. Paul, and the Guthrie Theatre/ Playwrights Center. She has been resident playwright for the Taper's ITP company for young audiences and dramaturg for its Other Voices program for theater artists with disabilities. As story editor for documentary films she has worked with many directors and editors through the Sundance Institute. She teaches in the theatre department at Loyola Marymount University.



**BONNIE BANFIELD (Writer and Actor)** is a writer, actor and director. Her work includes creating and editing theatre pieces composed of work generated in collaboration with people who have been formerly incarcerated. She is currently acting as script consultant on an independent film. Bonnie is so happy to have become part of the on-going "company" of artists working together to bring to light the stories of these truly amazing people.



**CATHARINE DADA (Writer and Actor)** received her Ph.D. in religious studies from the University of Kent at Canterbury, United Kingdom. The focus of her research was on modern experiences of spirituality in Western theatre. She received her first degree in theatre from LMU and subsequently trained as a classical actress at the Bristol Old Vic Theatre School in England. Catharine has acted in several productions for the Royal Shakespeare Company - performing at theaters in Stratford and at the Barbican in London, as well as playing leading roles in many repertory theaters throughout the UK.

She was artistic director of the Sacred Performance Project - her company's work has been seen at festivals at Pari in Italy, and at Canterbury and Oxford in the UK. Catharine holds an M.A. (Hons.) in the study of mysticism and religious experience from the University of Kent at Canterbury. Her first full length text was published by Routledge, Study of Religion Series, entitled *Rethinking Religion in the Theatre of Grotowski* (Oxford, UK: Routledge, 2017).

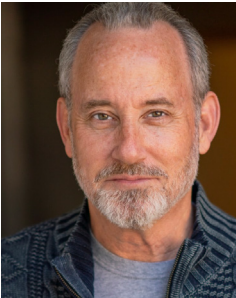


**CLAIRE DAVIS (Production Manager)** is a senior political science and journalism student at LMU. Along with being the research assistant at the CSJ Center for Reconciliation and Justice, Claire is the ASLMU vice president of academic affairs, a member of Alpha Chi Omega sorority, and an executive board member of several clubs at LMU. Claire is hoping to attend law school in Fall 2024 to continue her pursuit of amplifying people's voices.

## THE COMPANY



**DAVID HALEY (Writer and Actor)** has been a working professional in Hollywood and Off-Broadway since he was in college at LMU. Haley has been in over 50 network television shows with many recurring roles. Recently, he completed his first pilot.



**JIM HOLMES (Actor)** received his B.A. in theatre from the University of South Carolina before coming to California to pursue his M.F.A. at California Institute of the Arts, which he received in 1983. After graduation he worked in regional theatre for seven years, during which time he originated the role of Jerry in Mark Medoff's play *Stumps*. For the past 30 years, Jim has worked in film, television and theatre. He is currently recurring in *Bosch Legacy* as District Attorney Emmett Archer on the Frevee channel.

Other recent credits include feature film roles in *Hollywood Fringe* with Justin Kirk and *The Noise in the Middle*. Other television credits include *The Big Bang Theory*, *Mom*, *Mike and Molly*, *NCIS*, *Harry's Law*, *The Middle*, *Switched at Birth*, *Mad Men*, *Judging Amy*, *Entourage*, *Boston Legal* and *24*. He was a series regular on Showtime Network's *Bedtime Stories* and Fox's *Fashion House*. Notable film credits include Disney's *Confessions of a Shopaholic*, *Transformers 2*, and *Beauty Shop* alongside Djimon Hounsou and Queen Latifah.



**MARYANNE HUEPPER, C.S.J. (Awards Presenter)** is associate director of the CSJ Center for Reconciliation and Justice and a member of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange. She has served in the field of education in diverse roles: as an elementary teacher, principal, high school teacher, college administrator, adjunct instructor for Marymount College and the University of San Francisco. Sr. MaryAnne served the Diocese of Orange as an instructor for the Pastoral Ministry Institute and the deaconate program and as a member of the Commission for Ecumenical and Interfaith Affairs. Before coming to LMU, she was director of the Center for Spiritual Development in Orange.

At St. Joseph Health (now Providence-St. Joseph Health), Sr. MaryAnne served as a trustee in two hospitals and as a board member of a hospital foundation. MaryAnne continues to provide presentations for programs of ministry formation namely, the Art of Spiritual Direction Program. She serves currently on the LMU Board of Trustees. Sr. MaryAnne has undergraduate degrees in art history and religious studies from LMU, and a master's degree in sacred theology and religious studies from Katholieke Universiteit in Leuven, Belgium.



**FRANK JANSEN (Music)** has been a professional musician for over 50 years. He holds a bachelor's degree in music composition from California State University at San Bernardino, and a master's degree from Santa Clara University in liturgical music composition. He writes in a wide variety of styles, including sacred, gospel, rock, country, jazz and classical. These works include choral music, piano music, string quartets, woodwind quintets, and a symphony. In addition, Frank has been a music educator for 30 years and served in parish ministry for over 35 years. He has toured with The Platters, The Coasters, and Jan Berry from Jan & Dean. He now tours extensively as an accompanist for his wife, ValLimar Jansen. They recently performed together at Carnegie Hall in New York City and received a standing ovation.

## THE COMPANY



**MICHAEL McNAUGHT (Production Coordinator)** is a media professional, educator, and academic director. He is currently the assistant director for operations and programming at the CSJ Center for Reconciliation and Justice and teaches media arts for the Center for Religion and Spirituality, a continuing education unit at LMU. Michael is chair of the board of directors of St. Mary's Academy, the Inglewood-based high school founded by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet in 1889, and president of CIMA, the Catholic-peer association for the entertainment industry in Los Angeles.



**MARY O'MALLEY (Writer and Actor)** graduated from LMU with her bachelor's degree in theatre arts and RADA, and King's College of London with a master's degree in text and performance studies with an emphasis in playwriting. Her short plays have been performed in Los Angeles, New York, and London. A member of InterACT Theatre Company in Los Angeles, Mary also sits on the artistic committee. As a voice over actor, Mary has been the voice of the Louisville Zoo campaign and Korbel. Mary owns GreenDoor Learning, LLC, is an adjunct professor at Landmark College, a GTD Focus Coach, and occasionally gets to come to LMU to teach, which makes her very happy. She is so grateful to Judith and Doris for including her in this project. Thanks to all the heroes and artists who came together to make today special.



**ROSE PORTILLO (Writer and Actor)**, actor, writer, director, educator, is a 40-year *Veterana* of theater, film and television. Her career began with a lead role in LuisValdez's *Zoot Suit* creating the role of Della (original L.A. production, Broadway, and film), and appeared in its 40th anniversary L.A. revival as Mama Reyna. With many credits in along career, most recently, Rose is proud to be a part of Disney's *Encanto*. She has also developed works of theater rooted in oral history for a variety of communities and organizations, and teaches theatre with young audiences at Pomona College in Claremont.

Rose is currently master artist for Outside In Theatre developing an oral history theatre project about Highland Park. Honors include the Los Angeles Women's Theatre Festival's Maverick Award, *La Opinion's* Mujeres Destacadas Award, Playwrights' Arena Lee Melville Award for outstanding contributions to the L.A. Theater Community, and recognitions by the City of Los Angeles for various artistic contributions.



**JUDITH ROYER, C.S.J. (Director)** is professor emerita of theatre arts and director for the CSJ Center for Reconciliation and Justice at LMU. Sr. Judith has worked in the areas of the arts as social transformation, engaged learning projects, restorative justice programs and social justice events all of which strive to "educate, heal and liberate both ourselves and the dear neighbor" (*CSJ Directional Statement*, 2001). As a professional artist and teacher at LMU she was producer/director for the Playwrights Center Stage new plays series; worked as producer, director and dramaturg with new play development programs sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts, Playwrights Theatre, The Mark Taper Forum, Southern Repertory Theatre, Theatre Gallery in Los Angeles, of which she was founder and former artistic director. She has co-produced and directed a series of Oral Histories/Documentary Theatre projects with

seniors, cancer survivors, veterans, at risk youth, the unhoused, victims of domestic violence, survivors of trafficking, lifer parolees and other community-based groups.

Sr. Judith was a founding member of the Association for Theater in Higher Education (ATHE); former chair of that organization's Playwrights Program and New Plays production coordinator; past-chair for the Kennedy Center American College Theater Festival's Region VIII Playwriting Program and member of that organization's governing board; recipient of the 2008 ATHE Outstanding Teacher of Theatre in Higher Education, a Kennedy Center Gold Medallion for contributions to new plays and playwrights and the 2012 Milan Stitt Award for her work as a playwriting mentor and teacher.



## THE COMPANY



**KEITH STEVENSON (Video Producer)** is the author of *The Fried Meat Trilogy*. The first play in the trilogy, *Out There on Fried Meat Ridge Rd.* (2012 Ovation nomination, Playwriting for an Original Play) played at Trafalgar Studios in London's West End with Keith performing. He is a resident artist at Pacific Resident Theatre and Rogue Machine Theatre. Keith and his partners at Small Films have presented shorts at film festivals around the world.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

With gratitude to our award recipients for sharing their lives and work with us, their family and friends who support them, the wonderful company of artists, writers and actors who are telling their stories.

### NOMINATORS

Mary McCullough  
Wayne Negrete, S.J.  
William Parham  
Edgar Rodriguez  
Isabel Villalobos-Galeana  
Michael Waterstone  
Julia Wade

### SPECIAL THANKS

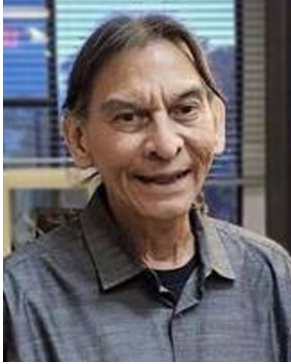
Bryant Keith Alexander  
MaryAnne Huepper, C.S.J.  
Michael McNaught

### SELECTION COMMITTEE

Raymundo Andrade  
Doris Baizley  
Katherine Brown  
John Flaherty  
Christine Koehl  
Lisha McGrue  
Stefani Mejia  
Wayne Negrete, S.J.  
Fred Puza  
Olivia Rodriguez  
Kienan Taweil  
Leticia Vidal



## IN MEMORIAM



**NESTOR PEREIRA** joined LMU in June 1995 and as the manager of programming and facilities for Murphy Recital Hall, the university's premier music venue, he was vital to the educational training of our students in the Department of Music. Nestor was an essential team member in LMU College of Communication and Fine Arts and led the daily operations and maintenance of the hall, including scheduling, event logistics, and the management of student workers. He adeptly coordinated senior recitals, faculty performances, visiting soloists, chamber ensembles, and a range of public events.

Nestor's time on the bluff began as a student in 1973, after which he quickly embedded himself into the fabric of LMU Radio's KXLU 88.9FM. During his five decades with the radio station, he held various volunteer leadership positions, including program director, fine arts director, and on-air host of several music programs. Nestor's longest stint was as host of "The Early Evening Concert," a primarily classical mix, which he presented with passion.

His last show was June 5. Nestor passed away on June 24, 2023.

**TRIBUTES BY**  
Lydia Ammosow  
Bryan Keith Alexander  
Parisa Loftis Hamm  
Katharine Free  
Yolanda McClamb  
Jim Holmes

**BECOME A PARTNER**  
in the mission of reconciliation and justice

The CSJ Center for Reconciliation and Justice offers a forum for dialogue, a place of education, and a resource for reflective action to promote unity among all persons and with God. The CSJ Center gives tangible witness to the presence and tradition of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange at Loyola Marymount University, and in a wounded world in need of compassion and healing.

The Sisters of St. Joseph of Orange, abbreviated CSJ, were established in 1912 by Mother Bernard Gosselin. Their ministries include healthcare, education, retreat ministry, spiritual direction and pastoral ministry. With the Society of Jesus (Jesuits) and the Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary, the Sisters are one of the founding and sponsoring religious orders of Loyola Marymount University.

The CSJ Center fulfills its mission by developing opportunities and providing resources for faculty, staff and students, to reflect, collaborate, and act on issues of justice pertinent to their particular fields of study and scholarship.

**CSJ SCHOLARSHIP FOR SERVICE AND ACTION**

The work of the CSJ Center makes an important contribution to the spiritual, intellectual, and pedagogical heritage of Loyola Marymount University. The advancement priority for the CSJ Center is our CSJ Scholarship for Service and Action. Once we reach our goal, the scholarship will be awarded annually to students whose academic and extracurricular activities focus on social justice.

We invite you to consider supporting our work here at the CSJ Center. To make a contribution, please contact Melissa Watkins in University Advancement at 310.338.3795 or [melissa.watkins@lmu.edu](mailto:melissa.watkins@lmu.edu).



**Loyola Marymount University**  
**CSJ Center for**  
**Reconciliation and Justice**

University Hall, Suite 2000  
1 LMU Drive, Los Angeles

310.568.6696  
csjcenter@lmu.edu

**[lmu.edu/csjcenter](http://lmu.edu/csjcenter)**