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34TH ANNUAL LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS NOMINATIONS ANNOUNCED

MULTIPLE EMMY AWARD-WINNER, PERFORMER, COMEDIAN – WAYNE BRADY – TO HOST THE CEREMONY

Carmen Jones and **Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future** tie for most nominations with six each – including Outstanding Revival and Outstanding Musical, respectively

Current Broadway productions **Be More Chill** and **What The Constitution Means To Me** earn nominations for their Off-Broadway stints – including Outstanding Musical and Outstanding Play

Among the many notable nominees are playwrights **Jeremy O. Harris** and **Phoebe Waller-Bridge** and performers **Joel Grey**, **George Salazar**, **Mare Winningham**, and **Jackie Hoffman**

Major studios debut on the Off-Broadway theatre scene with Annapurna Theatre as a producer on **FLEABAG** and Amazon's Audible producing **Girls & Boys**, performed by **Carey Mulligan**

New York, NY (April 3, 2019) – The Off-Broadway League today announced nominations in 19 categories – and bestowed one special award – for the 34th Annual Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway. The Awards will be handed out on <u>Sunday, May 5, 2019</u> at NYU Skirball Center for Performing Arts, beginning at 7:00pm EST. The Lucille Lortel Awards are produced by the Off-Broadway League by special arrangement with the Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation. Additional support is provided by TDF. Beloved and celebrated entertainer, **Wayne Brady**, will emcee the ceremony.

Leading the nominations this year are: *Carmen Jones*, with six nominations including one for Outstanding Revival and for John Doyle's direction, as well as in three of the four performance categories; Ars Nova's *Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future* also earned six nominations, including Outstanding Musical and Lead Actress and Actor in a Musical; current social media phenom *Be More Chill* received four nominations including Outstanding Musical, Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical for George Salazar, and Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical for Stephanie Hsu. This year's Voting Committee chose to present the award for Outstanding Alternative Theatrical Experience to Irish Repertory Theatre's *On Beckett*.

As previously announced, special honorees this year include Telsey + Company for *Outstanding Body of Work Award*; María Irene Fornés will be posthumously inducted onto the *Playwrights' Sidewalk*; and Off-Broadway League President Terry Byrne will be recognized with the *Edith Oliver Service to Off-Broadway Award*.

A breakfast reception honoring the nominees will take place from 10 AM – 12 PM on Wednesday, April 24, at The Robert W. Wilson MCC Theater Space (511 West 52nd Street, New York).

As always, members of the general public are welcome to attend the Lucille Lortel Awards. Public tickets are \$75.00 and will be available starting April 3, via phone at 212-998-4941, online at <u>www.nyuskirball.org</u> and in person at the Skirball Center's Shagan Box Office (556 LaGuardia PI.) from Tuesday – Saturday from 12 – 6 PM, up until two hours before showtime.

The Off-Broadway League's Lortel Awards Producing & Administration Committee (Jeremy Adams, Margaret Cotter, Carol Fishman, George Forbes, Danielle Karliner Naish, Michael Page, Kendra Ramthun, Catherine Russell, Lindsey Sag, Seth Shepsle, and Casey York) produces the Lortel Awards Ceremony. Acclaimed writer/director Michael Heitzman returns to direct the Lortel Awards for the ninth consecutive year. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, United Scenic Artists, the Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation, in addition to theatre journalists and academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee.

For updates and news about the ceremony and media releases, please visit <u>www.LortelAwards.org</u>. Follow the Lortel Awards (#LortelAwards) on Twitter at <u>https://twitter.com/OffBroadwayNYC</u> and Instagram at <u>https://www.instagram.com/offbroadwayleague/</u> and like us on Facebook at <u>https://www.facebook.com/OffBroadwayNYC</u>.

2019 LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS NOMINATIONS

Outstanding Play

Mlima's Tale Produced by The Public Theater Written by Lynn Nottage

Pass Over Produced by Lincoln Center Theater/LCT3 Written by Antoinette Nwandu

Slave Play Produced by New York Theatre Workshop Written by Jeremy O. Harris

Sugar In Our Wounds Produced by Manhattan Theatre Club Written by Donja R. Love

What The Constitution Means To Me Produced by New York Theatre Workshop Written by Heidi Schreck

Outstanding Musical

Be More Chill

Produced by Gerald Goehring, Michael F. Mitri, Jennifer Ashley Tepper, Marc David Levine, Marlene and Gary Cohen, 42nd.club, The Baruch Frankel Viertel Group, Alisa and Charlie Thorne, Jenny Niederhoffer, Chris Blasting/Simpson & Longthorne, Brad Blume/Gemini Theatrical, Jonathan Demar/Kim Vasquez, Ben Holtzman and Sammy Lopez, Koenigsberg/Federman/Adler, Ashlee Latimer and Jenna Ushkowitz, Jenn Maley and Cori Stolbun, Robert and Joan Rechnitz, Fred and Randi Sternfeld, YesBroadway Productions, in association with Two River Theater

Music and Lyrics by Joe Iconis, Book by Joe Tracz

Girl from the North Country Produced by The Public Theater Book by Conor McPherson, Music and Lyrics by Bob Dylan

Midnight at The Never Get

Produced by The York Theatre Company by arrangement with Visceral Entertainment and Mark Cortale Productions, Nathaniel Granor, Jeff G. Peters, Daryl Roth, Megan Savage Book, Music, and Lyrics by Mark Sonnenblick, Co-Conceived by Sam Bolen

Miss You Like Hell Produced by The Public Theater Book and Lyrics by Quiara Alegría Hudes, Music and Lyrics by Erin McKeown Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future Produced by Ars Nova Written by Andrew R. Butler

Outstanding Revival

Carmen Jones Produced by Classic Stage Company, Alan D. and Barbara Marks, Eric Falkenstein, and Covent Garden Productions Book and Lyrics by Oscar Hammerstein II, with Music by Georges Bizet

Fabulation, or The Re-Education of Undine Produced by Signature Theatre Written by Lynn Nottage

FIDDLER ON THE ROOF IN YIDDISH

Produced by National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene, Paul & Rodica Burg, UJA-Federation of New York, Stanley & Marion Bergman Family Charitable Fund, The David Berg Foundation, Paul & Peggy Bernstein, Mark & Audrey Mlotek, Mark E. Seitelman Law Offices, in association with Esti & Barry Brahver and Sheila Nevins Book by Joseph Stein, Music by Jerry Bock, Lyrics by Sheldon Harnick, Translation by Shraga Friedman

Happy Birthday, Wanda June Produced by Wheelhouse Theater Company Written by Kurt Vonnegut

The Shadow of a Gunman Produced by Irish Repertory Theatre Written by Sean O'Casey

Outstanding Solo Show

Feeding the Dragon Produced by Primary Stages in association with Jamie deRoy and Hartford Stage Written and Performed by Sharon Washington

FLEABAG

Produced by Annapurna Theatre, Megan Ellison, Sue Naegle, Skye Optican, Kevin Emrick, David Luff & Patrick Myles, Barbara Broccoli, Patrick Catullo, Diana DiMenna, Daryl Roth, Eric Schnall, Jayne Baron Sherman, DryWrite, Soho Theatre

Written and Performed by Phoebe Waller-Bridge

Girls & Boys Produced by Audible and The Royal Court Theatre Written by Dennis Kelly Performed by Carey Mulligan

Mike Birbiglia's The New One Produced by Joseph Birbiglia, Mike Lavoie, and Rebecca Crigler Written and Performed by Mike Birbiglia, Additional Writing by Jennifer Hope Stein

My Life On a Diet Produced by Julian Schlossberg, Morris S. Levy, Rodger Hess, Harold Newman, Jim Fantaci, Andrew Tobias, and Ronald Glazer/Sabrina Hutt Written by Renée Taylor and Joseph Bologna Performed by Renée Taylor

Outstanding Director

Lileana Blain-Cruz, *Marys Seacole* Jo Bonney, *Mlima's Tale* John Doyle, *Carmen Jones* Lee Sunday Evans, *Dance Nation* Joel Grey, *FIDDLER ON THE ROOF IN YIDDISH*

Outstanding Choreographer

Lee Sunday Evans, Dance Nation Raja Feather Kelly, *If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be a Muhfucka* Rick and Jeff Kuperman, *Alice By Heart* Lorin Latarro, *Merrily We Roll Along* Susan Stroman, *THE BEAST IN THE JUNGLE*

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Play

Juan Castano, *Transfers* Russell Harvard, *I Was Most Alive with You* Jon Michael Hill, *Pass Over* Sahr Ngaujah, *Mlima's Tale* Tom Sturridge, *Sea Wall/A Life*

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Play

Ako, *God Said This* Quincy Tyler Bernstine, *Marys Seacole* Marin Ireland, *Blue Ridge* Zainab Jah, *Boesman and Lena* Charlayne Woodard, *"Daddy"*

Outstanding Featured Actor in a Play

Ato Blankson-Wood, *Slave Play* Marchánt Davis, *Ain't No Mo'* Gabriel Ebert, *Pass Over* John Procaccino, *Downstairs* Matt Walker, *THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG*

Outstanding Featured Actress in a Play

Quincy Tyler Bernstine, *Our Lady of 121st Street* Stephanie Berry, *Sugar In Our Wounds* Blair Brown, *Mary Page Marlowe* Crystal Lucas-Perry, *Ain't No Mo'* Danielle Skraastad, *Hurricane Diane*

Outstanding Lead Actor in a Musical

Sam Bolen, *Midnight at The Never Get* Andrew R. Butler, *Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future* Jeremy Cohen, *Midnight at The Never Get* Clifton Duncan, *Carmen Jones* Steven Skybell, *FIDDLER ON THE ROOF IN YIDDISH*

Outstanding Lead Actress in a Musical

Kate Baldwin, Superhero Gizel Jiménez, Miss You Like Hell Anika Noni Rose, Carmen Jones Stacey Sargeant, Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future Mare Winningham, Girl from the North Country

Outstanding Featured Actor in a Musical

John Edwards, *Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber & Stoller* Sydney James Harcourt, *Girl from the North Country* Bryce Pinkham, *Superhero* George Salazar, *Be More Chill* Heath Saunders, *Alice By Heart*

Outstanding Featured Actress in a Musical

Jackie Hoffman, FIDDLER ON THE ROOF IN YIDDISH Stephanie Hsu, Be More Chill Luba Mason, Girl from the North Country Soara-Joye Ross, Carmen Jones Alysha Umphress, Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber & Stoller

Outstanding Scenic Design

Wilson Chin, Pass Over Charlie Corcoran, The Shadow of a Gunman Nigel Hook, THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG Laura Jellinek, Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future Arnulfo Maldonado, Sugar In Our Wounds

Outstanding Costume Design

Dede Ayite, *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* Montana Levi Blanco, *The House That Will Not Stand* Jennifer Moeller, *Mlima's Tale* Kaye Voyce, *Marys Seacole* Paloma Young, *Alice By Heart*

Outstanding Lighting Design

Amith Chandrashaker, *Boesman and Lena* Lap Chi Chu, *Mlima's Tale* Bradley King, *Apologia* Barbara Samuels, *Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future* Yi Zhao, *The House That Will Not Stand*

Outstanding Sound Design

Matt Hubbs, Boesman and Lena Dan Moses Schreier, Carmen Jones Jane Shaw, I Was Most Alive with You Mikaal Sulaiman, Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future Isobel Waller-Bridge, FLEABAG

Outstanding Projection Design

Katherine Freer, *By the Way, Meet Vera Stark* Luke Halls, *Girls & Boys* Alex Basco Koch, *Be More Chill* Alex Basco Koch, *Fireflies* Tal Yarden, *Superhero*

SPECIAL AWARD

Outstanding Alternative Theatrical Experience On Beckett Produced by Irish Repertory Theatre Exploring the Works of Samuel Beckett, Conceived by Bill Irwin

HONORARY AWARDS

Outstanding Body of Work Telsey + Company

Playwrights' Sidewalk Inductee María Irene Fornés

Edith Oliver Service to Off-Broadway Award Terry Byrne

NOMINATIONS BY SHOW

| Carmen Jones | 6 |
|--|---|
| Rags Parkland Sings The Songs Of The Future | 6 |
| Mlima's Tale | 5 |
| Be More Chill | 4 |
| FIDDLER ON THE ROOF IN YIDDISH | 4 |
| Girl from the North Country | 4 |
| Pass Over | 4 |
| Alice By Heart | 3 |
| Boesman and Lena | 3 |
| Marys Seacole | 3 |
| Midnight at The Never Get | 3 |
| Sugar In Our Wounds | 3 |
| Superhero | 3 |
| Ain't No Mo' | 2 |
| By the Way, Meet Vera Stark | 2 |
| Dance Nation | 2 |
| FLEABAG | 2 |
| Girls & Boys | 2 |
| I Was Most Alive with You | 2 |
| Miss You Like Hell | 2 |
| Shadow of a Gunman | 2 |
| Slave Play | 2 |
| Smokey Joe's Cafe: The Songs of Leiber & Stoller | 2 |
| The House That Will Not Stand | 2 |
| THE PLAY THAT GOES WRONG | 2 |
| "Daddy" | 1 |
| Apologia | 1 |
| Blue Ridge | 1 |
| Downstairs | 1 |
| Fabulation, or The Re-Education of Undine | 1 |
| Feeding the Dragon | 1 |
| Fireflies | 1 |
| God Said This | 1 |
| Happy Birthday, Wanda June | 1 |
| Hurricane Diane | 1 |
| If Pretty Hurts Ugly Must Be a Muhfucka | 1 |
| Mary Page Marlowe | 1 |
| Merrily We Roll Along | 1 |
| Mike Birbiglia's The New One | 1 |
| My Life On a Diet | 1 |
| On Beckett | 1 |

| Our Lady of 121st Street | 1 |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Sea Wall/A Life | 1 |
| THE BEAST IN THE JUNGLE | 1 |
| Transfers | 1 |
| What The Constitution Means To Me | 1 |

ABOUT WAYNE BRADY

Six-time Emmy award-winning and Grammy nominated actor, singer, dancer, improviser, songwriter and television personality Wayne Brady continues to bring powerful performances to the screen and stage. Brady can currently be seen as the host of CBS's "Let's Make A Deal" and his work as a regular on the improvisational comedy television series, "Whose Line Is It Anyway?," both the original ABC and the current CW version, has become synonymous with off-the-cuff brilliance. Recently he appeared on the Emmy award-winning CBS daytime drama, "The Bold and the Beautiful," earning himself another Emmy nomination for *Outstanding Guest Performer in a Drama Series*. Brady produced and starred in a highly rated summer sketch show and Emmy-winning talk show for ABC before joining forces with Dave Chappelle to create the now classic "Training Day" sketch. Brady returned to his theatrical roots with a successful Broadway debut as Bill Flynn in "Chicago," and received rave reviews starring as Lola in the Tony® Award winning production of "Kinky Boots." His Broadway path continued with a 3-month run starring as Aaron Burr in the Pulitzer Prize and Tony® Award winning production of "Hamilton" in Chicago. Brady's debut studio album "A Long Time Coming" earned him a Grammy nomination. He has also lent his vocal talents to both Disney's animated series "Sofia the First," and Nickelodeon's "Loud House." His television credits include "Colony," "30 Rock," "Everybody Loves Chris," "Dirt," "How I Met Your Mother," and "Don't' Forget the Lyrics, among others.

ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL AWARDS

The Lucille Lortel Awards for Outstanding Achievement Off-Broadway were created in 1985 by the Off-Broadway League. The Lortel Awards recognize excellence in Off-Broadway by honoring the invaluable contribution of artists to the theatre community. Representatives of the Off-Broadway League, Actors' Equity Association, Stage Directors & Choreographers Society, United Scenic Artists, the Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation, in addition to theatre journalists, academics and other Off-Broadway professionals, serve on the Voting Committee. Awards may be given in the following categories: Play, Musical, Solo Show, Revival, Alternative Theatrical Experience, Director, Choreographer, Lead Actor and Actress in a Play and Musical, Featured Actor and Actress in a Play and Musical, Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound, and Projection Design. The following honorary awards may also be given: Lifetime Achievement Award, Body of Work (awarded to an institution), Edith Oliver Service to Off-Broadway Award and induction onto the Playwrights' Sidewalk in front of the historic Lucille Lortel Theatre in New York City. For more information, please see www.LortelAwards.org.

ABOUT THE OFF-BROADWAY LEAGUE

The Off-Broadway League was founded in 1959 to foster theatrical productions produced in Off-Broadway theatres (productions in Manhattan in venues with 100-499 seats), to assist in the voluntary exchange of information among its members, and to serve as a collective voice of its membership in pursuit of these goals. In the recent years the League has grown to represent an average of 150 individual members and theatres and more than 100 non-for-profit and commercial shows per season.

ABOUT THE LUCILLE LORTEL THEATRE FOUNDATION

Lucille Lortel was known as the Queen of Off-Broadway. The Lucille Lortel Theatre Foundation continues her mission of sustaining and advancing Off-Broadway theatre by enhancing the public's awareness and appreciation of Off-Broadway through production, preservation and promotion; encouraging the continued growth of Off-Broadway through fostering new artists and new works; developing and implementing new technologies increasing access to or improving the theatre-going experience; creating, improving and increasing theatrical infrastructure and capacity building, fostering excellence and diversity in the theatre, and; faithfully preserving the rich history and support the continued prosperity of Off-Broadway. The Foundation has several major programs, including the Internet Off-Broadway Data Base (www.IOBDB.com), Theatre Management Services, and Subsidized Theatre Space. For a listing of all the Foundation's programs, previous Lortel Award nominees and recipients, information on the Lucille Lortel Theatre and Playwrights' Sidewalk, and much more, please visit www.lortel.org.

ABOUT TDF

TDF is a not-for-profit service organization for the performing arts, dedicated to bringing the power of the performing arts to everyone. Founded in 1968, TDF's mission is to sustain live theatre and dance by engaging and cultivating a broad and diverse audience and eliminating barriers to attendance. TDF fulfills its mission with a variety of programs that expand access, cultivate communities and support the makers of the performing arts. Best known for its theatregoing programs (including the TKTS by TDF Discount Booths and TDF Membership Programs), TDF's accessibility (including open captioned, audio described and Autism Friendly performances), school (serving over 10,000 New York City students annually), community engagement and information programs — as well as the TDF Costume Collection Rental and Research Programs — have introduced millions of people to the theatre and helped make the unique experience of theatre available to everyone. To learn more about TDF, go to: www.tdf.org.

ABOUT NYU SKIRBALL CENTER

NYU Skirball, located in the heart of Greenwich Village, is one of New York City's major presenters of international work, and has been the premier venue for cultural and performing arts events in lower Manhattan since 2003. The 860-seat theater, led by Director Jay Wegman, provides a home for internationally renowned artists, innovators and thinkers. NYU Skirball hosts over 300 events annually, from re-inventions of the classics to cutting-edge premieres, in genres ranging from dance, theater and performance art to comedy, music and film.

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