

## PCS ALUMNI NEWS

September 2024



**Gregory Gropper '17** received his Masters in Music at Manhattan School of Music in May. This summer he performed the title role in Puccini's *Gianni Schicchi* at the Delphi Theatre in Berlin and in April, he sang the role of Kaiser in Ullman's opera *Der Kaiser von Atlantis* at MSM.

**Sophia Elena Stefanopoulos '16** and **Hannah Lipman '17** are collaborating as co-producers and co-directors for **C(HORIO)**, a female choreographic showcase coming this November. The performance will be on Saturday, November 30th, 2024 at Manhattan Movement Arts Center (248 West 60th Street, New York, NY).

**Yu Chun Cheng '16** received the Bronze Medal for instrumentalists at the Global Music Awards.

**Ana María Delmar '16** recently co-curated an exhibition titled *Good Morning, Midnight* at the Courtauld Gallery in London. The exhibition was on view from May 25th - July 7<sup>th</sup>.



**Margaret Qualley '13** stars alongside Demi Moore in the new thriller *The Substance*. The NY Times did a feature on Qualley where she discussed her career in film and television. PCS also got a special mention. Scan the QR code to read the NY Times Article about her.

**Steven Melendez '05** was the subject of the EMMY nominated, feature-length documentary film, *LIFT*. This documentary was filmed over ten years and about Steven's work with homeless and home-insecure children in New York City and ballet. The film was nominated for "Outstanding Arts and Culture Documentary" at the EMMYS! Steven is currently the Artistic Director of New York Theatre Ballet leading the company into its 46th anniversary season. They have launched a new membership program - the next members event is an in-studio showing on Saturday, October 26th in the east village.



**Jay Marcus '03** is making his Broadway co-producing debut this season with the hit comedy *Oh Mary!* and revival of *Sunset Blvd.* starring Nicole Sherzinger. As an LA-based producer, he also started The Hollywood Theatre Club to bring film & tv executives, producers, casting directors etc together once-a-month to see professional theatre in LA. The group has almost 1,100 members after just a year. People really do want to see theatre in Los Angeles!

**Jack Antonoff '02** is writing music for the upcoming Broadway production of *Romeo + Juliet*, directed by Sam Gold and featuring rising stars Kit Connor and Rachel Zegler.

**Christy Carlson Romano '02** is currently working on a memoir with Simon and Schuster. Stay tuned for more information soon!

**Kieran Culkin '00** will star in the role of Richard Roma in the upcoming Broadway revival of *Glengarry Glen Ross*.

**Jen Rudin '90** reopened Jen Rudin Casting after stints as head of VO and Animation at ICM and APA. She also penned an op-ed for USA Today on the historic victory for Casting Directors finally getting an Oscar category of their own. In addition, she published a personal essay in Newsweek on being a step-grandma.

**Claudia Mason '89** launched a life-coaching practice and is also an accomplished author and speaker. She has had speaking engagements for the American Heart Association and the American Stroke Association. Learn more about Claudia at <https://www.claudiamason.com>.

**Tanya Rivero Warren (nee Gingerich) '89** began a new job as weekend evening co-anchor on WABC-TV Eyewitness News with Joe Torres. You can watch them every Saturday & Sunday on Channel 7 at 5pm, 6pm and 11pm. (Although during football season the newscasts are often preempted and/or start a little later!)

**Micki Barnett Jacobs '85** moved with her husband and dog Tucker to the Denver, CO area in January 2024, after living outside of Los Angeles for 23 years. Micki still owns and runs her media buying agency, 4 Bucks Media, Inc. but was seeking a calmer, less chaotic way-of-life in this new chapter of empty nesting. So far, she is very much enjoying this change of pace and doesn't miss the fires, earthquakes or SF Valley heat at all!

**Maria Calegari '74** is the President of the Apollo Arts Initiative Foundation. Her husband, also a former principal dancer with New York City Ballet, is the Vice President. The Apollo Arts Initiative is dedicated to fostering art and well-being throughout the community and we strive through dance, art and music to support other artists and arts groups as well. They recently hosted a workshop in Putnam County where attendees got to decorate pointe shoes. Maria shared that she is so grateful to PCS for the schooling she received while attending the School of American Ballet. She will never forget getting my diploma from Debbie Reynolds, and then receiving the Distinguished Alumni Award for her long ballet career at New York City Ballet.

**Cristina Farkas Williams '70** is celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the theatre I founded in 1975 this February. She is very proud of the alumni who are using their theatre skills on Broadway, in TV and movies (Tony Hale, Cheryl Hines, Allison Miller) and one of their graduates controls the Space Station at NASA! Most exciting for Tina is having more time now to spend with her grandkids! She is living part time in Grand Rapids MI, where her daughter and family live and part time in Tallahassee! Tina would love to hear from fellow PCS alumni, especially those who graduated in 1967-70! Tina said that she so appreciated PCS for the excellent curriculum, wonderful staff and the great friends she made.

**Carol Kane '69** was recently featured on CBS Sunday Morning. The feature was titled "The Distinctive Voices of Carol Kane". She discusses her family, her career, and PCS gets a shout out! Scan the QR code to watch!



**Lee Wilson '62** danced on Broadway in four successive decades and has written a new memoir, *I Danced on Broadway*, filled with stories about Broadway legends, including Agnes de Mille, Alvin Ailey, Richard Rodgers, Michael Bennett, Donna McKechnie, and Bernadette Peters.

**Leslie Uggams '60** is joining season 3 of *The Gilded Age* on HBO.

**Toni Alexander '56** (formerly known as Joan Andrews) just celebrated her 86th birthday with family in Kenya, where she now lives. Toni has had the pleasure of living in many countries around the world - and feels lucky to now live in one of her favorites.