

GiGi's Playhouse NYC annual report



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letter from our Board President

2018 has been a year of boundless achievement for GiGi's and our community. We are grateful to our donors and sponsors for fueling this growth.

To deliver this growth, we are thankful for the over 150 volunteers who gave nearly 4,000 hours of their time supporting our mission. We rely on volunteers to deliver our programs so that we can offer them at no cost to our participants and families.

2018 Achievements:

- Formed our **Associate Board** of young professionals who give generously of their time, energy and expertise, conducting fundraisers for GiGi's, enhancing our ability to provide exceptional programming to our community
- Our Associate Board hosted our 1st Annual Fashion Show Presented by Bloomingdale's: 30 runway models with Down syndrome were cheered on by over 200 guests
- Created our We Have a Voice Community Chorus comprised of individuals with Down Syndrome, their friends and family, conducted by Broadway's Laurie Gamache
- Launched **GiGiFIT** to promote exercise and healthy lifestyles
- Launched our **Summer Horizons** Adult Program
- Our Brooklyn Satellite Programs delivered over 1,000 hours of programming
- Organized our Dad and Male Caregivers Support Group
- Grew our list of **families we serve to over 850**

2018 New Partnerships:

- JCC Harlem
- John's Crazy Socks

Thank you for the generosity of our donors and sponsors, whose commitment and generous support make all we do possible.

Frank Sawyer

Board President

Vision and Mission

Our vision is to see a world where individuals with Down syndrome are **accepted** and **embraced** in their families, schools and communities. In doing so, we advance a global vision of acceptance for all.

Our mission is to increase **positive awareness** of Down syndrome through national campaigns, educational programs and by **empowering individuals** with Down syndrome, their families and the community.

What makes GiGi's Playhouse NYC unique?

- Purposeful Programs provided at no cost
- Lifelong Commitments to participants of all ages and their families
- Unbreakable Commitment to Acceptance –
 through Playhouse leaders and campaigns







our Founders' Principles

Changing the way the world accepts people with Down syndrome.

One individual.
One diagnosis.
One community at a time.













Having founded GiGi's Playhouse Inc. 16 years ago, Nancy Gianni, has gone onto inspire and assist in the establishment of 45 (and counting) Playhouses throughout the U.S. and Mexico.

Thanks to Nancy's inspiration, combined with the vision, resources and perseverance of our intrepid founders, Tracy Nixon and Debbie Morris, GiGi's Playhouse NYC opened its doors in 2012.

6 years later, we are the only organization in New York City dedicated to solely serving the Down syndrome community. GiGi's Playhouse NYC is realizing its vision and mission. We are changing the perception of Down syndrome in New York City and beyond.

GiGi's Playhouse, Inc. and its subsidiaries, including GiGi's Playhouse NYC, carry a 501(c)(3) exemption.



















2018 Achievements



3,635 Volunteer Hours



855 Families Served

#Generation(



160 Total Volunteers



115 New Families



1 Voice United in Taking Action for Lasting Acceptance

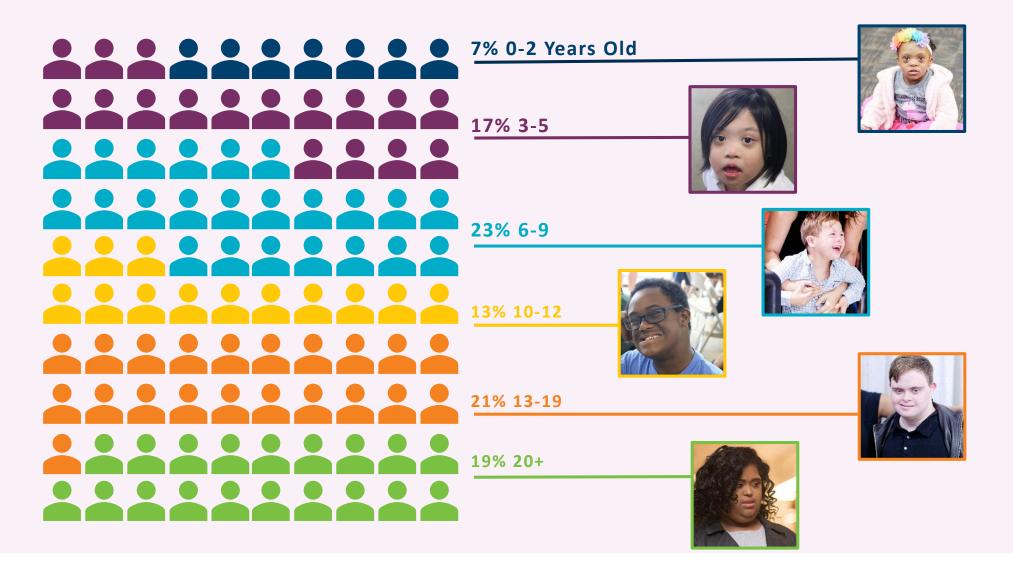


O Cost to Families



Families travel from all five boroughs and New Jersey to attend programs at GiGi's Playhouse NYC. We are expanding our reach with more satellite programs in development.

ages served at GiGi's Playhouse NYC



GiGi's Playhouse NYC serves individuals of all ages and reflects the diverse communities we serve.





letter from our Playhouse Staff

After 6 years serving the Down syndrome community in New York City, we are still growing every step along the way. It is an honor to serve this amazing community, and we are so proud of each GiGi's Playhouse NYC participant and love seeing them grow every year.

2018 was one of our best years yet!

We launched new programs and increased the number of individuals and families served. Our newest signature program is GiGiFIT, a specialty fitness program that targets the specific physiological needs of teens and adults with Down syndrome with twice a week workouts. We also launched Summer Horizons, expanding our Summer Programming to include the adults in our community. Then this fall we launched the GGPHNYC Community Chorus, which will be performing throughout 2019.

Our programs continue to grow. In 2018, we welcomed 117 new families to our community.

Overall, we had nearly 6,000 hours of program participation, including over 1,000 at our Brooklyn Satellite sites. 160 unique families enjoyed GiGi's Programs, and even more at events and parties.

As we enter our 7th year, we are grateful to be fully embraced by our community. We run on your belief in our mission. From all of us at GiGi's Playhouse NYC, we send our sincere thank you to all of our volunteers, Board members, community partners, donors, and of course our incredible families. Together we are changing New York City's perception of individuals with Down syndrome.

At GiGi's, we challenge our kids to achieve their 'Best of All', asking them to be a little better today then they were yesterday. As an organization, we have the same approach. With your help, the future is limitless for GiGi's Playhouse NYC!

Thank you!

Benjamin Kaufman

Programs Director

Jasmine Ferrer

Operations Coordinator

our Programs

GiGi's Playhouse NYC provides therapeutic, educational, social, and creative arts enrichment programs for individuals with Down syndrome of all ages. From pre-natal diagnosis through life skills for our adults we make a commitment to be there for the lifetimes of our families. Each program is purposeful, progressive and always delivered at no cost to Playhouse families.

MANHATTAN

(September – June)

Busy Bodies | playgroup to meet new friends, explore, and show off current and emerging abilities. Ages 2+.

Leaps & Bounds | music and movement program where kids sing, dance, run obstacle courses, and more. Ages 3-5.

LMNOP | "Language, Music 'N' Our Peeps" incorporates sign language, communication tools and music. Ages 3-6.

1-on-1 Literacy & Literacy Pods | builds a foundation in sight word recognition, vocabulary, comprehension, phonics and articulation. Ages 3+.

DanceAbilities | therapeutically based dance program perfect for dancers of all abilities. Ages 3+.

Karate & Soccer | sport fundamentals while working on team work and fitness. Ages 6+.

GiGiFIT| teens and adults build a foundation of fitness while learning healthy lifestyles. Ages 13+.

Playhouse Pals | supports the development of social skills and language through peer to peer interaction in a casual and fun setting. Ages 13-19.

TeenTastic | experience the fun of being a teenager, practice social skills, and build friendships. Ages 13-19.

Bowling Buds | bowling activity/outing for adults of all abilities. Ages 18+.

Fantastic Friends | adult social activity to practice social skills and build friendships. Ages 21+.

Gratitude Art Committee | adults give back to the Playhouse through their art! Ages 21+.

"we have a voice" Community Chorus | is comprised of those with Down syndrome, family, and friends. Participants develop and reinforce skills such as body awareness, listening, vocal production, diction, and memorization. All ages.

BROOKLYN

(September - June)

Literacy | builds a foundation in sight word recognition, vocabulary, comprehension, phonics and articulation. Ages 2+.

Leaps & Bounds | music and movement program where kids sing, dance, run obstacle courses, and more. Ages 3-5.

LMNOP | "Language, Music 'N' Our Peeps" incorporates sign language, communication tools and music. Ages 3-6.

Art Explosion | kids explore their creativity through various hands-on creative projects. Ages 3-5.

Music | singing, drumming, and dancing along with talented musicians. Ages 4-10.

Destination Discovery | activity stations focused on fine motor, gross motor, and sensory exploration. Ages 4-10.

Yoga promotes fitness, balance, and self-confidence. Ages 4-10.

SUMMER GIGI'S PLAYHOUSE NYC

Summer Clubhouse | kids engage in activities to develop motor skills, social, and language development through fitness, arts, cooking, and literacy activities. Ages 4-10.

Summer Adventures | teens explore NYC and their independence with a one-to-one volunteer. Ages 13-19.

Summer Horizons | adults explore NYC and practice life skills and independence with a one-to-one volunteer. Ages 21+.

Program Spotlight

Summer Horizons Launch

We officially rolled out our Adult Summer Program, Summer Horizons, courtesy of the generous sponsorship by John's Crazy Socks.

Adults had the opportunity to continue developing meaningful life skills through shared experiences and various learning opportunities traveling around New York City. Through each activity, participants built friendships and reinforced skills, like self-confidence, healthy lifestyles, money management, navigating public spaces, and more. Participants were also paired one-to-one with trained volunteer counselors.

Summer Horizons was jam packed with a week's worth of fun, support, and adventure. Some of the programs and activities included:

- GiGiFit
- Broadway's "School of Rock"
- Yoga
- Bowling at Lucky Strike
- Painting Lounge
- Daniel's Music
- New York's Botanical Garden



100% of participants and volunteers would recommend Summer Horizons to a friend



100% of participants felt more confident after Summer Horizons





Generation G

As part of the GiGi's Playhouse network, we are advancing a vision of global acceptance for all through Generation G: a campaign for greater acceptance and lasting social change.

Dedicated locations, purposeful programs offered at no cost, and high accountability do not guarantee long-term acceptance. Over the last 6 years, GiGi's Playhouse NYC has made significant progress and impact in supporting individuals with Down syndrome yet, we have only scratched the surface. Still, new parents may not be receiving the positive encouragement they need from medical professionals. Young people with Down syndrome may experience discrimination at school and on social media. Qualified adults with Down syndrome often can't access jobs.

There is still much more to accomplish.

Generation Ghas a very simple philosophy: make a conscious decision to be better everyday.

Be Accepting. Be Generous. Be Kind.

#GenerationG



Summer Clubhouse at GiGi's Playhouse NYC was the best weekend of Carter's whole summer! "

-Stacey Calcano, Playhouse Parent

Financial Overview

For Every \$1 Spent...

2018 Expenses * | \$385,162



78¢ goes to programming

20¢ goes to fundraising

2¢ goes to administration

98% of our annual expenditures go directly to programming and fundraising that benefit our community. In 2019, we are focusing on increased grant opportunities and expanding our fundraising streams.

Thank You Donors & Supporters

GiGi's Playhouse NYC is entirely funded by individual and corporate donations and foundation support.

Founders Circle

A 3-year commitment of \$5,000 annually is what sparked our growth. These seed funds continue to help us grow.

Tracy Nixon

Andrew & Debbie Morris

Tom & JoAnn Fogarty

Benno & Evelyn Ansbacher

Jonathan & Rosemary Ansbacher

Gaurang & Heather Trivedi

Eric & Becky Fogarty

Matthew & Lauren Fogarty

Gretchen Hayes

Jean Sullivan & Richard Cane

Mitch Rubin & Audra Zuckerman

Invest For Children

\$35,000+

Stephen & Laura Riggio

\$20,000+

Benno Ansbacher Debbie & Andrew Morris Foundation Mary McMahon

\$10,000+

Aidikoff Family Ralph & Fanny Ellison Charitable Trust Invest for children

\$5,000+

Jonathan & Rosemary Ansbacher

Apax Foundation

Kirsten DeBear

Ruth Erickson & Paul Goularte

Lucille Giuliano

Brian Hallowell

Howard Gilman Foundation

Hyde and Watson Foundation

John's Crazy Socks

Otto Herrmann, Inc.

Schraft's 2.0

Pamela Tan

\$2,500+

Michael Borello Jessy & Michael Nahmias Geoff Rensi

\$1,000+

BNY Mellon Corp Community

Partnership

James Drummy & Linda Saraceni

Carol Falcinelli

Amanda Frantz

Gap Foundation

Nicholas Fusco

Adam Hait & Sarah Fairchild

Gretchen Hayes

Mike & Cindy Kendrot

Alex Lamis & Holly Horn

David Lettinger

Marsh & McLennan Companies

Lisa Orberg

Iane Providenti

Marya Propis

Dan & Rebecca Purnick

Rachel Raleigh

Gail U. Reed

Elizabeth Scheel & Safia Al-Rawi

Supreme Building

Messengers Inc.

Kabir Syed

Trautschold Family Foundation Shawn Watts & Rosemary Suh

\$500+

Jake & Kathleen Abraham

Salvatore Amato

Michael Banks

BlackRock

Josh & Laura Blau

Ryan & Genevieve Brown

Dorothee Nagy Buquet

Jon Connolly & Rachel Adams

Edward Dandridge

Deutsche Bank Americas

Foundation

Patricia Donini

lason Dove

Laura Fahsbender

_ . _ . . .

Robert Fairbairn

Teri Frady

Judy Friel

Scott Goldshine

Laura Graybill

Kathleen Harris

Craig Hull

Robert Iger

Joseph Neto & Associates

Eugenia Kaye

Ann M. Kelly

William & Karen Kolb

lustin Leonard

LuLuRoe

Elizabeth Mandel

Anita Murtha

Roy Nada & Veronica Labarca
Odyssey Re Foundation
Christopher & Janie Papernick
Vitali Penso & Rachel Kimmel
David & Donna Providenti
Christina Riggio
StoneTurn Group LLP
Howard Sugarman
Richard & Jean Sullivan
Total Fire Protection
Suzanne White
Robert & Holly Young

Special Recognition

Because of these generous donations, we were able to expand and launch additional programming for our participants in 2018!

John's Crazy Socks

Donation launched Adult Summer Program: Summer Horizons.

Bloomingdales

Partnership launched our first annual fashion show at their flagship location.

Resources and Partners





















Radio





POST EDUCAT



















NEW YORK POST

bloomingdales



Kennedy Children's Center











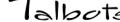


Advocates for Children of New York

Protecting every child's right to learn







Special Acknowledgement

The Riggio Family



















Rachel Adams
& Jon Connolly

Oh La La!













GiGi's Playhouse NYC contributes to teaching us how to be the best parents we can be. All the steps, tools and skills we need to succeed are right here at GiGi's NYC. We will need GiGi's Playhouse NYC all along the way.

-Families at GiGi's Playhouse NYC

Growing Our Future

Who Helps Us Grow?

Volunteers are the backbone of the Playhouse

We rely on the dedication, talent, and expertise of a core group of volunteers and staff to deliver our programs. We ask for a three-month commitment; the majority of our core volunteers have served for over two years.

How Will We Grow?

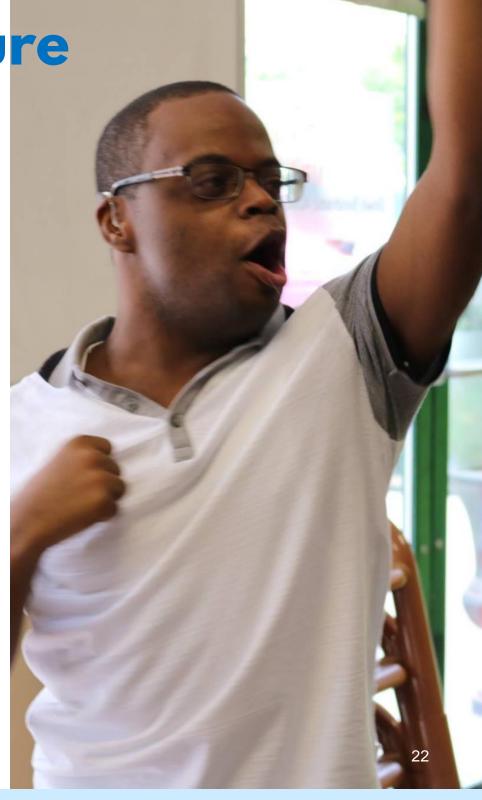
Expand our satellite programs

Through partnerships and in-kind donations, GiGi's Playhouse NYC will provide programs in all 5 boroughs of New York City. We are currently seeking partnerships in Queens, Staten Island and the Bronx.

Fundraising Needs

GiGi's Playhouse NYC fully survives on the generosity of investors. Donations provide children and adults with Down syndrome, lifelong access to no-cost purposeful programs without barriers or conditions. Every program dollar invested enriches lives and supplements many resources families seek beyond the Playhouse.

Donations also advance our vision for global acceptance. GiGi's Playhouse NYC is not just for our participants and families, it's for the whole community. Every supporter creates a widening circle of dialog regarding our participants' potential. As the circle of communication, engagement and investment expands; so does lasting acceptance.



Take Action



ENGAGE

- Help GiGi's Playhouse NYC deliver lasting impact.
- Host a private donor cultivation event
- ▼ Choose GiGi's Playhouse NYC as the primary beneficiary of your employee giving, matching gift, and volunteer match campaigns
- ♥ Include GiGi's Playhouse NYC in your estate planning



SHARE

- Market and publicize GiGi's Playhouse NYC on your corporate websites and social media pages
- Donate broadcast and digital advertising to help GiGi's Playhouse NYC reach more families and establish additional satellite programs
- Advance the Generation G Acceptance Campaign as a national promotional partner
- Join GiGi's Playhouse NYC in getting our elected officials to demonstrate their commitment to the Down syndrome community by joining the *Congressional Task Force on Down syndrome. Call, meet, inform your elected leaders.
- ▼ Support us with every Amazon purchase you make by shopping through smile.amazon.com/ and select GiGI's Playhouse NYC. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to GiGi's Playhouse NYC..



PARTNER

- ▼ Become a sponsor of GiGi's Playhouse NYC's programs and events
- Create an endowment or donor advised fund to provide sustainable support for Playhouse families and programs



ACTIVATE

Join the conversation! Mobilize your networks for good. **#GIGIPHNYC**



facebook.com/gigisplayhousenyc



twitter.com/GiGiPHNYC



instagram.com/nycgigisplayhouse



youtube.com/gigisplayhousenyc



Boards and Staff

Board of Directors

Frank Sawyer, President

Co-Founder and Principal at TeleGraphicMedia

Jane Providenti, Vice President

Director within the Americas Regional Finance Organization at Deutsche Bank

Sharon Hart-Fanelli, Secretary

General Manager for Cushman & Wakefield, Corporate Occupier & Investment Services

Roy Nada, Treasurer, Marketing Co-Chair

Vice President, Electronic Execution Services, RBS

Saudia Ally, Gala Chair, Marketing Co-Chair

Co-Founder and Chief Marketing & Operations Officer at Marvel US Management

Jenna Aidikoff, Development Co-Chair

Senior Channel Account Manager-East at Rapid7, Co-Founder/Director at LiveUp Programs

Ryan Brown, Development Co-Chair

Senior Wealth Director at BNY Mellon Wealth Management

Margret Ditolla

Executive Assistant, Marsh LLC

Ruth Erickson, Governance Chair

Retired, former Managing Director at Marsh LLC

Liza Galler

National Education Coordinator at GiGi's Playhouse, Inc.

Adam Hait

Entrepreneur, Innovator, Pharmacist, Chef

Associate Board

The GiGi's Playhouse NYC Associate Board is comprised of young professionals who give generously of their time, talents, experience, and perspective, to create and conduct fundraisers, raise awareness of GiGi's Playhouse and its programs and enhance the Playhouse's ability to provide exceptional programming to its community.

Eileen McClary, President

Division Sales Manager, Bloomingdale's

Louise Contino, VP Community Engagement

Teaching Assistant, The Earth Institute

Nina Gonzalez-Sisson, VP Membership

Founder & CEO, Dyer & Sparks

Amanda Moore, VP Events & Fundraising

Sales Analyst, Marsh USA, Inc.

Brittany Doshi, VP Communications & Design

Managing Director- National Foundation Partnerships, Teach For America

David Stauffer, VP Finance

Investment Associate, Medley Capital

Octavia Thompson, Secretary

Receptionist, Marsh & McLennan Companies

Christine Cuppett

Assistant Director of Admissions, The IDEAL School of Manhattan

Michael Fanelli

Mergers and Acquisitions Tax Associate, RSM US LLP

Nolan Fillet

Risk Consultant, Marsh & McLennan Companies

Pauline Haas

Dance Teacher, NYC DOE

Verónica Labarca

Educational Sales Assistant, Lee & Low Books

Kyle Laudadio

Underwriter, Beazley Group

Melissa Leeolou

Clinical Research & Pharmaceutical Consultant

Janie Papernik

SLP, Coordinator of Upper School Learning Center, The IDEAL School of Manhattan

Khushboo Shah

Health Informatics Analyst, Levy Konigsberg

Derek Still

Regional sales Manager, Enterprise Division, Stack Overflow

Staff Members

Jasmine Ferrer | Operations Coordinator

Benny Kaufman | Programs Director

Regine Polenz | Satellite Programs Co-Manager

Volunteers

Abda Bieen Addison Lang Adetayo Fawole Aimee Quizhpi Alfredo Cid Alicia I anzieri Allison Malaluan Allyson August Alvin Shih Amanda Moore Amanda Santos Andy Kleiman Anika Zaman Aniket Mukherji Anita Murtha Anjelica Roman Ann Coleman Ann Karin Fareth Arielle Starace Asha Paul Austin Ryder Barry Janelle Ben Fraimow Ben Taren Beth Wrubleski **Brendan Maloney** Brittany Zwillich **Brouck Anderson** Caitlin Catapano

Carmen Melills Casey Claros Caughlin **Channing Phillips** Chris Freimuth Christine Cuppett Cindy Kendrot Claire Kuhn Clarizze Damaso Claudia Crespo Columbia Pediatrics Courtny Cowell Cristina Mendoza Cynthia La Forte Dane Antoine Danny Shapira Darius Mayfield David Sheeger David Stauffer David Warren Adcock Deanna Khan Deborah Luskin Debra Ellison Denise Herrera Denise Miner Deniz Baydar Derek Still Dianna Mendez

Eileen Mcclary

Eirish Doyogan Elaine Cyrus Elena Cothalis Elena Lissina Elizabeth Atlas Flizabeth Ferrer Elizabeth Go Ellen Wulfhorst Emilie Munk-Olsen Emily Darby Emily Medvin Erica Alfaro Ernesto Malaluan Estrella Albento Fallon Mitchell Francine Wichers Frank Sawyer Gisselle Cuevas Gloria Shepherd **Grace Hooper** Hannah Platt Hannah Providenti Harry Gilbert Holly Horn Hudson Graybill Ian Luskin Isabella Gabaldon Isabella Kendrot

Isiah Genyard

Jaclyn Leighton Jane Providenti lane Rainone leff Alexander Jenn Sussman Ienna Aidikoff Jennica Cam Jenny Zhang Jeremy Hersh Jillian Lewis Jim Parkinson Johanna Stegvik Jonathan Lewis Jordana Mendelson Joseph Ibarra **Justin Schneider** Kaitlin Drexler Kate Kingsley Kayla Hutchings Kelly McGrath **Kelsey Smith** Kendal Kohlasch Keshi Taryan-Kigel Khushboo Shah Kimberly Holder Kristina Milne Kyle Zreibe Lateefah Abdul-Jabbaar Nathalie Monin

Laura Blau

Laura Graybill Laurence Agenor Lilly Hagger Lindsay Hollander Lisa Zaretsky Lizzy Joslyn Lola Kelleher Louise Contino Magda Ryczko Makenzie Thoenen Margo Budzynska Margret Ditolla Martha Griffin Martyna Okuniewska Mary Kuhn Mary Rosen Mateo Mateo-mateo Matthew Ciciretti Matthew Duong Matthew Tallman Melissa Leeolou Merna Jajou Mina Kim Naomi Cahyani Natalie Dimattia Natasha Ramirez Nathalia Nakopia

Nicholas Mihulka

Nico Lemoal-Polumbo Nicole Paran Nina Gonzalez Nolan Fillet Octavia Thompson Olivia Hackett Patrick Dimalanta Paul Patropulos Peter Loftis Pia Steimann Polly Haas Pyper Ribble Radhika Sawh Rebecca Kaufman Rodechelle Alfaro Roro Headley Roy Nada Ruth Erickson Ryan Brown Safia Al-Rawi Sam Tureff Samantha Colarusso Samantha Walter Samantha Zaccaro Sarah Homet Saudia Ally Sean Chin Selin Bacaksiz

Shanee McFarlane

Shantell Roker Shari Miller-Sandidge Sharon Fanelli Sheela Pai Shoukry Faunterloy Siena Gioia Simone Nicholls Skvlah Diaz Stefani Fachini Susan Golomb Suzanne White Sydney Kang Taka Hara Tasha Vo **Taylor Henkin** Tayo Fawole Teddy David Thes Hansen Thomas Staley Tom Staley Venessa Diaz Veronica Labarca William Nicholls Zipporah Genyard

Save the Dates



Giving Tuesday is **December 3**, 2019.

join us for a week of events.

Details to follow via newsletter and social media.





























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gigisplayhouse.org/newyork nyc@gigisplayhouse.org







#GiGiPHNYC