

Cornerstone Theater Company presents

# WHAT HAPPENS NEXT

Written by Naomi Iizuka

Directed by Michael John Garcés

## CAST

Tina	Judy Bauerlein*
Jay	Nick Borrelli
Karl	Bruce A. Lemon, Jr.*
Bonnie	Hannah Logan*
Frank	Nico Marcolongo
Mike	Francisco Martínezcuello
Margaret	Jennie McFarling
Anthony	Kionte Storey

Associate Director	Michael Garcia
Stage Manager	Anna Woo*
Video Designer	Sean Cawelti

Running Time: 99 minutes, no intermission

Performed & Recorded May 2021

\*Denotes Actors' Equity Association. Cornerstone operates under an agreement with Actors' Equity Association, the Union of Professional Actors and Stage Managers. Actors' Equity Association, founded in 1913, represents more than 51,000 professional Actors and Stage Managers nationwide.

Cornerstone Theater Company thanks those who made this production possible since its premiere in 2018, particularly: Challenged Athletes Foundation, La Jolla Playhouse, Jacole Kitchen, Annie Le, Amanda Novoa, Kenny Ramos, Danielle Ward, and all the people who contributed personal stories to inform the script, particularly veterans and active personnel, people providing hands-on support to San Diego veterans, and Blue and Gold Star Mothers.

*What Happens Next* was originally commissioned by La Jolla Playhouse and produced as a Without Walls presentation in association with Cornerstone Theater Company.



## ABOUT THE ARTISTS

**Judy Bauerlein** (Tina) is thrilled to be working with Cornerstone. Credits include: *Sweat* (San Diego Rep), *The Whale* (Cygnet Theatre), and *Platonov* (La Jolla Playhouse). Film: *Final Statement*, *Jesus' Son*, *Deconstructing Harry*, *Diary of a City Priest*, and *Free Land*. She is chair of Theatre at CSU San Marcos and the mom of an effervescent teenager.

**Nick Borrelli** (Jay) fell in love with theater in high school, but became an Infantry Officer in the Marine Corps. He had the honor to lead Marines in combat and mentor young Marines in San Diego. He is a Master of Social Work focusing on mental health and veteran support. He's an actor, social worker, and most importantly, husband to Agatha and father to twins, West & Eva (5).

**Sean Cawelti** (Video Designer) is a creator of immersive and site-specific experiences and a puppet and video designer. He has been collaborating with Cornerstone since 2003 and loves learning about and working with new communities. Sean's grandparents were in the military and his grandmother entertained troupes as a dancer and singer. [www.seancawelti.com](http://www.seancawelti.com)

**Michael John Garcés** (Director) is an ensemble member with Cornerstone Theater. Plays he's directed at Cornerstone include Naomi Iizuka's *3 Truths*, *Highland Park Is Here* by Mark Valdez, and *Native Nation* by Larissa FastHorse. It's been an honor to collaborate with the many veterans who have contributed to this project in so many ways.

**Naomi Iizuka** (Playwright) has written more than 24 plays that are produced across the country. She is a recipient of many prestigious awards and commissions and is on faculty at UC San Diego where she teaches playwriting.

**Bruce A. Lemon, Jr** (Karl) is the Associate Artistic Director and an Ensemble member with Cornerstone. He's honored to be remounting this production with the family he gained during the World Premiere of *What Happens Next* in 2018. This performance is dedicated to them and the many friends and family that are veterans of our military.

**Hannah Logan** (Bonnie) is a theatre and film artist with a commitment to meaningful projects, a devotion deepened by her work with Cornerstone. Her grandfather, Col. Milton B. Maness, a WW II fighter pilot, recently passed at 102 yrs old. Until his final days he played online Scrabble with people all over the world and did crossword puzzles daily in his local paper.

**Nico Marcolongo** (Frank) is a Marine and Iraq conflict veteran. After his military service, Nico joined the Challenged Athletes Foundation where he leads a program for injured veterans. He co-founded a surf therapy program with Naval Medical Center San Diego. Nico is an original *What Happens Next* cast member.

**Francisco Martínezcuello** (Mike) was introduced to Cornerstone while participating in La Jolla Playhouse Veterans Playwriting Workshop. He retired from the Marine Corps after 20 years of active-duty service. He's a terrible actor and suffers from imposter syndrome. When not writing, he's carving canyons on his new motorcycle.

**Jennie McFarling** (Margaret) is one of the Blue Star Mothers that Naomi interviewed when this play was just an idea. My son is a major in the Army. I've volunteered with our wounded warriors & veterans. I feel great pride that this play brings to light the stigma and perception of PTSD. More needs to be done for the heroes that provide the freedoms we enjoy daily.

**Kionte Storey** (Anthony) A US Marine serving 2007 to 2012, deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, I was injured via an IED, resulting in me becoming a right-leg below-the-knee amputee. In 2018, Nico invited me to be part of this play. I've never acted before, but being a part of *WHN* pushed me to experience something new. I am in school for a degree in kinesiology.

**Anna Woo** (Stage Manager) is honored to return to Cornerstone with *What Happens Next*. A Los Angeles stage manager for over two decades, her previous works include *Los Illegals* and *24 Hour Plays* (Cornerstone), *Equus* with George Takei (East West Players), *Beast on the Moon* (International City Theater), and *Hippolytos* (Getty Villa Theater).

*What Happens Next* is made possible in part by grants from the Sheri & Les Biller Family Foundation; California Arts Council, a state agency; California Small Business Covid-19 Relief; Capital Group; the City of Culver City and the Cultural Affairs Commission, with support from Sony Pictures Entertainment and Culver City Arts Foundation; the James Irvine Foundation; Los Angeles Regional Covid-19 Recovery Fund; the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation; the Muriel Pollia Foundation; the Shubert Foundation; and the Kathryn Caine Wanlass Charitable Foundation. Individual donors are an important and valued source for funding this work, as well.



**Cornerstone Theater Company** makes new plays with and about communities. By combining the artistry of people with many levels of theatrical experience, we act upon the conviction that artistic expression is civic engagement and that access to a creative forum is essential to the wellness and health of every individual and community.

#### **Ensemble**

Nephelie Andonyadis  
Shá Cage\*\*  
Juliette Carrillo  
Paula Donnelly  
Marcenus "M.C." Earl  
Michael John Garcés  
Michael Garcia  
Peter Howard  
Nikki Hyde  
Lynn Jeffries  
Geoff Korf  
Shishir Kurup  
Bruce Lemon  
Page Leong  
Kenny Ramos  
Bahni Turpin  
Megan Wanlass

#### **Staff**

Kamilah Cooper-Charles\*  
Paula Donnelly  
Michael John Garcés  
Michael Garcia  
Andy Horwitz  
Bruce Lemon  
Megan Wanlass

#### **Community Council**

Jannine Betts  
Frank Boenheim  
Magaly Meza  
Carmen Navarro  
Lorinda Hawkins  
Jataun Valentine

#### **Board of Directors**

Clementine Bordeaux  
Michael John Garcés  
LeAnna DeBaptiste Hallman  
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Genevieve Riutort  
Mark Valdez  
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Tena Yatrousis

\* *Edgerton Foundation Internship*

\*\* *Lloyd Richards Fellowship*

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