

5th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

A BLACK BROADWAY REVUE

2026

WELCOME...

and thank you for joining us as we celebrate five incredible years of Aurway and the rich legacy of Black artists who have shaped the American musical theatre.

Tonight, we honor the performers, writers, composers, directors, choreographers, and creatives whose voices and stories have transformed the Great White Way, often redefining what Broadway could look, sound, and feel like. As we celebrate Aurway's first five years, we also celebrate the generations of Black artistry that made our own storytelling possible.

Tonight is a celebration of our history, our voices, and the stories that continue to move us forward.



WHO IS AURWAY?

Aurway is a network of emerging and professional artists, dedicated to the pursuit, presentation, and creation of culturally irrelevant art, highlighting the experiences of black and brown people.

Born from a shared vision and rooted in Newark, New Jersey, Aurway has spent five years building a space where Black and brown stories take center stage, not as an afterthought, but as the entire point.

We are a company of artists, educators, and community builders. We create original work. We train the next generation. We show up for our community.
And we do it all our way.



LAWRENCE DANDRIDGE
Co-Founder, Artistic Director

AMORIA BURKS
Executive Liaison





MARCUS BECKETT
Director of Programs and Partnerships

KERRY JULES
Director of Operations and Production





VERONICA GOMNIAH
Co-Founder & Director of Art and Media

MEET THE TEAM

FIVE YEARS OF IMPACT



Five years ago, a small team set out to build a home for Black and brown artists, and today that home is full.

In that time, we've produced 8 original productions, each one rooted in our culture and told our way.





Our work has reached more than 1,000 Newark Public Schools students, through in-school residencies and The Dear Life Project.

FIVE YEARS OF IMPACT

From a cast recording to a gospel single to a published children's book, our stories live beyond the stage. Aurway Abroad mission trips have carried our work and our community past our own borders. While Aurway Aligned has allowed us to bring wellness practices to locals right here at home





Six active partnerships keep us rooted in the institutions and neighborhoods we serve. Every role, every ticket and every classroom visit is proof that a small team with a clear mission can move a whole city.





Meet Our A.R.T.I.S.T's



JORDAN ALLEN



MARCUS BECKETT



AMORIA BURKS



MARTIN CARPENTER



CHASITY



LAWRENCE DANDRIDGE



IBN DAYS



ROOTS FENDER



G.H.O.S.T

Meet Our A.R.T.I.S.T's



VERONICA GOMNIAH



HANEEF JAMES



HANEEFAH JAMES



ALNEESHA MORET



BRI JAVIS



BRITTANY LINDSEY



AMBER ELYSE



BRI THOMAS

Honoring



Rev. Eyesha Marable
& Mt. Zion AME Church, Millburn

Rev. Eyesha K. Marable holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Journalism and Spanish (New York University), a Master of Science Degree in Non-Profit Management and a Post-Graduate Certification in Organizational Development (New School University) and a Master of Divinity (Drew Theological Seminary). Vocationally, she joined the New Jersey Performing Arts Center team in 2004 as a dance consultant for the MLK Celebration and is now the Assistant Vice President, Community Engagement, where her team produces and supports approximately 250 free arts programs annually, in and for the community. More than 170 engaged partners and 80 advisory council members call her friend and advocate for the arts. She is the 2022 Community Engagement Award Recipient, Vision Foundation, was the NJPAC's M. John Richard /NJPAC Community Service Award, and is a Leadership Newark member. This year, she will engage more than 500 faith based leaders through NJPAC's community engagement, arts and well being programs.

Prior to joining NJPAC, her 34 year career working with non-profit organizations also included work with the American Heart Association NY/NJ; Princeton Partners, NJ; the Black Leadership Commission on AIDS, NY; the New York City Mission Society Manhattan Valley, Forces of Nature Dance Company, and the Black United Fund of New York.

Ecumenically, as an ordained Itinerate Elder, First Episcopal District, African Methodist Episcopal Church, she serves as Pastor, Mt. Zion AME Church, Millburn, NJ, a family church focused primarily on worship, outreach and wellness. As a result, she also serves in leadership on a few ecumenical, local, statewide and national prayer and praise teams including The Interfaith Action Movement (IAM), Millburn Clergy Association, the Newark Clergy Alliance and the Upper Room Ministries.

Rev. Eyesha founded the National Liturgical Dance Network in 1998, which supports and unifies thousands of dance ministers worldwide. This year, she celebrates 33 years committed to sacred dance and continues to partner with churches to teach, train and promote worship arts and well being. Locally, she developed dance ministries at Bethany Baptist, Newark and Elmwood United Presbyterian, East Orange churches, both of which are thriving. For 10 years, she served at the Greater Allen Cathedral of New York (Congressman Floyd H. Flake) as associate minister, assistant dance director for Allen Liturgical Dance Ministry, and co-chairs their bi-annual worship conference (1998-2022) that welcomes 500 embodied worshippers to New York to share best practices, refresh and renew their worship and arts programming in their respective churches and states.

In 2011, she collaborated with then Dean Heather Elkins at Drew Theological Seminary to establish the Masters of Arts in Ministry Program where pastors and dance leaders explored how to incorporate worship and arts in their theological practices and pedagogy. She is the wife of the Honorable Edward Marable, Jr., Esq. (former Orange Councilman), and mother of Judah (Montclair State University, NJ, C'22, dance major) and Honor (sophomore at Berkeley College, Newark, business major). The entire family worships in dance. For more information: https://www.youtube.com/reveyeshamarable

PROGRAMME

ACT ONE

Everybody Wants to Be Black · *Memphis · Aurway Ensemble*

I Got Love · *Purlie · Bri Javis*

Black and Blue · *Ain't Misbehavin' · Jordan Allen, G.H.O.S.T., Veronica Gonmiah, Brittany Lindsey & Alneesha Moret*

Wheels of a Dream · *Ragtime · Victor Daze & Veronica Gonmiah*

Raffle Draw

Little Shop of Horrors · *Little Shop of Horrors · Bri Javis, Alneesha Moret & Bri Thomas*

Fabulous, Baby! · *Sister Act · Chasity & Aurway Ensemble*

I Know Where I've Been · *Hairspray · Brandi Chavonne Massey & Aurway Ensemble*

Raffle Draw · Aurway Video · Seed Partner Honoree · Aurway Artist of the Year · Raffle Draw

ACT TWO

The Way You Do the Things You Do · *Ain't Too Proud · Martin Carpenter & Aurway Men*

I'm a Woman Smokey · *Joe's Cafe · The Women of Aurway*

Not My Father's Son · *Kinky Boots · Lawrence Dandridge*

Raffle Draw

Schuyler Sisters · *Hamilton · Chasity, G.H.O.S.T., Haneefah James, Bri Thomas & Aurway Ensemble*

What Would I Do · *The Wiz · Marcus Beckett, Amoria Burks, Lawrence Dandridge & Veronica Gonmiah*

Salty Teardrops · *Caroline, or Change · Chasity, Bri Javis & Brittany Lindsey*

Jeremiah Trusty Legacy Award

The Color Purple (Reprise) · *The Color Purple · Amber Ruffin & Aurway Ensemble*

Raffle Draw

TONIGHT'S PRESENTATION

Aurway's Black Broadway Revue is a concert-style theatrical experience inspired by the spirit of the classic vaudeville variety show, reimagined for today. Guided by an enthusiastic Emcee, audiences journey through defining moments in Black Broadway history through scenes and songs from some of the most celebrated—and perhaps lesser-known—productions to grace the Great White Way.

Part concert, part theatrical history lesson, the Revue moves through decades of Black excellence, honoring the artists, stories, and productions that helped shape Broadway as we know it. Audiences will leave with a sense of nostalgia for the groundbreaking work of the past and excitement for the Black stories and artists who will shape Broadway's future.

CREDITS

Excerpts from Aurway Black Broadway Revue 2025- original direction by Marcus Beckett

Curated by Lawrence Dandridge, • Choreography & staging by Lawrence Dandridge

Stage Manager- Bradley Gonmiah

Visuals by Veronica Gonmiah

Gala Coordinator - Amoria Burks

Technical Director- Marcus Beckett

Honoring



Rev. Diane Fisher & Legacy of love









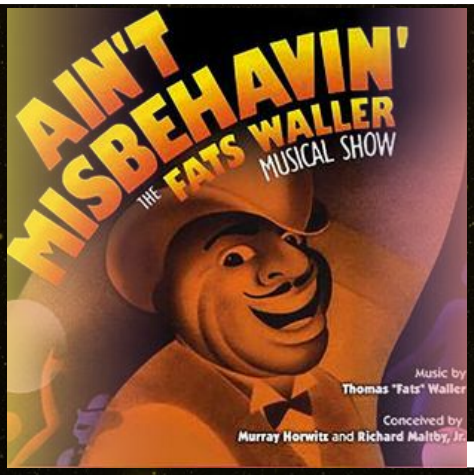


4

Tony award wins including BEST MUSICAL

BEST ACTOR AND FEATURED ACTRESS TONY AWARDS– CLEAVON LITTLE & MELBA MOORE





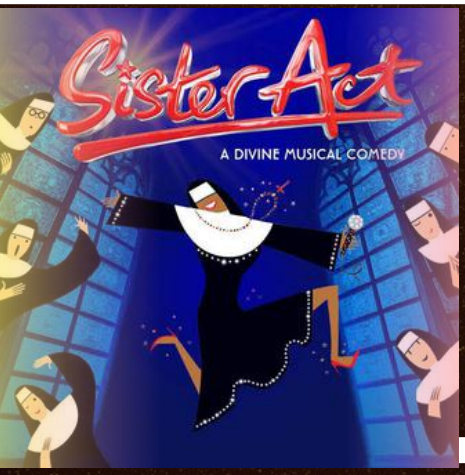
3 Tony award wins including BEST MUSICAL

8 Tony award wins between original and revivial productions



2004 Best Revival of a Musical nominee

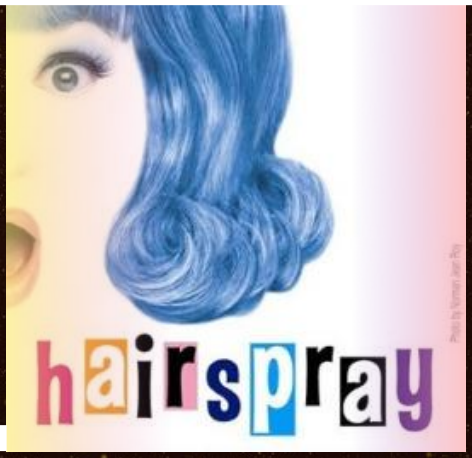


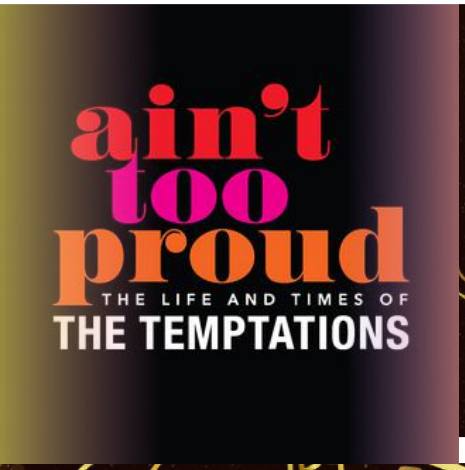


5

Tony Award nominations

Winner of 8 tony awards including best musical





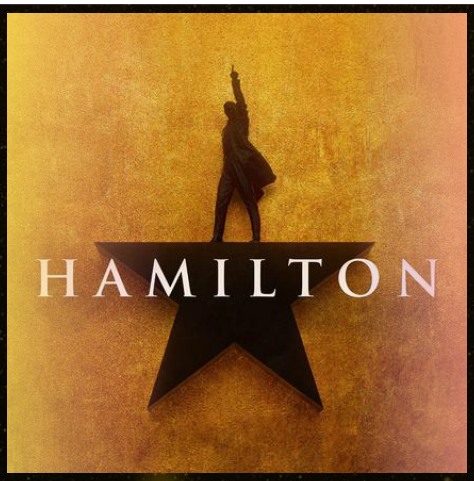
TONY AWARD WINNER
BEST CHOREOGRAPHY



Longest running **musical revue** in broadway history

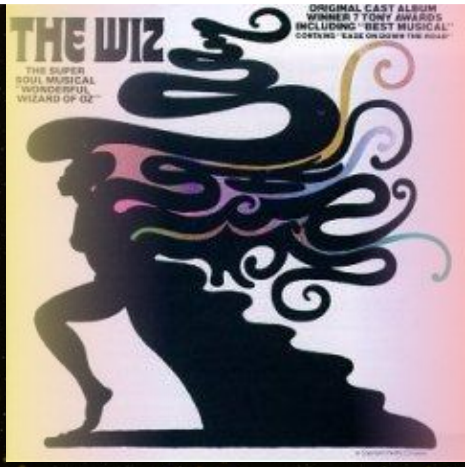
6 Tony Award wins including best actor- **Billy Porter**





WINNER OF **11 TONY AWARDS** OUT OF A RECORD BREAKING **16 NOMINATIONS**

Winner of **7 tony awards** including best musical



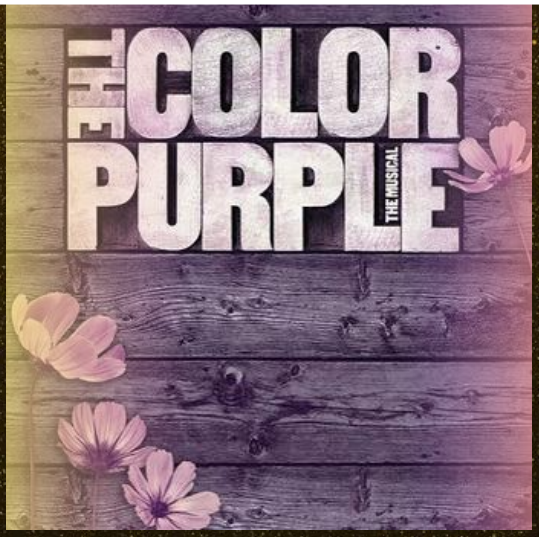


Best Featured Actress
Tony award-
Anika Noni Rose

15 TONY AWARD NOMINATIONS

BEST ACTRESS WINNER-
CYNTHIA ERIVO (REVIVAL)

BEST ACTRESS WINNER -
LA'CHANZE (OBC)



Congratulations and Best Wishes
Congratulations! -Lawrence Dandridge

Congratulations! -Amoria Burks

The Spread

APPETIZERS

Stuffed mushrooms
mini crab cakes
deviled eggs

SIDE DISHES

Smashed potatoes
Mac and cheese
Vegetable medley

MAIN

turkey wings
fried catfish





COMING HOME

A FAMILY MUSICAL

WRITTEN AND COMPOSED BY
LAWRENCE DANDRIDGE

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 · 9:00 PM NYC
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14 · 3PM & 8PM
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 · 2:00 PM NYC

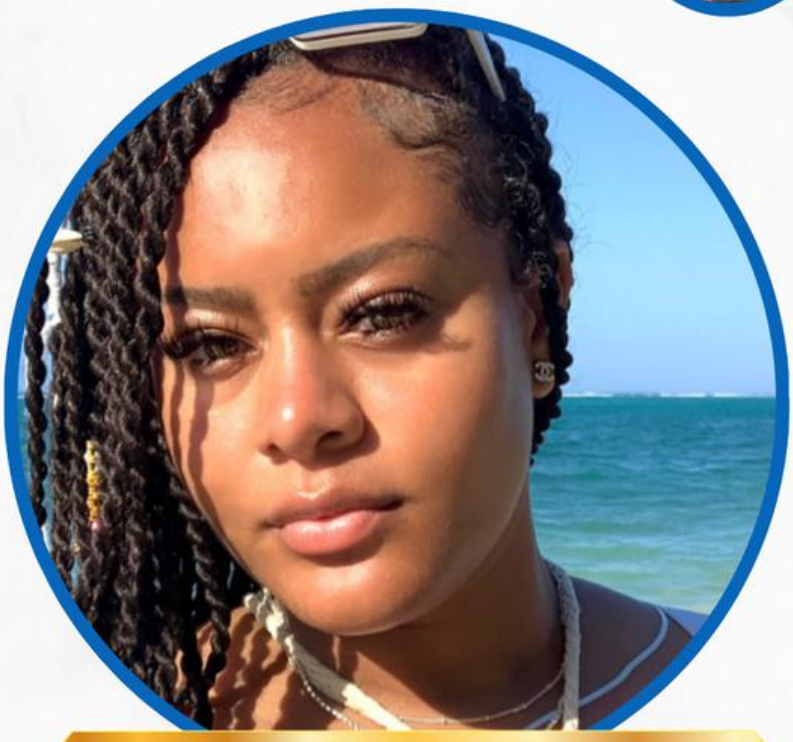
SPARK
THEATRE FESTIVAL NYC

Est. 1931
ARTS HIGH SCHOOL
TV MUSIC DANCE DRAMA VISUAL ARTS

Break a Leg!

"Chas, we are so proud of you and everything you have accomplished! We can't wait to see what the future has in store for you!" - Greg





CHASITY CONTANT



"Chas, it's been a pleasure to watch you grow into the person into person you are today. Keep crushing it and keep following your dreams!" - Zack

"You are so cool, Chas. Remember that!" - Jing



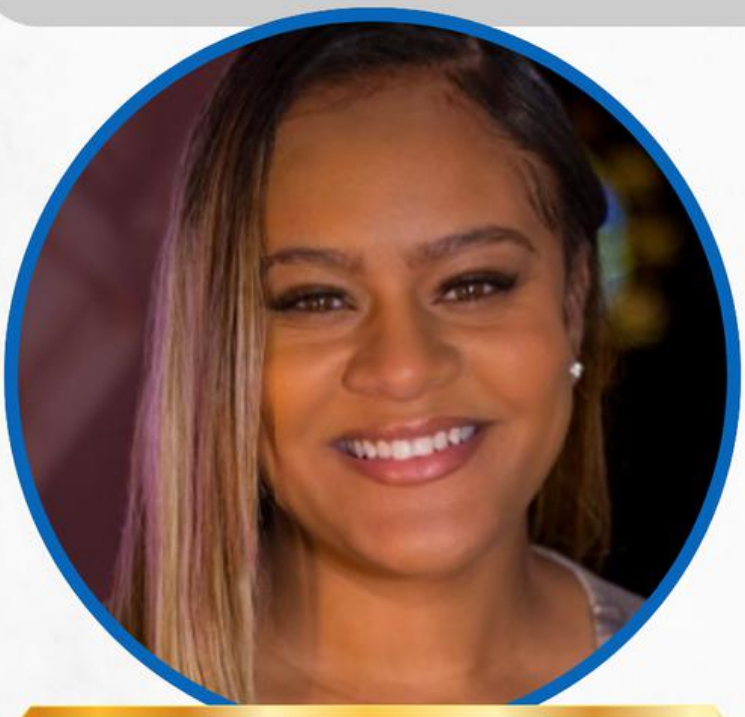


"Don't forget me when you're dancing with the stars. We love you! - Gene & Mandy

Congratulations!



"To a future star! Keep singing, performing, and chasing your dreams! One day, I'll be able to say 'I knew you before you were famous' Can't wait to see your name in lights on Broadway! - Preya



CHASITY CONTANT

"Congratulations on a job well done, we're all rooting for you!" - Jesse





"You have the makings of a star! I wish you success in everything you love and have passion for. Break a leg!" - Paul

"We are so proud of you and can't wait to celebrate all of your success! Break a leg, love you!" - Julian, Vy, & Theo



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For the vision is yet for an appointed time, but at the end it shall speak, and lie not: though it tarry, wait for it; because it will surely come, it will not tarry!

Habakkuk 2:3

So proud of you, Martin. Pray God continue to open up doors for your get!- Cookie Price Drayton

You got this Marty! Keep up the good work guy! -Alexis Hill

Haneef & Haneefah, so proud of you both! Keep shining & reaching for the top! Love, your big sis Nadira 🌹

GAMMA XI PHI

GAMMA CHAPTER

CHARTERED 2014

October 2, 2026

#BRICKCITYGAMMAS

Dear Aurway Repertory Theatre

On behalf of the officers and members of the Gamma Chapter of Gamma Xi Phi Fraternity, it is our distinct honor and privilege to extend heartfelt congratulations to the Aurway Repertory Theatre as you celebrate your fifth anniversary.

In unprecedented times like these, and as one of the few theater companies in the city of Newark, we honor Aurway's commitment to building a space where Black and brown stories take center stage, not as an afterthought, but as the entire point.

Congratulations to all the Auway Artists near and far.

IN ARTISTIC SERVICE,

Malcolm Minor

MALCOLM MINOR
PROGRAM DIRECTOR
GAMMA CHAPTER





CONGRATULATIONS AURWAY ON YOUR 5TH YEAR!!

MAY THIS SUCCESS LEAD TO GREATER ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE YEARS TO COME.

Many blessings aurway,
Adilah quddus
Executive director
Weequahic multi-reunion

I'm so proud of you, bestie! You're going to do amazing in your play. Trust yourself, enjoy every moment, and let your talent shine. I'll be cheering you on the whole time you've got this! ❤️- Ledia Jules

Please accept our benevolence. We wish we could be there to further support you. we do wish you all of life's best at your endeavors.

Blessings!! -Mr&Mrs LeBlanc

Hey Chassy,
I'm so proud what you have accomplished and the many doors that God will open for you! 💐
Love you! - Michelle Saintilien

Special Thanks

• Jeffrey Osborn, Join Our Youth Inc.
• Jordan E. Cooper, Tony Nominated Playwright, Actor, and showrunner
• The Huub of Orange
• Ahavas Shalom, The Jewish Museum of New Jersey
• Corey Hanford, SmoothRose Party Creations
• Brandon Lee, Brandon Lee Catering
• Brandi Chavonne Massey, Ellen's StarDust Diner
• Tamara Fleming Photography
• Monet Sheard
• Roger Leon, Newark Board of Education
• Eyesha Marble, Mt. Zion AME Church
• Diane Fisher, Legacy of Love

To everyone who donated, purchased a ticket, subscribed to our mailing list, engaged in our social media posts, and encouraged us to continue our work!

And to every A.R.T.I.S.T. Who has graced an Aurway production- on stage and off! We wouldn't be anything with your contributions and belief in our mission!

Thank you!



THANK YOU FOR COMING CHEERS TO ANOTHER 5 YEARS!

@AURWAYART

COMMUNITY SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

EST 2022

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OUR COMMUNITY PROGRAM GIVES TRANSITIONING STUDENTS AND YOUTH INTERESTED IN SCENIC ARTS AND THEATER DESIGN A SAFE, EDUCATIONAL ENVIRONMENT TO LEARN INDUSTRY SKILLS AND TECHNICAL TRAINING, PREPARING THEM FOR EARLY SCENIC WORK OPPORTUNITIES AND UNION MEMBERSHIP.

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