



Pride Films and Plays  
David Zak, **Executive Director**

**Artistic Associates**

Robert Ollis, Donterrio Johnson, Topher Leon, JD Caudill,  
Larry Todd Cousineau, Cindy O'Connor

Presents

# DEX & ABBY

By Allan Baker

**Director**

Daniel Washelesky

**Assistant Director**

C McCabe

**Movement, Violence &  
Intimacy Director**

Jaq Seifert

**Technical Director**

Evan Sposato

**Scenic Design**

Eric Luchen

**Lighting Design**

Sam Stephen

**Costume Design**

Colin Bradley Meyer

**Props Design**

Colleen Keith

**Sound Design**

Will Quam

**Stage Management**

Araya Hope Barnes

**Graphic Design**

Susan H. Lee

**Featuring:**

Chesa Greene, Daniel Vaughn Manasia, Jasmine Manuel,  
Jesse Montoya and Josh Pablo Szabo

Opening February 24, 2020

*DEX & ABBY* is presented by special arrangement with the playwright.

*DEX & ABBY* was originally produced by The Ground Floor Theatre and developed with support from the Scriptworks Seed Support Fund. Collective support for playwrights at [www.scriptworks.org](http://www.scriptworks.org).

The Broadway | 4139 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60613  
866 811 4111 | [www.pridefilmsandplays.com](http://www.pridefilmsandplays.com)

## CAST LIST (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Chesa Greene.....	Abby
Daniel Vaughn Manasia.....	Dex
Jasmine Manuel.....	Katy
Jesse Montoya.....	Corey
Josh Pablo Szabo.....	Sean

## UNDERSTUDIES (IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER)

Thad Anzur.....	Dex
Katy Murphy.....	Abby, Katy
Gavin Rhys.....	Sean, Corey

There will be one 10 minute intermission.

The taking of photographs is encouraged prior to the performance, at the curtain call, or in the lobby following the performance. Taking pictures or making any recording during the performance is prohibited. Violators will be asked to leave the theater.

#PrideArtsProud #OutAtPrideArts

## SETTING

Setting: Austin TX

Time: Present

## DIRECTOR NOTES

Every dog I've owned has had a wildly different personality. Magic, a regal Shetland sheepdog, was a huge diva with strong herding instincts. Summer is a rescue terrier mutt with big brown eyes; she trots everywhere she goes and is deathly afraid of fireworks and thunderstorms. Butters, a 12-year-old pug whom I adopted after moving in with my partner, is a walking loaf of bread who can be an angel or a tyrant, depending on how hungry he is.

What I love about *Dex & Abby* is that it honors the individual complexity and emotional depth that dogs have. While finding humor in their foibles, this play also does justice to their desires, fears, and love. It has made me look at the animals in my life more closely and love them even more fully—and I hope it does the same for you.

*In loving memory of Magic Washelesky (2005-2019)*

Daniel Washelesky

## ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES



**Chesha Greene** (Abby) is thrilled to make her PFP debut! Previous credits include *Crazed Girls*, winner of City Lit's adaptation festival, *Spirits to Enforce* (The Passage Theatre), *This was 1789*

(Shattered Globe Theatre, Protege Program), *Please Step on me Bernadette* (The Neighborhood collective). Chesha also believes in the importance of theater for social change, participating in Theater of the Oppressed and touring productions of Shakespeare to penitentiaries around WA state.



**Daniel Vaughn Manasia** (Dex) is excited to be performing in his first full stage production. Smaller projects include Eclectic Full Contact 24-Hour Fest, Otherworld's Paragon Festival and *Otherwise a*

*Woman* (short film). "Deepest thanks and love to all my teachers, coaches, friends, clients and especially my husband, Ray."



**Jasmine Manuel** (Katy) is excited to work at PFP for the first time. Chicago credits include *Spirits to Enforce* (The Passage Theatre) and *Ubu Roi* (Josephinum Academy). "Love to my family from

the beginning and ones found along the way."



**Jesse Montoya** (Corey) is honored to be a part of the Chicago premiere of *Dex & Abby!* His Chicago credits include *Afterglow* and *Hurricane Damage* with PFP, *Hamlet* with *Midsommer Flight*, and

*Revolt!* with The Vision Latino Theater. Jesse would most importantly like to thank the movie *Cats* for giving us something to respond to.



**Josh Pablo Szabo** (Sean) is thrilled to be making his PFP debut! Previous credits include: *Hello Again* (Theo Ubique), *Buddy: The Buddy Holly Story* (Metropolis), and *The Book of Sebastian: A New Musical*

(The Jacobins). Josh received his BFA in Musical Theatre Performance from Columbia College Chicago and some of his favorite credits include: Sonny in *Xanadu*, Oscar in *Sweet Charity*, and Ian in *High Fidelity*. Special thanks to his friends, family, and Westley for their constant support. Instagram: @joshpabloszabo



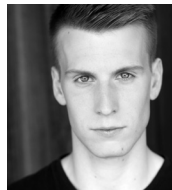
**Thad Anzur** (u/s Dex) has performed with City Lit Theater, Bailiwick Chicago, Bohemian Theatre Ensemble, Lifeline Theater, European Repertory, Griffin Theater, Piven Theatre Workshop,

Seanachai, The Grounded Theatre, Pretty Blue Sky, Sheil Park Players, Shakespeare Inc., Spiral Productions, and Red Kite Productions. He is currently a member of the *Free Readers Ensemble*.



**Katy Murphy** (u/s Abby, Katy) is over the moon to be working with PFP. Recent Chicago credits include *Caseworker* (Candle House Collective); *Pineapple* (Irish Theatre of Chicago); *Mother Courage*

(Northwestern University). BIG LOVE to her teachers, family, friends, & BMG Talent for being the best cheer section in town.



**Gavin Rhys** (u/s Corey, Sean) is thrilled to work at PFP for the first time. Gavin is a graduate from the ACADEMY at Black Box Acting and holds a BA in Musical Theatre from Plymouth State University.

Gavin is represented by 10MGMT. He is eternally grateful for his family and friends.

## PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

**Allan Baker** (Playwright) began writing in 2004 and has written fourteen plays, all but three with gay characters and themes. Eleven of these plays have been produced, in a total of twenty-four productions from coast to coast and Guam to Ontario. In 2017 his full-length play “Dare” won the Mario Fratti-Fred Newman Political Play contest, sponsored by the Castillo Theatre in New York City. In 2018, “Dare” was produced by the Desert Rose Playhouse in Palm Springs, CA. In 2019 “Dex & Abby”, inspired by two very real and wonderful dogs, was premiered by Austin’s Ground Floor Theatre. For information about Allan and his plays, visit [abbyproductions.com](http://abbyproductions.com).

**Araya Hope Barnes** (Stage Manager) is overjoyed to step into Chicago theater with PFP! Stage Management: *Body with a Heart Shaped Face* (Windmill Theatre Company). Sound Design: *Good Kids* ([performance @ New College]). Technical Director: *The Listener, Evening of Electras* (Windmill Theatre Company). Thanks for trusting me. they/them.

**Eric Luchen** (Scenic Designer) is thrilled to be working with PFP for the first time. Recent credits include *The Fantasticks*, *Annie* (Citadel Theatre); *The Diary of Anne Frank* (Oakton Community College). In 2018 he received the Joseph Jefferson award for Best Scenic Design for *Foxfinder* (Interrobang Theatre). You can see more of his work at [ericluchen.com](http://ericluchen.com) or on instagram @ericluchen.

**C McCabe** (Assistant Director) is making their PFP debut. Directing: *Chicago 24* (Eclectic Full Contact Theatre); *This Vessel is a Fragile Thing* (WhereHouse). Assistant Directing: *Everybody* (Shakespeare Theatre Company); *All I Want...Happy Sometimes* (Kennedy Center); *The Magic Play* (Actors Theatre of Louisville). National SDC Award Recipient. they/them.

**Colin Bradley Meyer** (Costume Designer) is a newcomer to the Chicago theatre scene and is very excited to work with PFP for the first time. Some favorite designs include: *Mystery of Edwin Drood* (Blank Theatre), *Peter Pan* (Thunder Bay Theatre), *Million Dollar Quartet* (Cortland Repertory), *Noises Off* (Metropolis

Performing Arts) among many others! Thank you to Charlie, Melody, and the rest of my Family. IG: ColinBradley23 Website: [colinbradleymeyer.com](http://colinbradleymeyer.com)

**Will Quam** (Sound Designer) is thrilled to work with PFP for the first time! Sound design credits include *Language Rooms* (Broken Nose); *The Living Newspapers Festival* from 2015-2018 (Jackalope Theatre). Will is the literary manager of The Passage Theatre. He photographs architecture as Brick of Chicago ([www.brickofchicago.com](http://www.brickofchicago.com)).

**Jaq Seifert** (Movement, Violence & Intimacy Director) is a fight, intimacy, and movement choreographer in Chicago, as well as an actor, director, and producer of (sub)version productions, which produces the hit show *The Buttkracker: A Nutcracker Burlesque*. Previous PFP work includes *Priscilla, Queen of the Desert*. They have also worked with Theo Ubique, Paramount Theatre, Marriott Theatre, Victory Gardens Theatre, Teatro Vista, Kokandy Productions, and Halcyon Theatre. They were nominated for a Jeff in 2019 for Best Fight Choreography with *Nothing Without a Company*. [www.subversionproductions.com](http://www.subversionproductions.com)

**Samuel Stephen** (Lighting Designer) is an upcoming Chicago Lighting Designer. He just started at Pride Films and Plays with *America's Best Outcast* in December of 2019. He has designed a wide variety of shows from Scott Stapp and Kenny Wayne Shepherd at Arcada Theatre, to *Mamma Mia* and *South Pacific* at The Summer Place. Find him online at [DesignsBySamuelStephen.com](http://DesignsBySamuelStephen.com).

**Daniel Washelesky** (Director) is Managing Director of The Passage Theatre (TPT). Directing credits include *Petty (and I Know It)* (Davenport's Piano Bar); *The Children* (Steppenwolf, asst.); *Afterglow* (PFP, asst.). Dramaturgy credits: *Spirits to Enforce, Happy Birthday Mars Rover* (TPT); *First Called, The Reverend Dr. Paul(i) Murray* (Valiant Theatre). Next he is directing *Creating ARthur* (Last Nerve Productions) and his third cabaret collaboration with James Gavin and Hannah Rosenhain. Love to James and Butters!



Dex & Abby is supporting two animal shelters in Chicago by donating a percentage of tickets sales to them.

We ask that you support their fine work, perhaps make a donation, and tell them Dex & Abby sent you.



Safe Humane’s mission is to create safe and humane communities by inspiring positive relationships between people and animals. We recognize the connections between animal abuse and interpersonal violence and benefits of human-animal bonds in building empathy and compassion.

Safe Humane helps break the cycle of violence through trauma-informed care and programs that connect our Court Case Dogs with people impacted by violence or challenged by poverty or trauma to help each other. We have supported healing and second chances for 1,300+ Court Case Dogs as well as hundreds of youth, military veterans and adults working to re-enter the community, among others.



Lucky Dog Rescue is a non-profit organization that rescues the “leftover dogs” that other rescues pass up at high kill shelters throughout the Midwest. These dogs are mainly passed by because they are a black dog, bully breed, hound dog or special needs animal. Lucky Dog gives these “forgotten dogs” a second chance to find the loving and forever home that they deserve.

## MISSION STATEMENT

Pride Arts inspires future generations through art to promote equality, creativity, and awareness while changing lives.

We accomplish this mission through fully-staged productions, staged readings, film fests, cabarets, comedy nights, and short film production. The work is often new to Chicago, including classics and new writing.

Pride Films and Plays is a 501(c)3 organization, and donations are fully deductible to the extent the law allows.

Funding comes from the Illinois Arts Council, City Arts, Gaylord and Dorothy Donnelley Foundation, Alphawood Foundation, Arts and Business Council, The MacArthur Fund for Arts and Culture at the Richard H. Driehaus Foundation, Chicago Community Trust Smart Grant program, Elliott Fredland Charitable Trust, The Pauls Foundation, League of Chicago Theaters, Michael and Mona Heath Fund, Paul M. Angell Family Foundation, and others.

Pride Arts is a member of Buena Park Neighbors, League of Chicago Theaters, Uptown United, LGBT Chamber of Commerce of Illinois, and Northalsted Business Association.





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**Artistic Associates**

Robert Ollis, Donterrio Johnson, Topher Leon, JD Caudill,  
Larry Todd Cousineau, Cindy O'Connor

Presents  
The American Premiere  
of

# FIVE ENCOUNTERS ON A SITE CALLED CRAIGSLIST

By Sam Ward

**Director**

Jeremy Ohringer

**Assistant Director**

Sophie Hart

**Production Design**

Shawn Quinlan

**Lighting Design**

Sam Stephen

**Sound Design**

John Nichols III

**Stage Management**

Ethan Embry

**Featuring:**

Erik Sorenson

Opening March 10, 2020

*FIVE ENCOUNTERS ON A SITE CALLED CRAIGSLIST is presented by special arrangement  
with Samuel French UK.*

The Broadway | 4139 N Broadway, Chicago, IL 60613  
866 811 4111 | [www.pridefilmsandplays.com](http://www.pridefilmsandplays.com)



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## CAST

Erik Sorenson

## UNDERSTUDY

Patrick Emery Gosney

## ACTOR BIOGRAPHIES



**Erik Sorenson** is a Chicago based actor. He is thrilled to be making his Pride Films and Plays debut. Credits include: *Cock (M)*, *The Merchant of Venice* (Bassanio), and *The Trestle at Pope Lick Creek*

(Dalton). Erik holds a B.A. in Theatre from Carleton College and is a BADA Midsummer in Oxford alumnus.

**Patrick Emery Gosney** (Understudy) is very grateful to be apart of *Five Encounters*. This is Patrick's first staged production at Pride Arts Center. He would like to thank Jeremy Ohringer for the opportunity as well as Sam Ward for writing this experiential piece of theatre.

## PRODUCTION TEAM BIOGRAPHIES

**Jeremy Ohringer** (Director) is a director and teaching artist. Favorite directing credits include *Raymondo* (The Cartographers), *Angels In America: Perestroika* (Boston University), *Who Walked All Night...* (Rhino Fest), *Salve Regina* (Center on Halsted), *Sad Songs for Bad People* (Rough House Theater), and a new adaptation of *Spring Awakening* (Fearless Theatre). He holds an MFA in directing from Boston University.

**Sophie Hart** (Assistant Director) is very excited to work on her first show with Pride Films and Plays. She works at a

variety of LGBTQ organizations throughout Chicago and enjoys reading and making stop motion films in her spare time. She lives in Mayfair with her wife.

**Ethan Embry** (Stage Manager) moved to Chicago in June of 2019 after graduating from Skidmore College with a degree in theater. Previously, Ethan stage managed Silencio's *The Dog, The Night, and The Knife*. Also an actor, lighting designer, and writer, Ethan is thrilled to be a part of the Chicago theater scene. Thanks to everyone on the team for such a wonderful process!

There will be no intermission.

The taking of photographs is encouraged prior to the performance, at the curtain call, or in the lobby following the performance. Taking pictures or making any recording during the performance is prohibited. Violators will be asked to leave the theater.

#PrideArtsProud #OutAtPrideArts

# *Pride* S O C I E T Y

Members of The Pride Society are an essential part of our family.

By making a monthly recurring donation of any size, or donating at least \$250 annually, you will join the team that is invited to readings and special events.

Donate by phone 1 866  
811 4111, mail (4139 M  
Broadway, 60613) or  
[pridefilmsandplays.com](http://pridefilmsandplays.com)

## ABOUT FIVE ENCOUNTERS ON A SITE CALLED CRAIGSLIST

'Five Encounters on a Site Called Craigslist' was first performed by Sam Ward with his company YESYESNONO. YESYESNONO make experimental theatre concerned with finding connection in a mediated world. 'Five Encounters' debuted at the Edinburgh Festival Fringe 2017, where it won the Total Theatre Award for Best Emerging Company. Other shows include '[insert slogan here]' and then accident did not take place', which was nominated for a Total Theatre Award for Innovation. You can find out more about their work at [www.yesyesnono.org](http://www.yesyesnono.org)

### DAVID ZAK



Thanks so much for attending a performance at Pride Arts. We have grown since moving to this building in 2016, thanks to the help of our donors, subscribers, and foundation friends. We understand the community has a wide variety of tastes and needs, but we hope that every part of that community will be represented as we go through each season. Our vision is to bring classic LGBTQ writers into focus alongside exciting new works. Musicals alongside dramas. Works dealing with coming out, our sexuality, our relationship with religion, with families, with politics. As we go through another political season, our work is more essential viewing than ever.

Please let me know how we are doing and what you think of the shows, and WHICH works/topics/themesshould be a part of our long term planning. Join us as a donor, subscriber, or volunteer.

I look forward to hearing from you. And I thank you for your support.

David Zak, Executive Director

[dgzak1@gmail.com](mailto:dgzak1@gmail.com)

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**Pride  
Arts**  
Pride Arts Center

## PRIDE FILMS AND PLAYS ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM AND BOARD OF DIRECTORS

David Zak - Executive Director

Artistic Associates - Robert Ollis, Donterrio Johnson, Topher Leon, JD Caudill, Larry Todd  
Cousineau, Cindy O'Connor

Michael Starcher - Operations Manager

John Olson - Public Relations

Ushers and Volunteers provided by The Saints

Joshua Fraenkel - Marketing Director

Dora Farona - Production Support

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Cheri Tatar, President Mike Liska, Vice President Dan Hickey, Secretary

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David Zak, Rusty Hernandez, Cheryl Cesario

Pride Arts is looking for friends to join our team! As we continue to grow, please join us as a volunteer, or join the programming, finance, or marketing committees.

We are also interviewing for our Board of Directors. Send note of interest to [pridefilmsandplays@gmail.com](mailto:pridefilmsandplays@gmail.com) with Join Pride in the subject line.

## UPCOMING PERFORMANCES AT THE PRIDE ARTS CENTER

Lorraine Hansberry's **A Raisin In The Sun** will be presented by Invictus Theatre beginning February 17, in the Buena Theatre

**Five Encounters On A Site Called Craigslist** starts on March 10 and then moves to late nights, in the Broadway Theatre

Clock Theatre presents **Seven Deadly Sins**, March 27 - April 19, in the Buena Theatre

PFPA's annual **Lesbian Film Fest**, March 30 - April 1

**I Promised Myself to Live Faster**, a queer romp through the galaxy, opens March 27 in the Broadway Theatre

For more information, go to [www.pridefilmsandplays.com](http://www.pridefilmsandplays.com)



*Pride Films and Plays*  
Buy a Flex Pass and get 6 tickets for \$144.  
Pick your play, pick your night, pick your seat.  
Use one ticket, or use all six. Tickets good for  
one year from date of purchase.  
[www.pridefilmsandplays.com](http://www.pridefilmsandplays.com)