



PRESENTS

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FELLOWSHIP  
HALL

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The Broadway musical *Wicked* is proud to be the lead sponsor of the BAC Artivism Fellowship. This year's Fellowship is also made possible by the generous support of Sonja and Jonathan Perkins, AT&T, The Elphaba Fund, Diana DiMenna, Abigail Disney, and the many other donors that supported this initiative.

# REHEARSING JUSTICE

written| conceived | performed by

ANDREA AMBAM

director | associate creative producer

DRIA BROWN

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*Rehearsing Justice* is a one-woman show that follows the journey of a time-traveling Ida B. Wells embarking on an anti-lynching crusade of the 21st century. After being invoked into the future by the cries of today, Ida endeavors on an investigative mission of police brutality, as she did with lynchings in the 1900s; coming in contact with some of the most transformative figures and moments in the Black Lives Matter Movement along the way. *Rehearsing Justice*, both a historical and afro-futuristic crusade, uses verbatim testimony, imagined realities, and gallows humor to interrogate the phrase “modern-day lynchings” and disrupt the exhausting cyclical pattern of state-sanctioned violence. Conceptualized, written, and performed by Andrea Ambam, *Rehearsing Justice* is an immersive theatrical and transmedia storytelling experience, exploring the technology of social justice through a collage and collide of time. In this virtual iteration of a work-in-progress, Andrea converges sci-fi and social commentary through the one and only, Ida B. Wells.

## Andrea Ambam (Ida B. Wells)



Andrea Ambam is a Brooklyn-based artist, actress, and playwright, whose roots sprout from Cameroon. As a politically engaged storyteller who believes in the art's potential for movement building and transformative justice, Andrea best intersects spaces where community, performance, and truth-telling pulsate. She has developed her practice as an Artist-in-Residence for Anna Deavere Smith, an EmergeNYC fellow at the Hemispheric Institute of Performance and Politics, and as a competitive public speaker where she has been awarded 10 national championships, "Top Speaker in the Nation" three times, and gone on to debate conservative pundits on live TV. As a performer, writer, and facilitator, she's worked with Classical Theatre of Harlem, Playbill, gal-dem, Abrons Arts Center, NYU Prison Education Program, NYU Verbatim Performance Lab, Artists' Literacies Institute, Centre for Social Innovation, and others. Recent acting credits include: *Making Gay History: Before Stonewall* (Provincetown Playhouse); *Re-Writing the Declaration* (Free Street Theater). Andrea holds a Master's degree in Art & Public Policy from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts.

[www.andreaambam.com](http://www.andreaambam.com)

## COLLABORATORS



### **Jacoby Cochran (Stage Directions & Dispatcher V.O)**

Jacoby Cochran is a writer, educator, and master storyteller from the Southside of Chicago. He is the new host of City Cast Chicago, a daily news podcast! Jacoby has recently been featured by The Moth Mainstage, PRX's "Snap Judgement," and The Museum of Contemporary Art. He is a communications instructor at City Colleges and DePaul University, hosts elaborate cooking events, and coaches public speaking and storytelling workshops across the nation most recently with Google, Literacy Chicago, and Cook County Jail.



### **TRIJAE (Iola & Blackbuster Customer Service V.O, Sound Editor)**

TRIJAE is an anti-disciplinary artist and poet from Chicago. Creating art at the intersections of Black life, theory, and identity, Trijae constructs stories that defy the limitations of medium or genre while carrying a through line of Black ancestry and posterity. As an anti-disciplinary artist, Trijae works in necessary spaces that don't quite fit into any existing academic framework. She is a 6 time National Champion in public speaking and dramatic performance, a commissioned painter, poet, musician and videographer, and a published author with work appearing in the California State University Journal of Autoethnography (April, 2021). Trijae's artistry began as radical questioning and since then a lifelong learner and fighter for Black lives emerged. Her current work focuses on the mind, space, and ancestry.



### **Daniella Carter (Black Trans Angel)**

Daniella is a lifelong advocate for LGBTQ+ youth. She has given speeches at local, national, and international events, including panel discussions with political leaders and dignitaries. She spoke at TED Talks Live and also delivered talks during TEDxABQ and TEDxMidAtlantic. She has appeared on MSNBC, Good Morning America, ABC News, the New York Daily News, People Magazine, Forbes.com and in the New York Times. She was featured in the Emmy award-winning MTV & Logo documentary, Laverne Cox Presents: The T Word. Daniella's message transcends boundaries of race, class, and gender, focusing on the intersection of identities. Ms Carter was recently the subject of an episode of Robin Roberts' Thriver Thursday series. In August 2020, she launched 'Daniella's Guestbook, in partnership with creative agency SpecialGuest.co. 'Daniella's Guestbook, a site and Instagram channel, spotlights the work of Black creators to unlock employment opportunities in advertising and creative industries for them and other BIPOC creators.



### **Johnathan Johnson (Video Editor)**

Jonathan Johnson (Jean Lamont Films) is an independent filmmaker born and based in Chicago. He has a love for all areas of filmmaking ranging from writing, to shooting, to editing; with a true passion grown from recognizing the truth telling potential of visual storytelling. Since graduating from Columbia College Chicago's film program in 2018, Jonathan works with artists, musicians, and Black owned businesses to help build local brands and amplify local voices all while finding his own.



### **Dria Brown\* (Director + Assoc. Digital Producer)**

Dria is a multi-hyphenate artist and community gatherer/caregiver living and working in Lenapehoking (Brooklyn). In community with the Broadway Advocacy Coalition she holds many titles- Co-Program Manager of the Artivism Fellowship, Project Manager for The Fellowship Hall, Theater of Change Facilitator at Columbia Law School and Chief of Staff of the organization. As a storyteller Dria has her BFA in Acting from the University of North Carolina School of the Arts and has performed in multiple National Tours, Regional productions off-Broadway and is the voice of Miss Evangeline in Man in the High Castle's Resistance Radio. [www.driabrown.com](http://www.driabrown.com) #abolitionisselfcare.

### ***SPECIAL THANKS***

Andrea would like to thank all of her incredible family, friends, and creative co-conspirators who made this presentation of *Rehearsing Justice* possible, with a very special thanks to Dria Brown, Nia Robinson, Kamilah Bush, Dan Duster, Koritha Mitchell, Chalia La Tour, Kalyn Jacobs, Lilleth Glimcher, Jean Lamont, Jacoby Cochran, Trijae, Daniella Carter, Maya Contreras, Sophie Labelle, ChelseaDee Harrison, Alex Ates, Tyler Dobies, Treya Dionne Brown, Courtney Jamison, Aine Eva Nakamura, Jessica Durdock, Ryan Gosling, Rhoyly Ivy King, Lyric Davis, Asha Wasuge, and Kathy Engel for their time and generosity.