



PRESENTS

THE  
FELLOWSHIP  
HALL

ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

CHESRAY DOLPHA

BAC ARTIVISM FELLOWSHIP PROGRAM MANAGERS + MENTORS

DRIA BROWN & NIA AKILAH ROBINSON

THE FELLOWSHIP HALL PROJECT MANAGER

DRIA BROWN

THE FELLOWSHIP HALL PRODUCTION MANAGER

RACHAEL HARRIS

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.

# BAR FOR BAR: AFTER PARTY

FAYLITA HICKS

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Bar for Bar is a scripted oral history and anthology series of community testimonies, original spoken word, and hip hop performances spotlighting the social justice issues that profoundly affect the everyday lives of millennials. Featuring real stories from justice-impacted people, and some of today's celebrated and emerging poets, writers, performers, and hip-hop artists, this show is a series of themed 60-90-minute episodes curated and hosted by poet and performer Faylita Hicks. In the abolitionist movement, every campaign to change policy hinges on the ability of the organizer to effectively tell their story. As many talented Black and Latinx writers and performers are also justice impacted, this program will serve as the intersection for their passions, and a way for them to advocate as a community for changes to national and regional policies. Bar for Bar is a theatrical story-telling experience, much like Ntozake Shange's *For Colored Girls When the Rainbow is Enuf*, in that each production will alternatively integrate movement, instrumentation, lighting, and other elements to heighten the audience's emotional experience. Dynamic performances from a rotating cast of writers and vocalists will answer the question: What does it mean to be alive right now--and how do we redefine joy for ourselves?

After Party Logline:

In the summer of 2021, the fatal arrest of a popular sex worker in Austin's historically Black eastside upturns the lives of everyone on her street in this poetic take on potential futures.

Summary:

Bad Btch is a club dancer whose walk home is interrupted by a local patrol team. After telling the officers she won't be doing them any favors, things escalate and soon her name is a mantra everyone in the city mourns. Or is it? What if--what if there had never been a patrol team? What if--what if everyone lived at the end of the story? #Misdemeanors #Solicitation #CashBail

## FAYLITA HICKS (CREATOR)



(she//they) is an Afro-Latinx activist, poet, and interdisciplinary artist born in Gardena, California, and raised in Central Texas. They are the former Editor-in-Chief of *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review*, the 2021 Poet-in-Residence for the Civil Rights Corps, and the author of *HoodWitch* (Acre Books, 2019), a finalist for the 2020 Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Poetry, the 2019 Balcones Poetry Prize, and the 2019 Julie Suk Award. Their work has earned them awards, fellowships, and residencies from Catapult, the Dots Between, Jack Jones Literary Arts, Lambda Literary, Palette Poetry, Tin House, and The Right of Return USA, the first and only fellowship exclusively for previously incarcerated artists, amongst others. Their work is anthologized in *The Long Devotion: Poets Writing Motherhood* and has been featured in *Adroit*, *American Poetry Review*, the *Cincinnati Review*, *HuffPost*, *Kenyon Review*, *Longreads*, *Poetry Magazine*, *The Rumpus*, *Slate*, *Texas Observer*, *VIDA Review*, *Yale Review*, and others. Hicks received an MFA in creative writing from Sierra Nevada University. [www.FaylitaHicks.com](http://www.FaylitaHicks.com)

This teaser of the episode known as Bar for Bar: After Party, was created out of my need to know what a truly liberated future looked like for the people in my community. It is hard to manifest safety in our communities without first imagining how that community operates on a day-to-day basis. I am hoping this series helps us all deeply interrogate what it means to abolish North America's carceral system and develop truly transformative legislation. I dedicate this effort to my council and coven, Michelle Desiree and Stacie Shea. May the light find you always.

## CAST & CREW



### **ADIAGHA FAIZAH (NARRATOR)**

Adiaqha Faizah is a Barrymore award-winning actress, playwright and vocalist from Brooklyn, NY with formal training through The Studio Act, Negro Ensemble Company, The Barrow Group and Susan Batson Studio. She is the Visionary Founder of TheBlackHERthePen™, a multidisciplinary writers collective for Womxn of Color and The G.O.O.DLIFE, a podcast and lifestyle brand. Adiaqha holds an M.S. in developmental psychology from Howard University and is a proud member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. .



### **FAYLITA HICKS (BAD BXTCH)**

(she/her/they/them) is an activist, poet, essayist, and interdisciplinary artist born in Gardena, California, and raised in Central Texas. They are the former Editor-in-Chief of *Borderlands: Texas Poetry Review* and the author of *HoodWitch* (Acre Books, 2019), a finalist for the 2020 Lambda Literary Award for Bisexual Poetry, the 2019 Balcones Poetry Prize, and the 2019 Julie Suk Award. Their work has earned them awards, fellowships, and residencies from Catapult, Jack Jones Literary Arts, Lambda Literary, Palette Poetry, Tin House, and The Right of Return USA, the first and only fellowship exclusively for previously incarcerated artists, amongst others. Their work is anthologized in *The Long Devotion: Poets Writing Motherhood* and has been featured in *Adroit*, *American Poetry Review*, the *Cincinnati Review*, *HuffPost*, *Kenyon Review*, *Longreads*, *Poetry Magazine*, *The Rumpus*, *Slate*, *Texas Observer*, *VIDA Review*, and others. Hicks received an MFA in creative writing from Sierra Nevada University. [www.FaylitaHicks.com](http://www.FaylitaHicks.com)



### **KIM YANCEY-MOORE (MAMA DIRT MOUTH)**

Kim is a native New Yorker currently residing in Brooklyn. A veteran of the NY stage, episodic television, commercials and regional theatre for over thirty years, you can currently hear Kim in the Apple/Spotify podcast “Beyond the Story-Wonderful” as Frances Goodrich.



### **JUSTIN WITHERS (SEAN BELL/ OFFICER BROKEN JAW)**

Born in Chicago, Justin convinced his mom to allow him to move in with family in NYC at age 13 to pursue a career as an actor. Now living in Brooklyn, he has grown into a passionate Artist, Activist and Advocate for all voices left unheard in today’s America. He is excited to be apart of this thought provoking piece and would like to thank his family for allowing him to chase this dreams. He is a 2018 Graduate of Mason Gross School of the Arts at Rutgers University. Theatre: *American Underground* (Barrington Stage Company, Dir. Julianne Boyd); *Days Of Rage* (Second Stage Theater, Dir. Trip Cullman); *Thirst* (Contemporary American Theater Festival). Film: *A Shot Through the Wall*.



**DRIA BROWN\* (KORRYN GAINES)**

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.



**NIA AKILAH ROBINSON (MS. TAYLOR)**

Nia Akilah Robinson is a playwright and actor who received her BFA from Rutgers University's Mason Gross School of the Arts. Nia recently completed a developmental workshop of her play, "WP" Means "White People" with Waterwell. Recently, Nia is one of two playwrights awarded the 2020 Charles Rowan Beye New Play Commission under Urbanite Theatre Company. She was one of four playwrights chosen for Classical Theatre of Harlem's Playwright's Playground for 2020. Nia was chosen as a 2020 Participant for PEN AMERICA, World Voices Festival, other participants included Lynn Nottage, Margaret Atwood, Jeremy O' Harris, and Zadie Smith (and many more). She is a facilitator at the Broadway Advocacy Coalition (BAC) which builds the capacity of directly impacted advocates, students, artists, and organizations focused on social change work. With BAC she is co-building an Artivism fellowship for black women to help uplift our voices! Nia co-created and is facilitating a ten-week monologue writing workshop for Exodus Transitional Community, where she is teaching

formerly incarcerated black women & women impacted by the foster care system. She is a founding member of TheBlackHERthePen (a Multidisciplinary Collective for Black Women), and with this group, Nia participated in a short play reading series at the Drama League. Her acting credits include, Clubbed Thumb, The Lark, Waterwell, Classical Theatre of Harlem, The Fire This Time Festival, Crossroads Theatre Company, Negro Ensemble Company, Shakespeare in the Woods, Stonewall Foundation, and AGM Theatre Company. And she is a contributor for the December 2020 Issue of *The Flashpaper* & a March 2021 Contributor at *Harlem News*.



**CHIBBI ORDUNÃ (AMADOU DIALLO/ I)**

M.R. "Chibbi" Orduña is a Mexican-born, Texas-raised queer writer and actor. He is the founder of Laredo BorderSlam, a founding member of Write About Now, 2 time San Antonio Slam Champion, winning 3rd place at the 2017 National Poetry Slam Group Piece Competition. He has self-published 2 books, toured across the country performing his spoken word sets, and his work has appeared in The Acentos Review, Defunkt, The Latino Book Review Magazine 2020, and has been featured online on We Are Mitu, George Takei, SlamFind, Poetry Slam Inc, Button Poetry, and Write About Now. His latest theatrical credits include the Sin Muros Latinx Theatre Festival, In The Heights (Usnavi), The Rocky Horror Show (Columbia), Romeo and Juliet (Mercutio), Bodas de Sangre (Leñador), The Complete Works of William Shakespeare, Abridged (Himself), Rent (Tom Collins), The Drowsy Chaperone (Man in Chair), and Beat: A Play on Words (Actor 5), which he also directed.



**JOVAN TYLER GRAHAM (TRAYVON MARTIN/ FRED HAMPTON)**

Brooklyn native Jovan Tyler-Graham is a graduate of the SUNY at Purchase Bachelors of Arts Theatre program. After graduating his most recent credits include a Cosentyx National Commercial, The Deuce(HBO), The Last OG(TBS), and Blue Bloods on CBS. Currently he auditions for Television, film, and Commercial under DDO Artists Agency. He wants to thank God, his family, and any support he receives.

**NURI HAZZARD (MR. FLOYD)**



Nuri Hazzard is a Brooklyn-based actor, writer, and MC. Having graduated from University of North Carolina School of the Arts in 2013 with a B.F.A. in Acting, Nuri has since moved from North Carolina to New York where he's been performing and teaching.

Originally from Washington DC, Nuri began his formal artistic education at Duke Ellington School of the Arts. It was there he found his artistic voice and purpose, writing his own music and building the foundations of acting/performance with world renown master teachers. Since then he's been able to continue making an impact as an actor and lyricist, most notably with the release of his latest EP How It Unfold and his role as Byron in Wu-Tang: American Saga. Nuri has also spent time empowering future thinkers, artists, and innovators by mentoring and teaching acting and lyricism at high school programs in D.C. and New York.

Mr. Hazzard is excited at opportunities to ignite important dialogue, inspire change, empower the oppressed, heal, and liberate spirits! He gives thanks to the Most High, his family, and his extended family. Much love.



#### **MIKE LABBADIA (RUDY GUILIANI/ OFFICER BROKEN RIB)**

Actor and Filmmaker living in NYC. Regional Credits: Bedlam's Saint Joan (Gulfshore Playhouse, Alabama Shakespeare Festival), Bedlam's Hamlet (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), and Saturday, Sunday, Monday (Virginia Rep) Selected NYC: Strictly Dishonorable (Attic Theater Company), Hedda (Bridge Production Group). As a filmmaker and producer his films have screened on Short of the Week and at festivals like Bushwick Film Festival, Oaxaca Film Festival, Grindsplotation Film Festival and Miami Web Fest. BFA: UNCSCA



#### **TIA WILLIAMS (DIRECTOR)**

Tiara "Tia" Williams is a screenwriter/director currently residing in Austin, TX. Her first Narrative short film "XO" debuted at the 2018 SXSW Austin School of Film Showcase. Her latest project "Gentrified" a thought-provoking dramatic narrative web series which aims to capture the financial and emotional effects of gentrification, has garnered national attention donations from many including Oscar Winning director Matthew Cherry. As a new filmmaker Tia's goal is to use HER art to tell the stories that help not only entertain, but break down societal norms and stereotypes.

Website: [Atiawilliamscreation.com](http://Atiawilliamscreation.com)

# COLLABORATORS

Troy Baham Jr.

Male Voiceover

Testimonial

Tro'juan Henderson

Consultants

Dramaturg  
Policy Analyst

Kamilah Bush  
Dakshina H. Chetti

Music Credits

“Pull Up”

Producer  
Writer/Vocals

Hanz Nobe  
Faylita Hicks

“Cuffs Made of Kerosene”

Producer  
Writer/Vocals

Hanz Nobe  
Faylita Hicks

“HoodWitch”

Producer  
Writer/Vocals

Pool Boi Blu  
Faylita Hicks

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Texas Advocates for Justice  
Texas Criminal Justice Coalition  
Statewide Leadership Coalition  
Living Cities