



ODS

OUR DIGITAL STORIES

VOLUME 5

7 PM PDT, FRIDAY DECEMBER 18

VOLUME 5

Sunny and Stella by Danielle Mohlman

December by Jeffrey Lo

Santa Inc. by Isabella Waldron

Special Musical Guest – **Oliver Cho**

OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER

The holidays are just around the corner, and this year, **Our Digital Stories** is celebrating by bringing the magic of the season to patients and families at **Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford**. All gifts to our fundraiser page, 100 percent, will benefit the Recreational Therapy Fun Fund. The Fun Fund ensures every patient spending their holiday in the hospital receives a gift. Toys and books are needed year-round to stock the playroom, to celebrate birthdays spent in the hospital, and to engage patients at the bedside to help reach developmental milestones. Any extra funds to the Virtual Toy Drive will help meet these needs. In lieu of holiday gifts, please help me reach our fundraising goal by donating to our page today. Every gift, no matter what size, makes a meaningful impact in the lives of patients and their families. ourdigitalstories.org



Lucile Packard
Children's Hospital
Stanford

Stanford Children's Health is the only health care system in the San Francisco Bay Area—and one of the few in the country—exclusively dedicated to pediatric and obstetric care. Their physicians and health care teams offer comprehensive clinical services, from treatments for rare and complex conditions to well-child care at more than 65 locations.

They're honored to be one of just 10 children's hospitals nationwide, and the only one in Northern California, to be named on the 2020 - 21 *U.S. News & World Report* Best Children's Hospitals Honor Roll. This distinction affirms their faculty, physicians, and staff's enduring pursuit of excellence and the exceptional quality they provide to patients and families. And, thanks to their academic affiliation with Stanford Medicine and Stanford University, they have access to some of the best innovative minds in medicine, science, and research working to develop groundbreaking advances and new discoveries. With Lucile Packard Children's Hospital Stanford at the center of a network with locations across the Bay Area, their patients can access world-class care close to home.

SUNNY AND STELLA

by **Danielle Mohlman**

directed by **Emily Jackson**

featuring **Regina Morones** and **Sofía Raquel Sánchez**



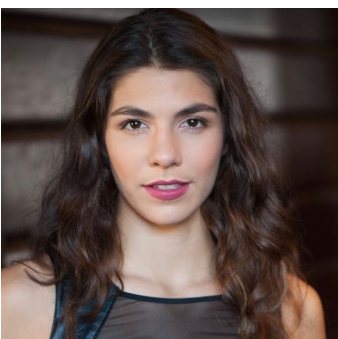
Danielle Mohlman (Writer) (She/Her) is a nationally produced playwright based in Seattle, WA. Her plays include *Stopgap* (Field Trip Theatre); *Nexus* (Hubbard Hall, Dreamwell Theatre, The Kilroys honorable mention); *Dust* (Dacha Theatre, The Kilroys List, Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center semi-finalist); *Rushing* (The Scratch & Really Really Theatre Group, Umbrella Project Writers Group); *Frankenstein* (Mount Vernon High School, George Mason High School, Village Theatre KIDSTAGE); *Halcyon* (Seattle Public Theater, Eugene O’Neill Theatre Center semi-finalist); and *Rocky Road* (Project 5 Commission). She is currently developing multiple projects for theatre, film, and audio. daniellemohlman.com



Emily Jackson (Director) (She/Her) is an artist and organizer based in NYC whose work focuses on collaboration, fundamental theatricality, and character narrative. She is happy to be back with ODS after directing ‘Reunion’ for Volume 1. Most recently, she served as the Assistant Director for *They Promised Her the Moon* at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. Directing credits include for Kitchen Theatre Company: *I and You*, *The Soup Comes Last*, *Physics Fair*; for Holmdel Theatre Company: *Little Women the Musical*; for Cider Mill Playhouse: *Urinetown*, *Stage Kiss*; for Fordham University: *Into the Woods*; for Sanguine Theatre Company: *Jessica*; Hamlet Isn’t Dead: *Julius Caesar*. emilyjackson.org



Regina Morones (Stella) (She/Her) is a native Bay Area actor, singer, educator, a resident artist at San Francisco Shakespeare Festival and a company member at Oakland Theater Project. She was last seen in the world premiere of *RETABLOS* by Octavio Solis at Word For Word SF. Her favorite roles have been Rosalind in *As You Like It* (SF Shakes) and Meredith/Bruce in *Women Laughing Alone With Salad* (Shotgun Players). Morones has a BA in Theatre Arts from Clark Atlanta University and an MFA in Acting from the University of Iowa. Her deepest gratitude to family and friends for their endless love and support. reginamorones.com



Sofía Raquel Sánchez (Sunny) (They/Them) is a New York based actor and playwright with a BFA from Cornish College of the Arts. They believe in developing and fostering work that raises up multigenerational voices from diverse communities. Their work includes: Copious Love’s *I Think I Love You*- (playwright,) Village KIDSTAGE’s *Out of Bounds* (playwriting mentor,) Washington Ensemble Theater’s *Dance Nation* (Amina,) Copious Love’s *Querida Familia: A Fundraiser for El Paso* (producer,) Seattle Shakespeare Company’s *Romeo and Juliet* (Romeo,) Seattle Children’s Theater’s *Ghosted* (Kayla,) and Strawberry Theater Workshops’ *Lydia* (Ceci.)

DECEMBER

written and directed by **Jeffrey Lo**
featuring **Christine Jamlig** and **Wes Gabrillo**

Jeffrey Lo (Writer/Director) (He/Him) see his bio under The Ensemble.



Christine Jamlig (Emilia) (She/Her) is a third-year MFA student double-tracking in Acting and Asian Performance at The University of Hawai'i at Mānoa. UHM credits include *The Good Person of Setzuan*, *The Country Wife*, *Integral Bodies*, *'Au'a 'Ia: Holding On*, *The Last King of Bali*, *Sueño*, and *I'm Lot Lane*. She misses the Bay Area dearly and is ecstatic to be working with some Bay Area homies again.



Wes Gabrillo (Floyd) (He/Him) is a theatre actor, storyteller, and collaborator, with an affinity for engaging in new works. Select pre-2020 Bay Area productions include: *Elevada* (Shotgun Players, Berkeley); *Edith Can Shoot Things and Hit Them* (Crowded Fire Theater, SF); *Peter and the Starcatcher* (Hillbarn Theatre, Foster City); *Yellow Face* (Los Altos Stage Company); *BAGYÓ* (TheatreFirst, Berkeley); *Eurydice* (Palo Alto Players); *The Crazyed* (Central Works, Berkeley); and *A Kind of Sad Love Story* (Bindlestiff Studio, SF). This is Wes' second project with Our Digital Stories. IG: @wes_eyed ...I don't post much these days, but follow the stories! Happy holidays!

SANTA INC.

by **Isabella Waldron**
directed by **Joshua Marx**

featuring **Tasi Alabastro**, **Dan Demers**, **Chuck Lascon**, **Maria Marquis**, and **Samantha Ricci**

Isabella Waldron (Writer) see her bio under The Ensemble



Joshua Marx (Director) (He/Him) is a director, actor, and fight choreographer in the Bay Area. Previous credits include *Sweeney Todd* with Hillbarn Theatre (TBA Award for best director, production, featured performer, and ensemble), *Lt. of Inishmore* at San Jose Stage, and *110 in the Shade* at 42nd Street Moon. Joshua has a penchant for designing/enjoying immersive theatre experiences, and spends his day times working at Facebook. MFA from Rutgers University. Find out more at J-Marx.com.

Tasi Alabastro (Sam) (He/Him) see his bio under The Ensemble.



Dan Demers (Santa) (He/Him) is honored to make his ODS debut with this wonderful cast of characters and colleagues. He has played Max Bialystock in *The Producers*, Mr. Bigley in *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, King Arthur in *Monty Python's Spamalot*, Ernie in *Rumors, Curtains*, Head Shiner in *Bye Bye Birdie*, Maurice in *Beauty and the Beast*, Pseudolus in *A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum*, and recently Elisha Whitney in *Anything Goes*. When Dan is not running Hillbarn Theatre & Conservatory, he is working on new ways to bring theatre and art to the community. Happy Holidays!



Chuck Lascon (Kevin) (He/Him) is a native San Franciscan who has had the honor of acting in several productions and staged readings around the bay with incredible organizations like Asian American Theater Company, A.C.T., Magic Theater, Pear Theater, and Bindlestiff Studio. He's excited to be part of this awesome ODS cast and support this emerging art form. He thanks his incredible wife Julie and his patient and loyal pup Teddy. He's currently a board member and resident artist of Bindlestiff Studio.



Maria Marquis (Claudia) (She/Her) has been acting in the Bay Area since 2008, and is a theatre and voiceover actor, as well as corporate trainer committed to making work less boring. She is the recipient of Theatre Bay Area's Best Principal Actress award for her work in the world premiere production of *The Awakening* with Breadbox Theater, and she has appeared numerous times with Dragon Productions and City Lights Theater Company where she received a nomination for Best Principal Actress in *The Merchant of Venice* and *Silent Sky*. You can learn more about Maria at mariamarquis.com, and find her audiobooks on Audible. Thank you for supporting theatre in the Bay Area!



Samantha Ricci (Deb) (She/Her) was last seen onstage as Leo in Hillbarn's *Leading Ladies* and as Warriorsgirl30 in *Spending the End of the World on OkCupid* at the Pear. During the pandemic, she has channeled her creative energies into supporting theatre companies digitally. You can find her moderating Hillbarn's trivia games on Twitch every Wednesday night and hosting the Dragon's monthly creepy storytelling show "Sleepless with the Dragon" (also on Twitch). She is a proud member of the Red Ladder Theatre Company, helping create distance-learning theatre workshops for incarcerated men and women. For more information about Sam, please visit samanthakricci.com.

SPECIAL MUSICAL GUEST



Hailing from the Bay Area, CA, **Oliver Cho** (They/Them) is a musician finishing up their degree in Music Production and Engineering at Berklee College of Music (Boston). Although Oliver's musical roots are in acoustic songwriting, they are currently pursuing a career in contemporary record production/mixing, and can be reached through their website oliverchoproduction.com for collaboration or a chat. IG & TikTok: @oli.taco

THE ENSEMBLE



Tasi Alabastro is an actor, livestreamrunner, and multi-disciplinary digital artist whose work focuses on creating impact through visual storytelling. He was recently featured in the *SF Chronicle Datebook* highlighting his efforts with local arts organizations as it pertains to virtual programming. His online content on Twitch and Youtube focuses on storytelling and interactive programming to engage his audience and deepen community relationships. In addition to having the honor of being published in *CONTENT Magazine*, and *Tayo Magazine*, he is also the recipient of the 2019 Leigh Weimer's Emerging Artist Award and the 2018 SVCcreates Emerging Artist Laureate. He is a proud member of the Red Ladder Theatre Company and is currently working with inmates in state prisons

as part of the Arts-in-Corrections program; the program hopes to re-engage participants with their creativity and imagination. To find ways to support the journey, reach out by visiting tasialabastro.com or by tweeting him at @tasialabastro. | [twitch.tv/kreenpananas](https://www.twitch.tv/kreenpananas)



April Culver is an actor, marketing professional, and Midwest transplant. She loves spreading the word about great theatre and works as Marketing and Publicity Manager at New Conservatory Theatre Center and as Marketing Director for Silicon Valley Shakespeare. Some of her favorite acting credits include Helena in *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, Rose of Sharon in *The Grapes of Wrath*, Viola in *Shakespeare in Love*, and Mrs. Givings in *In the Next Room (or The Vibrator Play)* (SFBATCC Nomination, Principal Actress). April is ecstatic to work with the talented bunch at ODS as they navigate the future of digital storytelling.



Christopher Fitzer is a freelance theatrical designer based in the San Francisco Bay Area and currently the properties master at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. His previous design credits include productions at TheatreWorks, Aspen Opera Theater Center, *World Literature Today's* Puterbaugh Festival, San Jose Stage Co., Hillbarn Theatre, Woodminster Summer Musicals, Oklahoma City Theatre Co., Flat Rock Playhouse, Los Altos Stage Co., Douglas Morrisson Theatre, Palo Alto Players, and Foothill Music Theatre. He has held production and artistic positions at Aspen Music Festival, Sanguine Theatre Company, Curtis Opera Theatre at the Curtis Institute of Music, and Dallas Summer Musicals.



Julianna Garber is a rising junior studying directing at the University of Michigan. Prior to attending university, she co-founded Upstage Theater, a bay area theater group focused on providing opportunities for teens to interact with all sides of theater production. Previous directing credits include *Water By The Spoonful* (Assistant Director to Geoffrey Packard) and *Falsettos* at University of Michigan, as well as *Punk Rock*, *Spring Awakening*, and *Heathers* at Upstage Theater. When not directing, you'll likely find her in rehearsal for a cappella group Amazin' Blue or performing in various shows. Favorite past roles include Natalie in *Next to Normal* at The Refuge, and Ilse in *Spring Awakening* at Exit Left Co.



Jeffrey Lo is a Filipino-American playwright and director based in the Bay Area. He is the recipient of the Leigh Weimers Emerging Artist Award, the Emerging Artist Laureate by Arts Council Silicon Valley and Theatre Bay Area Director's TITAN Award. Selected directing credits include *The Language Archive* and *The Santaland Diaries* at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, *Vietgone* at Capital Stage, *A Doll's House, Part 2* and *Eurydice* at Palo Alto Players, *Peter and the Starcatcher* and *Noises Off* at Hillbarn Theatre, *The Grapes of Wrath*, *The Crucible* and *Yellow Face* at Los Altos Stage Company and *Uncle Vanya* at the Pear Theatre. As a playwright, his plays have been produced and workshopped at The BindleStiff

Studio, City Lights Theatre Company and Custom Made Theatre Company. His play *Writing Fragments Home* was a finalist for the Bay Area Playwright's Conference and a semi-finalist for the O'Neill Playwright's Conference. In addition not his work in theatre he works as an educator and advocate for issues of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion and has served as a grant panelist for the Zellerbach Family Foundation, Silicon Valley Creates and Theatre Bay Area. He is the Casting Director at the Tony Award Winning TheatreWorks Silicon Valley, a graduate of the Multicultural Arts Leadership Institute and a proud alumnus of the UC Irvine Drama Department.



Steve Muterspaugh is excited to be messing around in this virtual space for a good cause! His most recently directing credits include *It's Only a Play* at Hillbarn Theatre, and *The Three Musketeers* at Douglas Morrison Theatre in Hayward. Other Bay Area directing credits include: *The Odd Couple* at Jewel Theatre Company, where he previously served as Deputy Artistic Director; *Hamlet* and *The Taming of the Shrew* at San Francisco Shakespeare Festival (former Associate Artistic Director), where he also headed the Steve Muterspaugh Shakespeare on Tour program for 5 seasons, directing *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, *Julius Caesar*, *As You Like It*, and *Hamlet*. When not directing, Stephen is the Artistic

Operations / Company Manager at TheatreWorks Silicon Valley. He is a proud member of Actor's Equity and a graduate of the actor training program at PCPA.



Isabella Waldron is a recent graduate of Scripps College and an emerging playwright/actress. Her work centers around intergenerational stories and ferocious women. In quarantine times, Isabella's writing might have been seen on the first episode of *Our Digital Stories* or as a finalist in *Mixily Presents The Classics: Reimagined*. She recently wrote a musical in one night with the 24 Hour Plays 2020 Nationals Cohort. Other plays include *Jawbone*, *Things I Never Told the Stars*, and *Gentle, Angry Women*. Isabella is a proud alum of the National Theatre Institute at the Eugene O'Neill Theatre Center. In addition to writing and acting, Isabella is also a poet, pianist and baker.

OUR DIGITAL STORIES

The idea for digital stories came from a place of need. A group of artists were in the beginnings of the COVID-19 global pandemic, and eager to find a way to contribute to the community and to find a creative outlet while sheltering in place. What came of it was a fundraiser event surrounding a series of pieces that were set within the digital world – video chats, phone calls, texts – and performed on the digital medium of the story. We saw these as a hybrid of a ten-minute play and a short film and called them ‘Digital Stories.’

When we created these digital stories, we realized something interesting and quite special. The health concerns of the world required us to stay apart from each other, and we wanted to see what would happen if we leaned into this need to stay apart and see what it did for our storytelling. Although this new format of storytelling was not going to replace what we loved about live theatre or film and television, this format of play provided us an opportunity to create stories that felt surprisingly intimate in a way that feels entirely real and entirely of the moment. With OUR DIGITAL STORIES, we are looking to continue this work through regular episodes where we will present a number of individual digital stories while partnering with different community service and arts organizations to help support them. In addition to this, we hope that by using the Internet as our venue, OUR DIGITAL STORIES can be a point of access to storytelling and representation for all communities.

www.ourdigitalstories.org
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