# A CO-PRODUCTION BY TEATRO BRAVO! & SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE







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by Milcha Sanchez-Scott

# Teatro Bravo! & Spotlight Youth Theatre Proudly Present

# **ROOSTERS**

Ву

## Milcha Sanchez-Scott

Originally produced in New York City by INTAR Hispanic American Arts Center and the New York Shakespeare Festival

Director: Ricky Araiza & Chris R. Chávez

Scenic Design: Michael Esparza

Lighting Design: Nick Hutchinson

Sound Design: Chris R. Chávez

Makeup, Hair, & Costume Design: Shelly Trujillo

Choreographer: Liliana Gomez

Stage Manager: Chelsea Jauregui

Assistant Stage Manager: Ruth Anna Ochoa

ROOSTERS is presented by special arrangement through Dramatists Play Service Inc. 440 Park Ave South, NY, NY 10016 • www.dramatists.com

Time: The Present • Place: The Southwest *ROOSTERS* runs about 80 minutes with no intermission

# The Cast of ROOSTERS

Gallo: Alejandro Sanchez Vega

Hector: Jose Antonio Guevara

Juana: Luz Navarro

Chata: Estrella Paloma Parra

Angela: María Guadalupe Cruz

Adan: Axel Avitia

# Spotlight Youth Theatre Administrative Team

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Managing Director for Spotlight Youth Theatre
General Manager for Spotlight Youth Theatre
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Social Media Specialist
Fundraising CommitteeSara Bader, Shelly Boucher, Karen Dolyniuk, Julie Donnick,
Elisa Herndon, Sabrina Hurley, Audra Little, Amanda Newton,
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# Special Thanks

Kenny Grossman and Spotlight Youth Theater, Childsplay, Gracie Ruiz, Tiffany Valenzuela, Miguel Rodriquez, Caleb Gomez, James Garcia, Theresa Araiza, & Kathleen Araiza

# **Note From the Director**

When I initially heard about the incident at a Scottsdale theatre, in which a Latinx show – this show – was unfairly shut down without any real defense or consideration, it became obvious that I needed to step up to help. But when rediscovering this script, which I hadn't read since my undergrad, I was struck by the story again and the images and ideas laid out by Milcha Sanchez-Scott. I was taken by the words of a female playwright poetically commenting on the toxic machismo that can often exist in Mexican and Mexican-American households. I was struck by the narrative of trying to break cycles of generational trauma in an effort to create something new.

There are times in the script where I still find myself wincing in fear because there is a harshness that comes out in the words that cut like a knife. But those are opportunities that the theatre brings. It's an opportunity for us as audience members to lean into the often painful truths, and have the conversations of what a confusing, horrible – yet beautiful – journey life can be.

Ricky Araiza, Director



## Axel Avitia (Adan)

Axel Avitia was born and raised in Mexico, where he developed a deep love for sports, technology, and acting throughout his life. Growing up in a loving family, Axel found immense support and encouragement in pursuing his diverse interests. From a young age, sports became a significant part of Axel's life. Whether playing on the field, watching games, or discussing strategies, he has always found joy and excitement in the world of athletics. This passion for sports has taught him valuable lessons in discipline, teamwork, and resilience. Equally fascinated by technology, Axel keeps up to date with the latest trends and innovations. His enthusiasm for tech drives him to explore new advancements and integrate cutting-edge gadgets and software into his

daily routine. Although Axel has not yet been involved in acting, he harbors a strong interest in the craft and appreciates the art of storytelling. His admiration for acting fuels his creative side and inspires him to one day explore this field more deeply. In addition to his personal passions, Axel is committed to creating an inclusive and equitable space for people across all spectrums. He actively engages in various community projects and initiatives, aiming to promote diversity and inclusivity in all areas of life. Currently, Axel continues to explore new challenges and opportunities in sports, technology and acting driven by his unwavering passion and dedication.



# María Guadalupe Cruz (Angela) (She / Her)

María Guadalupe Cruz is typically seen around the valley as a stage manager; however, she is ecstatic to be on stage with Teatro Bravo! Her previous acting credits include Brenda in *La Ruta* with Straycat Theatre. Maria is also a proud board member for United Colours of Arizona Theater, Spotlight Youth Theatre, and Community Celebrating Diversity.

She thanks her castmates, the production team, Spotlight Youth Theatre, and Kenny Grossman for their passion, hard work and resilience in getting this show back on its feet. It is a true testament to the strength of our theatre community.

María also wants to give a shout out to the original cast of this show. There is a universe where that cast was able to put this show on, but for now it'll live in the history books.

And, as Selena Quintanilla once said, "I feel very proud to be Mexican."



# Jose Antonio Guevara (Hector) (He / Him)

Raised in Southern Arizona, Jose Antonio Guevara is a Latin American musician, singer, performer and educator. He graduated from Arizona State University with a Bachelor of Music in Music Learning and Teaching with an emphasis in trumpet pedagogy. During his time at ASU, he served as the undergraduate co-president of the ASU School of Music, Dance and Theatre IDEA (Inclusion, Diversity, Equity, and Accountability) student committee. Jose Antonio is passionate and committed to creating and upholding safe spaces for all and especially individuals who come from marginalized groups. He would like to thank his loved ones for all their support.



## Luz Navarro (Juana)

Luz is a DACA-mented, ensemble member of Teatro Bravo. Some of her previous stage credits include: Antigone at the Border (Teatro Bravo / Borderlands Theater) Tomas and the Library Lady, Eric & Elliot, Selena Maria Sings, Dreamers, The Book of Dragons, Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer (Childsplay Theater), The House of Desires, A Midsummer Night's Dream (Southwest Shakespeare Company) The Prom, The Hello Girls (The Phoenix Theater Co.), William Shakespeare's Land of the Dead (Theaterworks), and In The Heights (Mesa Encore Theatre). She would like to thank her friends and family for all their support and love. @TheLuzNavarro



## Estrella Paloma Parra (Chata)

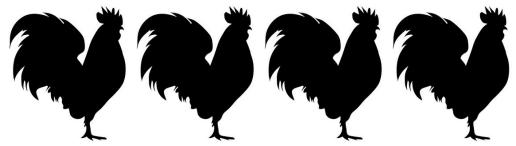
Select credits: Marisela in *La Ruta* and Nena / Female understudy in *Ghosts of Bogota* (Stray Cat Theatre), Aída in *The Cuban Swimmer* (MET / Black Theatre Troupe), Housekeeper in *Man of la Mancha* (SMTC), *South Pacific* (Herberger Theatre Center), *The King and I* (Broadway Palm Dinner Theatre), Fruma Sarah in *Fiddler on the Roof* (Hale Center Theatre). Select readings and concerts: Mami / Ensemble in *Anita* (Borderlands Theatre), *Sapience* (Bridge Initiative), *Swallow Your Mind*, *Anna in the Tropics, Real Women Have Curves*, and *¡Bravíssimo!* (Teatro Bravo). Todo mi amor para Belita, the watermelon of my heart!



# Alejandro Sanchez Vega (Gallo)

Alejandro Sanchez Vega has acted in theater productions like: Los Illegals, Mother Lolita, A Midsummer Night's Dream, Bless me Ultima, Amexica, 1070 We Were Stangers Too, and The Canterbury Tarot. He has directed American Pastorela for New Carpa Theater as well as acted in films and commercials.

He is excited to be back on stage with Teatro Bravo and working with such a wonderful and talented cast, as well as the amazing crew, he would like to dedicate his performance to his wife Sandra and his daughters Genesis, Alessandra, Yuli, and Mia who always support his dream of working in different artistic endeavors.



## Ricky Araiza (Director / Producer)

Ricky is an Arizona-based theatre artist. A graduate from Arizona State University with a B.A. in Theatre in 2004, Araiza went on to become an ensemble member of Childsplay Theatre in Tempe, AZ beginning with the theatre's production of *The New Kid*. In 2009 he decided to step away from professional work and study Physical Ensemble Based Theatre at Dell'Arte International in Blue Lake, CA. In 2017, he received his M.F.A. in Theatre for Youth and Communities from Arizona State University. He has also done work nationally with the Playwright's Center in Minneapolis, the La Jolla Playhouse in La Jolla, CA, Su Teatro in Denver, CO and The Magik Theatre in San Antonio, TX. Araiza continues to work as a director, producer, performer, and teaching artist throughout the Valley. Currently, he is one of Childsplay's Associate Artistic Directors—Director of Artist and Community Initiatives as well as the Artistic Director of Teatro Bravo, a Latinx theatre company in Phoenix, Arizona.

### Chris R. Chávez (Director / Sound)

Chris R. Chavez is a Queer, Chicano, performance artist originally from Northern New Mexico and has called Phoenix his home for the last 20 years. He has his undergraduate degree in Music Performance from New Mexico Highlands University in Las Vegas, New Mexico. He originally moved to Arizona to obtain his Master's degree in Vocal Performance (emphasis in Musical Theatre) from Arizona State University, which he completed in 2006. Since that time, he has performed and directed in various theatres across The Valley. Acting credits include: Padre (Man of La Mancha-Zoni nominated), Zangarra (Assassins), Piragua Guy (In the Heights), among others. Directing credits: Real Women Have Curves (MET Blackbox), Next to Normal (Arizona Regional Theatre), Chicago: High School Edition (Desert Stages Theatre), Shopping and F&\*%ing (Laughing Pig Theatre), Carrie: The Musical (Desert Stages Theatre), Chess: The Musical (Desert Stages Theatre), La Ruta (Straycat Theatre), Angels In America: Millennium Approaches (Fountain Hills Theater), Next To Normal (Desert Stages Theatre). Chris serves as a board member and the Diversity Consultant for United Colours of Arizona Theatre (UCAT) as well as a board member of the ariZoni Theater Association. Most recently he has joined as a member of All Queer Shakespeare, the first fully Queer Shakespeare company. In his day job, Chris has worked for the University of Phoenix for the last 11 years. Additionally, he is the tenor section leader at First Christian Church and Fountain of Life Church in Scottsdale, AZ. Through much of his work and efforts he hopes to see a truly inclusive and equitable space for people across the spectrum not just in theatre, but in all the arts.

# Michael Esparza (Scenic Design)

Michael David Esparza is excited to join Teatro Bravo's production of *Roosters!* Previous design work includes Mesa Encore Theater, Childsplay Academy, Zootown Arts Community Center, The University of Montana, and Phoenix College. Special shout out to his partner for her love, patience and support. Thank you to each and every patron for supporting the arts! For additional design info: michaeldesparza.wixsite.com/portfolio

# Liliana Gomez (Choreographer)

Liliana is a mother, dance maker, producer, and arts advocate from Phoenix, AZ. Originally from Guadalajara, Mexico, Liliana has a passion for sharing dance within her community and has choreographed for public spaces such as galleries, canals, gardens, libraries, and more. She is the managing director for the BlakTinx Dance Festival, teaches dance classes weekly, and is an independent dance artist, choreographing work for high schools, universities, and companies. Liliana is a cohort member of the NALAC Leadership Institute and participated in the National Presenters Forum at Jacob's Pillow. She also presented her work for Alien Commons at Cornell University. Additionally, she is this year's recipient of the "Commitment to Artists Growth" Artist to Work Grant from the City of Phoenix Office of Arts and Culture.

## Nick Hutchinson (Lighting Designer)

Nick is excited to be designing lights with Teatro Bravo! He is currently the Production Manager at Childsplay Theatre in Tempe, producing Theatre for Young Audiences all over the state and across the nation. Nick is a long-time theatre director, designer, and educator. His theatre career began working with the Lyric Repertory Company in Logan, UT and he continued as a high school drama teacher for several years after graduating college. He currently teaches lighting design and Vectorworks at Grand Canyon University. After working with youth and adult volunteers all over the nation with Scouting for 14 years, Nick is excited to be creating theatre with talented people full-time again!! He holds a Master's Degree in Theatre Production from Central Washington University.

## Chelsea Jauregui (Stage Manager)

Chelsea Jauregui has a BA in Theatre from ASU. This is her first show with Teatro Bravo and Spotlight Youth Theatre. Previous credits include Stage Manager at Stray Cat Theatre on *Small Mouth Sounds, La Ruta,* and *Gloria*.

## Ruth Anna Ochoa (Assistant Stage Manager)

Ruth is a sophomore at Grand Canyon University getting her Bachelors in Theatre and Drama. This is her first time working with Teatro Bravo and Spotlight Youth Theatre. Previous credits include Sound Op for *Mary Poppins*, Costume Supervisor for *Tuck Everlasting*, and Estella in *Real Women Have Curves* at Ethington Theatre. Ruth wants to give special thanks to the cast and crew for the wonderful experience and opportunity.

# Shelly Trujillo (Costume Designer)

Shelly Trujillo (she/her) is a valley native who began performing Folklorico dance at age four with her brother, Danny T. Some of her notable theatre credits include roles in *Ghosts of Bogota* (Stray Cat Theatre) *Curiouser and Curiouser (TheaterWorks)*, and *Hunchback of Notre Dame (TheaterWorks, AZMTO, and MCC)*. Beyond acting, she has contributed as a costume designer for La Ruta and Fairview with Stray Cat Theatre. Shelly was also a founding member of Harmondo! Musical Improv in Milwaukee, WI. Huge thank you to Chris and Ricky for this amazing opportunity. This one is for my Nana Lydia and my Tarango familia. @divakleo

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Please take a moment to complete our online survey. Your responses are greatly appreciated.

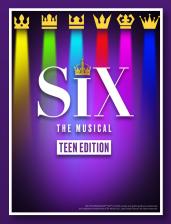
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# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

# AUDITIONS



Spotlight Youth Theatre's Production of

# SIX THE MUSICAL: TEEN EDITION

**SIX WIVES OF HENRY VIII.** Sensational triple threat performers required to perform the six wives of Henry VIII (Catherine of Aragon, Anne Boleyn, Jane Seymour, Anna of Cleves, Katherine Howard and Catherine Parr) as they reunite to tell their stories in the form of a pop concert musical.

Production Dates: September 6—15, 2024

Ages: 13-19

Audition dates: Sunday, July 28, & Monday, July 29, 2024, at 6PM

Callbacks: Tuesday, July 30, 2024, at 5:30PM

### Requirements:

- Complete the online audition form.
- Please come prepared to sing 60—90 seconds of a pop/rock song of your choice. Please sing with sheet music or a karaoke track. ABSOLUTELY NO A CAPPELLA!
- Headshot or photo and resume required.
- We will be casting two casts. Each cast will perform a weekend of four shows.
- All performers must be sensationally strong singers, dancers, and actors.
   Triple threats mandatory.
- The characters are portrayed as women on stage—All applicants who meet
  the performance requirements and feel comfortable playing a woman on
  stage are encouraged to apply.
- The Production of **SIX the Musical: Teen Edition** includes theatrical haze, strobe lighting effects, and loud music.
- Please note the show is rated PG-13.

### Video auditions:

- Complete the online audition form.
- Email kenny@sytaz.org by 9PM on Sunday, July 28, 2024.
- Include your name with the audition video linked or attached to the email.
- In-person callbacks are mandatory.

See complete audition requirements and link to register at

sytaz.org/six-the-musical

# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE



# MUSICAL THEATRE PERFORMANCE TROUPE

## 2024-2025 SEASON

Three exciting 10-week sessions • Sign up for 1, 2, or all 3 sessions! Each session includes Troupe t-shirt and performance finale!

### SYT COMPANY

**Director: Heather Walker • Choreographer: Falin Taylor**Ages 9 to 19 • \$250 per session • \$600 for all three sessions

### **SPARKLES**

Director: Haley Kennedy

Ages 5 to 8 • \$175 per session • \$420 for all three sessions

## **SESSION 1: "CONTEMPORARY BROADWAY A-to-Z"**

August 12 to October 28, 2024

**SYT Company:** Mondays 5:30–8:30 p.m. (Off on 9/2 & 10/14) **Sparkles:** Wednesdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. (Off on 9/4 & 10/16)

### SESSION 2: "SPOTLIGHT ON DISNEY"

November 4, 2024 to February 10, 2025

**SYT Company:** Mondays 5:30–8:30 p.m. (Off on 11/11, 11/25, 12/23, 12/30, 1/20) **Sparkles:** Wednesdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. (Off on 11/13, 11/27, 12/25, 1/1, 1/22)

### **SESSION 3: "JUKEBOX MUSICAL HITS"**

February 24 to May 12, 2025

**SYT Company:** Mondays 5:30–8:30 p.m. (Off on 3/10, 3/17) **Sparkles:** Wednesdays 4:30–6:00 p.m. (Off on 3/12, 3/19)

For more information or to register for SYT Company, please visit sytaz.org.

# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

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# Iamie Dillon Grossman

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# Thank You

to Spotlight's Generous and Dedicated Donors!

Ticket sales and production fees cover only a fraction of Spotlight Youth Theatre's overall operating costs. The Board of Directors of Spotlight Youth Theatre is grateful for the generosity of our dedicated donors, whose support ensures our ongoing ability to provide youth and their families a safe, welcoming environment where the individual is supported, teamwork is embraced, and creativity is encouraged through high quality performing arts and educational programs that enrich and strengthen our community.

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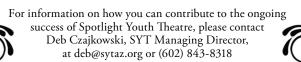
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Spotlight Youth Theatre's mission is to provide youth and their families a safe, welcoming environment where the individual is supported, teamwork is embraced, and creativity is encouraged through high quality performing arts and educational programs that enrich and strengthen our community. Spotlight Youth Theatre's vision:

- 1. A program grounded in the belief that every child deserves a chance to shine, a place that is safe and free from negativity, and an environment where fun and hard work combine into amazing experiences, both on and off stage.
- A theatre program that is as diverse as the community we serve and where all members of the family can join in the endeavor to produce high quality theater productions that amaze and entertain.
- A place where a child can be their authentic self, exploring the creative arts without fear, and be embraced and encouraged to grow and flourish.

## Spotlight Youth Theatre is a 501(c)(3) non-profit Community Youth Theatre

Spotlight Youth Theatre would very much like to thank our community partners and benefactors. Please support the kind and generous people who support SYT by patronizing our sponsors. To learn more about sponsoring or donating to Spotlight Youth Theatre and making a difference in the lives of today's youth, please call (602) 843–8318.

# Partial Funding of Spotlight Youth Theatre's Programs Provided by:











Spotlight Youth Theatre would like to thank these funders for their generous support. They play an essential role in helping us create a safe, welcoming space where youth can learn and grow.



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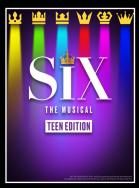
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# SPOTLIGHT YOUTH THEATRE

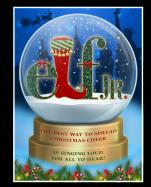
2024-2025 SEASON



SIX THE MUSICAL TEEN EDITION SEPTEMBER 6 — 15



LES MISERABLES SCHOOL EDITION OCTOBER 25 — NOVEMBER 10

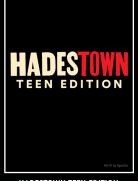


ELF JR.

DECEMBER 6 — 22



SNOW WHITE & THE EIGHT DWARFS DECEMBER 23 — JANUARY 3



HADESTOWN TEEN EDITION

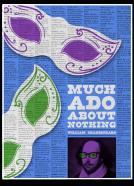
JANUARY 17 — FEBRUARY 2



SPOTLIGHT PLAYFEST 2025 FEBRUARY 7 — 16



FINDING NEMO JR FEBRUARY 28 — MARCH 16



MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING APRIL 11 - 20



13 THE MUSICAL MAY 16 — JUNE 1