

27th Annual

AIDS BENEFIT

Pursuing Our
Passion



September
22 and 23, 2023

The **Chicago**
Academy **for the Arts**

OUR BENEFICIARY

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation

Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation is a proven leader in the global fight to end HIV and AIDS, and a leading voice for children, youth and families to live long, healthy lives. Founded through a mother's determination, we're driven to see a world where no other person or family is devastated by this disease.

Over the last 35 years, we've seen incredible success in pediatric HIV and AIDS. Childhood infections have dropped by 95 percent in the U.S. and by 50 percent around the world – but our work is not over. HIV and AIDS remains a global and evolving public health crisis that affects millions of people around the world, including children.



The Chicago
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Every day, approximately 430 children are newly infected with HIV because their families lack access to the health services they need to prevent transmission of the virus. These infections are largely preventable.

Your support helps EGPAF work on the ground in the world's most affected regions to fight for an AIDS-free generation.

For more information, please visit pedaids.org.

PRODUCTION

Ella Herman – Director

Pryor McHugh – Assistant Director

Tvesha Gupta – Stage Manager

Kymani – Lighting Designer

Eirene Furr – Sound Designer

Lexi Vaksdal, Aubrey Senese – Stage Crew

Buck Blue – Production Advisor

BENEFIT TEAM

Caleb Marcella, Bobby Meinig – Music Representatives

Lathan Goodrum, Gavin Grey – Dance Representatives

Gemma James – Visual Arts Representative

AJ Johnson – Media Arts Representative

Olivia Daly-Short – Musical Theater Representative

Martin Collins, Tvesha Gupta – Theater Representatives

BAND

Caleb Marcella – Drums

Gabi Fues – Bass

Giuliano Garcia – Piano

Gavin Grey – Piano

Ella Herman – Violin

Bobby Meinig – Violin

Greg Dudzienski – Saxophone

The Chicago Academy for the Arts



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AIDS Benefit, 2022

PROGRAM

Full Cast

“Let’s Call The Whole Thing Off” by George Gerswhin

Noa Garcia (Music ‘27)

“Warrior” by Demi Lovato, Vocals

Natalia Garcia (Dance ‘26) and Michael Leese (Dance ‘25)

Endless Waves, Dance

Sean Zielinski (Media Arts ‘25)

“My Beautiful Depression,” Film and Composition

Malcolm Lynas (Media Arts ‘24)

“The Hero,” Composition

Everett DeLeon (Dance ‘25),

Jamaur Houston (Musical Theatre/Dance ‘25)

“United in Grief” by Kendrick Lamaur, Dance

Bobby Meinig (Music ‘25)

“Sultans of Swing” by Dire Straits, Vocals and Violin

Olivia Daly-Short (Musical Theatre ‘24)

“Over The Moon” from *Rent* (1994) by Jonathan Larson,
Performance Piece

Gracia Johnson (‘25), Pryor McHugh (‘25),

Michael Robinson (‘25), Lexi Vaksdal (‘24), Nikolas Valdez (‘25)

Scene from pen15 season 1 episode 9 by Maya Erskine, Anna Konkle
and Sam Zvibleman

Ava Reese (Musical Theatre ‘26),

Maaha Webb (Visual Arts ‘26), Surya Webb (Visual Arts ‘26)

Wicked Game, Vocals and Guitar

Grace Hospenthal (Dance '25), Salomeja Vitkauskas (Dance '24)
Oceans and Pearls, Dance

Shayna Freeman (Musical Theatre '25)

“What Only Love Can See” from *Chaplin: The Musical* (2006)
by Christopher Curtis and Thomas Meehan, Vocals

Caz Leech (Media Arts '25)

“Hey Jesus, It’s Me, Your Son” by Caz Leech, Monologue

Tvesha Gupta (Theatre '24)

“Make This Go On Forever” by Snow Patrol, Aerial Arts

Giuliano Garcia (Music '26), Degame Young (Music '25)

“Golden Slumbers/Carry That Weight” by The Beatles, Vocals and Piano

Gavin Grey (Dance '24)

“Doctor Gradus ad Parnassum” by Claude Debussy, Piano

Sally Zhang ('24)

“I’ll Never Love Again” by Lady Gaga, Vocals

Full Cast

“Beautiful City” from *Godspell* (1971) by John-Michael Tebelak
and Stephen Schwartz

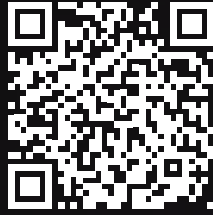
SPECIAL THANKS

The Academy would like to give special thanks to

Henry and Robert Feliciano, Sarah Smith, Justin Tranter, and our
Department Chairs for making this event possible. We would also like
to thank all of our raffle donors for their generosity.

In addition, The Academy extends a huge thank you to **Randy Duncan
and the Dance Department** for allowing us to use their space, as
well as to **Ben Dicke and the Theatre Department** for allowing us to
borrow their equipment.

See what's next at The Academy!



chicagoacademyforthearts.org/academy-events



The Chicago
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AIDS Benefit, 2021