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S T A Y   E N G A G E D

Asolo Rep Family,

The Giving Challenge has ended and we want to say **thank you** to everyone who was able to participate. Your support is what keeps Asolo Rep thriving!

Now here's what's new this week at Asolo Rep:



## Got Masks?

### Asolo Rep Costume Shop Creates Masks for Local Organizations

Just six weeks ago our costume shop staff was busy putting final touches on costumes for *FFCEPC?RJC?N* and *I L MVTGJC*. When the season was cut short and the theatre closed due to the COVID-19 health crisis, the basketball jerseys, dresses and suits were put into storage. The now at-home workers are sewing face masks that are being distributed to organizations-in-need in Sarasota and Manatee Counties.

“When it became obvious that face masks were in high demand and would become a key part of keeping us safe from the spread of the virus, we all felt this was the perfect way to help out,” said David Covach, Costume Shop Manager. “My team had been homebound for several weeks, in a state of abrupt confusion to their daily routines. Now we all have a purpose again and feel the joy of contributing to the greater needs of our community.” Using materials from its collection of extra costume fabrics from productions, so far the staff has generated roughly 750 masks. The costumers working from their homes including Teresa Consolvo, Laine Marr, Dee Sullivan,

Jessica Hayes, Skyler Niedziela, Maureen Klein, June Elisabeth Taylor, Sofia Gonzalez, Kaitlin Jones, and Deb Kelly.



*June Elisabeth Taylor, Jessica Hayes, Sofia Gonzalez, and Skyler Niedziela*

To date, distribution of the masks includes: Senior Friendship Center, Safe Children Coalition, Meals on Wheels of Sarasota, Visible Men's Academy, Girls Inc. of Sarasota, and ALSO Youth. Most of these organizations are using the masks for their food delivery programs and volunteers. Local organizations in need of masks are asked to email: [Cameron\\_Thorp@asolo.org](mailto:Cameron_Thorp@asolo.org).



### **Asolo Rep Virtual Auditions Draw 1,000+ Candidates**

In any typical April, Associate Artistic Director Celine Rosenthal would be at The Koski, and then in a New York studio viewing live audition performances from hundreds of aspiring actors, singers and dancers from across the country for our Equity Principal Auditions. This marathon of three-minute performances is all part Asolo Rep's first round of general auditions, when Celine narrows the pool from hundreds down to about 100 who re-audition during the second round. But in this most atypical of Aprils, what happens when everyone is isolated in their homes and season planning must go on? Video auditions, of course, and Celine currently has 1,000-and-counting in her inbox. "This is an unprecedented turn-out," said Celine. "It's so wonderful to see our local Sarasota actors, and actors from across the country sharing their talents with us."

Be sure to tune in to Asolo Rep's Instagram TV this Thursday, April 30 beginning at 10am when Celine does a virtual takeover: **A Day of Auditions with Celine Rosenthal.**

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ENGAGE:  AIR

### **ENGAGE ON AIR – Tonight at 6pm!**

Tune in every Wednesday at 6pm EST to WSLR 96.5 or visit [wslr.org/fogartyville/](https://wslr.org/fogartyville/) to listen live to artist interviews discussing the upcoming season at Asolo Rep including new content designed specifically for audio.

In this week's installment of **ENGAGE: ON AIR**, we launch part two of a two-part discussion with producing artistic director, Michael Donald Edwards, on the show he will be directing in the 2020-2021 season, *MSP FMUL*. Hear about how the show made its way into the season, why Michael believes it is perfect for our moment, and how preparing to direct it has shifted his thinking. Tune in at 6pm EST to WSLR 96.5 to hear the show or check out the Asolo Rep website, where you can also find the [first](#) segment with Michael Donald Edwards as well as the inaugural episode about [@JJWCJJCMRFFCKSQAJ](#) with director, Josh Rhodes.

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**MONDAY**

MUSICAL  
MOMENTS

## **MONDAY MUSICAL MOMENTS**

This week's #MondayMusicalMoments on [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) features *Qg Bmul \* Hf I*, the rousing opening number from the 2012 musical – / 554. The kick-off to Asolo Rep's five-year American Character Project, / 554 was helmed by Asolo Rep Associate Artist Frank Galati. Also on Facebook and YouTube this week, Michael Donald Edwards interviews Frank, looking back to that groundbreaking production. Tune in each Monday as we release favorite numbers from our musical archives along with interviews around the creation of these fantastic musical moments.

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**EDUCATION**  
& Engagement

## **Learn With Asolo Rep**

Did you know that our Education & Engagement Department has been creating exciting online theatrical experiences [designed to go from the classroom to the living room](#)? From theatre games that you can share with your friends via Zoom to fun and informational videos like [Nia Explains it All](#), there is something for everyone to enjoy. This week, try "[This is a Not A...](#)", a game we play with our friend and [Booker Middle VPA](#) Coordinator and Theatre Teacher extraordinaire, Carrie Mills. Come learn, play, and create with us!

THE  LD GLOBE

## **CALLBOARD**

*I ccn Ant I carcb ugf uf\_r mfc cpq \_pc bng e g nspAnk k sl gw*

Did you miss celebrating Shakespeare's birthday last week? Check out our friends at [the Old Globe Theatre](#) in San Diego, CA. They have curated an exciting list of [digital Shakespeare engagement](#) from Behind the Scenes Tours in English and Spanish to Live Performances of Sonnets.

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You shop. Amazon gives.

## **Support Asolo Rep Now on AmazonSmile!**

With so many people visiting Amazon during these stay-at-home times, we wanted to remind you that you can help support Asolo Rep with every Amazon purchase. AmazonSmile is a program that donates 0.5% of all eligible purchases on Amazon to the charity of your choice. All you need to do is start your shopping at [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com), then choose Asolo Rep as your charity. The donation will be made at no extra cost to you.

Or consider donating directly to the Asolo COVID-19 Fund:

Donate to the Asolo COVID-19 Fund

With the cancellation of 109 performances, Asolo Rep could have possibly lost \$1.6 million in ticket revenue. Thanks to ticket donations and contributions from our philanthropic community, the loss will be significantly less.

Asolo Rep is proud to announce the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation will match every dollar donated to Asolo Rep's COVID-19 Assistance Fund up to \$50,000 beginning immediately. This matching challenge will help redress the financial repercussions of Asolo Rep's truncated 2019-2020 season. Asolo Rep extends our gratitude to the Virginia B. Toulmin Foundation for their vital support and unwavering leadership during this time.

Please consider a generous donation at this time so that we can continue to fulfill our mission of presenting artistic excellence and meaningful education and engagement programs to Southwest Florida. You can donate to our Covid19 fund by visiting [AsoloRepCovid19.givesmart.com](https://AsoloRepCovid19.givesmart.com) OR by texting AsoloRepCovid19 to 76278.

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Until next week! ***Stay well and STAY ENGAGED.***

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world class theatre

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made in sarasota



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