

A hand holding a small potted succulent against a starry night sky background. The succulent is a small, green, fleshy-leaved plant in a white pot. The background is a dark, starry sky with a soft, ethereal glow. The overall mood is contemplative and serene.

**Just**

**BE**

Written and directed by  
Maybe Stewart

Tempe Center for the Arts | Studio Theatre

Jan 16-22 , 2022

**What does it mean to truly  
find yourself?**

**What would it look like to let  
yourself just be?**

**These are the central questions that  
Maybe Stewart and their ensemble of actors will  
seek to answer with you through an evening of  
poetry, movement, theatre, and conversation. In  
this brave space, you are invited to courageously  
sit with your discomfort, and dig deeper into what  
being human means to you. Using the  
playwright's personal narrative as a jumping-off  
point, this interactive piece discusses gender,  
trauma, and identity in a unique, vulnerable, and  
piercingly honest format**

**Meet**

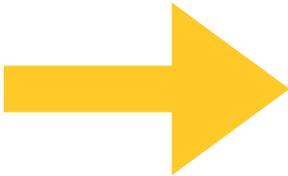
**Maybe Stewart**

**(They/Them/Theirs)**

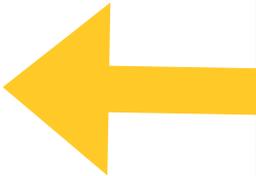
**Writer/ Director**



Maybe Stewart (they/them/theirs) is a director, playwright, stage manager, and all-around utility belt of a theatre person from Phoenix, AZ, where they received a BA in English Literature with a minor in Theatre from Grand Canyon University. Their writing has been produced from AZ to NY. Some of their proudest credits include co-writing and directing **BUT IN OURSELVES** at Aside Theatre Company, and director of movement for **SENSE & SENSIBILITY** by Kate Hamill at Southwest Shakespeare Company. Other writing credits include **ALL THE WRONG PLACES** and **JUST BE**. You can find more about them and their work at [www.maybestewartartist.com](http://www.maybestewartartist.com) or follow them on Facebook and Instagram (@maybestewartartist).

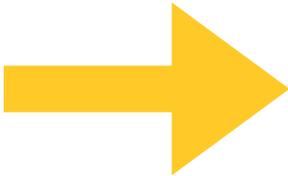


# Meet Our Cast

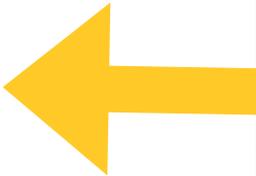


## Cassandra Nicholson

Cassandra Nicholson (she/her) is a Phoenix-based writer and filmmaker. She's a supporter of artists who examine humanity in all of its beauty and horror, and everything in between. Cassandra was so inspired by "just be," that she decided to make the terrifying leap to the stage. It's been an incredible learning experience, and she's looking forward to exploring more theatre projects in the future. The opportunity to work with this exceptionally kind group of creatives makes all the inevitable anxiety and insomnia worth it.

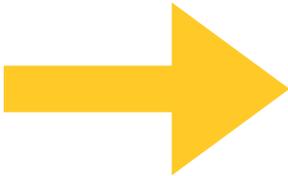


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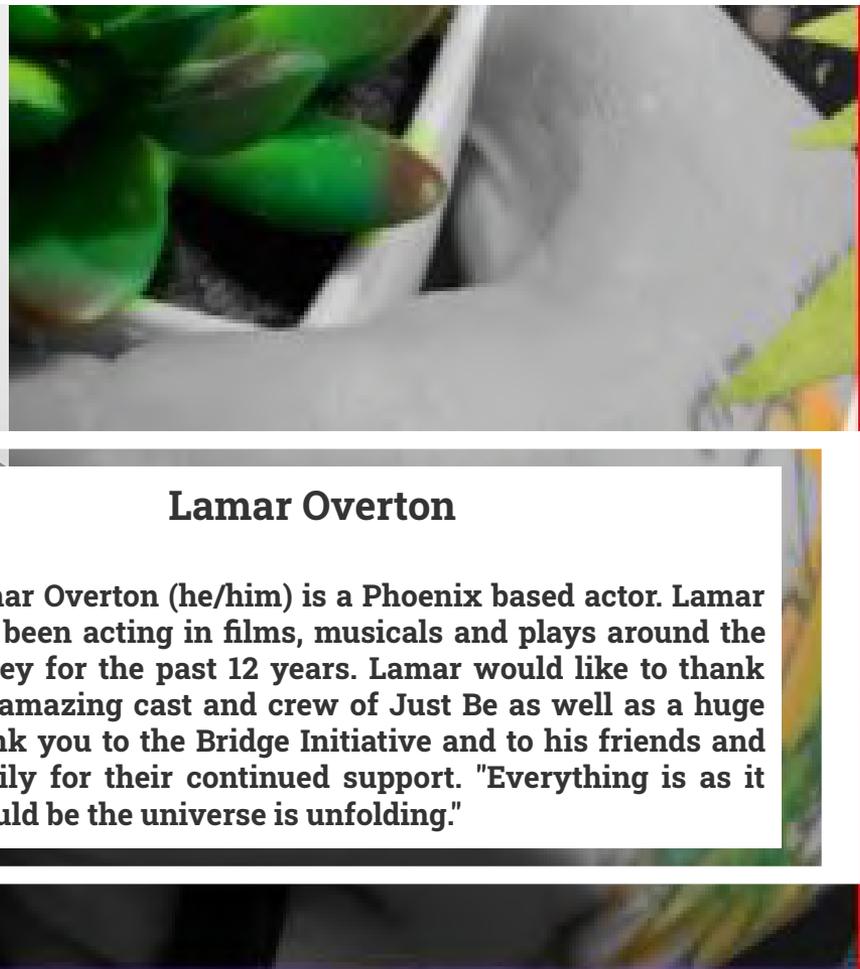
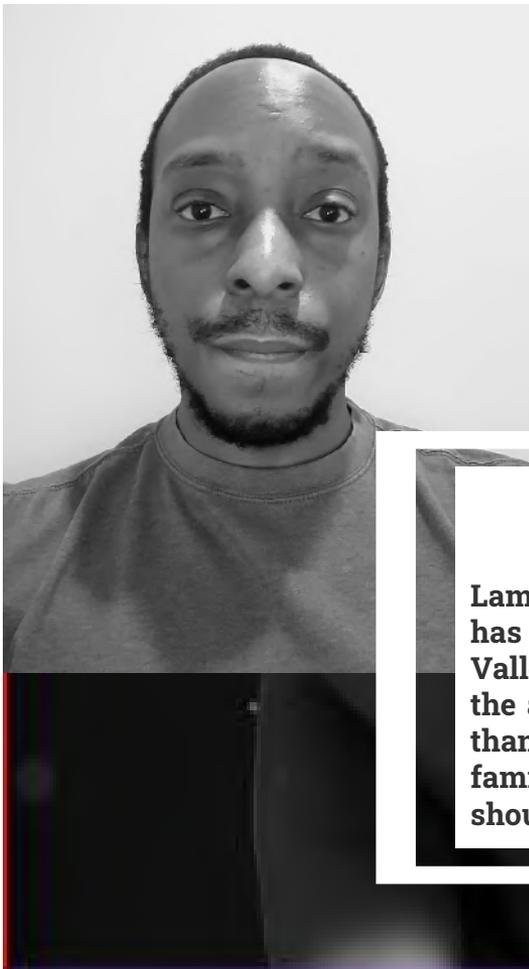
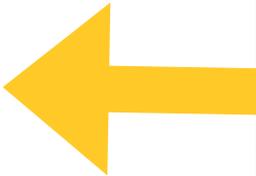


## **Bridget Russell**

**Bridget Russell (they/them) is a performer, actor, musician, and writer who makes their home in the West Valley. While earning their degree at Estrella Mountain Community College, they fell in love with acting. With EMCC Performing Arts they performed in Love and Information by Caryl Churchill, Proof by David Auburn, and supported the actors of This is Our Youth by Kenneth Lonergan as Lead Costume and Makeup Design. They have also been in Space 55's adaptation of The Trojan Women as well as several virtual read-throughs in these difficult times, including Much Ado About Nothing, Sometimes the Rain Sometimes the Sea, Adversaries, and Twelfth Night. They are honored to be here and to share this story with you.**

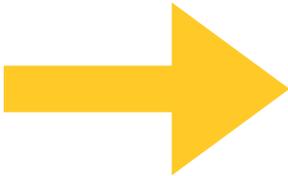


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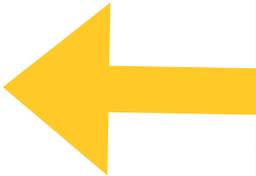


## Lamar Overton

Lamar Overton (he/him) is a Phoenix based actor. Lamar has been acting in films, musicals and plays around the Valley for the past 12 years. Lamar would like to thank the amazing cast and crew of Just Be as well as a huge thank you to the Bridge Initiative and to his friends and family for their continued support. "Everything is as it should be the universe is unfolding."



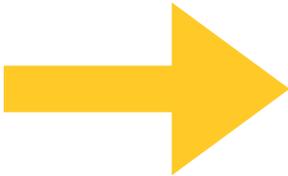
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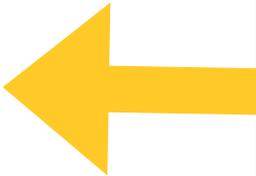
## Samantha Hanna

Samantha Hanna (she/her) holds an associates degree from Mesa Community College in Fine Arts. She has been featured mostly with Stray Cat Theatre in the shows Kiss, Mercury, Two Mile Hollow, and The Wolves. She recently assistant directed Our Dear Dead Drug Lord at Stray cat as well. She loves the world of theatre and is thankful to The Bridge Initiative for creating opportunity for voices that are not often heard in the community. She also wants to thank Maybe for the opportunity and for allowing us the space to be vulnerable and Just be."





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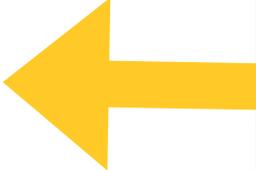


## **Sarah Schalick**

**Sarah (she/her) is thrilled to be joining this ensemble for her first show back since her role of #14 in *The Wolves* (Stray Cat Theatre). Other credits include Maddi in *Maddi's Fridge* local and national tour (Childsplay Theatre), Julia in *Two Gentlemen of Verona* (GCU), and Emily in *Our Town* (GCU). Welcome to our brave space – “Let’s figure this out together.”**

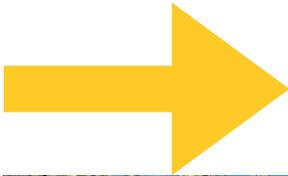


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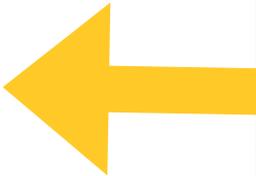


## Drew Leatham

Drew Leatham (he/him) has performed throughout Arizona. Drew has been a gunslinger and stuntman with the Arizona Roughriders at Rawhide Western Town, served as the Queen's Chancellor at Medieval Times in Scottsdale, and also performs as Drake the dancing mascot for Phoenix band "Break The Robot." His non-commercial television debut was in the Fall of '18 on FOX's Inside the Manson Cult: The Lost Tapes. Drew recently made his feature-film debut in House of Quarantine and wrapped production on Forever Home, a film he both co-wrote and acted in. Drew teaches piano and beginning guitar. Thanks to Maybe and an incredible cast!

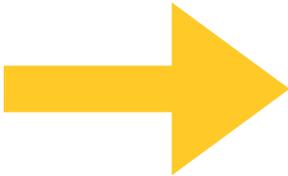


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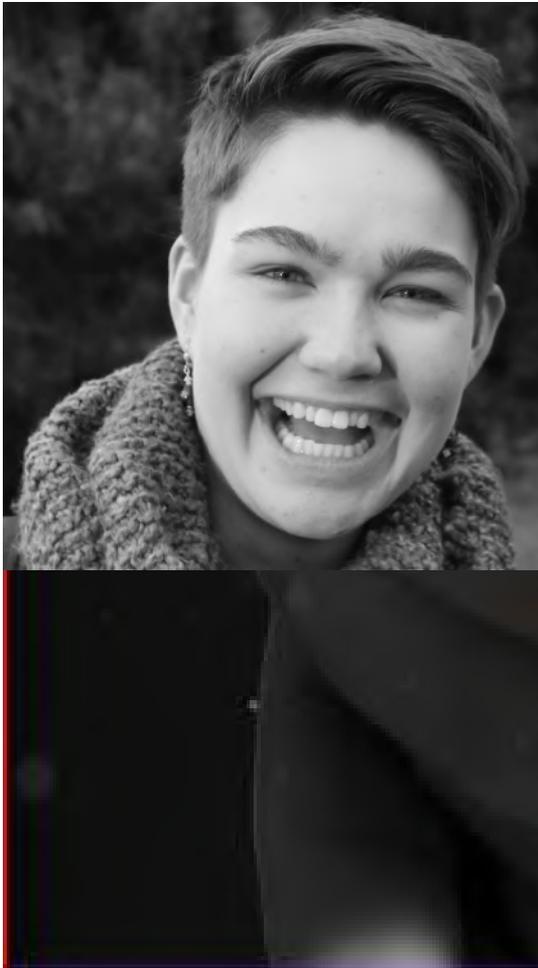
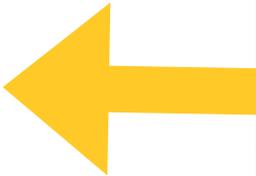


**Bray Lawrence**  
Primary Understudy

**Bray (he/him) is a writer for The Nerds Of Color and a host on NOC Gaming podcast. When he isn't writing a review he dedicates his time as a playwright, director, and director. You can find him at his Twitter @braylawrence3**



# Meet Our Cast



## Rachelle Dart (Swing)

Rachelle Dart (she/her)- is honored to be joining the the cast and creative team of Just Be. She earned a Bachelors in Theatre with a Concentration in Acting from Arizona State University and is a certified teacher of Fitzmaurice Voicework®. An Advanced Actor Combatant with the Society of American Fight Directors she is passionate about safe stage combat in education and performance. She apprenticed in the craft of storytelling with Irish storyteller Liz Weir, MBE. Rachelle is the proud teacher of the theatre students at Shea Middle School. Previous acting roles include Henry V in Henry V (Ronin Theatre Company) EN: 2021 (Ren Gyo Soh), Benvio Romeo and Juliet, Olivia in Twelfth Night (Southwest Shakespeare Company), John Wesley Powell in Men on Boats (Arizona State University). She would like to thank her folks, her partner and her friends for their love and support.



# Meet Our Creative Team

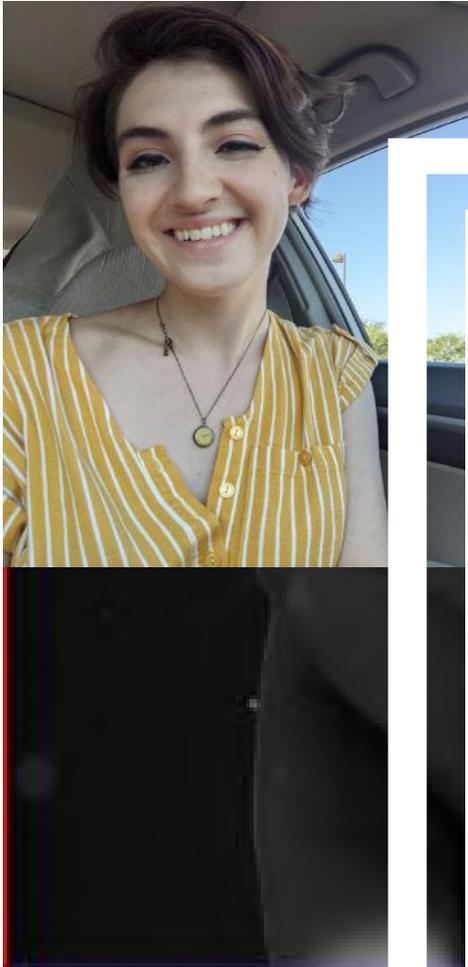


## **Aleks Hollis**

### **Assistant Director/Lighting Design**

**Aleks Hollis (they/them) is a performer, foley artist, video editor. They were recently the set/sound designer for United Colors of AZ Theatre's production of The Last Five Years/ Los Últimos Cinco Años. They were the video editor of The Bridge Initiative's online RomeroFest production of The Dalai Lama is Not Welcome Here, UCAT's production of NOW, and assistant video editor for The Bridge Initiative's QTs. They were the live video game designer for Space55's production of The Hidden Sea. Aleks also performs in the improv duo Wedding Party with Jennifer Giraldo. They've been a foley artist Space 55's Night of the Chicken, for which they won ariZoni awards for Artistic Specialization and Sound Design.**

# → Meet Our Creative Team ←



## **Autumn Alton**

### **Production Stage Manager**

**Autumn Alton (she/her) is a sometimes-actor, sometimes-director, sometimes-Stage Manager, always theatre geek. She's thrilled to be back in the theatre space with Maybe who has been a dear friend for many years, and has found it so special to be part of building this show with them. Autumn has studied theatre at GCU and Stella Adler Studio of acting in New York. "just be" is the second new work written by a friend she's had the pleasure of stage managing, the first being "Half Empty; Half Full" by Kiana Wu for New York Theater Festival. Other SM credits include "The Pretty Trap" by Tennessee Williams. Some of her other favorite theatre credits include playing Frances in "Five Women Wearing the Same Dress" and directing "Sans Merci" by Johnna Adams.**

# Thank You

**Embry Women's Health,  
Ballet Theatre of Phoenix,  
Jennifer Cafarella, Billy  
Russo, the Bridge Initiative  
board, and our generous  
donors.**

**We wouldn't be  
here without  
all of your  
support**

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City of Tempe and Arizona  
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