

## 2024 Spotlight Non-Classical Voice Preliminary Panel

**Aynsley Bubbico\*** has appeared in numerous theatre, television, and film productions. As a vocalist, Aynsley has performed at The Kennedy Center and The American Singer Seminar at the Breckenridge Music Festival. She originated the role of Sylvia Llewelyn Davies in the Off-Broadway musical *Peter and I* and was in the original cast of *Jersey Shoresical* both in LA and NY. Regionally, Aynsley has starred in productions of *Othello*, *Amadeus*, *The Unauthorized Musical Parody of Bridesmaids*, and *The Wizard of Oz*. Select television credits include four seasons on *Greek*, two seasons on *Hart of Dixie*, *Mad Men*, *This Is Us*, *How I Met Your Mother*, *Rizzoli and Isles*, and *The Neighborhood*. Aynsley has also appeared in dozens of national commercials for such companies as Toyota (with Jan!), Progressive (with Flo!), Taco Bell, Samsung, Pepsi, and Nissan, among others. She is thrilled to be a part of the Spotlight family.

**Megan Gillespie\***, Voice and Acting Professor, Keynote Speaker, and Operatic Contralto, is a Los Angeles native and teaches students the art of performance through Megan Gillespie's Studio and recently as Adjunct Faculty with the Santa Monica College Music Department. Ms. Gillespie is inclusive, open, patient, empathetic, and leads with a lot of humor. Her most popular keynote workshops focus on wellness/burnout, conflict resolution, and how to apply to competitions and win. She has performed 100+ operatic roles in countries such as Oman, Spain, Italy, Austria, and the United States, and she has won 100+ competitions for voice and acting, including becoming a Spotlight Semifinalist. Ms. Gillespie has stage directed over 30 youth musicals, also performing as the music director. She currently conducts and stage directs operas in the United States. Her true passion is public speaking and inspiring humans to find their "why."

**Daniel Guzman** has appeared on Broadway in *Cyrano*, *The Musical* and *Les Misérables*, as well as in national and international tours including *Camelot*, *Jesus Christ Superstar*, *Cats*, *Les Misérables*, *Guys and Dolls*, *Sweet Charity*, *Evita*, *West Side Story*, *Man of La Mancha*, *The King and I*, and *A Chorus Line*, among others. Mr. Guzman has performed several shows at The Hollywood Bowl, highlights which include the honor of singing for Stephen Sondheim at his 75th birthday concert, as well as performing in *Les Misérables* as Grantaire. Mr. Guzman executive produced the feature film *First Comes Like* and can be seen in the new series for his production company Laughing House Productions, *The Secret Office*, both of which are available on Amazon. His new web series *The Emotional Support Center* has received honors for two of the episodes submitted: "Coulrophobia" and "The Latin Experience." His musical *Save the Girl*, a rock/rap 80's comedy, was chosen and performed at the new work series at the YaDa Theater in NY. His play *Feuding Family at a Funeral* is also in development. He is happy to still be part of the Spotlight family.

**Carla Renata** was last seen as Cleo Bouvier in the World Premiere of *Designing Women* and on Broadway playing Gary Coleman in the Tony Award-winning musical *Avenue Q*. Other Broadway credits include *The Lion King* (NAACP Theatre Award Nominee), *Smokey Joe's Café*, *How To Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*, and *The Who's Tommy*. Ms. Renata recurred as *Janet* for five seasons on NBC's *Superstore* and is the only African American actress to recur on four episodic series on one season...TWICE. A graduate of Howard University, her book *An Actor's Guide to Self-Marketing: How to Brand and Promote Your Unique Image* is available online. As a Rotten Tomatoes approved critic, her film reviews can be heard on her award-winning podcast *The Curvy Critic with Carla Renata*. Ms. Renata is proud to be a Spotlight judge for more than ten years.

**James Leo Ryan** made his Broadway debut playing Rooster in *Annie*. Other Broadway and National Tour credits include *Les Misérables*, *Show Boat*, *Peter Pan*, and *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*. He most recently recurred as Wilbur Eaton on "The Blacklist." Other television credits include *Law & Order: SVU*, *NCIS*, *CSI*, *Medium*, *The Shield*, *Charmed*, *Numb3rs*, *ER*, and movies of the week for Hallmark and SyFy. Mr. Ryan made his film debut playing Yosef in MGM's *Species III*. Other film credits include *Magda*, *No Ordinary Hero*, *A Light Beneath Their Feet*, and *Psycho Beach Party*. As a dubbing actor, Mr. Ryan has voiced numerous characters on several series for Netflix and Disney+. He is an Adjunct Professor of On-Camera Acting at the Conservatory for the Performing Arts at Stephens College, an instructor of Television and Film Acting at Stella Adler's Art of Acting Conservatory in LA, and a faculty member at ACANY in NYC where he teaches Broadway Boot Camps. Mr. Ryan has also been a Teaching Artist for USC, Chicago Dramatists, Camp Broadway, Joffrey Ballet School, Broadway Artists Intensive, Hofstra University, ASU, Pomona College, and University of Northern Colorado.

**Christopher Youngsman\*\*** has appeared on Broadway and National Tours of *Urinetown* and *Grease!* Off Broadway/Regional productions include: *The Gorey Details*; *Just So!*; *Hair*; *Pageant*; *Forever Plaid* (jazz and standards); *You're a Good Man Charlie Brown*; and *Gypsy*. Workshops include: *The Full Monty* and *Shrek* for Broadway. TV credits include: *Hannah Montana*; *The Tonight Show*; *Rescue Me*; *Starved*; *Love Monkey*; *Tony Awards*; *Between the Lions*. Film: *Across the Universe*, *Still Waiting in the Wings* and *Hollywood Musical*. He's taught improvisation for the Deborah Gibson Electric Youth Camp and for The Virginia Avenue Project, and musical theatre for the Transcendence Theatre Company and others. He has directed *Charlie Hustle*, *The Unauthorized Musical Parody of Bridesmaids*, *Baseball Swing and Trumpet of the Swan*. He hosts the Live Variety Show - *The Christopher Show*.

\* Preliminary 1 only

\*\* Preliminary 2 only